



Ralph Thomas



Randy Merritt



\$1  
One Section

*"It's a New Day"* **Locally Owned & Operated**

Our 1st Year, 19th Issue  
Thursday, June 30, 2022

# War Eagle Academy goes forward

CRA chosen to design \$20 million War Eagle Academy at high school, paid for by Triumph Gulf Coast funds

**By CHARITY TUMBLESON**  
Reporter

After interviewing three other candidates, the Wakulla County School Board chose Clemons Rutherford and Associates Architects at their meeting last week to design the new War Eagle Academy at Wakulla High School.

CRA Architects is an award-winning, national architectural firm with offices in Tallahassee, Panama City, and

Thomasville, Georgia. The location and execution of the War Eagle Career Academy, serving as a career and technical education center will be on Wakulla High School's campus.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools Sunny Chancy, who has guided the project through the grant application process, commented: "For the students and community in Wakulla County, this is a game-changer." Chancy said she is



Assistant Superintendent Sunny Chancy

"Really looking forward to the project's completion."

The project is made possible through Triumph Gulf Coast Board which voted unanimously to award WCSB a \$20 million grant back in April.

Triumph Gulf Coast, is a nonprofit corporation created by the Florida Legislature to assist with economic recovery in Wakulla and seven other counties disproportionately affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

The War Eagle Career Academy will broaden

career and technical education for Wakulla and Franklin counties in partnership with Live! Technical College to meet local workforce demands at a total cost of \$38.9 million.

The grant will in-grain CTE into current curricula, independent programs, and stacked micro-credentials to construct distinctive employees. Stacked credentials are individual achievements that are combined over time to improve a learner's em-

ployability or skill set.

WHS currently offers programs in the areas of auto mechanics, digital design, web development, carpentry, culinary arts, television production, welding, the nursing assistant program, and the Engineering Academy. These programs articulate into college or technical education programs at the post-secondary level if the student chooses to pursue this field.

These new programs

**Turn to Page 3**



Wakulla firefighters had their vehicles on display for the 'Touch a truck' at the expo.

## Preparedness Expo

First-ever event was a reminder to get a plan and get prepared

**By CHARITY TUMBLESON**  
Reporter

Wakulla County held its first-ever Emergency Preparedness Expo at Hudson Park on Saturday.

People of all ages came out to learn how to prepare for potential local disasters.

Different groups came out and set up tents and displays to showcase the resources that are available in Wakulla when disaster strikes. Emergency vehicles were on display with firetrucks lined up for a "Touch a truck" demonstration. Red Cross had informational brochures on hurricane check-

lists and the importance of smoke alarms. Out of 74,000 disasters in community's last year that Red Cross responded to, 93% were fire-related incidents.

Wakulla Health Department provided important information on the health risks of floodwater and the potential health hazards when waters become contaminated with bacteria – and how to disinfect water for drinkable use.

The health department also reminded the public in this heat that bodies need 8 cups of water daily to stay hydrated.

**Turn to Page 7**

## Businessman Edwin Brown is dead

Started surveying company, Edwin Brown & Associates, and was a founder and CEO of Citizens Bank

Staff Report

Local businessman Edwin Brown died this week at home after a lengthy illness. He was 81 years old.

He started Edwin Brown & Associates, a surveying company, back in 1976. It is still operated by his son, Wade Brown.

He was also a founder and Chairman of the Board of Citizens Bank (now Ameris) in Crawfordville.

His survivors include his wife of 62 years, Sharol Pelt Brown; and children, daughter Traci Brown Cash and son Wade Brown and wife Beth.

Funeral services were held Monday, June 27, 2022, starting at 10:30 a.m. and the family received friends one hour prior to the service at 9:30 a.m. at the Sopchoppy Southern Baptist Church. The burial followed at the Edwin Brown Memorial Family Cemetery in Sanborn. The obituary appears on Page 6.



Edwin Brown

### CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENT

# Quincee Messersmith seeks re-election

Currently on county commission representing District 4, having served since 2018

**By QUINCEE MESSERSMITH**

Fellow Wakulla Countians, I am seeking re-election to the Wakulla County Commission, District 4 where I have lived for the last 22 years, and I sincerely ask for your consideration for support and vote in the November general election.

When I first asked for your support in 2018, I did so without an issue-driven agenda but with a promise that I would be "accessible" and "involved," and that I would utilize my portfolio of life, education and work experiences to assist me to apply "listening" and "common sense" approaches to the issues that come before the Commission.

I have conscientiously worked to apply those commitments on your behalf, as well as an absolute application of my Oath of Office to obey and support both the Constitution and the laws of the State of Florida and Wakulla County.

My personal involvement in community service organizations was significant prior to being elected, and it has clearly increased many-fold as your Commissioner and I now work with even more of our citizens who commit their volunteer time to



make our County and State a better place to live.

Presently, I actively represent your interests in the following Committees and organizations on behalf of the people of Wakulla County:

- Wakulla 4H Advisory Council
- Big Bend Hospice Council
- Wakulla County Senior Citizens Council
- Career Source Capital Regional Council
- Capital Area Community Action Agency
- Transportation Disadvantaged Council
- Apalachee Regional Planning Council
- Capital Regional Transportation Planning Council

For those of you I have not met personally, the following is a brief snapshot of my work experience and education:

- SERVED AS
  - Executive Assistant to former Florida Insurance Commissioners Tom Gallagher and Bill Nelson
  - Cabinet Level Assistant to former Secretary Fred O. Dickinson of the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicle Agency

**Turn to Page 3**



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## Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Joe Pye Weed

By **JOEY & JACK COETZEE**



Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*) is a tall, showy wildflower topped with small pinkish-lavender flowers. It typically grows 4-7 feet tall in full sun to part-shade. This Florida native prefers moist soil and grows wild along bogs, marshes, and streams and in low meadows. A pollinator magnet, butterflies, bees, beetles, and wasps swarm the large flower heads. Joe Pye weed is an important source of honey. It is a larval host plant for the lovely clymene moth. Sometimes called Queen-of-the-Meadow, Joe Pye weed is long-blooming and somewhat deer-resistant. Its height is ideal for back borders. In Sopchoppy Depot Park, Joe Pye weed is blooming at the back of the park's vibrant wildflower meadow.



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# Commission says more study on aquifer protection

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**  
Editor

Wakulla County Commissioners decided to seek more input on aquifer protection from consultants at their meeting on Monday, June 20.

The matter was prompted by a proposal for a gas station at the corner of Bloxham Cutoff and U.S. Highway 319 which is over a mapped underground cave with water that flows to Wakulla Springs.

In March, after outrage over the location and its possible extreme vulnerability to contaminate groundwater, the proposed gas station was withdrawn by Southwest Georgia Oil.

After the matter was withdrawn, Commissioner Randy Merritt asked staff to look into

some sort of possible protections that could be put into a county ordinance – and noted that, without such rules on the books, he would have voted to approve the gas station, saying it meets current requirements.

In a three-page memo to commissioners, staff noted it was having difficulty coming up with proposals.

According to the memo, staff met on April 27 “to discuss the feasibility of adopting new ordinance language, or modifying existing karst feature analysis requirements, that is supported with enforceable, sound practices which identify additional risk to human health and/or the environment associated with commercial development within aquifer vulnerability zones.”

That meeting includ-



Ralph Thomas



Randy Merritt

ed an environmental consultant, Scott Sigler, of Jim Stidham and Associates, and Robert Deyle representing Wakulla Springs Alliance.

While it was discussed that the county should establish impartial policies for commercial development in areas of groundwater vulnerability, and designate areas of high vulnerability, it was also acknowledged that county staff does not have the specialized technical expertise to do the work in-house.

It was noted that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, which does have access to such expertise, does not assist local governments in drafting local ordinances.

In the board discussion, Merritt started by saying he did not want to create setbacks because the mapping of the caves is not that precise so that the county can say, no commercial construction with potential hazardous materials within 1,000 feet of an underground cave

– when it’s unknown exactly where the cave is.

Merritt moved that a consultant familiar with the issue be brought in who could suggest conditions based on the site’s vulnerabilities.

Commissioner Ralph Thomas said the problem wasn’t clearly defined for him. He said he understood the fear of a spill, which is bad. But he countered there are some 668 tanks in the Wakulla Springs Basin and there has never been a spill that led to contamination of the aquifer.

Commissioner Chuck Hess countered that it wasn’t really a fair comparison: Areas of the basin in Tallahassee and northwards have a confining red clay layer that’s very thick and that protect the aquifer. It’s much

more vulnerable in certain areas of Wakulla County where there is only a sand layer over the limestone karst.

Citizen David Damon complained about the county including consultant Scott Sigler in the matter, claiming he was a “friend” of Southwest Georgia Oil.

County Administrator David Edwards said Sigler had advised the county on the oil spill that is under the tax collector’s office and has been moving for years towards the City of Sopchoppy well across the street at the old courthouse. The spill was from decades ago, when the building was originally the sheriff’s office and jail and vehicles were fueled at the site.

Reports on the tracking of the spill, show it has slowed in recent years.

# Local bail bondsman arrested for battery on officer

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**  
Editor

Local bail bondsman John Johnson was arrested last week and charged with battery on a law enforcement officer after deputies were called to Dux Liquors on Saturday, June 18.

According to the arrest report, deputies were called to the scene over reports of a physical altercation between a man and a woman.

Deputies arrived to

find Johnson sitting in his truck, and a woman, identified as Celia Granger, sitting across the parking lot in her car. Security reported the two had been in a verbal altercation most of the night.

Asked to tell deputies what had happened, Johnson replied, “Nothing happened.” He then went over to Granger’s vehicle.

She reportedly appeared to be under the influence of alcohol and



John Johnson

was reportedly yelling and screaming and getting in and out of her

vehicle.

Johnson demanded Sgt. Edward Webb’s cards to identify him and Webb responded verbally and said he would get a card when the incident was resolved.

According to Deputy Kyle Hanks, who was standing at the car door, “At that time, John moved towards me and placed his hand across my chest on my right shoulder. Sgt. Webb immediately

informed John not to touch me again. John said ‘what like this’ and immediately placed his hand across my chest.”

Johnson was then arrested for battery on a law enforcement officer and was transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

At the jail, Johnson reportedly refused to cooperate, laying across the backseat of the patrol car. “When I tried to sit him up,” the deputy wrote, “he would scream

and flail around. At one point in the middle of screaming he looked at me and asked where the cameras were at. When I pointed them out, he screamed some more and started sitting himself up.”

Back at Dux, Granger called for a ride but was warned about arrest for disturbing the peace and disorderly intoxication and was eventually ordered off the bar’s property to wait for her ride.

## War Eagle Academy

From Front Page

will include artificial intelligence, Amazon Web Services, physical therapy/sports medicine, television production, CompTIA+ (a per-

formance-based certification that supports the ability to connect users to the data they need), digital media, Cloud computing, banking and finance, investments, and automotive/diesel/

marine-technology.

The project will incorporate career micro-certifications that will allow CTE integration into existing state curricula and relevant industry certifications.

A micro-certification is a digital proof of a person’s experience in a particular area, focusing intensely on a specific field of training or education.

A certificate is a pro-

fessional development program designed to offer an in-depth exploration of a subject to ensure expertise. The programs within the academy will result in at least 7,450 industry

certifications. The academic and workforce readiness path will culminate in full post-secondary credentials and an avenue to continue education or seek workforce placement.

## Quincee Messersmith seeks re-election

From Front Page

The Riversink Elem. Appointed to the Transition Team for leadership of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Administrative partner with a Government Consultant Group

reviewing and researching laws and legislation. EDUCATION:

A BSW graduate of Thomas University with an AA degree from Tallahassee Community College, and an invited member of the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor

Society

I would appreciate your consideration to support and vote for my

re-election to District 4, County Commission in the November general election.

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“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

# Opinions

## The Sun will host a political forum on July 14



By WILLIAM SNOWDEN

The Wakulla Sun is planning a political forum for judicial candidates and candidates for school board at the public library at 6 p.m.

I had originally intended to include some of the county commission candidates, but those races quickly filled to overflowing on the last week of qualifying. Since the county commission races will appear on the November ballot, I decided to push them back until later in the fall.

The races for the August primary are all non-partisan races: county judge, and school board districts

Candidates we hope to hear from at the forum:

**County Judge**

- Roseanna Bronhard
- Eddie Evans
- Brian Miller

**School Board, Dis. 1**

- Eddie Hand
- Gwendolyn Staten
- Dod Walker

**School Board, Dis. 5**

- Laura Lawhon
- JoAnn Daniels

Questions for candidates? Send them to [editor@thewakullasun.com](mailto:editor@thewakullasun.com).

1 and 5. (School board member Cale Langston in District 3 will return to office without having drawn opposition.)

We will start the evening with the candidates for county judge: Roseanna Bronhard, Eddie Evans and Brian Miller, and discuss their qualifications and background and try to get a sense of their judicial temperament.

Bronhard has been

a lawyer for the state of Florida for years, and both Evans and Miller are longtime prosecutors with the State Attorneys Office.

All three are seeking to replace Wakulla County Judge Jill Walker, who is retiring after 32 years on the bench.

Not exactly sure yet of how we're going to do school board races – all five candidates at once, or divide into the two races?

We will learn more about District 1 school board candidates Eddie Hand, Qwendolyn Staten and Dod Walker. That group are in the running to replace retiring school board member Verna Brock.

In District 5, Laura Lawhon is facing incumbent school board member JoAnn Daniels.

*William Snowden is the editor of The Wakulla Sun.*

### LETTERS

## Heat warnings will be more frequent

Editor, The Sun:

Wakulla Sun's June 16th front page featured a warning about high temperatures. Unfortunately, heat warnings like this will be occurring more often in the future due to climate change.

The National Weather Service generally recommends issuing a heat advisory when the heat index reaches 100°F, and issuing an excessive heat warning when it reaches 105°F.

At these heat index levels, people – particularly vulnerable groups, such as children and elderly adults – are susceptible to heat-related illness and death. Outdoor workers are susceptible to the same effects with a heat index around 90°F. The heat index is the combination of temperature and humidity that creates the “feels like” temperature.

The Union of Concerned Scientists, a national nonprofit organization, founded more than 50 years ago by scientists and students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, analyzed the historic average number of days when the heat index

was above 105 degrees (1971 -2000), and compared them to future years projections for three levels of climate action. Their results show that if no actions are not taken to reduce fossil fuel emissions, Wakulla County's average 105+ degree days per year will increase from 6 days to 58 days by mid-century (2036 -2065), and to 104 days by late century (2070 – 2099). If slow action is taken now, the number of 105+ degree days by late century can be limited to 39. Better yet, if rapid action is taken now, the number of extreme heat days by late century can be limited to 40.

Unfortunately, legislation to reduce carbon emissions are stalled in the U.S. Congress. Florida's Senators and House Representatives need to be reminded of the urgency and encouraged to support these bills.

The choices we make today will determine how often we experience extreme heat in the future.

**John Parks**  
Crawfordville

### Something on your mind?

Email Letters to the Editor to [editor@thewakullasun.com](mailto:editor@thewakullasun.com) or drop it by the office at 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327.

## On the Horizon

### Calendar of upcoming events

**Wednesday, June 29**

- An Intermediate Line Dance class will be held at 1 p.m. at the senior center.

**Thursday, June 30**

- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville. There will be concessions and raffles.

**Friday, July 1**

- A public meeting to review and discuss responses received for RFP 2022-01 Turnkey P25 Simulcast Radio System will be held in the Board of County Commissioners Administration Conference Room at 9 a.m.

**Saturday, July 2**

- The Paul Hoover Memorial Freedom Run 5K Race starts at 8 a.m. at Wakulla Springs State Park. A 1-mile fun run/walk will follow

the conclusion of the 5K race at 8:45 a.m.

- The Gage Pitman Memorial Rockin' Reds Fishing Tournament will held at Woolley Park in Panacea, and the official weigh-in station will be from 2 to 5 p.m. The tournament will be June 24-26.

**Monday, July 4**  
**Happy Independence Day!**

- The annual Sopchoppy Fourth of July Festival begins with a parade at 10 a.m. and concludes with fireworks at dark.

**Wednesday, July 6**

- An Intermediate Line Dance class will be held at 1 p.m. at the senior center.

**Thursday, July 7**

- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville. There will be concessions and raffles.

## We finally got signs up



The Wakulla Sun has been in this building for going on five months and we now have official signs designating it as such.

Wakulla Sign's

Terry and Carly put up the signs on Friday.

Some people have had a hard time finding us, though it's 12 Arran Road, the building on the

courthouse square with the awnings.

Now it should be even easier to find us.

And if you haven't stopped by to visit, please do.

## HELP SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

You can support The Wakulla Sun with a tax-deductible donation to help us cover the stories that matter to you.

By donating, you help us keep citizens informed, hold officials accountable and cover the most important topics in our community.

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William Snowden  
Editor & Publisher  
The Wakulla Sun

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#### What payment types do you accept?

We accept donations by card or check. If by check, payment must be made to the Florida Press Foundation and designate you want the donation to go to The Wakulla Sun.

*"It's A New Day!"*



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## ◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at fundraiser for Amanda Kelly held by her son Adrion Mancilla, and Manna Express.  
**What is a task around your home that drives you nuts if not done?**



**KEITH WHITFIELD**  
MANNA EXPRESS

**“Dishes in the sink!”**



**AMANDA KELLY**  
STAY AT HOME MOM

**“Dishes in the sink – we are a family of seven.”**



**DALE LITCHFIELD**  
RETIRED

**“The towels folded, and correctly.”**



**DAWN MONTEITH**  
RETIRED DENTAL ASSISTANT

**“The floor being swept or vacuumed and my bed being made.”**



**JEFFREY PIPPIN**  
IVAN AG, YOUTH PASTOR

**“I can’t stand dirty dishes in the sink.”**

### COMMUNITY NEWS

## Library News – June 30-July 6

**Thursday, June 30**

Florida Public Archeology Network at the Community Center 7pm

**Friday, July 1**

Quilting Guild 9:30am  
Tech Learning Lab 5pm

**Saturday, July 2**

Library Closed

**Monday, July 4**

No Programs Today

**Tuesday, July 5**

No Programs Today

**Wednesday, July 6**

Wakulla County Coalition for Youth 12:30pm

**Thursday, July 7**

No Programs Today

**SUMMER READING 2022: READ BEYOND THE BEATEN PATH**

Our Summer Reading Performers Series will take place at the Wakulla County Community Center on Thursday evenings at 7pm. This year’s performers are:

- June 30th: Florida Public Archeology Network
- July 14th: Instrumental Tunes
- July 21st: Animal Tales

Registration for programs is not required, however, to track your reading and earn prizes, including a chance to win the Grand Prize of a Kid’s Kindle Fire with headphones and a S’mores kit, register using Beanstack here: <https://wakullalibrary.beanstack.org/reader365>.

**AN EVENING AT HOGWARTS**

Our annual celebration of all things Harry Potter is quickly approaching! Join us for An Evening at Hogwarts July 29th at 6pm as the entire library gets transformed in the School of Witchcraft and Wizardry! Costumes strongly encouraged. More information coming soon!

**UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

- Saturday, July 2nd for Independence Day
- Saturday, September 3rd for Labor Day
- Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th for Veteran’s Day
- Thursday, November 24th to Saturday, November 26th for Thanksgiving

## Sheriff’s Report

Activity reported for the week of June 17 to 23:

**FRIDAY, JUNE 17**

• Deputy Stripling responded to Hudson Park reference a trash can fire. Upon arrival Wakulla County Fire Rescue had already put the fire out prior to deputies’ arrival. The floor restroom and the trash can in the men’s restroom was damaged from what appears to be fireworks. Contact was made with Wakulla Parks & Recreation employee who advised they wished to pursue charges. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

• Lt David Pienta responded to the area of the Wakulla County Courthouse in reference a traffic crash. Upon arrival it was determined a crash had not happened. Lt Pienta did locate an abandoned moped. Witnesses at Subway stated it had fallen out the back of a truck. The moped was damaged from the fall. The moped was taken and stored by Property & Evidence until the owner can be located.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 18**

• Joshua Morgan reported his vehicle

being taken by his roommate Bella Risner without having his permission. He stated he had contact with Bella who told him she had the vehicle and was in Ozark, Alabama. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Rudolph Hinson investigated.

• Deputy William Bennett responded to Lisa Drive in reference to a fire. Upon arrival the homeowner, William Vancott, advised the breaker box on the outside of the house was smoking but no flame was present. Wakulla County Fire Rescue and Duke Energy handled the electricity and fire issue at the pole. A walkthrough of the residence was conducted and no other fire hazards were observed.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 19**

• Lt. David Pienta responded to the corner of Kenneth Circle and Shadeville Road in reference criminal mischief. Contact was made with the victim. The victim advised he has had a truck for sale at this intersection. When he checked on it today, he realized someone had cut off

the catalytic converter, cutting the brake line in the process, and stole a hub cap. The value of the damage was estimated at \$5,000. A home nearby was found to have a security system which may have observed the crime. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

• Lt. Pienta responded to the area of 2481 Crawfordville Highway reference a reckless vehicle. Lt. Pienta located the vehicle traveling south bound. Once behind the vehicle the car pulled into oncoming traffic almost causing an accident. Lt. Pienta conducted a traffic stop on the car. The driver, identified as Samantha Millette, was reportedly clearly intoxicated. The odor of alcohol could be smelled on her and inside the vehicle. Miller had a suspended license with a prior DUI suspension. Miller refused field sobriety exercises and was taken into custody. Miller had her 1-year-old son in the vehicle with her during this incident, and the boy was

turned over to a family member. Miller was arrested and charged with driving under the influence, child neglect, and driving while license suspended or revoked.

**MONDAY, JUNE 20**

• Deputy Andrea Farmer responded to the Dollar General at 3134 Crawfordville Hwy. in reference to a retail theft. Upon arrival Deputy Farmer made contact with the store manager, and a clerk. Store employees stated a white female walked out of the store with items without paying for them. When confronted the female turned over the items then left the scene. The Manager advised she wished to pursue criminal charges. A possible suspect has been identified in this case.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22**

• Deputy Dakota Haddock located Austin Smith at a home on Brightwood Lane. Upon arriving at the front gate of the ad-

dress, Deputy Haddock spotted Smith standing at his truck, and the deputy knew him to have active warrants for his arrest. Smith fled on foot into the wood line and Deputy Haddock immediately gave chase on foot and apprehended Smith. During the ensuing investigation Smith was found to be in possession of a small amount of meth-

amphetamine. Smith was arrested on the outstanding warrants as well as resisting an officer without violence, and possession of methamphetamine.

Please remember to always report suspicious or illegal activity at 850-745-7100, or call 911 for emergencies.

**Event:** Broadband Internet Workshop: Education, Dialogue and Possibilities for Improving Internet in Wakulla County  
**Organizer:** Barnebey Planning & Development Lab at Florida State University  
**Location:** 4th of July Festival @ Myron B. Hodge City Park, 252 Park Ave, Sopchoppy, FL 32358  
**Date & Time:** Monday July 4, 2022, from 10am-4pm

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**The Wakulla Sun**

# Let's put our differences aside this July 4th



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Why is America so divided? Could it be because many of us have such strong opinions that we refuse to listen to another's point of view, much less con-

sider it?

The animosity between political parties has eaten its way into every corner of our nation, devouring family, work, and (sadly) even church relationships. Even members of the same political affiliation have turned against each other.

It breaks my heart to see America so angry. I suspect you feel the same way.

What will it take to bring us together? Where do we begin?

When we humble ourselves before God, confess our prideful

arrogance and admit we've gotten caught up in our own way of thinking, we'll begin to see ourselves more honestly.

When we humble ourselves further and pray for the needs of those with whom we're at odds, we'll begin to see their hearts more clearly too.

First Chronicles 16:11 (ESV) says, "Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!"

What would happen if we truly sought God? What if we read, read, read the Bible, and

asked His Holy Spirit to help us understand its meaning?

What if we prayed, prayed, prayed, telling God everything in our heart – and then listened to hear what's on His?

How would it change us if, during our prayer time, we admitted we were imperfect and weak? That we needed God's wisdom and strength?

What if we confessed we need help with our attitude and repented of our offensive rhetoric? Then, when we must take a stand, we

can do so respectfully.

Consistently seeking God's presence could transform our perspective if we asked Him to show us how much He loves those with whom we disagree – even those we "hate."

Seeing others as people God loves can move us toward being willing to listen to each

other. It could make us more willing to find common ground – and maybe help us realize how much we need one another.

Will you join me in praying that we'll once again work together as a nation united ...

and celebrate shared pride and love for America every July 4th?

*Sheryl H. Boldt is a sales executive for Wave 94 and author of the blog, www.TodayCanBeDifferent.net. Connect with her at SherylHBoldt.Wave94@gmail.com.*

## Obituaries



**Edwin Brown**

Edwin Glen Brown (11/26/1940 – 6/24/2022) passed away Friday morning peacefully at home in the care of his loving wife of 62 years, Sharol Pelt Brown.

Edwin grew up in the Sanborn area south of Sopchoppy in a family of eight children. As a family they farmed, fished, hunted and shared their bounty with family and neighbors during the depression years. Edwin loved football and played for the Sopchoppy Yellow Jackets during his high school years. He declined an offer to play college football at Troy University to begin working and marry the love of his life. After graduating he joined the Tallahassee Fire Department. He also surveyed on his days off and began

his long career as a professional land surveyor. He left the fire department after 12 years of service and founded Edwin Brown & Associates in 1976, a legacy business still run today by his son.

He was a founder and Chairman of the Board of Citizens Bank (now Ameris) in Crawfordville. After retiring, he became a full-time farmer, up at dawn for his five mile walk before a day full of chores. He particularly loved hay farming, planting, plowing and rolling hundreds of acres each year. He never considered it work. He looked forward to climbing on his tractor each morning and whistled while he plowed up and down each row. Edwin was a loving husband, father, grandfather and most recently great-grandfather. His proudest accomplishment was his family.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years Sharol Pelt Brown, children Traci Brown Cash & Wade Brown and wife Beth, brothers Delano Brown and wife Sondra, Kent Brown and wife Linda & sister-in-law Janice Pelt Brown, brother-in-law Randall Pelt and wife Ava, grandchildren Shelby Dotson and husband Allen, Tanner Cash, Caleb Brown and wife Taylor & Haley Brown and great grandchildren Caiden Brown & Carter Brown.

Predeceased by his parents Lonnie Wesley & Lo-dusky Brown, siblings Taska Brown & Bernie France, B.W. & Magdaline Brown, Lonnie Brown, Glennis Brown & Woodrow Saucier and Andy Brown, sister-in-law Maxine Pelt Lambath, son-in-law Jerry Cash and granddaughter Chelsea Cash.

Funeral service was held Monday, June 27, 2022, starting at 10:30 a.m. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at 9:30 a.m. at the Sopchoppy Southern Baptist Church. The burial followed at the Edwin Brown Memorial Family Cemetery in Sanborn.

Skip and Trey Young are assisting the family, Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

### DEATH NOTICES

• **Beulah Beatrice Andrew**, 90, of Crawfordville, died June 22, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Nellie Pearl Evans**, 69, of Carrabelle, died June 20, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Janice "Jan" Elaine Kinney**, 90, of Carrabelle, died June 22, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Linda Faye Williams**, 66, of Woodville, died June 25, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

## Buckhorn News

By **ETHEL SKIPPER**

What's happening in the community is not easy to hear about if you don't have a lot of time on Zoom or Facebook. I want to share with you my birthday celebration with children, grands and great-grands and some dear friends.

When we go to Angelo's in Panacea, there is always a story to tell about old time, like how I met my husband of 69 years.

We thank everyone for your kind words, phone calls, cards, visits, messages on Facebook and everything. I love every one of you and you are in my daily prayers.

We are having some hot weather. Air conditioning and fans are running 24/7. Let us remember there are people without air conditioning – you can call the Senior Citizen Office for fans.

The MARS Family Reunion 2022 will be held virtually on July 1 through July 3. Theme is Back Together Again. For more information, go to MARS Facebook page.

The Zion Hill P.B. Church will have a three-night revival July 6, 7 and 8 at 7 p.m. nightly with Evangelist A. Triplett. Host Pastor is Elder Ervin Donaldson. Everyone is welcome.

## Expo

From Front Page

Another resource offered to the public during hardships is Disaster Debris Monitoring services through Tetra Tech, Specializing in assisting state and local governments to manage the disaster debris removal process after the impact of a storm.

In the aftermath of a catastrophe, it may also be helpful to have an ham radio, which can communicate long distances without internet or cell towers. You can also listen in on local broadcasts during a disastrous event and it even enables you to listen in on astronauts aboard the International



Ken Fields and members of the Amateur Radio Club were at the Expo to discuss the usefulness of ham radios in an emergency.

Space Station.

The Community Emergency response team included a preparedness kit giveaway at the event, with the

winner receiving a bucket of items to better prepare for potential disaster.

Wakulla Emergency Management reminded

people to always have a plan of action along with an emergency supply kit.



**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**  
Catholic Church  
Fr. Dustin Feddon • Den. Dave Harris  
Director of Music & Choir - Jeff Cook  
3609 Coastal Hwy. Crawfordville FL 32327  
**850 745-8359**

Saturday Mass 5:00 pm • Sunday Mass 11:00 am  
Wednesday Mass 7:00 pm  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: Confessions at 9:00 am  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: Adoration Mass at 10:00 am  
Every Saturday: Confessions at 4:30 pm  
Live Streaming - Sundays and Wednesdays  
Facebook - Seas Parish

**Cemetery lots and 850-509-7630**  
Cremain spaces available.

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# County awarded \$1.27 M in resilience grants

**Special to The Sun**

On June 20, 2022, the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners voted to accept a \$1.27 million grant award from the Florida Department of Environmental Protec-

tion (FDEP) and enter an agreement to replace critical components, elevate, and waterproof electrical panels on three lift stations in the coastal Panacea community. The project is funded through FDEP's Resil-

ient Florida Program which prepares communities for the impacts of climate change including sea-level rise, intensified storms, and flooding.

The Wakulla County Intergovernmental Affairs Department

applied for Resilient Florida Program funding in October of 2021 to harden the three lift stations. Lift stations are critical components of Wakulla's overall sewer system and pump wastewater collected to the Ot-

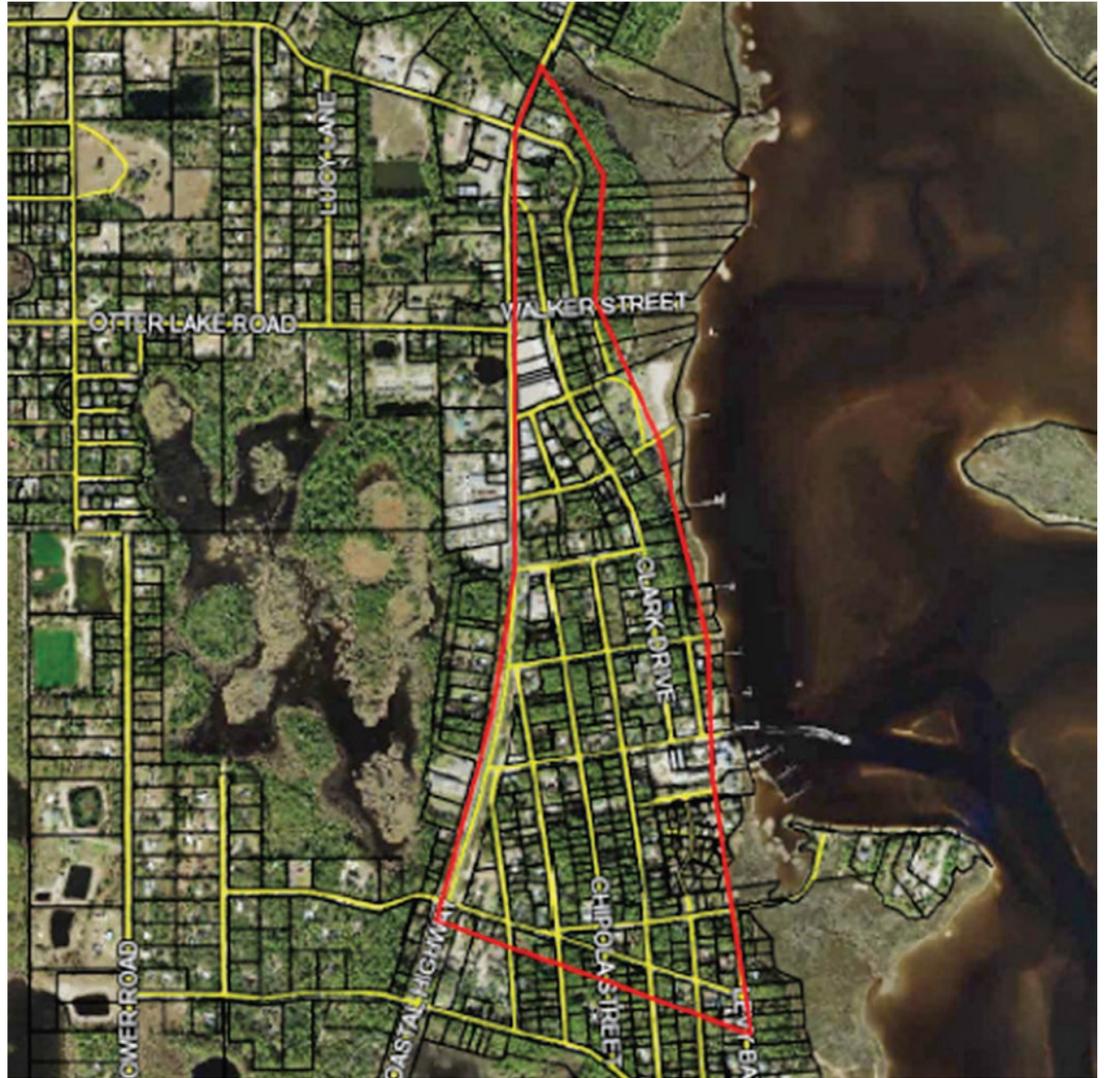
ter Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility. The Project will include replacing the pump, lid, and cabinet, elevating control and power panels, erecting an aluminum control platform, waterproofing the hatch, raising the well

lid, installing above-grade valves, and site fencing. The three sites are located at 84 Taylor Street, 218 Otter Lake Road, and 3870 Coastal Highway, and all are in a Special Flood Hazard Area.

## Another \$73,000 received by county for Panacea

**Special to The Sun**

The Department of Economic Opportunity recently awarded Wakulla County a \$73,500 Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant for surveying and resiliency planning of roads in Panacea. This project will include roads East of Highway 98 from Mineral Springs and South to Levy Bay Road. The information identified will be used when planning the paving of roads in this area to determine the proper road elevation and stormwater management systems that may need to be installed.



## Slade Stevens is district Employee of the Month

**Special to The Sun**

Slade Stevens is Wakulla County Schools June Employee of the Month. Mr. Stevens has been with the district since 2018 as a trade specialist. Stevens is a graduate of Wakulla High who came to work for the district after 25 years in the private sector as a plumber. Stevens stated "the most enjoyable thing is working in the place where I grew up and went to school. I am proud to help maintain our facilities."

Chief of Facilities and Maintenance Mike Barwick said the following of Stevens, "Slade is a huge asset to the district. He goes above and beyond his duties. He is always willing to help anyone anytime, without question. I am very grateful to have him as part of our team!"



**Slade Stevens**

Congratulations to Slade Stevens, Wakulla County Schools employee of the month.



### WAKULLA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS OPEN POSITIONS

**Employment Starting at NO LESS than \$15 hour (Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>)**

Wakulla County School Board is accepting applications for individuals interested in employment in the following:

**Paraprofessionals, Custodians, Bus Drivers, K-3 Tutors and so much more.**

**Minimum High School Diploma required for all positions.**

All interested candidates should apply on-line at the Wakulla County Schools website, [wakullaschooldistrict.org](http://wakullaschooldistrict.org).

**Join the team of Wakulla County School District and make a difference!**

**6-16, 23, 30 + July Monthly**

June 16, 23, 30, 2022

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ASSOCIATION

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AAOS  
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ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

[orthoinfo.org](http://orthoinfo.org)

[VISIT ORTHOINFO.ORG/CYCLESAFETY](http://orthoinfo.org/cyclesafety)

**FOLLOW THE SUN.**

# Outdoors

outdoor sports

## HOME ON THE RANGE

### Plinking with the Heritage Rough Rider



By MARJ LAW

It's June 22nd, and four of us drive over to the "plinking" range. The plinking or metal target range is located just beyond the covered rifle area at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range. Here, several positions face groupings of six round metal targets.

These targets pull upward into place so you can aim and shoot at each of the six metal disks in front of you. As you hit each one, it falls over. You want to make them all fall. After they do, you pull on a rope connected to them, and this makes them return to standing position.

It's a treat to shoot here. Not only do the targets fall over when you hit them, but you hear a satisfying ping, too. Ping, ping, ping! Or, if you don't hear a ping, you probably see a "poof" as the bullet hits the sand behind the targets.

Fortunately, the plinking range is covered. On this day, temperatures soar to about 100 degrees. Fortunately, too, there is a slight breeze. Yes, even in the shade with the breeze, it's still hot hot hot.

Today, we all shoot the Heritage Rough Rider. Rough Riders come in 4.75, 6, 9 or

16 inch barrels. They all hold six rounds. I'd sure like to shoot one of these tack drivers with a 16-inch barrel. This particular one has a 6 inch barrel.

"Is it also single or double action gun like the Sportsman we shot last week?" I ask Joe.

"No, the Rough Rider is a single action only gun," he replies. "Even if you pull the trigger hard, it won't fire until you manually cock the hammer. The Rough Rider gives you the feel of the Wild West single action army revolver, but is chambered in .22LR caliber."

"Does it shoot shorts, longs and long-rifle ammunition like the Sportsman?"

"Yes, it eats all three."

"I notice, when pulling the hammer back, you can click it four times. Why four?"

"Is your finger off the trigger?" he asks.

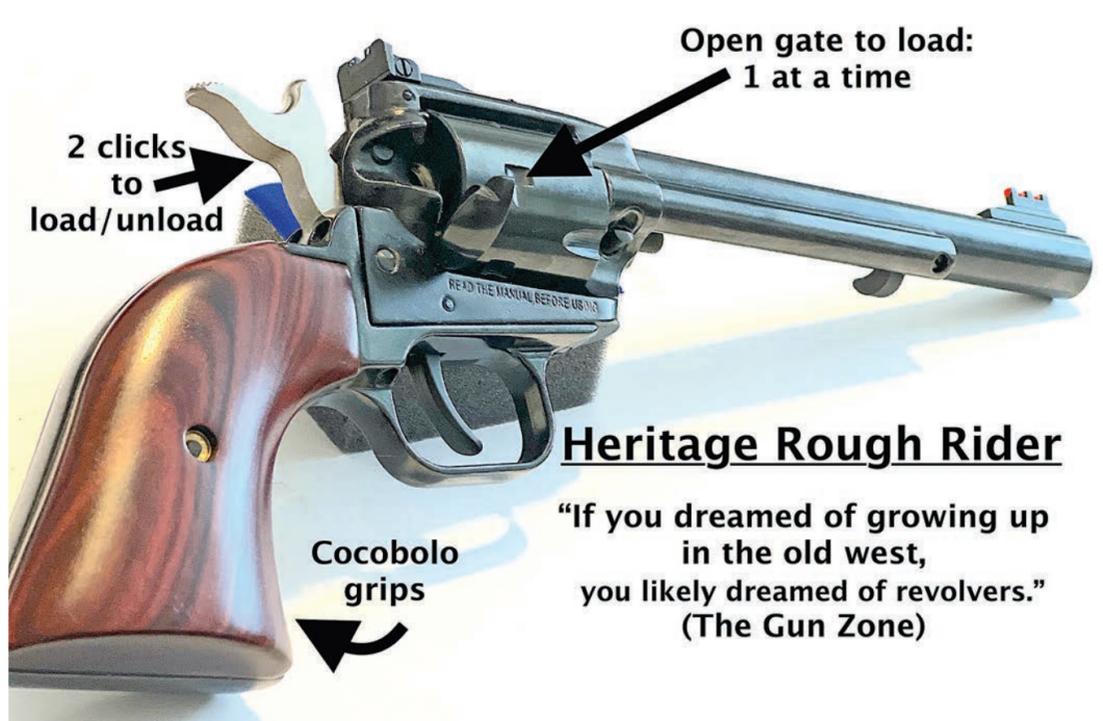
"Of course," I reply. "I know better than that. So, what's with all these clicks?"

"The first click is like the old Colt 'safety notch.' But don't rely on that. There's a safety on the left side opposite the loading gate. Flip it downwards, and a steel block is lowered to block the hammer. That's the safety you'll use."

"Got it. What's the second click for?"

"On the second click, you can load or unload the cylinder. Open the gate and put a round in the empty chamber. To load the next round, you rotate the cylinder once clockwise. You'll hear a click from the cylinder. Now you load the second round, and continue until all six chambers are loaded."

"What's the third



### Heritage Rough Rider

"If you dreamed of growing up in the old west, you likely dreamed of revolvers." (The Gun Zone)

click when you pull the hammer back? Does that cock the hammer?"

"No, on the third click, the hammer won't fall if you pull the trigger. The third click just rotates the cylinder. On the fourth click, you can fire. Finger off the trigger until you're ready to fire."

"Yeah, yeah. My finger is off. So, is there an extractor to unload the casings left in the chambers?"

"Nope. You have to cock the hammer to the second click, and open the gate. Push the ejection rod which is located under the barrel. One casing falls out. Rotate the cylinder again, and push that ejection rod again. You have to do this until each chamber is cleared."

"You have to do them one at a time? That's kinda cumbersome!"

Bob Campbell, writing in *Cheaper Than Dirt*, agrees. "This system isn't fast; it is sure."

The Rough Rider looks like an old west

gun. Old west? Looking at the metal targets, I want to "fan" the hammer like we used to see on television.

But wait! If you're trying to aim and fan the hammer at the same time, your fanning hand blocks your sight picture! You can't aim and fan at the same time! Darn.

Well, how about spinning the cylinder? I go to the second click: the loading or unloading position. Yes, I can rotate the cylinder. It clicks, but it doesn't spin like you see in the movies. The Rough Rider isn't a trick gun.

So, what's it good for?

Bob Campbell says: "Lately, I've been carrying it around my property with me in case I run across a critter that is up to no good. I live off the beaten path and come across slithery and bitey type things fairly often. My small caliber insurance policy makes me feel a little bit more comfortable in doing so."

It is without question a tack driver. To borrow a slightly paraphrased quote from the editor of Swanson Media Group, Trampas, it can shoot the private parts off a fly at 25 yards.

I pull the trigger, the hammer falls without fail, the ammunition fires and repeat ad nauseam. Simple and boringly reliable, just the way it should be.

"Well, you aren't going to knock down one of your metal targets with just a .22," says my friend Dollar. "You should aim for the high part of the target and maybe, just maybe, you can knock it over."

So I aim high. Plonk! Into the sand above the target.

Okay. I line up my sights to the middle of the disk.

Ping!

Was that a mistake? I aim again for the center.

Ping!

Wow. This gun is really accurate!

All four of us whack over the targets with the

Rough Rider.

Now we know it's great for plinking.

An article in *Concealed Carry Today* declares: "Overall I can recommend this revolver for the survival enthusiast, trapper, hunter, farmer, rancher, woodsman, bushcrafter, homesteader or avid backcountry living person."

Or, anyone plinking at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range!

And, one owner writing in *GRITR Sports* says:

"The fact that it's made in the USA makes me just a little bit prouder to own this gun."

Next time, in *The Wakulla Sun*, we'll discuss cleaning the Smith & Wesson Shield EZ in both .380 or 9mm.

*Marj Law is the former director of Keep Wakulla County Beautiful who has become an avid shooter in retirement.*

## BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

### Birding on the Summer Solstice

By DON MORROW

First light came early at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge on Tuesday, June 21. The pig frog chorus in the marshes along the levee where we stood waiting for sunrise was loud and almost drowned out the distant hooting of a pair of Barred Owls.

It was the morning of the Summer Solstice the longest day of the year. It is considered the first day of summer in our culture, but little attention is paid to it. In Northern Europe the solstice is celebrated as Midsommar with bonfires and feasting. Down here along the Gulf coast, it's too hot for a bonfire, but a snack would have been nice.

A morning high tide made it a perfect day to do a shorebird survey and we recorded 124 shorebirds of 12 species, half the number that were on the refuge two weeks ago. Late June is always the annual low

point for shorebirds. About half of the birds that we saw were local nesting species; Willets, Wilson's Plovers and American Oystercatchers. Most of the rest were non-breeding species that overwinter here, like Black-bellied & Semipalmated Plover and Semipalmated Sandpiper.

Low shorebird numbers are simply a reflection of where we are in the annual cycle. Avian diversity at St. Marks is at its lowest point with only about 130 species expected on the refuge. Northbound migrants are gone and it will be a few weeks before the first Southbound migrants – early nesters and failed breeders – will start coming back through the refuge. In late June, St. Marks has its year-round residents, summer breeders, some yearlings of a few species that don't migrate in their first year and a few odd birds that weren't healthy



An Orchard Oriole.

enough to migrate.

And yet, life continues to unfold at the refuge. Cabbage palms have begun to bloom along Lighthouse Road. Their yard-long sprays of small white flowers attract insect pollinators while the bright red flowers of the trumpet

creepers at the Double Bridges attract hummingbirds.

Swamp Dogwood fruit is providing food for grackles and thrashers and if you look closely, you can see the green fruits of grape and Virginia creeper blending in among their leaves.

They'll suddenly become visible as they ripen and darken later in the summer.

Female gators are building their mound-shaped nests and laying large clutches of eggs that will hatch in late summer. Few of the young gatorlings will

survive to adulthood.

Birds are progressing through their breeding cycle and with mate selection completed there is now less morning bird song. Young Orchard Orioles have already fledged and will flock and feed with their parents until they all leave in August. Other summer breeders, like Wood Pewees, Prothonotary Warblers and Blue Grosbeaks, are also fledging and will be fattening up for Fall migration. Life is in constant motion at St. Marks.

With the passing of the Summer Solstice the days will now be getting shorter, but the hottest days of summer are still ahead of us

It's Summer on the Gulf coast. Go outside and play.

*Don Morrow can be reached at donaldmorrow@gmail.com.*

# Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

Thursday 30	
Sun rise/set 6:38AM 8:42PM	Moon rise/set 7:43AM 10:18PM
Moon Illumination 2%	
Friday 1	
Sun rise/set 6:39AM 8:42PM	Moon rise/set 8:39AM 10:58PM
Moon Illumination 5%	
Saturday 2	
Sun rise/set 6:39AM 8:42PM	Moon rise/set 9:36AM 11:33PM
Moon Illumination 10%	
Sunday 3	
Sun rise/set 6:39AM 8:42PM	Moon rise/set 10:33AM -----
Moon Illumination 17%	
Monday 4	
Sun rise/set 6:40AM 8:42PM	Moon rise/set 11:30AM 12:05AM
Moon Illumination 25%	
Tuesday 5	
Sun rise/set 6:40AM 8:42PM	Moon rise/set 12:26PM 12:34AM
Moon Illumination 34%	
Wednesday 6	
Sun rise/set 6:41AM 8:42PM	Moon rise/set 1:24PM 1:03AM
Moon Illumination 44%	

## Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

### June 30 - July 6

Tide charts by [tides4fishing.com](http://tides4fishing.com)

Best fishing days this month  
June 30 and July 1-13, 28-31

For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings:

Carrabelle	High Tide	Low Tide
Apalachicola	28 Min.	25 Min.
Cat Point	1 Hr., 53 Min.	2 Hrs., 38 Min.
Lower Anchorage	1 Hr., 13 Min.	2 Hrs., 31 Min.
West Pass	1 Hr., 36 Min.	2 Hrs., 3 Min.
	1 Hr., 26 Min.	2 Hrs., 39 Min.

St. Marks River Entrance				City of St. Marks				Shell Point, Spring Creek						
Th	4:26 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:21 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:11 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	10:31 pm ▼ -0.2 ft	Th	5:02 am ▲ 3.0 ft	10:25 am ▼ 1.5 ft	3:47 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	11:35 pm ▼ -0.2 ft	Th	4:44 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:28 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:17 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	10:52 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Fr	4:59 am ▲ 3.3 ft	9:59 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:44 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	11:00 pm ▼ -0.2 ft	Fr	5:35 am ▲ 3.0 ft	11:03 am ▼ 1.4 ft	4:20 pm ▲ 3.6 ft		Fr	5:18 am ▲ 3.2 ft	10:05 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:52 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	11:22 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Sa	5:32 am ▲ 3.3 ft	10:38 am ▼ 1.6 ft	4:20 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	▼ -0.1 ft	Sa	12:04 am ▼ -0.1 ft	6:08 am ▲ 3.1 ft	11:42 am ▼ 1.4 ft	4:56 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	Sa	5:51 am ▲ 3.2 ft	10:45 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:29 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	▼ 0.0 ft
Su	6:06 am ▲ 3.3 ft	11:20 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:59 pm ▲ 3.7 ft		Su	12:33 am ▼ -0.1 ft	6:42 am ▲ 3.1 ft	12:24 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	5:35 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	Su	6:25 am ▲ 3.2 ft	11:30 am ▼ 1.8 ft	5:10 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	
Mo	12:00 am ▼ 0.1 ft	6:40 am ▲ 3.3 ft	12:08 pm ▼ 1.5 ft	5:45 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	Mo	1:04 am ▼ 0.1 ft	7:16 am ▲ 3.1 ft	1:12 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	6:21 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	Mo	12:24 am ▼ 0.2 ft	6:59 am ▲ 3.3 ft	12:21 pm ▼ 1.7 ft	5:59 pm ▲ 3.5 ft
Tu	12:35 am ▼ 0.3 ft	7:15 am ▲ 3.3 ft	1:03 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	6:41 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	Tu	1:39 am ▼ 0.3 ft	7:51 am ▲ 3.1 ft	2:07 pm ▼ 1.3 ft	7:17 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	Tu	1:00 am ▼ 0.2 ft	7:35 am ▲ 3.3 ft	1:21 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	7:00 pm ▲ 3.2 ft
We	1:16 am ▼ 0.6 ft	7:54 am ▲ 3.3 ft	2:08 pm ▼ 1.3 ft	7:54 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	We	2:20 am ▼ 0.5 ft	8:30 am ▲ 3.0 ft	3:12 pm ▼ 1.2 ft	8:30 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	We	1:41 am ▼ 0.8 ft	8:14 am ▲ 3.3 ft	2:32 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	8:22 pm ▲ 2.9 ft

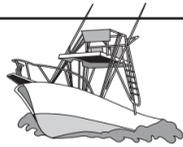
Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay				St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.				Dog Island West End						
Th	4:18 am ▲ 2.4 ft	9:32 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:03 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	10:42 pm ▼ -0.1 ft	Th	4:48 am ▲ 2.4 ft	9:03 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:48 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:24 pm ▼ -0.2 ft	Th	5:33 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:22 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:57 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:32 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Fr	4:51 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:10 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:36 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:11 pm ▼ -0.1 ft	Fr	5:20 am ▲ 2.4 ft	9:44 am ▼ 1.8 ft	3:29 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	10:58 pm ▼ -0.1 ft	Fr	5:59 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:57 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:37 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:09 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Sa	5:24 am ▲ 2.5 ft	10:49 am ▼ 1.1 ft	4:12 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:40 pm ▼ -0.1 ft	Sa	5:53 am ▲ 2.5 ft	10:30 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:12 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:33 pm ▼ 0.0 ft	Sa	6:24 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:45 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:19 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	11:47 pm ▼ 0.0 ft
Su	5:58 am ▲ 2.5 ft	11:31 am ▼ 1.1 ft	4:51 pm ▲ 2.8 ft		Su	6:27 am ▲ 2.5 ft	11:22 am ▼ 1.7 ft	4:58 pm ▲ 2.8 ft		Su	6:48 am ▲ 2.3 ft	11:47 am ▼ 1.7 ft	5:07 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	
Mo	12:11 am ▼ 0.0 ft	6:32 am ▲ 2.5 ft	12:19 pm ▼ 1.1 ft	5:37 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	Mo	12:09 am ▼ 0.1 ft	7:02 am ▲ 2.6 ft	12:20 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	5:52 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	Mo	12:22 am ▼ 0.2 ft	7:14 am ▲ 2.3 ft	12:45 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	6:00 pm ▲ 2.3 ft
Tu	12:46 am ▼ 0.2 ft	7:07 am ▲ 2.5 ft	1:14 pm ▼ 1.1 ft	6:33 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	Tu	12:47 am ▼ 0.4 ft	7:36 am ▲ 2.6 ft	1:25 pm ▼ 1.5 ft	6:57 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	Tu	12:57 am ▼ 0.5 ft	7:43 am ▲ 2.3 ft	1:44 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	7:02 pm ▲ 2.1 ft
We	1:27 am ▼ 0.4 ft	7:46 am ▲ 2.5 ft	2:19 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	7:46 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	We	1:29 am ▼ 0.7 ft	8:12 am ▲ 2.7 ft	2:37 pm ▼ 1.2 ft	8:20 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	We	1:32 am ▼ 0.8 ft	8:16 am ▲ 2.4 ft	2:55 pm ▼ 1.1 ft	8:35 pm ▲ 1.9 ft

Best hunting and fishing based on solar times: MAJOR feeding periods are 2 hours long, centered on the solar time. MINOR feeding periods are only 1 hour long, again centered on the solar time.



## Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



This past week, the Coast Guard Auxiliary celebrated its 83rd birthday! The following message was sent from our Commandant Admiral Linda L. Fagan.

To the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Happy 83rd Birthday from everyone in our United States Coast Guard!

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and its exceptional heritage of service dates back to 1939, when Congress authorized the formation of the Coast Guard's "Volunteer Reserve," an organization of enthusiastic volunteers dedicated to the promotion of recreational boating safety throughout the United States. This organization has grown and evolved remarkably over the last eight decades. The men and women who serve in the Auxiliary have selflessly devoted their time, skills, and expertise across an increasingly diverse array of roles and missions to assist the Coast Guard, and to preserve and protect our Nation's maritime interests.

As the world continues to navigate through the challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, we celebrate the Auxiliary's commitment to service, and its adaptability in overcoming the complexities presented by this virus. Persevering through these uncertain and unprecedented times, the Auxiliary and its membership have continued to make significant impacts nationwide. Auxiliarists have faithfully augmented Coast Guard units as watchstanders at communication centers, delivering critical assistance to resolve search and rescue cases; as culinary specialists, preparing outstanding meals in

**Boating Emergencies**

Coast Guard Station  
Panama City ..... (850) 234-4228

Coast Guard Station  
Yankeetown ..... (352) 447-6900

Coast Guard Auxiliary  
Apalachee Bay (Flotilla 12) ..... (850) 942-7500  
or ..... (850) 284-1166



Admiral Linda L. Fagan, commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard.

dining facilities ashore and at sea on multiple long voyages aboard the CGC EAGLE and CGC HEALY; as healthcare professionals, providing much needed healthcare services and augmenting our shortage of Flight Surgeons.

Coast Guard Auxiliary interpreters provided critical services on over 75 translation missions in support of DHS and the Coast Guard. Auxiliary Chaplains have improved the mental and spiritual health of our workforce by contributing over 10,000 hours of operational support in crisis care and religious ministry. The Auxiliary never wavered from its determination to promote safety amongst our Nation's recreational vessel operators. In

2021, the Auxiliary completed over 42,000 vessel safety checks and nearly 50,000 marine dealer visits; truly extraordinary results that highlight the exemplary commitment displayed daily by the Auxiliary to ensure safety on our waters.

We also recognize the Coast Guard Auxiliary for its continued growth and dedication to finding new and innovative ways to support the Coast Guard. During the past year, the Auxiliary has worked closely with Coast Guard Cyber Command to establish an Auxiliary Cyber (AUXCYBER) program; an exciting initiative that will leverage Auxiliarists with high-level cyber expertise to support the Coast Guard

in strengthening and protecting the Nation's Maritime Transportation System. More recently, Auxiliarists have supported the Coast Guard's response along our Nation's Southwest border. Their dedication and support has proven invaluable to the preservation of our Service's readiness and capabilities upon which the Nation relies.

We are extremely proud of our Coast Guard Auxiliary. Please join me in recognizing this significant milestone by congratulating our Auxiliarists on their outstanding performance, and for their exceptional Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. Bravo Zulu and Semper Paratus!

Thanks to Sherrie, we will always remember safe boating is no accident!

If you would like to learn more about vessel safety checks, please contact Steve Hults, Staff Officer for Vessel Examinations at [steve.hults@uscgaux.net](mailto:steve.hults@uscgaux.net).

Please contact us for more information about our safe boating classes or learning more about getting involved in the Auxiliary, check out our website at [www.uscgaux.net](http://www.uscgaux.net) follow us on Facebook @ Apalachee Bay Flotilla 12 or contact our Flotilla Commander Phil Hill at [pnkhill2000@yahoo.com](mailto:pnkhill2000@yahoo.com)

*The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian volunteer component of the U.S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information, please visit [www.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org).*

## Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

The world we live in is in constant change.

Sitting here thinking about this article I am reminded that the world we live in is in constant change. With the internet everything is at our fingertips. We can hear about everything that is happening in the world with the press of a button or the swipe of a finger.

We can get so caught up in what's going on around us that we tend to forget about the whole other world that is right here within a 10 minute to 2 hour drive. Yes, I am referring to the beautiful Gulf of Mexico.

I mentioned the dive a couple of weekends ago I took my students and fellow divers on in Panama City Beach. The water was clearer than it's been in a few years. We had almost 100 foot visibility and they say it was a beautiful turquoise color, I wouldn't know because I'm color blind, but I can tell you that when I stepped off the back platform of the dive boat I could see the wreck clearly from the surface.

At that moment in time I completely forgot about the land issues and got caught up in the world that I just entered. In that world there is an order from apex predators all the way down to the sand creatures that you rarely see or even notice.

When you go into their world you are merely a visitor, an observer. They hardly give you any notice.

To them you are an invader with all that bulky equipment, noisy bubbles and awkward movement.

Yet once you settle down your breathing to a slow steady pace and you coordinate your movement the creatures almost are curious and inviting you to swim and watch them.

As I was slowly making my way around the outside of the wreck I noticed how even the smallest of fish where aggressive towards a bigger fish that certainly could have swallowed them with one gulp. They were not deterred from protecting their little world no matter the cost.

It was an amazing display of survival. Then a little further I was amazed to see a giant school of queen angles that seem to swim with me and around me, as if to say he's big and ugly but he can swim with us. I carefully and slowly moved with them until my computer let me know that my time in their world was coming to an end.

When I got back to the anchor line ready to make my ascent out of their world I looked up and all around the rope where several barracuda just watching me at my 15-foot safety stop, then escorted me up the swim line to the bottom of the boat.

As I removed my fins at the bottom of the ladder a remora came up to my leg and tried to attach itself to me while on the ladder. I had to laugh because it hit me that maybe the underwater world that I just visited was saying "until next time we see you."

Russell Miller NAUI Instr. #59999



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## CROSSWORD

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Portuguese nurses
5. Saying
10. Extremely dry
14. Transfer possession
15. Gulf of, in the Aegean
16. 20th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
17. Of an ode
18. Indian seaport
19. Former copper coin of Pakistan
20. Raps
23. Infections
24. Bowls
25. Licorice-flavored seed
28. Black tropical American cuckoo
29. More thin
30. Stagnate
35. A theatrical performer
36. Remove the edges from
37. Egg cell
38. Scrapes
39. Some
40. Russian pancake
41. Provides with staff
43. Toddle
44. Blackboard or pencil
48. Sound unit
49. Support, in a way
56. Form of a word after inflections are removed
57. The Muse love poetry
58. Ethiopian town
59. Skunk
60. Divine power or spirit
61. Dutch colonist
62. One point south of southeast
63. Bluish greens

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
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49							50	51				52	53	54	55
56							57					58			
59							60					61			
62							63					64			

64. Forearm bone

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Highly excited
2. Computer music standard
3. Tel \_\_, Israel city
4. Formal withdrawal
5. One who makes an effort
6. Plastered
7. Heavy handwoven fabric with pictorial designs
8. Needle
9. A way to repulse
10. Invulnerable to fear
11. Kidney enzyme
12. Fungus genus
13. Melts
21. Helmsmen
22. Lake \_\_, one of the

Greats

25. Overgarments
26. Score
27. Monetary unit of Peru
28. Habitation at a high altitude
30. Police or moving
31. Declared
32. Ardently desirous
33. Adjust for functioning
34. An independent ruler
36. Cooking vessel
40. Long, heavy and single-edged
42. Characterized by great warmth
43. Fiends
44. S, S, S
45. Bind again

46. Harsh or corrosive in tone
47. Material bodies
48. Asian pepper plant
50. Right
51. Biblical Hamath
52. Excluded from use or mention
53. Object of worship
54. \_\_ Chamberlain, American Nobel physicist
55. Ancient Japanese religious center

V	N	T	A	S	T	V	B	L	S	B	E	S			
H	E	O	R	N	B	A	N	N	Y	H	I	S			
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H	S	N	V	S	O	H	V	S	B	A	I	O			
I	N	B	B	E	D	V	G	V	S	V	W	S			

# 1:00PM

September 10, 2022



MESSAGE

just now

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just now

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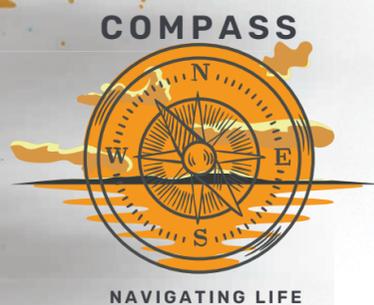
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