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**Summer Camp
listings**

Page 1

The Wakulla SWIM

"It's a New Day"

WAKULLA WeatherSTEM
Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny Hi: 81° Lo: 58° 5% Sunrise 6:52 AM Sunset 8:16 PM	Partly Cloudy Hi: 82° Lo: 61° 5% Sunrise 6:51 AM Sunset 8:17 PM	Partly Cloudy Hi: 84° Lo: 67° 12% Sunrise 6:50 AM Sunset 8:18 PM

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Our 2nd Year 18th Issue
Thursday, May 4, 2023



\$1
One Section

Protecting the water

County votes to go forward with new springs protection ordinance

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Wakulla county commissioners voted 4-1 on Monday night with public hearings on a new ordinance intended to create stricter regulation on development within the Springs Protection Area.

Commissioner Chuck Hess cast the lone dissenting vote, apparently in the belief that the proposed ordinance wasn't strict enough.

A number of citizens spoke on the ordinance – but most were commenting on the gas station proposal that drew controversy last year and was subsequently withdrawn. The Southwest Georgia Oil Company had proposed building a gas station on property at the corner of Bloxham Cutoff and U.S. Highway 319. That project has not been resubmitted.

Divers with the Woodville Karst Plain Project determined in January that an underground cavern runs under a portion of that property, which connects the Chip's Hole sink to Wakulla Springs.

The proposed ordinance would update the current ordinance, which was approved in 1994, and would require more site-specific studies – such as three 30-foot ground borings for each 5,000 square feet, rather than one 15-foot



A curious manatee at Wakulla Springs checks out Cal Jamison on the bow of a boat doing the Florida Springs Initiative weekly water testing. Jamison was testing water clarity.

borings for the area. Tom Lewis, a geologist with the Terracon Consultants, which advised the county on the changes, said it would give county officials greater knowledge on the geology of an area.

The ordinance would also require a third-party review of geologic data submitted by a developer. Somer Pell, director of the county Planning Department, noted that the soil samples could be used to determine whether underground storage tanks would be allowed, or if the county would require aboveground tanks.

There has been much talk – in Letters to the Editor, social media posts and letters to the county – about requiring some sort of setback from underground caverns.

County Administrator David Edwards said at the meeting that set-



Speakers at 'Rivers Beneath Us,' a program on the vulnerability of the local underground caverns: Jad Kabbani, who spoke of the economic impact, Dr. Chris Werner of Woodville Karst Plain Project and Tom Greenhalgh, an hydrology expert at FSU.

backs was the original idea, "but we can't get there." While WKPP's maps generally show where the caves are, they don't show exact location – so there's no way to know where to setback from. Edwards said that, until a surveyor can set out markers delineating where the cavern is – as they do in marking a surface wetland or mean high

water – there is no legal boundary to set back from.

As Pell put it at the meeting: "The data is not certifiable where we can establish a setback."

Two points did draw support from commissioners: the lack of definition in the ordinance of "overburden" and "confining layer" which was pointed out by a

Turn to Page 9

Local teacher arrested on sex charge in Leon

Drone instructor Jonathan Flagg is charged with video voyeurism for allegedly photographing woman in dressing room at Tallahassee store

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Wakulla High School teacher Jonathan Flagg, who instructed students on aviation and flying drones, was arrested by the Leon County Sheriff's Office on Wednesday, April 26, and charged with video voyeurism, which is a felony sex offense.

According to the Leon County Sheriff's Office, in mid-March a woman at a Target store in Tallahassee reported that she was in the dressing room and someone reached under the stall with a cell phone and photographed her. Based on surveillance video, deputies interviewed Flagg at his home and seized his phone for evidence.



Jonathan Flagg

Flagg later turned himself in at the Leon County Jail.

The district immediately suspended Flagg with pay and prohibited him from coming on campus.

It's typical for a district employee charged with a felony sex offense to be suspended and then put the matter of terminating the employee to the school board.

Asked for comment, Superintendent of Schools Bobby Pearce released a statement that read: "Johnathon Flagg, a Wakulla District employee, has been arrested in Leon County for a non-school related offense. He has been placed on Administrative leave until the next School Board meeting where further action may be recommended to the School Board."

Jury awards \$3M in lawsuit

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

On Dec. 6, 2018, at around 5:30 in the morning, Stephen Berry was driving north on Woodville Highway on his way to work at Wakulla Correctional Institute. He crashed into the back of a Waste Pro garbage truck and was killed.

Last week, after a four-day trial, a six-person jury awarded Berry's estate, which includes his now 6-year-old son, \$3 million in damages. The jury found Waste Pro was 60% at fault for the wreck and Berry, who was driving 62 mph in a 55 mph zone, was 40% at fault.

It appears to be the largest jury verdict awarded in a civil lawsuit in Wakulla County.

Berry's estate was represented in the case by attorney Allen McConnaughay of the Tallahassee law firm of Fonvielle Lewis Messer & McConnaughay. McConnaughay contended the Waste Pro garbage truck was blocking the road and its brake lights didn't work.

Waste Pro was represented by Tampa attorney William Smoak, who noted the truck had its yellow flashers on, as required by law.

Wakulla Circuit Judge Layne Smith presided over the trial.

Man struck by lightning

STAFF REPORT

A man was reportedly struck by lightning during the heavy storm on Thursday, April 27, according to the Wakulla Sheriff's Office.

The call came in around 4:20 at the Kangaroo gas station on Coastal Highway. When first responders arrived, the man was alert and declined medical attention or transport to the hospital.

STEPHEN SMITH REGATTA AT SHELL POINT



The annual Stephen C. Smith Regatta, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, was held over the weekend at Shell Point Beach. (Photos by Gerald Brown)



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Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Southern Blue Flag Iris

By LYNN ARTZ, SANDY TEDDER and DAVID RODDENBERRY



This iris grows in marshes, swamps and along ponds.

Southern blue flag iris (*Iris virginica*) is a native iris with large, elegant, pale blue to deep purple flowers. This wetland wildflower with sword-like leaves grows 2-4 feet tall in full sun. Southern blue flag iris grows in marshes, swamps, and along ponds in northern Florida. It is an ideal plant for rain gardens, water gardens, retention ponds, and drainage ditches. However, it can tolerate normal garden soils with regular watering. Deer resistance is high. Though visited by butterflies seeking nectar, it is pollinated by bumblebees and long-horned bees. The dark purple lines near the flower center are nectar guides, visual cues that help pollinators find nectar and pollen faster. The Southern blue flag iris is blooming now near the pond at Sopchoppy Depot Park.

Student of the Week

Audrey DeBorde, 1st grader at Crawfordville Elementary

Principal: Alena Crawford

Achievements/Reason for Nomination: Aubrey DeBorde is a star student in Mrs. Johnson's 1st grade class. She recently reached 100 books and has made amazing progress on Star Reading. She is an extremely hard worker and a great helper in the classroom. She is also a wonderful friend to those in her class.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.

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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.

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Class at Riversink aims to help monarch butterflies

SPECIAL TO THE SUN

Mrs. Johnson's fifth grade classes at Riversink Elementary School have been learning about different ways to help the monarch butterfly in our area.

The monarch butterfly is an endangered species, and its migration is seen in the local area. Learning about the phenomenon of the monarch butterfly's migration was also an opportunity for the students to develop environmental awareness.

Through the support of the National Science Foundation Career Grant #2142908 and professor Dr. Amal Ibourk from FSU, the students were able to participate in lessons that taught them about how monarch migration is affected by the rising global temperatures over time, which



Mrs. Johnson's fifth grade class at Riversink with plants for monarchs to feed on.

have led to habitat loss for the monarch butterflies such as the decrease in the amounts of Milkweed and Salt Bush along our Florida Coastline.

Fifth grade students used the web-based in-

quiry science environment (WISE) developed at the University of California - Berkeley (with support from NSF) as a supplement to understand how solar radiation from the sun heats the Earth, and how green-

house gasses like carbon dioxide and methane can impact the energy cycle when they trap more heat in the atmosphere.

By the end of the unit, fifth graders were able to identify ways that humans can positively im-

prove their environment such as reducing food waste, decreasing energy usage, and planting plants to help native species.

Penelope Watters, a student in Mrs. Johnson's class stated, "The unit was so interesting! I loved getting to learn so many new things about butterflies and how to help their numbers go up! I hope we can put this knowledge to good use."

Natalie Drye added, "The most enjoyable thing about the butterfly unit was learning about how they migrate to Mexico and about how they reproduce."

As a culminating project, the FSU Environmental Service Program, Mrs. Johnson, Dr. Amal Ibourk, and Syrena Young (Dr. Ibourk's research student) came to school on a Saturday morning and built

a community garden at the school. The garden includes flowering plants for butterflies to get nectar, such as zinnias, milkweed for monarch larva to feed on, and blue porter weeds which promote pollinators such as monarchs.

The students are very excited to be making a positive impact and are watering the garden every day during recess. They are helping the monarch population thrive by providing a habitat right at the elementary school. This allows students to see themselves as doing science in ways that make a difference in their school. It also has given them a new connection to the monarch, an appreciation and concern for the natural world but also a feeling of hope and interconnectedness with the world around them.

Medart School of Music to hold student recital

The Medart School of Music will be having their Spring recitals on Saturday, May 6, at the Ochlockonee Bay United Methodist Church located at 2780 Surf Road.

There will be two performances. One at 11 a.m. and one at 2 p.m. Come and enjoy a variety of music performed on a variety of instruments by these young musicians!

Students who attend the music school are Logan Bramblett, Matthew Hamel, Dylan Hamel, Rayna Hamel, McKenna Sanders, Taylor Cook, Trenton Wells, Addison Wells, Logan Hand, Ruari Robinson, Sabian Jett, Lauretta Compton, Laila Francis, Legion Taylor, Ronin Taylor, Noble Holloway, Gunner Roe, Ariel Roe, Isaiah Laughton, Eliana Howard, Bay Sanders, Carter Dunn, Gary Diskerud, Fabiola Larregui, Isabella Larregui, Nina Fox, Latesha Monroe, Chandler Bechtel, Aubrey Recks, Alexis Porter, Charlie Moss, Ella Yost, Emily Chen, Grayson Van Vliet, Lulu Fenenbock, ryson Sanders, Brooks Loper, Riley Solano, Zoe Norris, Isabella Maskell, Kara Maskell, Emily Lloyd, Brooks Baker, Brooklyn Ruggless, Jewel Morgan, Sebastian Diez-Gomez, Isabella Laughlin, Joe Miller, Liam Miller, Walker Roberts, Gabriele Kent, Bently Wilson, Ryan Ladwig, Gabi Morales, Blaiden Ward, Jace Perez, Madalyn Carraway, Cameron Stevens, Christopher Raker, Lily Bridges, Teddy Herb, Michael Albanese, Elizabeth Albanese, Alanna Womble, Anna Prather, Marlene Meeks, Mollie Robinson, and Debbie Carter.



4-H Speech Contest winners

Special to The Sun

1st Place 6th grade: Tara Cook COAST Charter School "With or Without a Mom."

1st Place 4th/5th grade: Penelope Watters Riversink Elementary School "Mirror, Mirror on the Wall."

2nd Place 4th/5th grade: Josephine Gooch Shadeville Elementary "Camping is the Best Family Vacation!"

3rd Place 4th/5th grade: Jettson Medley COAST Charter School "Why I Hate Florida."

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of May 4

Thursday, May 4

- The Rotary Club of Wakulla County meets at the TCC Wakulla Center at 8:30 a.m.
- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville, every Thursday. There will be concessions and raffles.
- Hatha Yoga with Zoe at 9 a.m. and Yin Yoga with Nellie at 6 p.m. Classes are \$12, packages available at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. Please RSVP email at newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Friday, May 5

- CINCO DE MAYO
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Saturday, May 6

- KENTUCKY DERBY DAY
- 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.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Monday, May 8

- Planning commission meets at 6 p.m. in the commission meeting room.
- Sopchoppy City Commission meets at City Hall at 6:30 p.m.
- 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.

- The Wakulla Respite Program is available weekly for anyone with memory impairment at no cost from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Ellen Baptist Church.
- Hatha Yoga at 9 a.m. and Restorative Yoga at 6 p.m. with Zoe. Classes are \$12, packages available at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. Please RSVP email at newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Tuesday, May 9

- Historical Society Show & Tell is at the public library at 4:30 p.m.
- Sopchoppy Community Dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.
- One-cent Sales Tax Committee meets in the county administration conference room at 2 p.m.
- Yin Yoga at 10:30 a.m. and Flow Yoga at 6 p.m. with Nellie. Classes are \$12, packages available at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. Please RSVP email at newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Wednesday, May 10

- 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.
- Line Dance class will be held at 1 p.m. at the Wakulla Senior Center.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.



Spencer Smith playing in PGA Championship

Former Wakulla War Eagle Spencer Smith is playing in the PGA professional championship in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with a chance to qualify for the U.S. Open in June. Smith is one of 312 golfers competing.

A 2010 Wakulla high School graduate, Smith is currently a golf professional in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

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.”

LETTERS FROM READERS

Editor's Note

A Letter to the Editor two weeks ago (“Emergency landing at airport”) about the Wakulla Airport being used for an emergency landing by the pilot of a Cessna C-150 having engine trouble after refueling at Apalachicola, resolving issues and then continuing a planned flight to Deland, then prompted a letter from Surf Road resident Jim Parham last week (“Story shows airport used as intended”) that the use of the airport by a light aircraft, which he defined as 6,000 pounds.

Debate over defining ‘light aircraft’

Editor, The Sun:

An Open Letter to Steve Fults, Manager Wakulla Airport

Steve:

Yes, it is understood that the definition of light aircraft has been changed to 12,500lbs, by whomever and for whatever reason,... insurance classification perhaps?

As it pertains to the 1963 deed from (Fenton) Jones to Wakulla (for the land to be used as an airport), the current day definition is immaterial.

That is, changes over time should not be confused with the instant subject. Contracts are entered into and enforced based upon meetings of the minds. That which prevails in the Jones to Wakulla deed was the meeting of the minds at the time of its execution.

- Light aircraft was specified in the 1963 deed,
- Light aircraft as of 1963 was

Airport Manager Steve Fults sent an email to Parham – copying the Sun editor – asking him to cite his source of light aircraft being defined as 6,000 pounds. Fults contends FAA regulations define light aircraft as 12,500 pounds or less. Parham has made the claim before in presentations before the county commission over the airport issue.

As background, Parham has been adamant in his concern about heavy aircraft, especially Blackhawk helicopters, using the grass strip.

Parham submitted the following response as an open letter to Fults:

6,000 pounds as has been clearly defined in the Encyclopedia of Aviation and by The George Smathers Library of the University of Florida,

- Heirs of Fenton Jones have ratified that understanding.

You asked a decade ago if we could come up with something that would be acceptable to each. After all of the wasted time, effort, money and most regretfully relationships, the 6,000lb limitation remains the answer.

Newer aircraft are being manufactured lighter and to be more efficient,... just as are automobiles. Larger aircraft under the 6,000lb threshold will likely be using the airport in full compliance with the spirit and letter of the land grant from Jones to Wakulla,... fine!

Let's move-on in harmony at the 6,000lb limitation.

Jim

L. James Parham
Ochlockonee Bay

Night of Joy at Wakulla Springs

Editor, The Sun:

The Spring Night of Joy, formerly known as the Special Needs Prom, will be held at Wakulla Springs Lodge on Saturday, May 13.

We are seeking funds to make this night possible. With donations, we are able to keep this event free for attendees and their guest.

ees and their guest.

This year will be our first year back since 2019! Deadline for donations is May 5. All donations go right back into this event.

For more information, contact:

Mary Wallace
(850) 228-5667

Antiques Show and Tell is set

Wakulla County Historical Society's 6th Annual Show and Tell will be held Tuesday, May 9, at 4:30 p.m. at the Wakulla County Public Library.

Back by popular demand! Our annual Show & Tell program! This is a great opportunity for those of you lucky enough to have a long family history in this part of Florida to bring in and show off those items handed down from earlier generations – and for the rest of us to see and learn about and admire them! Members

and guests are invited to display and talk about their items related to North Florida or Wakulla County history. Display tables will be set up for attendees to view your artifacts.

Bring those antique books, buttons, tokens, bottles or any object of historical value you've been storing in the closet, share your stories about them and enjoy viewing the artifacts of other collectors!

Call the Museum to reserve table space at 850-926-1110.

Something on your mind?

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

A third option... with Eugene the Jeep

By ROBERT SEIDLER

I was facing imminent death....

I often drive a 1946 Willys Jeep that was the first year civilians could purchase one. At 14 I had the original Willys/Ford Jeep that the military used I was gifted it by my father in 1966 as a way he thought to keep me out of his hair and maybe learn something too. It was my first car and a good choice because we lived by woods and dirt roads a Jeep can be happy with.

It only had low range so 30 mph was the top speed and I was lucky for that fact. It also had no brakes and the frame was rusted through in one place and overall it was worn down but still had enough fun left in it to cause endless adventures and plenty of trouble.

That first Jeep was a masterpiece of simple engineering, a large Erector set for a 14 year old desperate always to understand how things worked. It offered no electronics or conveniences the seats didn't even adjust. It was manual everything and clawed the earths surface like a mole claws underground.

I learned all about how it worked and what made it go. I learned what it could and could not do.

I learned how to repair it, how to keep it running on its last few breaths. I water proofed it for fording lakes, creeks and mud holes. It would go places new Jeeps could not even though it looked like a loose bucket of rusty bolts.

I enhanced its good qualities and avoided its bad ones. I learned a lot about traction and objects in motion. Dad paid 75 bucks for it and now about 10 old Jeeps later those lessons continue at 70.

Top safe speed in a flat fender Jeep is 45 mph. Sure they will do 60 maybe 65 but trust me 45 IS top safe speed.

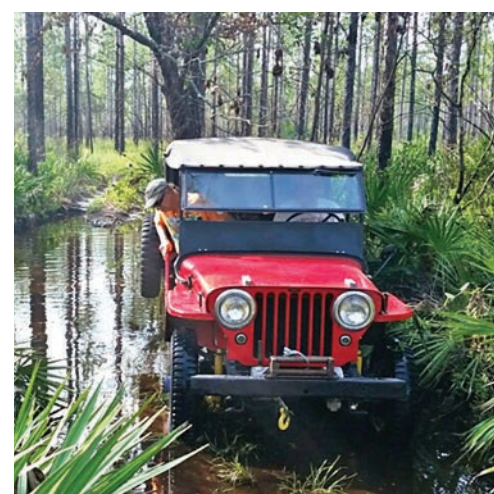
All the old Jeeps offer Jeep death wobble to their drivers as an option. Hit just the right bump in the road and death wobble begins and robs your hands of the wheel then things can get nasty. At 45 or below you can regain control...trust me.

I was on Surf Road recently cruising 45 mph, my personally added seatbelt was on and I had not a care in the world. Cool air was buffering my natural pleasures, windshield was open. That was an early cooling option on CJ2As only, an opening windshield! Not a care in the world until...

I noticed a guy on a zero turn mower on the bike trail, sunglasses, full ear protection he was coming towards me safely on the trail I was in the road I saw zero risks.

Suddenly he turned left directly in my path, he was to me a Japanese Kamikaze zero turn mower pilot...he never looked he just turned. I had no time to even move my feet this was a steering and hands job now where luck would be the main component followed by that 14 year old kids brain archive of Jeep survival skills.

The following 5 seconds would be all automatic. My brain saw only two options: running him directly over or flipping the Jeep and sliding and rolling it. Rolling one of these is certain death, there is no rollbar or crash crush protection. Being tossed out in a crash was the original safety option, it



Eugene the Jeep in his natural habitat.

was another bad Jeep option of those times. There were only two crash type options, just two, no others. This was dire, extremely dire and I knew it.

I chose the slide and rollover option versus turning the guy into a messy road-killed mammal just like all the others I see when I bike the trail. I also knew I had a slim chance of survival while he had none.

There however is this third option the one we can't imagine the one defined by the less than awesome power of the flap of a butterfly's wing. Buddhism and Zen talks of this but I have never experienced it this directly before.

I hit the mower, the Jeep went up on two wheels, did all types of maneuvering all ruled and regulated by the laws of physics, I was bounced, tossed, turned, spun and released to still.

My first thought was I killed the mower guy. My second thought was I must have killed the mower guy because I didn't flip the Jeep.

As the Jeep spun around I saw him on the mower in the road alive.

The third option. The butterfly had acted.

I will never understand what exactly happened or do I need to.

I do have to remember there are always options in life we can't imagine both good and bad. Options that take us on new often seemingly impossible journeys.

We both met over on the bike trail and talked, he thanked me for saving his life by almost losing mine. He admitted he never looked and that my quick actions resulted in another day for him.

The Jeep hit the front of his mower and missed him by about a foot. The resulting hit sent the Jeep on two wheels and into a spin.

Any tiny changes in timing, speed or impact areas would have resulted in major changes in outcomes all of them probably worse, much worse.

The third option and the power of tiny forces around us.

We were both lucky and for a moment I was a proud 14 year old again with a Jeep just doing what I did testing limits and pushing natural laws to their limits.

Thanks Dad for the Jeep! And more than that the seatbelt did save my life this is a for certain. I didn't always wear it because I didn't have to by law. But now it's an always thing. Will most likely add a rollbar too, very most likely.

Robert Seidler lives in Sopchoppy.

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William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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"It's A New Day!"

The Wakulla Sun



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◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at Prime Meridian’s Client Appreciation Day Event: How old were you when you opened your first bank account?

				
TARA C. SANDERS PRIME MERIDIAN BANK	DEVIN STARNES PRIME MERIDIAN BANK	STUART CHANDRONNET PRIME MERIDIAN BANK	GENE LAMBERT FLORIDA FARM BUREAU	SUSAN PAYNE TURNER PRIME MERIDIAN BANK
I was 14 years old. My mom opened up a bank account for me along with a JC . Penny credit card account.”	“I was 16, I had just bought a car. Before that I had been stashing money away in my parents’ account.”	I was probably about 14. It was a national bank, later I switched to a local bank.”	“I was 20. I was in the military, when you’re in the military you really have no money.”	I opened a checking account at 16. My parents had opened a saving account for me though when I was 3 or 4 after g anddaddy sold a cow and gave me the money.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Library News – May 4

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Thursday, May 4
Tech Learning Lab – Virtual Reality! 5pm
The Flowers BOD/ACC Committee 6:15pm
Friday, May 5
Quilting Guild 9:30am
Saturday, May 6
Florida Healthy Start TEAM Dad Program 9am
Coast Guard Auxiliary Training 9:30am

Monday, May 8
Library Advisory Board Meeting 10am
Wilderness Coast Public Libraries Board Meeting 10am
Wakulla Christian Coalition 6pm
Tuesday, May 9
Book Bunch 10am
Memoir Writing 10am
Community Traffic Safety Team 11am
Wakulla County Historical

Society 4pm
Tobacco Free FL Stop Smoking Class 5:30pm
Wednesday, May 10
Book Babies 10am
Wakulla County Garden Club 12pm
Knitting Group 4pm
Thursday, May 11
Tech Learning Lab – 3D Printers! 5pm
Wakulla Amateur Radio Club 7pm

STAR WARS DAY
Thank you so much to all of those

who attended our annual Star Wars celebration! We hope that you had as much fun as we did! Special thanks to the Friends of the Wakulla County Public Library, Mike’s Paint & Body, and Edward Clark Jr. and friends for making this event so special. Join us again next year on May 4th, 2024! May the force be with you!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

- Saturday, May 27th for Memorial Day
- Tuesday, July 4th for Independence Day

Sheriff’s Report

Activity reported for the week of April 21 to 27:

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

- A traffic stop was conducted on a vehicle for excessive speed. The driver was identified as William Timmons. In plain sight on the passenger side was a glass smoking pipe. Further investigation revealed Timmons had several smoking pipes to include one homemade manufactured smoking device. Timmons also had a firearm in his possession. Timmons was placed under arrest and transported to the jail. Deputy Heather Will investigated.
- Michael Murray was observed driving a vehicle. Murray is known by Deputy Dakota Haddock to not possess a valid license. During the stop a small amount of marijuana and a grinder was located. Murray was issued a citation for Driving While License Suspended or Revoked (DWLSR). The paraphernalia and marijuana were collected for destruction.
- Elijah Harvey reported a theft from Miracle Deliverance Center. Harvey took the church van to be

serviced and discovered the catalytic converters had been removed. Harvey was unsure of how much it would cost to have them replaced. An affidavit for prosecution was signed. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Todd Kent investigated.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

- Brittany Harris reported a burglary to her home and shed while she was away from home. Taken were multiple tools, several televisions, a deep freezer, along with multiple other items. Harris reported damage to the back door and shed door. Harris valued all the property at approximately \$5,000. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Heather Will investigated.
- Deputy Jake Scott conducted a traffic stop on a black Infinity for no tag attached. During the stop the driver Justin Davis was found in possession of a small amount of methamphetamine. Davis was arrested and transported to the Wakulla County Jail without further incident.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

- A traffic stop was conducted on a vehicle for expired tag. Contact was made with driver Misty Cumby and her passengers Casey Snodgrass and Justin Chadwell. During the stop Snodgrass was discovered to have meth in his possession. Also, a small amount of marijuana was discovered and a smoking bong which belonged to Chadwell. Snodgrass was placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility. The marijuana and bong were collected and turned in for destruction. Deputy Dakota Haddock investigated.
- Deputy Jake Scott conducted a traffic stop on a black Dodge truck for no tail lights. The driver was found to have prior convictions for DWLSR from the state of Delaware. The driver Brandon Warburton was arrested and transported to the Wakulla County Jail without incident.

MONDAY, APRIL 24

- Elizabeth Lemke reported two accounts opened in her name. An account with Chase and an account with Berkley was opened recently. Lemke was not out any money. The accounts have been frozen to prevent further use. Sgt. Mike Alexander in-

vestigated.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

- George Weymouth reported someone counterfeiting 13 checks with his information and passing them as legit. The total amount of loss so far is more than \$19,000. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Don Newsome investigated.
- Deputy Dakota Haddock conducted a traffic stop for no tag attached on Old Shell Point Road. The driver, Carl Waynick, fled on foot, leading Deputy Haddock on a short foot pursuit. Deputy Haddock, however, apprehended Waynick within 50 yards of the vehicle. Aaron Swain, the passenger in the vehicle, was arrested for an outstanding warrant out of Georgia. Waynick was arrested and charged with DWLSR, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, and resisting arrest, as well as an active warrant out of Leon County. Both subjects were transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

Report suspicious or illegal activity at 850-745-7100, or call 911 for emergencies.

Prime Meridian Bank holds customer appreciation day



Susan Payne Turner and Gene Lambert.



David Harvey, Gail Campbell and Mike Musachio.



Tara Sanders and Eileen Bramblett.

Prime Meridian Bank held a customer appreciation day on Wednesday, April 24, and served up a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, and Bradley’s sausage dogs off the grill. An estimated 300 people were served. (Photos by Lynda Kinsey.)

FOLLOW THE SUN. Your local source for news.

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

Just the right bag



By MARJ LAW

"I bought the Ruger Mark IV 22/45, almost like your Ruger!" Annie says happily. "Except you have the Mark III and your gun is all stainless. Mine has that easy way to break down, and mine is blued instead of stainless. Can't wait to shoot it! It's my birthday present to myself!"

"Great! So will you join us at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range on Wednesday morning around 10?" I ask. "And did you find .22 LR rounds?"

"Sure did! They came in this nifty box. And, you get this, they fit in the pocket of my new gun bag!"

"You bought the bag already!"

"Yes! You said never carry around a 'naked gun,' so the nice guy at the gun shop showed me this really cool bag. On one side, it has a bunch of little pouches for my magazines. On the other side, it has two pockets that are large enough to put in a few boxes of ammo. The middle is a zippered pouch for the gun. It's got lots of padding."

"So, now you have your gun, magazines and ammunition. What kind of 'eyes' did you end up buying?"

"Oh yes. Eyes," Annie thinks for a moment. "You said I should look for antsy eyes. I forgot

what antsy eyes are."

"ANSI eyes stands for American National Standards Institute. This is a non-profit organization which provides safety standards for your glasses."

"Aren't all glasses safe?" she wonders.

"I'm sure most glasses are safe. However, these glasses can withstand the impact if a hot casing were to shoot out of a gun toward your eyes."

"Don't the casings shoot out sideways?"

"For the most part, yes. But we don't take a chance with our eyes."

"I get it," she says.

"Well, I think a pair of those glasses will fit inside the case with my gun."

"Maybe, but what about your 'ears?'"

"Ears?" she questions. "Oh, yes. I'll need to get those too. You showed me several kinds, but the ones I like best are ear-muffs with the ability to reduce sharp sounds and still allow me to hear people talk. You always want to know if someone calls the range 'hot' or 'cold.'"

"Those'll be good. Did you buy them? And your eyes?"

"Well, no. In the excitement of getting my first gun, I totally forgot eyes and ears. Is this going to cost a fortune? I've spent a lot already!"

"The safety glasses can be very inexpensive. Maybe between \$5 and \$10. You can find them at gun shops, but also at department stores and hardware stores. Safety glasses are easy to find."

"And what about those ear-muffs? Are they cheap too?" she

asks hopefully.

"Unfortunately, no. If you want the kind that dampens loud noises, but still allows you to hear people speaking, they run maybe \$40 to \$250. There's quite a wide range of prices, but you can find a good pair somewhere in the lower end."

"I hadn't quite factored in the price of eyes and ears," Annie says ruefully. "But since they're necessary..."

"When you have them, how will you bring them to the range?" I ask her.

"Oh, I'll put them in my gun bag!" she says, then thinks. "Wait a minute. They won't fit in that bag. It's plenty big enough for my gun, magazines and ammo, but there really isn't room for eyes and ears, too. Well, I can just carry them in my car," she decides.

"Will you be putting your targets in your car too?"

"Oh. Targets. Yes, I guess they'll go in the car too."

"Since you wanted to save money on targets, you're going to use pa-



Annie looks surprised.

"Wait a minute. That's a bigger bag than my gun bag, and you're not even carrying your gun in it! Your big bag has a pocket on one side for targets. Safety glasses are on the other side. You put staples in a pocket on one end, and opposite, there's a pouch for your bottled water. All that other stuff I saw, it was in your big bag! Why don't you put your gun, magazines and ammunition in there too?"

"This bigger bag is called a range bag. It's meant to hold all the accessories I need for a few hours of shooting."

"Again, why isn't your gun in there? Isn't it simpler to carry it all in one bag?"

"Okay, Annie. Shall we toss your new, blued Ruger in with the stapler and the multitool?"

"No!" Annie's horrified. "They might scrape the finish on my new, expensive gun!"

"That's why I carry two bags. A gun bag for my gun and ammo, and the range bag for everything else. Besides, a big bag with all my stuff in it would be pretty heavy. I'd much rather carry two lighter bags. Why don't you think of all the things you'd put in your range bag, and find one that suits your needs?"

"I'm going to start looking around for my own range bag," Annie grins.

"Now my parents will know what to get me for my birthday!"

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

POINTED SAND STAR
(Astropecten articulatus)

This brightly colored starfish is probably the most common one in sandy continental shelf waters of the south east Atlantic coast. It has five spiny jaws for eating anything that comes its way. It is so good at eating anything that scientists use its stomach contents to do species census of sandy ocean floor. It is often called the royal starfish due to its purple color with gold trim. Arms commonly grow to 3.5 inches.

Animalia, Echinodermata, Asteroidea, Paxillosida, Astropectinidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
www.gulfspecimen.org

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

Retired Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger Bob Thompson, on his weekly wildlife survey at the park, took this photo of a Great Egret taking flight.

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Water Ways


a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

May 4 - May 10

Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



First May 27 Full May 5 Last May 12 New May 19

Best fishing days this month

May 1-5, 19-31

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	2:22 am ▲ 3.3 ft	7:57 am ▼ 1.0 ft	1:59 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	8:42 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	3:03 am ▲ 3.4 ft	8:25 am ▼ 1.2 ft	2:20 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:18 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Sa	3:44 am ▲ 3.5 ft	8:55 am ▼ 1.3 ft	2:45 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	9:55 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Su	4:27 am ▲ 3.4 ft	9:26 am ▼ 1.5 ft	3:13 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	10:36 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Mo	5:12 am ▲ 3.3 ft	10:00 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:46 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	11:21 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Tu	6:03 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:37 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:25 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	
We	12:13 am ▼ -0.6 ft	7:01 am ▲ 2.9 ft	11:22 am ▼ 1.9 ft	5:10 pm ▲ 3.9 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	2:58 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:01 am ▼ 0.9 ft	2:35 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	9:46 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	3:39 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:29 am ▼ 1.1 ft	2:56 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	10:22 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Sa	4:20 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:59 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:21 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	10:59 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Su	5:03 am ▲ 3.2 ft	10:30 am ▼ 1.3 ft	3:49 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	11:40 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Mo	5:48 am ▲ 3.0 ft	11:04 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:22 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	
Tu	12:25 am ▼ -0.5 ft	6:39 am ▲ 2.8 ft	11:41 am ▼ 1.6 ft	5:01 pm ▲ 3.8 ft
We	1:17 am ▼ -0.5 ft	7:37 am ▲ 2.7 ft	12:26 pm ▼ 1.7 ft	5:46 pm ▲ 3.6 ft

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	2:44 am ▲ 3.5 ft	8:20 am ▼ 1.1 ft	2:14 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:00 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	3:25 am ▲ 3.6 ft	8:50 am ▼ 1.3 ft	2:37 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:36 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Sa	4:07 am ▲ 3.6 ft	9:20 am ▼ 1.5 ft	3:03 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	10:14 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Su	4:51 am ▲ 3.5 ft	9:51 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:32 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	10:56 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Mo	5:38 am ▲ 3.4 ft	10:26 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:05 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	11:43 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Tu	6:30 am ▲ 3.2 ft	11:04 am ▼ 2.0 ft	4:44 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	
We	12:37 am ▼ -0.5 ft	7:32 am ▲ 3.0 ft	11:51 am ▼ 2.1 ft	5:29 pm ▲ 3.8 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	2:14 am ▲ 2.5 ft	8:09 am ▼ 0.7 ft	1:51 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:53 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Fr	2:55 am ▲ 2.6 ft	8:36 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:12 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:29 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Sa	3:36 am ▲ 2.6 ft	9:06 am ▼ 1.0 ft	2:37 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	10:06 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Su	4:19 am ▲ 2.6 ft	9:37 am ▼ 1.1 ft	3:05 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:47 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Mo	5:04 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:11 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:38 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	11:32 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Tu	5:55 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:48 am ▼ 1.3 ft	4:17 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	
We	12:24 am ▼ -0.4 ft	6:53 am ▲ 2.1 ft	11:33 am ▼ 1.4 ft	5:02 pm ▲ 2.9 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	2:28 am ▲ 2.6 ft	8:01 am ▼ 1.1 ft	1:40 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	8:33 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Fr	3:10 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:28 am ▼ 1.3 ft	2:04 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	9:06 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Sa	3:53 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:57 am ▼ 1.5 ft	2:31 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	9:43 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Su	4:40 am ▲ 2.7 ft	9:26 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:02 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	10:26 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Mo	5:32 am ▲ 2.6 ft	9:57 am ▼ 1.8 ft	3:37 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	11:14 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Tu	6:32 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:31 am ▼ 1.9 ft	4:17 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	
We	12:10 am ▼ -0.5 ft	7:43 am ▲ 2.3 ft	11:11 am ▼ 2.1 ft	5:04 pm ▲ 3.0 ft

Dog Island West End

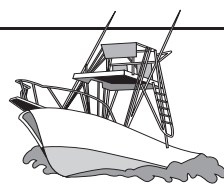
Th	2:59 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:31 am ▼ 1.2 ft	1:53 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	8:52 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	3:45 am ▲ 2.5 ft	8:57 am ▼ 1.4 ft	2:21 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	9:25 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Sa	4:34 am ▲ 2.5 ft	9:24 am ▼ 1.6 ft	2:50 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:04 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Su	5:25 am ▲ 2.5 ft	9:51 am ▼ 1.8 ft	3:22 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:49 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Mo	6:16 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:21 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:57 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	11:42 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Tu	7:12 am ▲ 2.2 ft	10:59 am ▼ 2.0 ft	4:38 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	
We	12:37 am ▼ -0.5 ft	8:44 am ▲ 2.1 ft	11:59 am ▼ 2.0 ft	5:26 pm ▲ 2.6 ft

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



Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



Members of Flotilla 12 had the honor of attending the Tall Ship gathering in Pensacola to provide security. Representing our Flotilla were Bob Asztalos, Norma Hill and Phil Hill. Also on patrol was Curtis Cantrell from the flotilla in Pensacola.

While on patrol, the crew received a call for a vessel taking on water. When the crew arrived on scene, thankfully, the active-duty Coast Guard were also on scene and were able to render assistance.

Throughout the event, the Auxiliary monitored the water to ensure other boaters maintained a safe distance from the tall ships. Patrons were able to tour the ships and explore the venue.

Boating Emergencies

- Coast Guard Station Panama City (850) 234-4228
- Coast Guard Station Yankeetown (352) 447-6900
- Coast Guard Auxiliary Apalachee Bay (Flotilla 12) (850) 942-7500
- or (850) 284-1166



Flotilla 12 members at Station Pensacola.

A great time was had by all in attendance.

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 pnkkhill2000@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.

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

The Vamar

I hope everybody had a safe weekend. I know there probably not much spearfishing or fishing for that matter because of the heavy rain on Saturday and the very strong winds on Sunday. My new scuba class doesn't begin until May 6th and 7th. The open water dives won't occur until May 20th and 21st. So I'm going to carry on with the "Florida Panhandle Ship Wreck Trail." These are some great historical wrecks that are unique to northwest Florida.

I'm going to tell you about a shipwreck that I personally have never dived before; it's called the "Vamar." So let's get started.

The Vamar was built in 1919-1920 as a gun boat for the royal navy and named the HMS Kilmarnock. From 1920-1923 as the S.S. Kilmarnock. Then in 1926 it was registered Canadian. In 1928 it was sold to a private firm and renamed the Chelsea. Here is an interesting historical fact that in 1930 it was acquired by Rear-Admiral Richard Byrd for his journey to Antarctica where he renamed the ship Eleanor Bolling to honor his mother, Eleanor Bolling Byrd. Due to the rough seas the crew named her Evermore Rolling.

In 1933 the Vamar shipping company bought her and renamed her Vamar; then in 1941 the ship was sold to Bolivar-Atlantic Navigation Company, registered in Panama.

On March 21, 1942 after leaving Port St. Joe carrying a load of lumber to Cuba, Vamar ran aground, capsized and sank in 25 feet of water off of Mexico Beach. There where rumors that the ship was sabotaged, but after an investigation that was never proven to be the case.

I got my information about the Vamar from Wikipedia.

I personally have never heard of the Vamar until I started looking in detail on the Panhandle Wreck Trail Website. There are quite a few historical wrecks that you can dive in the Panhandle area.

I need to remind boaters that have fishermen onboard that if you are fishing on any of these historical classified wrecks and a dive boat comes with divers that you have to pull your anchor and move, this is a state law.

Here is some information you might want to know if you choose to dive the Vamar:

She was sunken March 21, 1942; she sits at a depth of 25 feet.

She is 170 feet long; her beam is 30 feet wide.

Her coordinates are 29 degrees 53.941' north and 085 degrees 27.806' west.

She seems like an interesting dive but I would imagine being in such shallow water that the visibility would be questionable during most of the dive season.

During the drier part of the summer I bet the visibility would probably be pretty good.

If you go to the Panhandle ship wreck site it has video of the wreck being dived.

Until next week keep making bubbles.

*Russell Miller NAUI #59999
IANTD side mount OW #224715*

FWC Law Enforcement Report

From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled over April 14 to 20. It does not include all actions taken by the Division of Law Enforcement.

WAKULLA COUNTY

- Officer M. Fernbach was on patrol in Oyster Bay and observed a vessel with three individuals fishing. He conducted a resource and boating inspection and found the captain to be in possession of four redfish. The captain was issued a misdemeanor citation for over the bag limit of redfish.

- Officer D. Travis was patrolling off Shadeville Highway and heard a subject using an artificial turkey caller. The officer identified himself as he approached the subject, who was dressed in camouflage and in possession of a shotgun. Officer Travis could see the subject had placed bait 20 yards from the location he had been hunting. The subject was issued

a misdemeanor citation for hunting turkey over bait within 100 yards.

- Officer M. Fernbach and S. Gray were on patrol in Oyster Bay. While approaching a vessel with three individuals fishing, a subject threw a redfish into the water from the port side of the vessel. A resource and boating inspection were initiated. The subject admitted to throwing the undersized redfish into the water as well as catching the fish earlier. The subject was issued a misdemeanor citation for possession of the undersized redfish.

RESCUES

- Officer M. Fernbach, S. Gray and Lieutenant S. Olson responded to a search and rescue in Wakulla Springs State Park. Three adults with a baby were lost on a trail. The subjects were not in distress but were lost and without water. A park ranger and Officer Fernbach located the group and Lieutenant Olson ensured they did not require

medical attention.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- Officer Hartzog was patrolling Apalachicola Bay and conducted a resource inspection on two recreational anglers. During the inspection, the individuals were observed to be in possession of an undersized red drum, black drum, and sheephead. Appropriate citations were issued.

- Officer Hartzog was patrolling Apalachicola Bay and conducted a resource and boating safety inspection on two recreational anglers. The individuals were observed to be in possession of excess of their daily bag limit of red drum and an undersized flounder. Appropriate citations were issued.

JACKSON COUNTY

Officers Fowler and Touchton received information about a subject killing over the bag limit of wild turkeys. A short interview and

investigation resulted in a full confession of the suspect killing three wild turkeys during the spring season (the season and possession limit for spring turkey season is two). He was cited appropriately.

RESCUE Gulf County

- FWC officers in coordination with Gulf County Sheriff's Office, St. Joseph Peninsula State Park, and Southern Gulf County Fire and Rescue searched for an elderly, diabetic woman who went missing from Cape San Blas. FWC Officers searched by vessel, vehicle, and ATV while maintaining close communication with family members and all search parties. The elderly woman was found the next day disoriented, sunburnt, fatigued, and with low blood sugar. She was reunited with family at St. Joe State Park and treated by Gulf County EMS before being transported to the hospital for further treatment.



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What kind of America do you want for your children?

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Like many of you, I wonder if I'm living with the right focus in the unpredictable times we're living in. Sometimes I question how to handle my fear, anger and sad-

ness for the America my children and grandchildren will inherit.

This year's National Day of Prayer theme, "Pray Fervently in Righteousness and Avail Much," is based on the second portion of James 5:16: "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (NIV).

Rather than succumbing to despair and resentment over the state of our country, I choose to pray. Many of you are praying too. Today, I'm asking God to help us pray with even more fervency for

America.

When I pray for God to guide our political leaders, I gain a sense of peace. Praying focuses me and directs my heart, thoughts and emotions. It calms my days and nights. How could I continue if I didn't talk to God about all that concerns me? And there is much that concerns me.

If we love our country, we must pray for those who lead it. The Bible doesn't tell us to pray only for the leaders we like, but to pray for "all in high positions" (1 Timothy 2:2). If you

don't know what to pray, ask God to show you how to intercede for our national, local, and spiritual leaders; and our first responders and law enforcement officers.

In light of the chaos and discord ravaging our nation, we also need to pray for each other at home, at work and in our communities. God loves it when we pray for those we consider enemies. Interceding for those who offend us is part of what it means to trust God in trying circumstances.

It's difficult to live and work in a hostile

world, which is why we as Christ-followers must live and love differently. Praying can help us grow in our love for those with whom we disagree and pave the way toward transforming our communities.

When we pray, we honor our Creator. Praying helps us mature in our faith. Our confidence grows as we see there is absolutely nothing too difficult for Almighty God – even in these unpredictable times.

What do you foresee for America's future? Is this the kind of Amer-

ica you want for your children and grandchildren?

Praying fervently for each other and for our leaders avails (accomplishes) much. It could even unite us as a nation. The more we pray as a unified nation, the better we (and future generations) can face whatever the future holds.

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.

Places of rest

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

Summer months as a child found us living in our beach house on the Gulf shores of Cedar Island, Florida. During the week, we were allowed to explore the beaches or hang out at the surf hut with the pinball machines and jukebox. Our weekends were spent fishing, crabbing, and gathering scallops for our evening meals. Life

was summertime full.

The winter months found us trading our bathing suits and flip-flops for jeans and tennis shoes as we returned inland. Mom and Dad continued to find ways to keep the family fun alive with new adventures woven around our school years. Campsites crowded us into a family tent at night, and morning awakened us to the sound of nature in a crisp fall setting. I can still smell the scent of campfires, brewed coffee, and fresh catfish frying over an open flame. And I can still feel the excitement of exploration with each family excursion.

As we grew in size (not number), the tent

became overly crowded with elbows and knees. Our parents purchased an old school bus, turning it into a motor home that carried kids and animals alike. The bus, always ready for travel, housed a galley kitchen, dining table, sleeper sofa, bunk beds, and closet space. Many of those trips brought us to Wakulla County, where we camped on the banks of the Sopchoppy River.

Moving to Wakulla County has allowed me to visit the banks of that great river and wade in its cooling waters. Watching the river's current and hearing the familiar sounds of nature, my soul felt at rest. I was home. Not the home of my youth but the home

of my journey. Author Pierce Brown writes, "Home isn't where you're from, it's where you find light when all grows dark." If life is full circle, my circle is complete; I have found light here.

Scripture teaches us that God's goodness and mercy follows us throughout our lives (Psalm 23:6). Did you know that in Hebrew, the word "follows" is "jirdeponi"? It means to chase after or to pursue. It is not merely walking after us but actively pursuing and chasing after us to give us the good things in this life. He creates days of great joy for His children, just like my childhood memories.

Our God does not wish for us to dwell in

darkness but to find a home in the light of His love. He understands the indescribable weariness of this world, for His Son walked in it. He knows our eyes are never satisfied nor our ears content (Ecclesiastes 1:8). We are always seeking a gratification that can only be satisfied through Him. Jesus is the fulfillment we are searching for. Following Him will not lead us into darkness but into a light of life (John 8:12). His Word will remain a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path (Psalm 119:105) if we choose to walk after Him.

Our Heavenly Father has a way of completing the circle of our temporary lives. We can re-

main in our memories, good or bad, never growing beyond yesterday, or we can trust His leading and discover the new adventures He has before us. And occasionally, we might find that He gives us glimpses of old familiar places, like riverbanks, reminding us that He has been present every step of the way.

Isaiah 32:18 My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, secure homes, and undisturbed places of rest.

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

OUT TO PASTOR

It's not a mess unless I do it

By **JAMES SNYDER**

When it comes to words, everybody has their own definition.

Someone says one word and another person thinks it's altogether something else.

For example, when someone says vegetable, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage thinks broccoli. On the other side of the dinner table, I think carrot cake. We have never been able to come together on this word.

I often get in trouble when at a restaurant. The waitress comes to take our order, then looks at me and asks what vegetable I wanted. I reply, "I'll have carrot cake for my vegetable today."

I then smile, knowing I was in deep trouble.

The waitress smiled back at me and said, "Okay, sir." Then went back to process our order.

When the order came, there on my plate was the vegetable of the

day, a slice of carrot cake. I tipped that waitress rather generously. I love it when a plan comes together.

Our most significant contention is the word "mess."

As far as I know, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is an expert in defining a mess. I'm an expert when it comes to creating a mess.

She has everything well organized and in its proper place.

All you have to do is walk into her craft room and you will discover what a well-organized room looks like. She has everything in its place and knows exactly where to go when she needs something. I could never work in that environment.

If you walk into my office, you will find the epitome of what a mess looks like. If I can't create a mess, it doesn't exist.

My wife is anti-mess and hates mess with a passion, and often I find her sneaking into my office trying to organize my mess.

Last week I was working on a project, and I needed something, so I went where I saw it last. Unfortunately, it was not there, and I could not find it. I was in a panic mode because I

needed that for what I was working on.

As I was searching through my office, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage stepped in and said, "What are you looking for?"

I said, "It's nothing you would know anything about." I continued searching.

She persisted in knowing what I was looking for; finally, I gave in and told her what I was looking for.

"Oh, that," she said, "it's right over here." She walked over to one of the bookcases, pulled it out and handed it to me. I just looked at her, not knowing how to respond.

What she needs to understand is that my mess is an organized mess to my standards. Just because it isn't organized as she would like doesn't mean it's not organized in some fashion.

My definition of mess is "Making Everything

Self-Sufficient."

I had a crazy thought, which is nothing new for me, to show her how important it is for people not to interfere with their space and leave their mess alone.

I found out about a project she was working on, and some ideas began dancing in my head. One question took the bow: What if?

She had to go away for the day with one of our daughters and do some shopping, so this was the right time to exercise my plan.

I went into her craft room and stood quietly for a few minutes to get the dizziness out of my head. Then, once that left, I began looking around to see how to set up my plan.

I saw a project on her desk that she was working on at the time.

Then I began picking up a few things from the table and put them in places she would not think of looking. It took

me a while to work it all out, but I was diligent in my plan.

The next day after breakfast, we went to our rooms to work on our projects.

I was so eager to hear what would happen in The Craft Room. I heard some rustling around and heard someone in that room taking some profound sighs. Then I heard her say, "Where did I put that?"

I was so excited to hear my plan coming together. I went to her craft room, and looking in I said, "My dear, what are you looking for?"

She said something to the effect that I would not know anything about that. I persisted, and finally, she told me what she was looking for, and with a big smile, I said, "Oh, that's right over here." So I picked it up, brought

it back, and laid it on her desk.

I smiled at her, but my smile was not reciprocated in any degree. It's nice when a mess comes together.

Thinking about this, I was reminded of what David said in Psalm 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Words are important and the most important word is the word of God. Hiding God's word in my heart will always lead me in the right direction and bring me to that place of blessing.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com.

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Obituaries



Andrew C. 'Andy' Bechtel

Andrew C. "Andy" Bechtel, 35, of Crawfordville, died unexpectedly Thursday April 27, 2023 at his home.

Andy had lived in Crawfordville for the past 22 years, he was a self employed painter and worked with Lost Creek Concrete also. Andy was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Crawfordville.

Survivors include his mother Patti Schipper, father Richard Bechtel and his wife Lisa; the mother of his children and his partner Brandy Woodward; his two children, Chandler and Makayla

Bechtel; two brothers, Ahrend Bechtel and his wife Rachel, Nicholas Reno; two sisters, Stephanie Wrigley and her husband Brian, and Kathryn Reno; maternal grandfather, George Schipper; paternal grandmother Donna Bechtel; and additional grandparents Richard and Charlene Reno; and many nieces and nephews and extended Woodward family of Wakulla.

Celebration service information will soon be announced.

Skip and Trey Young along with Kimberly and Paula are assisting the family. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel.

DEATH NOTICES

• **Thomas Lee Chaboudy**, 82, of Tallahassee, died April 6, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Leon Laverne Driscoll**, 78, of Crawfordville, died April 25, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Donald William Harrison**, 67, of Sopchoppy, died April 24, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Howard H. Hobby**, 84, of Crawfordville, died April 29, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Mary E. Langkam**, 92, of Tallahassee, died April 28, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Tommy Dean Litton**, 61, of Youngstown, died April 24, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Betty June Harvey Myers**, 92, of Crawfordville, died April 29, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Jerry Eugene Schultz**, 79, of Crawfordville, died April 30, 2023. Family Funeral at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Steve N. Stephens Jr.**, 79, of Crawfordville, died on April 27, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

Protecting the water

From Front Page

couple of speakers. Michael Key of Wakulla Springs Alliance brought up the issue of expanding the Springs Protection Zone to include more of the watershed – he noted the board had expanded the zone in 2008, but it still incorporates less than half of the vulnerable land in the basin.

Several board members indicated their sup-

port for expanding the area, but the logistics of the expansion were viewed as problematic – they agreed to go forward with the new regulations and add the expansion later.

Commission Chair Ralph Thomas, at various times in the meeting, commented that there's no good place for an oil spill – that all of Wakulla County is vulnerable. He also pointed out that

there are 668 gas stations in the larger springs basin, which includes all of Leon County. He also noted there is a 500-gallon fuel tank at the Lodge at Wakulla Springs that is about 100 feet from the vent.

Several people asked for a workshop: Pete Scalco, former head of Wakulla Springs State Park, told commissioners they were "this close" to a good ordinance. "We could do better," he said.

Commissioner Hess brought up the idea of a

workshop, but the board indicated they wanted to move quickly and not create more delays.

After the vote and most of the audience had left, Edwards expressed concern about some citizens comments on social media and elsewhere, bemoaned the "conspiracy theories" being generated about county staff.

A week earlier, three of the county commissioners – Hess, Mike Kemp and Fred Nichols – had attended "Rivers Beneath Us," a program at TCC

Wakulla sponsored by the Wakulla Springs Alliance about the vulnerability of the karst system and its interconnectedness. (Commissioner Thomas said he watched the program online.)

Dr. Chris Werner of WKPP talked about cave exploration and the 45 miles of caves that have been mapped. He noted it is the longest underwater cave system in the U.S. he also stressed that the system has an "unprecedented connectedness that should not be under-

estimated."

Tom Greenhalgh, a geologist at FSU, noted that the system is very vulnerable to contamination.

On Thursday morning at Wakulla Springs, where the volunteers for Florida Springs Initiative take their weekly measurements of the water quality – the river was green, the nitrate level continued to be high, 0.45 milligrams per liter, but down from .52 mg/L a year earlier. The goal is to get the water to .35 mg/L.

Weekly Roundup: DeSantis vs. the Mouse moves to courthouse

By RYAN DAILEY
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — The festering feud between Gov. Ron DeSantis and Disney shifted to the courts this week, in a move the governor slammed as "political" and "without merit."

Mostly silent on the issue for the past year, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts on Wednesday filed a federal lawsuit arguing its First Amendment rights were violated and business harmed by a "relentless campaign" of retribution orchestrated by DeSantis and other officials.

The 77-page lawsuit alleged the governor and his allies targeted the entertainment giant over its opposition to a controversial 2022 law. The legislation — named "Parental Rights in Education" by supporters and given the moniker "don't say gay" by critics — restricts instruction about sexual orientation and gender identity in schools.

The legal challenge came after a series of changes that included replacing the Reedy Creek Improvement District board. Disney for decades had effectively controlled the district, which gave it power over issues such as land use, fire protection and sewer services that are typically handled by local governments.

Lawmakers in February approved a measure that renamed the Reedy Creek district as the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District and gave DeSantis power

to appoint the district's board. The Legislature and the new board have acted to nullify development agreements involving Disney that were approved by the former Reedy Creek board.

Disney contended in the lawsuit that it has made repeated efforts to de-escalate the dispute, and that the company had no choice but to fight back in court amid what it characterized as a bid by DeSantis to "weaponize government power."

"Disney finds itself in this regrettable position because it expressed a viewpoint the governor and his allies did not like," the lawsuit said. "Disney wishes that things could have been resolved a different way. But Disney also knows that it is fortunate to have the resources to take a stand against the state's retaliation — a stand smaller businesses and individuals might not be able to take when the state comes after them for expressing their own views."

The governor addressed the issue during a press conference in Israel on Thursday.

"I think it's political," DeSantis said. "I think they filed (the lawsuit) in Tallahassee for a reason, because they're trying to generate some district-court decision. But we're very confident on the law."

The governor also said the special district allowed Disney to be treated differently than Universal, SeaWorld and other theme parks,

and now "they're upset because they're actually having to live by the same rules as everybody else."

"They don't want to have to pay the same taxes as everybody else," he added. "And they want to be able to control things without proper oversight, whereas every other Floridian has to have this type of oversight, all Florida businesses. So, it's a little bit much to be complaining about that."

ALL ABOARD!

Republican lawmakers are remaining firmly in DeSantis' corner as the fight with Disney roils.

Members of the GOP-controlled Senate Fiscal Policy Committee on Tuesday made changes to a transportation bill (SB 1250) that would require Disney's iconic monorail system to face periodic state inspections.

The change, in part, would apply Department of Transportation safety standards to monorail lines that connect Walt Disney World resorts and parks. The plan would require audits and compliance reports to be conducted every three years and an annual onsite evaluation.

Disney and other large theme parks conduct their own safety inspections because of a carve-out from oversight by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

In debate over the bill Tuesday, Sen. Lin-

da Stewart, D-Orlando, said the state actions against Disney have amounted to retribution.

"Every time I come here, there is a new amendment that is added that retaliates against Disney," Stewart said. "I think, finally, they have figured that out. They have no other option. They are out of options. They can't be nice."

But Senate Transportation Chairman Nick DiCeglie, an Indian Rocks Beach Republican who is sponsoring the bill, said state oversight should include the system handling a large number of tourists each day.

COMING IN FOR A LANDING

As conference committees continued piecing together parts of the 2023-2024 budget, Senate President Kathleen Passidomo said the game plan is to get the entire spending package done by Friday or Saturday.

That likely would start the clock on a required 72-hour "cooling off" period early next week, with a final vote in time to end the legislative session as scheduled May 5.

"One thing people don't realize is that then (after the package is done) our staff has to read it all. Make sure there are no typos," Passidomo, R-Naples, told reporters Wednesday. "It's going to take 24 hours, maybe 30 hours. So, my goal, my hope would be that we

get the final document typed, or whatever, printed on the desk by Monday night, Tuesday morning. That gets us to vote Friday (May 5)."

STORY OF THE WEEK: Mostly silent on the issue for the past year, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts on Wednesday filed a federal lawsuit arguing its First Amendment rights were violated and business harmed by a "relentless

campaign" of retribution orchestrated by Gov. Ron DeSantis and other officials.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "In America, the government cannot punish you for speaking your mind." — Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, in a lawsuit challenging actions by Gov. Ron DeSantis and other state officials.

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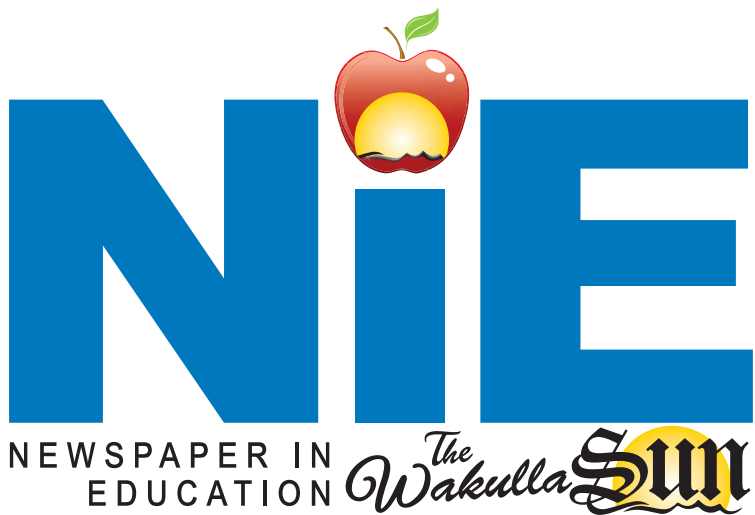
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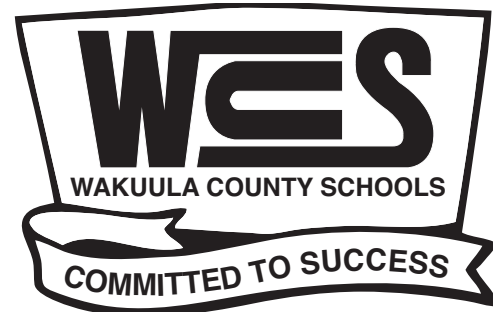
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USE THE NEWS

1. Sniffing for the Virus

Dogs have a sense of smell that is 10,000 to 100,000 times more sensitive than that of humans. Their noses have up to 300-million smell detectors compared to just 6-million for humans, and the part of a dog's brain that is devoted to smells is about 40 times greater than the same part in humans. That enables dogs to use their nose to track people and animals, detect drugs and explosives and even determine if a person has cancer or an infectious disease. In the state of California, for example, dogs have been trained to detect the coronavirus in students, and they have proved 90 percent accurate, according to a new study. The dogs detected the presence of the virus by sniffing the feet of 3,500 students in 27 schools across California last year, according to the study. The researchers found that the dogs accurately alerted their handlers to 85 infections and ruled out 3,411 infections for an accuracy rate of more than 90 percent, CNN News reported. Only the students identified by the dogs as positive were given nose tests for the virus — reducing the number of nose tests by about 85 percent. "What would you rather have?" the lead researcher said. "A swab in your nose or something that just maybe tickles your ankle?" Animals can be trained to do many things to help people. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about one such animal. Use what you read to brainstorm an idea for a movie on the skills this animal has learned. Write an outline for your movie, including images you would use. Then write the first scene. For added fun, pick a celebrity to narrate your movie and explain your choice to family and friends.

Goals: Writing narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events; conducting short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

covered by Eli Morris was a rare ammonite, a spiral-shaped shellfish that is a relative of snails, clams and oysters. Eli discovered the fossil while walking on the Llantwit Major beach, which is located on the Bristol Channel below rocky cliffs. "I was just sitting here and looked up and thought 'Oh my God, that's big!'" Eli told the BBC News service. The Welsh boy's find excited fossil experts because it is a rare discovery for that area. It also is "especially pretty" because its inner chambers have been filled in with the mineral quartz over millions of years. Eli will add it to his collection of other fossils he has found on outings with his dad. "It's just cool," to make fossil discoveries he said — but not as cool as his other dream. Like many 9-year-olds in Wales, he'd like to be a professional soccer player. Kids, teens and adults often are in the news

for making unusual or interesting discoveries. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about someone making a discovery. Use what you read to write a letter to a friend describing what was discovered, how it was discovered and why it was interesting, important or unusual. Share with the class and discuss interesting discoveries you have made with family or friends.

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

3. NBA Playoffs

The NBA playoffs are under way, and fans all over the country are watching to see which team will win the championship for professional basketball. Every year there are surprises, upsets and amazing performances

that weren't predicted before the playoffs began. In the first round alone this year, there were significant upsets in the Eastern Conference, and one of them was huge. In the first round of the Eastern playoffs, the Number 8 ranked Miami Heat stunned the Number 1 ranked Milwaukee Bucks, to win their playoff series 4 games to 1. In another upset, the Number 5 New York Knicks defeated the Number 4 Cleveland Cavaliers, also by 4 games to 1. In the newspaper or online, closely read stories about NBA playoff games this week. Were there upset winners in any of the games? Did any players have spectacular performances or make unusual plays? Use what you read to write a sports column highlighting two or three performances that were unusual, unexpected or especially exciting. Try to capture the excitement in your writing by using active verbs and colorful adjectives. Share with the class.

Goals: Identifying

multiple language conventions and using them; applying knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts; producing clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization and style are appropriate to the task.

4. For the Birds!

If you like to play dress-up, there's a job for you at a zoo in the European nation of England. The Blackpool Zoo is looking for people who would be willing to dress up as eagles, hawks and other birds of prey to scare seagulls away from outdoor dining areas. The "seagull deterrents" would flap their wings and move about to clear dining areas of the seabirds that are known for stealing fries, burgers and sandwiches right off the trays and tables of visitors. "It goes without saying that we love all animals," the zoo said when advertising the job. "... However, the seagulls are proving to be ... a nuisance when it comes to trying to steal food." The zoo said ideal candidates should be visitor focused, friendly, energetic, flexible, outgoing and "need to be comfortable wearing a bird costume," UPI News reported. Employees dressed in costumes can help businesses in a variety of ways. They can scare away birds or animals, call attention to business locations or serve as mascots for teams or schools. In the newspaper or online, find and closely read a story about a team, business or organization that could benefit from an employee dressed in costume. Use what you read to write a job description for a job requiring a costume, what the costume would look like and how an employee wearing this costume would benefit the business or organization.

Goals: Reading closely what a text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; citing specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions.



ONE OF THE BENEFITS OF THIS ACTIVITY IS THAT IT BUILDS A BIGGER VOCABULARY.

ANSWER: READING

Math Blocks

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

1	7		14
		9	19
4		3	12
13	14	18	

3	5	4
9	2	8
9	7	1

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

G E P A T R N U R E

Answer: Page Turner

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1568:** MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS, ESCAPES FROM LOCH LEVEN CASTLE.
- **1906:** THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE INTERCALATED GAMES IN ATHENS, GREECE TAKES PLACE.
- **1986:** THE CITY OF CHERNOBYL IS EVACUATED SIX DAYS AFTER A NUCLEAR DISASTER.



CHAPTER

a main division of a book

2. Fossil Finder

The great thing about fossil-hunting is that anyone can do it — young people, old people, students and adults. And you don't need special training. In the European nation of Wales recently, a 9-year-old boy walking on a beach with his dad discovered a 200-million-year-old fossil that dates back to the time of the dinosaurs. The fossil dis-

How they say that in...

ENGLISH: Text

SPANISH: Texto

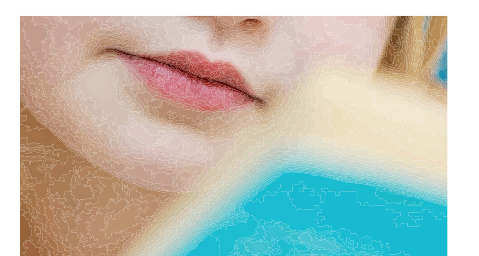
ITALIAN: Testo

FRENCH: Texte

GERMAN: Wortlaut



READING IS IMPORTANT. IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT IS A NOVEL, A NEWSPAPER OR EVEN A COMIC BOOK, ALL READING CAN HELP THE BRAIN STAY SHARP.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CHILD READING A BOOK

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Big Bend Hospice is seeking direct patient care volunteers to provide companionship and respite services in Wakulla County.
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The Wakulla Sun

NOW HIRING REPORTER

The Wakulla Sun is seeking a fulltime general assignment reporter. The Wakulla Sun is an independently owned weekly newspaper in Crawfordville with a circulation of 2,000 that also publishes a free monthly tabloid with a circulation of 16,000.

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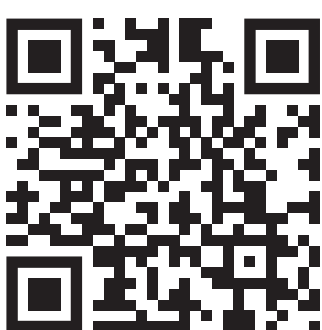
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Star Wars Day at the library



Librarian Rebecca Sahar leads the decoding station.



Azi Bridgewater is quizzed by the trivia master.

Story & Photos By
**LINDA ANN
McDONALD**
Sun Correspondent

On Saturday, April 29, the Wakulla County Public Library was transformed into a Star Wars fan-based walk-through experience which provided out of this galaxy fun for both children and adults.

Each guest at the event was equipped with a Galactic Passport and a Mission to create a Grogu sidekick and deliver him safely to Jedi Training. Successful completion of six separate stations within the library earned the passport-holder a stamp for each step.

Activities at the stations included creating and feeding a Grogu, crawling through escape tunnels, a Kessel Run to escape the Empire's remaining forces, Star Wars trivia, escaping Sarlacc tentacles while avoiding laser lights,



Demetrius Felix, Tyler McKenzie, with the Mandalorian and Obi Wan instructing young Jedis on their training.

lava fields and thermal detonators. Decoding a message or puzzle completed the Jedi Training.

Battling storm troopers, themed snacks at the Friends of the Library Cantina and Star Wars costumes were also included in the fun. Music from the

Star Wars films played throughout the library and characters such as the Mandalorian, Hans Solo and Princess Leia, and Darth Vader – to name a few – were present to meet and take pictures.

Liron Sahar, a volunteer at the event said, "It

is a great turn out and I am glad the rain did not stop folks from coming."

Mikey Willkins, a youth visitor to the event said, "The obstacle course was adventurous, and I had a lot of fun."

Marquette Cowley of Wakulla County Public



Library Director Robyn Hurst as Princess Leia.



Louis and Esparanza Boyso brought R2D2.

Library said, "This is totally awesome." Foundation was promoted at the event. Read Like a Hero

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BASEBALL

War Eagles end regular season at 15-10



By KEITH ANDERSON
WHS Baseball Coach

The War Eagles wrapped up the regular season this past week winning 2 out of 3 games to end with a record of 15-10 going into the district tour-

namment.

The War Eagles hosted Liberty County on Monday, April 24th winning 7-2 to improve to 14-9 on the year.

Starter Leaston Spears had another solid outing throwing 6 and a third innings scattering 4 hits giving up 1 earned run and striking out 8. Hayden Wright closed out the game giving up no runs or hits in the frame.

On the offensive side, catcher Brady

Crum led with a 3-4 day including 2 doubles. Owen Klees, Reid Joyner and Colby Zinser were both 2-3 with Joyner adding a triple.

On Tuesday, April 25, the War Eagles hosted Bay High from Panama City winning 12-2. Starter Jesse Nazworth threw a complete game giving up 4 hits and 1 earned run in the 5 inning affair.

WHS racked up 11 hits on the day at the plate. Colby Zinser and Josiah Pierini led

the offense both tallying a 3-3 day with each chipping in a double a piece. Michael Hurley went 2-3, and Sam Bruce, Brady Crum, and Owen Klees all had hits.

Colby Zinser reached a milestone in the game producing his 100th career hit in his 3 years on Varsity. In the past 20 years, only three players – Kyle Marks, Cameron Graves, and Ryan Smith – have reached 100 career hits.

The War Eagles traveled to 6A Chiles High on Friday, April 28, to battle the Timberwolves. A three run first inning for Chiles would prove to be the difference in the contest with WHS losing 4-1.

Chiles only had 1 earned run and took advantage of some defensive miscues from the War Eagles. Starter Gavin Estep gave up only 1 earned run on 4 hits striking out 2. Reliever Hayden

Wright posted another solid appearance shutting down the Timberwolves shutting them out for 3 and 2/3 innings giving up 1 hit and striking out 3. Owen Klees threw 1 shutout inning giving up no hits and striking out 2.

Hits were at a premium with Wakulla only gathering 2 hits on the day. Owen Klees had a single and drove in a run and Brady Wilson also tallied a single.



The Summer Camp schedule is brought to you by the Wakulla County Coalition for Youth and The Wakulla Sun.

It's time to relax and have some needed downtime. Wakulla County Coalition for Youth is proud to sponsor this Summer Camps section. Recognizing that young people seek to find their place in the wider world through many ways and means, the community hopes the following Summer Camp listings hit the intended mark with many Wakulla youth.

JUNE

*LIBRARY KEY
June & July Programs

WAKULLA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TUESDAY BOOK BUNCH 10:00-11:00AM
This program is for 2 1/2 to preschool & includes stories, music & take home crafts that go with the summer theme.

TUESDAY ROYAL READERS 2:00 - 3:00PM
This program is for children in grades K-2, features stories & crafts or activities focused around the summer theme.

LEGO CLUB 1st & 3rd TUESDAY 4:00-5:30PM
Lego Club is designed to provide kids with an enjoyable activity that stimulates & develops spatial intelligence. They will build whatever leaps into their imaginations!

Book Babies Wednesday 10:00-11:00AM
An interactive summer themed story time & playgroup designed for infants, toddlers and their caregivers.

MYTHICAL READERS Wednesday 2:00-3:00PM
This program is for children in grades 3-5, features books and activities focused around a central theme.

WEDNESDAY STEAM
STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. Kids will learn through hands on fun and building. All ages

Programs are free thanks to the Friends of the Wakulla County Library
4330 Crawfordville Highway
Crawfordville, FL 32327
(850) 926-7415

www.wakullalibrary.org
Questions? Email: rsahar@mywakulla.com

Tuesday JUNE 6
Book Bunch 10:00-11:00 AM
Royal Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
LEGO Club 4:00-5:30 PM
Wednesday JUNE 7
Book Babies 10:00-11:00 AM
Mythical Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
Friday JUNE 9

*Therapy dogs will be here tomorrow 9 (Saturday) 10AM-12PM

Tuesday June 13
Book Bunch 10:00-11:00 AM
Royal Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
Wednesday JUNE 14
Book Babies 10:00-11:00 AM
Mythical Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
Thursday JUNE 15
STEAM 4:00-5:00PM
The Doc Magic Show 7:00 PM @ The Library

Tuesday JUNE 20
Book Bunch 10:00-11:00 AM
Royal Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
LEGO Club 4:00-5:30 PM
Bits N Pieces Puppets 7:00 PM @ The Community Center

Wednesday JUNE 21
Book Babies 10:00-11:00 AM
Mythical Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
Tuesday JUNE 27
Book Bunch 10:00-11:00 AM
Royal Readers 2:00-3:00 PM

Please note: most camps require reservations
Camps fill up fast!



Brought to you by the Wakulla County Coalition for Youth

Wednesday JUNE 28
Book Babies 10:00-11:00 AM
Mythical Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
Thursday JUNE 29
STEAM 4:00-5:00PM

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – CRAWFORDVILLE
TWIST & TURNS
JUNE 22 - JUNE 30
9am - Noon
Address- 3086 Crawfordville Highway
Phone- 850-926-7896

GULF SPECIMEN AQUATIC ADVENTURES
SUMMER CAMP
<https://gulfspecimen.org/>
Members \$190 - Non-Members \$200.

Week 1- JUNE 12 - JUNE 16
NATURES HOME - HABITATS
8:30 - 4:30
Ages 6 - 10

Week 2 JUNE 26 - JUNE 30
PRESERVING OUR SEAS - CONSERVATION
8:30 - 4:30
Ages 6 - 10

WAKULLA COUNTY 4-H
UF IFAS Extension
University of Florida
Camp Location : Wakulla County Extension Office
84 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville FL 32327
We accept youth entering first grade to eighth grade for most of the camps
4-H Camps operate Monday - Thursday 8:30 to 4:30
CAMPs are 9a.m. to 4p.m.
Early drop off at 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. - Late pick up from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. available for additional fees.
TO REGISTER GO TO:
<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/wakulla/>
If you have any problems or questions with registration, please contact
Christy Pearson 850-901-7092 email: christinepearson@ufl.edu

CRAFTY CREATION WEEK
JUNE 12 - JUNE 15
AGES: 5-13 Cost \$200. per child

A full week of arts and crafts. Activities will focus on creativity, imagination, and self expression. Crafts will be designed to improve fine motor skills and teach basic crafting techniques with various media. All artist welcome.

FUN WITH FOOD WEEK
JUNE 19 - JUNE 22
Ages: 5-13 Cost: \$200. per child

Activities will focus on basic cooking skills and nutrition. Campers 8 years and over will have the opportunity to learn grilling techniques and will be introduced to the 4-H Food Challenge contest curriculum. Family and Consumer Science agent, Samantha Kennedy will help guide the week of cooking activities. * please note that meats, fruits, spices, herbs, nuts, soy and milk will be used in these activities.

PLANTS, BEES & TREES WEEK
JUNE 26 - JUNE 29
Ages: 5-13 Cost: \$200. per child

Activities will focus on learning about plants, trees, and their importance to the environment and economy. Campers will learn about herbs, vegetables, and basic plant identification. * please note that plants, peanuts, herbs, bees, and honey will be used in activities

SPECIALTY CAMP 2023 WAKULLA
4-H TEEN LEADERSHIP CERT CAMP
JUNE 12 - JUNE 16
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Age: 12-18 Cost: \$100 per youth
Instructors: Dr. Rachel Pienta & Samantha Kennedy in partnership with WCSO Emergency Management
Wakulla County Extension Facility - 84 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville

JULY

GULF SPECIMEN AQUATIC ADVENTURES
SUMMER CAMP
<https://gulfspecimen.org/>
Week 3 - JULY 10 - JULY 14
CREATURES of the BLUE - MARINE ANIMALS
8:30 - 4:30
Ages 6 - 10

*See LIBRARY KEY under June

Wakulla County Public Library
Tuesday JULY 11
Book Bunch 10:00-11:00 AM
Royal Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
BJ's Party House 7:00 PM @ The Community Center
Wednesday JULY 12
Book Babies 10:00-11:00 AM
Mythical Readers 2:00-3:00 PM

Thursday JULY 13
STEAM 4:00-5:00PM

Friday JULY 14
*Therapy dogs will be here SATURDAY 10AM-12PM

Tuesday JULY 18
Book Bunch 10:00-11:00 AM
Royal Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
LEGO Club 4:00-5:30 PM
Phil Meyer Magic 7:00 PM @ The Community Center

Wednesday JULY 19
Book Babies 10:00-11:00 AM
Mythical Readers 2:00-3:00 PM

Tuesday JULY 25
Book Bunch 10:00-11:00 AM
Royal Readers 2:00-3:00 PM
Animal Tales 7:00 PM @ The Community Center

Wednesday JULY 26
Book Babies 10:00-11:00 AM
Mythical Readers 2:00-3:00 PM

Thursday JULY 27
STEAM 4:00-5:00PM

Friday JULY 28
An Evening At Hogwarts 6:00-8:00PM @ The Library

WAKULLA COUNTY 4-H
UF IFAS Extension
University of Florida
Camp Location : Wakulla County Extension Office
84 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville FL 32327
We accept youth entering first grade to eighth grade for most of the camps
4-H Camps operate Monday - Thursday 8:30 to 4:30
CAMPs are 9a.m. to 4p.m.
Early drop off at 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. - Late pick up from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. available for additional fees.
TO REGISTER GO TO:
<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/wakulla/>
If you have any problems or questions with registration, please contact
Christy Pearson 850-901-7092 email: christinepearson@ufl.edu

ANIMAL ADVENTURE WEEK

JULY 10 - JULY 13
Age: 5 - 13 Cost: \$200. per child
Activities will explore all different types of animals. Campers will learn about the classification of animals, animal habitats, migration, and wildlife ecology. Educational opportunities for all ages. Live animals present throughout the week. Please list any animal allergies.

FARM ADVENTURE WEEK

JULY 17 - JULY 20
Age: 5-13 Cost \$200. per child
Programming will center on where food comes from, livestock, and different types of farming. Activities will center around products local to Florida. Campers will be introduced to the 4-H Agricultural Judging competition curriculum. 4-H Agricultural Judging contest is held annually at North Florida Fair. Animals will be discussed as food.

TARGET SPORTS WEEK

JULY 24 - JULY 27
Age: 8 - 13 Cost : \$250 per child
Campers will be introduced to the sports of archery and air rifle. Activities will focus on learning hand and eye coordination, proper techniques and improving self-confidence.
Contact Christy Pearson, Wakulla County 4-H Program Assistance for any questions. 850-901-7092 christinepearson@ufl.edu
An equal Opportunity Institution

4-H SPECIALTY CAMPS
KITCHEN CREATION CAMP
JULY 5-7 10 am -3 pm
Age: 10-12 Cost : \$100. per child
Wakulla Extension Office - Instructor - Samantha Kennedy
skennedy@ufl.edu - (850) 926-3931 ext. 1
Online registration will be required at 4honline.com first before making payments. <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

AUGUST

WAKULLA COUNTY 4-H
UF IFAS Extension
University of Florida
Camp Location : Wakulla County Extension Office
84 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville FL 32327
We accept youth entering first grade to eighth grade for most of the camps
4-H SPECIALTY CAMPS
SEW MUCH FUN CAMP
AUGUST 1 - 4 10am-3pm
Age: 8-12 Cost: \$75
skennedy@ufl.edu - (850) 926-3931 ext. 1
Online registration will be required at 4honline.com first before making payments. <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>



OUR ADVENTURES

- Week 1- June 12 - 16th**
Natures Home - Habitats
- Week 2- June 26 - 30th**
Preserving our Seas - Conservation
- Week 3- July 10 - 14th**
Creatures of the Blue - Marine Animals



Learn More At:

<https://gulfspecimen.org/>

The total camp would be a total of 3 weeks, every other week. Each week, the child will be able to re-register if the guardian chooses to, but the pay listed on the flyer is just for a single week.

The ages, time, and website are on the flyer.

The guardian can go to our website to find the registration form and method of payment.
Registration deadlines are as follows:

Week 1: June 8th • Week 2: June 22nd • Week 3: July 6th

Time
8:30am - 4:30pm
Ages
6 - 10