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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

## War Eagles hold off JPII, 39-36

Page 13

## Depth chart changes for FSU

Page 12



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday Friday Saturday



AM Thunderstorms  
Hi: 85° Lo: 57° 56%  
Sunrise 7:38 AM  
Sunset 7:08 PM



Sunny  
Hi: 81° Lo: 51° 33%  
Sunrise 7:39 AM  
Sunset 7:07 PM



Sunny  
Hi: 81° Lo: 51° 44%  
Sunrise 7:39 AM  
Sunset 7:06 PM

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Our 1st Year, 34th Issue  
Thursday, October 13, 2022



\$1  
One Section

# Hertz-Looney delayed

The two murderers were supposed to have a resentencing this month on whether to impose the death penalty

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**  
Editor

The resentencing of Guerry Wayne Hertz and Jason Looney, convicted of the 1997 murders of Keith Spears and Melanie King, has been delayed due to health issues with the defense attorneys.

The case was set for October to re-do the death penalty phase of the trial.

Defense attorney

Clyde Taylor, who represented Hertz, filed a motion to withdraw with the court that he has developed a hearing impairment. His second chair is not certified to handle death penalty cases, so a new lead attorney will have to be found, which will likely cause the case to be postponed for at least a year.

Circuit Judge Ron Flury granted the motion to withdraw.

Baya Harrison, the



Guerry Wayne Hertz



Jason Looney

attorney representing Jason Looney, has also

suffered from some health problems. Both

attorneys represented the men at the 1999 trial.

In 1999, the jury voted 10-2 to recommend death sentences for Hertz and Looney. But the Supreme Court has since held that a jury's recommendation for death must be unanimous.

The convictions of guilt for Hertz and Looney would not be affected by the proceeding – the jury will only be considering whether the men should be executed for

the murders or face life in prison.

A third man involved in the killings, Jimmy Dempsey, made a deal with the state to testify against Hertz and Looney in exchange for a life sentence.

The state is represented by Assistant State Attorney Eddie Evans, who now handles appeals for the office but in 1999 was Wakulla chief prosecutor and prosecuted

**Turn to Page 8**

## Homecoming royalty



Friday night was Homecoming for Wakulla High School and the king and queen were crowned at halftime – Kolby Dunn and Shamyhia Gavin took this year's honors. And the War Eagle football team held on to win 39-36 (Photo by Ken Fields)

## St. Marks candidates attend forum

By **CHARITY TUMBLESON**  
Reporter

A political forum was held in St. Marks last week for candidates running for city commission seats.

Attending the event at the river park on Tuesday, Oct. 4 were candidates for seat 1, incumbent Richard Chichetti and Daniel Albert; Joe Crousore and Paula Bell for seat 4; and Ryder Rudd and Murray Stokes for seat 5.

Chichetti, who attended Florida State University was introduced to St. Marks after taking a biology class called Vertebrates of Florida and graduated with a BA in biology. He then went on to practice dentistry for 44 years in Tallahassee. He's been a resident of St. Marks for the past 15 years with his wife Jo Ann, and has served on the commission for the past 26 months.

Albert, from Kentucky, is a retired maintenance man who has worked in the city for the past 13 years and retired in April. He emphasized the importance of upgrading the lift stations in St. Marks and pushing for upgrades through grants. Albert says he's not a business person, "but knows what needs to take place for the City of St. Marks."

Crousore has resided in St. Marks for three years. His experience includes running a construction business for 20 years and also working at Chrysler as a die cast operator and helping train other people. Crousore expressed concern about the lack of transparency of the city's financial situation. "It's way out of hand," he said. "The budget, I don't know what the budget is this year, so I can't say because the only posting of it was on the City Hall door. It wasn't on the website because the website hasn't been updated since 2019 and there was no city sign posting. So there needs to be transparency on where this money is going." Another issue Crousore brought up was the capping of taxes for the city of St. Marks. "I think that taxes should be in St. Marks capped because we are one of the highest in the state of Florida."

Bell, has been in St Marks since 2008 and has been attending the city council meetings for about seven years, and has a background in accounting. Bell agreed everyone was on the same page with wanting more growth for St. Marks to produce more revenue but said there was need for infrastructure. "We all want responsible growth. We're talking about the infrastructure we're wanting to build. If we don't have the infrastructure, how can we build?"

Bell also stressed the importance of communi-

**Turn to Page 5**

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*Lisa Craze, CFC*



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More than \$1 million has been raised through the sale of Florida Realtors "Support Homeownership for All" specialty license plates, which help fund affordable housing programs across Florida. The goal is to provide housing assistance to teachers, nurses and others unable to afford a home. Ninety percent of the proceeds from the sale of the "Support Homeownership for All" license plate goes to support affordable housing programs. Just 10 percent of the funds go toward marketing the plate.



Enacted: 07/01/2014.

The annual use fees are distributed to the Florida Sheriffs Association to develop and provide important training for members of local sheriff's offices as well as deputies across the state.

Accountability. Since 1893, the Florida Sheriffs Association has been the voice of Florida's sheriffs, 67 men and women united in the service of protecting Florida's citizens and visitors.



## Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

# Spanish Needles

By LYNN ARTZ and JACK COETZEE



Spanish needles (*Bidens alba*) is a pollinator powerhouse for bees and butterflies, but many consider it a weed. This long-blooming wildflower is a vital nectar source for pollinators in Florida. It feeds dainty sulphur caterpillars. Small birds eat the seeds. The white-and-yellow, daisy-like flowers bloom all year on 1-4' tall plants. However, the plants produce thousands of "hitchhiker" seeds that attach to clothing and fur. Also called beggar ticks, this aster family plant is likely to appear in your yard whether you want it or not. Gardeners who appreciate its value limit its spread by pulling up seedlings and removing spent flowers before they go to seed. *Bidens alba* was never planted at Sopchoppy Depot Park but is allowed to grow behind the meadow due to its immense importance to bees and butterflies.



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## Student of the Week

**Hadley Brown, 8th grader at Wakulla Middle School**

Principal: Simeon Nelson

**Achievements/Reason for Nomination:** Hadley is an 8th grader at Wakulla Middle School. She is the perfect example of a well-rounded middle school student. She does well academically making all As. She is involved in many activities inside and outside of school. At school, Hadley is a Media Center TA and a member of the track and cross-country teams. After school, she goes to Edge Athletics for gymnastics. In her free time, Hadley enjoys crafting, writing, the beach and all water activities. Hadley is well-liked by all of her peers and teachers and is an asset to Wakulla Middle School.



## Vigil held for Jody Kilgore

The family of Jody Kilgore held a candlelight vigil at the courthouse on Thursday, Oct. 6, the eight-year anniversary of Kilgore's murder. He was found stabbed to death outside his home in 2014. Anyone with information to share is encouraged to call Big Bend Crime Stoppers at (850) 574-TIPS (8477). At left, Kilgore's mother, Gladys, and Sheriff Jared Miller at the vigil. (Photo by Neil Hostnick)



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# 4-H holds a hay bale challenge



At the courthouse, a colorful witches brew.



Patrol car with flashing lights at sheriff's office.



Bull market at English Financial.



Spider at Keith Key Heating & Air.



Pink pig at Shepard Accounting.



Old lady in a shoe at property appraiser office.



Smart bee at the elections office.



Sunflower and butterfly at 4-H office.



Wakulla sun at The Wakulla Sun.



Pumpkin and hay ride at the tax collector's office.

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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.”

## Apalachicola oyster update

By **SANDRA BROOKE**  
FSU Marine Lab

In 2013, the Apalachicola Bay wild oyster fishery was declared a Federal Fishery Disaster, which precipitated significant funding for research and restoration. Despite these efforts, monitoring data collected from historic oyster bars and several cultching (shelling) projects across the Bay show that oyster populations are still very depleted. Most of the observed oysters are small juveniles (spat), with few larger juveniles and adults, and less than 1% were market-sized. It takes time for oysters to grow, reproduce and build up sufficient substrate for new larvae to latch on to.

Restoration can supply the habitat oysters need to help the reef recover faster. Some previous cultching and restoration efforts used material that quickly disintegrated, leaving little suitable habitat for newly settling oysters. More recent efforts have used limerock (calcium carbonate) which has a similar composition to oyster shell and has persisted longer. This material has been somewhat successful, but oysters have still not returned to a level that can support a fishery. All these projects used a thin layer of material, which may not be enough to restore the severely degraded reefs of Apalachicola Bay. Oyster reefs provide habitat for many other species, so the loss of functioning oyster ecosystems no doubt has impacts on the other species that utilize them, some of which are economically important.

The Florida State University Apalachicola Bay System Initiative (ABSI) was funded by Triumph Gulf Coast Inc. to conduct research and work with the community and state agencies to try to understand why the Apalachicola Bay oyster populations collapsed and how to best restore them. At the beginning of the Initiative, a Community Advisory Board (CAB)

was formed, comprised of oyster harvesters, scientists, county and city leaders, business owners, and representatives of the seafood industry, Sea Grant extension office, non-governmental organizations, and state management agencies.

In late 2021, the group completed their framework for a science-based management and restoration plan that will provide information to state agencies, particularly the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, to help restore and sustainably manage oysters in the Bay.

Many of the restoration efforts done over the past 10 years have not yet met their ecological goals of meaningful oyster population recovery and several groups are working to understand why, and how we can reverse this situation.

Several entities including FWC, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the FSU ABSI are monitoring oyster populations to better understand recruitment, growth and mortality dynamics, and impacts of predators, parasites, diseases. Computer models help us understand how river flows influence environmental conditions and larval dispersal patterns and where the best oyster habitat is located. All of this information will inform future restoration efforts.

In 2021, the ABSI research team, with the help of local oystermen, deployed experimental reefs that were 1.5 ft (0.3m) tall, to see if a thicker layer of material would better support oyster recruitment and used three materials (shell, small limerock and large limerock), to see which performed better. The reefs were in two locations that have historically grown oysters. So far, the larger limerock is performing the best. An additional experiment to identify the most cost-effective reef height will be deployed later this year, using monitoring data and computer model analy-

sis to identify the best locations. Additionally, the FWC will be conducting a pilot project in summer 2023 to test material size, and FDEP will continue to monitor their existing projects. All the available science, plus input from local stakeholders, will be combined to inform the FWC large scale restoration effort planned for 2024.

The ABSI CAB meets on the 4th Wednesday of every other month from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the ANERR facility (September's meeting was rescheduled to Oct. 18th due to Hurricane Ian). The public can attend in person, or via a Zoom link that is published on the ABSI website prior to each meeting. All meeting materials are also posted at marinelab.fsu.edu/absi/cab/. The purpose of the CAB meetings is to 1) receive updates on research and restoration activities, 2) evaluate various management strategies using model results and recent data, and 3) develop a range of recommendations for FWC to consider for restoring and sustainably managing the Apalachicola Bay oyster fishery.

The ABSI team will host an Oystermen's Workshop at ANERR on Oct. 18th at 6 p.m. and a Community Workshop at the East-point Firehouse on Oct. 19th at 6 p.m. These meetings will provide updates on the current condition of oyster populations in the Bay, seek public input on planned restoration activities and provide a discussion forum for potential management options.

FWC will provide the public opportunity to review and comment on the large-scale restoration work in the near future. For any questions regarding FWC's restoration work, please contact Devin Resko at Devin.Resko@MyFWC.com.

*Dr. Sandra Brooke, Faculty Research, Florida State University Coastal and Marine Lab*

## LETTERS FROM READERS

### Sign up for Veterans Day Parade

**Editor, The Sun:**

We are gearing up for the Veterans Day Parade and need to get the word out. I have attached the Flyer and the signup form they can email the information to: contact@vfw4538.org or they can fill it out online at <https://tinyurl.com/VF-W4538P>.

The parade will be held on Nov. 5 beginning at 10 a.m. The parade lineup will be at 9 a.m. at Hudson Park.

Thank you as always for your support.

**Walter Gray**  
Senior Vice Commander

### Operation Santa asks for support

**Editor, The Sun:**

Dear Operation Santa Supporter:

It's time to gear up for Christmas 2022! We would first like to thank you for your support of Operation Santa in previous years, as we could not do what we do without your help!

Operation Santa has served hundreds of families over the years. Without the support of our local community individuals and businesses, this could not be possible. So, we are once again, asking for your help.

We are looking for volunteers, adopters, donations of toys and gifts,

and monetary donations! We have attached a newsletter (for best view, open on your computer) that provides information for you. Please share this with your staff, friends, and family.

You can follow us on Facebook, "Operation Santa Wakulla" to keep up to date on our activities. Feel free to stop by Santa's Workshop (3051 Crawfordville Hwy) to see us in action.

Again, thank you for supporting our mission and, in turn, those in need of a brighter Christmas in Wakulla County.

Wishing Blessings to You, Your Family, and Your Staff,

**Operation Santa's Elves**

### 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 for the week of Oct. 13

#### Thursday, October 13

- Rotary Club of Wakulla meets at TCC Wakulla at 8:30 a.m.
- 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 Historical Society holds its annual banquet at the Shrine Club at 6 p.m.
- St. Marks will have a workshop on flood ordinance at 5 p.m. followed by the regular meeting at 6 p.m.
- Sopchoppy Depot meeting at 4:30 p.m.
- Peanut butter challenge event held at UF/IFAS extension office from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- The Wakulla County Tourist Development Council will have a meeting at 9 a.m. at the Ochlocknee River State Park.
- The Wakulla War Eagles travel to Perry to play district rival Taylor County Bulldogs. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

p.m.

• The Wakulla Respite Program will be available for anyone with memory impairment at no cost from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Ellen Baptist Church.

• The American Legion post 114 will be meeting at the Wakulla County Public Library at 6:30 p.m.

#### Tuesday, October 18

- Sopchoppy Community Dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.
- Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society will meet at the Wakulla Public Library at 6:30 p.m. with speaker Floyd Griffith, who's presentation will focus on Florida Panhandle native orchids. A Zoom link will be provided if you email [sarracenia.nps@gmail.com](mailto:sarracenia.nps@gmail.com).

#### Wednesday, October 19

- A Line Dance class will be held at 1 p.m. at the Wakulla Senior Center.
- 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.

#### Saturday, October 15

- 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 17

- Teacher planning day – no school.
- The county commission will have a workshop on legislative priorities at 3:30 p.m. in the commission chambers followed by a meeting at 5

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

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We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden  
Editor & Publisher  
The Wakulla Sun

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The Wakulla Sun



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## ◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

### Polled at the Crawfordville United Methodist Church Fall Bazaar

# What do you like best about Fall Bazaars?



**MARJ LAW**  
AUTHOR

“So many creative people in Wakulla who hand make unique items.”



**CHRISTINE DEPEROS**  
FLORIDA HIGH TEACHER

“I like all the arts and crafts.”



**SUSIE TOOKE**  
RETIRED

“I like the fellowship and outreach that we do through the bazaar.”



**KITTIE CULKIN**  
RETIRED PSYCHOTHERAPIST

“So much to see. So much to buy. So much fun!”



**JUDY HAMPTON**  
RETIRED

“All the people who come through.”

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Buckhorn News

By **ETHEL SKIPPER**

The world is hungry for the word of God, and many people thirst after the righteousness and want to be filled.

Matthew 5:6 “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after the right things of God.”

When one doesn't have Christ on the inside, there is an empty and dry feeling.

I want to put myself in that place for a moment remembering when I

too was hungry for the words of the Lord. After being filled with the Holy Spirit of God, it made a difference in my life and I became a new person.

Isaiah 55:1 says “Everyone that thirsts, come ye to the waters and drink, he that has no money come.”

Come as you are and He will save you. Salvation is free but you have to be hungry for it, and ye shall be filled.

John 6:35 “Jesus said I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever

believes in me will never be thirsty.”

When one has Jesus as their Father, they will never hunger or thirst.

In our daily living we hunger for the word which is the bread of life. We sing songs in our church sometimes, “I Need A Drink Of Living Water.” The Holy Spirit is a well of water springing up into your soul. It gives you encouragement to continue for Christ.

As Christians, we hunger for our prayer time, Bible study, fellowship and worship.

Your relationship with Him prepares you to be involved in your daily walk with Jesus.

If we hunger and thirst after righteousness, we will be spiritually filled.

We wish a happy birthday to Archie Simmons, Rodney Smith, Felicia Green, Antonio Nicholas, Charlene Skipper, Frank Johnson, Chinesta Smith, and Wylonda Wright. Enjoy your special day.

Our daily prayers go out to all of the sick and shut-in, those in the nursing homes, the hospitals, prison, homeless, and all in need of a blessing of help.

### Library News – Oct. 6

**Thursday, October 13**

Social Security and Retirement Workshop 5pm

Advanced Kids Coding 5pm

**Friday, October 14**

Quilting Guild 9:30am

3D Printing Class 4:30pm

**Saturday, October 15**

TMH READ Therapy Dogs 10am

Sons of Confederate Veterans 5pm

**Monday, October 17**

American Legion 6:30pm

**Tuesday, October 18**

Understanding File Management 9am

Forgotten Coast Homeschool Co-op 9:15am

Book Bunch 10am

Microsoft Excel: Beyond the Basics 11:30am

LEGO Club 4pm

Sarracenia Chapter of the Native Plant Society 6:30pm

**Wednesday, October 19**

Book Babies 10am

**Thursday, October 20**

Veterans Meetup 11am

Advanced Kids Coding 5pm

Wakulla Amateur Radio Club 7pm

**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.

### Neveah Butler graduates

Special to The Sun

Neveah Butler, a 2020 graduate of Wakulla High School, graduated from the Tennessee College of Applied Tech in Hohenwalk, Tenn. on Aug. 25, with a cosmetology degree.

She lives and works in Tennessee.

Her parents are Kelly Lynn Butler of Crawfordville and the late Owen W. Butler. Her grandmother is Kathleen Butler of Crawfordville.



Neveah Butler

### Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

Do you remember the first time you lost a tooth? Did the Tooth Fairy leave you financial compensation for your pearly whites? Or did you lose a tooth or two to a face plant into a bed rail (for example)?

No matter, losing those baby teeth was a sign of getting bigger and older.

Well my sweet granddaughter Avery, hav-

ing turned 5 years old last weekend, pulled her very first tooth last Saturday! Not only that, one of my grandsons had six baby teeth pulled last week.

I guess, given the possible exchange rate, it was either a rite of passage or a bonanza.

The Crawfordville United Methodist Womens' group hosted a Fall Bazaar with vendors and other Church groups joining in to sell

their arts and crafts. I was able to snag a few great buys, and loved seeing so many friends there. Time to start Christmas shopping, y'all!

My Pastor, Steve Montgomery, will be preaching part time at the Woodville UMC for the next few months at least. If you live in Woodville, check Steve and the Church out.

Please keep my friend Paul Clark and his

family close in prayer. His mother died last week, after an illness.

There are also a number of unspoken prayer requests among our friends and neighbors, not to mention great need in Central Florida following Hurricane Ian.

I know at least one person who will be driving to the Ft. Myers area to deliver difficult to find adult diapers and other scarce items. If you're interested in helping with this need, call me at (850) 421-3730.

### St. Marks forum

From Front Page

and said the county involvement no matter who's elected. “Let's get to these meetings, no matter who's in office,” Bell said. “Let's start voicing our opinions. Let's make the commissioners hear our opinions. Let's keep this place nice like it is, with the slow growth, with the development of the infrastructure. And I love St. Mark's, and I'd like to be a part of seeing it grow.”

Rudd was born and raised in Jacksonville and worked at the De-

partment of Management Services, and also at the Department of Environmental Protection and the Public Service Commission. “So I think I bring a lot of value to especially with relevance to St. Marks which is environment and obviously we've got some utility issues that need to be addressed. The other thing I think that I can bring to the value is a connection to Tallahassee.”

Stokes has a background in construction and grew up in Marietta, Georgia spoke of getting the community

all on the same page and suggested making an online group for the people of St. Marks, where everyone could also organize events to help raise revenue for the city, such as a community market. “I just think we can all pull together and make it a lot better place,” Stokes said. “It's already wonderful. I chose to live here many years ago and finally had the opportunity to move down about seven years ago and plan to lay myself rest right here.”

Stephen Remke, the newest commissioner having been appointed two months ago, said in

the closing of the forum that some of the “obvious” issues facing commissioners are some mistrust in the community, transparency, and the budget most of all.

“And I understand that the accountant told the city not long before I got appointed just recently to the seat that if we don't get our budget straight, we're going to cease to be a city,” Remke said. “We're going to have to cede control to the county, and that's the last thing we want. And to fix the budget, there's only two things you can do... either lower spending or increase the income.”

# Outdoors

outdoor sports

## HOME ON THE RANGE

### More on barrel length



By MARJ LAW

We've talked here about three .45-caliber handguns with different length barrels. With several people shooting, the gun with the longest barrel shot the most accurately.

We talked about .40-caliber handguns with different length barrels. Again, several of us shot and found the gun with the longest barrel shot the most accurately.

The same thing happened with 9mm handguns. The one with the longest barrel had more holes closest to the X-ring on the target.

And, lo and behold, one of the guns we compared was a Kimber! That was a .45-caliber handgun with a 4-inch barrel. We compared it to a .45-caliber Rock Island 1911 AICS with a 3.5-inch barrel and a Thompson Auto Ordnance Custom with a 5-inch barrel. Did the Kimber win out? No! The Thompson with the 5-inch barrel won out.

Tony had maintained: "a Kimber is a super fine gun. The Kimber will win over a Rock Island or even a longer-barreled Auto Ordnance."

After several of us (including Tony) shot the

Rock Island, the Kimber and the Thompson, Tony had to eat his words. Even though many people (usually guys) practically genuflect at the name Kimber, Tony had to agree that name isn't everything. Barrel length is very important.

Of course, barrel length is never the only factor on how well a gun shoots. Mass and grip make a difference. Sights and sight radius make a difference too. Just knowing that a gun is a Kimber makes a huge difference to many. And there's that personal preference. Sometimes it's just difficult to say what makes you like one gun over another.

This time, we're comparing a Windham 9mm carbine to a 9mm Cmmg Banshee pistol.

The Windham is 30.75 inches long with its telescoped stock collapsed. It weighs 6.72 pounds and comes with a magazine which holds 17 rounds. The Windham's barrel is 16 inches long.

The Banshee is 23.7 inches long with its stock collapsed. It comes with a magazine that holds 31 rounds. It weighs 5 pounds and has an 8-inch barrel.

"Which do you think will be easier to shoot and will do the best job of taking out the X-ring?" Joe asks me.

Now, we're not competitive or anything like that, but I remember shooting those .45, .40, and 9mm handguns.

"The Windham carbine has a barrel of 16 inches. The Banshee's is only 8 inches."

Duh. The Windham is going to leave the Banshee in the dust."

"Wanna make a bet?"



he asks, smirking because he thinks he knows the answer.

I'm going to win this one. After all the shooting and comparing we've done, I've learned my lesson: the gun with the longest barrel is going to shoot the best. I'm getting a dinner at Wakulla Springs when I win this bet.

We're with our friend Nick at his range on a Sunday afternoon. Nick shows us a 9mm Windham carbine. He passes the gun to me.

At 6.72 pounds, it's not very heavy. I'm not sure what to expect, but trigger pull is crisp. It's not difficult and travel time is brief. Out of a possible score of 5 as most difficult, I give the trigger a 2.

Joe and Nick shoot next. They both agree on the trigger, saying it's not demanding at all. Reset is minimal. With little effort, the next rounds can be fired very quickly.

The guys like the grip, except that Joe would prefer more palm swell. There's a finger groove

which fits their hands. However, I find the groove to be in an awkward position for a small hand. Overall, we like the grip and agree it deserves a 1 for being easy and comfortable.

Recoil? Again, I don't know what to expect and am surprised to find it very light.

Blip! The gun fires. I hear a slight cracking noise and see the hole in the target. How easy is that? The guys agree. The Windham has practically no recoil. The Windham is a pleasure to shoot.

That Banshee is going to have to be plenty good to beat out the Windham.

I hold the Banshee. Putting my arm through the brace, and raising the gun, I place my left hand over the trigger. My right hand grasps the foregrip.

I like the foregrip. It's round and firm in my right hand. What a nice balanced gun! How do you explain when it just feels right?

Trigger pull is light and travel is minimal. The guys agree.

Recoil? Recoil is about

the same as the Windham. Very, very little. Grip? I do love the round foregrip.

Both guys agree on this too. Recoil is almost non-existent.

Nick tries shooting from 50 yards, because I had read that you'll find bullet drop at 50 yards and more. Is that true? The holes in Nick's target drop about 4 inches.

"If you want a head shot," he explains, "go for the chin at 50 yards."

Nick is pretty successful at 50 yards, so he moves back and shoots at 60 and 65 yards. Ping! We hear from the metal targets. Ping, ping, ping!

I had read that the Banshee eats even the cheapest of ammunition. Nick finds some old ammo and puts it in the Banshee.

More pings. The Banshee hits each target.

"I'm going to check how quickly the Banshee resets!" he says happily, and rapidly fires another 15 rounds. "This thing is sweet," he adds.

The Banshee is made primarily for close-range

use. As we see with Nick's shooting, the gun is still accurate at 50 yards, but he does compensate for drop and is accurate in figuring out how much drop to allow for.

The Banshee is light and short and easy to maneuver. If you're not particularly strong enough to handle a shotgun or a rifle, you may do well to try out this gun.

Because this gun has so little recoil, you can maintain your firm grip and have little muzzle rise. This allows you to keep your sight picture. When it comes to self-defense, staying on target is extremely important.

The Banshee is reliable, portable and accurate.

Looks like I lost my bet with Joe.

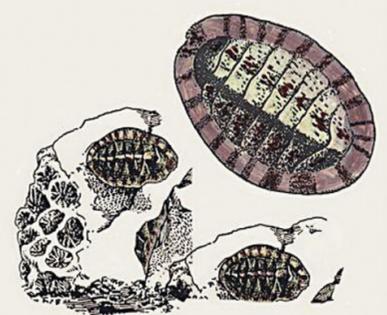
Guess he won a dinner at Wakulla Springs.

Guess crow is on the menu.

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 Pied-billed Grebe.



EASTERN BEADED CHITON (*Chaetopleura apiculata*)

Chitons are tiny (<0.5") primitive mollusks with eight shell plates or "valves". Chiton use unique scraping teeth to crush shells and eat attached algae. Some species eat solid rock! The teeth have a magnetite cover interlaced with sodium and magnesium. Engineers are fascinated by the strong material. There are over 1000 different species, many of which are larger and beautifully colored. Some larger species are also edible.

Eukarya, Animalia, Mollusca Polyplacophora, Chitonida, Chaetopleurida

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory  
www.gulfspecimen.org

### Kiersten Smith

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## HUGE SELECTION

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# FOLLOW THE SUN.

# Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

**Thursday 13**

Sun rise/set: 7:37AM 9:41PM  
Moon rise/set: 11:17AM

Moon Illumination 86%

**Friday 14**

Sun rise/set: 7:07AM 10:24PM  
Moon rise/set: 12:15PM

Moon Illumination 79%

**Saturday 15**

Sun rise/set: 7:38AM 11:13PM  
Moon rise/set: 1:11PM

Moon Illumination 70%

**Sunday 16**

Sun rise/set: 7:39AM 2:03PM  
Moon rise/set: -----

Moon Illumination 61%

**Monday 17**

Sun rise/set: 7:40AM 2:49PM  
Moon rise/set: 12:06AM

Moon Illumination 52%

**Tuesday 18**

Sun rise/set: 7:40AM 3:31PM  
Moon rise/set: 1:02AM

Moon Illumination 43%

**Wednesday 19**

Sun rise/set: 7:41AM 4:07PM  
Moon rise/set: 1:59AM

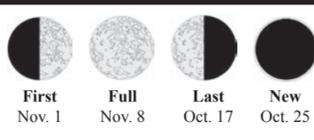
Moon Illumination 33%

## Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

Oct. 13 - Oct. 19



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



Best fishing days this month  
October 25-31

St. Marks River Entrance				City of St. Marks				Shell Point, Spring Creek						
Th	3:52 am ▲ 3.8 ft	10:59 am ▼ 0.1 ft	5:31 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	10:36 pm ▼ 1.7 ft	Th	4:28 am ▲ 3.5 ft	12:03 pm ▼ 0.1 ft	6:07 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	11:40 pm ▼ 1.5 ft	Th	4:09 am ▲ 3.9 ft	11:19 am ▼ 0.1 ft	5:47 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	10:50 pm ▼ 1.8 ft
Fr	4:15 am ▲ 3.7 ft	11:39 am ▼ 0.3 ft	6:16 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	11:05 pm ▼ 1.8 ft	Fr	4:51 am ▲ 3.4 ft	12:43 pm ▼ 0.3 ft	6:52 pm ▲ 2.8 ft		Fr	4:32 am ▲ 3.9 ft	11:59 am ▼ 0.3 ft	6:31 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	11:18 pm ▼ 2.0 ft
Sa	4:42 am ▲ 3.5 ft	12:26 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	7:12 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:41 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	Sa	12:09 am ▼ 1.7 ft	5:18 am ▲ 3.3 ft	1:30 pm ▼ 0.6 ft	7:48 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	Sa	4:59 am ▲ 3.7 ft	12:47 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	7:26 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:54 pm ▼ 2.1 ft
Su	5:15 am ▲ 3.3 ft	1:32 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	8:35 pm ▲ 2.6 ft		Su	12:45 am ▼ 1.8 ft	5:51 am ▲ 3.1 ft	2:36 pm ▼ 0.8 ft	9:11 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	Su	5:32 am ▲ 3.5 ft	1:51 pm ▼ 0.8 ft	8:42 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	
Mo	12:34 am ▲ 3.3 ft	5:59 am ▲ 3.1 ft	3:04 pm ▼ 1.0 ft	10:16 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	Mo	1:38 am ▼ 2.0 ft	6:35 am ▲ 2.9 ft	4:08 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	10:52 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	Mo	12:46 am ▼ 2.3 ft	6:17 am ▲ 3.3 ft	3:15 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	10:17 pm ▲ 2.7 ft
Tu	2:10 am ▼ 2.3 ft	7:21 am ▲ 2.8 ft	4:32 pm ▼ 1.0 ft	11:25 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	Tu	3:14 am ▼ 2.1 ft	7:57 am ▲ 2.6 ft	5:36 pm ▼ 0.9 ft		Tu	2:16 am ▼ 2.4 ft	7:37 am ▲ 3.0 ft	4:38 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	11:29 pm ▲ 2.9 ft
We	4:12 am ▼ 2.1 ft	10:03 am ▲ 2.8 ft	5:33 pm ▼ 0.9 ft		We	12:01 am ▲ 2.6 ft	5:16 am ▼ 1.9 ft	10:39 am ▲ 2.6 ft	6:37 pm ▼ 0.8 ft	We	4:19 am ▼ 2.2 ft	10:16 am ▲ 2.9 ft	5:42 pm ▼ 0.8 ft	

**Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay**

Th	3:44 am ▲ 2.9 ft	11:10 am ▼ 0.1 ft	5:23 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	10:47 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
Fr	4:07 am ▲ 2.8 ft	11:50 am ▼ 0.2 ft	6:08 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	11:16 pm ▼ 1.3 ft
Sa	4:34 am ▲ 2.7 ft	12:37 pm ▼ 0.4 ft	7:04 pm ▲ 2.0 ft	11:52 pm ▼ 1.5 ft
Su	5:07 am ▲ 2.5 ft	1:43 pm ▼ 0.6 ft	8:27 pm ▲ 1.9 ft	
Mo	12:45 am ▼ 1.3 ft	5:51 am ▲ 2.3 ft	3:15 pm ▼ 0.7 ft	10:08 pm ▲ 1.9 ft
Tu	2:21 am ▼ 1.7 ft	7:13 am ▲ 2.1 ft	4:43 pm ▼ 0.7 ft	11:17 pm ▲ 2.1 ft
We	4:23 am ▼ 1.6 ft	9:55 am ▲ 2.1 ft	5:44 pm ▼ 0.6 ft	

**St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.**

Th	3:49 am ▲ 3.1 ft	11:00 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:48 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	10:34 pm ▼ 1.7 ft
Fr	4:18 am ▲ 3.1 ft	11:41 am ▼ 0.1 ft	6:36 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	10:55 pm ▼ 1.8 ft
Sa	4:50 am ▲ 3.0 ft	12:29 pm ▼ 0.2 ft	7:35 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	11:15 pm ▼ 2.0 ft
Su	5:26 am ▲ 2.8 ft	1:32 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	9:10 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	11:31 pm ▼ 2.0 ft
Mo	6:14 am ▲ 2.6 ft	2:59 pm ▼ 0.7 ft		
Tu	7:45 am ▲ 2.4 ft	4:30 pm ▼ 0.7 ft		
We	12:25 am ▲ 2.2 ft	5:22 pm ▼ 1.9 ft	9:57 am ▲ 2.3 ft	5:35 pm ▼ 0.6 ft

**Dog Island West End**

Th	4:03 am ▲ 2.8 ft	11:15 am ▼ 0.0 ft	6:12 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	10:47 pm ▼ 1.8 ft
Fr	4:30 am ▲ 2.7 ft	11:56 am ▼ 0.1 ft	6:56 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	11:05 pm ▼ 1.9 ft
Sa	4:58 am ▲ 2.6 ft	12:41 pm ▼ 0.3 ft	8:02 pm ▲ 2.0 ft	10:40 pm ▼ 2.0 ft
Su	5:28 am ▲ 2.5 ft	1:33 pm ▼ 0.4 ft		
Mo	6:00 am ▲ 2.4 ft	2:46 pm ▼ 0.6 ft		
Tu	6:45 am ▲ 2.2 ft	4:18 pm ▼ 0.6 ft		
We	1:22 am ▲ 2.1 ft	5:45 am ▼ 2.0 ft	9:20 am ▲ 2.1 ft	5:31 pm ▼ 0.7 ft

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



## Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



The following was shared by the United States Coast Guard:

Diversity in both our mission and our personnel make the United States Coast Guard a force to be reckoned with! During Hispanic Heritage Month, the USCG recognizes and celebrates the contributions of Hispanic American Coasties who have served and are serving in the Coast Guard. BZ shipmates!

This year's theme, as determined by the National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers (NCHEPM), is: "Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation."

"Unidos" translates to mean united or connected.

Unification is a driving factor in the #Coast-

**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

Guard in creating a workplace that is inclusive and equitable. As early as the 1800s, Hispanic Americans have served with honor and distinction in the Coast Guard as lighthouse keepers, surfmen, cutterman, and aviators.

Today, the Coast Guard's Hispanic American workforce continues to achieve and contrib-

ute to the Service and can be proud of the legacy they follow and the one they leave behind for future members.

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](http://www.uscgaux.net) follow us on Facebook @ Apalachee Bay Flotilla 12 or contact our Flotilla Commander Phil Hill at [pmkhill12000@yahoo.com](mailto:pmkhill12000@yahoo.com)

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).

*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

### DAN safety barge dive in Panama City.

We here in the Big Bend area dodged a serious bullet a couple of weeks ago. When Ian hit the Gulf waters it looked like it would have nailed us head on. As the days progressed we saw it start to turn to the east and make landfall at Sanibel Island and Fort Meyers. It is sad to see all the destruction that the storm made in that area.

I had several students over in Panama City Beach the Sunday before Ian got to the Gulf and on the dive sites we where diving we noticed a curious phenomena going on under the water. The jellyfish that where there started to make their way to the deeper water. I'm not talking a few I'm talking a few hundred.

No one who was diving got stung but you had to really dodge them on your way back up to the boat ladder. Once on board you could see them just below the surface moving out to the deeper waters.

The dive sites we dove were the lost pontoon and the DAN safety barge, both dives were good but the visibility was only 20-25 feet.

Besides the jellyfish there were lots of fish from medium amberjacks to small mangrove snapper.

At the lost pontoon there are lots of nice shells and the students were able to get a few because the max depth is 60 feet.

We then moved to the DAN safety barge for our second and final dive for the day. The visibility as about the same as the last dive but on the top of the barge as I have mentioned before was a lot of sea fan type soft coral and some hard coral. The depth there is also 60 feet to the bottom where the students found some more shells.

They could explore around the outside of the structure and even look at the top of the barge but I instructed them before the dive not to swim over the top of it. By staying off the top of the barge there is less chance of kicking and destroying the soft fans.

This brings me to my biggest peeve and that is the skill of buoyancy, as I was swimming around with my students I was showing them some of the different marine life at the edge of the barge, when I noticed a new instructor from another agency swimming on the top of the barge dragging his fat stomach across the tops of several sea fans and breaking them off at the top.

I was furious because if any diver that should have near perfect buoyancy it should be the instructor. Fortunately his two students stayed well above the coral.

Buoyancy will be another article that I will share some helpful techniques to help you out. The students made their way up the anchor line to their safety stop while I swam around and looked inside the barge with my flashlight.

The first big hole I looked in I saw a huge Goliath grouper just hanging out waiting for all the divers to leave. We just stared at each other for a few minutes then he just slowly made his way out the other side while I decided that I better go to the anchor rope and make my way back to the boat.

When I got on the boat I was greeted by the captain with "So you finally decided to come up." I just smiled, sat down removed my gear and looked at the newly certified divers and the big smiles they each had on their faces.

That is the truly rewarding part for me is when I can bring new people in the diving community. Until next time, blow bubbles.

Russell Miller #59999

## Sheriff's Report

Activity reported for the week of Sept. 30 to Oct. 6:

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 30

- Deputy Colton Sheridan conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for extremely loud music and a faulty brakew light. The driver was identified as Kaleb Adam who was found to not possess a valid driver's license. Adam was placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility without incident.

- Deputy Andrea Farmer responded to the sheriff's office in reference to the report of a theft. Michael Mongeon, the owner of a tree service, stated upon leaving a job he watched one of his employees hide a chain saw in the grass along the road. Mongeon originally thought the suspect was just rearranging the tool in the bed of the truck but realized after several days the saw was missing. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

### SATURDAY, OCT. 1

- Batista Kilpatrick reported the theft of his

firearm. Kilpatrick stated he last saw the weapon around Father's Day of this year when he placed in his drawer. Kilpatrick went to get a new case for the weapon and discovered it gone. The weapon is a black Taurus 9mm with a black holster and an extra magazine valued at \$350. The weapon was entered into NCIC/FCIC as stolen. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Kendrick Gavin investigated.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 2

- A business burglary was reported at The Corner Store, 2616 Crawfordville Hwy. Deputies were able to retrieve security footage of the break in, which was released the public. Two juveniles were arrested later in the day after a family member of one of the suspects saw the released information and called the sheriff's office and identified the juvenile. Deputies were able to make contact with both suspects and place them under arrest.

### TUESDAY, OCT. 4

- Nan Burton came

to the sheriff's office to report she had been scammed by an unknown person representing Duke Energy. She provided this person \$300 in gift cards at the suspect's request to pay fees with Duke Energy. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Ernesto Trujillo investigated.

- Melissa Spiers reported a suspect cashed two checks at Capital City Bank, one for \$2,198.43 and the other for \$1,994.60. Both checks were forged and altered documents. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Jake Scott investigated.

### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 5

- While assisting Deputy Andrea Farmer with a disabled vehicle on Wakulla Arran Road. Deputy Arturo Cordoba made contact with Jason Miller, who was walking down the road and hitting mailboxes. Miller was extremely intoxicated and belligerent. When Deputy Cordoba approached Miller, he stated "I wanted to see if you were going to take me to 15 Oak Street?" Miller was arrested for disorderly conduct and criminal mischief and trans-

ported to the Wakulla County Jail.

### THURSDAY, OCT. 6

- Tommy Henderson reported his gate being damaged. Henderson stated his vehicle was being repossessed when the damaged occurred. Henderson stated his lock had been cut off and was missing and the automatic opener arm was damaged. Henderson estimated damages at approximately \$405. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Rudolph Hinson investigated.

- Deputy Arturo Cordoba responded to Ann Circle, in reference someone stealing items out of an RV. Upon arrival Deputy Cordoba made contact with James Hollis, who said he came home and was told by his mother someone had ransacked his RV. Hollis stated several electronics and other miscellaneous items were missing. James' mother also identified a possible suspect. This case has been forwarded to detectives for further investigation.

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

# There is life after depression



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

“Where am I?”  
“Southeast Memorial, Intensive Care Unit,” the nurse said, opening the window blinds.  
“Why?” I shielded my eyes from the glaring

sun. “Was I in an accident?”

She walked to the side of my bed and began a new IV bag. “You took a bottle of pills. Don’t you remember?”

“N-no. Are you sure?” I paused as the memory floated back – including the reason I wanted to die. Tears rolled down my cheeks. I knew. If I had the opportunity, I’d try again.

That was a dark and scary season in my life. I underwent years of counseling, found the right medication, and prayed (and received) lots of prayer before I fi-

nally acquired the skills and faith to help me handle life’s stresses and disappointments.

Not perfectly. Even today, though I no longer need medication, I struggle with some anxiety.

Disappointing days bring me to tears.

Although my life is far from perfect, I rejoice that this Friday, I’ll be celebrating another birthday.

Like most women, I don’t relish the extra lines and other signs that my body is aging.

But I’m thankful for another year. Had I

succeeded in taking my life on that evening long ago, I wouldn’t have the privilege today of coloring my gray and applying copious amounts of anti-wrinkle creams.

I’m sensitive to the reality that many of my readers have lost someone to suicide.

You wonder why God didn’t protect your loved one. I’m sincerely sorry for your pain.

I lost a dear friend to suicide, and it still affects me today. I can only imagine how much worse it must be for you who lost a spouse, child or sibling. You are in

my prayers.

To those of us who are still alive despite our choices, I’d like to offer this verse: “I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD” (Psalm 118:17 ESV).

I pray we’ll not take lightly the honor of sharing God’s marvelous works with those who need to hear about them. I praise God for the opportunity He gives me with this column to recount to you what He continues to do in (and for) me.

And what He can do for you.

(October is National Depression Awareness Month. If you’re in a mental health crisis, dial 988 and speak to a trained counselor. This nationwide Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is available 24/7.)

*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.*

## Grateful for today



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

It was a harmless meme, just like the thousands of other memes posted on social media. This one pictured a beautiful scene of the blue Gulf waters with a caption that read, “Turn my clock back to June.” I smiled, thinking the summer had slipped away too quickly due to a new move, work transfer, and school completion. I reposted the meme.

When my post hit the social media display, one of my newest friends replied, “You did not know me in June.” Soon a list of recent friends followed her thought by expressing the same sentiment. Their comments gave me a reason to pause.

Often, I look back to yesterday, yet in looking back, I miss the current blessings of today. For the past two years, my life has been a little unsettled. Recently married to my high school sweetheart, I have made my home in Wakulla County with him. Although my home is here, my work and much of my things remained in Madison. I was living in two places and settled in neither. I am a person who strug-

gles with letting go.

In July, I was to begin my 10th year of pastoring two churches in Madison, where I had established relationships and community. However, July started my new assignment of pastoring at Ochlockonee Bay and Sopchoppy United Methodist Churches. I was saying goodbye to old friends and ministries and stepping into a world of unfamiliar faces, churches, and relationships. The uneasiness of change haunted me.

God told Abram, “Go from your country, your people, and your father’s household to the land I will show you (Genesis 12:1).” God was leading Abram to a land of promise. Abram chose to follow God and

never looked back. It was not an easy journey for Abram and his family; however, he continued to walk forward. I wonder if the uneasiness of change haunted Abram.

There is a cost to following the Lord. That cost is the forward motion into His service, wherever that may lead.

In Luke 9:57-62, a man from the crowd cries out, “Lord, I will follow you wherever you go.” Nonetheless, he had reasons for not immediately following the Lord. Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

My walk, our walk, with the Lord should always be in a forward motion. It will often

move us from a place of comfort to a place of learning and growing. God calls His children to walk forward into His promises. The Lord tells us to be strong and courageous, for He is the Lord our God who goes before us (Joshua 1:9). Why would we desire to turn our clocks back to June if God goes before us today? Yesterday has passed, and there is no promise of tomorrow. However, today holds blessings beyond all measure.

Turning the clock back to June would extend my summer; however, the cooler evenings of October are incredibly inviting. I could have remained with old friends in Madison, yet, I would have missed the new friendships I am

gaining in Wakulla. Yesterday is warm and cherished; I retain strong ties to old friends. Today is inspiring with fresh faces, unique personalities, and laughter.

I am grateful for today, grateful for new friends and new beginnings. Today, I am thankful to move forward in the ministry of our Lord.

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

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

## Obituaries



**Gregory Wayne Aiken**

Gregory Wayne Aiken, 60, of Crawfordville, passed away on Oct. 3, 2022.

Wayne was a carpenter and master craftsman. He worked for Salty Dog Construction Company. He enjoyed fishing and hunting. He absolutely adored his grandchildren, and he was always loyal to his family and friends.

Wayne is survived by his life partner, Cynthia Murray; mother, Glenda Ann Gregory; children, Thomas James Aiken (Alicia), Monica Walker, and Celeste Murray; brother, Warren Lee Aiken; sister, Tracy “Wendy” Aiken; grandchildren, Elijah, Cooper, Cole, Tiara, Dalton and Caden; several nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

He was predeceased by his father, Carl Aiken and his sister, Wanda D. Hindman.

A Celebration of Wayne’s Life was held on Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022 at Olin Park in St. Marks.

Skip and Trey Young are assisting the family with arrangements. (850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com)

### DEATH NOTICES

• **Frances Charlean Lanier**, 60, of Crawfordville, died Oct. 5, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **William Stephen “Bill” Sullivan**, 80, of Crawfordville, died Oct. 9, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

**Sopchoppy United Methodist Church**

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

Pastor Cheryl Mixon-Cruce 850-962-2511

## Hertz-Looney

### From Front Page

Hertz and Looney with then-State Attorney Willie Meggs. Current Wakulla chief prosecutor, Brian Miller, is also working on the case.

Evans and Miller are also both candidates for Wakulla County Judge to replace Jill Walker, who will retire at the end of the year.

On July 26, 1997, Hertz, Looney, and Dempsey were bored and walking around looking for a way to get to Tallahassee. A woman who lived approximately 500 yards from the Spears-King home said that, at approximately 2 a.m., Hertz came to her home requesting to use her telephone because “his truck had broken down.” She refused and the three men resumed their walk up the road towards the home of King and Spears.

Acting as a decoy, Dempsey and Hertz knocked on the front door and asked if they could use a telephone. King gave them a cordless telephone and Dempsey pretended to make a call. When Dempsey started to hand the phone back to King, Hertz forced his way into the home at gunpoint.

King and Spears were forced face down on their bed after being bound and gagged with duct tape. The three defendants stole various items including a television, a VCR, furniture, jewelry, CDs, and \$1,500 cash. They loaded the stolen goods into the victims’ two vehicles.

Hertz and Looney decided that they could not leave witnesses and then informed Dempsey of their plan. Dempsey testified that Hertz and Looney poured gasoline

throughout the house, after which all three men went back to the bedroom armed. King told the defendants that she would “rather die being burnt up than shot.”

She then stated, “Please, God, don’t shoot me in the head.” Hertz replied, “Sorry, can’t do that,” before he started firing. Looney started shooting and was followed by Dempsey. Both King and Spears died as a result of the gunshot wounds.

After the shootings, the house was set afire.

Looney drove away in the victims’ Ford Mustang with Dempsey as a passenger, while Hertz drove the victims’ white Ford Ranger.

Hertz, Looney, and Dempsey then drove to Daytona Beach where they were involved in a shootout after a police pursuit. Hertz suffered a gunshot wound to the head and paid \$100 for a cab-ride to his aunt’s St. Augustine home. Hertz was arrested that day and police discovered Spears’ 9mm gun in Hertz’s bag.

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1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: Adoration and Confessions at 8:30 am  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: Mass at 9:30 am  
Every Saturday: Confessions at 4:30 pm  
Live Streaming - Sundays  
Facebook - Seas Parish

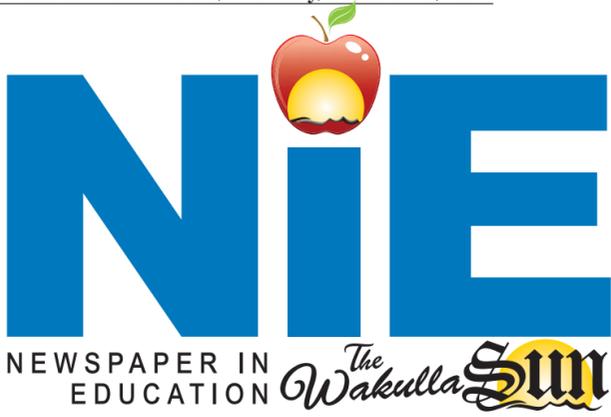
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## Use the News

### 1. Stand Up to Bullying

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. During this month students, teachers, families and communities work together to reduce bullying in schools and other places. It takes strong character to stand up to bullies. It takes courage, strength, respect, determination, caring and responsibility. As a class, talk about how those character traits could help people stand up to bullies. Then find a story in the newspaper or online in which someone is bullying another person, or treating them unfairly. Read the story closely. Then write how each one of the character traits above could help stop the bullying or unfair treatment described in the story.

Goal: Engaging effectively in a range of collaborative discussions; producing clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization and style are appropriate to the task.

### 2. Space Crash

When America's NASA space agency launches a new craft, it usually wants it to avoid other objects in space. This month, however, a space craft launched by NASA crashed into an asteroid — on purpose! In a perfect mission, the craft took aim at an asteroid named Dimorphos (di-MORE-fus) and crashed into it at 14,000 miles per hour about 7-million miles from Earth. The crash was a test of a possible way to protect Earth from an asteroid or comet if it were heading toward our planet. The goal was to change the path of Dimorphos in the way scientists would like to change the path of any space object that might head for Earth in the future. The space craft, known as DART, made a direct hit on Dimorphos, which is about the size of a football stadium and orbits a larger asteroid. NASA scientists said it would take days or weeks before they would know if the DART craft had changed the path of Dimorphos. NASA has had great success with missions that have traveled millions of miles in space. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about one of these missions. Use what you read to write a letter to the editor, telling what this mission has achieved, why that is important and the challenges it faced.

Goals: Writing informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; citing specific textual evidence when writing or speaking.

### 3. A 'Sesame Street' First

Since it first came on

TV more than 50 years ago, "Sesame Street" has been a pioneering children's television show. Yet Megan Piphus Peace is doing something never done before as the show enters its 53rd season. She is the first Black woman to be a puppeteer for a regular character. Piphus Peace, who is 29, plays Gabrielle, a 6-year-old African American girl who is friends with popular characters such as Big Bird, Elmo, Abby Cadabby and Cookie Monster. She got her first puppet when she was 8 years old and taught herself the craft. That sets her apart from the other puppeteers on "Sesame Street," most of whom went to college or arts schools to learn how to engage audiences with puppets. While several of "Sesame Street's" past puppeteers have been Black, none have been women. "Being the first Black female puppeteer on the show, means opening doors for future performers anywhere in ... television and entertainment," she told the Washington Post news-

paper. "The more diversity we have, the more display of the possible opportunities we have for the next generation." Megan Piphus Peace hopes to show how people of different backgrounds can make communities stronger and more interesting places to live. With a partner, use the newspaper or Internet to find stories and photos of people from different backgrounds who are doing this through events, foods, sports, clothes, entertainment or other activities. Share your findings with the class and discuss.

Goals: Conducting short research projects that build knowledge about a topic; citing specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions.

### 4. Ducks in a Row

Have you ever wondered why ducklings follow their mother in a straight line when swimming? A biology scientist at West Chester University in the state of Penn-

sylvania thinks he has found the answer. They are "drafting" to conserve energy the way auto racers, bicyclists and even runners do in a race. For racers, getting right behind the car or bicycle right in front of them reduces the drag caused by air or wind pushing against them. For ducklings, the straight-line formation does the same thing in water, according to scientist Frank Fish. "It all has to do with the flow that occurs behind that leading organism and the way that moving in a formation can actually be a ... benefit," Fish said. For his efforts Fish earned one of this year's Ig Nobel prizes, a light-hearted awards program that occurs just before the world famous (and serious) Nobel Prizes are given out. The Ig Nobel awards go to fun or even silly scientific projects. Fish shared his award with researchers from the European nation of Scotland who declared that when ducklings are in the water they "surf" the mini-waves created by their mother to move across the surface. Scientists often do research

to explain how things work in everyday life. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about a scientist doing this. Use what you read to write a letter to a friend summarizing in your own words what the scientist learned. Close your letter by describing something from everyday life for which you would like a scientific explanation.

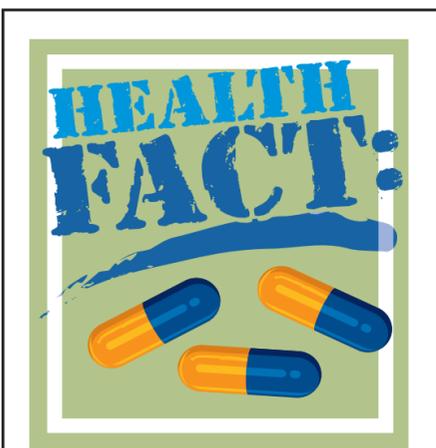
Goals: Writing informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly; citing specific textual evidence when writing or speaking.

### 5. A Record for the Ages

With active lifestyles and better health care, people are living longer and longer in the United States and around the world. But even the oldest of our elders would be impressed with four sisters in the U.S. state of Wisconsin. The sisters have set a new world record for the highest combined age for four living siblings at an astonishing 389 years! The sis-

ters all are over 90 years old and one is more than 100! Arlowene Johnson Overskei, 101; Marcene Johnson Scully, 99; Doris Johnson Gaudineer, 96; and Jewell Johnson Beck, 93, earned the record when the Guinness World Records organization verified their combined age last month. "We are still living, and that's something to celebrate," Gaudineer told the Madison Daily Leader newspaper. Senior adults are living longer and more active lives than ever before. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about a senior who is doing this. Pretend you are a newspaper photographer who has been assigned to tell this person's story in pictures. Write a list of what pictures you would take, and why. As a class, discuss senior adults you know who are living active and interesting lives.

Goals: Integrating information presented in different media or formats to develop a coherent understanding of a topic; conducting short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.



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ANSWER: DENTAL HYGIENE

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## THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

- **1863:** CONFEDERATE TROOPS FAIL TO DRIVE UNION FORCES COMPLETELY OUT OF VIRGINIA.
- **1884:** GEORGE EASTMAN RECEIVES A U.S. PATENT ON HIS NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC FILM.
- **1947:** CHUCK YEAGER BECOMES THE FIRST PERSON TO EXCEED THE SPEED OF SOUND.

## New Word

### DENTIN

part of the tooth just beneath the enamel

## How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Tongue

**SPANISH:** Lengua

**ITALIAN:** Lingua

**FRENCH:** Langue

**GERMAN:** Zunge

## Did you Know?

DENTISTS RECOMMEND PEOPLE BRUSH THEIR TEETH TWICE A DAY FOR TWO MINUTES EACH TIME.



## GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: TOOTHBRUSH



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PHOTO BY ROSS OBLEY

Treshun Ward, FSU's leading rusher, was injured on Saturday at NC State.

# Changes to FSU depth chart after NC State loss



By **BOB FERRANTE**  
 Editor/The Osceola

Florida State made some adjustments to the depth chart ahead of this Saturday's game

against Clemson.

Treshaun Ward and Trey Benson are listed as co-starters at running back. Ward left the game at NC State with an apparent right arm / shoulder injury. He is FSU's leading rusher with 72 carries for 488 yards (three touchdowns).

Ja'Khi Douglas is

listed as a co-backup with Rodney Hill behind Lawrance Toafili. Douglas has not played in 2022.

Johnny Wilson is now listed as a starter over Malik McClain.

There were no changes on the defensive depth chart. Fabien Lovett is also a co-starter at defensive

tackle, the same as he was designated in prior weeks. Lovett has not played in the last four games..

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**This week's game:**  
Friday, Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m.  
Wakulla War Eagles travel to Perry to take on the Taylor County Bulldogs.  
It's a district game.



# War Eagles hold off JPII, 39-36

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**  
Editor

The Wakulla War Eagles improved to 6-1 with a 39-36 win over the John Paul II Panthers.

"It was exciting and aggravating at the same time," said Wakulla Head Coach Scott Klees. It shouldn't have been that close – we dominated the game and were up 36-12 with 9 minutes left."

Coach Klees said the team had a lack of focus that allowed the Panthers to get back into the game – and it was to be expected, perhaps, with the distractions of Homecoming at half-time.

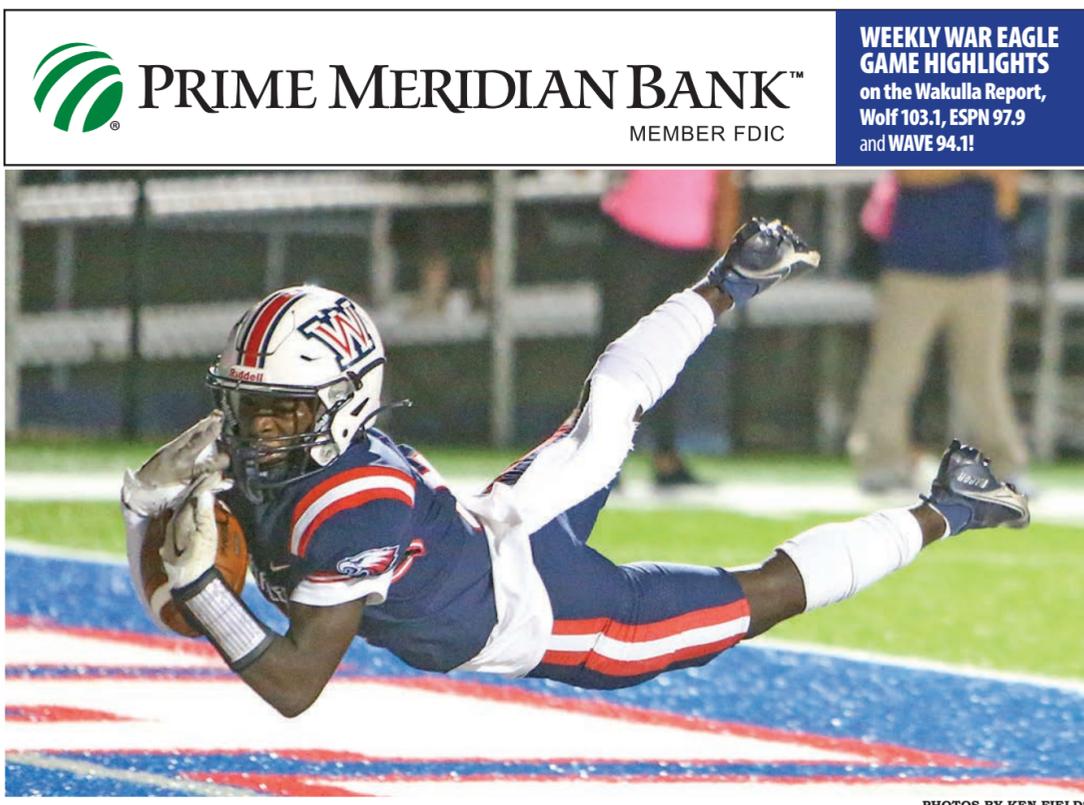
Klees acknowledged his plan to drive down the field and run the clock down and get a field goal with a minute left to go up 39-28 and seal the game.

But the Panthers returned the kick 99 yards for a touchdown, and then added a 2-point conversion to get right back in it.

The onside kick was recovered by Wakulla and the War Eagles went into victory formation to run out the clock and win.

The War Eagle offense was strong: running back Xavier Blake had more than 300 yards from scrimmage: 26 carries for 249 yards, plus 5 catches for 53 yards.

Running back Bradley Kelly ran 12 times for 89 yards and 2 TDs, plus scored on a 2-point play.



War Eagle receiver Samron Brinson makes a diving touchdown pass against John Paul II on Friday night.

**WEEKLY WAR EAGLE GAME HIGHLIGHTS**  
on the Wakulla Report,  
Wolf 103.1, ESPN 97.9  
and WAVE 94.1!

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QB Haden Klees was 13 of 21 for 109 yards passing, plus he ran 5 times for 39 yards and a TD.

"I've been a coach for 21 years and during all that time, everybody's trying to stop the run," Klees said. Now teams are playing back to stop the pass and daring Wakulla to run.

**GAME RECAP**

The War Eagles took the opening kickoff but the drive stalled and they were forced to punt. John Paul II punted on their first possession.

On their second pos-

session, the War Eagles scored on a drive capped by a 20-yard run by RB Bradley Kelly. Kicker Chase Linville added the extra point. War Eagles 7-0 I with 3:44 remaining in 1Q

Fumble recovered by Wakulla at the 33. On 4th and 8, Wakulla goes for it, pass intended for WR Samron Brinson, defender tries to jump the route, called for pass interference. War Eagle first down at 19. Couple of plays later, a diving catch by Brinson for TD. JPII offsides on extra point attempt, Coach Klees puts offense in to go for 2. Kelly takes it

in. It's 15-0 with 28.5 seconds left in 1Q.

Two drives later, War Eagles go for it on 4th down, don't make it. JPII takes over and moves the ball down the field pretty well. 1st down at Wakulla 12 with 29 seconds left and they connect on a pass over the middle at the goal line for TD. Wakulla offside on PAT, so the Panthers put the offense in to go for 2. It's no good. Wakulla up 15-6 at halftime.

On opening drive of second half, John Paul scores a touchdown on a pass to TE Jukil Whitehead and Wakulla defenders cannot bring him down. Extra point blocked by War Eagles. Wakulla lead cut to 15-12.

Jeremiah Thomas rushing TD from 10 yards out. Extra point makes it 22-12 with 7:09 left in the 3Q.

Next drive, 4th down and 12 at 32 and War Eagles come up short. JPII takes over on offense and a pass intercepted by Jeremiah Thomas is returned to the 14. Back on offense, Kelly takes it in from there - extra point is good and Linville kicks it over the field house into the parking lot. It's 29-12 Wakulla leads.

Wakulla's next drive, Brinson running down the sideline with the defender pulling on his shirt and he still makes the catch but out of bounds. Pass interference called. QB Haden Klees rushing TD from

12. Extra point good. Wakulla up 36-12 with 9:45 left in the game

JPII receiver gets behind defense and is tackled at 2. Two plays later pass to Whitehead in the corner of the end-zone, outjumps defender for the ball. The Panthers go for 2 and it's good. Wakulla lead is cut to 36-20.

Wakulla punts. John Paul drives down the field for a score and a 2-point conversion to pull within a possession - it's 36-28 Wakulla leads with 5:43 left.

Wakulla's next drive, they face a 4th and goal at 6. Coach lets clock run down and takes delay penalty. Sends in kicking team. JPII jumps. Linville kick is good, makes it 39-28.

The Wakulla kickoff is returned by the Panthers' Jaden Walden for 99 yards for touchdown. 2-point play is good. Score is 39-36 with 1:08 left.

Onside kick is recovered by Wakulla's backup quarterback Owen Klees and Wakulla goes into victory formation.

Final: Wakulla 39, John Paul II 36.

**NEXT UP:  
TAYLOR COUNTY**

"This is a must-win for us," said Coach Klees of this week's game against the 3-3 Taylor County Bulldogs. It's a district game, like Suwannee County in the last regular season game. Win those two games and the War Eagles are certain of a playoff berth.

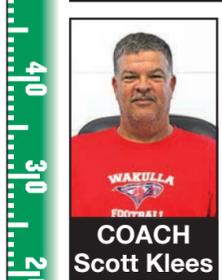
It's a must-win for Taylor too, since they played Suwannee and lost.

## COACH'S CORNER

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### FROM THE COACH

**Scouting report:** Taylor County's defense is pretty good and that's what they depend on. Offense is talented, but not clicking.

**Keys to victory:** Run the ball and play physical.

**Last week:** The War Eagles hang on to a big win against John Paul II as Panthers tried to claw back into the game. Loss of focus on Homecoming week.



Dalton Avera gets a hand up to block the Panther extra point attempt.



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