



Robyn Hurst remembered

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\$1
One Section

The Wakulla Spring

"It's a New Day"



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM Thunderstorms	Scattered Thunderstorms	Scattered Thunderstorms
Hi: 88° Lo: 74° 67%	Hi: 88° Lo: 73° 64%	Hi: 88° Lo: 74° 58%
Sunrise 6:35 AM Sunset 8:40 PM	Sunrise 6:35 AM Sunset 8:40 PM	Sunrise 6:35 AM Sunset 8:40 PM

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Our 2nd Year 24th Issue
Thursday, June 15, 2023

Hertz, Looney to return for retrial

The two were found guilty of the Spears-King murders 25 years ago, will have a re-do of the death penalty phase of their trial

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

The resentencing of Guerry Wayne Hertz and Jason Looney on murder charges is scheduled to get underway on June 19 with jury selection.

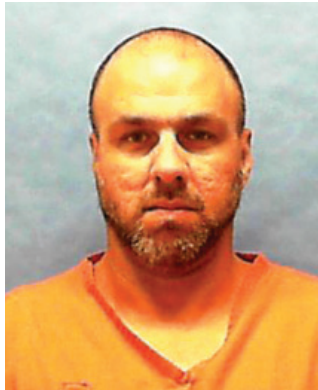
The question before jurors will be whether or not Hertz and Looney should be sentenced to death for the 1997 murders of Melanie King and Keith Spears. At their 1999 trial, Hertz and Looney were found guilty of two counts of first-degree murder and, by a vote of 10-2, the jury recommended death, which was or-

dered by the court.

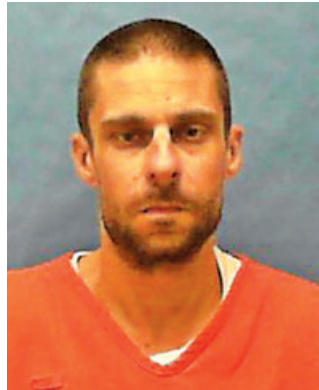
(A third man involved in the murders, Jimmy Dempsey, testified against Hertz and Looney at the trial in exchange for a sentence of life in prison.)

The only issue before the jurors will be whether to recommend a death sentence. The guilt of Hertz and Looney is not at issue, and they will never be released from prison even if a jury recommends a life sentence.

In 1999, there was not a requirement in Florida for a unanimous jury verdict for a death sentence. The case was sent back for a re-do of



Guerry Wayne Hertz



Jason Looney

the death penalty phase and has been pending for several years.

In this year's Legislative session, in response to the lack of a unanimous jury verdict for the death penalty at the trial of Parkland High

School shooter Nikolas Cruz, Florida lawmakers changed the standard to an 8-4 vote for death.

Defense attorney Zachary Ward, who represents Hertz, noted at a docket sounding hearing on Wednesday,

Heavy security at hearing

There was drum-tight security at the Wakulla County Courthouse on Wednesday, June 7, as death row inmates Guerry Wayne Hertz and Jason Looney were present for a hearing on their planned resentencing.

Wakulla deputies and Florida Department of Corrections officers were all over the courthouse – including 16 armed officers inside the courtroom during the hearing.

Security will be tight when the death penalty phase of Hertz's and Looney's trial gets underway starting June 19.

June 7, that the defense team had anticipated a change in the law on jury verdicts, but had anticipated the law would go into effect on Oct. 1 – which is why

the defense had agreed to set the resentencing for June 19. The Florida Legislature made the change in jury verdicts immediate.

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Members of the Charter Review Committee at a meeting last week at the community center.

Charter review discusses spring protection

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

The Wakulla Springs Alliance made a pitch to the county's Charter Review Committee for a proposed ballot initiative that would expand the Wakulla Springs protection area or create a Spring Creek special planning area.

The Charter Review Committee has been meeting over the past few months to look at possible changes to the county's governing document. It is required to be reviewed every 10 years.

Chad Hanson, a member of the Wakulla Springs Alliance, did a PowerPoint presentation at the Charter Review Committee's meeting on Tuesday, June 6 at the community center.

Hanson's presentation went through the historical degradation of the springs due to nitrogen in groundwater

from septic systems and the City of Tallahassee's Tram Road sprayfield. It reached the point in 2008 that the state Department of Environmental Protection deemed the Wakulla River "biologically impaired."

Hanson noted that there has been some recovery in recent years, "but it's nowhere near where it should be."

The implications of expanding the zone would be, for vulnerable areas in the basin map, which includes much of Crawfordville:

- Require advanced wastewater treatment standards for septic tanks, with sewer preferred;
- Low impact development such as two units per acre on septic, or no more than five units on sewer;
- and no Future Land Use Map amendments for more than 1 unit on 2 acres (on sewer)

or 1:5 (OSTDS) without enforceable development agreement.

Some members of the Charter Review Committee questioned if expanding the springs protection zone was an appropriate issue – with committee member Andrew Riddle, who also chairs the county planning commission (of which Hanson is also a member), asked if it wasn't more properly an issue to be addressed in the county's comprehensive plan. Riddle also questioned the impact of such a change on county building regulations.

Committee member John Shuff noted that the Wakulla Springs basin encompasses 1,300 square miles – much of which is in Leon County – and questioned why Leon doesn't help shoulder the burden of cleaning up the 7,000 septic tanks in its jurisdiction.

Committee member Lynn Artz went forward

with a motion to approve the expansion of the springs protection zone as a ballot question – and the motion was seconded by committee member David Damon. Committee Chair Chris Russell expressed disappointment at the motion and said it should properly be brought up on next month's agenda as new business. Artz withdrew her motion.

At the end of the meeting, County Administrator David Edwards expressed his opinion that expansion of the springs protection zone would have major implications. He pointed to the impact on the Crawfordville Town Plan and said the change would take the county's zoning regulations and toss them out the window.

"It would paralyze the county from a growth perspective," Edwards said.

The issue of DEP
Turn to Page 3

St. Marks to raise sewer rates 75% on residents

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Warned by their accountant that they are facing financial ruin if they don't do something, St. Marks City Commissioners voted to raise sewer rates 75% – which would translate to a \$46 increase per month on residential utility bills.

It was roughly estimated that the increase would translate into an additional \$183,000 into the city's utility fund.

City commissioners voted 3-1 for the increase, with the motion made by Dan Albers, seconded by Paula Bell, and supported by Mayor Paul Sheddman. Steve Remke was the lone vote against the increase. Remke had made a motion earlier for a 50% increase that was seconded by Bell for discussion and was ultimately voted down 1-3. City Commission Sharon Rudd was absent due to illness.

The meeting room at City Hall was full of citizens on Thursday, June 8, but none seemed especially upset by the sharp increase in rates.

One citizen did suggest that there must be money to cut, and Mayor Sheddman appeared irritated at the comment. The mayor replied that city commissioners had cut everything they could think of, but there was no way to make enough financial cuts to get out of the problem. Several residents in the audience suggested just going ahead with a 100% increase to get the pain over with.

It was noted that the city had been slow to raise its utility rates – there had only been a 12% increase over the past several years, which wouldn't be enough to keep up with inflation.

As part of financial cuts, the city commission has cut the pay of City Manager Zoe Mansfield and Ethel Jefferson by going to a four-day workweek.

Mayor Sheddman was also prepared at the meeting to suggest a reorganization of city staff by removing Public Works from under the city manager, and altering the title of the city manager to administrative manager.

City Attorney Ron Mowrey told Sheddman that the city charter refers specifically to a city manager position and duties. He said interference by city commissioners in the city manager's duties was a first-degree misdemeanor. Mowrey told Sheddman that the change he was proposing would require advertising and then a referendum for city voters to approve.

Sheddman appeared disappointed in the attorney's opinion.

It was Mowrey's last meeting as city attorney. He had represented St. Marks for many years.

He told city commissioners that he had practiced law for 54 years and would turn 80 in the summer, saying it was time for him to retire.

In another matter, Shadrach Hines of the St. Marks Waterfronts committee announced the group had raised enough money for Fourth of July fireworks.

Hines also said the city's first community market was a success. The next one is set for June 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Soft Greeneyes

By LYNN ARTZ, SANDY TEDDER
and DAVID RODDENBERRY



Also known as chocolate daisies because of their fragrance.

Soft greeneyes (*Berlandiera pumila*) are charming, perennial wildflowers that thrive in dry, sandy soil. Native to sandhills and pinelands in North Florida, they attract numerous butterflies and bees. Soft greeneyes grow about 2 feet tall with multiple flowers atop each flower stalk. The central green disc that gives the genus the common name “greeneyes” is most visible when the flowers first open and after the seeds disperse. Though rarely cultivated commercially, soft greeneyes can be grown from seed. Soft greeneyes are sometimes called chocolate daisies because, after the tiny brownish-red florets in the center start to bloom, their fragrance resembles chocolate, especially early in the morning. Soft greeneyes can be seen and sniffed now in the center island of the northwest garden at Sopchoppy Depot Park.

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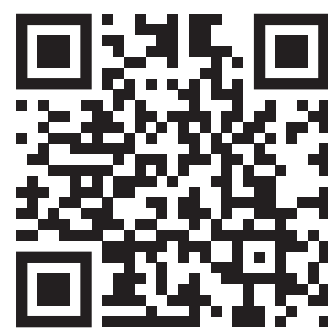
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The Chill Spot

The Chill Spot held a ribbon-cutting with the Chamber of Commerce on June 1. The business, owned by Tiffany and Bob Hartsfield, bills itself as a family-friendly place for hanging out, have a beer or glass of wine, play some cornhole and other games, and get food from food trucks. The Chill Spot is located at 3123 Spring Creek Highway. (Photo by William Snowden)

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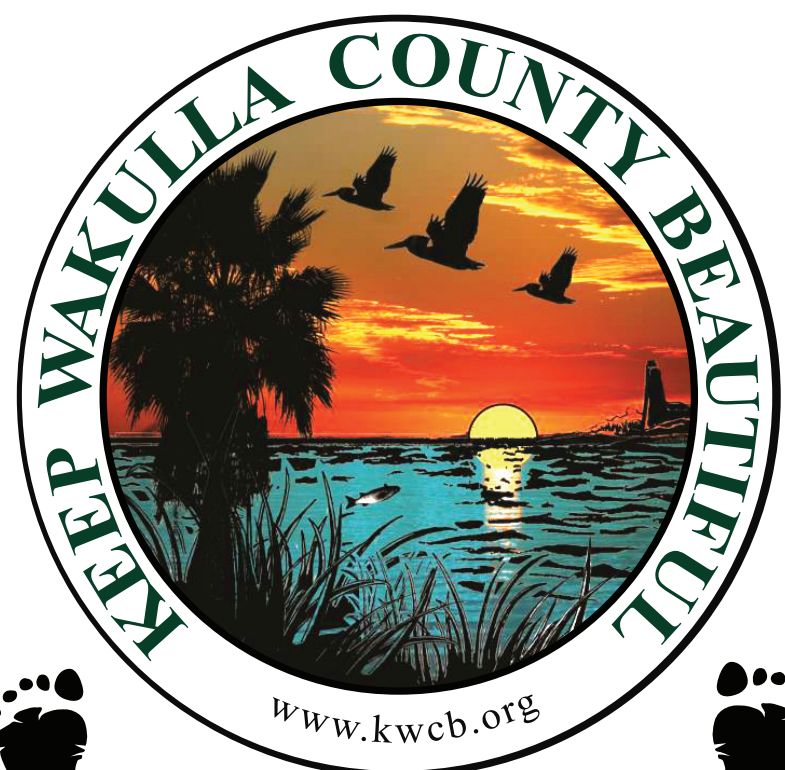
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Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office
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Lisa Craze, CFC
Wakulla County Tax Collector

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.



www.kwcb.org
Leave Nothing But Your Footprints

4-H announces summer youth leadership cohort

Special to The Sun

Wakulla 4-H recently announced the 2023 Youth Leadership Volunteer Cohort.

These high school age youth completed applications, interviews, and training to qualify to serve as youth volunteer leaders at the Wakulla 4-H Summer Day Camp. The teens will be working alongside qualified, trained youth development adult staff to provide high quality summer enrichment experiences for youth ages 5 to 13 over the course

of six camp weeks! Each youth has the opportunity to earn 100 or more volunteer hours that can be used to qualify for the Bright Futures scholarship program.

Summer 2023 4-H Youth Leadership Volunteers are:

Mason Dough
Malcolm Durant
Taylor Dugger
Riley Edwards
Robielsky Garcia
Allie Green
Brook Green
Caden Gruebel
Mattie Harrell
Krislynn Hollender
Joseph Humphries



Kensley Rosier
Allison Wilsey

Wakulla 4-H will hold the Fall 2023 4-H Open House event on Saturday, Aug. 26, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the extension office, 84 Cedar Ave. in Crawfordville.

4-H offers activities for youth ages 5 to 18 throughout the school year. For more information about 4-H programs, contact the 4-H office at 850-926-3931 or email 4-H Agent Dr. Rachel Pienta at r.pienta@ufl.edu.

Hurricane awareness seminar set at Macedonia

Staff Report

A hurricane awareness seminar, sponsored by Wakulla County Emergency

Management and director Jennifer Nagy, will be held at Macedonia Community Church of Sopchoppy on Thursday, June 22 at 7:30

p.m.

The church is located at 1085 Sopchoppy Hwy.

One emergency kit giveaway for partici-

pants.

For more information, contact Bobbery Rosier at (850) 519-0071.

Jennifer Phillips of North Florida Learning wins business award

By G. DAVIDSON
Special to The Sun

Florida Small Business District Conference at FAMU, held its 40th awards luncheon at the FSU Augustus B. Turnbull Center on Thursday May 4. North Florida Learning Center received the start-up Business of the year award.

The Startup Business of the Year award recipient was Jennifer Phillips.

In March of 2020 the classroom doors across the state of Florida were closed to all students, teachers, and staff. It was a pivotal moment for Phillips.

"There has to be a better way" Phillips



Jennifer Phillips

said.

In November 2021, she opened her first Learning Center in Crawfordville. One year later she opened her second learning center in Southwood.

"My goal is to bridge the academic gap created by the Covid-19 pandemic," Phillips said.

PUBLIC NOTICES:

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



Allstate Construction, Inc. (CGC1518758), the Construction Manager, will receive sealed bid proposals from pre-qualified subcontractors for Wakulla County School District's WAKULLA CAREER ACADEMY project, Crawfordville, Florida, for the following work:

03A - Concrete	13A - Pre-Engineered Metal Building System
04A - Masonry	21A - Fire Sprinkler
06A - Cabinets	22A - Plumbing
07A - Foamed-in-Place Insulation & Sprayed Foam Insulation	23A - HVAC
08A - Doors, Frames & Hardware	23B - HVAC Testing, Adjusting & Balancing
08B - Overhead Doors	26A - Electrical
08C - Glass	27A - Communications Cabling System
09A - Gypsum Board Assemblies	27B - Audio-Video System
09B - Acoustical Ceilings	27C - Intercom System
09C - Epoxy Flooring	28A - Access Control System
09D - Tile, Carpet & Resilient Flooring	28B - Video Surveillance System
09E - Acoustical Wall Panels	28C - Fire Alarm System
09F - Painting	31A - Site
10A - Building & Site Accessories	32A - Fencing

Subcontractor Bid Proposals will be received until 2:00pm Eastern Time on June 29, 2023, at Allstate Construction, Inc., 5718 Tower Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Pre-Bid Site Visit will be held on June 14, 2023, 10:00am Eastern Time at 3237 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327.

Bid Proposal documents are available from Allstate Construction, Inc.

Email: jwright@allstateconstruction.com

Phone: 850-514-1004

Allstate Construction, Inc. reserves the right to waive any irregularities and/or reject any and all Bid Proposals.

June 15, 22, 2023

Hertz-Looney

From Front Page

Ward argued for a continuance of the hearing until questions about death penalty cases are resolved by the Florida Supreme Court.

Wakulla Chief Prosecutor Jon Fuchs, who is prosecuting the Hertz-Looney case along with Assistant State Attorney Eddie Evans, said a continuance should be denied. "The defense gambled," Fuchs said, and lost on whether the Wakulla jury would be facing a requirement for a unanimous verdict.

Wakulla Circuit Judge Layne Smith, who is presiding over the resentencing, did not rule immediately on the request for a continuance, but he issued an order denying it the next day.

Much of the June 7 hearing focused on payments for two doctors who examined Hertz and are expected to testify on mitigating factors to be considered by the jury – such as his difficult childhood growing up with deaf parents and learning disabilities.

The clerk's office will be sending out jury

summons to 300 citizens, with 100 ordered to report on Monday morning, another 100 Monday afternoon, and 100 on Tuesday morning.

The goal is to seat 12 jurors and two alternates for the penalty phase of the trial.

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

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

Looney entered after

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

Hertz and Looney decided that they could not leave witnesses and then informed Dempsey of their plan. Dempsey testified that Hertz and Looney poured gasoline throughout the house, after which all three men went back to the bedroom armed. King told the defendants that she would "rather die being burnt up than shot."

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

After the shootings, the house was set afire. Looney drove away in the victims' Ford Mustang with Dempsey as a passenger, while Hertz drove the victims' white Ford Ranger.

Testimony was giv-

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
PATRICIA GAIL WHITE,
DECEASED.

CASE NO. 2023-CP-66

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The name of the Decedent, the designation of the Court in which the administration of this Estate is pending, and the file number are indicated above. The address of the Court is Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The name and address of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's Attorney are set forth below.

If you have been served with a copy of this Notice and you have any claim or demand against the Decedent's Estate, even if that claim is unmatured, contingent or unliquidated, you must file your claim with this Court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF A DATE THAT IS THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS NOTICE.

All other creditors of the Decedent and other persons who have claims or demands against the Decedent's Estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, must file their claims with the Court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. EVEN IF A CLAIM IS NOT BARRED BY THE LIMITATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE, ALL CLAIMS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN FILED WILL BE BARRED TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DEATH.

The Decedent's death was on August 22, 2022.

The date of first publication of this Notice was June 15, 2023

BOBBY JACK WHITE, JR.
6676 Landover Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32317
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

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ATTORNEY FOR THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

June 15, 22, 2023

Springs protection

From Front Page

shutting down the county's proposed springs protection ordinance that had been brought up the night before at the county commission meeting drew strong reactions:

Riddle, who was in the audience at the commission meeting, was recounting the announcement by Edwards that the state agency would deny any effort by the county to pass the more restrictive ordinance on siting underground storage tanks for gas stations.

Charter review committee member Pete Scalco became very upset, denying that DEP has any authority to oversee county ordinances.

Later in the meeting,

Damon seemed to question Edwards' veracity about DEP's stance and said he wanted to see it in writing.

Edwards responded that some DEP staff were confounded by objections by local environmental activists, such as Damon, to the proposed ordinance. Edwards recounted that he told the DEP staff that it's like living in Opposite Land.

Edwards said county staff had worked hard on the ordinance to protect groundwater while Damon worked against them.

Damon angrily retorted that Edwards and staff were keeping citizens out of the process by not holding workshops.

The exchange ended when Russell, the committee chair, called for a motion to adjourn.

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Opinions

THE FIRST AMENDMENT

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

A Father’s Day reflection: Even in blindness, vision



By JACK LEVINE

My Dad was 60 when I was born. Not only was he the oldest Dad on the block, he was older than all of my friends’ grandfathers. He was also a blind man having lost his sight in his early 50’s. After a few days of blurred vision, he became totally blind. The doctors guessed it was vascular, perhaps an aneurysm on the optic nerve.

It’s said that when one sense goes the others perk up a bit. Well, eight years after my Dad went blind, I came along! Some things in life don’t require good sight!

Growing up with a blind Dad wasn’t easy.

Sometimes his blindness frightened me. On occasion I would play blind, walking through a room with my eyes tightly shut feeling my way with outstretched arms and walking in a halting gait wondering how my Dad managed to move around with such effortless grace.

Beginning at age 9, it was my responsibility to read for my Dad - mostly newspaper columns, editorials and letters from his friends. Walter Cronkite was his TV news anchor; I read the opinions.

When I read for my Dad he listened to me struggle through the tough words with patience.... I had to spell out a few. But I’ll never forget the light that would shine from his blind eyes when I got to a phrase in an article or friend’s letter that moved him - a new fact or a fresh angle on an issue of concern. When that light went on, I knew I was doing a good job.

He couldn’t see my smile but I knew he sensed it.

My Dad never went to school one day in his life. He was an immigrant who came to this country at the turn of the century to escape the tyranny of forced “conscripted” in the Russian Czarist Army. The teenage boys gathered from the shtetles were not really being recruited or given uniforms.... they were forced to run through the woods, used as human target practice, to hone the skills of the sharpshooters.

Those few who survived feigned death, crawled back to the village to warn the others, like my father, to run away and escape to the west.

He and a friend, Benny, left their families at age 14, working their way through Poland over a three-year period to save enough to board a ship in Danzig (now Gdansk) for the New World...for survival and to be free.

My Dad spoke five languages, and later in life mastered Braille, but was versed in the language of politics the best. He believed it was politics that forced those young kids to run through the woods as human prey, and it was politics and policies that needed to be influenced at every stage of his life.

My Dad never hesitated to share his personal stories and his generation’s history. Most of my knowledge of the 20th Century is rooted in his accounts of life’s struggles, successes, and failures.

As I contemplate Dad’s Day I think of how different my childhood would have been if I had a different father....One who was not blind, who could play catch, or take me to a movie, or compliment my drawings.

Yet, I know I was enriched by being with a wise old man, helping to narrate his life’s events. For as long as I can remember, I saw for two

people. That was both an obligation, and an opportunity.

Every memory is a subjective vision of the past. All of us recall our childhoods with a blend of joy and regret. The pleasure was balanced with pain.

Some of us never really knew our fathers - lost to war, alcohol, or abandonment. Some feared their father’s anger or coldness but deeply respected his hard work and dedication to family. Some men live up to what’s expected of them, others stumble, yet few do not try to do their best.

I think of Dad’s Day - now 40-plus years after my Dad’s death - as a chance to cherish the gifts he gave me that had no wrapping paper. I believe his influence lives in the work I do, my appreciation of others’ challenges, and the relationship I have built with my own two sons who never got to meet the old guy with the gray beard

and bright, shining eyes.

I implore you think of the life lessons we’ve learned - good or bad - from our fathers. Let’s honor them by emulating the good, overcoming the bad, and sending a signal to our children, in both word and action, that they are valued.

One of the most significant ways to heed the commandment “Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother” is to make a contribution in our parents’ name to a charity which reflects the values we’ve learned from those who paved our paths.

Perhaps you can choose to volunteer to read to a child, visit a lonely elder, or send a note to a long-lost friend. What better honor than to give of ourselves in the name of those who gave so much to us?

Jack Levine, Founder of 4Generations Institute, is a family policy advocate, based in Tallahassee. He may be reached at jack@4gen.org.

LETTERS FROM READERS

An ode to the St. Marks fly

Editor, The Sun:

The Ubiquitous St. Marks fly

While strolling along Riverside Drive,
My senses were piqued by the St. Marks fly.
The nearly invisible natty bug,
that drives one mad with her thirst for blood.

The ubiquitous St. Marks Fly

Although a critter of minuscule size
She bites with a gusto that clearly defines,

Her insatiable lust for ones exposed
tidbits
And it makes you crazy when you try to inhibit.

The ubiquitous St. Marks Fly

The ubiquitous St. Mark’s Fly

Makes one ask, “What can I buy?”
to kill, maim or otherwise eliminate
the annoying little rascal that we’ve
all come to hate.

The ubiquitous St. Marks Fly

R. Chichetti
St. Marks

Forum set on springs protection

Editor, The Sun:

The Wakulla Springs Alliance, Clean Water Wakulla, and the Friends of Wakulla Springs are hosting a forum to give the entire community an opportunity to shape a shared vision for economic vitality and water protection in Wakulla County, and to develop recommendations for improving a draft Springs Protection Ordinance amendment primarily focused on storage of hazardous waste. The goals are to better protect the springs, aquifer and everyone’s drinking water, to minimize the risk of economic disasters from spills and to minimize the permitting and operating costs to those who use and store regulated substances. This initiative stems from the Wakulla County Board of County Commission’s reluctance and refusal to provide citizens the opportunity to engage with experts and county staff in formulating a stronger Ordinance.

The Community Forum on Economic Growth and Groundwater Protection will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14, at the Wakulla Environmental Institute, 170 Preservation Way, in Crawfordville.

Clean water is central to the quality of life, culture, and economy of Wakulla County. This includes drinking water from the aquifer, recreation on its springs and spring-fed rivers, fishing and oyster farming. This is threatened by the use and storage of petroleum and other regulated substances.

County commissioners directed staff to revise the ordinance in response to

strong citizen opposition to a proposed zoning change that would allow a large gas station on a site underlain by the Chip’s Hole cave system.

The proposed ordinance, as drafted, fails to provide stringent, enforceable standards for storage of petroleum products, including gasoline, the very pollutant that motivated the initiative. The public forum with many subject matter experts will consider options for regulatory boundaries, applicability, geotechnical assessments (caves, sinkholes, karst features, etc.), storage tank design criteria and more. Recommendations from the workshop will be provided to the Wakulla County Commission.

Wakulla County Administrator David Edwards, claims that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection General Counsel has told him that any Wakulla County ordinance more stringent than state law would be disallowed. FDEP needs to understand the unique karst and cave geology of Wakulla County that requires unique and special protections that may not be necessary in other parts of the state with different geological configurations.

The forum sponsors encourage everyone concerned about protecting our water and economic vitality in Wakulla to attend!

Anthony Gaudio
Chair of the Wakulla Springs Alliance
and a Retired Septic and Underground Utility Contractor

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.

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William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at Crawfordville Quick Stop: What do you like to do on Father's Day?



SHANNON ATKINSON
STAY AT HOME MOM

“We spend time with dad and let him do what he wants to do. We make sure to let him know that we appreciate HIM!”



DANIEL RUETH
SUB CONTRACTOR

“I usually work. I’m just not big on holidays.”



PEGGY MCMILLIAN
EDEN SPRINGS

“I take him out to dinner, a nice new suit for church. Happy Father’s Day, Boo.”



HEATH HOPKINS
SMALL BUSINESS OWNER

“I let my kids decide. If they want to go out to dinner, go fishing...it’s fine with me.”



DAVID DEWBERRY
RETIRED MILITARY

“I like to celebrate by seeingt her fathers enjoy being elebrated.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

This past Saturday afternoon, much of Wakulla County gathered at Chiles High School to celebrate the Wakulla Dance Academy’s dance recital. Our granddaughter Harper Rodgers was one of dozens of performers sharing their love of dance and performance. We always look

forward to this end of year event with such joy.

Sunday evening I was blessed to join my fellow Methodists at the Woodville United Methodist Church for their second Sunday Sing, featuring the Byrd family bluegrass performers. From near Dothan, Ala., this talented family played a wide assortment of instruments: banjo,-

fiddle, piano, bass viol, mandolin and guitar were all wielded expertly, with perfectly harmonious vocals. What a wonderful treat to fellowship with friends in song and dinner afterwards!

Happy June birthday wishes to my daughter Emma Smith, Diane O’neil, Karen Thompson and Mary Jo Dowling!

Please keep Thelma Watts in your prayers, as she fights an infection that is preventing her from receiving

a pace-maker.

Also in need of prayers is Sebastian Mosely, improving and growing stronger in hopes of having a heart transplant soon. Faye Sweeney also needs our prayerful support. Also in need of prayer is Clem Bunker, the Kendrick family, the Carter families, the Lynn family, the Vickery family, the Hurst family, the Hobby family, the Hodges family and the Sloan-Peacock family.

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of June 15

Thursday, June 15

- The Rotary Club of Wakulla County meets at the TCC Wakulla Center at 8:30 a.m.
- The Wakulla County Cancer Support Group will meet in the Education Center of the Crawfordville United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. This group meeting is for men and women, regardless of the type of cancer. Spouses, caregivers, and friends are welcome. For more information, call 850-926-6050.
- 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, June 16

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

Saturday, June 17

- Walk and Adopt, learn about hypertension and migraines from the Wakulla County Health Department and take a healthy walk with an adoptable dog, at Wakulla Animal Services Center at 10 a.m. Free.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Monday, June 19

- County commission meets in the commission boardroom at 5 p.m.
- School board meets at 5:45 p.m. at school administration office.
- 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, June 20

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

Wednesday, June 21

- **Summer starts**
- 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.

Sheriff’s Report

Activity reported for the week of June 2 to June 8:

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

- Connor Jackson reported someone burglarized his vehicle. The items reported as stolen were a set of speakers valued at approximately \$500. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Zac Monroe investigated.
- Michael Moore and Trenton Brogdon reported their vehicles had been burglarized. Moore stated a set of speakers valued at \$350 were stolen. Brogdon stated his wallet with misc. items had been taken from his vehicle valued at \$30. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Zac Monroe investigated.
- Deputy Donald Newsome responded to the lobby in reference to a report of credit card fraud. Ronald Layton received two emails stating he purchased two event tickets from “Seat Geek.” Layton said he was able to cancel one of the transactions for \$1,658.76 but the other was paid. The disputed amount was \$936.90. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

- Marcus Stringer located a phone he found at the Ochlockonee State Park boat ramp. The phone was collected and turned in for safe keep-

ing. Deputy Anthony Paul investigated.

- A wallet owned by J Shon Smith was turned over to deputies. The owner could not be located and the wallet was turned over to Property and Evidence for safe keeping.

• Deputies responded to the Old Fort boat ramp in reference to a disturbance. The complainant told dispatch someone pointed a gun at him. At the conclusion of the investigation no one brandished a weapon and the complainant instigated the argument.

• Randall Dick reported two people smashed the driver’s side window on his car and took his check book. Dick provided security video of the incident showing two people running from the scene. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Jake Scott investigated.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

• Deputies Todd Kent and Zac Munroe responded to a suspicious person in the area of Crum’s Mini Mall. Upon contact with the suspect, who was identified as Joseph Breland, he became combative with deputies. Breland eventually had to be taken to the ground and placed in handcuffs. Once Breland was transported to the jail, he spat in correction deputy Patrick Lima’s face. Breland was subsequently charged with Disorderly Intoxication and Battery

on Law Enforcement.

- Deputy Heather Will conducted a traffic stop for faulty equipment and the driver, Samuel Bucklin, was found to have a suspended drivers license. During the stop it was determined Bucklin had an illegally concealed firearm and his passenger, Brooke Rogers, was in possession of marijuana concentrates. Both subjects were taken into custody and transported to the jail without incident.

MONDAY, JUNE 5

• John Jackson reported a speaker stolen from his vehicle. In March he let a possible suspect use his vehicle. The suspect failed to return the vehicle, so he went and retrieved it. Jackson noticed a speaker missing from the vehicle and a pawn transaction form in the vehicle where the speaker was pawned by the suspect. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Dustin Matthews investigated.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6

• John Janusz reported a burglary to his property on Chippewa Road. Janusz advised he has not been on the property in over a year so a time frame could not be established. No items have been identified as missing. It appeared entry was made through a back window which was removed and placed on the ground. Entry was also made into the shed on the property. This case has been sent to detectives for further inves-

tigation. Deputy Kendrick Gavin investigated.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

- Shara King was observed operating a motor vehicle. King is known by deputies to not have a valid driver’s license. It was confirmed King had three prior convictions. King was placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility without incident. Deputy Dakota Haddock investigated.

• Gregory Willis reported \$3,843 being on his credit information. Willis stated an account with his name had been opened by Regional Finance Bank in California. Willis stated he never had an account with this finance group. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Heather Will investigated.

• A traffic stop was conducted on a Ford truck towing a Chevy truck with a snatch rope. Contact was made with both drivers, identified as Roger Haddock and Russell Hilbert. Neither drivers possessed a valid license. Haddock took off on foot and after a short pursuit he was located in the wood line off of Mill Creek Road. Both subjects were placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility. Deputy Heather Will investigated.

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

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE



By MARJ LAW

“OK, Joe, explain to me how you used the boresighter for my new 9mm Heckler & Koch VP9 Match gun. Patty tried it at the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office range, and she smashed the bullseye two times in a row. That boresighter aimed the sights perfectly. How’d you do that?”

First, of course, Joe shows me that the gun is empty. He has dumped the magazine and opened the chamber so I can inspect it. Sure enough, the chamber is clear.

And, even though we both now know that there is no round in the gun, he is keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

“You have to look to see that the boresighter you purchase is made for the caliber of your gun. This particular one has 9mm stamped on it. Otherwise, the laser will not line up with the barrel. It almost looks like a regular round, but instead of a having a bullet at one end, its brass housing has a hole where the laser shoots out.

This one comes with four batteries. You only need two, so two are extra. When you pop them into your gun, be sure to point the laser away from your

eyes. The laser turns on when you tighten the screw cover of the battery compartment. When you’re finished sighting the gun, take the batteries out to keep them from corroding in the boresighter. The batteries last about an hour total, so that’s another good reason to take them out of the casing when not in use.

Now, pull back the slide and put the boresighter into the chamber. Still pointing the gun in a safe direction, aim it at something like a wall so you can see where the laser is pointing.

Looking through your sights, align them with the dot on the wall. If they’re not aligned, move the windage as needed. Many guns have a screw you can turn the rear sights left or right. That is called windage. If you need to change the height, you may have a screw to turn that will change the height. This is elevation.

If you have a red dot sight on your gun, align the red dot with the laser dot on the wall.

“What if you own a gun that has sights that are not adjustable?” I wonder.

“Then you can figure how to shoot your gun to compensate for misalignment. You’ll want to learn exactly what your gun needs to hit the target well.”

“So, Joe, now that you’ve lined up sights to the laser, when I shoot, I’ll hit the bullseye every time?”

“Some of the accuracy depends on you,” he says (not rolling his eyes). “The laser isn’t perfect, but it will be pretty accurate. I’ve heard people

Boresighters 101



use a boresighter to learn muscle memory when they practice quick-drawing too.

We’ll go to the WCSO range and shoot at a target. We may have to tweak the sights a little, but they’ll be close enough so we won’t have to waste much ammunition to align the gun. Otherwise, it may take shooting off a bunch of bullets to get your gun sighted in. The laser saves in cost of ammo.”

“What about distance shooting? Although we generally shoot at the 7.5-yard target, the WCSO pistol range has 7.5, 15, 25, and 50-yard positions. Will it make a difference if you shoot at a 50-yard target?”

“You can take the boresighter to the range and aim it at the 50-yard target. If the sun is bright, it may bleach out the laser dot, though. If you can see the dot, then depending on your gun

and ammunition, you may need to adjust the elevation for the bullet’s drop in distance shooting. The weight and speed of the bullet can make a difference in the drop too.”

“What about a rifle with a scope? Can you use a boresighter for that too?”

“Yes, you can align the crosshairs of the scope to the laser. The laser dot should be right in the center of the crosshairs. The laser is good for open sights, a red dot reflex or a scope.”

“What else should someone keep in mind when adjusting the sights?”

“It’s possible that if there’s a problem, it might be that your reflex sight or scope is not mounted securely on the gun.

Also, I notice that you use only 124-grain rounds in your 9mm. Different ammunition may cause the VP9 to shoot a bit differently.

I’d suggest using the same grain ammunition each time you go to the range. If, however, you use a different type of ammunition when you’re carrying the gun as a defensive weapon and not just as a target gun, you’ll want to know how the different round impacts the target when you shoot.”

“Are these laser boresighters expensive?” I ask.

“This one’s pretty old. We better check on the computer.”

When we look, we see prices for a 9mm boresighter ranging from \$16 to \$50.

And, in case you are the proud owner of a plethora of guns, you can find kits that contain boresighters for many different calibers. I found one kit that included a BS9 9mm laser module and a BS30 .30 carbine laser module.

The arbors allow you to adapt the laser to fit these other bore diam-

eters: BS9 Laser Bore Sight (9mm Luger), BS30 Laser Bore Sight (.30 Carbine), AR38 Arbor (.38 Special/.357 Magnum), AR40 Arbor (.40 S&W), AR44REM Arbor (.44 Remington Magnum), and an AR45ACP Arbor (.45 ACP), AR45COLT Arbor (.45 Long Colt). It ran about \$111.

Yikes. In a nifty pouch, of course.

Without looking too much further, I found another kit holding various boresighters for \$65. Prices and contents of the kits vary quite a bit!

“The batteries in this thing are really tiny,” I tell Joe. “They’re almost the size of hearing-aid batteries.”

He looks at me and says: “Huh? What?”

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

BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

Ran into a black bear at the refuge

By DON MORROW

I ran into a bear down at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge last week. I was riding my bike on Aucilla Tram Road, a dirt road that branches off Lighthouse Road a mile beyond the Visitor Center. It is closed to vehicular traffic, but is open for horses, bikers and hikers.

Just over seven miles down the road, it crosses the Pinhook River and that was my goal.

Tram Road passes through a forest that is comprised primarily of Slash Pine and scattered Cabbage Palms. It cuts through hardwood hammocks and marshes edged with green ash and tupelo. In places, the edge of the road is spotted with grass pink orchids and meadow beauty.

There are a welter of old logging roads that intersect Tram Road

and as I approached one that came in at an angle a Black Bear stepped into the road. I immediately stopped the bike.

I like Black Bears, but I also respect their strength. This bear had also stopped and was facing away from me. I was only about 30 feet from what appeared to be a large family-sized bear, probably a male. My guess was that it weighed over 300 pounds and that I might be inside its comfort zone. I did not want to do anything that might cause it to feel threatened. The bear turned to look at me and for a brief second, we stared at each other.

Then, the bear took off running. For a few moments I could hear it crashing through the undergrowth and then it was gone.

According to the calendar, spring is about to end and the start of summer is just over

a week away, but the progression of the seasons down here along the Gulf coast is organic and messy, full of vagaries and contradictions.

June is the beginning of the breeding season for black bears and the bear that I saw may have been in search of a mate. However, nesting season for many of the refuge’s breeding birds is over.

Young Carolina Wrens and Clapper Rails are following their parents, begging for food.

Female gators are guarding nest mounds full of eggs and mother otters are teaching their kits to hunt.

Each species follows its own timing for its annual cycle and it is the sum of those cycles that creates the natural world that we see.

The shorebird season is drawing to a close. There are only a few hundred shore-

birds on the refuge.

The refuge’s wintering Western Sandpipers and Dunlins are already on their arctic breeding grounds, but there are still Semipalmated Sandpipers and a few other species migrating through.

Our nesting Wilson’s Plovers and Willets are being followed by young birds. Yearlings of a few species that do not migrate in their first year are settling in for the long hot Summer and in another month fall migration will begin as the first south-bound shorebirds filter through.

There are no hard edges or straight lines in nature. The refuge’s yearly seasonal cycle flows like a river with no beginnings, breaks or ends.

Come down to St. Marks and jump in.

Don Morrow can be contacted at donaldmorrow@gmail.com.



KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLE
(*Lepidochelys kempii*)

The rarest of sea turtles, they mate offshore and then females come in a large group called an 'arribada' to all nest at the same time on beaches with dunes or swamp. A female will nest three times during each nesting season almost always on Rancho Nuevo beach in Mexico. Some also nest on the San Padre Island, Texas. The dark baby turtles hide in the sargassum beds. They hunt for mollusks, crustaceans, jellyfish, algae, sea weed and sea urchins. Critically endangered, almost all sea turtles killed by the BP oil spill were Kemp's Ridleys.

Eukaryota, Amalia, Chordata, Reptilia, Testudinidae, Cheloniidae



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Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

June 15 - June 21



Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month
June 18-30

Thursday 15	
Sun rise/set 6:34AM 8:39PM	Moon rise/set 4:28AM 6:36PM
Moon Illumination 7%	
Friday 16	
Sun rise/set 6:35AM 8:40PM	Moon rise/set 5:07AM 7:39PM
Moon Illumination 3%	
Saturday 17	
Sun rise/set 6:35AM 8:40PM	Moon rise/set 5:51AM 8:38PM
Moon Illumination 0%	
Sunday 18	
Sun rise/set 6:35AM 8:40PM	Moon rise/set 6:40AM 9:33PM
Moon Illumination 0%	
Monday 19	
Sun rise/set 6:35AM 8:40PM	Moon rise/set 7:34AM 10:22PM
Moon Illumination 2%	
Tuesday 20	
Sun rise/set 6:35AM 8:41PM	Moon rise/set 8:30AM 11:06PM
Moon Illumination 5%	
Wednesday 21	
Sun rise/set 6:35AM 8:41PM	Moon rise/set 9:28AM 11:43PM
Moon Illumination 10%	

For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings:
 Carrabelle 28 Min. High Tide 25 Min. Low Tide
 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	1:41 am ▲ 3.0 ft	6:24 am ▼ 1.8 ft	12:30 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	7:55 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	2:28 am ▲ 3.1 ft	7:08 am ▼ 1.9 ft	1:10 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	8:38 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Sa	3:09 am ▲ 3.1 ft	7:49 am ▼ 1.9 ft	1:48 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:18 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Su	3:46 am ▲ 3.1 ft	8:28 am ▼ 1.8 ft	2:25 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	9:56 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Mo	4:22 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:06 am ▼ 1.7 ft	3:01 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	10:31 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	4:57 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:45 am ▼ 1.7 ft	3:35 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	11:03 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	5:32 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:24 am ▼ 1.7 ft	4:11 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	11:35 pm ▼ 0.0 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	2:17 am ▲ 2.8 ft	7:28 am ▼ 1.7 ft	1:06 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	8:59 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	3:04 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:12 am ▼ 1.7 ft	1:46 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	9:42 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Sa	3:45 am ▲ 2.9 ft	8:53 am ▼ 1.7 ft	2:24 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	10:22 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Su	4:22 am ▲ 2.9 ft	9:32 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:01 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	11:00 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Mo	4:58 am ▲ 2.9 ft	10:10 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:37 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	11:35 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	5:33 am ▲ 2.9 ft	10:49 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:11 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	
We	12:07 am ▼ -0.2 ft	6:08 am ▲ 2.9 ft	11:28 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:47 pm ▲ 3.5 ft

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	1:59 am ▲ 3.1 ft	6:51 am ▼ 1.9 ft	12:50 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	8:12 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Fr	2:45 am ▲ 3.2 ft	7:30 am ▼ 2.0 ft	1:25 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	8:54 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Sa	3:26 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:06 am ▼ 2.1 ft	1:59 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:34 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Su	4:04 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:41 am ▼ 2.1 ft	2:33 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	10:13 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Mo	4:40 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:15 am ▼ 2.0 ft	3:07 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	10:49 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	5:15 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:51 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:42 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	11:24 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	5:50 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:31 am ▼ 1.9 ft	4:19 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	11:57 pm ▼ 0.0 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	1:33 am ▲ 2.2 ft	6:35 am ▼ 1.3 ft	12:22 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:06 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Fr	2:20 am ▲ 2.3 ft	7:19 am ▼ 1.4 ft	1:02 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	8:49 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Sa	3:01 am ▲ 2.3 ft	8:00 am ▼ 1.4 ft	1:40 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:29 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Su	3:38 am ▲ 2.3 ft	8:39 am ▼ 1.3 ft	2:17 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	10:07 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Mo	4:14 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:17 am ▼ 1.3 ft	2:53 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	10:42 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Tu	4:49 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:56 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:27 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:14 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
We	5:24 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:35 am ▼ 1.2 ft	4:03 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:46 pm ▼ 0.0 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	2:11 am ▲ 2.5 ft	6:41 am ▼ 1.8 ft	12:10 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	7:50 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Fr	3:00 am ▲ 2.5 ft	7:17 am ▼ 2.0 ft	12:43 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	8:28 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Sa	3:42 am ▲ 2.5 ft	7:47 am ▼ 2.0 ft	1:18 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	9:06 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Su	4:19 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:15 am ▼ 2.0 ft	1:55 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	9:43 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Mo	4:53 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:46 am ▼ 2.0 ft	2:34 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	10:21 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	5:27 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:23 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:16 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:59 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	6:00 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:08 am ▼ 1.9 ft	4:00 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	11:37 pm ▼ 0.0 ft

Dog Island West End

Th	3:06 am ▲ 2.2 ft	7:04 am ▼ 1.9 ft	12:00 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	8:09 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	3:52 am ▲ 2.3 ft	7:49 am ▼ 2.0 ft	12:39 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:42 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Sa	4:31 am ▲ 2.3 ft	8:21 am ▼ 2.0 ft	1:22 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	9:16 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Su	5:07 am ▲ 2.3 ft	8:48 am ▼ 2.0 ft	2:04 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	9:50 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Mo	5:38 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:14 am ▼ 2.0 ft	2:45 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:28 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	6:06 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:45 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:25 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	11:08 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	6:33 am ▲ 2.2 ft	10:26 am ▼ 1.9 ft	4:07 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:48 pm ▼ 0.0 ft

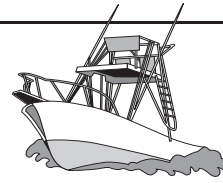
Thursday 15	Minor Times 3:43AM 5:51PM	Major Times 10:14AM 10:39PM
Friday 16	Minor Times 4:22AM 6:54PM	Major Times 11:05AM ----
Saturday 17	Minor Times 5:06AM 7:53PM	Major Times 11:31PM 11:58AM
Sunday 18	Minor Times 5:55AM 8:48PM	Major Times 12:25AM 12:51PM
Monday 19	Minor Times 6:49AM 9:37PM	Major Times 1:18AM 1:44PM
Tuesday 20	Minor Times 7:45AM 10:21PM	Major Times 2:10AM 2:35PM
Wednesday 21	Minor Times 8:43AM 10:58PM	Major Times 3:00AM 3:23PM

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



Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



This past weekend, Flotilla 12 held our monthly business meeting. In addition to ongoing conversations on safe boating and hurricane preparedness, we got to celebrate James Kenny in receiving recognition for completing the Auxiliary Leadership Class.

The Coast Guard recently released their summary of the 2022 recreational boating statistics.

The data also shows that in 2022:

- The fatality rate was 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 1.8 percent decrease from last year's fatality rate of 5.5 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. (In 1971, when the Safe Boating Act was first passed, the fatality rate was 20.6 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.)
- Property damage totaled \$63 million.

Boating Emergencies

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Coast Guard Station
 Yankeetown (352) 447-6900

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



James Kenny accepting award.

- Operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, excessive speed, and machinery failure ranked as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.
- Where the cause of death was known, 75% of fatal boating incident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 85% were not wearing a

life jacket.

We will continue to highlight these statistics in the coming weeks. Safe Boating is everyone's responsibility. The trends are moving in the right direction and we want to continue to see these numbers decreasing.

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

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

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

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

Hello, Wakulla.

I had another great open water weekend. On Saturday we met at the jetties in St. Andrews Park in Panama City Beach at 8 a.m. Central time.

We did two open water dives so we could get all our required skills done before we went into the big water on Sunday. This class made up of a family of five and another student. All the students were quite saltwater able. They did their skills very well just like in the pool session. I gave them the address of the marina the boat is docked and said we need to meet there between 7:30 and 8 on Sunday.

I got to the dive boat at 7:10 a.m. Central and it just so happens that two of my former students where there early like me. I met the captain, his wife and daughter – it's a family run business. We got the layout of the boat and started to unload the truck with all the cylinders and placed them in their spots for the students. My divemaster and DM in training both showed up to help us with the tanks. The rest of the divers including my six students arrived and boarded the boat.

The captain gave us the safety briefing after everyone signed in and got their gear set up and checked. He fired up the engine and we where headed out to the first dive site the Red Sea. My divemaster and DM in training where the first ones in the water followed by the six students and the other divers. I was the last one off the boat. As I was descending down the anchor rope I saw a 3-foot sandbar shark at the bow and there was a very large school of amberjack along with many other type bait fish. I had not seen this much fish in one place in many years of diving this wreck.

The students finally got their water wings and looked pretty good as they swam the wreck for the first time. I was swimming around and made sure they all started ascending up the dive rope. We all got on board and changed over our tanks for the next adventure.

The second dive we made was at the bridge span 12. It was a few hundred yards away so the captain anchored the boat. During the surface interval we had snacks and drinks – water and juice. This time the students where divers and everyone stepped off the boat like pros, they descended down the rope and began their dive.

I was just chillin' out when I noticed something slowly moving on my right side and when I looked it was about a couple of feet away. It was the largest Goliath grouper I have ever seen. It probably was a 1,000 lbs and at least 9-10 feet in length. The cool thing was several of the divers saw it too.

The span was covered in so much sea life it was awesome.

Well, I'm out of room so until next dive make bubbles.

Russell Miller NAUI #59999

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

Retired Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger Bob Thompson, on his weekly wildlife survey at the park, recently snapped this photo of a Little Blue Heron looking over the Wakulla River.



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A different kind of Father's Day challenge



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

"I love You, Father."
When I say this short sentence, it changes my day. Every time I express my love for my heavenly Father, silent-

ly or out loud, it makes my heart happy.

Whether I'm making sales calls, loading the dishwasher, preparing for my ladies group or dealing with a stressful circumstance or relationship, whenever I pause to tell my heavenly Father how much I adore Him, even the most challenging task or situation feels less overwhelming.

The simple act of expressing my love for God – for the all-powerful, yet all-merciful, God – gives me a broader view of God's sover-

eignty in the midst of a trial. And it enables me to see my earthly relationships better, including my part in conflicts. My outlook and mood become brighter, more joyful and hopeful.

Why?
Could it be because when we take our focus off our feelings, our mundane tasks, our trials – off us – and place our focus on Someone so big, powerful, and loving, we see everyone and everything differently?

Despite all I'm going

through, I can worship God "in the waiting" because I trust His love for me. Almighty, holy, incredible God – my heavenly Father – loves me.

This is why I can't help but tell Him what He means to me.

I suspect my female readers might have an easier time with this. But what if we recalled the several passages in Psalms where David, a brawny man's man, had no problem recognizing and declaring His solid love for God? Including Psalm 18:1

(ESV): "I love you, O LORD, my strength."

So try it. In your own words or using David's, tell God how much you love Him. And if you can, declare it out loud.

Did you feel it? When you expressed your love for your heavenly Father, did you become more aware of His presence – and sense His profound love for you?

How would telling the God of the universe, the Creator of all things – your Father – "I love You" throughout your day change your relationship with Him? How

would it change you? How would it change your day?

During Father's Day week, why not accept the Tell-God-I-love-You challenge for seven consecutive days and discover the difference it can make?

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.

The off ramp



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

Maybe it is a Southern expression to go "ramblin'" on the back roads. Growing up, we often did just that. Dad would double-check the fishing poles, and Mom would pack a brown paper bag full of sandwiches, various snacks, and sometimes leftover fried chicken. We, the kids, would settle down in the back of Dad's old pickup

as he rambled the backroads of home. Places to fish were plentiful, as are the memories that now linger in the recesses of who I am.

The afternoon rambling spirit of my parents influenced my life more than I realized. Nothing can compare to the beauty of God's creation when one slows down the pace of life. Recently, I took an afternoon off and drove through the dirt roads of home. On my excursion, I saw two black bears, a family of deer, and a rabbit that crossed the road before me. The wildflowers lining the forest were stunning. The glistening of the river shimmering through the trees as the sunlight fell upon it was

breath-taking.

I am often reminded how much I need Psalm 23 for my spirit. Calm waters and green fields reconnect me with my faith in God and my need for His presence. My soul finds peace in the beauty of His creation as He leads me on the path of His righteousness. Yet, life has a way of becoming a fast-paced freeway with a series of on- and off-ramps distracting me from my Creator.

Wisdom teaches us that faster is not always better. We often feel as if the freeway of life is filled with goals that must be accomplished. We busy ourselves with work, house, and church, rushing past

valuable exit ramps. We are on the fast-paced freeway of faith and going nowhere spiritually. Exhausted by the daily grind, we miss the essential things along the way. We have neglected moments to enjoy what God has set before us, opportunities to share a kind word, relationships with loved ones, or becoming friends instead of remaining strangers.

Let us remember that we are the ones who stand at the crossroads of life. Every day is an opportunity to begin anew. What choice will we make? Will we stay in the fast lane, zipping past the blessings of God, or will we take the off-ramp into His presence? Our Lord has

promised us that if we seek Him, we will find Him (Jeremiah 29:13). With that promise, one would think the choice to be easy. However, knowing God requires us to slow down.

As we slow down our pace, we will begin to understand our Father's great love for us. His greatest desire is to care for us and not to cause us harm. The Lord has a planned future for His children, full of hope and grace (Jeremiah 29:11). In His presence, our cup will always run over with His blessings of goodness and mercy (Psalm 23).

Let this be the day He has created for us. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. He has given us creation

and each other to love. It may be time we grab an old cane pole, sit on a riverbank somewhere, and let our only worry be how to untangle the fishing line. Let today's moments be spent in the presence of our Lord as we enjoy the off-ramp. He is waiting.

Jeremiah 6:16 - "The Lord says: 'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.'"

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

OUT TO PASTOR

What's a Whopper got to do with anything?



By **JAMES SNYDER**

After my heart attack, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage enacted a dietary regimen in accordance with improving my health.

The theme of this dietary regimen is vegetables, vegetables, vegetables. I did not know there were so many vegetables in the entire world. Her primary vegetable, much to my disdain, is broccoli.

Even though she is quite persuasive and persistent I have refused to eat any broccoli. If there is broccoli on my dish for lunch or supper I refuse to eat anything on that dish.

My dietary regime is quite strict, and there are more things I can't eat than I can eat. I have, however, suffered through this dietary persecution for the last several years.

One thing I am not permitted to do is go to a fast food restaurant. Particularly, I am not to have any cheeseburgers of any sort. That has been rather hard for me because the cheeseburg-

er is one of my favorite foods. I'm expecting to have cheeseburgers in heaven when I get there.

I'm trying to keep up with her schedule; at least I've survived so far.

The other week something happened that changed my attitude along this line. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had several lunchtime appointments with her friends. It's one of those girl's time out in which I'm not involved.

I love it when an opportunity comes together.

There were about three days she would not be home for lunch. At the beginning of the week, she said, "I'm going to be away most of the time for lunch this week. Can you get your own lunch?"

It caught me by surprise, and I was slow in responding. After clearing my throat, I said, "Oh, yes, my dear, I can take care of my lunch. Go and have fun with your girlfriends."

After hearing that, my head was abuzz with all kinds of thoughts about lunchtime specials.

The one thing I could not get out of my thinking was those delicious Whoppers at Burger King. I'm not sure why that was on my mind, but it was, and I couldn't get rid of it.

Some of my best times have been at that restaurant munching on their

delicious Whoppers. When I'm eating one I have peace of mind.

Of all the fast food restaurants in my town, why was I thinking of Burger King and their Whoppers? This is the one thing violently rejected on my dietary regime.

I'm not sure how it got into my head, but I could not get it out of my head. All I could think of was how delicious it would be to nibble on one of those delicious burgers. And then beside it would be French fries. Oh, what a wonderful thought. And then, to wash everything down was a large Pepsi. My heart is beating.

I had to be very careful because I have learned over the years that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage can read my mind. How she does it, I don't know. But I been caught in many a scheme because of this skill.

If she knew what I was thinking then, boy,

would I be in trouble.

In order to camouflage these thoughts, I began to whistle whenever she was around. When I was a young kid, whistling was one of my favorite hobbies. Therefore, whenever she came in view, I began whistling, and it didn't matter what I was whistling as long as I was whistling.

My plan was to ask her each morning as cautiously as possible if this was the day.

On Tuesday morning, with subdued enthusiasm, I said, "So, you will be going to lunch today with your friends."

Then something happened I wasn't prepared for. She said, "No, we had to change our plans, and we won't be able to go to lunch until Wednesday."

I cannot tell you how much that discouraged my heart because I had been looking forward to having a big Whopper with all the accouterments. I tried to bounce a cheerful demeanor so

she would not have any suspicions about me. I'll need to wait another day before indulging in my dietary pleasure.

Looking at me, she said, "That doesn't spoil your plans for the day, does it?"

Faking a smile, I told her that everything was OK.

I still could not get that Whopper out of my mind. I'm not sure what I will do if she doesn't have a lunch date very soon.

Wednesday came and the same message was given. The lunch date for today was canceled until Friday.

How I will last until Friday is beyond any expectations I might have. I have never been haunted by such a dietary preference in all my life.

Friday finally came, and as I was sitting at the fast food restaurant nibbling on my delicious

Whopper, I could never be happier. I guess it pays to be patient, and I'm going to enjoy myself.

My biggest challenge is not allowing her to find out my dietary plans for the day.

As I was nibbling my Whopper I was reminded of a verse of Scripture: "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience." (James 1:2-3).

The development of patience in my life is one of the greatest challenges that I face, but the reward is heavenly.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala 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

DEATH NOTICES

• **Roscoe P. Grant III**, 66, of Crawfordville, died June 9, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **David Preston Morgan**, 74, of Crawfordville, died June 12, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Edmond “Ed” Ray Ryals**, 77, of Crawfordville, died June 9, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Sharon Lee Simmons**, 75, of Crawfordville, died June 5, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

BEREAVEMENT COLUMN

In pursuit of excellence



By **TRACY RENEE LEE**

Last week, my brother My husband is out of town and when he is gone, I do not sleep. Not only do I not sleep, but my mind reminisces and memories are recalled that are dear to me. Last night as I sat on the couch, my friend Preston came to mind.

Preston passed away in 2012 from a brain tumor. It is interesting that his cause of death was a brain tumor because Preston had a most amazing brain. Preston was a newspaper editor. In fact, his line of work was how I first met him. He in-

roduced himself to me because my husband was running for public office and he wondered if he might secure an interview through me.

I was immediately impressed with Preston's politeness, his vast vocabulary, his impeccable grammar, and the degree of excellence in which he functioned. Preston could be at his desk talking to you, interviewing someone else over the phone, and accurately type both conversations simultaneously at 90+ words per minute. He never skipped a beat or had to ask you to repeat yourself. He was amazing.

Preston and I were friends before the internet became a vast collection of accessible knowledge. He was a walking dictionary, grammarian, spell checker, and encyclopedia available upon request. He was conversational, well-read, knowledgeable and cu-

rious about absolutely everything. There was no getting over on Preston because he could fact-check everything at lightning speed through his brain. He was amazingly intelligent, intuitive, gentle, kind, and fair. I miss him so much.

Currently, I am at the age where one must apply for Medicare. I have discovered that the golden years are very sorrowful. Everyone that I have known who is older, or within my same age group, is either battling disease, dying, or already deceased. I see my loved ones, and lifelong friends, suffering and dying at an alarming speed. It brings anxiety and heartache, and I wish it weren't so.

In my practice as a certified Grief Counselor, I find that I must counsel others as I battle and struggle with stacking deaths within my immediate circle of family and friends. As a

funeral director, I must console my clients as I silently suffer painful grief. It seems as though my life fills with anguish as loved ones and friends die. Maybe it is because I better understand the value and frailty of life now that I have experienced so much loss. Whatever the reason, I must remember the blessings of love rather than the burdens and struggles of loss.

I loathe the statement, “Grief is the price we pay for love,” because I believe love is an eternal blessing. If we focus on the love we shared with our decedents rather than the pain we suffer upon their loss, love will heal us. It is the gift that keeps on giving by overshadowing our pain and helping us remember and feel our loved one's love even though they are gone. Love should be our focus.

Additionally, if we take our love and share it with others, we will see it increase. An increase in love fills the void that death imposes and pushes out the pain it inflicts. For example, if you have a bowl filled with water and you begin filling it with rocks, the rocks push the water over the brim. Soon there is very little room for any water. That is exactly what happens when we share our love. It pushes out everything that is not love. Sadness, anxiety, loneliness, hatred, etc. all are pushed out of our hearts and love fills and comforts us.

Preston had a heart brimming with love. I think that is why his brain was so advanced. Preston loved honor, loyalty, integrity, truth, knowledge, God, America, family, and friends. His brain was filled with so much good that bad had no place. He was a

great man and a great friend. I miss him. I miss our chats. And, I miss his pursuit of excellence.

My name is Tracy Renee Lee. I am a Certified Grief Counselor (GC-C), Funeral Director (FDIC), published author, syndicated columnist, Podcaster, and founder of the “Mikey Joe Children’s Memorial” and Heaven Sent, Corp. I write books, weekly bereavement articles, Podcasts, and Grief BRIEFS related to understanding and coping with grief. I am the American Funeral Director of the Year Runner-Up and recipient of the BBB’s Integrity Award.

For additional encouragement, please visit my podcast “Deadline” on Spotify and follow me on Instagram at “Deadline_TracyLee.”

Weekly Roundup: Fracas festers over flights

By **RYAN DAILEY**
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — For days, Florida's role in a recent round of controversial migrant flights remained a mystery — until Tuesday, when state officials said two flights that transported migrants from Texas to California were “voluntary” relocations.

The flights, which took place Friday and Monday, brought South American migrants from El Paso to Sacramento. Confirmation that the flights originated from Florida came from the state Division of Emergency Management.

Division spokeswoman Alecia Collins pointed to a video posted on the social-media site Rumble that showed images of people filling out forms, listening to upbeat music in a stretch vehicle, walking across an airport tarmac and celebrating their arrival in California.

“Through verbal and written consent, these volunteers indicated they wanted to go to California,” a news release from the division said. “A contractor was present and ensured they made it safely to a 3rd-party NGO (non-governmental organization). The specific NGO, Catholic Charities, is used and funded by the federal government.”

The flights followed similar actions by Gov.

Ron DeSantis' administration in September, when 49 migrants were flown from Texas to Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts.

Even before Florida had taken credit for the latest flights, California Gov. Gavin Newsom attacked DeSantis as a “small, pathetic man.” Newsom, a Democrat, raised the possibility of kidnapping charges as he and California Attorney General Rob Bonta questioned the legality of the flights.

Newsom in a news release Saturday said efforts were underway to ensure that migrants “dumped on the doorstep” of a Sacramento church are “treated with respect and dignity.” He also said the California Department of Justice was investigating who paid for the trip and “whether the individuals orchestrating this trip misled anyone with false promises or have violated any criminal laws, including kidnapping.”

DeSantis broke his silence on the flights during an immigration “roundtable” in Arizona on Wednesday. The governor described the use of Florida tax dollars to pay for the migrant flights as helping Texas combat a border crisis, and called for states to be “more aggressive” in immigration enforcement.

“We have an ability to do things, like support police and help out

Texas, because we have a good managed state,” DeSantis said during an event in Sierra Vista, Ariz., that focused on his opposition to Biden administration immigration policies.

DeSantis delivered the comments during his first trip to the U.S. southwest border since announcing his candidacy for president. He cited \$24 million earmarked by the Legislature in the last two years aimed at funding similar migrant flights.

“This (money for migrant flights) is something that's been in the budget now for, I think, for two years,” DeSantis said. “If a sheriff asked for our support in Texas, we do this as an American problem. We don't do it just as a Texas problem, as we think we're all in this together.”

BIG MAN ON CAMPUS

South Florida State College will soon have a new leader at the helm, after the school's trustees tapped state Rep. Fred Hawkins, a St. Cloud Republican, to succeed retiring President Thomas Leitzel.

Hawkins, who has served in the House since 2020, was the lone finalist for the position.

In the House, Hawkins this year sponsored a high-profile bill that was a priority

of DeSantis amid an ongoing feud between the governor and the Walt Disney Co. The measure gave DeSantis authority to appoint the board of the former Reedy Creek Improvement District, which also was renamed the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District.

Hawkins served from 2008 to 2020 on the Osceola County Commission. But DeSantis suspended him in July 2020 after Hawkins was charged with impersonating a law-enforcement officer. Hawkins went on to get elected to the House in November 2020.

Hawkins did not return a request for comment Wednesday from The News Service of Florida. A spokesman for DeSantis did not reply to a request for comment about Hawkins' selection as president of the college, which has campuses in Highlands, DeSoto and Hardee counties.

Critics of Hawkins' selection, however, have suggested the pick was purely political.

“Another GOP politician with no real qualifications for a job like this being appointed to lead a college. Higher education institutions shouldn't serve as job placement plans for political cronies. The grift is real,” Thomas Kennedy, a Florida member of the Democratic

National Committee, said in a Twitter post Wednesday.

Details of Hawkins' proposed contract will not be available until a June 21 meeting of the trustees, a South Florida State College spokeswoman said. Hawkins is expected to assume the president role on July 3.

Meanwhile, three candidates in recent weeks have filed paperwork to run for Hawkins' House District 35 seat in Osceola and Orange counties. The candidates filed to run in the 2024 election. But with Hawkins vacating the seat, DeSantis likely will call a special election to determine a replacement.

TAKE A HIKE

With the state-backed Citizens Property Insurance Corp. continuing to see massive growth, regulators Thursday took up a proposal that would lead to double-digit rate increases for Citizens customers across Florida.

The proposed increases would vary based on factors such as types of policies. But Brian Donovan, the chief actuary for Citizens, said during a hearing held by the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation that Citizens is recommending 12 percent increases for all homes that are primary residences and

have what are known as multi-peril policies — the most-common type of coverage.

Increases could be dramatically higher for homes that are not primary residences. A new state law allows increases up to 50 percent for those properties.

“We take asking for a rate increase very seriously,” Citizens President and CEO Tim Cerio said during Thursday's hearing. “(For) homeowners' insurance consumers, it's a very difficult time right now.”

STORY OF THE WEEK:

Gov. Ron DeSantis this week called for states to be “more aggressive” in immigration enforcement, as California officials continued investigating potential criminal wrongdoing after Florida directed flights of migrants from Texas to Sacramento.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

“We mean business. And so, Ron DeSantis should know that. And everyone that's been part of this, and they have more direct accountability and culpability, should know we mean business and we're not backing away from getting the facts and holding those accountable if they broke the laws of the state of California.” — California Gov. Gavin Newsom.

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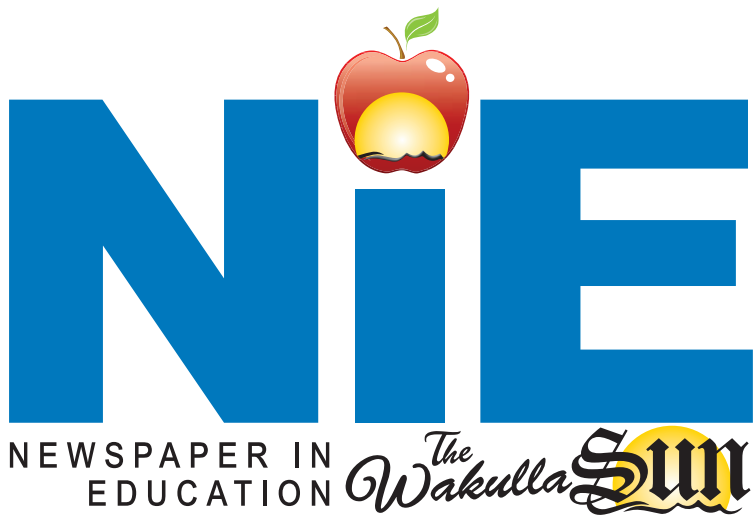
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USE THE NEWS

1. LET'S MAKE A DEAL

People who work on television shows and movies, like directors and stage managers, have been on strike while the guild that represents them has been negotiating with Hollywood studios. They were fighting for better pay, including adjustments to how they're paid from their work going on streaming services, and job security as artificial intelligence technology is on the rise. The deal the guild put together with the Hollywood studios specifically says that AI is not a person and can't replace the jobs of guild members. Look up the different types of jobs on a television or movie set. Think about how artificial intelligence could be used to help make that work easier without replacing the jobs of paid workers. Write down your ideas and discuss with your classmates.

2. ON THIN ICE

We think of the North Pole as being frozen all the time. During the summer, temperatures do warm up even in the Arctic, but the sea is still full of ice. However, that might not be true for much longer. A new study shows that because of global warming, the Arctic sea ice could all melt during the summer as early as the 2030s—which is ten years earlier than scientists previously thought. Look up the animals that live in the Arctic. Then, write an article about how they could be affected by the sea ice melting during the summer.

3. HEROES OR VILLAINS?

A vigilante is someone who is not part of law enforcement but stops crime and punishes criminals without the legal authority to do so. We think of comic book heroes like Batman, who is a vigilante, saving people when the police can't be there to do the job. However, real-life vigilantes can

be dangerous and cause more harm when trying to help their communities. In Haiti, a group of people have violently attacked more than 160 gang members who were terrorizing the island nation. Kidnappings and gang violence have dropped dramatically, but people are worried that the mob may turn their attention to people who have nothing to do with gangs, or spark a war with the re-

maining gang members. Write down the major differences you can think of between vigilantes in comic books and real life, and why they might not be a good thing in real life like they are in fiction.

4. DAM DAMAGE

Several cities and towns along a river in Ukraine were flooded after a dam holding water from the country's largest reservoir was damaged. The

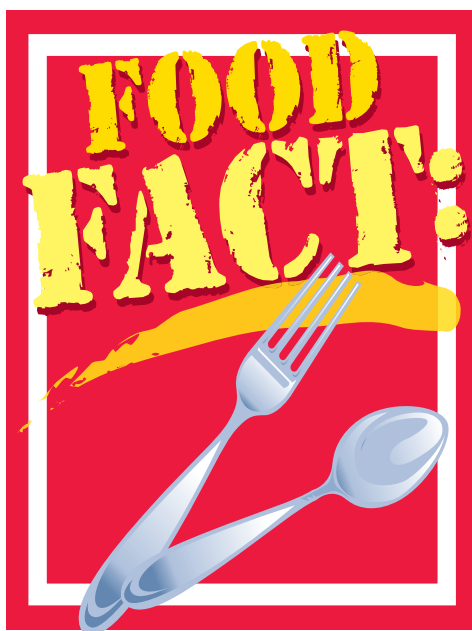
Ukrainian and Russian governments, who both control opposite sides of the riverbanks, blame each other for the damage to the dam. The dam creates hydroelectric power that supplies electricity and drinking water to much of southern Ukraine. Tens of thousands of people along the riverbank are affected by flooding from the dam and hundreds of thousands are without normal access to drinking water. Using your newspaper or online, find a first-hand ac-

count of the flooding from the dam. Write down the details you learned from that account and the differences in focus from a secondhand account like this.

5. WHERE THERE'S SMOKE

A large part of the northern United States saw hazy skies last week because of wildfires in Canada. More than 400 fires were actively burning in the country as of Tuesday, with more than half of them consid-

ered out-of-control. Parts of New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont were under an air quality health advisory because of the smoke, which could be seen throughout most of the eastern United States. Using your newspaper or online, look up photos of the smoke in New York City or other areas that were highly affected. Then, write a short article describing the events and draw your own picture to go along with it.



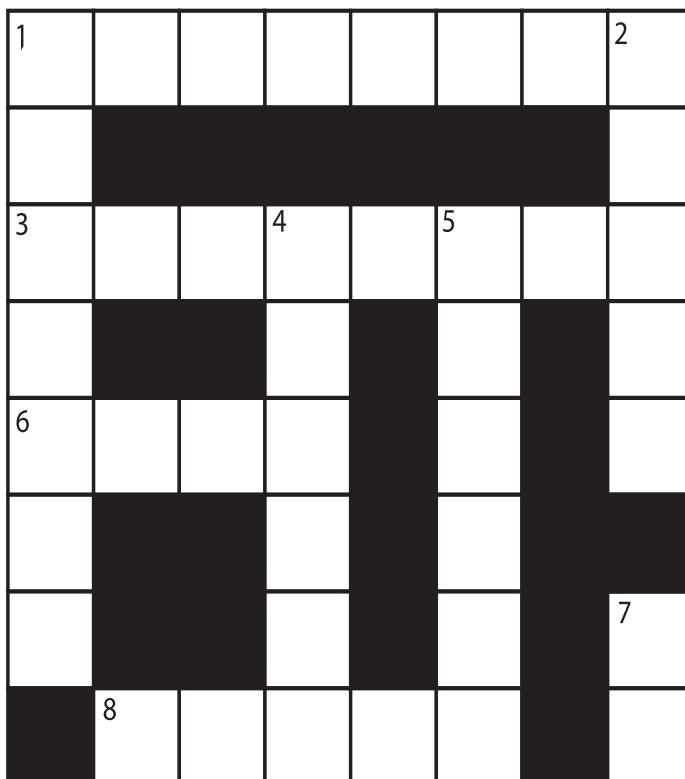
THE SNICKERS BRAND CANDY BAR GOT ITS NAME FROM THIS ANIMAL, WHICH WAS OWNED BY THE CANDY'S INVENTOR FRANK MARS.

ANSWER: HIS HORSE SNICKERS



- ENGLISH:** Chocolate
- SPANISH:** Chocolate
- ITALIAN:** Cioccolato
- FRENCH:** Chocolat
- GERMAN:** Schokolade

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Careful
3. One who lives nearby
6. One who is adored
8. Tastes like sugar

DOWN

1. Sweets
2. Thick liquid
4. In great numbers
5. Woven storage item
7. Opposite of "off"

Answers: Across 1. Cautious 3. Neighbor 6. Idol 8. Sweet Down 1. Candies 2. Syrup 4. Galore 5. Basket 7. On

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1948:** COLUMBIA RECORDS INTRODUCES THE LONG-PLAYING RECORD ALBUM.
- **1981:** THE LOCKHEED F-17 NIGHTHAWK, THE FIRST AIRCRAFT DESIGNED AROUND STEALTH TECHNOLOGY, MAKES ITS FIRST FLIGHT.
- **1983:** SALLY RIDE BECOMES THE FIRST AMERICAN WOMAN ASTRONAUT IN SPACE.



TAFFY

stretched or pulled soft candy



HARD CANDIES TYPICALLY ARE MADE BY BOILING A SUGAR SYRUP AND THEN POURING IT INTO MOLDS OR SHAPING IT. THEN THE CANDY IS LEFT TO HARDEN.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: GUMMY CANDY

HURRICANE SEASON WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- ADVISORY
- ALERTS
- ATMOSPHERE
- CENTER
- COAST
- CYCLONE
- EYE WALL
- GALE
- HURRICANE
- INTENSITY
- INUNDATION
- LANDFALL
- LOCATION
- POSITION
- PRECAUTION
- RAINING
- SEASON
- STORMY
- TRACKING
- TYPHOON
- VORTEX
- WARNING
- WATCH
- WINDS

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

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. In a place to sleep
5. Chemical compound (abbr.)
8. A way to fish
11. Classic Linklater film “__ and Confused”
13. Legume
14. Indonesian island
15. Smooth, creamy substance
16. Arctic
17. Wood sorrels
18. Defied
20. Cattle
21. Tableland
22. Honorably retired and retaining one’s title
25. Repossession
30. Danced
31. Adult males
32. A type of section
33. Type of Japanese animation
38. Satisfaction
41. Fit
43. “Ain’t No Sunshine” singer
45. Failure
47. Israeli city
49. French river
50. Cavalry-sword

55. Nocturnal S. American rodent
56. Liquefied natural gas
57. Afflicted
59. Electronic counter-countermeasures
60. Popular HBO fantasy series (abbr.)
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. Large body of water
63. __kosh, near Lake Winnebago
64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

1. Payroll firm
2. Unit of transmission
3. Rockers Better Than __
4. Bambi is one
5. Highest parts of something
6. Correct behavior
7. Batty
8. Cyprinid fishes
9. Expression of sorrow or pity
10. Site of the famous Leaning Tower
12. American rocker Snider
14. W. African language

19. Symbol to mark for removal
23. __ Squad
24. Resident
25. Federal savings bank
26. Paddle
27. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
28. One point south of due east
29. Winter melon
34. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
35. Anger
36. Central European river
37. First responders
39. Spanish noble
40. Persons with absence of skin pigment
41. Defunct airline
42. Small island (British)
44. The extent of something from beginning to end
45. Capital of Bangladesh
46. Dutch cheese
47. Imitates
48. A contest of speed
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. Actor Idris
54. UNLV’s are Runnin’
58. Criticize

1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8		9	10	
11				12		13			14				
15						16			17				
18					19	20			21				
				22	23				24				
25	26	27	28	29									
30							31						
32									33	34	35	36	37
				38	39	40		41	42				
				43			44						
45			46										
47	48				49			50	51	52	53	54	
55					56				57				58
59					60				61				
62					63					64			

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to cats.

R G S M O O

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45

S	S	V	S		H	S	O		V	E	R	S	
I	R	R	V	U	J	O	D		W	C	C	E	
O	E	T	I	V		D	N	T		Y	C	V	Y
H	E	R	E	R		N	I	V		O	V	N	V
S	H	E	H	L	I	M	T	T	R	I	L	E	
M	M	A	N	Z									
B	M	I	N	V									
V	S	R	M	O	C								
S	V	O		X	T								
I	T	V	S		N	J							
d	v	d											

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

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

Guess Who?

I am a rapper and actor born in California on June 15, 1969. I performed at parties hosted by Dr. Dre while in high school. I am ranked as one of MTV's greatest MCs of all time for my work in a legendary rap group.

Answer: Ice Cube

Answer: Grooms

M	A	H	X	L	P	H	A	M	A	C	I	N	N	E	S	H	D
E	A	N	D	C	J	W	R	T	G	D	D	S	S				
M	A	A	N	N	A	M	I	N	D	D	S	A	V	A	L	L	D
I	A	N	N	V	L	A	M	I	N	D	S	A	V	A	L	L	D
I	A	N	N	V	L	A	M	I	N	D	S	A	V	A	L	L	D
H	M	N	N	G	T	R	H	N	C	U	X	C	L	L	I	D	S
R	R	N	O	W	S	S	C	O	P	P	N	X	S	S	I	X	X
A	V	A	L	L	D	S	S	C	O	P	P	N	X	S	S	I	X
L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
V	A	L	L	D	S	S	C	O	P	P	N	X	S	S	I	X	X

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 Mobile home stairs, electric fender guitar and amp, oak hall tree, French doors, corner cabinet, kitchen table, metal outdoor table, tools, jewelry, model car kits, compostable toilet (new), reasonably priced plants, electric scooter, drift wood, desk chairs, art, household and misc items.

Sat., June 17 8a.m. - until 24 Leslie Anne Street - Crawfordville. Just off Harvey Mill R. Look for signs near Ming Tree. Vintage glassware and collectibles, Yamaha beginner Keyboard, telescope, large wood doll house, clothes (SM), a few Plus size sets. Board games & puzzles, Books (some in French, college books. Couch table, roller blades, fabric remnants, wrought iron outdoor table & chairs (need painted). A few plants, household stuff and more misc.

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FICTITIOUS NAME NOTICE

FICTITIOUS NAME
 Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 856.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of
UNBOUND PRAISE
 Intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporation of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Walk on Water WOW LLC will be operating under the fictitious name of Unbound Praise. It is the goal of the organization to operate in multiple counties with Wakulla County as the headquarters. Unbound Praise is an organization dedicated to uplifting God, uplifting people, and uplifting communities.
 Published on June 15, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
 IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MARGARET BARWICK FALK, DECEASED.
 CASE NO. 2023-CP- 65

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of MARGARET BARWICK FALK, deceased, whose date of death was July 23, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.
 All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the Decedent's death is July 23, 2022.
 The date of first publication of this Notice is June 15, 2023

SABRINA MICHELE FALK
 194 Bottoms Road Hosford, FL 32334
 PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 WILLIAM H. WEBSTER
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 4
 Hosford FL 32334
 (850) 443-5901
 billwebsterlaw@yahoo.com
 ATTORNEY FOR THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 June 15, 22, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL HENRY FALK, SR., DECEASED.
 CASE NO. 2023-CP- 64

NOTICE TO CREDITORS -SUMMARY ADMINISTRATION
 TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THIS ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the Estate of MICHAEL HENRY FALK, SR., deceased, Case No. 2023-CP-64 by the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is the Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327; that the Decedent's date of death was April 18, 2020; that the total value of the estate is approximately \$750,000; and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such Order are:

SABRINA MICHELE FALK- 194 Bottoms Road, Panacea, FL 32346
 MICHAEL HENRY FALK, JR.- 5503 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
 All creditors of the Estate of the Decedent and persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.


The date of the Decedent's death is April 18, 2020.

The date of first publication of this Notice is June16, 2023

SABRINA MICHELE FALK - Petitioner
 194 Bottoms Road
 Panacea FL 32346

MICHAEL H. FALK, JR - Petitioner
 5503 Coastal Highway
 Crawfordville, FL 32327

WILLIAM H. WEBSTER
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 4
 Hosford FL 32334
 (850) 443-5901
 billwebsterlaw@yahoo.com
 ATTORNEY FOR THE PETITIONERS
 June 15, 22, 2023


The Wakulla SUN

Scot Benton finishes first in challenge

By
LINDA ANN McDONALD
Correspondent

Scot Benton, owner of the non-profit organization Bicycle House in Tallahassee, took first place in the Strava Challenge after riding 5,000 miles on the app known as Strava. 75% of the challenge was completed in Wakulla County. Benton collected \$10,000 in pledges towards Bicycle House.

“Second Place went to a man in New York state and Third Place went to a man in Finland.” Benton said. Benton’s route for the challenge looped from Tallahassee to the Coast, including Wakulla County.

Benton said, “I do it to raise money for Bicycle House and because I love it.” He mentioned where some people normally pledge a dime a mile, “I had pledges as high as \$1 a mile.”

This is the fourth time Benton competed in the Strava May Cycling Distance Challenge.

“Most professional cyclists range 120-130 miles a day, S. Scot Benton pounded 200 miles on some days,” said Michael Pace, a childhood friend and non-profit partner at the sister Bicycle House in Carrabelle.

Benton, a Tallahassee native, has been riding since the ‘70s riding to Carrabelle “100 times” through Wakulla.

“I love riding in Crawfordville because there are bumps in the side lane for safety, except for Shadeville Road.” He added: “Shadeville



Scot Benton, center, with his family.

Road is where I lost my bicycle enthusiast friend Chet Smith due to an

accident. “I have ridden on Forest Highway 13 (FH-13) to Sumatra at

least 20 times. “I have seen 3 or 4 black bears and a 6-foot alligator on

98 since the ‘70s on my routes.

“Crawfordville is a fun

route, riding on Bloxham Cutoff to Lonnie Raker Lane by the elementary school onward to find a couple of cool round abouts.”

Competing with 405,143 other cyclists, Benton averaged 160 miles a day which is approximately 17 miles per hour. The Strava May Cycling Distance Challenge is held during the entire month of May to celebrate International Bicycle Month.

Strava is an app which tracks and analyzes every aspect of activity of performance. By syncing with most devices such as a phone or GPS watch, your activity, distance, location and heart rate is monitored in real time. With Strava, one can connect with friends and record activity which is shared on the Strava feed and followers can share information and leave comments. Strava makes it possible to connect with a global community.

Pace noted that “Bicycle House has been a non-profit organization which brings awareness and education to bicycles as transportation and recreation for health. We specifically help people who need transportation to get where they are needing to go.” He and his partner, Cassie McGlynn, started the volunteer-run foundation 13 years ago. They provide about 500 bikes a year to people alongside doing bike repairs and bike loans for those who cannot afford to buy expensive bikes, Benton said.

Florida Wild Mammal brings the critters



Cooper Brignole, Little Kenny and Locklyn DiPietranctonio with their painted Skunk Face gets a photo with Penlope the Skunk and handler Ashlye Taylor at the ‘Meet and Greet the Critters’ fundraising event on Saturday, June 10, at 30 Palms in St. Marks.



Meet Moonlight the Great Horned Owl.

PHOTOS BY
GERALD BROWN



Doofy the Pelican is an 18 year old ambassador for the Florida Wild Mammal Association. Above, Jessica Beatty of FWMA talks to visitors about Doofy.



Robyn Hurst remembered

A memorial service was held at the community center on Monday, June 12, for library director Robyn Hurst, who died in May at her home in Thomasville, Ga. Her “library family” at the Wakulla County Public Library recalled her for her creativity, her leadership and her friendship. Some of her creativity can be seen on the altar above: the R2D2 robot, and the chicken stroller

– which the librarians put real chickens in for a parade walk. The Wakulla library is, after all, the “Library with the chickens” because of Robyn. She started numerous projects that brought in library patrons, including the Halloween Storywalk that brings thousands of residents to the park, to the Mardi Gras Ball fundraiser. (Photo by William Snowden)

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"I'm not afraid to be the pale girl in the bathing suit. It doesn't bother me anymore."

"I have friends who use tanning beds or lie out in the sun. I tell them about Jaime."

Jaime was in her early 20s when she was diagnosed with melanoma, and she died right before she turned 30.

One person dies from melanoma every hour.

After Jaime's death, I completely walked away from tanning.

People think it's safe. But I know it's not. You could die - just like Jaime did."

-Amanda Asplin

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Learn more about Jaime's skin cancer story at www.aad.org/PSA

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HOME: Builder _____ Real Estate Company _____ Individual Realtor _____ Title Company _____ Home Rental Co. _____	MISC: Kids Activities _____ Childcare _____ Storage Centers _____ Dance Studios _____	
HOME-OUTDOORS: Surveyor _____ Lawn Care/Landscaping _____		

Tell us your favorites by filling out the official **ENTRY BALLOT** online at TheWakullaSun.com or below. *Your name will then be registered in a random drawing for \$100 in Cash.**

THIS AD IS YOUR OFFICIAL BALLOT & ENTRY FORM.

Go to TheWakullaSun.com to complete the ballot. Limit one ballot entry per person.

Complete and return to The Wakulla Sun by 5:00 p.m. July 7, 2023.

Print Entry Form:
 Mail your official entry form and completed ballot to:
The Wakulla Sun c/o Readers' Choice Contest
 The Wakulla Sun 12 Arran Rd., Crawfordville FL 32327

Official Rules
 *Entries must have 15 of favorites filled, all contact information filled out and be entered on TheWakullaSun.com or be handwritten on official entry ballot from TheWakullaSun.com to be counted. *Computer generated ballots, mechanical reproductions, photocopies, carbon copies, illegible entries or ballots with answers that are not true and/or relevant will not be accepted. *One entry per person. *Ballots not meeting these requirements will be voided and will not be eligible for the \$100 prize. *All ballots must be received by TheWakullaSun.com by 5 p.m. on August 7, 2023. Send entire ballot to TheWakullaSun.com "Readers' Choice Contest", 12 Arran Rd. Crawfordville FL 32327 (No purchase required.) *Winning entry will be drawn by a representative of TheWakullaSun.com. *All entrants agree to publication of their name, home town, and photograph without additional compensation. Announcement of the winner will appear in the "Readers' Choice" special section to be published August 2023 in TheWakullaSun.com. *Employees of TheWakullaSun.com and their families are not eligible to win. Not intended for residents of states where prohibited by law. Winner must be 18 years of age or older. *All ballots that do not meet this criteria will not be counted.