



| Thursday                          | Friday                            | Saturday                          |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                   |                                   |                                   |
| PM<br>Thunderstorms               | PM<br>Thunderstorms               | Scattered<br>Thunderstorms        |
| Hi: 91° Lo: 76° 50%               | Hi: 92° Lo: 76° 49%               | Hi: 92° Lo: 76° 48%               |
| Sunrise 6:45 AM<br>Sunset 8:40 PM | Sunrise 6:45 AM<br>Sunset 8:40 PM | Sunrise 6:46 AM<br>Sunset 8:40 PM |



# Brad Harvey pleads to charges

The former property appraiser is charged with embezzling money from the office; he will be sentenced in September

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN  
Editor

Former Wakulla Property Appraiser Brad Harvey pleaded no contest in Wakulla Circuit Court on Wednesday, July 5 to numerous fraud charges that stemmed from overpayments he made to himself as well as using the office credit card for personal expenses.

Harvey had been set to go to trial later this month. After the plea, a pre-sentence investigation was ordered to determine what Harvey scores for punishment.

He is scheduled for sentencing on Sept. 7.

Harvey is charged with stealing more than

\$200,000 from the office, which he used for expenses like outfitting a hunting truck, and to take his family on a cruise after his daughter graduated from high school.

Assistant State Attorney Andrew Deneen, who is prosecuting the case, will reportedly be asking Wakulla Circuit Judge Layne Smith, who is presiding over the case, for prison time for Harvey.

The matter started after members of the Rotary Club of Wakulla realized that checks and cash for a fundraiser had never been deposited. Harvey was club treasurer. After being told of the missing money, Sheriff Jared Miller, also a member of



Former Property Appraiser Brad Harvey

Rotary, ordered an investigation. After being interviewed by detectives, Harvey turned over about \$1,000 in cash from a gun raffle the club had held. No charges were brought in the case because the

evidence – namely, ticket receipts for the raffle – had not been retained by the club.

But the Rotary incident prompted a member of Harvey's staff to begin looking into office finances – and evidence quickly piled up that Harvey was stealing public money.

The staff member went to County Administrator David Edwards with the concerns – and FDLE was brought in to investigate.

In April 2020, Harvey was arrested on a warrant and processed in the Wakulla County Jail. Because of Covid restrictions at the time, Harvey was not put in a jail cell, and he did not have to post bond.

The same day, Gov. Ron DeSantis removed Harvey from office.

During the FDLE investigation, the newspaper was aware of the suspicions of financial improprieties and, along with another interested party, began making public record requests and writing news stories about it. Later public record requests indicated that Harvey continued overpaying himself even after he knew he was under investigation by FDLE.

Asked by the newspaper to provide justification for the overpayments, Harvey pointed to a supplement he had

received when he was chief deputy under the prior property appraiser for work done on Fire and Solid Waste tax rolls. He seemed to think he was still entitled to the supplement – though the total amount of overpayment far exceeded the supplement.

Harvey's statutory salary was \$103,000 in 2016 when he was elected. It increased to \$107,500 the next year and to \$108,336 in 2018.

Harvey had done payroll and other office financials as chief deputy under former appraiser Donnie Spark.

Turn to Page 14

## SOPCHOPPY FOURTH OF JULY



Independence Day celebration in Sopchoppy starts with a parade, includes music and vendors, and concludes with Fourth of July fireworks. More photos on Page 13. (Photo by Gerald Brown)

## Two drownings in separate incidents on July 4th

A man died while scalloping; a child drowned in a home pool

Staff Report

Two unrelated drownings were reported in Wakulla on July 4th: a man scalloping in St. Marks and a child who drowned in a backyard pool.

Names and other details were not released by the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office.

The sheriff's office did put out a press release the next day that read: "Yesterday The Wakulla County Sheriff's Office responded to two separate and unrelated instances of drowning in our community, one at a residence in Crawfordville and another on the water near St. Marks. So far, the investigations into both instances appear to show these are nothing more than tragic accidents. Out of respect for the families and those involved The Wakulla County Sheriff's Office will not be making any further releases regarding either incident."

"WCSO would like to remind everyone to always be careful when swimming or enjoying the water, as drowning incidents can occur suddenly and even to the strongest swimmers."

"Please join Sheriff Miller and the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office in praying for the families affected by these incidents."

## State braces for more cases of deer disease

News Service of Florida

BONIFAY – After Florida's first recorded case of a contagious disease fatal to deer, wildlife officials said Thursday other cases are likely and that it will be a "long-term marathon" to address the issue.

But it also could mean a short-term increase in hunting limits in the region of Northwest Florida where the case was found, as officials seek to quickly collect samples to determine the prevalence of chronic wasting disease.

Nearly 300 residents turned out Thursday evening to the Bonifay K-8 School in Holmes County for a presentation by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services about initial steps to address the disease.

The state announced last month that a "road-killed" female white-tailed deer in Holmes County had tested positive for chronic wasting disease, which has been described as similar to mad cow disease, with deer becoming emaciated and often being found isolated and trembling. Chronic wast-

Turn to Page 5

## Seafood landings are reported down

Hurricane losses, high diesel prices likely to blame for shortfall

By ANDREW POWELL  
Center Square

Since the Covid-19 pandemic, hurricanes and increased fuel costs have reduced the catch of Florida's seafood industry.

Florida's Gulf Coast is the largest fishery for the state and is still dealing with the effects of Hurricane Ian in late 2022. The storm made landfall at Fort Myers and devastated Florida's shrimping industry, sinking boats and destroying infrastructure crucial to the industry.

According to preliminary data compiled by The Southern Shrimp Al-



Fleet of shrimp boats in Fort Myers.

liance from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fishery Monitoring Branch, Florida's March 2023

landings off the West Coast were 72.7% below the historical average. In total, 2023 landings for the West Coast are

42.1% below historical trends.

March 2023 landings

Turn to Page 3



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**Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office**  
**SPECIALTY TAGS**  
**\$20 - \$30 additional to cost of tag.**  
 Lisa Craze, CFC  
 Wakulla County Tax Collector

**ENACTED: 2006.**  
 More than \$1 million has been raised through the sale of Florida Realtors "Support Homeownership for All" specialty license plates, which help fund affordable housing programs across Florida. The goal is to provide housing assistance to teachers, nurses and others unable to afford a home. Ninety percent of the proceeds from the sale of the "Support Homeownership for All" license plate goes to support affordable housing programs. Just 10 percent of the funds go toward marketing the plate.

**Enacted: 07/01/2014.**  
 The annual use fees are distributed to the Florida Sheriffs Association to develop and provide important training for members of local sheriff's offices as well as deputies across the state. Accountability. Since 1893, the Florida Sheriffs Association has been the voice of Florida's sheriffs, 67 men and women united in the service of protecting Florida's citizens and visitors.

## Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Scarlet Hibiscus



This hibiscus grows in marshes and swamps.

By LYNN ARTZ, SANDY TEDDER and DAVID RODDENBERRY

Florida is home to several native hibiscus, but none rivals scarlet hibiscus (*Hibiscus coccineus*). This wetland native produces huge magnificent crimson flowers that live for a day. Unsuitable to most yards, it makes a spectacular addition to the edge of a pond or stream. Found naturally in marshes and swamps, it sometimes is called swamp or marsh hibiscus. Another common name is scarlet rosemallow. This multi-stemmed shrub grows 3-7 feet tall in moist to wet soil in full sun and dies back in winter. Scarlet hibiscus attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and native bees (including a hibiscus specialist). Its leaves feed the caterpillars of 4 butterflies (e.g., painted lady) and 4 moths (e.g., Io). Deer also enjoy them. Scarlet hibiscus is blooming now along the pond at Sopchoppy Depot Park.



## Pregnancy Center has a new home

The Wakulla Pregnancy Center, led by Executive Director Pam Pilkinton has relocated from Wakulla Station to a building in downtown Crawfordville. They are now located at 94 Cottonwood Avenue, part of the DuBreJa Professional offices on Crawfordville Highway. This new location allows them to bring care to

more people, at no cost to those who need help or assistance planning for or providing for a new baby. The phone number is (850)-210-127, office hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. (Photo by Lynda Kinsey)



SCAN ME for an electronic edition of this



## SAVE THE DATE!

BACKPACK/SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE-THRU DISTRIBUTIONS

| Date                   | City          | Location   |
|------------------------|---------------|--|
| July 15 <sup>th</sup>  | St. Marks     | Coast Charter School, 48 Shell Island Rd           |
| July 22 <sup>nd</sup>  | Panacea       | Panacea Plaza, 1353 Coastal Hwy                    |
| July 29 <sup>th</sup>  | Sopchoppy     | City Hall, 105 Municipal Ave                       |
| August 5 <sup>th</sup> | Crawfordville | Wakulla County Community Center, 318 Shadeville Rd |

If you have questions, please contact:  
 Kenny Manning (850) 545-5982 or Cheryl Randolph (850) 284-9233





# WCT to hold auditions for musical 'Grease'

Special to The Sun

The hit musical 'Grease' was first performed in 1971. Written by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, it started off-Broadway. It has continued to be performed on and off since 1971 until 2022 becoming Broadway's 16th longest running show. The first movie, based on the musical, was in theaters the summer of 1978.

"Sandy," "Hopelessly Devoted to You," "You're The One That I Want," and the title song, "Grease" are not

in the stage version, but were specifically written for the movie version, by John Farrar. "Grease" the musical and the movie are still favorites of many people to this day.

Wakulla Community Theater will be performing "Grease" the musical in November 2023. It would like to be a part of this rebirth of WCT, please come to either audition, Aug. 1 or 3, between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. at the Historic Sopchoppy Auditorium, 164 Yellow Jacket Avenue, Sopchoppy. Be prepared



to do a dry read from the "Grease" script and sing a short song acapella (can be from "Grease" or another song of your choice). Call backs will be held Friday, Aug. 4. Cast will be announced Monday, Aug. 7 with the first meeting Aug. 8 at 7 p.m. at Sopchoppy Auditorium.

Practices will be Aug. 21, 22, 24, 28, 29 and 31, Sept. 5, 7, 11, 12, 14, 18, Oct. 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 19. 23, 24, 26, 30, 31, and Nov. 1. The show dates are the eve-

nings of Nov. 2, 3, 4, and a matinee Nov. 5. A photo shoot date is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 9. All practices and performances will be held at the Historic Sopchoppy School Auditorium.

For more information please contact Nancy Commander at commander12@yahoo.com (850-570-5463) or Mina Sutton at minasutton@yahoo.com (850-879-0513).

Check Wakulla Community Theater Facebook page for information and updates.

# Local author's book 'Charlie the Red-Tailed Hawk'

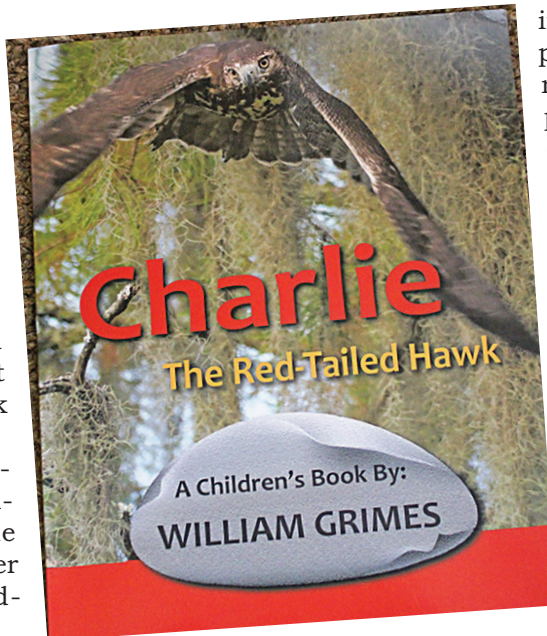
By LEGION TAYLOR  
Staff Writer

Local Author William Grimes has released a new children's book titled "Charlie the Red-Tailed Hawk." The book follows a father in Sopchoppy who saves a young red-tailed hawk from a rattlesnake, and over time forms an unbreakable bond with the bird.

Featuring a beautiful photo of a Red-Tailed Hawk on the cover, this book is somewhat a step away from what chil-

dren's books often are, instead focusing on telling the story through words, rather than through pictures. The reason for its unorthodox appearance and lack of illustrations is because Grimes feels that "When a child picks up a book, I want them to read, not look at pictures."

Though he has received no formal education on writing, the author has written other works before, includ-



ing a screenplay, though nothing else published or available yet. He says he does not plan to stop here, and he fully intends to write and further develop his storytelling style in future works, as well as turn his screen-

play "Fire in the Mountain" into a movie for all ages to enjoy.

When asked why he wrote it, Grimes says he is unable to tell me. The story simply built itself in his mind, and when it had finished and he could see it all clearly, he wrote it down as it was, not stopping until it had been written out in its entirety.

Grimes and his family have lived in this area of North Florida for over a century, and you can see his love for this region

poured into every page of the book, making it something everyone can enjoy. Many of the characters in the book are even based directly on Grimes' family, though when asked if any of the work was true, he said it was all fiction other than the fact that his sister really did drive a Crown Vic.

"Charlie the Red-Tailed Hawk" is available for purchase at Walmart, Barnes and Noble, and Amazon, with a sequel on the way.

## On the Horizon

### Calendar of events for the week of July 13

#### Thursday, July 13

- St. Marks City Commission meets at 6 p.m. at City Hall.
- Rotary Club of Wakulla meets at TCC Wakulla at 8:30 a.m.
- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville, 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. RSVP to 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, July 14

- Franks Brothers Football camp at Wakulla Highschool, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Saturday, July 15

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

#### Monday, July 17

- County commissioners will hold a regular public meeting at 5 p.m. in the commission meeting room. A budget workshop is set for 2:30 p.m. and an executive session to discuss a lawsuit will be held at 4 p.m.
- Wakulla County School Board meets at 5:45 p.m. in the school administration building.
- 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, at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to 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, July 18

- Water forum, to discuss springs protection, will be held at Wakulla Environmental Institute from 6 to 8 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Wednesday, July 19

- Wakulla county Industrial Development Authority public meeting at 4:00 P.M. at the BOCC administration conference room, 3093 Crawfordville highway, 32327
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Upcoming, Saturday, July 22nd

- Chomp and Stomp music and food event at Palaver Tree Theater beginning at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and available online at www.palavertreetheater.org; tickets are \$15 day of event.

## WAKULLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE UNCLAIMED MONIES JULY 2023

As required by FS 101.16, below is a list of unclaimed monies the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office is holding. Named individuals must submit a written claim on or before September 9, 2023 by the close of business at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office. A valid form of identification will be required to make a claim. If these monies are not claimed on or before said deadline these monies shall be declared forfeited under Florida Statute 101.16(2) to the Wakulla County Board of Community Services Finance and Feudatory Fund.

| First Name     | Last Name      | Balance  |
|----------------|----------------|----------|
| JASSON         | BAKER          | \$10.00  |
| ADMIRAL        | BARWICK        | \$15.55  |
| PETER          | BEARSE         | \$10.54  |
| HERMAN         | BODIFORD       | \$29.80  |
| HECTOR         | CANALES        | \$63.44  |
| BRANDY         | CARLETON       | \$30.00  |
| TONY           | CLARK          | \$68.00  |
| TERA           | CRUSON         | \$32.68  |
| DONALD         | DIXON          | \$10.00  |
| JUDE           | DOLCEME        | \$34.07  |
| AROLDO         | ESPINA         | \$22.43  |
| MIGUEL         | ESQUIVEL-NIETO | \$80.00  |
| KYLA           | FOUNTAIN       | \$12.21  |
| JESSE          | GIDDENS        | \$77.17  |
| CHRISTIAN      | GODWIN         | \$15.00  |
| KENNETH        | GRIEGER        | \$23.33  |
| DAVID          | HARRELL        | \$11.00  |
| DONOVAN        | LENNOX         | \$15.00  |
| HUMBERTO       | MACHUCA        | \$230.00 |
| ANTHONY        | MILLER         | \$65.22  |
| BERT           | MIRANDA        | \$16.15  |
| LEE            | PITTMAN        | \$34.00  |
| JOSEPH         | RILEY          | \$46.00  |
| BRANDON SHAMAR | ROSIER         | \$12.00  |
| LEONARD        | SAFFORD        | \$33.00  |
| JAMES          | SARTIN         | \$16.00  |
| SCOTT          | SCHEXNAILDRE   | \$98.00  |
| STEVEN         | SKIDMORE       | \$36.94  |
| ETHAN          | TAYLOR         | \$61.00  |
| HANNAH         | TINSLEY        | \$15.04  |
| BRANDON        | TRUSSELL       | \$10.00  |
| BRAXTON        | TUCKER         | \$20.00  |
| JESSE          | WARD           | \$190.00 |
| TAYLOR         | WARD           | \$65.00  |
| GARRETT        | WATSON         | \$18.00  |
| SOPHINA        | WEBB           | \$15.00  |
| JAMES          | WHITE          | \$18.15  |
| JAMES          | WILLSON        | \$10.86  |
| NICHOLAS       | YOUNG          | \$12.59  |
| MATT           | HEDGES         | \$32.88  |

July 6, 13, 2023

## Seafood landings

From Front Page

on Florida's Atlantic Coast were 63.5% below historical averages. The data showed that in March 2023, Florida landed 40,000 pounds of shrimp, close to the 48,000 pounds in 2019. That is well below what was caught in March of 2021 and 2022, which had 170,000 pounds and 121,000 pounds of shrimp landed respectively.

For the first quarter of 2023, however, Florida's East Coast landings were 25% above historical averages, bringing in 834,000 pounds.

The U.S. International Trade Commission's June publication says that the number of shrimp boats destroyed by Ian led to a reduction in harvesting. The publication also says that the price of diesel fuel has affected shrimping activity after reaching a 15-year high in 2022.

Those prices are coming down, according to federal data.

According to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, diesel prices in Florida this week are down nearly eight cents per gallon compared to the week prior and \$1.20 less than the previous year.

## PUBLIC NOTICES:

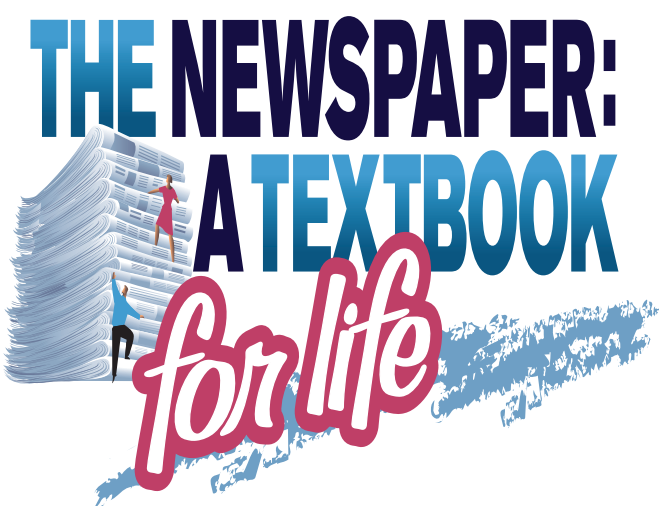
For our readers' convenience, The Wakulla Sun provides this Public Notice Section for all Public Notices not published in the Legal Notice section of the newspaper.



**THE CITY OF ST. MARKS WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY REGULAR MEETING**  
**JULY 13, 2023 5:55 PM**  
**JULY 13, 2023 6:00 PM**  
**LOCATION: 788 PORT LEON DRIVE, ST. MARKS FL 32355**

The City of St. Marks located at 788 Port Leon Drive, 9 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 925-6224. Persons needing special access considerations should call the City Office at least 24 hours before the date for scheduling purposes. The Board Office may be contacted at (850) 925-6224

July 13, 2023



Your local source for news.





# Opinions

THE FIRST AMENDMENT

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

LETTERS FROM READERS

## Magnuson Hotel at Wildwood to host paddlers on Aug. 19

Editor, The Sun:

From the in-pool demos by trained, skilled instructors – to real deals on used watercraft of every kind – to educational & info booths inside – the Magnuson Hotel Wildwood opens its doors to paddlers with a passion!

This family event is a first-time opportunity for Panhandle Florida! Bring your kayaks, canoes, and/or SUPs – any \*paddled\* watercraft – to the swap meet: buy, sell, trade, upgrade, downsize, learn, exchange, unload, pickup – buy one, buy 10 – like-new, gently and/or not-so-gently used – we'll have it all! When you bring it!

Our parking lot becomes a basecamp for adventure! All transactions are person-to-person – we're just providing the hotel parking lot to meet up. With more! Have a happy hunt for your next watercraft – horse trade, sell, or purchase – whatever works. Then observe the free demonstrations in the pool! We are very happy to present some splash time – safety and maneuvering procedures that visitors can observe from poolside. There's more to fun and safety than meets the eye, so be there!

In the convention room, learn all about equip-



ment, safety, our regional paddling trails, trips, and club memberships from statewide & local paddling groups! Presenters' booths include the FL Paddling Trails Association, Friends of the Sopchoppy River, Apalachee Canoe and Kayak, Ochlocknee River/Bald Point State Parks, and others! Additionally, for your education, is Wakulla County innovator/designer Wesley Stevenson of ExpandaCraft, with a static display of his unique system and equipment for combining boats or adding outriggers. You have to see this – you might want to buy two canoes while you're here!

Show your watercraft to other guests, make a deal, and then paddle away with the best set up for you. Update your fleet – add to your quiver – change your style! The meet-up is not a dealers' show – not a commercial enterprise – this is all about you – to make sure you and your family get out on the water, safely, for healthy family fun. Wildwood Inn presents this family event (10am-5pm, rain or shine) as a public service in support of environmental conservation and sustainable eco-tourism in our region!

Get a paddler's education, buy or sell something cooler than ever, and have a blast! So bring it!! Come one, come all – paddles up, get down – get here – Magnuson Hotel Wildwood Inn, 3896 Coastal Hwy#98, Crawfordville FL 32327 – on Aug 19th!!

For information & hotel reservations, please call Magnuson Hotel Wildwood Inn: (850) 926-4455 Or <https://www.innatwildwood.com>.

**Christopher Brown**  
Event Coordinator  
Sopchoppy

## Saturday fundraiser set for William Douglas

On June 23, a local man, William Douglas, was in a terrible motorcycle accident.

Will spent his birthday, only a few short days after his accident, on June 27, in a coma and unaware of the many people who were there to support and celebrate him. Although Will has made it through the most critical stage, having survived several life-saving surgeries and begun physical therapy, he suffers from a fractured skull, brain injury, spinal fractures, broken ribs, and broken shoulder blade and eye socket among other injuries.

Will has a long road of recovery ahead, and although he does have health insurance, the medical bills for additional surgeries, rehab and recovery will be substantial. Friends and family say he is a fighter, and are hopeful for a full recovery, living by the mantra “Where there's a Will, there's a way!”

A fundraiser will be held this Saturday, July 15 at the Wakulla Community Center beginning at 11 a.m. There will be pulled pork sandwiches with sides and drinks.

Any and all donations are appreciated, and will go to the family to cover Will's medical expenses.

## Library News – July 13

### July 17th

- American Legion 6:30 pm

### July 18th

- Crafting Group 9:30 am
- Book Bunch 10am
- Postpartum Support Group 1pm
- Royal Readers 2pm
- Lego Club 4pm
- Pregnancy Support Group 5pm
- Republican Women 5:30pm
- Phil Meyer Magic @The Commu-

nity Center 7pm (Doors open at 6:45)

### July 19th

- Book Babies 10am
- Mythical Readers 2pm

### July 20th

- Veteran's Meetup 11am
- Pregnancy Loss Support Group 5pm

- Wakulla Amateur Radio Club 7pm

### July 21st

- Quilting Guild 9:30am



PHOTO LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

A dense column of smoke rises more than 60,000 feet into the air over the Japanese port of Nagasaki, the result of an atomic bomb, the second ever used in warfare, dropped on the industrial center August 9, 1945, from a U.S. B-29 Superfortress.

## Something on your mind?

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

## New exhibit at Camp Gordon Johnston

Special to The Sun

Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum in Carrabelle is presenting a special exhibit about the Atomic Bomb and the End of World War II.

This exhibit will open Tuesday, July 18 and will be on display at the museum until Saturday, Aug. 26.

The museum is open every Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am

to 5 pm. There is no charge for admission, but donations are warmly accepted.

Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum is located in Carrabelle, directly across from Carrabelle Public Beach Park, at 1873 Hwy 98 West.

For more information, (850) 697-8575 or [museum@campgordon-johnston.com](mailto:museum@campgordon-johnston.com).

## SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

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

By donating, you help us keep citizens informed, hold officials accountable and cover the most important topics in our community.

Your contributions will equip our newsroom to better serve you and all our readers.

That means:

- More reporters on the street
- More local news about our community
- More local content on the environment and local businesses

A little bit goes a long way. With your help, we can keep the presses running through hard times.

We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden  
Editor & Publisher  
The Wakulla Sun

### Are donations tax deductible?

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The Florida Press Foundation is registered to solicit charitable contributions in Florida. Financial and other information about the Florida Press Foundation's purpose, programs and activities can be obtained by visiting <https://floridapressfoundation.org> or by writing to Florida Press Foundation at 336 East College Avenue, Suite 304, Tallahassee FL 32301.

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

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

*"It's A New Day!"*

The Wakulla Sun



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## ◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Asked at Crawfordville Quick Stop:

# What was your childhood pet?



**JOHN COX**  
DISABLED

**M**ine was a Chihuahua, her name was Panda.”



**JOEL STOKES**  
VEOLIA

**“A cat! A cat named Squeaky. I found her as a kitten and all she could do was make a squeaky sound. I had her for 14 years.”**



**CHRISTOPHER LASHLEY**  
RESIDENTIAL ELEVATORS

**6 Z ebra Finches. My mom didn't like birds and one day when she was cleaningu t their cag she said that they all flew away.”**



**DOUG ALEXANDER**  
RETIRED -  
BLACKWATER INDUSTIES

**“I had a Cocker Spaniel, his name was Tippy.”**



**CLARK KULLMANN**  
DRIVER

**A German Shepherd, her name was Princess and she actually came from Germany. My brother broug t her back when he came back from the military.”**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

It is currently raining as I type, and I am grateful for the respite. Rain seems to be the only relief from the oppressive heat we're going to get this summer (and probably Fall). I plan on enjoying it while it lasts!

The Woodville Methodists hosted their monthly “2nd Sunday Sing” and dinner with a talented young musician, Anna Wescoat. Some of you may know her from the River-town Community Church, where

she brings worship music to everyone. What a gift! Next month there will be a Bluegrass band, and I can hardly wait.

I am so overjoyed to report baby Sebastian is growing stronger every day, and is an absolute picture of health. Thank you all for your faithful prayers that are supporting his continued recovery. Miracles surround us every day.

I am busy planning and recruiting for the Woodville Founders Day festival, which will be held on Satur-

day, March 16th at the Woodville Library and the Recreation Park. This will be the 10-year anniversary (not counting Covid years, sigh) and we are planning a HUGE celebration! Mark your calendars, friends!

I have some truly sad news too. Our friend Anice (Sissy) Taylor-Maloy died after a valiant battle with cancer, a heart attack and stroke. She worked with Ed at St. Marks Powder back when everyone knew it as “Olin” (we STILL call it Olin). We reared our children together through all the milestones in life, and celebrated the arrival of grandchildren. Rest in peace Sissy,

and rise in glory. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

We learned this weekend of the loss of Fred Hughes, a former guard for General Dynamics. He died last week, please lift his family in prayer.

Also in need of prayers are the friends and family of Tim Givens, who found peace on July 6th. He has left us far too early and will be deeply missed. Your continued prayers for the Sloan/Peacock families, the Carter families, the Turner family, the Vickery family, the Lynn Family, the Kendrick family, and the Grimes family, as well as everyone who is battling pain and illness.

### Buckhorn News

By **ETHEL SKIPPER**

A thought for today: When you really make up your mind to like people, it becomes much easier to do just that, and liking people, and having them like you is very important not only to your happiness but to your well-being, and success in life as well.

We live in a world of people and every one of us is different. What they think about us is how well we do in life. So let's practice liking people, the first step is to start the

day with a prayer of thanksgiving.

Thanks for all your human relationships, now bring up into your thoughts one or two individuals who you find it difficult to like. Then deliberately practice liking them. Psalms 118:24: “This is the day the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.”

The John and Charlotte Rosier Family Day celebration will be held at 12 noon on Saturday July 22nd, at the historical Sopchoppy Gym in Sopchoppy.

We wish a happy birthday to the following people in July: Isaiah Hines III, July 10th; Wender Gavin, July 12th; Elizabeth Clary, July 18th; Ruth Easter, July 22nd; Brianna Beard, July 11th; Reginald Jenkins, July 27th; and Azy'liah Jenkins on July 8th.

The 5th Sunday Union meeting of the Northwest Florida Church of Christ Written In Heaven will be held at Skipper Temple Church in Sopchoppy, 165 Surf Road, beginning on July 28 through 30. Union Director Pastor S. Jackson. Host Pastor Mother Ethel M. Skipper. Service nightly at 7:30 p.m., and

Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. Worship at 12 Noon.

St. Nora Primitive Baptist Church will host the 5th Sunday Union meeting beginning July 28-30. Host Pastor Greg Jackson. Everyone is welcome.

Our prayers and concern goes out to all the sick and shut-in, those in hospitals, nursing homes, prison, the homeless, those who have lost loved ones and family members. Let us pray for one another, and reach out to those in need everywhere. May your week be blessed is our prayer.

### Deer disease

From **Front Page**

-ing disease is not known to affect people.

“Our surveillance plan is designed to detect CWD (chronic wasting disease) at the county level at a 1 percent prevalence or less, with 95 percent confidence,” Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Veterinarian Manager Mark Cunningham said. “So, for Holmes County, the odds of us finding the one sole positive (case) is extremely unlikely. So, almost certainly there are additional positives.”

Commission Executive Director Roger Young on June 19 issued an executive order that set up a management zone covering parts of Holmes, Jackson and Washington counties.

Exporting deer from the zone is prohibited.

Also, the order limits baiting or feeding deer in the zone, along with rehabilitating or releasing injured or orphaned white-tailed deer. The order doesn't ban hunted deer being brought into the zone to be processed.

With no simple treatment or vaccine, deer farmers expressed concern Thursday that a single positive test could require the eradication of entire herds, which in some cases represent millions of dollars in investments.

State officials hope farmers and hunters in the area will help in the detection and prevention effort, which has a goal of 300 to 600 samples.

Cory Morea, the commission's deer management program coordinator, said the goal likely will require an increase in deer harvesting in the zone.

The findings will dictate how the state approaches the disease, which

in the long term could include using methods from some of the 30 other states where the disease has been detected.

“This isn't a sprint to the finish line. It's a triathlon. It's a long-term marathon,” Morea said. “Essentially, once you have it on the landscape, it's gonna be here. And we just need to do what we can to minimize the prevalence and spread.”

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has imposed a quarantine on captive cervid facilities — where deer are farmed — in the management zone.

While chronic wasting disease is not known to affect people, pets or other species, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends against eating meat from animals that test positive for the disease.

Wildlife officials are concerned that a spread of the disease could lower

and destabilize deer populations, Morea said.

With Alabama and Mississippi among the states that have previously detected the disease, Florida has been monitoring the issue since 2002, testing about 17,500 hunter-killed, road-killed and sick deer. Since 2017, the state has bought equipment needed to address an outbreak.

In 2021, the state placed certain limits on importing deer carcasses into Florida. As examples, people can bring in deboned meat, finished taxidermy mounts and clean hides and antlers.

Exceptions are made for deer harvested from properties in Georgia or Alabama that are bisected by the Florida border and are under the same ownership.

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# Outdoors

outdoor sports

## HOME ON THE RANGE

### Let's talk newbie and the range



By MARJ LAW

Years ago, a friend gave me an RG .22 Saturday Night Special revolver. He thought I should have a gun because I lived alone and needed something for self-defense. It fit in my hand and my purse perfectly. I had my first handgun and Mr. Bad better not try to break in my house and get the best of me.

I was working at the Sheriff's Office at the time. A group of deputies looked at the gun. Nobody snickered.

"That is a gun," said one guy nicely.

One of them suggested that practice at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range would be a good idea.

Practice? Did that mean I'd actually have to shoot it? Yikes.

So, I'm at the range and a deputy has informed me of range rules. I borrow "eyes" (eye protection) and "ears" (ear protection).

The deputy walks me to the pistol range. We put on our eyes and ears. No one else is at the range, but he yells: "Cold!" so that I know that when the range is cold, it's the time to put up targets. When the range is "hot," then people can load and shoot their guns.

We walk to the nearest target backing and put on a black shoot n

see sticker. I heard these are the best to see exactly where your bullet hits.

The deputy talks stance and grip. I take a breath, let it out and squeeze the trigger.

Blam!

The black sticker is still pristine.

I take another breath and try again.

Blam!

Still pristine.

"What am I doing wrong?" I ask.

"May I try it?" he asks.

I hand the gun over, keeping the muzzle pointing downrange.

The RG is tiny in his big hands.

He places his feet. He aims. He shoots.

Blam!

The black target is still pristine.

"Huh," he says thoughtfully.

He aims carefully.

Blam!

Nope. Nothing on the target at all.

He hands the revolver back to me.

"It's no use. You can't hit the broad side of a barn with this thing."

I look at it in dismay.

Drat.

He helps me pack up.

Well, I have a gun, but I don't have a gun. What good is that?

A few years later, I meet Joe. He's really into both handguns and long guns. I show him my RG.

"That's not a gun!" he laughs. "That's a piece of... pot metal."

"Then what's it good for?" I ask.

"You could get a shadow box and hang it on the wall. But, if you think you need a gun, I'll get you a Real one."

My RG has been royally dissed.

A few days later, we're back at the WCSO range. This time, other people are there, too. The range is cold, since several people want to put up their targets. Again, up



Ruger Mark III 22/45

goes an 8-inch black shoot n see sticker.

We return to the pistol range. The guy to the left of us yells: "Hot!" so we move the gun in its pouch to the shooting bench.

We unpack a Ruger Mark III. This guy is heavy and long. He sure won't fit in a purse.

Joe says it has a 5.5-inch "bull barrel." Guess bull barrels are thick and weighty. It's stainless steel with a black polymer grip.

He shows me how to pull down the button on the magazine so that we can load it with .22 rounds. Once loaded, I try to put it in the grip. Backwards. Didn't fit.

"Just a minute!"

I put the gun down and he turns the magazine around and pushes it in. He steps back.

I think about stance and grip and begin to aim.

"Stop!" he calls. I freeze.

"Both thumbs must be on the same side of the grip," he explains. "Otherwise, the bolt can come back and rip the

tender flesh between your thumb and forefinger. Try again!"

Okay. I think about stance and grip very carefully. Don't want to look any stupider.

Take a breath. Let it out. Squeeze.

Blam! Wait! Wait! There's a hole in the target!

I look around to see if the guy to the left accidentally shot at my target.

"You did it!" says Joe. "It's in the 7-ring. Good work! Try it again!"

Yay! I did do it! I try again.

Blam! Another on the target! This is fun! After 8 more shots, the bolt flies back toward me.

"What do I do now?"

"You push the button here. That's the magazine release."

So, I push the button, and sure enough, the magazine slides onto the shooting bench.

"Now what?"

"You load the magazine again." He's nice enough not to say: "Duh!"

After a few more magazines, I've had enough.

Plenty of excitement for one day.

We arrive back to the house.

"That was a lot of work!" I exclaim, ready for a Guinness.

"We're not done yet!" Joe opens the gun pouch. He points the gun away from us. He drops the empty magazine. He pulls back the bolt.

"See, the chamber is empty!"

Well, I know that. I shot off all 10 rounds.

"Every time you or someone else handles a gun," he explains, "you show that the gun is empty. The magazine is empty and the chamber is empty."

"Okay. Shall we put it away now?"

"No. Now we clean it. I cleaned it when it was new, but .22 ammunition is very dirty. It's time to do it again."

"Really?" I reach for Dawn dish detergent.

"No, Marj. First, we fieldstrip the gun. Since we're certain the gun is empty, we pull out the locking bar on the back of the grip. This allows

us to pull the pin down from the bolt. Now we can take the bolt out."

He lays the pieces on the rubber mat and shows me how to clean them.

"That wasn't too difficult!" I'm quite sure I can do this again.

"The hard part is getting the gun back together. First, we move the hammer forward. The tricky part is lining up the hammer strutt to the rear of the gun..."

Where's the hammer? What's the strutt? How did he line it up? What happens if you don't do it right? I'm so lost.

"I thought you said this is a great learner's gun! Yes, it's easy to load and easy to shoot. But what Newbie is going to be able to reassemble it? Not me!"

"I'll do it," he says reasonably.

"Thank you, but what happens when you're not around. After all, it's going to be my gun. I need to be able to take care of it myself!"

"Do you want me to show you how to reassemble it again?"

"No! I don't want to be responsible if I don't align it correctly and all those tiny springs pop out." This is very frustrating.

When he's not around, I get on my computer. I check youtube videos to see if that's the only way to clean the Ruger 22/45.

The bad news is: that's the way to do it.

The good news is: Ruger makes a Ruger Mark IV. I think I can fieldstrip and reassemble this one.

Maybe it's time for a new gun?

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

## BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

### Doing an off-cycle shorebird survey

By DON MORROW

Earlier this week, I waited for sunrise while I listened to a chorus of leopard and pig frogs out on one of the back levees and watched the full moon turn amber as it sunk into the murk on the western horizon. As the sun rose, the sound of the frogs gave way to the sounds of cardinals, Marsh Wrens, and the squawking of Green Herons.

The edges of the levee where I stood were covered with wood sage and out in the spartina marsh, swamp mallow blossoms, trying to attract hummingbirds and butterflies, poked above the grass tops.

I was doing an off-cycle shorebird survey, just out of curiosity. This is close to day zero, when all northbound migrants are gone and no southbound migrants have returned. (Day zero may not exist, as late Spring migrants and early migrants

sometimes cross paths, but it's a fun concept.) The June rains have East River and Light-house Pools full, pushing shorebirds onto Stony Bayou I and the salt flats, which makes counting easy.

I had 190 shorebirds of nine species. Just over half of the birds were summer nesters; Wilson's Plovers and Willets. The remainder were primarily yearling birds that are overwintering; Black-bellied & Semipalmated Plovers, Greater Yellowlegs and Short-billed Dowitchers.

I also had one Whimbrel, eleven Semipalmated Sandpipers and three breeding plumaged American Avocets.

Both the Willets and Wilson's Plovers are at the end of their breeding season and were beginning to flock up. I found a group of 33 Wilson's Plovers sitting together on a mudbank in Stony Bayou. They will soon start moving out and are generally

gone by late August.

Our breeding Willets will migrate out to South America this month with some lingering into August. Their winter replacements, the western subspecies Willet from the Great Basin, are starting to trickle in, but the majority of them will arrive in October and boost numbers to their winter highs when there may be several hundred Willets on Tower Pond.

St. Marks songbirds are through with nesting and are going through their post-breeding molt and fattening up for migration. The fruits of grape and swamp dogwood disappear as fast as they ripen. Within weeks, elderberry and Peppervine will provide even more food. Songbirds are quieter now and you have to look closely for Yellow-billed Cuckoos and Red-eyed Vireos as they slink through the treetops.

The year at St. Marks is never static. It never

stops changing. Tower Pond had almost two hundred waders, mostly Great Egrets, but including Tricolored, Little Blue and Great Blue Herons, as well as, Snowy Egrets and Roseate Spoonbills. The 158 Great Egrets that I saw likely represent post-breeding dispersal of birds from further South. The 17 Roseate Spoonbills there were definitely peninsular birds that have moved up after nesting.

Later this month we may see the first Louisiana Waterthrushes, American Redstarts, Black & White Warblers and Yellow Warblers as the southernmost nesting birds begin to migrate.

Things are always changing at the refuge. It is a hot and humid July on the Gulf Coast, but come on down anyway. Maybe a little change would do you good.

*Don Morrow can be contacted at donaldc-*

**EASTERN BEADED CHITON**  
(*Chaetopleura apiculata*)

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

Eukarya, Animalia, Mollusca, Polyplacophora, Chitonida, Chaetopleurida

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# Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

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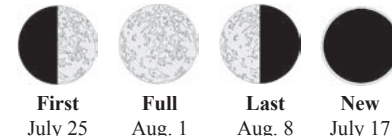


## Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

July 13 - July 19



Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month July 17-31

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

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

### St. Marks River Entrance

| Day | 12:45 am | 4:36 am  | 11:00 am | 6:58 pm  |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Th  | ▲ 2.6 ft | ▼ 2.2 ft | ▲ 3.5 ft | ▼ 0.1 ft |
| Fr  | 1:41 am  | 5:44 am  | 12:02 pm | 7:48 pm  |
| Sa  | 2:24 am  | 6:44 am  | 12:55 pm | 8:32 pm  |
| Su  | 2:59 am  | 7:34 am  | 1:41 pm  | 9:09 pm  |
| Mo  | 3:31 am  | 8:18 am  | 2:21 pm  | 9:43 pm  |
| Tu  | 4:02 am  | 8:59 am  | 2:57 pm  | 10:12 pm |
| We  | 4:32 am  | 9:38 am  | 3:32 pm  | 10:39 pm |

### City of St. Marks

| Day | 1:21 am  | 5:40 am  | 11:36 am | 8:02 pm  |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Th  | ▲ 2.5 ft | ▼ 2.0 ft | ▲ 3.3 ft | ▼ 0.1 ft |
| Fr  | 2:17 am  | 6:48 am  | 12:38 pm | 8:52 pm  |
| Sa  | 3:00 am  | 7:48 am  | 1:31 pm  | 9:36 pm  |
| Su  | 3:35 am  | 8:38 am  | 2:17 pm  | 10:13 pm |
| Mo  | 4:07 am  | 9:22 am  | 2:57 pm  | 10:47 pm |
| Tu  | 4:38 am  | 10:03 am | 3:33 pm  | 11:16 pm |
| We  | 5:08 am  | 10:42 am | 4:08 pm  | 11:43 pm |

### Shell Point, Spring Creek

| Day | 12:59 am | 5:12 am  | 11:29 am | 7:12 pm  |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Th  | ▲ 2.8 ft | ▼ 2.2 ft | ▲ 3.6 ft | ▼ 0.0 ft |
| Fr  | 1:54 am  | 6:13 am  | 12:22 pm | 8:01 pm  |
| Sa  | 2:38 am  | 7:06 am  | 1:09 pm  | 8:45 pm  |
| Su  | 3:15 am  | 7:50 am  | 1:51 pm  | 9:25 pm  |
| Mo  | 3:49 am  | 8:30 am  | 2:29 pm  | 10:01 pm |
| Tu  | 4:21 am  | 9:09 am  | 3:05 pm  | 10:33 pm |
| We  | 4:51 am  | 9:47 am  | 3:41 pm  | 11:01 pm |

### Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

| Day | 12:37 am | 4:47 am  | 10:52 am | 7:09 pm  |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Th  | ▲ 2.0 ft | ▼ 1.6 ft | ▲ 2.6 ft | ▼ 0.1 ft |
| Fr  | 1:33 am  | 5:55 am  | 11:54 am | 7:59 pm  |
| Sa  | 2:16 am  | 6:55 am  | 12:47 pm | 8:43 pm  |
| Su  | 2:51 am  | 7:45 am  | 1:33 pm  | 9:20 pm  |
| Mo  | 3:23 am  | 8:29 am  | 2:13 pm  | 9:54 pm  |
| Tu  | 3:54 am  | 9:10 am  | 2:49 pm  | 10:23 pm |
| We  | 4:24 am  | 9:49 am  | 3:24 pm  | 10:50 pm |

### St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

| Day | 1:33 am  | 5:11 am  | 10:47 am | 6:53 pm   |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Th  | ▲ 2.3 ft | ▼ 1.1 ft | ▲ 3.0 ft | ▼ -0.2 ft |
| Fr  | 2:33 am  | 6:10 am  | 11:36 am | 7:40 pm   |
| Sa  | 3:15 am  | 6:57 am  | 12:24 pm | 8:21 pm   |
| Su  | 3:46 am  | 7:35 am  | 1:09 pm  | 8:59 pm   |
| Mo  | 4:11 am  | 8:10 am  | 1:51 pm  | 9:35 pm   |
| Tu  | 4:34 am  | 8:46 am  | 2:34 pm  | 10:08 pm  |
| We  | 4:56 am  | 9:27 am  | 3:16 pm  | 10:39 pm  |

### Dog Island West End

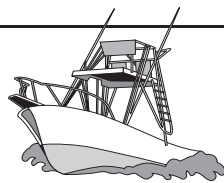
| Day | 10:38 am | 7:13 pm  |          |          |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Th  | ▲ 2.7 ft | ▼ 0.0 ft |          |          |
| Fr  | 3:50 am  | 6:01 am  | 11:21 am | 7:57 pm  |
| Sa  | 4:15 am  | 7:31 am  | 12:09 pm | 8:34 pm  |
| Su  | 4:38 am  | 8:09 am  | 1:02 pm  | 9:07 pm  |
| Mo  | 4:59 am  | 8:39 am  | 1:53 pm  | 9:40 pm  |
| Tu  | 5:18 am  | 9:08 am  | 2:39 pm  | 10:13 pm |
| We  | 5:35 am  | 9:42 am  | 3:21 pm  | 10:47 pm |

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



### Boating Emergencies

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

This past weekend Steve Hults, our Flotilla Staff Officer for Vessel Safety Checks was joined by Linda and Wade Olson to provide free Vessel Safety Checks (VSE) at the St. Marks boat ramp.

When participating in a free vessel exam, items checked include:

- Life Jackets
- Registration and numbering
- Navigation lights
- Ventilation
- Fire extinguishers
- Distress signals (flares, horn, etc.)
- Battery cover and connections

All of these items are currently required by state and federal laws and, if missing or non-operating, can result in a citation if your vessel is inspected by the Coast Guard. If your boat does not pass, no citation is issued at that time. Instead, you are

provided a written report in how to correct any discrepancies.

You may ask yourself why you should receive a VSE ~ Safety! The peace of mind that your boat meets federal safety standards and that in an emergency you will have the necessary equipment to save lives and help you call for help.

According to the USCG site for Vessel Exams, in many cases boating insurance agencies offer discounts for

vessels which undergo a Vessel Safety Check every year. All decals and safety checks are void Dec. 31st of year they are inspected, they are also void should the operator /owner fail to maintain the vessels equipment or the vessel itself to the standard at the time of the safety check.

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

Please contact us for more information about our safe boating classes or learning more about getting involved in the Auxiliary, check out our website at [www.uscgaux.net](http://www.uscgaux.net) follow us on FaceBook @ Apalachee Bay Flotilla 12 or contact our Flotilla Commander Phil Hill at [pnkkhill2000@yahoo.com](mailto:pnkkhill2000@yahoo.com)

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

*The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian volunteer component of the U.S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information, please visit [www.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org).*

### 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 Common Gallinule chick swimming in the Wakulla River.



## Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

### Advanced certification

Hello Wakulla

By the time you read this article the 4th of July will be over for 2023. I hope everyone had a great and safe 4th. I just finished another dive class for advanced certification on Saturday, July 1st. We did three mini dives in the Jetties at St. Andrews Park in Panama City Beach. After we finished the dives we took about a 3-hour break before we head to Bristol Harbor in Panama City to board the "Big Blue dive boat" for our three offshore dives.

The Big Blue dive boat is a 36-foot Newton with twin Cummings super charged 900 hp plants and can really scoot on the water. It has a diesel compressor and fill whips to top off your scuba tanks (air only).

We made it to the first dive site the Accokeek, it was sunk about 12-14 miles off PCB back in 2000 in about 100 feet of water. The seas were supposed to be 1-foot or less but late in the afternoon they were about 2-3 feet.

As we descended down the anchor chain, yes, I said anchor chain. The captain does not like to tie off the the wreck. Instead he slowly lets the anchor down with the windless on either side of the wreck and will tie a line to the wreck from a cave divers reel so you can traverse the line over to the wreck.

By doing this he does not add to the damage of the wreck that the saltwater does naturally. When we reached the wreck it was awesome to see all the life and fish that called it their home. The visibility on the wreck was about 60-80 feet.

When we surfaced we switched to a full tank and the boat was headed to an inshore wreck called the Red Sea. It was only 5-6 miles off shore in about 72 feet of water. We finished our surface interval then it was back into the water to explore and familiarize ourselves with the layout of the ship. The main reason for doing so is because we were going to make our night dive on this site.

We surfaced and the water was a little rougher about 3-4 foot seas. After we switched to a fresh tank we hydrated and ate a little then finished our surface interval in time for it to be dark.

We stepped off the platform and proceeded to descend into the dark abyss. We got to the ship and saw a sea turtle along with several species of fish that come out at night. We then ascended to the surface and climbed back on the boat and headed to the dock for the night. It was a great day of diving.

– Russell Miller, NAUI instructor #59999

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# When sin makes us lose our wits



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

“What are you doing?” Carl’s brow wrinkled as he caught a glimpse of the image displayed on the computer screen.

Steve jumped. Snapping his laptop closed,

he stammered, “Carl. I thought I was the only one working late today. I ... I was just finishing up.”

Carl cleared his throat. “Wow. Uh, besides the fact that you know the company’s policy on viewing inappropriate websites at work, I know you, man. This isn’t you. Why would you risk your job – not to mention your marriage – by looking at that stuff?”

Looking everywhere but at his co-worker, Steve stuffed the papers on his desk into his briefcase. “It’s ...

it’s not what you think ... I mean, it’s not like I spend a lot of time looking at ...” Steve could feel his face, neck, and ears getting hot.

Carl rolled up his sleeves and crossed his arms.

“You’ve got some decisions to make, Bud. You need to decide which you want more: your family, your career.” His voice grew a little louder, “Your self-respect, or that stuff – which, even if it’s true that you don’t spend a lot of time looking at it – if you don’t give it up right now, in time it’ll consume you.

It’ll destroy everything you’ve worked for – including your family.”

“Stop!” Steve raised his hand. “You’re not my boss – and you’re certainly not my god. I don’t need your approval or permission to do anything. Stay out of my business.”

Carl stared at his long-time friend, mouth open in disbelief. “Steve. Let’s get out of here and grab a bite to eat. We can call Leigh and Sarah to let ‘em know we’ll be late.”

“I can’t call Leigh.” He slumped in his chair, eyes watering. “She took

the kids and left ... two weeks ago.”

This is a fictional story to illustrate this week’s verse and the point of my column:

James 1:14-15 (ESV) says, “But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.”

We can lose our wits when sin’s grip entangles us. We forget that a few minutes of pleasure isn’t worth the cost –

sometimes a lifetime of sorrow. We’d be wise to ask ourselves, “Is there anything that will bring us more satisfaction than purity (a life free from the control of sin)?” I pray our answer will always be ...

No. There is absolutely no substitute for purity. None at all.

*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.*

# A measure of faith



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

It was during the Covid era that I decided to try my hand at gardening. Like many, time was an endless commodity needing to be filled. Old hobbies were overused, causing new hobbies to come to life.

I had never been good at gardening, finding it too time-consuming for my busy schedule. However, with the shutdown of society, I found pot-

ting soil and flowers to be a rewarding outlet.

As time pressed on and vaccines came into the forefront, the world began to open up along with the busy schedule of life. In the wake of being active, I found my new hobby quickly fading into the background. Soon my plants disappeared into the soil in which they were planted. Empty pots were returned to the storage shed, while those rooted in the ground fell victim to the arid, hot temperatures.

Two years after returning to work, I realized I missed the “dirt therapy” of the flower garden. I began to gather my old planters, filling them with new soil and various plants from local

garden centers. Almost immediately, my lawn came alive with an array of multiple blooms and colors.

One day while walking through the yard, I noticed a plant pushing up through the ground. Cutting back the grass, I realized it was a blue rose I had planted while working from home.

Struggling to survive, the rose sported two leaves while standing only three inches tall. Removing it from the hard ground, I replanted this relic of the past into a planter with vitamin-enriched soil. Today, I marvel at the beauty of the roses that continue to bloom.

The Apostle Paul writes that from the beginning of time, the in-

visible qualities of God, His divine nature, are seen and understood within His creation (Romans 1:20).

In the beauty of the rose, I see God’s divine nature within the soul of man. Scripture teaches that God has given a measure of faith within each man’s heart (Romans 12:3). Man can choose to leave the faith buried in the arid temperatures of complacency or move faith into the rich blessings of the Father’s Garden.

Stories of creation, miracles of God, and triumphs of man’s journey in life were the nutrients of faith taught in our childhood. Somewhere buried within our spirit was the belief that God existed; God created.

Our teen years became a swell of “sowing oats,” as we became the prodigal ones who wandered away (Luke 15:11-32). We didn’t speak of faith, nor did we speak of prayer.

Regardless of how dormant we believed our faith to be, our Father was knitting us together for such a time as this. Suddenly like a breath of fresh air, friends from high school, whose greatest concern was a Friday night football game, have become life’s greatest prayer partners.

The faith buried within our youth is now in full bloom because we have chosen the rich soil of God’s love. The scripture that raised us, once forgotten like the blue rose, is now the tie

that binds us together in Him. Our measure of faith is now fulfilled in the strength of one another as we come together as one in the Body of Christ.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. Hebrews 10:23-25

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

## OUT TO PASTOR

# Have giggle, will laugh



By **JAMES SNYDER**

I have many problems in my life. I have yet to recognize all of my problems, but I’m sure I will soon.

That’s why it’s so great to be married to someone like The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. There is no problem she cannot fix, and I have many examples to prove it.

There is one problem she hasn’t been able to fix. That is, I laugh too much. At least, according to her.

If something happens or someone says something, I will start to giggle, and I know that in a short time, I will be laughing. I know how to laugh better than anybody I know. Just ask The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

Through the years, I have tried to moderate it. I don’t want to laugh at everything even though there is a giggle inside of me. Most people don’t think everything is funny, while I, on the other side, can’t think of anything that isn’t funny.

Someone may tell me something or say something unwittingly, and I begin to giggle. I know when that starts I have no control over my giggle-itis. The only cure I have found for giggle-itis is laughter.

Someone may be telling a very serious story about their life, and I hear it wrong and think they are saying something altogether different, and it kicks in my giggle-itis.

It wouldn’t be so bad if I could control it when it happens, but as history has proven, I cannot.

I do try to keep some things serious. I must confess, however, that changes from day to day. What is serious today may not be serious tomorrow, and I am the last one to know how to control that.

I’ve often discussed this with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, and she has tried to counsel me in this area on how to control my laughter.

I try to explain to her that it is not so much the laughter as it is the giggle. If I could control my giggles, I wouldn’t have any problem with laughter. She doesn’t get it and laughs at me.

You must agree, there are many things in this world that are funny. And I do not believe we should overlook or ignore those situations.

Last week I was standing in line at the post office, and at the counter was a very nice older lady. She was paying for some postage and gave the cashier a \$50 bill. Then the cashier, preparing to give her money back, said something strange. He said, “Ma’am, what denomination would you like?”

I hadn’t heard that in a long time and was anxious to hear how the lady would respond.

She looked at the cashier with a very serious look and said, “Sir, I’m a Baptist, so give it to me in Baptist denomination.”

Little did I know she was not joking, but I laughed at her, trying to conceal it.

The cashier stared at her, not knowing what to do. I’m not sure what money he gave her because I was laughing too much on the inside.

It’s so hard for me to laugh on the inside

and keep it from getting on the outside. What is inside eventually comes outside. I was laughing about that for the rest of the day. And still, when I think of it, I chuckle on the inside.

Just the other day, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came and informed me that she would be gone for the day, thrift store shopping with her daughters. Looking at me, she seriously said, “Can you get your own lunch today while I’m gone?”

That tripped the giggle button inside for some reason, and my giggle-itis had kicked in.

Looking at her while giggling, I said, “Don’t worry. I’ll clean the refrigerator out by the time you get home.”

Then I started laughing almost uncontrollably. She, on the other hand, looked at me with her infamous scowl and said, without laughing, “I don’t think so.”

side of me. Thinking more of this it developed into laughter. I just can’t wait to get even.

While I was laughing, I thought of one my favorite Bible verses. “All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast” (Proverbs 15:15).

When I think of broccoli I have evil feelings, but the Apple Fritter thought brings a lot of merriment to me.

Then I remembered Proverbs 17:22. “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.”y.

*Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamessnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.*

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# Obituaries

## DEATH NOTICES

• **Jeremy Guthrie**, 34, of Tallahassee, died June 29, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Kira Ann Roddenberry**, 38, of Crawfordville, died on July 2, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Nasif Nadine Johnson**, 98, of Havana, died July 4, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Evelyn Jane Register**, 1, of Crawfordville, died June 25, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

## BEREAVEMENT COLUMN

# Quick fixes are no solutions



By **TRACY RENEE LEE**

During my life span, there have been many times that I have longed for a quick fix to my problems. As I have matured, I have come to realize that quick fixes do not exist. There are band-aids that I can apply to hold things together until I can correct my course, but ultimately, I need solutions, not fixes.

Upon losing significant loved ones, survivors often look for quick fixes. Sadly, as in other experiences

in life, there remain no quick fixes.

My husband lost his brother last week. It was a rather sudden death, unexpected in every aspect of its cause. Fortunately, as soon as his brother entered the hospital, my husband jumped into his car and drove to the east coast to see him.

They had a wonderful visit for a few hours, and afterward, my husband felt the assessment was that his brother would be fine. My husband returned to his hotel, checked out, and began his journey home.

Before my husband crossed the Georgia/Alabama state line, his brother suffered a severe stroke. Fortunately, he had discussed his brother's final wishes with him, so we knew what he wanted for

his end-of-life services. Within two days, my husband's brother passed away; peacefully in a hospice facility. His wishes were carried out as he had specified.

My husband is suffering immensely at his brother's passing. He lost his only other brother just last year. My husband is the sole survivor of his original family unit. He is sad, not feeling well, and confused about what to expect for his future.

Life can be many things. We experience joy, happiness, disappointments, sadness, loneliness, loss, and many other emotions while living. Many of our emotions bring us comfort, but the loss does not usually carry a sense of joy or comfort. Most often, loss brings sadness and confusion.

### QUICK FIXES

There are no quick fixes for grief.

Each individual grieves in their unique way with various intensities.

Surviving the loss of a loved one can be compared to surgery.

One can be assured that with proper care, healing will eventually occur; however, there will always be a scar, weakness, and tenderness in its stead.

Just as physical therapy serves to help regain a degree of physical comfort and functionality, so can grief therapy assist in regaining a degree of emotional comfort and functionality.

My husband's blood pressure and blood sugar surged upon losing his brother last week. Our physician

prescribed a few medications to help him regulate these issues. Unfortunately, the medications seem to have exacerbated the issues, so today, we are returning to our physician's office for additional assistance. I hope a solution will be established.

Loss can be a tricky thing. It sometimes affects and interferes with our health, both mentally and physically. Without professional assistance, grief may even rob us of our lives. Please do not let grief steal you from those who love and depend upon you. If you are suffering ill effects from grief, please seek medical assistance immediately. It may save your life or bring respite and relief so that you can take the time to heal.

*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: Governing inside the lines

By **RYAN DAILEY**  
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Walker this week said that governing "within the bounds set by the United States Constitution" hasn't been Florida's strong suit in recent years, as he blocked parts of a new elections law challenged by voter-registration groups.

In a 58-page decision released Monday, Walker issued a preliminary injunction against two provisions of the law (SB 7050) that would prevent non-U.S. citizens from "collecting or handling" voter-registration applications and make it a felony for voter-registration group workers to keep personal information of voters.

"Florida may, of course, regulate elections, including the voter registration process," Walker acknowledged in the ruling siding with groups such as the NAACP, the League of Women Voters of Florida and Hispanic Federation.

"Here, however, the challenged provisions exemplify something Florida has struggled with in recent years; namely, governing within the bounds set by the United States Constitution," the judge added. "When state government power threatens to spread beyond constitutional bounds and reduce individual rights to ashes, the federal judiciary stands as a firewall."

Gov. Ron DeSantis signed the measure in May, greenlighting a series of changes to Florida's elections system with a focus on "third-party" voter registration groups. The governor and other Republican leaders contended that the 2023 law would make elec-

tions in the Sunshine State more secure.

Under one part of the law blocked by Walker, groups could face a \$50,000 fine for each non-citizen collecting or handling registration applications.

During a hearing last week that preceded the judge's decision, Mohammad Jazil, an attorney for the DeSantis administration, pointed to concerns about voter-registration applications being turned in late to elections officials.

Jazil said that people who are not U.S. citizens, such as students from other countries or people who have temporary legal immigration status, "are not bound to the community" and thus could be at risk for not turning in applications on time.

But the groups that challenged the law argued that the restriction on non-citizens violates constitutional equal-protection rights — an argument that was backed by Walker.

In blocking a second part of the law that deals with registration groups keeping voters' personal information, Walker said the provision is too vague and wrote that it "leaves open a broad universe of what could be considered 'personal' information."

### CANCELING 'CANCEL CULTURE'

The New College of Florida Board of Trustees this week moved forward with a plan to request \$2 million from the state Legislature to set up a "Freedom Institute" aimed at combating "cancel culture" in higher education.

"There is a tremendous move nationwide to ensure that our college campuses are true marketplaces of ideas,

where you can allow your mind to explore the great reaches of everything," New College Interim President Richard Corcoran said during Thursday's trustees meeting. "And right now there is a tremendous cancel culture that is existing in higher ed. There's a tremendous pushback against that cancel culture."

The bulk of the \$2 million request — \$1,755,000 — would go toward hiring "scholars to work and teach" on the New College campus. Courses taught by the new faculty members would be offered to students for credit.

But goals laid out for the institute also included purposes beyond providing classes to New College students.

For example, the institute would offer "short courses open to the public in Sarasota and across Florida," hold live events "promoting New College's and Florida's free speech principles," and "create and deliver professional development programs" for school teachers and university professors.

The trustees board, revamped by DeSantis in January when he appointed a slate of new members to the panel, has ushered in various changes to the small liberal-arts college amid an effort by the governor and other

state leaders to remake the school.

One of the changes installed Corcoran, a Republican former state House speaker and state education commissioner, as New College's interim leader.

Corcoran suggested Thursday that the proposed Freedom Institute could help net new donors and enhance the school's profile.

"In addition to that, to go out there and hit up additional donor bases saying, what we're doing to model free speech — whether it's in K-12 arenas, higher-ed arenas, whatever it might be — in boardrooms ... and going out and having it flourish nationwide, would be a tremendous benefit in attracting additional experts, speakers, debates to come to New College," Corcoran said.

The New College trustees also on Thursday approved an additional plan to request \$6.035 million to develop three new master's programs. The new degree programs would be a master's in marine mammal science, a master's of environmental economics and policy, and a master's of educational leadership.

The funding proposals are subject to approval by lawmakers during the 2024 legislative session.

### FAMU LAWSUIT REVISED

After a federal judge rejected an earlier version of the case, attorneys for Florida A&M University students this week filed a revised lawsuit alleging that the historically Black university "remains separate and unequal" to other schools in the state.

The potential class-action lawsuit, filed Monday in U.S. district court in Tallahassee, alleges that the state has violated federal laws, in part by not establishing high-demand academic programs at FAMU and by shortchanging the school financially.

When U.S. District Judge Robert Hinkle last month dismissed a previous version of the lawsuit, he said plaintiffs' attorneys would have to provide more evidence to show that alleged discrimination could be traced to segregation.

The revised legal challenge included comparisons of issues such as academic programs, funding and

faculty salaries to try to show that vestiges of segregation remain in the university system.

For example, the lawsuit alleges that FAMU faculty members are paid less than counterparts at other Florida universities and that FAMU has been hurt financially by issues such as the state's performance-based funding system, which helps determine how much money goes to schools.

**STORY OF THE WEEK:** Saying the case "arises from Florida's latest assault on the right to vote," a federal judge Monday blocked parts of a new elections law challenged by voter-registration groups.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** "The Free State of Florida is simply not free to exceed the bounds of the United States Constitution." — Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Walker.

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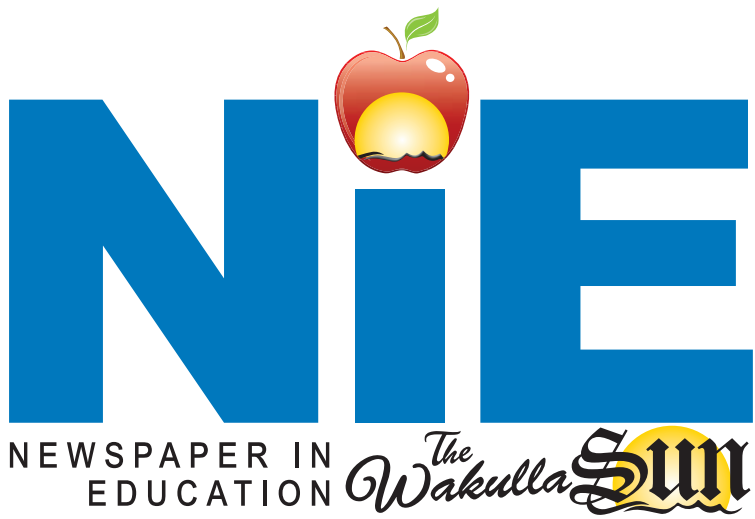
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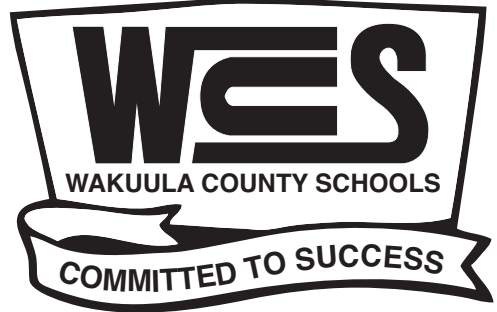
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## USE THE NEWS

### 1. WRITTEN IN STONE

A man who carved his and his girlfriend's names into the Colosseum in Rome, Italy, is now facing prison time and a fine of 15,000 euros (about \$16,300 in US dollars). The wall the tourist carved into was constructed during a restoration of the first-century monument in the 1800s, but Italian authorities still found the man and charged him with vandalizing the historic property. The Colosseum was built in the years 72 to 80 AD—we're now in 2023 AD!—to hold public events including contests, re-enactments of famous battles, and gladiator fights. Write a paragraph on why you think it's important for us to preserve historic landmarks like the Colosseum that were built so long ago.

### 2. RISING TEMPERATURES

Last week saw three days that were likely the hottest in modern history. Greenhouse gases, which are created by burning oil, gas, and coal, continue to build up in the atmosphere, trapping heat and making the surface of the Earth warmer. Additionally, this year marks the return of El Niño, a weather pattern that happens ever few years and brings warmer temperatures around the world. El Niño phases happen when the temperature at the equator in the Pacific Ocean is 1 degree Fahrenheit or more above average and the air pressure shifts lower on the western side of the Pacific, near Australia, and higher around Tahiti on the eastern side of the ocean. When the opposite temperature and air pressure occurs, it's called La Niña, which brings cooler temperatures. Print or draw a map of the world and mark the locations that are important for El Niño to develop: the equator and the Pacific Ocean.

### 3. STANDING TALL

The California Science Center is planning to display the space shuttle En-

deavor vertically, the way it looked before it was launched into space during its 25 missions between 1992 and 2011. It's a complicated task to stack the parts, and one that has never been attempted outside a NASA facility. It starts with the rocket boosters, then the external tank and the shuttle itself. Once completed, it will be twenty stories tall and the rest of the Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center in Los Angeles will be

built around the display. Look up what the Endeavor shuttle looks like, then draw your own interpretation of what the new display at the Air and Space Center will look like.

### 4. FREQUENT FLYERS

Two pilots set a new Guinness World Record for the fastest journey by plane through all 48 contiguous United States by doing it in 38 hours and 13

minutes. Their trip started in Sanford, Maine, and ended in South Bend Indiana, touching down at airports in 46 other states in between. The shortest flight time between two states was about four minutes, which happened from Nebraska to Iowa and Ohio to West Virginia. If you were going to interview the pilots for a news article about their record-breaking trip, write a list of questions you would ask them to get the

information readers would want to know.

### 5. ON THE LOOSE

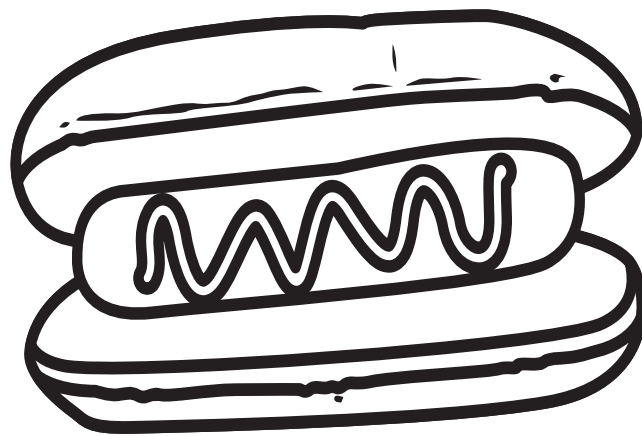
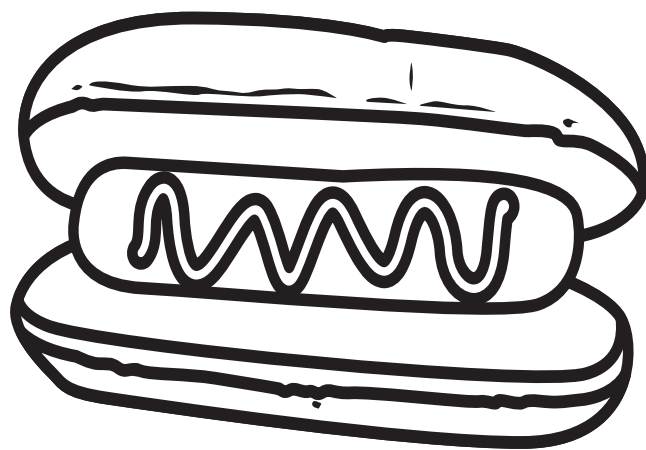
An unusual pet is on the loose in Blanchard, Oklahoma. A wallaby, which looks like a small kangaroo, escaped its backyard pen last week and may be hiding in a wooded area with tall grass nearby in the rural community. His owner says Roo the wallaby could have been let out of the enclosure by the owner's

dog, who may have hit the gate latch and given Roo the chance to escape. The Blanchard Animal Patrol and police are helping with the search, including using drones to help look for the loose animal. Research wallabies, including where they're native to and what the differences are between a wallaby and a kangaroo. Write a paragraph about what you learn.



## Creative Coloring

Celebrate National Grilling Month. Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



### THIS DAY IN...



## HISTORY

- 1865: EDWARD WHYMPER AND HIS TEAM COMPLETE THE FIRST ASCENT OF THE MATTERHORN.
- 1911: HARRY ATWOOD, AN EXHIBITION PILOT FOR THE WRIGHT BROTHERS, LANDS AN AIRPLANE ON THE SOUTH LAWN OF THE WHITE HOUSE.
- 1960: JANE GOODALL ARRIVES IN PRESENT-DAY TANZANIA TO BEGIN HER STUDY OF CHIMPANZEES IN THE WILD.



PEOPLE EAT 20 BILLION OF THESE BELOVED BACKYARD BARBECUE FOODS EVERY YEAR.

ANSWER: HOT DOGS



### GRILL

to cook food over an open fire



**ENGLISH:** Beef

**SPANISH:** Carne

**ITALIAN:** Manzo

**FRENCH:** Boeuf

**GERMAN:** Rind



IT TAKES ONLY 5 TO 7 MINUTES TO GRILL STANDARD BEEF FRANKS, AND 7 TO 10 MINUTES FOR JUMBO FRANKS ON AVERAGE.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: HOT DOGS







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**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 DIANE G. HARRELL, DECEASED.

CASE NO. 2023-CP-68

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS - SUMMARY ADMINISTRATION**  
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the Estate of DIANE G. HARRELL, Deceased, File No. 2023-CP-68 by the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Circuit Court, Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327; that the Decedent's date of death was August 13, 2022; that the total value of the estate, less homestead and exempt property, is less than \$75,000; and that the name and address of those to whom the Estate has been assigned by such Order are:

BARNEY HARRELL, JR. - P.O. Box 291, Sopchoppy, FL 32358 - 100%  
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 and demands 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 ON AUGUST 13, 2022 IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is July 6, 2023.

WILLIAM H. WEBSTER  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 4  
Hosford, FL 32334  
850 443-5901  
billwebsterlaw@yahoo.com  
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

BARNEY HARRELL, JR  
Petitioner  
P.O. Box 291  
Sopchoppy, FL 32358

July 6, 13, 2023

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# Sopchoppy 4th of July Celebration



PHOTOS BY GERALD BROWN



Sopchoppy's own DJ Butch performing.



Headliner Jason Byrd performing.



Amanda Wright with daughters Katie Lynn, Abigail, and June.



Shriners in the parade.



The Lofty Pursuits Marching Band in the parade.



Miss Wakulla and Junior Miss Wakulla



# Sheriff's Report

This report is for activity June 30 to July 6:

## FRIDAY, JUNE 30

• Deputy Austin Rivers responded to Finner Drive in reference to a Harley Davidson motorcycle and enclosed trailer being stolen. The owner David Hardester, estimated the value of the stolen items was over \$30,000. Detectives and Crime Scene responded to assist with the investigation. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

## SATURDAY, JULY 1

• A vehicle was clocked traveling 67mph southbound on 319 in a 35 mph zone. The vehicle passed 4-5 cars in a no-passing lane and ran the red light at Bloxham Cutoff. A traffic stop was attempted but was terminated due to heavy traffic. The vehicle continued southbound on 319 when another deputy located the vehicle near Whiddon Lake Road. Deputies turned around and attempted another traffic stop. The driver abruptly turned onto

Whiddon Lake Road, however ended up wrecking in the ditch. The driver was identified as Jerymiah Stephens whose license was suspended. Stephens advised he knew his license was not valid and admitted to not stopping for the deputies. Stephens was placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility. The Florida Highway Patrol responded and worked the traffic crash. Deputy Donald Newsome investigated.

## SUNDAY, JULY 2

• Scott Howell reported the theft of his mower. Howell described the mower as a 10-year-old 72-inch John Deere zero turn valued at approximately \$15,000. The mower was left on a trailer while in his yard. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Donald Newsome investigated.

• A traffic stop was conducted on a vehicle for faulty equipment. The driver was identified as William Everett who did not have a valid driver's license. It was also discovered the passenger Tony Brown had active

warrants out of Leon County. Both subjects were placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility without incident. Deputy Todd Kent investigated.

## MONDAY, JULY 3

• Brian Hornsby reported the fishing dock catching fire at a property in Sopchoppy. The property is an Airbnb and it had been rented for the night. It is unclear how the fire started. The dock was valued at \$35,000. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Arturo Cordoba investigated.

## TUESDAY, JULY 4

• William Mims was arrested for disorderly intoxication after he attempted to enter a vehicle at Sky Box. Dakota Rudolph called 911 stating a male subject tried to get into her vehicle as she was at the drive-thru window of Sky Box. Mims was located sitting in the parking lot of the business and was noticeably intoxicated. William Mims was arrested and transported to jail without incident. Deputy James Williams investigated.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

• A reckless vehicle was observed traveling northbound on Crawfordville Highway. The vehicle was all over the road and nearly caused an accident. The driver was identified as Steven Jones who was found to be extremely intoxicated. Jones was arrested for DUI and transported to the jail. Deputy Donald Newsome investigated.

## THURSDAY, JULY 6

• Deputy Austin Rivers responded to Broken Bow in reference to an ongoing dispute between two neighbors. Joseph Gainey claimed Ruth Haas removed wood from his property without permission. Haas stated Gainey placed two pieces of wood on her fence which was on her side of the property line. Haas removed the wood in order to repair her fence. This incident was written for informational purposes only.

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

## Brad Harvey

### From Front Page

man, but Harvey continued those duties when he took over the office, with no oversight.

The county auditing firm did not uncover the problems until after Harvey was removed from office. A new auditing firm has replaced them.

When Ed Brimmer took office as property

appraiser two years ago, he handed off much of the financial work of his office to Clerk of Courts and County Comptroller Greg James, noting at the time that it would give more transparency and public confidence to his office.

In May, The Sun found property documents filed in the courthouse that showed Harvey had deeded his home and other prop-

erty to his current wife. It's not clear if Harvey was having his name removed from the property deeds to avoid losing it for restitution and fines in the criminal case.

Several months ago, unrelated to the criminal case, the state Ethics Commission ordered Harvey to pay a civil penalty of \$40,000 in addition to restitution of \$209,000 to Wakulla County for ethics violations related to the overpayments.



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