



See Page 14

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Hi: 82° Lo: 68° 30%	Hi: 85° Lo: 68° 24%	Hi: 86° Lo: 68° 24%
Sunrise 7:29 AM Sunset 7:27 PM	Sunrise 7:29 AM Sunset 7:25 PM	Sunrise 7:30 AM Sunset 7:24 PM



\$1
One Section

"It's a New Day"

Locally Owned & Operated

Our 2nd Year 39th Issue
Thursday, September 28, 2023

County looks at taking over St. Marks sewer

County looks at feasibility of expanding sewer into eastern Wakulla

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

With the City of St. Marks facing possible bankruptcy over the costs of maintaining the city's sewage treatment plant, Wakulla County government is looking at the possibility of expanding sewer service to the eastern part of the county – including St. Marks.

How long in the future that would be, and how much it would cost are yet to be determined.

Many St. Marks residents expressed concern about a 75% increase in sewer and water rates that saw monthly fees jump from around \$80 to \$140.

St. Marks City Manager confirmed that there have been talks between the city and county, and said the county taking

over sewer would be the best thing.

Wakulla County Administrator David Edwards said the county wouldn't take over the city's sewer system, but would abandon the plant and put in lift stations to pump the sewage north.

Edwards anticipated the county could buy the N.G. Wade-owned treatment plant at Opportunity Park, just south of Woodville.

The idea is also take in River Plantation's treatment plant and have a force main move the sewage to Opportunity Park.

The timing on this "depends on the funding," Edwards said.

The county has applied for state grants and resiliency funding – the latter because the city's treatment plant is on the St. Marks River and any



County Administrator David Edwards

climate change and sea level rise could potentially inundate the plant.

Edwards said the county had pitched the idea of an eastern sewer system to the state Department of Environmental Protection and they liked it, he said, but there was no immediate promise of funding.

The county applied to the state Department of Economic Opportunity

for funding for a feasibility study – estimated to cost \$80,000. Edwards brought the issue up to county commissioners at their meeting on Monday, Sept. 18 and said if DEO rejects paying, he may be asking commissioners to pay for the feasibility study.

"It's a very expensive project," Edwards said, "but it does get sewage out of the river."

Wakulla County has successfully brought in literally hundreds of millions of dollars to the county to expand its sewage treatment plant at Otter Creek, improve it to Advanced Wastewater Treatment standards, and expand the system – especially in the Wakulla Gardens/ Magnolia Gardens area to go from septic tanks to sewer.

Deputy arrested Monday on sex charges

Kenneth Malphurs, former school resource and corrections officer, is charged with lewd & lascivious on a victim younger than 12

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

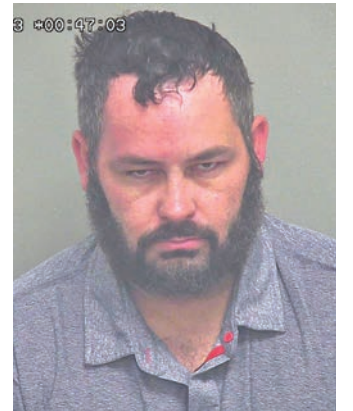
A Wakulla County Deputy Sheriff was arrested on Monday on charges of lewd and lascivious molestation on a person younger than 12. The deputy, Kenneth Malphurs, was being held in jail without bond.

Malphurs, 32, had been a school resource officer at the time the victim came forward with her allegations.

Lt. Jeffrey Yarbrough, the public information officer for the sheriff's office, said the charges had nothing to do with Malphurs work as an SRO, but once the allegations were made, Malphurs was removed from campus and allowed to work as a corrections officer in the Wakulla County Jail. After there appeared to be substance to the criminal allegations, Malphurs was placed on administrative leave at the sheriff's office.

The allegations against Malphurs were first brought forward in April 2021 – and the heavily redacted arrest report released by WCSO shows an in-depth investigation, including into his internet searches.

After the initial report in April 2021, Malphurs was transferred to the jail. According to the arrest report, detectives Ashley Hudson and Brett Surace



Former Wakulla deputy Kenneth Malphurs

Turn to Page 3



Sheriff Jared Miller presents a raffle basket to the Harris family.

Festival of Joy held Saturday

Story & Photos By LINDA ANN McDONALD

Festival of Joy was held at Wakulla Springs on Saturday, Sept. 23, and activities included 8 carnival style booths with games, play area, cotton candy, shaved ice, hot dogs, popcorn, and cornhole. Activities also included exploring Wakulla Springs with a boat ride down the Wakulla River. Face painting, a photo booth, the opportunity to climb in a fire truck and meeting McGruff the Crime Dog as well as raffles and prizes every hour.

The event was provided by JOYful Journeys Foundation which creates and delivers events geared towards the specific requirements of special needs children in Wakulla



Amy Drexler, Mary Wallace and daughter Sara, Claire Drexler and Jesse Askew and Cricket, Sara's support dog.

County.

Exceptional Student Education teacher and volunteer Heather Bryan explained, "The events are a low-key inclusive event for the kids with special needs to get out and enjoy - who they are - sur-

rounded by family and friends."

Bryan noted the many individuals on the autism spectrum engage in routine "stimming" – also known as self-stimulating behaviors or stereotypy, are repetitive body movements

or repetitive movements of objects. Because of stimming, the music at the event was at a comfortable level and the prizes in the gift baskets were sensory accommodating.

Because of this stimming behavior, parents of ESE students sometimes feel uninvited to public events in fear of being disruptive or too loud. Director of JOYful Journeys, Mary Wallace, said, "These events are created to bridge the gap that there is nothing to do activity-wise for kids; at our events we want the kids and their families to feel safe and welcomed, they can feel they are engaged in their community, we want to open doors, everyone get invited and for parents and their

Turn to Page 13

State to step up testing for deer wasting disease

By JIM TURNER
News Service of Florida

Some deer killed during two popular hunting days in December must be tested for a contagious disease fatal to the animals as the state expands efforts to limit the spread of the disease.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission said last week that deer killed on Dec. 9 and Dec. 10 in most areas of Holmes, Jackson and Washington counties must be tested for chronic wasting disease at one of 21 check stations before being processed for food or going to taxidermists.

"These counties comprise the CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease) Enhanced Surveillance Zone, and the FWC (Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) is prioritizing heightened surveillance and regulations within this zone to reduce the potential spread of CWD both within the zone and throughout the state," Lauren Claerbout, a spokeswoman for the commission's Division of Hunting and Game Management, said.

The disease is described as similar to mad cow disease, with deer becoming emaciated and often being found isolated and trembling. While not considered harmful to people, the disease can result in death within four months to deer.

The testing details were presented Tuesday during a meeting in the Holmes County community of Bonifay. Another meeting is scheduled Oct. 10 in Marianna in Jackson County.

The commission will try to get as many samples as possible to meet testing goals.

"We can get some deer out of season from road kills. but the majority of our samples will come from hunter-harvested deer," commission Deer Management Program Coordinator Cory Morea said in Bonifay. "So, it's really important to get out and hunt and provide samples whenever."

The commission is asking people who see sick, abnormally thin deer, or deer dead of unknown causes to report the finds. Claerbout said it also is asking hunters to bring in deer heads for testing

Turn to Page 3



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Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

Spotted beebalm



Spotted beebalm, aka dotted horsemint, is aromatic.

By **LYNN ARTZ, SANDY TEDDER**
and **DAVID RODDENBERRY**

Spotted beebalm (*Monarda punctata*) is a dazzling wildflower that brightens roadsides, meadows, and gardens in late summer and early fall. Each stem has 2 or more tiers of true flowers atop large colorful bracts. Bracts, prominent on poinsettias, are modified leaves. The small yellow tubular flowers have maroon spots and form stem-ringing clusters. Each cluster rests on a whorl of showy pink bracts. Spotted beebalm grows 2-4 feet tall in full sun and dry sandy soil in much of Florida. Also called dotted horsemint, this member of the mint family is quite aromatic. A pollinator magnet, spotted beebalm attracts bees, butterflies, moths, and hummingbirds. It supports several specialized bees and is a larval host plant for several moths. Spotted beebalm is blooming now in the northwest garden at Sopchoppy Depot Park

Student of the Week

Max Sarkisian – 5th Grader, Medart Elementary School

Principal: Stan Ward

Achievements/Reason for Nomination:
Max is a polite student who always acknowledges others when they are in his presence. He radiates positivity and is a hard worker in and out of the classroom. Thank you, Max, for being an amazing Mustang!



STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.

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REDESIGNED 2015.
Protect our Oceans – Annual use fee - a portion of the yearly plate registration supports the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation (GHOF).



County sets tax rate at 7.9 mills

County budget is more than \$273 million, with more than \$200 of that for infrastructure projects

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Wakulla County commissioners approved a reduced tax rate of 7.9 mills last week, and a budget of more than \$273 million.

The tax levy of 7.9 mills is an assessment of \$7.9 for each \$1,000 of property value. An average \$100,000 home in Wakulla County would pay \$790 in county property taxes before homestead and other exemptions. That does not include tax levies from other agencies such as the school board,

water management district and other taxing authorities.

Last year's millage rate was 8.2 mills and the decrease in rate represents about a \$30 savings for the owner of a \$150,000 home.

Of the county's budget, the millage rate brings in around \$18 million in taxes. Most of the budget, more than \$200 million, is state money for infrastructure – such as septic to sewer projects and improvements and expansion of the county's Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant at Otter Creek.

The county commission had adver-

tised a tentative millage rate of 8.0 mills for the final budget hearing on Monday, Sept. 18. The advertisement meant that the commission could approve a lower rate at the meeting, but could not go higher.

Commissioner Mike Kemp made a motion to reduce the millage to 7.9 and it was seconded by Commissioner Fred Nichols.

During discussion, Commissioner Chuck Hess said he supported a reduction in the Public Service Tax, but county financial staff expressed concern about fluctuations in what the

tax brings in.

The 7.9 mills is a 20.98% increase from the roll back rate of 6.53 mills – which is the millage rate that would bring in the same amount of revenue as last year's tax levy.

The county went up on other assessments: The Municipal Services Benefit Unit for fire service was increased from \$156 per year to \$248. Additionally, the county's base monthly rate for sewer service increased from \$39.04 to \$40.02, and the charge per thousand increased from \$5.86 last year to \$6.01.

Wakulla's Special Olympics Bowling Team

By **JANA MCCOMMON**
Special to The Sun

The athlete's oath "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt," epitomizes the goal of every Special Olympics athlete. Our Special Olympics Florida Wakulla Bowling team members have certainly been brave this summer in their attempt at winning. Each of the team's ten athletes and partners devoted many Sunday afternoons this summer to practice in Tallahassee. Starting in June, our team of athletes and partners made each week's practice a priority, working diligently toward their goal.

At Area Games in August, Wakulla battled with Leon County Special Olympics athletes for a chance at state games. Wakulla fielded four singles division bowlers, one traditional doubles team, and two unified doubles teams. With support from their parents and coaches, six athletes and partners advanced to the annual state competition on Sept. 15 and 16 at Boardwalk Bowl in Orlando.

On Friday, Sept. 15, Coaches Joanne Larson and Jana McCommon, along with Sharon Scherbarth Simmons and Sean Simmons made the trip south. Competition started at noon on Friday,



Special Olympics Wakulla Bowling Team in Orlando.

with Sarah Andrews and Taylor Marshall bowling in the singles division. Sarah was able to knock down enough pins for a second-place finish. Taylor bowled over enough to take third place.

With competition continuing on Saturday, Wakulla also had teams partic-

ipating in both the traditional doubles division and the unified teams' divisions. Aiden Colvin and Ethan Larson represented well in the traditional doubles division, securing a second-place finish and bringing home silver medals. In unified doubles, Abigail McCommon

and Taylie Oaks also finished strong, securing their own silver medals.

Coaches Joanne and Jana have many people to thank for making this season a success including athletes, partners, and especially parents. Thank you so much for taking the time to support us this summer! We would also like to thank Capital Lanes in Tallahassee for allowing us practice space each week.

To make sure our athletes stay involved and engaged, coaches are planning several off-season practices to continue working towards next year's goals. Practice schedules will be posted on our Facebook page (Special Olympics Florida – Wakulla County).

Bowling is just one of many Special Olympics sports available in Wakulla County. Flag football is currently in weekly practices, with regional competition just around the corner.

Spring sports include bocce, track, and field. Qualified athletes of all ages are welcome to participate in Special Olympics Florida.

For more information on athlete qualifications or ways to volunteer, please visit <https://www.specialolympicsflorida.org/northwest> or check out our Special Olympics Florida-Wakulla County Facebook page.



Voter drive

For National Voter Registration Day on Sept. 18, Wakulla Supervisor of Elections Joe Morgan held a voter registration drive at his

office – and offered free hot dogs and boiled peanuts. With Morgan as deputy supervisor Diana Mitchell, volunteer Harriet Rich, and volunteer Lila Ruth Porter. (Photo by Legion Taylor)

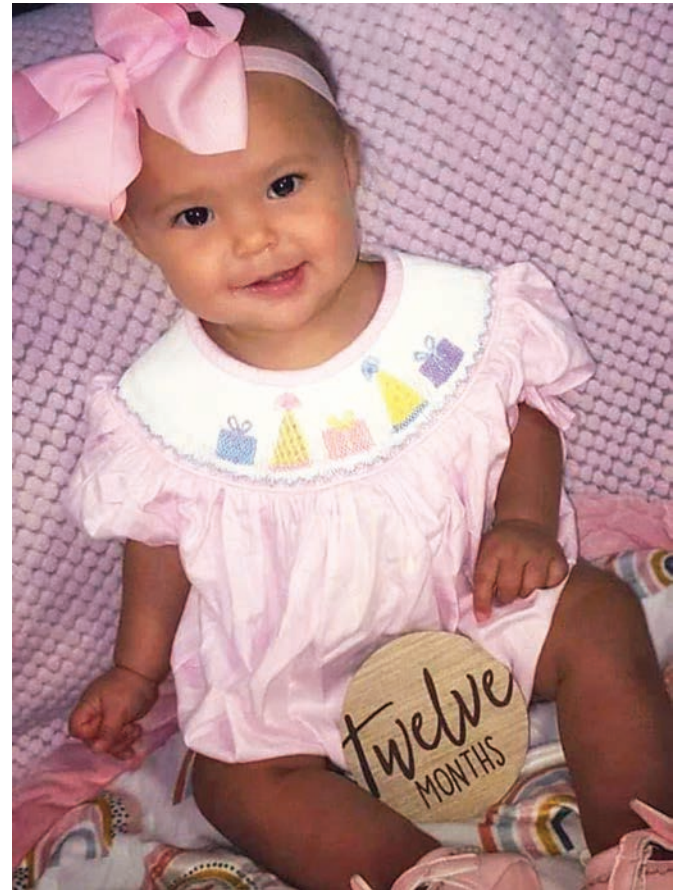
HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to Adriana Morningstar Tointigh on September 29, 2022.

Parents: Melvin Tointigh & Deanna Tointigh (Beatris)

Siblings: MJ Tointigh

Adriana brings so much joy and love to our lives. We are so thankful God blessed us to be her parents.



Deputy arrested

From Front Page

met with Malphurs with a warrant to seize his cell phone. The detectives asked for any passwords on the phone, warning that the phone could be damaged by FDLE specialists bypassing any passcodes. Malphurs sighed, said he wanted to talk to his attorney, and then reportedly asked: "I guess my question is

what does the phone have to do with sexual battery?"

In addition to FDLE, the detectives used Cybercheck to search Malphur's internet use. Cybercheck is a Canadian-based intelligence gathering firm used by law enforcement to investigate surface, deep, and dark web.

It was noted in the report that Malphurs

sent a screen shot of a covert child pornography terminology sheet with such terms as "hot dog" for a boy and "pasta" for a little boy; "pizza" for a girl, and "Cheese pizza" for a little girl.

There were numerous texts between Malphurs and the alleged victim that were recovered, including him questioning the victim about her motive for reporting him.

The detectives also recovered his internet search history, which be-

sides a lot of porn searches, included "Can you change your name," "how to stop jailbreak from iphone," "how to prevent data removal," "is sexual battery hard to prove," "will drinking radiator fluid kill you," "how to make a noose," "influencing prosecutors not to prosecute," "bluffing prosecutors," and "facial lying software."

Malphurs also did a search for the detective on the case.

Deer wasting

From Front Page

outside of the "check station weekend."

The commission issued an emergency order after a case of chronic wasting disease was detected in deer in a "road-killed" deer in Holmes County. The positive test was the first known case of a deer in Florida having the

disease, which has been found in 30 other states including Alabama and Mississippi.

No additional cases have been detected in close to 200 deer tested since the Holmes County case, but wildlife officials expect an increase in deer deaths from the disease. Directives from the commission will be reevaluated

after the upcoming hunting season.

Clairbourn said the state will work with taxidermists and processors in the three-county area and provide drop-off freezers for hunters so samples can be collected.

With no simple treatment or vaccine for chronic wasting disease, deer farmers have expressed concern that a single positive test could require the eradication of entire herds,

which in some cases represent millions of dollars in investments.

Florida has monitored the issue since 2002, testing about 17,500 hunter-killed, road-killed and sick deer. In 2021, the state placed certain limits on importing deer carcasses into Florida. People can bring in deboned meat, finished taxidermy mounts and clean hides and antlers.

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.



ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

WAKULLA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD REQUEST FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR RIVERSPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL HVAC RENOVATIONS AND UPGRADES

The Wakulla County School Board is accepting proposals for Mechanical Engineering Services to provide planning, design and construction administration for HVAC Renovations and Upgrades for portions of Riversprings Middle School. All those interested should submit (4) four copies of the following: Resume, SF330 Form or equivalent, list of references and qualifications to Robert Pearce, Superintendent of Wakulla County Schools, P.O. Box 100, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327 by 10:00 A.M. on October 20, 2023.

Sep 28 ct. 3

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

I don't understand Brad Harvey's motives either



By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Over the past several years – and especially the past couple of weeks – a lot of people have wanted to talk about

Brad Harvey and his embezzlement of county funds.

The former property appraiser was sent off to state prison a few weeks ago for overpaying himself more than \$200,000 and racking up more than \$25,000 in personal expenses on the office credit card. That's over three years in office.

I will never understand why he did it.

I can't come up with the motive – why he would throw his career away to steal taxpayer money.

For some reason –

and I can't understand this either – he was under the impression that he was entitled to the money and had done nothing wrong.

Wakulla Circuit Judge Layne Smith brought the hammer down on Brad, sentencing him to 12 1/2 years in prison followed by 17 1/2 years of probation. In his comments at the sentencing, Judge Smith indicated that Brad had violated the public's trust in elected officials and government.

Before all of this scandal, Brad and I

were friends. We were in Rotary together. When I was president of the club back in 2016-17, Brad was treasurer. He became club president a couple of years later – and he was serving as club treasurer again when it came to the club's attention that money from a gun raffle was missing.

The sheriff's office investigated that – and after being questioned by detectives, turned over cash that he said was gun raffle money that he'd never gotten around to depositing. There wasn't enough to

charge him with a crime because the club hadn't kept records of ticket sales, but the incident prompted an employee of the property appraiser's office to start looking into the office finances.

That person questioned the character of someone who would steal from a club seeking to do good in the community – and figured if he would steal from Rotary, he would steal from other sources too.

He made a good salary as property appraiser of around \$105,000 a

year. And it's a job he could have held for the rest of his working life if he hadn't thrown it away.

I will never understand.

Kudos to Lynda Kinsey for getting the great photo of Brad after his sentencing. It really told a story.

Also, I've had some recent family emergencies and I want to thank everyone who has helped cover for me – you are appreciated.

William Snowden is editor and publisher of The Wakulla Sun.

Depot Day was huge success

Editor, The Sun:

The first annual Depot Day Festival was a huge success.

The big Bend Model Railroad Association folks were thrilled with the turnout and are looking forward to coming again. The numerous vendors of food, and arts and crafts did well. The children riding around town on the barrel train had big fun. The Depot Museum was filled with visitors learning about Sopchoppy history.

Thanks for the Discover Sopchoppy volunteers and the Depot Committee volunteers for organizing the event.

And many thanks to the City of Sopchoppy for their support of the Depot Museum.

The new exhibits and model steam engine drew a lot of interest and many compliments. The amazing new trail map on the front of the Depot and the designation of Sopchoppy as a "Trail Town" promoted by the Friends of the Sopchoppy River bode well for the future of our little city.

Thank you one and all,

Nelson Martin

Sopchoppy Depot Caretaker

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.

Historical Society annual meeting Oct. 14

Editor, The Sun:

Dear WCHS Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Wakulla County Historical Society, I would like to invite you to attend our Annual Meeting on Saturday, Oct. 14 at the historic Wakulla County Courthouse, 23 High Drive, Crawfordville, FL. Doors will open at 12:30 PM for a time to visit with friends, renew your membership and enjoy some light hors d'oeuvres. The business meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. A Vintage Quilt Show will follow at 2:00 PM upstairs in the courtroom (see attached for more information on this). There is no cost to attend any of the activities.

Included on our agenda will be the election of officers and Board of Directors for the 2023-2024 year. Following

are the nominees: Officers: President – Brent Thurmond, Vice President – Richard Harden, Treasurer – Debbie Jay, Secretary – Arlene Vause. Board of Directors: Cathy Frank, Cal Jamison, Gayla Kittendorf, Mary Ann Laird, Ryan Laird, Tanya Lynn, Rita Sparkman, Dave Coffey and Marty Coffey. Associate Directors: Diane Curlee, Randy Lewis, Mark Perrin, Karen Taylor, Susan Payne Turner.

I want to say a special thank you to all of our members, contributors and volunteers. Through your support and efforts, we are making great progress in preserving Wakulla County's rich heritage.

With warmest regards,

Brent Thurmond
President

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of Sept. 28

Thursday, September 28

- There will be a meeting of the Affordable Housing committee at 10 a.m. in the Fire and Rescue meeting room.
- 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.
- Tobacco Free Partnership Meeting will be held at 4p.m. at the Wakulla County Health Department.

Friday, September 29

- The Wakulla War Eagles Football team travels to Tallahassee to take on the Rickards Raiders starting at 7 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Saturday, September 30

- The Blue Crab Parade and Festival will be held in Panacea after being on hiatus since 2020. The parade starts at 10 a.m., with festivities in Woolley park starting at 11 a.m.
- Take Your Child to the Library Day will be held at the Wakulla County Public Library from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Sunday, October 1

- The First Day Bikes celebration will be held at the Capital Circle trailhead of the Tallahassee-St. Marks State Trail from 9 a.m. to noon.

Monday, October 2

- The Wakulla Board of County Commissioners will hold a public meeting at 5 p.m. in the commission chambers.
- 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, October 3

- 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, October 4th

- Gentle Yoga and Stetching Class, Wednesday, First Class - 11 a.m. Wakulla Community Center. Bring a Mat. Come early to sign in. Chair Yoga participants welcome. \$2 per class.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- A Line Dance class is held at 1 p.m. at the Wakulla Senior Center every Wednesday.

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- More local content on the environment and local businesses

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William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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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 Linda Ann McDonald

Polled at the Festival of Joy at Wakulla Spring :

What is your favorite part of Festival of Joy?



JACE WILLET

“Being here, activities, the spring are nice.”



SARA LOGAN

“All the entertainment. Seeing my friends.”



JACOB WEAVER

“I like the boat ride.”



RACHEL SEIBERT

“I like the boat ride, manatees, and alligators.”



HAZEL ROTTMAN

“Going out riding and spending time with Tonya.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Buckhorn News

By **ETHEL SKIPPER**

A thought for today, and a word to think deeply on – a word that we all have to deal with that's forgiveness.

Today even a 1-year-old child understands forgiveness.

One of the little ones was upset because his mother did not let him have her phone to play games on. The child cried out, shouted loud, fell down on

the floor. After the mother let the child have her phone, he hugged and kissed his mother.

Matthew 18:2 “And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them. And he said, Verily, I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever shall humble himself as li-

tle children is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Romans 12:14: “Bless those who persecute you; bless and curse not... Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceit. Be not overcome of evil but overcome evil with good.” Loving and forgiving one another.

We wish a happy birthday to Deartist Stevens, Oct. 22; Teerea Boger Rosier, Oct. 20; Wylonda Wright, Oct. 19;

Elder Frank Johnson on Oct. 7; Solomon Mills Jr., Oct. 14; Chinesta Skipper Smith, Oct. 18; Charlene Skipper, Oct. 7, Felicia Green, Oct. 6; Rodney Smith, Oct. 4; Archie Simmon, Oct. 4; Jeremiah Johnson, Oct. 7; Antonio Nicholas, Oct. 7. Be blessed and enjoy your special day.

Remembering the sick and shut-in, those in the hospital, nursing homes, those in prison, the homeless. Let us keep praying for our county and each and every one.

Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

This past week I noticed (again) just how nice it is to have great neighbors. I don't know about you, but we have a super young man as our postman. I was working in my yard the other day, and he spotted me. Instead of just stuffing my mail in the box, he pulled up to my gate to hand deliver my mail.

He always does this if he spots me or Ed outside, and we always spend a minute or two catching up. This time he couldn't hide his delight in his baby daughter. She is really coming into her sassy little personality, and he is a proud dad. I happen to know he also stopped to check on a neighbor when he saw something that seemed off with their property. Just wanted to make sure everything was OK...how

lucky we all are to have him!

I also had two very nice gentlemen, brothers, stop by the house over the weekend. They were interested in buying peacocks, and knew Ed raises them. It was such a pleasure meeting Ernie and Edward, and sharing stories about their grandmother and other old-timers from the late 1800s. I love this stuff, just can't get enough of it, and the brothers are great storytellers!

We are getting very near to the Blue Crab Festival and Parade, coming this weekend. Saturday, Sept. 30th is the date, and it is going to be so much fun. If you want to be in the parade, reach out to the Coastal Optimists Club. There's no cost, and a whole lot of fun. The Lofty Pursuits Marching Band is slated to be there, and that

alone makes it a party.

It has been a while since Panacea could celebrate the exalted Blue Crab, due to Covid restrictions. This year promises to be a great come back, and I hope everyone makes it out to celebrate Panacea and the Blue Crab.

A couple of weeks later we will celebrate Outdoor Wakulla Living at Hudson and Azalea Parks. Join us there, on Oct. 14th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be educational programs there and around the county, as well as vendors and food trucks. Mark your calendars for this fun family activity.

The Wakulla United Methodist Church is inviting everyone to our Homecoming celebration on Oct. 8th at 10 a.m. The service will be followed by a covered dish dinner, and the fellowship can only be matched by the food and fun. Everyone knows, no one can cook like church ladies, so please join us as we embrace friends and

family from years gone by.

Your prayers continue to be coveted for babies Bennie Mott and Sebastian Mosely. Both of these tiny babies are fighting serious health issues, but are true warriors. They and their families welcome our prayers for healing. Also in need of prayers is Don Garrison and his family. Don is extremely ill, and facing the great transition. Of course, we all know many people who are facing challenges and sorrow, and in need of prayer. I know from personal experience that prayer is powerful and works, so please continue lifting your faithful prayers.

Congrats to the fabulous Wakulla War Eagles football team for winning another great game. Way to WIN! You are making us all so proud, and It is very exciting to have so many of our favorite teams doing so well. Keep up the good work everyone.

Sheriff's Report

This report is for activity Sept. 15 to 21 :

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

- An employee at the Kangaroo gas station in Medart reported an unknown male turned the gas pump on without authorization and stole fuel without paying for it. The total loss is \$69. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Kory Smith investigated.

- Tammy Vaillancourt reported her residence broken into while she was in jail. Vaillancourt reported a vehicle stolen, a big screen TV, several laptop computers and an array of other miscellaneous items. A possible suspect has been named in this case. This case has been sent to

detectives for further investigation. Deputy Norman De Guzman investigated.

MONDAY, SEPT. 18

- Frank Harrell reported the wiring had caught fire on his tractor. The fire was quickly extinguished, and damage was minor. Deputy Zac Monroe investigated.

- Benjamin Brim reported someone on his property earlier this morning. Brim stated his property is fenced off and secured with a gate. Brim wished to pursue charges and signed an affidavit for prosecution. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Austin Rivers investigated.

- Deputy Jake Scott responded to Nelson Road in reference to an on-

going landlord/tenant issue. Jason Allbaugh reported that his landlord entered the property he rents and took items and threw away his groceries. He also reported a 64-inch flat-screen TV damaged. Allbaugh admitted he is in the process of moving out and spent most of the past two weeks at a girlfriend's house. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 19

- Quamay Harvey was arrested after violating a court ordered no contact order. Harvey was transported to the jail facility without incident. Deputy Austin Rivers investigated.

- Joseph Hoffman reported someone opened a credit card at Truist Bank using his personal information. Hoffman stated over \$10,000 had been charged on the card. Hoffman stated he does not use Truist

Bank nor did he authorize the account. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Don Newsome investigated.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20

- The president of the homeowners association at Tuscan Trace reported damage being caused to the irrigation controller face plate for the neighborhood irrigation system. It is unknown who might have caused the damage, however, a possible suspect has been provided. The estimated cost to repair the system is valued at \$920. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Norman De Guzman responded.

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

Cast of 'Grease' announced

Special to The Sun

The cast for this fall's Wakulla Community Theater production of "Grease" will include: Tanner Pafford as Danny Zuko and Lily Nichols in the role of Sandy Dumbrowski. The roles of Betty Rizzo and Kenickie will be played by Lauren Wilhelm and Alexander Lewis. Alex Barlow, Ryan Moore and Landon Cook will play the parts of Doody, Roger and Sonny Latierra. Frenchy, Marty and Jan will be performed by

Callie Cook, Luna Martinez and Kolby Hill. WCT alumnus Lucille Graham will play the part of Miss Lynch while theater newcomer, Lisa Langston will act in the part of Patty Simcox. Cody Worrill will be double-cast in the parts of Eugene Florczyk and Teen Angel. New to theater, but not to performing is Kevin Smith, who will act in the part of Vince Fontaine. Johnny Casino will be performed by Rockulla's Kevin Andrew and Brooke Millender is cast as Cha-Cha Digreggorio.

Ensemble performers are Sharon Kerce, Melanie Tscharner, Jason Westmark and Megan Fogelman. The "Beauty School Dropout" dancers are Alli Black, Alicia Hutchinson, Kellery Kilgore, Nikki Lawhon, Taylan Le, Treva McKenzie, Amber Miller, Amy Parker, Lisa Porter, Katie Sass, and Melanie Tscharner. The part of the radio singer is played by Rebecca Link.

Tickets for "Grease" are now on sale at McIver Flooring in Crawfordville. Tickets for Thursday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m. show are \$20 each. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 3 and 4, are \$25 each. Tickets for Sunday, Nov. 5, matinee at 2 p.m. are \$25 each.



PHOTO BY ASHEE BARTON/NEKKID EYE PHOTOGRAPHY
The cast of WCT's production of 'Grease'

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

The Sig Sauer P322



By MARJ LAW

Remember when Indiana Jones is faced by a bad guy wielding swords? The bad guy brandishes his swords in the air, trying to intimidate Indiana. Instead, Indiana calmly pulls out a gun and shoots the bad guy dead.

When it comes to a gun fight, bring a gun. Heck, if Mr. Bad comes at me, I'll use a branch, a rock or anything I can find to defend myself.

A lot of people wanting to be able to defend themselves have trouble with hand strength.

"I can only shoot a .22," they will say apologetically. And Mr. Young Guy, strong and big-boned may well say: "You only have a .22? A .22 is just a pea-shooter. You can't defend yourself with just a .22."

Well, if a .22 is what you have and is what you can handle, then that's the way it is. You might as well find a .22 that is comfortable in your hand, compact, versatile, inexpensive and holds... 20 rounds. Yes! The Sig Sauer P322 holds a whopping 20 rounds.

The P322 is only 7" long, 1.4" wide, and 5.5" high. The barrel is 4" long and this whole little semi-automatic

weighs only 17.1 ounces.

And features. The 322 has some neat features. Take, for example, two triggers. If you don't want a flat trigger, a curved trigger is included in the box.

Plan on adding a reflex sight? The 322 has a panel with two screws you can take out to mount your reflex sight.

A suppressor? Are you going to take out a woodchuck colony and don't want them to hear what you're up to? The 322 comes with an adaptor for a suppressor.

Think you might like help loading? The 322 comes with a sleeve that goes over the magazine to help you load. That's if you need help. The magazine comes with a button to push the magazine spring downwards making loading easy.

Wouldn't you like to dryfire your new handgun? Everyone knows you don't dryfire a .22.

Except for the 322. Put the included chamber safety flag in the chamber and practice away. Is that cool or what?

So, don't apologize for your new Sig P322. Enjoy. The 322 is a great training handgun, with an easy trigger and very low recoil. It's good for small varmints and rodents. A .22's ammunition is the least expensive ammunition. It's fun for target shooting. And with 20 rounds in its magazine? As ammo-man.com says: "I've yet to hear a gunfight survivor say 'Boy, did I ever have too much ammo with me!'" And, The Truth About Guns says: "in the end,

what SIG has come up with is probably the most complete .22LR semi-automatic pistol on the market." This time, Joe is the one at the range trying out the Sig P322. I ask him about recoil. This is the question most people ask me first. On a 1-5 scale, with 1 being the easiest and 5 the most difficult, Joe gives the P322 a .5. Now, that's really low and off our 1-5 scale. There's not much recoil at all so your sights can stay on target. Trigger pull? Joe gives trigger pull a 2. It's a light trigger. Grip? Joe gives it a 2. He has large hands. I hold the gun and give grip a 1. It's great for small hands, yet not too small for large ones. Reliability? I want a



Sig Sauer P322

- Magazine holds 20 rounds!
- Comes with flat & curved triggers
- Very low recoil
- Easy trigger pull
- Reliable
- Good grip for large & small hands

gun that shoots right the first time every time. After Joe notices that the magazine is sensitive to each round being perfectly aligned, he has no issues with it at all.

First, he shoots from a bucket of 36-grain copper plated hollow point Federal ammunition. All goes well.

Then, he shoots CCI Mini Mag hollow points. They are 36-grain copper plated as well. No problems. Last, he shoots Federal Premium Punch flat nose 29-grain rounds. Again, no problems. .22 rounds are notorious for dirtying up a gun. I wonder how difficult it is to take this gun apart to clean it.

Again, this is a user-friendly gun. I dumped the magazine, flipped the take-down lever, and lifted the upper off the lower. Might have helped to read the manual, but it just seemed easy so I tried it and it worked right away.

Yes, the innards were dirty, but with a good solvent and grease, it didn't take long to clean up. Be sure to avoid using too much grease on the slides. If you overdo it, caked-up grease becomes a magnet for even more shooting residue.

The Sig Sauer P322 has a lot of great features and it holds more rounds in a small space than any other .22 I've seen.

As gundigest.com notes: "A .22 Long Rifle handgun would not be my first choice when it comes to an every day carry, personal protection handgun... your best bet when shooting a handgun to save your life is that it will cause enough pain to make the attacker stop attacking."

Yes, a .22 isn't a high-caliber centerfire handgun, but it's a great gun to learn the sport of shooting with its easy trigger pull and low recoil. And don't forget the two 20-round magazines that come in its box.

And even though the P322 is not a high-caliber gun, if you are in the position to have to save your life, it sure beats a branch or a rock.

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

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

Retired Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger Bob Thompson, on his weekly wildlife survey at the park last week, snapped this photo of a Suwannee cooter turtle.



DWARF or PYGMY SEA HORSE
(*Hippocampus zosterae*)

The smallest of seahorse species lives in sea grass flats especially where eelgrass grows. Their color is usually unpatterned tan, but can be black to bright green. This seahorse was severely affected by the BP Gulf oil spill because its favored habitat where the population was greatest, was directly in the path of the oil. Its numbers are uncertain but it is becoming rare and may be in trouble. We can hope as the gulf, survivors from our area will repopulate the more western damaged habitats.

Eukaryota, Animalia, Chordata, Actinopterygii, Gasterosteiformes, Syngnathidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
www.gulfspecimen.org

Scallop Season Has Arrived!

High QUALITY! Mask, Fins & Snorkels

HUGE INVENTORY!

Wakulla Diving Center
WAKULLADIVING.com 850 745-8208
2784 COASTAL HWY., CRAWFORDVILLE

FOLLOW THE SUN.

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences




24/7 PRIORITY ON-WATER ASSISTANCE

ARE YOU A MEMBER? SEA TOW BIG BEND \ 850-984-3456 \ seatow.com

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Thursday 28	
Sun rise/set 7:28AM 7:26PM	Moon rise/set 7:14PM 6:27AM
Moon Illumination 99%	
Friday 29	
Sun rise/set 7:29AM 7:25PM	Moon rise/set 7:47PM 7:36AM
Moon Illumination 100%	
Saturday 30	
Sun rise/set 7:29AM 7:24PM	Moon rise/set 8:21PM 8:43AM
Moon Illumination 98%	
Sunday 1	
Sun rise/set 7:30AM 7:22PM	Moon rise/set 8:57PM 9:51AM
Moon Illumination 94%	
Monday 2	
Sun rise/set 7:30AM 7:21PM	Moon rise/set 9:36PM 10:58AM
Moon Illumination 87%	
Tuesday 3	
Sun rise/set 7:31AM 7:20PM	Moon rise/set 10:20PM 12:04PM
Moon Illumination 79%	
Wednesday 4	
Sun rise/set 7:31AM 7:19PM	Moon rise/set 11:09PM 1:07PM
Moon Illumination 70%	

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.

Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

Sept. 28 - Oct. 5

Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



Thursday 28	
Minor Times 5:42AM 6:29PM	Major Times 11:14PM 11:40AM
Friday 29	
Minor Times 7:58AM 7:02PM	Major Times 12:05AM 12:31PM
Saturday 30	
Minor Times 7:36PM	Major Times 1:21PM
Sunday 1	
Minor Times 8:12PM	Major Times 2:12PM
Monday 2	
Minor Times 8:51PM	Major Times 3:05PM
Tuesday 3	
Minor Times 9:35PM	Major Times 3:59PM
Wednesday 4	
Minor Times 10:24PM	Major Times 4:54PM

St. Marks River Entrance

Th	2:07 am ▲ 3.7 ft	7:58 am ▼ 0.7 ft	2:15 pm ▲ 4.3 ft	8:36 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Fr	2:36 am ▲ 3.9 ft	8:43 am ▼ 0.3 ft	3:04 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	9:10 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Sa	3:04 am ▲ 3.9 ft	9:26 am ▼ -0.1 ft	3:52 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	9:42 pm ▼ 1.0 ft
Su	3:29 am ▲ 4.0 ft	10:09 am ▼ -0.2 ft	4:38 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	10:10 pm ▼ 1.3 ft
Mo	3:53 am ▲ 3.9 ft	10:52 am ▼ -0.2 ft	5:24 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	10:36 pm ▼ 1.7 ft
Tu	4:17 am ▲ 3.9 ft	11:37 am ▼ 0.0 ft	6:14 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	11:01 pm ▼ 1.9 ft
We	4:42 am ▲ 3.8 ft	12:28 pm ▼ 0.3 ft	7:12 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	11:27 pm ▼ 2.1 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	2:43 am ▲ 3.5 ft	9:02 am ▼ 0.6 ft	2:51 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	9:40 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	3:12 am ▲ 3.6 ft	9:47 am ▼ 0.2 ft	3:40 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	10:14 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Sa	3:40 am ▲ 3.7 ft	10:30 am ▼ -0.1 ft	4:28 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	10:46 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Su	4:05 am ▲ 3.7 ft	11:13 am ▼ -0.2 ft	5:14 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	11:14 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
Mo	4:29 am ▲ 3.7 ft	11:56 am ▼ -0.2 ft	6:00 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	11:40 pm ▼ 1.5 ft
Tu	4:53 am ▲ 3.7 ft	12:41 pm ▼ 0.0 ft	6:50 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	
We	5:18 am ▲ 3.5 ft	1:32 pm ▼ 0.3 ft	7:48 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	2:28 am ▲ 3.9 ft	8:20 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:32 pm ▲ 4.4 ft	8:57 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Fr	2:56 am ▲ 4.0 ft	9:04 am ▼ 0.3 ft	3:20 pm ▲ 4.4 ft	9:30 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Sa	3:23 am ▲ 4.1 ft	9:47 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:07 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	10:01 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
Su	3:49 am ▲ 4.2 ft	10:29 am ▼ -0.2 ft	4:53 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	10:28 pm ▼ 1.4 ft
Mo	4:14 am ▲ 4.2 ft	11:12 am ▼ -0.2 ft	5:39 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	10:54 pm ▼ 1.7 ft
Tu	4:38 am ▲ 4.1 ft	11:57 am ▼ 0.0 ft	6:27 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	11:19 pm ▼ 2.0 ft
We	5:05 am ▲ 4.0 ft	12:48 pm ▼ 0.3 ft	7:24 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	11:48 pm ▼ 2.2 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	1:59 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:09 am ▼ 0.5 ft	2:07 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	8:47 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	2:28 am ▲ 2.9 ft	8:54 am ▼ 0.2 ft	2:56 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	9:21 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Sa	2:56 am ▲ 3.0 ft	9:37 am ▼ 0.0 ft	3:44 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	9:53 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Su	3:21 am ▲ 3.0 ft	10:20 am ▼ -0.2 ft	4:30 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	10:21 pm ▼ 1.0 ft
Mo	3:45 am ▲ 3.0 ft	11:03 am ▼ -0.1 ft	5:16 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:47 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
Tu	4:09 am ▲ 3.0 ft	11:48 am ▼ 0.0 ft	6:06 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	11:12 pm ▼ 1.4 ft
We	4:34 am ▲ 2.9 ft	12:39 pm ▼ 0.2 ft	7:04 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	11:38 pm ▼ 1.5 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	2:18 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:06 am ▼ 0.9 ft	2:09 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	8:39 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Fr	2:38 am ▲ 3.0 ft	8:46 am ▼ 0.5 ft	3:02 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	9:13 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Sa	3:00 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:27 am ▼ 0.1 ft	3:54 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	9:44 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
Su	3:24 am ▲ 3.2 ft	10:09 am ▼ -0.1 ft	4:45 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:12 pm ▼ 1.4 ft
Mo	3:50 am ▲ 3.3 ft	10:52 am ▼ -0.2 ft	5:37 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:38 pm ▼ 1.7 ft
Tu	4:18 am ▲ 3.3 ft	11:38 am ▼ -0.1 ft	6:32 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	10:59 pm ▼ 1.9 ft
We	4:50 am ▲ 3.2 ft	12:30 pm ▼ 0.1 ft	7:37 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	11:15 pm ▼ 2.0 ft

Dog Island West End

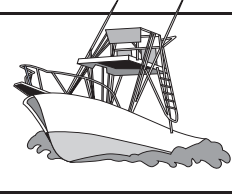
Th	2:40 am ▲ 2.6 ft	8:33 am ▼ 0.9 ft	2:32 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	8:59 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Fr	2:57 am ▲ 2.7 ft	9:10 am ▼ 0.5 ft	3:28 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:30 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Sa	3:18 am ▲ 2.8 ft	9:48 am ▼ 0.1 ft	4:22 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:00 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
Su	3:41 am ▲ 2.9 ft	10:29 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:16 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:27 pm ▼ 1.5 ft
Mo	4:06 am ▲ 2.9 ft	11:13 am ▼ -0.1 ft	6:07 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	10:52 pm ▼ 1.8 ft
Tu	4:33 am ▲ 2.9 ft	12:00 pm ▼ 0.0 ft	6:58 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	11:12 pm ▼ 1.9 ft
We	5:01 am ▲ 2.9 ft	12:47 pm ▼ 0.1 ft	8:22 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	11:02 pm ▼ 2.0 ft

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



While we do not often see barges in our area, you may find yourselves in areas where they are more prevalent. This part one of two on Safely Sharing our Waterways with Tugs and Barges written by Paul Barnard of U.S. Coast Guard Heartland Safe Boating. The information has been edited to share relevant information to our area.

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

is often a blind spot for the push boat operator spanning several hundred feet in front of the lead barges.

Check back next week to learn more about how to apply this to avoiding a collision.

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.

Over the past few years in the Eighth Coast Guard District, there have been a number of fatal boating crashes, and even more non-fatal ones, involving recreational boats and tugs and barges. Overwhelmingly, these collisions are occurring at night. In this article, we'll explore some important navigation rules, navigation light requirements, operational constraints of tugs pushing barges and some nighttime best safe boating practices.

On inland waters, a "push" boat usually pushes the barges ahead. Some of these tug and barge configurations can be over 1000 feet long by 200 feet wide. They cannot turn or stop quickly. Push boats typically operate in the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW), channels and river systems where recreational ves-

sels less than 65 feet in length are prohibited by law from impeding their safe passage.

Tugs pushing barges can move deceptively fast, and they are very quiet too, almost dead silent at the lead barge. At night our depth perception and speed perception are not as good as they are during the day. Confounding things further is that shore-based background lights are often a factor where these tugs and barges operate, making it more difficult yet to understand what we are looking at, how far away it is and which way it is moving. As recreational boaters we must understand the lights we see at night and be ever vigilant for their presence. As a good rule of thumb, multiple lights in a vertical line mean recreational boaters should keep out of the way, and

the more lights in a vertical line, the more burdened the vessel is.

The Navigation Rules generally require recreational boaters to take early and obvious action to keep out of the way of tugs pushing barges. The Navigation Rules also require all vessels to stay as far to the right as is practicable in narrow channels. Our inland rivers are essentially narrow channels, so as a matter of routine, recreational vessels should stay as far right as they reasonably can while operating on inland rivers. Be mindful that in some cases, tugs and barges need nearly the full width of a river to navigate around a bend. Recreational boaters should also avoid anchoring in narrow channels and in the middle of rivers. Something else to consider about tugs and barges is that there

FWC Law Enforcement Report

From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled Sept. 8-14 in the Northwest Region. (There were no cases reported for Wakulla County.)

FRANKLIN COUNTY

• Officer Hartzog was conducting night patrol at East Bay and observed a vessel operating without navigational lights and displaying gear consistent with fishing. Of-

ficer Hartzog stopped the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection. During the inspection, Officer Hartzog observed the two recreational anglers to be in possession of freshwater game fish and the only fishing equipment they possessed on board was a cast net and gig. Officer Hartzog interviewed the two subjects and they admitted to catching the freshwater game fish in the cast net, which is an illegal method of take.

The officer addressed the violation appropriately.

• Officer Hartzog was conducting night patrol at Apalachicola Bay and observed a vessel returning to the St. George Island boat ramp without proper navigation lights. Officer Hartzog stopped the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection. When approaching the vessel, Officer Hartzog identified himself as law enforcement and the captain of the vessel began dis-

carding undersized flounder out the stern of the vessel. Officer Hartzog instructed the captain to stop discarding the fish and come to the front of the vessel. After further inspection, Officer Hartzog discovered more undersized flounder on board and the captain of the vessel was identified as a commercial angler who had previous violations for the same offenses. The officer addressed the violation appropriately.

The Red Sea.

Hello Wakulla

This past Saturday morning I had a great group of FSU Alumni and students on the dive boat along with my dive master, dive master candidate, and a good friend for a couple of dives. Our destinations for our two dives were the Red Sea and bridge span 14.

Once we got everyone on board and equipment assembled the Captain gave his briefing. I would like to point out as before whenever the Captain is giving a briefing we should all show respect for him or her by stopping any activity or talking so we will know what to do in case of an emergency as well as where the life jackets are and fire extinguishers are on the boat.

When the briefing was finished we left the dock for our 20 minute ride to our first wreck, the Red Sea. The Red Sea was a cargo vessel that was sunk in 75 feet just 6 miles off Panama City Beach. She's 125 feet long with a beam width of 30 feet and if you have your wreck penetration certification she has three levels that can be dived but be careful the silt is very heavy so you will need to tie off a line as you go into her cargo holds.

The Captain brings us over the wreck amid-ships and drops the anchor on the starboard side of the wreck so when you descend you will drop off the anchor chain directly on the wreck.

They put a new state of the art bottom machine that he can side scan, and 3-D scan to overlap to give an exact picture of the wreck so he can place the anchor right where he wants. He also replaced the anchor chain with a nice stainless steel one, its much nicer to grab the smooth chain if you need to.

I was the first one in the water so I descended down and dropped to the wreck just above the front deck. We had about 30 foot visibility which is pretty standard a couple weeks after a major storm in the Gulf.

I went to the bottom to see if any Goliath grouper were present but I didn't see any. I turned on my GoPro and started filming parts of the wreck and I did it from a stationary spot. The feeder fish were everywhere and sometimes so thick they would block out the wreck from three feet away. I slowly made my way around the wreck and as I would look into the open holes and cargo bays I noticed a lot of nice size mangrove snappers, it made me wish I had brought my pole spear.

I decided to make my way back up the anchor chain to my safety stop and then back on the boat. I was a very relaxing dive, then the other divers made their way back on the boat to switch to a fresh tank for the second dive, Bridge Span 14. That's next weeks article. Keep making bubbles.

- Russell Miller, NAUI instructor #59999

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A reason to celebrate getting older – and older

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

“Happy birthday!” I said to one of the ladies I cared for when I was a private caregiver.

“What’s so happy about it?” Ms. Elaine countered. “I’m an old lady, getting older.”

I answered quickly (maybe too quickly) with my positive spin. “But aren’t you glad you’ve lived such a long life?”

At the time, I couldn’t empathize with Ms. Elaine’s sentiments. I was a mere spring chicken in my 40s. Now, years later, I understand.

My mirror, in its not-so-subtle way, reveals that another birthday is fast approaching. I’m sure it means well every time it nags me about applying increasing amounts of anti-wrinkle creams and making another

appointment to cover my graying roots.

If I allowed myself, I could easily dread another birthday. Not only because of the physical part, but also because of the dreams I fear may no longer be possible.

Do you ever feel this way?

Remember when you were a child? How excited you felt about every birthday? You couldn’t wait to celebrate your special day with family and friends.

What if we returned to that same celebratory attitude – no mat-

ter how many candles we have on our birthday cake?

“Yeah, sure, Sheryl,” you say. “Wait until you’re looking at 90 candles.”

But what would your friend who’s dying of cancer say about another birthday? I’m sure he or she would gladly celebrate getting older, and older – and older.

I’m not trying to force a Pollyanna attitude. (Believe me, I’m also writing this column for myself.) Perhaps Psalm 25:1 (AMPC) can help us with our perspective:

“Unto You, O Lord, do I bring my life.”

When we pause to remember Who we’re living for – Who gives us our life – we’re able to look at ourselves (and every day God gives us) differently.

When I remember to bring my life to the Lord, I live that day differently. Each time I pray for His direction on how to use the time He gives me, I’m able to look forward to each day. I can rest in knowing He has a purpose for me which continues ... and continues!

So rather than

mourning lost youthfulness, let’s rejoice in each day as we wait in expectation for what God has planned for us.

If you think about it, no matter how old we are, we’re going to live forever in eternity.

So, we’re actually ... merely spring chickens.

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.

Let creation testify

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

It was one of those days when silence felt good. There was no need for music or conversation. The sky was ice blue, contrasting with the warm sunlight that peered through the white cumulus clouds. My spirit was searching for peace as I followed the twisting road of the countryside that was fast becoming my new home. Lifting my

eyes toward the sky in prayer, I witness a bird drifting upon the wind.

Upon further observation, I realized it was no ordinary bird. Slowing my truck to a stop, I reached for my camera to capture the majesty of an eagle in flight. He was effortlessly circling above me, using the wind as his momentum. I laid the camera down, not wanting to be distracted from the vision before me. My spirit breathed in the beauty, the silence, and the moment’s serenity. I was spellbound.

Then it happened; the eagle broke his flight and soared across the tops of the trees to my left. I lost sight of him for a split second until he resurfaced above the

wooded area, swooping across the road in front of me. Commanding the flight of excellence, he tilted his body sideways and disappeared into the thicket of trees to my right. I never saw him again.

I am aware of scripture that teaches God’s invisible qualities are seen in creation. The eternal power and divine revelation are seen and understood to be a witness of the righteous God we serve (Romans 1:20). On that day, I saw God’s strength and glory witnessed in nature through the eagle’s flight. And today, I recall that moment to bring healing to my spirit.

How is it that in one moment, we can feel the closeness of God, and in

the next moment, Satan can rear his head and still from us the joy of our salvation? How can we feel empowered one moment and defeated the next? Like the Psalmist, we are human. We stumble, and we fall. Yet we never fall beyond the grace of God.

Scripture reminds us that we will renew our strength if we wait upon the Lord (Isaiah 40). It is in the power of God that we will soar like an eagle, our strength rekindled in Him.

If it is the eagle’s flight that reminds us of God’s strength, then it is the smallness of the sparrow that reminds us of God’s grace. For there will be days when like the eagle, we are in command of our journey on earth.

And there will be days when like the sparrow, we feel small and inconsequential. Yet, even in the sparrow, we discover encouragement, for she will find a home for herself and her young resting near the altar of our Lord (Psalm 84).

The Psalmist often wrote of being near the altar of grace as he reminded himself to trust in the God of creation despite the circumstances of life.

So often, we find faith difficult as the storm waves of life sweep over us. Nonetheless, like the Psalmist, we must remember the days of old when we experienced the blessings of God as He carried us along the shore of life.

Today if you are

strong, be encouraged to soar through the heavens. However, if you feel small like the sparrow, go to the altar of the Lord and find your resting place.

Matthew 10:29,31 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

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

This column is a repeat of one that appeared in September 2022.

OUT TO PASTOR

What’s the harm in a little treat?

By **JAMES SNYDER**

The last month has been crazy for me and The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Every month has its crazy element, but this past month beats them all.

First, my main computer crashed, and I lost a lot of stuff.

Second, we had a hurricane that came through; fortunately, it was only thunder, rain and loss of electricity.

Third, I came down with what the doctor said was acute bronchitis. I told him I did not think any of this bronchitis was cute.

Fourth, my next book manuscript is due this month.

That was just the main highlight of the past month, and by the time it was over, I was over the hill. I just felt washed out and needed a little bit of rest.

I resumed working on my book. Then, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came and said she would be gone for the day with one of our daughters—thrif store shopping.

I told her to have a great time, and she said she would be back sometime in the afternoon and that I had to

get my lunch. That was OK with me. I sat back in my chair with my computer and resumed working on my manuscript. I was finally getting caught up and would soon be finished.

Taking a break, I got up, got a fresh cup of coffee, returned to my chair, sat down and relaxed. There was this strange thought in the back of my head that I could not clarify.

After several sips of coffee, I leaned back and looked around to see what was missing. Something was missing, and I just could not put my finger on it.

After my kind of week, it is no wonder my brain is not working as well as it should. However, I thought I would relax and see if anything came to mind.

The whole day was before me, and I was thinking of what I would do for lunch when I could not get this gnawing thought out of my head. It was like a rat gnawing up in the attic and was so unsettling. It was right before me, but I could not get my focus clear.

Oh well, I sighed, took another sip of coffee, set my cup down, and was about to go back to work when the thought suddenly jumped out in front of me.

I love it when a plan comes together.

I saw for the very first time what was missing. After a month of all kinds of hectic activity, I needed something to relax me. At first, I could not figure out what it was, but then it came to me.

What I needed was a little treat. What harm is a little treat when you need to relax?

I looked at my watch, saw the time, and realized that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would not return for another four hours. That gave me plenty of time to deal with my treat.

You guessed it, that treat was an Apple Fritter. What harm does a little treat like that have when you deserve it? And, boy, do I?

I quickly got into my truck and headed to Publix. I was about to buy one Apple fritter

when another thought came to mind. Why not buy two apple fritters? What harm do two little treats have?

Without hesitation, I got the two apple fritters and took them to the cash register, hoping nobody would recognize me. My bad luck was that the cashier was a friend of my wife and knew about the apple fritters controversy.

“Does your wife know you’re getting these apple fritters?”

After stuttering for a few seconds, I said, “Well, she’s away for the day and gave me permission to get my own lunch for today.” I smiled at her, paid for the apple fritters, left the store and went home.

Getting a fresh cup of coffee, I took that and the apple fritters to my easy chair to sit back

and enjoy this little treat. After all, I earned every bite.

After a few hours of work, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage finally came home and walked into the kitchen area with a bag of groceries. I noticed on the bag was the word Publix. I hoped she had a different cashier than I did.

“So,” my wife said as she entered my room, “I hear you were at Publix this morning.”

“Yes, my dear, you told me I needed to get my own lunch for the day and that’s why I went to Publix.”

“Did you get an Apple fritter?”

Now, my words need to be very precise. “No, my dear. I did not get ‘AN’ Apple fritter.”


The look she gave me made me realize she did not believe me. What I

said was true but it was not the whole truth. That got me remembering what Solomon said, “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whose confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy” (Proverbs 28:13).

According to Solomon, half a truth is still a lie if it makes the other person believe what is not the whole truth. I knew what I had to do. As much as it pained me, I had to confess to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage that I had two Apple Fritters.

Smiling at me she simply said, “I know.”

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

• **Brenda Ann Coleman**, 61, of Crawfordville, died September 17, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Sheryl Ashmore Ferrell**, 101, of Crawfordville, died September 23, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Audrey Funck**, 73, of Crawfordville, died September 17, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Robert Dale Harwood**, 67, of Tallahassee, died September 23, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Eugene L. Mellott**, 83, of Crawfordville, died September 18, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Carolyn A. Olah**, 86, of Crawfordville, died September 23, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Fred Quigg**, 84, of Crawfordville, died September 24, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Tony A. Young**, 78, of Panacea, died September 20, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

BEREAVEMENT COLUMN

Facing grief at church



By TRACY RENEE LEE

Returning to gathered worship after losing a loved one can be daunting. The anticipation of face-to-face interactions may impose anxiety over anticipatory questions that cause discomfort and pain. Although everyone wants to see you back on your feet, the reality is that you probably feel as though you are suffering sea legs on dry land.

The familiar rhythms of life may now seem foreign to you. Conversations and time at work, school, clubs, and even with friends and family

have most likely become awkward and unwieldy. Core family commitments also levy additional stress into your already drowning coping strategies.

Attendance and participation in activities that are unnecessary for survival become overwhelming and unwelcome. American culture is focused on happiness and popularity; it is anti-grief-based. The songs on our radios begin with tragedy and end in triumph in less than three minutes. We dress up for social engagements and hurry in and out with animated greetings and smiles as though we don't care in the world.

In church, we are presented with a pathway to heavenly happiness and quickly pass over any pains suffered along the way. We concentrate on the glory of salvation and forget that the road

to get there is paved with trials that inflict real and wretched pain. We focus on the healings and the healed rather than investigating and understanding the anguish suffered before these glorious blessings were realized.

Focusing on the prize is an excellent strategy if you are not called upon to bear true agony. If tragedy strikes you, a pre-plan for coping and recovery is a good strategy. Coping skills, support networks, and navigational abilities add up to better recoveries than just focusing on the end game of everything will be alright.

We may try to keep grief at arms' length, but we cannot keep it out of our lives indefinitely. Eventually, we will experience our frailties when significant loss knocks us straight on. At that moment, we seek Jesus

like we never have before. The problem is that, most likely, he's at church with all of those well-wishers.

So how do we seek Jesus and avoid the intolerable pain of everyone wishing us well? The answers are reasonably straightforward. We seek him through knowing him before tragedy strikes. If we know Him and communicate with Him before tragedy hits us, we will recognize Him when we are wrought with pain.

Death often ushers in a faith crisis. My experiences with loss have taught me to lean into my faith rather than doubt or back away from it. Anger, anguish, and pain tempt me to lash out and pull away from Jesus, but I have never found those actions to promote recovery. In my life, I have found that allowing the Good Shepherd to shepherd me back to a place

where I can live again is my best recovery tactic.

If you suffer a loss, I hope you will lean into your faith rather than pull away from it. You may be unable to tolerate returning to gatherings at church for a while, but you can visit with your Pastor or read and study your scriptures.

Allowing others to minister to you during your recovery is a great blessing. Friends and family want to help even from a step away. When others ask if there is something they can do, invite them to pick up a few chores from your list of responsibilities; grocery shopping, laundry, yard work, washing the car, and meal preparation are a few tasks that are easily assigned and require little one-on-one contact. A simple thank you card thanks others for their services and allows you to feel their love

without time together. It also helps you feel the Savior's love through the care and kindness his followers show.

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: Big paydays, big changes

By RYAN DAILEY
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – The former president and former chief financial officer of a nonprofit group that helped oversee efforts to combat domestic violence were charged with felonies this week and accused of bilking the state out of more than \$3.7 million — money that was meant to benefit victims.

Authorities announced fraud, grand theft and official misconduct charges against Tiffany Carr, who served as president and CEO of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence for more than 20 years, and Patricia Duarte, the nonprofit's former CFO.

The charges marked the culmination of state probes launched after The Miami Herald reported on compensation paid to leaders of the coalition. They also came after Carr two years ago agreed to pay \$2.1 million as part of a settlement of civil lawsuits centered on the state's attempt to claw back "exorbitant" compensation.

Carr's charges stem from reports that she received compensation of at least \$7.5 million over a three-year period. That included more than \$3.7 million in paid time off, according to court documents in lawsuits that led up to the 2021 settlement, which also called for the coalition and its foundation to be dismantled.

Lawmakers in 2020 stripped from state law the coalition's relationship with the Department of Children and Families, which canceled its contract with the organization.

A news release Thursday from the Florida De-

partment of Law Enforcement said Carr and Duarte "conducted a scheme to fraudulently award themselves personal time off" using money provided through grants intended to help fund domestic-violence shelters throughout the state.

FDLE investigators and Department of Children and Families workers examined "years of documentation" over the past two years, according to the news release.

The investigation showed that Carr and Duarte "submitted false quarterly reports, billed the state for vacant positions and charged for services never provided," with Carr receiving more than \$3.4 million in "excessive bonus and leave payouts" and Duarte receiving \$291,000, the release said.

"These officials were entrusted to run an organization to assist those seeking a safe haven from abuse. Instead of ensuring state funds went to help those in need, they schemed together to steal more than \$3.7 million for grossly inflated salaries and vacations. We previously took civil action to rid the organization's bad management, and now we are filing criminal charges against these former officials," Attorney General Ashley Moody said in a prepared statement.

HELMING THE HOUSE

The next speaker of the Florida House was formally designated this week, while delivering a message of limited government.

"Members, we are in danger of becoming a conveyor belt — passing along every bill, funding every project without

ever stopping, thinking and questioning, is this the appropriate use of our power?" Rep. Daniel Perez, R-Miami, said to House members gathered Monday for his designation ceremony. "Government cannot be all things to all people."

Perez will succeed Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast, after the 2024 elections and lead the House during the 2025 and 2026 sessions. He was first elected in a 2017 special election and serves as chairman of the House Rules Committee.

Perez, an attorney, told reporters after the ceremony that his South Florida constituents have one priority: addressing the state's property-insurance problems. He said changes made by the Legislature are "chipping away" at the problem, but he noted the cost of his homeowners' insurance has increased 120 percent.

"Do I believe we're done with property insurance?" he said. "No,

not a chance."

The son of Cuban immigrants who came to America in 1969, Perez also included numerous references during the ceremony to his heritage and how that has helped shape him.

"I came to understand how much Fidel Castro had taken from the people of Cuba, and that took root in my mind as a different kind of fear — a fear about how power can be abused and eventually turned into the poor ideology of socialism," Perez said.

MEASURING IDALIA'S DESTRUCTION

A preliminary report released Thursday by the University of Florida estimated up to \$370.9 million in agricultural losses from Hurricane Idalia, which barreled through rural areas of North Florida in late August.

And losses could increase as damage to infrastructure and such things as timber are fac-

tored in.

Christa Court, director of the Economic Impact Analysis Program at the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, pointed to a role the report could play amid recovery efforts from the Category 3 hurricane.

"We know that there's a lot of decisions that are being made now, or in the near future at local levels, state levels," Court said. "There's a lot of discussions going on at federal levels and we want to make our information available to them as fast as possible so that they can make informed decisions."

Idalia made landfall Aug. 30 in the Keaton Beach area of Taylor County before moving through parts of North Florida into Georgia. While powerful, Idalia had a relatively narrow path that crossed mostly sparsely populated areas that include many dairy and poultry farms and

row crops.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"After the (2022) election, someone mentioned to me our supermajority and they said, 'Danny, we can make people do anything we want. And that might be true. But just because we have the power to do a thing, doesn't necessarily mean that we should, and just because we think we are right, it doesn't mean we are justified.'" — Incoming House Speaker Daniel Perez, R-Miami

STORY OF THE WEEK:

Authorities charged the former longtime president of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and a former chief financial officer of the agency with fraud, grand theft and official misconduct, accusing the women of bilking the state out of more than \$3.7 million from money earmarked for domestic violence shelters.

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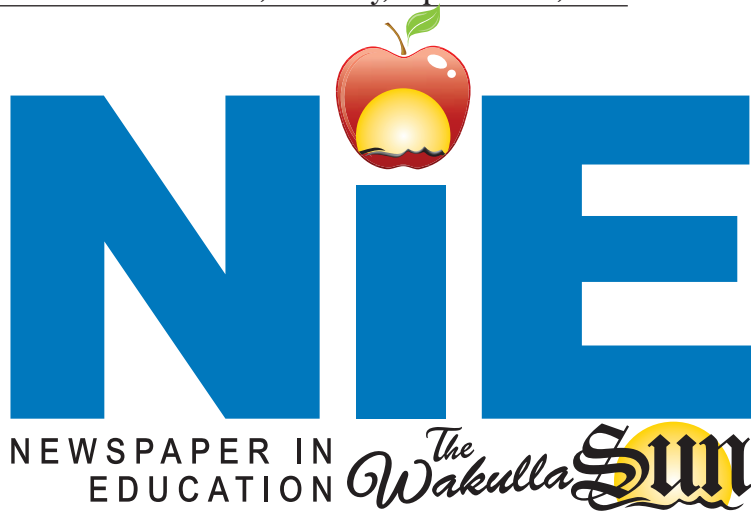
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USE THE NEWS

1. END OF THE DVD ERA

On Friday, Netflix announced they will no longer offer the mail-order DVD service that launched the company 25 years ago. Netflix once mailed 1.2 million DVDs a week in its signature red envelopes, changing the way people watched movies at home, free from due dates and late fees that people ran into at local video rental stores. Fun fact: The first movie Netflix ever shipped was “Beetlejuice.” At its peak, Netflix was the US Postal Service’s fifth largest customer, offering one-day delivery to almost all of its customer base long before Amazon Prime got in the game. Even as the service prepared to shut down, Netflix was still mailing around 50,000 DVDs a week to a loyal base of around one million customers. In its announcement, Netflix invited the DVD customers to keep their last rentals. Stories like this highlight the way technology changes during our lifetimes. Think about the technology you use on a daily basis – watching TV, doing homework, talking to friends, playing games. How do you think that might change in the next ten years? How about fifty years? Write down your ideas and share them with your classmates.

2. WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

India is taking a large step for gender equality. Their legislative branch of government, like ours, has two houses—an upper and lower house. The country passed a law that will require at least one-third of the seats in the lower house of Parliament, and in state legislatures, to be filled by women. It doesn’t apply to the upper house, but those members are chosen by the state legislatures, which will be affected by the new rule. While the rule won’t go into effect for India’s elections next year, it will eventually give women better representation in the country’s political process. Think about how this kind of rule would work in the United States. Do you think it’s a good thing to implement? Why or why not? Write down

your thoughts and share them with your classmates.

3. AN IMPRESSIVE FIND

A woman who purchased a painting at a New Jersey thrift store for \$4 in 2017 was shocked to find out that it was an original oil painting by a famous American illustrator. It was by N.C. Wyeth, who is best known for illustrating “Treasure Island” and “Robin Hood.” The buyer posted pictures of the painting and the signed label on the back of it on Facebook, where it drew the attention of an art expert,

who examined it and told them who the artist was and where it came from – it was part of a four-image set Wyeth created for the book “Ramona,” published in 1939. The painting sold in an art auction last week for \$191,000. If you were going to interview the person who bought the painting at the thrift store for an article about the story, write down some questions you would ask them.

4. A MISSING PLANE

Last week, a military pilot parachuted away from his fighter jet, falling more

than 1,000 feet into a home’s backyard. He lost sight of the plane as he was falling and it took officials another day to find where it landed. Because of a safety feature that keeps the plane steady if a pilot’s hands are no longer on the controls, it kept flying for another 60 miles before crashing in a rural area of South Carolina. While planes are normally tracked with radar, another safety feature of the fighter jet erases its communications when a pilot ejects from the plane—to protect the pilot’s location if they were dropping into enemy territory—made it

hard to find the plane as it continued to fly and finally crashed. Write a short article about the event and draw a picture or pictures to help illustrate your story.

5. A HEARTWARMING OPERATION

A 58-year-old Navy veteran was dying from heart failure and wasn’t eligible for a transplant because of other health problems. But surgeons found an opportunity to try to help him and advance medical research at the same time. They implanted a pig’s heart into the man, a procedure

that’s only been done one other time—that man lived two months after the transplant. People’s immune systems usually attack animal-to-human organ transplants, but scientists have been working on genetically modifying pigs to make their organs more similar to humans. This would help with the shortage of human organs donated for transplant and could be lifesaving for thousands of people. Write a short article that summarizes the facts of this story and how it might help humans in the future.



WHAT IS THE AVERAGE AGE THAT MOST CHILDREN BEGIN THEIR PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION?

ANSWER: AGE 5

What’s the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



Answers: 1. Girl in back on left has sleeves white box on door 4. Boy in front missing white stripes on shorts

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1789: GEORGE WASHINGTON APPOINTS THOMAS JEFFERSON THE FIRST UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE.
- 1934: THE OCEAN LINER RMS QUEEN MARY IS LAUNCHED.
- 1983: AUSTRALIA II WINS THE AMERICA’S CUP, ENDING THE NEW YORK YACHT CLUB’S 132-YEAR RUN AS THE REIGNING CHAMPION.



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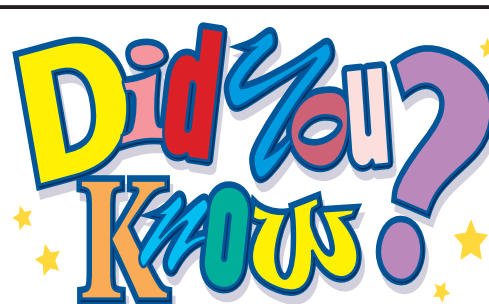
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SPANISH: Grado

ITALIAN: Classe

FRENCH: Classe

GERMAN: Klasse



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Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SCHOOL BUS

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

WORDS

- ACREMONIUM
- ALLERGEN
- ALTERNARIA
- ANTIMICROBIAL
- ASPERGILLUS
- ATTIC
- BASEMENT
- BATHROOM
- BIOCIDES
- BLACK
- CLEAN
- CONTAMINANT
- DAMP
- DEHUMIDIFIER
- FUNGI
- HUMIDITY
- HYPERSENSITIVITY
- MILDEW
- MOLD
- MUSHROOM
- MYCOTOXIN
- PATHOGEN
- REMIEDIATE
- SPORES

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

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Outsourcing (abbr.)
4. Post
8. German city on edge of Black Forest
10. “___, but goodie”
11. Spiced stew
12. Passionately
13. Monetary units
15. Group of living organisms
16. Organic compound derived from ammonia
17. High honors
18. 5-year-olds’ classes
21. Swiss river
22. Old woman
23. Cash machine
24. A way to soak
25. Hair product
26. Deride
27. “The Blonde Bombshell”
34. Cause to become insane

35. Bluish greens
36. Supported with money
37. Type of equation
38. Court officials
39. Indian god
40. Rids
41. Leak slowly through
42. Units of ionizing radiation
43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

1. Native of Slovakia
2. Deli meat
3. Fibrous substance in fungi
4. Cutting
5. Vedder and Van Halen
6. Horror comic novelist
7. Rulers of Tunis

9. Shaped like a circle
10. Make a pig of oneself
12. Aphorism
14. Witness
15. Single Lens Reflex
17. Freshwater North American fish
19. Nautical ropes
20. Leg (slang)
23. Pokes holes in
24. Moved quickly on foot
25. Fix-it shops
26. Type of bread
27. Repaired
28. Synthetic diamond (abbr.)
29. Type of drug (abbr.)
30. German city along the Rhine
31. Animal disease
32. Martini necessities
33. Get away from
34. Village in Mali
36. Djibouti franc

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the great outdoors.

R D S B I

--	--	--	--	--

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Guess Who?

I am an actress born in Mississippi on September 30, 1982. I participated in the World's Our Little Miss Scholarship Competition in 1985. I gained fame on “Party of Five,” a hit TV show, and went on to make various movies in the 1990s and beyond.

Answer: Lacey Chabert


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 Published on September 21, 2023

E-EDITIONS



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The Wakulla SUN

Festival of Joy

From Front Page

kids to have the best time.”

Sara Wallace, daughter of Mary Wallace who is an ESE student herself, is titled as the Foundation’s Inspiration.

Mary further explained, “After last year’s successful Prom Night event, my daughter Sara told me that we need to more activities, ‘For kids like me’ and came up with the idea of the festival. She is my inspiration and warms my heart to see life through her eyes. These are events in which she feels comfortable at, and we want all the kids in Wakulla County to be able to have something that is their own and that they love and enjoy doing and feel comfortable being who they are. All the items and games were chosen with the

kids in mind. Sara is so instrumental in picking everything out.”

JOYful Journeys unveiled their new mascot named “Joy” at the event. Joy is a big happy smiley face who walks the event looking to bring smiles, take pictures and bring Joy to all she meets.

Yvette Howell, grandmother to Donovan and

Dahlia Kirby said, “This event is such a huge blessing for the kids to be around their peers, have an adventure on the river and have fun in a designated place and designated for their abilities.”

Director Mary Wallace concluded with, “The main thing is to try to give as many activities as possible to these kids because they don’t like to go out and social-

ize. At our events, they are a whole lot more comfortable, in smaller groups and around their friends. We want to be as accommodating as we can for them because we want to encourage them to live life to the fullest and feel safe and loved and that they matter.”

“Thanks to all my sponsors, thanks to all my volunteers, thanks to my amazing Board Jesse and Amy, thanks

to my amazing daughter Sara, thanks to God for putting me in the path of such amazing people and amazing community. None of this would be possible without each one of them.”

All of the funds raised goes directly back into funding and planning the next event. All events are free for kids with special needs.

To find out more about the Foundation, you can

go to Facebook account. facebook.com/joyfilled-journeys or reach out to Mary Wallace 850-228-5667; a website will be coming soon.

The next event is on Dec. 7 with a JOY-Filled Christmas at Wakulla Springs Lodge from 6 to 8 p.m. Activities include pictures with Santa at a more inclusive level and presents, and more activities.



Cullen Gallagher with his aunt Alice Bradshaw before a boat ride.

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Next game:

Thursday, Sept. 28 at 7 p.m.

Wakulla War Eagles travel to Tallahassee to take on the Rickards Raiders.



War Eagles beat Mosley, 45-21

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

It was a tough game – travel to Panama City, a nearly two-hour long weather delay, and then the War Eagles were down 14-0 to a good Mosley Dolphins team.

By the end of the game – it was nearly 1 a.m. eastern time – the War Eagles had shown how explosive they are and notched a win, 45-21. (The score could have even higher except for dropped passes, including one in the 4th quarter when the seconds were playing.)

"They didn't give up," said Head Coach Scott Klees. "I'm just proud of the way our kids overcame adversity."

This was a Mosley team that had beaten Wakulla last year. But the players didn't hang their heads, Klees said.

"They didn't flinch."

GAME RECAP

The two teams exchanged punts on their first offensive possessions. Then Mosley scores first after a long quarterback run to the 2 and then an off-tackle run to punch it in. Extra point good. Dolphins

up 7-0 on War Eagles with 6:10 left in 1Q.

War Eagles can't convert a 4th and 6 at Mosley 45 and turn the ball over on downs. That sets up another long QB run for Mosley - this one for 52 yards and a touchdown. Dolphins lead 14-0 over Wakulla with 1:52 in 1Q.

War Eagles strike back with a bomb from QB Haden Klees to speedster Del Zanders covering about 70 yards and Wakulla cuts the lead to 14-7 with 16 seconds in the first.

Receiver Samron Brinson makes a great diving catch, nice run by Jeremiah Thomas to the 3 and then Klees connects with Zanders in the back of the endzone. Penalty on extra point by the Dolphins for simulating the snap count puts ball at the 1 and Coach Klees decides to go for 2 - it's no good.

QB Klees flips the ball to receiver Nehemiah Chandler on a reverse and he throws downfield to a wide open Samron Brinson for an 83-yard play for a touchdown and Wakulla's first lead: 20-14.

Wakulla blocks a Mosley punt. A 15-yard personal foul by Dolphins puts the ball



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WEEKLY WAR EAGLE GAME HIGHLIGHTS
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PHOTO BY WILLIAM SNOWDEN

War Eagle Jeremiah Thomas catches a pass and takes it to the end zone against the Mosley Dolphins.

at the 17. That sets up another touchdown pass from Klees and Zanders. Go for 2 and Jeremiah Thomas takes it in. Wakulla up 28-14 over Mosley with 1:56 to halftime.

Mosley scores TD on a pass play and cut Wakulla's lead - it's 28-21 with 44 seconds until half.

Wakulla kicker Luis Quintonilla adds a 36-yard field goal as

time expires for half-time to make the score Wakulla 31, Mosley 21.

On Mosley's second half possession, Del Zanders picks off a Mosley pass at the Dolphin 19 and Wakulla is in the red zone. A few plays later, Klees throws a swing pass to Jeremiah Thomas who takes it 15 yards for the score. Extra point puts Wakulla up 38-21 over Mosley with 6:50 left in 3Q.

On Mosley's next possession, Mosley runner, fighting for extra yards, gets the ball knocked out at midfield, Wakulla recovers. Then Another touchdown pass from Klees to Samron Brinson to put Wakulla up 45-21 with 5 minutes left in the third quarter.

Wakulla's second string mostly played the fourth quarter and went scoreless.

Final: Wakulla

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

The overall player of the week was receiver Del Zanders who had 7 catches for 113 yards and three touchdowns, and had an interception on defense.

Kohl Pippin was the offensive player of the week with the lineman grading out at 88%.

Linebacker Herschel Blackmon was defensive player of the week with 8 tackles, a sack, and a blocked punt.

Kicker Luis Quintonilla was special teams player after kicking a 37-yard field goal and four extra points.

Other notable players in Thursday night's game included Samron Brinson, who had 8 catches for 198 yards.

Jeremiah Thomas, a receiver who moved to running back to cover for a sick Bradley Kelly, had 10 carries for 84 yards and a 2-point play, plus 5 catches for 55 yards and a touchdown.

Quarterback Haden Klees went 26 for 40

passing for 347 yards and 5 touchdowns. His numbers would have been even gaudier if not for 9 dropped passes.

Nehemiah Chandler was assigned to cover Mosley's best receiver and didn't allow a catch. Plus, he threw a touchdown pass on a trick play to Samron Brinson.

NEXT UP: RICKARDS

The War Eagles go to Tallahassee this week to play the Rickards Raiders.

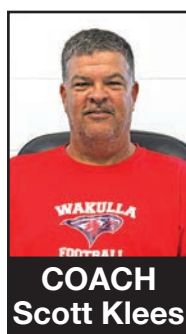
"Man, they're just so athletic," says Coach Klees. They've got a running back who might be the best running back in the area. And they're gigantic on both sides of the ball.

"Defense is their strength," he adds, noting that "They have an outside linebacker who is a commit to Georgia."

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FROM THE COACH

Last week: War Eagles showed character in the face of adversity and overcame obstacles.

Scouting report: Rickards is big and athletic. A running back who needs to be contained. They have a strong defense: their outside linebacker is Georgia commit.

Keys to victory: Focus. No silly turnovers or silly penalties.

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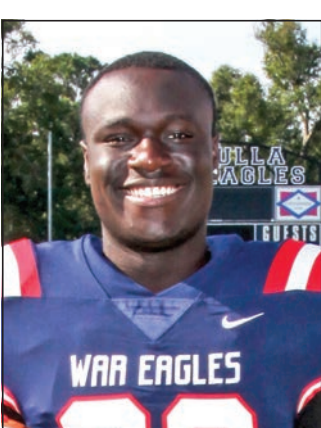
DEL ZANDERS
Receiver

Offense



KOHL PIPPIN
Lineman

Defense



HERSCHEL BLACKMON
Linebacker

Special Teams



LUIS QUINTONILLA
Kicker



Head Coach Scott Klees talks to his offense during a timeout against Mosley.

