

War Eagles unbeaten



Haden Klees accepts the trophy after the win over NFC. See Page 16

The Wakulla Sun

Wakulla WeatherSTEM
 Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Sunny
Hi: 83° Lo: 63° 8%	Hi: 83° Lo: 62° 8%	Hi: 84° Lo: 63° 8%
Sunrise 7:47 AM Sunset 6:55 PM	Sunrise 7:47 AM Sunset 6:54 PM	Sunrise 7:48 AM Sunset 6:53 PM



\$1
One Section

"It's a New Day"

Locally Owned & Operated

Our 2nd Year 43rd Issue
Thursday, October 26, 2023

Richardson Cemetery

8 unmarked graves found on adjacent land; question is, are there more?

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The earliest grave in the Richardson Cemetery is from 1828. It contains graves of the Gavin family, the white plantation owners, and their slaves.

Several years ago, local historian Betty Green bought about three acres of the cemetery property for \$500 when the tax deed came up. She donated it to the Wakulla County Historical Society.

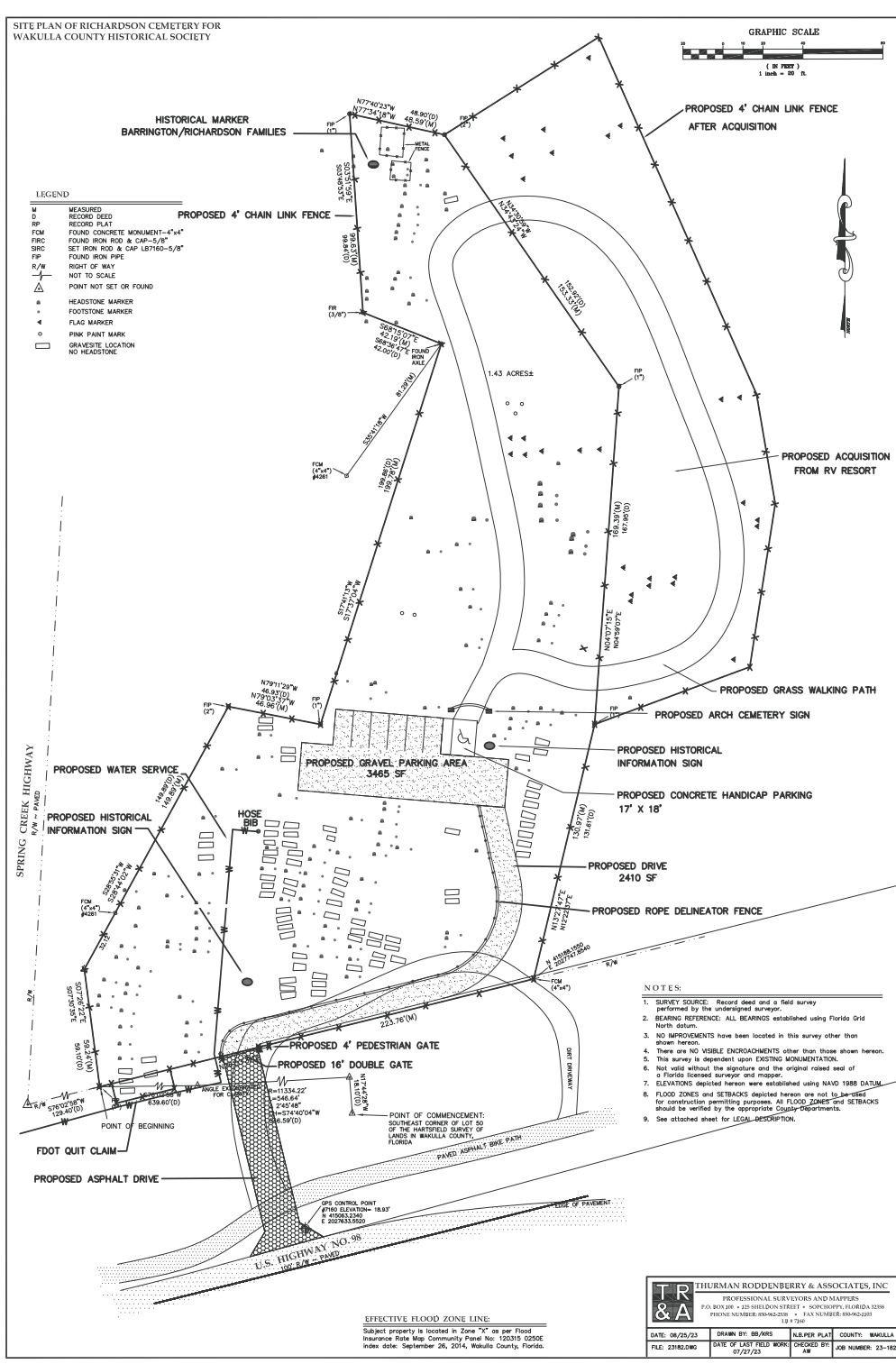
The historical society recently got a \$120,000 federal grant for improvements to the cemetery – and plan to add an entrance and parking area, plus a walking trail and signage.

But the cemetery – located at the corner of Spring Creek Highway and U.S. Highway 98 – has also generated some concerns with plans for an RV park on property adjacent to the cemetery.

The Boyd family, which owns the adjacent property recently paid for ground-penetrating radar to be done on a portion of the property and found 28 unmarked graves. The 2 acres of land was deeded to the historical society. (There are additionally some 11 unmarked graves on the west side of the cemetery on property owned by Shell Point Realty.)

But some people with family buried in the area contend there are more graves out there.

At a meeting a few months ago, planning commissioner Leonard Donaldson voted against the RV development saying he believes



A site plan of Richardson Cemetery showing a new planned entranceway and parking. The dots are graves, including on the recently deeded portion of land to the northwest.

there are graves all over the property.

Greg Davis, a local activist, organized a community meeting several weeks ago, and has suggested that ground-penetrating radar be used on the remaining 20 acres to see if more grave are there.

The owner, citing a cost upwards of \$100,000 to do that, has refused.

Davis, aware of a new law that passed last year to protect historic and abandoned cemeteries, contacted state Rep. Fentrice Driskell, the House minority lead-

er and last year's bill sponsor.

Rep. Driskell posted on X, formerly Twitter, in late September: "As we wrap up our first committee week at the Capitol, it's projects like these that remind me to keep fighting. Unmarked

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School board member says budget didn't pass

Laura Lawhon concerned it wasn't done properly; recording of meeting indicates it was

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

School board member Laura Lawhon expressed concern last week that the district's budget was not properly passed at the public hearing on Sept. 11.

Lawhon told fellow board members at their meeting on Monday, Oct. 16, when they took up approval of the minutes of that Sept. 11 meeting.

Lawhon said a motion was never made to approve the budget, and said she took her concerns to the district's legal counsel, who told her that she had a duty to tell other school board members that the budget had not been properly passed.

Superintendent Bobby Pearce countered that the millage rate levy and the budget resolution were passed appropriately – and that the vote is borne out by the audio recording of the meeting.

The Sun listened to the audio recording of the Sept. 11 meeting and confirmed that, on the millage levy, school board member Josh Brown made the motion to approve and it was seconded by school board member Eddie Hand. The vote is indicated to be unanimous, with aye votes by Brown, Hand, chair Melisa Taylor, and school board members Cale Langston and Lawhon.



Laura Lawhon

Turn to Page 13

SOPCHOPPY Location of county radio tower draws concern in city

By LEGION TAYLOR
Reporter

Sopchoppy city commissioners raised concerns about the proposed location for a new radio tower for Wakulla County's new first responder radio system.

The county proposed constructing a 300-foot communications tower near the intersection of Park Avenue and Gulf Street in Sopchoppy, as part of an upgrade to the radio communications grid.

The system is intended to improve radio communications for law enforcement and firefighters for areas of the county that had a weak signal or, as in Smith Creek, no signal.

Other towers are being planned for elsewhere in Wakulla – namely one in Smith Creek and one near the sheriff's office, both of which are already under construction.

County Planning Director Somer Pell was at the meeting, and explained to city commissioners that these radio towers are being built in order to bolster the emergency communications grid, so that in times of crisis, such as a hurricane, it is much easier to get everyone organized and keep people safe.

The county and the city commission couldn't come to an agreement, however, because of the proposed location of the tower being zoned as residential, and therefore having a height limit of 35 feet, as well as the tower being potentially disruptive to nearby residents.

Rather than make a decision right away, the city commission asked that the county come back at a later date with a full exploration of pros and cons for the proposed location as well as a few others.

- In other matters before the city commission:
- The city commission vacated the city's interest in portions of the alley between Wakulla Street and Mill Street
 - The commissioners voted to employ Capital City Asphalt to work on a road improvement

Turn to Page 3

Bill filed to term-limit commissioners

By ANDREW POWELL
The Center Square

A Florida lawmaker has filed a new bill to impose term limits on county commissioners.

House Bill 57 is sponsored by Rep. Michelle Salzman, R-Cantonment, and would introduce a term limit for county commissioners, limiting them to two four-year terms.

The bill text states that unless a county charter has different terms, a person might not appear on a ballot for reelection to the office of county commissioner if, at the end of their current term, they have served in that position for eight consecutive years.

If a county does not have a county charter that includes term limits as of July 1, 2024, the bill reads that the "service of a term of office which commenced before November 8, 2022, may not be counted toward the limitation imposed."

Furthermore, if the bill



Wakulla County Commissioners Chuck Hess, Quincee Messersmith, Chair Ralph Thomas, Mike Kemp and Fred Nichols.

passes, it will not supersede county charters with more restrictive term limits.

Salzman also filed House Joint Resolution 19 in late August, which would have amended county commissioner term limits.

NorthEscambia.com reported that Salzman was looking forward to seeing it on the ballot for 2024. The resolution was her first filing in the 2024 legislative session.

"The people of Florida have been asking for this opportunity to choose for

a while. I fully support term limits at all levels of government," Salzman told NorthEscambia.com

However, the resolution was withdrawn in September and replaced with HB 57 rather than let the voters decide statewide. If HJR 19 had remained on the ballot, it would've required at least 60% of votes before it could become law.

There are currently 11 charter counties that impose term limits on commissioners. Eight already have an 8-year cap, while three have term limits of

12 years. Florida's other 56 counties currently have no term limits.

During the 2023 regular session, an identical bill was filed — Senate Bill 1110 — sponsored by Sen. Blaise Ingoglia, R-Spring Hill. That bill, which died in the Senate Rules Committee, would've also introduced term limits for county commissioners.

SB 1110's companion bill HB 477, which mandated term limits for district school board members, was signed into law by Gov. Ron DeSantis in May.

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Purple Love Grass

By LYNN ARTZ, SANDY TEDDER
and DAVID RODDENBERRY



Purple love grass at Sopchoppy Depot Park.

Purple love grass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*) is a small, beautiful bunch grass. In the fall, airy clusters of flowers and seeds float above the foliage as wispy purplish-pink clouds that catch the dew. The clusters break off when mature and roll tumbleweed style, giving it the nickname tumbleweed grass. Purple love grass is found in flatwoods, sand hills, and sandy fields in most of Florida. It is a larval host for Zabulon skippers. Birds and other wildlife eat the seeds. This perennial grows 1-3 feet tall in sandy soil in full sun. Purple love grass can be an accent, an attractive border, or striking when massed. Mow or divide in the winter when dormant. See the stunning show this grass is putting on now in the meadow at Sopchoppy Depot Park.

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Student of the Week

Amyah Wilkins – 11th Grader, Wakulla High School

Principal: Michele Falk

Amyah is a Junior at Wakulla High School. She is the daughter of Brandi and William Wilkins. She is a member of Interact, National Honor Society, the U.N.I.T.E club, and the first President of the newly establish SOAR Council. She is an honor roll student and a WING mentor. “Amyah is an outstanding pick for student of the month,” said Ms. Pope, Wakulla High’s Media Specialist and SOAR Council sponsor, “She has this incredibly calm demeanor that shows her depth of character.” Her teachers all agree. When Amyah isn’t in school, she is an instructor at Tiger Rock and holds a fourth-degree black belt in Taekwondo. Jason Adams, owner of Tiger Rock Crawfordville, says that Amyah is “Fierce, Focused, Tenacious, Intelligent, and Indomitable.” Wakulla High School is beyond proud to have her represent us for the month of October.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.

BLACKFOOT ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION
 3152 Crawfordville Highway
 Crawfordville, FL 32327
 (850) 251-9792
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www.NorthFloridaHouseSavers.com

Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office
SPECIALTY TAGS
 \$20 - \$30 additional to cost of tag.

 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.

CITY OF ST. MARKS

Rate study shows increase in water bills was needed

By LEGION TAYLOR
Reporter

Bob Mearns from the Florida Rural Water Association was at the St. Marks City Commission meeting two weeks ago to talk about the results of the rate study done on the city's water system.

Mearns was at the city commission meeting held on Thursday, Oct. 12.

The study focused primarily on the cost to keep the water on to all of the city's customers, as well as projections for the future and suggested price adjustments for years to come.

The study found that the controversial rate increase was a good choice from the city.

According to Mearns, the rate was going to have to be adjusted eventually, and it's better to increase the price now than have to double it a few years down the line. The city commission also decided they would likely start adjusting the rate every year from now on, so large increases aren't needed again.

This would likely take

place in August every year, the same month the large rate increase was.

In other matters before the city commission:

- Shadrach Hines of the St. Marks Waterfronts committee spoke about plans for the Brew Fest, which is coming up on Saturday, Oct. 28, gave city commissioners an update on the event: almost everything is ironed out, and the festival is expected to be very good for the city.

- The city commission also discussed how the city is paying for insurance on COAST Charter School. (The city owns the old school building, and leases it to the charter school. In the past it was leased for \$1 a year, but the city no longer collects the fee.)

The city commission instructed their attorney to draft a letter to COAST to notify the school's administration that the city will pay the first quarter's insurance, but that the school will need to look into its own liability insurance.

- The city commission

unanimously passed a resolution to authorize the sale of a large excavator to the Wakulla county commission, one that St. Marks had purchased around a year and a half ago, but not found as much use for it as they would have liked.

- City Manager Zoe Mansfield suggested covering up a patch of dirt near Cooter Stew restaurant with a decorated piece of concrete, which the commissioners decided to get an estimated price on before committing to.

- A resolution was unanimously passed to allow the mayor to enter into the "Municipal Small County Outreach Program Agreement" which allows St. Marks to secure more funding for the maintenance of its roads.

- The website for the City of St. Marks allows residents to sign up for an email service which will alert them about meetings and workshops that the city is holding, so they can be more informed about what local government is doing.

- The surveys of potential well sites are steadily coming along, but the county is moving slowly on getting the well sites and the setbacks approved by the appropriate state entities, which is frustrating the city commission.

"We're four months into this and we've got nothing," City Commissioner Glenn Rudd said.

Sopchoppy commissioners decided to put more pressure on the county government to get everything done.

Sopchoppy

From Front Page

project in Sopchoppy, as their bid was much better than the bids that other companies put forward.

- The city commission briefly discussed where to hang the gateway community sign which came as a result of the trail town designation, but they have to verify its location is acceptable to the state Department of Transportation, so no decision was made at this time.

- Operation Santa asked city commissioners if they'd like to adopt a family this year, and they decided to, donating \$600 to help a family in need.

- The city clerk raised some concerns about the plants in front of the Depot Park growing too tall and blocking visibility into the park, which could potentially be a safety risk. The city commission agreed that they should have a word with the people who maintain the flowerbeds.

Wiley Gaby returns to area

Musician on tour with Paisley Fields

Special to The Sun

Paisley Fields, a rising star in the country music scene, has been turning heads with their remarkable talent and unique sound. Recently named one of the best musical discoveries at SXSW by the Austin Chronicle and Jambase, Paisley Fields is a former member of the Lavender Country touring outfit. And their recent duet with Mya Byrne has gained widespread recognition and was featured on esteemed platforms such as Democracy Now, Rolling Stone, and NPR. Out Magazine also recognized Paisley Fields as one of the "20 Queer Country Artists You Should Know in 2022." With their music making waves on CMT, SiriusXM, and radio stations worldwide, Paisley Fields has solidified their place as a rising star in the genre. Nashville Scene and CMT named Paisley one of the "12 Artists to Watch in 2022."

Joining Paisley Fields is Wiley Gaby (formerly Goldenchild), a Brooklyn-based singer-songwriter originally from Wakulla County. Wiley Gaby's honest songwriting and tear-stained, emotional vocals have captivated audiences far and wide. NPR Music praised Gaby for his ability to explore "balladeer vulnerability and melodrama by swelling into high notes and



NICKISHMAEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Wiley Gaby will perform on Saturday, Oct. 28 at The BARK in Tallahassee.

emoting with sly finesse" and The Boot named him as one of "10 Queer Country Artists Country Music Fans Should Know." Gaby's heartfelt, hurtin' songs are a testament to his artistry and storytelling prowess.

Paisley Fields and Wiley Gaby are set to perform at The Bark (Bread and Roses Kitchen), 507 All Saints Street in Tallahassee on Saturday, Oct. 28 starting at 7 p.m.



Addams Family

Wednesday is getting married, but what should be a joyous occasion is anything but ordinary for the Addams Family. Join Gomez, Morticia, and whole family for this 40-minute production of The Addams Family, younger@part. This show runs Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 27th and 28th, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 29th at 2:30

p.m. There will also be a special student night performance on Thursday, Oct. 26th at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door or see our Facebook page to purchase tickets online in advance.

In November, this show will go on to compete against other schools across the Panhandle in hopes of advancing to state competition. Come enjoy this fun twist on this spooky classic at Wakulla High School, we are dying to see you.

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.

NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION OF TAX ROLLS

Pursuant to section 193.122(2), Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given to all taxpayers and owners of both real and personal property that the 2022 Wakulla County Tax Rolls have been extended to show the tax attributable to all taxable property and that said tax rolls were certified for collection to the Tax Collector on October 13, 2022.



October 26, 2023

WAKULLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby provided that the below described property was found on public property without an identifiable owner. The property has been in the custody of the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office. Pursuant to Florida Statutes, Chapter 705.103(2)(b), Wakulla County Sheriff's Office will retain custody of each item for 90 days from the day it was taken into custody before disposing of the property in the following manner:

Notice is hereby given that Wakulla County Sheriff's Office, Pursuant to Florida Statutes, Chapter 705.103(2)(b)(1), elects to (retain for the agency's own use/donate to/surrender to finder/destroy/trade the property)

WCSO23OFF002450-Samsung / Business Cell Phone

October 26, November 2, 2023

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Public Announcement Requesting Proposals from Pre-Qualified Construction Managers.

Proposals are requested from Pre-Qualified Construction Managers by H2Engineering, Inc. on behalf of Wakulla County School Board:

WCSB PROPOSAL NO.: 22/23-04
PROJECT NAME: SHADEVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HVAC RENOVATIONS AND UPGRADES
PROPOSAL DUE DATE: Wednesday, November 29, 2023
TIME: 2:00 P.M.

A Pre-Request for Qualification Meeting will be held on November 14, 2023 at 2:00p.m. at 69 Arran Rd, Crawfordville, FL 32327, in the School Board Room. All firms or their representatives are encouraged to be in attendance. The Pre-Request for Qualification date is subject to change.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- SCOPE: Wakulla County Schools Shadeville Elementary School HVAC Upgrades. The Project consists of the replacement of the existing HVAC systems throughout Shadeville Elementary School, approximately 99,000 square feet. The Project consists of the consolidation of two existing air-cooled chillers, two fuel-oil boilers and the one for one replacement of the air handling units on campus. Existing DX air handling units will be replaced with 4-pipe air handling units. Additionally, all new hydronic piping will be provided and distributed underground to all mechanical rooms.
- The entity responsible for all aspects of project management:
H2Engineering, Inc.
114 East 5th Avenue
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
Phone: (850) 224-7922
Fax: (850) 224-5876
- Proposals will only be accepted from Construction Managers Pre-Qualified with the Wakulla County School Board for this project.
- Sealed proposals must be received at the Wakulla County School Board administration building, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327, no later than 2:00 P.M. local time, on Wednesday, November 29, 2023. Proposals must be clearly marked with project name and Proposal number on the outside envelope. Submittals received after deadline will not be considered.

The Owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and/or informalities in any Proposal and to reject any or all Proposals in whole or part, with or without cause, and/or accept the Proposal that in its judgment will be for the best interest of the School Board of Wakulla County, Florida.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
POST OFFICE BOX 100
CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA 32326-0100

ROBERT PEARCE,
SUPERINTENDENT October 26, 2023



Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. is adding antenna structures to the existing water tank located at:

689 Crawfordville Hwy
Crawfordville, Wakulla County, Florida
Lat: 30.274343° Long: -84.356992°
Overall Height: 214ft
Lighting Specifications – Med-dual system

Contact: Talquin media inquiries at
TEConnects@TalquinElectric.com or 850-627-7651

Following is information as to the procedure for interested persons to file Requests for environmental processing. Such Requests may only raise environmental concerns.

If an interested person alleges that a particular action, otherwise categorically excluded, will have a significant environmental effect, the person shall electronically submit to the Bureau responsible for processing that action a written petition setting forth in detail the reasons justifying or circumstances necessitating environmental consideration in the decision-making process. If an interested person is unable to submit electronically or if filing electronically would be unreasonably burdensome, such person may submit the petition by mail, with a request for waiver under FCC Rule Section 1.1304(b). (See FCC Rule Section 1.1313). The Bureau shall review the petition and consider the environmental concerns that have been raised. If the Bureau determines that the action may have a significant environmental impact, the Bureau will require the applicant to prepare an EA (see FCC Rule Sections 1.1308 and 1.1311), which will serve as the basis for the determination to proceed with or terminate environmental processing.

Informal objections which are based on environmental considerations must be filed electronically prior to grant of the construction permit, or prior to authorization for facilities that do not require construction permits, or pursuant to the applicable rules governing services subject to lotteries. If the interested person is unable to file electronically or if filing electronically would be unreasonably burdensome, such person may submit the objection by mail, with a request for waiver under FCC Rule Section 1.1304(b).

October 19, 26, 2023

Your local
source for
news.



Opinions

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

We have bound volumes



By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
 Editor

role to be a historical repository of the community.

Back when we were at The Wakulla News, there were many times someone would come in doing family or historical research, and we'd pull the bound volumes out of the morgue for them to study.

A couple of weeks ago, I drove my truck across the courthouse square and, with help from the historical society volunteers, loaded up the bound volumes and brought them back across the courthouse square to the office. Right now, they fill the hallway of our small office, but soon we'll have

some shelves built to hold them.

I pulled out the volume from 2003 and started flipping through it, which is an easy way to lose a whole afternoon, I can assure you.

One item that caught my attention was Ethel and Willie Skipper's 50th wedding anniversary. That means they just celebrated their 70th anniversary.

What a treasure trove of historical information.

Thank you again to the historical society for sharing.

William Snowden is editor and publisher of The Wakulla Sun.



PHOTO BY LYNDA KINSEY

I want to express my thanks to the Wakulla County Historical Society for the loan of 50 years of bound volumes of The Wakulla News, and some Woodville and Leon County News as well.

The Wakulla News recently donated its bound volumes to the historical society, and so did the Wakulla County Public Library. With many duplicates, the historical society offered to loan them to us.

I cannot express how excited I was to get these volumes. It's part of a local newspaper's

LETTERS FROM READERS

Deputy also worked on airport assault case

Editor, The Sun:

This is regarding your excellent front-page report in The Wakulla Sun of Thursday, Oct. 10th, concerning Deputy Sheridan being less than truthful in his official conduct as a law officer.

Though very well-written and reported, I don't understand why the alleged strangulation incident at the Wakulla County Public Airport by Steven Fults upon Randall Dick of May 2, 2019 was omitted. Former Deputy Sheridan had a leading role in reporting that strangulation.

Deputy Sheridan's record-breaking, speedy investigation of 43 minutes and 41 seconds of a serious crime in his on-scene report on the strangulation was a farce. That time was taken from the 911 operator's log. Former Deputy Sheridan stated in his report: "I saw no injuries" [from either party]. "This report taken as information only."

I have photographic proof of injuries to both parties and told him and other WCSO officials that I did and showed them to everyone involved including our seven commissioners (two retired) and County Administrator David Edwards. No one replied.

The strangulation markings of capillary bruising on the neck of Randall Dick and the injury photos

to both of Mr. Fults' knees that I received after five weeks of trying to get them from WCSO were ignored by WCSO. Other evidence, including Fults' own contradictory testimony in his congenial interview with detective (now SRO) Ross Hasty, were also disregarded. Deputy Sheridan and other WCSO officials including former ASA Brian Miller, all of whom stated, "no evidence."

There are many other details I am omitting for brevity's sake. My point is that there is more than Deputy Sheridan's erroneous application of proper official conduct than is visible here. That conduct by involved officials seems to be endemic at WCSO, at least with the officers involved in what is usually an outstanding sheriff's office with exceptional employees. There is much more to this than meets the eye.

Mr. Randall Dick's case is to be set for a hearing or trial soon. I have recently been involved by crossclaim via Fults and his attorney. Involved officials will be called to testify.

I advise Fults' attorney to have his act together because I sure do and can't wait to question Fults on the stand.

Bill Catalina
 Crawfordville

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of Oct. 26

Thursday, October 26

- The Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce will hold a mix and mingle event from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Seineyard at Wildwood.
- The Wakulla County Cancer Support Group meets in the Education Center of the Crawfordville United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. This group meeting is for men and women, regardless of the type of cancer. Spouses, caregivers, and friends are welcome. For more information, call 850-926-6050.
- 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 27

- The regular season concludes with the Wakulla War Eagles traveling to

Live Oak to play the Suwannee Bulldogs in a district game at 7 p.m.

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

Saturday, October 28

- The St. Marks Brew Fest will be held in St. Marks from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The arts and crafts market is free to all, the Brew Fest itself is from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and requires a ticket which can be purchased online for \$30.
- The Monarch Butterfly Festival will be held at the St. Marks Refuge visitor center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 8th Annual Trick or Treat Story Walk will be held in Azalea and Hudson parks from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- Gulf Specimen Marine Lab will host a Spooky Specimen event from 5 to 8 p.m., where visitors are invited to look at specimens under blacklight and children are invited to wear costumes and trick or treat through the aquarium.
- The Sopchoppy Opry will hold a performance at the Historic Sopchoppy High School Auditorium at 7 p.m., with tickets available at the door.
- The Wakulla Springs Lodge will hold a Creature Feature with a showing of the classic film "The Creature from the Black Lagoon." Trailers screen at 7,

feature at 7:30 p.m.

- The Crawfordville United Methodist Church will hold their fall bazaar from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church at 175 Ochlockonee Street in Crawfordville.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Sunday, October 29

- The Panacea Trunk-or-Treat will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. in Wooley Park. This event is free
- The Medart Assembly of God Trunk-or-Treat will be from 6 to 8 p.m. at the church at 4647 Crawfordville Highway.

Monday, October 30

- 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 Le-

gion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Tuesday, October 31

- HAPPY HALLOWEEN!
- 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, November 1

- 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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William Snowden
 Editor & Publisher
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"It's A New Day!"

The Wakulla Sun

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◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at the Ducks Unlimited Wakulla's Gun Bash & Fall Outer Roast:

What is your favorite gun?



JUSTIN LINK
Gulf Coast Contract Flooring

Browning Citori, great bird hunting gun."



DAVID SCOTT
All Terrain Specialties

"A loaded one. Who doesn't like to shoot guns?"



TIM SMITH
Smith & Sons

"A smoking gun! David got the good answer..."



RONI COOKSEY
Fla. Dept. of Corrections

"9mm Smith & Wesson M&P. It's the one I learned how to shoot with."



LEAH HAYES
Cosmetologist

I like shooting my 9mm Kimber. I won that one earlier this year at a Ducks Unlimited event. I like my 20 cal & r too!"

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wakulla Station News

By Verna Brock

I hope everyone has been taking advantage of the fabulous weather we've been enjoying! I know I am. Perfect for doing yard work, walking dogs, or just plain hanging out, it has been such a respite from the past few sweltering months.

The Shadeville Fall Festival was a boatload of fun last Friday evening.

I think the very best part was seeing so many neighbors there, from years before. Our children are the parents, and our grandchildren are the kids all aquiver with excitement. It is so much fun to see the tradition continuing!

The Wakulla UMC ladies traveled to the Sopchoppy UMC who hosted the district Women of Faith meeting on Saturday. We joined women

from all over the Northwest District to share, learn and commit to Christian service in the world. The Sopchoppy congregation prepared a wonderful continental breakfast and delicious lunch, as well as delightful door prizes of homemade cookie plates and casseroles. No one went home empty handed. Thank you Sopchoppy UMC for providing such a beautiful and warm welcome.

Happy birthday wishes to Clem Bunker, Darin Cox, and Buddy Lewis. My youngest granddaughter, Av-

ery, celebrated her sixth birthday on Saturday, and it was so much fun! Has anyone else noticed how delightfully feisty this generation of little girls is? I wouldn't change them for anything in the world!

Your prayers are coveted for Preston Grantham, Jane Delfosse, baby Bennie Mott, the family of Betty Messer, and praise for the recovery of Sebastian Mosely-Bennett as he continues to grow stronger every day.

Sheriff's Report

This report is for activity Oct. 13-19: on the roadside and at the jail.

FRIDAY, OCT. 13

- Melody Natasha Rutherford was arrested for DUI after reports of a driver driving on the wrong side of the roadway. Contact was made with Rutherford north of Crawfordville on U.S. Highway 319 and after deputies activated emergency lights and siren, she refused to stop. Upon contact by Deputy Austin Rivers, Rutherford displayed signs of being under the influence and was subsequently placed under arrest for DUI.

SUNDAY, OCT. 15

- Deputy Ernesto Trujillio arrested Richard Skeens for DUI after Skeens almost struck a deputy who was assisting with another traffic stop. Skeens stopped and appeared to be intoxicated. He refused all sobriety tests

MONDAY, OCT. 16

- Matthew Wood reported someone removed his cooking grill from his yard. Wood was able to provide a possible suspect and wished to have them trespassed from his property. Deputy Don Newsome investigated.

- David Sparks was arrested after a traffic stop was conducted on his vehicle. A check of his license showed it was suspended. Sparks also had an outstanding warrant from Leon County. Sparks was arrested and transported to the jail without incident. Deputy Arturo Cordoba investigated.

- Garland Landers was arrested for operating a vehicle while his license is suspended. Landers was stopped by Deputy Todd Kent on Shadeville Road and found to not have a valid driver's license as well as multiple prior convictions. Landers was transported to

the Wakulla County Jail without incident.

- A traffic stop was conducted on a vehicle for an obstructed tag. The driver, Aaron Swain, was discovered to have a suspended license with 11 priors. Swain was arrested and transported to the jail. Swain was additionally charged with tag not assigned. Deputy Todd Kent investigated.

TUESDAY, OCT. 17

- WCSO received multiple calls reference to an unknown person on Sopchoppy Highway and Allen Street believing the subject matched the description of the escaped inmate from Franklin County. Deputies made contact with the subject however it was not the escaped inmate. The escapee was later located and arrested in Franklin County.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18

- Jacob Swain was arrested for introduction of contraband after he en-

tered the jail with marijuana. Swain was arrested on Oct. 17 for battery. After being placed into a holding cell, Swain could be seen on surveillance hiding something under the bench. Deputies located the substance which was identified as marijuana. Sgt. Mike Alexander investigated.

THURSDAY, OCT. 19

- Mary Thrash reported waking this morning to find her 2015 Toyota Prius missing from her driveway. Thrash stated she had let the suspect live with her for a few days due to needing help around the house. Thrash advised she last saw her vehicle in the driveway just before going to bed for the night around midnight. Thrash was able to identify the suspect and this case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Norman DeGuzman investigated.

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

Meet some of the cast of 'Grease'

Special to The Sun

Many people in our community have been asking, "Who is in this GREASE show?" So we are going to take a minute and introduce you to The Burger Palace Boys!

Tanner Pafford (Danny Zuko) is a realtor with Blue Water Realty. He is married to Kayleen and they have a dog, Toby, who is 1 ½ years old. Tanner performed in the theater at Riversprings Middle School and has lots of singing experience. Tanner attends Authentic Life Church and enjoys singing and hiking.

Alexander Lewis (Kenickie) is a 7th grade Reading/Writing teacher at Wakulla Middle School. His stage experience includes school plays from 3rd through 12th grades at Medart Elementary, Wakulla Middle School and Wakulla High. He appeared in the WCT 2002 production, "The King and I" and was a waiter



in the 2009 show, "Hello, Dolly!". He attends Sopchoppy United Methodist Church and enjoys bowling, role playing games, 70's & 80's movies and collecting comic books.

Ryan Moore (Roger) is a senior BA theatre major at Florida State University. He has extensive stage experience, performing as David in "The Amen Corner" (Monticello Opera House), Max in "The Play that Goes Wrong" (Theatre Tallahassee), and Cedric in "Puffs" (Young Actors Theater). He was part of the ensemble in "Cur-

tains" (Quincy Music Theatre), "AIDA" (Leon High School) and "The Who's Tommy" (Lincoln High School). Ryan was part of TCC's Forensics speech and debate team and was the August 2023 FCSAA Student of the Month with the School of Theatre at TCC. He enjoys hiking, walking nature trails, stargazing, and playing video games. He is excited to be performing on the Sopchoppy stage and would like to thank all his friends and family for their support!

Alex Barlow (Doody) is a 14-year-old student.

While at Riversprings Middle School, he was an "A" Honor student, on the RMS Honor Court and Jr. Honor Roll. Alex played Dr. Watson in "Sherlock Holmes", Davey/David Jacobs in "Newsies, Jr.", and Horton in "Suessical Kids". Alex enjoys horseback riding, archery, singing and marine biology.

Landon Cook (Sonny Latierra) is a lab technician. This is his first time on stage, aside from concerts in high school, but he feels as though he is a theater kid at heart! In his spare time, he enjoys drawing, listening to music, hanging out with friends and watching football.

"Grease" will be performed by Wakulla Community Theater at the historic Sopchoppy Auditorium on Nov. 2-4 at 7 p.m. and a 2 p.m. matinee on Nov. 5. Tickets are on sale at McIver Flooring in Crawfordville and Rockulla Music Emporium in Medart.

Bicyclist killed on Spring Creek Hwy.

Staff Report

A 38-year-old bicyclist was hit and killed on Spring Creek Highway on Saturday night, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

The bicyclist, a Crawfordville man, was struck by a car around 8:30 p.m. near the intersection of Brown-Donaldson Road, according to the FHP report.

The driver of the sedan that struck the bicyclist, a 34-year-old Tallahassee man, said he didn't see the bicyclist in the dark – the bicycle had neither lights nor reflectors, and there are no street lights in the area, according to FHP.

Passengers in the car included a 32-year-old woman and three children, none of whom were injured.

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HOME ON THE RANGE

The newest newbie at the range



By MARJ LAW

A friend of ours had said he would bring a new person to the range. He did.

Eleanor is a mature woman, tall, thin, has curly white hair and is extremely pretty.

But... Eleanor leaves her car and walks to the pistol range. No one is shooting at the moment, but Eleanor is shaking. Her face is pale.

We are introduced. “Are you sure you want to shoot a gun?” I ask. If she is under pressure from someone to be at the range, I’ll have to decline helping her.

It isn’t helping to work with someone who really doesn’t want to be there. Wielding a handgun is a serious business. You can easily hurt yourself or someone else with a gun. I try to find out more about her. That’s why I ask if she really wants to consider being here at the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office range.

“Yes, I want to.” “Why?” I’m curious, but not challenging her. “I’m about to travel by myself across the country. My daughter thinks I need a gun for protection.”

“And what about you? Do you think you need a gun for protection?” Eleanor stands up straighter.

“Yes, I do,” she speaks with resolve. “I need to know I can defend myself if I have to.”

OK. If she is on board

herself, and has the support of her family, then her reasoning is sound. However, it is hard to see her looking so afraid. Maybe we can help her feel more secure.

A couple people start shooting. Eleanor jumps with each pop.

I give her the squishy in-your-ear type ear plugs to soften the noise. On top of those, I loan her the ear muff type ear protection. The combination of the two is excellent

to deaden the noise of shooting. However, it doesn’t take away every bit of noise; just plenty to safeguard your hearing.

Eleanor still jumps at every pop. The sounds are well muffled, so her reaction is due to fear and not to the noise.

We pass her ANSI rated shooting glasses.

I face her and speak loudly, so she can understand.

“Here is a Smith & Wesson .380 EZ. It has very little recoil. The trigger is soft and easy. It’s a good beginner gun.”

The sound of others shooting still makes Eleanor jump. I’m sorry it is so distracting to her.

After loading and racking the slide, I let her know that I’ll shoot it first, then it will be her turn.

Pop! She’s right beside me and I feel her jump.

She gets ready to shoot. I help her with her stance and grip.

Eleanor shoots and jumps, shaking all over. Then not to be stopped, she squeezes the trigger again. She is a bit calmer.

We step back from the shooting bench.

Sally (you remember Sally who used to be a newbie?) is in the stall next to us, and has a Sig Sauer P238. This Sig easily fits in a purse because it is so small. It is also a .380, like the EZ that Eleanor just shot.

Eleanor looks over at Sally’s Sig.

“That’s a really small

Smith & Wesson Shield EZ • Wider Grip



Sig Sauer P238 • Small Size



gun,” she says, interested.

Sally, who is here for only her fifth trip to the WCSO range, and who is barely not a newbie herself anymore, steps up to the plate.

“Would you like to shoot my gun?” she offers, and steps away so Eleanor can look over the gun and then shoot it.

“It’s ready to shoot,” Sally reassures Eleanor. “You don’t need to rack the slide. I’ve done that already. Just point to the target.”

“See how you have two white dot rear sights and one white dot front sight? Keep the dots of the rear sight so they form an imaginary line with the white dot front sight. When they are aligned, the bullseye will be directly above the front sight. Don’t pull the trigger, but squeeze it. Now, take a deep breath, let it go, and aim and shoot.”

I am surprised. Sally has just taken over teaching. On her fifth trip yet! She speaks loudly enough to be heard, but in a firm and reassuring manner.

Eleanor shoots Sally’s Sig P238 a couple times. She hits the edge of the 8-inch target with one of

her shots.

“Great shooting!” I’m glad to see that although she is so nervous, she is still able to hit the target. It’s also impressive to see Sally turn into a teacher.

“So, which gun do you prefer?” I ask Eleanor.

“I like the EZ better. I get a better grip on it,” she replies.

“Would you like to shoot the EZ again?”

She takes the EZ. She has remembered her stance and her grip. She shoots another round, puts the gun down on the shooting bench, and steps back.

“I think you’ve had it for the day,” I suggest.

She is certainly ready to leave. I hate to see anyone so nervous and yet so resolved. If she would like it, I’d prefer to take her back to the range on a day when there are fewer shooters, so their pops would not be distracting. Since she is determined to shoot, I’d like her experience to be as calm and peaceful as possible.

“What did you think of Eleanor?” I ask Sally, when Eleanor has left.

“By the way, you are an impressive teacher. I didn’t expect you to take over like you did. You acted like you do this all

the time!”

“I like Eleanor. She can handle a gun and she is intelligent. She has a fear factor that she has to get over.”

“What do you think will make the difference?”

“For me, it meant finding the right gun. So, I think Eleanor needs to come back to the range and try out several guns.

She preferred the EZ to the Sig. That may be because she has long fingers, and the grip on the Sig is better for those of us with smaller hands.

Coming to the range and trying out several handguns made the difference for me, even though I had a small Glock already.”

“Why did you want to try out other guns when you had the Glock? What made you come here on a Wednesday morning?”

“I saw your article in The Wakulla Sun about the three .380 handguns. I wanted to try them out to see if any worked better for me than my Glock. I didn’t like the Glock.”

“Had you tried other handguns?”

“Yes, I tried a Taurus, a Glock 9mm and a Cowboy gun. I was encouraged to buy a Glock, so I did. It was a mistake. I hadn’t tried it before I bought it,” Sally adds

ruefully.

She continues: “I’m really lucky because my husband said he would buy the Glock from me if I found I preferred another gun. So, that’s why I contacted you. Then, when we got together, I liked the Sig so much better than the Glock. While the Glock is also a .380, the Sig fit my hand better. To me, it had less recoil and to me, the trigger was easier. With the Sig, I found my gun. Eleanor needs to find her gun, too.”

“What do you think is the best thing these articles in the paper do for you?” I ask her.

“Well, besides getting to try out other handguns, I had to overcome

the fear factor of newly owning a gun. I think Eleanor needs to become comfortable with a gun. Knowing from the articles that I could come to the range on Wednesday morning and try out several guns helped me to overcome that fear factor, and at the same time, find the gun that is right for me. And that is most important... Finding the gun that is right for me. If Eleanor finds the right gun, it will cut down on her fear.

“It helps too, to shoot with another woman. Sometimes, men can be so judgmental of ‘man things.’”

Sally and I had a good giggle over that statement. Fortunately, my Joe is super supportive of women handling and learning about firearms.

Last week, I noted that it would be the last time we’d speak of Sally as a newbie at the range. I figured time with newbie Sally was over.

It wasn’t. Now we have Sally: assisting at the range.

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 yellow-crowned night heron



HOG CHOKER (*Trinectes maculatus*)

This small flatfish (4-7”) is found in subtropical Atlantic coast and so often in major river systems that they are also known as “freshwater flounder”. They got their name because free roaming hogs ate them on the beach, and sometimes choked. The fish can also use their bellies like a suction cup to hang onto rocks and so are called “freshwater fluke”. They like soft mud bottoms in water 50’ deep small animals to eat. Adults travel downstream to mate and spawn and larvae swim upstream after hatching.

Eukarya,Animalia,Cordata,Actinopterygi,Pleuronectiformes,Achiridae



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FOLLOW THE SUN.

Have you been broken by sin?

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Do you know someone who reminds you of a broken doll that needs to be returned to the toy factory? So brokenhearted from their

mess-ups that their spirits are crushed? Someone so ashamed because of their wrong choices that they can't face anyone – even God?

Is this how you would describe yourself?

God understands our crushing discouragement and shame, which is why He says in Hebrews 4:16 (ESV), "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

No matter what else

we're dealing with, when shame and turmoil are added to the mix, our "time of need" escalates.

What would happen if we asked God to show us how He hates our sin, but still loves us? To help us despise our sin as much as He despises it – and accept His love and mercy as freely as He gives it?

For years, when I battled eating disorders and other self-harming behavior, I felt like a broken doll. So broken that the toy factory probably would have

tossed me aside. I know firsthand how the enemy uses the shame of our mess-ups. He convinces us we're not worth people's time, so we withdraw from the very people we need to be around – those at church, our family and God.

Every day we isolate, hopelessness sets in deeper.

Please don't let Satan get away with this.

In my desperation, I finally poured out my heart at the throne of grace and found wholeness in Christ's mercy.

It wasn't long before I allowed supportive people back into my life.

Read Hebrews 4:16 again.

What if, rather than dwelling on the mess you've made, you drew near to the throne of grace and talked to your heavenly Father? Ask Him to help you make things right with those you've hurt with your sinful choices. Ask God to heal them — and you — from the consequences of your sin.

Whatever your situation, I hope you'll go boldly to God and tell

Him everything. Ask Him to give you true sorrow for your mess-ups and sins. Freely accept Almighty God's love and mercy.

And, while you're at the throne of grace in this time of need, allow God's grace to heal you from your brokenness.

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.

Remember to look upward

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

One of the things I remember being taught in my childhood is the art of looking up. We would lay with our backs on green grass to see the sky. On our summer trips, I often sat in Mom's lap (before the mandated seatbelt laws), and she would help me find the different shapes in the clouds.

She constantly re-

minded us to lift our heads and watch where we were going. She believed looking down could cause a person to miss the good things that came their way. Looking up is an art that is learned, just as looking down is now being known.

With the new age of technology, we are losing this skill of looking up. Everywhere you turn, people walk with their eyes cast down into these little screens called smartphones. You can often see someone stumble, bump into an object, or walk in front of a car because they are looking downward and not paying attention.

We have come a long way from the party line

of my youth. Just as the calculator and computerized cash registers have stolen the capability to count change, electronics are stealing our need for eye contact.

These devices are not the "bad" of our lives. Each of these has a place in our world. We miss the moments that count when we allow objects to take our eyes off the beauty around us and no longer look up to see family, friends, or creation.

Mom taught us to lift our heads to see our surroundings. However, the Scripture teaches us to look up to our Heavenly Father. When the children of Israel came out of slavery, the Lord went ahead of

them. He was a pillar of cloud in the day to guide them. At night, the Lord rose above them as a pillar of fire that would light their way (Exodus 13:21). Throughout their journey, they were safe if they looked up to the Lord. Nonetheless, when they cast their eyes downward to their own devices, they weakened and fell into danger.

If we want to remain a vital people of faith, we must lift our eyes to God. What we see now is only for a moment in time, but what is unseen is eternal (2 Corinthians 4:18), beyond the scope of time. The Psalmist lifted his eyes upward, realizing his help came from the God of creation. He

knew God would not allow him to falter and that God would be his protection in times of trouble (Psalm 121). In times of crisis, God remains our protection when we look upward toward Him.

We live in a world so shaken with hatred and violence that we cannot afford to cast our eyes downward. Leonardo da Vinci said, "Once you have tasted the taste of the sky, you will forever look up."

We should become people who learn to look beyond the sky. As we gaze upward, seeking the face of our Heavenly Father, we will taste and know that He is good. Blessings will flow when we take refuge in Him

(Psalm 34:8). Our sanctuary of peace will be found when we lift our eyes toward Heaven. Therefore, let us begin to look upward to our Lord from this day forward, finding our salvation in His presence.

"Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing." Isaiah 40:26

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

OUT TO PASTOR

Then I thought of chocolate

By **JAMES SNYDER**

Everybody has their own comfort food. I have a long list of comfort food, and Apple Fritter is at the top. Nothing comforts me quite like a fresh Apple Fritter.

The other day I needed some comfort food. After all, life can be rather stressful, and you either deal with the stress or let it deal with you.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage planned to spend the day thrift store shopping with one of our daughters. Thus, I had a whole day to deal with my stress.

The first thing I did was go where I usually get my Apple Fritter. I was quite excited on my way there, knowing I would have all day to

enjoy my favorite comfort food. Even thinking about it caused me to lose a lot of my stress.

Then the unthinkable happened. I got to the place to purchase my Apple Fritter and was shocked to find they had no Apple Fritters in stock. They were out and did not know when any would be available.

If I had stress at the beginning of the day, it was nothing compared to the stress I was now experiencing. How can any store run out of the most important food item in the world?

Staring at the cashier, I said, "Could you check your inventory to see if maybe there's one you missed?"

She did, and much to my chagrin, there was none to be found. I staggered outside, as stressed as I've ever been in my life. What in the world am I going to do without an Apple Fritter? Especially at a time when I can sneak one behind the back of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

As I drove home, I didn't know what to

do. I spent the whole day trying to figure this out, and if my luck is as it usually is, I will discover a solution three minutes before The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage walks in the door.

As I walked into the house thinking about this, I got a fresh cup of coffee, went to my easy chair, and tried to think through this problem.

No comfort food qualifies for my stress situation at this time. I did not want to sit with my stress all day. It's usually bad company. I had to come up with a solution. My wife is the one who always comes up with solutions, but I'm sure she would not volunteer any solution on this subject.

Sitting in my chair sipping coffee, trying to figure out what to do, I then thought of chocolate.

Next to an Apple Fritter, a piece of chocolate is on my list of comfort foods. We are not allowed to have chocolate in our house because, according to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, chocolate

gives her headaches.

I must say I'm a little bit jealous. I thought I was the only one giving her headaches, and now she's cheating on me with chocolate headaches. They give her headaches instead of me? How dare they?

I knew we had none in the house, so I had to go out somewhere and get some delicious chocolate before she got home.

It didn't take long to get to the store, where I knew they had some nice chocolate candy. I went in, bought some, and headed for my vehicle to go home. I was so happy that my stress was almost gone before I took a bite of that chocolate.

I got home, got another fresh cup of coffee, sat in my easy chair and slowly opened this delicious chocolate candy bar. I looked at it very deliciously and reverently bowed to take my first bite.

I barely started to chew when all of the stress in my life ran for cover. I slowly chewed and chewed and chewed, and before

I knew it, that chocolate bar disappeared. But so did my stress. Isn't it wonderful when you can deal with a problem so quickly?

Later that day, I heard The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage pull into the driveway. Soon, she was at the door and walked in. As usual, she came over to kiss me, and I welcomed her back home.

Then she stopped, turned around, and looked at me with one of her looks. That kind of look told me I was in some trouble. I could not figure out the trouble, but there it was.

"Oh my," she groaned as she stared at me. "I'm starting to get a headache. You did not have any chocolate candy today, did you?"

"What makes you say that?" I said as nicely as possible.

"When I kissed you I tasted chocolate. Did you have a chocolate bar while I was gone?"

All the stress I got rid of with my chocolate bar is now back because of that chocolate bar. For the life of me, I certainly cannot sort

this out.

I then thought of one of my favorite scriptures. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).

Comfort food is temporary, but "the peace of God" endures forever. When I give my stress to God, He is dependable and will watch over my heart and mind.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com.



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Obituaries



Billy Moore

Billy Moore was born on March 10, 1938, and died peacefully at home on October 19, 2023.

He leaves to cherish his memory a son, Willie Lewis Moore II and wife Tammy; a daughter, Laurie Beaton and husband Rob; six grandchildren, Garrett Moore, Lauralee Mitchell (Marc), Chaise Tinsley (Dallas), Willie Lewis Moore III, Morgan and Ryan Beaton; two great-grandchildren, Edward and Lawson Mitchell; nephews Randall Gerrell (Michelle), Ted Gerrell (Dianne) and niece Sharon Young (Mike Dallman); great nephews and nieces, Alena Crawford (Kyle), Matt Gerrell (Cary), Eli Gerrell (Julia), Lesley Gerrell, Cassidy Bryan (Patrick), Heath Gerrell (Michele) and Mandy Everton (Jerry).

Billy began Wakulla LP Gas with his father, W.G. Moore, and wife, Elaine. They were later joined by their nephew Gordon Gerrell. Billy retired in 1991 and enjoyed traveling in his motor

home, accompanied by friends, on trips throughout the United States. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was a loving father and doting grandfather and was called Pa by his grandchildren. He and his wife, Elaine Paulk Moore, were married for 65 years and always did everything together. Billy was a faithful member and supporter of St. Marks Baptist Church where he was a charter member.

Visitation was held Monday, October 23, 2023, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel. Funeral service was held Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 11 a.m. at St. Marks Baptist Church. The family received friends for food and fellowship back at the funeral home following graveside service at the Arran Cemetery.

Skip and Trey Young along with Paula and Kimberly assisted the family with arrangements. 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

DEATH NOTICES

• **Bruce Phillip Marchlewski**, 73, of Crawfordville, died Oct. 19, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

• **Altoral Terrell**, 47, of Crawfordville, died October 14, 2023. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel.

Catholic church to hold Italian dinner on Saturday

Special to The Sun

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church is holding an authentic Italian Dinner in the Social Hall on Saturday, Oct. 28 with seating beginning at 6:15 p.m. through 8:15 p.m. Tickets are available at the door and carry out orders are also available. Advance tickets can be purchased from church members or at the church office which is open 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Adult tickets are \$12 per person or four for \$36

or six tickets for \$60.

Dinner includes Mostaccioli with meat or with a meatless sauce, garlic bread, salad, desert and beverage. BYOB!

There will also be a 50/50 drawing and a Silent Auction.

A few of the parishioners will be preparing the authentic sauce for the meals.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is trying to bring the community together, especially after the Covid period and now with all the new developments com-

ing to our town. We hope to meet and greet new people and hopefully hold "Nationality Dinners" going forward in the new year. Since Father Paul Raj, HGN (Heralds of G0od News) is our pastor, and from India, we would like to have an Indian Dinner and Polish Night Dinner, among others.

The fundraiser is for the church, and the charities that the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Circle donate to in Wakulla.

Both the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Circle donate to the

Wakulla Pregnancy Center and Operation Santa

The Ladies Circle donates to Wakulla Academics, Medart Backpack program, and to scholarships through our church.

The Knights of Columbus also donates to Open Door Women's Center, Coats for Kids and Special Olympics in Wakulla.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church is located at 3609 Coastal Hwy. in Crawfordville - off Highway 98 in Medart.

Weekly Roundup: Food for thought

By RYAN DAILEY
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Sen. Ben Albritton was formally designated as the next leader of the Florida Senate this week during a ceremony at the Capitol in which he pledged to support the Sunshine State's agriculture industry and said lawmakers will "keep working" to address property-insurance problems.

A Wauchula Republican, Albritton is a fourth-generation citrus grower — a theme that came up multiple times during Tuesday's ceremony on the Senate floor.

"It's part of what drove me to public service," Albritton said of his farming experience. "I know firsthand what it takes to produce the food that feeds our state, our country and the world. If you really stand back and think about it, the fact is, the survival of agriculture is the survival of humanity."

Albritton has advocated for increasing funding to study such things as deadly citrus greening disease, which has played a major role in declining citrus production over the past two decades.

He will succeed President Kathleen Passidomo, R-Naples, after the 2024 elections. With Gov. Ron DeSantis in the crowd for the designation ceremony, Albritton during his prepared remarks called the governor a "focused and principled fighter for what's good."

Lawmakers in recent years have passed a series of measures to try to shore up the troubled property-insurance industry, but many homeowners continue to see soaring rates. Albritton said the cost of insurance is "pressing down on

families."

"We have been focused on the issue, with the sweeping tort reform that we put into place last year. The insurer accountability bill that we passed this last year as well, are going to make the system better. But what's most important and what I think Floridians really want to hear, is that we're going to keep looking. And we're going to keep working," Albritton said.

SPECIAL SESSION IN THE WORKS

A week after issuing an executive order declaring a state of emergency amid the war between Israel and Hamas, DeSantis on Friday said he intends to call lawmakers into a special session to bolster state sanctions against Iran.

House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast, and Senate President Kathleen Passidomo, R-Naples, quickly issued a joint proclamation announcing the special session will take place Nov. 6 through Nov. 9.

The session also will address myriad other issues, including Hurricane Idalia relief, increased resiliency efforts to lower property insurance costs, security for Jewish day schools, and an effort to increase vouchers for students with disabilities.

DeSantis, who is seeking the 2024 Republican nomination for president, and lawmakers already have taken a number of steps to show support for Israel following the Hamas attacks.

The proclamation said lawmakers in the upcoming session will "express support for the State of Israel to exist as a sovereign, independent nation,

with the right to defend itself and protect its citizens from indiscriminate violence and terrorism; condemn the unprovoked and barbaric attacks by terrorist regimes, including Hamas, against Israel, its citizens, and Americans; and demand the immediate end to any financial support, whether directly or indirectly, to the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hamas, Hezbollah, or other entities that publicly support these attacks."

DeSantis' spokesman Jeremy Redfern said Friday that the state intends to impose "the strongest sanctions against Iran by any state in the nation, as proposed by Governor DeSantis" during the special session.

"We look forward to working with the Legislature to show Florida's continued support for Israel," Redfern said in a prepared statement.

Iran supports Hamas, a Palestinian militant group that began the war Oct. 7 by attacking Israel.

Florida House Minority Leader Fentrice Driskell, D-Tampa, issued a statement Friday tying the planned special session to DeSantis' White House bid.

"We will be watching closely to make sure Floridians' tax dollars aren't wasted trying to impress out-of-state GOP primary voters. DeSantis' policy failures at home have left Floridians paying the most for homeowners insurance, auto insurance, and rent in the country. I think Floridians would prefer

their governor spend as much time addressing these pocketbook issues here as he spends on his ambitions," Driskell said.

During a bipartisan event to show support for Israel after the surprise attack by Hamas this month, legislative leaders on Wednesday vowed to move forward with DeSantis' request for increased state sanctions against Iran.

The federal government, which hasn't had a formal diplomatic relationship with Iran since 1979, when Iranians took over the American embassy, hasn't directly linked Iran with the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas. But it has said leaders in Tehran have provided Hamas with money and materials.

"We know the Iranian regime funds Hamas and assists other terror groups," Renner said Wednesday.

DeSantis earlier this month declared a state of emergency that helped clear the way for Florida to help fly Americans back home.

Florida already lists Iran as a "foreign country of concern," along with China, Russia, North Korea, Cuba, Venezuela and Syria. Since 2008, Florida has prohibited state agencies and local governments from contracting for goods and services of more than \$1 million with any business that has contracts with the Iranian government.

In addition, a state law passed this spring placed land-ownership restrictions on people from Iran and the other foreign countries of concern. Also, the federal government

has imposed numerous sanctions on Iran.

HARD TIME FOR HARDING

The state House member who rose to prominence among conservatives as the sponsor of a controversial 2022 law restricting school lessons about sexual orientation and gender identity was sentenced Thursday after he pleaded guilty to fraudulently applying for business loans during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Former Rep. Joe Harding, an Ocala Republican, pleaded guilty in March to charges of wire fraud, money laundering and making false statements. The charges stemmed in part from Harding providing false information in December 2020 to the federal Small Business Administration to receive a \$150,000 pandemic-relief loan.

U.S. District Judge Allen Winsor on Thursday sentenced Harding to four months in prison, followed by two years of supervised release.

Harding, 36, was first elected to the House in 2020 and was re-elected without opposition in 2022 in Marion County's House District 24. But he was indicted by a federal grand jury a short time after his re-election and resigned from office in December 2022.

Harding is expected to start the prison term on Jan. 29, according to a court document.

STORY OF THE WEEK: Bolstering Florida's agriculture industry, addressing water-quality issues and supporting the foster-care system are priorities that Sen. Ben Albritton is eyeing as he prepares to become the next Senate president.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "This looks like yet another case of Ron DeSantis using the Legislature to try to help his failing presidential campaign." — Florida House Minority Leader Fentrice Driskell, D-Tampa, referring to the governor's call for a special session to beef up state sanctions against Iran.

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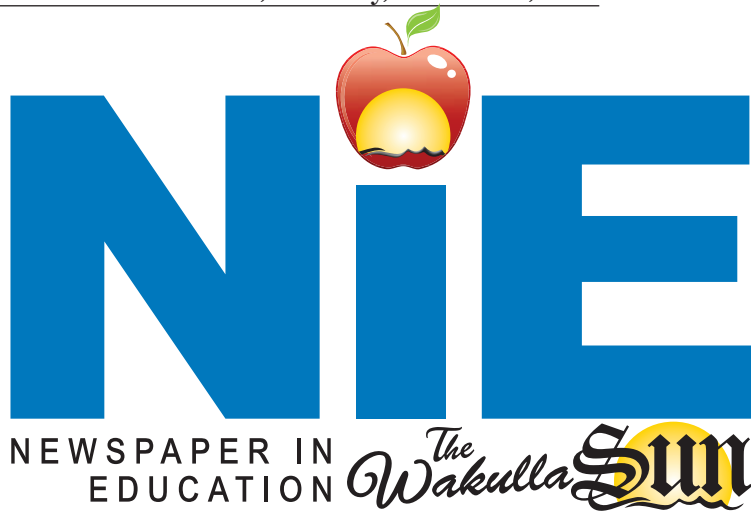
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USE THE NEWS

1. CLONE WARS

If you have a pet, you probably know what it's like to love an animal like family. Javier Milei, who's running for president in Argentina, loved his dog Conan so much, he had him cloned—not once, but five times. His five “fur children,” Conan (a second one named for the original dog), Murray, Milton, Robert, and Lucas, are genetic copies of the original Conan, created in a laboratory in New York. Since Dolly the sheep became the first mammal to be cloned in 1997, several other animals including horses, goats, wolves, and cats have been cloned by scientists for research or companies like the one Javier used. While a cloned animal might have the same genes as its original, it doesn't necessarily have the same personality traits. With so many animals in shelters that need good homes, do you think it's necessary or ethical to have companies that can clone pets? Why or why not? Write a paragraph explaining what you think about the issue.

2. HALLOWEEN DRAMA

Hollywood actors are still on strike while their union, the Screen Actors Guild, negotiates their contracts with movie studios. With Halloween approaching, the union released guidelines for its members about what costumes they should avoid in order to avoid promoting work, which is a big part of the strike. Members of the union were told to avoid dressing as specific characters and instead should stick to generic costumes like ghosts or zombies. Many actors spoke out against the guidelines, saying they were unnecessary and that Halloween costumes ar-

en't important to the strike against movie studios or considered promotion for movies and TV shows. Do you think celebrities' Halloween costumes are important? Does the fact that they're seen by so many people mean they have to be more thoughtful on what they dress up as? Think about what it would mean to be a celebrity choosing a Halloween costume—write down your thoughts and share them with your classmates.

3. BOARDING GROUPS

United Airlines

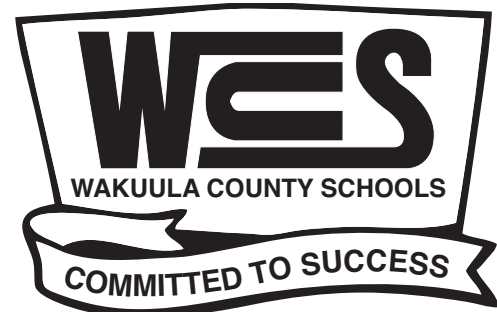
has come out with a new policy to make boarding an airplane faster for passengers. Their new idea: letting people in window seats board first, before those in middle or aisle seats. (Families traveling together will still board together.) The new process will help reduce the time people are waiting in the aisle for people who were already seated to move out of the way for window seat passengers to get into the row. They say the new method would save about two minutes of boarding time for each flight. Have you flown

in an airplane before? If so, what do you remember about the boarding process? If not, Do you think two minutes per flight is worth it for United to change their process?

4. PAINTING RETURNS HOME

A 300-year-old painting has been returned to a German museum after it was missing for almost 100 years. The painting, by an artist named Johann Franz Nepomuk Lauterer, was stolen during World War II and brought to the United States. It was discovered by Art Recovery International, a company that looks for

School distribution sponsored by



art that was looted or stolen, particularly during World War II, and brings the works back to their original homelands. This painting will now be displayed in Germany for the first time since 1945. Write a summary of this story, including where the artwork ended up and where it rightfully belonged.

5. TOP FOODS OF 2023

Food delivery company Uber Eats recently released its fifth annual “Cravings Report” that shares the popular and unusual requests customers made on the app. Among

the food trends they noticed were more people ordering food without onions and asking for hot sauce more than any other condiments. The most ordered item was French fries, while the most popular delivery combination was a burrito bowl and cheese. With Halloween approaching, they also listed the most popular candies: Reese's, Twix, Snickers, Peanut M&Ms, and Hershey's Cookies 'N' Cream. Ask five classmates what foods they ate the most this year. Then, create your own top foods report from the answers you get.



A PERSON WHO IS A PHILATELIST COLLECTS AND STUDIES WHICH ITEMS?

ANSWER: STAMPS

What's the Difference?

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



Answers: 1. "Zanzibar" missing from brownish envelope 2. Black stamp bottom left row of book 3. Extra stamp on envelope above book 4. Missing stamp top left corner left book

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1636: THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY VOTES TO ESTABLISH A THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, WHICH WOULD LATER BECOME HARVARD UNIVERSITY.
- 1726: "GULLIVER'S TRAVELS" BY JONATHAN SWIFT IS PUBLISHED.
- 1971: PROSPERO BECOMES THE ONLY BRITISH SATELLITE TO BE LAUNCHED BY A BRITISH ROCKET.



COLLECT

to gather similar items

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Stamp

SPANISH: Sello

ITALIAN: Francobollo

FRENCH: Timbre

GERMAN: Briefmarke

Did you Know?

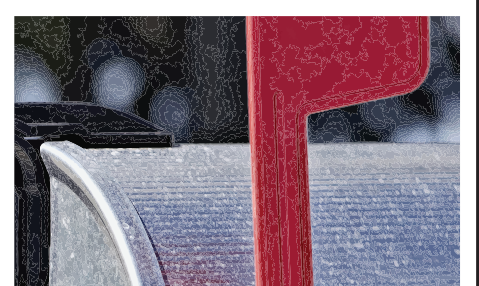
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GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: MAILBOX

CHIROPRACTIC WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- ACTIVATOR
- ADJUSTMENT
- ARTICULATE
- ATLAS
- BONES
- CERVICAL
- CHIROPRACTIC
- COCCYX
- DIAGNOSIS
- DISC
- FLEXORS
- HANDS
- JOINT
- LUMBAR
- MANIPULATION
- MASSAGE
- NECK
- NERVES
- PAINFUL
- SACRUM
- SPINAL
- STIMULATION
- SUBLUXATION
- VERTEBRAE

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

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Male children
5. Robert Wagner series "Hart to ___"
9. Unfolded
11. Digestive disease
13. Wednesday
15. Malignant tumor
16. Conscientious investment strategy (abbr.)
17. Slowed
19. Letter of the Semitic abjads
21. Weights of cars without fuel
22. Former CIA
23. Asian country
25. Instead
26. Ancient Egyptian King
27. Privies
29. Shopping trips
31. Paradoxical anecdote
33. It's on the table
34. Ancient Persia ruler
36. Small American rail

CLUES DOWN

1. Ringlet
2. Type of complex
3. Midway between north and northwest
4. It becomes something bigger
5. German courtesy title
6. Genus of birds
7. Marked by public disorder
8. Least aggressive
9. Russian city
10. Insect repellent
11. Interruptions
12. Scoundrels
14. 1,000 calories
15. What one does overnight
18. Dwarf planet
20. Pipe
24. Black powdery substance
26. Set of four
28. Canned fishes
30. North Carolina college
32. Secured
34. A disgraceful event
35. Physical suffering
37. The home of the free
38. Some are boys
40. Satisfy
42. Makes very happy
43. South American plants
45. Modes of transportation
47. Female sheep
49. Type of torch
50. Piece of merchandise
51. Jump over
55. Wife of Amun

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to bathrooms.

W L O T E

--	--	--	--	--

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

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in California on October 25, 1984. I am the daughter of two pastors who discouraged listening to pop music. Despite that, I became a successful pop singer and later an "American Idol" judge.

Answer: *Towel* Answer: *Katy Perry*

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 Assistant to the director of Tax Roll Operations & Assessment Administration

The Wakulla County Property Appraiser Office is seeking qualified applicants for a full-time Assistant to the Director of Tax Roll Operations and Assessment Administration. It will assist in analyzing all real estate deed processing, exemption processing, renewal processing, TRIM processing, preliminary and final tax roll certification processes, and other tax roll processes.

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Selected Candidate must obtain Certified Florida Evaluator's Certification within the first two years of employment.

Salary will be commensurate with experience, with a minimum starting salary of \$50,000 a year. To apply, send a Wakulla County employment application to HumanResources@mywakulla.com or via hand-delivery to 3093 Crawfordville Hwy. Questions? Please get in touch with Human Resources at 850.926.0919. Veteran's preference will be given to qualified applicants. Wakulla County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. The closing date is October 27 at 5:00 p.m.

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The cost of a new deputy sheriff

The Wakulla County Sheriff's Office submitted a budget request for a total of nine new positions, including four road patrol deputies, two detectives, two dispatchers and one bailiff.

Projected cost of one deputy/detective position, including salary and benefits: \$95,153

Projected cost of one bailiff position, including salary and benefits: \$52,188

Projected cost of one dispatch position, including salary and benefits: \$90,785

Projected cost of one detention deputy position: \$89,019 (this position was not included with our budget request)

Projected Uniform and equipment cost for each road patrol deputy: \$5,254

Vehicle (Tahoe) details	
Vehicle	43,736
Lights & parts	11,294
Vehicle Graphics	480
AED	2,000
MCT	2,942
Radio & Console	5,755
Total	66,207



– Information compiled and photographed by Legion Taylor

Ducks Unlimited holds Fall Oyster Roast



Summer Dawson, Sarah Clark, Heather Benton and April Posey at the event.



PHOTOS BY LYNDA KINSEY

Colleen East, Anna Link and Dana Ivester.

Richardson Cemetery

From Front Page

graves found in Wakulla County and others across the state are at risk of being lost or destroyed—abandoned African American cemeteries deserve better”

Debbie Jay of the historical society held a community meeting last week at the library to discuss plans for improvements: a new paved entrance and a gravel parking area, as well as a walking trail in the northern part of the property, which includes the recently added property.

There are plans for a fence around the property, including a new

gate at the entrance with a pedestrian entrance.

A handful of people attended the meeting out of concern about more unmarked graves on the property.

Jay noted that graves in the northwestern part of the cemetery were from white families. The graves in the southern part of the cemetery are black families.

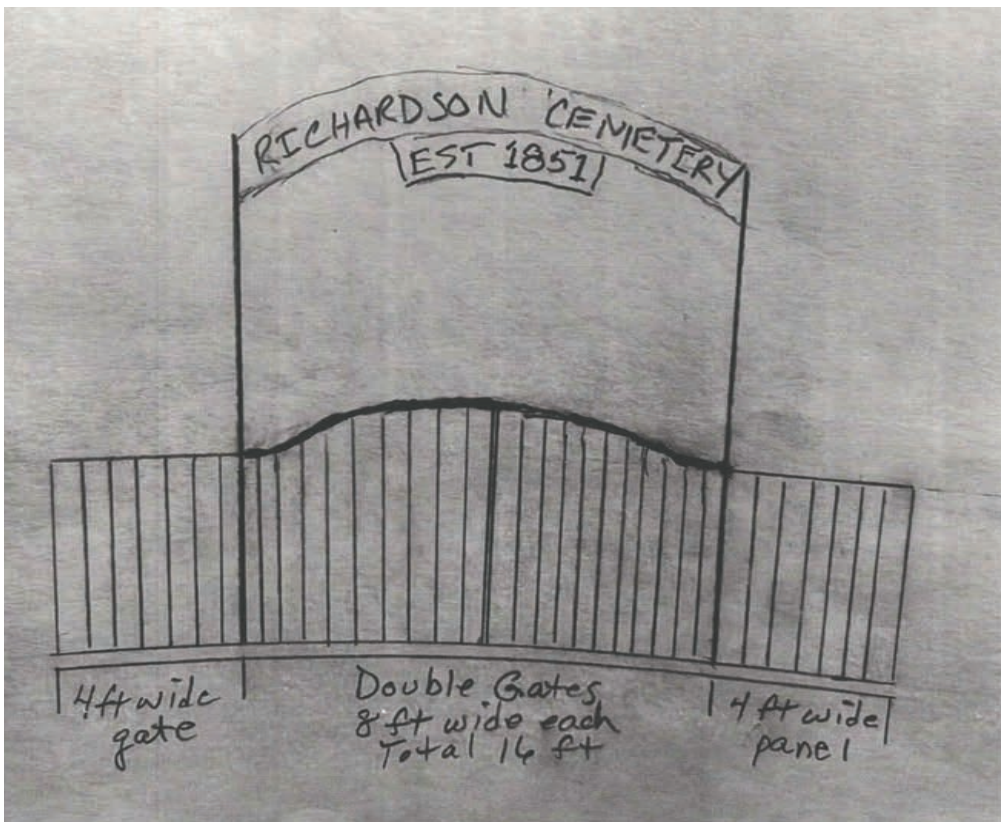
Much of the controversy first arose after Linda Alexander, who owns property north of the cemetery adjacent to the RV park, filed an appeal of a conditional use permit for the RV park to construct a pickleball court next to the cemetery. Alexander's

appeal was in front of the county commission.

Alexander wasn't objecting to the pickleball court, though her appeal was limited to that. Her actual concern was the RV park and the 170 units that would be allowed on the property. Alexander, whose home was for sale, said buyers had walked away from the deal after learning of plans for the RV park.

Alexander claimed that what was originally pitched to her was a much smaller development.

Jenny Jones, who has family buried at Richardson Cemetery, appeared at the appeal hearing and expressed her concern about the impact of the RV park on the cemetery.



A hand-drawn plan for a wrought-iron gate at the entranceway of the cemetery off U.S. Highway 98.

School budget

From Front Page

On the audio recording, after the vote, Taylor reads the language dealing with the millage rate levy and the roll-back rate. (The language probably should have been read before the vote on the millage rate.) And then the school board moves on to the budget resolution: Hand made a motion to approve, seconded by Langston, all voted for.

Lawhon said at the Oct. 16 school board meeting that there was

not a motion to approve the budget, saying she remembers that because she intended to express how frustrated she was with the budget process because she didn't get the full budget in a timely manner from the district's financial office.

Lawhon said she had written a page that she wanted to read and never had the opportunity because there was never a motion and discussion.

Pearce invited school

board members to listen to the tape. He also suggested that concerns such as Lawhon's should be investigated by school board members prior to the meeting.

Lawhon appeared frustrated with Pearce's suggestion, saying that she had only received the minutes a week ago and then had to wait days for contact from the district's attorney.

A vote to approve the minutes of the Sept. 11 meeting failed on a 2-2 vote, with Lawhon and Hand voting against approval, and Langston

and Brown voting for. Taylor was absent because of illness.

The approval of the minutes for that Sept. 11 meeting will be put on the agenda for the school board's November meeting.

After the meeting, Lawhon was asked if she had listened to the recording of the Sept. 11 meeting. She said no, and that she was "speaking from my truth" and her feelings about the budget hearing.

In another matter before the school board, Lawhon expressed her

concern about challenged materials in the district and the lack of communication with school board members.

The district has received two objections and had one removal of a book, according to the state Department of Education's list of challenged instructional materials.

Complaints about the book "Little Rock Nine" about the integration of public schools in Little Rock, Arkansas, over use of the "N-word" led to it being removed from elementary school libraries.

Lawhon said she had been contacted by someone in the community with concerns about the book's removal, but because there was no communication from district staff, she was unable to answer the person's concerns.

It was pointed out that DOE has a list on its website of objections and removed materials for each district.

The list is available at fl.doe.org/academics/standards/instructional-materials or search Florida Instructional Materials or your browser.

FSU's shut-down defense in second halves

By **BOB FERRANTE**
TheOsceola

Florida State's defense hasn't had moments like these in more than a decade. The Seminoles have pitched three straight second-half shutouts, securing wins over Virginia Tech, Syracuse and Duke.

That's an achievement FSU hasn't had since 2012 against Murray State, Savannah State and Wake Forest. And it's the first time FSU's defense has had three straight second-half shutouts of FBS teams since 1996 (North Carolina, Clemson and Miami).

"With every rep they get better and I think Adam (Fuller) has done a remarkable job just playing to the strengths of our guys," FSU coach Mike Norvell said. "I thought they were dominant throughout the game. Duke was able to run the ball, got to the edge a few times, we lost contain, didn't have the edge. I thought Adam did a great job and our players do a great job."

"When you make slight adjustments you re-em-

phasize and focus on the things that they need to be doing and looking at and to see that response — basically there was 10 points, we had the missed fourth down (attempt on offense) where we were able to get an immediate stop and held them to a field goal, and then obviously the pick six there early. But, other than that, they held them to 10 points essentially defensively."

Let's recalibrate a bit of what Norvell is saying. Norvell's comment that the Seminoles were "dominant throughout the game" is definitely debatable. Duke had accumulated 144 rushing yards on 20 carries in the first half. But the Seminoles did a good job of pressuring Riley Leonard, who was just 3 of 11 for 37 yards with a second-quarter interception by a diving Shyheim Brown. If Norvell's comments can be interpreted as making Duke one-dimensional on offense, that's not necessarily dominant although it's taking away a part of what the Blue Devils wanted to accomplish.



PHOTO BY KEN FIELDS
Seminoles defense swarms to take down Duke back Terry Moore in FSU's 38-20 victory.

The second half? Nothing short of impressive. FSU produced a pair of fourth-down stops and two punts. Yes, the Seminoles benefitted from Riley Leonard's injury. But the Seminoles also should earn credit for putting pressure on Leonard and his backup, Henry Belin.

FSU didn't have a sack but recorded 22 pressures (four QB hits and 18 hurries), per Pro Football Focus. Defensive end

Patrick Payton was credited with seven pressures.

"It felt great, especially this game because like the last few games it really ain't been no pass rush, just been a lot of teams really just scared to drop back and let us rush," Payton said. "Even though we had like zero sacks, still the rush was there every time. A different person was one step away from being home and that helps out the DBs, too."

Defensive tackle Fabien Lovett Sr. was asked if a deep rotation up front contributes to the defense's late-game success.

"It has a lot to do with the rotation because at the end of the day if I'm going out there fresh, I'm going to go make plays like I did today," Lovett said. "If (Braden) Fiske goes out there fresh, he's going to make plays. If Josh (Farmer) is out there fresh, he's going to make plays. At the end of the day, it's all about putting each other in the best position to be dominant, regardless. We don't want to put nobody out there if you're tired, just because you're tired you need to come off the field."

The Seminoles are building a reputation of bending yet not breaking and instead breaking the will of offenses in the second half of games. FSU's win at Clemson came on Sept. 23, a month ago, and that was the last time an opponent found the end zone after halftime against the FSU defense.

In the second half against Virginia Tech, FSU had a fourth-down

stop, Conrad Hussey forced a fumble and the Hokies had to punt three times.

In the second half against Syracuse, Greedy Vance had an interception, the Orange punted three times and missed a field-goal attempt.

A few FSU players referenced a halftime speech in the locker room on Saturday, motivating the Seminoles to respond to the adversity of trailing Duke.

"It was the coaches, but Fabien was really the one that stood up in the locker room," Fiske said. "He made a statement of this isn't who we are and let's turn this around. Everybody was on board, but it was mainly he stood up and he took charge, and kudos to him. He's a great leader for us, and he stepped up in the moment, and I think we really all fell in line from that. Yeah, the second half spoke for itself."

It certainly did on Saturday. But the defense's second halves are beginning to build week after week — and speak volumes, too.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WALK HELD SATURDAY



A walk to raise awareness of breast cancer was held Saturday at Azalea Park. Gee Wilson, left, leads an impromptu Zumba class with walk participants. Kiersten Smith, left, whose challenge with cancer led her to partner her State Farm insurance agency with the Wakulla County Health Department to sponsor the walk. (Photos by Linda Ann McDonald)



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Next game:

Friday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.

Wakulla War Eagles travel to Live Oak for a district game against the Suwannee Bulldogs.



War Eagles beat NFC, 42-21

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

The Wakulla War Eagles battled a tough North Florida Christian team on Friday night and came away with a 42-21 victory to improve to 9-0.

Tied 14 all at halftime, Wakulla Head Coach Scott Klees made some adjustments at halftime – including runs by quarterback Haden Klees – that opened up the War Eagle offense in the second half.

Klees said he was proud of his defense – NFC had three scoring plays including two scrambles by their quarterback JP Pickles that turned into long runs for touchdowns. “Good athletes made big plays,” Klees said.

Coach Klees was frustrated with the first half: “My biggest takeaway: we were not clicking on all cylinders and making silly mistakes.”

One devastating injury was to last week’s Player of the Week, receiver Del Zanders who went down with a leg injury and will likely be out in this week’s game against district rival Suwannee.

GAME RECAP

NFC won the toss and took the opening kickoff, but were forced to punt.

Quarterback Klees connected on a bomb to receiver Samron Brinson. Extra point good. Wakulla up 7-0.

In the second quarter, NFC has a short pass to

back Leon Washington, who runs 60 yards for score. They go for 2 but it’s ruled an illegal forward pass. Wakulla 7, NFC 6.

NFC attempts an on-side kick, recovered by War Eagles.

Wakulla on the move: first and goal at the NFC 2. On 3rd down, pass to Jeremiah Thomas for the score. Extra point puts Wakulla up 14-6 with 2:22 left in the first half.

NFC quarterback Pickles is pressured, scrambles, then takes off - runs for 70 yard TD. NFC converts the 2-point play to tie it at 14.

War Eagles receive the second half kickoff. Two rushes by Jeremiah Thomas, then Haden Klees breaks a long run to 9. A play later, Samron Brinson scores on a jet sweep. Extra point puts Wakulla up 21-14 over NFC.

A 75-yard run by the NFC QB for a touchdown and the extra point and game is tied at 21.

Wakulla’s Sion Ransom carries to the 10. 1st and goal. Third and goal from the 3, Klees runs for it, pushes across goal line.

Next drive: Klees scores again, this time from 3 yards out. Extra point makes it Wakulla 35, NFC 21.

NFC touchdown called back for illegal formation. Ball at 15, third and 10 with 7:20 left in the game. Fourth and 10 at Wakulla 15 for NFC and pass falls incomplete. Wakulla takes over on downs with



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PHOTOS BY KEN FIELDS

War Eagle Quarterback Haden Klees prepares to step out of bounds. His second half rushes were a difference in the game, including two touchdowns.

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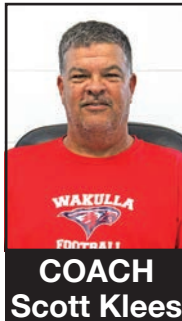


FROM THE COACH

Last week: Big win against a tough, athletic and well-coached North Florida Christian team.

Scouting report: Suwannee is the best team the War Eagles have faced: big, physical and athletic.

Keys to victory: The War Eagles will want to speed the game up, the Bulldogs will try to slow it down. Offense has to be patient and take advantage of opportunities.



under 7 minutes left.

On that series, Samron Brinson laid out and made a diving catch at the NFC 30. Wakulla would turn the ball over on downs, but NFC couldn't get a drive going.

On Wakulla's next series, with less than 2 minutes left, a bomb from Klees to Nehemiah Chandler to put Wakulla up 42-21.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Overall Player of the Week was Haden Klees, who threw for 272 yards

and four touchdowns, and rushed 16 times for 80 yards and two touchdowns.

Offensive Player of the Week was Samron Brinson, who had six receptions for 120 yards and two touchdowns.

Defensive Player of the Week was defensive back Nehemiah Chandler who played lockdown at corner. He had five tackles. On offense, he had six catches for 100 yards and a touchdown.

Special Teams Player of the Week was kicker Luis Quintonilla, praised by Coach Klees for putting his kickoffs in tough spots for NFC, and going 6-for-6 on extra points.

Klees also praised running back Jeremiah Thomas for his 120 yards on 19 carries, plus receiving yards. Thomas also played defense the

whole night as safety. “He didn’t come off the field the whole night,” Klees said. “That’s hard to do.”

NEXT UP: SUWANNEE BULLDOGS

The War Eagles have a big game to end the regular season against district rival Suwannee Bulldogs. A win and Wakulla is guaranteed a spot in the playoffs.

“Suwannee is the best team we’ve played to this point,” Klees said. “They’re big and good and physical.”

Their only loss this season has been to Madison.

“On offense, we have to be patient when we have the ball and take advantage,” Klees said.

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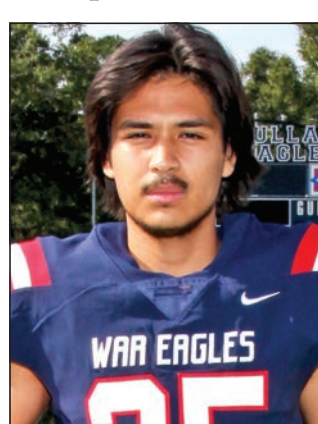
HADEN KLEES
Quarterback



SAMRON BRINSON
Receiver



NEHEMIAH CHANDLER
Receiver/defensive back



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Radio broadcasters Tucker Pearce and Chris Savary calling the football game from the sidelines.