



We are Positively Putnam FL



PALATKA DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023

PUTNAM COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

\$1

Welaka officials recently found a syringe in a park toilet and broken glass on the ground of another park, promoting more park regulations that were approved Tuesday.



Photos submitted by Courtney DeSouza

Welaka to lock parks, bathrooms at night

By SARAH CAVACINI
Palatka Daily News
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The Welaka Town Council took additional measures to keep the town's parks safe after residents found a discarded syringe in a park toilet and broken glass on the ground.

It was decided Tuesday that town officials, such as employees from the Public Works Department and Police Chief Michael Porath, will lock each of the town's park gates and bathrooms

every night and then reopen them come daylight.

"I'm a big believer (that) if they have gates and the ability to lock, we should be locking them," Porath said about the parks. "It's not going to prevent everything, but at least every night we're doing a visual inspection before we're locking those doors to make sure somebody didn't shove God knows what down the toilets."

Tuesday's decision came one month after the council voted unanimously to approve an ordinance regulating park

usage. The ordinance requires notice to be given to Porath or Mayor Jamie Watts if people intend to use the parks. Organizers must also obtain a permit to use those facilities.

For an event where 50 or more people are expected to attend, the petitioner must give at least three days' notice. If an event is expected to draw more than 150 people, organizers must give the town a two-week notice, the Palatka Daily News reported in December.

Tuesday's decision, which did not come in the form of an ordinance, sup-

plemented the parks ordinance that was introduced in December and approved in February.

"It is a cry, plea, for the council to do something more with this ordinance that they passed," stated Courtney DeSouza, who leads the town's events committee and found the broken glass and syringe. "This is where our children are playing."

According to its website, the town has four parks with bathrooms. DeSouza

See LOCK, Page 5A



Photos by SARAH CAVACINI/Palatka Daily News

People walk down the midway at the Putnam County Fairgrounds on Thursday as they get ready for the fair, which opens today.

Gates open at 5 p.m.; pageant at 6

By BRANDON D. OLIVER
AND SARAH CAVACINI
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Fairgrounds Road - will be open today, as well as Monday through Friday next week, from 5 p.m. until 11 p.m., according to the fair's website.

On Saturday and March 25, the fair is open noon - 11 p.m., and it will take place noon - 9 p.m. Sunday.

The fair will offer a variety of activities for people of all ages. There will be rides, animal shows, food vendors, livestock shows, a petting zoo and performances from local groups, among other activities.

Wayne McClain, a member of the Putnam County Fair Authority board of

See FAIR, Page 6A



Crews work on last-minute adjustments Thursday to get ready for opening day of the Putnam County Fair.

Space Florida could see changes

By JIM TURNER
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE - As the House begins to revamp economic-development programs, Florida's aerospace

agency would draw more direct oversight, with the governor controlling its board of directors.

The House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee on Thursday backed a plan (PCB RRS 23-01) that, in part, would separate the Space Florida Board of Directors from the public-private Enterprise Florida.

The bill comes as House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast, calls for eliminating Enterprise Florida, with many of its business-recruitment programs placed under the Department of Economic Opportunity.

Frank DiBello, the longtime president and CEO of Space Florida, announced Wednesday he will step down June 30 from the agency, which was created by the Legislature in 2006.

Rep. Tyler Sirois, a Merritt Island Republican

Under the bill, the governor would appoint the chair and five members representing the aerospace industry, Florida seaports, the aviation industry and the bond-financing industry and an academic experienced in aerospace or aviation.

See FLORIDA, Page 5A

PUTNAM COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS & EXPO CENTER

March 17th - 25th
"Country Fans & Cattle Brands"

Fair Opens at 5 p.m. Tonight

\$10 Admission Tonight
Unlimited Ride Armband \$20 Tonight.

www.putnamfairandexpo.com

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2A QUICK HITS

"Luck is the best superpower."

— Elon Musk is a business magnate and investor. He is the founder, CEO and chief engineer of SpaceX; angel investor, CEO and product architect of Tesla, Inc.; owner and CEO of Twitter, Inc.; founder of The Boring Company; co-founder of Neuralink and OpenAI; and president of the philanthropic Musk Foundation. He has an estimated net worth of around \$196 billion.



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Photo courtesy of Kortni Rogers

Q.I. Roberts Junior-Senior High School agriculture teacher Kortni Rogers and her father, David Smith, recently mentored senior Issac Harper while repairing a water feeder during hog check-in and pickup at the school's farm. Earlier in the day, a number of area FFA and 4-H student participants received their hogs in preparation for the Putnam County fair, which opens today at the fairgrounds in East Palatka.

Announcements

PALATKA City Commission to meet Thursday

The regular meeting of the Palatka City Commission will be 6 p.m. Thursday at City Hall, 201 N. Second St.

The agenda of the meeting will be posted on the city website and at City Hall prior to the meeting. All meetings are open to the public. For details, call 386-329-0100.

The Student of the Month ceremony will be 5:30 p.m. prior to the meeting.

Special called workshop is Monday at City Hall

The City Commission's special called workshop will be 5:30 p.m. Monday at City Hall, 201 N. Second St.

The purpose of the workshop is to discuss procedures for the selection of

a city manager and/or interim city manager, including utilizing city staff and/or search firm services.

The agenda of the workshop will be posted on the city website and at City Hall prior to the meeting. All meetings are open to the public. For details, call 386-329-0100.

Annual Viking 5K taking place next week

St. Johns River State College is calling all 5K competitors, walkers, community members and alumni to lace up and show their Viking pride.

The college will present its annual Viking 5K March 25. Participants can expect a few fun modifications to the event, including a new location.

The run begins 10 a.m. at the SJR State Palatka campus, 5001 St. Johns Ave. Each runner will receive a medal and swag bag, including a T-shirt, while supplies last. This chip-timed race will have an overall male and female winner. Tiles will be given to runners who place. First-, second- and third-place prizes will be awarded to male and female runners in 14 age groups.

Early registration is encouraged at <https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Palatka/Viking5KRun> at a cost of \$15 for runners up to age 13 and \$30 for participants 14 and older.

Registration will be accepted on the morning of the race beginning 9 a.m. for \$20/\$35. All proceeds support athletic programs at SJR State.

Participants are encouraged to stay on-campus after the run. Sandwiches, wraps, nuggets, fruit cups and yogurt from Chik-fil-A will be available for purchase. Smoothies and teas from 386 Nutrition will be available for purchase on-site. This year's sponsors are WastePro, 386 Nutrition, and Oliver Oaks and Vines.

WELAKA Maker's Market scheduled Saturday

Vendors are invited to take part in The Maker's Market 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at the Woman's Club of Welaka, 644 County Road 309. The last event is scheduled April 15.

Highlights include crafts, vendors, food and fun. For details, call 904-347-7758.

Today in History

Today is Friday, March 17, the 76th day of 2023. There are 289 days left in the year. This is St. Patrick's Day.

TODAY IN PUTNAM

In 1886, the Palatka post office received 15,500 special request stamped envelopes, all for two businesses in Palatka. First National bank used over 2,000 stamped envelopes a month and Florida Southern railway was next, using a large number of 2 cent stamps; 93 registered packages were received at the Palatka office while 78 left. The post office ended the day with a cash balance of \$661 on hand. "A good showing for a 3rd class office"

In 1919, the Rev. Billy Sunday, famous evangelist who was holding a great meeting in St. Augustine, spent the day in Palatka with J.R. Mellon, his friend of many years. After thoroughly enjoying his visit here, Sunday left by late night train for Tampa, where he would "conduct a revival and stir things up morally and spiritually."

In 1924, the Standard Oil Co. placed state road maps, compiled by Rand McNally, at its service stations in Palatka and throughout the state. The maps were available upon request without any charge.

In 1948, an early morning fire destroyed a shipment of paint and other articles in Webb's 10-cent store on Lemon Street. Smoke from the fire damaged every article in the store, blackened the ceiling and lights and covered the show windows with a thin film.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY

On March 17, 1969, Golda Meir became prime minister of Israel.

ON THIS DATE

In 1762, New York held its first St. Patrick's Day parade.

In 1776, the Revolutionary War Siege of Boston ended as British forces evacuated the city.

In 1905, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt married Franklin Delano Roosevelt in New York.

In 1941, the National Gallery of Art opened in Washington, D.C.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

The former national chairwoman of the NAACP, Myrlie Evers-Williams, is 90. Former astronaut Ken Mattingly is 87. Singer-songwriter John Sebastian (The Lovin' Spoonful) is 79. Actor Patrick Duffy is 74. Actor Kurt Russell is 72. Actor Lesley-Anne Down is 69. Actor Rob Lowe is 59. Olympic gold medal soccer player Mia Hamm is 51.

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MARCH 16		
NAME	CLOSE	CHANGE
APPLE	155.85	+2.86
AFLAC	62.48	+1.24
AMAZON	100.04	+3.84
AT&T	18.39	+0.08
COMCAST	36.24	+0.35
CISCO	50.12	+1.06
COCA-COLA	60.3	+0.33
CORNING	33.33	+0.52
CSX	29.33	+0.35
DELTA AIR	33.71	+0.48
DISNEY	94.29	+1.19
DUNKIN	-	-
GEN ELEC	91.97	+2.21
GOOGLE	101.07	+4.52
GLAXO SMITH	33.82	+0.24
HOME DEPOT	286.73	-1.24
LOWE'S	199.67	+1.08
MANULIFE	18.01	-0.07
MICROSOFT	276.2	+10.76
NEXTERA	76.23	+0.71
NETFLIX	310.06	+6.27
NIKE	120.65	+2.48
PEPSI	176.51	-0.12
PFIZER	40.37	+0.09
TRCTR SUPP	235.32	+3.91
TWITTER	53.7	0.00
VULCAN	166.21	+3.40
WALMART	138.28	-0.79

PALATKA DAILY NEWS WEATHER REPORT

7-Day Local Forecast

Day	Weather	Precip Chance
Friday	Sunny	5%
Saturday	Few Showers	65%
Sunday	Few Showers	50%
Monday	Isolated T-storms	35%
Tuesday	Isolated T-storms	30%
Wednesday	Mostly Sunny	10%
Thursday	Partly Cloudy	0%

Local UV Index

0-2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+
0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure									

Sun & Moon

Sunrise today 7:34 a.m.
Sunset tonight 7:36 p.m.

Phase	Time
New	3/21
First	3/28
Full	4/6
Last	4/13

State Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo Wx
Daytona Beach	80/64 s
Gainesville	82/63 s
Jacksonville	82/62 s
Key West	81/73 pc
Miami	79/74 pc
Naples	81/70 pc
Orlando	83/65 s
Panama City	78/49 sh
Pensacola	76/46 sh
Port Charlotte	82/63 s
Tallahassee	78/51 mc
Tampa	81/67 s
W. Palm Beach	78/73 pc

Weather (Wx): cl/cloudy; mc/mostly cloudy; pc/partly cloudy; r/rain; rs/rain & snow; s/sunny; sh/showers; sn/snow; ss/snow showers; t/thunderstorms

In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see sunny skies with a high temperature of 82°, humidity of 40%. South wind 5 to 14 mph. The record high temperature for today is 91° set in 1945. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 62°. South southwest wind 8 to 13 mph. The record low for tonight is 32° set in 1916. Saturday, skies will be mostly cloudy with a 65% chance of showers, high temperature of 77°, humidity of 81%. Southwest wind 9 to 13 mph.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week

Peak Times			Peak Times		
Day	AM	PM	Day	AM	PM
Today	8:59-10:59	9:29-11:29	Tue	12:13-2:13	12:38-2:38
Sat	9:59-11:59	10:27-12:27	Wed	1:03-3:03	1:27-3:27
Sun	10:55-12:55	--	Thu	1:51-3:51	2:15-4:15
Mon	11:22-1:22	11:48-1:48	www.WhatsOurWeather.com		

Weather Trivia

Why does lightning seem to flicker as it flashes in the sky?
Answer: Lightning is not just a single stroke, but a succession of many strokes.

Farmer's Growing Days

Date	Degree Days	Date	Degree Days
3/10	21	3/14	5
3/11	10	3/15	1
3/12	18	3/16	7
3/13	13		

Local Almanac Last Week

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation
3/10	81	61	74/53	0.32"	2.28"
3/11	66	54	74/54	0.01"	0.85"
3/12	83	53	74/54	0.39"	+1.43"
3/13	67	59	74/54	1.56"	
3/14	61	48	74/54	0.00"	Average temperature 60.6°
3/15	59	43	74/54	0.00"	Average normal temperature 64.0°
3/16	72	41	75/54	0.00"	Departure from normal -3.4°

St. Johns River Tides This Week

Palatka				Palmetto Bluff					
Day	High	Low	Day	High	Low	Day	High	Low	
3/17	12:26 pm	6:05 am	None	7:28 pm	3/17	12:12 pm	6:11 am	None	7:14 pm
3/18	12:46 am	7:27 am	1:25 pm	8:22 pm	3/18	12:31 am	7:20 am	1:15 pm	8:12 pm
3/19	1:46 am	8:31 am	2:19 pm	9:14 pm	3/19	1:33 am	8:23 am	2:11 pm	9:05 pm
3/20	2:41 am	9:29 am	3:09 pm	10:02 pm	3/20	2:28 am	9:21 am	3:02 pm	9:53 pm
3/21	3:34 am	10:23 am	3:58 pm	10:48 pm	3/21	3:20 am	10:14 am	3:50 pm	10:39 pm
3/22	4:25 am	11:15 am	4:45 pm	11:33 pm	3/22	4:09 am	11:04 am	4:37 pm	11:23 pm
3/23	5:14 am	12:04 pm	5:32 pm	None	3/23	4:57 am	11:53 am	5:22 pm	None

NEWS IDEA?

We try, but we can't be everywhere. If you see or hear something you think is news, call 312-5200 or email news@palatkadailynews.com. No name is necessary.

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Proposal to ban abortions at 6 weeks advance

BY BRENDAN FARRINGTON
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — A proposal to ban abortions at six weeks in Florida received overwhelming approval from a state House committee Thursday with Democrats acknowledging there was nothing they could do to stop it from eventually becoming law.

The proposal is moving along while a ban on abortions at 15 weeks — signed into law by Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis last year — is still facing a legal challenge. The new proposal would only take effect if the current law is upheld and would make it a crime to provide an abortion past six weeks' gestational age.

"It's a bill that recognizes the impor-

"The bill that's before you is not solely a reflection of my personal beliefs, but a result of listening in an attempt to build consensus around a policy that supports life."

~ Rep. Jenna Persons-Mulicka

ance and value of the life of innocent, unborn human beings," said Republican Rep. Jenna Persons-Mulicka said of her proposal. "The bill that's before you is not solely a reflection of my personal beliefs, but a result of listening in an attempt to build consensus around a policy that supports life."

The measure could give DeSantis, who is widely expected to run for presi-

dent, additional fodder to woo conservative voters. The governor has indicated he will back the proposed ban.

There would be an exception to save the life of the woman and exceptions in the case of pregnancy caused by rape or incest until 15 weeks of pregnancy. In those cases, the woman would have to provide documentation such as a medical record, restraining order or police

report.

Opponents said that by the time a woman finds out she's pregnant, it's either too late to get an abortion or there's too little time to arrange one, especially for victims of rape and incest. They said trying to obtain an abortion will be even more difficult for women in rural areas with limited health care. "This bill is too restrictive. The

amount of paperwork that a woman has to go through to show that they are raped is retraumatizing," said Democratic Rep. Robin Bartleman, adding most rapes aren't reported.

But she also recognized that Republicans will get what they want.

"You are going to have the votes, you have a supermajority. There will essentially be an outright abortion ban in the state of Florida," she said. "I can do math."

The House bill has one more committee stop before being heard by the full chamber. A similar Senate bill has been assigned to two committees and will be heard for the first time next week. The House and Senate leaders have expressed support for the legisla-



News Service of Florida

Gov. Ron DeSantis

Florida aims to revoke hotel's liquor license for drag show

BY ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON
Associated Press

MIAMI — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' administration is moving to revoke the liquor license of a Miami hotel that hosted a Christmas drag show, a crackdown that comes as the Republican governor looks to shore up his conservative credentials ahead of an expected 2024 presidential bid.

The state's Department of Business and Professional Regulation filed an administrative complaint earlier this week against the Hyatt Regency Miami for hosting the Christmas-themed show. It alleged that the performance was "sexually explicit" and that children were present for the "lewd, vulgar and indecent" display.

The Hyatt Regency Miami said the programming and ticketing at the venue were managed by a third party and the hotel's role was to serve food and beverages. Amir Blattner, the hotel's general manager, said the liquor license remains active as the complaint is being reviewed.

The producers of the drag show didn't immediately respond to a message from The Associated Press seeking comment Thursday.

DeSantis has filed similar complaints against other venues hosting drag shows in the past. He is known for his aggressive defense of conservative causes and has marketed his administration as a blueprint for strong

Republican leadership as he considers a challenge to former President Donald Trump in 2024.

The complaint says the state warned the hotel ahead of the Dec. 27 performance to stop children from attending, but the hotel only made it a recommendation and allowed minors who went with adults, the complaint says. It also alleged that performers simulated sex acts and exposed "prosthetic female breasts."

DeSantis has championed other landmark conservative priorities that his critics have dismissed as anti-LGBTQ, including a law that bans instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in kindergarten through third grade.

"Governor DeSantis stands up for the innocence of children in the classroom and throughout Florida," the Republican governor's office said in a statement regarding the hotel's liquor license.

On Tuesday, Florida Republicans advanced a measure that expands on the controversial law that critics dubbed the "Don't Say Gay" bill. The new bill would bar school lessons on sexual orientation and gender identity through the eighth grade. It would also ban school requirements on use of pronouns that don't correspond to the person's sex at birth.

Another bill would restrict venues from allowing children to attend drag shows if they have sexual content.

Planes in close call were cleared to use runway

Associated Press

Federal investigators say an air traffic controller cleared a plane to take off from Sarasota while an American Airlines jet was making its final approach to the same runway last month, leading the American pilots to abandon their landing.

The National Transportation Safety Board said Thursday that the American and Air Canada Rouge planes were separated by six-tenths of a mile — about 3,000 feet — at their closest point. That is much farther apart than planes in several recent close calls.

In its preliminary report, the safety board did not state a cause for the Feb. 16 incident, but it said it formed a group to investigate air traffic controller actions. The

National Air Traffic Controllers Association and the Federal Aviation Administration, which hires and trains controllers, are taking part in the investigation, the NTSB said.

The early findings came a day after officials from the NTSB, the FAA, airlines and airline unions met outside Washington, D.C., for a "safety summit."

According to an FAA readout of summit sessions that were closed to the public and press, a group that discussed air traffic recommended closer examination of data to find the causes and solutions for planes being on or near the same runway at the same time. The FAA said it asked industry to find technology to help air traffic controllers track equipment on the ground.

The NTSB is investigating six recent

events involving conflicting runway use. The board did not start any similar investigations in 2022 and only two in 2021, according to a spokesman.

Overall runway incursions, as they are called, are lower in the last six months than the same period last year, according to FAA figures, but those include the vast majority of incidents that are deemed low- or no-risk.

In Sarasota, a controller cleared the American Airlines flight to land on runway 14 when the plane was about 10 miles from the airport. When it was about 3 miles out, the controller cleared the Air Canada Rouge plane to take off from the same runway.

The American crew elected to cancel their landing, turn to the right and return to land. No injuries were reported.

Scrutiny of school books could get boost

BY RYAN DAILEY
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Looking to build on a controversial 2022 law, a Florida House panel on Wednesday approved a bill that would bolster a process for people to object to school instructional materials and for parents to limit school-library books their children can read.

The House Education Quality Subcommittee voted 13-5 along straight party lines to support the measure, with sponsor Stan McClain, R-Ocala, pushing back against opponents who characterized it as enabling book bans.

"This idea that book banning is taking place, and all of that, is a myth and is not true. Members, what we're trying to do is ensure that our parents continue to have the opportunity to know what materials are being used to instruct (their children) and to have the ability to challenge that," McClain said.

Lawmakers during the 2022 legislative session passed a law designed to intensify scrutiny of school library books and instructional materials. It required school boards to adopt procedures that, in part, provide for the "regular removal or discontinuance" of books from media centers based on factors such as alignment with state academic standards.

Gov. Ron DeSantis endorsed the measure, calling it a move toward "curriculum transparency."

The bill (HB 1069) approved Wednesday would require that all instructional materials

selected for use in school districts be approved by the state Department of Education. It also seeks to make the process easier for people to object to instructional materials and library books.

"The objection form, as prescribed by State Board of Education rule, and the district school board's process must be easy to read and understand and be easily accessible on the homepage of the school district's website," the bill says.

The bill also would require that objection forms provide contact information for school districts that would point people toward submitting objections.

If an objection is filed on the basis that materials contain pornography or depictions of "sexual conduct," the bill would require that the books or materials be removed within five school days "and remain unavailable until the objection is resolved."

The bill also would require that parents "have the right to read passages from any materi-

al that is subject to an objection."

Rep. Ashley Gantt, D-Miami, decried what she called an attempt at "book banning" and asked McClain if one person could be responsible for removing content for all students.

"Is it the intent of the language in those lines (in the bill) to have one parent determine what all the students in a class or school can have access to for their educational purposes?" Gantt asked.

"That could take place, yes," McClain replied.

Gantt later suggested that the bill would weaken students' education.

"I hope that we all understand that we are taking away the ability for our children to be critical thinkers, by telling them we want to protect their innocence. They're going to be adults one day, and they need to be informed adults," Gantt said.

The measure also would limit instruction on "human sexuality," including topics such as sexually transmitted diseases, for middle- and high-school students.

That part of the measure drew sharp criticism from numerous people, with some arguing that students in lower grades benefit from sex education.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Death Notices

Obituaries are paid advertising written by funeral homes based upon information provided by families. Death notices are brief announcements published at no charge.

Mary K. Green

Mary Katherine Green, 67, of Palatka, passed away Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital.

Arrangements will be announced by Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.

Leola F. Johnson

Leola F. Johnson, 76, of Florahome, passed from this life on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at

HCA Florida Putnam Hospital following a brief illness.

Arrangements will be announced by Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.

Lonnie B. Lewis Jr.

Lonnie B. Lewis Jr., 67, of Palatka, entered the sunset of life on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at Community Hospice Morris Center, Jacksonville.

Arrangements entrusted to the care of Karl N. Flagg Serenity Memorial Chapel.

Kenneth Westberry

Kenneth Russell Westberry, 66, of Palatka passed away Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at HC Florida Putnam Hospital in Palatka following a brief illness.

Masters Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Pet of the Day

HANK WILLIAMS



Hank Williams is a handsome 7 year old Flat Coated Retriever. Don't let his age fool you, he loves to play ball and play in the yard. Hank is housebroken and would love to be part of a family again.

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Defamation bill snaking through Tally needs stomping

It's Sunshine Week. As such, let's spread a bit of disinfectant, shall we?

A few years ago, when I was a government reporter for the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*, the newsroom hosted a Government in the Sunshine seminar with Barbara Petersen, former executive director of the First Amendment Foundation and now the executive director for the Florida Center for Government Accountability. Petersen is a fountain of information for those who seek to understand our state's open records and meetings laws and she gave a wonderful presentation that day. Those who attended included local attorneys, municipal clerks, area residents and, of course, journalists like me. One thing we all had (and have) in common: All of us use the very same laws to gain access to public records and to have access to our government officials as they make important decisions that impact all of us.



CASMIRA HARRISON

Contrary to what some folks might have you believe, newspaper journalists are just citizens. Some of us have better access than others, but we're all citizens just trying to figure out how and whether our governments are working

to the best of their ability. We ask questions and seek data we think other citizens want to know. It's as simple as that.

So when Florida legislators file bills like the one described in the *New York Times* editorial to your right, it makes us small-town journalists with limited resources go, "Whoa... hold up. What in the world are you thinking, Tally?"

The measure, sponsored by Pensacola Republican Alex Andrade, seeks to limit the "actual malice" standard that for decades has protected journalists writing about government officials. Andrade filed the measure after Gov. Ron DeSantis called for the U.S. Supreme Court to revisit a 1964 decision in a case known as *New York Times v. Sullivan*, which held that the First Amendment limits public officials' ability to sue for defamation. The bill (HB 991) would make a number of changes to defamation standards and create a presumption that statements provided by anonymous sources are false. The measure also would strip the media of what is known as journalists' privilege, which shields reporters from having to reveal news-gathering information such as sources' identities, in defamation lawsuits.

Now, let me be clear. The *Palatka Daily News* does not use anonymous sources in our reporting. Our jobs might be a whole lot easier if we did — boy, if I had a nickel for every time someone complained about issues here off the record — but we don't. But the mere thought of overturning the "actual malice" standard for media outlets — including ours — worries me. It should worry you, too. Because it's not just legacy media being targeted by this bill.

In this week's *News Service of Florida* report, Carol LoCicero, a First Amendment lawyer whose clients include media outlets in defamation lawsuits, said the bill is unconstitutional, and that the proposed changes wouldn't apply only to reporters.

"We want you to understand that the House bill hurts every speaker. It doesn't just hurt... what's been referred to as the 'legacy media,'" LoCicero said. "It hurts people from all points of view. It hurts individuals. Frankly, it hurts politicians as they're campaigning for office and making statements about their opponents."

The proposal also would allow people to file defamation lawsuits anywhere in the state, which LoCicero said would "facilitate forum shopping."

A hefty percentage of my job as editor of this newspaper is making sure we do not defame anyone. But even if we do everything by the book, that doesn't eliminate the possibility of us getting sued anyway. This bill puts the legal costs — even if we win — on us, since the measure also would prevent defendants who prevail in litigation from collecting attorney fees and costs.

Truly, I cannot help but notice that the same week this bill to make it easier to sue journalists (ahem... citizens) is advancing forward, another bill, making it tougher to sue insurance companies, is advancing, too.

On Thursday, the House and Senate appeared to nail down a plan (HB 837) that would help shield businesses and insurance companies from costly lawsuits.

Because, allegedly, if we make it harder to sue insurers, they'll lower premiums? Perhaps more will come to Florida?

Uh-huh. I've got a bridge to sell ya.

Listen, if you appreciate having a local newspaper — however small it may be — and you enjoy speaking your mind (even if it is sometimes fiery speech) on social media or in council chambers or on the campaign trail, tell your state legislators you are not okay with this one.

Casmira Harrison is the editor of the *Palatka Daily News*. She can be reached at charrison@palatkadailynews.com



OTHER VIEWS

State House bill poses threat to free expression

A homeowner gets angry at a county commission over a zoning dispute and writes a Facebook post accusing a local building official of being in the pocket of developers.

A right-wing broadcaster criticizing border policies accuses the secretary of homeland security of being a traitor.

A parent upset about the removal of a gay-themed book from library shelves goes to a school board meeting and calls the board chair a bigot and a homophobe.

All three are examples of Americans engaging in clamorous but perfectly legal speech about public figures that is broadly protected by the Constitution. The Supreme Court, in a case that dates back nearly 60 years, ruled that even if that speech might be damaging or include errors, it should generally be protected against claims of libel and slander. All three would lose that protection — and be subject to ruinous defamation lawsuits — under a bill that is moving through the Florida House and is based on longstanding goals of Gov. Ron DeSantis.

The bill represents a dangerous threat to free expression in the United States, not only for the news media, but for all Americans, whatever their political beliefs. There's still time for Florida lawmakers to reject this crude pandering and ensure that their constituents retain the right to free speech.

"This isn't just a press issue," said Bobby Block, executive director of Florida's First Amendment Foundation. "This is a death-to-public-discourse bill. Everyone, even conservatives, would have to second-guess themselves whenever they open their mouths to speak or sit in front of a keyboard."

The bill is an explicit effort to eviscerate a 1964 Supreme Court decision, *The New York Times Company v. Sullivan*. This bulwark of First Amendment law requires public figures to prove a news organization engaged in what the court called "actual malice" to win a defamation case. By preventing lawsuits based on unintentional mistakes, the decision freed news organizations to pursue vigorous reporting about public officials without fear of paying damages. The decision has even been applied by lower courts to bloggers and other speakers who make allegations about public figures.

Many conservatives, including Mr. DeSantis, have long chafed at the freedom that this decision gives to a news industry they consider to be too liberal. The new bill embodies that antagonism. It would sharply limit the definition of public figures, eliminating public employees like police officers from the

The bill goes much further than this attempt to hobble the press. It makes it clear that the new defamation rules would also apply to any single "utterance on the internet," which could mean a tweet or Facebook post written by anyone, or "any one presentation to an audience," which could include statements at school board hearings and other public meetings.

category, even if they become public figures because of their actions.

It would change the definition of actual malice to include any allegation that is "inherently improbable" — an impossibly vague standard — or that is based on what it calls an "unverified" statement by an anonymous source. In fact, it says that all anonymous statements, a crucial tool for investigative reporting, are "presumptively false" for the purposes of a defamation case. Anonymous sources were the basis for much of The Washington Post's coverage of Watergate and The Times's exposure of the Bush administration's domestic eavesdropping program in 2005, among many other examples of journalism with significant impact.

Under the bill, a public figure would no longer need to show actual malice to win a defamation case if the allegation against the figure wasn't related to the reason for the person's public status. So if a person is publicly known for being elected president or governor, and a news organization publishes an investigation about that person's private or business life unrelated to elected office, that report would not get the special liability protection provided by the Sullivan decision.

The bill goes much further than this attempt to hobble the press. It makes it clear that the new defamation rules would also apply to any single "utterance on the internet," which could mean a tweet or a Facebook post written by anyone, or "any one presentation to an audience," which could include statements made at school board hearings and other public meetings.

In a direct attack on a key aspect of free expression, it says that whenever someone is accused of discriminating

against others on the basis of race, gender or sexual orientation, that accusation is automatically considered enough to sue for defamation. Any person accused of bigotry based on sexual orientation or gender identity could file a defamation lawsuit and be virtually guaranteed of winning by saying the discrimination was based on personal religious or scientific beliefs. The penalty for calling someone a bigot would be a minimum of \$35,000.

Mr. DeSantis, who appears to be preparing for a 2024 presidential campaign, has been railing against press freedoms for several years in a clear appeal to likely Republican primary voters. The bill was recently introduced in the Florida House by one of his allies and has a strong chance of passage; a similar if slightly milder version was filed in the State Senate.

If enacted, the House bill would almost instantly be challenged in court, but its backers are counting on that. In public statements, they have said they want the bill to be used as a vehicle to get the Supreme Court to overturn *New York Times v. Sullivan* and have noted that two justices, Clarence Thomas and Neil Gorsuch, have called on the court to reconsider that decision. The current court has repeatedly demonstrated that it can't be counted on to respect long-term precedents that are widely supported by the public.

There may be room for discussion on the precise definition of "public figure," which has been interpreted in various ways by the Supreme Court and lower courts over the past six decades. Even Justice Elena Kagan, in a 1993 journal article long before she joined the court, expressed interest in determining whether the term had been too broadly defined in the years after *Sullivan*, though she applauded the overall decision.

A sledgehammer bill like the one in Florida, however, wielded for transparent political reasons, would create enormous damage on the way to the high court, particularly if other states decide to copy its language. In 1964, Justice William J. Brennan Jr., who wrote the court's opinion, said it was based on "the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust and wide open." That may well include, he wrote, "vehement, caustic and sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials." That principle has not changed through the decades, and citizens who treasure the right to speak freely should resist politicians like Mr. DeSantis who want to silence them.

— *New York Times*

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Florida

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

who chairs the House subcommittee, described the bill as reflecting the evolving needs of the industry, which has developed a large commercial presence since the end of the space shuttle program in 2011.

"I think that we are in a position where today commercial aerospace may seem still somewhat novel, but we're very quickly reaching a point where I believe that it's going to be as common as commercial flight," Sirois said. "And that's something that our policy should start and continue to look at."

Space Florida, which plays a key role in such things as financial incentives for aerospace companies, is governed by a 13-member board, with 12 spots filled by members of the Enterprise Florida board who

"I think that we are in a position where today commercial aerospace may seem still somewhat novel, but we're very quickly reaching a point where I believe that it's going to be as common as commercial flight."

~ Rep. Tyler Sirois, R-Merritt Island

are appointed by the governor, House speaker and Senate president. Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nuñez chairs the board.

Under the bill, the governor would appoint the chair and five members representing the aero-

space industry, Florida seaports, the aviation industry and the bond-financing industry and an academic experienced in aerospace or aviation.

The state transportation secretary, who is appointed by the governor, would also be a member of the board, while the Jacksonville Aviation Authority and the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority would have non-voting members.

The proposal also would require Space Florida to work with the Department of Economic Opportunity, instead of Enterprise Florida, on economic planning.

As the current fiscal year began, Space Florida was working on 85 projects with an estimated value of \$2.4 billion, according to a House analysis of the proposal.

DeSantis has proposed providing \$18.5 million for Space Florida during the fiscal year that will start July 1, the same as in the current year.

Some in GOP already jockeying to be Trump's VP

By JILL COLVIN Associated Press

OXON HILL, Md. — Trips to Mar-a-Lago. Glowing speeches. Front-row seats at major events.

The first Republican presidential primaries are nearly a year away and the candidate field is unsettled. But already, a shadow contest of another sort is underway with several Republicans openly jockeying to position themselves as potential running mates to Donald Trump, the early front-runner for the nomination.

"A lot of people are right now auditioning," Trump boasted to supporters in Florida last month.

The mere mention of a running mate this early in the process is a departure from the traditional timeline of presidential primaries, where candidates typically spend the opening months of a campaign introducing themselves to voters and sharing their visions for the country.

But as a former president, Trump needs no introduction and is eager to project an air of inevitability around his campaign, particularly as attention builds around Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is widely seen as his toughest potential GOP rival.

Trump campaign officials insist that the vice presidential search is not something they have been actively discussing.

"We appreciate all support for President Trump, but the clear focus is on making sure that he wins the Republican nomination and is well-positioned to win the general election in 2024," said Jason Miller, a longtime Trump adviser.

That, however, hasn't stopped some could-be candi-

dates from taking full advantage of opportunities to be in close proximity to Trump, at his club and at events. The dynamic was on full display earlier this month at the Conservative Political Action Conference, where a trio of women who have been mentioned as possible contenders sat in the audience to cheer Trump's headline speech.

They were Reps. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia, Elise Stefanik of New York and Kari Lake, the news anchor-turned-failed-Arizona gubernatorial candidate who ended her remarks at a keynote event dinner by kissing a portrait of Trump that was placed on stage.

While Trump, according to people who have spoken to him, is in no rush to make a decision and understands that he has to let the nomination process play out, he has nonetheless talked through possible choices since well before he formally announced his candidacy last fall. In those conversations, he has indicated his interest in selecting a woman this time around.

But allies say Trump is looking, first and foremost, for someone who will be unabashedly loyal after feeling burned by former Vice President Mike Pence for refusing to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

In 2016, running as a celebrity businessman with no experience in politics, Trump chose a person who was, in many ways, his total opposite, picking the Indiana governor and former congressman who could bolster his standing with conservatives and the religious right.

Trump, this time, is looking for someone more like himself, said Michael Caputo, a long-time friend and adviser who believes Stefanik would be

Trump's best choice.

"I think the president learned a lot from his experience with Pence," he said. "I think this time Trump's going to be looking for someone cut from the same cloth he is, not from a different, complementary cloth."

While Trump is looking for someone with star power, he has also signaled that he is reluctant to choose someone who might overshadow him in the race.

Among those who are seen as most eager for the job is Lake, who is popular with Trump's MAGA base and won — and then promoted — a CPAC straw poll that asked audience members whom they would like to see as the Republican vice presidential nominee.

She is seen as unequivocally loyal to the former president, but detractors note she lost her only race and continues to dispute the results, which would draw attention to Trump's own election failures and intensify criticism that he is too focused on the past.

She said in a statement that she is "100% dedicated to serving as Arizona Governor" — even though Democrat Katie Hobbs, who defeated Lake, now holds the job — and "will also work to make sure President Trump gets back in the White House ASAP. Anything outside of those two goals is nothing but a distraction."

A person close to Lake said that she has had no formal discussions about the role and is currently gearing up for a potential run for the Senate.

But the person, who, like others, insisted on anonymity to discuss private conversations, also said Lake is unapologetically pro-Trump and would likely do anything he asked.

Lock

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

said she and other people who were inspecting parks for upcoming events found the glass at Downtown Park, 101 Palmetto St., and the syringe in a

toilet at Jefferson Smith Memorial Ball Park, 1046 Elm St.

In order to lock the gates, law enforcement and public works officials will need to put in overtime, but the council said they have extra money budgeted because Porath is still searching for another officer to work at the police department.

Starting in January, the council has set aside funds for the extra position, council members said Tuesday, and they plan to use that money to pay overtime when necessary for the parks.

"Yes, we now have park ordinances," DeSouza said. "But we can't stop right there because this activity is happening."



Welaka Town Hall

File photo

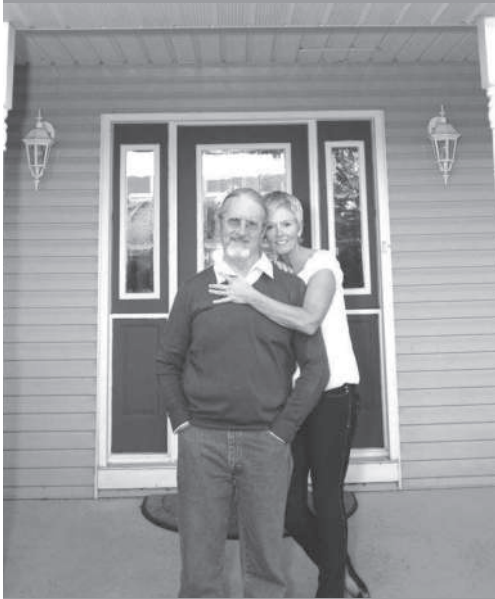
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Fair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

directors, said he is looking forward to the fair, especially some of the new items.

The fair will have a circus for the first time, he said, and there will be two new rides because there is more space for them.

"We're really excited about the fair kicking off tomorrow," McClain said Thursday. "We're excited about the fair because we have some new, added features."

With today being St. Patrick's Day, people who show up wearing their favorite green and/or shamrock attire can enter for a chance to win the Day at the Fair Basket. The prize includes four general admission tickets, four unlimited ride wristbands and \$100 in Fair Food Bucks to use any one day between March 18-25.

The name will be pulled 9:30 p.m. today, and the victor doesn't need to be present to win, fair officials said.

Senior Day will be Wednesday when people 60 and older can visit for free beginning 10 a.m. Lunch and other activities will be offered, but the midway and food booths will not be open.

General admission for the fair



Rides are set up at the Putnam County Fairgrounds on Thursday ahead of the fair, which begins today.

SARAH CAVACINI/Palatka Daily News

will be \$10 for people 6 and older, and free for children 5 and younger. Anyone who brings one canned food item to the fair

Sunday and Wednesday will pay only \$1.

For information about the fair, visit putnamfairandexpo.com.

<p>Entertainment listed in the Pavilion unless noted otherwise</p> <p>Friday, March 17 - Fair Hours: 5pm-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 6:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 6:30pm - Chris Mabrey, Hypnotist 8:30pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 9:00pm - Chris Mabrey, Hypnotist</p> <p>Saturday, March 18 - Fair Hours: Noon-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 6:00pm - Beauty Pageant 6pm & 9pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate)</p> <p>Sunday, March 19 - Fair Hours: Noon-9p 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 1:30pm - Randy Day 2:00pm - Whip Cracking Contest (Tilton Arena) 2:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 2:30pm - Faithful Remnant 3:15pm - Ralph Case & Friends 4:30pm - Peniel Praise Team 5:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 5:30pm - Halfway to Heaven 6:00pm - American Heifer Show (Tilton Arena) 6:30pm - Summer Frost & Friends 7:15pm - Gospel Group 8:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate)</p>	<p>Monday, March 20 - Fair Hours: 5pm-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 6:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 6:30pm - Chris Mabrey, Hypnotist 8:30pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 9:00pm - Chris Mabrey, Hypnotist</p> <p>Tuesday, March 21 - Fair Hours: 5pm-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 6:00pm - Market Swine Show (Tilton Arena) 6:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 6:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 7:30pm - Paks Karate 8:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 9:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate)</p> <p>Wednesday, March 22 - Fair Hours: 5pm-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs • 1/2 price admission (only \$5) with a canned food donation per person 6:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 6:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 7:00pm - Market Steer Show (Tilton Arena) 8:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 9:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate)</p> <p>Thursday, March 23 - Fair Hours: 5pm-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 6:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 6:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 7:00pm - Continental Heifer Show (Arena) 7:30pm - Klassi Tap Cloggers & Line dancing 8:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 9:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate)</p>	<p>Friday, March 24 - Fair Hours: 5pm-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 5pm-8pm - Pullet & Blueberry Bush Silent Auction 6:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 6:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 7:00pm - Market Steer & Swine SALE (Arena) 8:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 9:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate)</p> <p>Saturday, March 25 - Fair Hours: Noon-11pm 5:15 Unlimited Ride Aroushahs 1pm-2pm - Heart & Soul Dancers 1:30pm - Youth Rabbit Show (Tilton Arena) 2:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 3:00pm - Poultry & Rabbit Awards (Tilton Arena) 5:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 6:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist 8:00pm - Circus Incredible (Main Gate) 8:30pm - Chris Mabrey - Hypnotist</p>
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Courtesy of the Putnam County Fair Authority

A list of the Putnam County Fair activities is listed.



U.S. Department of Defense via Associated Press

This photo taken from video released Thursday shows a Russian Su-27 approaching the back of the MQ-9 drone and beginning to release fuel as it passes over the Black Sea, the Pentagon said.

Pentagon video shows Russian jet dumping fuel on US drone

BY KARL RITTER, AAMER MADHANI AND DINO HAZELL
 Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — The Biden administration released video Thursday of a Russian fighter jet dumping fuel on a U.S. Air Force surveillance drone as the U.S. sought to hold Russia responsible for the collision that led to the drone's crash into the Black Sea without escalating already fraught tensions with the Kremlin.

Poland, meanwhile, said it's giving Ukraine a dozen MiG-29 fighter jets, becoming the first NATO member to fulfill Kyiv's increasingly urgent requests for warplanes.

The U.S. military's declassified 42-second color footage shows a Russian Su-27 approaching the back of the MQ-9 Reaper drone and releasing fuel as it passes, the Pentagon said. Dumping the fuel appeared to be aimed at blinding the drone's optical instruments to drive it from the area.

On a second approach, either the same jet or another Russian Su-27 that had been shadowing the MQ-9 struck the drone's

propeller, damaging a blade, according to the U.S. military, which said it then ditched the aircraft in the sea.

The video excerpt does not show the collision, although it does show the damage to the propeller.

Russia said its fighters didn't strike the drone and claimed the unmanned aerial vehicle went down after making a sharp maneuver.

While calling out Russia for "reckless" action, the White House tried to strike a balance to avoid exacerbating tensions. U.S. officials said they have not been able to determine whether the Russian pilot intentionally struck the American drone and stressed that lines of communication with Moscow remain open.

"I can't point to that video and say this is a deliberate attempt to escalate or ... tangibly bring about Putin's false claim that this is about the West versus Russia," White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said. "We have made clear on many occasions, we do not seek a conflict with Russia."

Russian President Vladimir Putin argues that by providing weapons to Ukraine and sharing intelligence information with Kyiv, the U.S. and its allies have effectively become engaged in the war, now in its 13th month.

Nikolai Patrushev, the secretary of Russia's Security Council, said Wednesday that an attempt would be made to recover the drone debris.

U.S. officials have expressed confidence that nothing of military value would remain from the drone even if Russia retrieved the wreckage. They left open the possibility of trying to recover portions of the downed \$32 million aircraft, which they said crashed into waters that were 4,000 to 5,000 feet deep, although the U.S. does not have any ships in the area.

Russia and NATO member countries routinely intercept each other's warplanes, but Tuesday's incident marked the first time since the Cold War that a U.S. aircraft went down during such a confrontation, raising concerns it could bring the United States and Russia closer to a direct conflict.

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Photograph By DAVID E. RYE JR.

Planned Pipe Ambush (Anolis carolinensis)

How to submit your photo for What I Love About Putnam

We encourage people to submit photos for this feature to show off the natural beauty of Putnam County. Emailed pictures should be saved as .jpeg at 200 DPI and sent to pdgraphics@gmail.com. Please include caption information for the picture as well as information about the photographer. All pictures must have been taken in Putnam County. Prints can be mailed or taken to Palatka Daily News, 1825 St. Johns Ave., Palatka, FL 32177 and marked ATTN: What I Love About Putnam Photo.

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SPORTS

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FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023

B SECTION

SIDELINES

COREY DAVIS

Flag football continues to grow more and more

Seeing the Interlachen Junior-Senior High flag football team take the field for the first time at home, it made me remember just how much the game has grown.

Palatka was the first to add flag football in 2011 and quickly became quite good at it winning district titles from 2012-2014, the county's only playoff appearances. Crescent City added the sport in 2020 and in three years has perhaps surpassed Palatka as the premiere program in the county winning two of the three matchups between each other so far.

While the game is still fairly new to the county, the rest of the state is well ahead and for some in their 20th or 25th year.

Back in the late 1990's, Boca Raton Spanish River athletic director Bill Massey started a girls high school flag football league for teams in Palm Beach and Broward counties with his Sharks winning the league title from 1999-2001.

Seeing the excitement from the South Florida league, the amount of teams playing flag football jumped to 146 in 2003, forcing the Florida High School Athletic Association to offer a single class state championship tournament.

By 2013, there were 177 teams in a single classification plus 24 independent teams. In 2015, the FHSAA made the decision to expand to a second classification after the sport continued to surprisingly continue to grow.

As the amount of teams continued to grow all across the state, the amount of exposure also blew up. The Capital City Classic, the largest girls high school flag football tournament in Tallahassee, began in 2011 and continues to expand every year to be the premiere tournament.

Other states are beginning to catch on as Alaska, Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, New York and New Jersey all offer flag football as a high school sport, while California and Arizona will add the sport in 2023-2024 and Texas, North Carolina and Connecticut have started club teams.

The National Football League's Jacksonville Jaguars, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Miami Dolphins have all been great supporters of flag football. All three teams have continued to put on preseason jamborees, clinics and media days for nearly five years now. And while the three Florida teams have been great supporters, the rest of the NFL is just now catching on. Heck, there was even a flag football commercial in this year's Super Bowl.

And before you go, "It's great that the girls are getting lots of love from the NFL but there is no future for them," you'd be wrong.

Colleges are catching on: There are 19 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics colleges, including Florida-based Florida Memorial, Keiser, Warner and Webber International, that offer flag football scholarships.

As a matter of fact, two-time Daily News Player of the Year Jada Dillard became the first county player to sign a letter of intent to play flag football at Webber International.

So you can understand now why schools like Interlachen, Santa Fe, Ponte Vedra, Baker County, Columbia, West Nassau, Fernandina Beach, Hilliard, Yulee, St. Augustine and Menendez have all added the sport recently.

It won't be long before three or four classifications are needed in high school and Division I and Division II colleges add the sport, too.

Corey Davis is sports writer for the Palatka Daily News. He can be reached at cdavis@palatkadailynews.com or on Twitter @ByCoreyDavis.

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Prep Track And Field Preview 2023



MARK BLUMENTHAL / Palatka Daily News

Senior Samiya Edwards runs the anchor lap of the Palatka Junior-Senior High girls track team's 4x100 relay team last May at the University of Florida.

Future Shows Promise

While Fields, Williams start strong, Palatka wonders if it will have Poole back

BY MARK BLUMENTHAL
Palatka Daily News
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The future is extremely bright for the Palatka Junior-Senior High School girls track team. Two of the big reasons are the early performances of freshman sprinter Jahzara Fields and eighth-grade jumper Destiny Williams.

But it's the Panthers' present that is of concern. It's who isn't there at the moment: Two-time state champion shot put thrower and senior Torryence Poole has not been present at a meet so far.

"Like I tell the kids and practice what I preach, you have to control your controllables," said Jarimy Passmore, Palatka's sixth-year head coach.

"There's only some things we can control as coaches, so that's my focus and I have to work on my kids and who is out there. I have to further develop those kids. That's what we do."

With or without Poole, the Panther girls look like strong contenders to repeat as district champions this spring as well as a possible regional title. Meanwhile, a skeletal Interlachen team could make an impact on the girls' side and after four years away from the scene, Crescent City returns with the father-daughter pairing of Jeff Lease (boys) and Alex Bittinger (girls) running the teams.

The following is a look at the three county teams this spring.

PALATKA

Passmore is enthused by who is out there. He's got strength in numbers (43 boys, 28 girls). That starts with a solid girls team that has returnees A'Leah Ford in the hurdles and Samiya Edwards in the sprints. Passmore's daughter, Ymira, is establishing herself as a sprinter, taking home a state meet medal as a member of the 4x100 relay team.

But Fields is already turning heads with strong performances in the 100- and 200-meter dashes with times in the 12-second range. And Williams is also establishing herself as a solid jumper with what she's done in the long jump, high jump and triple jump. Their potential, according to coach Passmore, can take them a long way, even this year.

"They're tough as nails," Passmore said of the two young standouts. "They are really great kids. Jahzara has some high expectations and is willing to do

See TRACK, Page 2B

PREP TRACK AT A GLANCE

CRESCENT CITY

Boys head coach: Jeff Lease, first year.
Girls head coach: Alex Bittinger, first year.
Assistants: Mickey Gilyard, Ardrae Williams.
Boys roster (30): Alex Bell (senior hurdles), Jesus Cruz (sr. sprints, middle distance), Ray Davis (sr. sprints), Sheldon Patrick (sr. sprints), Elias Perez (sr. throws), Anthony Vazquez (sr. sprints, middle distance, long distance), Esequiel Vences (sr. sprints, middle distance), Kyle Segura (sr. middle distance), Desmond Anderson (junior sprints, throws), Martin Cartagena (jr. sprints), Adam Gonzalez (jr. long distance), Eduardo Martinez (jr. throws, middle distance), Brandon Padgett (jr. sprints), Josiah Washington (jr. hurdles, jumps), Jacob Westberry (jr. throws), Cameron White (jr. jumps, sprints), Bryan Lopez (sophomore middle distance), Nyeem More (so. sprints), Arzavian Williams (so. jumps), Freddy Cortez (freshman middle distance, long distance), Noel Vazquez (fr. hurdles, long distance), Preston Washington (fr. hurdles, throws), Zay Robinson (fr. throws), Adrian Pena (8th grade middle distance, long distance), Nathan Perez (8th grade throws, sprints), Ky're Foulack (8th grade long distance), Jonathan Thomas (8th grade middle distance), Micah Allender (7th grade long distance, hurdles), Noah Washington (7th grade throws, sprints), Joseph Zonicle (7th grade middle distance).
Girls roster (28): Paris Clemons (sr. throws), Gabriela Martinez (jr. long distance), Denise Ramirez (jr. long distance), Florie Butler (jr. throws), Karla Perez (so. middle distance), Floresta Consuelos (so. long distance), Yairmar Montero (so. throws), Sarah Hunter (so. sprints), Marisol Alvarado-Otero (so. long distance), Araceli Otero-Alvarado (so. long distance), Gabriela Marquez (so. long distance), Adrianna Williams (fr. throws), GARDENIA Phetsaya (fr. middle distance), Juliette Jenkins (fr. sprints, throws), Kaylan White (fr. long distance, middle distance), Camila Onofre (fr. middle distance, jumps), Sophia Lopez (8th grade middle distance), Kyomi Green (8th grade sprints), Tamiya Peoples (8th grade sprints), Angie Villanueva (8th grade middle distance, long distance), Susana Onofre (8th grade middle distance), Joely Bustos (8th grade middle distance, hurdles), Mary White (7th grade sprints, hurdles), Armonie Williams (7th grade throws), Priscilla Herrera (7th grade sprints, jumps), Sophia Worthman (7th grade sprints, jumps), Allera Seymour (7th grade sprints, jumps), Raqiria Madison (7th grade sprints).

INTERLACHEN

Head coach: Gerald Swayze, seventh year.
Assistants: Erik Gibson, Bob Clark.
Boys roster (4): Everett Rayhorn (jr. sprints), Tyson McKinnon (so. sprints), Dakota Leach (fr. sprints), Junior Irizarry (fr. middle distance).
Girls roster (17): Graci McDonald (sr. throws, middle distance), Millesha Griffin (sr. sprints, hurdles), Erin Jacobsen (sr. long distance), Niara McCaskill (jr. sprints, throws), Josilyn Juraszek (so. sprints, middle distance), June Mitchum (so. middle distance, long distance), Evelyn Jones (so. sprints, middle distance), Brianna Webber (so. sprints, middle distance), Mya Shivers (fr. sprints, middle distance), Abigail Warren (fr. jumps, hurdles), Niandra Johnson (fr. sprints, middle distance), Desiray Elliott (fr. middle distance), Camryn Link (8th grade hurdles, sprints), Paislee Guessford (8th grade long distance), Myah Vinson (8th grade long distance), Bailie Mercer (8th grade middle distance), Emma Ford (8th grade hurdles, middle distance).

PALATKA

Head coach: Jarimy Passmore, sixth year.
Assistants: Kedric Wright, Elysha Campbell, Ed Polley, Odell Ford, Johnny Givens.
Boys roster (43): Chubb Fenderson (sr. throws), Jon Brauman (sr. long distance), Aaron Butler (sr. middle distance), Tivon Adams (sr. long distance), Mario Bryant (sr. jumps), Tommy Robinson Jr. (sr. sprints), Jerome Reeves (sr. sprints), Cedric Wright (sr. sprints), Kriston Mack (sr. sprints), Ty'ran Bush (sr. sprints), Curtis Whitfield (jr. throws), Devin Walker (jr. long distance), Tarik Castor (jr. sprints), Derrick Holland (jr. hurdles), Lance Dollar (so. long distance), Amarayan Maxwell (so. middle distance), Xayvier Addison (so. sprints), Domico Brinson (so. middle distance), Elysha Campbell II (so. jumps), D'Montay Barnes (so. hurdles), Tony Turner (so. sprints), Stanford Givens (fr. middle distance), Kellan McGinnis (fr. middle distance), Cordae Davis (fr. hurdles), Dequan Jackson (fr. jumps), Tommy Offord (fr. sprints), Elijah Ibanez (8th grade long distance), Kaden Hill (8th grade long distance), Malik Bronson (8th grade long distance), Sheldon Brown (8th grade jumps), Kedric Wright Jr. (8th grade sprints), Tony Fields (8th grade hurdles), Lawrence Evans (8th grade sprints), Jordan Brown (7th grade long distance), Michael Colson (7th grade throws), Gregory Shazel (7th grade long distance), Rashard Session Jr. (7th grade long distance), London Miller (7th grade long distance), Robert Gillon (7th grade long distance), Dallas Brown (7th grade long distance), Da'Mari Bellamy (7th grade jumps), David Mack (7th grade sprints), J'Len Thomas (7th grade sprints).
Girls roster (28): Torryence Poole (sr. throws), Tamia Wiggins (sr. throws), A'Leah Ford (senior hurdles), Samiya Edwards (sr. sprints), Alyssa Ford (jr. throws), Ymira Passmore (jr. sprints), Mark'Kia Purfoy (so. throws), E'mari Walker (so. middle distance), Avere'ana Rodgers (so. hurdles), Skyla Andrews (so. hurdles), Tiana Bell (so. sprints), Rihanna McCaskill (fr. throws), Tayshanna Key (fr. throws), Mekhyra Alston (fr. throws), Sryiah Jones (fr. middle distance), Kameyah Lewis (fr. middle distance), J'hane Fountain (fr. jumps), Charnelle Cue (fr. jumps), Jahzara Fields (fr. sprints), Aundrea Hill (fr. hurdles), Destiny Williams (8th grade jumps), Kayla Cue (8th grade jumps), Keneace Passmore (7th grade throws), D'ahija Atwaters (7th grade long distance), Ke'asia Phillips (7th grade middle distance), Ah'lijah Dean (7th grade middle distance), Iyonna Williams (7th grade jumps), Rhe'Yana McClelland (7th grade sprints).

NCAA BASKETBALL TOURNEY

Princeton stuns No. 2 seed Arizona

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Tosan Evbuomwan and Princeton used a late-game run to earn the school's first NCAA Tournament win in 25 years, topping No. 2 seed Arizona, 59-55, on Thursday.

The 15th-seeded Tigers (22-9) scored the final nine points to finish the upset, holding the Pac-12 Tournament champion scoreless over the final 4:21.

Evbuomwan scored 15 points in Princeton's first tournament victory since beating UNLV in 1998 when current coach Mitch Henderson was a player for the Tigers.

Furman 68, Virginia 67

ORLANDO – JP Pegues made a 3-pointer with 2.4 seconds remaining, and No. 13 seed Furman completed a rally from a 12-point second-half deficit to hand fourth-seeded Virginia another first-round NCAA Tournament loss, 68-67, on Thursday.

Maryland 67, Virginia 65

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Maryland overcame a sluggish start and a final heave at the buzzer by Kedrian Johnson, topping West Virginia in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Johnson led all scorers with 27 points, but his potential winner bounced off the side of the rim as the horn sounded, allowing the Terrapins (22-12) to advance.

Missouri 76, Utah State 65

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Missouri used a second-half scoring spurt from Kobe Brown to win its first NCAA Tournament game in 13 years, beating Utah State.

Kansas 96, Howard 68

DES MOINES, Iowa – Jalen Wilson had 20 points and seven rebounds for No. 1 seed and defending national champion Kansas, which allowed absent and recovering coach Bill Self to rest during an easy victory over Howard in a West Region first round game.

See TOURNAMENT, Page 2B

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

St. Petersburg sweeps away St. Johns River

Palatka Daily News

St. Johns River State College softball team couldn't hold leads dropping both games of a doubleheader 9-5, 9-6 Thursday to host St. Petersburg College.

Ahead 5-3 in the bottom of the sixth, the Vikings surrendered six runs in the bottom part of the inning to lose game one.

The Vikings accumulated 11 hits in the first game led by Emily Stewart going 3-for-3 and Emily Griffin finishing 2-for-3.

Kendall Catherwood, Cadance Winder, Cheyenne Kinghorn, Alyssa Taylor, Nicolette Luzzi-Salerno and Alyssa Songer all had one hit each.

Kinghorn's three-run home run in the first inning gave the Vikings an early 3-0 lead.

In game two, both teams pitching staffs had their hands full in a high-scoring affair.

The Vikings led 6-5 after three innings, but surrendered four runs the final three innings to lose again.

Salerno led the Vikings going 3-for-3 with 4 RBIs, while seven of the other eight starters in the lineup picked up single hits including Catherwood, Winder, Kinghorn, Griffin, Jacyl Chesser, Taylor Barrett and Logan Fennell.

St. Johns River (10-33) opens up Sun-Lakes Conference play Tuesday at home against arch-rival Florida State College at Jacksonville (10-11) in a 2 p.m. doubleheader after traveling to South Florida State next Saturday for a 2 p.m. doubleheader.

SCOREBOARD

TODAY ON TELEVISION

4 a.m. (Saturday)	AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL Fox Sports 2 AFL, Western at Melbourne	6 p.m.	ESPNews	Maryland; Mississippi St. vs. Creighton, at South Bend, Ind.;
12:55 p.m.	AUTO RACING ESPN Formula 1 practice, at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	8 p.m.	ESPNews	South Dakota State vs. USC, at Blacksburg, Va.
3 p.m.	Fox Sports 1 NASCAR Craftsman Truck qualifying, at Hampton, Ga.	3 p.m.	ESPNU	First round, UNLV vs. Michigan, at Baton Rouge, La.;
4:30 p.m.	Fox Sports 1 NASCAR Xfinity qualifying, at Hampton, Ga.	5:30 p.m.	ESPNU	Chattanooga at Virginia Tech;
9:25 a.m. (Saturday)	ESPN2 Formula 1 practice, at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	7:30 p.m.	ESPNU	Gardner-Webb at Utah; Gonzaga vs. Mississippi, at Stanford, Calif.
11:30 a.m. (Saturday)	Fox Sports 1 NASCAR Cup qualifying, at Hampton, Ga.	10 p.m.	ESPNU	
7 p.m.	WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC Fox Sports 1 Quarterfinal, Puerto Rico vs. Mexico, at Miami	5 p.m.	CBS Sports	COLLEGE MEN'S ICE HOCKEY NCHC Tournament, semifinals, Colorado College vs. Denver and North Dakota vs. St. Cloud State, at St. Paul, Minn.
10 p.m.	Fox Sports 1 BOWLING PBA Tournament of Champions, stepladder, at Fairlawn, Ohio (tape)	8:30 p.m.	CBS Sports	
7 p.m.	SEC Network COLLEGE BASEBALL LSU at Texas A&M	6 p.m.	ACC Network	COLLEGE MEN'S LACROSSE North Carolina at Duke
8 p.m.	ACC Network Virginia Tech at Miami	Noon	ESPN	NCAA WRESTLING TOURNAMENT Quarterfinal and semifinal rounds, at Tulsa, Okla.
12:15 p.m.	CBS NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT First round, USC vs. Michigan	11 a.m. (Saturday)	ESPN	Final rounds, at Tulsa, Okla.
2:45 p.m.	CBS State and Vermont vs. Marquette, at Columbus, Ohio;	2 p.m.	Golf Channel	GOLF PGA Valspar Championship, second round, at Palm Harbor
7:10 p.m.	CBS Providence vs. Kentucky and Montana State vs. Kansas State, at Greensboro, N.C.	6 p.m.	Golf Channel	PGA Champions The Hoag Classic, first round, at
9:40 p.m.	CBS First round, Kennesaw State vs. Xavier and Pittsburgh vs. Iowa State, at Greensboro, N.C.;	Newport		Beach, Calif.
12:30 p.m.	TruTV First round, Kennesaw State vs. Xavier and Pittsburgh vs. Iowa State, at Greensboro, N.C.;	1 a.m. (Saturday)	Golf Channel	Ladies European Aramco Series, final round, at Singapore
3 p.m.	TruTV Grand Canyon vs. Gonzaga and Arizona State vs. TCU, at Denver			
7:25 p.m.	TruTV First round, VCU vs. Saint Mary's (Calif.) and Iona vs. Connecticut, at Albany, N.Y.;	1 p.m.	MLB Network	Cardinals vs. Marlins, at Jupiter
9:55 p.m.	TruTV Drake vs. Miami and Kent State vs. Indiana, at Albany, N.Y.	1 p.m.	MLB Network	Yankees vs. Tigers, at Lake-land
1:20 p.m.	TNT First round, Marquette vs. South Florida, at Columbia, S.C.;	4 p.m.	MLB Network	Blue Jays (split) vs. Phillies (split), at Clearwater (tape)
3:50 p.m.	TNT Georgia vs. Florida St., at Iowa City, Iowa; South Utah at Notre Dame; Hawaii at LSU;	7 p.m.	MLB Network	Braves vs. Red Sox, at Fort Myers (tape)
6:50 p.m.	TNT Sacred Heart at Stanford; Princeton vs. North Carolina State, at Salt Lake City	10 p.m.	MLB Network	Royals vs. Angels, at Tempe (tape)
9:20 p.m.	TNT First round, West Virginia vs. Arizona, at College Park, Md.;	1 a.m.	MLB Network	Marlins (split) vs. Mets, at Port St. Lucie (tape)
1:50 p.m.	TBS Norfolk State at South Carolina; Southeast Louisiana at Iowa	4 a.m.	MLB Network	Cubs (split) vs. White Sox, at Phoenix (tape)
4:20 p.m.	TBS First round, Holy Cross at			
7:15 p.m.	TBS	7:30 p.m.	NBA-TV	NBA Warriors at Hawks
9:45 p.m.	TBS	10:30 p.m.	NBA-TV	Mavericks at Lakers
		7 p.m.	NHL Network	NHL Hurricanes at Maple Leafs
		11:55 p.m.	Fox Sports 2	RUGBY NRL, Melbourne at Gold Coast
		4 p.m.	USA Network	PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER Newcastle United at Nottingham Forest
		11 a.m.	USA Network	Tottenham Hotspur at Southampton

CALENDAR

Schools, leagues and recreation departments are subject to change without notice.

FRIDAY, March 17
HIGH SCHOOL Track and Field
At University of North Florida
Palatka at Bob Hayes Invitational, 11 a.m.
At Palm Coast Matanzas H.S.
Crescent City at Matanzas Pirate Relays, 9 a.m.

COLLEGE Baseball
South Florida at SJR State (2), 2 p.m.
Beach Volleyball
at Theobald Sports Complex
SJRS vs. Lake-Sumter, 10 a.m.
Lake-Sumter vs Palm Beach, Noon
SJRS vs. Palm Beach, 2 p.m.

SAATURDAY, March 18
HIGH SCHOOL Track and Field
At University of North Florida
Palatka at Bob Hayes Invitational, noon

COLLEGE Baseball
South Florida at SJR State, 1 p.m.
Beach Volleyball
at Florida Southern
SJRS vs. Stevenson, Noon
SJRS vs. Florida Southern, 2 p.m.

TIDES

Palatka City Dock
High
Today 11:30A, 11:57P 5:55A, 7:09P
March 17 -----, 12:46P 7:09A, 8:13P
March 18 1:09A, 1:50P 8:19A, 9:13P

St. Augustine Beach
High
Today 3:34A, 3:54P 10:11A, 10:17P
March 17 4:49A, 5:07P 11:14A, 11:24P
March 18 5:56A, 6:12P -----, 12:14P
(Information courtesy of Salt Water Tides Website.)

LOCAL COLLEGE

SOFTBALL Game One
St. Petersburg 9, St. Johns River 5
St. Johns River 300 002 0-5 11 2
St. Petersburg 100 116 x-9 11 1
W-McCraine, 3-3, L-Lasater, 3-10
HR-St. Johns River: Kinghorn, 2B-St. Johns River: Stewart, Taylor, St. Petersburg: Kadlub.

Game Two
St. Petersburg 9, St. Johns River 6
St. Johns River 222 000 0-6 10 2
St. Petersburg 311 211 x-9 12 1
W-Sackett, 3-0, L-Duncan, 0-3
3B-St. Petersburg: Curtis, Carver, 2B-St. Petersburg: Lucas, Snook, Kadlub, St. Johns River: Winder, Fennell, Kinghorn.

Records: St. Johns River 10-33, St. Petersburg College 15-12.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	48	22	.686	—
Philadelphia	46	22	.676	1
New York	41	30	.577	7½
Brooklyn	39	31	.557	9
Toronto	34	36	.486	14
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	38	33	.535	—
Atlanta	34	35	.493	3
Washington	32	37	.464	5
Orlando	28	41	.406	9
Charlotte	22	49	.310	16
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Milwaukee	50	20	.714	—
Cleveland	44	28	.611	7
Indiana	32	38	.457	18
Chicago	31	37	.456	18
Detroit	16	55	.225	34½
WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	41	27	.603	—
Dallas	35	35	.500	7
New Orleans	33	36	.478	8½
San Antonio	18	51	.261	23½
Houston	17	52	.246	24½
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	47	23	.671	—
Minnesota	35	35	.500	12
Oklahoma City	34	36	.486	13
Utah	33	36	.478	13½
Portland	31	38	.449	15½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	42	27	.609	—
Phoenix	37	32	.536	5
L.A. Clippers	37	33	.529	5½
Golden State	36	34	.514	6½
L.A. Lakers	34	36	.486	8½
x-clinched playoff spot				
Wednesday's Games				
Miami 138, Memphis 119				
Philadelphia 118, Cleveland 109				
Boston 104, Minnesota 102				
Sacramento 117, Chicago 114				
Houston 114, L.A. Lakers 110				
Dallas 137, San Antonio 128, OT				
L.A. Clippers 134, Golden State 126				
Thursday's Games				
Denver 119, Detroit 100				
Toronto 128, Oklahoma City 111				
Sacramento 101, Brooklyn 96				
Indiana 139, Milwaukee 123				
Orlando at Phoenix, 10 p.m.				
Friday's Games				
Philadelphia at Charlotte, 7 p.m.				
Golden State at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.				
Washington at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.				
Memphis at San Antonio, 8 p.m.				
Minnesota at Chicago, 8 p.m.				
New Orleans at Houston, 8 p.m.				
Boston at Portland, 10 p.m.				
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.				

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division					
	GP	W	LOTPs	GF	GA
x-Boston	67	51	11	510	251
Toronto	67	40	18	989	227
Tampa Bay	69	41	22	688	241
Florida	68	34	27	775	238
Buffalo	67	33	28	672	246
Ottawa	68	33	31	470	214
Detroit	67	30	28	969	209
Montreal	69	27	36	660	195
Metropolitan Division					
	GP	W	LOTPs	GF	GA
Carolina	66	44	14	896	222
New Jersey	68	44	17	975	239
N.Y. Rangers	68	39	19	1088	226
Pittsburgh	68	34	24	1078	223
N.Y. Islanders	70	35	27	878	204
Washington	69	33	29	773	216
Philadelphia	67	24	32	611	222
Columbus	66	21	38	749	175
WESTERN CONFERENCE Central Division					
	GP	W	LOTPs	GF	GA
Dallas	68	37	18	1387	236
Minnesota	68	39	21	886	203
Colorado	67	39	22	684	221
Winnipeg	69	38	28	739	213
Nashville	66	34	25	775	189
St. Louis	67	29	33	563	210
Arizona	68	25	32	611	192
Chicago	68	24	38	654	173
Pacific Division					
	GP	W	LOTPs	GF	GA
Vegas	68	42	20	902	222
Los Angeles	68	39	21	873	233
Edmonton	68	37	23	882	264
Seattle	67	37	23	781	234
Calgary	68	30	24	742	212
Vancouver	66	29	32	563	227
Anaheim	68	22	36	1054	175
x-San Jose	68	19	36	1351	198
NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.					
x-clinched playoff spot					
z-clinched conference					
Wednesday's Games					
Colorado 2, Toronto 1, SO					
Washington 5, Buffalo 4, SO					
N.Y. Islanders 6, Anaheim 3					
Minnesota 8, St. Louis 5					
Thursday's Games					
N.Y. Rangers 4, Pittsburgh 2					
Florida 9, Montreal 5					
Colorado 5, Ottawa 4					
Tampa Bay 4, New Jersey 3, SO					
Boston 3, Winnipeg 0					
Chicago 2, Nashville 1					
Dallas at Edmonton, 9 p.m.					
Calgary at Vegas, 10 p.m.					
Vancouver at Arizona, 10 p.m.					
Columbus at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.					
Seattle at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.					
Friday's Games					
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.					
Carolina at Toronto, 7 p.m.					
St. Louis at Washington, 7 p.m.					
Columbus at Anaheim, 10 p.m.					

COLLEGE

NCAA Men's Tournament

FIRST FOUR

Tuesday, March 14 At UD Arena Dayton, Ohio Texas A&M-CC 75, SE Missouri 71 Pittsburgh 60, Mississippi St. 59	Wednesday, March 15 At UD Arena Dayton, Ohio Fairleigh Dickinson 84, Texas Southern 61 Arizona St. 98, Nevada 73	Thursday, March 16 At Amway Center Orlando Duke 74, Oral Roberts 51 Tennessee 58, Louisiana-Lafayette 55	Friday, March 17 At Nationwide Arena Columbus, Ohio Michigan St. (19-12) vs. Southern Cal (22-10), 12:15 p.m. Marquette (28-6) vs. Vermont (23-10), 2:45 p.m. Purdue (29-5) vs. Fairleigh Dickinson (20-15), 6:50 p.m. Memphis (26-8) vs. FAU (31-3), 9:20 p.m.
Saturday, March 18 At Amway Center Orlando Tennessee (24-10) vs. Duke (27-8), TBA	Sunday, March 19 At Nationwide Arena Columbus, Ohio Purdue-Texas Southern-Fairleigh Dickinson winner vs. Memphis-FAU winner, TBA	Monday, March 20 At Greensboro Coliseum Greensboro, N.C. Kansas St.-Montana St. winner vs. Kentucky-Providence winner, TBA	Tuesday, March 21 At Nationwide Arena Columbus, Ohio Marquette-Vermont winner vs. Michigan St.-Southern Cal winner, TBA
Wednesday, March 22 At Amway Center Orlando Tennessee (24-10) vs. Duke (27-8), TBA	Thursday, March 23 At Amway Center Orlando Kansas St. (23-9) vs. Montana St. (25-9), 9:40 p.m.	Friday, March 24 At Wells Fargo Arena Des Moines, Iowa Texas A&M (25-9) vs. Penn St. (22-13), 9:55 p.m.	Saturday, March 25 At Wells Fargo Arena Des Moines, Iowa Texas (27-8) vs. Texas A&M-Penn St. winner, TBA
Sunday, March 26 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Indiana-Kent St. winner vs. Miami-Drake winner, TBA	Monday, March 27 At Greensboro Coliseum Greensboro, N.C. Xavier-Kennesaw St. winner vs. Iowa St.-Mississippi St.-Pittsburgh winner, TBA	Tuesday, March 28 At T-Mobile Center Kansas City, Mo. Michigan (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Wednesday, March 29 At Golden 1 Center Sacramento, Calif. Missouri 76, Utah State 65 Princeton 59, Arizona 55

MIDWEST REGIONAL

First Round Thursday, March 16 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Second Round Friday, March 17 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston (32-3) vs. Auburn (21-12), TBA	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At Wells Fargo Arena Des Moines, Iowa Texas A&M (25-9) vs. Penn St. (22-13), 9:55 p.m.
First Round Thursday, March 16 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Second Round Friday, March 17 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Miami (25-7) vs. Drake (27-7), 7:25 p.m.	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston (32-3) vs. Auburn (21-12), 12:40 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Michigan (22-11) vs. Kent St. (28-6), 9:55 p.m.
First Round Thursday, March 16 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Second Round Friday, March 17 At Wells Fargo Arena Des Moines, Iowa Texas (27-8) vs. Texas A&M-Penn St. winner, TBA	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston (32-3) vs. Auburn (21-12), 12:40 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Michigan (22-11) vs. Kent St. (28-6), 9:55 p.m.
First Round Thursday, March 16 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Second Round Friday, March 17 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Miami (25-7) vs. Drake (27-7), 7:25 p.m.	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston (32-3) vs. Auburn (21-12), 12:40 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Michigan (22-11) vs. Kent St. (28-6), 9:55 p.m.

WEST REGIONAL

First Round Thursday, March 16 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Second Round Friday, March 17 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.
First Round Thursday, March 16 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Second Round Friday, March 17 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.
First Round Thursday, March 16 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Second Round Friday, March 17 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.
First Round Thursday, March 16 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Second Round Friday, March 17 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At Ball Arena Denver Creighton (21-12) vs. NC State (23-10), 4 p.m.

ARIZONA REGIONAL

First Round Thursday, March 16 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Second Round Friday, March 17 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston (32-3) vs. Auburn (21-12), TBA	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At Wells Fargo Arena Des Moines, Iowa Texas A&M (25-9) vs. Penn St. (22-13), 9:55 p.m.
First Round Thursday, March 16 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston 63, Northern Kentucky 52 Auburn 83, Iowa 75	Second Round Friday, March 17 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Miami (25-7) vs. Drake (27-7), 7:25 p.m.	Third Round Saturday, March 18 At Legacy Arena at BJCC Birmingham, Ala. Houston (32-3) vs. Auburn (21-12), 12:40 p.m.	Fourth Round Sunday, March 19 At MVP Arena Albany, N.Y. Michigan (22-11) vs. Kent St. (28-6), 9:55 p.m.
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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tyson stat
 - 4 401(k) cousin
 - 7 MS polishers
 - 10 Zip
 - 11 Noshery
 - 13 Wild disturbance
 - 14 Landers or Sothern
 - 15 Baker's need
 - 16 Lazy
 - 17 Patois
 - 19 Honk
 - 20 Tax form ID
 - 21 Raises, as kids
 - 23 Also starring
 - 26 Snarl
 - 28 "Foucault's Pendulum" author
 - 29 "Yo!"
 - 30 Works on a manuscript
 - 34 Oar pin
 - 36 Situp targets
 - 38 Hawaii's Mauna —
 - 39 Fridge maker
 - 41 Dogs, slangily
 - 42 Soft drink choice
- DOWN**
- 1 Water-power org.
 - 2 Variety
 - 3 Old Dodge model
 - 4 Superstars
 - 5 Retaliation
 - 6 A Baldwin
 - 7 Diving duck
 - 8 Parcels out
 - 9 Football
 - 12 Lead-in
 - 13 Bawdy
 - 18 Pale blond
 - 22 Fleecy animals
 - 23 Rainy
 - 24 German pronoun
 - 25 Unduly
 - 27 Meg or Nolan

41 Memo abbr. 42 Fulcrum 43 Make glad 45 — craftsy 46 Showed use 48 Estrada or Satie 49 Execs 50 Actress Sedgwick 54 Want-ad letters

Yesterday's Answer

ADVICE BY HARRIETTE COLE

Partner needs help with brother

DEAR HARRIETTE: My brother has been battling substance addiction for a while now. My boyfriend struggled with the same thing for years before I met him, and he is now completely sober, healthy and thriving. I want the same thing for my brother. The emotional and psychological toll that my brother's addiction has taken on our family is immeasurable, and I'm always looking for resources to help him. I was wondering if my current partner could provide some insight into his journey and be a supportive, positive presence for my brother in a way that only those who have lived through similar experiences can truly do. Could this be too big of an ask? My brother and my boyfriend do not have much of a relationship. — Desperate for Help

his sounding board. That would be too much to ask. But it could be enlightening for your brother to see someone who is clean, sober and living a positive life. Ultimately, though, your brother will heal when he is ready. Often, people have to reach rock bottom before they begin to take their recovery seriously.

For the family, you may want to consider going to Al-Anon meetings for families struggling with drug-addicted relatives. These meetings are designed to support family and loved ones who are affected by this disease. You can go to an in-person or a virtual meeting. Find out more here: al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/electronic-meetings.

DEAR DESPERATE FOR HELP: Talk to your boyfriend. Reveal what's been going on with your brother, and ask your boyfriend if he would be willing to talk to him. Make it clear that you are not asking him to be your brother's sponsor or to serve in an ongoing capacity as

DEAR HARRIETTE: I made the decision to move abroad alone a few months ago. I know it is the right decision for me right now, considering my circumstances. Everyone in my life is excited for me and fully supports the huge leap I'm taking. The only person who seems to be unhappy with the decision is my best friend. Ever since I told her about my plans, I

feel like she's been acting differently. Every time we talk about it, she gets more and more distant, and the closer I get to my departure date, the stranger she seems to act. Could she be angry with me for leaving? How do I talk to her about this? — Moving Away

DEAR MOVING AWAY: Your best friend is sad because you are leaving. That's normal. If you two have spent lots of time together up until now, she knows that her life is going to change dramatically when you depart. The difference between your two experiences will be that you will be off on an adventure, seeing new sites, exploring a different culture and meeting new people. She will be where she has always been, but now with a void where you used to be. It will be hard for her at first, just as it probably won't be as hard for you. Have some compassion. Tell her you will miss her. Don't promise to write every day or do anything more than you may be able to do. Just be kind, patient and compassionate.

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HOROSCOPE

Friday, March 17, 2023

A call for help will reunite you with someone facing similar struggles. Together you can accomplish great things. It's time to turn a dream into something concrete and lucrative. Explore what's possible this year and make things happen.

PISCES

(Feb. 20-March 20)

Put your heart into something you love doing. Engaging in a hobby or using your skills professionally will pay off. It's time to change the way you earn and handle your money.

ARIES

(March 21-April 19)

Sharing secrets will backfire. Be discreet and focus on staying in shape. Take what's yours and go about your business; opportunities will unfold. Ignore someone trying to get a rise out of you.

TAURUS

(April 20-May 20)

Spice things up and enjoy the company of someone who shares your interests. A chance to test your physical skills will boost your ego and give you the confidence to engage in meaningful conversations.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 20)

Calm down and don't engage in

conversations about love or politics. It's best to keep your thoughts to yourself and to give others the freedom to do as they please. Don't let anger drag you down.

CANCER

(June 21-July 22)

Take what's yours and keep moving. Trust your instincts and go after your dream. Let go of the past and embrace what's new and exciting. Live in the moment and discover a bright future filled with hope.

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)

Be careful what you wish for. You will have second thoughts if you are too quick to decide your next move. Don't get into a battle with someone who is emotionally manipulative.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Social events are favored. Mixing business with pleasure will encourage a better understanding of your colleagues and peers. Welcome discussions, and share your feelings and intentions.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Be open to suggestions, but don't let anyone decide your destiny. Traveling and exploring educational pursuits will feed

your mind. Examine your options closely.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Say no to overindulgence. A lifestyle change will breathe new life into your plans. Embracing what comes your way will open your mind to options that offer the edge you need to advance.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Don't give up or give in to someone trying to mislead you. Spending more time at home will help stabilize your life. Refuse to let what others do cause you to second-guess your plans.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You have more going for you than you realize. Look at your schedule and adjust your plans to include something that allows you to use your skills more broadly. It's time to build the life you want.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

Dedicate your time to finishing what you start. Once you tidy up loose ends, doors will open, and you'll feel rejuvenated and ready to start something new and exciting. Don't share your plans.

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BRIDGE

North 03-17-23
 ♠ J 10 9 2
 ♥ A 10 4 3 2
 ♦ 6 5
 ♣ A Q

West ♠ 5 3
 ♥ Q
 ♦ A J 8 4 3
 ♣ K J 10 7 4

East ♠ Q 7
 ♥ K J 8 7 6
 ♦ Q 9 7
 ♣ 9 8 2

South ♠ A K 8 6 4
 ♥ 9 5
 ♦ K 10 2
 ♣ 6 5 3

Dealer: North
 Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1♠	2NT	1♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	3♣	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

At the first table, West passed throughout. Then he led the club jack against four spades. Declarer finessed dummy's queen, of course, but then was faced with a precarious problem. Rather than commit himself immediately, South called for dummy's heart two. East went in with the king, and when West dropped the queen, he continued with a low heart, which West ruffed. Later, declarer lost two diamond tricks: down one.

When West used the Unusual No-Trump, showing a long minor two-suiter, it was easy for declarer to read the heart-queen lead as a singleton. Playing West for 2=1=5=5 shape, declarer won immediately with dummy's ace and drew two rounds of trumps. When

the club finesse won a moment later, South claimed his contract, conceding one heart and two diamonds.

Don't bid unless you think you can either buy the contract or steer partner to a good lead he won't find unaided. Here West had no reason to expect to win the auction at a safe level, especially with the unfavorable vulnerability.

The talkative mammal is the cat, with over 100 separate sounds. This is more than both the chimpanzee and the gorilla.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse ... perhaps because he heard the cat on the prowl.

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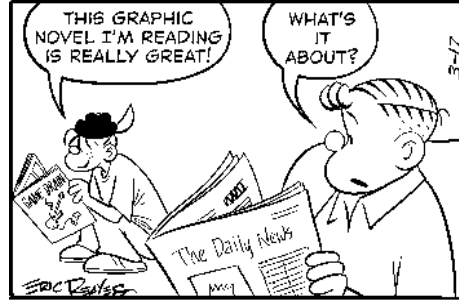
COMICS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

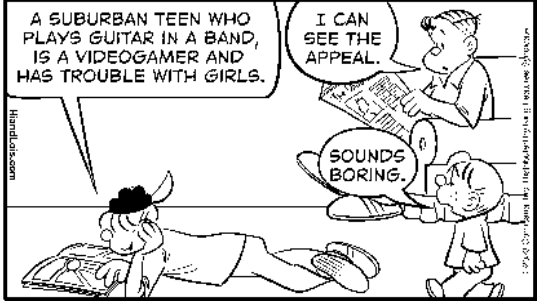
Chris Browne



HI AND LOIS

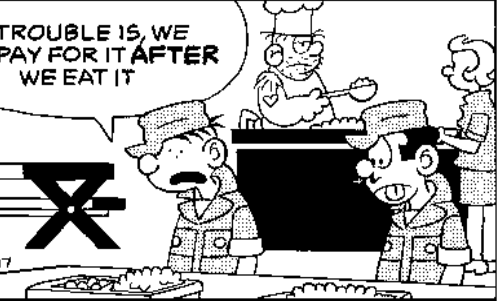


Chance Browne



BEETLE BAILEY

Greg Walker, Brian Walker & Neal Walker



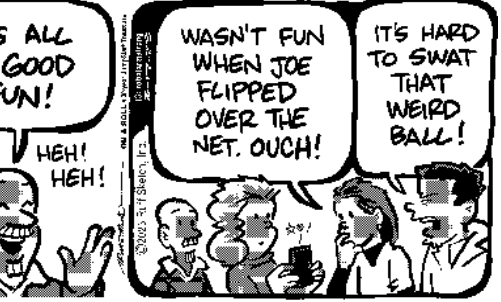
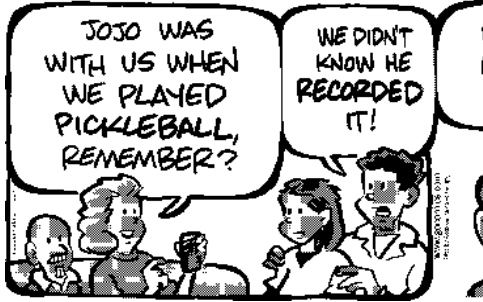
FRANK & ERNEST

Thaves



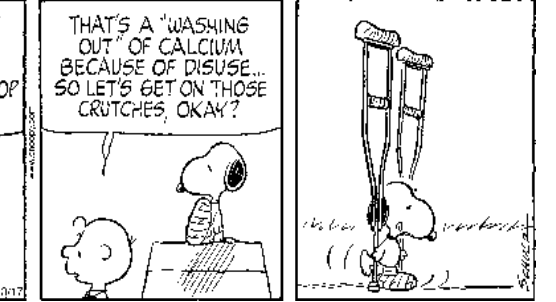
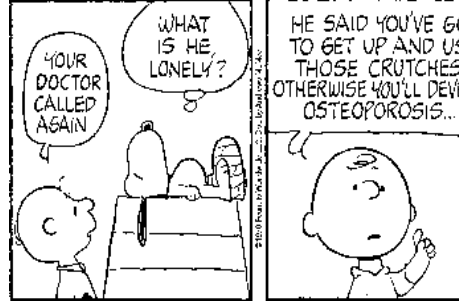
JUMPSTART

Robb Armstrong



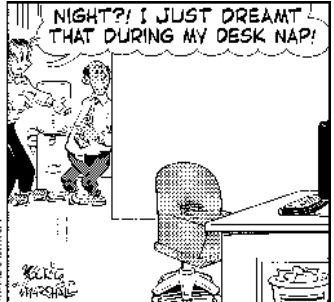
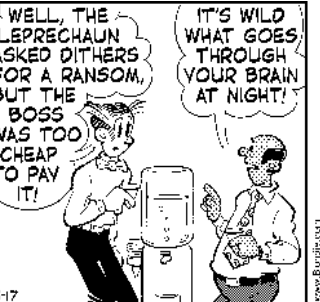
PEANUTS

Charles Schulz

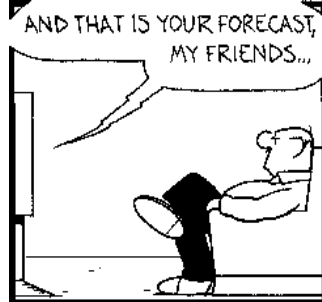


BLONDIE

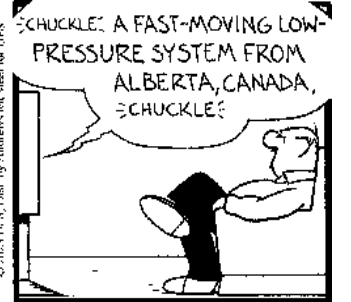
Dean Young & John Marshall



THE BORN LOSER

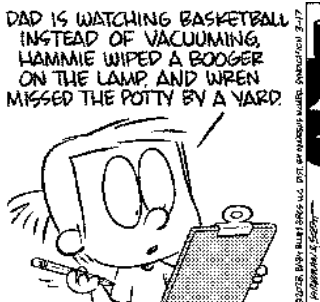


Chip Sansom



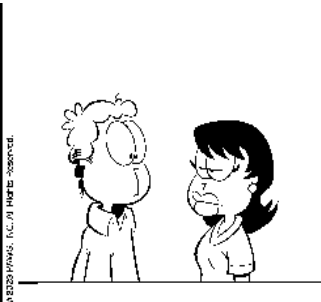
BABY BLUES

Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



GARFIELD

Jim Davis



MOST ADS LESS THAN
\$500
 per day

PALATKA DAILY NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS

GARAGE SALE
 4 LINES - 1, 2 OR 3 DAYS

\$1075

AD MUST INCLUDE ADDRESS OF SALE AND MUST BE PREPAID

OFFICE HOURS

MON. - FRI. • 9 AM - 4 PM

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE... EMAIL & FAX DEADLINE...

2:00 P.M. (312-5200)

1:30 P.M. (312-5209)

CLASSIFIEDS 312-5200

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS



Special Notices

2 burial plots at Palatka Memorial Gardens (front section) near the office. \$3,300 904-501-7426

200 EMPLOYMENT



General

Join Our Team! Serving St Johns County since 1986.
 Irrigation, Landscape & Lawn Service. Top pay for Qualified Candidates. Will Train.
 Hours of operation 8am-4pm. FL D.L.'s Required.
 No weekends!
 Call Debbie 904-461-5479

350 LEGALS



Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

PROBATE DIVISION
 File No. 2023-CP-109
 Division 53

IN RE: ESTATE OF JEREMIAH DIKE, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Jeremiah Dike, deceased, whose date of death was January 20, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Putnam County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 410 St. Johns Avenue, Palatka, FL 32177. 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 PERIODS 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 March 17, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative:

/s/ R. Kevin Sharbaugh
 R. Kevin Sharbaugh, Attorney
 Florida Bar Number: 86240
 DOUGLAS LAW FIRM
 117 N 2nd Street
 Palatka, FL 32177
 Telephone: (386) 530-2955
 Fax: (386) 385-5914
 E-Mail: kevin@dhclawyers.com
 Secondary E-Mail: amandah@dhclawyers.com

Personal Representative.

/s/ Robert Mauldin
 Robert Mauldin
 190 Heidt Road
 Palatka, Florida 32177

Legal No. 00094985
 03/17/23, 03/24/23

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
 CASE NO. 2021CA000223

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A, Plaintiff,
 vs.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF LEMAR EVANS, DECEASED, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated October 27, 2022, and entered in 2021CA000223 of the Circuit Court of the SEVENTH Judicial Circuit in and for Putnam County, Florida, wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A is the Plaintiff and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF LEMAR EVANS, DECEASED; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; CARLA BUSH; LEMAR EVANS, JR.; TERENCE EVANS, SR.; LEMAR BEASLEY; ERIC CHAPMAN; KEVIN EVANS, SR.; JUSTIN EVANS are the Defendant(s). Matt Reynolds as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.putnam.realforeclose.com, at 11:00 AM, on April 13, 2023, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 37, 38, 39, AND 40, BLOCK D, FOREST HEIGHTS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 169, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Property Address: 905 RANDOLPH ST, CRESCENT CITY, FL 32112

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis pendens must file a claim in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031.

Dated this 8 day of March, 2023.

By: /s/ Danielle Salem
 Danielle Salem, Esquire
 Florida Bar No. 0058248
 Communication Email: dsalem@raslg.com
 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 6409 Congress Ave., Suite 100
 Boca Raton, FL 33487
 Telephone: 561-997-6901
 Facsimile: 561-997-6909
 Service Email: fmail@raslg.com

20-013466 - MaC

IMPORTANT

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to access court facilities or participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. To request such an accommodation, please contact Court Administration in advance of the date the service is needed: Court Administration, 101 N. Alabama Ave., Ste D-305, Deland, FL 32724 (386) 257-6096. Hearing or voice impaired, please call 711.

Legal No. 00094934
 03/17/23, 03/24/23

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. 21-0252GA
 DIVISION: 53

IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF ROBERT JACKSON COUK, WARD.

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED FUNDS
 To the Unknown Heirs at Law of Robert Jackson Couk, Deceased:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Matt Reynolds, Clerk is in possession of unclaimed funds from the above identified guardian estate that belonged to the Ward, Robert Jackson Couk, deceased. Said funds less the clerk's fees and cost will be delivered to the Chief Financial Officer after the expiration of six months from the date of the first publication of this notice.

DATED February 9, 2023.

MATT REYNOLDS, CLERK (SEAL)

By/s Katie Miller
 DEPUTY CLERK

Legal No. 00094452
 02/17/23, 03/17/23

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. 21-0250GA
 DIVISION: 53

IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF CARL BILLY KNOWLES, WARD.

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED FUNDS

To the Unknown Heirs at Law of Carl Billy Knowles, Deceased:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Matt Reynolds, Clerk is in possession of unclaimed funds from the above identified guardian estate that belonged to the Ward, Carl Billy Knowles, deceased. Said funds less the clerk's fees and cost will be delivered to the Chief Financial Officer after the expiration of six months from the date of the first publication of this notice.

DATED February 9, 2023.

MATT REYNOLDS, CLERK (SEAL)

By/s Katie Miller
 Deputy Clerk

Legal No. 00094453
 02/17/23, 03/17/23

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 2022-CA-283

BRENDA PHILLIPS, Plaintiff,
 Vs.

SHELBY LUPO, Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated 9 March 2023 entered in the above-styled case, Matt Reynolds, Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.putnam.realforeclose.com, the Clerk's website for on-line auctions, at 11 :00 a.m. on 11 May 2023, the following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

EXHIBIT A

A parcel of land lying, situate and being in Putnam County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:

Lot 83 of INTERLACHEN ACRES, UNIT 2, an unrecorded subdivision in Sections 24, 25, and 26, Township 10 South, Range 24 East, and more particularly described as follows:

The East 210 feet of the West 1458 feet of the South 210 feet of the North 840 feet of Section 26, Township 10 South, Range 24 East.

TOGETHER WITH that certain 1974 Nobility Double Wide Mobile Home, I.D. #NS270A, Florida Title #11551629, and I.D. #NS2708, Florida Title #11551628.

For identification purposes only, property address:

105 James Avenue
 Interlachen, FL 32148

Parcel Number: 26-10-24-4052-0260-0830

Address: 105 James Avenue, Interlachen, Florida 32148

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

DATED on this 14TH day of March 2023.

ATTORNEY AT LAW, P.A.

/s/ Timothy Keyser
 TIMOTHY KEYSER, J.D.
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 Florida Bar Number: 181740
 Post Office Box 92
 Interlachen, Florida 32148
 (386) 684-4673
 Serve.keyser@gmail.com
 Keyser.legal@gmail.com

Legal No. 00094966
 03/17/23, 03/24/23

400 MERCHANDISE



Furniture & Upholstery

Pride Mobility Viva Lift!
 SKU - PLR 990i
 Recliner for Sale. Brown leather. (386) 325-3264

Garage Sales

Yard Sale! Fri & Sat 7-3. Tools, Fishing gear, assorted Furn., drink glasses, nick-nacks, etc. 105 Shoreline Ave., Satsuma

Moving Sale! FRI & SAT 9-3. Downsizing and many, many items will be for sale. Many tools, household items including glassware, wall hanging pictures & miscellaneous decorations. Plants & flower pots. Come see. You will find something you need. 141 Pine Lake Dr, Satsuma, St Johns River Estates just off E Buffalo Rd.

SAT 8-? TOOLS, ball caps, NASCAR, books, dishes & more! End of Stokes Landing Rd, **137 Moores Trail**

Yard Sale!
 Friday & Saturday 8am-5pm
710 San Mateo Rd, Satsuma

Sporting Goods

700 Remington Bolt Action
 22-250 3x12x40 scope.
 Exel Cond. Asking \$500
 386-972-3522

Golf Cart for Sale - Club car, Older model, need batteries, \$450 (386) 972-4043
 Pomona Park area

Trailers

Car hauler enclosed trailer
 2014 Homesteader, 2 axle, 1 owner, 20'x8.5', new tires & breaks, \$5,900 843-421-0632
 Interlachen

550 PETS & SUPPLIES



Pets & Supplies

Parti Yorkie Puppies 2 mos, ready to go on March 13th, 1st shot, Health Cert, Tail & Dew claws done, \$1000 ea
 607-343-2093

Poodle pups, mini, Mom 21# AKC & CKC, Dad 15#, 8wks 2/23. Vet Ctf. S&W \$1700
 843-421-0632 Interlachen

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

FREE Classified Line Ad
 Merchandise for Sale

1 Item \$25 or Less • 1 Item Per Coupon
 2 Coupons Per Week • 4 lines - 4 Days

Coupon MUST be filled out and include price.

Coupon may be mailed, dropped off or emailed.
 Palatka Daily News, P. O. Box 777, Palatka, FL 32178
 or 1825 St. Johns Avenue
 pdnclassifieds@gmail.com
 Newspaper reserves the right to edit copy.
 Please No Phone Calls

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Ad: _____

Approximately 16 to 20 letters and spaces per line.