

▶ **BREAKING NEWS 24/7 AT PALMBEACHPOST.COM**

Former Gardens chef to run **LIVELY NEW BRASSERIE** IN LOCAL BUSINESS



GUNFIRE AT THE FAIR Shooting injuries mar final day IN LOCAL



ANDIE MACDOWELL: HER SECRET TO HAPPINESS IN ACCENT

YOUR WEATHER TODAY

Windy
HIGH: 75 LOW: 67
LIVE RADAR, PALMBEACHPOST.COM

TUESDAY Windy 77/69
WEDNESDAY Partly cloudy 78/69
THURSDAY Partly cloudy 79/69
WEATHER PAGE, BACK OF SPORTS
WEATHER SPONSORED BY VAN'S COMFORTEMP

The Palm Beach Post

Monday, January 30, 2012

REAL NEWS STARTS HERE

Final edition | One dollar

IN THE NEWS

Syrian bloodshed rises near capital

The Damascus area's period of relative quiet ends; troops kill dozens nationwide. **3A**

Congress looks to stop its own insider trading

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., and others aim to restore some public trust in lawmakers. **2A**

Oakland regroup after Occupy clashes

After 400 arrests, officials vow to be better prepared and protesters threaten to sue. **2A**

U.N. nuclear inspectors begin mission in Iran

The Iranian foreign minister is 'optimistic' about the investigation's outcome. **3A**

Iraqi officials denounce U.S. drone program

The U.S. says it must protect its embassy and consulates after troops' withdrawal. **3A**

Screen Actors Guild gives 'The Help' a lift

The Southern drama wins three honors, including best film and best actress. **14A**

LOCAL

Hospital poised to grow along with W. Boynton

Bethesda West, on schedule to open in a year, is designed to expand to 400 beds. **1B**

15-year lawn-care foes unite in bizarre twist

The landscape rivals' battle involved 42 lawyers, 22 law firms and 42 judges. **1B**

Longtime casino tenant withdraws lease bid

Lake Worth Beach Tee Shirt Co. blasts city officials during the building's renovation. **2B**

Board weighs contract for next schools chief

With finalists down to four, the draft includes a take-home car and \$225,000 base salary. **2B**

LOCAL BUSINESS

Gardens CEO markets with personal touch

Importer Chester Brandes says perseverance and passion helped him excel. **1D**

Credit cues: Paying off high-rate loans early likely won't hurt your credit score. **4D**

Deli delight: New York's revered Stage Deli is pursuing a lease west of Delray. **5D**

SPORTS

Heat holds off Bulls as James scores 35

Superstar guard Derrick Rose leads Chicago's late charge but misses two key free throws. **1C**

Djokovic wins epic: He edges Nadal in a record-setting six-hour Aussie Open final. **1C**

Thinking of Carter: The PBAU baseball team hopes its ailing coach can attend opener. **1C**

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POST COVERAGE Florida GOP primary

Romney widens Florida lead

He and Gingrich exchange insults as primary nears

By GEORGE BENNETT, JANE MUSGRAVE and ANDREW ABRAMSON
Palm Beach Post Staff Writers

HIALEAH — The enthusiastic Cuban-American voters who greeted Mitt Romney at a rally here Sunday were one sign that the state that thwarted Romney's presidential hopes four years ago appears ready to hand him a big victory in Tuesday's Republican presidential primary.

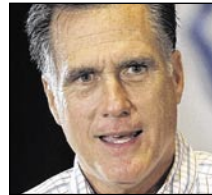
Three Florida polls released Sunday showed Romney opening up a double-digit lead over GOP rival Newt Gin-

grich, who vowed to press on with his campaign regardless of the Florida results and pursue the Republican nomination all the way to the GOP's August convention in Tampa.

Gingrich stepped up his attacks on Romney throughout the day, calling him dishonest and attempting to sharpen the ideological distinction between himself and Romney.

Gingrich came into Florida riding momentum from a stunning victory in South Carolina's Jan. 21 primary. In

See PRIMARY, 4A ▶



Romney



Gingrich

■ Gingrich's mixed outsider-insider message puzzles many voters. 6A

No joke: State poised for a smooth election

By JOHN LANTIGUA
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

How many Iowa poll workers does it take to screw in a light bulb?

Apparently, we'll never know. Even though Iowa Republicans originally named the wrong winner of their Jan. 3 caucuses, then changed their minds and still can't find some votes, joke writers in general are giving Iowa a pass.

But if the same thing happens Tuesday in Florida's GOP primary, we'll almost certainly be fodder for Jay Leno, David Letterman, Conan O'Brien, et al.

"Everybody loves to bash us," said Palm Beach County Elections Supervisor Susan Bucher. "But we've developed thick skins."

In fairness, Iowans are neophytes at counting

See FLORIDA, 4A ▶

INTERSTATE 75 ACCIDENT

Pileup kills 10 near Gainesville



MATT STAMEY/The Gainesville Sun

Smoke from a brush fire reduced visibility Sunday on I-75, leading to debris strewn for nearly a mile. At least a dozen cars and six tractor-trailers were involved.

The fiery haze 'looked like the end of the world,' one driver says.

By MIKE SCHNEIDER
The Associated Press

GAINESVILLE — A long line of cars and trucks crashed one after another early Sunday on a section of Interstate 75 so shrouded in haze and smoke that drivers were instantly blinded. At least 10 people were killed.

When rescuers arrived, they could only listen for screams and moans because the poor visibility made it difficult to find victims in wreckage that was strewn for nearly a mile,

police said.

Authorities were still trying to determine specifically what caused the pileup south of Gainesville on I-75, which had been closed for a time before the accidents because of the mixture of fog and heavy smoke from a brush fire that may have been intentionally set.

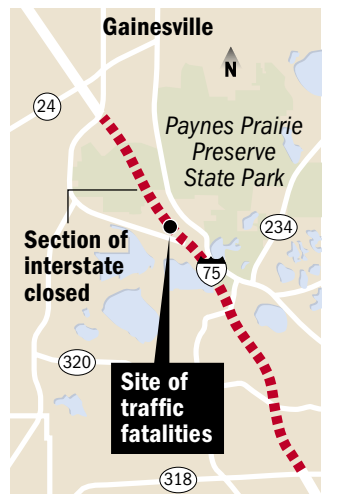
At least a dozen cars and six tractor-trailers were involved. Some burst into flames.

"If I could give you an idea of what it looked like, I would say it looked like the end of

world," said Steven Camps of Gainesville, who was driving home with friends hours before dawn when they were drawn into the pileup.

"You could hear cars hitting each other. People were crying. People were screaming. It was crazy."

The fire started Saturday, and investigators were trying to determine whether it had been intentionally set, said Ludie Bond, spokeswoman for



STEVE LOPEZ/Staff Artist

See CRASH, 10A ▶

POST COVERAGE Medicine in Palm Beach County

Cancer center aims to bring high-tech treatment to area

By JEFF OSTROWSKI
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Tired of sending patients to Jacksonville for the latest cancer treatment, a group of Palm Beach County doctors hopes to spend \$30 million to build South Florida's first proton therapy center.

South Florida Radiation Oncology aims to join a nationwide building boom of proton centers, which feature high-tech radiation machines encased in concrete crypts. Proponents say proton beams are so

precise that they can radiate a tumor without damaging the healthy tissue around it.

"It has the ability to be deposited in the tumor with no exit dose," said Ravi Patel, managing director of Wellington-based South Florida Radiation Oncology, which has offices from Boca Raton to Port St. Lucie.

Patel said he's considering sites in Wellington, Boynton Beach, West Palm

See PROTON, 13A ▶

What is proton therapy?

Doctors aim a high-speed stream of positively charged particles at a cancerous tumor. Protons release more of their energy into the tumor and nowhere else, thus saving healthy tissue.

Treats: Mainly brain, lung and prostate cancer.

Costs: \$20,000 to \$45,000; covered by Medicare and many private insurers.

Treatment lasts: Three to nine weeks, five days a week.

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