

LOW TAXES CLEAN WATER WAKULLA FIRST

JOHN QUINTON

For County Commission District 2

Husband • Grandfather • Retired Pastor

Paid by John Quinton, Democrat, for Wakulla County Commissioner, District 2

War Eagles beat Taylor
Co. but lose QB

Page 15

Notes on FSU's loss to
Clemson

Page 14



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
Hi: 70° Lo: 42° 1%	Hi: 75° Lo: 46° 1%	Hi: 80° Lo: 54° 1%
Sunrise 7:43 AM Sunset 7:01 PM	Sunrise 7:43 AM Sunset 7:00 PM	Sunrise 7:44 AM Sunset 6:59 PM

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

Our 1st Year, 35th Issue
Thursday, October 20, 2022



\$1
One Section

Neighborhood complaints

They kept the East Pecan Street name, but they aren't getting their mail delivered

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

After lots of complaints from the residents on East Pecan Street, the county decided that the street could keep its name.

The county sent out a letter back in August saying the name of the street was "easily confused with other street names in the same response area" for 911 and emergency service personnel.

Residents complained about having moved into

the new development only months ago and face having to go through more change of address problems. (The Sun reported on the issue in the Sept. 15 issue, "Bye, East Pecan St.") The county gave in – and emergency dispatchers will be able to guide emergency vehicles to the correct address.

But now residents in the Hammocks subdivision off Songbird Ave., some 27 new homeowners are complaining that they haven't had mail delivered since they

moved in.

Resident Barry Toohey, who lives on East Sycamore, said it's been four months and there's still no mail kiosk for the homes – and residents have to go to the post office to get their mail.

Toohey said there was initially some finger-pointing between developer Ben Boynton and builder D.R. Horton Homes.

County Commissioner Mike Kemp, who lives nearby, said he was contacted by

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Hammocks resident Barry Toohey at his East Sycamore home.

Wakulla Christian grows



Wakulla Christian is planning to move its 8-12 grade classes to this site on Arran Road.

School planning upper school campus at the old Summit Life Church

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Wakulla Christian School is looking at expanding with a second campus for its 8-12 grade classes.

The school got approval from the Wakul-

la Planning Commission on Monday, Oct. 10, for a conditional use for the Summit Life Church site on Arran Road.

The school's current campus at Wakulla Springs Baptist Church on Crawfordville Hwy.

is out of space, and 11th and 12th grade classes are currently being held up the road at Grace Baptist Church.

The matter was to go before county commissioners for a vote on Monday, Oct. 17, where

it was expected to pass.

Plans for the property had drawn concern in the past with neighboring residents unsure about what was going to happen with the site – they didn't want it to become a busy commercial use.

PHOTO BY WILLIAM SNOWDEN

A look at the Sopchoppy candidates

By **CHARITY TUMBLESON**
Reporter

For the upcoming Sopchoppy city commission election on Nov. 8, there are four candidates on the ballot: Corey "DJ Butch" Benedict, current Mayor Lara Edwards, current city commissioner Fred McClendon, and Thomas E. Porter II.

(Sopchoppy voters will vote for two candidates for city commission.)

Benedict was born and raised in Sopchoppy. Reflecting on his childhood memories in the city of Sopchoppy inspired Benedict to raise his children in Sopchoppy and he seeks to protect "that easy living family environment," Benedict says.

Some of Benedict's goals if he were to be elected would be to "protect the sacred land. I know that it's going to grow some but I think that it needs to grow right and be done right. Sopchoppy has a charm that many places don't have and I want to keep that charm and protect that charm," Benedict says.

Benedict is also a local musician and has drawn inspiration from Sopchoppy in his music. Benedict seeks to keep the "charm" of Sopchoppy alive and protect it for future generations to enjoy.

"There's something special about Sopchoppy. The people here and the people that have always been here, that's really what makes it a great community. There's a special bond here and I want to make sure that bond is not broken and that we remain a great place," Benedict says.

• Edwards moved to Sopchoppy in 2008 and

Turn to Page 13

Elect

EDDIE

EVANS

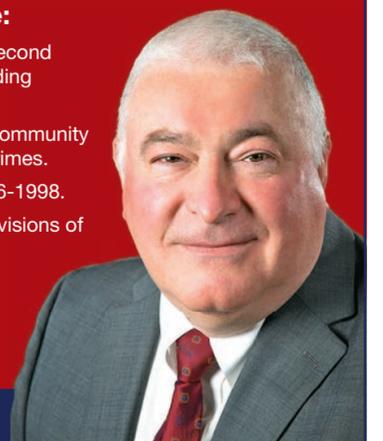
FOR WAKULLA

COUNTY JUDGE

PROVEN EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

Legal Background and Service:

- General Counsel for the State Attorney's Office, Second Circuit, which includes Wakulla and the 5 surrounding counties.
- Assistant State Attorney since 1992 keeping our community safe by prosecuting those who have committed crimes.
- State Attorney Office's Wakulla Division Chief 1996-1998.
- Over 100 jury trials in both the criminal and civil divisions of the court.
- 30 year member of the Florida Bar.
- Served 20 years on the Sopchoppy City Council.
- Currently serving as a deacon in his church.



www.EddieEvansForWakullaJudge.com

Paid by Eddie Evans for Wakulla County Judge, Group One.

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Lisa Craze, CFC
Wakulla County Tax Collector

ENACTED: 2006.

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.



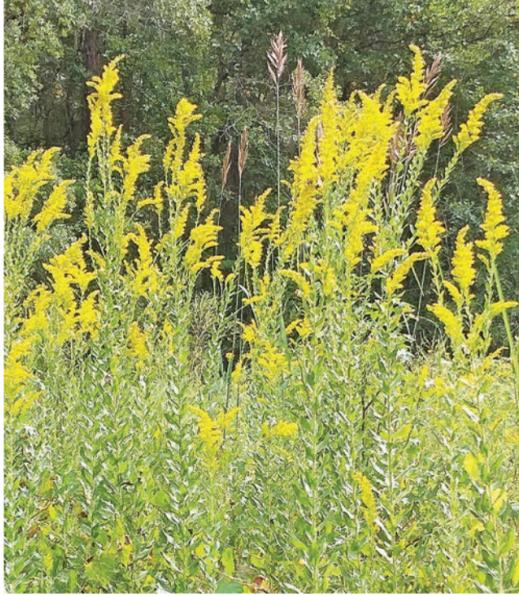
Enacted: 07/01/2014.

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 Seaside Goldenrod

By LYNN ARTZ and SANDY TEDDER



Seaside goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*) is a fall-blooming wildflower found in sandy soils in coastal counties. Clusters of bright yellow flowers adorn 2-8’ tall, arching stalks. Its nectar attracts many butterflies, bees, and other pollinators. It feeds the caterpillars of wavy-lined emerald moths. Seaside goldenrod is deer-resistant and highly salt-tolerant. Goldenrod does not cause hay fever. Ragweed, which blooms at the same time, is the real culprit. Goldenrod is pollinated by insects whereas ragweed depends on wind-pollination. That’s how lightweight, allergenic ragweed pollen reaches human noses. Seaside goldenrod is available commercially and is an important pollinator plant to add to your yard. Seaside goldenrod is one of 20 goldenrod species in Florida and one of two goldenrod species at Sopchoppy Depot Park.



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Student of the Week

Samuel Harris, 5th grader at Shadeville Elementary

Principal: Tim Wheeler

Achievements/Reason for Nomination: Samuel’s teacher recommended him as student of the week for being a hard worker . He is always on task and paying attention during class. He keeps up with his reading goal and turns in all of his work. He is a leader in the classroom and is always modeling great student behavior..



4-H Peanut Butter Challenge kicks off

This year’s 4-H Peanut Butter Challenge kicked off on Thursday, Oct. 13. Donate unopened jars of peanut butter at the extension office for local food pantries and the Florida Peanut Federation and Florida Peanut Producers Association match the contribution. (Photo by William Snowden)



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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.”

Upcoming referenda on the Nov. 8th ballot:

On the need for half-cent sales tax for schools



By **BOBBY PEARCE**
School Superintendent

As the polls open for general election on Tuesday, Nov. 8th, Wakulla County voters will have the opportunity to decide whether they will allow the Wakulla County School District to levy a one-half cent sales tax for

the next 10 years.

In order to make an informed decision, it is important our residents understand the facts behind the levy. The Wakulla County School District will dedicate the tax levy specifically to the following Capital Outlay Projects:

- Air quality (HVAC) infrastructure for our aging schools
- School facility renovations and improvements, to include continued levels of enhancement of campus hardening for student and employee safety and security; and
- Additions and upgrades to support increasing demand for

Information Technology infrastructure.

Our schools are in dire need of HVAC replacement. The HVAC renovations for Shadeville Elementary, roughly 32 years old now, has been estimated at \$9 million in cost.

Medart Elementary School, also with imminent HVAC needs, is not trailing far behind at 27 years old. Our schools are beautiful and have been well taken care of. However, complete A/C renovations are extremely costly, and the simple fact is that the monies generated by the 1.5 mil levy on property tax are simply not enough to

pay for projects of this magnitude.

As many residents are aware with the increase presence of law enforcement on our campuses, safety and security are a top priority of the district.

Unfortunately, efforts to improve target hardening have been slow because improvements of this nature come at a high cost. The money generated from this tax levy will assist the district in moving forward with the enhancements necessary to increase campus hardening.

Technology funding in recent years has not only been erratic, but it has been reduced dra-

matically by the legislature. The instability in funding makes it difficult to keep up with the needs of students.

Technology is vital to the success of students and has become critical for the district regarding student assessment and data infrastructure. In addition to aiding in the renovation of HVAC and reinforcement of campus hardening, this tax levy will aid in providing the technology necessary to provide the best educational experience possible for Wakulla County students.

Approval of this levy will result in a sales tax for all goods and

services purchased in Wakulla County. This includes non-residents who choose to do business in the county.

Currently many of Wakulla County's citizens purchase goods and services in Leon County where they pay a half cent sales tax to Leon County Schools for the same purpose!

These are just facts intended to better inform you, the voter, on why the ballot item is being brought for a vote.

Thank you,
Bobby Pearce

Bobby Pearce is superintendent of Wakulla County Public Schools.

Vote yes on tax exemption ordinance for high-wage jobs

By **JOHN SHUFF**
Economic Development

On Nov. 8th, residents will be asked to vote on the renewal of Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption – Ordinance 2022-08, an important tool for attracting new high-wage jobs to our community. As the President of your Wakulla Economic Development Council, we strive to attract new jobs to our community every day that will allow more of us to live and work right here in Wakulla County and allow our children to raise their families here too. We

are asking that you vote yes, in support of this ordinance. Here are six facts you need to know:

1. In Wakulla County, many of our residents commute every day to Tallahassee to work. We are exporting one our biggest assets – our people. This ordinance will attract new jobs to Wakulla so that people can live AND work in our community. This means less commuter traffic and more dollars spent here at home to help our small businesses.

2. This ordinance can create jobs. To receive this exemption,

a company must provide at least 25 high wage jobs in a targeted industry sector which in Wakulla translates to over \$20 an hour in manufacturing-related industries. These are jobs that support families and mean your children can stay here too.

3. High-wage jobs are competitive, and our rural community competes with communities all over the nation for companies that offer these types of opportunities. This specific incentive was created in Florida Statute and is used by cities and counties across the state. If we

do not pass this ordinance, Wakulla County is at a disadvantage in our own state.

4. This ordinance does not encourage residential or retail development. While we appreciate all the new businesses in our community, these are a product of new rooftops and neighborhoods. The focus of this tool, and your EDC, is high-wage jobs in manufacturing – not new homes or stores.

5. This exemption applies only to NEW property and equipment for existing businesses and new businesses that locate in

our community. The company still pays 100% of all taxes for schools, fire services, water management, children's services and voter-approved taxes meaning that in addition to new jobs, they are not exempt from the impact they may have on the community.

6. We expect our community to use this tool soon. Unlike the past ten years, we now have staff at our EDC actively promoting our community for companies that will provide good paying jobs. It takes a while sometimes for these opportunities to come

together but this will be an important tool that we need to keep in our toolbox to make this happen.

Bottom-line, our extended families help to weave the fabric that makes Wakulla County a special place. Good jobs foster strong families which create a strong community; we need to keep this tool in our toolbox. Please vote yes on the renewal of the Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption – Ordinance 2022-08.

John Shuff is President of the Wakulla Economic Development Council.

LETTERS FROM READERS

Vote for candidates who support impact fees

Editor, The Sun:

Dear fellow Wakullans,

I am a graduate student at FSU, and my husband is a park ranger at Wakulla Springs. Over the years, we have been saddened to watch the effects of irresponsible development on our beautiful county. While studying our local issues, I have come to understand the importance of impact fees. Impact fees are placed on new development to offset the cost of new infrastructure on current residents. The county has not collected these fees for ten years, and this is part of the reason our taxes keep going

up. At The Wakulla Sun Candidate Forum, John Quinton and Sam McGrew were the only candidates who pledged to reinstate impact fees. Some points worth emphasizing are:

- An impact fee study is money well spent. Wakulla brought in \$1.4 million in impact fees in 2008 alone. A study is required to reinstate impact fees, which costs about \$50,000-\$100,000 – a drop in the bucket when compared with the revenue we are losing.
- The Florida Impact Fee Statute is concise and is easy to find online. It gives counties a lot of freedom to set their own parameters. There are no special limitations

on rural counties, as some have claimed.

Every impact fee has a purpose, like library expansion. \$58,000 of earmarked funds are going unspent in Wakulla County. This money can only be used for library expansion, but it's not enough. If we had collected impact fees for the past decade we could have completed this expansion or invested in parks and better infrastructure.

A well-designed impact fee study and implementation result in transparent ways for builders to calculate costs. They are a good way to responsibly manage growth and help counties pay for EMS,

roads, wastewater management, and parks. Most importantly, they protect current residents from subsidizing infrastructure for developers.

Our county has missed the chance to collect millions of dollars in the past ten years, funding we should have had to keep our tax burden low and our county services supported. John Quinton and Sam McGrew want to change that. Please consider this when you vote Nov. 8th.

Sincerely,

Emily Johnson
Crawfordville

"It's A New Day!"

The Wakulla Sun

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William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at St. Marks Seafood – Opening of Stone Crab Season How many Stone Crab claws can you eat in one sitting?



SHEILA STEPHENS
PHYSICAL THERAPIST

“I can probably eat about 12 and then feel sick.”



STAN WEST
RIVERSIDE CAFÉ

“Depends on how much money I have in my pocket – maybe 12 to 14 mediums.”



STEVE WILLIS
RETIRED

“As many as it takes.”



RICK TOOKE
ST. MARKS SEAFOOD

“None, we want to sell ‘em.”



ANDY PEREZ
PEREZ CONSTRUCTION

“Oh, I’ve never gotten full of them. Never tested just how many.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

It was so nice to have Alan in town, even if only for two days. He came up for work, and to drive a friend back to Tampa-St.Pete. He and Ed discussed the impact of Hurricane Ian on the Florida honey bee farmers, as well as the extensive damage done to blooming plants that constitute the food for the bees.

Not only did Florida lose an estimated 60,000 hives to flooding, there was an unknown number of hives (estimates approach 500,000 total hives) that winter in Florida from our colder states. As the prima-

ry pollinators for many crops around the nation, this damage can have an incalculable effect on harvests in Florida and elsewhere.

Right now folks are raising funds to help pay for tankers of sugar syrup to help feed bees in central and south Florida. One tanker costs \$1,500 and the need is for 70 tankers of food to make it through the next few weeks, until forage returns.

If you would like to help, reach out to GreaterGood.Org, which is working with multiple agencies and organizations to help bring desperately needed feed to the bees. You can make your tax deductible donation

at this link: <https://greatergood.org/disaster-relief-saving-the-bees>.

This information was provided by the appalacheebeekeepers.com site. Feel free to share this with family and friends.

We had a great meeting with DS Wayne Wiatt at the Wakulla United Methodist Church charge conference. He and his wife Ramona met with us Saturday morning, before going on to Sopchoppy UMC for their charge conference. For the non-Methodists reading this, a charge conference is an annual meeting held to approve church leaders, budgets, plans, etc. for the upcoming year.

This was especially meaningful post-Covid, since we hadn’t been able to hold in-person meetings for the past couple of years. It was great to share our optimism and conviction that God is still working on our behalf.

Another teacher planning day, another fun day of activities with grandchildren Harrison and Harper. I finally got a chance to take them back to the Refuge and the lighthouse for a little nature time. We really do live in paradise, don’t we?

Please keep Cindy Blackstock in your prayers, as well as Paul Clark. Paul just lost his Mom a few days ago, and learned that his step-father died on Sunday. Also in need of prayer is Casey Godwin, as he awaits a kidney transplant.

Sheriff’s Report

Activity reported for the week of Oct. 7 to 13:

SATURDAY, OCT. 8

FRIDAY, OCT. 7

• Donna Brown reported a ring stolen from her home. The ring is described as a 10 karat gold ring with a ruby gem. Donna was able to provide a possible suspect in this case. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Jake Scott investigated.

• Deputy Heather Will conducted a traffic stop for a broken headlight. The driver, Kevin Martinez, was found to have a suspended driver’s license with multiple prior convictions for driving while license suspended or revoked (DWLSR). Martinez was placed under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County jail. While conducting an inventory of the vehicle drug paraphernalia was also located, for which Martinez was charged as well.

• A 7-year-old boy showed up at an address on Rose Street stating he could not find his parents. The child was at this location for approximately 30 minutes before the complainant called the Sheriff’s Office. It was determined that the child and his father went looking for the family dog. The two got separated and the child became scared. Attempts to locate the parents were unsuccessful. The child was able to provide the work location for his grandmother. Deputy Bennett made contact and located the child’s grandmother who was able to make contact with the parents by phone. The child was turned over to the grandmother awaiting the arrival of his parents.

• Mitzy Roberts reported being defraud-

ed out of \$1,000. Mitzy received a phone call from a male claiming to be a local law enforcement. The male advised she had outstanding warrants and needed to take care of the warrants. Mitzy went to Walmart placing money on an account. She realized shortly after that this was a scam and Walmart was unable to return her money. The caller/suspect was able to provide the name of several sheriff’s office employees, both active and retired. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Jeremy Creel investigated. Please know that an arrest warrant can not be resolved by paying a fine to law enforcement. The sheriff’s office will never contact anyone via phone and make such a request. Any such incidents should be reported to the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office immediately, 850-745-7100.

SUNDAY, OCT. 9

• Deputy William Bennett was conducting a security check when he was flagged down for a fraud complaint. Contact was made with employee Jayna Thurman who advised she paid \$3,000 to an individual for a trailer to live in. Jayna advised she made the final \$1,500 payment on Sept. 16. Since making the final payment the suspects have made multiple excuses as to why they could not provide the title or give her the money back. Since Oct. 6 the suspects have stopped returning text messages and phone calls. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

• Deputy Jake Scott conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Spring Creek Highway. Contact was made with the driver, Elmer Reams. Wakulla communication advised Reams did

not possess a valid driver’s license and had prior convictions for DWLSR. Reams was placed under arrest and transported to the jail.

MONDAY, OCT. 10

• Deputy Rudolph Hinson conducted a traffic stop for speeding on New Light Church Road. The driver, Marilyn Hartsfield, gave consent to search of the vehicle. Passenger Jerry Landrum admitted a bag of meth which was found in the bed of the truck was his. Landrum was transported to the jail without further incident.

TUESDAY, OCT. 11

• Elwanda Rodgers reported someone cut the gas line on her vehicle. Rodgers reported

smelling gas for several days. After taking her vehicle to a mechanic she was informed the line had been tampered with. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Rudolph Hinson investigated.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 12

• George Hannon reported someone opening a Duke Electric account using his name in Deland. Hannon advised he needed a report for Duke to remove the account from his credit. Deputy Jeremy Creel investigated.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES:

For our readers’ convenience, The Wakulla Sun provides this Public Notice Section for all Public Notices not published in the Legal Notice section of the newspaper.

Kiersten Smith

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NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION OF TAX ROLLS

Pursuant to section 193.122(2), Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given to all taxpayers and owners of both real and personal property that the 2022 Wakulla County Tax Rolls have been extended to show the tax attributable to all taxable property and that said tax rolls were certified for collection to the Tax Collector on October 13, 2022.



FOLLOW THE SUN.

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

The romance of the blunderbuss



By MARJ LAW

A blunderbuss, first made in the late 1600s and used until around 1850, was like a hybrid between a pistol and a musket. Some were about 2-feet long, and some between 3 and 4 feet. The blunderbuss had a different appearance from other guns because its muzzle flared at the end of the bore like a funnel. This flaring allowed shot to be spread, instead of firing a single ball.

The blunderbuss is like a hybrid between a pistol and a musket. Loading it from the barrel, you might liken it to shooting a 10-gauge shotgun. With recoil. What a recoil!

Because of its small length, the blunderbuss was portable, maneuverable, versatile, and concealable. The blunderbuss was cheap to buy. Its wide spread of shot could clear decks or help with crowd control.

Some blunderbusses were oval shaped. Some were made with very wide muzzles. However, although the thought was that the shape and width of the muzzle would determine the pattern of the shot, gun-

makers discovered that shape and increased bore width did not make a difference. Up to a point, shot would only expand outward so much. The oval shape did not expand laterally.

Blunderbusses were most useful when used short-ranged. At best, a blunderbuss would shoot up to 75 feet.

The blunderbuss has its place in history, yes, but is remembered more for the storytelling behind the gun.

The word, blunderbuss, comes from German words meaning “thunder gun.”

In handgun form, some of the first blunderbusses had a dragon carved around their muzzles. Can you imagine the gun breathing fire as it shoots? What a story! Flash! Smoke! What a visual! Mounted infantry became named “dragoons” for carrying the short fire-breathing blunderbuss.

And it didn't hurt that unlike other firearms of this time period, the blunderbuss was easier and faster to load on a moving horse, stagecoach or ship.

Imagine blunderbusses mounted on the front of the Lewis and Clarks pirogues. Like small, swivel guns, these blunderbusses lead the boats on the great expeditions.

Can't you just see Johnny Depp standing on his pirate ship, his blunderbuss clearing the deck of boarders intent on taking over? Or maybe he's scrambling up the rigging, aiming his blunderbuss at the oncoming crowd?

Or how about your stagecoach driver? The short blunderbuss can



BLUNDERBUSS
This one about 2.5' long
Shoots shot instead of a single ball

be hidden close by him and whipped out to save your fellow travelers from bandits intent on stealing goods and or murdering all of you?

And, as you travel the Oregon Trail, you'd have a blunderbuss to protect you, your family, and all your household supplies in your wagon. What dangers will you face? Thieves waiting to ambush you? As they come closer, you can grab your blunderbuss to convince them it's time to move along.

Many of us think we might have been able to load anything into our blunderbuss. Anything meaning pebbles, glass, nails: whatever we can find to save our ammunition. But it doesn't work that way. Our barrels are made of steel or brass. We won't take on the possibility of ruining the metal of our barrel, will we?

Unless it is a matter of live or death. If we have no ammunition left, then yes, we'll pick up stones, nails, or any



small hard object and throw them down the muzzle of our blunderbuss. We aren't planning on ruining our gun, but if it's the chance to save our lives, then we will toss whatever is handy down that barrel. Our lives come first: the gun next.

And then what? Then we use the bayonet attached to the barrel of our blunderbuss. If we have no bayonet, then we grab the blunderbuss's barrel with both hands and whack the bad guy over his head. Take that!

If we're not on the

Trail, we're at home in our mansion. Thieves look at the size of our house and think we're easy pickings. We're ready for them. We've made plans.

We hitched a trip-wire to our blunderbuss. The gun is hidden in a bush beside the path to our house. Mr. Bad's boot will hit the wire. Bang! The gun fires with a sharp report. Mr. Bad'll make tracks into the distance. Gamekeepers nearby use the same tactics to scare off poachers.

Back in the bad old days, law enforcement

wasn't as organized or available as it is today. Homeowners, travelers, and riders had to protect themselves, their families and their possessions.

For almost a couple hundred years, the blunderbuss was a tool of choice for self-protection. A lot of stories about the blunderbuss begin with a kernel of truth. Then they are embellished into a tale-a tale of a mythical, fire-breathing dragon. A dragon that will vanquish thieves and kill off marauders, pirates, and robbers. A dragon that will save lives.

Its days are over as newer firearms are easier to use and are more accurate to fire. The blunderbuss though, will remain in history: part real and part romanticizing a past that brought us to today.

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

BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

Migration season progresses

By DON MORROW

Migration is seasonal, but weather dependent. Rain and unfavorable winds almost shut down Fall migration at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, earlier this week. It is entirely possible that students partying in the bars and nightspots of Tallahassee outnumbered migrating birds on Wednesday night when just over 10,000 birds flew over the refuge.

On Thursday night, however, a frontal passage brought strong winds out of the north. When I woke up at 5 a.m. on Friday morning and checked the Birdcast dashboard for Wakulla County, it showed more than 348,000 birds were currently in flight over the county and that over 3 million had already transited the county that night.

I grabbed a quick breakfast and got on the road down to the refuge.

A lumpy moon, somewhere between full and half, lit the beach as I walked east as far as I could go and, then, waited for first light so I could start birding along the coastal strand with the sun at my back. The

eastern horizon was just beginning to show color. With a strong North wind, it was chilly in the predawn darkness.

Except for the sound of the wind, it was quiet. My phone has an app, Merlin, that has a sound identification function. I turned it on and pointed the microphone end of the phone towards the sky. It registered Swainson's Thrush and Palm Warbler. Too high and faint for my ears. I watched the moon through my binoculars, but saw no migrants crossing its face.

Around 7 a.m., things started happening. Black Skimmers began barking, out in the marshes Clapper Rails grunted and an American Bittern flew in, silhouetted against the brightening sky.

I began to walk back, looking for birds in the Wolfberry hedges. Small flocks of Least Sandpipers were feeding in the wrack line. A Virginia Rail flushed from the beach grass and skittered along the beach, staying ahead of me. Small birds were flying in low from the Gulf. Most were warbler sized and in groups of two or three. Some disappeared

into the Wolfberry and some continued north across the salt marsh. These were overshoots, birds that had started a trans-Gulf flight, but decided to turn back. In total, I saw probably two dozen birds flying in.

It was frustrating birding as I walked back to the Lighthouse. I saw many birds moving in the bushes, but was only able to identify a few: a Palm Warbler, two Yellow Warblers and a Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

Lighthouse Pond was a mass of frenetic avian activity, mostly in its Southwest corner. Snowy, Reddish & Great Egrets, Tricolored & Great Blue Herons, White Ibis, a few Roseate Spoonbills and a lone flamingo were working the surface. Greater Yellowlegs were walking and swimming between them. Circling above them and plunge-diving were dozens of Forster's Terns, Laughing Gulls and Black Skimmers. Searching among the many Blue-winged Teals on the pond, I found a Northern Pintail, an American Wigeon and several shovelers. The exposed mudflats on the pond had Short-billed Dowitchers, Least

& Western Sandpipers, Black-bellied & Semipalmated Plovers and Willets.

I continued birding the refuge until noon, working the Cedar Point and Tower Pond trails, looking for migrant songbirds. I found Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Magnolia, Black-and-white, Yellow-rumped and Prairie Warbler. There were a lot of Eastern Phoebes, another cuckoo and a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak. I had over forty Gray Catbirds.

During October, migrants pass through St. Marks and we will likely see a few more big nights.

It is also the month when our winter residents begin to return. Today, I saw Ruby-crowned Kinglet and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

It's time to look for any returning Vermilion Flycatcher and the winter duck populations are just beginning to build.

Head down to St. Marks. Things are getting interesting.

Don Morrow can be reached at donaldcmorrow@gmail.com.



SOUTHERN FLOUNDER
(*Paralichthys lethostigma*)

Flounders are a type of “flat fish”. As the young larvae develop, one eye migrates across the head so both end up on the same side. They lie flat, eyes up, and can change their color to blend in. They hide from predators and ambush small fish prey with their studded teeth. They are tolerant of temperatures from 50-90F and salinities of 0-36 ppt. They weigh from 1-2 lbs and grow to 36” in their five year life span.

Eukarya, Animalia, Chordata, Actinopterygii
Pleuronectiformes, Paralichthyidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
www.gulfspecimen.org

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MASKS, FINS & SNORKELS,
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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 20

Sun rise/set: 7:42AM 4:40PM
Moon rise/set: 2:56AM 3:54PM

Moon Illumination 25%

Friday 21

Sun rise/set: 7:43AM 6:59PM
Moon rise/set: 3:54AM 5:10PM

Moon Illumination 17%

Saturday 22

Sun rise/set: 7:43AM 6:58PM
Moon rise/set: 4:51AM 5:40PM

Moon Illumination 10%

Sunday 23

Sun rise/set: 7:44AM 6:57PM
Moon rise/set: 5:50AM 6:09PM

Moon Illumination 5%

Monday 24

Sun rise/set: 7:45AM 6:56PM
Moon rise/set: 6:49AM 6:39PM

Moon Illumination 1%

Tuesday 25

Sun rise/set: 7:45AM 6:55PM
Moon rise/set: 7:52AM 7:13PM

Moon Illumination 0%

Wednesday 26

Sun rise/set: 7:46AM 6:54PM
Moon rise/set: 8:58AM 7:51PM

Moon Illumination 1%

Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

Oct. 20 - Oct. 26

GO FISH!

Tide charts by tides4fishing.com

Best fishing days this month
October 25-31

Thursday 20

Minor Times: 2:11AM 3:55PM
Major Times: 8:37AM 8:59PM

Friday 21

Minor Times: 3:09AM 4:25PM
Major Times: 9:21AM 9:42PM

Saturday 22

Minor Times: 4:06AM 4:55PM
Major Times: 10:04AM 10:26PM

Sunday 23

Minor Times: 5:05AM 5:24PM
Major Times: 10:48AM ----

Monday 24

Minor Times: 6:04AM 5:54PM
Major Times: 11:10PM 11:33AM

Tuesday 25

Minor Times: 7:07AM 6:28PM
Major Times: 11:56PM 12:21PM

Wednesday 26

Minor Times: 8:13AM 7:06PM
Major Times: 12:46AM 1:12PM

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

	High Tide	Low Tide
Carrabelle	28 Min.	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	12:08 am ▲ 3.0 ft	5:30 am ▼ 1.8 ft	11:30 am ▲ 3.0 ft	6:17 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Fr	12:40 am ▲ 3.2 ft	6:20 am ▼ 1.4 ft	12:23 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	6:52 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Sa	1:07 am ▲ 3.3 ft	7:00 am ▼ 1.0 ft	1:07 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	7:22 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Su	1:30 am ▲ 3.5 ft	7:36 am ▼ 0.5 ft	1:49 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	7:51 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Mo	1:52 am ▲ 3.6 ft	8:11 am ▼ 0.1 ft	2:30 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	8:19 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Tu	2:14 am ▲ 3.7 ft	8:47 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:11 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	8:48 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
We	2:37 am ▲ 3.9 ft	9:25 am ▼ 0.5 ft	3:54 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:18 pm ▼ 1.3 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	12:44 am ▲ 2.8 ft	6:34 am ▼ 1.6 ft	12:06 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	7:21 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Fr	1:16 am ▲ 2.9 ft	7:24 am ▼ 1.3 ft	12:59 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	7:56 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Sa	1:43 am ▲ 3.1 ft	8:04 am ▼ 0.9 ft	1:43 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	8:26 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Su	2:06 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:40 am ▼ 0.5 ft	2:25 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	8:55 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Mo	2:28 am ▲ 3.4 ft	9:15 am ▼ 0.1 ft	3:06 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	9:23 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Tu	2:50 am ▲ 3.5 ft	9:51 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:47 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	9:52 pm ▼ 1.0 ft
We	3:13 am ▲ 3.6 ft	10:29 am ▼ 0.4 ft	4:30 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	10:22 pm ▼ 1.2 ft

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	12:15 am ▲ 3.1 ft	5:45 am ▼ 1.9 ft	11:46 am ▲ 3.1 ft	6:29 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Fr	12:49 am ▲ 3.3 ft	6:37 am ▼ 1.4 ft	12:41 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	7:07 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Sa	1:18 am ▲ 3.5 ft	7:18 am ▼ 1.0 ft	1:26 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	7:39 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Su	1:44 am ▲ 3.7 ft	7:55 am ▼ 0.6 ft	2:08 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	8:10 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Mo	2:08 am ▲ 3.8 ft	8:31 am ▼ 0.2 ft	2:50 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	8:39 pm ▼ 1.0 ft
Tu	2:31 am ▲ 3.9 ft	9:07 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:32 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:09 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
We	2:56 am ▲ 4.0 ft	9:45 am ▼ 0.4 ft	4:16 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:40 pm ▼ 1.4 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	12:00 am ▲ 2.2 ft	5:41 am ▼ 1.3 ft	11:22 am ▲ 2.3 ft	6:28 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Fr	12:32 am ▲ 2.4 ft	6:31 am ▼ 1.0 ft	12:15 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	7:03 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Sa	12:59 am ▲ 2.6 ft	7:11 am ▼ 0.7 ft	12:59 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	7:33 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	1:22 am ▲ 2.6 ft	7:47 am ▼ 0.4 ft	1:41 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:02 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	1:44 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:22 am ▼ 0.1 ft	2:22 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	8:30 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Tu	2:06 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:58 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:03 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	8:59 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
We	2:29 am ▲ 2.9 ft	9:36 am ▼ 0.3 ft	3:46 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:29 pm ▼ 0.9 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	12:39 am ▲ 2.4 ft	6:15 am ▼ 1.6 ft	11:26 am ▲ 2.4 ft	6:21 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Fr	12:54 am ▲ 2.5 ft	6:49 am ▼ 1.3 ft	12:24 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	6:56 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Sa	1:10 am ▲ 2.6 ft	7:17 am ▼ 0.9 ft	1:10 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	7:26 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Su	1:26 am ▲ 2.8 ft	7:44 am ▼ 0.6 ft	1:51 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	7:54 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Mo	1:45 am ▲ 2.9 ft	8:12 am ▼ 0.2 ft	2:33 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	8:22 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Tu	2:05 am ▲ 3.0 ft	8:44 am ▼ 0.1 ft	3:15 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	8:50 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
We	2:29 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:19 am ▼ 0.4 ft	4:01 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:20 pm ▼ 1.3 ft

Dog Island West End

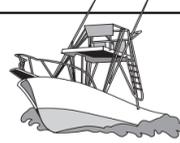
Th	1:11 am ▲ 2.1 ft	6:41 am ▼ 1.7 ft	10:59 am ▲ 2.1 ft	6:30 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Fr	1:12 am ▲ 2.2 ft	7:12 am ▼ 1.4 ft	12:10 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	7:14 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Sa	1:21 am ▲ 2.3 ft	7:39 am ▼ 1.0 ft	1:16 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	7:48 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Su	1:37 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:06 am ▼ 0.6 ft	2:12 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	8:17 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Mo	1:57 am ▲ 2.5 ft	8:34 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:01 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	8:45 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
Tu	2:21 am ▲ 2.6 ft	9:06 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:49 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	9:12 pm ▼ 1.3 ft
We	2:47 am ▲ 2.8 ft	9:41 am ▼ 0.4 ft	4:41 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	9:40 pm ▼ 1.5 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



Thank you to Linda Olson for passing along information from the Florida Specifier for the following article.

The article highlights that marine debris is one of the most pervasive global threat. This is not just the large things we may think about such as crab traps and fishing nets but also the smaller things such as fishing line, the bag that flies out of your boat when picking up speed and the cans and bottles thrown overboard.

Fishing line is the largest threat to our migratory birds and other marine wildlife who become entangled and hook ingestion.

NOAA put out the following guidelines by debris type:

- Litter and other typical marine debris items Examples: Plastic bottles, aluminum cans, buoys, plastic foam. Common marine debris types may vary by location. If safe and practical, we encourage you to remove the debris and recycle as much of it as possible.

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

- Potential hazardous materials (HAZMAT) Examples: Oil or chemical drums, gas cans, propane tanks. Contact your local authorities, a state emergency response or environmental health agency, and the U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center (link is external) at 1-800-424-8802 to report the item with as much information as possible. Do not touch the item or attempt to move it. If the item poses a serious hazard and requires immediate attention by authorities, make a 911 emergency call.
- Derelict vessel or

other large debris item Examples: Adrift fishing boat, shipping containers. Contact your local authorities and a state emergency response or environmental health agency to report the item. If the debris item is a potential hazard to navigation, immediately radio your nearest U.S. Coast Guard Sector Command Center (link is external). Do not attempt to move or remove the item.

- Unknown item: If you don't know what it is, don't touch it. If you believe it is a hazardous item, contact local authorities and report it.

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 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.

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

National Geographic moment.

As a scuba diver for many years I have always wanted to have what I call a "National Geographic moment while diving." I had my moment this past Sunday. No, I wasn't at some exotic place like Belize or the Caribbean I was in our Gulf waters just 2 miles offshore at Panama City Beach in 60 feet of water.

To start this adventure I need to let you know I had a scuba class of 11 open water students along with my assistant instructor and my newly certified dive master. The captain and I discussed what dive site we need to dive at since half of my class of students were ages 12-14 years old. I didn't want to have to be concerned with the depth that they were diving so we decided, for the first dive, to go the lost pontoon.

The lost pontoon is in 60 feet of water to the bottom so I didn't have to be concerned with the kids diving below the 60 foot maximum of their certification depth. The site has several parts of a concrete road bed laid out in several directions. This is a great underwater navigation site to train underwater compass navigation but that's not why we are here. We are here for the standard open water part of their certification. Along with the road beds there is a rather large round steel structure that is 15 feet in diameter and about 75 to 85 feet in length. At one end at the top of the structure there is a top section that is cut out so you could swim into it but with a little specialized training. This structure is where I had my moment in time that will probably never happen again.

As the instructor, I gave my assistant and dive master their assignments with the students and I would watch everyone swimming from group to group as I always do. After I made my rounds to the groups it was time for them to make their way to the anchor rope for their ascent to the safety stop on their way to the surface. Once I made sure everyone was OK and on their way up I proceeded to go around the pontoon one last time to see if there were any stragglers.

As I made my way to the east end of the pontoon at about 50 feet from the surface I felt what I call a pressure wave of water off my right shoulder and then I felt something hit the top of my right shoulder. I didn't panic because it shoved me towards the side of the pontoon. I slowly looked to my right and there was the biggest manta ray I have ever seen in the wild. I slowed my breathing to a slow steady inhale and a very slow and deliberate exhale. I didn't want to spook this gentle giant that was very curious about me. I didn't look like a typical diver because of the full face mask that I wear and my breathing is very different than most divers so I don't exhale a mass of bubbles.

When I say huge I mean the wing tip to tip was approximately 12 foot or bigger, the main body was at least 10 feet to where the tail starts and the tail was at least 10 feet to the barb. She was at least 3-4 feet thick center mass then tapered down to the tip of the wings to about a foot thick. The best part of this moment is she stopped beside me to where I could have touched her wing tip but I didn't because I didn't want to spook her away. She was barely moving her wings to where she was stationary next to me and I could see her looking at me. We stayed there next to each other for at least 7 minutes then suddenly she flaps those massive wings and she disappears into the murky water. I made my way to the anchor rope for my slow ascent to the safety stop then back on the boat. I can only guess that she was taken off course due to the hurricane from southern Florida. I hope she makes it back to her home waters.

Make lots of bubbles.

Russell Miller #59999

On the Horizon

Calendar of upcoming events for the week of Oct. 20

Thursday, October 20

- 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 Cancer Support Group meets in the Education Center of the Crawfordville United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. This group meeting is for men and women, regardless of the type of cancer. Spouses, caregivers, and friends are welcome. For more information, call 850-926-6050.

Thursday, October 21

- Report Card Day for Wakulla Public Schools.
- The Wakulla War Eagles host the North Florida Christian Eagles at J.D. Jones Stadium. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.
- Veterans meet up at 11 a.m. at the Wakulla County Public Library.

Saturday, October 22

- Fall Festival and Stone Crab Feast will be held in St. Marks from noon to 4 p.m. with local vendors.
- Feathers and Fur Masquerade Ball, a fundraiser for Florida Wild Mammal Association, will be held at 30 Palms in The Villages of St. Marks from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$60 per person. Tickets available at Gatortrax and Wakulla Investment Properties.. Please dress in cocktail attire with a mask/costume of your choice. The event will include live music, door prizes, costume contest, live/silent auction, photos with critters, and wine pull.
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church's 12th annual craft fair will be held at the church from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Authentic Life Church community craft fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Household Hazardous Waste Day at the Wakulla Community Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 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 24

- 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 Wakulla County Historic Preservation committee meets at 4 p.m. in the Wakulla County administration conference room.
- The Wakulla County Recreation Advisory Committee will hold a public meeting at the Community Center at 4 p.m.

Tuesday, October 25

- Sopchoppy Community Dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.
- Mash Island Park Advisory Committee meets at the community center at 4 p.m.

Wednesday, October 26

- 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.

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.

Jesus and coffee

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

I like the early mornings, the quietness of the house, and the scent of coffee as it drifts from the kitchen and down the hallway.

The aroma is inviting as I stumble out of bed for that first cup of a morning pick-me-up. I usually reach for the white cup with an olive branch emblem and a simple saying, “Jesus and Coffee,” etched in

gold. It is one of my favorites. The cup was a Mother’s Day gift from my daughter Tiffany. It reminds me to begin my day with the Lord.

Today, with all the blessings in my life, I wonder why I need a reminder to be present with God, for God is always present with me.

Nevertheless, a factor called time is always ticking away at life. I often find myself rushed to start the next day before the present day has ended. However, there are days when I linger a little longer with that first cup of coffee and wonder, why the rush? This morning it is Jesus and Coffee.

C. S. Lewis once said, “Sin, both of men and of angels, was ren-

dered possible by the fact that God gave each free will.”

Being present with the Lord is a choice I make because of free will. Regardless of my choice, the omnipresence of God is always with me.

Proverbs 15:3 teaches that the eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. There are no hiding places from God (Jeremiah 23:24), for He sees and knows all things.

The Lord is present in all my choices; life is more manageable when I choose Him early in the morning.

Making my first choice of the morning to enter His presence guides me throughout

my day. A morning devotion gives calmness to my spirit and helps me through the challenges of work and relationships.

When I start my day with Jesus, I discover a greater awareness of the Lord’s presence and His grace within my spirit, allowing me to be a greater witness for Him. This awareness helps me maintain old relationships and form healthy new ones.

When it comes to daily challenges, I am encouraged by knowing I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.

If it is Christ who strengthens me, it is also Christ who teaches me.

Jesus understood the need for morning devotions. In Mark 1:35-39 we read that Jesus woke up very early in the morning. The others were asleep in the house, and Jesus slipped away while it was still dark. He found a quiet place where He prayed to the Father. We do not know what the Lord prayed. However, Jesus found strength in prayer as He entered the villages healing the sick and casting out demons.

If Jesus found it essential to begin His day with the Father, how can we do any less?

We can do all things through the Lord who strengthens us. We can do all things good in

the love of the Father who created us. We can improve the world if we humble ourselves before God and begin our day with Him. We can be the people He has called us to be, but it starts with our choice early in the morning.

Let us begin our day with “Jesus and Coffee,” inviting Him into our lives.

Psalm 143:8 Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.

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

Obituaries

DEATH NOTICES

- **Alice Virginia Dekle**, 75, of Crawfordville, died October 11, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com
- **Gerald Richard Hurd**, 84, of Tallahassee, died October 13, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com
- **Thomas Cecil Lewis Jr.**, 59, of Crawfordville, died October 5, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com
- **Elizabeth Ellen Savage**, 69, of Crawfordville, died October 11, 2022. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

Craft fair at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Special to The Sun

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church will host its 12th Annual craft fair Saturday, Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come and enjoy arts and crafts, baked goods, and community. The church is located at 3609 Coastal Highway – off Highway 98 in Medart.

Contact Nickey at 850-926-9750 for more information.



Annette Porter Strickland

Annette Porter Strickland, 79, of Crawfordville, passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 16, 2022, at home with her loving husband of nearly 60 years and her daughter.

Annette was born on November 19, 1942, in Sopchoppy, Florida, to Thomas L. Porter and Willie Mae Hodge Porter. She was a faithful servant of God and a devoted friend to many. Annette grew up in Sopchoppy, Florida, where she spent much time as a young lady swimming on the Sopchoppy River and skating with her friends at the local skating rink. She enjoyed cooking and was known for her exceptional cooking and baking. People often said

her cooking could heal everything imaginable. She loved children and was often seen with huge smiles of delight when holding and loving them. Annette was a good lady who cared for others and often delivered home cooked meals and cheer for the sick and dying. She retired from the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles after 19 years of service.

She was predeceased by her father, Thomas L. Porter; her mother, Willie Mae Hodge Porter; her sisters, Tewanna Porter Posey and Tommie Mae Porter Green; and brother, Thomas Levy Porter Jr.

She is survived by her husband, Fred Strickland; daughter, June Strickland; half-sister, Nanette Gerhardt; and a host of special nieces and nephews.

During her last days, she was under the care of the Big Bend Hospice and the awesome volunteers at the Hospice Transitions Program. The family thanks everyone.

The Funeral Service will be Friday, October 21, 2022, at 10 a.m. at the Strickland Family Cemetery on Stokley Road in Crawfordville.

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

Participate in Veterans Day Parade

Special to 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.

Ducks Unlimited plan oyster roast

Special to The Sun

Wakulla Ducks Unlimited is planning a Fire & Ice Bash Oyster Roast on Friday, Oct. 28th, at 6 p.m. at the Skybox. Tickets are \$100 and available at <https://ducksunlimited.myeventscenter.com/event/102822->

Wakulla-Fire-Ice-Bash-And-Oyster-Roast-65135

Your ticket includes your entry to the eight gun and two cooler raffles, oysters and a barbecue dinner and draft beer for the night. Email Wakulla-du@gmail.com or call Sara Clark 850-510-4897 or April Posey 850.445.3047

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

First Baptist Church
CRAWFORDVILLE

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(Just south of the Courthouse on Hwy 319)

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Sunday Mornings at 11 am

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Director of Music & Choir - Jeff Cook
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850 745-8359

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Wednesday: Mass at 7:00 pm
1st Saturday: Adoration and Confessions at 8:30 am
1st Saturday: Mass at 9:30 am
Every Saturday: Confessions at 4:30 pm
Live Streaming - Sundays
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Cemetery lots and **850-509-7630**
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Oct. 21, 28, Nov. Monthly

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Big Bend Hospice
Big Bend Hospice is seeking direct patient care volunteers to provide companionship and respite services in Wakulla County. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kara Walker at (850) 878-5310.

GOLF CART / TRUNK or TREAT
Monday, October 31 • 6 – 7:30
Meet at the Sweet Magnolia General Store parking lot
Look for more information in the Sun Monthly
EVERYONE WELCOME!!

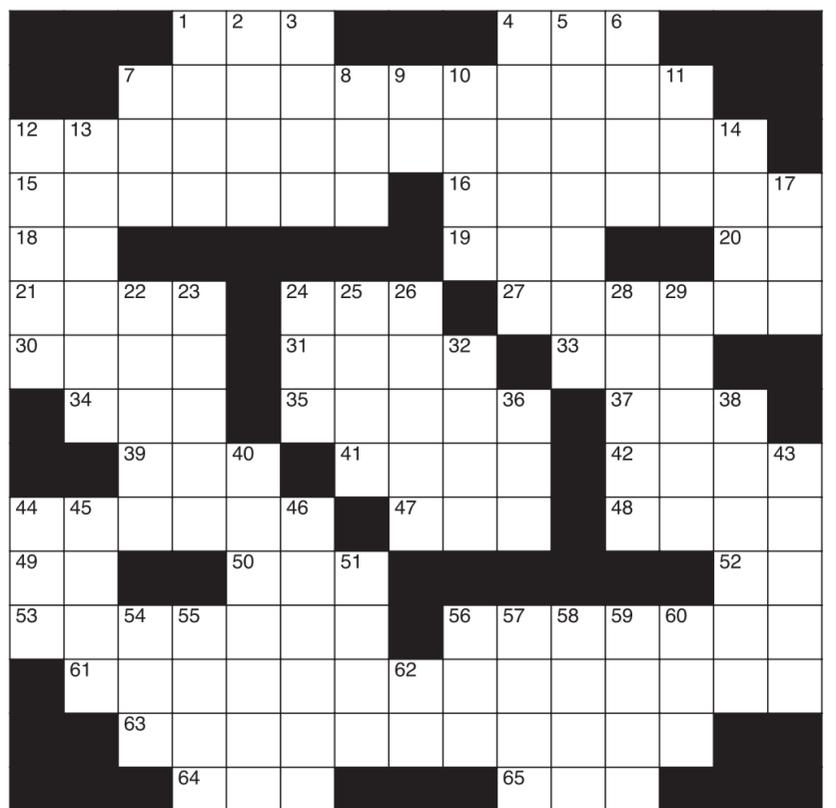
FICTITIOUS NAME NOTICE

FICTITIOUS NAME
Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 856.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **EPIC ENERGY SERVICES** Located at 2164 Spring Creek Hwy., Crawfordville FL 32327 In the County of Wakulla Intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporation of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Published on Oct. 20, 2022

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Unhappy
- Clairvoyance
- One who works under you
- What happens there stays there
- Not ingested
- Got the picture
- One thousandth of a gram
- Breakfast item
- About
- Tall deciduous trees
- Safe keeping receipt
- Cowardly
- Pueblo people of New Mexico
- Herring-like fish
- A very large body of water
- Angle (abbr.)
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- White clerical vestment
- Cool!
- Matchstick games
- Thick piece of something
- A state that precedes vomiting
- Burned item residue
- Jaguarundi
- Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
- The home of "60 Minutes"
- Dorm official
- Give cards incorrectly
- One who is learning the job
- Popular R.L. Stevenson novel



- Attentively
- CNN's founder
- Criticize

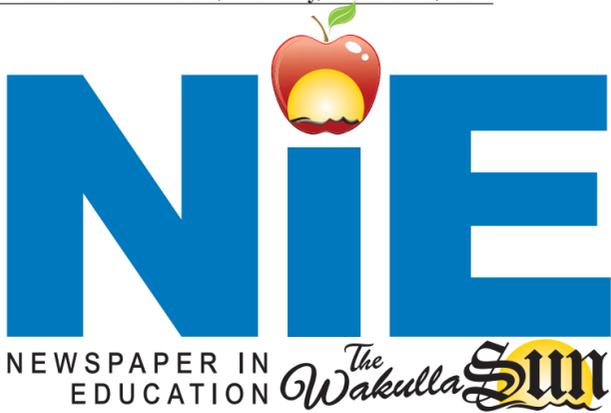
CLUES DOWN

- Fijian capital
- Assist
- Elected lord in Venice
- The capacity of a physical system to do work
- People of the wild groups
- Parent-teacher
- Midway between south and southeast
- Moved quickly on foot
- Handheld Nintendo console
- "Top of the Stairs" playwright
- Electronic data processing

- "Dog Day Afternoon" director
- Leaned
- About aviation
- Mountain is a popular type
- Lake along Zambia and Congo border
- Heroic tales
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- "Star Trek" villain
- Hand gesture popular on social media
- Renters have one
- Tubular steel column
- Database management system
- Similar
- Providing no shelter or sustenance
- Death

- What a sheep did
- Midcentury Asian battleground
- Horizontal passage into a mine
- Mortified
- Improper word
- No seats available
- Financial obligation
- It can be hot or iced
- Tough outer skin of a fruit
- ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- Misfortunes
- Negative
- Camper





Use the News

1. Record Home Run

In sports it's often said that records are made to be broken. Sometimes it just takes a few years. In baseball's American League this month, New York Yankees star Aaron Judge broke a record that had stood for more than 60 years when he hit his 62nd home run in the next-to-last game of the regular season. Judge's blast against Jesus Tinoco of the Texas Rangers broke the American League single-season home run record of 61 set 61 years ago in 1961 by Roger Maris, also of the Yankees. Maris hit home run Number 61 on the last game of the season that year to top the previous single-season record of 60 held by the legendary Babe Ruth, yet another Yankee. "Getting the chance to have my name next to someone as great as Roger Maris [and] Babe Ruth, it's incredible," Judge said after the game. In every sport, athletes achieve amazing things. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about an athlete who has done something amazing this year or in the past. Use what you read to write a sports column telling how you think this achievement will be remembered 50 years from now.

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.

2. Fat Bear Week!

Attention, fat bears! This is your time, so you'd better eat up! Fat Bear Week ends on Tuesday, October 11, and people are voting to see which Alaskan brown bear will be crowned the fattest bear in Alaska's Katmai National Park. The end of the competition is called Fat Bear Tuesday, but voters have been watching for weeks online to see the bears chow down on sockeye salmon fish to bulk up for their winter hibernation. And there are a lot of voters! Last year 800,000 votes were cast by bear fans who had watched the bears feast on salmon in the Brooks River. The winner was a bear called 480 Otis, who is trying to defend his title this year against 11 other big eaters. The bears all have been given identification numbers by park rangers, but some also have nicknames, including 32 Chunk, 435 Holly, 128 Grazer and 909 Yearling. To see this year's contenders, click here. The Fat Bear Week competition is a fun way to learn more about the behavior of bears in Alaska. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read stories about another wild animal you like. Use what you read to write a paragraph explaining why you like this animal.

Then brainstorm an idea for a fun event or contest that would help people learn more about this animal. Share ideas as a class.

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

3. One Great Pumpkin

In a famous "Peanuts" cartoon movie, one of the characters desperately wants to see "the Great Pumpkin" arrive in time for Halloween. If that movie were to be made today, the character would just have to travel to the village of Williamsville in western New York State to have his wish come true. A man who lives there has grown a gigantic pumpkin that is great in every way. The pumpkin grown by Scott Andrusz has weighed in at a massive 2,554 pounds to set a new record for the United States. That weight was

26 pounds more than the previous U.S. record of 2,528 pounds. To get an idea of how big Andrusz's pumpkin is, it weighs 554 pounds more than a ton and is heavier than a Ford Fiesta or Toyota Prius automobile. It is not a world record, however. That honor goes to a grower in the European nation of Italy, who grew a 2,702-pound pumpkin in 2021. A seed from that giant pumpkin has been used by a grower in the state of Minnesota to grow a huge pumpkin that could challenge Andrusz for the U.S. record in a weighing this week. Giant pumpkin contests are a popular way that people celebrate Halloween. In the newspaper or online, find and study stories, photos and ads that show other ways people celebrate Halloween. Use what you find to write a song about Halloween, using the tune of a song you like. Change the words to tell about your favorite Halloween things or activities. Perform your song for friends or family.

Goals: Demonstrating

understanding of figurative language; applying knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts; reading prose and poetry orally with accuracy, appropriate rate and expression on successive readings.

4. War of Chocolate Bunnies

The European nation of Switzerland is loved around the world for the delicious chocolate candies it makes. But there is no love lost between two makers of a favorite Swiss chocolate. They have been battling for years over chocolate bunnies, and now the Federal Supreme Court of Switzerland has gotten involved. At issue was whether the Lidl company from the neighboring nation of Germany could make and sell chocolate bunnies in Switzerland that look like those made by the Swiss chocolate maker Lindt and Sprüngli, the New York Times newspaper reported. Both come wrapped in gold foil, but the Lindt bunnies are protected by Swiss trademark law. Lindt argued in court

that the Lidl bunnies could be mistaken for Lindt bunnies and damage the Lindt business. The Supreme Court agreed and ruled that Lidl could no longer sell its bunnies in Switzerland. Lidl said it would continue to sell bunnies outside Switzerland but with a different design. People and businesses often have conflicts. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about one conflict. Use what you read to write a paragraph telling how you think the conflict could be resolved.

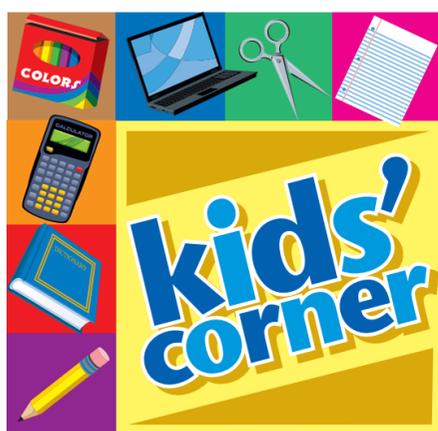
Goals: Producing clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization and style are appropriate to the task; citing specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions.

5. What a Doodler

Do you like to doodle? An artist in the European nation of England does, and he has turned his house into an "absolute masterpiece" of doodling. Sam Cox, who is professionally known as Mr. Doodle, bought his home in 2019, and

in three years he has covered every inch of his house with doodles. That includes walls, floors, appliances, bathtubs and even blankets and bedspreads, the NDTV and BBC news groups report. In an Instagram Internet post, Cox said that he used 238 gallons of white paint, 401 cans of black spray paint, 286 bottles of black drawing paint and 2,296 pens to complete his project. "This is sort of paradise for me," he told the BBC. Artists often are in the news for doing unusual things. In the newspaper or online, find and study stories and photos of an artist who has done something unusual. Study the photos and write a "review" of the artist's work, telling what you like or dislike about it, and how it makes you feel. Share with the class. For added fun, create an artwork from something in the news and share.

Goals: Writing opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information; using drawings or visual displays when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or points.



PAN, THIN CRUST AND DEEP DISH ARE TYPES OF THIS POPULAR COMFORT FOOD.

ANSWER: PIZZA

Crossword Puzzle

1			2		3		4
5				6			
				7			
8							
9							

ACROSS

- One who purchases
- Pleasant to eat
- Olive is one type
- Customer selections

DOWN

- Hard part of bread
- Barely enough
- Time to eat
- Type of noodles
- Belonging to you
- Abbreviation for "take out"

8. TO
Down
1. Crust 2. Scant 3. Meal 4. Ramen 6. Your

Answers:
Across
1. Consumer 5. Tasty 7. Oil 9. Orders

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1512: MARTIN LUTHER BECOMES A DOCTOR OF THEOLOGY.
- 1789: JOHN JAY IS SWORN IN AS THE FIRST CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES.
- 2003: MOTHER TERESA IS BEATIFIED BY POPE JOHN PAUL II.



ANCHOVY

small, silvery marine fish

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Oven

SPANISH: Horno

ITALIAN: Forno

FRENCH: Four

GERMAN: Ofen



MANY PIZZAS ARE COOKED IN EITHER WOOD- OR COAL-FIRED OVENS FOR AN AUTHENTIC TASTE AND CRISPINESS.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: DEEP-DISH PIZZA

PHYSICAL THERAPY WORD SEARCH

E S G E C R H Y A O L U L L P O F C H R
 S A Y T Y U X I E A S A L U M A C F E I
 A B R N L T F P R G B R R E M Y S F D P
 A H C B R L R H Y A E D L E B B S C R G
 T O Y X E A A N A F N F U N T R A O T D
 L F Y P S T B M L M V G O C R A T R T V
 A I T B O N R E I H S I E E T O L Y O N
 U T I R D T X E U X X T R E M I H I C O
 L Y L H F V O M V E O O R S R S O C B I
 B P I M E D T N L N N R S I V P H N A T
 N E B F U N N F I B H O P B N V G X U O
 E N A R Y S B P D C R A X C D G T U D M
 X R T E P S C R H G N T Y N V T S B Y O
 T V S N T D B L X H G M I D L I N E N E
 E I N N O I S N E T X E R E P Y H C A N
 N O I F E S H P E A D D U C T I O N M R
 S H R O T A T I O N G C O R E X V L I H
 I S T H H X V G Y R I S D I S T A L C Y
 O P L A N N I N G F H G P R O N E F I L
 N T M Y P C G A B B P H C H D C Y I M M

WORDS

- ABDUCTION
- ADDUCTION
- BILATERAL
- CORE
- DISTAL
- DYNAMIC
- EXTENSION
- FLEXION
- GROSS MOTOR
- HAMSTRINGS
- HYPEREXTENSION
- HYPOTONIC
- INSTABILITY
- LUMBAR
- MIDLINE
- MOTION
- MUSCLE
- PLANNING
- PRONE
- PROXIMAL
- RANGE
- REFLEX
- ROTATION
- VERTEBRAE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

⊙ ** ☹ ☺ ☼ ☽ ☾ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

CRYPTO FUN

☹ ☺ ☼ ☽ ☾ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓
 Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to roller skating.
 Each number corresponds to a letter.
 (Hint: 9 = E)

- A. 5 2 19 6**
Clue: Place to skate
- B. 21 22 9 9 14 10**
Clue: Moving components
- C. 22 17 3 3 24**
Clue: Personal interest activity
- D. 10 7 9 9 23**
Clue: Rate of movement

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to roller skating.

SEATKS

--	--	--	--	--	--

5	1	6	2	8	9	3	4	7
2	8	7	3	1	4	6	5	9
3	9	4	6	7	5	8	1	2
1	6	5	7	4	8	2	9	3
7	4	2	9	6	3	1	8	5
9	3	8	5	2	1	4	7	6
8	5	9	4	3	6	7	2	1
6	2	1	8	9	7	5	3	4
4	7	3	1	5	2	9	6	8

	7	3				9		
			8	9	7		3	
8							2	1
	3		5					6
	4				3			5
1			7	4				
3				7	5	8		
2			3	1	4			
		6	2					

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!
Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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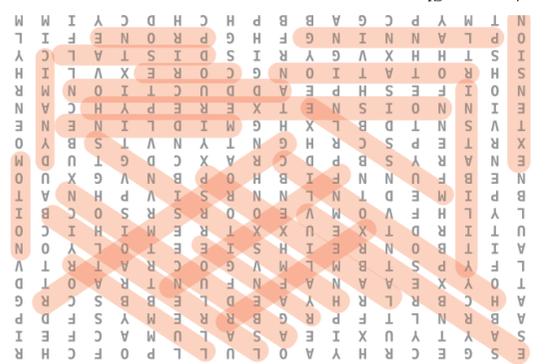
 City, State, Zip _____

 Phone # _____ E-MAIL _____

Guess Who?

I am a rapper born in California on October 21, 1995. I have a love for cats, and that love inspired my stage name. My brother's rapping motivated me to follow suit, and one of my songs inspired memes that went viral in 2018.

Answers: A. rnk B. wheels C. hobby D. speed
 Answer: Skates
 Answer: Doja Cat



CHAMBER NEWS

Win cash playing Business Bingo

Special to The Sun

Wakulla County's third annual Business Bingo is coming soon! Held from October 27 to November 22 this year, players will have five chances to win cash prizes just for shopping locally.

The Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce created Business Bingo during the Covid 19 pandemic to promote our Wakulla County businesses that give so much to our community. Instead of traditional bingo numbers, the card spaces include consumer choices like "buy something from Sopchoppy" and

"purchase meat or seafood" and "purchase from a small business."

"We started this contest in 2020, not knowing how much interest there would be. But players and businesses have really had fun with it – it's turned out to be a great way to both advertise our local businesses and compete to win cash for the holidays," said Missy Rudd Gainer, Chamber Board Member. Players simply shop locally, save



their receipts and note the businesses they shop at. Four lucky players will win a weekly cash prize of \$100 and all players are eligible for the grand cash prize of \$300!

The first week's Bingo card can be found in the November Wakulla Sun Monthly, in many local businesses and online at www.wakullacountychamber.com and the Wakulla County Chamber's Facebook page. Subsequent weekly Bingo cards will be printed in The

Wakulla Sun, available at local businesses and posted on the Chamber's website and Facebook page.

All Bingo cards can be submitted on paper to the Chamber office, 23 High Drive, Crawfordville, or mail to PO Box 598, Crawfordville. They can also be submitted electronically by emailing them with pictures of receipts to wakullabusinessbingo@gmail.com. Players must be at least 18 to win, and the complete rules can be found online at the sites listed above.

Good luck and remember to shop local Wakulla!

Sherlock Springs hosts luncheon, catered by Zaxby's

By **PETRA SHUFF**
Of the Chamber

Considering just a few short days ago it looked like hurricane Ian was going to pay us a visit but changed course, we considered ourselves extremely lucky to hold our networking luncheon, catered by Zaxby's at the beautiful venue Sherlock Springs.

Zaxby's thanked the community for supporting the local restaurant which in turn pays back to the community by sponsoring local teams and supporting local non-profit organizations.

Our new members for the month were announced as Care About You; Rivertown Community Church; Parker Services; The Hot Spot; Sunrays Spa; Real Life Counseling, and The American Dream Realty. It was our pleasure to introduce Kevin Carter with Attack-One Fire Management Services Inc., who joined a few months ago and was able to visit with us for the first time today. Rivertown Community Church's pastor Bryan Bair encouraged attendees and the community to create an assembled Clean-Up Kit and take it to your RCC location (Blountstown, Chipley, Marianna, Wakulla). You can learn how to assemble your Clean-Up Kit by visiting the link <https://bit.ly/3ffigWn>. All collected kits will be sent to the areas impacted by Hurricane Ian!

New member Sandra Steward – Sunrays Spa is a new business in Crawfordville currently focusing on various types of massages, with other services to come. They are located adjacent to Myra Jean's at 2655 -A Crawfordville Hwy. Sandra's services include Swedish or therapeutic massage, and Himalayan Salt Stone massage. She also offers specialty massage, designed to address certain concerns you may have, whether it is anxiety, stress or (chronic) pain (especially neck, back or



Chamber members grab lunch.

PHOTO BY LYNDA KINSEY

shoulder). You can make an appointment now at 850.745.6422.

North Florida Medical Center – Panacea introduced their new Nurse Practitioner Callie Burch. Samantha Morse's guests were Taylor and Michaela with Ignite, a Tallahassee Digital Marketing firm. Jeanie Booth with CareerSource Capital Region introduced Ariel Stewart, new manager for the Gadsden County CareerSource office. Jeanie also brought us up to date on workforce news. Wakulla has the lowest unemployment rate in NW Florida which makes it difficult to fill the 321 open positions in Wakulla alone. CSCR also offers training, and tuition paid certification programs. Marva Preston's guest was Cina Wilson Johnson – Assistant Secretary at the Department of Juvenile Justice Detention Center. Wakulla Correctional Institution Warden Allen introduced local recruiter Sgt. Lakrisha Delong. Legislature just approved pay of

\$44,200 for new hires plus benefits, so if you are looking for employment in that field, it's not a bad starting pay.

The local 4-H hay bale decorating contest is currently underway, and you can see several businesses' and local offices' display of their creation. 4-H will start their annual peanut butter challenge October 1-31. Each jar of peanut butter donated will be matched by Florida's peanut producers and farmers, so please pick up an extra jar or two on your next shopping trip and drop it off at the extension office 84 Cedar Ave. Join the peanut butter challenge kick-off event October 13th 4:30 pm at the extension office. Stop by with a jar of peanut butter and enjoy some home-made treats and participate in a photo op. Bibi Ramos - NW Florida Health Network joined us to talk about their Independent Living Program and the need for sponsorships for youth aging out of foster care, living on their own while working and/or

attending school. Mary Wallace shared that Camille Duke with Jeep Girl Realty donated last month's cash raffle winnings to the program.

Denise Colangelo shared sponsorships and tickets are still available for Florida Wild Mammal Association's Feathers and Fur Masquerade Ball Saturday, October 22nd at The Palms event venue in St. Marks. Tickets are available at Gatortrax and WIP Realty in Crawfordville. They sure could use our support as they are constantly inundated with injured and orphaned wildlife.

Operation Santa is in full swing making the holidays brighter for Wakulla children and families in need and is asking for toy donations and adoption of children or families for Christmas. If you can't adopt a child or family but still want to help, you can make a donation or volunteer. Call 850-745-6963 for information on how you can help.

The \$73 cash drawing was won by Angie Vega with Medical AR Revenue Solutions, LLC.

As always, we want to thank our members and guests for their generosity and bringing items for the gift drawings. Many thanks to: Sue Scott – Sue's Art Workshop; North Florida Learning Center; Capital City Home Loans; Wakulla 4-H; Sherlock Springs; Smith Thompson, P.A.; Wakulla Sign Company; FlaBizCo; Capital City Bank; Friend of the Wakulla County Public Library; CareerSource Capital region; PhantaSea Day Spa; The Wakulla Sun; Shepherd Spring Animal Hospital; English Financial group; SunBlest Gardens; evel Tractor Worx; Shepard Accounting & Tax Service; Oyster Radio; Sand & Soul Designs; Golden Properties - Tiffany Hartsfield; American Inspections, LLC; Zaxby's



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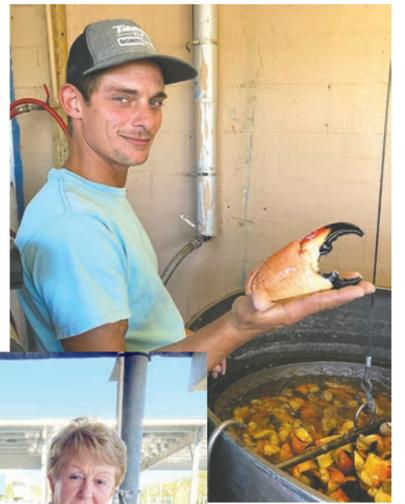
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Stone Crab Season Opens

St. Marks Seafood preparing catch for the market



Left: The Tooke brothers and fellow fishermen weigh and sort the claws by size. They are sold by the pound - medium, large and extra large.



Above: Daniel Conner shows off an extra large crab.



Sue Tooke and Susie Tooke enjoy a few of the catch.

PHOTOS BY LYNDA KINSEY



Festivities at the shelter

Jare, no last name given, gets his face painted at the Fall Harvest Adoption Extravaganza at the Wakulla County Animal Shelter on Saturday, Oct. 15. (Photo by Charity Tumbleson)

Historical Society meets

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN

The Wakulla County Historical Society held its annual meeting last week, elected officers, presented awards, and heard a bit about the history of the Hartsfield Survey.

Debbie Jay was recognized for her accomplishments as president of the organization from 2016 to 2021. Among other accomplishments, Jay registered all of the historic cemeteries in Wakulla County on the Florida Master Site File,

making Wakulla County the first county in the state to complete this project; renovation of the second floor of the Old Jail Museum; secured grant to move the Laird House to the Heritage Village and repair the floor of the Smith Creek School; and created a memorial brick patio in front of the Museum.

Andrea Carter was named volunteer of the year for her work writing grants for the organization, two of which have been funded by

the state, including a \$50,000 grant for the old jail, and \$120,000 to restore Richardson Cemetery.

Carter was unable to attend and will be presented the Anne Quick Stewart Award at another time.

Brent Thurmond did a presentation on the Hartsfield Survey, a unique survey of 59,000 acres in Wakulla still used in property deeds done in 1807-08 when Florida was Spanish territory.

Neighborhood complaints

From Front Page

residents. "That's not right," he said of the situation. "Some of these people have been going to the post office (to pick up their mail) for four months.

"The kiosk should be in there when they sell the first house," Kemp

said. He is looking at creating some kind of county requirement that mail kiosks be in place.

Planning Director Somer Pell said she's been told that Horton has a kiosk on the way that will be delivered soon. She noted that it was also a problem for residents at Chadwick Estates, who didn't get

mail for more than a year.

"I'm not sure why, but it takes a long time to get these kiosks," Pell said.

She noted that builder Mike Pafford went ahead and put up a mail kiosk at Spears Crossing before building houses after having similar problems when develop Elm Ridge.



Historical Society past president Debbie Jay is honored by current president Brent Thurmond at the group's banquet last week.

A look at the Sopchoppy candidates



The candidates for Sopchoppy City Commission in the upcoming election: Corey 'DJ Butch' Benedict, Lara Edwards, Fred McClendon, and Thomas E. Porter II.

From Front Page

married into a local Sopchoppy family. (Her husband is County Administrator David Edwards.) Edwards was first appointed to the council in 2011 and became vice mayor in 2013 and became mayor in 2016. Edwards' goal to stay in office would be to see the comp plan updated.

"I want to see those design standards that were talking about implementing for the commercial corridor implemented that way when people do come in commercially we have control over who, what, when, where, and how it looks," Edwards says. Edwards knows growth

is going to happen but wants to have the design standards in place to keep everything "balanced out."

Another goal Edwards has is to improve the gateway into downtown Sopchoppy, and also wants to work with state Department of Transportation to make the curve into Sopchoppy safer with signage.

"We're always planning ahead for the growth of our water utility because we're basically a water utility with the city," Edwards says. Edwards is also part of a group called Discover Sopchoppy, a small group of local people and business owners that plan out the festi-

vals for Sopchoppy. Edwards is looking forward to the Shells and Tales oyster and mullet festival in November.

"We're really looking forward to that. I think the festivals really bring the community together, and you get to meet new people," Edwards says, "I'm proud to continue to serve the citizens of Sopchoppy and I look forward to accomplishing more things to benefit the community."

• McClendon moved to Sopchoppy 10 years ago but has been in Wakulla since the 1970s and worked in the seafood business. Some goals McClendon has in office would be to bring stability.

"Financial stability, no debt that sort of stuff. Just to contribute to the needs of the community," McClendon says.

McClendon attends the Spirit Life Church, which works with a farm share, and McClendon has been helping out for 12 years. "We distribute farm share twice a month here," he says. This partnership with the church and farm share has helped between 7,000 to 10,000 families.

"We don't want Sopchoppy to change but if you changed all the people, then it has changed," McClendon says, "I just thank you. I look forward to doing and helping the com-

munity and they help back. They're friendly and caring people. I've enjoyed being a part of the city and I've learned so much."

• Porter has lived in Sopchoppy for almost 11 years and moved here from Orlando.

Some goals Porter has if elected into office would be to keep things "nice and quiet like they are," Porter says. Another goal Porter has is to improve the Mom's Restaurant lot as a gateway to the city.

"Mostly parking for the festivals and have a couple of picnic benches there, bike racks. A spot for people to sit," Porter says.

Porter also mentioned

that the Wakulla County School Board is giving the old Sopchoppy School to the city.

"I want to make sure the city gets control of that because the school board's pretty much going to give it to the city if we want it. I want to make sure that happens and that certain improvement is made," Porter says.

Porter also encourages small business development and small-time projects to improve the city.

"I love it here and I don't have any plans on leaving. I plan on staying in my house in Sopchoppy till the day I die," Porter says.



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Notes, stats from FSU's loss to No. 4 Clemson



PHOTO BY KEN FIELDS

FSU QB Travis Jordan is stopped just short of the goal line.



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By **BOB FERRANTE**
Editor/The Osceola

Florida State played about as well as could be expected against a top-5 team in an packed, high-energy Doak Campbell Stadium. And then for a third straight week, a Seminoles turnover resulted in a draining score for the opponent.

Jordan Travis' second-quarter fumble, off a blind-side hit by Myles Murphy, gave No. 4 Clemson a short field and an opportunity to extend the lead and held off a late fourth-quarter rally 34-28 on Saturday night.

The Tigers won for the seventh straight time in the series, although FSU ran for 206 yards and made a late push after trailing by 20 points in the second half.

"Really proud of our guys for how they fought," FSU coach Mike Norvell said. "Basically you take the two minutes on both sides of halftime, those were kind of devastating and some of the results of what occurred. Had a turnover. Obviously led to a quick touchdown.

"The kick return coming out of half, quick touchdown. And then obviously being aggressive, trying to provide a spark. We didn't get the fake punt and led to another short field with that. Just the things that we were executing well, just had a couple of mishaps and big swing in the game."

FSU (4-3, 2-3 ACC) and Clemson traded touchdowns in what was an entertaining first 20 or so minutes. The Seminoles scored

on a 75-yard drive on their first possession, resulting in a Jordan Travis 20-yard weaving run past a few Clemson defenders. And then FSU scored on its third drive, a 15-play, 93-yard drive that resulted in a DJ Lundy 1-yard run.

But Clemson had an answer each time and it was a lookout block by left tackle Robert Scott that allowed Murphy to jar the ball loose from Travis. Clemson needed just three plays to score, with DJ Uigalelei races to the pylon and giving Clemson a 24-14 lead with just 19 seconds before half-time.

After an opening punt, the Tigers scored on six straight scoring drives to push the lead to 34-14.

Clemson (7-0, 5-0) scored on six straight drives and surpassed the 30-point mark for a seventh straight game to open 2022. Will Shipley had 20 carries for 121 yards and six catches for 48 yards, and he added a 69-yard kickoff return that set up another Clemson touchdown.

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This week's game:

Friday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.
Wakulla War Eagles host the North Florida Christian Eagles
at J.D. Jones Stadium.



War Eagles beat Taylor County, 35-12

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

The Wakulla War Eagles improved to 7-1 with a 35-12 district win over the Taylor County Bulldogs.

But it came at a price: Junior quarterback Haden Klees went down with what appears to be a broken collarbone and is likely out for the rest of the season.

Klees had been having a terrific year and his stats put him as the No. 2 passer in the state.

It meant Klees' brother, 14-year-old 9th grader Owen Klees, had to step up to varsity. And he did – his first play coming in was a 25-yard pass completion over the middle.

"Nothing's going to change," Wakulla Head Coach Scott Klees said. The coach also noted the difficult spot the injury placed him in – the quarterbacks are his sons, his oldest and middle boys.

Klees noted that, with Haden, for the first time in his coaching career, his team was a pass first offense.

The War Eagles dominated the Bulldogs – it was 35-0 before halftime. The two scores that the Bulldogs got came in the second half with a running clock: The 95-yard drive for their first score, against Wakulla's young players, ate up the entire third quarter. And the second score came on the final play of the game.



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WEEKLY WAR EAGLE GAME HIGHLIGHTS
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PHOTO BY WILLIAM SNOWDEN

War Eagle running back Xavier Blake runs the ball towards the goal line against the Taylor County Bulldogs.

The Wakulla offense did exactly what it wanted to, Coach Klees said.

Before he went out of the game, Haden Klees was 10 of 16 for 271 yards and four touchdowns.

Receiver Jeremiah Thomas had three catches for 126 yards and two touchdowns.

Xavier "Bull" Blake rushed 12 times for 90 yards and a touchdown. The other back, Bradley Kelly, was out with an injury.

Gabe Carter had 2 catches for 66 yards and a TD and a big catch on a 4th down play.

On defense, Brady

Jackson had 6 tackles and an interception. Tanner Lanier had 9 tackles, Cody Walker had 6 tackles, and Tullane-commit Todd Williams added to his sacks with 3 more with 6 tackles overall.

GAME RECAP

The opening kickoff from the Bulldogs went out of bounds and Wakulla started at the 46. They quickly drove down the field – facing a 4th and goal at the 6, Taylor defender tips the ball and Wakulla WR Samron Brinson catches it for TD. Extra

point by Chase Linville is good. Wakulla up 7-0 early.

On the next drive, Wakulla QB Haden Klees connects with receiver Gabe Carter for a 35-yard TD pass. Extra point makes it 14-0 over Taylor.

Wakulla's first drive of the second quarter has Klees connect with WR Jeremiah Thomas over the middle and he streaks to the end zone. It's 21-0 Wakulla leads Taylor.

Samron Brinson jumps in front of the Taylor pass for the pick. Wakulla starts at the Bulldog 20. Side-

line pass to Jeremiah Thomas and he scores a second touchdown with less than a minute off the clock. It's 28-0 Wakulla.

Next drive, Haden Klees down on the field, walks off. Backup Owen Klees comes in, first play he completes a 25-yard pass to Jeremiah Thomas, 1st down Wakulla at the Taylor 20. Then Xavier Blake down to the 9, then rushes to the 3, to the 1, and the next play he scores. Wakulla up 35-0.

Later, Wakulla kicker Chase Linville comes in to attempt a 45-yard field goal - it is just

short. (He had kicked a 47-yarder last week.)

Just before halftime, corner Brady Jackson catches a tipped pass with one hand and returns it to the 10.

Young players were in for the second half, and there was a running clock. Taylor County drove 95-yards for a touchdown that burned through the third period. Extra point no good. Wakulla up 35-6.

In the fourth, Taylor got the ball back near midfield with just a few minutes left and scored on a pass that was the final play of the game.

Final: Wakulla 35, Taylor County 12.

**NEXT UP:
NORTH FLORIDA
CHRISTIAN**

The North Florida Christian Eagles are undefeated and they play good football.

"It's going to be a challenge," Coach Klees admitted. "We're gonna have some new pieces, of course, with Owen."

But the coach continued to insist "We're not changing anything." Instead, he looks for young Owen to quickly grow into the position.

He expects to make some adjustments during the game, and that may slow the start somewhat.

To win, the War Eagles cannot turn over the ball. And they need to run the ball and play physical.

COACH'S CORNER

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FROM THE COACH

Scouting report: North Florida Christian is undefeated and is going to be a challenge for Wakulla with a new quarterback.

Keys to victory: No turnovers. And to run the ball effectively and play extremely physical.

Last week: The War Eagles improved to 7-1 over district opponent Taylor County, but the win came with a season-ending injury to star quarterback Haden Klees.



COACH Scott Klees



PHOTO BY WILLIAM SNOWDEN

The War Eagle Marching Band at Friday night's game in Perry.

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6 tackles, 1 interception



ASHTON HARRIS
Long snapper had great game

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