

**FRIDAY**  
 TODAY & next morning  
**HIGH 92**  
**LOW 72**  
 Slight chance of afternoon showers and storms.  
 PAGE A4

CITRUS COUNTY  
**CHRONICLE**  
 www.chronicleonline.com



# Pair arrested for animal cruelty

■ The Citrus County Animal Shelter is open to the public by appointment only through Saturday, July 24. It is closed on Sundays and Mondays.  
 ■ To make an appointment, call 352-746-8400 or email colleen.yarbrough@citrusbocc.com.

**BUSTER THOMPSON AND MIKE WRIGHT**  
*Staff writers*  
 A pair of Homosassa women were arrested after their 84 animals were seized from neglectful conditions, which also forced the Citrus County Animal Shelter to

close because of overcrowding. Animal control officers and deputies with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office responded at around 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, to a report of animal cruelty at a home off West Green Acres Street. Inside the house, according to the sheriff's office Thursday evening, authorities found 21 dogs, 27 cats, six bird species, five rabbits, a gopher tortoise and a chicken. Of the dogs, 13 were caged in the kitchen and living room, lying in their own urine and feces. Officers and deputies discovered and rescued other pets and livestock from throughout the

property, totaling 84 animals. Most of the animals were suffering from open sores. Animal shelter staff had to euthanize a dog suffering from severe malnourishment to the point it couldn't stand, according to the sheriff's office.  
 See PAIR/Page A5

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Apply for rental assistance**

The Citrus County Housing Services Division will open a waiting list for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program at 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 28.

The waiting list will remain open until 5 p.m. Friday, July 30. At that time, the waiting list will close and no further applications will be accepted.

Applications will be available online only. No walk-ins will be accepted and applications are not available at the Section 8 office. Applicants may use any computer, tablet, or smartphone with internet access to apply.

Section 8 is a federally funded rental assistance program provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for low-income households, especially those in the following categories:

- County residents.
- Non-English speakers.
- The homeless.
- Those 62 years of age or older.
- Those with a disability.
- Victims of domestic violence.

A computer lottery system will be used to randomly select 150 applications and will then rank the applications using these local preferences.

To apply, visit [tinyurl.com/34mkd8rk](http://tinyurl.com/34mkd8rk). Visit the Housing Services website at [tinyurl.com/pfe8768t](http://tinyurl.com/pfe8768t).

For additional information, call 352-527-7520.

**Register to vote at Third Friday**

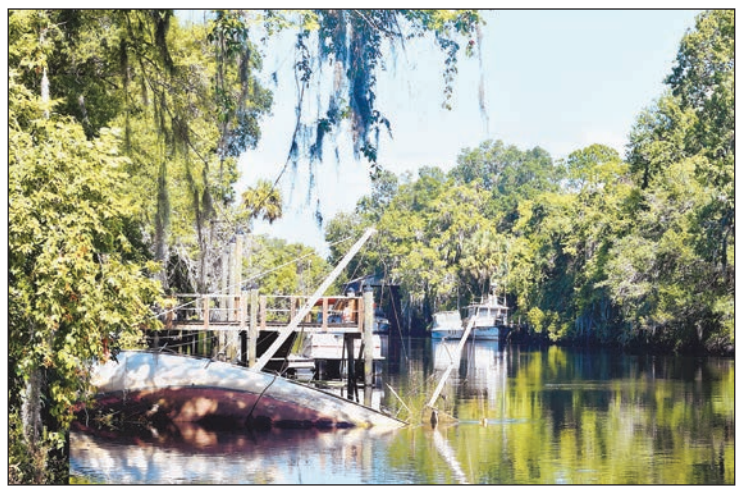
The Supervisor of Elections Office will be at the Third Friday event in Inverness from 5 to 7 p.m. July 16 in front of the Old Courthouse Museum, 1 Courthouse Square.

Stop by to make changes to your voter record, register to vote or request to vote-by-mail. Information to apply for election worker positions will also be available.

To learn more, visit [votecitrus.gov](http://votecitrus.gov), email [vote@votecitrus.gov](mailto:vote@votecitrus.gov) or call 352-564-7120.

— From staff reports

# Battle for the Withlacoochee



The Withlacoochee River flows from the Green Swamp northwest into the Gulf of Mexico near Inglis, pictured above.

## Report indicates poor health of river; stakeholders called to act

**BUSTER THOMPSON**  
*Staff writer*

After almost a decade of fundraising, research and patience, citizen advocates of the Withlacoochee River have the proof to show their waterway needs a lot of help.

"We did the investigation; it was tedious, it was expensive," said Dan Hilliard, president of Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration Inc. (W.A.R.). "But it's necessary, it's long overdue and we got it done."

It was in 2012 when members of WAR decided to pursue an extensive study to illustrate the health of the river's most downstream section in between Citrus and Levy counties — the Lower Withlacoochee River.

In early July 2021, following three phases of work, Wetland Solutions Inc. published a

report of its findings.

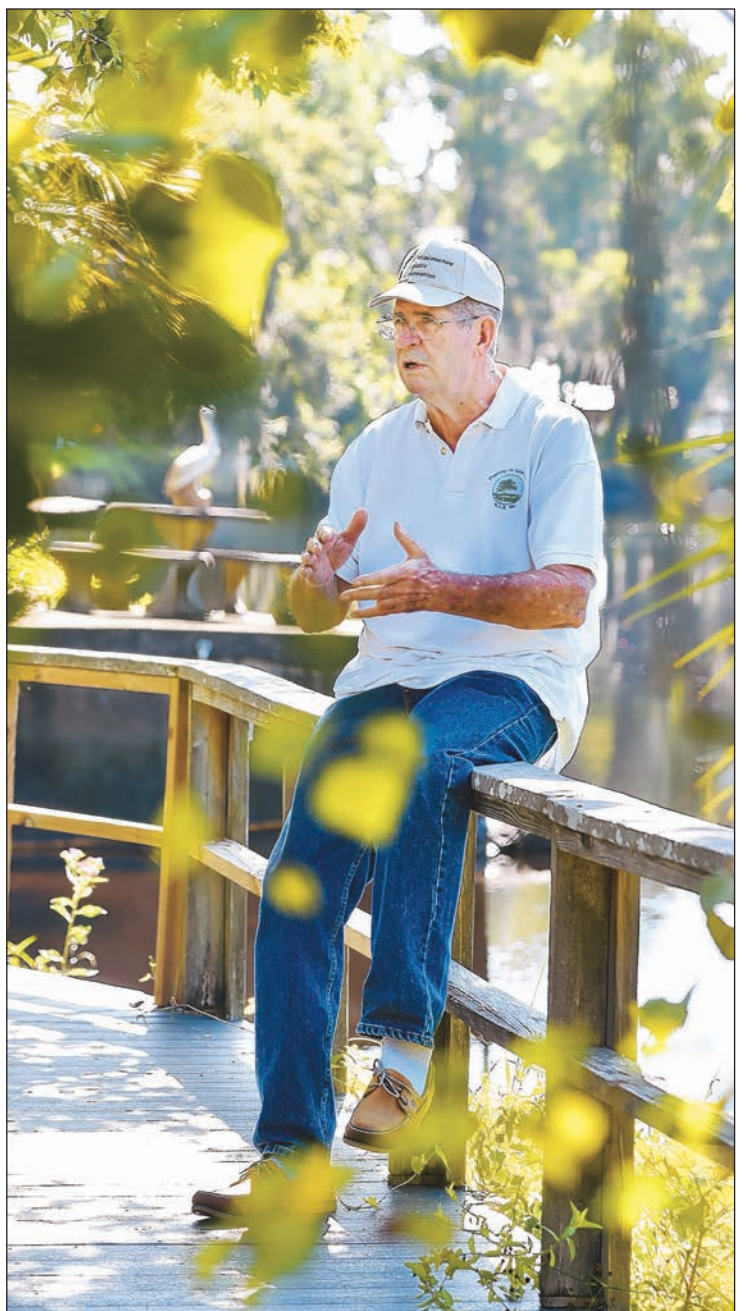
What the Gainesville-based company discovered was unsettling, documenting "a variety of hydrological, physical, chemical, biological and structural impairments" from 120 years of human nature.

As a result, invasive vegetation has flourished while native fisheries and other river habitats have either suffered or died off.

"There was a downturn in what we were seeing in the river," Hilliard said, describing his residency along the lower river from 2001 to 2015. "The things we saw and appreciated ... those things were all gone, and it was the lifeblood of this community."

To read a copy of the report, view the online version of this story at [chronicleonline.com](http://chronicleonline.com).

See BATTLE/Page A7



Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration Inc. (W.A.R.) president Dan Hilliard addresses a recent study to determine the health of the Withlacoochee River. The river is a vital ecological resource for much of Central Florida.

# PDC OKs plan for extension

## Connecting Brentwood Circle to Ottawa Avenue

**MIKE WRIGHT**  
*Staff writer*

Citrus County planners gave their backing to a plan to add 400 villas to a new Brentwood development but does not give current residents direct access to the traffic signal at Ottawa Avenue and County Road 486.

The Planning and Development Commission, or PDC, voted 6-1 Thursday, July 15, to recommend approval to change the Brentwood Farms master plan to allow for the

additional homes and an extension of Ottawa Avenue to serve the new development called Davis Reserve.

County commissioners have the final say. A public hearing is set for 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 10, at the county courthouse.

PDC members said they think it's in the developer's best interest to connect Brentwood Circle to the Ottawa extension, allowing occupants of Brentwood's 800 homes access to Ottawa and the traffic signal.

Brentwood Circle is a right-turn only out of the development at C.R. 486. Motorists wanting to head east must do the turn-around at the Ottawa signal.

Brentwood is a Citrus Hills development. Citrus Hills attorney Stephen Hallett said the only issue is whether to extend Ottawa to serve the new community only, or not extend Ottawa and use the current Brentwood Circle access point for both Brentwood and Davis Reserve.  
 See PLAN/Page A7

# COVID cases on rise locally

**FRED HIERS**  
*Staff writer*

Citrus County is seeing an increase in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations, according to local officials monitoring cases of the potentially deadly disease.

"We're not going in the right direction," said Audrey Stasko, spokeswoman for the department of health in Citrus County. "This is alarming."

Despite months of declining COVID-19 cases, cases are again on the rise, as it is in many Florida counties and in many parts of the United States, according to the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention.  
 See COVID/Page A5

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<b>2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT</b>  21060329 <b>\$21,992</b>	<b>2017 MINI COOPER BASE</b>  21060268 <b>\$21,993</b>	<b>2018 FORD ESCAPE SEL</b>  21060191 <b>\$22,993</b>	<b>2019 TOYOTA TACOMA SR5 V6</b>  21060287 <b>\$34,772</b>	<b>2018 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER XLE</b>  21060109 <b>\$34,993</b>
<b>2018 RAM 1500 BIG HORN</b>  21060312 <b>\$35,992</b>	<b>2017 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT LT1</b>  21060040 <b>\$37,552</b>	<b>2020 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER XLE</b>  21060122 <b>\$38,993</b>	<b>2020 FORD MUSTANG GT</b>  21060259 <b>\$40,882</b>	<b>2021 HYUNDAI PALISADE SEL</b>  21060226 <b>\$42,992</b>
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MINUTES FROM SPRING HILL, OCALA, AND HERNANDO OFF US-19

*Around the*  
**COUNTY**

**Meet county's property appraiser**

The community is invited to connect with Citrus County's new property appraiser, Cregg E. Dalton, at 9:30 a.m. July 21 at the Central Ridge Library, 425 W. Roosevelt Blvd. in Beverly Hills.

This event is part of a new Citrus County Library System program called "Community Connections" that will allow Citrus residents to network with a special guest monthly. Residents will be able to discover current resources while building relationships with their neighbors.

For those who can't make it to Community Connections this month, there will be additional opportunities to meet Dalton.

■ 9:30 a.m. Aug. 19 at the Homosassa Public Library, 4100 S. Grandmarch Ave.

■ 9:30 a.m. Sept. 8 at the Lakes Region Library, 1511 Druid Road in Inverness.

All programs will begin with a short presentation, followed by a time of casual conversation over coffee.

For information about the property appraiser's office, their services and their programs, visit [citruspa.org](http://citruspa.org).

**Art center to host guitar concert**

The Art Center of Citrus County presents, "Gilewitz & May American fingerstyle Guitar & Bluegrass Concert," with showings at 3 and 8 p.m. July 21, 2644 N. Annapolis Ave. in Hernando.

Guitar wizard Richard Gilewitz returns with Tim May to present music and thought-provoking humor.

Tickets are \$25. For information, call the box office at 352-746-7606 or visit [artcenterofcitruscounty.org](http://artcenterofcitruscounty.org).

**Meet the author: Jay Miller**

Lake-Sumter State College head softball coach, Jay Miller, will talk about his new book, "The Island: An Unconventional Way of Coaching People, not Players," at 11 a.m. July 17 at the Lakes Region Library, 1511 Druid Road in Inverness.

Miller recorded a TEDx Talk earlier this year, which will be played at the beginning of his talk, followed by a question and answer segment and a book signing. Books will be available for purchase while he is there.

**Learn to choose the best plant for your landscape**

Citrus County Utilities Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program will have a free virtual gardening workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 22. Once established, the right plant is often sustainable without additional supplemental watering. Choosing appropriate plant materials, planting them correctly and managing them wisely will ensure a garden's success.

To register, visit [ccuffl.program.eventbrite.com](http://ccuffl.program.eventbrite.com). For additional information, call Steven Davis at 352-527-5708.

— From staff reports

**Correction**

Due to reporter error, a story on Page A1 of Thursday's Chronicle, "Residents don't want gate," contained incorrect information. The vote in Brentwood whether residents wanted to pay for a gated entrance was 194 against, 162 for. The Chronicle regrets the error.

Readers can alert the Citrus County Chronicle to any errors in news articles by emailing [community@chronicleonline.com](mailto:community@chronicleonline.com) or by calling 352-563-5660.

**Chronicle photo editor captures first-place honors at FSNE awards banquet**

Chronicle Photo Editor Matthew Beck with his wife, Debbie, by his side, proudly displays the two first-place honors he won Thursday, July 15, at the annual Florida Society of Newspaper Editors awards banquet in Sarasota. Beck won first place in spot news photography and feature photography. Chronicle reporter Michael D. Bates, not pictured, took second place in beat reporting for his work covering the ins-and-outs of the business scene throughout Citrus County.

Chronicle



**Grease likely cause of home fire**

**FRED HIERS**  
*Staff writer*

A Citrus Springs home fire was confined to the kitchen Wednesday after county fire rescue was called to the scene just after midnight.

Firefighters from Citrus Springs, DeRosa, Pine Ridge and Hernando responded to smoke coming from the front of the house.

People living in the house were alerted to the smoke by the home's smoke detectors and were able to get out of the residence safely with their pets.

According to Citrus County Fire Rescue, the fire started and was contained to the kitchen. County Fire Rescue reported that one of the people living in the house told firefighters that at about 11:40 p.m. the night before she left a pot of grease on the stove after frying food.

Firefighters said they did not find any other fire in the house. Firefighters ventilated the home and once safe to enter allowed the occupants to go inside and gather some of their belongings.

Firefighters responded to the fire at 12:10 a.m. and the fire was under control at 12:23 a.m., according to fire rescue officials.

There were no injuries. The damage to the house is estimated at \$30,000. The power company responded to secure power. The Red Cross was contacted to assist the occupants. The last unit cleared the scene at 1:37 a.m.

**GREASE FIRES**

- Turn off the heat source.
- Do not try to carry a burning pot outside.
- Do not put water on a grease fire. Smother it with a lid or cookie sheet, if possible.
- If not possible, get to safety and call 911.

**We Care gets custom labels**



We Care received 45,000 cans of vegetables — with their own "We Care" label.

*Canned veggies now easy to see*

**NANCY KENNEDY**  
*Staff writer*

We Care Food Pantry recently unloaded nearly 45,000 cans of vegetables funded through a grant from the Board of Citrus County Commissioners.

The vegetables, purchased through Zigui manufacturing, include baked beans, mixed vegetables and green peas and come with a customized "We Care Food Pantry" label approved by the FDA.

The vegetables will supplement the canned goods distributed to Citrus County citizens through the 15 We Care mobile food pantry sites each month throughout the county.



We Care food pantry recently received a shipment of 45,000 cans of vegetables, funded by a grant from the county.

Want to help fight hunger? Volunteers and donations are always needed.

Visit the We Care website at [wecarefoodpantry.org](http://wecarefoodpantry.org) or call 352-503-2079.

Special to the Chronicle

**Man stabs victim during dinner argument**

**FRED HIERS**  
*Staff writer*

A Citrus County man faces a charge of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon after an argument during a living room meal escalated to violence.

The arrest of Michael Kevin Burks, 57, began when the arresting Citrus County Sheriff's Office deputy was called to a Crystal River complaint. According to Burks' arrest report, the deputy spotted Burks walking south on Turkey Oak Drive towards State Road 44.

The deputy reported that when

they approached Burks he said, "I stabbed him," according to records. The arresting deputy handcuffed Burks and placed him in another deputy's patrol car while the arresting deputy headed to Woodbury Court in Crystal River about the stabbing complaint.

According to records, the deputy arrived at the Crystal River home and saw the stabbing victim and emergency workers tending to his wounds.

The arresting deputy again spoke with Burks and according



**Michael Burks**

to records Burks told the deputy that he and the victim got into a conflict and he "fixed it."

The arresting deputy met with a witness who told the deputy that he was in his living room with another witness, Michael Burks and the victim when he saw Michael Burks dump his plate of food on the victim's lap, according to records.

The witness told the deputy that Michael Burks and the victim argued and Burks warned the victim by saying, "I'll stab you,"

several times. According to the report, the witness told the deputy he saw Michael Burks then stab the victim on his left side with a steak knife.

Another witness told the arresting deputy that Michael Burks and the victim argued and the argument became physical. She told the deputy that the other witness separated the two men and soon later the victim said he had been stabbed, according to records.

The deputy charged Michael Burks with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. His bond was \$10,000.

**Citrus County Sheriff's Office**

**Arrests from July 13**

■ **Jeremy O.C. Cook**, 34, Beverly Hills, arrested July 13 for domestic battery. No bond.

■ **Dmitry Michael Roberts**, 23, Lake Panasoffkee, arrested July 13 for failure to appear. Bond \$1,000.

■ **James Perry Thomas**, 34, Inverness, arrested July 13 for hinder/delay/prevent communication to LEO/judge information relating to offense or VOP, criminal mischief (\$200 or more but less than \$1,000), resist officer without violence and domestic battery. No bond.

■ **Chester Alexander Lee**, 42, Homosassa, arrested July 13 for felony battery — domestic — by strangulation. No bond.

■ **William Louis Root**, 65, Homosassa, arrested July 13 for

*For the RECORD*

driving while license suspended/revoked (knowingly — first offense). Bond \$500.

■ **Shauna Mariah Carpenter**, 21, Crystal River, arrested July 13 for violation of probation and resist officer without violence. No bond.

■ **Jada Catherine Buchner**, 24, Beverly Hills, arrested July 13 for violation of probation, possession cannabis (less than 20 grams) and drug paraphernalia. No bond.

■ **Carey Glenn Norton**, 48, Homosassa, arrested July 13 for domestic battery. No bond.

■ **Benjamin Allen Jones**, 59, Dunnellon, arrested July 13 for failure to appear. Bond \$2,000.

■ **Jonathon Michael Argeronon**, 42, arrested July 13 for possession of controlled substance. Bond \$2,000.

**Beverly Hills man federally charged, accused of racketeering for white supremacist gang 'Unforgiven'**

**BUSTER THOMPSON**  
*Staff writer*

A Beverly Hills man was federally charged alongside 15 others on allegations they committed crime on behalf of their white supremacist gang.

Darrin Terranova, 51, was indicted July 1 on a charge of conspiring to commit assault in aid of racketeering activity.

Court records show Terranova, also known as "Nova," was arrested Thursday, July 15, the same day a judge unsealed the indictment within the U.S. District Court in Ocala.

According to the 18-page indictment, Terranova and his codefendants were members of the Unforgiven, who allegedly engaged in murder, violence, kidnapping, robbery and obstruction of justice to further their criminal enterprise.

Members of the Unforgiven also used "corrupt law enforcement officers and state employees" to gather information about criminal investigations and to help smuggle contraband to inmates, according to the indictment.

Terranova faces a sentence of up to three years in prison, and a maximum fine of \$250,000 if convicted.



# PAIR

Continued from Page A1

A minor was also found living in deplorable conditions.

Deputies arrested 51-year-old Tabitha Kaye Iverson and 42-year-old Christine Anne Iverson as a result of their investigations.



**Tabitha Iverson**



**Christine Iverson**

According to the sheriff's office, the Iversons face 61 counts of aggravated animal cruelty, 13 counts of misdemeanor animal cruelty and a charge of child neglect.

They were each jailed under bonds of \$137,000.

On Thursday, the county closed its animal shelter to the public to allow staffers time to process and begin caring for the confiscated animals. The shelter will re-open Friday and Saturday on an appointment basis, and by appointment next Tuesday through Saturday. The shelter is routinely closed to the public on Mondays.

There are no plans at the time to find space off campus, as the county once did

by converting a former fire station on County Road 581 into a temporary shelter holding area.

Shelter employees are making space available.

"I have two dogs living in my office," shelter director Colleen Yarbrough said Thursday.

Pet adoptions and fostering reduces shelter overcrowding, but the county cannot adopt animals that may be considered evidence in criminal cruelty cases.

Yarbrough said the Iversons signed over custody of their animals to the county, preventing the need for the county to seek ownership through the courts.

Ownership means the county can adopt out the animals once the court cases clear, Yarbrough said.

For now, though, it's an issue. The county has about 100 dogs on-site at the shelter, but only 31 are available for adoptions. The rest are there from pending criminal cruelty cases.

It's a similar story for cats: Eleven cats are available for adoption while another 26 are at the shelter as a result of cruelty cases.

There is an urgent need of animals adopters, fosterers and rescues to help make room at the animal shelter.

Interested in caring for a shelter animal, email [colleen.yarbrough@citrusbocc.com](mailto:colleen.yarbrough@citrusbocc.com) or call 352-746-8400.

# COVID

Continued from Page A1

The CDC reported yesterday an average of 24,141 new cases nationally per day over the previous seven days, more than a 65% increase over the week before. The number of new cases has doubled during the past three weeks, according to the Johns Hopkins University data.

Stasko told the Chronicle that local cases mirrored the national trend.

During the end of May Citrus County was seeing between five and 10 new cases per day, Stasko said. During the week of July 6 through July 12, the average number of new cases here had grown to 19-20 per day.

"And we are seeing it in younger, unvaccinated people," Stasko said.

The rise in Citrus is not a surprise, Stasko said. Only 51% of the

population 12 years old and older in Citrus County has been vaccinated, she said.

Even though almost half of the people eligible for the vaccine have not been inoculated, many people in the community "have become relaxed" and gone back to pre-COVID behavior and forgotten the virus is contagious and deadly, Stasko said.

"It's out of sight, out of mind," she said of the coronavirus. "And that's just not the case."

From July 2 through July 8, the percent of people getting tested and being positive was 6.1%. That was up from 5.4% the week before. Nearly 12,000 people in Citrus County have been infected. Of those, 463 people have died, according to USAFacts.

Stasko said the rising numbers are not

surprising given the recent Independence Day celebrations and that school is out and people are mingling and traveling on vacations again.

Stasko said she wants to remind people that most of the people getting infected are those who have not been vaccinated and getting vaccinated is still easy.

The DOH in Citrus County is still offering free vaccinations 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday and Wednesday and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the Duke Energy building at 8200 West Venerable St., Crystal River. The DOH will also offer vaccinations 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, July 24.

No appointment is necessary. For more information contact DOH at 352-527-0068 and follow the prompts dialing nine and then three.



**Audrey Stasko**  
Citrus-DOH spokeswoman.

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Obituaries

**Anita Crosby-Banks, 83**

Anita Crosby-Banks passed away peacefully on June 19, 2021 at Oak Hill hospital in Brooksville, FL. She was 83.



Anita Crosby-Banks

Anita was born on May 11, 1938 in Chicago, IL to Henry and Margaret Ross. She is survived by her loving husband, Dennis Banks of Lecanto, FL, daughter's, Tina Hodges (Donald), Karen Kratzer (William), Barbara Van Camp, son's, Ron Martin (Kara), Lester Lytle Jr., Gregory Lytle, brother, Michael Boyer (Joyce), grandchildren, Kelly, Jeffery, Mark, Jessica, Kelli, Kristopher, Jason, Lindsay, Alicia, Gregory Jr., Andrew, Tonya, Robert, Jacob, Kyle, and Kayla, great grandchildren, Jordyn, Hayley, Brooke, Emily, Dillon, Dalton, Dublin, Dawsyn and a large extended family.

Anita enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling, fishing, bowling and caring for her pets. After 25 years of dedicated service, she retired from the Veterans Canteen Service at the Gainesville, FL VA. Anita was extremely proud to serve our nation's Veterans.

A memorial service will take place at 11:00 am on July 20, 2021 at Bushnell National Cemetery, 6502 SW 102 ND. Avenue, Bushnell, FL 33512. Pastor Ted Marshall will officiate the service. Family and friends are welcome to attend and celebrate Anita's life. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your local animal shelter.

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

**James Foust, 74**

James L Foust July 4, 1946 74 passed away on June 12th 2021 at hospice and there is no funeral services. May God bless his soul and rest in peace.

**Wilma Mathes, 79**  
PLANT CITY

Wilma Jean Mathes, age 79, of Plant City, FL passed away on July 14, 2021. Services will be held privately.

**SO YOU KNOW**

- Obituaries must be verified with the funeral home or society in charge of arrangements.
- Obituary deadlines for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday editions is 3 p.m. the day before. Deadlines for Saturday, Sunday and Monday editions is 3 p.m. Friday.
- The Chronicle does not edit obituaries for content.
- Obituaries are at [www.chronicleonline.com](http://www.chronicleonline.com).
- Email [obits@chronicleonline.com](mailto:obits@chronicleonline.com) or call 352-563-5660 for more information.
- Death notices are \$25, and may include: full name of deceased; age; hometown/state; date of death; place of death; date, time and place of visitation and funeral services and, for members of the military, the branch of the armed services in which they served.

**Ruth Sabrosky, 77**  
BROOKSVILLE

Ruth Ann Sabrosky, 77, of Brooksville, FL passed away in Brooksville at BayFront Hospital on July 12, 2021.



Ruth Sabrosky

She was born to the late Charles W. Miller and Viola G. (Burriss) Miller on May 18, 1944 in Lowell, Massachusetts. She was a dedicated homemaker and a Certified Nursing Assistant for many years. She married her late husband, Dean, in 1992. He passed away on September 21st, 2006. Ruth made Citrus County her home 9 years ago when she moved from the state of Michigan. She was an avid arts and crafter, and loved coming up with new craft ideas.

Ruth, along with her parents and husband, was preceded in death by her siblings and by her grandson, Donovan. Those left to cherish her memory are her children, Heath Walsh (Amy) of Seminole, FL, Charlene Leckie (Buddy) of Colorado Springs, CO, Heather Peffers (Richard) of Floral City, FL, Buffy Snow (Phillip) of Centerville, MI, and Amy McClain (Chuck) of Sturgis, MI; her brother, Charles Miller; her sister, Eleanor Sanger; her 16 grandchildren, Fawn, Jeremy, Aaron, Kaitlyn, Nick, Sarah, Wendy, Amber, Jacob, Daniel, Betty, Melissa, Abigail, Abraham, Thomas, and Sarah; and 25 cherished great-grandchildren. She was loved by many and will be missed dearly.

Local arrangements and Cremation with Care is under the direction of the Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home, Inverness, FL. A Celebration of Life will be held in Michigan at Hackman Family Funeral Home at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Lighthouse, Brooksville, FL

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

**Clara Walters, 84**  
INVERNESS

Mrs. Clara Dawn Walters, age 84 years, of Inverness, passed away Saturday, July 10, 2021 in Inverness.

She was born February 14, 1937 in Erie, PA to Donald and Clarabelle Armstrong Skibinski and came to Inverness in 1991 from Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Walters was a member of the First Assembly of God, Inverness.

She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Raymond Schell; 2nd Husband, Harold Walters; 2 sons: Raymond Schell and Paul Schell. Surviving are her son: Matthew Schell, Indiana, PA; a Brother: Patrick Skibinski, Marienville, PA; a sister: Glory Ann Duvelin Bolincho, Senora, CA; and several grandchildren.

She was be interred at a later date in Greenwood Cemetery, Indiana, PA. Arrangement are under the direction of the Inverness Chapel of Hooper Funeral Homes.

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

- A flag will be included for free for those who served in the U.S. military. (Please note the branch of service when submitting an obituary.)

**Habitat swears in board of directors**



Special to the Chronicle

Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County Inc. recently swore in its new board of directors. Judge Mark J. Yerman was in attendance, and swore in the board on June 24. From left are: John Heindel, Joseph Cole, David Laymann, Mark J. Yerman, Dwight Hooper, Chris DeFelice, Linda Powers, David Locke, George Mavros, Joe Bassett, Mark Casper and Steven Hilsdon.

**Rotary Club of Inverness wins awards**

Special to the Chronicle

The Rotary Club of Inverness was recently presented with multiple awards and honors at their award banquet, held at Waller Ranch in Dade City. The Inverness club is among 48 active clubs in District 6950.

The "Medium-Sized Club of the Year" award was given to the club for their community service and the activism of its members.

Club president Linda Liebert-Hall was given the "Step Up Award" for her efforts in holding the club together during the pandemic and surpassing the expectations for community service and engagement.

The club was also honored for their public image and public relations presence. They were given a PI/PR Award for their zone, which encompasses Florida, Georgia and the Caribbean.

Two local Rotary members, Eloy and Maria Nunez, were recognized for their work regarding awareness and elimination of human trafficking.

Eloy is a member of the Rotary Club of Inverness and has served as its president. He was recently named "Rotarian of the Year" in his club. Maria is the secretary of the Rotary Club of Downtown Inverness.

To learn more about the club, visit the Rotary Club of Inverness on Facebook or [invernessflrotary.org](http://invernessflrotary.org).



Special to the Chronicle

From left are: Eloy Nunez, Karen Aultman, Linda Liebert-Hall, Mike Hall, Sally Long, Lace Blue-McLean and Bonnie Rybak.



From left are: Eloy Nunez, Maria Nunez and Jeanie Germain, district governor.

President Linda Liebert-Hall, right, receives the "Step Up Award" from Jeanie Germain, district governor.



Rotary Club of Inverness President Linda Liebert-Hall, right, accepts the "Medium-Sized Rotary Club of the Year" award from Jeanie Germain, district governor.



Public Relations Chair Bonnie Rybak, left, and President Linda Liebert-Hall, pose with the PI/PR Award.

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 LESLIE RHODES - Service: Saturday (8/21) 11:00 A.M.  
 Lecanto Church of Christ  
 PATRICK DEVITT - Arrangements Pending  
 DONALD PURCELL - Service: Saturday (7/17) 3:00-5:00 P.M.  
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**WEEKLY AQUATIC TREATMENT SCHEDULE FOR CITRUS COUNTY**  
 Citrus County's Aquatic Services Division plans the following aquatic weed control activities for the week beginning: **July 19, 2021**

HERBICIDE TREATMENTS		
Waterbody	Plant	Herbicide Used
Inverness Pool	Cabomba, Nuphar, Torpedograss, Linnophyllia, Tussocks, Cattails	Clipper, Glyphosate, Polaris, Diquat, 2,4D
Hernando Pool	Hydrilla, Torpedograss, Tussocks	Aquathol, Diquat, Polaris, Glyphosate, 2,4D
Floral City Pool	Duckweed, Indian Marshgrass	Clipper, Polaris
Withlao ob ee Rie r	Floating, Duckweed	Diquat, Clipper

MECHANICAL HARVESTING		
Inverness Pool	Illinois Pondweed, Nitella	Mechanical Harvesting
Hernando Pool	Tussocks, Southern Milfoil	Mechanical Harvesting
Chassahowitzka River	Lyngbya, Cabomba	Mechanical Harvesting

All treatments are contingent upon weather conditions and water quality. Treated areas identified with "Warning Signs" indicating the date of treatment and the necessary water use restrictions. For further information, please call 352-527-7620 or view our website at <http://www.citrusbocc.com/pubworks/aquatics/spray-schedule.pdf>.  
 Si necesita un traductor de español por favor haga arreglos con el Condado dentro de dos días de la notificación de la publicación 352-527-5370  
 Citrus County Division of Aquatic Services

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# Recovery effort at collapsed building could end soon

Associated Press

**SURFSIDE** — The recovery efforts for a South Florida condo building that collapsed last month might be coming to an end soon.

Miami-Dade police identified four more victims of the Surfside condo collapse Thursday, meaning that 90 of the 97 confirmed dead have been identified as the recovery enters a final stretch.

County officials have been able to account for 240 people connected to the building, with eight people still classified as missing, or “potentially unaccounted for.” If seven of those missing are matched to the seven still-identified remains, search teams would be looking for one more missing person, though officials have not confirmed that

scenario nor said when the search would be complete.

A cause has not yet been pinpointed for the collapse, although there were several previous warnings of major structural damage at the 40-year-old building.

A judge approved the sale of the oceanfront property on Wednesday, with proceeds intended to benefit victims of the deadly disaster. At a hearing, Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Michael Hanzman ordered that the process begin to sell the site of Champlain Towers South, which could fetch \$100 million to \$110 million according to court records.

The judge also approved returning \$2.4 million in deposits that some Champlain condo owners had already made toward an assessment to pay for \$15 million in planned major repairs.

# PLAN

Continued from Page A1

Hallet noted the developer asked Brentwood residents if they would be willing to pay an additional \$140 a year in property owner dues to cover the costs of a 24-hour-a-day staffed gatehouse. Property owners voted it down, though some who attended Thursday’s meeting said the letter seeking input was confusing.

The county’s engineering division had opposed extending Ottawa without connecting it with Brentwood Circle. But Land Development Director Joanna Coutu said she received an email from engineering officials late Monday saying they now

support Citrus Hills’s contention that the two developments should not be connected.

Board members, however, found it odd that the county’s engineers would take one view and then change it the night before the meeting.

“It feels a little shady to me,” PDC member David Bramblett said.

Residents who attended Thursday’s meeting said turning right out of Brentwood is dangerous and noted it’s the only access in and out of the development.

Robert Lackner noted what he believed is the unfairness of Citrus Hills receiving permission for an Ottawa extender and then blocking access from Brentwood residents who need a safer access to

C.R. 486.

“They have the money to spite us but not for our safety,” he said. “To me it’s always about money, but safety should come first.”

PDC members said they couldn’t force Citrus Hills to connect Ottawa with Brentwood.

“They should be a good neighbor and a good steward to the community,” Bramblett said.

Board member William Burden added: “There is such thing as good will and we can’t enforce that.”

Board chairman Michael Facemyer, who lives in Brentwood, said Citrus Hills should help with alleviating the situation at Brentwood Circle and C.R. 486.

“That is a very dangerous intersection,” he said. “I think there’s a fix to it.”

# BATTLE

Continued from Page A1

Wetland Solutions recommended several solutions for U.S. and Florida agencies and lawmakers to consider — from major reconstructions and septic-to-sewer projects, to herbicide and fertilizer regulations.

According to the company, the cost of restoring the lower river could be between \$20-150 million, depending on which strategies are taken.

“This is a matter of perspective — the price tag of trying to fix the Everglades ... is in the billions of dollars; this is beer change compared to that,” Hilliard said. “It may not cost that much, it all depends on what they decide to do, and they all have implications.”

It’s now up to WAR, its roughly 100 members and their supporters to spur action from the many stakeholders involved in managing the river.

“We have put some light on things that a lot of people, even the regulators, were not aware of,” Hilliard said, “and, at the end of the day, I think we’re going to see a positive benefit from it; the job is not over yet.”

■ ■ ■  
This isn’t WAR’s first battle for the Withlacoochee River.

Founded in 1984 under the

“We have not conserved this river. We need to step up to the plate and start doing things differently.”

Dan Hilliard

Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration Inc. (W.A.R.) president.

original title of Withlacoochee Area Residents, the citizen-led nonprofit helped limit mining operations at quarries within the river’s watershed.

It also led the charge to designate the river as an Outstanding Florida Waterway, affording it special environmental protections.

WAR continues to have an interest in how minimum-flow levels are set for the river and Citrus County’s coast by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). For more information on WAR, visit warinonline.com.

Why focus on the Lower Withlacoochee River? It’s where WAR was seeing the most damage.

“We knew, in essence, this is the sphincter of the Withlacoochee River, and water is not everything that flows downhill,” Hilliard said. “This is the end, this is where the mess is.”

Funding a study of the entire 157-mile Withlacoochee River, which is fed by the Green Swamp near Lakeland in

northwest Polk County, would also be too expensive.

Stretching from Lake Rousseau to its mouth with the Gulf of Mexico near Yankeetown, the Lower Withlacoochee is divided by the unfinished Cross-Florida Barge Canal.

Hilliard said Wetland Solutions gave WAR a quote in the range of \$340,000 to analyze the Lower Withlacoochee River, but its study area ranged into Lake Rousseau and as far upstream as the main river’s junction with the Rainbow River near Dunnellon.

Roughly \$139,000 in donations came from WAR members, the Felburn Foundation, Yankeetown, Inglis, Duke Energy and Drummond Bank.

Scientists with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and SWFWMD also collaborated with Wetland Solutions, saving WAR over \$190,000.

For the first phase of its studies, Wetland Solutions reviewed archives of the river’s

environmental history.

Its second phase was spent acquiring current readings of water qualities and flows from seven monitoring sites on the river, and the third and final phase was writing the report.

Wetland Solutions tied its findings to human growth and influences, especially with the barge canal’s partial construction in the 1960s.

Due to the canal, which was decommissioned in 1990, the Lower Withlacoochee has been starved of around 1,450 cubic feet per second (cfs) in natural water flow it needs to sustain a healthy ecosystem by flushing out harmful sediments.

Lake Rousseau feeds the first half of the lower river, which then empties into the barge canal. However, the second half of the lower river is dependent on flows from a canal bypass. Tides from the Gulf can also affect the lower river.

Downstream flows from springs upriver have also been weakened because of increased groundwater withdrawals, the report states, rising from 25 million gallons a day (MGD) in 1950 to 132 MGD in 2015.

Without a strong flow, increasing manmade pollutants from sources like septic tanks and herbicides can’t funnel through, creating a pileup of toxic soup that cripples river habitats.

Citing a FDEP study, the

Wetland Solutions report noted a poor ecosystem in the Lower Withlacoochee for macroinvertebrates to survive in. These tiny organisms are essential for larger river species to live on.

“What this river never gets anymore is the 3,000 to 4,000 cubic feet per second to scour the mud out,” Hilliard said. “There’s no basis for indigenous life to proliferate.”

To curtail these issues, Wetland Solutions proposed alternatives for either the canal bypass to be modified or the Lower Withlacoochee River to be reconnected to help increase water flow.

Other solutions included: repairing a leak under the Inglis Dam in between Lake Rousseau and the Lower Withlacoochee; providing centralized sewage to every home in the river’s watershed; establishing a fertilizer ordinance; reducing future groundwater withdrawals; drawing down Lake Rousseau and restricting herbicides.

For Hilliard and his WAR contingent, these endeavors are worth it.

“We have not conserved this river,” he said. “We need to step up to the plate and start doing things differently.”

Contact Chronicle reporter Buster Thompson at 352-564-2916 or bthompson@chronicleonline.com.

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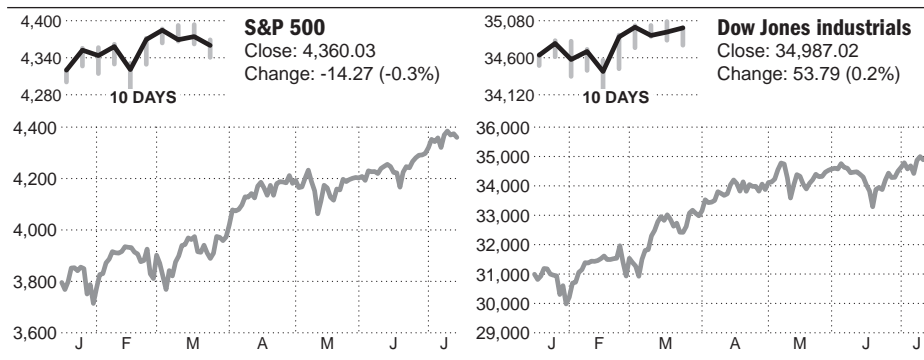


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<b>CABINET STORE/INSTALLER</b> Jurewicz Cabinetry Company HONORABLE MENTION 352-563-6470	<b>CAR WASH</b> Mr. B's Car Wash <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-9274	<b>CARPET CLEANING</b> Service Master Restore <b>WINNER</b> 352-794-0270	<b>CARPET/FLOORING</b> Michael's Floor Covering Inc. <b>WINNER</b> (352) 341-0813	<b>CARPET/FLOORING</b> Cash Carpet and Tile <b>WINNER</b> 352-746-7830	<b>CARPET/FLOORING</b> Surface's Flooring HONORABLE MENTION 352-628-9663	<b>CHIROPRACTIC</b> Kinnard Chiropractic <b>WINNER</b> 352-726-0554
<b>COFFEE SHOP</b> Cattle Dog Coffee Roasters <b>WINNER</b> cattledogcoffee.com	<b>DANCE STUDIO</b> A Step Ahead Performing Arts Academy <b>WINNER</b> 352-423-1118	<b>DAY SPA</b> The Aesthetic House HONORABLE MENTION 352-601-1990	<b>DELI</b> Sea Hagg Deli <b>WINNER</b> 352-651-5124	<b>DENTIST</b> Ledger Dentistry <b>WINNER</b> 352-628-3443	<b>ELECTRICAL</b> Bailey Electric & Signs LLC <b>WINNER</b> 352-794-6084	<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b> JAM - Just Amuse Me! <b>WINNER</b> www.justamuseme.com
<b>EYE EXAMS (OPTOMETRIST)</b> West Coast Eye Institute John Rowda, D.O. <b>WINNER</b> 352-726-6633	<b>EYE GLASSES (OPTICIAN)</b> Mez Mer Eyes <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-2020	<b>EYE SPECIALIST (OPHTHALMOLOGY)</b> West Coast Eye Institute John Rowda, D.O. <b>WINNER</b> 352-726-6633	<b>FISHING GUIDE</b> Salt Face Fishing Charters <b>WINNER</b> 352-634-0861	<b>FITNESS/HEALTH CLUB</b> The Mini Gym - Indoor Play Park <b>WINNER</b> 352-428-6102	<b>FLEA MARKET</b> Howards Flea Market <b>WINNER</b> 352-628-3532	<b>FLORIST</b> Waverley Florist <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-1424
<b>FURNITURE</b> Easy Livin' Furniture <b>WINNER</b> 352-228-4002	<b>GARAGE DOOR INSTALLER</b> Discount Garage Doors <b>WINNER</b> 352-637-5800	<b>GIFT SHOP</b> RSVP Market <b>WINNER</b> 352-228-8325	<b>GIFT SHOP</b> All About Nature HONORABLE MENTION 352-563-1425	<b>GLASS REPAIR</b> Midstate Glass <b>WINNER</b> 352-726-5946	<b>HARDWARE</b> Ace Hardware <b>WINNER</b> Inverness/Hernando (352) 726-8811	<b>HEARING AID CENTER</b> Davis Family Hearing <b>WINNER</b> www.davisfamilyhearing.com
<b>HEARING AID CENTER</b> Father and Son's Hearing Aid Centers HONORABLE MENTION www.citruscountyhearingaids.com	<b>HEARING AID CENTER</b> Gardner Audiology HONORABLE MENTION www.gardneraudiology.com	<b>HOME CARE/COMPANION SERVICES</b> Hopes and Dreams <b>WINNER</b> www.handhomecare.com	<b>HOME HEALTH SERVICES</b> Home Instead Senior Care <b>WINNER</b> 352-249-1257	<b>HOME HEALTH SERVICES</b> Comfort Keepers HONORABLE MENTION 352-726-9145	<b>HOT TUB &amp; SPA DEALER</b> Mr. Pool of Crystal River <b>WINNER</b> 352-563-5944	<b>ICE CREAM</b> Pinecones Ice Cream <b>WINNER</b> 352-419-4187
<b>INSURANCE AGENT</b> Accent Insurance - Dennis Reich <b>WINNER</b> 352-587-2178	<b>INSURANCE AGENT</b> Lassiterware - Kristin Purdy HONORABLE MENTION 352-818-6284	<b>INSURANCE COMPANY</b> Brice Insurance <b>WINNER</b> 352-344-1277	<b>INSURANCE COMPANY</b> Insurance Den, Inc. HONORABLE MENTION 352-628-2331	<b>INSURANCE COMPANY</b> Sheldon Palmes Insurance HONORABLE MENTION 352-628-1030	<b>INVESTMENT FIRM</b> Raymond James and Associates HONORABLE MENTION 352-795-6155	<b>JEWELRY STORE</b> Jim Green Jewelers <b>WINNER</b> 352-563-0633
<b>JEWELRY STORE</b> Inverness Uptown Jewelers HONORABLE MENTION 352-341-3583	<b>KAYAK SALES OR RENTAL</b> Hunter Springs Kayak <b>WINNER</b> www.hunterspringskayak.com	<b>KENNELS</b> Stay & Play Pet Getaway <b>WINNER</b> 352-419-7979	<b>KITCHEN REMODEL</b> Jurewicz Cabinetry Company HONORABLE MENTION 352-563-6470	<b>LANDSCAPER</b> Anson Nursery <b>WINNER</b> 352-628-4554	<b>LOCAL GOLF COURSES</b> Twisted Oaks Golf Club <b>WINNER</b> 352-746-6257	<b>LOCKSMITH</b> Porter's Locksmithing <b>WINNER</b> 352-634-0029
<b>MARINA</b> Pete's Pier <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-3302	<b>MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOL</b> Agogi Academy of Combatives <b>WINNER</b> 352-566-4305	<b>MEDICAL CENTER</b> PedIM Healthcare <b>WINNER</b> www.pedimhealthcare.com	<b>MORTGAGE COMPANY</b> American Mortgage Lenders <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-5626	<b>NAIL SALON</b> Abitare of Paris Salon and Day Spa <b>WINNER</b> www.aparisdayspa.com	<b>NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION</b> Key Training Center <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-5541	<b>OPTICAL OR VISION CENTER</b> Mez Mer Eyes <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-2020
<b>OUTDOOR AND PATIO FURNITURE</b> Crystal Casual Furniture <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-2794	<b>PAINT CONTRACTOR</b> George Swedlige Painting <b>WINNER</b> 352-613-4071	<b>PARTY SUPPLIES/PLANNING</b> Citrus Inflatables <b>WINNER</b> 352-672-0770	<b>PAWNBROKER</b> Colonial Pawn HONORABLE MENTION 352-726-8616	<b>PEST CONTROL SERVICE</b> Accurate Pest Management <b>WINNER</b> 352-344-9998	<b>PET RESCUE GROUP</b> Precious Paws Rescue LLC <b>WINNER</b> 352-726-4700	<b>PHARMACY</b> Brashear's Pharmacy <b>WINNER</b> BrashearsPharmacy.com
<b>PLANT &amp; GARDEN NURSERY</b> Anson Nursery <b>WINNER</b> 352-628-4554	<b>PLUMBING</b> Mike Scott Plumbing <b>WINNER</b> 866-314-4443	<b>PRINTER</b> Homosassa Printing <b>WINNER</b> 652-628-6624	<b>PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</b> Great American Realty <b>WINNER</b> (352) 637-3800	<b>PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</b> Action Rental Management Realty, Inc. HONORABLE MENTION www.citruscountyhomerentals.com	<b>PUB</b> St. John's Tavern <b>WINNER</b> 352-794-6367	<b>PUB</b> Kelly's Half Shell HONORABLE MENTION 352-228-8366
<b>REAL ESTATE OFFICE</b> Alexander Realty Inc. <b>WINNER</b> www.alexre.com	<b>REPLACEMENT WINDOWS</b> Nature Coast Windows and Doors HONORABLE MENTION 352-794-6226	<b>REPLACEMENT WINDOWS</b> Tropical Window, Inc HONORABLE MENTION 352-795-4226	<b>ROOFER</b> AAA Roofing <b>WINNER</b> 352-563-0411	<b>ROOFER</b> Quality First Roofing, LLC HONORABLE MENTION 352-220-7367	<b>RV DEALER</b> Nature Coast RV <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-7820	<b>SEPTIC SERVICE</b> Brooks Septic HONORABLE MENTION 352-644-3341
<b>SHED STORE</b> Probuitt Structures <b>WINNER</b> 352-527-3500	<b>SKILLED NURSING CARE FACILITY</b> Diamond Ridge Rehab <b>WINNER</b> 352-746-9500	<b>SKILLED NURSING CARE FACILITY</b> Citrus Health & Rehabilitation Center HONORABLE MENTION 352-860-0200	<b>SKILLED NURSING CARE FACILITY</b> The Grove Health & Rehabilitation Center HONORABLE MENTION 352-249-3100	<b>STEAKS</b> Cody's Roadhouse <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-7223	<b>T-SHIRT SCREEN PRINT</b> Citrus Sports Apparel <b>WINNER</b> 352-564-9402	<b>SKILLED HOME HEALTH CARE</b> Mederi Caretenders <b>WINNER</b> 352-726-3874
<b>TATTOO PARLOR</b> America's Best Tattoos <b>WINNER</b> 352-794-6656	<b>THRIFT STORE</b> Habitat for Humanity HONORABLE MENTION www.habitatcc.org	<b>THRIFT STORE</b> Citrus County Charities Thrift & More HONORABLE MENTION 352-419-7900	<b>TIRE DEALER</b> Crystal River Firestone <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-5118	<b>TITLE COMPANY</b> A-1 Title of the Nature Coast HONORABLE MENTION 352-563-2727	<b>TRAVEL AGENCY</b> Let's Go Today Travel <b>WINNER</b> 352-302-6190	<b>TRAVEL AGENCY</b> Becky's Travel Store HONORABLE MENTION 352-527-8855
<b>TREE SERVICE</b> Griffin's Tree Care HONORABLE MENTION 352-249-6495	<b>VETERINARIAN</b> Midway Animal Hospital <b>WINNER</b> 352-795-7110	<b>WATER SOFTENERS &amp; CONDITIONING</b> Meeks Water Treatment, Inc HONORABLE MENTION 352-257-2597	<b>WATERFRONT DINING</b> Backwater Fins <b>WINNER</b> 352-794-6000	<b>WEIGHT LOSS CENTER</b> Citrus Medical Weight Loss <b>WINNER</b> www.citrusmedicalweightloss.com	<b>WELDING</b> Citrus Mobile Welding & Fabrication LLC <b>WINNER</b> 352-613-WELD (9353)	



Money & Markets



Company Spotlight UnitedHealth lifts guidance

UnitedHealth Group boosted its full-year outlook for a second time this year after a surprisingly strong second quarter despite sustained, elevated spending tied to the pandemic.

The return of patients after a successful vaccination program in the U.S. has added more medical costs for insurers like UnitedHealth. Executives with the Minnetonka, Minnesota, company said they expect to feel most of that impact during the second half of this year.



Table with financial data for UnitedHealth Group (UNH) including 52-week range (\$290-\$426), price-earnings ratio (24), and total return (40.2%).

Stocks Recap

Table showing stock market performance with columns for NYSE, NASD, and various indices like DOW, S&P 500, and Russell 2000.

Stocks of Local Interest

Table of local interest stocks including AT&T Inc, Ametek Inc, Anheuser-Busch InBev, Bank of America, Capital City Bank, Citigroup, Disney, Duke Energy, EPR Properties, Equity Commonwealth, Exxon Mobil Corp, Ford Motor, Gen Electric, HCA Holdings Inc, Home Depot, Intel Corp, IBM, LKQ Corporation, Lowes Cos, Lumen Technologies, McDonalds Corp, Microsoft Corp, Motorola Solutions, NextEra Energy, Piedmont Office RT, Regions Fnd, Smucker, JM, Texas Instru, UniFirst Corp, Verizon Comm, Vodafone Group, WalMart Strs, and Walgreen Boots Alli.

Dividend Footnotes: a - Extra dividends were paid, but are not included. b - Annual rate plus stock. c - Liquidating dividend. e - Amount declared or paid in last 12 months. f - Current annual rate, which was increased by most recent dividend. g - Sum of dividends paid after stock split. n - Sum of dividends paid this year. Most recent dividend was omitted or deferred. k - Declared or paid this year, a cumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - Current annual rate, which was decreased by most recent dividend announcement. p - Initial dividend, annual rate not known, yield not shown. r - Declared or paid in preceding 12 months plus stock dividend. t - Paid in stock, approximate cash value on ex-distribution date.

Interestrates

Table of interest rates for treasuries, consumer rates, prime rate, and federal funds rate.

Commodities

Table of commodity prices for fuels, metals, and agriculture, including crude oil, gold, silver, and various grains.

Mutual Funds

Table of mutual fund performance with columns for family, fund name, NAV, and total return for various periods.

Story Stocks

Major US stock indexes closed mostly lower Thursday, pulling back further from the record highs they reached at the start of the week. The S&P 500 fell and the benchmark index is now on pace for its first weekly loss in four weeks.

American Int'l Group

AIG Close: \$48.07 ▲ 1.66 or 3.6% The insurance company is selling a 9.9% stake in its Life & Retirement business to Blackstone for \$2.2 Billion.

NortonLifeLock

NLOK Close: \$25.86 ▼ 1.05 or -3.9% The cybersecurity company is considering buying Avast.

United Community Banks

UCBI Close: \$30.79 ▲ 0.09 or 0.3% The bank is buying Reliant Bancorp for about \$517 million in an all-stock deal.

Progressive

PGR Close: \$94.95 ▼ 2.50 or -2.6% The insurer reported disappointing second-quarter earnings.

Allstate

ALL Close: \$130.49 ▼ 1.20 or -0.9% The insurer reported total catastrophe losses of \$752 million during the second quarter.

Stocks close lower Falls below recent record highs

DAMIAN J. TROISE AND ALEX VEIGA Associated Press

Major US stock indexes closed mostly lower Thursday, pulling back further from the record highs they reached at the start of the week.

The S&P 500 fell 0.3% after shedding an early gain. The benchmark index is now on pace for its first weekly loss in four weeks.

Technology and communications stocks, and companies that rely on consumer spending, accounted for much of the pullback, outweighing gains elsewhere in the market.

Energy stocks fell following a broad slide in energy prices. Among the winners were financial stocks, including banks, which have been reporting mostly solid earnings.

Bond yields fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note slipped to 1.30% from 1.35% the day before.

Investors continued to focus on where the economy is headed as the pandemic wanes and on what companies have to say about how higher inflation is affecting their business.

economy is set to continue to do real well," said Chris Gaffney, president of TIAA Bank World Markets. "The big risk is that inflation spikes and stays here."

The S&P 500 fell 14.27 points to 4,360.03. The tech-heavy Nasdaq slid 101.82 points, or 0.7%, to 14,543.13. The Dow Jones Industrial Average bucked the trend and bounced back after being down much of the day.

Small company stocks also fell. The Russell 2000 index lost 12.07 points, or 0.6%, to 2,190.29.

On Thursday, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell delivered his second day of testimony before Congress. Powell reiterated that signs of inflation should ease or reverse over time, while acknowledging that the U.S. is in the midst of an unparalleled economic reopening on the heels of a pandemic-induced recession.

The government said Wednesday that inflation at the wholesale level jumped 1% in June, pushing price gains over the past 12 months up by a record 7.3%. That followed a report a day earlier showing consumer prices posted the biggest 12-

month gain in 13 years. Investors are also trying to determine how the economic recovery will play out for the rest of the year as the world tries to get back to normal with COVID-19 waning, but still lingering.

"There's a big question mark around COVID-19 shifting from an acute to a chronic condition," said Rod von Lipsey, managing director at UBS Private Wealth Management.

While the virus and its variants aren't likely to severely disrupt the economic recovery, expectations for a quick snapback have been stymied by persistent mutations, he said.

More companies released their latest quarterly earnings Thursday. Progressive fell 2.6% after the insurance company's results fell far short of analysts' forecasts. Morgan Stanley rose 0.2% after reporting a 10% rise in quarterly profits from a year earlier.

A larger bulk of companies will start reporting next week, when earnings season gets into full swing.

American International Group, better known as AIG, rose 3.6% after the insurance company reached a deal with Blackstone Group to help manage some of its life insurance assets.

Unemployment claims fall to a new pandemic low

PAUL WISEMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits has reached its lowest level since the pandemic struck last year, further evidence that the U.S. economy and job market are quickly rebounding from the pandemic recession.

Thursday's report from the Labor Department showed that jobless claims fell by 26,000 last week to 360,000. The weekly tally, a proxy for layoffs, has fallen more or less steadily since topping 900,000 in early January.

The U.S. recovery from the recession is proceeding so quickly that many forecasters have predicted that the economy will expand this year by roughly 7%. That would be the most robust calendar-year growth since 1984.

The rollout of COVID-19 vaccines has sharply reduced new viral cases — from a seven-day average of around 250,000 in early January to roughly 25,000 recently — despite a recent uptick.

As the health crisis has receded, cooped-up Americans have increasingly emerged from their homes, eager to spend on things they had missed during pandemic lockdowns — dinners out, a round of drinks, sports and entertainment events, vacation getaways and shopping trips.

In response, businesses have scrambled to meet the unexpected surge in customer demand: They are posting job openings — a record 9.2 million in May — faster than they can fill them. The worker shortage in many industries is causing employers to raise wages and in some cases to raise prices to offset their higher labor costs.

The supply of potential hires is being held back by a variety of factors. Many Americans still have

health concerns about working around large numbers of people. Many people, mostly women, are no longer working or looking for work because they had to care for children when schools and day care centers shut down. And roughly 2.6 million older workers took advantage of enlarged stock portfolios and home values to retire early.

A temporary \$300-a-week federal unemployment benefit, on top of regular state jobless aid, may be enabling some people to be more selective in looking for and taking jobs. Roughly half the states plan to stop paying the supplement by the end of July in what proponents say is an effort to nudge more of the unemployed to seek jobs.

"As life normalizes and the service sector continues to gain momentum, we expect initial jobless claims to remain in a

downtrend," said Joshua Shapiro, chief U.S. economist at the consulting firm Maria Fiorini Ramirez.

Last month, employers added a hefty 850,000 jobs, and hourly pay rose a solid 3.6% compared with a year ago — faster than the pre-pandemic annual pace and evidence that companies are being compelled to pay more to attract and keep workers. Even so, the United States remains about 6.8 million jobs short of the number it had in February 2020, just before the virus erupted across the country and paralyzed the economy.

And weekly applications for unemployment benefits remain high by historical standards: Just before the pandemic, they amounted to about 220,000 a week. All told, 13.8 million Americans were receiving some type of unemployment aid during the week of June 26, down from 30.6 million a year earlier.

Advertisement for 'Save Our Waters Week Photo Contest'. It includes the text 'Twenty-sixth Annual Save Our Waters Week Photo Contest', 'First Place Winner Gets \$100!', and 'Enter photos by Friday, August 27, 2021 at: www.chronicleonline.com/contests'. It features an image of a bear and a camera icon.

\* - Annualized; d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee. x - fund paid a distribution during the week.

► “Water and air, the two essential fluids on which all life depends, have become global garbage cans”

Jacques Yves Cousteau, 1910-1997

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

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Founded by Albert M. Williamson

“You may differ with my choice, but not my right to choose.”  
 — David S. Arthurs publisher emeritus

The opinions expressed in Chronicle editorials are the opinions of the newspaper’s editorial board.

SPRINGS IN JEOPARDY

# State must protect our natural resources

Thousands of people enjoy the cool, fresh waters of Florida’s springs each year — a natural resource that attracts ecotourists from across the world. The allure of the nearly 1,000 fresh water springs has been around since years before theme parks started drawing millions of vacationers to Florida.

But a new documentary suggests Florida’s springs are threatened. Oscar Corral’s film, “The Fellowship of the Springs,” interviews state activists who say the two main problems threatening springs are the loss of spring flow caused by groundwater pumping, and elevated nitrate levels in the springs from septic tanks and fertilizer runoff. That pollution can cause toxic algae blooms.

The springs are not only tourist destinations but also habitats for manatees, alligators and other wildlife. The source of the springs, the Floridan Aquifer, provides drinking water for Florida and parts of Georgia. In essence, the springs are the lifeblood of the state.

Though lawmakers have addressed these problems over the years, they have not put enough teeth into any legislation or money toward

a solution to make enough headway in stifling the spring water issues. Projects are continually underfunded and growth is allowed to run rampant.

Florida’s political leaders continue to prioritize development over the very resource that enables it. We have got to free ourselves of the human tendency of thinking short term until a crisis occurs. While the cause and solution are known, we continue to spoil the very waters that sustain our quality of life.

The state is doing too little. Mostly, they are permitting growth that cannot be sustained by existing resources. If we take too much water out of the springs and the aquifer, the entire ecosystem will be put at risk. New developments need to reuse water. Open, free-flowing personal wells need to be restricted. And the Legislature needs to allocate more money to the problem and stop allowing for-profit companies to draw water from our limited resources.

Activists say the problem is severe, but it’s not too late to solve it. Floridians want to keep the quality of life that drew them here, and legislators need to listen to them and take action.

**THE ISSUE:**

A new documentary suggests Florida’s 1,000 springs are threatened.

**OUR OPINION:**

The state must come up with a plan to protect our springs.

**Payments ensure kids are cared for**

Shortly, most working class families in Citrus County will start receiving direct payments of the Child Tax Credit, part of the American Recovery Act (ARA) that was passed without a single Republican vote. These payments over the next six months will help ensure children in our community not only have food on the table but necessary supplies for school this fall.

Our governor, without mentioning where the funding came from, used money from the ARA to cut bonus checks to teachers and bucked established protocols and insisted the checks be issued from the state rather than from the local school boards. Bowing to corporate interests, he also opted to stop extended unemployment benefits, vital to members of our community still struggling in the wake of the pandemic.

Republican legislators, both at the state and national level have consistently voted to strip social welfare programs that help the working poor, regardless of race or ethnicity. The continued failure of our state to pass Medicaid expansion burdens our emergency rooms, charitable organizations and forces families to crowd source funding for vital medical care. Social Security and Medicare have also been under attack by Congressional Republicans, yet seniors in record numbers vote for GOP candidates.

President Lyndon B.

LETTERS to the Editor

OPINIONS INVITED

- **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 **Jeff Bryan** 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 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 400 words, and writers will be limited to four letters per month.
- **SEND LETTERS TO: The Editor**, 1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429; or email to **letters@chronicleonline.com**.

Johnson once said, “If you can convince the lowest white man he’s better than the best colored man, he won’t notice you’re picking his pocket. Hell, give him somebody to look down on, and he’ll empty his pockets for you.”

Voting against our self-interests seems to have become as American as apple pie.

Nathan Sharp  
 Crystal River

**Facts shouldn’t be that hard to present**

The Chronicle is a small town newspaper. It’s not that thick. It can’t be that stressful to work for.

Douglas Karup  
 Inverness

**Commercialization around Citrus a shame**

In response to the letter to the editor, “Commercial development clear cuts trees in Citrus” (by John A. Fonk on Page C3 Sunday, July 4): Sorry, I agree with you. It’s a shame they’re cutting down all those beautiful trees there in Crystal River on U.S. 19. It’s only going to get worse. This is what happens when you keep commercializing. So keep it up and it’s only going to get worse. Poor trees.

**Speed enforcement requested on Apopka**

I would like to see more deputy sheriff presences out here on Apopka Avenue in Inverness. The speed limit is 35 mph and the work trucks and pickup trucks fly down this road to the point that they’re definitely speeding and I think these people should be held accountable. We’ve already had wrecks. We had one hit-and-run already. I just wish the deputies would make a presence out here to let people know there is a speed limit and it needs to be followed by everyone.

**Secret to a long, happy marriage**

This is about a long, happy marriage. There was a couple that was being interviewed on TV because word had gotten out they’d been married almost 50 years and never had one single argument. And of course the question was, “How can you do that, what’s your secret?” The husband speaks up real quick and says: “When we first got married, there was a stray animal that would come around the property and one day it was tearing up something and the wife held up one finger and said, ‘That’s one.’ Time goes by, same thing. She holds up two fingers and says, ‘That’s two.’ More time goes by, it’s tearing up something else. She holds up three fingers and says, ‘That’s three.’ She goes in the house, gets a gun and shoots it”. ... The husband (continues, saying): “Why in the world would you do that, it makes no sense whatsoever? And she looked (me) square in the eye, held up one finger and said,

‘That’s one.’” And from that point on, they had never had an argument. Have a great day.

**Jail in Lecanto is a private entity**

(Re the Sunday, June 27, Page C4 Sound Off) “There’s a cost to jailing criminals”: Of course there’s a cost. There’s also a cost for inmates in the state of Florida’s prisons. Our jail is a private entity. We already paid the cost of those inmates for the year with this company. They’re not for Citrus County sheriff’s deputies. They are a private security firm running the jail.

**There’s business on the river**

Isn’t it interesting these people clamoring to stop the boat traffic on the Homosassa River, these are the same people who clamored and screamed for more people to come here to buy here and move here? And the irony is, they’re still in the business to bring people down here and this is what the problem is from the very beginning. I mean, this is hypocrisy at its finest moment. And these people keep saying, “We don’t want them here,” but yet they’re doing everything they can to bring them here. There’s business on the river. We knew this was going to happen 20 or 30 years ago. We knew this was coming and they did nothing about it. They would not stop the gravy train and now it’s here and people bought all these properties and they’re suffering for it and it’s never going to change. It’s going to get worse before it gets better.

**Poor treatment of mentally ill**

I am extremely angered by the fact that my son, who was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1995, has been and still is being denied of the one medication that he desperately needs while being incarcerated in Citrus County. His wife and I took the three prescriptions that he has been prescribed by his psychiatrist so that the medical staff of the detention center could have the information from the bottles firsthand. They have the doctor’s name, dates of prescriptions, the

dosage of each and the name of the pharmacy that filled the prescriptions. We were told that the head psychiatrist would be made aware of these medications...

**It’s not as easy as it sounds**

The Sound Off (Saturday, June 26, Page A10), “Deputies are expert shots,” where there’s a person with a knife and the person says the deputy can shoot him in the knee and he didn’t have to kill him. You’re not in that situation. You have no idea what it’s like. It’s not easy to shoot someone in the knee when they’re moving. It’s not that easy at all and Tasers do not work on everyone.

**GoFundMe donors would like ‘thank you’**

(Re the Tuesday, June 29, front-page story, “Commissioner gives a thank-you to shelter donors”): I think it is very nice our county commissioner will send a thank-you note to those that have donated for the animal shelter. That is very thoughtful of her to do that, but what about those of us that have donated through the gofundme account? We would appreciate a thank-you, too.

**Dog deserves better life than man**

In reference to the (Wednesday, June 30, front-page story) “Injured dog finds relief in recovery.” I think it’s wonderful that the dog is surviving and doing great, and also the wonderful people that helped the dog. But the man that had the dog, I hope the judge lands him in prison where he belongs. Put him in jail or prison for a long time.

**In favor of Starbucks in Inverness**

I’m calling about the continual anti-Starbucks Sound Offs — or “Fivebucks,” as one caller recently named them. There are plenty of coffee shops in town, it’s true. But I’m in favor of having a Starbucks in Inverness and I don’t think it’s going to impact anyone’s business significantly. It really makes me wonder if the Sound Off callers have some financial interests, being that they really don’t like Starbucks or are scared to see one in the county.

Hot Corner: INTERCHANGE

■ The two issues by the BOCC to support an interchange at County Road 486 have been solved and are gone. 1. We can’t have the Suncoast Parkway end in the county. Issue solved by the governor. 2. Two-lane County Road 491 cannot handle the extra traffic caused by the parkway. Issue solved by a pot of gold from the state of Florida to four-lane C.R. 491.

■ If the FTE (Florida Turnpike Enterprise) Division of the FDOT decides to scrub the County Road 486 interchange to the parkway due to the actions of the governor of June 24, here is plan B for Black Diamond: Access to the State

Road 44 interchange is 5.6 miles via County Road 491. This is 2.1 miles further than the recently proposed C.R. 486 interchange at 3.5 miles. Now you know.

■ Suggesting that the BOCC investigate the cost to county taxpayers for the installation of the signalization for the intersections of the Suncoast Parkway on a county road — namely, County Road 486. I believe most of us in Citrus County are paying enough county taxes as it is. Please check it out and let us know how much extra taxes we will pay for this interchange on a county road.

# Rehabbed manatee and her calf set free in river

Associated Press

ORANGE CITY — A baby manatee and its injured mother are now swimming in Florida's St. Johns River after undergoing four months of rehabilitation at Sea World Orlando.

They were released Wednesday near Blue Springs State Park, The Daytona Beach News-Journal reported.

It was a bit of good news for manatees after news last week that Florida broke the record for manatee deaths in one year. So far in 2021 more than 850 manatees have died, wildlife officials said.

The primary reason for the spike in deaths is starvation as declining water quality has caused sea-grass to vanish, especially in the Indian River Lagoon, which extends from southern Volusia County to northern Palm Beach County, the newspaper reported.

The staff at SeaWorld staff named the mom Mandy and her 1-year-old calf Manilow, after the Barry Manilow song "Mandy."

Mandy and Manilow were brought to SeaWorld in March after researchers noticed signs of emaciation in the mom.

"She was underweight," Ally Greco, of Save the



Associated Press

**A Sea World employee comforts an adult manatee named Mandy as teams from FWC, Sea World, Save the Manatee Club and the Volusia County mammal stranding team prepare to release Mandy and her calf Manilow back into the wild, Wednesday, at the French Landing boat ramp near Blue Springs State Park, in Orange City, Fla.**

Manatee Club, told the newspaper. "However, this was not related to the starvation that was seen this winter in the Indian River Lagoon, as there was plenty of vegetation available near Blue Spring."

Manilow, Mandy's nursing calf, was healthy.

Missy Gibbs, a Stetson professor and president of the Friends of Blue Spring State Park, said first-time

mothers like Mandy often over-nurse their babies.

"She was so skinny. The baby was a butterball. He was fine," Gibbs said.

Mandy gained about 300 pounds during her stay at SeaWorld, weighing in above 1,200 pounds before her release. It took some 15 people to lower her from the truck to the ground. It took 10 people to manage her calf.

## Around the STATE

### Disney opening campus in Florida

ORLANDO — The Walt Disney Co. said Thursday it planned to build a new regional campus in central Florida to house at least 2,000 professional employees who will be relocating from Southern California to work in digital technology, finance and product development.

In a letter to employees, Josh D'Amaro, chairman of Disney Parks, Experiences

and Products, said the move would allow creative and business teams to be better integrated. The company already has a theme park resort, Walt Disney World, that is the size of the city of San Francisco, located outside Orlando, Florida. The new Disney campus will be located about 20 miles to the east of Disney World, in a neighborhood by Orlando International Airport.

"Florida is known for its rich culture of hospitality and active lifestyle as well as a lower

cost of living with no state income tax," D'Amaro said in the employee letter.

While the California-based company is still figuring out which employees will be asked to relocate, they likely will be those in the parks division who aren't working full-time at Disneyland in California or in the international parks business. Workers asked to relocate will have 18 months to make the move, D'Amaro said.

— From wire reports

# How expanded child tax credit payments work

JOSH BOAK  
Associated Press

The Biden administration is beginning to distribute expanded child tax credit payments, giving parents on average \$423 this month, with payments continuing through the end of the year.

President Joe Biden increased the size of the tax credit as part of his \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package, as well as making it fully available to families without any tax obligations. The benefit is set to expire after a year, but Biden is pushing for it to be extended through 2025 and ultimately made permanent. A closer look at how the payments work and who can receive them:

### How big are the credits?

The credit is \$3,600 annually for children under age 6 and \$3,000 for children ages 6 to 17. But six months of payments will be advanced on a monthly basis through the end of the year. This means eligible families will receive \$300 monthly for each child under 6 and \$250 per child older than that.

This is a change from last year, when the credit totaled \$2,000 per child.

Families who did not owe the government income taxes were also unable to claim the credit, a restriction that Biden and Congress lifted.

### Are there limits on who can qualify?

The payments begin to phase out at incomes of \$75,000 for individuals, \$112,500 for heads of household and \$150,000 for married couples. Higher-income families with incomes of \$200,000 for individuals and \$400,000 for married couples can still receive the previous \$2,000 credit.

### How can you apply?

If you filed taxes and the IRS already has your bank account information, the payments should be deposited directly into your account on the 15th of each month. The Treasury Department estimates that 35.2 million families will receive payments in July. If you didn't file taxes in 2019 or 2020, you might still be eligible for the credit and can apply here: [tinyurl.com/zyw8pf79](https://tinyurl.com/zyw8pf79).

### Why are the payments monthly?

Advocates say the monthly payments can help smooth out an impoverished family's income, making it easier for them to budget and less dependent on high-interest lenders.



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# Severe floods strike Europe



A regional train sits in the flood waters at the local station in Kordel, Germany, Thursday July 15, 2021, after it was flooded by the high waters of the Kyll river. Associated Press



Associated Press  
**President Joe Biden meets with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Thursday.**

## Biden meets Merkel

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Welcoming Angela Merkel to the White House for a final time, President Joe Biden renewed his concerns to the German chancellor Thursday about a major, nearly complete Russia-to-Germany gas pipeline but said they agreed Russia must not be allowed to use energy as a weapon.

The two discussed — though made no apparent headway — on differences over the Nord Stream 2 pipeline during a largely friendly farewell visit for Merkel as she nears the end of a political career that has spanned four American presidencies.

“On a personal note, I must tell you I will miss seeing you at our summits,” Biden said as he stood by Merkel, the second-longest serving chancellor in Germany’s history, at a late afternoon White House press conference. “I truly will.”

Merkel, who had a famously difficult relationship with former President Donald Trump, for her part showed her ease and familiarity with Biden, who has long been a fixture in international politics, repeatedly referring to him as “Dear Joe.”

But their personal warmth notwithstanding, the U.S.-German relationship is now at a pivot point as Merkel, who is not seeking another term in September elections, nears her departure from office. There are concerns on both sides about how the two nations will negotiate growing disagreements.



The Ahr river floats past destroyed houses in Insul, Germany, Thursday. Due to heavy rain falls the Ahr river dramatically went over the banks the evening before.

## Over 60 dead, dozens missing

FRANK JORDANS  
 Associated Press

BERLIN — More than 60 people have died and dozens were missing Thursday as severe flooding in Germany and Belgium turned streams and streets into raging torrents that swept away cars and caused houses to collapse.

Recent storms across parts of western Europe made rivers and reservoirs burst their banks, triggering flash floods overnight after the saturated soil couldn’t absorb any more water.

“I grieve for those who have lost their lives in this disaster,” German Chancellor Angela Merkel said during a visit to Washington, expressing shock at the scope of the flooding. “We still don’t know the number. But it will be many.”

She pledged that everything would be done to find those still missing, adding: “Heavy rain and flooding” doesn’t capture what happened.”

Authorities in North

Rhine-Westphalia state said at least 30 people had died. In the neighboring state of Rhineland-Palatinate to the south, 28 deaths were reported, including nine residents of an assisted living facility for people with disabilities. Belgian media reported eight deaths in that country.

Among the worst-hit German villages was Schuld, where several homes collapsed and dozens of people remained unaccounted for.

Rescue operations were hampered by blocked roads and phone and internet outages across the Eifel, a volcanic region of rolling hills and small valleys. Some villages were reduced to rubble as old brick and timber houses couldn’t withstand the sudden rush of water, often carrying trees and other debris as it gushed through narrow streets.

Karl-Heinz Grimm, who had come to help his parents in Schuld, said he had never seen

the small Ahr River surge in such a deadly torrent.

“This night, it was like madness,” he said.

Dozens of people had to be rescued from the roofs of their houses with inflatable boats and helicopters. Hundreds of soldiers were deployed to assist in the rescue efforts.

“There are people dead, there are people missing, there are many who are still in danger,” the governor of Rhineland-Palatinate state, Malu Dreyer, told the regional parliament. “We have never seen such a disaster. It’s really devastating.”

The 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron and several volunteers from the U.S. air base at Spangdahlem filled and distributed hundreds of sandbags to help protect homes and businesses in the area, the U.S. European Command said.

In Belgium, the Vesdre River spilled over its banks and sent water churning through the streets of Pepinster, near Liege, where a rescue operation by firefighters went wrong when a small boat capsized and three elderly people disappeared.

“Unfortunately, they were quickly engulfed,” said Mayor Philippe Godin. “I fear they are dead.”

# 18-year-old joining passenger spaceflight

MARCIA DUNN  
 Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL — An 18-year-old is about to become the youngest person in space, rocketing away with an aviation pioneer who will become the oldest at age 82.

Blue Origin announced Thursday that instead of a \$28 million auction winner launching with founder Jeff Bezos on Tuesday, the Dutch son of another bidder will be on board. The company said Oliver Daemen will be the first paying customer, but did not disclose the price of his ticket. But a family spokesperson said it will be considerably less than the winning bid.

Daemen snagged the fourth and last seat on the space capsule after the auction winner stepped aside because of a scheduling conflict. The offer came in a surprise phone call from Blue Origin last week, he said.

“This is so unbelievably cool!” Daemen said in a statement. “The flight to and into space only takes 10 minutes, but I already know that these will be the most special 10 minutes of my life.”

He added in a video posted by Dutch broadcaster RTL: “I am super excited to experience zero-g and see the world from above.”

Also on Blue Origin’s first launch with passengers: Bezos’ brother and Wally Funk, one of 13 female pilots who went through the same tests in the early 1960s as NASA’s Mercury 7 astronauts but never made it into space because only men were allowed.

The four will blast off from West Texas atop a New Shepard rocket for a 10-minute flight. The Amazon founder will become the second person to ride his own rocket into space, following Virgin Galactic’s Richard Branson by nine days.

The teen tourist was going to be on the second launch for paying customers, according to Blue Origin. But once the auction winner dropped out, the company seized on the idea of flying the oldest and youngest people in space on the same flight, the family spokesperson noted.

His undisclosed ticket cost will be donated to charity, just as most of the winning \$28 million was distributed this week to a variety of space education and advocacy groups.

“This marks the beginning of commercial operations for New Shepard, and Oliver represents a new generation of people who will help us build a road to space,” Blue Origin CEO Bob Smith said in a statement.

Blue Origin has yet to open ticket sales to the public or disclose its anticipated prices. That’s expected following the upcoming flight.

Daemen took a year off after graduating from high school last year to obtain his private pilot’s license. He’ll attend the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands in September.

His father is Joes Daemen, founder and CEO of

Somerset Capital Partners, a private equity firm in Oisterwijk, Netherlands. Both father and son were on their way to Texas on Thursday to prepare for the launch, according to their spokesperson.

The elder Daemen said he bid on the seat during the June 12 auction. “But when the bids started to skyrocket during the auction, we dropped out,” he said in a statement.

Blue Origin said the unidentified auction winner will catch a future flight.

Daemen already has gotten some good space-traveling advice from Dutch astronaut and two-time space flier Andre Kuipers. According to the statement, Kuipers told him “not to make the classic mistake of taking pictures in the short time he is up, but to fully enjoy the view of our beautiful planet.”



Oliver Daemen

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First-round score for Phil Mickelson, his highest start ever in the British Open, leaving him tied for last place Thursday.



Phil Mickelson

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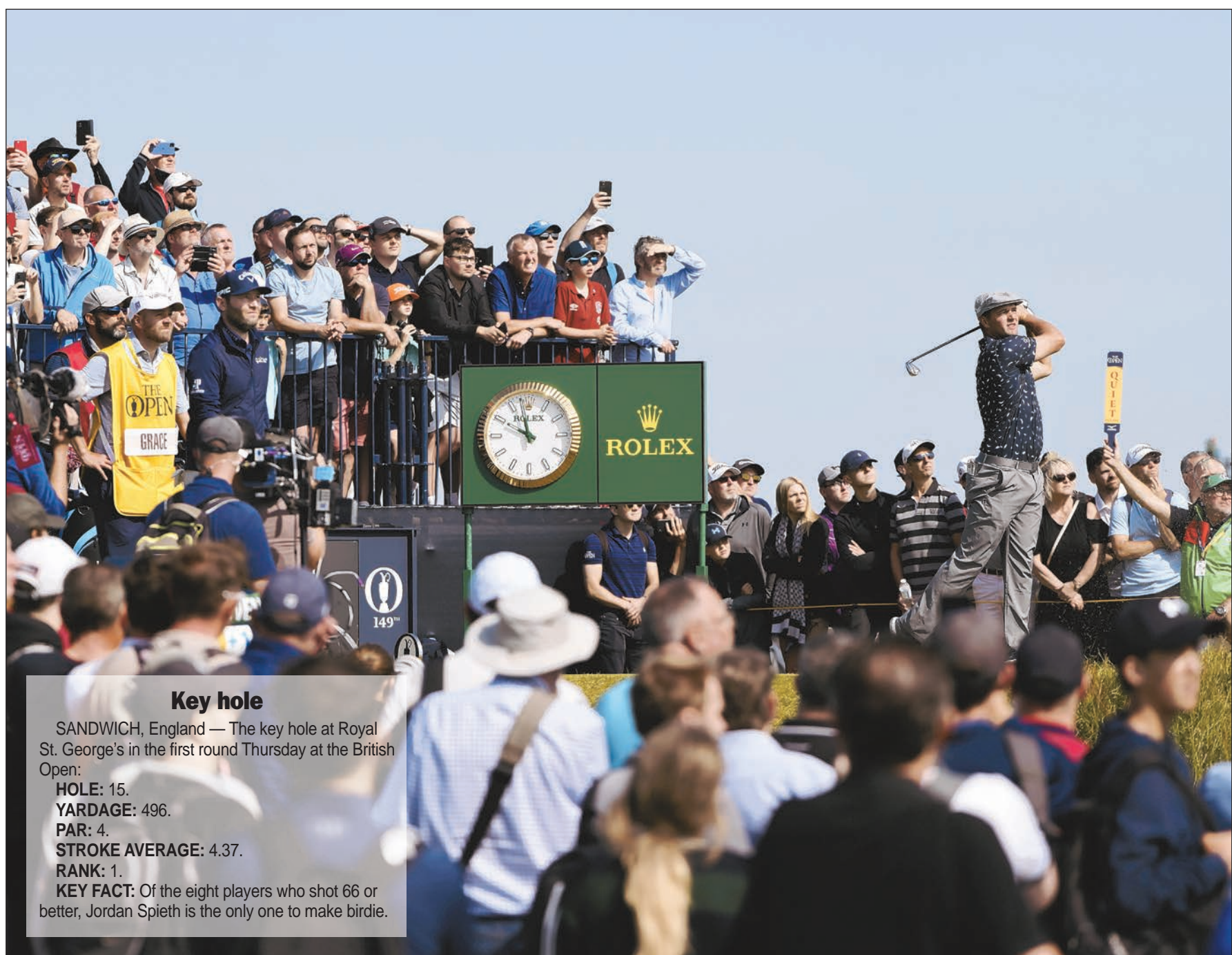
Section B - FRIDAY, JULY 16, 2021



Milwaukee gets a confidence boost in Game 4 finals win./B4

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- Scoreboard/B3
- Sports briefs/B3
- Lottery, TV/B3
- NBA/B4
- Olympics/B4

# A return to normalcy



Associated Press

Bryson DeChambeau plays his tee shot at the third hole Thursday during the first round of the British Open Golf Championship at Royal St George's golf course in Sandwich, England. The roars and cheers of the biggest golf crowd since the pandemic rumbled around this quirky course off Sandwich Bay, just like pre-COVID times.

## Oosthuizen, Spieth at top of Open leaderboard in front of large crowds in England

STEVE DOUGLAS  
AP sports writer

SANDWICH, England — Jordan Spieth rolled in putts like it was 2017. Louis Oosthuizen put those runner-up finishes in the last two majors out of mind and soared to the top of the leaderboard. They gave the British Open a familiar feel on Thursday.

Normalcy returned to the wind-swept links at Royal St. George's in other ways, too.

The roars and cheers of the biggest golf crowd since the pandemic rumbled around this quirky course off Sandwich Bay, just like pre-COVID times.

For Spieth, that was as welcome as being an Open contender once again.

"It feels inside the ropes, from the first tee

forward, the most normal of any tournament we have played thus far relative to that same tournament in previous years," Spieth said.

His 5-under 65 certainly turned back time to four years ago when he lifted the claret jug at Royal Birkdale — the last English venue to host the British Open — when he was hitting the ball better than he ever has.

Spieth was a shot off the lead held by Oosthuizen, who saved par from a fairway bunker on No. 18 for a 6-under 64. That tied the lowest opening round at Royal St. George's, previously set by Christy O'Connor Jr. in 1981.

That didn't look as though it would be the case after the South African opened with seven straight pars. He followed with six birdies in his next

nine holes.

"I've learnt over the years playing major championships that patience is the key thing," said Oosthuizen, who hasn't won one of them since the British Open at St. Andrews in 2010. There have been six runner-up finishes in the majors since then, including in the last two.

Oosthuizen and Spieth were among the morning starters who enjoyed the best of the conditions, notably soft bounces on the most undulating fairways and greens on the Open rotation.

Yet many of the world's best couldn't take advantage.

Patience already might be wearing thin for U.S. Open champion Jon Rahm, who slapped his thigh in

See **NORMALCY**/Page B3

# Pogacar wins final Tour mountain stage

## Cements overall lead

Associated Press

LUZ ARDIDEN, France — After Tadej Pogacar won the final mountain stage of the Tour de France on Thursday to cement his grip on the race, the young Slovenian had four more climbs to complete.

Unlike the two mammoth ascents he mastered earlier in the day, these ones were small: Pogacar stepped four times atop the podium in the Luz Ardiden ski resort as his rewards for winning the stage and retaining the leader's yellow

jersey, as well as for leading the standings as best climber and best young rider.

Just call it total dominance.

Only 24 hours after winning another climbing classic at the Col du Portet, the 22-year-old Pogacar became only the fourth rider in Tour history to win consecutive summit finishes at cycling's biggest race.

"It's unbelievable, it's crazy," Pogacar said. "It's been a game for me since I started (my career) and I'm enjoying

playing it."

The defending champion has indeed been toying with his rivals this summer. He had waited until the penultimate stage to take control of the Tour last year but did it after only five stages this summer with a stunning display in the first time trial. He was untouchable in the Alps — where he seized the yellow jersey — and wrapped up the demolition work in the Pyrenees.

Barring an accident, the UAE Team Emirates rider should be crowned Tour champion for the second straight year when the race ends in Paris on Sunday.

Before Sunday's processional ride

leading to the Champs-Elysees, there is just one difficult stage remaining — a time trial through the Bordelais vineyards scheduled Saturday. Pogacar excels in the race against the clock and won the first time trial of this year's Tour, beating the pure specialists.

Pogacar has a huge lead of five minutes, 45 seconds over Vingegaard in the general classification. Carapaz is in third place, 5:51 off the pace.

"Still three days, but it looks good," Pogacar said.

The short trek in the Pyrenees featured a daunting combination of the Col du

See **TOUR**/Page B3



Tadej Pogacar

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# Bucks get confidence boost in Game 4 win

*Without Giannis scoring 40*

STEVE MEGARGEE  
AP sports writer

MILWAUKEE — As remarkable as Giannis Antetokounmpo has been in delivering MVP-caliber performances during the NBA Finals while playing with an injured knee, there have been games in which he was good but not great.

Good hadn't been good enough for a Milwaukee Bucks win — until Game 4.

And while Antetokounmpo will likely need to be great again, his teammates must prove they can deliver on the road the way they have at home. The Bucks and Phoenix Suns are tied 2-2 as the series returns to Phoenix for Game 5 on Saturday.

The Bucks need to maintain what they found in Milwaukee to rally from a nine-point, fourth-quarter deficit in a 109-103 Game 4 victory Wednesday night.

"Going down the stretch, we kept believing in ourselves," Antetokounmpo said after Game 4. "We kept executing, setting screens. We kept running, we kept rebounding the ball, we kept blocking shots. We wanted this bad, and the team showed it tonight. But we've got to keep getting better."

Antetokounmpo has averaged 32.3 points, 14 rebounds and 5.5 assists in the finals despite hyperextending his left knee in the Bucks' previous series, causing him to miss the last two games of the Eastern Conference finals.

But the Bucks showed in Game 4 that they can beat the



Milwaukee's Jrue Holiday (21) shoots against Phoenix Suns' Devin Booker during Game 4 of the NBA Finals Wednesday in Milwaukee. The Bucks won to even the series at two games apiece.

Suns even when their two-time MVP isn't at his absolute best.

Antetokounmpo had a more-than-respectable 26 points, 14 rebounds and eight assists in Game 4 as well as a spectacular block that prevented Phoenix's Deandre Ayton from tying the game with 1:14 left. Those numbers would make just about any other NBA player envious, but they actually represented a step back after Antetokounmpo delivered back-to-back performances of over 40 points and 10 rebounds in

Games 2 and 3.

It was Khris Middleton — not Antetokounmpo — who scored 40 points to lead the Bucks to their come-from-behind victory. Middleton reeled off eight straight points in the closing minutes to help the Bucks turn a 99-97 deficit into a 105-99 lead.

"That's what he does down the stretch," Antetokounmpo said. "We want him to have the ball. We want him to be the decision maker."

Other players chipped in as well.

Jrue Holiday followed up his 21-point Game 3 performance by shooting just 4 of 20 in Game 4, but he also made one of the game's biggest plays when he stole the ball from Chris Paul, sparking a fastbreak that resulted in a Middleton layup to put the Bucks ahead 103-99 with 27.2 seconds left.

"That's what it's all about — learning, learning how to win different types of ballgames, different styles," said Middleton, who scored 10 of the Bucks' last 12 points. "And that's what that

moment was about, finding a way to win a game where it seemed like we weren't going to win, and give us a chance to still have a life, going to Phoenix with a little bit of confidence, with a little bit of momentum."

The Bucks must win at least once in Phoenix to have a shot at their first title in 50 years. The last time the Bucks played there, they lost by double digits even as Antetokounmpo produced 42 points, 12 rebounds and four assists.

Phoenix's wall of defenders handled Antetokounmpo well enough Wednesday to make the Suns believe they can prevent him from repeating those superhuman outbursts he delivered in Games 2 and 3.

"We're trying to give him some different looks, especially in the half court," Suns coach Monty Williams said. "I thought our guys did an unreal job in the half court. We were doubling him at times and firing out to their shooters, just trying to take him off of his rhythm. In transition the wall was a lot better tonight. It's something that we can get better at."

That's going to put more pressure on Antetokounmpo's teammates to play better on the road.

Holiday must regain his shooting touch while maintaining his ferocious defense. Pat Connaughton has to continue producing off the bench. But most of all, the Bucks will need a huge road effort from Middleton, the unsung star who has turned this postseason into a personal showcase.

Antetokounmpo said Middleton's Game 4 performance was "incredible," then added:

"We need him to keep doing it," Antetokounmpo noted. "We are within reach of our goals."

# Athletes alone in Tokyo as families watch from afar

BETH HARRIS  
AP sports writer

Michael Phelps reached for his mother's hand through a chainlink fence near the pool. The 19-year-old swimmer had just won his first Olympic medal — gold, of course — at the 2004 Athens Games, and he wanted to share it with the woman who raised him on her own.

That kind of moment between loved ones won't be happening at the pandemic-delayed Tokyo Olympics.

No spectators — local or foreign — will be allowed at the vast majority of venues, where athletes will hang medals around their own necks to protect against spreading the coronavirus. No handshakes or hugs on the podium, either.

"I like to feed off of the crowd," defending all-around champion gymnast Simone Biles said, "so I'm a little bit worried about how I'll do under those circumstances."

Catching sight of familiar faces during competition can bolster an athlete on a big stage. It helped Matthew Centrowitz at the

U.S. track trials, where fans were allowed.

"Seeing my family in the crowd and hearing them gave me a little sense of comfort, and what I needed to hear and see to calm my nerves a little bit," said Centrowitz, the defending Olympic 1,500-meter champion.

The youngest athlete on the U.S. team in Tokyo calls it "weird" that her family won't be in the stands.

"They're usually at all my meets," said Katie Grimes, a 15-year-old swimmer from Las Vegas.

Katie Hoff was the same age as Grimes when she was the youngest member of the U.S. team in Athens. Nerves got to her in her first event, and Hoff hyperventilated and vomited on the pool deck.

"I hope us older swimmers can show them the ropes a little bit and create that family environment," three-time Olympian Katie Ledecky said. "We will make sure we stay in touch with our families and keep them connected to what we're doing."

The decision to prohibit fans was made for health and safety concerns. The Games will be held during a state of emergency in Tokyo, with rising coronavirus infections in a country where 16.8% of the population is fully vaccinated. Variant strains of the coronavirus are emerging around the world, too.

Those reaction shots of excited, shocked or crying family members in the stands? Forget it. Singing, chanting and cheering among flag-waving fans at the venues? TV producers will have to look elsewhere. Phelps' son, Boomer, who was 3 months old at the time, became an adorable sight at the Olympic pool in 2016. No kids allowed this time.

The people who raised them, comforted them, financed them, and encouraged them through injury and defeat will have to be content to keep up with their athletes through calls, texts and video chats, when they're not watching the competition on various devices.

"She said, 'On TV, I can see it better anyway,'" Dutch swimmer Kira Toussaint said of her mother, Jolanda de Rover,

a gold medalist swimmer at the 1984 Olympics.

Building support and camaraderie among athletes who usually compete individually has taken on new importance for coaches during the pandemic. They're turning to veterans to inform and reassure younger first-timers.

"We're going to have to rely on each other a lot more than we would have to if our loved ones were able to come to Tokyo to watch," said Lindsay Mintenko, national team director for the American swimmers. "The bond might be stronger because we don't have that outlet."

American high jumper Vashti Cunningham will have her coach, Randall Cunningham, who is also her father, on hand. But she'll be missing the rest of the family.

"It just feels good to go and eat with them, for them to be at the Bible studies with me, just everything, going to the stores," she said. "But it doesn't really matter to me if there are fans or not. I'm just really excited to go out there and jump. I do wish that our families could come and watch, though."

American discus thrower Mason Finley is prepared to hunker down at the athletes village with his Nintendo Switch for endless gaming while his pregnant wife and two dogs wait at home.

"I'm just going to kind of nest in there and stay entertained," he said.

Some athletes' families will host watch parties back home. Biles' mother, Nellie, won't attend.

"I will be home watching gymnastics by myself," she said. "I just get too nervous."

The family of swimmer Chad le Clos is flying to the United States to watch on TV because the competition will air at 3 a.m. in their native South Africa.

"It must be terrible to watch me at 3 in the morning," Le Clos said. "Then what do you do afterwards?"

Caeleb Dressel, the world's dominant male swimmer, barely gets to see, let alone spend time with his wife and family at major meets.

"It's not something I'm dependent on," he said. "I know they will be back home and you can feel that energy, and I can text or

FaceTime whenever I need to."

Nellie Biles and her husband run a gymnastics training center in Spring, Texas, so she knows about COVID-19 protocols and restrictions. Still, she

thinks having spectators in the 12,000-seat venue in Tokyo would have worked.

"We could social distance and not see each other. That's how huge their complex is, their venues are," she said. "It's

hard for me to understand that they cannot make accommodations. Of course, that's just me being selfish. This will be one gymnastics event that I will never forget because I will not be present."



## NAPA AUTO PARTS HOMOSASSA

# GRAND OPENING

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## Bradley Beal out of Olympics for health and safety reasons

Bradley Beal will miss the Olympics after being placed into health and safety protocols and the U.S. men's basketball team said it will replace him on its roster at a later date.

The Americans also announced Thursday that forward Jerami Grant has also been placed in health and safety protocols "out of an abundance of caution."

Beal, a guard from the Washington Wizards, had started all three exhibition games for the U.S. so far in Las Vegas, averaging 10.3 points on 10-for-21 shooting.

The Americans have already been playing short-handed during their exhibition games, with Khris Middleton and Jrue Holiday of Milwaukee and Devin Booker of Phoenix playing in the NBA Finals.

— From wire reports



Good Times



Rekindled Bits of Grass

THIS WEEKEND

**Bluegrass festival to benefit Jeremy's Journey efforts**

The public is invited to a Jeremy's Journey Bluegrass & BBQ Festival to help raise money for local 18-year-old Jeremy Schreifels, to have a life-changing surgery to help with his battle against Tourette syndrome.

The event will be from 3-7 p.m. Saturday, July 17, at The Depot in downtown Inverness.

Along with an afternoon of knee-slappin' bluegrass, there will be barbecue, fun activities and more.

Rekindled Bits of Grass, a staple in the bluegrass community, will headline the event. Also taking the stage will be Cousin Brent.

Meals will include pulled pork sandwiches, fried okra and a choice beverage. Pop Fusions ice and wine gourmet fruit pops will also be available for an additional fee.

Beer and Wine will be available for purchase from The Loft Bar & Grill.

A portion of all additional sales will benefit the #JeremysJourney fundraiser.

Tickets will be available at the door. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for 12 and younger.

Admission includes a meal per guest, live entertainment and access to all of the activities.

The Depot District is located at 300 N. Apopka Ave., Inverness.

**Art Center offers a fun look at 'Assisted Living'**

The Art Center Theatre presents their summer musical/comedy, "Assisted Living" with show dates on July 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Aug. 1 at the Art Center of Citrus County, 2644 N. Annapolis Ave. in Hernando.

From early retirement right up to the end, 21st century seniors are partying like it's 1969.

Imagine no work, no pregnancy and a full array of Medicare-subsidized pharmaceuticals.

Tickets are \$21.

For information, call the box office at 352-746-7606 or visit [artcenterofcitruscounty.org](http://artcenterofcitruscounty.org).

**Parks and Rec to host Garth Brooks tribute artist**

Citrus County Parks and Recreation presents Kip Sweeny and his tribute to Garth Brooks at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 17, at the Citrus Springs Community Center, 1570 W. Citrus Springs Blvd. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

Sweeny is a dance instructor, disc jockey, choreographer and vocalist.

He travels all over the world as a Garth Brooks impersonator.

The band has traveled overseas to perform for the military forces in the United Arab Emirates and will continue to reach every piece of the Earth that becomes available to them.

Tickets are on sale for \$15 per person at the Parks and Recreation administration office, 2804 W. Marc Knighton Court in Lecanto.

For more information, call 352-527-7540.

A walk on the wild side

Art Center Camera Club visits Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs park

Special to the Chronicle

The weather co-operated, with clear sunny skies in early June for the Art Center Camera Club's field trip to the Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park.

Our trip leader for this event was photographer Bob Feldberg. As on previous occasions, Bob prepared a tip sheet with information on settings and composition for photographing wildlife and birds.

Once inside the park, it did not take long before settings were checked and shutters started clicking.

Resident hippo Lu was submerged when we arrived, but soon made an appearance at feeding time. An alligator lounged half way out of the water enjoying the early morning sunlight.

Otters frolicked in their own water park; it was such fun to watch their antics as they went down the slide into the water then hurried only out only to repeat it over and over.

In a nearby cage, a burrowing owl sat motionless, observing the humans who were anxious to photograph him. Obviously very used to people, he did not flinch when cameras were pressed close to the wire.

Soon the group split up, each person anxious to get that perfect shot. A manatee with a calf, or a portrait of elegant whooping crane, beautifully colored and entertaining flamingoes, all became great photo ops.

Several little green herons, although well camouflaged, were spotted on leafy branches. Meanwhile serious and thoughtful owls watched the proceedings carefully. Many, many photographs were taken of all of the animals.

A few days later, members who were unable to attend the trip were able to view a slide show of the images taken that day, which Bob presented on the club's Facebook page.

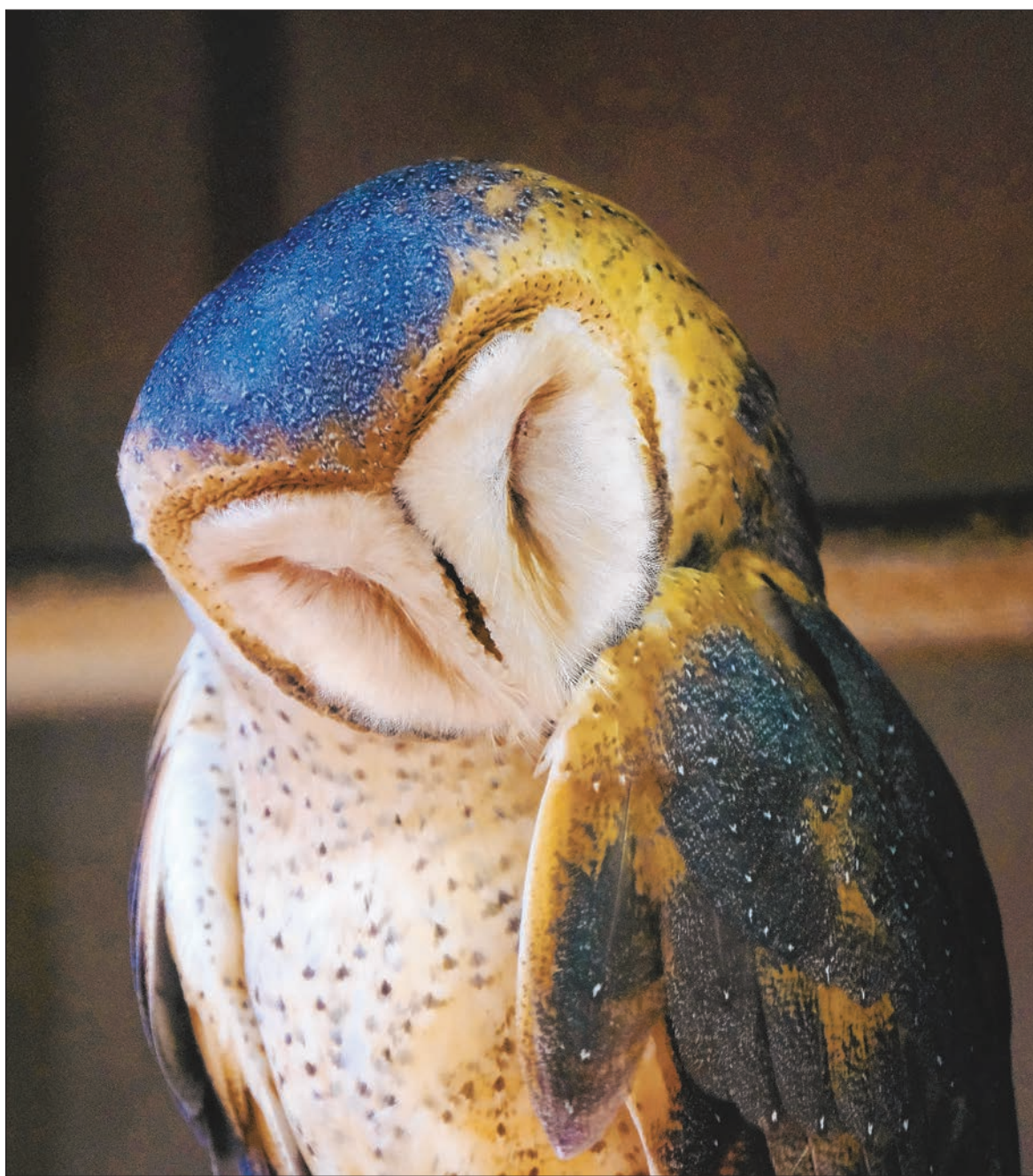
Our club has many facets: Regular field trips, a monthly newsletter, weekly photo challenges on our private Facebook page. Once regular meetings resume, there will be workshops and guest speakers to further our photography skills.

For now, many members are looking forward to our mid-July field trip to the Butterfly Rainforest in Gainesville.

For information about the club, or our upcoming field trips, contact: Ann Brixey, [ambrixey44@gmail.com](mailto:ambrixey44@gmail.com) or 508-630-0576.

Photos shot at the park by Gary Bar included a red-tail hawk, right, and Lu the Hippo, America's oldest hippopotamus, far right.

GARY BAR/Special to the Chronicle



BILL ERICKSON/Special to the Chronicle

Some of the photos shot at the park by Bill Erickson included a barn owl, above; a flamingo taking a sip, below left; and a black-crowned night heron, below right.



Looking for some fun? Check out the Newcomers

Special to the Chronicle

Although unable to meet in person for more than a year, the Citrus Newcomers Club board has been organizing their return to normal. Their upcoming season begins in September and ends in May.

Club membership is open to all women of Citrus County whether they are new residents or old.

The goal is for members to get acquainted with other residents and explore local attractions. Leadership is provided by volunteer members and the elected board of officers and directors.

The board leaders for this year are Bonnie Groves, president, and Regina Keadle, vice president.

The club enjoys monthly luncheons at country clubs, dinner groups and special interest groups with biking, kayaking, horseback riding, beading, painting and cards.

This year's activities will also include a trip to the Sangria



Special to the Chronicle

The 2021-22 Citrus Newcomers club board and directors.

University and Disney Springs in Orlando, the Publix Aprons Cooking School and the Apple-

ton Museum. Dues are \$30 per year. For membership information,

visit [citrusnewcomers.org](http://citrusnewcomers.org). The first luncheon will be Sept. 16, at Royal Oaks Golf Club.

FRIDAY EVENING JULY 16, 2021. Table with columns for channel, time, and program details. Includes stations like WESH, WEDU, WUFT, WFLA, WFTV, WTSP, WTVT, WCJB, WCLF, WYKE, WFTS, WMOR, WTTA, WACX, WTOG, WVEA, WOGX, WXPX, A&E, ACCN, AMC, ANI, BET, BIGTEN, BRAVO, BSFL, CC, CMT, CNN, ESPN, ESPN2, FBN, FLIX, FNC, FOOD, FREEFORM, FST, FX, GOLF, HALL, HBO, HBO2, HGTV, HIST, LIFE, LMN, MSNBC, NBCSN, NGE0, NICK, NWSNTN, OWN, OXY, PARMY, SEC, SHOW, SUN, SYFY, TBS, TCM, TDC, TLC, TMC, TNT, TOON, TRAV, truTV, TVL, USA, WE.

Annie offers advice

Dear Annie: I have been married to my wife for just over two years. We each have a child from a previous marriage, and we have a child together. A few months ago, she started accusing me of distancing myself from her. I was confused by this, as I truly hadn't intended to. I thought everything had been going OK. Well, it turns out that she was the one trying to distance herself. She told me last month that she wants to take some time apart to figure out if she still wants to be with me.



DEAR ANNIE

I've tried talking to her about it to find out why she wants space. She's given me a variety of different reasons. I've heard her out, acknowledged her concerns and offered solutions — but they're never enough. She just comes up with more excuses. She has also mentioned that men flirt with her at work and she enjoys the attention. She says she's still making up her mind about our marriage, but I feel like I can read the writing on the wall and know where this is headed. I'm absolutely heartbroken. Any advice you could offer would be absolutely welcome. — So Very Lost

Dear Lost: Marriages can survive almost anything if both partners are willing to put in the work. But your wife isn't meeting you halfway, or even part of the way. In fact, she seems intent on heading the opposite direction. Keep focusing on what you can control, and if she ultimately decides she wants out, know that you did all you could. By the sound of it, you're a loving, caring partner, and if your wife can't appreciate that, someone else will, down the line. But I am sorry for your heartache in the meantime.

Dear Annie: I am a 49-year-old woman, and my youngest brother is 45. Our mom passed away very young. I was 8; he was 4. Our dad was an auto factory worker who spent long days working hard to support five kids on his own. A lot of our household duties fell on my shoulders. I was not the oldest, but I guess you could say I was the only one that cared about the "true" meaning of family. My dad said he knew that he could always count on me.

Because of this, my youngest brother has always looked at me kind of like a mom. Except lately, his behavior has changed, and he only seems to want me around or even care about me when he needs money. I am a union asphalt road worker, and although I make a great wage, I don't want to just give it away. But when I say no, he flips out and tells me he will be hungry and it's my fault. I don't want my brother hungry, so I give him food instead of money, but it's never enough. Any suggestions? — Brother's Keeper

Dear Brother's Keeper: Never do for others what they can just as easily do for themselves. The best way to truly help your brother in the long term is to quit "helping" him in these surface-level ways now. He's an adult and capable of caring for himself. By detaching with love, you'll give him the chance to find that out. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

LOCAL SUPPORT
The Centers: 352-628-5020
NAMI - Citrus hotline: 844-687-6264 (toll free)

Bridge
PHILLIP ALDER
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.
George Miller, an Australian best known for the "Mad Max" movie franchise, said, "The trouble with eating Italian food is that five or six days later you're hungry again."
So true! At the bridge table, if you are defending against a three-level contract, you get hungry when you have four tricks in, wondering from where that final course -- winner -- will come.
On today's deal, South was in

three spades. After West led the club ace, how did the defenders collect five tricks?
When an opponent opens one no-trump, in second seat, use Meckwell; in fourth chair after two passes, Cappelletti. Here, two clubs announced a one-suiter, two diamonds asked, and two spades told. Maybe North should have passed, but one can understand his game-try.
West led the club ace, under which East signaled enthusiastically with his 10. What happened next?
West could anticipate his partner holding one red-suit ace — but which one? Leaving his partner in charge, West continued with his low club. East asked himself why West wanted him on lead.
It couldn't be to shift to diamonds. If West had that ace, he would have either cashed it or underled it. So he must have the heart king. East shifted to the heart three (low with an honor). West won with the king and returned the suit. Now East made the key play of another heart, which promoted a trump trick for West. If South ruffed low, West would overruff. Or if South trumped with his spade king, West would discard and eventually get a spade winner, the fifth for the defense.

JUMBLE
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.
TJYTE
POMHO
NCROOB
NEUVEA
Answer here:
Yesterday's Jumbles: COUGH GECKO EXPAND AVIARY
Answer: The family of skunks living in their yard was — "REEKING" HAVOC

MORE PUZZLES
Find the daily crossword puzzle inside the Chronicle's classified pages, along with Sudoku, Wordy Gurdy and a word puzzle.

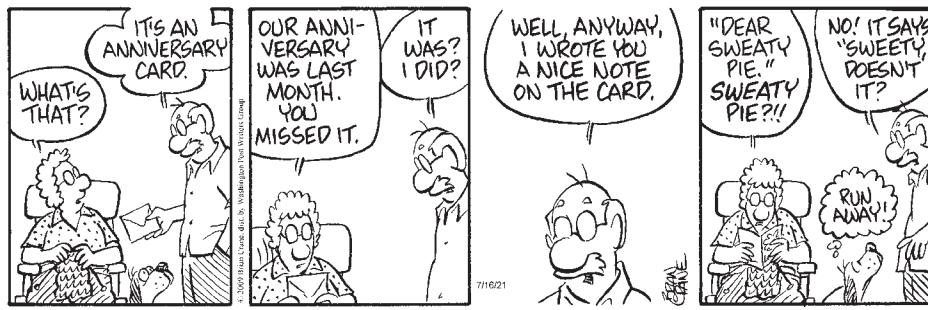
Peanuts



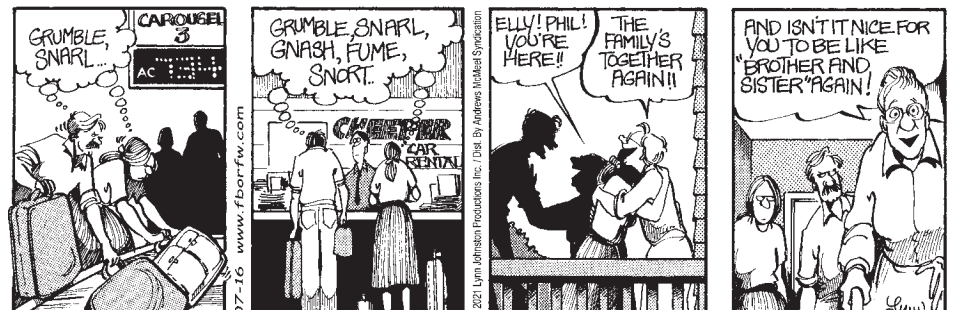
Garfield



Pickles



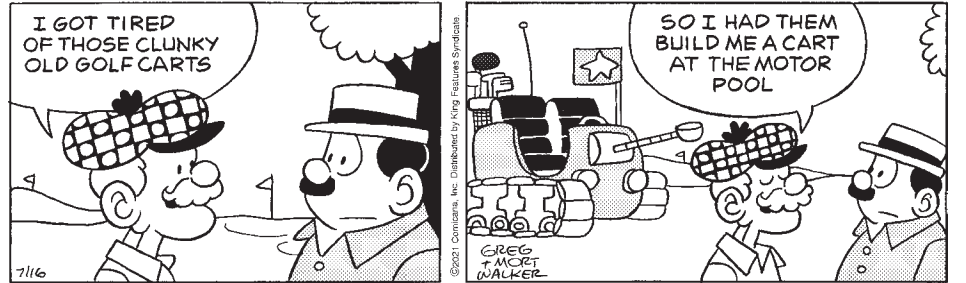
For Better or For Worse



Sally Forth



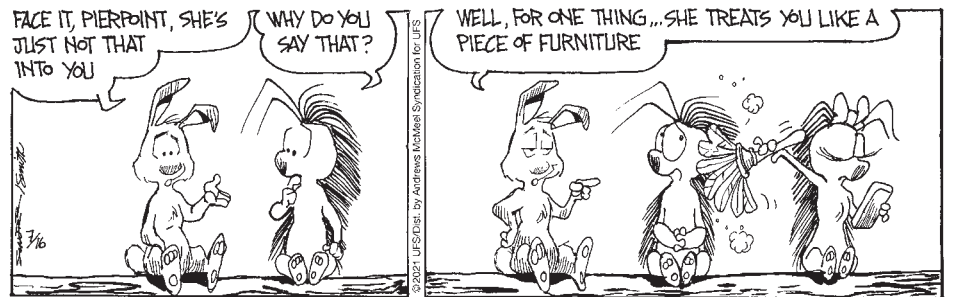
Beetle Bailey



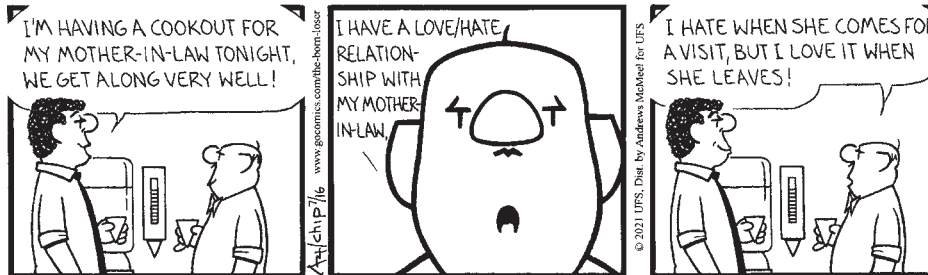
Dilbert



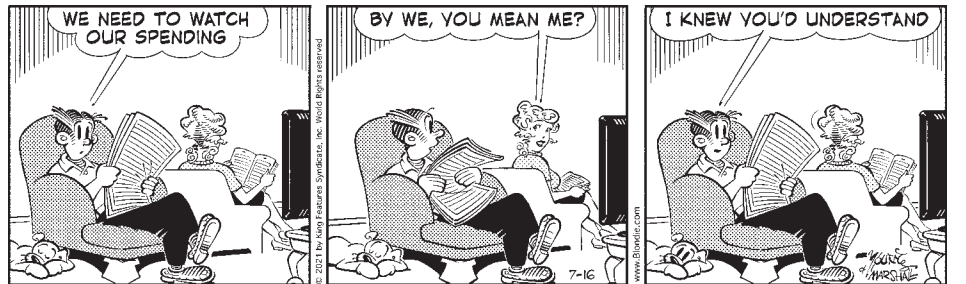
The Grizzwells



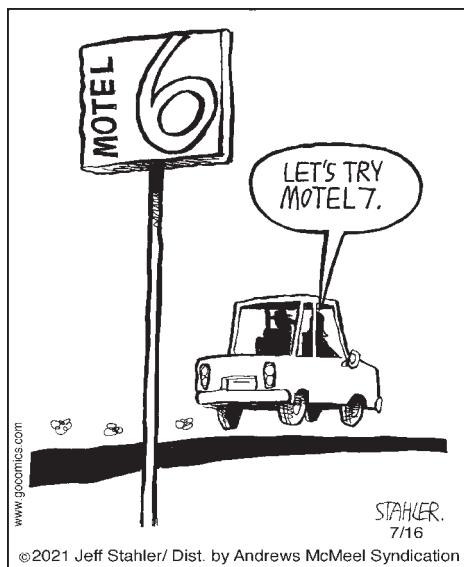
The Born Loser



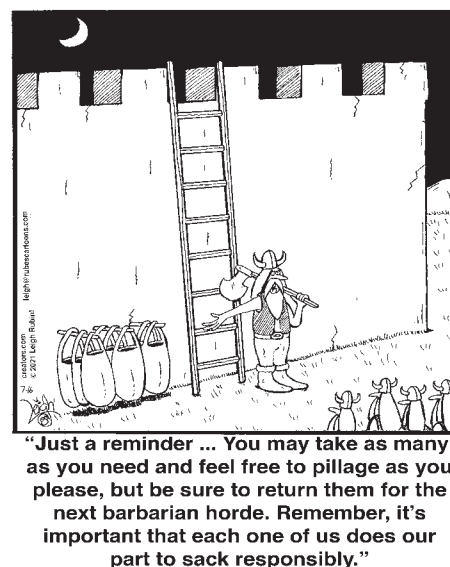
Blondie



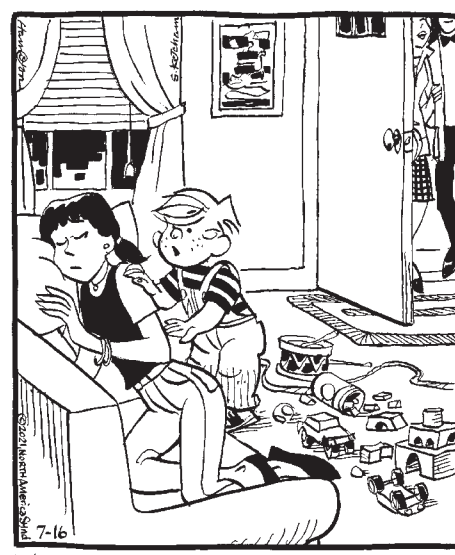
Moderately Confused



Rubes



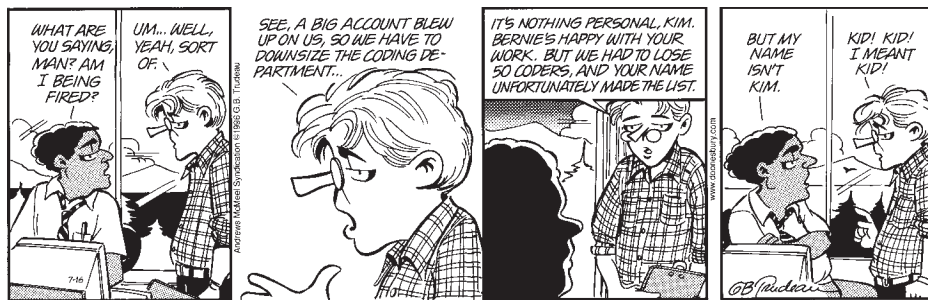
Dennis the Menace



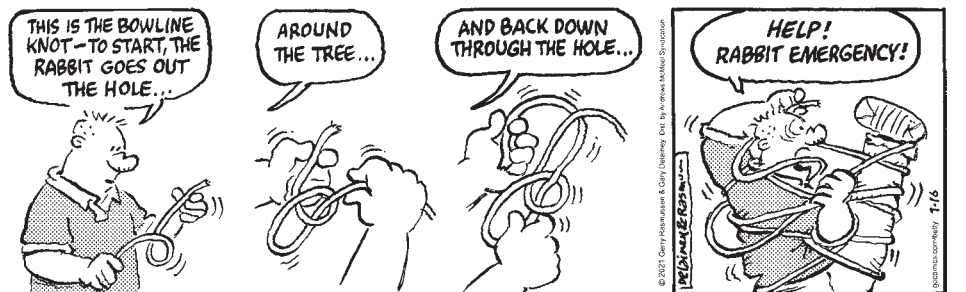
The Family Circus



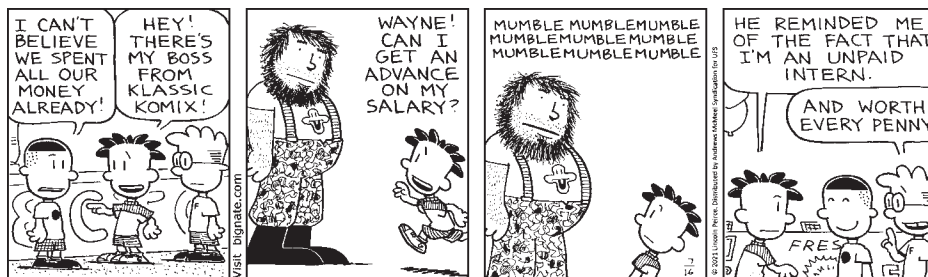
Doonesbury Flashbacks



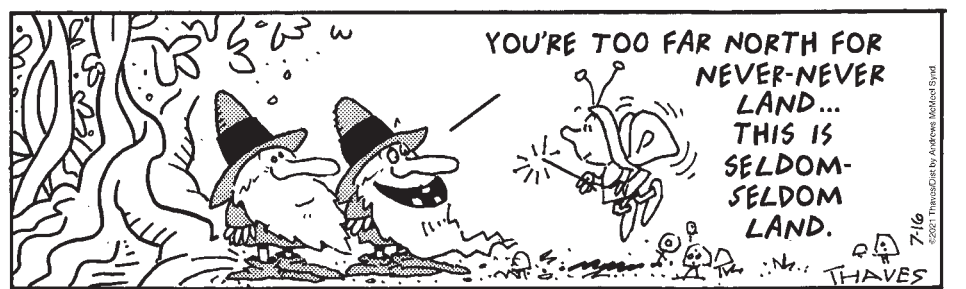
Betty



Big Nate



Frank & Ernest



Arlo and Janis



- WJUF-FM 90.1 National Public
WHGN-FM 91.9 Religious
WXCX-FM 95.3 Adult Mix
WXOF-FM 96.7 Classic Hits
WEKJ-FM 96.3, 103.9 Religious

Local RADIO

- WXCZ-FM 104.3 Country
WDUV 105.5 FM Hudson
WJQB-FM 106.3 Oldies
WFJV-FM 107.5 Classic Rock
WRZN-AM 720 Religious

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: D equals F

"EP E OREAVJMCZK, AYG EJX E

KYJKGJXJ YD EIKYJP EWT YD KZX

EGTMXWIX EP VXRR. AYG MWDRMIK

KZMWCP YW OXYORX." — KYWA

FGPZWXJ

Previous Solution: "I try to be like a forest ... constantly growing. I thought being called Forest helped me find my identity." — Forest Whitaker

Today's MOVIES

Times provided by Regal Cinemas and are subject to change; call ahead.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE. Citrus Cinemas 6 Inverness; 844-462-7342 Code 187 Friday, July 16

"Space Jam: A New Legacy" (2021) PG — 12, 1, 2:45, 4, 6, 7, 9:15, 10 p.m.
"Black Widow" (2021) PG-13 — 11:30 a.m., 12:15, 3, 3:45, 6:15, 7:15, 9:30, 10:30 p.m.
"The Boss Baby: Family Business" (2021) PG — 12:30, 4, 6:45, 9:45 p.m.
"F9: The Fast Saga" (2021) R — 11:45, 3:15, 6:30, 10:15 p.m.

Saturday, July 17

"Space Jam: A New Legacy" (2021) PG — 12, 1, 2:45, 4, 6, 7, 9:15, 10 p.m.
"Black Widow" (2021) PG-13 — 11:30 a.m., 12:15, 3, 3:45, 6:15, 7:15, 9:30, 10:30 p.m.

"The Boss Baby: Family Business" (2021) PG — 12:30, 4, 6:45, 9:45 p.m.
"F9: The Fast Saga" (2021) R — 11:45, 3:15, 6:30, 10:15 p.m.

Sunday, July 18

"Space Jam: A New Legacy" (2021) PG — 12, 1, 2:45, 4, 6, 7, 9:15, 10 p.m.
"Black Widow" (2021) PG-13 — 11:30 a.m., 12:15, 3, 3:45, 6:15, 7:15, 9:30, 10:30 p.m.
"The Boss Baby: Family Business" (2021) PG — 12:30, 4, 6:45, 9:45 p.m.
"F9: The Fast Saga" (2021) R — 11:45, 3:15, 6:30, 10:15 p.m.

Valerie Theatre, Inverness; 352-341-7850; admission: \$5

"Flushed Away" — Thursday, July 22, 2 p.m.
"The Florida Project" — Friday, July 23, 7 p.m.







# SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES *By The Mepham Group*

Level **1** 2 3 4

4			2					8
	6			5				
7	1			9				2
1		5	4					
				8		7		
					1	8		
8				1			6	5
				3			7	
9					5			

Solution to Thursday's puzzle 7/16/21

6	3	8	1	4	9	5	2	7
9	1	5	2	7	3	4	8	6
4	2	7	5	6	8	3	1	9
5	4	9	8	2	6	1	7	3
1	8	2	3	5	7	6	9	4
3	7	6	9	1	4	8	5	2
8	6	1	7	3	2	9	4	5
7	5	3	4	9	1	2	6	8
2	9	4	6	8	5	7	3	1

*Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [sudoku.org.uk](http://sudoku.org.uk)*

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Friday, July 16, 2021

KATHLEEN SAXE

## WORD GAME

TODAY'S WORD -- SECULAR

(SECULAR: SEK-yuh-ler: Worldly rather than spiritual.)

Average mark 37 words  
Time limit 40 minutes

Can you find 42 or more words in SECULAR?  
The list will be published tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S WORD -- CONTUSE

cent cone cost cote count cute	once onset onus ounce oust nest	noes nose note tone tune unto	scent scone scout sect sent snout	sone steno stone sunt suet
---	--	--	--	--

**RULES OF THE GAME:** 1. Words must be of four or more letters. 2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed. 3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" July not be used. 4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed. Contact Word Game creator Kathleen Saxe at kzsaxe@gmail.com.

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### ACROSS

1 Common level  
4 Decide on  
7 Road topping  
10 No-cholesterol spread  
12 Smart  
14 Kind of humor  
15 Perfect place  
16 Ta-ta in Turin  
17 Henri's island  
18 Beach near Los Angeles  
20 Company emblems  
22 Dory mover  
23 Place (abbr.)  
24 Appliance brand  
27 Miniature chicken  
30 Buddies  
31 Assessment  
32 "Am — time?"  
34 Med. personnel  
35 Actress Sedgwick

### DOWN

1 Limerick or ode  
2 Actor Alan  
3 Film holder  
4 Take place  
5 — Beta Kappa  
6 Aunt, in Madrid

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

BOW			JIM		BABA
ADO		BELA			ELAN
MEN		IRKS			SECT
		STALK			ITCH
		COY		SRO	
ANNEX			ANSWER		
MOI		INCA		IOC	
ARC		UMPS		RIA	
		METTLE		WIELD	
			HAL	LED	
		BLOG		YEARN	
LEAN		OMIT		YEP	
PANG		DINS		ARI	
SUDS		DIG		NOG	

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	
10			11		12		13		14		
15				16					17		
18				19			20	21			
				22			23				
24	25	26			27			28	29		
30				31				32		33	
34				35				36			
	37			38				39			
				40				41			
42	43	44				45			46	47	48
49				50	51	52			53		
54				55					56		
57					58				59		

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7 Stick  
8 Alice's chronicler  
9 Deli loaves  
11 Some pearls  
13 Group of ants  
19 Meadow plant

21 World Series mo.  
23 Pumice source  
24 Aries mo.  
25 Several  
26 Too  
27 Ernie's buddy  
28 Is not well  
29 Heifers' hellos  
31 Ancient instrument  
33 Opposite of "paleo"  
35 Martial art (2 wds.)  
36 Craggy abodes  
38 Ike's rank  
39 Dog sound  
41 Boy Scout rank  
42 Untidy person  
43 Prefix for "trillion"  
44 Stravinsky or Sikorsky  
46 Veer off course  
47 Mideast VIP  
48 Observe  
51 Baseball stat  
52 Carpet pile

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1. Half hitch circular speck (1)

2. B&B's dry red wines, in short (1)

3. South Dakota city freight (2)

4. Folk singer Mitchell's small horses (2)

5. Snake-entrancing performer hurter (2)

6. Teary-eyed mystery writer Dame Agatha (2)

7. Tolerable thing that can be clothing (3)

5. CHARMER HARMER 6. MISTY CHRISTIE 7. BEARABLE WEARABLE  
1. KNOT DOT 2. INNS ZINS 3. FARGO CARGO 4. JONIS PONIES

7-16-21

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**Notices to Creditors/Administration**

**6481-0723 FCNR** Shyann Audrey Rose Pryor  
21-CP-538 Notice to Creditors  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION File No. 21-CP-538 Division:

**IN RE: ESTATE OF SHYANN AUDREY ROSE PRYOR, Deceased.**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of SHYANN AUDREY ROSE PRYOR, deceased, whose date of death was April 25, 2021, is pending in the Circuit Court for Citrus County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 110 Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is: July 16, 2021.  
Personal Representative  
ROSS WAYNE KIPP  
PO Box 324, Crystal Beach, FL 34681  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
Robert D. Hines, Esq. Florida Bar No. 0413350  
Hines Norman Hines, P.L.  
1312 W. Fletcher Avenue, Suite B, Tampa, FL 33612  
Telephone: 813-265-0100 Email: rhines@hnh-law.com  
Secondary Email: jrvera@hnh-law.com  
**Published July 16 & 23, 2021.**

**Misc. Notices**

**6482-0716 FCNR**  
**NOTICE**

Two golf carts left at Suncoast Battery, 602 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429. 352-634-4768, over a year.  
•1994 maroon CC •1996 white EZGO  
Storage fee is \$5.00 per day. Unless payment received golf carts will be sold for parts.

Published July 16, 2021

**Lien Notices    Lien Notices    Lien Notices**

**6485-0716 FCNR**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: KNIGHTLYS AUTO INC.** gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles at 6403 W. Homosassa Trail, Homosassa, Florida 34448, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. **KNIGHTLYS AUTO INC.** reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

Date of sale: 7/30/2021, 08:00 am -  
1HGCD5531TA223603 1996 HONDA

Published July 16, 2021

**Meeting Notices    Meeting Notices    Meeting Notices**

**6483-0716 FCNR**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING SPECIAL MEETING**  
Town of Inglis, FL

Notice is hereby given, the Inglis Town Commission will hold a Public Meeting located at Inglis Town Hall, 135 Highway 40 W Inglis, Florida 34449 on Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. for the purpose of considering the eligibility for the Town of Inglis to qualify for low-cost State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans for the proposed central sewer system. This meeting will include a discussion of the proposed central sewer system. The meeting is intended to afford the opportunity to individuals to be heard on the economic and social effects of the location, design, and environmental impact of the proposed central sewer system.

Town of Inglis, Florida  
Michael White, Mayor  
Published July 16, 2021

**Meeting Notices**

**6484-0716 FCNR**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Fictitious Name

Notice under Fictitious Name Law. pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes.  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of:  
**CRYSTAL COTTAGE**  
located at 110 NE Crystal Street, Crystal River, FL 34428 in the County of Citrus, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, FL.  
Dated at Crystal River, FL, this 14th day of July, 2021.  
/s/ Gary Ripperdan II  
Owner  
**Published July 16, 2021**

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2014 DODGE CHARGER V7567A.....	<b>\$7,998</b>	2020 HYUNDAI ACCENT Y12931A.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2019 TOYOTA CHR LT28607A.....	<b>\$21,949</b>
2008 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK350 Y12580C.....	<b>\$7,998</b>	2017 NISSAN ALTIMA XU1103A.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2017 NISSAN FRONTIER X5681A.....	<b>\$21,987</b>
2012 HYUNDAI ACCENT Y12699B.....	<b>\$8,998</b>	2018 TOYOTA COROLLA IM H14399A.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2018 JEEP CHEROKEE 10P1035.....	<b>\$21,998</b>
2015 NISSAN LEAF XU1109.....	<b>\$8,998</b>	2018 HYUNDAI ELANTRA 5P6029.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2019 CHEVROLET EQUINOX Y13174A.....	<b>\$21,998</b>
2015 KIA RIO K8081A.....	<b>\$9,900</b>	2020 NISSAN KICKS XL1014A.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2019 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA Y12993A.....	<b>\$21,998</b>
2008 TOYOTA AVALON H14672B1.....	<b>\$9,998</b>	2017 NISSAN NV 200 L28404B.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2018 HYUNDAI KONA Y13026A.....	<b>\$21,998</b>
2012 TOYOTA CAMRY L28730B.....	<b>\$9,998</b>	2016 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT V7808B.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2018 HYUNDAI SANTA FE Y12941A.....	<b>\$21,998</b>
2008 HONDA CR-V Y12807C1.....	<b>\$9,998</b>	2013 TOYOTA SIENNA Y13257A.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2016 FORD MUSTANG L29072A.....	<b>\$22,949</b>
2014 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GT Y12780B.....	<b>\$9,998</b>	2016 KIA SORENTO Y12475C.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2019 SUBARU IMPREZA Y13058A.....	<b>\$22,998</b>
2013 FORD ESCAPE Y12996B.....	<b>\$9,998</b>	2018 CHEVROLET TRAX HT14684A.....	<b>\$16,998</b>	2021 KIA SELTOS K8205A.....	<b>\$22,998</b>
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2014 KIA SOUL H14296B.....	<b>\$9,998</b>	2016 NISSAN FRONTIER 11Y12248D.....	<b>\$17,448</b>	2018 CHEVROLET COLORADO 9Y12697B.....	<b>\$23,998</b>
2017 HYUNDAI ACCENT MT7032B.....	<b>\$10,998</b>	2011 MERCEDES-BENZ E350 W4 K7922A.....	<b>\$17,900</b>	2019 NISSAN ROGUE Y12882A.....	<b>\$23,998</b>
2011 HONDA CR-V V7784A.....	<b>\$10,998</b>	2017 TOYOTA CAMRY KT7998A.....	<b>\$17,998</b>	2020 MAZDA CX-30 M6900A.....	<b>\$24,883</b>
2012 MERCEDES-BENZ C250W 1P5985A.....	<b>\$11,998</b>	2017 CHEVROLET CRUZE YT13267A.....	<b>\$17,998</b>	2019 KIA CADENZA K7951A.....	<b>\$24,900</b>
2016 CHEVROLET CRUZE LIMITED 10P1026A.....	<b>\$11,998</b>	2019 HYUNDAI ELANTRA Y12305A.....	<b>\$17,998</b>	2018 BUICK CASCADA L28893A1.....	<b>\$24,998</b>
2019 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE M7014C.....	<b>\$11,998</b>	2012 MAZDA MX-5 8P0452.....	<b>\$17,998</b>	2019 SUBARU FORESTER YT13130A.....	<b>\$24,998</b>
2014 HYUNDAI SONATA L28691A.....	<b>\$11,998</b>	2013 CADILLAC SRX 6P1365A.....	<b>\$17,998</b>	2018 ACURA ILX AT14344A.....	<b>\$24,998</b>
2016 KIA SOUL KT7989B.....	<b>\$12,900</b>	2012 NISSAN TITAN K7974A.....	<b>\$17,998</b>	2018 TOYOTA RAV-4 Y13118A.....	<b>\$24,998</b>
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2017 HYUNDAI ELANTRA Y11925A.....	<b>\$14,998</b>	2014 HONDA ACCORD YG0144A.....	<b>\$18,998</b>	2019 HONDA CR-V Y12983A.....	<b>\$27,998</b>
2017 KIA FORTE K8105A.....	<b>\$14,998</b>	2016 MAZDA MAZDA6 MT7072A.....	<b>\$18,998</b>	2019 VOLKSWAGEN ARTEON V7779A.....	<b>\$28,998</b>
2016 FORD FUSION Y13003A.....	<b>\$14,998</b>	2017 KIA OPTIMA K8128A.....	<b>\$18,998</b>	2018 TOYOTA AVALON HYBRID 9P0682A.....	<b>\$28,998</b>
2014 NISSAN MAXIMA X5760A.....	<b>\$14,998</b>	2017 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER 1P5978.....	<b>\$18,998</b>	2019 TOYOTA RAV-4 Y13254A.....	<b>\$28,998</b>
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