



See Page 13

The Wakulla Sun

"It's a New Day"



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Showers	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms
Hi: 68° Lo: 62° 58%	Hi: 69° Lo: 62° 84%	Hi: 70° Lo: 55° 82%
Sunrise 7:31 AM Sunset 6:08 PM	Sunrise 7:31 AM Sunset 6:09 PM	Sunrise 7:30 AM Sunset 6:10 PM

Locally Owned & Operated

Our 4th Year 3rd Issue
Thursday, January 25, 2024



\$1 One Section

Rental controversy

The school board approves, 3-2, raising cost of renting school facilities

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

At a school board meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, a new policy on the use of facilities was approved that sees a steep rise in the cost of renting school facilities.

Superintendent of Schools Bobby Pearce said the policy was prompted by concerns that some individuals were using school facilities to run a business.

The school board voted 3-2 to approve the change: Chair Cale Langston, and school board members Josh Brown and Melisa Taylor voted for; Eddie Hand and Laura Lawhon voted against.

At a workshop on the issue back on Jan. 10, district HR su-

pervisor Lori Sandgren explained that district staff had contacted eight or nine area counties to get an idea of their facilities policy and rates.

Under the policy that was approved, there are different tiers with different rates. Tier 1 is a school-sponsored club or team which does not have to pay rental or insurance fees.

Tier 2 is for non-profits and would pay a reduced fee. For example, the school auditorium or gym would cost \$100 an hour plus \$53.33 for utilities.

Tier 3 would be for any other user and would require a copy of liability insurance, minimum of \$1 million, and rental fees for the high school auditorium of

\$395.85 for 5 hours plus fees for custodians at one and a half times the employees hourly rate.

Athletic fields at the high school would be rented at \$1,000 for 5 hours plus custodians.

School board member Josh Brown commented at the workshop that the issue isn't the fault of the district - he said the county built the rec park 40 years ago and it was big enough then, but as the county has grown the rec park hasn't. Brown said he asked some organizations upset about the changes in school rentals why they don't use the county's community center and said he was told because there's lots of rules and it's expensive.

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Pedestrian killed by car on Bloxham Cutoff

Staff Report

A 39-year-old Tallahassee man was killed while walking on Bloxham Cutoff Road when he was struck by a car on Thursday, Jan. 18, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

The man, whose name was not released by FHP based on the agency's interpretation of the Marsy's Law, was hit and killed by a van driven by a 76-year-old man from Freeport. Neither he nor the 71-year-old woman passenger in the van was injured.

According to FHP, the van was traveling east-bound on Bloxham Cutoff just west of Rock Road when it left the road and went onto the shoulder where the pedestrian was walking east while facing east.

The van's front bumper and windshield hit the man. He was transported to Tallahassee Memorial where he was pronounced dead.

No reason was given in the FHP report for the van leaving the roadway.

FHP was assisted on scene by the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office and Wakulla County Fire Rescue.

Arbor Day



Members of the garden club were at the county commission meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, with examples of the native trees they planned to give away on Saturday - and they give away 1,500 trees at the 20th annual Arbor Day

tree giveaway. They also planted two live oaks at the Me-dart Rec Park on Friday, one dedicated to Jeanne Brodhead for her accomplishments. Stories on Page 14. (Photo by William Snowden)

Man accepts plea deal of 15 years in prison for escape

Joel Cooper was one of three inmates who escaped from the Wakulla jail back in 2017

Staff Report

Joel Cooper, one of the three Wakulla County Jail inmates who escaped back in 2017 and was on the run for almost a year, was sentenced last week to 15 years in state prison for the escape.

Cooper, who is currently serving a 30 year prison sentence for burglary, will serve the sentence for escape consecutive to that.

Cooper was being held at the jail on burglary charges when he and two other inmates found a place in the law library where they could not be seen by jail cameras.

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Joel Cooper

CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENT

Mike Kemp seeks re-election to commission

By MIKE KEMP
Candidate

Today, I am announcing my re-election campaign for Wakulla County Commissioner, District 3.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as your Wakulla Commissioner, District 3 for the last 3 years. I was born and raised here the same as my children and my grandchildren, and we are all proud to call Wakulla our home.

Over the past 50 years, I swore an oath to protect and defend this country three different times in my life - as a Florida Army National Guardsman, as a Wakulla Sheriff's deputy, and as a Wakulla County commissioner.

Simply put, I believe in our country and our community, and I will do

whatever is necessary to protect both.

When you elected me your county commissioner, make no mistake, I committed to protect our community, our values, and our tax dollars. That's exactly what I've done, and I am proud to say that our law enforcement officers and first responders have the equipment and the personnel to keep Wakulla safe, our families have more access to recreation and quality education than ever before, and every tax dollar is being held accountable.

The fact is...

- Wakulla's first responders are Safer, Faster, and More Accurate through the addition of a new fire engine, a new shift of firefighters, increased salaries for firefighters, increased



Mike Kemp

salaries for paramedics, 12 additional sheriff's deputies, increased salaries for sheriff's office,

replaced and modernized a 20+ year old communications system using Triumph Gulf Coast

THW ak lla S n offers all caid d test h p unty to n n et h am in g for elected office, to tell voters why they're running, the issues that are important to them, and any pertinent biographical information.

funding.

- Wakulla has received more than \$81 million dollars from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the "Septic to Sewer" and infrastructure projects to protect our springs and rivers. We've rebuilt multiple boat ramps and docks across the county for better access to our waterways.

- Wakulla passed the largest ad valorem-property tax decrease in the history of Wakulla County. I was proud to make the motion and have it supported by every commissioner.

The truth is county board meetings and voting will always be an important part of the job, but after 3 years, I want to tell you that working directly with you every day is just as important. I will always respect your calls and texts, and together we will get an answer.

I know every corner of this county, and no one will work harder for you. I respectfully ask for your support and your vote.

Re-Elect Mike Kemp, Wakulla County Commissioner, District 3.

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Student of the Week

Kinsley Pepper – 3rd grader at Riversink Elementary

Principal: Catherine Cutchen

Achievements/Reason for Nomination: Kinsley Pepper is an amazingly kind Otter. Kinsley is in 3rd grade. She is always looking to help others. She cares deeply about her teachers and peers. She has excellent citizenship and work habits. Kinsley loves to play outside with her little sister Kalen. When not in school she enjoys karate lessons. She is currently a level 1 green belt. Kinsley's favorite memory is ringing the bell for meeting her reading goals. At school Kinsley really enjoys music with Mrs. Gatti.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Longleaf pine

By SANDY TEDDER, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and LYNN ARTZ



Longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) with its graceful, spreading crown is one of the tallest of southeastern pines. Reaching 125 feet, they attract perching raptors. Longleaf pines are the longest-lived and most fire-adapted of Florida's pines. They are drought tolerant and wind resistant, too. Longleaf pine needles can be 14 inches long. Longleaf pine-wiregrass ecosystems support numerous native plants and wildlife. In times past, the tree's gummy resin was used as tar to waterproof ships. The wood was used for railroad ties. Pines are a keystone genus that host diverse caterpillar species. Longleaf pines are easy to grow from seedlings in full sun and dry soil. The seedling will stay in the grass stage for a couple of years, then shoot up rapidly. Planted longleaf pines are dotted throughout Sopchoppy Depot Park.

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Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office

SPECIALTY TAGS
 \$20 - \$30 additional to cost of tag.



ENACTED: 07/01/2004, AS AMENDED 07/01/2014

Revenue goes to the Wildlife Foundation of Florida to preserve open space and wildlife habitat, promote conservation, improve wildlife habitat, and establish open space for the perpetual use of the public. State statute specifically requires that 75 percent of the license tag funds from the "deer tag" be used to fund programs and projects within the state that "preserve open space and wildlife habitat, promote conservation, improve wildlife habitat, and establish open space for the perpetual use of the public. The remaining 25 percent may be used for promotion, marketing and administrative costs directly associated with operation of the trust.



Libby Sutton featured in New York Times science story

The Wakulla native is working in South Florida and was featured in a story on invasive caimans

Staff Report

Wakulla native Libby Sutton was featured in the Science section of the New York Times back in October for her work helping corral invasive caimans in South Florida.

Sutton was a 2016 Wakulla High School grad, and graduated from FSU in 2020.

She's worked in her field as a biologist at Jekyll Island, at the Jones Center at Ichauway prior to getting on with "Croc Docs" – which is a team of biologists, ecological modelers, and

outreach specialists on the forefront of wildlife research in south Florida and the Caribbean. The group conducts long-term, applied research and monitoring focused on crocodylians, invasive reptiles, threatened and endangered species, climate change, and human dimensions. In collaboration with federal, state, local, and tribal agencies, we respond to pressing wildlife management needs and provide scientific support for Everglades restoration.

The story in the Times featured photos of Sutton



and others in the group capturing invasive caimans for the story "See You Later, Not-An-Alligator."

In a text to her mom about this article, Sutton wrote, "Please be sure that they make a note that animal are handled under proper permits by trained professionals and that no one should try to recreate the photos."

Far left, Libby Sutton holds some American crocodile hatchlings; near left, proud mom Mina Sutton with a copy of the New York Times Science section featuring Libby.

Stuart Brimmer promoted to major

Special to The Sun

2008 Wakulla High graduate, Stuart Brimmer, the son of Ed and Tina Brimmer, was promoted to Major at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama.

Major Brimmer was commissioned as an Army Aviation Officer after graduating from Florida State University in 2013. In 2022, he completed a Master's Degree in Engineering Management from the Naval War College in Monterey, California. His master's dissertation concerning how and when pilots obtain critical flight information was converted to an article and published in multiple technical journals.

Major Brimmer is currently assigned as a product manager for AH-64 Apache Attack Helicopter Production and Fielding. He recently completed the delivery of new Apache Attack Helicopters to the 1-3 Attack Battalion in Germany.

Major Brimmer attended flight school at Fort



Major Stuart Brimmer and his wife and children.

Rucker, Alabama, and qualified in the UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter. His prior assignments include Fort Hood, Texas and Fort

Drum, New York. He has also deployed with the 10th Combat Aviation Brigade in Afghanistan where he served as the Army

liaison officer with Special Operations and was later given command of an AH-64 Apache maintenance company. Other deployments include Germany and Turkey.

Major Brimmer and his wife, Lindsey, have been married for 7 years and have three children, James and twins Jacob and Evelyn.

Major Brimmer's awards and decorations include a Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (one oak leaf cluster), Joint Service Commendation Medal (with "C" device), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with a campaign star, Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary Medals, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 2, National Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Medal, Aviator Badge, and Parachutist Badge.

Ducks Unlimited event sells out in 48 hours

Staff Report

More than 75 tables for the planned Ducks Unlimited Banquet sold out in less than 48 hours, according to Sara Clark, the county chair for Ducks Unlimited in Wakulla.

The event is set for March 9 at 3Y Ranch. Clark said that within 48 hours the tables were all sold. That's about 600 people, she said. Basic tables at the event are being sold for \$900.

"Wakulla loves the ducks," Clark said. The group's Facebook page was shut down for a time, Clark said, for violation of rules for mention of guns. The group holds gun raffles as part of its events.

Last year's Ducks Unlimited banquet sold 78 tables. Clark was trying a different configuration of tables this year – and said she currently has a waiting list of 12 tables, so she's going to have to add more tables.

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.



Application window open for collegiate academy

Staff Report

The Tallahassee Collegiate Academy (TCA) application window is now open for the 2024-25 academic year. TCA will accept 100 ninth-grade and 25 tenth-grade students for 2024-25.

TCA accepts applications from students

from Leon, Gadsden, and Wakulla counties. The application period closes on Feb. 15 and the lottery will run on Feb. 23, if there are more applications than seats available. Applicants will be notified of their decision on Friday, March 1.

TCA offers a first-of-its-kind educational

experience in the community where students earn a high school diploma and an Associate of Science degree in a STEM field, all without the burden of tuition or debt.

The current A.S. degree options span various STEM fields, including Cyber Security, Computer Programming

and Web Development, Engineering Technology, Dental Hygiene, Nursing (R.N.), Energy Management and Solution, Video Game Design

Shadow days are available for prospective students by request. Contact Principal Jessica Chapman at Jessica.Chapman@tcc.fl.edu for more information.

Rental controversy

From Front Page

The issue drew lots of concern on social media, but only three citizens attended the workshop – and none attended or spoke at the meeting where it was adopted.

At the workshop, one parent, Tracy Swain, said she has two daughters who play volleyball at a cost of \$145. That cost would double under the new policy.

Superintendent Pearce told Swain that it was likely the volleyball team could be drawn in as

a Tier 1 group under the school, and said the best thing was to talk to the coach and principal.

Jessica Johnson of the rec park's football association addressed concerns about renting the J.D. Jones Stadium for the league's Super Bowl. Last year the group paid \$900 to rent the stadium. Under the new policy, it would go up to \$1,900.

School board member Josh Brown suggested working with the county's recreation department for the event, which would

then result in no charges under the district's interlocal agreement with the county.

Brown also brought up the issue of not implementing the change right away, to allow groups affected by the change time to finish their season. That was not brought up at the meeting when the school board voted to approve.

After the meeting, school board member Laura Lawhon said she saw the increase as too much for parents to bear. She noted the original policy was passed in 2003 and should be reviewed more frequently than 20 years.

15 years in prison for escape

From Front Page

On Nov. 17, 2017, Cooper and inmates Donald Cotterman, in jail on charges of armed burglary, and Casey Martina, also being held for burglary, climbed into the ceiling of the law library and found there was unsecured access to non-jail part of the building. They dropped down into a bathroom and then walked out the front door.

A manhunt ensued, and the trio was traced to North Carolina.

Martina was arrested there about a week after the escape.

Cooper and Cotterman remained on the run, and were suspected in several ATM heists and home burglaries.

Cooper and Cotterman were captured separately in March 2018.

Cotterman was less than 50 miles from Mexico – he was taken into custody by U.S. Marshals at a motel in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Cooper had been taken into

custody sometime earlier by Marshals in Arizona, but they kept his capture quiet so as not to tip off Cotterman.

Cooper had been set to go to trial on the escape charge on Thursday, Jan. 18, but decided to accept a plea deal of 15 years in prison. He received credit for 2,148 days served on the sentence.

Sentences for escape are required to be served consecutive to any other sentence. With the credit for time served, it has the effect of reducing Cooper's sentence to 9 years.



Leave Nothing But Your Footprints

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.”

Retraction: Photo was misrepresented

In last week’s edition, on the Opinion Page was a Letter to the Editor from Bill Catalina that gave his response on a number of issues related to the Wakulla Airport.

Accompanying the letter was a photo that purported to show Airport Manager Steve Fults flying a remote control

aircraft at the airport in violation of airport rules.

The photo was a screenshot of a video taken by Catalina. The Sun obtained the video from Catalina, and it appears the video was not shot in 2017, as he represented.

The airport rules and regulations prohibited flying

drones at the airport prior to 2013.

Evidence that the video was shot before 2017 includes a lightning detector visible at the airfield – that equipment was removed before September 2014.

Also, the airport sign that was put up in 2016 is not

there.

Prior to 2013, flying remote controlled aircraft at the airport was common among numerous citizens and was not prohibited at the time the video was shot.

The Wakulla Sun regrets publishing the photograph.

It’s time to file for Homestead Exemption



By **ED BRIMNER**
Property Appraiser

It’s time! If you are a full-time Wakulla County resident, you should file for homestead exemption if you haven’t already.

Every year we find neighbors who have lived in Wakulla County for years and have never filed for Florida’s Homestead Exemption. If you are eligible for homestead exemption and haven’t filed, you could be overpay-

ing on your property taxes by as much as \$550 every year.

A homestead can include up to 160 acres of land and all the improvements you might make to your land.

In some cases, boats, recreational vehicles, or temporary living structures can qualify as a homestead; however, these cases will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

New homeowners moving into the county from other states are especially prone to failing to file for homestead because they’ve never heard of homestead.

If your neighbor is new to Florida, please reach out and

let them know to file for their homestead exemption as soon as possible.

Perhaps the best-known benefit of Florida homestead is property tax exemptions, however, they are not automatic.

An application for the exemption must be filed with the property appraiser’s office by March 1st — it’s easy and fast. After filing, the exemption is automatically renewed each year until the owner moves away.

Homesteaded property is exempt from all property taxes on the first \$25,000 of the appraised value of the homestead.

An additional ex-

emption on county taxes (does not include school taxes) of \$25,000 is granted for properties assessed with a valuation greater than \$50,000. Those discounts alone are a great benefit, but the “Save Our Homes” limitation is even more valuable.

“Save Our Homes” (SOH) limits the annual increase in your property’s assessed value to 3% or the cost-of-living increase, whichever is LOWER. This can result in substantial tax savings over the years.

In 2008, Florida’s Constitution was amended to allow Florida homeowners to carry up

to \$500,000 of the cap when they sell an existing homestead and acquire a replacement Florida home.

The homeowner must establish the homestead exemption on the replacement homestead within three assessment years after abandoning the homestead exemption on the previous property.

I encourage all property owners to come see us if you have questions about your property’s assessment or the myriad available exemptions.

We will gladly answer questions, explain processes, and if needed, make cor-

rections. Our goal is always Honest and Impartial Assessments!

If I or my office can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us at 850-926-0500 or stop by and meet with me or a member of our staff.

Please know I’m available to speak with groups, no matter how small or large, during work hours or after hours.

You can also visit our website at www.mywakullapa.com.

Ed Brimner, CFA, is Wakulla County Property Appraiser.

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of January 25

Thursday, January 25

- 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 are concessions and raffles.
- Gentle Yoga at 9 a.m. and Yin Yoga at 6 p.m. with Zoe every Thursday. Classes are \$12, at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Friday, January 26

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

Saturday, January 27

- Wakulla Giving Hands will be hosting a food giveaway starting at 9 a.m. at the Panacea Plaza at 1349 Coastal Highway.
- The St. Marks Community Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in St. Marks at 815 Port Leon Drive.
- The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group will meet at the Public Library at 10 a.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Monday, January 29

- The Wakulla Historic Preservation Committee will hold a public meeting at 4 p.m. at the County Commission Administration Conference room.
- The American Legion Post 114 will be meeting at the Wakulla County Public Library at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 30

- 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, January 31

- The Wakulla County Audit Committee will hold a public meeting at 10 a.m. in the County Commission Administration Conference room.
- A line dance class is held at 1 p.m. at the Wakulla Senior Center every Wednesday.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- Gentle Yoga and Stetching Class, every Wednesday, 11 a.m. Wakulla Community Center. Bring a mat. Come early to sign in. Chair Yoga participants welcome. \$2 per class.

“It’s A New Day!”

The Wakulla Sun

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We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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

◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled around Crawfordville:

What temperature is it when you consider it cold?



CASEY MOSER
Waypoint Property Management

Below 60 degrees, maybe in the 50s depending on the sun.”



CASSIE JOHNSON
Waypoint Properties

“**D**efinitely in the 40s ! I’m cold around the mid-to low 50s.”



KATHY O’NEAL
Wakulla Realty

Anything below 40 degrees is cold.”



SONYA FOWLER REVELL
Fowler Revell Real Estate

Around 40 degrees. I’ll wear short sleeves when it’s in the 50s.”



JEFF DYKES
Entrepreneur

For me, I don’t like to be outside at 80 or 30, not fit for man or beast.”

Buckhorn News

By **ETHEL SKIPPER**

At Skipper Temple Church in Sopchoppy, the Women’s Conference will be held on Saturday, Jan. 27 begin-

ning at noon. We invite you to come and be a special guest. The theme is Women Called and Choose to do Kingdom Work. Speakers for the occasion in-

clude Evangelist Gwen Williams from Mount Trial Primitive Baptist Church. Pastor Dr. Renita Dixon from Tallahassee.

Nicholas. Enjoy your special day.

Happy birthday to Deborah McRoy, George Franklin Jr., Frances Gantt, Warren Paschal, Elbonita Rosier

Our prayer and concern goes out to the sick and shut-in, those in the hospital, nursing home, prison, the homeless, and all in need of help everywhere.

Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

Brrr! Winter has arrived with a vengeance, and my fingers are crossed hoping it hasn’t frozen what remains of our citrus trees. As well as our camellia buds. It seems all it takes is a few overnight hours in a hard freeze, and I fear we had one this past weekend. Only time will tell for sure.

I am well on the mend from a nasty cold, and so grateful to feel better. I think the worst part was not being able to sleep for several nights, due to a stuffy nose and drippy throat. Thank heavens for Nyquil! I finally got some,

and it made a welcome difference. Highly recommend it!

Because of not wanting to share the joy, I have been hewing close to home, so not as much news to report upon as usual. But I want to remind all our friends with the Woodville Founders Day Festival, we are accepting vendors and performers now. Check out our facebook page for all the relevant details, and to find a vendor application. It’s already shaping up to be a great year.

One of our regular presenters, Dr. Richard M. Blaney with Galicenos of Suwanee, recently posted on his Face-

book page about one of his prized, precious, heritage breed Spanish horses, Suwanee Hidalgo. Hidalgo suffered a compound fracture of his left front leg, and has undergone surgery for the repair. Horse people will understand just what this means, but Hidalgo is doing very well. He has been under care of the outstanding vets at the UF Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Gainesville, and is responding like the warrior he is.

This breed was introduced to the Americas by the Spanish Conquistadors, and nearly disappeared. Dr. Blaney is one of a handful of folks working to preserve and revive this breed, as well as heritage breeds of all manner of livestock. He is dedicated to the amazing Galicenos horses and their pres-

ervation. Unusually bright and gentle, these animals endear themselves to all who have met them at our Woodville Festivals.

Please keep Hidalgo in your prayers while his leg is mending. You can find more about Hidalgo on Dr. Blaney’s Facebook page (he’s posting videos to keep us updated). If you are so moved, there is a link to donate to the expense of treating a catastrophic injury like Hidalgo’s. Here’s to celebrating Hidalgo’s recovery with Dr. Blaney and his amazing horse on Saturday, March 16th, at the Woodville festival!

Please keep the family and friends of Jim Lannon in your prayers, as well as my friend Regan Richardson who recently lost her mother.

Sheriff’s Report

This report is for activity Jan. 12 to 18:

FRIDAY, JAN. 12

- Joshua Horne woke up and discovered his 2021 Jeep Gladiator missing from his yard. Shortly thereafter Horne located the vehicle at a vacant lot near his home. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Lt Gibby Gibson responded.

- Alvin Hudson reported his vehicle had been burglarized during the night. Taken was 12-gauge Remington pump shotgun valued at approximately \$400. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Lt. Gibby Gibson investigated.

SATURDAY, JAN. 13

- Deputy Jake Scott responded to King Arthur Court and made contact with Kennecia Kelly, who arrived home to discover someone had attempted to enter her home. There was damage to the front door, but nothing missing from the residence. WCSO CSI responded to the scene to assist with the investigation. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

- Deputy Jake Scott conducted a traffic stop on Jer Be Lou Circle for an

expired tag. The driver, Joseph Lawson, was determined to have a revoked Florida driver’s license. Lawson was placed under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail without further incident.

SUNDAY, JAN. 14

- Deputy Heather Will responded to Francis Avenue and made contact with Sheree Hickman, who discovered her vehicle had been burglarized on Jan. 10. Due to the time delay limited evidence was able to be collected. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

- Deputy Will also responded to Lucy Lane and made contact with William Leggett, who is the neighbor of the victim in the previously noted case. Leggett was notified by his neighbor concerning the recent burglaries, so he reviewed his surveillance video and discovered his vehicle had been burglarized also. A copy of the surveillance video was obtained for evidence. This case was sent to detectives for further investigation.

- Deputy Jake Scott conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle Chad Carraway was operating for to tag attached to an unassigned vehicle. It was determined Carraway also had a permanently re-

voked Florida driver’s license with multiple prior convictions. He was placed under arrest for the DWLSR during a subsequent search of the vehicle methamphetamine was located for which Carraway was charged as well.

MONDAY, JAN. 15

- Deputy Ernesto Trujillo responded to the area of Red Lake Road and Smith Creek Hwy in reference to someone stealing gas out of the complaint’s heavy equipment. Upon arrival, Deputy Trujillo made contact with Delacy Peavy, who advised someone had stolen the gas out of the excavator, bulldozer, and grader. It is unknown at this time how much gas was stolen. WCSO CSI responded to the scene to assist with the investigation. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16

- Deputy Ernesto Trujillo responded to Summer Brooke Lane in reference to a stolen vehicle complaint. Upon arrival, Deputy Trujillo made contact with Sherry Whisenhunt, who advised sometime during the night someone stole her 2014 Nissan Sentra out of her driveway. Sherry advised the vehicle was locked at the time. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17

- Paul Williams reported someone broke into business warehouse. Stolen was a utility trailer along an assortment of tools. All equipment loss was valued at approximately \$24,000. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Heather Will investigated.

THURSDAY, JAN. 18

- Deputy Austin Rivers conducted a traffic stop on Wakulla Arran Road in reference to an expired tag. The driver, Jacob Kemp was determined to not possess a valid driver’s license with 3 prior convictions. Kemp was placed under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail for DWLSR.

Deputies responded to Dux Liquor in reference to a fight in the parking lot. Upon arrival Jonathan and Christopher Dailey were separated but had been in a physical dispute, with both subjects being heavily intoxicated. The Dux manager requested they leave the premises, but Jonathan continued to yell in the parking lot and refused to obey lawful commands to vacate the premises. Jonathan was placed under arrest for disorderly intoxication.

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

School teachers, employees of the month

From left: Katie Lima, teacher of the month from Shadeville Elementary; Chrissy Sarvice, teacher of the month from Wakulla High School; and Jeff Johnson, employee of the month from Wakulla High School.



Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

Fieldstripping a Sig Sauer P365 or S&W .380 EZ



By MARJ LAW

You've heard the term: "fieldstripping your gun."

But what does this mean? How do you do it? How often do you have to clean your gun? What's the big deal, anyway?

Our friends at Wikipedia say fieldstripping: "refers to the process of disassembling it into its major components for cleaning and maintenance. This typically involves removing the slide, barrel, and other key parts in order to access hard-to-reach areas and remove built-up residue."

When the gun's apart, you clean out the gunk and then lube your gun according to directions in the manual.

One day I asked Joe: "How does your Sig Sauer P365 X-Comp come apart to clean?"

A newbie nearby huffed.

"All you do is run a snake through it." She barely avoided saying: "Duh."

Wouldn't it be great if all you have to do is pass a snake through the barrel?

Drat. You should have guessed you aren't going to get away that easily.

Fortunately, many new guns, including Sig's P365 series and Smith & Wesson's EZ series come apart basically the same way.

So, what do you always do first when starting to clean any gun?

You point the muzzle in a safe direction, away from any people and anything that potentially could get damaged. Then, you check to see that the gun is unloaded. Remember how we do that?

Push the magazine release button. The mag shoots out. Now there is no magazine in the gun.

But is there a round in the chamber? Pull back the slide all the way and push up on the slide lock lever. By the way, is the muzzle still pointed in a safe direction? Yes? Good.

While I am telling you this, I'm pulling back on Joe's P365. And pulling. Drat.

I'm not strong enough to get the slide all the way back. This 365 has a pretty strong recoil spring!

"Put the empty mag back in the gun," directs Joe. "It's easier to lock the slide when the magazine is in the grip. You can lock it back without the magazine in, but it's a lot harder."

OK. I knew this a couple years ago and have managed to forget. And he's right. The slide does lock back much more easily with the empty mag in the grip. Done.

Now that the slide is locked back, look into the ejection chamber. See any metal casing? Look towards the muzzle from the chamber. Still no back of a casing?

So, we're totally clear of rounds in the gun.

Push the mag release button again to eject the magazine. The magazine needs to be out when you take the gun apart.

We're about to field-strip the gun.

These particular

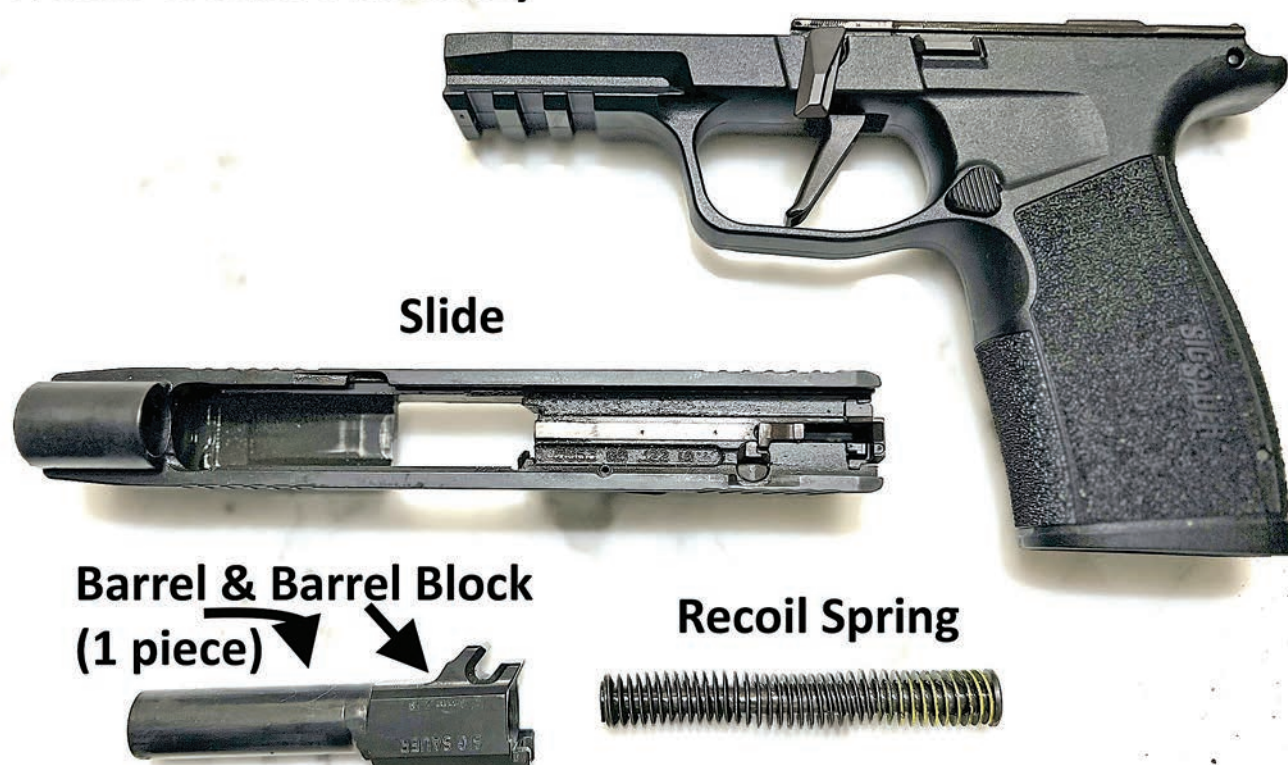
This gun is fieldstripped into:
Frame & Slide Assembly

Frame

Slide

Barrel & Barrel Block
(1 piece)

Recoil Spring



handguns and many new ones like them come apart in the same manner. Of course, always check the manual first.

Locate the take-down lever. This lever is forward (towards the muzzle) of the slide lock lever. It has parallel lines on it. Often, when you see parallel lines, this is an indication of a place where you will push.

The take-down lever is no exception. Right now, the lever is running parallel to the slide. Take a finger and push down on this lever so that the lever is at a 90' angle to the slide. You'll be pushing downward from the side of the lever closest to the rear of the gun.

Now, the slide must come forward, so press down on the slide lock lever.

If you're right-handed, hold the grip with your right hand. With your left hand, reach to the top of the slide, and pull the slide towards

the front of the gun. If you're left-handed, do the opposite. Notice that you can move the slide forward?

Continue pulling until the slide is totally off the frame. You did it! The gun is now in 2 pieces. That's the way it's supposed to be.

Are we done yet? No.

Let's place the slide upside-down on the counter. See the spring? Place your left hand over the spring, caging it. One side of the spring is towards the muzzle. The other side sits in an indentation on the breech block. You'll push backwards on the spring and pull up, which compresses it and then allows it to come off this indentation. Naturally, since the spring is under pressure, when you let go, it may want to fly across the room. This is why your left hand is acting like a cage over it. Your hand's cage keeps the spring from going anywhere.

So now you have the recoil spring out of the slide. Lay it aside.

Beneath where the spring had been is the barrel with its barrel block. Remember, the spring had been compressed onto the notch on the barrel block. This part of the block is raised. Pick up the block, and move it backwards and up. Now you can lift the barrel out of the slide. Put it aside.

The slide assembly has come apart to the slide itself, the recoil spring and the barrel. You did it! Your handgun is fieldstripped.

Once your gun is fieldstripped, you can clean the various parts as described in your manual. And yes, part of cleaning your gun includes running a "snake" though the barrel. The snake is like a fat string you drop into the barrel, from the end closest to the chamber to the end closest to the muzzle.

Fortunately, many new guns come apart this way. It's fairly simple. You clean your gun after you've been shooting a few months, or when you've shot a lot.

Why bother? When you shoot, residue builds up in the barrel and the internal mechanisms of the gun. This residue can combine with lubricants, resulting in firing fouling or in decreasing the precision of your shooting. We sure don't want that!

So now: lucky you! Bring out the solvent, swabs, grease, and all the tools you need to clean every crevice, surface, and rail.

Fieldstripping? Piece of cake!

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

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO



PIGFISH

(*Orthopristes chrysoptera*)

Pigfish are named for the grunting sound they make by rubbing the teeth in their throat together when caught. By night, pigfish use their throat teeth to grind up shellfish and other food. They are found warmer temperate regions along the east coast. They prefer bays and canals with mud bottoms to search out their diets of amphipods, mollusks, crabs and shrimp. Their maximum size is 19" and 2-3lbs although they are usually caught when under 1lb as bait fish. They live 2-3 years.

Eukarya, Animalia, Chordata, Actinopterygii, Perciformes, Haemulidae



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

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Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

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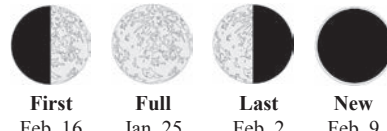


Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

Jan. 25 - Jan. 31



Tid charts by tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month
January 11-25, February 9-24

Thursday 25	
Sun rise/set 7:30AM 6:07PM	Moon rise/set 6:08PM 7:44AM
Moon Illumination 100%	
Friday 26	
Sun rise/set 7:30AM 6:08PM	Moon rise/set 7:06PM 8:21AM
Moon Illumination 99%	
Saturday 27	
Sun rise/set 7:29AM 6:09PM	Moon rise/set 8:02PM 8:53AM
Moon Illumination 97%	
Sunday 28	
Sun rise/set 7:29AM 6:09PM	Moon rise/set 8:56PM 9:22AM
Moon Illumination 93%	
Monday 29	
Sun rise/set 7:29AM 6:10PM	Moon rise/set 9:49PM 9:48AM
Moon Illumination 88%	
Tuesday 30	
Sun rise/set 7:28AM 6:11PM	Moon rise/set 10:42PM 10:13AM
Moon Illumination 81%	
Wednesday 31	
Sun rise/set 7:27AM 6:12PM	Moon rise/set 11:36PM 10:38AM
Moon Illumination 73%	

For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings:
 Carrabelle 28 Min. High Tide 25 Min. Low Tide
 Apalachicola 1 Hr., 53 Min. 2 Hrs., 38 Min.
 Cat Point 1 Hr., 13 Min. 2 Hrs., 31 Min.
 Lower Anchorage 1 Hr., 36 Min. 2 Hrs., 3 Min.
 West Pass 1 Hr., 26 Min. 2 Hrs., 39 Min.

St. Marks River Entrance

Th	1:09 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:21 am ▼ -0.9 ft	2:42 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	7:53 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Fr	1:47 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:49 am ▼ -0.8 ft	3:09 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	8:31 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Sa	2:22 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:15 am ▼ -0.6 ft	3:35 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:07 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Su	2:56 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:37 am ▼ -0.4 ft	3:59 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:43 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Mo	3:31 am ▲ 2.8 ft	9:59 am ▼ -0.2 ft	4:21 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	10:21 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Tu	4:09 am ▲ 2.6 ft	10:22 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:42 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:01 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
We	4:53 am ▲ 2.6 ft	10:48 am ▼ 0.4 ft	5:03 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:46 pm ▼ 0.3 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	1:45 am ▲ 3.0 ft	9:25 am ▼ -0.8 ft	3:18 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	8:57 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Fr	2:23 am ▲ 3.0 ft	9:53 am ▼ -0.7 ft	3:45 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	9:35 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Sa	2:58 am ▲ 3.0 ft	10:19 am ▼ -0.6 ft	4:11 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:11 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	3:32 am ▲ 2.9 ft	10:41 am ▼ -0.4 ft	4:35 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:47 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Mo	4:07 am ▲ 2.8 ft	11:03 am ▼ -0.2 ft	4:57 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:25 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Tu	4:45 am ▲ 2.6 ft	11:26 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:18 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	
We	5:29 am ▲ 2.4 ft	11:52 am ▼ 0.3 ft	5:39 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	1:28 am ▲ 3.1 ft	8:50 am ▼ -1.0 ft	3:12 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	8:16 pm ▼ 1.2 ft
Fr	2:07 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:22 am ▼ -0.9 ft	3:39 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	8:52 pm ▼ 1.0 ft
Sa	2:43 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:49 am ▼ -0.7 ft	4:03 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	9:28 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Su	3:19 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:13 am ▼ -0.5 ft	4:26 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:04 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	3:55 am ▲ 3.0 ft	10:34 am ▼ -0.3 ft	4:47 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	10:42 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Tu	4:34 am ▲ 2.8 ft	10:56 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:08 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:21 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
We	5:18 am ▲ 2.6 ft	11:20 am ▼ 0.3 ft	5:30 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	1:01 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:32 am ▼ -0.6 ft	2:34 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	8:04 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Fr	1:39 am ▲ 2.4 ft	9:00 am ▼ -0.5 ft	3:01 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	8:42 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Sa	2:14 am ▲ 2.4 ft	9:26 am ▼ -0.4 ft	3:27 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	9:18 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Su	2:48 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:48 am ▼ -0.3 ft	3:51 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	9:54 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Mo	3:23 am ▲ 2.2 ft	10:10 am ▼ -0.2 ft	4:13 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	10:32 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Tu	4:01 am ▲ 2.1 ft	10:33 am ▼ 0.0 ft	4:34 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	11:12 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
We	4:45 am ▲ 1.9 ft	10:59 am ▼ 0.3 ft	4:55 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	11:57 pm ▼ 0.2 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	12:48 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:24 am ▼ -0.9 ft	3:19 pm ▲ 1.7 ft	7:53 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
Fr	1:32 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:56 am ▼ -0.8 ft	3:36 pm ▲ 1.7 ft	8:30 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Sa	2:15 am ▲ 2.4 ft	9:25 am ▼ -0.7 ft	3:54 pm ▲ 1.8 ft	9:09 pm ▼ 0.7 ft
Su	2:58 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:52 am ▼ -0.5 ft	4:15 pm ▲ 1.9 ft	9:49 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	3:41 am ▲ 2.1 ft	10:18 am ▼ -0.3 ft	4:37 pm ▲ 2.0 ft	10:30 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Tu	4:27 am ▲ 2.0 ft	10:44 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:00 pm ▲ 2.0 ft	11:13 pm ▼ 0.2 ft
We	5:16 am ▲ 1.8 ft	11:10 am ▼ 0.3 ft	5:25 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	

Dog Island West End

Th	12:47 am ▲ 2.1 ft	8:34 am ▼ -0.9 ft	4:03 pm ▲ 1.6 ft	8:09 pm ▼ 1.1 ft
Fr	1:35 am ▲ 2.1 ft	9:05 am ▼ -0.9 ft	4:16 pm ▲ 1.6 ft	8:41 pm ▼ 1.0 ft
Sa	2:18 am ▲ 2.1 ft	9:35 am ▼ -0.7 ft	4:29 pm ▲ 1.6 ft	9:19 pm ▼ 0.8 ft
Su	3:01 am ▲ 2.0 ft	10:05 am ▼ -0.5 ft	4:43 pm ▲ 1.6 ft	10:03 pm ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	3:46 am ▲ 1.9 ft	10:33 am ▼ -0.3 ft	4:59 pm ▲ 1.7 ft	10:48 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Tu	4:32 am ▲ 1.7 ft	10:59 am ▼ 0.0 ft	5:17 pm ▲ 1.7 ft	11:32 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
We	5:20 am ▲ 1.5 ft	11:22 am ▼ 0.3 ft	5:36 pm ▲ 1.7 ft	

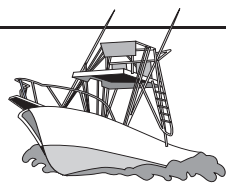
Thursday 25	
Minor Times 6:59AM 5:23PM	Major Times 11:14PM 11:39AM
Friday 26	
Minor Times 6:21PM	Major Times 12:03AM 12:26PM
Saturday 27	
Minor Times 8:08AM 7:17PM	Major Times 12:48AM 1:10PM
Sunday 28	
Minor Times 8:37AM 8:11PM	Major Times 1:31AM 1:51PM
Monday 29	
Minor Times 9:04PM	Major Times 2:11AM 2:30PM
Tuesday 30	
Minor Times 9:28AM 9:57PM	Major Times 2:50AM 3:09PM
Wednesday 31	
Minor Times 9:53AM 10:51PM	Major Times 3:29AM 3:48PM

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



Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



This following information comes from Bob Currie, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Recreational Boating Safety Specialist, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Station Galveston Flotilla.

Sometimes things happen that are beyond your control. This is such a story. It involved 3 men aboard a recreational fishing vessel fishing near the Galveston North Jetty limit.

Here is what happened.

The boat was a 31-foot fishing boat with three experienced fishermen aboard. The boat was powered by twin outboard 225 HP engines. The crewmembers were familiar with the area in which they were fishing.

When the crew were finished fishing near the end of the jetty, the captain came out on the throttles and the boat at first started forward. But something went terribly wrong. The bow nosed up and the boat was sucked backwards and the transom was pulled below the surface immediately flooding the boat.

Boating Emergencies

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

It was later determined that an old anchor line had become fouled in both propellers. As the propellers wound the anchor line around them, the stern of the boat was pulled below the surface and water filled the boat quickly. Before the boat sank completely and capsized, one of the crew managed to call the US Coast Guard on their VHF marine radio and announce a mayday emergency.

The radio operator was able to tell the Coast Guard Watchstander their location, and a 45-foot rapid response boat was dispatched to the scene. The captain of the boat also set his anchor as soon as he realized he

was in trouble. The boat was close to the shipping lane, and a wave from a passing tanker was the final straw that capsized the boat. The captain said that setting the anchor helped hold an air pocket in the bow of the boat and kept it from sinking completely.

When the Coast Guard rapid response boat arrived at the scene, they found the boat capsized and three men in life jackets clinging to the hull. The crew of the rapid response boat tossed a line to the men clinging to the capsized hull, and one man attached the line to the bow winch ring.

Check back next week for an analysis on what

went well in this situation and lessons learned.

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

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

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

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

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

Wakulla

Real wetsuit diving.

Well, it's wintertime here in North Florida and that means real wetsuit diving. What I mean is wetsuits from 5-7mm along with a good heavy coat so when you get out of the water you will have a coat to put on to protect you from the cold wind. I have the perfect long coat that is specially designed for just such a thing, it's called a Surf-fur coat. It's designed to go over your wetsuit and long enough to keep your legs warm even if your wetsuit is wet. It blocks the wind and has pockets designed so you can even take off your wetsuit without removing the coat. You can order them online and I will tell you they are worth every penny, I wear mine on dives in the winter.

I bring this up because I teach scuba classes even during the winter months in North Florida. I have a class right now that is preparing to go to the springs at the end of the month. It's interesting how the 68 degree water seems warm compared to the 40 degree outside temperature.

Don't be fooled into believing you're safe from hyperthermia though. In fact, you're more likely to get very cold by thinking it's OK to stay in the water for a long time.

When you first get into the spring it's a little cold but you quickly start to heat up that thin layer of water in your wetsuit so you start your dive. By the time your done with your first dive you start to get cold because the energy you're using will start to make you feel the cold, then you exit the water and that cold wind hits you while you're walking back to the table where you coat is and you're really cold now.

With a 5mm wetsuit it is OK but I have heard that a 7mm wetsuit is much better and will keep your body warmer for a longer period of time. I use a 5mm wetsuit and coupled with my surf-fur I'm able to stay a bit warmer and ready for my next dive. I would highly recommend that you take a couple of gallon jugs of very warm water with you so before you get in the water you pour it down the neck of your wet suit to help kickstart the warming process in the water that way you won't have as quick of a heat loss in the beginning of your dive, it will help you to conserve your energy as well.

For those of you who brave the Gulf in the wintertime then for the 56 degree water I would highly recommend a quality drysuit. I keep telling myself to get a drysuit but it's like hurricane season telling myself to get a gas generator. It hasn't happened yet.

If you are going diving in the months of January through March please use the wetsuit or drysuit to protect yourself from the cold water, you will enjoy it more. Keep making bubbles.

Russell Miller #59999

FWC Law Enforcement Report

From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled Jan. 5-11 in the North Central Region. (No cases were reported in Wakulla County and the Northwest Region)

DIXIE COUNTY

- Lieutenant Ward conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that did not display a license plate. The vehicle, which was not registered, was operated and occupied by subjects known to Lieutenant Ward as commercial oyster harvesters. Officer Specialist Robson and Troiano

arrived to assist. During the stop, it was found that the subjects had six bushels of oysters located in the trunk of the car. Lieutenant Ward issued a traffic citation to the driver of the unregistered vehicle. Officers Robson and Troiano continued to investigate the oyster harvest and will file additional charges with the State Attorney's Office..

DUVAL COUNTY

- Officer Schirbock responded after midnight to a call to assist Neptune Beach Police Department with a vehicle stop they had conducted with occupants

who had been hunting Canada geese. The officers observed a bow in the subject's vehicle and found a goose that had been harvested. During an interview with the subjects, one admitted to shooting the goose. The subject was issued a citation for shooting a Canada goose in violation of legal shooting hours.

LEVY COUNTY

- Officers Smith and Dean had responded to complaints about commercial oyster harvesters in prohibited waters in the creeks around Suwannee Sound. These

waters are closed to harvest to protect the public from harmful bacteria in the shellfish. Officer Smith and Dean worked with FWC Pilot Dorse and Officer VanNess who were in the air surveying the area. The air unit located a subject harvesting oysters in a creek in prohibited waters. Officers Smith and Dean went to the location provided by the air unit and observed a vessel with two subjects on board. The harvested oysters were piled on the culling board. Officers Smith and Dean arrested the violators for commercially harvesting oysters in prohibited waters.



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When we're not 'treated right'

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

"It's about time!" I said as I plopped my items on the checkout counter at the local drugstore. As soon as the words came out, my face burned with embarrassment.

"I'm so sorry," I quickly said to the cashier.

I wasn't the only one who was frustrated by the way the cashier laughed and chatted with a co-worker between customers. But I knew my tone wasn't what Jesus' would have been. I wish it was rare for me to show such impatience. It sobers me when I wonder how badly I may have affected their day with my rudeness.

In the Bible, 1 Corinthians 13 is often referred to as the "love chapter." The first three verses clearly state we are nothing (a "useless

nobody" AMPC) whenever we do anything without love.

This week we begin to focus on how love behaves by looking at 1 Corinthians 13:4 (ESV): "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant."

If the English Standard Version isn't convicting enough, let's read the same verse in the Amplified Bible, Classic Edition: "Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily."

If we were to grade ourselves on how well we live out each command in this verse, what kind of grade would we give ourselves? Would our spouses give us the same score? What about our children?

What about God?

Perhaps our answers will motivate us to meditate on – and apply – 1 Corinthians 13:4 with renewed determination. In order to glean all we can from this packed verse, let's focus on one challenge per week.

This week, we'll focus on patience.

As we think about

God's patience toward us, perhaps we'll behave more patiently as we extend grace toward our spouses, children, fellow drivers, phone systems that keep us on hold, and yes, even inconsiderate store cashiers. With God's help, I want to live and speak in a way that will "change" another person's day in a positive way, don't you?

This certainly would be better than having to apologize for my rudeness at the checkout line – again.

Let's pray:

Father, forgive us for our sinful reactions

when someone doesn't "treat us right." Teach us what it means to endure long instead of responding with a knee-jerk reaction to others' inconsiderate and rude behavior. Fill us with Your love and patience as we recall how often others – and You – have been patient toward us. Amen.

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.

Living above the snake line

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

Often, I scroll the internet, reading different quotes and their origin. For example: "A penny for your thoughts" was first used by Thomas More, an English lawyer and social philosopher, in 1535. The quote was an attempt by More to reengage someone in conversation. With an ADHD personality, I have heard this phrase a lot.

Crossing the mighty

waters with the early settlers, we learn of another quote with much less familiarity. The phrase "living above the snake line" has been buried in the pages of time, yet it was a frequently asked question of a pioneer farmer. A man wishing to purchase farmland wanted his home and fields elevated above the dangerous snake line. This was especially so for the colonists of the New England region of our country.

The "snake line" is an invisible line (believed to be drawn by God) that exists at a certain degree above sea level. Venomous snakes and pesky insects find the thin air of the highlands too uncomfortable for permanent living. The

early settlers discovered that the safety of the mountains would allow their children to play freely while they cared for the homestead, farmed, and trapped the wild game.

If there is a snake line in the physical world, there must be one in the spiritual realm, where eternal dangers lie. Adam and Eve discovered this line in the center of the Garden. It was drawn around the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:17). Even though Adam and Eve had all they needed, the desire for the forbidden fruit lured them away from God. Deciding to cross the spiritual snake line changed their world forever (Genesis 3).

Moving forward in

History, the Children of Israel often found themselves in the center of a changing world. God was leading them to a promised land. For 40 years, their clothing remained intact. Manna fell from Heaven, and water flowed from the rocks. Yet they complained that it was not enough. They wanted more. Their desires caused them to repeatedly slip beneath the proverbial line as they grumbled and complained against God.

Through the ages, people have not changed, including myself. Grass will always be greener on the other side, and desire will always reach for it. Here is a "penny for your thoughts." God always comes for us. No valley

is too deep, nor line so dark that He cannot see His children. His eyes followed Israel throughout their wilderness experience. Try this "food for thought." Regardless of our circumstances, God constantly remembers His children (Isaiah 49:15).

The Lord knows when we draw too close to the snake line of desire, for the eyes of the Lord are everywhere, watching over good and evil (Proverbs 15:3), including our wilderness. His voice calls out to us. No wasteland can hide us from His presence. For the spirit of the Lord dwells within us (1 Corinthians 3:16). He is with us in our victories and defeats. He understands our needs; He hears our desires and

will provide according to His riches in Christ.

Our Father's greatest desire is for us to walk in the highlands of His grace. The air may be thin. However, He is our breath of life. Therefore, let us learn to live above the snake line. Let our longing be for His will in our lives. In doing so, we will find strength for our journey as we enter His presence.

The Lord God is my strength; he will give me the speed of a deer and bring me safely over the mountains. Habakkuk 3:19

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

OUT TO PASTOR

I'm not diabetic, but I am a sweet guy

By **JAMES SNYDER**

Lately, I've been very tired. Which has nothing at all to do with my age. Rather, it has everything to do with all these spam calls I get every day.

It seems most spam calls come during lunchtime when I'm eating. How dare they?

I don't know who created this idea of spam calls, but I would like five minutes alone with them. If you know what I mean.

For me, it began with my expired car warranty. I would get calls daily telling me that my car warranty had expired and that I could remedy that situation by signing up with their warranty program. They have everything I need, so they say. What I really need is an Apple Fritter. Nobody's ever offered me that.

Finally, I responded to their calls by telling them that I had a 1915 Ford Model T, with only 896,000 miles on it. I had so many clicks following this that I couldn't count them. Thanks Henry Ford.

The in-person calls are annoying, but it is the recorded calls that I just don't like.

I've been getting recorded calls saying that two years ago I had an accident and they would be glad to help me get the money I deserve. If I had

an accident two years ago, I must've been asleep at the wheel.

Companies that call me with a recorded message will never get my business.

Then there are those Medicare calls wanting to upgrade my coverage at no cost to me.

One of the first things they want to know is my age.

I get so sick and tired of this that after a while I came up with my story.

"So, how old are you sir?"

My response, "Well, I tell you, that is a difficult answer because every year my age changes, and I get confused, and I can't keep up with my actual age."

There's a chuckle on the other end of the line and the person says, "So, when is your birthday?"

Again, my response is, "Well, my birthday is the day I celebrate being born."

I sense a little frustra-

tion on the other line, and then they say, "Tell me what day your birthday is on."

"Well, one year it's on a Tuesday, and the next year it's on a Thursday, and then it's on a Saturday, and boy, I can't keep up with it."

Finally, I hear what I've been waiting for: a click from the other end of the line.

I don't think my age or birthday is anybody's business but mine. If I want somebody to know that information, I'll call them myself. When somebody I don't know calls me and asks for personal information, I will not cooperate. If these spam callers act foolish, I will reciprocate and act foolish to them. I'm a good actor, so says The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

I'm often confused when someone calls me and wants me to tell them when they can deliver some medical equipment

that will not cost me anything. It will be absolutely free.

Of course, if I want some medical equipment, I'm going to go through my doctor. After all, that's why I pay him all that money.

I would like to know how much money these spammers make doing the kind of job they do. They must be making money, or they wouldn't always be calling. Where do they get the money, and who in the world would be foolish enough to give them personal information?

One person asked for my Social Security number, so I gave him 123-45-6789. That has to be somebody's security number, but it certainly isn't mine.

Then the latest thing is that some spammer calls me and tells me that they are sending me some medical equipment to help me with my diabetes. And, (drumroll) it

won't cost me anything. I know when somebody says it's not costing me anything, it will definitely cost me something.

"So, sir," the spammer said, "do you have diabetes?"

Why in the world do they call me thinking I have diabetes? Where are they getting that information? I know they haven't talked to my doctor about it.

Then I had an idea. The next time a spammer called me and asked if I had diabetes, I said, "I'm not diabetic, but I am a sweet guy."

After doing that several times, one person angrily said, "Are you hitting on me?"

"No," I said, "but I sure would like to hit you."

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage often tells me not to answer any of those calls. I explain to her I need to have fun and make it hard on

some of these scammers. After all, don't you get what you give?

There was a pause in those annoying calls and I had an opportunity to think about a Bible verse.

David said in Psalm 18:3, "I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies."

My thought was, no call from me could ever annoy God. He is waiting for me to call upon him. Whenever I call upon God, He is anxious to respond to my need. God doesn't look on me as a spammer, but a claimer of His amazing grace.?

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

DEATH NOTICES

- **Winfred Justin Register**, 92, of Carrabelle, died January 14, 2024.
- **Melissa “Lissa” Bryant-Lawhon**, 50, of Woodville, died January 17, 2024.



David Eugene Massengale

David Eugene Massengale, 64, passed away on January 18, 2024 after a battle with cancer.

He was always able to keep a smile on his face regardless of the circumstances surrounding him. Always noticed the good things and was able to overlook the bad.

In many ways, David was the embodiment of love as described in the Bible. Always patient, always kind,

always trusting, hoping and preserving. He will be truly missed by all that knew him.

He was born December 27, 1959 in Chattanooga, Tennessee to Gerald Massengale and Dorothy Juanita Hood, who predeceased him.

He was a U.S. Army veteran. He worked at the Wakulla Senior Citizens Center's Transportation Department as a driver.

No local service is planned.

- **Carolyn Griner**, 89, of Crawfordville, died January 16, 2024.

- **Anthony “Tony” Dannucci III**, 78, of Sopchoppy, died January 19, 2024.

Deaths reported by Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

Church Briefs

• Revival set at First Pentecostal

Please join us at the First Pentecostal Church of Crawfordville, located at 5 Crescent Way, Crawfordville (across from Dux) for revival services with Evangelist Tim Greene, and his wife, author Lois Greene, this weekend.

Friday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 27, at 5 p.m., and Sunday morning, Jan. 28, at 11 a.m.

We invite you to come worship with us and be blessed by the ministry of Tim and Lois Greene.

• Workshop on caring for loved ones with dementia

A free workshop will be offered on behavioral skills training and hospice services in caring for loved ones with dementia at Mount Olive Primitive Baptist Church #2 on Saturday, Feb. 3.

Key topics at the workshop will be

- Caregiver skills building and self-care
- Relaxation and calming prayer
- Dementia prevention strategies
- Spiritual, emotional and physical benefits of hospice care
- Advanced care planning for loved

ones with dementia

The event will be held at the church, located at 8 Spring Creek Highway, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Due to space limitations, up to 50 people can be accommodated. RSVP to Tomeka Norton-Brown at tnnorton@fsu.edu or call 866-778-2724 to register.

Presenters include Elder Sam Hayes of Mount Olive; Lenny Marshall, director of diversity, equity and inclusion at Big Bend Hospice; Tomeka Norton-Brown, ACTS2 Project Coordinator, and Robert Glueckauf, ACTS2 Project Director.

Weekly Roundup: A step closer to living healthy

By **RYAN DAILEY**
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Just two weeks into the start of the 2024 legislative session, House and Senate leaders' major priorities are sailing through the process — with Senate President Kathleen Passidomo seeing one of her wish-list items pass in the upper chamber on Thursday.

Senators voted unanimously to approve a wide-ranging plan that Passidomo and other supporters have touted as a strategy to expand health-care access as the state's population continues to grow.

In an attempt to keep up with ballooning health care demand, the two bills that comprise the plan are designed to make changes such as increasing the number of doctors in the state, shifting patients away from emergency rooms and boosting health-innovation efforts.

Senate Health and Human Services Appropriations Chairwoman Gayle Harrell, a Stuart Republican who has long worked on health-care issues, called one of the bills (SB 7016) “probably the most comprehensive health-care bill I have ever seen.”

“It is changing the direction of health care,” Harrell said. “It’s going to make it more open and have more access for people. When we look at the population of Florida and the influx of people we have, we have to have providers out there.”

As is true with any legislation, the Senate and House will have to come to an agreement on a final product in order for it to reach the governor's desk — and the Senate measures' projected costs differ from a House version of the plan.

For example, Senate Health Policy Chairwoman Colleen Burton, R-Lakeland, said an initial version of one of the bills would have cost about \$800 million. But the Senate trimmed about \$70 million before passing the bill Thursday. The House proposal would cost about \$580 million.

“We don't operate in a vacuum, and we have partners across the rotunda (in the House) who we have been talking to,” Burton said.

The other Senate bill (SB 7018), sponsored by Harrell, would set up a revolving-loan fund program for health innovation projects. That bill initially called for putting \$75 million a year into the fund, but a change Thursday dropped the amount to \$50 million.

The Senate plan also has a focus on helping Florida retain doctors who are graduating from medical school.

“It makes no sense to graduate people from medical school and not have residency programs for them here in Florida and then they go to another state,” Passidomo, R-Naples, told reporters Thursday. “It doesn't make sense because when they move to another state and they

put down roots, they stay there.”

House versions of the bills started moving forward last week.

THE COST TO OBJECT

After Florida saw more than 1,000 objections to school-library books and instructional materials during the last fiscal year, a House panel this week unanimously backed a bill that could lead to fees for people who file numerous challenges.

The House Choice & Innovation Subcommittee on Thursday approved a bill (HB 7025) that calls for people who make objections to more than five instructional materials during a calendar year to be assessed \$100 for each additional objection. The proposed fees would apply to “a parent or resident who does not have a student enrolled in the school” where the material is located.

School districts would have to return money to people if their objections are upheld.

People who testified about the bill during Thursday's committee meeting represented both sides of the larger debate about school-book scrutiny.

Ryan Kennedy, a program manager with the Florida Citizens Alliance, opposed the fee part of the bill.

“At Florida Citizens Alliance, we've been advocating for the removal of obscene materials. We just want to make sure that this is not a hindrance to that process,” Kennedy said. “For example, Collier County recently removed over 300 books. With that five-book challenge threshold, that would be a lot of people you would need to get to object to books. The school district removed it, they found those books objectionable.”

But Sue Woltanski, chairwoman of the Monroe County School Board, supported the proposed fees. Woltanski argued, in part, that processing book objections in large volumes can be a challenge for small school districts.

“I'm sure you've seen the data that the majority of the books that are being challenged across the country come from 11 individuals, and two of them live here in Florida. And it is a cumbersome burden to small school districts to have to have staff to review those books in time,” Woltanski said.

According to a House staff analysis, Florida had 1,218 objections to books and other materials during the 2022-2023 fiscal year, resulting in 386 books being removed from schools.

“Over half of the objections came from two school districts, Clay and Escambia. Clay County district schools reported 489 objections that resulted in removal of 177 book titles. Escambia County public schools reported 215 objections that resulted in the removal of nine book titles,” the analysis said.

The fee issue is included in a broader House bill about school regulations. A similar suite of Senate bills does not include such a provision.

ON THE FAST TRACK

Addressing a top priority of Speaker Paul Renner, the House on Tuesday will consider a bill that would prevent minors under age 16 from creating social-media accounts

The bill, in part, also would require social-media platforms to terminate existing accounts that are “reasonably known” by the platforms to be held by minors younger

than 16 and would allow parents to request that minors' accounts be terminated.

Renner, R-Palm Coast, and other supporters of the bill (HB 1) contend that social media harms such things as children's mental health.

But Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, and NetChoice, a tech-industry group, have argued the measure could be unconstitutional and create data-privacy concerns.

STORY OF THE WEEK:

The Florida Senate on Thursday unanimously passed a wide-ranging plan that President Kathleen Passidomo, R-Naples, and other supporters tout as a strategy to expand health-care access as the state's population continues to grow.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

“I think we should be fostering communities of inclusion, and I think this bill is moving us backwards and not forwards.” — Rep. Lindsay Cross, D-St. Petersburg, referring to a bill (HB 901) that would restrict the types of flags that can be displayed at government buildings and schools.

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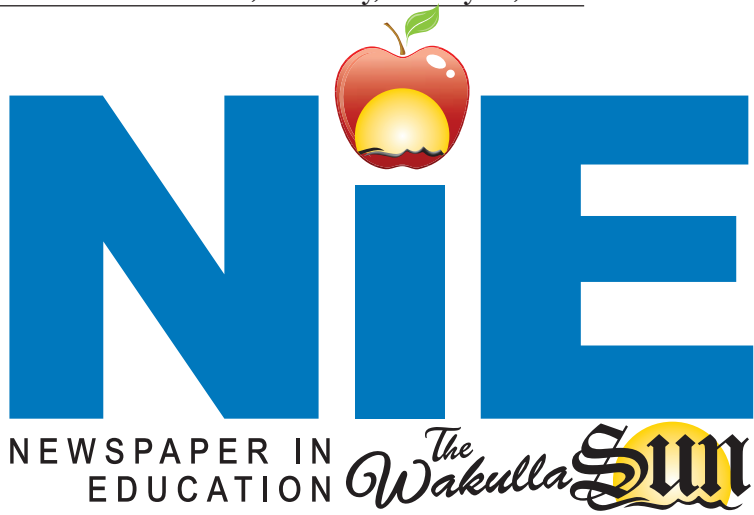
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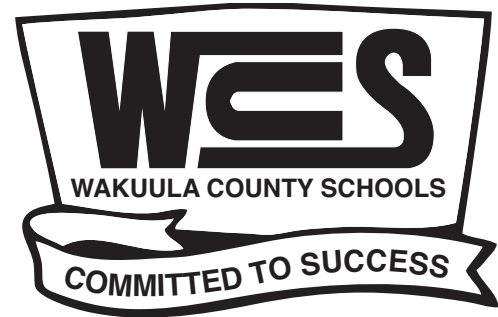


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USE THE NEWS

1. TV AWARDS

Last week, the Primetime Emmy Awards honoring top television shows finally took place. The ceremony, which covers TV shows and specials that aired from June 1, 2022, to May 31, 2023, was supposed to take place in November. It was delayed for four months because of the Hollywood actors' and writers' strikes that were going on at the time. Among the well-known awards like those for top actors in comedy or drama series, there are some that people don't always think of. One is the award for "outstanding variety special," which included nominees of Rhianna's performance at the 2022 Super Bowl halftime show and last year's Academy Awards show. (The winner was a live stream of Elton John's farewell concert tour.) Create your own Emmy's category to honor a TV show, program, actor, or character you love. Then, write a "nomination" explaining what your category is and who you'd want to win it.

2. RIVER TROUBLES

California has gone through serious droughts, or periods without rain, in the past few years. In 2022, farmers turned to a nearby river, the Merced, to help water their crops. The Merced River starts in Yosemite National Park and moves through California's Central Valley before meeting the San Joaquin River. But after months of use by farmers, the Merced River was no longer feeding into the San Joaquin — sections of the river were all dried up. This is a problem not only for the people who use the river's water, but for all the animals that live in the river, like Chinook salmon, which are endangered in that area. Now, government

officials in charge of protecting water are trying to come up with better ways to address both the bodies of water in the state and the people who depend on them. Think about how important water is to the planet. It waters the crops of food that we eat, provides a habitat for many animals, and more. Write your own reasons why bodies of water are important and why you think they should be protected from being dried up.

3. SOCCER SURPRISE

A soccer fan at a match for his favorite team in England wasn't able to cheer

when his team scored because he was pulled from the crowd to be a referee in the game! He volunteered to fill in as an official after one of the assistant referees was injured. He had experience as a referee for youth teams before and was given quick instructions about what he needed to know. The game ended with a dramatic win for his team, the Wolverhampton Wolves, and he wanted to cheer and celebrate, but he had to stay neutral as a game official. Do you have a favorite sports team? What would it be like to help out during a game? What would

the hardest parts be? The most fun parts? Write a story from that perspective, helping out or being a part of a team or match for any sport you choose.

4. COFFEE IN COURT

Farmers in Hawaii protected the special coffee that only grows there by taking on big retail stores in court. Kona coffee is some of the most expensive in the world and can only be grown in the Kona region of Hawaii. The farmers' legal case tested the chemical makeup of their coffee beans and others from around the world and proved that some stores were labeling other coffee as Kona beans

when they weren't. As a result, the companies had to pay large fines for tricking customers and many now include the percentage of authentic Kona beans on their labels. Write a summary of this story, including the facts that you learned.

5. DOLPHIN BEHAVIOR

Scientists now think that bottlenose dolphins, which are known for being very smart animals, change their voices when "talking" to their babies, which are called calves. They use a different version of their normal whistle sounds, sometimes higher pitched and sometimes lower, when

they're communicating with their calves. They think that it may be to help the bond between the mother and calf, because the change in pitch could help calves know that a sound is directed at them instead of another dolphin. In humans, using higher pitched "baby talk" is thought to hold an infant's attention better than your normal speaking voice. Dolphins are very smart and do a lot of things similar to humans. Write a story with a dolphin as the main character and incorporate at least one human behavior that your dolphin does. Draw a picture to go along with your story — or turn it into a comic strip!



THIS HERDING DOG REGULARLY RANKS AS ONE OF THE MOST INTELLIGENT BREEDS.

ANSWER: BORDER COLLIE

What's the Difference?

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



Answers: 1. Dirt on rug 2. Large rip is repaired 3. Missing pottery on rug 4. Photo frame is blank

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1720: SWEDEN AND PRUSSIA SIGN THE TREATY OF STOCKHOLM.
- 1861: THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR STARTS AND JEFFERSON DAVIS RESIGNS FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE.
- 1981: PRODUCTION OF THE DELOREAN SPORTS CAR BEGINS IN NORTHERN IRELAND.



OBEDIENCE

compliance with an order or request

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** To train (animal)
- SPANISH:** Adiestrar
- ITALIAN:** Addestrare
- FRENCH:** Dresser
- GERMAN:** Trainieren



EXERCISE AND TRAINING CAN HELP A DOG BEHAVE BETTER. WITHOUT TRAINING, THE DOG MAY CHEW OR DESTROY ITEMS OUT OF BOREDOM.

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: DOG WEARING COLLAR

BATH SAFETY WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- ANTISKID
- BALANCE
- BARS
- BATH
- BENCHES
- ELDERLY
- FALLS
- HANDHELD
- HOT
- INSTALLATION
- LIGHTING
- MATS
- MOISTURE
- RAILS
- REACH
- RETROFIT
- SAFETY
- SEAT
- SENIORS
- SHOWER
- SLIP
- SUCTION CUPS
- TOILETRIES
- TRANSFER

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

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Microgram
4. Where golfers begin
7. Each
8. Warm weather me-
tropolis
10. Coat with sticky
substance
12. Girl's given name
13. Myth (Spanish)
14. Ultrahigh frequen-
cy
16. Former NBAer
Jeremy
17. Where rockers
work
19. Your consciousness
of your own identity
20. Soft-finned fishes
21. Localities
25. Paddle
26. Union
27. Member of reli-
gious community
29. Small shrill flute
30. Small constellation
in the Milky Way
31. They ___
32. College kid on
vacation
39. de Armas and
Gasteyer are two

41. Part of the human
body
42. A progressive
grading
43. Sound unit
44. Noise some birds
make
45. Abba __, Israeli
politician
46. Portuguese city
48. Be extremely, un-
critically fond of
49. Resembling old
Norse poems
50. Ask for out of ex-
treme need
51. Sino-Soviet block
(abbr.)
52. Midway between
south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

1. An insane person
2. ___ Boothe Luce,
American author
3. Buttock muscles
4. Men's fashion acces-
sory
5. "Hotel California"
rockers
6. Electronic commu-
nication

8. Magnetomotive
force (abbr.)
9. Hostelries
11. A way to resound
14. Exclamation: yuck!
15. A resident of Indi-
ana
18. Exclamation of
surprise
19. Make a mistake
20. Boundary
22. Antilles island
23. It's used to make
furniture
24. Clod
27. They indicate
where places are
28. Bobby __, NHL
champ
29. Prints money
31. Honorable title
(Turkish)
32. Appetizers
33. Midway between
north and northwest
34. Spanish be
35. Breezed through
36. Grilled dishes
37. In a way, excites
38. Change mind
39. A French abbot
40. Popular candy
44. Partner to cheese
47. Wood or metal
bolt

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to slow cooking.

ROKCOE

			7	8		6	3	5
				9			4	
1	8				5			
		2		1				
	4		9			5		
					6		9	1
3	7					8	5	
			6	7	9			
5	6			9	4	2		

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 Notice is given pursuant to Florida Self-Storage Facility Act, Florida Statutes, Chapter 83, Part IV, that ABC Storage will hold a sale by sealed bid on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at 3743 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327, of the contents of Mini-Warehouse containing personal property of DAN DEVELLEZ
 Before the sale date of Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024 by 12:00 noon. The owners may redeem their property by payment of the outstanding balance and costs by contacting ABC Storage at (850) 508-5177, or by paying in person at the warehouse location.
 Published January 25, February 1, 2024

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FICTITIOUS NAME
 Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 856.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, Jeffrey Yarbrough, is desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **OLD BETHEL ACRES**
 Located at 102 Old Bethel Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327
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 Intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporation of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
 Published on January 25, 2024


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KWCB's Tire Amnesty Day held



PHOTO BY LINDA ANN McDONALD

KWCB volunteers, above, at tire amnesty day at the community center. A pile of tires, right, on the ground and filling the Dumpster.



PHOTO BY TAMMIE NASON

By TAMMIE NASON
KWCB Director

The recent Keep Wakulla County Beautiful Tire Amnesty Event, held on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, was a resounding success, made possible through the generous funds from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Marpan played a vital role by providing Dumpsters, and the total weight of collected tires will be available soon, showcasing the community's commitment to responsible waste disposal.

To manage the overwhelming response, KWCB collaborated with the county transfer station and Waste Pro to ensure efficient han-

dling of the tire overflow. This collaborative effort demonstrated the strength of partnerships in addressing environmental challenges.

The success of the tire amnesty event was part of a broader, impactful week for the Wakulla environment. Volunteers and road adopters kicked off the week by cleaning Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, followed by a tree planting

at Medart Park organized by the Wakulla Garden Club. The Arbor Day tree giveaway added to the week's positive momentum.

"Stay green Wakulla" echoes the community's dedication to environmental consciousness, emphasizing the importance of ongoing efforts to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of Wakulla County.

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After spending over 17 years in the legal field as a Paralegal, I have found another niche in a fantastic career in the ever changing real estate industry. I am diligent and hardworking, my approach with real estate Customers is somewhat low-keyed. I spend time with each Customer, be it a Seller or a Buyer, to get of feel of what their real estate needs are.

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Arbor Day events in Wakulla

Two live oaks planted at Medart Rec Park

By LYNN ARTZ
Special to The Sun

Wakulla County Garden Club joined garden clubs across Florida by planting two southern live oaks to celebrate Florida Arbor Day and the 100th anniversary of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. Nearly 150 garden clubs from Milton to Miami simultaneously planted trees at 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 19th.

WCGC planted trees in the Medart Recreation Park with about 30 people present. They dedicated one tree to the club's beloved member, Jeannie Brodhead, for her tremendous service to the community over many years.

WCGC President, Dianne Amburn, and Recreation Director, Bryan Roddenberry, welcomed guests. FNPS Sarracenia Chapter President Melanie Trexler shared the interesting history of Arbor Day. WCGC Treasurer Pam Morris read aloud the county's Arbor Day proclamation. Biologist Chuck Hess described the uniqueness and importance of live oaks.

The program ended with a visibly moved Jeannie Brodhead hearing her accomplishments recited and seeing

the bronze plaque inscribed with her name. Lynn Artz, her collaborator on Crawfordville Arbor Day tree giveaways led the dedication. Then all speakers gathered with shovels around one of the trees for photos.

Attendees included Commissioners Chuck Hess and Quincy Messersmith, Clerk of Court Greg James, Keep Wakulla County Beautiful Director Tammie Nason, Health Department Director Tonya Hobby, Dolly Mitchell with the Parks Department, other county employees and county residents, and members of the Wakulla County Garden Club and the Sarracenia Chapter of FNPS.

A grant to the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs from the Duke Energy Foundation helped to purchase the arbor day trees planted by WCGC and other garden clubs. Danny Collins, Director of Government and Community Relations for Duke Energy, was among those attending. Marney Richards, Education Coordinator for the Florida Wildlife Federation, was also present. A second grant to FFGC from the National Wildlife Federation funded tree seedling giveaways on January 19th.



PHOTOS BY LEGION TAYLOR

Members of the garden club and other dignitaries, above, at the tree planting held at the rec park on Friday. At right, Lynn Artz talks about Jeannie Brodhead's accomplishments – one of the two trees planted was dedicated to Brodhead.



20th Crawfordville Arbor Day tree giveaway held

By LYNN ARTZ
Special to The Sun

Fifty volunteers braved frigid weather to give away free trees at the 20th annual Crawfordville Arbor Day celebration. More than 1,500 native trees found homes at the drive-through giveaway outside the County Extension on Saturday, Jan. 20th.

Hundreds waited patiently in vehicles to choose from among 15 kinds of trees. Eight kinds were purchased as bareroot seedlings with grant funds from the National Wildlife Federation. Wakulla County Garden Club members planted the baby trees in pots last February and tended them for a year. Just Fruits Nursery kept them watered. The eight species were eastern mayhaw, parsley haw, rusty blackhaw, chinquapin, red cedar, live oak, pignut hickory, overcup oak, sweet shrub, possum haw, and dahoon holly.

County Forester Emily Martin and the Florida Forest Service contributed red maples, river birch, and containerized longleaf pine seedlings. Lynn Artz donated redbuds and elms dug from her yard. Jeannie Brodhead provided American hollies and other seedlings.

Volunteers greeted tree seekers all along the vehicle line. Pam Pafford and Jenn McWilliams handed out tree descriptions and order forms to those

waiting on Ochlockonee Street. Tree advisors Jeannie Brodhead, Michelle Hackmeyer, and David Roddenberry helped those in line choose trees. At the Welcome Station on Cedar Avenue, Madeleine Carr and Barbara Wilson provided tree planting and care instructions. WCSO effectively managed traffic.

The ticket station, where order forms were exchanged for tree tickets, was capably staffed by Mary Driscoll, Beth Hakemoller, Pam Morris, Tonia Murray, Evelyn Reid, Marney Richards, Jaye Sousa, and Marty Quinn. Fifteen pairs of volunteers staffed the 15 tree stations where tickets were turned in for trees. Roy Malmburg took charge of sign placement and monitoring tree counts. Betsy Smith pruned. Claudia Farren took photos. Most of the event's volunteers are members of the Wakulla County Garden Club, the Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, or Master Gardeners. Volunteers were rewarded with first pick of trees.

Tree were loaded into vehicles by Colleen & John Alcorn, Dianne Amburn, Logan Austreng, Dewana & Terrence Britten, Tamara Byrnes (& Charlie), Marty & Dave Coffey, James Cooper, Mary Cortese, Margaret Davis, Susan Fears, Jiuqing Gu, Chris Hill, Jenny Lorch, Rich McWilliams, Rita Schuetz, Khadejah Scott, Penny Slaughter, Nicole Sullivan, Ann Reams, Betsy Rudden, George Weaver, Dianna & Shannon Whitmore, and Ryan with FFS.

"We've already ordered the trees that we will give away next year," said Lynn Artz. "Soon we will put them into pots," said Jeannie Brodhead.

Next year's Crawfordville Arbor Day celebration will return to Hudson Park on Jan. 18, 2025.



County Forester Emily Martin and volunteer Marty Coffey with longleaf pine seedlings.



Volunteer Susan Fears loading an overcup oak into a vehicle.



Tree recipient Troy Collins

PHOTOS BY CLAUDIA FARREN
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