



Franks brothers hold football camp

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The Wakulla Sun

"It's a New Day"



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Sunny	Scattered Thunderstorms
Hi: 94° Lo: 75° 12%	Hi: 95° Lo: 77° 23%	Hi: 94° Lo: 76° 52%
Sunrise 6:49 AM Sunset 8:39 PM	Sunrise 6:49 AM Sunset 8:37 PM	Sunrise 6:50 AM Sunset 8:37 PM



\$1
One Section

Locally Owned & Operated

Our 2nd Year 29th Issue
Thursday, July 20, 2023

No to citizens' water ordinance

Commissioners claim the proposal to protect underwater caverns doesn't meet the legal bar for aboveground survey

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

They lined the meeting room – in fact, they couldn't all get in.

More than 100 citizens were at Monday night's county commission meeting in an effort to get commissioners to look at their proposed ordinance to protect drinking water and ultimately Wakulla Springs.

There was speaker after speaker talking about the importance of protecting Wakulla Springs – and the threat of contamination from a gas station over the Chip's Hole cave.

The issue went down



A citizen about to be escorted out by a deputy after refusing to calm down after commissioners refused to take up a proposed ordinance drafted by citizens to protect underground water systems.

without even a vote.

Commissioner Chuck Hess made a motion to support the

proposed ordinance – and no other commissioner would second it, not even a second

for discussion. That closed the matter – and the group of citizens erupted in several min-

utes of yelling and jeers at commissioners. A couple of citizens were escorted out by the deputy providing security at the meeting: one man was asked to be taken out as he angrily stood at the dais yelling at commissioners and refused to sit down; a woman was taken out after she swore at commissioners using a couple of profanities. And Jack Rudloe, the longtime campaigner against developers and development, was escorted out with a smile on his face.

Activist David Damon, who along with wife Sue Damon, had helped organize the

event, tried to lead a sit-in on the floor in the front of the commission dais and was joined by several other people, but eventually order was restored and they went back to their seats.

At one point, Commission Chairman Ralph Thomas complained to the crowd that "there's a lot of misinformation" among the crowd and that they had been "misled by David Damon," which prompted more moans and yells.

It was only at the end of the meeting that Thomas and other commissioners explained

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WAKULLA LIFE



Photographer Neil Hostnick share this photograph of a bee visiting his garden. Along with photos of other pollinators, Neil wrote: "When all the hard work in the butterfly garden pays off."

Sopchoppy looks at system upgrades

The water system identifies two potential well locations in Crawfordville

By LEGION TAYLOR
Report

The Sopchoppy city commission discussed the success of the recent Fourth of July Celebration as well as plans to update the city's water system.

Much of the meeting on Monday, July 10th was spent discussing plans to make changes to the existing network of wells that provide water to much of the county.

The city commission is looking to update well one in Sopchoppy itself, in order to produce more water – up to 1,000 gallons per minute, it was reported at the meeting.

Two new locations for wells have been identified: one on Rock Hole Road near Crawfordville Elementary and the new bus garage off Arran Road; and another near Forbes Farm on Council-Moore Road.

The city commission is also looking to update the water main so that more water can easily flow through it, but concerns about the expansion of U.S. Highway 319 have made those responsible for its planning unsure. It was decided later on that the highway expansion would take so long to get to Sopchoppy that the water pipes could be updated just fine.

The only thing that is delaying the construction of the new pipes and wells is the acquisition of the land required to build them, but they are looking into making deals with the property owners where they're considering putting wells. The entire water project should be done in three years if everything goes smoothly.

Other matters discussed at the meeting included:

- A short video put

together by representatives from Visit Wakulla to celebrate the great success of Sopchoppy's Fourth of July celebration. Afterwards they stated that using cell phones they could get almost exact numbers on who was coming to the celebrations, to better gauge where visitors are coming from.

- The Sopchoppy Depot has rebuilt the wooden decks around the building, as they had been deemed unsafe.

- The senior citizen thrift store in Sopchoppy requested permission to build a new shed to keep donated items, as they keep having people break in and steal items. The senior citizens council requested permission from the city to lay a concrete foundation for a new shed, which was approved.

- City commissioners discussed a school supply drive on July 29

in Sopchoppy, where backpacks full of school supplies are to be handed out to those in need.

- A food truck requested permission to set up at the trail head at the old Mom's Restaurant location, but city commissioners wanted a use agreement before setting up. The city commission also discussed making all food trucks sign similar use agreements if they wish to set up on public property.

- A discussion was had about reinforcing Surf Road to prevent it from washing out during storms, though no formal plan for doing that was brought forward.

- The safety of the boardwalk in the Myron B. Hodge City Park was brought up, but then dismissed, saying it was sturdy enough to last for a while longer, but should eventually be evaluated and replaced.

Man charged with murder for death of 1-year-old

Jacob Randall Robison alleged to have physically abused the baby

Staff Report

On Thursday, July 13, detectives with the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division arrested Jacob Randall Robison, 23 years of age, for Homicide, Murder Dangerous or Depraved Without Premeditation, Florida Statute 782.04.2.

On the evening of Wednesday, July 12, deputies responded to a report of an unresponsive 1-year-old child in the parking lot of a local store. Deputies located the mother and child, and immediately initiated CPR on the child who was not breathing. Wakulla County Fire Rescue responded as well, and transported the child to a local hospital where the child was pronounced deceased. While the child was being transported to the hospital, Detectives responded to the scene, as well as the hospital to investigate. Deputies and Detectives both observed injuries to the child consistent with recent physical abuse.

During the course of the investigation, it was determined Jacob Robison committed aggravated child abuse upon a one-year-old, which ultimately caused the death of the toddler. Jacob Robison is

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Jacob Randall Robison

School voucher totals increasing

News Service of Florida

Florida is poised during the coming school year to see an increase in students receiving state-backed vouchers that can be used for such things as private-school tuition, after the Legislature and Gov. Ron DeSantis approved a massive expansion this spring.

As of Friday, 240,291 vouchers had been awarded to students across the Florida Tax Credit and Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options voucher programs, compared to 173,416 vouchers awarded through the programs at the same time last year, according to Step Up for Students, a non-profit organization that helps administer voucher programs.

For students with special needs, who are

Turn to Page 3

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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.

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Joe Pye Weed

By LYNN ARTZ, SANDY TEDDER and DAVID RODDENBERRY



Pollinators are attracted to the florets.

With huge flower clusters atop tall stalks, stands of Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*) are stunning in bloom. Each flower head has numerous tiny pink or mauve florets that attract butterflies, native bees, honeybees, and other pollinators. Also called Queen of the Meadow, this nectar-rich wildflower is a favorite among butterfly gardeners. It is easy to grow and, if happy where planted, will spread. Joe Pye weed grows 4-7 feet tall in full sun and moist soil. In Florida, it is found mostly in the Panhandle near streams, in low meadows, and in drainage ditches. Its leaves nourish clymene moth caterpillars. Its seeds attract and feed songbirds. Deer avoid it. Joe Pye weed is blooming now at the back of the meadow at Sopchoppy Depot Park.

Eastern Star donates diapers to Healthy Start



Worthy Matron Eileen Bramblett and members of Crawfordville Chapter No. 242 Order of Eastern Star throughly enjoyed gathering baby diapers and wipes to be donated to the Wakulla County Health Department Healthy Start Program. (Photo Special to The Sun)



SCAN ME for an electronic edition of this



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Sheriff's Report

This report is for activity July 7 to July 13:

investigation. Deputy James Williams investigated.

FRIDAY, JULY 7

SUNDAY, JULY 9

- David Roach reported he paid a local construction company over \$9,000 to do work on a boat lift. Roach stated that the company has failed to do the work and refuses contact with Roach since he paid the money. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Rudolph Hinson responded.

- Bethany Beard was arrested for battery after she allegedly struck Fabian Miller during a dispute. Miller and Beard were arguing after almost being in a vehicle crash. Deputy Kendrick Gavin investigated.

- Kierra Williams reported damage to her vehicle. Williams stayed the evening with family and woke to find the vehicle had scratches throughout the vehicle. Williams advised she needed a report for insurance purposes. Sgt. Mike Alexander responded.

- Gabrielle Carraway reported an unknown person attempted to break in to her vehicle. Both doors had been pried on and the driver's door will no longer open from the outside. Damage was done to the locking system and the door handle. Damage was estimated to be between \$100 to \$1,000. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy James Williams investigated.

SATURDAY, JULY 8

MONDAY, JULY 10

- Sgt. Mike Alexander stopped a vehicle for excessive speed on Crawfordville Highway and Donald Williams Road. The driver, Matthew Turner, was arrested after it was learned he did not possess a valid driver's license and multiple prior convictions for Driving While License Suspended or Revoked (DWLSR). Turner was transported to the Wakulla County Jail without incident.

- Deputy Arturo Cordoba responded to Shell Island Fish Camp in reference to a suspicious person. Lisa Barwick was found under a pavilion and when asked to leave by the management she refused. After a lengthy investigation she left the area on foot. Barwick returned to the location after being told not to return by Deputy Cordoba and management just a few hours prior. Barwick was subsequently placed under arrest by Deputy Jake Scott and transported to the Wakulla County Jail. While Lisa was being searched in the jail facility, a

- Philippe Bernier reported someone removed one of his sailboat sails from his deck. A possible suspect has been identified in this case. This case has been sent to detectives for further

prescription pill was located on her person. She was charged with trespass, possession of medication without a prescription and introduction of contraband.

- Deputy Scott made contact with Christopher Robinson who stated he received a call from an individual identifying himself as "Deputy Clark." The individual told Robinson he missed jury duty and a warrant had been signed for his arrest. The individual then instructed Robinson to go his local sheriff's office to pay a fine using Jpay. At some point, Robinson recognized this to be a scam and did not make any payments. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

- Danielle Yates was observed operating a motor vehicle. Yates is known to deputies to not have a valid license which was confirmed through Communications. During a search of the vehicle, the passenger Russell Hilbert was found to have meth in his possession. Both subjects were placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility without incident. Deputy Dakota Haddock investigated.

TUESDAY, JULY 11

- A registration check was conducted on a vehicle in which the registered owner was not valid. Contact was made with the owner and operator of the vehicle, identified as Elisa Scott. Scott does not have a valid driver's license and has 10 prior convictions. Scott was arrested and transported to the jail facility. Deputy Heather Will investigated.

- Timothy Orrell stated his employee had several items from him. Orrell stated the suspect stole a vehicle (\$12,900), two titles, a forged check and five R/C cars (\$1,200.00). However, Orrell had no vehicle information to provide nor could he provide any information on the R/C cars. Orrell stated the suspect forged his name and cashed the check for \$850. Orrell stated he sustained a total loss of \$14,950.00. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Anthony Paul investigated.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

- Deputies and investigators responded to an unresponsive 1 year old child. The child was pronounced deceased, and a homicide investigation began. Evidence identified the suspect as Jacob Robison, and he was subsequently arrested for murder.

THURSDAY, JULY 13

- Deputy Dustin Matthews responded to My Eye Dr. located at 2140 Crawfordville Hwy. Deputy Matthews contacted Macy Kirk who stated a suspect entered the office and began looking at eyeglass frames. Macy stated the suspect concealed a pair of \$220 eyeglass frames and departed the office. The suspect has been identified in this case and deputies are currently seeking an arrest warrant.

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

Appraiser's office's Peyton Bennett receives certification

Special to The Sun

Peyton Bennett was recently awarded a Certified Property Evaluator (CFE) designation by the Florida Department of Revenue (DOR). This designation is the culmination of 120 hours of training and 2 years of experience.

Bennett is the property appraiser's expert

on cadastral maps. Cadastral maps show the outlines of property parcels throughout Wakulla County and are used extensively by local real estate professionals. Mr. Bennett blends information from surveys, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and other maps and property descriptions to maintain correct maps. His work



can be found by viewing maps at WWW.MyWakullaPA.com.

Ed Brimmer, CFA, the Wakulla County Property Appraiser, commented, "I'm very proud of Peyton. Our maps today are better than they have ever been. Our service continues to improve as he and other employees pursue career development goals."

The Property Appraiser's office has 12 employees, six of whom have earned a certification from DOR. Two other staff members will earn their designations by the end of 2023.

Every person in the office is encouraged to continue their professional education.

Commissioners

From Front Page

their reasons: There is no way to do aboveground setbacks from an underground cave system that no legal surveyer can mark off aboveground with red flags and certify this is the edge of the cave and where the setback begins.

Numerous citizens sought to argue differently – and one point of the whole exercise in drafting the citizen ordinance was a contention that other counties had done just that: ordered a setback from karst features or caves. But Thomas pointed out those are above-ground features, not 100 feet or more underground.

Several noted the Wakulla Karst Plain Project has shared its maps with the county Planning Department and they could just be overlaid on parcels.

The issue is when a property owner challenges that, the legal resolution is for a surveyor to map out the area. But Thomas contended there

is no surveyor in the state of Florida who will certify where an underground cavern begins and ends.

But Thomas noted some of the rhetoric had become detached from reality: There is no pending application for a gas station at the corner of U.S. Highway 319 and Bloxham Cutoff. The application was withdrawn in February of last year and, while it might be re-applied for, there's nothing now.

Some of the comments turned ugly: Michael Keys said Commissioner Quincee Messersmith smirks on the dais reflected the "banality of evil" and called Commissioner Mike Kemp a liar for telling him he would vote to support Wakulla Springs.

Kemp responded that he didn't "think anybody on the board would do anything to hurt Wakulla Springs."

Messersmith had no public comment but she told The Sun after the meeting that it's the five commissioners who have the legal responsibility for the county and, she

added, "What is legal?" referring to Thomas' argument about the surveys for setbacks.

Commissioner Fred Nicholas offered no public comment, but he indicated after the meeting as Messersmith spoke that that was also his feeling.

Thomas and Hess, as they frequently do on controversial issues, spent the last minutes of the meeting debating the merits of the other's position.

Some of the final comments of citizens:

Kathleen Van Hanie said commissioners were acting "arbitrary and capricious" by failing to even make a second to Hess' motion for discussion.

"Wakulla Springs doesn't belong to the four of you (excluding Hess) – it belongs to the people," said David Damon.

Sue Damon resigned from the county Tourist Development Council in disgust.

And Anna Garner closed her comments saying: "Shocking, shocking display of government tyranny!... We are going to make your lives miserable – I will show you!"

the victim in this case at this time.

The case is still under investigation so many details cannot be released at this time, the WCSO reported.

Library News – July 20

UPCOMING EVENTS!

July 25th

Book Bunch 10am
Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST)
Royal Readers 2pm
S A Survivor Group 5pm
Animal Tales at the Community Center 7pm (Doors open at 6:45)

July 26th

Book Babies 10am
Mythical Readers 2pm

July 27th

STEAM 4pm
Friends of the Library
General Meeting 6pm

July 28th

Quilting Guild 9:30am
An Evening at Hogwarts 6pm



SAVE THE DATE!

BACKPACK/SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE-THRU DISTRIBUTIONS

Date	City	Location
July 15 th	St. Marks	Coast Charter School, 48 Shell Island Rd
July 22 nd	Panacea	Panacea Plaza, 1353 Coastal Hwy
July 29 th	Sopchoppy	City Hall, 105 Municipal Ave
August 5 th	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

Murder

From Front Page

currently being held with no bond in the Wakulla County Jail.

Due to invocation of Marsy's Law, the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office will not be releasing any information regarding

School vouchers

From Front Page

served by the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities pro-

gram, 68,379 vouchers had been provided since the beginning of the year. Through the same period last year, 55,843 vouchers had

been awarded. DeSantis in March signed a bill (HB 1) that, in part, eliminated income-eligibility requirements for families seeking vouchers.



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.”

History of Shell Point told at local potluck

By **MELISSA JAGGEARS**
Correspondent

Fried chicken, squash casserole and banana pudding were just some of the opening acts at Shell Point's monthly potluck, held on July 10. The real draw was a colorful overview of the history of Shell Point and its surrounding communities of Live Oak Island, Oyster Bay and Spring Creek.

About 90 Shell Point locals gathered in the community firehouse to share a meal and hear a 30 minute presentation by Gail Campbell, who has lived in the area since 1977. Campbell has been gathering historical information for the past few years, and is passionate about making sure that both current and future residents appreciate how Shell Point came about so that they will want to preserve its beauty and maintain its “step up” attitude.

“The folks in this community have always stepped up to the needs of the broader community. That's what makes this place so special,” Campbell said. “It means we all stand today on the shoulders of those who came before us, protecting our homes, aiding the injured, reducing insurance costs...it means the right people in the right places and at the right time who continue to be supported by this community...all of you.”

To keep the presentation brief, Campbell was able to just touch on the many points along Shell Point's timeline.

She said that more than 1,000 years ago, the land between the Aucilla River and Apalachicola River was inhabited by farming Indians known as the Apalachee tribe. Creek and Seminole Indians eventually came too. But Spanish and French and English explorers came and raids and battles ensued. The Apalachee Tribe was almost destroyed. Today, about 300 Apalachee are living today in Louisi-



ana with state and federal recognition as the Talimali Band of the Apalachee Indians of Louisiana.

“Those of us in this room and living in this place are blessed beyond measure for the opportunity to be right here, and we respectfully acknowledge the land on which we live is the unceded traditional territory of the Apalachee Natives. We are uninvited guests on this land and thankful to its caretakers...past, present and future,” Campbell said.

Fast forward to a mere century ago, Campbell said that Shell Point was an undeveloped yet popular place for camping, boating and fishing. About 3,200 acres was owned by the families of A.B. Taff of Tallahassee and I.B. Raker of Havana. The portion making up Shell Point was about 1,300 of that acreage.

Long before there was a hotel or restaurant or marina, (which there was

for many years) people would come to camp for weeks at a time. She cited a 1928 article from The Tallahassee Daily Democrat, as it was called back then: “A wonderful beach, of pure white sand and shell, brings many bathers and boaters to Shell Point in the summer,” the article stated. “In the winter, and during fishing season, many people come there for oysters and fish; the Shell Point oysters are noted for their delicious flavor...” The article also noted that people drove trucks from North Florida, Georgia and Alabama to purchase thousands of pounds of fish and oysters annually.

And so it remained a popular fishing and camping site with only modest accommodations from about 1928 to the early 1960s. A small cafe and icehouse had been built, and several barrack-style cabins were added for campers to rent.

In the early 1960s, E.C. Allen, a Tal-

lahassee man with a successful mobile home business, oversaw the building of about 114 mobile homes to create Paradise Village in Shell Point. Many of the homes in The Village in Shell Point, as it is called today, are original to the community. Many of them have withstood storm damage over the years, but some have been totally destroyed by the storms, so current codes require any new homes in The Village to be built on stilts.

Allen, who built his own home one street over from Paradise Village, was also involved in dredging the canals and making other alterations to the natural lines of Shell Point to complete his vision for the area. But a young nature activist, Jack Rudloe, warned the state even back then that the dredging would have a long-term negative impact. Oysters in the immediate area did indeed disappear over time and today, no such developments are permitted. But the sparkling new neighborhood proved attractive to those wanting to live on the water.

Other developers soon came. Ted and Thelma Gaupin bought and developed a neighborhood they named, “Island Club,” along with investors such as Dee Shriver, Barbara Slaughter, Carol Ann Williams, Linda Alexander, and the late Jim Esner, all of whom were or still are realtors. Lots of homes were built and lots of lots were sold.

Also during this time, the Taff family, led now by George Taff Sr., oversaw the building of Shell Point Marina, Hotel & Restaurant. The popular facilities were well used over the years but fell into disrepair after the death of Taff years later.

By the end of the year of 2000, all three businesses shut down as the heirs decided how best to liquidate what was left.

The James Spear family of Spring Creek is recorded as the oldest family

Turn to Page 5

LETTERS FROM READERS

Welcome, new reporter, to the Sun

Editor, The Sun:

A new reporter? That's great news! He's attending two schools and is now a reporter also. Sounds like a very talented and energetic young man to me. Looking forward to more local news in the SUN.

Thanks, Bill Snowden, for giving him this opportunity. Please pass my good wishes on to Legion Taylor.

Kitty Culkin
Crawfordville

You shot my dog

Editor, The Sun:

His Name was WOO. He was a rescue. A loving and the most happiest dog I have ever owned You Shot my dog on Monday July 10. YOU shot him in the stomach. A fatal wound that took hours of suffering before the vet eased his pain and suffering while looking into the eyes of my wife as he expired. YOU are responsible for this Cruel act. I live in Indian Summer in Sopchoppy. This is a one way in and out subdivision. Everyother house has a dog or two out in the yard free to run and play. YOU shot my dog. I put up a sign and called YOU out and YOU (like a COWARD) in the middle of the night took it down. YOU are a COWARD! Turn yourself in COWARD! The Sheriff office is investigating YOU. They have already been by to see YOU. They will be back to see YOU. Turn yourself in COWARD. I am disabled, my wife has breast cancer so extra money we do not have. Next month and month after month, I will



get a Reminder of the Cruel Action of YOU. About a thousand dollar bill for the CRUEL Crime YOU committed to my loving and very sweet family member. YOU took him from us. YOU took his life. YOU should Turn yourself in COWARD. We are devastated by YOU. YOU must be proud. YOU will be found! My neighbors should be on the lookout for YOU. Their dogs might be next. Angry and Missing my dog. YOU are Animal Cruelty. YOU.

Woo's Loving Family
Sopchoppy

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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"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: If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?



SHARI EVANS
RETIRED SCHOOLTEACHER

Glacier
National
Park.”



DAVID SPEARS
SPEARS ENGINES AND TIRES

“Nowhere.
Perfect right
here.”



JORDAN HOLLAND
SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER

No idea.”



PATRICK GRILLO
RETIRED CARPENTER

“I’m happy
where I’m at.”



TONY WINTON
OWNER OF
WINTON'S POOL SERVICE

Ireland.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

Hoping everyone is managing to enjoy summer, despite toe-puckering puddles and the weather providing steam rooms everywhere real competition. WHEW! At least the torrential downpours help to bring the temperature down to bearable levels.

We have been enjoying our grandkids the past few weeks, and can hardly believe school starts in less than a month. F.R.E.S.H. continues to collect money, backpacks and supplies to make sure every student can have a fresh start for the school year. You may spot the yellow school bus waiting to be filled, and every little bit counts. Please consider buying a little extra to donate while shopping for

school supply sales.

As old as I am, I still remember the excitement of going to school that first day. Everyone had new shoes, maybe some new clothes, even new underwear. My brother, all our friends, and I always had new three ring notebooks filled with lined three-holed notebook paper, pencils (only No. 2s!), brand new box of Crayola crayons, a pencil sharpener, pink eraser, and Elmer's Glue (all in a zippered case that fit in the notebook). It didn't take long for the new to wear off, but it always felt like a brand new beginning. Some things never change...

Right now I am planning a trip to New Jersey this fall, to celebrate our 50th class reunion for Middle Township High School. It hardly seems

possible it has been 50 years. I clearly remember babysitting for Mr. and Mrs. Rose so they could attend their TEN year reunion, and that seemed impossibly old (I was 16). They had graduated in 1961, and laughed at my astonishment. I am quite certain they didn't feel old AT ALL.

No matter how many times we tell the young that time is fleeting, no matter how much they recognize the reality of that, they will wake up one day and wonder just where the heck the time has gone. The best any of us can do (and it really ISN'T enough) is stay present as much as possible. Relish the moment. For heaven's sake, put down the dadgum pocket phone and focus on the world around you. That text can wait, you won't miss anything important, and you won't regret it. Words from an old codger.

The Crawfordville United Methodist Church held Vacation Bible School last week. The participants gave a performance at Sunday service, and it was such a joy to see all those little kids singing songs they learned. Our granddaughter Harper was one of them, and Ed and I were so proud of her!

Your continued prayers for so many of our friends and neighbors is much appreciated. Please keep little Sebastian Mosely in your prayers, as he continues to grow stronger in hopes of leaving Shands to go home for the first time ever. I am feeling a great need to pray for our fellow citizens across our land, as they cope with floods, fires and all manner of natural disasters. We have all been there at one time or another; if you are a praying believer you know how prayer makes a difference!

Buckhorn News

By **ETHEL SKIPPER**

When we give our life to Christ, we live not merely saved or rescued from sin and death, we are changed.

When one accepts Christ as their Lord and Savior, it is a new life.

Our lives are to be different from what they would have been with-

out Christ. Christian conversion involves turning over our lives to God. (Romans 12:2) Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that is good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

God's will for us is that we love God and love others as a true gauge

of spiritual maturity. Let us grow in love for each other.

God commendeth His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Skipper Temple Church invites you to fellowship with us on Sunday, July 23 at 11 a.m. Guest speaker will be Pastor Henry J. Simmons from Columbia, South Carolina. Singing will be by the daughters

of the late Bishop Joseph E. Rosier. 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. Let us pray one for the other.

Shell Point

From **Opinion Page**

in Wakulla County, dating back to 1860. It was the spot of the very popular Spring Creek Restaurant, owned and run by the Leo Lovel family. Attracting customers from all over, three people could, in 1978, enjoy a mullet dinner with all the trimmings plus a huge salad to share, for only \$10. After weathering several storms over the years, the beloved restaurant closed after Hurricane Michael hit hard in 2018.

When Live Oak Island began being developed in in the 1970s, Campbell and her husband, Jody, bought one lot on the island and were told that they would have to build their new home on stilts. “We thought that was crazy, and appealed it,” smiled Campbell. They lost the appeal. But that loss helped them “win” against Hurricane Kate in

1985. The storm wrecked much of the island, but their house was spared, due to those stilts that they thought were crazy. Years later, at least two more large hurricanes would come and leave their mark on all of Shell Point.

In 1976, The community formed a volunteer fire department. Up until this point, a vintage Navy surplus truck, with a 200 gallon water tank, served as the fire truck. But the volunteers felt that a true firetruck and an actual firehouse were needed. People stepped up and held fund raisers and were able to purchase a newer truck and build a new building The firehouse is still in use today and also serves as a frequently used community meeting center. Plans are in the works, however, for a more modern fire station to be built further up the road in the near future.

In 1979, a group of residents came together to establish the Seafarer's Chapel. The small group congregated every Sunday in a block building on the beach.

A new building, on stilts, was built in 1994-95 to house both the Seafarer's Chapel and a U.S. Coast Guard office. Much of the work on this building was contributed by local builder Galveston Alexander, and his wife, Linda, who wanted to build the chapel in memory of their son, Robbie, who had died in a car accident at that time. Alexander's crew spent many hours building it. Many more people contributed their time by raising money to fund the project, especially John Edrington and Bob Morgan, who spearheaded the effort.

Campbell said so many people pitched into help. “The point of this part of the story is that no matter what this community needed, there was step up. Painting, nailing nails, loading block, unloading building materials, planting, cleaning, selling fish fry dinner tickets, selling cards, all donating to the cause.”

The Shell Point pattern of stepping is clear. Whether the close community has needed a place to worship, a new firehouse and truck, or funds to clean

up and make repairs after a brutal storm, people found ways to put their money together a few dollars at a time.

“So where did the money come from all this? From us, all of us in this room, and from those who've gone on before us. Bingo, small and big garage sales, fish fries, raffles, donations of boats and tractors, T-shirt sales, festivals, tournaments, donations by restaurants, engraved bricks, a Miss Shell Point contest, and other fun events.”

Neighbors stepping up for a cause, and having fun doing it together.

Campbell concluded with a heartfelt prayer. “Thank you, Lord, for the Gulf in our front yard, the federal lands in our back yard, the one road in and the one road out, and for the gift of being able to live here at all. Give us the strength to endure the hardships of living life in a risk zone, and the wisdom to protect this land and its waters for all of us who follow.

“Collectively, that's our job.”

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Outdoors

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HOME ON THE RANGE

Break out the nail polish



By MARJ LAW

I bet a lot of our readers, guys and gals alike, have more than one 9mm semiautomatic handgun.

Or more than one .380. More than one .45.

My question is: Do you ever put them together in a gun pouch that is capable of holding two guns? Does this same pouch hold many magazines?

So, do you ever wonder if you've picked up the correct magazine for your gun?

Most people I know put their magazines in their guns with a gentle pop. Sometimes a firmer push is needed. If you're putting the wrong magazine in there, pushing it in may jam the mag in the grip.

Say perhaps the magazine does seat all the way in the grip. If it's not the right one, the rounds will likely have problems feeding. Also, if it's not the correct one, the magazine might not latch, and it will slide right back out of the grip!

You gotta know which magazine goes with which gun.

Some guns have swappable magazines.

Take the Heckler and Koch P30L, the VP9 and the VP9 Match guns for example. The P30L is a hammer-fired gun, while the VP9 and VP9 Match are all striker-fired guns. Put these in the same gun case, and what do

you know? They all can swap their magazines!

Another example is the Glock 17 and the Glock 19. The Glock 17's magazines will fit into the Glock 19. However, the Glock 19's cannot go into the 17 because the 19 has a much shorter magazine.

When you carry two handguns in the same gun pouch, how do you find the right magazines for each? You're at the gun range and you're ready to get in some practice. This is not the time to be fiddling around, trying to discover the proper mag.

Many magazines have imprints of the gun logo on their base plates. A Glock, for example, has a big G. Smith & Wesson has an S&W, often with the caliber listed on it.

Some don't have any logo or lettering.

And they can be difficult to see. After all, you get a black imprint on a black background. That's pretty hard to see.

This is where breaking out the nail polish comes in handy.

Joe's favorite nail polish is French White and sometimes he has used neon orange. He likes the neon orange to brighten up front sights, which can also be dark.

Putting nail polish in the grooves of a logo takes a little finesse.

First, make sure you're working on a surface that can't be damaged by nail polish remover. My counter top is Corian. It isn't harmed by polish remover.

Don't try this on your dining room table, even if you cover the end of the table with cardboard and a shower curtain liner. Trust me. (sigh)

First, make sure you have French White and not just white. White nail polish tends to be translucent, and doesn't show

up very well. French White is almost opaque. Roll the bottle between your hands so the polish is mixed.

Before you start, cut up some soft cotton pieces of T-shirt fabric. Preferably from an old well-worn lintless shirt. I like small squares: about 3 inches by 3 inches. Make several of these pieces. If you don't use them all now, you can save them for next time.

Tempted to use a paper towel? Don't do it. You need the smoothness of the cloth so the design or impressions of a paper towel don't wipe out the detail you want to enhance.

You'll need to have a bottle of nail polish remover, or acetone in front of you too.

Unscrew the top of the nail polish and the nail polish remover so they are ready when you are.

I usually take the magazine in my left hand (being right-handed) with the base plate facing me.

Next, using my right hand, I dip into the polish. At this point, you don't have to be fussy. Smear the polish over and beyond the area you want to enhance. Make sure it gets in all the lettering and logo grooves.

You don't have to wait for the polish to settle any longer than this. Take one of the clean pieces of T-shirt fabric and wipe over the polish. You'll see the logo, but there will be a white haze around it.

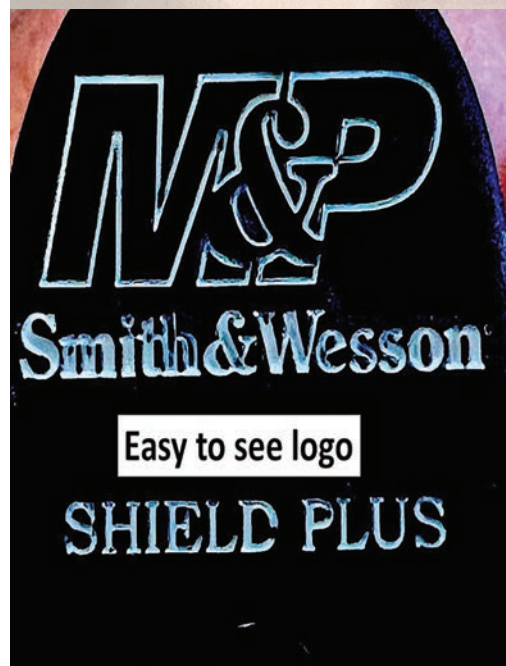
Are you thinking it will appear more distinct without the haze?

That's what the nail polish remover is for.

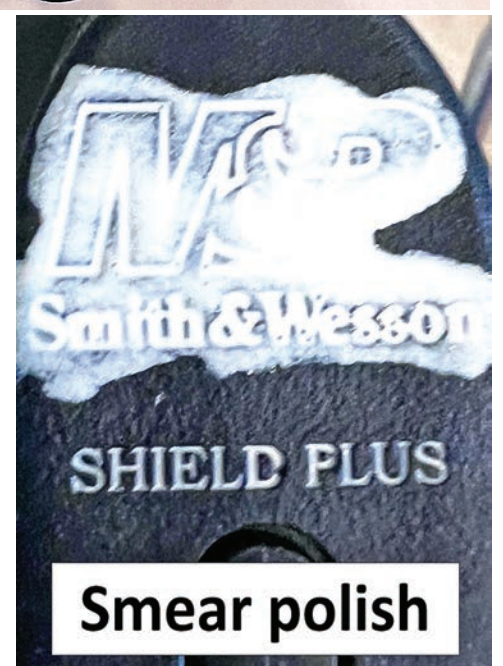
Hold another piece of fabric against your index finger and, with your finger tightly pressed against the opening of the polish remover bottle, turn the bottle almost upside-down. This will



French White Polish, T-shirt Fabric, & Nail Polish Remover



Easy to see logo



Smear polish



Haze

Presto! Highlighting your magazine bases will help to ensure that you will place the correct magazine into the correct handgun.

You can use any color you like, so long as it is quite opaque. I prefer white to neon orange or any other color because it makes good contrast and is easy to see.

Nail polish isn't just for nails anymore.

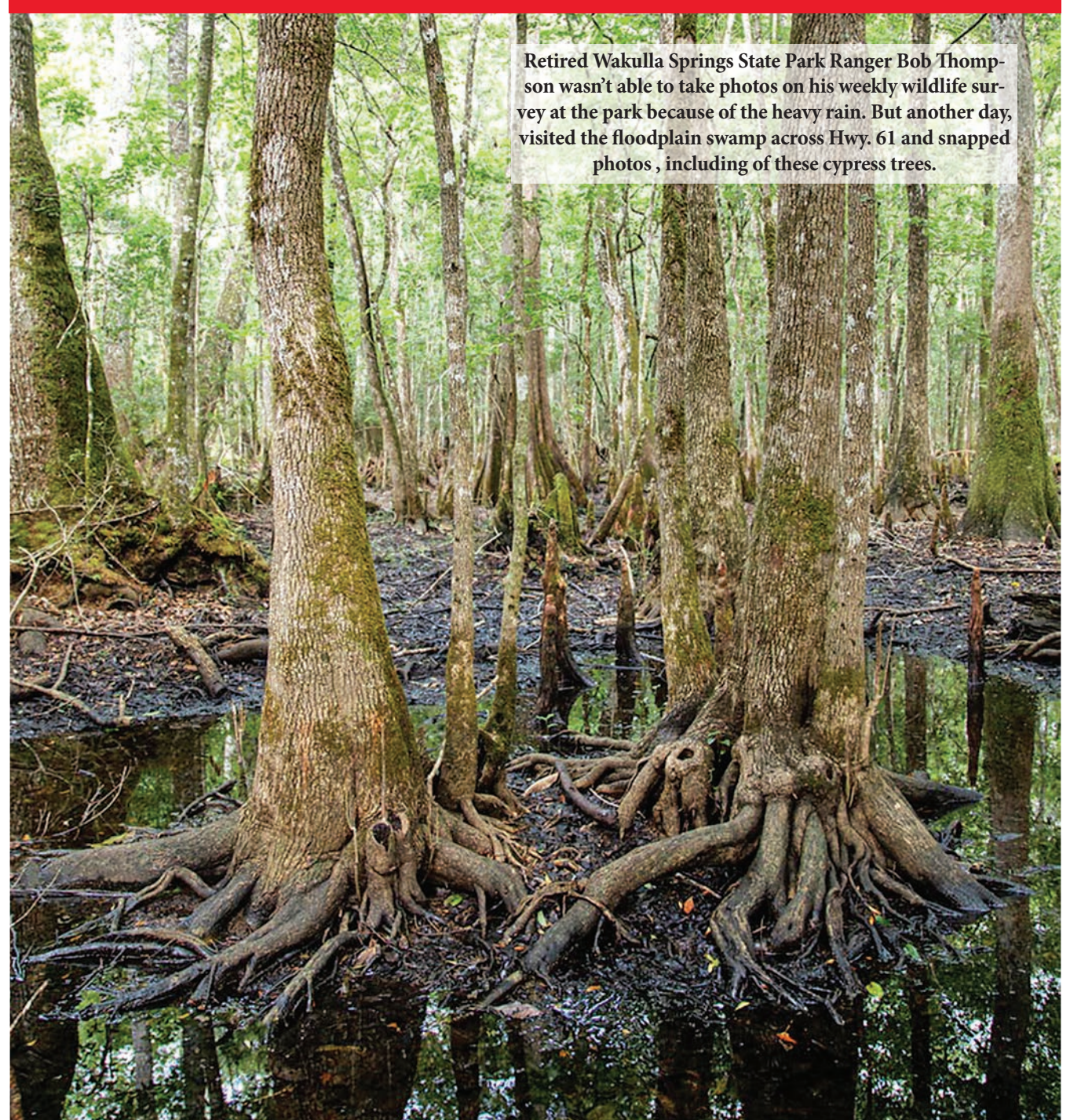
Marj Law is the former director of Keep Wakulla County Beautiful who has become an avid shooter in retirement.

saturate the cotton on your finger.

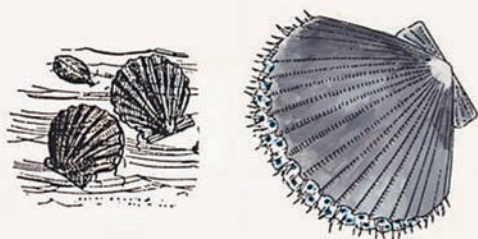
Wipe off the haze. Do not push hard onto the

base plate because you don't want to take away the polish that has settled into the logo.

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO



Retired Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger Bob Thompson wasn't able to take photos on his weekly wildlife survey at the park because of the heavy rain. But another day, visited the floodplain swamp across Hwy. 61 and snapped photos, including of these cypress trees.



COMMON BAY SCALLOP
(*Aequipecten irradians*)

This hermaphrodite 1-3" scallop lives a precarious life of 1-2 years spawning only once in early summer. They will often die in great numbers if some catastrophe, such as a red tide, hits and take years for their population to recover in a specific bay. Even so, scallops are widely distributed around the Atlantic coast. Harvesting of scallops is worth million of dollars annually. The scallops filter water to catch and eat tiny organisms and have highly variable shell colors.

Eukarya, Animalia, Mollusca, Bivalvia, Ostreoida, Pectinidae



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a peek into life on and under the water

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Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

July 20 - July 26



Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month July 17-31 Aug. 1st, 16-30

Table with tide information for Thursday 20, Friday 21, Saturday 22, Sunday 23, Monday 24, Tuesday 25, Wednesday 26. Columns include Sun rise/set, Moon rise/set, and Moon Illumination.

For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings: Carrabelle, Apalachicola, Cat Point, Lower Anchorage, West Pass. High Tide, Low Tide.

St. Marks River Entrance tide table with columns for Th, Fr, Sa, Su, Mo, Tu, We and times for 5:01 am, 10:16 am, 4:06 pm, 11:03 pm.

City of St. Marks tide table with columns for Th, Fr, Sa, Su, Mo, Tu, We and times for 5:37 am, 11:20 am, 4:42 pm, 11:58 pm.

Shell Point, Spring Creek tide table with columns for Th, Fr, Sa, Su, Mo, Tu, We and times for 5:19 am, 10:25 am, 4:16 pm, 11:27 pm.

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay tide table with columns for Th, Fr, Sa, Su, Mo, Tu, We and times for 4:53 am, 10:27 am, 3:58 pm, 11:14 pm.

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt. tide table with columns for Th, Fr, Sa, Su, Mo, Tu, We and times for 5:19 am, 10:11 am, 3:59 pm, 11:08 pm.

Dog Island West End tide table with columns for Th, Fr, Sa, Su, Mo, Tu, We and times for 5:51 am, 10:24 am, 4:04 pm, 11:20 pm.

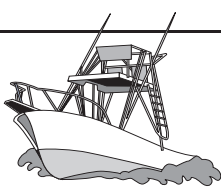
Summary table for Thursday 20 through Wednesday 26, showing Minor Times and Major Times for each day.

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



Thanks to Joe Story and Wade Olson for the images!

This past weekend, Flotilla 12 had our monthly meeting. Members relaxed and enjoyed fellowship while covering necessary business and engaging in member training.

This month, Bob Asztalos went over the mustang suits and had members practice putting the suit on properly.

Mustang Survival flotation suits are designed to protect the wearer from foul or cold weather, and use closed-cell foam to offer flotation and hypothermia protection in the event of water immersion.

Boating Emergencies table listing Coast Guard Station Panama City (850) 234-4228, Coast Guard Station Yankeetown (352) 447-6900, and Coast Guard Auxiliary Apalachee Bay (850) 942-7500.



Practice putting on a mustang suit.

is at or below 59* F. To the unprotected person, water at this temperature or colder is painful

upon entry. Protective equipment will enhance your time to be rescued and survive in cold water.

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

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

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

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

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

Empire Mica A

Hello Wakulla

I hope everyone had a great 4th of July. Today I want to tell you about my recent dive trip on the Empire Mica. Here's a little recap of the ship. She was the only ship during World War II that was sunk in the Gulf of Mexico by a German submarine just 20 miles off Cape San Blas and she sits on the sandy bottom in about 110-115 feet of water depending on the tide.

She was hit with two torpedoes on June 29, 1942, she was carrying a full load of petroleum distillate for England.

The dive: we got to the dive boat at 7 a.m. central time and loaded our gear and tanks. Before the captains briefing we set up our dive gear and tested it for any leaks in the system. We stowed our gear bags under the bench seats we sat on, then we listen to the briefing from the captain. When he had finished we got ready for the three hour voyage to the wreck. They had snacks, breakfast muffins and lots of bottled water for the trip. The key for a successful dive is hydrate a lot.

After the ride to the site the captain let the anchor chain down on the port side of the Mica. We geared up and stepped off into the warm water.

I followed the anchor chain down until I could see the massive wreck lying dormant on the sandy bottom. My dive buddy and I let go of the chain and headed toward the stern of the ship. The first sight we see is the massive boilers that were the heart of the powerful motors. The ship is about 465 feet in length and 61 feet wide. The boilers about 30 feet in diameter and 20 feet long.

There was a resident Goliath grouper and he was at least 900-1000lbs, it was the biggest one I have seen. We worked our way back to the stern of the ship and noticed there was about a 4-5 knot current flowing from bow to stern.

We had to use the parts of the ship to pull back to the spot that we started the dive. I looked at my computer and it was getting time to start our ascent back to our safety stop.

I had gone down to 111 feet and there about 25 minutes which put me into a slight deco so instead of 3 minutes at my stop it was 5 minutes. We got back safely on the boat just in time for lunch that they provided. I don't have much more room in this article so I'll continue part 2 next week.

- Russell Miller, NAUI instructor #59999

FWC Law Enforcement Report

From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled June 23-29 in the Northwest region. (There were no cases reported for Wakulla County.)

BAY COUNTY

Officers T. Basord and Palmer were on patrol in St Andrews State Park at the boat ramp. While conducting a boating safety and resource inspection on a vessel that had returned to the ramp,

they found the occupants were over the bag limit of red snapper. They also discovered all the occupants were under the age of 21 and had alcohol on board. Other violations included no valid saltwater fishing licenses, insufficient number of personal flotation devices, and registration violations. Several citations and warnings were issued to the vessel occupants.

boating safety and resource inspections when he observed a vessel with four people return to the boat ramp. During the inspection, he found they were in possession of over the bag limit of red snapper. The appropriate individual was cited for the violation.

SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Officer Lewis was patrolling in the Blackwater State Forest when he encountered a camper he had spoken

GULF COUNTY

Officer Gerber was on patrol conducting

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There are no second chances in eternity



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Which scares you more: a pending natural disaster or the thought of spending eternity in hell?

On the surface, this question can appear

harsh and uncaring, especially when we consider the huge financial and emotional losses brought about by the recent flooding in several sections of our country. People have lost their homes, businesses, and sometimes their lives.

So I'm asking you to believe I'm not minimizing these true losses and to trust the sincere intent of my question. Which scares you more: a looming hurricane, fire or earthquake, or the thought of spending eternity in hell? In other words, do you worry more about what could

happen in the event of a natural disaster – or what eternity will be like for you?

Maybe you don't take either seriously. I've heard about people having hurricane parties, mocking the imminent danger coming their way. Much like people who mock the imminent horror of hell by bragging about the huge party they'll have there.

While it's possible to survive a hurricane, there's no second chance once you've entered eternity (time without end).

With this in mind,

why do people treat hell so casually, even after considering Jesus' description of hell in Matthew 13:42 (KJV)? He described it as "a furnace of fire" where "there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." We've heard people relate the high temperatures they're experiencing this summer to how hot hell would be. I assure you there's no comparison.

In hell, they'll wish they could pray to the very God they rejected – the God Who gave His Son to die for them (John 3:16). They'll long

to ask him to rescue them from "the party" they've chosen to attend. As bad as the worst hurricane is, it can't compare to the desolation of spending all eternity without joy, without love – or without the hope of things ever getting better.

In plain English, once a person is in hell, they're there forever. Permanently.

But the good news is, no one has to go there. Going to hell is a choice. An individual choice. God finds no pleasure when someone ends up in a place of

torment and isolation. Jesus loves us so much He died for us – so we could spend "time without end" with Him and experience unbelievable joy. The kind of joy we don't want to miss out on.

The kind of joy that beats anything a hurricane party could offer.

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.

Faith, hope and love



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

I marvel at how simple life seemed during my youth. Mom worked full-time and cared for five school-aged children with extracurricular activities. Dad worked full-time at a local sawmill.

Also adding to his schedule was a part-time job at another mill in town. Repairs and yard work were his responsibilities around the home. These tasks

must have carried the weight of their time. However, they still managed to create a family life of togetherness and outdoor activities. Looking back, I know it must have sometimes seemed chaotic for them, yet our lives flowed with a rhythm of laughter and great joy.

Fast forward to today, I was privileged to raise four exceptional children who are now successful individuals with their own families. Their growing years were filled with school, sports, social events, and life. I often think of the chaos of those days trying to balance a schedule and wondering how I ever made it work. When speaking with my now adult children, they look

back, only remembering a rhythm of laughter and great joy.

A third generation of children is now being raised. And the question has risen, "Mom, how did you and Dad balance everything?" They are in the middle of a busy life of family, work, school, and extracurricular activities. The cycle continues while watching their young ones grow.

My only words of wisdom are to enjoy the moments now and find the love that will carry them through the years. Life will find a balance of good over evil when God is honored.

Ecclesiastes 3 speaks of a balancing of life. There is a time for every activity under the heavens.

Planting is balanced with the harvest, life with death, weeping with laughter, mourning with dancing, and so on. Though, I must admit there are days when the scales are tipped a little on the troubled side. When those days come, I try to remember that my faith is not by sight or feelings but by the knowledge that God has never left nor forsaken me.

The scripture encourages us to remember that we are God's people, chosen and set aside. When God divided the world, He gave the nations an angel to guard over them. However, He protected Israel (Deuteronomy 32:7-9), and today, He remains the watchful eye over

those who have hope in Him. Knowing this helps to smooth the edges of life when our days seem out of balance. I am not sure where I would be in the chaotic state of this world if my hope were not set in God.

Mostly, I have found this balance in life. That is not to say that tomorrow will not have its trials, for problems come to us all. Honestly, I am sure there were days when my parents struggled to maintain a home of happy children without the regular fights of growing up. I don't remember the hard times of raising children or the hectic schedules. I only remember the joy and laughter of those days. I know that one day, this same pattern will fall on

the lives of the generation I raised and their children.

In time, we will all discover that the key to life and its balance is this; That our lives are weighed with faith and hope and that we allow love to become the scale on which we are measured. In doing this, we will find healing in our yesterday and hope in our future.

1 Corinthians 13:13 And now these three remain faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.

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

OUT TO PASTOR

Our summer vacation jamboree



By **JAMES SNYDER**

After months and months of planning, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage finalized our vacation plans for the summer.

Because of our busy lifestyle, something like this cannot be done with just a snap of a finger, especially since the great-granddaughter invaded our family circle. If my wife does not see her every day, something is wrong. It took her a long time to plan a whole week, so she would not have to see the great-granddaughter.

The time, however, had come, and we were on our way to a well-deserved vacation in St. Augustine.

I remembered why we were here on our first day in St. Augustine. Silly me, I thought it was vacation time, but then I remembered we were at the capital of thrift store shops.

In the middle of their conversation, a customer approached the manager and asked if they had a certain item and where she could find it.

Before the manager could answer, The Gra-

acious Mistress of the Parsonage spoke up and said, "That product is down the aisle there, and turn left at the fourth aisle. You will find it on the top of the shelf."

She thanked her and walked off after the product. The manager looked at my wife and asked, "How did you know where to find that product?"

"I saw it the last time I was here," my wife replied. Being one of the managers, she offered my wife a job. Fortunately for me, she did not take the job.

It's something when my wife knows where things are in the shop more than the shop manager.

We visited a few thrift stores during the days that we were there. One day my wife asked if I wanted to go to the shopping mall with her. It's been a long time since I was at a shop-

ping mall, so I agreed to accompany her. As we arrived at the shopping mall I looked at my wife and said, "You do remember our rule for going into a shopping mall, don't you?"

She nodded, took my hand, and we walked into the shopping mall together.

We walked around for almost an hour, and then two older ladies approached us, smiled, and said, "That is so sweet. Both of you at your age are holding hands as you walk around the mall."

I smiled and replied, "If I let go of her hand, she will go off shopping, and I will not be able to find her for hours." The ladies looked at me, smiled and then kept walking.

Towards the end of the week, something happened that I totally wasn't expecting and it could change my life.

The toilet in our bathroom was jammed, and it

couldn't be flushed.

My wife went down to the main office and got a plunger. She worked and worked at it, but could not get the toilet to flush.

I'm not sure what came over me, but I walked in and said, "Do you want me to try?"

She gave me the plunger, and without much thought, I started plunging away, and within a few minutes, the toilet was working. At first, I smiled, then I realized what had just happened.

My wife has a reputation for fixing everything and anything. In contrast, I have a reputation for not being able to fix anything. I've enjoyed that reputation, and it has a lot of benefits. But now, I fixed something that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage could not fix. My reputation is ruined.

As we were driving home in The Gracious

Mistress of the Parsonage's sissy van, she looked at me and said, "That was a wonderful vacation, wasn't it?" I just smiled.

A verse of Scripture came to my mind as we were driving.

Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

It's God's word that really makes a difference in my life. The Bible is absolutely true to God's heart and will.

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.

Sopchoppy United Methodist Church

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Obituaries

DEATH NOTICES

• **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

• **Cecilia Ann Smith**, 65, of Crawfordville, died July 12, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

BEREAVEMENT COLUMN

Motivational insults and guy humor



By **TRACY RENEE LEE**

My brother recently lost his wife and, immediately following her death, had to prepare for emergent open heart surgery. My brother lives alone.

Recovery from open heart surgery requires a caregiver; someone to dispense medicines correctly while the patient is on narcotic prescriptions, to prepare, serve, and clean up after meals, and someone to tidy up the house, grocery shop, do the laundry, and sustain the life of the patient during convalescence. For my brother, that person is me.

My husband and my

brother have always been great friends. When it came time for someone to take my brother to the hospital, my husband was the obvious person for the job. My husband is a retired US Navy Hovercraft Pilot with unwavering bravery and nerves of steel. He charts his course and remains loyal to it until success has been obtained.

My husband received a phone call from a hospital in Georgia the evening before my brother's surgery. His brother had been admitted into the hospital on the east coast for severe conditions. Because of my husband's dedication and loyalty to my brother, he would not leave his commitment to stay with him as he underwent his risky surgery. He felt that doing so would cause too much stress to my brother and could risk his success. My husband would not leave for Georgia until my brother was safely re-

leased from the hospital and brought to our home for recovery.

My husband woke up early on the morning of my brother's surgery, drove to my brother's home in Louisiana, and then to the hospital.

The surgeon began his procedures and then realized that my brother's heart problems were far more advanced than the test results and screenings had indicated. My brother was transferred and admitted into the Cardiac Care Unit for extensive preparations and additional surgeries.

About a week later, my brother was released from the hospital and came to our home for recovery.

As soon as my brother was home with me, my husband jumped in our car and drove straight to his brother's bedside in a Georgia hospital. They had a concise yet wonderful visit. As his brother tired, and as soon as

my husband left his side, his brother suffered a catastrophic stroke.

The death of my husband's brother meant that I had two men grieving significant losses in my home. My brother was under his doctor's orders not to grieve, but seeing my husband, his friend and brother-in-law suffering, made it nearly impossible for him not to feel compassion linking it to his own pain. This overlapping of loss mixed with surgery brought the realities of compromised health and the life-threatening realities of grief within my home very difficult to manage.

Things were going from bad to worse and were nearing catastrophic consequences for my husband. Realizing that he was no longer in control of his health and that he could not suppress the effects of grief by sheer will, he realized that he had to accept his pain rather than ignore

or suppress it.

We have had a breakthrough in our home this week. My husband and brother have supported and pushed each other beyond what they thought possible by relying upon and challenging each other emotionally, spiritually, physically, and psychologically. Their friendship and trust in God allowed them to gain control over the elements of healing. They have pushed each other to recover and realized their inner strengths through "Guy Humor" and "motivational insults."

A grief partner may very well be someone with past recovery experience who will share a road map of success with you, but there are other souls of mercy too. My brother and my husband were willing to suspend and sacrifice their own pain and suffering, to preserve the life and well-being of his friend.

Their love for each other overrode their inward focus on pain and loss and projected concern and care toward saving the other. In short, service refined their healing powers.

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: Another one bites the dust

By **RYAN DAILEY**
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Florida's insurance market was already staggering, but the beleaguered industry got hit with another haymaker this week when Farmers Insurance said it will end residential, auto and umbrella policies in the state.

Tens of thousands of customers likely will have to look elsewhere for coverage, following an ongoing trend of insurers pulling out of Florida and the ballooning of state-backed Citizens Property Insurance Corp.'s policies.

Farmers said its move will affect only Farmers-branded policies and will not affect policies sold in the state by subsidiaries Foremost and Bristol West. It indicated the Farmers-branded policies make up about 30 percent of the policies sold by the affiliated companies in Florida.

A source told The News Service of Florida that about 100,000 Farmers policies across the residential, auto and umbrella lines of business could be affected, though a breakdown by policy type was not available.

Farmers will not write new policies or renew existing policies, with the non-renewals expected to play out over several months.

"This business decision was necessary to effectively manage risk exposure. Farmers offers insurance through several different brands, and this decision applies only to policies issued through our exclusive agency distribution channel," Farmers spokesman Trevor Chapman said in a prepared statement.

Democrats wasted little time blaming Farmers' exit from the Florida market on Republican leaders' failure to ad-

dress the state's insurance troubles.

"Farmers Insurance leaving the state is a clear indication that nothing the Florida Republicans have done has solved the insurance crisis facing us," House Minority Leader Fentrice Driskell, D-Tampa, said in a statement.

House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast, however, defended measures the Republican-controlled Legislature has taken in an effort to stabilize the industry.

"We understand the unfortunate decision to withdraw from the state was not based on the impacts of bipartisan reforms in recent years taken by the Legislature or the future of the state's insurance market, but the company's financials," Renner tweeted. "While our reforms will take time to take effect, we put the right systems in place to strengthen our insurance market and provide Floridians with the access to coverage and peace of mind they need for their property."

State Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis, a Republican, accused Farmers of "virtue signaling" by leaving the state. In a statement, Patronis criticized the insurer's leaders for "playing politics" rather than "running a successful company."

Patronis said he has directed his staff members to put "their heads together" to hold the company accountable for the decision to exit the state and to determine if an investigation is warranted. He also said company officials will "get hauled before the Legislature to answer for their actions when the next legislative session begins."

SEEKING DISMISSAL

A state lawyer this week filed a motion ask-

ing the Florida Commission on Ethics to dismiss a complaint against former state Sen. Jack Latvala, more than five years after the Clearwater Republican resigned from office amid sexual-harassment allegations.

The request, filed Monday by Elizabeth Miller, an advocate for the commission, came after two women critical to the case refused to participate.

Latvala left office in 2017 after the release of a special master's report about allegations he had sexually harassed Rachel Perrin Rogers, a former high-ranking Senate aide.

Latvala, long a prominent figure in Tallahassee who served as the powerful Senate appropriations chairman before his resignation, denied wrongdoing with the Senate aide but admitted he had an extramarital affair with former lobbyist Laura McLeod.

After receiving a complaint, the ethics commission in January 2018 launched a probe into the allegations. The commission last year rejected a proposed settlement and referred the case to the Division of Administrative Hearings.

But Miller on June 30 asked an administrative law judge to drop the case against Latvala because Perrin Rogers and McLeod had refused to participate in the inquiry. Miller's request was granted, and the Division of Administrative Hear-

ings case was closed, sending the issue back to the ethics commission.

In Monday's motion, Miller echoed to the commission some of the same reasons she cited when asking the administrative law judge to drop the case.

"After Ms. Perrin Rogers failed to appear for two depositions, while under subpoena, it became apparent that she does not wish to participate in the proceedings," Miller wrote. McLeod's "reluctance to testify was made known" early in the commission's investigation, she added.

The Senate in 2021 reached a \$900,000 settlement with Perrin Rogers, a former chief legislative aide for then-Senate majority leader Wilton Simpson. Perrin Rogers said she faced discrimination and retaliation after filing the complaint against Latvala.

PLEASE HOLD

Florida Atlantic University's search for a new president will remain suspended as an investigation gets underway, State University System Chancellor Ray Rodrigues informed school officials this week.

Rodrigues said in a letter Tuesday that Julie Leftheris, inspector general for the university system's Board of Governors, will lead the investigation into what the chancellor called "anomalies" in the

search.

Rodrigues last week directed FAU to put its search on hold, after the school's Presidential Search Committee selected three finalists for the post.

The chancellor alleged that at least one candidate had been asked questions about their sexuality and preferred pronouns. Rodrigues also said that the search committee participated in a "straw poll" during a meeting in which members ranked their preferred candidates.

The meeting, which was not open to the public, was not recorded and as a result may have violated a state law, according to Rodrigues.

Brad Levine, chairman of the FAU search committee, has disputed the allegation that the search process was conducted improperly and asked Rodrigues to allow the search to resume.

But Rodrigues in his letter, which an FAU spokeswoman said was received by the school Wednesday, denied the

request and said the "search process will remain suspended until the conclusion of our investigation."

The suspension of the search has fueled speculation that state Rep. Randy Fine, R-Brevard County, was in the running for the post. Fine, an ally of Gov. Ron DeSantis, was not among the three finalists put forward by the school last week.

STORY OF THE WEEK: The Florida insurance market took a hit Tuesday, as Farmers Insurance said it will end residential, auto and umbrella policies in the state, forcing tens of thousands of customers to look elsewhere for coverage.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "The only time your office has held an insurance company accountable is when you're looking to collect a campaign check." — State Rep. Hillary Cassel, D-Dania Beach, in response to a Twitter post by state CFO Jimmy Patronis.

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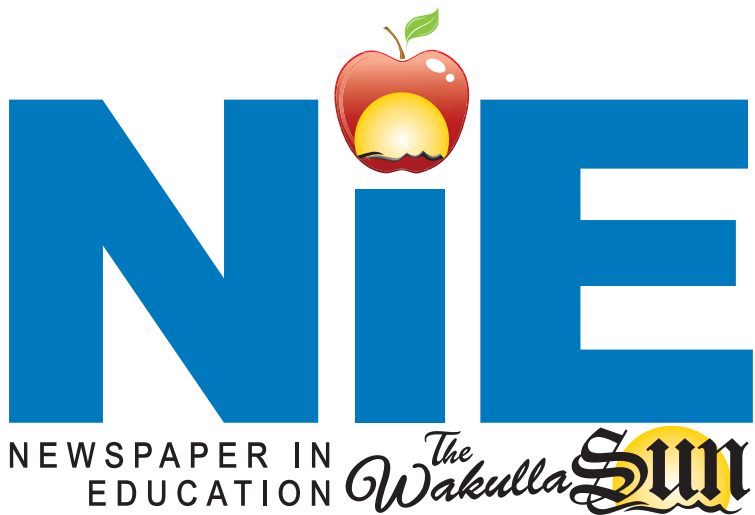
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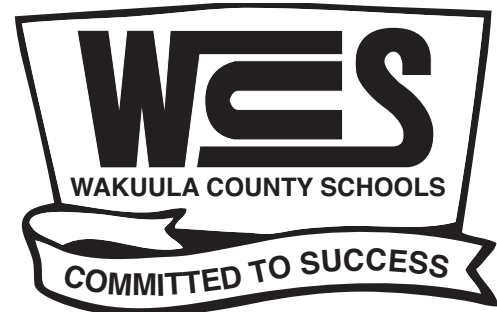
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USE THE NEWS

1. OTTER SEARCH

Local officials are searching for a sea otter in California who has stolen surfboards from surfers the past few summers. The five-year-old southern sea otter is no longer afraid of humans, but instead swims up and jumps onto surf and paddle-boards, sometimes damaging them by taking bites out of the hard material. There are only about 3,000 southern sea otters left along the central California coast and officials want to make people aware that they shouldn't feed or approach wild otters. Why might it be bad for an otter or other wild animals to be fed by humans? Write down your ideas and share them with your classmates.

the players, rather than the teams they play for. While the women's teams are still earning far less than the men's tournament, a portion of the prize money will go directly to the players. Write your own story summarizing the women's teams' accomplishment in getting better pay.

4. EARLY AMERICANS

New evidence shows that humans may have lived in the Americas earlier than previously thought. Artifacts made from the bones of giant sloths, an extinct mammal that stood at least 10 feet tall, indicate that human beings migrated from Africa to South America thousands of years earlier than scientists thought. The artifacts were stud-

ied to see if they had been carved from bones thousands of years after the giant sloths went extinct, but the results showed that the work to turn the bones into personal objects like jewelry were done just days to years after the animal had died, which meant humans and giant sloths lived in South America at the same time. Draw a picture of

what you think giant sloths would have looked like compared to ancient humans.

5. ON STRIKE

Writers and actors in Hollywood are now on strike against studios and streaming services like Disney, Universal, Netflix, and Amazon. More than 170,000 workers are trying to negotiate their con-

tracts to keep jobs from being replaced with Artificial Intelligence technology, as well as higher pay for background actors, stand-ins, and other groups of actor who aren't always in the spotlight. Write a paragraph about how you think television shows and movies could be affected if actors and writers refuse to work until a new contract is reached.



Crossword Puzzle

1		2					3
4							
			5				
6			7				
8							

ACROSS

- Happens irregularly
- More than one
- Type of fruit
- Things in a straight line
- Moving through water

DOWN

- Hot season
- Liquid used for fuel or lubricant
- Shouting for joy
- Total from adding two numbers

Answers:
 Across: 1. Sporadic 4. Multiple 5. Pear 6. Row 8. Swimming
 Down: 1. Summer 2. Oil 3. Cheering 7. Sum

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1903: THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY SHIPS ITS FIRST AUTOMOBILE.
- 1940: DENMARK LEAVES THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
- 1997: TO CELEBRATE ITS 200TH BIRTHDAY, THE FULLY RESTORED USS CONSTITUTION GETS SAIL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 116 YEARS.

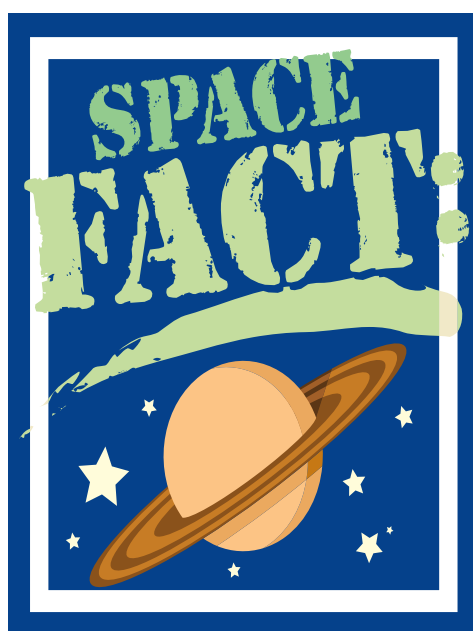


HUMID

high levels of water vapor in the atmosphere

2. MOON MISSION

India has launched a rocket carrying a robotic lander and rover aimed at landing on the moon August 23 or 24. The country's last robotic space mission crashed on the moon's surface four years ago, but the new version is simpler and better suited to landing on the moon's surface. India plans to send astronauts to the International Space Station with the United States next year. Write a short summary of the story of India's recent space launch and create your own illustration.



THE PHRASE "THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER" REFERS TO A STAR KNOWN AS "THE DOG STAR" THAT IS IN THE CONSTELLATION CANIS MAJOR.

ANSWER: SIRIUS

3. SOCCER PAYDAY

For the first time, all the soccer players at the Women's World Cup will be paid at least \$30,000 this year, with teams who do better in the tournament earning more. Last year, players called on FIFA, the organization in charge of the tournament, to pay them more fairly compared to the men's World Cup and for a part of the prize pool to be guaranteed to go to



ENGLISH: Summer

SPANISH: Verano

ITALIAN: Estate

FRENCH: Été

GERMAN: Sommer



SWIMMING IS AN ENTERTAINING AND EFFECTIVE WAY TO COOL DOWN ON HOT SUMMER DAYS.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SEASHELLS

COMMUNITY PAPER WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- ADVERTISEMENT
- ARTICLES
- CLASSIFIEDS
- COMMUNITY
- DELIVERY
- EDITOR
- EXPOSURE
- FEATURE
- INFORMATION
- JOURNALIST
- LEARN
- LOCAL
- NEWS
- NEWSPAPER
- ONLINE
- OPINION
- PAGES
- PRINTED
- READING
- REGIONAL
- REPORT
- RESOURCE
- SUBSCRIPTION
- TABLOID

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

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Commoner
5. Tea leaf
11. They save you a table
14. Submissions
15. Secretly revealed
18. Personification of the sea (Norse)
19. Unreal
21. No seats available
23. Bangladeshi currency
24. Leaders
28. Famed garden
29. Denotes past
30. Not living
32. Midway between south and southeast
33. Small island (British)
35. Woman (French)
36. Wife
39. Two-toed sloth
41. Blood group
42. Soaks
44. Biu-Mandara language of Cameroon
46. Japanese prefecture
47. Place to be during a rock concert

49. Fully grown humans
52. Emaciation
56. Sparkling
58. Fruits you peel
60. Derived from a noun
62. Popular items to grill
63. Port in Yemen

CLUES DOWN

1. Before
2. Actress Dunham
3. This (Spanish)
4. Director Peter
5. Dominant
6. English artists' society (abbr.)
7. NY Giants legend
8. It's in the ground
9. No No No
10. Pesky insect
12. Danish-American muckraking journalist
13. Kids love to do it
16. Good Gosh!
17. Fakes
20. A citizen of Denmark

22. Mystic syllable
25. Commercial
26. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet
27. Helpers
29. Water (French)
31. Young woman
34. Red-brown sea bream
36. Messenger ribonucleic acid
37. Comprehends
38. Walk with confidence
40. Home of the Flyers
43. Appetizer
45. News organization
48. Source of the Nile
50. A way to march
51. Soluble ribonucleic acid
53. Egyptian bull-god
54. Children's author Blyton
55. Baseball pitching stat
57. Rude young person
58. Table napkin
59. Monetary unit in Asia
61. One-time AL MVP Vaughn

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to pets.

O D V E L

--	--	--	--	--

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Guess Who?

I am a model born in Brazil on July 20, 1980. I was recruited as a model while shopping. I am an international superstar and have appeared on many magazine covers. I also was a former Victoria's Secret Angel.

Answer: Loved. Answer: Gisele Bündchen

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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

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order For Summary Administration has been applied for in the Estate of DIANE G. HARRELL, Deceased, Wakulla Circuit Probate Case No. 2023-CP-68 with the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, the address of which is Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327; that the decedent's date of death was August 13, 2022; that the estimated net value of the estate is ZERO after funeral and estate administration expenses and homestead and exempt property are removed; and that the estate is being assigned 100% to BARNEY HARRELL, JR., the decedent's surviving spouse, whose address is P.O. Box 291, Sopchoppy, FL 32358.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the decedent's estate and persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate other than those for whom provision for full payment has been made in the Order Of Summary Administration must file their claims and demands with this Court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN F.S. 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIODS. ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DEATH IS FOREVER BARRED.

DATE OF DECEDENT'S DEATH - August 13, 2022.
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE JULY 20, 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
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WELCOME

Franks brothers hold a football camp for Wakulla youth



Brothers Feleipe and Jordan Franks, left, both Wakulla War Eagles who made it to the NFL, held a free football camp on Friday, July 14, for local youths at Wakulla High School. After playing for the Cincinnati Bengals and other teams, Jordan ended his pro career with a Super Bowl ring as a member of the Kansas City Chiefs. A 5-star recruit at Wakulla, Feleipe went to Florida and then transferred to Arkansas and is now going into his third year as a quarterback for the Atlanta Falcons.



Pass running drills.

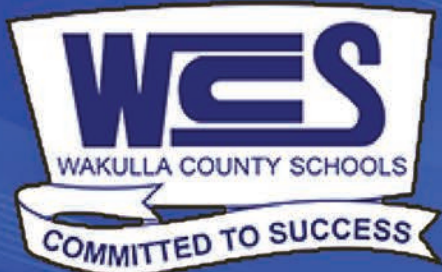


Tackling drills.



Passing drills.

PHOTOS BY KEN FIELDS



WE'RE HIRING

All vacancies are located in Wakulla County, Florida

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- High School Music Teacher
- Assistant Band Director
- Band Teacher
- Media Specialist
- Art Teacher
- Elementary Education K-6
- Secondary Teachers 6-12
- ESE Teachers
- Technology Teacher
- Elementary Music Teacher
- IT Technicians
- Custodial Staff
- Bus Drivers
- Paraprofessionals

APPLY AT: WWW.WakullaSchoolDistrict.ORG

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of July 20

Thursday, July 20

- Affordable Housing Advisory Committee 10 a.m. at the fire and rescue building on Trice Lane.
- 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 21

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

Saturday, July 22

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

Monday, July 24

- Wakulla County School Board meeting at 5:45 p.m. at the School Board Office.
- County Commission Recreation Advisory Committee at 4 p.m. at the community center.
- 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 25

- Sopchoppy community dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Wednesday, July 26

- Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group will meet at 9 a.m. at the Wakulla community center
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Christmas After Dark

July 28, 2023 6 PM - 9 PM

Benefiting
Wakulla Senior Center
33 Michael Drive, Crawfordville

Tickets Available at the door! You Don't Want to Miss This Event!

Cocktail Party Fundraiser

Christmas Themed Event

Auction ★ Raffle & Games ★ Wine Pull
Food by: The Kast Net ★ Live Music

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1 night midweek stay



Tickets: \$60
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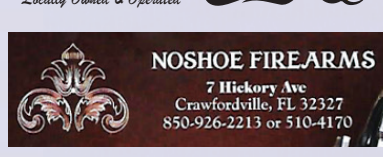


Contact:

Wakulla Senior Citizens Council 850-926-7145 for tickets or at The Wakulla Sun - 12 Arran Rd

All Proceeds Benefit Wakulla Senior Citizens

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