

War Eagles slip past Rickards, 21-20

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Mycah Pittman growing for FSU

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Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy
Hi: 84° Lo: 58° 5%	Hi: 86° Lo: 59° 5%	Hi: 86° Lo: 59° 3%
Sunrise 7:34 AM Sunset 7:17 PM	Sunrise 7:34 AM Sunset 7:15 PM	Sunrise 7:35 AM Sunset 7:14 PM



\$1 One Section

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

Our 1st Year, 33rd Issue
Thursday, October 6, 2022

Candidate forum held

Four of the five commission candidates attend and share views on issues

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The Wakulla Sun hosted a political forum and heard from county commission candidates for the District 2 seat, Fred Nichols and John Quinton, and candidates for District 4, incumbent Quincee Messersmith and Sam McGrew. District 4 write-in candidate Patricia Dyszer was invited but did not attend.

The forum, held at the Community Center on Thursday, Sept. 29, also gave an opportunity for statements from school board candidates Dod Walker and Eddie Hand; and Eddie Evans and Brian Miller running for county judge.

INTRODUCTIONS

Nichols, a Republican, comes from five generations of Wakulla County and is retired from the Wakulla County sheriff's office. Nichols is married to Angel Nichols with four children and a grandchild. "I just deeply care about Wakulla County," Nichols said. "I've served for the past 20-something years and would appreciate everything that I can do."

Quinton, a Democrat, started out in life as a farmboy in Tennessee and worked in the



Candidates for county commission at the forum: Fred Nichols, John Quinton, Sam McGrew and Quincee Messersmith.

automobile business for quite a few years, and even opened a dealership. From there on, he started serving churches in Tennessee. In 2007 he and his wife Gail followed their children to Wakulla County and settled in Sopchoppy while serving the Sopchoppy United Methodist Church and the Ochlockonee Bay UMC in 2014. "We moved down here and have lived in Sopchoppy for the past 8 years, and I was able to retire in June, and apparently I needed a lot more to do so I'm here in front of y'all today and I appreciate the confidence that most people have

A video of the forum is on our website, www.thewakullasun.com.
FILMED BY ROBERT SEIDLER

given me as I go around and talk to you," he said. "I appreciate the encouragement."

McGrew, a Democrat and a fifth generation in Wakulla County, born and raised and is raising a sixth generation here in Wakulla. McGrew attended Wakulla High School and received an athletic scholarship to play for the Florida State Seminoles and then did a pre-season for the Miami Dolphins. He then went overseas and lived in

Amsterdam and played for NFL Europe. His father had a juke joint here in Wakulla that McGrew transformed into a childcare center and created a non-profit organization for youth that he's been operating for 4 years now. "It's a blessing to finally see the fruits of my labor for my own son and three other guys to receive division one athletic scholarships," McGrew said. "That's what I do. I love my community and I love the people

that are here. The people here are amazing we have strong values, strong family values and I love being a part of the community, thank you."

Messersmith, a Republican, is the current chair of the Wakulla County Commission. "In 2018, I simply ran on being accessible and involved that's exactly what I'm running on now. I work tirelessly, and it is with great reward," she says. Since being elected to the county commission Messersmith stays involved in her civic church and service organizations.

IMPACT FEES

An impact fee is typically a one-time payment imposed by a local government on a property developer. The fee is meant to offset the financial impact a new development places on public infrastructure. Public infrastructure includes roads, schools, parks, recreational facilities, water, and sewerage, among other services.

Quinton was supportive of impact fees and referenced back in 2007-2008 when Wakulla County used to collect impact fees, where we collected \$2.6 million worth of impact fees.

Quinton said impact fees, if collected, it could go towards an extension of parks and rec, the library, ems, and the sheriff's department. "And impact fees are designed by the county to address these issues to keep the pressure off of the property tax to keep the pressure off of the public service tax, to give us opportunities not to have to raise taxes every time it comes around. We might not have to raise it if we had this other bucket of money, so I think it's very important that we go back to collect it, and I'm really not sure why we're not, but I think it's time we went back to that," he says.

McGrew agreed with Quinton on impact fees.

Messersmith was against impact fees, "We do have an ordinance on the book for impact fees that is at 0%. I definitely feel like there's a misconception in regards to what they can be used for, that takes a lot of homework to figure that out, and I also have faith in the county commission that when we need to bring impact fees back, then they will do that," she says.

Nichols agreed with Messersmith on impact fees and said there is still money on the impact fee account for the

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Blessing of the Animals

After several years off, Christ Church Anglican in Medart resumed its annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, Oct. 2, and it was attended by local celebrity Buddy aka Surf Dog and his human, Ivanhoe Carroll, as well as his housemate Murphy. The dogs and caregivers were blessed by Father Jim Needham with help from Deacon Preston Colangelo. About a dozen people and pets were at the ceremony. (Photos by William Snowden)



Corrections

- A story and photo on the front page last week misspelled the last name of a local golfer – his name is George Crum.

- A front page story on a forum for St. Marks city commission candidates failed to give the date for the event, Tuesday, Oct. 4. It was correct in the calendar in the paper.

We regret the errors.

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Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

Dense Blazing Star

By LYNN ARTZ and SANDY TEDDER



Dense blazing star (*Liatris spicata*) is a tall, slender wildflower with a feathery, rose-purple flower spike. This beautiful native attracts many butterflies and native bees with its fall blooms. Dense blazing star grows 4-7 feet tall in full sun and moist to wet soil. Dramatic in a mass planting, it works well in a mixed planting with other tall plants that can support the plant and keep it upright. This liatris is found naturally in mesic to wet flatwoods, savannas, ditches, and bogs. It is also called spiked blazing star, marsh blazing star, dense gayfeather, and marsh gayfeather. Dense blazing star is one of four liatris species found at Sopchoppy Depot Park. It is blooming now in the park's wildflower meadow and along the pond edge.

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Wakulla County Tax Collector

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Enacted: 07/01/2004.
The "Live the Dream" plate is to be distributed by the Dream Foundation, Inc. When you purchase a "Live the Dream" specialty plate above, a percentage of the proceeds go to Sickle Cell Association of Florida (to distribute to sickle cell chapters throughout Florida)



Red, White and Blue Bikers Care: Enacted: 10/01/2003.
Purchase the red, white and blue Bikers Care tag, you will help thousands of citizens by funding programs to prevent blindness and provide support for Floridians with disabilities.



Candidate forum is held



Fred Nichols



John Quinton



Sam McGrew



Quincee Messersmith

From Front Page

county. Nichols referenced the Florida statute regarding the limitations of impact fees are controlled by the percentage of growth which would be the percentage that could be used in an impact fee and can only be used in the area of growth..

NEW INDUSTRY, NEW JOBS

McGrew suggested reaching out to companies at startup that could be “found through startup accelerators and incubators, and we approach these companies before they begin to incorporate and show them what we have to offer here,” he said.

Messersmith referred to Wakulla County’s industrial zone on the other side of the bridge in Medart. “To bring people here, we have an EDC (Economic Development Council) that works day and night tirelessly with regard to beginning businesses to Opportunity Park but also with bringing industry here, there would be growth with industry brought here, and we have somebody working on that every single day with regard to the EDC and the space and the zoning,” she said.

Nichols agreed with Messersmith that the EDC is already working on it. Nichols also mentioned state Rep. Jason Shoaf (R-Port St. Joe) and Gov. Ron DeSantis “aggressively recruiting people to Florida.”

Quinton spoke that the county’s unemployment rate set at 2% is “quite a problem to have.” Quinton didn’t agree with attracting more growth but instead wanted to work on “the way of life here and taking care of who’s here and doing what we can to continue to make this a place where people want to live and raise families,” he said. For industry to come here, he would prefer it be a “good neighbor industry. Somebody that respects our resources, somebody that respects our people, just a good neighbor. Yes, we want the jobs, we want the money, but first and foremost, we want good neighbors.”

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

Messersmith said the biggest challenge facing the county is ensuring jobs and houses here for the youth. “It’s probably not OK that our kids go through the school system, and they get out of school, and then they go get jobs elsewhere,” she said. Messersmith also

mentioned her biggest challenge for this election would be protecting private property rights.

Nichols said the biggest challenge to come will be safety as Wakulla County continues to grow and keep the schools an A+ school system.

Quinton said the biggest challenge for him would be taking care of the people that live here while also protecting the environment, cost of living, and quality of life.

McGrew said the biggest challenge with the growth that’s happening in Wakulla County is to protect the youth.

GOALS IN OFFICE

Nichols’ goal is to see a new rec park and emergency room. “I just want to help Wakulla County, my little motto is ‘Progress with a Purpose,’ and I would like to see everything keep moving.”

Quinton’s goal would be to keep “the rural feel, to keep this county feel that I’ve grown up with. I enjoyed it living in Tennessee, and I enjoyed it living in Sopchoppy, and it’s just that were neighbors and we’re down-home and see if we can preserve as much as that as we can.”

McGrew’s goal is to create infrastructure for the youth and more programs. “I want to see them flourish and give them every possibility there is in order to become a more productive individual in life,” he said. McGrew’s short-term goal would be to have more unity in the community.

Messersmith’s goals, she said, “are pretty simple: They are to get an agenda, study that agenda, and do what is on that agenda with regards to coming in there on Mondays and making a decision. How I get to where I’m going with regard to any of those things is the same exact way: Remain accessible and involved, know what’s going on in the community, and more importantly, study the agenda.”

SPECIFIC CUTS TO COUNTY BUDGET

Quinton, McGrew, and Nichols all agreed that nothing needed to be cut from the county budget.

Messersmith said after reviewing the budget, she valued public safety as a top priority.

NEW COUNTY FACILITIES

McGrew gave priority to a new rec park and library.

Messersmith prior-

itized an emergency room and said “It’s being worked on right now.”

Nichols agreed with Messersmith on the emergency room.

Quinton prioritized the rec park and library.

NEW GROWTH

“So dealing with growth here is quite simple,” Messersmith said. “It is up to me to make a legal decision on any growth that is going to be approved in this county,” she said, referring to the county’s planning process.

Nichols said growth is going to continue to come and that managing the growth is what is needed.

“The words ‘no’ and ‘not now’ can be used too,” Quinton said. “So, yes, growth is necessary, but growth, the buck stops at the county commission on these things. They have the ability to say yes, no, maybe, or not now. And I think what I find walking around and talking to people is there’s a lack of that going on, and I have a tendency to agree with.”

McGrew thinks that growth should follow the county’s comprehensive growth plan. “So when it comes to the county commission making comp plan changes, it should always involve the people that made the (Crawfordville) Town Plan, and the comprehensive plan itself. So that’s pretty much it. I think we should grow. And the way that we should grow should be according to the people, not any special interest group or, sure enough, not my interest.”

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Nichols said he is very eager, ready to work,

easy to get ahold of, and has served the community in the past 20-something years.

Quinton said, “My whole life has been one of being in management, being a leader, trying to figure out, and problem-solving. But one of the things I learned really late in life, too late in life, but not so late that it didn’t help me, was people don’t care what you know until they know that you care. And I think that’s what qualifies me more than anything. I care, and I like to listen twice, cut once.”

McGrew said the qualities he brings to the table are leadership skills, integrity, and business skills.

Messersmith says her qualifications include that “I have the knowledge and power to remind people that we are surrounded by almost 70% of local, state and federal (lands). And so where there is a misconception about growth, impact fees, why we aren’t doing what we’re doing, all of those things. I have studied that, and I usually have an answer, and if I don’t have one, I can get one.”

CLOSING

In his closing, McGrew reiterated the importance of the development of youth and infrastructure needs as the county continues to grow. He also added that protecting Wakulla Springs was a priority.

Messersmith reminded everyone of the big things Wakulla County has recently accomplished – including the conversion of septic to sewer in Wakulla and Magnolia Gardens, the expansion of the Otter Creek Sewage Treatment Plant to Advanced Wastewater Treatment

standards, the purchase of the golf course both for recreational purposes and for use to spray up to a million gallons a day of the AWT wastewater, and the re-opening of Woolley Park from Hurricane Michael and the re-building of the fishing pier.

Nichols thanked everyone for coming and encouraged everyone to go out and vote. “I care about Wakulla County, I care about our kids. I want to see our county drive as it’s been driving. I wish that you will come out and vote. God bless America and God bless Wakulla County,” he said.

Quinton shared his experience on what campaigning has been like for him and asked everyone to take a moment to envision in their minds what they love about Wakulla County and what they would like to preserve and make better. “I’ve gotten a ton of support out in the community. People are just excited that folks want to run. They’re excited that maybe there’s a few new ideas out there. And I’m just appreciative of being here and getting this opportunity, and I hope that you’ll see fit to put me in office. Thank you,” he said.

Quinton shared his experience on what campaigning has been like for him and asked everyone to take a moment to envision in their minds what they love about Wakulla County and what they would like to preserve and make better. “I’ve gotten a ton of support out in the community. People are just excited that folks want to run. They’re excited that maybe there’s a few new ideas out there. And I’m just appreciative of being here and getting this opportunity, and I hope that you’ll see fit to put me in office. Thank you,” he said.

Eddie Hand shared a experience he had at a school board meeting where he felt the voice of a parent and teachers was not heard. “So in that moment, I realized why I’m doing what I’m doing. Part of me along this journey has questioned, why are you running for school Board? You’re not from Wakulla, Nobody knows you. Well, the primary has proved different, and I love Wakulla County,” he said.

COUNTY JUDGE CANDIDATES

Eddie Evans, born and raised in Sopchoppy, shared some of his work history dealing with criminal and civil cases with the State Attorney’s Office. Evans was formerly chief prosecutor for Wakulla County and moved to the Tallahassee office under State Attorney Jack Campbell where he is assigned to deal with appeals, death penalty cases and civil cases. “So I have to deal with that. So I have both a criminal experience in the past 30 years as well as civil experience past 30 years. And I really would like to put that to work as your county judge,” he said.

Brian Miller is currently the chief prosecutor for Wakulla County for the past six years, and was originally from Tallahassee and Leon County. He is married to the former Kelly Langston of Smith Creek, whose family goes back generations in Wakulla. “So I feel like I’m in the best position to represent everybody, the families that have been here for a very long time and the people that have just joined us recently. I can represent both of those as your kind of judge, as I have as your kind of prosecutor,” he said.



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Student of the Week

Hunter Antrobus, 5th grader at Crawfordville Elementary

Principal: Alena Crawford

Reason for Nomination: Well Rounded Leader

Hunter is currently a 5th grade student at Crawfordville Elementary School. She is one that goes above and beyond to achieve her goals.

Hunter has achieved Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance many times. She is always setting a great example for her classmates and goes out of her way to help others. Hunter has also been a member of Student Council and participated in the ORFF band here at school.



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Opinions

THE FIRST AMENDMENT

“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.”

A bunch of thank-yous



By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

I have a lot of people I want to thank.

First, I want to thank the Rev. Renita Dixon and Ecclesia Outreach Ministries and Pastor Samuel Hayes of Mount Olive Primitive Baptist Church for the Unity in the Community event last week. It was very humbling to receive an award for strong leadership.

Amongst the other award recipients were Marsha Tucker for Heart of Wakulla; Ochlockonee Bay UMC Food Bank and Robin Fogt were recognized for Assisting Those in Need; the late George and Arata Franklin received a special recognition accepted by their

children, Pastor Eddie L. Franklin, Audrey Franklin Coles and Corine Triplett; Mother Hattie McGrew received the award for Acts of Kindness; and Dr. Dave Pierce of Sopchoppy was honored for Giving Back.

It was a wonderful event and I enjoyed visiting with everybody.

I also want to thank the candidates and those who turned out Thursday for our political forum.

I appreciate those people who put themselves out there for public service. Thanks to all the candidates for running – and thanks for sharing your time.

I appreciate the citizens in the audience who came out to be informed. It was a smaller crowd than we anticipated, but I think the hurricane and school being out caused some not to make it.

Obviously, this paper has lots of reportage on the forum and if you

want to watch the complete event, it's at our website, thewakullasun.com.

Lastly, I want to thank our donors.

We received a quarterly check from the Florida Press Foundation last week, and I appreciate all those who have made financial donations to The Wakulla Sun.

I don't know if people want to be publicly recognized for their giving – I have sent out thank you notes to most of you.

We have donors writing what I consider to be pretty big checks, and then there's people who come in the office to buy a paper or two and tell us to keep the change.

It adds up.

While I'm at it, thanks to our advertisers and readers for your support. We couldn't do what we do without you.

William Snowden is editor and publisher of The Wakulla Sun.

Historical Society meets Oct. 13

Editor, The Sun:

Dear WCHS Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Wakulla County Historical Society, I would like to invite you to attend our Annual Dinner Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 13 at the Shrine Club, 4141 Crawfordville Hwy. Our program will be a presentation on the Hartsfield Survey. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30. We have not been able to have these dinners for the past two years, so we hope to see many of you there this year.

The meal catered by The Kast Net will include roast beef with gravy, baked chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables, rolls, tea and cupcakes. The cost is \$22 and we are requesting prepayment. Checks should be made payable to WCHS. Payments can be mailed to the Historical Society at P.O. Box 151, Crawfordville FL 32326, or come

by the Museum at 24 High Drive in Crawfordville. Please RSVP to Arlene Vause by Saturday, Oct. 8.

Included on our agenda will be the election of officers and Board of Directors for the 2022-2023 year. Following are the nominees: Officers: President – Brent Thurmond, Vice President – Jennifer Raker, Treasurer – Debbie Jay, Secretary – Arlene Vause. Board of Directors: Cathy Frank, Cal Jamison, Gayla Kittendorf, Mary Ann Laird, Ryan Laird, Tanya Lynn, Rita Sparkman. Associate Directors: Diane Curlee, Randy Lewis, Mark Perrin, Karen Taylor, Susan Payne Turner.

I want to say a special thank you to all of our members, contributors and volunteers. Through your support and efforts, we are making great progress in preserving Wakulla County's rich heritage.

With warmest regards,

Brent Thurmond
President

LETTERS FROM READERS

Don't just vote party, study the candidates

Editor, The Sun:

I was interested in an opinion from one of our Wakulla County neighbors titled "Support Republican candidates in election" (Letter to the Editor, Sept. 22). In the opinion there were suggestions that we as voters should engage, study the candidates and most importantly get out and vote. I could not agree more with the opinion until I was asked to vote Republican only.

I would like to point out an important fact about this upcoming election for our representative in the House of Representatives. Both candidates are currently serving in the House and have voting records that are worth studying.

Congressman Al Lawson has lost his seat due to the Republican state legislature "gerrymandering" his district and forcing the 2nd Congressional district to include his former constituency. This is a unique opportunity to compare the candidates.

I am a veteran and retiree and the issues that are most important include the cost of prescription drugs for Medicare recipients. Recent legislation has

finally mandated Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices for seniors, although not all drugs are included and the savings are a couple of years away. I could never understand why any voters would oppose such legislation where every day people would benefit. The pharmaceutical industry claim research and development when the majority of profits go to advertising.

When I compare the top campaign donors to the candidates, one who voted for the bill and the other voted against the bill. It was not surprising to see Rep. Dunn's leading contributions of over \$159,000 came from health professions and he voted against the savings for seniors.

Whereas Rep Lawson's leading contributions at \$47,000 came from the insurance industry and he voted for the bill that will benefit more constituents over time as they get older.

Why would I vote against my best interest?

It pays to study the candidates and avoid voting a straight party ticket.

Terry Joe Chapman
Crawfordville

Vote out the political elites

Editor, The Sun:

It's time for change in our local government. The current county commissioners serve out-of-town developers but ignore the quality of life for existing residents. They raise our taxes and dismiss our concerns while virtually every subdivision presented to them is approved, no matter the impact on our community.

A proposed subdivision, let's call it "Nature's Way," can be on high-polluting conventional septic tanks that darken our springs and poison our fisheries. The board approves it. Nature's Way may have no road access, thus dumping all their traffic into another neighborhood where kids play. No problem, approved. Meanwhile, the developers of Nature's Way pay no impact fees, so existing taxpayers are stuck paying that cost while developers of Nature's Way pocket more profit.

The county needed more sewer capacity to keep this building spree going full steam ahead. What does this board do? They quietly purchase 100 overpriced acres from a former county commissioner. This property has sinkholes and is also in a flood zone! For a wastewater treatment facility! Only one commissioner, Commissioner Hess, voted against it.

What is the result of all this? Our water is threatened, our sewer system is over capacity, our schools are overcrowded, and we don't have the funds for a new library or to complete our community center. Our Parks and Recreation Department is woefully underfunded and well beyond its capacity. The truth is that new development is not paying its way and we are being overwhelmed. The Wakulla political elites can deny it, but we see it every day.

To top it all off, some commissioners seem willing to support a new 16-pump gas station and car wash over the Chip's Hole groundwater cave. Dye tests show that runoff from that location will reach Wakulla Springs within 8 days. Why would our commissioners risk this world-renowned resource so that a handful of outsiders can profit?

This Election Day, the people will have a chance to take power back. So far, the only candidates who have pledged to defend taxpayers, stand up to developers, and stop this reckless gas station plan are John Quinton and Sam McGrew. It's time for change so that we can protect our rural way of life before it's all destroyed. It's time to end the reign of the Wakulla political elite.

David Damon
Wakulla County Taxpayer

Something on your mind?

Email Letters to the Editor to editor@thewakullasun.com or drop it by the office at 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327.



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We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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

Send it to Florida Press Foundation at 336 East College Avenue, Suite 304, Tallahassee FL 32301

◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled around Crawfordville What do you like best about Fall?



RITA LEWIS
FL. DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS-RETIRED

“I like to curl up with my babies, read a book or watching a good movie.”



PAUL KINSER
PASTOR OF UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

“Cooler temperatures and less rain.”



TAMMY COX
QUICK STOP

“The pretty Fall leaves.”



JOHN RAWLS
JUST GRADUATED

“Warm fires”



MISTY RHODES
PORTER ISLAND

“Fires and fishing – it’s about as good as it gets.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

I was at Walmart recently, and I gotta say, there is too much temptation! If you need any kind of holiday or special decorations, you can find it at our local Walmart. Admittedly, as my family can attest, I am easily distracted by bright colors and pretty things, but right now Walmart has a particularly nice assortment of Halloween and Fall decor.

This past Sunday we finally had our 178th Homecoming at the Wakulla United Methodist Church. Many thanks to all the folks who helped make

it a success, including Terry Hillier of Wakulla Sign Co., Karen Thompson our talented pianist, the Dock family for all the preparation and decorating they did, Pastor Steve Montgomery for providing photo montages and historical documents, and of course the D.S., Rev. Wayne Wiatt and his wife Ramona for sharing this special anniversary with us. To all the church members who made calls, created bulletins, helped decorate, cooked and served our favorite dishes and desserts, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Please keep my good friend, Paul

Clark (aka, “The Library Guy”) and his family in your prayers. They are traveling to their mother’s bedside as she prepares to make her final journey. Also in need of prayers are Cheryl Turner, Linda Dunwoody, and all our neighbors to the South as they recover from the devastation of Hurricane Ian.

My granddaughter, Avery Simmons, celebrated her 5th birthday this past Saturday with a host of family and friends. Because of Covid precautions over the past few years, this was the first “real” birthday party she has had, and it was bang up! Planned and held at Altitude Trampoline Park in Tallahassee, the staff kept everything moving right along, and everyone seemed to

have a blast. I joined right in with the jumping, but don’t claim it was pretty or athletic. But it absolutely was fun.

I finally got a response from FDOT about my inquiry about the speed limit(s) here in Wakulla Station. After completing some sort of speed zone study, it has been decided “no change” is needed. It is completely illogical to have a 55 MPH speed limit in my neighborhood. There is good news, in that Sheriff Miller is going to pursue this further. You can rest assured I am also pursuing this further. For now, however, be extra aware when you drive through Wakulla Station.

Some folks don’t seem to understand the rules of the road.

Library News – Oct. 6

Thursday, October 6

The Parks HOA Covenant Review Committee 6pm

Friday, October 7

Quilting Guild 9:30am

Saturday, October 8

Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support Group 10am

Monday, October 10

Wakulla Christian Coalition 6pm

Tuesday, October 11

Understanding File Management 9am

Forgotten Coast Homeschool Co-op 9:15am

Book Bunch 10am

Community Traffic Safety Team 11am

Microsoft Excel: Beyond the Basics 11:30am

Legal Services of North Florida Advice Clinic 4-7pm

Tobacco Free FL Stop Smoking Class 5:30pm

Wednesday, October 12

Book Babies 10am

Wakulla County Garden Club Noon

Thursday, October 13

Social Security and Retirement Workshop 5pm

Advanced Kids Coding 5pm

WCPL PRESENTS: ANIMAL TALES CREEPY CRITTERS!

Join us as one of Animal Tales’ naturalists presents their Creepy Critters program which focuses on those less cuddly and icky creatures whose importance is often taken for granted. This program features arachnids, insects, and snakes to illustrate that such undesirable critters serve an extremely important purpose to the environment. Animal Tales is an insured, USDA and Fish and Wildlife Licensed business. Be prepared to get up close and personal with unique animals like you’ve never seen. This program will take place at the Wakulla County Public Library

on Thursday, October 27th at 7pm

TRICK-OR-TREAT STORY WALK

Get your costumes and your candy buckets ready! Join us, Saturday, October 29th from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at Azalea Park for a great Halloween story and lots of safe trick-or-treating. Be on the lookout for the library staff, uh, I mean the classic movie monsters, who will be running the library booth for great photo ops. All booth spots for this year are filled! Please consider making donations of bags of individually wrapped candy as we prepare for this amazing event.

Wilhelmina Morrison celebrates 95th birthday

Special to The Sun

Congratulations to Wilhelmina Morrison on her 95th birthday!

She was born Wilhelmina White on Oct. 5, 1927 in Fort Myers, the daughter of Willie and Sallie White.

A 1945 graduate of Sopchoppy High School, she married Clarence Morrison in 1950. He passed away in 2016. They were married for 66 years.

Morrison is retired from Lewis State Bank in Tallahassee. She also owned and operated The Country Shop clothing and gift shop in downtown Crawfordville from the early 1970s to the late 1980s.

She is a member of Crawfordville Methodist Church.

She has three children: Sarabeth Jones, Mina Sutton, and Trey Morrison.

Her grandchildren are Will Jones,



Sally Wheeler, Tanner Jones, Amy Parker, Amanda Miller, Libby Sutton, Clay Morrison, Jeanie Morrison, Sarah Morrison and Colt Morrison.

She has 12 great-grandchildren. Morrison enjoys quilting, lunching with friends, playing chicken foot, and attending sporting events. She loves a good joke and she loves her family.

Happy birthday!

WHS teacher Christina Deibler recognized

Special to The Sun

Christina Deibler, an alum and current teacher at Wakulla High School, is accomplishing remarkable things in and outside of her classroom. As a third-year teacher of Business and Technology, she provides students with the education to become certified project managers, innovators, web designers, social media managers and entrepreneurs in her classes. Recently, she was selected from a group of hundreds of educators to repre-



sent Certiport as an Ambassador. Certiport, a Pearson VUE business, helps individuals obtain relevant digital skills and industry certifications.

As an ambassador, Ms. Deibler is helping to build a community of educators and serves as an expert in the areas of business, entrepreneurship, project management, design thinking and innovation. This allows teachers to have a group of experts they can count on for support regarding subjects they teach. Working closely with teachers and

Certiport, gives Ms. Deibler the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to the program. This past summer she attended the CERTIFIED Conference in Dallas, TX where she was given the opportunity to network, learn and obtain multiple new certifications. In the past week, Ms. Deibler recorded a podcast and webinar and will also present at the CERTIFIED Conference this upcoming summer in Orlando, FL about Entrepreneurship and Creative Thinking Skills.

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

Fear of ghost guns and things that go bump in the night



By MARJ LAW

“We’re going to wait ‘til it’s dark, then we’re going to build a campfire and we’re going to tell ghost stories!”

“Ooooh!” we kids would shiver in fear. “Ghost stories!”

The very term “ghost” was enough to scare us and make us wonder if we’d be able to sleep that night.

Recently, we’ve been hearing a lot about ghost guns. The very term is frightening. Can ghost guns slip into our bedrooms and shoot us while we’re asleep? Or, even worse, will we hear a bump in the night while we clutch our teddy bears in fear and wait for the ghost gun to shoot us in the dark?

What is this fearsome creature: the “ghost” gun?

A ghost gun is one that a person assembles himself. Guns you purchase today have serial numbers and are tracked by our government.

“The self-manufacture of arms is deeply rooted in American history,” said FPC Law’s Director of Constitutional Studies, Joseph Greenlee. “It has been

a celebrated tradition since the earliest colonial days, it helped save America’s war for Independence, it was essential to western expansion, and it has led to many of the most innovative technological breakthroughs in our nation’s history.

How is it that self-manufacturing came about?

Years ago, Joe spied a double-barreled muzzle loading shotgun for sale in Maine.

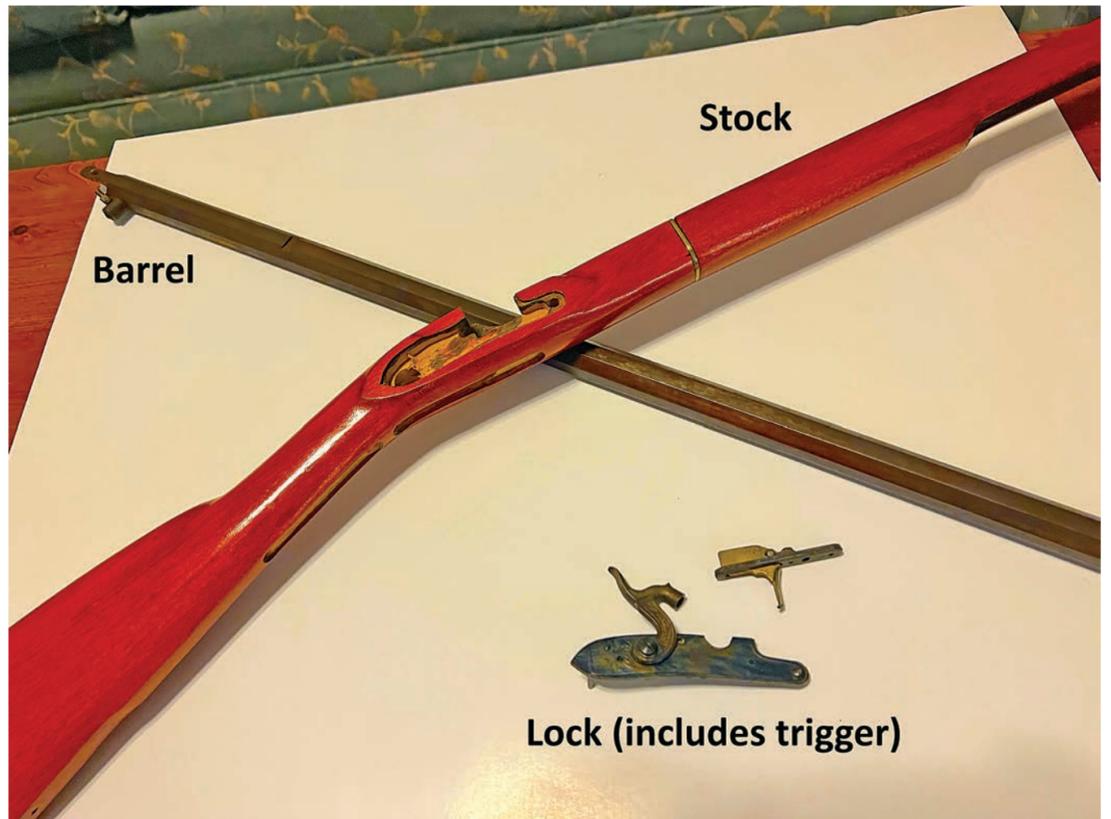
“I’m only selling it because I want to buy a Ford F150 pickup,” says a young man.

“But let me tell you about it. I know, because my grampa told me.

Back in the 1800s, some of the very best gun barrels were made in Liege, Belgium. My great great great saved his money to get this then top of the line gun. He liked to shoot deer and duck. He said he needed this partic’lar gun to take care of food for his family, but what the family said, is that he was a great shot and didn’t need it: he just really wanted it.

So, he wants the Liege barrel. These barrels were considered the best. Guys spent all their lives making barrels, and passed their work down to their sons. This is all many families in Liege did. For generations, they were barrel makers. They were paid by the piece, and the wages were good.

To make the barrels, they used charcoal iron and steel. They used to be made of steel. But now, with the Damascus twist, they used 30 sheets of iron and steel,



of 4 millimeters thick, and welded them together. Each barrel got 150 welding beats. Liege workers made about 300,000 barrels. Then they were sold to be mounted. You didn’t buy the whole gun made up in one piece back then. Someone made the barrel, someone else the stock and a third person did the lock or you could find someone to do both lock and stock. That’s where you get the saying ‘lock, stock and barrel.’

Now, my great great great knew a gunsmith a few towns over. This guy was well known and had a talent for engraving. Great great great didn’t need fancy engraving to shoot better, but he’d already spent a bunch on it and decided to go whole hog. He called it his ‘best gun.’ So, he

gets it all engraved. See? Purty, huh?”

Phillip Remaker on Quora.com agrees.

“In the early days of firearms manufacturing, individual craftsman made individual components one at a time. One craftsman made the “lock” which would have been a “match lock”, “wheel lock”, “flint lock” etc. The next craftsman made the barrel, and the last craftsman, who was a woodworker made the stock. At some point, a craftsman or a merchant started advertising “Lock Stock and Barrel” meaning that you could get your entire gun at one location and did not have to go from craftsman to craftsman to get it finished.”

The Hawkens brothers in the early 1800s

were one of the most popular manufacturers of guns already assembled. Until this time period, when you wanted a muzzleloader or rifle, you went to the woodworker, the lock maker and the barrel maker. You would be making a complete gun. When someone utilizes the term: lock stock and barrel, they are referring to a complete job, like buying all the parts needed to complete your gun.

In those days, you have made what might be termed a ghost gun.

Today, when you go to a gun shop, your new gun will be put together. It will have a serial number which is tracked by the government. However, if you want and if you’re able, you are still able to purchase the

lock, stock and barrel to make your own gun. This will have no serial number.

It frightens some people to know that our government cannot track all guns. “Ghost gun” is a term used to inspire fear in people who do not understand America’s long tradition of self-manufacturing guns.

People who made their own “ghost” guns fought for and won our independence. “Ghost” is a term that belittles the men and women who died to keep our country free.

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

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO



Retired Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger Bob Thompson, on a wildlife survey at the park, snapped this photo of a Viceroy butterfly.

Common Octopus
(*Octopus vulgaris*)

A fearsome predator and a master of camouflage, the common octopus grows to 3ft and lives 2 years. They hunt at dawn in costal waters up to 350ft using a secreted nerve poison to paralyze prey and a hard beak to crack shells. They hide in crevices and can squeeze their bodies through tiny spaces and making then escape artists. They change color or squirt a cloud of black “ink” to confuse attackers. Females lay up to 500,000 eggs but most are eaten as plankton. Octopi can learn complex tasks like opening a jar. They are also an important protein source for humans.

Eukarya, Animalia, Mollusca, Cephalopoda, Octopoda, Octopodidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
www.gulfspecimen.org

Kiersten Smith
Agent Bus: 850 745 2148
23 Azalea Drive Unit A,
Crawfordville, FL 32327

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HUGE SELECTION

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FOLLOW THE SUN.

Wakulla Diving Center
WAKULLADIVING.com 850 745-8208
2784 COASTAL HWY., CRAWFORDVILLE

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

Thursday 6	
Sun rise/set 7:33AM 7:16PM	Moon rise/set 5:45PM 3:59AM
Moon Illumination 86%	
Friday 7	
Sun rise/set 7:33AM 7:15PM	Moon rise/set 6:19PM 5:06AM
Moon Illumination 93%	
Saturday 8	
Sun rise/set 7:34AM 7:14PM	Moon rise/set 6:50PM 6:10AM
Moon Illumination 98%	
Sunday 9	
Sun rise/set 7:35AM 7:12PM	Moon rise/set 7:21PM 7:13AM
Moon Illumination 100%	
Monday 10	
Sun rise/set 7:35AM 7:11PM	Moon rise/set 7:52PM 8:14AM
Moon Illumination 100%	
Tuesday 11	
Sun rise/set 7:36AM 7:10PM	Moon rise/set 8:25PM 9:16AM
Moon Illumination 97%	
Wednesday 12	
Sun rise/set 7:37AM 7:09PM	Moon rise/set 9:01PM 10:16AM
Moon Illumination 92%	

Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

Oct. 6 - Oct. 12

Tide charts by tides4fishing.com

Best fishing days this month
October 1-9, 25-31

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

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

St. Marks River Entrance

Th	12:39 am ▲ 3.3 ft	6:04 am ▼ 1.7 ft	12:16 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	6:58 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1:16 am ▲ 3.5 ft	7:00 am ▼ 1.1 ft	1:15 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	7:41 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Sa	1:47 am ▲ 3.6 ft	7:47 am ▼ 0.7 ft	2:04 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	8:17 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	2:16 am ▲ 3.8 ft	8:29 am ▼ 0.3 ft	2:49 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	8:49 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Mo	2:43 am ▲ 3.8 ft	9:09 am ▼ 0.0 ft	3:31 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:17 pm ▼ 1.0 ft
Tu	3:07 am ▲ 3.9 ft	9:46 am ▼ -0.1 ft	4:11 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:44 pm ▼ 1.3 ft
We	3:30 am ▲ 3.9 ft	10:23 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:50 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	10:09 pm ▼ 1.5 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	1:15 am ▲ 3.0 ft	7:08 am ▼ 1.5 ft	12:52 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	8:02 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1:52 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:04 am ▼ 1.0 ft	1:51 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	8:45 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Sa	2:23 am ▲ 3.4 ft	8:51 am ▼ 0.6 ft	2:40 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	9:21 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	2:52 am ▲ 3.5 ft	9:33 am ▼ 0.3 ft	3:25 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	9:53 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Mo	3:19 am ▲ 3.6 ft	10:13 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:07 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	10:21 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Tu	3:43 am ▲ 3.6 ft	10:50 am ▼ -0.1 ft	4:47 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	10:48 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
We	4:06 am ▲ 3.6 ft	11:27 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:26 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	11:13 pm ▼ 1.3 ft

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	1:09 am ▲ 3.5 ft	6:36 am ▼ 1.8 ft	12:39 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	7:27 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1:42 am ▲ 3.6 ft	7:28 am ▼ 1.3 ft	1:35 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	8:07 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Sa	2:12 am ▲ 3.8 ft	8:12 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:24 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	8:42 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Su	2:39 am ▲ 3.9 ft	8:52 am ▼ 0.4 ft	3:07 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	9:13 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Mo	3:03 am ▲ 4.0 ft	9:30 am ▼ 0.1 ft	3:48 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	9:39 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
Tu	3:26 am ▲ 4.0 ft	10:07 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:28 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	10:03 pm ▼ 1.4 ft
We	3:47 am ▲ 4.0 ft	10:43 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:06 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	10:26 pm ▼ 1.6 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	12:31 am ▲ 2.4 ft	6:15 am ▼ 1.2 ft	12:08 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	7:09 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1:08 am ▲ 2.6 ft	7:11 am ▼ 0.8 ft	1:07 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	7:52 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Sa	1:39 am ▲ 2.7 ft	7:58 am ▼ 0.5 ft	1:56 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	8:28 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Su	2:08 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:40 am ▼ 0.2 ft	2:41 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	9:00 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	2:35 am ▲ 2.9 ft	9:20 am ▼ 0.0 ft	3:23 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:28 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Tu	2:59 am ▲ 2.9 ft	9:57 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:03 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	9:55 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
We	3:22 am ▲ 2.9 ft	10:34 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:42 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	10:20 pm ▼ 1.1 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	1:29 am ▲ 2.6 ft	6:41 am ▼ 1.7 ft	12:06 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	7:12 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1:46 am ▲ 2.7 ft	7:24 am ▼ 1.3 ft	1:11 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	7:52 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Sa	2:04 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:01 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:05 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	8:27 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Su	2:21 am ▲ 2.9 ft	8:37 am ▼ 0.5 ft	2:53 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	8:57 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Mo	2:40 am ▲ 3.0 ft	9:12 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:38 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	9:24 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
Tu	3:00 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:47 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:21 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:48 pm ▼ 1.4 ft
We	3:23 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:23 am ▼ -0.1 ft	5:04 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:11 pm ▼ 1.6 ft

Dog Island West End

Th	1:56 am ▲ 2.4 ft	7:17 am ▼ 1.7 ft	12:05 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	7:32 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Fr	2:09 am ▲ 2.4 ft	7:54 am ▼ 1.2 ft	1:22 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	8:12 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Sa	2:22 am ▲ 2.5 ft	8:26 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:24 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	8:44 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Su	2:37 am ▲ 2.6 ft	8:57 am ▼ 0.5 ft	3:14 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	9:12 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Mo	2:55 am ▲ 2.7 ft	9:29 am ▼ 0.2 ft	4:01 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	9:37 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
Tu	3:16 am ▲ 2.7 ft	10:01 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:46 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	10:01 pm ▼ 1.4 ft
We	3:38 am ▲ 2.8 ft	10:36 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:30 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	10:25 pm ▼ 1.6 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 weekend, Flotilla 12 held their monthly meeting at the Boat Basin in Bainbridge, Ga. Due to our increased area of operation and the diverse locations of our membership, we are beginning to rotate our meeting location.

When our flotilla first began, we had a much smaller area of operation than we do now. We are part of Division 1, 8th Coastal Region, which covers the entire Florida Panhandle, Southeast Georgia, and Southwest Alabama, with flotillas in Pensacola, Destin, Panama City, and Apalachee Bay (south of Tallahassee). The AOR includes nearly 400 miles of shoreline on the Gulf of Mexico, the intercoastal waterway, and many bays and inlets along the way, each with a large boating community.

Until recently or Flotilla's Area of Responsibility (AOR) was the coastal waters from just southeast of the Econfina River to half way between St. Marks and Shell Point FL. Today, our Flotilla's AOR spans further west to Apalachicola and include Shell Point, Ochlockonee Bay, Alligator Point, Carrabelle, Dog

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



Flotilla 12 meeting in Bainbridge, Ga.

and St. George Islands and the Apalachicola River.

As always, it is best to be prepared for the unexpected. Be mindful to make sure you have all of your safety equip-

ment, check that your radio is in working condition and your lights are functional in the event you find yourself out after dusk. A vessel safety check will help you ensure that you are prepared. 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.

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

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 follow us on Facebook @ Apalachee Bay Flotilla 12 or contact our Flotilla Commander Phil Hill at pnkhill2000@yahoo.com

If you would like to learn more about vessel safety checks, please contact Steve Hults, Staff Officer for Vessel Examinations at hults@uscgaux.net.

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.

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

Danger on the high seas – conclusion.

Continuing on with the incident, the on-duty lieutenant of the Coast Guard station told us to proceed to the St. Andrews boat docks. He had notified the local fire rescue paramedics to meet us there. We still had the diver on O2 and lying on the deck of the boat continuing to take his vitals.

We arrived at the docks to see about half-dozen FWC officers as well as several park personnel. The paramedics arrived there about the same time we did. The dock was in a very confined area to access but the captain threaded the needle and got the boat docked safely. The whole time we had the lieutenant on the phone and giving him updates on the diver's condition.

After we docked I met with the FWC officers, I identified myself as the diving instructor and I asked if they want custody of the equipment the diver was using and they declined. You see as with any accident investigation there is a term called "chain of custody" that has to be followed to determine if it was a gear malfunction, improper gas mixture, or diver error that could have caused the issue with the diver.

I asked the Coast Guard lieutenant if he would take the equipment for testing and he said yes. So I asked the other instructor if he would put tape around the tank valves and gather the equipment up in one place. Once the ambulance took the diver we had to get the boat out from the docks. Like I said, it was difficult getting the boat to the docks much less getting it out, but with the skill of a good captain he was able to get us safely away and headed to the marina.

Once in the marina, the dive master and I wrote down our statements to give to the Coast Guard. I got the equipment loaded in the truck and took it to the dive shop and had it locked in a room until the lieutenant could come and pick it up for testing the next day. A little later, after a shower and some lunch along with a briefing by the captain, I contacted the hospital to find out if they had to get him to a decompression chamber but they wouldn't give me any information because I was not family. I asked the nurse if I could get his truck to the hospital and drop the keys off at security and she said yes.

We headed to the hospital with his truck and as I turned into the ER parking lot the diver comes walking out to meet me. I was shocked but relieved to see him there.

Apparently he had gotten dehydrated and was a little anxious about the dives and that's why his body reacted the way it did. He was fine and a little embarrassed by what happened but I told him we could only react based on the symptoms and how they presented themselves. He was grateful and drove back home on his own.

This event had a great outcome but it was because of training and calm heads during this stressful ordeal.

This is why I strongly encourage instructors and divers alike to continue to get more training to be prepared for this type of event.

I would also recommend to ALL divers new or old to get Divers Alert Network (DAN) insurance because if you do have to have the special treatment for DCS (decompression sickness) it can cost you about \$300,000 to \$400,000 for the treatment because there is no medical insurance that will pay for a scuba diving accident or injury.

So call or get on DAN.org to find out what is right for you. I personally have had DAN for years and I have their best policy and my cost is \$175 yearly.

So until next week keep safe and blow bubbles.

Russell Miller #59999

On the Horizon

Calendar of upcoming events for the week of Oct. 6

Thursday, October 6

- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville. There will be concessions and raffles.
- The Wakulla County Cancer Support Group will meet in the Education Center of the United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. For more information, call 850-926-6050.
- The Wakulla County Value Adjustment Board will be holding hearings starting at 9 a.m. in the commission chambers regarding petitions that have been filed.

Friday, October 7

- The Wakulla War Eagles host the John Paul II Panthers at J.D. Jones Stadium. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. It is Homecoming and King and Queen will be announced at halftime.

Saturday, October 8

- The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group will meet at the Wakulla County Public Library at 10 a.m.
- The monthly Sopchoppy Fall Community Market held at the Depot Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Homemade and handmade goods will be available for purchase.
- Intro to Tai Chi at the Community Center from 9 to 10 a.m. All ability levels are welcome; please wear comfortable clothing. For questions call Rich or Terri Bushman at 850-228-9214.

Monday, October 10

- Planning commissioners meet in the commission boardroom at 6 p.m.
- Sopchoppy City Commission meets at city hall at 6:30 p.m.
- The Wakulla Respite Program will be available for anyone with memory im-

pairment at no cost from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Ellen Baptist Church.

- The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group meets at Lake Ellen Baptist Church at 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 11

- Sopchoppy Community Dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 12

- A Line Dance class will be held at 1 p.m. at the Wakulla Senior Center.
- The Wakulla County Garden Club meets at the Wakulla County public library at 12 noon.
- Intro to Tai Chi held at the Community Center from 9 to 10 a.m. All ability levels are welcome; please wear comfortable clothing. For questions call Rich or Terri Bushman at 850-228-9214.

A great way to show appreciation for pastors



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

One of the best ways we can show our pastors we appreciate them is to tell them we're praying for them – and then actually do it. Often.

Our pastors need our prayers. Like us, they need discernment regarding their families, encouragement when they feel emotionally beaten up, and wisdom in their finances. Sometimes they need an outright financial breakthrough.

And ministers often feel lonely.

They long for close friends with whom they can honestly share their

struggles without risking their credibility as a spiritual leader. We can pray God will send them an encourager, like Barnabas was to the apostle Paul (Acts 9:27).

Let's also pray our pastors will never forget how much God loves them and will experience God's love, grace and mercy on a daily basis. With everything going on at home, in their church and in their community, ask God to give them faith to trust their powerful, wise and loving heavenly Father with all of it.

We can pray that our

spiritual leaders will love God with everything they've got. Jesus said "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30 ESV).

And while we're praying, let's ask God to help them to know and understand God's Word and "be filled with the knowledge of [God's] will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding" Colossians 1:9 (ESV).

As our pastors grow in their love for God and in their understanding of His Word, they'll be

better equipped to receive the direction and discernment they need to counsel married couples and single parents, comfort the grieving and advise those in difficult circumstances.

The enemy would love to trip up our pastors. Let's intercede for them to hold on to the Words of Christ, the very Word of God that has kept their faith strong. Then they can stand against wickedness and not lose sight of what's important. If they cling to God's Word, they'll never compromise their convictions or water down the message in or-

der to increase church attendance.

Our pastors are an intricate part of our communities and our own lives. As our leaders, they carry a huge spiritual weight. Consider how much greater this weight would be if we didn't intercede for them.

Let's pray for our pastors. Often.

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.

For His glory



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

Kick the Can! How many memories did that statement evoke? How many have no thought one way or the other? We have all seen Opie Taylor kicking a can down the dusty dirt road on the Andy Griffith show. I have spent a few days in a simpler time where dirt roads and worn-out sneakers were the more significant part of my day. I have kicked a few

cans and rocks down life's dirt road.

Last evening, I decided to step out for a relaxing stroll. Like a scene from my past, a black rock lay in the roadway ahead of me. I gave it one good kick and watched it tumble end over end before coming to a stop right side up. What I believed to be a black rock was nothing more than a busted reflector from the center of the road. I picked it up and placed it in the pocket of my backpack to examine later. It sits on my desk today.

Looking at it, I see the black asphalt from the roadway still clinging to its underside. On top are two reflectors, one amber, and one

red. They are marred and broken, with pieces missing from the lens. Why would this bit of road debris become my focus today? Flipping the collectible in my hand, I began considering a few things. Teach me, Lord!

First lesson, the reflector is displaced, for it is no longer where it initially belonged. Much like this displaced object, we are also distanced from our original purpose. Genesis 3 teaches that our beginning was in our relationship with God. The Lord would come in the cool of the day to be with man. However, we were removed from our original purpose when man fell for Satan's

temptation in the Garden of Eden. Still, God provided a new way. It is through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus that we are brought back into a relationship with God. We may not be centered in Eden. Nonetheless, we are centered in God's grace.

My second thought is how the reflector clings to a part of the roadway. Just as I cannot eradicate the tar and asphalt from the reflector, we cannot remove the darkness from our spirit that pulls us away from the presence of God. That, again, is the work of Calvary. God wants to do something new within us, but we must first let go of the old. If we are in Christ, we are a new

creation, the old is gone, and we are becoming new in Him.

The hardest thing a person can do is to allow themselves to be pliable in the hands of God. God can heal what is broken if we give Him the shattered pieces. In surrendering our past, the darkness flees, and we receive a future filled with His light.

Contemplating the future brings my final thoughts to the reflective lens that guides the person on the darkened road. Turning the shattered object toward the light, the busted lens begins to flicker like a beacon in the night.

Our lives are much like that. We may believe we have lost our

center, but we have not. Our shortcomings and flaws do not matter because He makes us brand new. Therefore, today let us turn our lives toward His light and become mirrored reflections of His grace. And as we leave the old behind, allowing the new to come, we will continue to shine for His glory.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come, The old has gone, the new is here!

Cheryl Mixon-Cruce is Pastor of Ochlockonee Bay United Methodist Church and Sopchoppy United Methodist Church.

Obituaries

DEATH NOTICES

• **Paul Andrew Dawson**, 58, of St. Marks, died Sept. 30, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfbc.com

• **Marlin Doyle Jones**, 86, of Crawfordville, died Oct. 1, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfbc.com

• **Junior P. Sanders**, 48, of Sopchoppy, died on Sept. 30, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel 850-926-5919, www.familyfbc.com



Victor James Sharp Jr.

Victor James Sharp Jr., 65, of Crawfordville, passed away after a brief illness, Sept. 14, 2022.

He was originally from St. Louis, Missouri. He retired after working many years as a Director of Maintenance. He was of the Catholic faith.

Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Carol Sharp; his mother, Betty Sharp; two daughters, Cori Truman and husband Steve, and Jessica Fry; and five grandchildren, Jordyn, Kadyn, Brooklynn, Garrett, and Raegan.

He was predeceased by his father Victor James Sharp Sr.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, October 8, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Family Funeral Home in Harvey Young Chapel.

Skip & Trey Young are assisting the family. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfbc.com

Celebration set to honor Pastor Ethel Mae Skipper

Special to The Sun

It has been 40 years since Dr. Ethel Skipper accepted the call to preach the gospel, and she has been pastoring for 34 years at Skipper Temple in Sopchoppy. There will be a service to celebrate this occasion on Sunday, Oct. 9, at 3 p.m. at Skipper Temple in Sopchoppy.

The service can be viewed on Zoom at Meeting ID: 847 9151 1677 passcode 537630 Dial in 1 646 931 3860.

This year's tribute to Pastor Skipper is fitting, given her love for God, her church and her native community of Sopchoppy. She is blessed to have her four daughters and one son working closely with her in the ministry.



"She is a very, very wise woman, very knowledgeable and she still inspires us at almost 86 (years of age)," granddaughter reports. "She still teaches, does revivals, she has a strong ministry. She is known for her anointed voice of wisdom. We like to say she is called, anointed

and appointed."

She enjoys making a joyful noise in the house of God. She encourages all believers to be known by their love for one another.

Minister Shryl Dennis of Abiding Presence, Philadelphia, Penn., will deliver the message. Greetings and words of encouragement will come from many family members and friends. Cashapp gifts: \$SKIPPERTEMPLCHURCH.

Pastor Skipper and Deacon Willie Skipper have been married 69 years and they have a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Their desire is that the generations to come will all be saved and live in obedience to God.

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Pastor Cheryl Mixon-Cruce 850-962-2511

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Bible Study Wed. 6 p.m.

First Baptist Church CRAWFORDVILLE
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1st Saturday: Adoration and Confessions at 8:30 am
1st Saturday: Mass at 9:30 am
Every Saturday: Confessions at 4:30 pm
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940 Shadeville Rd.

VENDORS NEEDED

Methodist Women's Fall Bazaar Sat., Oct. 8th
Crawfordville United Methodist Church, 176 Ochlockonee St.
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Deadline 9/15/22.
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www.kwcb.org
Leave Nothing But Your Footprints

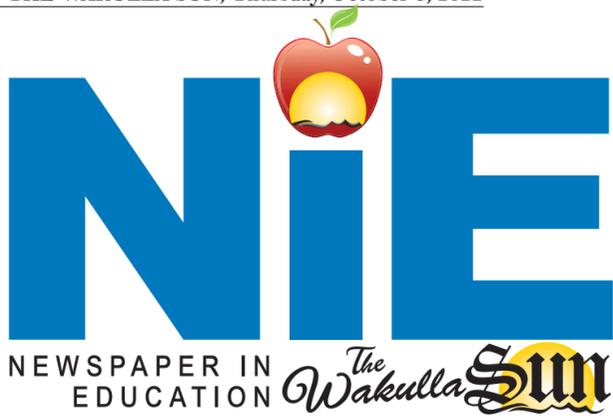
CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Bay Area humorist
 - Hurt
 - Icelandic poems
 - A taro corm
 - Metaphorical use of a word
 - It fears the hammer
 - Excessively quaint (British)
 - Laid-back California county
 - Cook in a microwave oven
 - Not late
 - Go from one place to another
 - Peoples living in the Congo
 - Popular pasta
 - Available engine power (abbr.)
 - Popular musician Charles
 - Angry
 - Spelling is one type
 - One who makes a living
 - Indicates location
 - Imperial Chinese dynasty
 - Small water buffalo
 - Hungarian city
 - Fabric
 - Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
 - Precursor to the EU
 - Philly footballers
 - Female sibling
 - "When Harry Met Sally" actress
 - Magnetic tape of high quality
 - Insecticide
 - Apparatus to record and transmit
 - Some is considered "dog"

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39							40				41				
42							43				44				
45							46				47			48	
				49						50		51			
52	53	54					55				56		57	58	59
60							61				62		63		
64							65						66		
67							68						69		

- CLUES DOWN**
- Small town in Portugal
 - Site of famed Ethiopian battle
 - German river
 - Christmas carols
 - Cash machine
 - Rough and uneven
 - Rumanian round dance
 - Widespread occurrence of disease
 - A place to relax
 - Feeling of listlessness
 - Coat or smear a substance
 - Wild mango
 - Brews
 - Belgian city
 - Confined condition (abbr.)
 - Swiss river
 - Small amount
 - Part of buildings
 - Vietnamese capital
 - Sailboats
 - Shelter
 - Terminated
 - Discharge
 - Snag
 - Partner to cheese
 - A container for coffee
 - Spend time dully
 - Satisfies
 - Snakelike fish
 - Consume
 - Type of student
 - Erase
 - Instruct
 - Girl's given name
 - Jewish spiritual leader
 - "To ___ his own"
 - North-central Indian city
 - Greek alphabet characters
 - Weapon
 - Amounts of time
 - American Nobel physicist vital to MRIs
 - Soviet Socialist Republic
 - Witness

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



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Use the News

1. Special 'Little Mermaid'

"The Little Mermaid" movie has long been one of the most popular Walt Disney films — especially for girls. Now the animated classic is being remade as a live-action film designed to expand its appeal in a dramatic way. In the new film starring real people, the Little Mermaid character is being played by a Black actress instead of the White cartoon character of the original that came out in 1989. The selection of Halle Bailey to play the mermaid Ariel is a historic move for the Disney movie company. And it has been greeted with cheers by Black women and girls excited to see a woman of color playing the lead role. Many Black moms are so excited they have posted videos of their daughters seeing the preview film for the first time, the Washington Post newspaper reported. In the videos, little girls can be seen squealing with delight, dancing, shedding tears or proclaiming, "She's Brown like me!" For the 22-year-old Bailey, "seeing these little babies' reactions makes me so emotional," she wrote on the Instagram website. "Thank you all for your unwavering support." The new "Little Mermaid" movie is due out in May next year. As the star of the "Little Mermaid," Halle Bailey will be a role model for African American girls — and all girls. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read stories about another person who is a role model for others. Use what you read to write a letter to a friend or classmate talking about the importance of having role models. Include role models who have inspired you, if you like.

Goals: Producing clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization and style are appropriate to the task; citing specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions.

2. Hello, Fall

Fall officially has arrived in the United States. The first day of fall, or the Autumnal Equinox, occurred on Thursday, Sept. 22 in America and other countries north of the Earth's equator. On this day there are equal amounts of daylight and darkness (in the Latin language, the word "equinox" means "equal night"). Although it still feels summer-like in many parts of the country, there are many signs that fall is arriving. Some can be seen in nature, and some can be seen in the activities of people and businesses. In the newspaper or online, find and study stories, photos, ads and other materials that include different signs of fall. Print or clip images and stories and create an artwork titled "Fall Is Here." Write a paragraph explaining why you chose the images in your artwork and

share with family, friends or classmates. For added fun, write a short poem, rap, or rhyme to go with your artwork.

Goals: Using drawings or visual displays when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or points; applying knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts; demonstrating understanding of figurative language.

3. Great Toys

What are the best toys you have ever played with? Everyone has favorites, but did you know there is a national museum that picks the best of the best? The National Toy Hall of Fame is run by the Strong Museum of Play to recognize toys that have changed children's lives or been popular for many years. Each year, the Hall of Fame honors toys that have shown great innovation, promoted discovery or been "breakthrough" playthings that offered a new kind of play. This year 12 finalists have been announced by the

Strong Museum, which is located in Rochester, New York. They include such popular favorites as Bingo, Breyer Horses, Masters of the Universe, Nerf Toys and Pound Puppies, plus Settlers of Catan, the Lite-Brite picture game, party Piñatas, the Phase 10 card game that is similar to rummy, the Racko card game, the Spirograph drawing game and spinning tops. This year's winners will be announced in November. What toys from today do you think could end up in the National Hall of Fame? In the newspaper or online, find stories, photos or ads showing popular toys from today. Pick one and write a paragraph nominating it for the Hall of Fame and telling why it should be included. Share with the class and discuss.

Goals: Writing informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; responding thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarizing points of agreement and disagreement.

4. Dogs and CATS

As odd as it sounds, dogs are CATS at Denver International Airport in the state of Colorado. How can that be? The dogs make up the airport's Canine Airport Therapy Squad — or CATS — helping to calm and help nervous passengers waiting to fly. The word "canine" is an adjective referring to dogs, and the Denver squad includes 84 dogs from 33 breeds (and one real cat). This fall it was recognized as the largest in the world by the Guinness World Records organization, UPI News reports. The dogs provide comfort and help by patrolling the halls of the airport wearing plaid vests inviting travelers to "pet me." "We are extremely proud of our CATS program," airport leader Phil Washington told local TV station KUSA. "The continued growth of the program [shows] the positive impact it has on travelers." Dogs and other animals do many things to help people. In the newspaper or online, find and study a story or photo of an animal doing this. Use what you read to write a thank you letter to this animal from the person it helped. Be sure to include how

having an animal provide the help made it special.

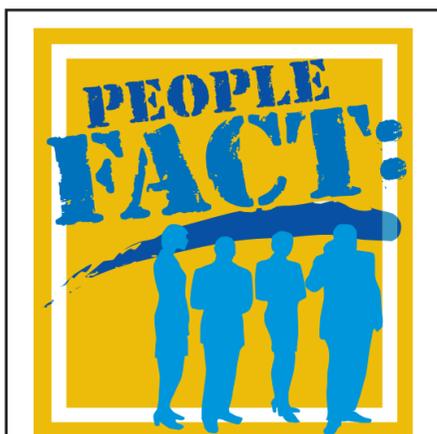
Goals: Writing opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information; reading closely what a text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it.

5. 'Super Floods'

Heavy rains and storms have caused severe flooding in the United States and other parts of the world this summer and fall. In the United States, more than 1,000 miles of coastline were left underwater by a typhoon storm that hit the state of Alaska, and in the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico thousands of residents were left homeless by 30 inches of rain dropped by Hurricane Fiona. Perhaps the worst flooding, however, occurred in the Asian nation of Pakistan, where record rains caused "super floods" that left more than 3.4-million children in need of "immediate, lifesaving support." That plea came from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), an international organization that provides aid and support for children around the

world. The floods were caused by record rains in Pakistan's yearly monsoon season and have affected a total of 16-million children, CNN News reports. With schools and other facilities closed, "young children are living out in the open with their families with no drinking water, no food ... exposed to a wide range of flood related risks and hazards," said UNICEF's representative in Pakistan. Many organizations in the United States and around the world provide help for children in need. As a class, use the newspaper or Internet to find and closely read a story about one of these organizations. Hold a class discussion of ways your class, school or community could support this organization to provide help for the children of Pakistan or another nation.

Goals: Engaging effectively in a range of collaborative discussions; responding thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarizing points of agreement and disagreement; citing specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions.



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ANSWER: A MECHANIC

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10. The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

6		7	21
	4		6
	1	3	13
15	13	12	

3	1	6
2	4	0
7	8	6

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

RCA RECA

Answer: Car care

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1863: THE LAST THURSDAY IN NOVEMBER IS DECLARED AS THANKSGIVING DAY BY PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
- 1919: CINCINNATI REDS PITCHER ADOLFO LUQUE BECOMES THE FIRST LATIN AMERICAN PLAYER TO APPEAR IN THE WORLD SERIES.
- 1985: THE SPACE SHUTTLE ATLANTIS MAKES ITS MAIDEN FLIGHT.



SERVICE

periodic maintenance performed on a vehicle

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Tire
- SPANISH:** Neumático
- ITALIAN:** Pneumatico
- FRENCH:** Pneu
- GERMAN:** Reifen



VEHICLE BATTERIES DO NOT LAST FOREVER. THE AVERAGE BATTERY CAN BE USED FOR AROUND 3 TO 5 YEARS BEFORE IT NEEDS TO BE REPLACED.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: MOTOR OIL

Mycah Pittman growing into role at FSU

By NICK CARLISLE
Writer/The Osceola

Mycah Pittman has been waiting his entire college career for opportunities like these. And for a team in which he can be productive as well as a position group he can help lead.

“This is the best team I’ve ever been a part of,” Pittman said after Florida State’s 31-21 loss to Wake Forest on Saturday. “I say that because I see the potential in these guys and I don’t think these guys understand how talented they are.”

The same could be said about Pittman, as the Oregon transfer has been a sure-handed receiver but flown under the radar in an offense that has produced a breakout game for a different player every week. With Johnny Wilson getting a bulk of the attention as Florida State’s breakout star in the passing game, Pittman has quietly established himself as a reliable piece for Florida State’s passing attack.

Prior to the game against Wake Forest, Pittman had 141 receiving yards on 12 catches and he added five catches for 85 yards and his first two touchdowns of the season. It was the first time Pittman had scored a touchdown since 2019. Just five games into the season, he is already one yard away from tying the most receiving yards he has had in his best season at Oregon (227 yards in 2019).

“I thank the coaches



PHOTO BY KEN FIELDS

Mycah Pittman makes a touchdown catch, one of two he had against Wake Forest.

for giving me the opportunity to make plays,” Pittman said. “At the end of the day if Coach Norvell doesn’t call my number I don’t get to make those plays. Them giving me the opportunity is really reassuring, especially in a big-time game like that.”

That seems crazy to say about a player that has an NFL pedigree but as is a common theme with a lot of players on this Florida State roster. It hasn’t been easy for the junior. After his freshman season at Oregon was derailed by an injury, he was never able to find consistent footing

in an Oregon offense that seemed to leave him behind.

“(Before) I was in an offense that just kind of called plays,” Pittman said in an interview with the Osceola earlier this year. “They didn’t put their playmakers in position to make plays and use their strengths. This offense is more of what the guys’ strengths are and how they’re going to utilize players.”

Unfortunately for Pittman, his first standout performance at Florida State has come amidst a disappointing loss at home. But looking past that, it was great to final-

ly see him getting some recognition in a role that has not been utilized well by the Seminoles the past few years.

While the Florida State passing attack has been subpar across the board in recent years, the role of slot receiver has suffered the most and has largely gone unfilled. The limited options that FSU has tried in the slot have mostly been unproductive. This can be seen primarily in the Seminoles’ inefficiency on third down in previous seasons.

The Seminoles so far this season are up nearly 15% on third-down

conversion percentage, converting 48.4 percent of the time on third down in comparison to 35.6 percent in 2020 and 34 percent in 2021. This is the highest it’s been since 2016 when Florida State converted 43 percent of the time.

Pittman is not the sole reason why that success has increased, but he certainly is a big contributor. He might not be the big, flashy receiver but the 5-foot-11 Pittman brings undeniable reliability to a wide receiving room that simply could not get open in previous years.

“I know what I’m ca-

pable of doing, I have all the confidence in the world in myself. At the end of the day I displayed what I can do for this football team. It’s not just a one man show, it’s my teammates helping me out to make those plays and Coach Norvell scheming it up for me.”

And that’s ultimately why Pittman chose Florida State over multiple other offers during the offseason. The promise of what the offense can be and how he fits into the scheme. It’s always hard to look at the positives when it’s overshadowed by a losing effort, but Pittman’s standout game shows a lot about how far this offense has come and just how playmaker-friendly it can be. It’s no wonder there is a different breakout receiver every game.

Pittman finally has a place where his talents and strengths can be used effectively, and Florida State no longer has to rely upon its tall receivers to make plays down the field when it has a guy like Pittman who can get you the gritty yards and explosive plays from the slot.

“I just hope that I can continue to build off this week and they give another opportunity next week to make plays for this football team and we come out with a ‘W,’” Pittman said.

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Sheriff’s Report

Activity reported for the week of Sept. 23 to 29:

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23

- Betty Brookes reported receiving death threats via Facebook messenger. Her account was taken over by hackers and when she contacted the unknown persons the threats were sent. The suspect also attempted to get copies of Brooks ID information sent to themselves. This case has been sent to detectives. Deputy Ernesto Trujillo responded.

- Deputy Jeremy Creel responded to Taylor Street reference a stolen vehicle. Upon arrival contact was made with James “Daniel” Barwick who advised someone had taken his vehicle earlier in the day without permission. Barwick was able to provide a possible suspect in this case. He signed an affidavit for prosecution and the vehicle has been entered into FCIC/NCIC as stolen. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

- Deputy Dakota Haddock conducted a traffic stop on a motorcycle for speeding. The driver, Walter Miller, was also found to have a suspended license. Miller allegedly tossed a small black bag under his motorcycle in an attempt to conceal it from Deputy Haddock. Located in the bag was a glass smoking pipe and 0.8 gram of meth-

amphetamine. Miller was arrested for driving while license suspended or revoked (DWLSR), possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, and obstruction of justice. Miller was transported to the Wakulla County Jail without incident.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 24

- WCSO Deputies along with the Florida Highway Patrol, Florida Wildlife Commission Officers, Wakulla County Fire Rescue members, and multiple K9 teams from the Florida Department of Corrections spent several hours searching for a missing juvenile in Panacea. The juvenile was eventually located safe and unharmed and returned to his family.

- Danielle Dailey called 911 in reference to a vehicle burglary in progress. It was reported that two subjects, one with an orange hoodie and a backpack and one with dark pants, was entering vehicles. Upon arrival, units searched the area. Two juveniles were located, neither had a shirt on at the time. A backpack was located on the side of the road in the same area. Both juveniles denied ownership of the backpack. A work identification card was in the back belonging to Jared Waters. Contact was made with Waters who stated his identification was in his vehicle

with his backpack. The recovered backpack did not belong to Waters. As Waters searched his vehicle it was determined that his backpack was also missing. Waters had an air tag in his backpack which assisted in locating it in the wood line where the juveniles had been. The juveniles were identified and turned over to their parents. This case has been forwarded to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Jake Scott investigated.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 25

- Cliff Brown reported finding his 1995 Toyota Tacoma in flames. Cliff advised he had been towing boats for a friend as she prepared for the upcoming storm. On his way home he smelled what he believed to be burning rubber but didn’t think anything of it. Brown parked his truck in the front yard walking to the back yard to assist his friend. Minutes later they heard loud noises (windows busting). When he walked to the front yard his truck was fully engulfed. No foul play is suspected. The truck was a total loss. Deputy Jake Scott investigated.

- Sgt. Eddie Webb and Deputy Jake Scott conducted a traffic stop on Songbird Avenue. The driver, Ashley Bowman, was arrested for DWLSR with knowledge. After completing an inventory of the vehicle marijuana was

also located. Bowman was transported to the Wakulla County jail with further incident.

MONDAY, SEPT. 26

- Deputies responded to the Medart Rec Park in reference to the report of a fight. Upon arrival a 13-year-old male was found with a bloody and possibly broken nose. He was transported by Emergency Medical Services. Deputies got sworn affidavits from two juveniles involved in the fight and a witness. The injured juvenile refused to give a statement aside from saying, “I’m not a snitch.” This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Sgt. Steven Parfitt investigated.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 29

- Deputy Heather Will stopped conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle being driven by Ryan Ross, after he was observed driving with a headlight out. Upon contact with Ross, it was also observed that he had marijuana and liquid THC in the car. Ross was arrested and transported to the Wakulla County Jail without incident.

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

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This week's game:
Friday, Oct. 7 at 7 p.m.
Wakulla War Eagles host the John Paul II Panthers at J.D. Jones Stadium. It is HOMECOMING.



War Eagles slip by Rickards, 21-20

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

The Wakulla War Eagles improved to 5-1 with an overtime win over a tough Rickards Raiders team, who dropped to 2-4.

The game ended in regulation in a 14-14 tie and the game came down to an extra point in overtime. Wakulla scored and kicked an extra point, then Rickards scored and went for 2 and the win, but the pass fell incomplete, giving Wakulla a 21-20 win.

Head Coach Scott Klees expected a tough game, especially with the number of Division 1 athletes on the Rickards roster. "There's a reason there were scouts from Wake Forest and Alabama in the stands," Klees said.

"I'm excited to come away with a win," Klees said.

There were distractions during the week: the threat of Hurricane Ian and not knowing if the game would be played, then school closed on Thursday and Friday in an abundance of caution.

"It was a good win," Klees said. "They are probably the best team we've played at this point – them and Mosley and Chiles, all big schools in classifications ahead of us."

It was Mosley, the week before, that handed Wakulla its first loss of the season – and for Klees, it was important to see how his team responded to the loss.

There were inevitable



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WEEKLY WAR EAGLE GAME HIGHLIGHTS
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War Eagle receiver Samron Brinson catches a touchdown pass in the 3rd quarter against Rickards.

PHOTOS BY KEN FIELDS

The Raiders would get the ball down the field and try a 47-yard field goal as time expired, but the kick would drift left.

On the first play of the second half, Rickards scored on an 80-yard run to tie it at 7.

On the next series, receiver Samron Brinson got past the defender and was grabbed for pass interference. They got it to the 6 and, on 4th down, Coach Klees sent in the kicking team and then called a timeout and sent his offense back out. Klees connected with Brinson for a touchdown to put Wakulla up 14-7.

But Rickards would drive the field and score to tie it again, and it was 14-14 at the end of regulation.

In overtime, Xavier Blake scored on the first play from the 10 and the extra point was good.

Rickards scored on their possession, but went for 2 and the win and the pass was incomplete.

Final: Wakulla 21, Rickards 20.

NEXT UP:
JOHN PAUL II

ble mistakes, things the team could have done better, Klees said, but the offense is where he wants it at this point in the season. And the defense maybe had its best game, he said, after having a not-so-good game against Mosley.

Against Rickards, running back Xavier Blake had 17 carries for 103 yards and a touchdown, plus 4 catches for 54

yards. Receiver Samron Brinson had 6 catches for 89 yards and a TD.

Quarterback Haden Klees went 19 of 29 for 261 yards passing with a touchdown and one interception. he also rushed twice for 19 yards and a touchdown.

Linebacker Tanner Lanier led the defense with 13 tackles.

Cody Walker had 7

tackles including 2 for loss. And Todd Williams had 8 tackles including 3 sacks.

GAME RECAP

The War Eagles first two drives ended with turnovers: the first drive had a Rickards interception at the 11, and the next drive ended with a fumble at their own 33.

On their next drive, the War Eagles started at their own 1 yard line. They got to midfield and the drive stalled and they had to punt.

The Raiders showed their explosiveness with a 50-yard run by Rickards RB Rico Watkins to gets the Raiders beyond midfield. Drive stalls, they punt and it's muffed at 10 rolls into end zone where it's recovered by Wakulla for a touchback.

50-yard pass from QB Haden Klees to WR Samron Brinson down to the 1 yard line with 1:55 left in the half. Klees takes it in on a sneak and points are finally scored. Linville adds the PAT to put Wakulla up 7-0 over Rickards.

The War Eagles are scheduled to host the John Paul II Panthers on Friday night, which is also Homecoming.

"It's gonna be another war," Klees said. "It's a game we were predicted to lose at the beginning of the year." (Wakulla was expected to be at 2-4 at this point in the season.)

The JPII defensive front is really good, and they have a good running back.

"Not a lot of people have scored on them," he said. "And they score a lot of points."

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FROM THE COACH

Scouting report: 'It's gonna be another war,' Klees predicts. They have a good running back and a defense that doesn't give up many points.

Keys to victory: No turnovers. And win the special teams battle with a blocked punt, long field goal..

Last week: The War Eagles bounce back against first loss with a big win against a very talented Rickards Raider team.



Xavier Blake breaks into the open. He had 103 yards on the night.



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CODY WALKER

Played both ways on the line

Offense



HADEN KLEES

19 of 29 for 261 yds,
1 TD, 1 INT

Defense



TANNER LANIER

13 tackles

Special Teams

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HERSCHEL BLACKMAN
'Tackles on kickoffs, and key block on return'



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