

War Eagles stay undefeated



See Page 14

The Wakulla Sun

"It's a New Day"



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday Friday Saturday



Mostly Sunny

Hi: 87° Lo: 69° 7%
Sunrise 7:29 AM
Sunset 7:27 PM



Partly Cloudy

Hi: 87° Lo: 70° 7%
Sunrise 7:29 AM
Sunset 7:25 PM



Partly Cloudy

Hi: 85° Lo: 57° 5%
Sunrise 7:30 AM
Sunset 7:24 PM

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Our 2nd Year 40th Issue
Thursday, October 5, 2023



\$1
One Section

Blue Crab Festival returns



The crab-picking contest is a popular event at the festival.

Photographs by Gerald Brown

Legislative delegation here Friday afternoon

Staff Report

The Wakulla legislative delegation will hold a meeting on Friday, Oct. 6 at 2 p.m. in the county commission chambers.

State Rep. Jason Shoaf, R-Port St. Joe, and Sen. Corey Simon, R-Tallahassee, will be available to listen to issues of local concern with state government.

The delegation holds meetings in the counties they represent prior to the legislative session to hear legislative proposals or express opinions.

This upcoming legislative session is scheduled to start on Jan. 9.



Rep. Jason Shoaf



Sen. Corey Simon



The reigning Miss Wakulla and court in the parade.



Sheriff Jared Miller on a parade float.



Studio 88 dancers in the parade.



The amateur crab picking contest with no tools: 1st place Patti Mellon, 2nd place Jessi Davis, 3rd place Roger Whitt.



Competing in the mullet toss.

Elections office to offer workshop for candidates

Special to The Sun

Joe Morgan, Supervisor of Elections for Wakulla County, will be conducting a workshop covering the fundamentals of becoming a candidate for public office.

All members of the public are invited to attend and learn about pre-filing to become a candidate, the qualifying process and candidate reporting requirements.

"This will be a prime opportunity to understand the pre-filing process and the differences between a candidate that is pre-filed and qualified," said Morgan.

The workshop will be held on Friday, Oct. 13, from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the St. Marks Room of the Wakulla Community Center.

This event will be free to the public, and registration is required. Registration is available online through the Wakulla County Supervisor of Elections website www.WakullaVotes.gov, or by emailing the office at wakullacountysoe@wakullavotes.gov, or by calling at 850-926-7575 on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Supervisor of Elections
Joe Morgan

Artist George Weymouth's work on display

By LEGION TAYLOR
Reporter

When Property Appraiser Ed Brimmer was looking to decorate the lobby of his office, he was looking for a talented local artist whose work would not just be decorative, but also be representative of the splendor of Wakulla County. He found the perfect artist for the job in George Weymouth, a resident of Wakulla who is known for his depictions of Florida's wilderness and wildlife.

Brimmer reached out to Weymouth about purchasing a painting to decorate the property appraiser's office lobby, and Weymouth, rather than making Brimmer pay, gave him five of his pieces as a gift.

The pictures depict various waterfowl and nature scenes, including birds such as the Black-necked stilt, a common shorebird, pictured here. One of the pieces even came with a handcarved wooden pictureframe, made years ago by a local carver, not Weymouth himself.



George Weymouth with one of his works at the property appraiser's office.

Some of them also bear hidden details, such as small images of Florida made to look like a partially eaten leaf. Weymouth creates works such as these

as much as he is able, proudly calling himself a wildlife illustrator.

Weymouth is a naturalist, an expert ornithologist, an illustrator and woodcarver, who has lived in the forests, swamps, and beaches of Florida for more than 60 years.

Weymouth moved to southwest Florida in 1958. There, he quickly got to work learning the ins and outs of the Everglades, tagging alligators and catching snakes in the cypress swamps he and his friend Charles LeBuff spent many of their nights in.

At the end of 1958, when LeBuff moved to Sanibel, Weymouth took over for him at the Everglades Wonder Garden in Bonita Springs as the head tour guide. He stayed there for five years, learning everything he could about the natural splendor of Florida, and eventually moved to Sanibel in 1963.

It was on Sanibel Island that he emerged as an outstanding ornithologist, and using his knowledge of the area and its wildlife, he started taking people on tours so that visitors could better understand

Turn to Page 3

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Dense blazing star

By LYNN ARTZ, SANDY TEDDER
and DAVID RODDENBERRY



Dense blazing star

Dense blazing star (*Liatris spicata*) is a gorgeous fall wildflower with striking spikes of rose-purple flowers. The foot-long flower spikes are dense with stemless feathery flowers that bloom from the top down over 2-3 weeks. Plant with other tall species such as goldenrods and grasses to keep the tall, slender flower spikes upright. Also called spiked blazing star, marsh blazing star, and dense gayfeather, dense blazing star grows 2-5 feet tall in moist soils in full sun. It spreads by self-seeding and new underground corms. Butterflies and bees flock to *Liatris spicata* in the fall. Birds eat the attracted insects as well as the seeds. It is a larval host for two moths. Dense blazing star is blooming now in the meadow at Sopchoppy Depot Park.

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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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Lisa Craze, CFC
Wakulla County Tax Collector

Live the Dream:
Enacted: 07/01/2004.
The "Live the Dream" plate is to be distributed by the Dream Foundation, Inc. When you purchase a "Live the Dream" specialty plate above, a percentage of the proceeds go to Sickle Cell Association of Florida (to distribute to sickle cell chapters throughout Florida)

Red, White and Blue Bikers Care: Enacted: 10/01/2003.
Purchase the red, white and blue Bikers Care tag, you will help thousands of citizens by funding programs to prevent blindness and provide support for Floridians with disabilities.

Wakulla Middle students look at service projects

Special to The Sun

The Wildcats are at it again! This time, making the news in their spirit of service.

The 8th grade AVID students at Wakulla Middle School have taken on quite the challenge this year. In keeping with the AVID curriculum, students are learning through service and setting the example of youth leadership in their community.

The students have spent the last few weeks talking about what it means to serve their community, how they can make an impact, and where in the county their vibrant spirit could be used. There were several amazing ideas that the students came up with and when they put it to a vote, ultimately, they chose to benefit the Wakulla County Senior Center.

Dr. Rachel Pienta, with UF/IFAS Wakulla 4-H, came to talk with the students about the “how” of doing a



Wakulla Middle School 8th grade AVID students with Dr. Rachel Pienta are Nevaeh Castellano, Marlana Dobbs, Emily Hoffman, Jeremiah Connell, Christopher Self, Logan Petersen, Riley Smith, Jordan Harris, Katelynn Babcock, Annalyn Martin, Alyson Terrell, Josephine Harden, Peyton Griffin, Lonnie Pearce, and Matthew Lane.

community service project and walked them through creating their SMART goal. Together with Dr. Pienta and Mrs. Isaacs, the students are developing a

plan for both interior and exterior work by setting small and specific goals and timetables for completion.

The students chose the Senior Center

based on the impact of their service they felt they could make. Of their options, this was one that they felt didn't receive other assistance through the year. Senior Center Director Lara Edwards has voiced her joy at the news that they would be the recipients of such services.

Students are planning to refurbish and clean the outdoor benches, paint flowerpots and plants new shrubbery and flowers. They are creating a “wish-list” of supplies that the center could use indoors as well to benefit our local seniors.

Over the next several months, the Wildcats will be asking for community support in the forms of supply donations and/or monetary assistance to help them on this endeavor. Their project will culminate in March just prior to Spring Break.

For more information on how you can help, please contact Mrs. Isaacs at Wakulla Middle School.

Pirate-themed open house at library



Library staffers Dana Harvey and Suzie Bennett as pirate wenches.



Taylie Oaks and Library Director Linda Oaks.



Members of American Legion Post 114.



Arg, ye be forced to walk the plank.

PHOTOS BY LINDA ANN McDONALD

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 20 ct. 3

Chamber lunch at Seineyard



Some of the Chamber of Commerce members at Seineyard Rock Landing's tiki hut.



Trying to read a name during the drawing.



Zoe Mansfield with cash winner Nancy Paul.

PHOTOS BY LYNDA KINSEY

Weymouth

From Front Page

what they saw when they visited the island. He spent years studying and watching and learning, making himself an expert on all the things there were to know about the birds who make Florida their home. He eventually moved to Wakulla in 1986.

The only thing possibly more notable than his wildlife expertise, he is also a skilled painter, woodcarver, and crafts-

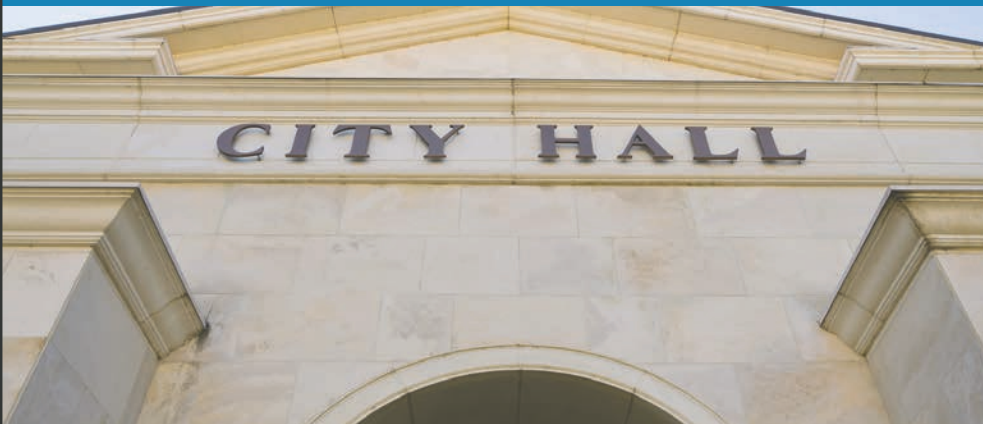
man, spending weeks at a time on each piece in order to ensure that every detail, no matter how minute, is exact.

Weymouth has also been an avid bow hunter for much of his life, going so far as to learning how to knap his own arrowheads out of flint via the methods that Native Americans used for centuries. He resides now in Sopchoppy, on the very edge of the Apalachicola National Forest, where he used to run Weymouth Wildlife Art.

While Weymouth used to travel around the globe with his wife, he has settled down here in Florida for good, and spends his time with his art or volunteering at Gulf Specimen Marine Lab or with the Coastal Plains Institute, to continue supporting and protecting the wilderness as much as he can.

Though he is now firmly retired, he still paints and carves as much as he can, never letting go of the love for nature his long and storied life has granted him.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
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Opinions

THE FIRST AMENDMENT

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

LETTERS FROM READERS

Consider the impacts of development

Editor, The Sun:

Recently I had the pleasure of addressing the Wakulla chamber of commerce meeting at the Seineyard Restaurant in Panacea several weeks ago, where a hundred and ten people were happily enjoying platters of beautiful cooked shrimp, crab, oysters and fish while overlooking our magnificent Dickerson bay. These were the movers and shakers of our community so I took the opportunity to tell them that the future of the seafood and ecotourism lay in their hands, that they were eating the products of marsh, mud, sea grass and clean water. I told them that when they cut trees (a favorite pastime of developers and bulldozer operators) that they were destroying the good nutrients that flow out into the estuaries and fertilize phytoplankton, which is the food of the oysters they were enjoying. Shrimp fattened on worms and copepods from mud bottoms were being served at the Seineyard, not charbroiled twenty dollar bills, nor silver platters of hundred dollar bills garnish with crab grass, or soups made from gold coins.

I told them that their endless development was going to put an end to all that. If they want a good economy should be working to preserve nature, not destroy it. When the habitats are intact and the water is clean from being filtered by the forests, people catch fish, which makes them happy. Happy people spend money. No one is coming from New York, Chicago or Atlanta to behold our obscene growing clutter of Crawford-Vile. They can see all the usual corporate clutter of McDonalds, Hardees, Walmart, Popeye chicken, Dairy Queen, etc. Tourists come to fish, to see birds and manatees, to behold crystal clear springs, and the wild lands of Wakulla, not the ugly flattened treeless landscape, and boring row upon row of subdivision houses, or our choked up highways of cars with the blaring sounds of ambulances, fire trucks and police.

We have mullet festivals, stone crab, blue crab and oyster festivals and even worm grunting festivals to the celebrate the goodness of our natural resources. We have endless fishing tournament attended by thousands. The Wakulla County Tourist Development Office puts ads on the radio saying Wakulla County, with its springs, rivers and wild lands is the place to get away from it all. Why then are the four members of our county commission working in lock step with the burgeoning army of developers and realtors to treat and isolate environmentalists the enemy? No, I didn't enjoy being strong-armed and rudely shoved out the door the county commission chambers by an overzealous deputy during the Wakulla Springs Service Station hearing.

I started Gulf Specimen Marine Lab in 1965 with the hope that my late wife,

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.

Anne Rudloe and I could educate the public into the value of wetlands and coastal forests. We failed. With a blitz of Commissioners' Ralph Thomas and Jerry Moore misinformation, fear mongering and outright lies, they frightened people into repealing the county's four year old wetland ordinance. To me the epitome of ignorance came in during the 2014 St. Marks Stone Crab Festival when developers plastered signs all over town of a stone crab holding up a placard that read, "VOTE NO TO THE WETLANDS ORDINANCE". Imagine that, a creature that is clearly one hundred percent dependent on the salt marshes, the mud bottoms, oysters bars, mud and rocky outcrops urging citizens to for the obliteration of interior and coastal wetlands that filter and clean the water flowing down river and into the estuaries where they live. Crabs have tiny brains but they're not that stupid. Our elected officials however are. (Chuck Hess excepted)

With their vote after vote for subdivisions that scrape off all the vegetation and flatten the landscape, our four commissioners are acting like mindless cancer cells, expanding, growing, and destroying healthy tissues while sapping our energy and making us sick. They are doing so by jamming in miles of pipe, to accommodate the houses, to spray it onto the golf course that the county purchased needlessly. Eventually the excess nitrates and phosphates will percolate down into the aquifer, find its way into the Spring Creek watershed, and over enrich our oysters, both farmed and wild. With each flush of the toilet bowl, the fecal pollution will find its way to the bay and create red tides. So we can then join the urban sprawl of Sarasota, Tampa, Fort Lauderdale with tons of stinking dead fish, rotting sea turtles manatees and dolphins. Before long, unless we rise up and boot these and their puppet masters out of office before they realize their dream (of what, more money, will they ever have enough?) Wakulla County will become just like South Florida where property values are crashing and people are madly fleeing up here to get away from their nightmare. Do we really have to follow suit?

Jack Rudloe

President

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratories Inc. and Aquarium

Letter of thanks from Quigg family

The family of Fred Quigg wishes to express our sincere appreciation for all the prayers, food, cards, visits, phone calls and other acts of concern and sympathy shown to us during his illness and recent passing.

We also greatly appreciate the wonderful loving support and help from the Big Bend Hospice staff, nurses and aides. Your many expressions of love helped us get through a most difficult time.

We miss him greatly, but we know that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Callie Quigg

Lisa, Susan, Duane & Page

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of Oct. 5

Thursday, October 5

- Tourist Development Council meets in the Wakulla County Community Center at 2 p.m.
- 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.
- Yoga with Nellie, Yin yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Classes are \$12, packages available at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Friday, October 6

- The Wakulla War Eagles host the St. John Paul II Panthers at J.D. Jones Stadium at 7 p.m.
- The Wakulla County Legislative Delegation – state Rep. Jason Shoaf and state

Sen. Corey Simon – will hold a hearing at 2 p.m. in the Commission Chambers to discuss issues of local concern.

- The Hudson Park Reopening Ceremony will be held at Hudson Park at 10 a.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Saturday, October 7

- SunBlest Gardens will be holding their fall open house from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Sunday, October 8

- SunBlest Gardens will be holding their fall open house from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monday, October 9

- The planning commission meets at 6

p.m. in the commission chambers.

- The Sopchoppy City Commission meets at City Hall at 6:30 p.m.
- 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.
- Yoga with Nellie, Restorative yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 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 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Tuesday, October 10

- 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.
- Yoga with Nellie, Restorative yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 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.

Wednesday, October 11


- The Florida Wild Mammal Association will hold their monthly bingo night at the Seineyard at Wildwood at 5:30 p.m.
- 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.

Thursday, October 12

- St. Marks City Commission meets at City Hall at 6 p.m.

"It's A New Day!"

The Wakulla Sun




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William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Linda Ann McDonald

Polled at the Quick Stop in Crawfordville:

What is your hobby?



DAVID PEREZ
Construction

On weekends I like cooking time with my kids, cleaning up around the house and woodworking”



JESSIE MCGUIRE
Nurse – TMH

“Trail riding.”



KALEM CARRAWAY
KC Tree

“Fishing! Kind of why I like living here. It’s the best fishing in the world, you have the inshore, offshore and all the flats.”



ADAM GRAY
Gulf Coast Lumber

“Hunting and fishing are the main things.”



JOSEPH B.
Disabled

“Planting trees.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wakulla Station News

By VERNA BROCK

Readers, are you LOVING these cooler mornings? My dogs are definitely reveling in the respite from summer’s sauna, so frisky I can’t keep up with them. I heard a rumor this weekend is bringing us morning temps in the FIFTIES. I don’t know about you, but I can’t wait! Seriously, I haven’t cooled off yet from the recent insane weather experienced hereabouts.

That brings me to Homecoming this weekend at the Wakulla United Methodist Church. Friends and family, join us Sunday morning at 10 a.m. as we celebrate 180 years as a congregation. Plan to stay for the smorgasbord of home-cooked, old-fashioned potluck dinner. The food, fellowship and family time will be outstanding, so y’all come!

So many exciting things are going on this fall, including the Blue Crab Festival last weekend. For the first time since the Covid pandemic hit us, Panacea resumed celebrating the exalted crustacean. Panacea was a very busy burg, and the parade was a hit.

Candy was tossed, flags were

waved and the Lofty Pursuits Marching Band made an appearance. Beauty queens shone and the Grand Marshall of the parade represented the lone remaining crab house in Wakulla County. Karen Radabaugh rode in a stunning convertible along with family members as Sanders Crab Company was honored for its integral contribution to the economy and history of Panacea.

There was a fundraiser fish fry for little Bennie Mott last Saturday, in an effort to defray the huge costs of having an infant battling brain cancer. The turn-out was steady in support of this sweet family, as supporters were treated to the freshest mullet and fixins while doing a good deed. Many thanks, Wakulla, for your prayers and support for Bennie and his family.

Likewise, your prayers and support have made a huge difference for the Mosely/Bennett family. Beautiful Sebastian has celebrated his first birthday as well as many milestone firsts. After so many life threatening complications, so many dark days and challenges, Sebastian is with his family. He is thriving in smiling despite facing a long road to full recovery.

What a testament to his resilience and the power of prayer! I like to imagine his future and the great things this blessed child will do.

Coming up soon is the Shadeville Fall Festival. Several generations of Wakulla students have looked forward to this annual fundraiser. Staff and parents begin planning and preparing for this event almost as soon as the school year begins, and it is a great evening of fun and fundraising for the school. Put Friday, October 20th on your calendar; the Festival will be from 5 to 8 p.m.

Please keep the family of Cheryl Turner in your prayers as they mourn her loss after a brief battle with cancer. Many knew her as the director of Wilderness Coast Public Libraries (WILD), and her vision helped to provide library services to folks across Franklin, Jefferson and Wakulla counties.

Also in need of prayers is the family of Betty Messer. Mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she was a cherished anchor for her extended family. Please continue to lift Donald Garrison, son of our good friend Warner Garrison, as he prepares to meet his Maker. Our Pastor’s wife, Kathy McCollum, has lost a beloved brother-in-law this past week, and would appreciate your

prayers for the entire Virgil family.

Shout out to our new pianist at Wakulla U.M.C., Jennifer Brown. What a joy, after many months of singing acapella or with “canned” music, to have this gracious, talented sister among us. Despite her humble claims of being rusty, she is providing the most divine, uplifting chords to the glory of God. More prayers answered by our loving Father!

I have truly enjoyed attending the Community Traffic Safety Team meetings. There are so many road improvements headed our way, due in part to some valuable grants for the county, Our representative from the FHP, Tom Dewitt, spoke to the three top causes of traffic accidents: speeding; following too closely and inappropriate driving. Obviously, the top two reasons are easily controlled by “we the drivers.” Let’s all be more aware of our surroundings when driving, and observe speed limits, if not for our own safety, then for the safety of our fellow sojourners.

Don’t forget the 2nd Sunday Sing and supper at the Woodville U.M.C. at 6 p.m. this Sunday. If you’ve never been, you are missing a sure bet for a great evening of music and fellowship.

Sheriff’s Report

This report is for activity Sept. 22 to 28 :

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

- Casey Harrell arrived to pressure clean a home and observed an unknown subject present in the yard. The subject took off and fled the area. Harrell observed the back door had been kicked in. Contact was made with the owner of the property who responded as soon as possible. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Austin Rivers investigated.

- Walmart employees reported a theft which had occurred several days prior in which two subjects stole multiple items. The subjects exited the store with approximately \$800 worth of merchandise. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

- Steven Chontos reported a game camera had been taken from a tree on his property. He stated he wanted the incident recorded in case future incidents occur. Deputy Jake Scott responded.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

- Matthew Stewart reported hearing the fire alarms going off in his home. Stewart realized the master bedroom ceiling was on fire but was able to quickly extinguish it. It is unknown how the fire started. Stewart estimated the ceiling repairs around \$20,000.

- Aaron Taylor reported the theft of three homemade mailbox number markers. Taylor valued the loss at approximately \$300. Deputy Austin Rivers investigated.

- Deputy Edwin Grove attempted to conduct a traffic stop for an inoperable headlight. The driver, Quinton Holmes continued to drive for several more minutes at 20 mph before pulling into a driveway. Holmes was found to have not have a valid driver’s license and was arrested for Driving While License Suspended or Revoked (DWLSR) and Fleeing and Eluding.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 24

- While patrolling on Crawfordville Highway, Deputy Austin Rivers made contact with Jody Russell Jr. on a closed construction road near Whiddon Lake Road. Upon contact with Russell, Deputy Rivers noticed

a prescription bottle with pills not in Russell’s name, which he reportedly threw down upon seeing Deputy Rivers pull up. Deputy Rivers detained Russell due to the prescription bottle and having a knife in his pocket. During a search Deputy Rivers noticed a bulge in Russell’s pocket. He reportedly pulled out items and attempted to conceal them and then allegedly dropped a clear plastic baggie containing 0.1 grams of methamphetamine. Deputy Rivers observed the baggie and was able to get the baggie from Russell before he could destroy it. A glass smoking pipe and a small plastic straw with residue were in a sock Russell had in his cargo pocket. Russell was arrested for possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia and transported to the Wakulla County jail.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 26

- Mavis Ola Walker reported someone opening a Verizon account in her name. After contacting Verizon, Mavis was forwarded to the fraud department, where she was advised to file a police report so the Verizon Fraud Department can begin its investigation. Deputy Kendrick Gavin investigated.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27

- Tarpine Homeowners Association President Theodore Recker reported the theft of a garden hose. The hose was taken from the gate area. Recker wanted this incident documented for informational purposes only. Deputy Austin Rivers investigated.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28

- Harry Taff reported Tiffany Ruffin took his vehicle without permission. The vehicle was located a short time later on Shadeville Highway. Ruffin was placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility. Deputy Austin Rivers investigated.

- A traffic stop was attempted on a vehicle for no tag. The driver later identified as Jonathan Vaillancourt, continued for a short distance and then pulled off the roadway. During the investigation, Vaillancourt was discovered to have drugs, drug paraphernalia and ammunition in his possession. (Vaillancourt was found to be a convicted felon and is prohibited from possessing guns or ammunition.) Vaillancourt was arrested and transported to the jail facility. Deputy Todd Kent investigated.

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

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Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

Sally's second trip to the WCSO range



By MARJ LAW

On her last trip to the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range, Sally tells me that she is having trouble shooting her Glock 42. This Glock is a .380-caliber, small and concealable handgun.

"What don't you like about it?"

"I can't seem to shoot it right. The bullets stick up in the top. Can you help me?"

Well, she didn't have her Glock with her on that Wednesday, but I just happened to have my Ruger Security .380 with me. The Ruger is like her Glock in that it's a .380, and it's also small and concealable.

"It might have something to do with your grip, but it might be the gun itself. If you bring your Glock to the range next time, I'd love to check it out. Meanwhile, let's shoot the Ruger and see how you like it."

I ended up really enjoying the morning with Sally. We went over the WCSO range rules, and reviewed the terms "hot" and "cold." Sally had hearing and eye protection, so we were good to go.

We loaded and unloaded the magazine using an UpLula. We discussed stance, grip and sights. Sally's hands shook just a little bit. She was excited!

Watching her, I was excited too, sharing her new experience. And what do you know, but she hit the target every time!

"Can we come back in 2 weeks?" she asked. "Then

I'll bring the Glock."

I can't help but wonder why she has problems with the Glock, as she is cautious, she listens intently, and she's a natural: a naturally competent shooter. You don't find many like her.

When we meet the next time, I find that Sally has been doing research on .380s, and she has visited several gun shops.

"Are you considering selling your Glock?" I wonder.

She grins.

"My husband says he'll buy the Glock from me if I find a handgun I like better!"

"I know you said to bring my Glock, and it's right here in my sack," she continues, "but I sure would like to try a couple other .380s," she adds almost apologetically. "The Sig Sauer P238 fits nicely in my hand. I really like the way it feels. Another gun I'd like to try is the Smith & Wesson .380 Shield EZ. It's a little larger than the Sig, but I hear it's very easy to manage."

Well, happy days! I just happen to have borrowed my friend Gladys's Shield EZ, and also have my own Sig P238. Now we can compare these two guns to her Glock.

We begin with the Sig. I'm having a feeling Sally is thinking she wants this little guy. The Sig's barrel is 2.7 inches long with an overall length of 5.5 inches, and it weighs 15.2 ounces unloaded. A flush magazine holds six rounds, and you can also find a magazine that holds seven rounds.

"Yours is really pretty!" she exclaims. "I've seen several of these Sigs, and their grips are all different."

"Yes, you can change them if you like. These particular ones we found on eBay. But of course, it's how you like the gun and how you are able to shoot it that counts."

I explain the rating system Joe and I have de-

Smith & Wesson .380 Shield EZ

6.7" long
8 rounds
18.5 ounces



5.5" long
6 rounds flush
7 rounds extended
15.2 ounces



Sig Sauer P238

signed. We give a "1" if we like it or if it is easy, and up to a "5" if we don't like it or if it is hard. This is how we rate difficulty of trigger pull, length of trigger pull, recoil, grip and ease of racking the slide.

"First, I already know I like the grip," she says, holding the Sig carefully with the muzzle pointing downrange.

She adjusts her stance, and takes a breath and lets it out. She squeezes the trigger thoughtfully and grins when she sees the hole in her target.

"Trigger pull is easy. I'll give it a 1 for being so easy. Trigger length isn't

very long. I'll give length a 1.5.

"It does have a kick," she admits. "I'll have to give it a 2.5 for recoil. And it's really easy to rack the slide. That gets a 1. It's easy to use the 3 dot sights, too. I'd call this Sig a good 'senior' gun."

Next, Sally tries the S&W .380 EZ. The EZ is longer than the Sig at 6.7 inches. It weighs a little more at 18.5 ounces and it holds 8 rounds.

"It's a bit larger than the Sig," she notes.

Sally gives the EZ a 1 for trigger pull. To her, the pull is just as light as the Sig's.

Trigger travel, though, is longer. She gives the travel a 2.5, while she gives the Sig a 1.5.

Recoil feels a bit stronger. She gives the kick a 3: a bit heavier than the Sig's. And, just like the Sig, she finds the slide is very easy to rack. She gives the EZ a 1 for an easy slide.

"For some reason, I find it harder to aim the EZ," she tells me.

We hold the guns side by side.

"Both guns have two white rear dots and one white front dot sight. The sight radius is longer with the EZ, which you'd think

would make it easier to sight in, but the difference may be the way your eyes perceive the sights. Shooting is personal and different with almost everyone."

Last, we try that Glock. I'm wondering if she will like it better now that she has the experience of shooting the Sig and the EZ.

Nope.

Sally thinks the trigger is hard on the Glock, and she gives it a 3. She says trigger travel is long, and gives travel a 3.5.

She doesn't like the recoil at all and gives it a 4 or maybe a 5.

"That could be because I'm getting tired," she thinks. "This is the last of the three guns and my hand is tired."

"Well, Sally, are you planning to take your husband up on buying the Glock from you so that you can have the Sig P238?"

Sally grins. She might be tired, but she sure knows what she likes best.

I'm wondering when she'll return to the range.

Carrying a Sig Sauer P238.

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

Refuge to hold Walk for the Wild 5K

Special to The Sun

Join the Friends of St Marks Wildlife Refuge to promote awareness of our refuge and help raise funds for environmental education and outreach. Come enjoy a self-guided 5K walk, run, bike, or paddle, sign up for Roam with a Ranger, or participate virtually by getting out in nature wherever you can.

When you donate and participate in this self-paced 5K event, 100% of your support will provide

additional opportunities for youth in the local community to learn about and experience our unique environment. The Friends fund many environmental education and outreach opportunities for children and students. This year, we are expanding our preschool program to three schools, and we expect to reach upwards of 450 students each month. Tots on Trails, summer camps, youth hunts, and more provide the chance for young people to learn

about the natural world. Our almost 10-year-old internship program has provided over 50 college age students with valuable skills and knowledge to help further their career opportunities. Together, the Refuge and the Friends provide free environmental education programs to over 10,000 participants annually.

For details and to register visit <https://support.americaswildliferefuges.org/team/515939>.

Suggested routes will be marked in various lo-

cations off of Lighthouse Road and other areas of the Refuge. We'll have two Roam with a Ranger guided walks available during the week (Space is limited. Reserve your <https://www.stmarksrefuge.org/walk-for-wild>.) Or, you can participate virtually anywhere at any time that works for you. Look for Pinky the flamingo (and new friends), swing by the historic lighthouse, or complete your 5K on Oct. 14th and watch artists at work during our Plein Air festival.



GAFFTOSAIL SALTWATER CATFISH (*Bagre marinus*)

With painfully sharp spines on its fins, salt water catfish can grow to 1ft and 2lbs. They are bottom feeder using whisker-like barbells to aggressively locate food. Females lay 50 or so pea sized eggs which males pick up and hold them in their mouths until hatching. The growing babies then use their father's mouth as a home. He does not eat during this month long period, but once his appetite is triggered he will not hesitate to eat his own offspring. The bones of this catfish are sold in curio shops as the 'crucifix' bone.

Eukarya, Animalia, Chordata, Actinopterygii, Siluriformes, Ariidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory www.gulfspecimen.org

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

Retired Wakulla Springs State Park Ranger Bob Thompson, on his weekly wildlife survey at the park last week, snapped this photo of a white ibis perched on a limb.



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BC SYSTEMS, CAMERAS & HOUSINGS,
SIDEMOUNT UNITS & MORE.

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

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences



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Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

Oct. 5 - Oct. 11



Tide charts by
tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month
October 14-28

Thursday 5	
Sun rise/set 7:32AM 7:17PM	Moon rise/set ----- 2:05PM
Moon Illumination 61%	
Friday 6	
Sun rise/set 7:33AM 7:16PM	Moon rise/set 12:03AM 2:57PM
Moon Illumination 51%	
Saturday 7	
Sun rise/set 7:33AM 7:15PM	Moon rise/set 12:59AM 3:42PM
Moon Illumination 41%	
Sunday 8	
Sun rise/set 7:34AM 7:14PM	Moon rise/set 1:57AM 4:20PM
Moon Illumination 32%	
Monday 9	
Sun rise/set 7:35AM 7:13PM	Moon rise/set 2:54AM 4:54PM
Moon Illumination 24%	
Tuesday 10	
Sun rise/set 7:35AM 7:12PM	Moon rise/set 3:51AM 5:24PM
Moon Illumination 16%	
Wednesday 11	
Sun rise/set 7:36AM 7:10PM	Moon rise/set 4:45AM 5:51PM
Moon Illumination 10%	

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

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

St. Marks River Entrance

Th	5:31 am ▲ 2.7 ft	1:41 pm ▼ 0.3 ft		
Fr	6:03 am ▲ 2.6 ft	2:57 pm ▼ 0.5 ft		
Sa	6:41 am ▲ 2.4 ft	4:32 pm ▼ 0.6 ft		
Su	2:44 am ▲ 2.2 ft	5:39 am ▼ 2.2 ft	8:44 am ▲ 2.2 ft	5:48 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Mo	2:01 am ▲ 2.2 ft	6:50 am ▼ 1.9 ft	10:48 am ▲ 2.2 ft	6:48 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Tu	1:57 am ▲ 2.2 ft	7:21 am ▼ 1.6 ft	12:01 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	7:29 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
We	1:57 am ▲ 2.2 ft	7:46 am ▼ 1.3 ft	1:07 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	8:00 pm ▼ 0.7 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	5:11 am ▲ 3.6 ft	1:36 pm ▼ 0.7 ft	8:36 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	
Fr	12:01 am ▼ 2.3 ft	5:48 am ▲ 3.3 ft	3:10 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	10:32 pm ▲ 2.5 ft
Sa	1:10 am ▼ 2.4 ft	6:53 am ▲ 3.0 ft	4:45 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	11:46 pm ▲ 2.6 ft
Su	3:35 am ▼ 2.4 ft	10:02 am ▲ 2.9 ft	5:51 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	
Mo	12:23 am ▲ 2.8 ft	5:23 am ▼ 2.0 ft	11:40 am ▲ 3.1 ft	6:36 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Tu	12:51 am ▲ 3.0 ft	6:20 am ▼ 1.6 ft	12:32 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	7:09 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
We	1:17 am ▲ 3.2 ft	7:01 am ▼ 1.2 ft	1:12 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	7:36 pm ▼ 0.8 ft

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	12:31 am ▼ 1.9 ft	5:47 am ▲ 3.4 ft	2:40 pm ▼ 0.6 ft	9:12 pm ▲ 2.3 ft
Fr	1:05 am ▼ 2.2 ft	6:24 am ▲ 3.1 ft	4:14 pm ▼ 0.8 ft	11:08 pm ▲ 2.3 ft
Sa	2:14 am ▼ 2.2 ft	7:29 am ▲ 2.8 ft	5:49 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	
Su	12:22 am ▲ 2.4 ft	4:39 am ▼ 2.1 ft	10:38 am ▲ 2.7 ft	6:55 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Mo	12:59 am ▲ 2.6 ft	6:27 am ▼ 1.9 ft	12:16 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	7:40 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Tu	1:27 am ▲ 2.8 ft	7:24 am ▼ 1.5 ft	1:08 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	8:13 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
We	1:53 am ▲ 3.0 ft	8:05 am ▼ 1.1 ft	1:48 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	8:40 pm ▼ 0.7 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	5:34 am ▲ 3.8 ft	1:52 pm ▼ 0.6 ft	8:40 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	
Fr	12:25 am ▼ 2.3 ft	6:12 am ▲ 3.5 ft	3:17 pm ▼ 0.8 ft	10:25 pm ▲ 2.7 ft
Sa	1:36 am ▼ 2.3 ft	7:16 am ▲ 3.2 ft	4:46 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	11:46 pm ▲ 2.8 ft
Su	3:52 am ▼ 2.5 ft	10:12 am ▲ 3.0 ft	5:55 pm ▼ 0.8 ft	
Mo	12:30 am ▲ 3.0 ft	5:44 am ▼ 2.2 ft	11:52 am ▲ 3.2 ft	6:44 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Tu	1:03 am ▲ 3.2 ft	6:41 am ▼ 1.7 ft	12:47 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	7:22 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
We	1:30 am ▲ 3.4 ft	7:22 am ▼ 1.3 ft	1:29 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	7:53 pm ▼ 0.7 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	5:03 am ▲ 2.7 ft	1:47 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	8:28 pm ▲ 1.9 ft	
Fr	12:12 am ▼ 1.6 ft	5:40 am ▲ 2.5 ft	3:21 pm ▼ 0.7 ft	10:24 pm ▲ 1.9 ft
Sa	1:21 am ▼ 1.7 ft	6:45 am ▲ 2.3 ft	4:56 pm ▼ 0.7 ft	11:38 pm ▲ 2.0 ft
Su	3:46 am ▼ 1.7 ft	9:54 am ▲ 2.2 ft	6:02 pm ▼ 0.6 ft	
Mo	12:15 am ▲ 2.1 ft	5:34 am ▼ 1.5 ft	11:32 am ▲ 2.3 ft	6:47 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Tu	12:43 am ▲ 2.3 ft	6:31 am ▼ 1.2 ft	12:24 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	7:20 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
We	1:09 am ▲ 2.4 ft	7:12 am ▼ 0.9 ft	1:04 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	7:47 pm ▼ 0.6 ft

Dog Island West End

Th	5:25 am ▲ 3.1 ft	1:34 pm ▼ 0.3 ft		
Fr	6:08 am ▲ 2.9 ft	3:00 pm ▼ 0.5 ft		
Sa	7:22 am ▲ 2.6 ft	4:36 pm ▼ 0.6 ft		
Su	1:29 am ▲ 2.6 ft	5:01 am ▼ 2.2 ft	9:38 am ▲ 2.5 ft	5:48 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	1:18 am ▲ 2.4 ft	6:13 am ▼ 1.9 ft	11:23 am ▲ 2.6 ft	6:37 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Tu	1:24 am ▲ 2.5 ft	6:53 am ▼ 1.5 ft	12:27 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	7:12 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
We	1:34 am ▲ 2.6 ft	7:24 am ▼ 1.2 ft	1:13 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	7:41 pm ▼ 0.6 ft

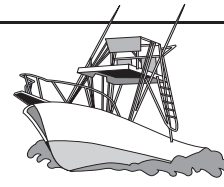
Best hunting and fishing based on solunar times. MAJOR feeding periods are 2 hours long, centered on the solunar time. MINOR feeding periods are only 1 hour long, again centered on the solunar time.

Thursday 5	
Minor Times ----- 1:20PM	Major Times 5:22AM 5:49PM
Friday 6	
Minor Times 11:18PM 2:12PM	Major Times 6:16AM 6:42PM
Saturday 7	
Minor Times 12:14AM 2:57PM	Major Times 7:08AM 7:33PM
Sunday 8	
Minor Times 1:12AM 3:35PM	Major Times 7:57AM 8:20PM
Monday 9	
Minor Times 2:09AM 4:09PM	Major Times 8:43AM 9:04PM
Tuesday 10	
Minor Times 3:06AM 4:39PM	Major Times 9:26AM 9:46PM
Wednesday 11	
Minor Times 4:00AM 5:06PM	Major Times 10:07AM 10:27PM



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 two 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.

Let's apply some of this information from last week to help with collision avoidance. On any waterway where there are tugs pushing barges, boaters must maintain a sharp lookout for them and their unique lights. If recreational boat operators see a special flashing yellow light approaching, they should move out of the way. The boaters can tell that they have passed and are clear of the push boat's stern when the two amber lights on the stern in a vertical row become visible. If boaters must overtake a vessel showing two amber lights in a vertical row, they should not move back in front until they are well clear of the special flashing yellow light on the lead barge. Don't move back in front at all unless necessary.

I should probably mention that the two white lights in a row identify the vessel as a towing vessel. It can

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

mean that the vessel is towing something behind it rather than pushing barges ahead, but that's not very common on inland waters, it's not where we are seeing collisions and not the focus of this article.

Let's touch on some other best practices for operating at night. SLOW down. We need to protect our night vision by dimming our gauge, panel and electronics lights to their lowest visible level. Turn off all other lights that are not navigation lights prescribed by law. A focused beam spotlight, kept ready at hand, can be used intermittently to identify hazards. After leaving a bright environment, boaters should give their eyes at least 15 minutes to adapt to the dark. By maintaining light discipline, our night vision can be quite good.

The continuous use of LED light bars, and other such auxiliary lights, will diminish the night vision of those on the

boat displaying them and the night vision of people on vessels the lights are directed toward. Those auxiliary lights often obscure the navigation lights of the vessel using them as well. Both of those are violations of the Navigation Rules. Boaters who operate frequently at night should consider a radar and night vision equipment. Recreational boaters who frequently operate in rivers and the Intracoastal Waterway should have a VHF radio and keep a listening watch on Channel 16 as well as the established ship's bridge to ship's bridge radio channel for their area.

Avoid lingering in and near choke points such as bridges and exits to locks. Likewise, avoid lingering in blind bends and waterway intersections and always anticipate other vessels to be coming from the area that is blind to you. Large commer-

cial vessels sometimes produce large wakes. Because these vessels often need to maintain speed to maintain adequate steering, and because they can't quickly slow, recreational boaters must be prepared to encounter such wakes on the waterways they share.

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

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

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

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

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

Bridge Span 14.

Hello Wakulla

We just finished our surface interval and headed to the bottom to explore the bridge span. We descended and saw thousands of small to medium baitfish. They would swim over us like a big cloud blocking some of the sunlight. The visibility was about 30 feet which is about normal for this year.

I was amazed how much this span had deteriorated since last year when I dove it. When it gets this bad you need to be careful as you swim around the bottom under the span just in case something falls on you.

There were a lot of different species of fish that make this span their home year round. The bottom was about 72 feet and had a lot of shells and sand dollars. I was taking video of this dive so I took my time to capture as much sea life as possible.

I was swimming along the bottom when I noticed a pile of empty shells in the middle of what looked like a hole with sand piled up around the rim of a volcano. I then noticed as I settled to the bottom there was movement coming out of the hole and it was a small octopus cleaning out his den. I got so in to watching it that I never turned on my GoPro.

I swam around the span slowly trying to see if there were any other creatures crawling or lounging around the bottom. I saw the typical crustaceans and the small colorful fish trying to protect their little plot of sand.

I finally got to where I started and decided it was time to make my way up the brand new stainless steel anchor chain to my safety stop before I make my final journey of this trip.

It's pretty interesting what you can see when you are just hanging out at your safety stop. There was the biggest moon jellyfish that had hundreds of tiny silver (what I call hatchet fish) just swimming around where other fish get caught and absorbed for food for the jellyfish. I would say that that jellyfish measured about 18-20 inches across.

Well my 3 minutes was up and I headed back up to the boat ladder to get back on the boat so I could break down my gear and place it in my dive bag for the return trip back to the dock.

Until next week keep making bubbles.

- Russell Miller, NAUI instructor #59999

FWC Law Enforcement Report

From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled Sept. 15-21 in the Northwest Region. (There were no cases reported for Wakulla County.)

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

• Lt. Corbin and Officer Wilkenson were on patrol in Bayou Chico when they observed multiple vessels tied off to a floating structure. One was determined to be a derelict vessel and is

being used to store items such as rims, tires, and other car and boat parts. The owner was unable to show the vessel was operational. Another vessel tied off to the floating structure, which the subject lives on, was found to not have an adequate means of propulsion, no permanently installed marine sanitation device, and no log for his MSD pump out records. The vessel has been on state waters for well over 90 days and the subject has failed to register the vessel with the State of Florida. The owner of the vessels was issued notice

to appear citations for storing a derelict vessel on state waters and failure to register a vessel in the State of Florida that has been stored on state waters for more than 90 days. The owner of the vessels was also issued several uniform boating citations for the other violations.

OKALOOSA COUNTY

• Lt. Bartlett, Officer Oliver, and Officer Ates were on patrol when they observed an occupant on a moving vessel jump into the water from the back of the vessel, near the propeller.

As the officers approached the vessel to make sure the subject was not injured, there was another occupant attempting to enter the water from the back of the vessel. There were multiple alcohol containers littered throughout the vessel. Multiple occupants on the vessel were exhibiting high levels of impairment. The operator agreed to conduct standard field sobriety tasks and performed poorly. The operator was placed under arrest for boating under the influence and agreed to provide a breath sample. The operator was charged with operating with a breath alcohol content of .08 or higher and transported to jail.

A note to our pastors

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Dear Pastor,
We appreciate you – a lot. Aside from your family, we're your biggest fans.

We know being our pastor isn't an easy job. Your hours well exceed

a 9-5 occupation – and we can sometimes be a handful. Your commitment to God's calling demonstrates that you want to be a good representative of the God you preach about.

We're grateful for the way you increase our hunger for God's Word and admonish us to honor Christ in all we do. You encourage us to reach our full potential by serving Him in our homes and communities. Your weekly messages challenge us to not allow life's distractions keep us from focusing on God's purposes.

Most especially, we're eternally thankful for all the times you remind us that God loves us so much that He gave His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins.

We can't thank you enough for the many hours you've spent reading and researching Scripture, praying for clarity. You've persevered, prayed through and taught us the hard verses. We admire you for not backing down from teaching "unpopular" verses and doctrine, even when they're politically incorrect.

We appreciate the

sacrifices you and your wife make for us. For selflessly putting others' needs ahead of your own. For being available and approachable. For representing Christ well.

Your years-long dedication clearly shows how much you want to be there for us, even when you can't. We understand your schedule and human limitations. We know, present or absent, that you bring our needs to our powerful – and omnipresent (ever-present) God in prayer.

Thank you, Pastor.
You and your wife are

important to us and to our community. We're praying for you as you continue to "press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14 ESV). Please let us know how else we can pray for you and your family.

With much love,
Your biggest fans

This Pastor Appreciation Month – and throughout the year – make it clear to your pastor and his wife how much you appreciate them and how their faithfulness to God is a source of encourage-

ment to you.

A side note: To the pastors who had to make the difficult decision to leave your churches for varied reasons, we thank you for your years of service to your congregation and community. We're praying for God's continued grace in your lives.

Sheryl H. Boldt is a sales executive for Wave 94 and author of the blog, www.TodayCanBeDifferent.net. Connect with her at SherylHBoldt.Wave94@gmail.com.

The briar patch

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

There were many treasures on the shoulders of the dirt road of my youth. Wild plum trees and grape vines produced savory fruit. Our neighbor had pear and pecan trees. The area had its share of gardens to enjoy when the trees and vines were bare. Nothing tastes as good as a sun-ripened tomato or cucumber on a hot afternoon.

To say we were hungry as kids, I would be amiss. There was plenty of food growing all around the place. My favorite, not mentioned in the above listing, was blackberries. Mom would hand us a bucket to fill with the berries – a whole bucket led to making a Blackberry Dobie, basically blackberry dumplings.

Harvesting the berries was an arduous chore for us to complete because we often ate half of what we gathered. We also had to be careful of the briar patch the berries grew in. The bushes were covered in thorns that would snag our clothing or bare skin. Then there was the warning, "Watch out for snakes!" Heeding the

alarm, we would begin collecting the morsels for dessert that evening.

I am not sure how it happened, but it would seem to me the sweetest, blackest, most succulent berry would be in the center of the patch just beyond my fingertips. I may have been short on the reach, but my spirit was long on determination. I would shake the bushes for any unwanted visitors and then walk headstrong into the thicket to grab my reward. Once obtained, the berry never made it into my bucket. Standing beneath the afternoon sun, I would savor every bit of my conquest. I had fought hard for the prize, persevering as the briars snagged my skin. Those childhood days

of gathering the fruits of creation are like life's mountaintop experiences. There are times of plenty when the beauty of God surrounds us. His blessings are just a hand reach away, waiting for us to taste, knowing He is good and trustworthy (Psalm 34:8). The mountaintop is joyous, carefree, and innocent. Our soul is content as the peace of the Lord fills our spirit and gives us rest.

For every mountaintop experience, we have come to understand the valleys below are also a place we must dwell. The valley is the testing of faith. Like a briar patch, a valley can snag at our spirit. We become restless as the world around us seems to fall

apart. We experience the loss of work, and the bills become their own mountain. We receive a troubling doctor's report, we struggle with the illness of a loved one, and we pray for healing. Our spirit is uneasy, and we wonder if God is listening.

God hears the cries of His people; He delivers them (Psalm 34:17). Life is hard; life without God is unbearable. This world is full of highs and lows; briar patches lurk around every corner. However, we can persevere by holding to our hope in Jesus. He is the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). As a child, I could push through the thicket because I kept my eyes on the prize, not the brush

surrounding me. The Apostle Paul encourages us to press on to win God's heavenward prize afforded to us by Christ (Philippians 3:14). Let today be our day of determination, looking beyond our circumstances and reaching into His blessings.

James 1:12. Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

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

OUT TO PASTOR

How much is laughter really worth?

By **JAMES SNYDER**

Of all the things I prioritize in my life, laughter is at the top of the list. I appreciate laughter more than any other thing.

Some people get paid for their jokes, while others pay mightily. I am in the latter category. I like to make people laugh, but sometimes it costs me.

Whenever I see somebody with a frown, my first thought is how to make that person laugh. If it's in the supermarket and they're walking down the aisle toward me, I put in gear something to make them laugh. Usually, it works, but once in a while, it doesn't.

Where my jokes don't fly too well is with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I try the best I can to make her laugh, and occasionally, I succeed. When I fail, there is a price to be paid.

For example, our birthdays are two days apart in July. We celebrated our birthdays at one of our favorite restaurants this past year.

After finishing our dinner, they brought dessert, and then The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me

and said, "Do you feel old today?"

I have difficulty taking things seriously, so I reached across the table, took hold of her arm, squeezed it very gently, and said, "I feel old now."

You might be surprised I was the only one laughing at the table.

Getting into trouble with some joke is not that bad. I haven't gotten into too much trouble, but once in a while, I do.

Like everybody else, I get these scam calls, particularly concerning Medicare upgrades. I should be grateful that so many people want to help me upgrade my Medicare program. And yet, being a Pennsylvania Dutchman, I don't trust people who want to give me something for free.

I got a call the other day, and they wanted to upgrade my Medicare plan so that I had everything I deserved. Then they asked me how old I was. That was the switch that turned on the light bulb in my head.

"I really don't know," I said as thoughtfully as possible, "every year my age changes and I just can't keep up to date

with it."

There was a pause on the other end of the phone line, and finally, that person started speaking French and told me a lot about my mother. Then there came the "click."

I laughed and used it several times since.

Several weeks ago, I had a dental appointment to fix some of my teeth. I can't imagine being a dentist and spending my whole career looking into people's mouths, especially me with bad breath.

I went into the office on my appointed day, signed in, and then took a seat.

Shortly, the lady at the desk asked me to come forward. I did not quite know what she wanted.

She showed me a file and asked, "Is this you?"

I looked at the file, looked back at her, and said, "No, that is not me."

Looking a little frustrated, she said maybe she got the wrong file.

"No," I said, looking at her. Then I pointed to my chest and said to her, "This is me and that is just paper with my name

on it."

People sitting in the waiting room started giggling, and finally, the lady at the desk got what I said and started laughing. "So," she said laughing, "this paper is not you."

I love it when a plan comes together.

In minutes, I was called to go in, and one of the dentist's assistants took me to the room to prepare me for the process. There was a long process, and she did everything but throw me over the moon.

Finally, she finished her work, and the dentist came in. I had three teeth that needed to be worked on. The first thing he did was to give some numbing shots in my mouth, and everything went numb. Then, he was ready to do the work.

I sat in that chair for maybe an hour with my

mouth open and the dentist on one side of me poking in and his assistant on the other side doing what she was supposed to do, and it was a long process. The dentist talked to me, but I was in such a position that I couldn't answer back.

His assistant on my left side was doing an excellent job, at least I think so, but my mouth was so numb I wouldn't have known otherwise.

Finally, the process was over, and the assistant, a very nice young lady, asked me, "How do you feel now?"

I didn't have to think, but I responded immediately, "I feel like a woman."

The assistant looked at me with wonder and said, "What?"

"I feel like a woman because my mouth has been open for such a long time."

It took a while for her to get it, and she did not think it qualified for laughter.

I tried to laugh, but my mouth was so numb I could hardly talk.

Later that day, I was reminded of what the Bible says. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones" (Proverbs 17:22).

Much of our problems can be dealt with through a merry heart. We look for artificial medicine that does not get to the heart of our problems."

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



Fred Quigg

Fred Quigg of Crawfordville passed away on Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023, at home surrounded by his loving family.

Fred was born in Sopchoppy on Oct. 14, 1938, the sixth child of Eddie and Montie Grimes Quigg. He was no stranger to hard work since he grew up on the family farm helping his Dad

and siblings with farming, raising livestock, and beekeeping. He attended the Historic Sopchoppy School all 12 years, graduating in 1956. While in school, he played football, and was a member of the Future Farmers of America and Senior Chorus, as well as Senior Class President. After graduating he worked for a short period of time for a bakery in Tallahassee before becoming a surveyor for about 2 years for the Florida State Road Department. He then became employed as a Letter Carrier for the Tallahassee Postal Service, retiring on April 1, 1991, after 31 years of postal service. Fred was a charter member of Temple Baptist Church in Tallahassee before moving his membership to Sopchoppy First Baptist Church where he taught various Sunday School classes, beginning with junior high boys in 1974, then college and career and then senior ladies class. And at the same time helped his wife teach children's church. In 1999 he and Callie joined Lake Ellen Baptist Church in Medart where he taught the senior men's Sunday School class for many years before his health started failing. Fred was known as a "jack-of-all-trades" and could fix most anything. He could do carpentry, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, welding and all kinds of tractor work. In addition to dearly loving his family, he also loved tractors (especially old ones), Raisin Bran Crunch and

anything lemon.

Fred is survived by his wife of 50 years, Callie Roberts Colvin Quigg; children, Lisa Sammons (Jeff), Susan Quigg, Duane Colvin (Joanna), and Page Colvin Bonds (Rick); grandchildren Brian, Melissa, Gary, Brittany, Ashlyn, John, and Kadence; great-grandchildren Carson, Jackson, and Kaiden; brothers, Earl (Ann) and Jesse (Frances), and sisters Mary Nichols, Martha Kimball (Russ), Rhonda Harvey (David), and Glenda Porter (Bobby); sisters-in-law Ruth Quigg and Sherry Quigg; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was predeceased by his parents, Eddie and Montie Grimes Quigg; brothers C.S., Doyle, Edward, Wayne, and Doug; and grandson Seth Carraway.

Funeral Service was held on Sept. 27, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Lake Ellen Baptist Church. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Lake Ellen Baptist Church, 4495 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville 32327 or Big Bend Hospice of Wakulla, 2889 Crawfordville Highway, Suite C, Crawfordville 32327.

Skip and Trey Young, along with Paula and Kimberly are assisting the family with arrangements. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

DEATH NOTICES

• **Thomas Frank Fulford**, 83, of Tallahassee, died September 30, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Randy Charles Hawkins**, 67, of Crawfordville, died September 26, 2023. Family Funeral

Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Jerry Glenn Shafer**, 89, of Tallahassee, died September 26, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

Homecoming at Panacea Congregational

Panacea Congregational Holiness Church will have Homecoming Revival Oct. 11-13. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. Homecoming Supper will be Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. Sunday services will be at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Henry Thornton. For more information please call 850-508-1895.

Weekly Roundup: Legal rumble over redistricting

By **RYAN DAILEY**
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – The trial over a redistricting plan pushed by Gov. Ron DeSantis that led to an overhaul of a North Florida congressional district kicked off this week, with voting-rights groups arguing that the district's redrawing was based on racial discrimination.

Attorneys for plaintiffs including the groups Common Cause and the NAACP in opening arguments Tuesday also tried to convince a panel of three federal judges that the redistricting plan violated the U.S. Constitution.

The case focuses on Congressional District 5, which in the past elected Black Democrat Al Lawson but was dramatically changed last year and was won by a white Republican in November's elections. The district prior to being redrawn stretched from Jacksonville to west of Tallahassee, but was split up last year and absorbed into four districts.

"As a result, the Black voters in North Florida have lost the ability to elect a candidate of their choice," Greg Baker, an attorney for the plaintiffs, said.

The plaintiffs contend that the overhaul of District 5 violated the U.S. Constitution's 14th Amendment and 15th Amendment. The 14th Amendment ensures equal protection, while the 15th Amendment prohibits denying or abridging the right to vote based on race.

But an attorney for the state contended that the plan was aimed at making districts more compact, and that when the Legislature passed the DeSantis-backed map lawmakers were following geographic and political boundaries.

"We don't presume (legally) that our decision makers are acting inappropriately," said

Mohammed Jazil, an attorney representing the state.

Baker in his opening arguments focused in part on the governor's relatively unusual role in pushing through the redistricting plan.

"His (DeSantis') real concern was having any Black district in North Florida, compact or not," Baker argued, pointing to an earlier plan passed by the Legislature that was vetoed by DeSantis.

Jazil disputed that DeSantis' role was related to racial discrimination.

"It doesn't make it unprecedented in an unconstitutional manner," Jazil said. "They do not show discriminatory intent."

Lawmakers passed the plan being challenged during a special session after DeSantis vetoed a proposal that could have led to electing a Black candidate in District 5, according to lawyers for the plaintiffs. The vetoed proposal included creating a district in Duval County that would have included a relatively large Black population.

Prior to the redrawing, District 5 incorporated areas with sizable Black populations.

The federal-court trial is expected to last at least through part of next week. It kicked off roughly three weeks after a Leon County circuit judge ruled in a separate case that the District 5 overhaul violated part of the Florida Constitution — a ruling that the state has appealed.

SEEKING STABILITY

As Florida Atlantic University waits for its stalled presidential search to resume amid a state investigation into "anomalies" in the process, support is growing for Interim President Stacy Volnick to be offered the job on a permanent basis.

The FAU Faculty Sen- ate this month decided

to ask the school's Board of Trustees to consider exploring the idea of installing Volnick, who was named interim president in September 2022, in the permanent job. Kim Dunn, an FAU professor and member of the trustees who also is chairwoman of the Faculty Senate, delivered the proposal to trustees Tuesday.

"The sentiment is that the uncertainty and negative press associated with the prolonged search is detrimental to our university. It is hurting our image and our ability to advance our core mission. One area of particular concern is our inability to fill the many interim vice president and other leadership positions without a named president," Dunn said.

Dunn asked the board to "explore with the (state university system's) Board of Governors" whether "an adjustment could be made" to the presidential-selection process to allow the trustees to consider offering a multi-year contract to Volnick to lead the school. She said members of the Faculty Senate from "a wide range of colleges" were supportive of Volnick

"and the job she is doing in leading and stabilizing the university."

Trustees Chairman Brad Levine said the request was "reasonable" but did not indicate whether the trustees would pursue it.

"I hear what you're asking, and I think exploring is a reasonable thing," Levine said.

The search was halted in July at the direction of state university system Chancellor Ray Rodrigues, who alleged that members of the FAU Presidential Search Committee improperly participated in what Rodrigues called a "straw poll" to rank preferred candidates. Rodrigues also alleged that at least one candidate for the job had been asked questions about their sexual orientation and gender.

An investigation led by the Board of Governors' inspector general is ongoing.

BEARS, OH MY

Nearly eight years after the last state-sanctioned bear hunt, Franklin County Sheriff A.J. Smith said Florida needs to find solutions as encounters between the animals and humans are

increasing.

"We need to look at some different ways of doing things," Smith told The News Service of Florida this week.

Calls for a hunt came after multiple reported bear encounters in recent weeks. In one instance, a woman in the rural Gulf Coast had to lock herself inside a bedroom as a bear broke into her home. In a separate incident, a woman was trapped in a car by a large black bear.

Smith last week wrote to the governor's office seeking a meeting with wildlife officials about expanding the state's approach to bear management, including the potential of a bear hunt.

Meanwhile, Rep. Jason Shoaf, R-Port St. Joe, on Wednesday said he supported a hunt. Shoaf said during a Franklin County legislative delegation meeting in Apalachicola that "this bear problem is out of control."

"We really need a bear hunt," Shoaf said. "It's what we need here in North Florida. We're inundated. We've got way too many. Until we do that, we're going to continue to have these prob-

lems."

Shoaf, who has introduced legislation the past two years about killing bears, filed a similar bill this week for the 2024 legislative session that starts in January.

The state last held a hunt in 2015, which was expected to result in 320 bears being killed over a one-week period. After two days, 304 were dead.

STORY OF THE WEEK: Attorneys for voting-rights groups Tuesday began trying to convince a panel of federal judges that an overhaul of a North Florida congressional district in 2022 was motivated at least in part by racial discrimination and violated the U.S. Constitution.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "The old way is to keep your garbage picked up, which I agree with. We've got to do the best we can with our garbage. But 'get a whistle,' 'we'll send you a pamphlet,' I mean that kind of stuff is not going to do anything because we have a much larger bear population because we've been protecting bears for so long." — Franklin County Sheriff A.J. Smith

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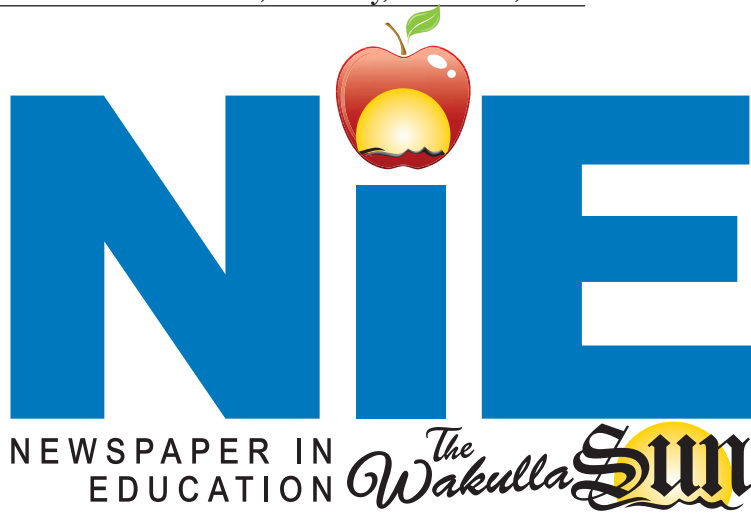
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USE THE NEWS

1. TIMBER

A 16-year-old boy in England was arrested last week for deliberately cutting down a famous 300-year-old tree. The tree previously stood near Hadrian's Wall, a landmark that dates back to the Roman Empire some 2,000 years ago and was most famous for appearing in the 1991 movie "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves." A man in his 60s was also arrested for having a part in the tree cutting, but no information has been released about why they might have done it. Why do you think the cutting down of a tree caused widespread anger in England? Do you think the people responsible should be charged with a crime? Why or why not? Write down your thoughts and discuss with your classmates.

2. BUSINESS VS. CASUAL

While the Senate debates plenty of issues that affect us all on a daily basis, one recent issue they tackled was specific only to fellow Senators. While Senators typically have always dressed in business attire, such as jackets, ties, long pants, and dresses, there was never a formal dress code until this week. A few weeks ago, Senator Chuck Schumer, the majority leader announced they would release the dress code policy and would no longer police the clothes their members wore. That move was particularly for John Fetterman, who is known for wearing a hoodie and shorts throughout the Capitol building. Some disagreed with the relaxed outfit choices, though, and a bipartisan bill was quickly introduced and voted in, requiring the business attire that many already wear on the Senate floor. Do you think the clothing we wear impacts how a person does their job? Think of a few different jobs that require specific attire—how would they be different if people could wear whatever they want? Write down your answers.

3. STUFFED UP

When you have a cold, there are plenty of medicines at any pharmacy that say they'll make the symptoms better. However, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently announced that the main ingredient in most of those medications actually isn't effective. Phenylephrine is safe to use, but a group of experts voted that science does not back up the claim that it's an effective decongestant for a stuffy nose. Decongestants are supposed to help reducing swelling of blood

vessels in the nose, which helps it drain better and create less mucus. In pill form, phenylephrine is absorbed by the stomach and only a tiny bit makes it into the bloodstream and up to the nose. While these products haven't been pulled from shelves because they are still safe to consume, even if they aren't helpful at doing what they say they do. Write a short article summarizing the facts of this story and how it might affect people.

4. SPACE MAN

Frank Rubio, a

NASA astronaut, set the US record for the most time in space after safely landing from a 371-day mission. He was only supposed to be gone six months on the Russian Soyuz MS-22 spacecraft he boarded last year, but a leak was discovered last September that could've made their recently into the Earth's atmosphere dangerous. A different spacecraft had to be sent for their return, making his stay the longest of any US astronaut. (The previous record was 355 days.) While away, he studied

plants and bacteria as well as how exercise affects humans during long missions in space. Research what we know about how the human body is affected when it goes to space. Write a summary of how Frank Rubio might be different now than when he left more than a year ago.

5. SWAMP CATION

Fans of the DreamWorks Animation movie Shrek can get an immersive experience by booking a replica of the swap hut on Airbnb. It's located in Scotland and available Octo-

ber 27 through 29 for up to three guests—all for free, as "a nod to the priceless refuge Shrek's Swamp has provided fairy-tale creatures of all kinds," according to the Airbnb listing. The only downside: The bathroom is Shrek's outhouse, located 20 meters from the main house. Think about a home in your favorite movie or television show. Then, write an Airbnb listing as if it was available to rent out. Where in the real world would it be located and what kind of amenities would there be for guests?



EVEN THOUGH THIS IS CONSIDERED A SNACK FOOD, IT IS HIGH IN FIBER AND RELATIVELY LOW IN CALORIES.

ANSWER: POPCORN

Math Blocks

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

9	4		18
		10	17
	3	2	5
15	8	17	

2	3	0
10	1	6
5	4	6

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

T B U R E T G N I P T O P

Answer: Butter toppings

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1890: YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK IS ESTABLISHED BY THE US CONGRESS.
- 1908: FORD MODEL T AUTOMOBILES ARE OFFERED FOR SALE AT A PRICE OF \$825.
- 1971: WALT DISNEY WORLD OPENS NEAR ORLANDO, FLORIDA.

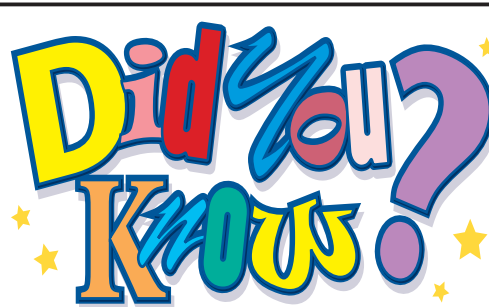


PRESSURE

force applied to an object

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Pop
- SPANISH:** Pum
- ITALIAN:** Scoppio
- FRENCH:** Bruit
- GERMAN:** Knall



ONLY ONE VARIETY OF CORN CAN POP, AND IT IS KNOWN AS ZEAMAYS EVERTA. IT HAS THE ABILITY TO POP ONCE PUT UNDER HEAT AND PRESSURE.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: POPCORN

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Next game:
Friday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.
Wakulla War Eagles host the St. John Paul II Panthers at J.D. Jones Stadium.



War Eagles beat Rickards, 35-22

By **CHRIS SAVARY**
Sports Correspondent

The undefeated Wakulla War Eagles (5-0) were on the road for the second straight week taking the short drive north to Gene Cox Stadium in Tallahassee to take on the Rickards Raiders (2-3).

The scoring started early on in the first quarter for the War Eagles. After a strong opening drive, Wakulla scored at the 10:13 mark of the first quarter on a 38 yard strike from senior quarterback Haden Klees to receiver Del Zanders for a touchdown, and with the extra point good from kicker Luis Quintonilla moved the War Eagles up 7-0.

After an aggressive defensive stand by Wakulla the offense again moved down the field just three short minutes later scoring on a 7-yard touchdown catch by Nehemiah Chandler from Klees. This touchdown and extra point moved the War Eagles ahead 14-0 as the first quarter came to a close.

The Rickards Raiders would not be put down that easily as they took their possession early in the second deep into War Eagle territory and capitalized with a 27 yard field goal putting the score at 14-3 with a little over 9 minutes to go in the second. After a couple of stalled drives between the two teams Rickards again closed

the gap around the four minute mark of the second quarter when the Raiders running back took to the endzone on a 7-yard touchdown rush.

The Raiders attempted the extra point but it was partially blocked and no good making the score 14-9 in favor of the War Eagles.

Wakulla would not go quietly into the half scoring with just 19 seconds on the clock on a 25-yard dart from Klees to Chandler for his second touchdown grab of the game. The extra point from Quintonilla was good and the score at the half was Wakulla 21 to Rickards 9.

The third quarter was a heavy sided defensive affair with both teams having stalled drives, however the War Eagles were able to extend the lead on a 13-yard touchdown catch by Jeremiah Thomas from Klees. The extra point was missed and the score settled at 27-9 in favor of Wakulla at the end of the third.

The fourth quarter opened up with a great defensive effort out of the War Eagles putting the ball back in the offenses hands. They stretched the lead on a 19-yard touchdown rush by Thomas and a successful 2-point conversion by Devontae Roberts put Wakulla on top 35-9 with 11:50 to go in the game. Rickards tried to claw their way back into it with two touchdown grabs late in



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WEEKLY WAR EAGLE GAME HIGHLIGHTS
on the Wakulla Report, Wolf 103.1, ESPN 97.9 and WAVE 94.1!



PHOTOS BY KEN FIELDS

Above, War Eagle running back Jeremiah Thomas dives forward. Below, Wakulla defense brings down the Rickards back.

the fourth but it would not be enough as the War Eagle were on top 35-22 as time expired.

The War Eagles now move to 6-0 on the year as the late season push towards playoff football begins with just four regular season games remaining.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Overall Player of the Week was Jeremiah Thomas, who had 16 carries for 255 yards and a rushing touchdown, and had 3 catch-



es for 59 yards and another touchdown.

Offensive Player of the Week was Mason Blair, with the offensive lineman grading out at 82%.

Defensive Player of the Week was Jordan Tanner, who had 7 tackles and a sack.

Special Teams Player of the Week was punter Owen Klees, who boomed a 59-yard punt that was downed on Rickards' 1-yard line.

Other notable players included quarterback Haden Klees, who went 19 of 35 passing for 242 yards and 4 touchdowns. He threw his first interception of the season in the game on a slant and go that was

jumped by the Rickards safety.

Receiver Nehemiah Chandler had 4 catches for 50 yards and 2 touchdowns, and Delvon Zanders had 6 catches for 50 yards and a touchdown.

On defense, linebacker Herschel Blackmon had a great night with 8 tackles and 4 sacks.

NEXT UP: ST. JOHN PAUL II

Wakulla will be back at J.D. Jones Stadium next Friday night hosting the St. John Paul II

Panthers.


Wakulla Head Coach Scott Klees said the Panthers are 0-4 on the season but they've been in every game they played.

"The defense is extremely good," Klees said. "And they have a very athletic quarterback – he can throw and run. Our defense is going to have to stop him from running."

"On offense, we're gonna have to be patient and take what they give us," Klees said. "It's gonna be another tough game."

COACH'S CORNER

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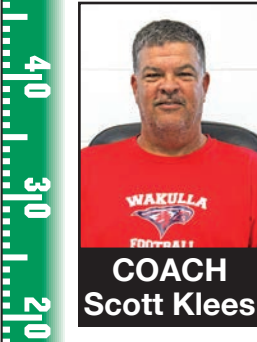
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FROM THE COACH

Last week: War Eagles played well against a very athletic and talented Rickards team.

Scouting report: John Paul II has a very good defense and a very athletic quarterback who can run.

Keys to victory: Offense needs to be patient, take what the JP II defense gives them. On defense, contain the JP quarterback.



COACH Scott Klees


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