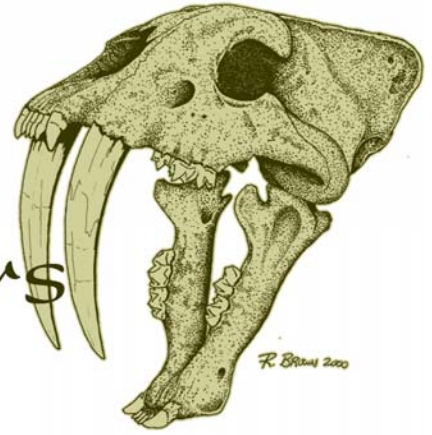


NEWS

Florida Fossil Hunters



Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc. dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters
Volume 22, Number 8

September 2012

Desk of the President.....

I want to thank Valerie First for her presentation on early humans and evolution at our August meeting. Congratulations are in order for her also for getting her article published (see more of that inside).

The next couple months will be jam-packed with fossil related activities: We have our meeting on Sept. 15th, the Natural History and Mastodon Day at the Daytona Beach Museum on Sept. 29, National Fossil Day on October 17th. But the most important event will be our annual Fossil Fair on October 13th and 14th.

We've asked all of you to volunteer your time and donate items for the Kids' Pit and the Silent Auction. However, I would like to point out what FUN this weekend is. It's full of interesting & new fossils and minerals to see, fascinating things to learn, delightful people to talk with. How could we not have have fun being with a bunch of people who are so curious about the past and love to share their excitement. I truly hope each and every one of you can participate.

And as a reminder....we've had to change our November meeting from the 3rd Saturday to the 2nd Saturday because they ran out of rooms at the Science Center. Our Nov. meeting will be on the 10th.

Hope to see you at our meeting on Saturday, Sept. 15th at the Science Center. All of you, please bring in the fossils/treasures you've acquired over the last few months.

Russell Brown
President (till the end of 2012)

Coming Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS at the Orlando Science Center

September 15th
3pm Meeting

October 13 & 14
2012 Fossil Fair

November 10th
2pm Kids' Fossil Blast
3pm Meeting

More events listed on back page

For more info...
www.floridafossilhunter.com

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**September
15th MTG**
3:00 pm

October 13 & 14
2012 Fossil Fair
*More information on
pages 3 and 7*

**November
10th MTG**
2pm Kids'
3pm Meeting

Fragments

November Meeting Date Changed

The November meeting will be on the **SECOND** Saturday, Nov. 10th, not the third as it usually is. The Science Center meeting rooms were totally booked so we moved the meeting up a week. Make a note on your calendar.

Titanaboa DVD

The DVD about the discovery of the biggest snake that ever lived is out! You can find it at the shop in the FL Museum of Natural History or order on-line through the Smithsonian Channel. You will recognize some of the people in it.

And the traveling exhibit will be at the Museum of Natural History in Gainesville starting in January 2013.

Fossil Hunting at the Vulcan Mine for the 2012 - 2013 Season

Hello to both the Tampa and Orlando fossil clubs,

I wanted to let you know that Vulcan management has allowed us to continue fossil hunting for the 2012-2013 season beginning the 2nd Saturday of September 2012. As always please inform your rookies of the environment they will be subjected to: no bathrooms, extreme heat, snakes, spiders, etc. It looks to be a hot beginning to the season so prepare everyone (hats, sunglasses, skin protection, water/Gatorade). We will continue to begin at 9am and run to 2pm with a noon release. The gates will remain locked while we are inside so please pass that tidbit on as well. Cemex has hired some folks to start tearing down some of their conveyors and starting to sell granite that they are rilling in, so we may have some truck traffic to deal with from time to time.

As a personal aside, I wanted to thank both clubs for the great people that you bring to the quarry. People from all walks of life, all levels of fossil interest and all ages. I want to continue to make the fossil events fun, entertaining, educational and above all safe. Thanks to all of you and your efforts.

Alan Pagels, Vulcan Materials Company
16313 Ponce De Leon Blvd
Brooksville, FL 34614 | 352-279-5613

*Since we have our Fossil Fair on Oct. 13th and our November meeting has been moved to Nov. 10th, the next date we will have a club trip to Vulcan Mine will be on Saturday, **December 8th**. If someone would like to volunteer to be trip leader for December, just let Bonnie know.*

FPS Fall Meeting

The Fall meeting of the Florida Paleontological Society will be on the weekend Nov. 16th through 18th. No news on the location yet.

Piece on the Peace

The rains of August certainly had an impact on the Peace River. The water level was over 15 ft. at Zolfo soon after Isaac dumped its share on Florida. Just think of all the good fossils being uncovered and washed downstream where we can find them after the water has gone down.

Daytona Beach Museum of Arts & Sciences Natural History Day and Day of the Mastodon

Saturday, September 29, 2012

11am - Tour of the Giant Ground Sloth/Displays Bring your Specimens for Identification

11am to 4pm - Displays from Central Florida Fossil Hunters, Tomoka Gem and Mineral Society, Museum's shell collection, and more

12:00 to 2pm - Kids Paleo Lab

1pm Presentation by Jenny Manis from the UCF Oyster Shoreline Restoration at Turtle Mound.

2pm - The Daytona Beach Mastodon with Senior Curator of Education James "Zach" Zacharias Discovery of the Nova Road Mastodon during the Fall of 2011

3pm - Dr. Rachel Wentz on Life and Death at Windover: Excavations of a 7,000-year-old Pond Cemetery – Dr. Wentz' latest book examines the discovery, excavations, and analyses of one of the most important archaeological sites in the world, Windover. This fascinating site produced the well-preserved remains of 168 individuals along with hand-woven textiles, a beautiful assemblage of artifacts, and ancient soft tissue.

4pm - Creatures of the Lagoon with Chad Truxell Join Chad Truxell, Director of the Marine Discovery Center New Smyrna Beach and learn about the unique creatures that inhabit the Indian River Lagoon System.

Admission: Adults: \$12.95, Seniors & students: \$10.95, Kids (6-17): \$6.95. Kids 5 & under get in free.

Directions: From Orlando I-4 to Rte. 400 exit (Beville Rd). Go east to Nova Rd. North (Rte. 5A). Turn left onto Nova Rd. and go one mile. The Museum entrance will be on your left.

For more information, call [386-255-0285](tel:386-255-0285)
or go to www.moas.org

Join us Nov. 10th for the next

Kids' Fossil Blast

Florida Fossil Hunters News

FLORIDA FOSSIL HUNTERS

2012 FOSSIL FAIR

FOSSILS, ROCKS, GEMS, MINERALS, ARTIFACTS

Learn to dig Florida and see what can be discovered!

Educational displays, vendors,
Silent auctions, raffles,
KIDS DIG PIT. \$1

Oct 13 and 14

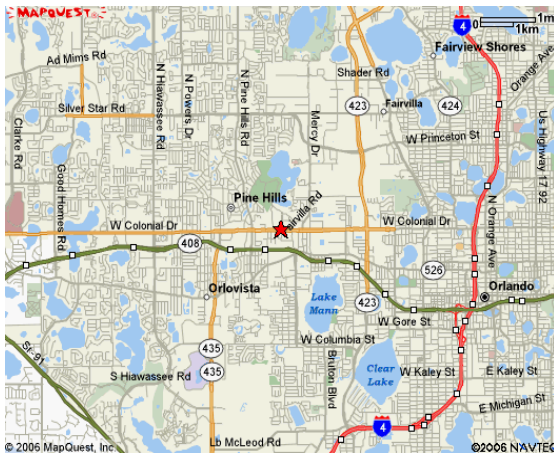
Central Florida Fairgrounds
4603 W. Colonial Dr
Orlando Florida 32808

Air Conditioned!: INDOORS!

Sat 9:00AM to 5:00PM

Sun 10:00AM to 4PM

\$4/ Adult & \$1/child



Directions: From Tampa: I-4 to Colonial Dr (Hwy 50) exit. Go west just past Mercy Dr. Fair is on the north side (on the right)

From Daytona: I-4 to Colonial Dr (Hwy 50) in Orlando. Go west on 50 just past Mercy Dr. Fair is on the north side (on the right).

www.floridafossilhunters.com
407-699-9274

FOSSIL FAIR 2012

Fellow Fossil Hunter members -

Our Fossil Fair is fast approaching and I need your help now more than ever. Our Fossil Fair is the annual event that raises money for our club to pay for the expenses: insurance, auction items, activities, guest speakers, etc. If you have enjoyed the activities that we've had in the past, the only way to make sure we can continue to have them is to everyone to pitch in on this most important event.

Young and old - all have a place in our club and at our Fossil Fair. Please help. You can contact Russell or Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com or call 352-429-1058.

Thank you for your support. Russell Brown, President

Donations Needed

Clean out the garage and that back room where you've been dumping all those "not so perfect" fossils and bring them to the Fossil Fair for the Kids' Pit. You had fun finding them the first time and they can bring smiles to kids' faces, too.

Got some extra fossils, minerals, or oddities? These are the kind of items that people love to bid on at the Silent Auction table. We've had bidding wars on modern animal skulls, too, so bring those in.

You earn fossil bucks for donations made to the Kids' Pit and the Silent Auction.

Help Wanted.....

For our annual Fossil Fair, October 13th & 14th.

We've got the front table/admission covered for Saturday but need people for Sunday.

Still need LOTS of people for:

- the Silent Auction..... where you never get bored.
- the Kids' Pit..... where you get paid in smiles in addition to fossil bucks.
- the Membership Table..... where you can share your enthusiasm for fossils and your experiences.

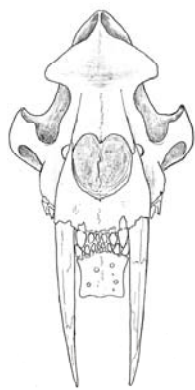
Not sure where you want to work? Sign up as a "roaming volunteer" and we'll put you where we need you the most.

Of course, we can always use some extra hands for set-up on Friday and clean-up Sunday evening.

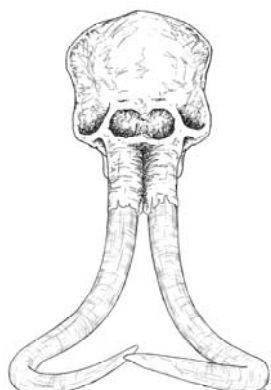
We're planning on having our "food tent" again this year for volunteers and vendors Saturday & Sunday. The club will provide fixings for sandwiches. Members please bring a covered dish, salad, dessert, etc. to share.

You can sign up at the Sept. 15th meeting, or call Bonnie at 352-429-1058 or email bonnierussell62@gmail.com

Remember, you earn 100 fossil bucks for each hour you volunteer which you can use to bid with at the December Auction.



POCKET



BACK

2012 Fossil Fair: Shirt Designs

We will only print shirts that are pre-ordered. You can order them at the meeting or by emailing Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com

Hoping to keep the prices the same but there might be a small increase. Will let everyone know as soon as possible.

Regular t-shirts \$10, sizes youth small, youth medium, adult small, medium, large, XL, 2X

Pocket t-shirts \$12, sizes adult small, medium, large, XL, 2X

Russell has revised the designs for the t-shirts. You know how artists are. The color of the shirt will be close to pumpkin pie.

2012 Fossil Fair - T-Shirt Order Form

IF YOU WANT A SHIRT, WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR ORDER FORM BY SEPTEMBER 20TH.

Name: _____ Email or phone#: _____

Mark the number of shirts you want per size.

Kid Small _____ Kid Med _____ **Adult** Small _____ Med _____ Lg _____ XL _____ 2X _____

Adult w/Pocket- Small _____ Med _____ Lg _____ XL _____ 2X _____

Total number of shirts ordered _____ @ Adult shirts & youth shirts: \$10 ea. Shirts with pockets: \$12.

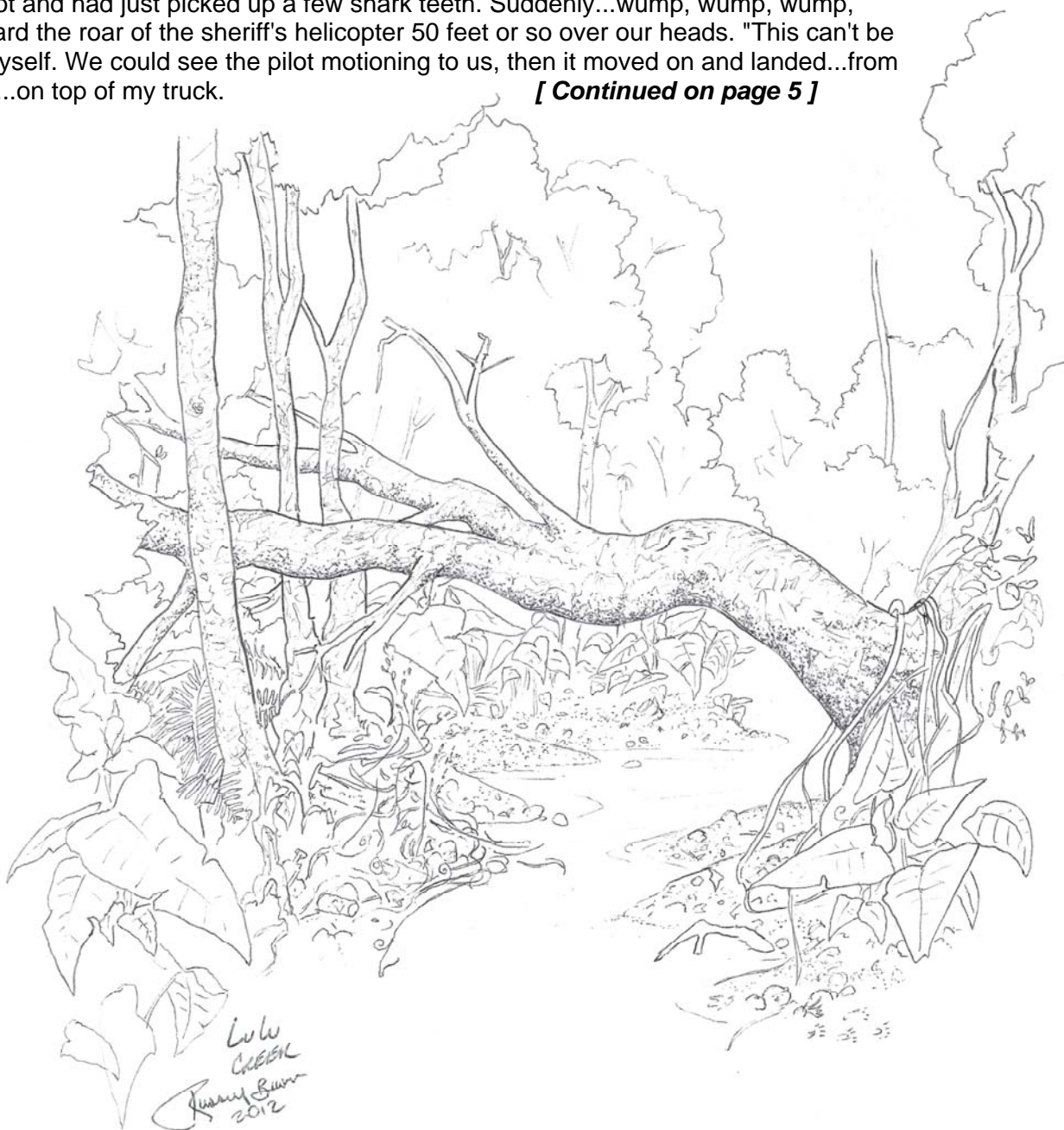
EXPECTED PRICE

Lulu Creek - The Police, the Landowner, and the Permit

Sweaty, scratched-up, & out of breath, we pushed forward. We could hear the sheriffs getting closer. With full gear, shovels & screens, we half-ran and climbed through the tangle of vines.

That morning, Mike Trapp & I had driven down to dig in a new area, past where the old hospital once stood. After 30 minutes of fighting our way to the creek through the overgrown vegetation, we found a spot and had just picked up a few shark teeth. Suddenly...wump, wump, wump, wump...we heard the roar of the sheriff's helicopter 50 feet or so over our heads. "This can't be good", I told myself. We could see the pilot motioning to us, then it moved on and landed...from the sound of it...on top of my truck.

[Continued on page 5]



[Continued from page 4]

Coming into the clearing, I could see the two sheriffs standing there with hands on their hips next to my pickup. I'm thinking, "We're dead meat now".

"Find anything", one asked.

"What?"

"Find any neat fossils?"

"What?, I said again.

"We saw your vehicle and so we checked to see what was going on. You're the fossil guy, right"

"Yes, I am", relaxing a bit. "We just started digging and we've only found a few things." And proceeded to show them what we had collected so far. And after telling us to be careful of where we parked, the two got into the copter and took off..... pelleting Mike, me, and my truck with flying debris. What a way to start a day.

Another day....sitting on the tailgate of my old truck, the treasures I'd found that day laid out. I was taking off my wet shoes, when I heard someone coming up behind me. Turning around I met the gaze of an old man that would have killed a weaker man.

"What's in the bag", he asked pointing to the bed of my pickup.

"Trash I picked up here that someone dumped," I replied.

Looking towards the creek, he said, "What you doin' down there?"

"Hunting for sharks teeth", and showed him what I'd found.

We talked about this and that...fishing, weather, how the old Florida we had known earlier had grown and changed. I told him about my volunteer work at schools, about the displays I was working on, and the report I had to do for the State.

He told me that he lived in the house back off the road and owned the property. Said he'd been running off people for dumping trash, but he didn't mind me coming, and to park here in this area next time. I thanked him and gave him all I had found that day for his grandkids.

Next weekend, I drove down through the giant oaks and, instead of the tall grass and vegetation, there was a cleanly mowed area right up to the edge of the ravine. That area stayed mowed for me over the next few years.

Jeremy and I ran around as much as we could, digging here, there...everywhere. I found out at a meeting that a Fossil Permit is required by the State. Five dollars and a week later, I had mine. I was happier than the kid in "Christmas Story" getting his decoder ring! It was the first fossil permit in 2002. As in everything, there are laws and forms. One requirement was to report each year on your fossil finds. I could do this. How hard can it be?

I had pictures, maps, soil samples, aerial photography, specimens to donate, my notes of where and when....hours and hours of figuring. I was sure to impress the Museum with the 3 inch thick pile of information that I mailed to them.

One evening, the phone rang and the man told me he was from the Florida Museum of Natural History. My heart was racing...."Oh, boy", I thought. Then he told me that I was wasting his time. They weren't interested in shark teeth and I didn't even need a permit to collect them. I felt like the elephant turned away at the peanut farm. I puzzled over this for a long time, and it wasn't till years later that I halfway understood it.

But it is wise to keep notes, for one day the information will be as valuable as the fossils themselves. Without proper information, fossils are just blank specimens. And as time went by, all the information I had collected became more valuable than I ever could imagine.

Years passed....I was still digging on and off. One day, Mike, Jeremy, and I pulled in the dirt road like always.....except we were greeted by a huge pile of dirt. Most of the giant oaks - some over 12 feet in circumference - were gone. Tractors were everywhere. What the (bleep) was going on?

NEXT: THE BIG FILL***Valerie First, Author!***

Those of us that came to the August meeting got to hear Valerie talk about how she presents the subject of evolution while volunteering at the Orlando Science Center and the Central Florida Zoo.

The article that she wrote on the subject "My Niche in Human Evolution: 32 Teeth, Bony Eye Sockets, and No Tail!" has been published in the latest issue of [Reports of the National Center for Science Education](#). Congratulations, Valerie, on a fine article.

You can read the article by going to: reports.NCSE.com/index.php/RNCSE/article/view/a48/181. If that link doesn't get you to the article, go to reports.NCSE.com and do a search for Valerie First.

Florida Fossil Hunters

Membership Application

is a fun and educational group whose goal is to further our understanding of the prehistory of Florida. We encourage family participation and welcome explorers of all ages.

Membership is \$17 per year. Other household members may be included at no charge.

Meetings are usually held on the third Saturday of the month but may vary with club activities. Check the website for the date and location of the next meeting or call one of the officers.

Officers:

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| President | Russell Brown | (352) 429-1058 |
| Vice President | Dave Dunaway | (407) 786-8844 |
| Secretary | Bonnie Cronin | (352) 429-1058 |
| Treasurer | Sara Morey | (619) 302-4863 |

Chairs:

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Education | Bonnie Cronin | (352) 429-1058 |
| Field Trips | OPEN | |
| Fossil Fair | Valerie First | (407) 699-9274 |
| Fossil Auctions | Dave Dunaway | (407) 786-8844 |
| Fossil Bucks | Dave Dunaway | (407) 786-8844 |
| Fossil Lotto | Ed Metrin | (407) 321-7462 |
| Auctioneer | Roy Singer | (407) 645-0200 |
| Membership | Bonnie Cronin Nicole Barr | (352) 429-1058 |
| Newsletter | Bonnie Cronin | (352) 429-1058 |
| | Elise Cronin-Hurley | (407) 929-6297 |
| Photography | John Heinsen | (407) 291-7672 |
| Webmaster | Elise Cronin-Hurley | (407) 929-6297 |
| | elise@liseydreams.com | |

Board of Directors:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Melissa Cole | (407) 834-5615 |
| Ed Metrin | (407) 321-7462 |
| Dave Cass | (407) 409-9095 |
| Shelley Zimmerman | (407) 891-1260 |
| Marge Fantozi | |
| Marcia Wright | |

Names: _____

Associate Members: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

____ New ____ Renewal

Please list any interests, experience, talents or just plain enthusiasm, which you would like to offer to the club:

Membership is \$17 per year. Our membership year runs from January to December. All renewals are done in December and January.

Please make your checks payable to:

Florida Fossil Hunters
Post Office Box 540404
Orlando, Florida 32854-0404

Associate members are people in the same household, included at no extra charge, 2 adult votes per household.

Newsletter Policy

Articles must be submitted by the first of the month to be included in that month's newsletter. These can be mailed to the above Post Office Box or e-mailed to: elise@liseydreams.com. Articles can be sent as text in the e-mail or in Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx).

Please note in subject of email 'FFH'.

Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc.
dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters

Florida Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters Mark Your Calendar

See inside for more information on events.

Sept. 15th - 3pm Meeting

Sept. 29th - Day of the Mastodon
at Daytona Beach Museum

October 13th & 14th - Fossil Fair

(See pages 3-4 for more information)

October 17th - National Fossil Day

November 10th - 2 pm Kids' Fossil Blast
3 pm Meeting

November 16-18th
FPS Fall Meeting

December 8th
Vulcan Mine Field Trip

Be Green

Email Bonnie at bjrb48@netzero.com to
receive the newsletter via email.



Join Our Facebook group, Search:

[Florida Fossil Hunters](#)

facebook

Visit us online at www.floridafossilhunters.com

Articles and comments should be sent to: elise@liseydreams.com

Florida Fossil Hunters

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Orlando, Florida 32854-0404



Florida Fossil Hunters News