



A JOY-filled Easter

See Page 17

The Wakulla Sun



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Hi: 76° Lo: 48° 17%	Hi: 74° Lo: 48° 5%	Hi: 76° Lo: 55° 8%
Sunrise 7:31 AM Sunset 7:54 PM	Sunrise 7:30 AM Sunset 7:55 PM	Sunrise 7:28 AM Sunset 7:55 PM



\$1
One Section

"It's a New Day"

Locally Owned & Operated

Our 3rd Year 13th Issue
Thursday, March 28, 2024

CLASSES REUNITE

Members of the Wakulla High classes of 1968 and '69 get together before demolition

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

They were members of the first graduating classes at Wakulla High School in 1968 and 1969.

Wakulla High opened in 1967 in an effort to integrate the county's schools – and have one central high school. No more Crawfordville, Sopchoppy and Shadeville high schools.

With plans for the demolition of the old part of the school next year – and a new, more secure school to be built, along with the nearly completed \$20 million War Eagle Career Academy, members of the first and second class to graduate thought it would be a good idea to see each other again.

The reunion was the idea of Merwyn Jones, Class of '68. And about 40 people turned out on a rainy Friday night during spring break to visit with each other, eat some finger food, and hear about the new plans for Wakulla High.

There was also talk of how what we currently know as Wakulla High came to be.

The first year was, by all accounts, not an easy one. Crawfordville and Sopchoppy schools were bitter rivals. And add to the mix the students from the black school, Shadeville. There were lots of fights, recalled Class of '69 member Scott Gaby.

Those first years, the school's mascot was the Rebels, and its fight song was "Dixie" – which made black students uncomfortable, as Da-



Wakulla High School's first graduating class of 1968 – with William Payne, who was school superintendent back then, and J. Harold Thurmond, a teacher and interim principal.



Wakulla High School's class of 1969.

vid Miller remembered. Miller was Class of '69, later principal of Wakulla High School and then Wakulla's superintendent of schools for more than 17 years.

Miller said that what served to unite the newly integrated students was athletics. There were lots of nods of agreement among the 40 or so attendees. The first season of football under Coach Ron Hinson, the team went 9-1, Miller said.

Turn to Page 13



Retired Superintendent of Schools David Miller, Class of '69, was first Wakulla High graduate to serve as Wakulla High principal. Former Superintendent William Payne listens to a memory of J. Harold Thurmond, who twice served as interim principal of Wakulla High.

Trump wins Florida, Wakulla

Former president takes 90% of votes locally in Republican Presidential Preference Primary

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Former President Donald Trump had already secured the Republican nomination earlier, on Super Tuesday, but had added more delegates to his total by winning Florida on Tuesday, March 19.

Trump handily won over Wakulla Republicans, taking in 89.9% of the votes cast. Nikki Haley won 5.4% of the votes and Ron DeSantis took just over 4.1%. (Haley had ended her campaign after Super Tuesday, and DeSantis withdrew before that.)

Given that the nomination was already decided, it's not surprising that the turnout was only 20.4%.

In actual numbers, there are 12,033 registered Republicans in Wakulla, and 2,462 voted in the presidential primary – and 2,213 of those voters filled in the oval for Trump.

There were 550 mail-in ballots cast, 970 in early voting, and 942 cast on Election Day.

Statewide, Trump won 81.2% of votes, Haley won 13.9% and DeSantis won 3.7%.

President Biden has already secured the Democratic nomination, ensuring a second Trump vs. Biden election in November.



Canvassing board on Election night: Jessica Welch, Judge Brian Miller and his assistant Brenda Villiard, Commissioner Quincee Messersmith, and Supervisor of Elections Joe Morgan, with an unidentified election worker with her back to the camera.

Regulations on septic systems changing May 1

New requirements in Wakulla Springs PFA to be offset with \$9,000 grant for homeowners

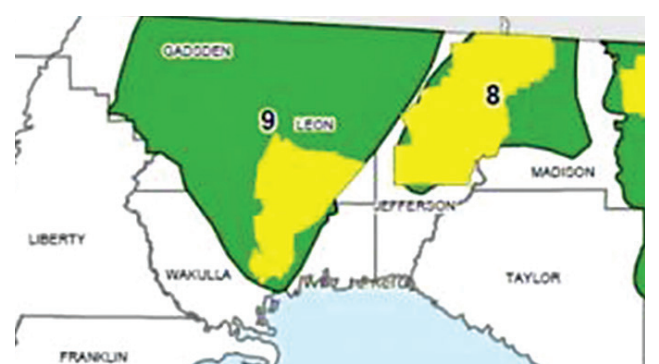
Staff Report

The conference room at the Wakulla County Health Department was standing-room only on Friday, March 22, as septic contractors, county officials and other interested parties met to ask questions about new requirements coming down from the state.

Tentatively set for May 1, all septic systems in the Wakulla Springs Primary Focus Area that have repairs or modifications will be required to upgrade to nitrogen-reducing system. The county has grant funding to offset the cost of the upgrade by \$9,000 for each homeowner.

It was noted at the meeting that the state is not requiring all new construction to have nitrogen-reducing systems.

Anthony Gaudio of the Wakulla Springs Alliance commented at the meeting that Wakulla Springs is currently at 45 ppm in nitrogen, still well above the target of 35 ppm.



The yellow area is the Wakulla Springs PFA.

CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENT

Camden Smit running for school board

The candidate vows to prioritize fiscal responsibility and educational excellence

By **CAMDEN SMIT**
Candidate

As a proud resident of Wakulla County for over a decade, I am deeply invested in the future of our community and its schools. My name is Camden Smit, and I am honored to announce my candidacy for Wakulla County School Board, District 4.

My husband, Chad, introduced me to Wakulla County, his hometown, when we met at the University of Florida. I fell in love with this county and the people. Wakulla isn't just where I live – it's the place where my husband and I call home. We are thrilled that we get to raise our boys, CJ, 6 years old, and Gray, 4, here where they will learn, grow, and become the best versions of themselves.



Camden Smit

The Wakulla Sun offers candidates the opportunity to announce their candidacy, and tell voters the issues that are important to them.

My journey into education began after graduation from the University of Florida with a degree in Broadcast Journalism. Inspired by a passion for learning and a desire to make a difference, I embarked on a career in education. Starting as a paraprofessional and substitute teacher, I gained valuable insights into the workings of our public school system, spanning various counties across Florida.

With each role, I honed my skills in educational strategies and

Turn to Page 9

CAC#1822950



Fletcher's
Cooling and Heating LLC
Keep it Cool!

- Free Estimates
- Maintenance Plans
- Quality Pricing
- SameDay Service
- All Makes and Models
- Excellent Service

850-510-0140

AIR-CON Of Wakulla
Heating & Air

Serving Wakulla & Franklin Counties
850-926-5592
Sales & Service
All Makes & Models

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS!



Turn to the Experts



3232 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville
Owned & Operated by Gary Limbaugh Lic. # CAC1814304



New playground equipment at Azalea Park

New playground equipment was unveiled at Azalea Park on Tuesday, March 19th, as part of a collaborative effort between the Wakulla Board of County Commissioners and the Wakulla County Health Department. Commissioners Ralph Thomas, Quincee Messersmith, and Mike Kemp were present at the unveiling, with commissioner Thomas even trying out some of the new equipment as part of a demonstration. Also on hand were Tonya Hobby, director of the Wakulla and Taylor health departments, and Donna Clark, operations manager for the health department.

(Photo by Legion Taylor)

NO STUDENT OF THE WEEK DUE TO SPRING BREAK. IT WILL RETURN NEXT WEEK.

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park Blue-eyed grass

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER



Blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) is a showy, spring-blooming ground-cover in the iris family. It forms dense clumps about one-foot tall and wide with many grass-like, light-green leaves. In bloom, the plant is covered with exquisite, blue to violet, star-shaped flowers with central yellow eyes. Each tiny flower opens around noon and lives just one day. The profuse blooms attract bumble bees, sweat bees, pollinating flies, and spring butterflies. Songbirds, wild turkeys, and other wildlife eat the seeds. Blue-eyed grass occurs naturally in wet meadows, moist pine-lands, low open woods, and on riverbanks. It flowers best in full sun and moist soil. Blue-eyed grass makes a terrific border plant in naturalized gardens or damp meadows. This lovely native is blooming now near the pond edge at Sopchoppy Depot Park.

San Marcos Mexican Grill & Cantina

Lunch Specials Monday - Friday 11:00 - 3:00

850-962-8079
INDOOR & PATIO SEATING
DINE IN OR CARRY OUT

DOORDASH

We don't want ALL the Business - but we want YOUR Business

2000 Crawfordville Hwy.
Across from Wal Mart
Sun. - Thurs. 11-9
Fri. and Sat. 11-10

Toasttab.com/SanMarcosCrawfordville

BLACKFOOT ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

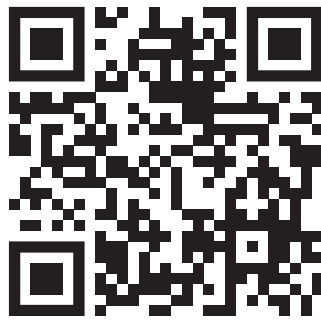
3152 Crawfordville Highway
Crawfordville, FL 32327

(850) 251-9792
www.blackfootroofing.com





CCC1332583



SCAN ME for an electronic edition of



HOUSE SAVERS LLC
WE CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE AND YOUR CREDIT WITH ONE CALL

WE BUY HOUSES

850-792-5963




Don't Walk Away & Ruin Your Credit!
Let us help you solve your house burden.

- Are you a homeowner in distress?
- Behind on your mortgage?
- Need to relocate quickly?
- Down Sizing?
- Job Transfer?
- Divorcing?
- Job Loss?

We can save your life and your credit with one phone call.
We specialize in helping you solve your housing problem quickly.

Call 850-792-5963
www.NorthFloridaHouseSavers.com

Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office

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



Lisa Craze, CFC
Wakulla County Tax Collector

FLORIDA STATE PARKS SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE RELEASED: OCTOBER 2021



The revenue collected annually from the sale of the Florida State Parks specialty license plate will be distributed to the Florida State Parks Foundation, a Florida nonprofit, for their efforts to preserve, protect, sustain, and grow Florida state parks.

Floridians interested in purchasing one of the many specialty license plates offered in Florida are encouraged to visit their local tax collector or license plate agency. A complete list of Florida's specialty license plates can be found on the department's website.

Sopchoppy discusses plans for Worm Gruntin'

The city's big annual festival is set for April 12

By **LEGION TAYLOR**
Reporter

The recent Sopchoppy City Commission meeting on Monday, March 11, saw citizens addressing the commissioners, with the exception of an absent Lara Edwards, about the Worm Gruntin' Festival, which is to be held on April 12th.

Winky Jenkins-Rice and Nancy Paul presented a brief overview of the plans for the event, including who would be named Worm Gruntin' Queen and about the fun run planned for that morning.

Rice and Paul said that Wilhelmina Mor-

ison would be named Worm Gruntin' Queen, in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of Sopchoppy High School, as Morrison graduated from there.

The fun run is 1.4 miles and will be taking place at 8 a.m. on the 12th, with sign-up available starting at 7 a.m. that morning.

Callie Quigg attended to tell the commissioners that there would be an open house at Sopchoppy High from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., also on April 12th.

In other matter:

- Two ordinances having to do with capacity fees and monthly service fees on the Sopchoppy water system,

had their first reading. These issues had been discussed at earlier meetings, and were mostly worked out, but because legislation that would have forced a change to monthly service fees did not pass, the attending city commissioners decided to break the rate increase up so as to lighten the burden on users of their water system.

- A resolution regarding the application for a state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission grant for a boating improvement plan was discussed, and then approved 4-0.

- Jeff Jones, with the engineering firm of Baskerville-Donavan,

came to the meeting to discuss developments and the impacts on the Sopchoppy water system.

Mainly this focused on how water pressure dropped off rapidly once a certain distance from a well site, as well as how the planned Phase 1 improvements would deal with these problems.

The city commissioners and staff were adamant that developers needed to pay for the recommended improvements to the pipe system, but also that the pipe improvements are necessary so that the water system can keep up with the population growth in the county.



Billy Rader at Sopchoppy Opry on Saturday

Billy Rader of Ocean Opry fame will join the all-star cast of musicians and vocalist on Saturday, March 30, at 7 p.m. at the Sopchoppy Opry in historic Sopchoppy School Auditorium. Wayne Martin and Country Gold along with the Opry's own South Bound Band will present an evening music the whole family can enjoy. Tickets are \$15 and may be reserved at 850-962-3711 or purchased at the door.

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.



Additional public notices appear on pages 10, 11 & 12

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners propose to consider the following and transmit the following by ordinance. Public Hearings are scheduled regarding the following before the **Wakulla County Planning Commission on Monday, April 8, 2024, beginning at 6:00 PM, unless otherwise noted below or as time permits** and before the **Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners on Monday, April 22, 2024, beginning at 5:00 PM, unless otherwise noted below or as time permits**. All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.

Application for Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment: CP24-05
Applicant: Wakulla County

Proposal: Request Board Approval to Conduct a Public Hearing and Consider the Transmittal of an Ordinance Amending the Comprehensive Plan Pertaining to the Infrastructure

Hearings Required: Planning Commission: Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 PM.
Board of County Commissioners: Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 5:00 P.M.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING AND REVISING POLICY 1.3.1 AND POLICY 1.3.6 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE ELEMENT OF THE WAKULLA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN AS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 18-24, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND FOR FILING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at ADARquest@mywakulla.com.

St. Marks looks at sale of old refinery site

By **LEGION TAYLOR**
Reporter

St. Marks City Commissioners received updates on issues presented at previous meetings, such as the purchasing of the old refinery site.

Two more parties have expressed interest in purchasing the land that used to be the Seminole Refinery, after negotiations regarding its sale were opened with a party that Mayor Steve Remke disclosed was CDS Manufacturing. The team negotiating the purchase, which is made up of Mayor Remke, City Attorney Bill Garner, and City Manager Zoe Mansfield, sought guidance from the city commissioners

about how to proceed. The commissioners, with the exception of John Gunter, wanted to continue negotiations with CDS before negotiating with the other parties, and no action was taken as the negotiation team was already doing that.

In other matters:

- Shadrach Hines with Waterfronts Florida reported on the success of the recent Chili Cook-off, as well as developing plans for the 4th of July Celebration. Sponsorship forms will be made available soon for the 4th of July, to raise money for the planned fireworks display.

- City Attorney Garner conducted the second reading of an ordinance

that deals with unity of title agreements between properties when a main residence is on one parcel and an accessory structure such as a pole barn is desired on a separate but adjacent parcel. The city commission unanimously approved the ordinance.

- Brian Miller attended the meeting to ask the city commission if the no wake zone that starts by Riverside Café could be extended, so that the wake of passing boaters wouldn't disturb his dock or his boat. The city commissioners informed him that wake zones fall under county jurisdiction, not city, but that Mayor Remke would write a letter to the county govern-

ment to explain things, which should help when Miller goes to ask them to change it.

- Joe Crousore, one of the volunteers who manage the boat ramp facilities in exchange for being allowed to keep his camper nearby, was sent a letter to vacate within 30 days, due to his supposed poor performance at maintaining the bathroom facilities. Crousore feels that he isn't performing poorly. Members of the audience and Commissioner Paul Sheddan spoke out in favor of Crousore, but Sheddan failed to get a second on his motion to cancel the vacate letter, so the motion failed to pass.

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Public Announcement Requesting Bids from Pre-Qualified General Contractors.

Bids are requested from pre-qualified general contractors by H2Engineering, Inc. on behalf of Wakulla County Schools.

H2E PROJE CT No.: 23-145

WCS BID NO.: 23/24-02

PROJE CT NAME: Rie rsprings Middle School AHU Replacement

BID DATE: Thursday, April 11, 2024

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Scope: One for one replacement of 2 DX split syst em air handling units and associated condensing units with new owner furnished contractor installed dx split syst em air handling units and condensing units. One syst em serves the Admin area and one syst em serves a classroom wing. New 6' tall chain link fence will house the new condensing units. Controls modification as required for new units. Minimal electrical work will be required for the one for one replacement of the units. Code minimum commissioning will be required.
2. The entity responsible for all aspects of project management:
H2Engineering, Inc.
114 East 5th Ave nue
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
Phone: (850) 224-7922
Fax (850) 224-5876
3. Bids will only be accepted from General Contractors pre-qualified for this project.
4. All questions or requests for written interpretation or correction **MUST** be in writing no later than **Wednesday, April 10, 2024**. Direct all inquiries to the H2Engineering Project Manager: Mark Poindek er, PE. Email: mpoindex er@h2engineering.com
5. Sealed bids must be receie d at the Wak lla County School Board administration building, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327, **no later than 11:00 a.m. local time, on Thursday, April 11, 2024**. Bids must be clearly mark ed with project name, project number and bid number on the outside ene lope. Submittals receie d after deadline will not be considered.
6. Bids must be submitted in full accordance with the requirements of the drawings, specifications, bidding conditions and contractual conditions, which may be obtained by contacting the H2Engineering project manager.
7. Drawings are an ilable in digital format or can be printed at Seminole Blueprint.

In the ee nt the Contract is awarded to the Bidder, Bidder shall, within eight (8) Owner business day after the award by the Owner of the Contract shall furnish the required Performance and Pagn ent Bonds; failing to do such, Bidder shall forfeit their bid guarantee as liquidated damages. The Performance and Pagn ent Bonds shall be secured from any agency of a surety or insurance company, which agency shall ha e an established place of business in the State of Florida and be duly licensed to conduct business there.

The Owner resere s the right to waie irregularities and/or informalities in any Bid and to reject any or all Bids in whole or part, with or without cause, and/or accept the Bid that in its judgment will be for the best interest of the School Board of Wak lla County, Florida.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
69 ARRAN ROAD CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA 32327
ROBERT PEARCE,
SUPERINTENDENT



Preventing hip fractures from falls is critical for senior home safety. A few common sense precautions can make homes safer and extend independence. A public service message from the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the Orthopaedic Trauma Association. For home safety tips, visit orthoinfo.org/falls and ota.org.



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.”

LEER SR OMR EADERS

Remembering marine biologist Dr. E.E. Just

By JACK RUDLOE
Gulf Specimen

I'd like to add a sad addition to Gerald Ensley's recent excellent article in the Tallahassee Democrat, "If not for FAMU, we would all be poorer."

Sometime back in the 1960's FAMU had a large piece of land on the shores of the Ochlocknee Bay which they planned to use as a marine laboratory. It had dormitories, which were old Camp Gordon Johnson army barracks where students stayed (same surplus barracks that I used to start Gulf Specimen), a dock and ponds for growing fish. It could have been a great asset to estuarine science, because in my view Ochlocknee Bay is one of the unique estuaries in the world. Tarpon raise there, so do Gulf sturgeon and striped bass. It is a nursery ground for white shrimp. Blue crabs abound there, and there are millions of clam shells where native Americans who lived on the shores for thousands of years were harvesting them.

If the land were not stolen or traded away by a powerful Tallahassee legislator and land speculators The Ochlocknee Bay Marine Station and the buildings raised it could have made a major contribution to marine science instead of real estate for the wealthy. Who knows, it might have produced another genius like Ernest E. Just, the famous black marine embryologist who while working at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts in the 1920s first discovered the spark of life that occurs when sperm meets egg. The scientific legacy of EE Just remains a defining factor in the evolution of marine bi-



Marine biologist Dr. E.E. Just

ology. His fascination with the world of science led to his discovery of "The Spark"-- the mystery of creation and the flash that occurs when the egg and sperm unite.

In 1939 he wrote, "The egg cell... is a universe. And if we could but know it, we would feel in its minute confines the majesty and beauty which match the vast wonder of the world outside us. In it march events that give us the story of all life from the first moment when somehow out of chaos came life and living. That first tremendous upheaval that gave this earth its present contour finds its counterpart in the breaking up of the surface of the egg which conditions all life to follow."

Born in Charleston, South Carolina on Aug. 14th, 1883, Dr. Just was a zoologist and a marine biologist known for his experiments with marine invertebrates. Graduating Magna cum Laude from Dartmouth

College in 1907, and Magnum cum Laude from The University of Chicago with a PhD. in zoology and physiology in 1916, he was an award winning African American scientist whose experiments revolutionized the field of cellular biology.

We are seeking a donation of \$50,000 to build a new exhibit at Gulf Specimen Marine lab and

Aquarium to show the miracle of life with sea urchin eggs and honor Just's groundbreaking discovery in cellular biology, and the victory that he achieved despite the seemingly insurmountable hurdles that he faced throughout his lifetime.

Jack Rudloe is founder of Gulf Specimen Marine Lab in Panacea.

Historical Society Show & Tell

Editor, The Sun:

Wakulla County Historical Society's 7th Annual Show & Tell will be Tuesday, April 9, at 4:30 p.m. at the Wakulla County Public Library.

Back by popular demand! Our annual Show & Tell program! This is a great opportunity for those of you lucky enough to have a long family history in this part of Florida to bring in and show off those items handed down from earlier generations – and for the rest of us to see and learn about and admire them!

Members and guests are invited to display and talk about

their items related to North Florida or Wakulla County history. Display tables will be set up for attendees to view your artifacts.

Bring those antique books, buttons, tokens, bottles or any object of historical value you've been storing in the closet, share your stories about them and enjoy viewing the artifacts of other collectors!

Call the Museum to reserve table space at 850-926-1110.

Arlene Vause
Secretary

Wakulla Historical Society

Something on your mind?

Email Letters to the Editor to editor@thewakullasun.com; or mail it or drop it by the office at 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327.

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of March 28

Thursday, March 28

- Rotary Club meets at TCC Wakulla at 8:30 a.m.
- The fourth Windows 10 training class will be held at the Wakulla County Public Library from 9:30 a.m. to noon.
- 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, March 29

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

Saturday, March 30

- The Panacea Beer and Oyster festival will be held in Panacea from 12 to 4 p.m.
- The Sopchoppy Opry will be held at the historic Sopchoppy High School at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and available at the door.
- A Country Market will be held in Carabelle at the Crooked River Lighthouse from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 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.

Sunday, March 31

- HAPPY EASTER!

Monday, April 1

- The Wakulla Board of County Commissioners meets at 5 p.m. in the Commission Chambers. An executive session is set for 4 p.m. to discuss a lawsuit settlement.
- Zaxby's is hosting a share night for the 4-H Summer Camp Scholarship Fund from 5 to 8 p.m.
- The American Legion Post 114 will be meeting at the Wakulla County Public Library at 6:30 p.m.
- Yoga with Nellie, Restorative yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Classes are \$12, packages available at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

Tuesday, April 2

- Camp Gordon Johnston World War 2 Museum will be hosting a special exhibit "Remembering the Holocaust" until April 27th.
- 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, April 3

- 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 wel-

SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

You can support The Wakulla Sun with a tax-deductible donation to help us cover the stories that matter to you.

By donating, you help us keep citizens informed, hold officials accountable and cover the most important topics in our community.

Your contributions will equip our newsroom to better serve you and all our readers.

That means:

- More reporters on the street
- More local news about our community
- More local content on the environment and local businesses

A little bit goes a long way. With your help, we can keep the presses running through hard times.

We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

Are donations tax deductible?

Yes, the Florida Press Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization with its principal place of business in Florida.

The Florida Press Foundation is registered to solicit charitable contributions in Florida. Financial and other information about the Florida Press Foundation's purpose, programs and activities can be obtained by visiting <https://floridapressfoundation.org> or by writing to Florida Press Foundation at 336 East College Avenue, Suite 304, Tallahassee FL 32301.

We accept donations by card or check. If by check, payment must be made to the Florida Press Foundation and write in the check memo line that you want the donation to go to The Wakulla Sun.

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

"It's A New Day!"

The Wakulla Sun

Editor/Publisher: William Snowden
Reporter: Legion Taylor
Production Manager/IT: Eric Stanton
Circulation: Krystal Sheppard
Sales & Marketing: Lynda Kinsey

Facebook: www.facebook.com/@TheWakullaSun
Twitter: www.twitter.com/@TheWakullaSun

The Wakulla Sun, Copyright © 2023 is published weekly by Hot Water Publishing, 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL. Periodicals postage is pending at Crawfordville FL.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Wakulla Sun, 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327.

Subscriptions to The Wakulla Sun
In County - \$35/yr. - \$20/6 mo. Out of County - \$50/yr. - \$30/6 mo.
Out of State - \$60/yr. - \$35/6 mo.
To subscribe call (850)962-8019.

DISTRIBUTOR
Jessi Smith

< Question of The Week >

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at SunBlest Gardens Open House:

What's your favorite flower?



DESIREE GORMAN
Rotary of Wakulla

Tulips and lilies.”



SUE TOOKE
St. Marks Seafood

Bird of paradise.”



WINKY RICE
Retired educator

I'm going to say the peony, even though they don't grow here in the south.”



JENNIFER NELLUMS
Retired Nurse

“Geraniums, they are just beautiful and they come in lots of different colors.”



MIE DOLAN
Paraprofessional

Gardenia, they smell amazing. They grow wild on my family's land.”

Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

I hope everyone had a good Spring break. I took advantage of the pretty weather to work in the yard, pruning and weeding everything. Ed and I took a road trip to Perry to pick up some of the orange trees he ordered (two years ago!). After that, we drove to Madison to visit some of the wonderful antique shops and junkie stores over there. Yes, I did manage to find a treasure or two. We finished the excursion with a visit to O'Neal's Country Style Buffet. All in all, a delightful day.

I really enjoyed visiting the SunBlest Nursery Open House this past weekend! I got there right at nine o'clock Saturday morning, and it was already

PACKED. Every year they add another layer of organization to help manage the crowds. There was a trolley available to help transport folks from their vehicles parked for miles up and down Commerce Boulevard. They were even controlling how many folks could enter the greenhouses (50 at a time....).

I decided to make a suggestion for next year, to make a circular route through the entire property, to make the flow of traffic one way. Over the past few years, managing the huge rolling shelves full of plants has been a real challenge. Maneuvering them back and forth, dodging oncoming traffic and even parked shelves, has always proved difficult. I hope someone figures it out for next year!

One of the best things about this biannual event is seeing friends and neighbors. School Board member Laura Lawhon was volunteering with the Wakulla Rotary Club, working the event. Of course, the Christian Coalition was there, spreading word about their annual back-to-school fund drive, while also working the event. I ran into so many people I know, and we all were excited! There were so many amazingly beautiful fruit trees, landscape plants, bedding plants, ornamental plants and hanging baskets galore. And all at great prices.

The members of my United Women of Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) had our monthly meeting at Little Napoli Italian Restaurant in Crawfordville. Oh my goodness! The food was off the chain. I ordered the garlic knots, and they were, by far,

the best I have ever eaten anywhere. If you've never been, you need to check it out. You will not regret it.

Holy Week is upon us, and readers are invited to join us at the Wakulla UMC for Maundy Thursday service at 6 p.m. The Crawfordville UMC is having a Good Friday service, and the Woodville UMC is hosting a Saturday Easter Egg Hunt at 11 a.m. Easter Sunday the Wakulla UMC will have a Sunrise Service at 7:15 a.m., and Woodville UMC will have an 11:15 a.m. service too.

Please continue to pray for Deborah Giles, sister of Cindy Blackstock, who is facing some serious medical issues. Also in need of prayer is Norma Woodcock, Thelma Watts, the Butler family, Leah Pearson, Earline Hall, Jimmy Gainey and Clem Bunker.

Buckhorn News

By **ETHEL SKIPPER**

We remember a wonderful woman in our neighborhood. We remember her kindness and open heart and how much she cared for all people. She left a great legacy for those she touched in her lifetime – Missionary Charlotte Harris Rosier.

Known to many as “Mama Charlotte,” she was from Hyde Park community.

At the age of 14 she moved to Sopchoppy and at the age of 19 was joined in holy matrimony to John E. Rosier.

They were blessed with children: John Jr., Ezella, Ethelmae, Alberta,

Callie, Joseph, Merddie, Ruth and Mary.

Mother Charlotte Rosier opened to home to several families – many of the children were able to go to school, on to college, and make a good life for their families.

During that time she opened her door to elderly people, even the homeless.

There were no nursing homes, no food stamps or Social Security checks at that time to help the ones in need. During the time of Camp Gordon Johnston, Mother Charlotte roomed several of the soldiers' wives. My sisters and I were willing to give up our little room for these ladies. It made us

feel special.

Some of the elderly people, both men and women, died at our home. There were not many jobs in Buckhorn for out-of-town men. They were always informed to “Check Mrs. Charlotte.” I don't recall a time she could not find room for another person, young or old.

Proverbs 31:10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

Mama Charlotte Rosier was indeed a virtuous woman. She had many attributes, including love, humility, faith, strength, patience, generosity, integrity, kindness, courage and wisdom.

After her death in 1989, the Charlotte Rosier Quality Care Home

opened on March 1, 1990 in her honor. The home was operated by Wendy Gavin Beard, her granddaughter, and her husband, Dr. Timothy Beard.

Prior to Mama Charlotte's death, the Rosier family continues to come together to celebrate at various locations. It was founded in the church and included singing, praying, praising God, giving thanks and comfort, support, encouragement and love.

Her love, generosity and commitment to her family and the lives she touched will never be forgotten.

Prayers and concern goes out to all the sick, shut-in, those in the hospital, nursing home, prison, the homeless, and all in need of prayer. May the Lord bless you.

BASEBALL

War Eagles suffer loss to Madison, tie at NFC



By **KEITH ANDERSON**
Baseball Coach

The Wakulla War Eagles Varsity baseball team moved to 8-2-1 this past week with a walkoff

loss in the 7th inning to Madison County 4-3 and a tie at 2-2 in the 10th inning due to darkness with North Florida Christian.

On Monday, March 18, the War Eagles traveled to Madison. Will Chipman was the starting pitcher throwing 4.1 strong innings scattering 4 hits and 4 strikeouts giving up 2 runs. Jesse Nazworth came on in relief throwing 2.1 innings giving up 4 hits and 2

runs.

The War Eagles had lots of runners aboard, but had trouble pushing them across. Parker Lawhon, Sam Bruce, Brady Crum, Josiah Pierini, and Owen Klees all had hits. Brady Crum also had an RBI. The War Eagles trailed 3-1 until the top of the 7th. Josiah Pierini hit a 400 foot, two-run homerun to straight away centerfield to tie the game up. Madison County did their part in the 7th, with a double and eventually scoring the winning run with one out on a single to left field.

On Tuesday, March

19, the War Eagles traveled to NFC in what turned out to be a brilliant pitcher's duel. The War Eagles struck in the top of the first with a Haden Klees single to score Parker Lawhon. NFC pushed a run across in the bottom of the first to tie the game, then in the second hit a solo run to go ahead 2-1. In the top of the fourth after a 7-pitch at bat, Garrett Veltkamp singled to score Owen Klees with 2 outs to tie the game up at 2. The game went 10 innings before it was called due to darkness. Leaston Spears start-

ed on the mound for Wakulla throwing 5.2 innings giving up 6 hits and 1 earned run. It was a quality start for the

senior. Gavin Estep took over in the fifth inning throwing 4.1 innings, giving up only 1 hit and no runs.

Son born to Dickens

Special to The Sun

Oliver Rene Dickens was born March 23, 2024, weighing 9 lbs 8 oz. with a length of 20 and 3/4 inches. He was born at 12:55 p.m. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to father, Dr. Cody Daniel Dickens, and mother, Anna Schoubert Dickens.

Paternal grandfather is Daniel Dickens, owner of Wakulla Storage in Crawfordville and paternal grandmother Donna Dickens of Crawfordville.

Maternal grandparents are Mark Schoubert of Tallahassee and Joan Schoubert of Tallahassee.



**A Free Press
Your Key To
Freedom**



BRIAN C. ENGLISH
Financial Products / Services
Investments
Life Insurance
DROP Rollovers
401(k) Rollovers
926-7487

ChFC
HIGHEST STANDARD OF KNOWLEDGE & TRUST
Chartered Financial Consultant®

RICP
RETIREMENT INCOME CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL®

The Chartered Advisor for Senior Living® (CASL®) designation is issued by The American College after acquiring specialized knowledge on advanced retirement and estate planning strategies.

CASL

Securities products and advisory services offered through Park Avenue Securities LLC (PAS), member FINRA, SIPC. Guardian, its subsidiaries, agents and employees do not provide tax, legal or accounting advice. Not affiliated with the Florida Retirement System.

Gerald Brown Photography

- Events
- Beach Portraits
- Special Occasions
- Musicians

850-545-4281
GeraldBrownPhoto@gmail.com

Follow me on Instagram:
GeraldBrownFoto

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

At WCSO range, safety is first priority



By MARJ LAW

Where do you go when you're new to shooting? Where do you go when you've been shooting for quite a while?

Right here, in Wakulla County, the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office Range is a safe place to go. And a big thanks to Sheriff Jared Miller! You want to be as safe as you can be when handling firearms.

Several years ago, Joe and I visit a range in the forest. There weren't many targets, and the distance from shooting area to target wasn't marked.

Well, a couple guys were shooting.

"Can we go cold, soon?" Joe asked politely.

"Huh?"
"When you're ready, we'd like to go cold," Joe said again.

"Cold?" he acted like he'd never heard the word.

"Yes," Joe explained, "We'd like to put up our targets."

"Why didn't you say so? Sure. Put up your targets!"

They are off to one side, and we are at the other. Joe starts to head down range.

Pow! Pow! The guy he'd just spoken to is shooting at his target.

We load up our range bags and handgun bags and leave. There isn't any point staying and,

obviously, it isn't safe.

At the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range, safety is the first priority.

When you first drive in, you come to the range office. A deputy is always at the desk. If you're new, he'll orient you to the layout of the range, and he'll tell you about range rules. He'll ask to make sure you have brought hearing and vision protection. He'll reassure you that if you have any questions, you can return to him. Deputies at the range have vast backgrounds with both handguns and long guns.

Wednesdays around 10 a.m. are a great time to visit the range. This is a time when a few experienced gun range members meet, and we're happy to talk about the range and handguns to new shooters. When we meet up with more experienced shooters, we'll compare the merits of our various handguns, so we come away with more knowledge than we had before.

If you're still not quite certain about safety rules, there's a very large sign at the pistol range. It includes that you don't shoot when someone is downrange. This is what is called a "cold" range. When the range is cold, you don't touch a gun. There's a red line on the cement floor between a seating bench and a shooting bench.

I don't know why it is called a shooting bench. It's more like a counter-high table with partitions about every 3.5 feet wide or so. You handle your gun and ammunition and you shoot from this shooting bench. That is when the range is

Sheriff Jared F. Miller RANGE RULES

The following rules have been established in an effort to insure safe use of this facility, these rules apply to everyone using this range. The designated Range Safety Officer is in charge of the shooting taking place under his/her supervision and their directions will be followed by everyone on the shooting line. Do not anticipate an order, wait until it is given.



1. No one is allowed to shoot on this range unless there is another adult present on the facility.

2. No handling of firearms when someone is down range.

3. No loaded firearms allowed to enter this range. Prior to entering this range clear all weapons in a safe manner and remove the magazine (if applicable). Load weapons only at your shooting position when the line is hot and you are ready to shoot.

4. Eye and hearing protection is required for everyone on the shooting line while firearms are being shot.

5. Shoot only the type of weapon and/or ammunition designated for this range, unless specifically approved in advanced by a WCSO Training Officer.

6. No alcoholic beverages allowed on this range! No eating, drinking or use of tobacco products on the line or under the shooting shed. Poisoning by lead can occur through handling firearms and ammunition. Always wash your hands after shooting and before eating, drinking, or using tobacco products and prior to leaving the range.

7. Shoot only at the appropriate targets for the type of training being done. No glass, cans or other type trash targets allowed. Use target backers and do not attach targets to the 2x4 frame.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE: A fully stocked trauma kit is located in the office building.

For emergencies that require professional medical assistance or transport to a medical facility, call 911 immediately!

"hot." However, when the range is cold, you stay on the side of that red line close to the parking area. This way, you can't reach your gun.

When the range is cold, you can go downrange and put up your target. Because everyone is behind that red line on the floor, people can't touch their guns, so you know no one will be shooting when you're downrange.

Hearing and eye protection are necessary to wear at the range. When guns are shot, they make a loud popping or cracking noise. Loud noises can be destructive to hearing, so we always wear stick-in-your-ear foam pads, or earmuff-type hearing protection. I like to wear both at the same time. ANSI-rated glasses help prevent hot, stray casings or bits of shooting residue from flying into your eyes. You're required to wear both ear and eye protection for your own safety.

The shooting bench/table has partitions, as I noted earlier, at about 3 1/2 foot wide intervals. Inside the partitions is Kevlar: the same material used for safety vests. These partitions provide a measure of safety from other shooters, and allow you a semi-private area to shoot and not be distracted by other shooters, although you will still hear the reports of their guns.

Target stands are set up at 7 1/2 yards, 15, 25 and 50 yards. You bring your own targets to place on the backboards. If you have the sticky Shoot-N-See type targets, you just stick a target on the backboard. Otherwise, you bring a stapler or masking tape to affix your paper target. Targets are inexpensive, but if you don't have any, you can even use paper plates.

Target stands are made of 2x4 frames. Old plastic signs are attached, and your own target attaches to them.

We don't shoot bottles or cans, so no pieces of glass or aluminum can harm you.

Another safety guide is "no naked gun." This means you bring your handgun to the range in a range or gun bag. No one is walking around with a gun even when the range is hot. Guns are taken out of their pouches at the shooting bench, and then taken out with muzzle always pointing downrange.

And that's another safety example. Guns are always pointing with the muzzle facing downrange. Even if your finger twitches in the trigger accidentally, your gun is pointing safely towards the targets.

I'd like to say wearing shirts with high necklines will prevent those hot casings from ever flying down your collar. And that's true most of the time. However, four weeks ago I was wearing a T-shirt with an uncomfortably high neck and a casing did manage to lodge itself

right there. Yikes! It took almost 3 weeks for the blister to die down. But this was a first for me in 12 years of shooting.

High neck shirts and loose clothing are good. When that errant casing does manage to sail down your shirt, a quick "hot shell Watusi" dance will send it flying to the floor. You might look a bit silly, but these fast shells don't even leave marks.

Shooting can leave lead on your hands. After your shooting session, using hand wipes isn't sissy; it's smart.

Whether you're new or experienced, the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range is a great place to learn about the sport of shooting. People who come here and range personnel alike are all about safety.

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

BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

Changing seasons at the refuge

By DON MORROW

I was standing on the beach at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge this morning, waiting for the sun to rise. I had walked out along the coastal strand east of the lighthouse as far as I could go. The Gulf waters were reflecting both the blue of the morning sky and the colors of the developing sunrise. Clapper Rails were calling loudly from the salt marsh. I watched small groups of loons flying high overhead as they migrated north. Just as the sun rose, a trio of porpoises swam by a few feet offshore. The explosive exhale through their blowholes was loud in the still morning air.

This week marks the Vernal Equinox, the official start of spring. The natural year is a complex ever-evolving process and yet, in our Western

culture, we cut the year into four equal seasons. Looking at the year this way loses much of each season's texture and nuance.

The traditional Japanese calendar divided the year into twenty-four divisions with names like "Insects Awaken" and "Lesser Heat." Each of these was further subdivided into micro seasons like "First reeds sprout" or "Hawks learn to fly." We are currently in "Caterpillars turn into butterflies."

Although the phenomena that they are named for may often be early or late, the idea of micro seasons bespeaks a close and subtle relationship with the natural world. I have decided that the current micro season at St. Marks is "Loons fly at dawn."

Whether you wish to call it spring or something else, there is a lot

going on at the refuge right now. Our summer residents are returning. Northern Parulas are singing at the Double Bridges and this week I have seen or heard my first Great Crested Flycatcher, Chuck-wills-widow, and Least Bittern.

Among the throngs of shorebirds on Stony Bayou 1 and Mounds Pool 1 (the first two pools on the left as you drive into the refuge) are an unusually large number of Pectoral Sandpipers. Some winter as far South as Tierra del Fuego. They are bound for their nesting grounds in the Arctic. Among the other migrants currently passing through are a large pulse of Blue-winged Teal that spent their winter in South America. The teal that wintered on the refuge are already gone.

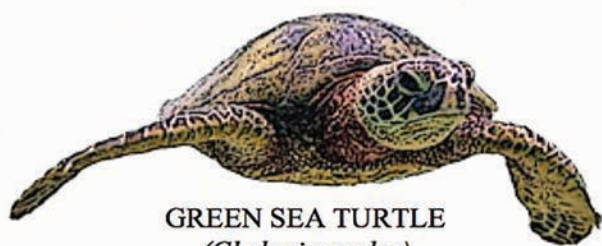
Spring happenings are not just about birds.

Tiger Swallowtails have come out. Their host plants on the refuge are the sweetbays that grow along Lighthouse Road. Both dwarf blueberry and yaupon are in bloom and covered with small white flowers attracting pollinating bees and beetles. Each of their flowers will develop into a fruit. The resultant blueberries will feed Brown Thrashers in late Spring. Yaupon's abundant red fruits take longer to develop and will feed mockingbirds and catbirds through the winter.

Come down to St. Marks and work on naming your own micro seasons. With the peak of migration approaching, it will soon be "Warblers drip off trees."

You really don't want to miss that.

Don Morrow can be contacted at donaldmorrow@gmail.com.



GREEN SEA TURTLE
(*Chelonia mydas*)

Green sea turtles adults graze on the vast sea glass beds of the tropics. Florida's coastal waters are an important feeding grounds. Juveniles hunt crabs jellyfish and sponge. Each year they will swim thousands of miles to return to their birthplace to mate and lay eggs. Artificial lights on beaches confuse them and prevent them from laying eggs. Sea walls block their path. This turtle is called "green" because it was favored for soup and the fat is greenish. Hunting for the turtle meat and eggs and habitat destruction means this turtle is now endangered. This is the one of the largest of the living sea turtles and can grow to 700 pounds.

Eukaryota, Anamalia, Chordata, Reptilia, Testunides, Cheloniidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
www.gulfspecimen.org

CLOSING SALE
EVERYTHING IN STORE DISCOUNTED!

Wakulla
Diving Center

2784 COASTAL HWY., CRAWFORDVILLE

FOLLOW THE SUN.

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

SEA TOW

24/7 PRIORITY ON-WATER ASSISTANCE

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

Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

March 28 - April 3

GO FISH!

Tide charts by tides4fishing.com

For tides at the following points add Dog Island Listings:

High Tide Low Tide

Carrabelle 28 Min. 25 Min.

Apalachicola 1 Hr., 53 Min. 2 Hrs., 38 Min.

Cat Point 1 Hr., 13 Min. 2 Hrs., 31 Min.

Lower Anchorage 1 Hr., 36 Min. 2 Hrs., 3 Min.

West Pass 1 Hr., 26 Min.

Best fishing days this month
April 8-23

First April 15 Full March 25 Last April 1 New April 8

Thursday 28		Friday 29		Saturday 30		Sunday 31		Monday 1		Tuesday 2		Wednesday 3	
Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set	Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set	Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set	Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set	Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set	Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set	Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set
7:29AM	11:14PM	7:28AM	9:44AM	7:27AM	12:14AM	7:26AM	1:16AM	7:25AM	2:16AM	7:23AM	3:13AM	7:22AM	4:03AM
7:53PM	9:09AM	7:54PM	9:44AM	7:54PM	10:25AM	7:55PM	11:14AM	7:57PM	12:10PM	7:56PM	1:15PM	7:57PM	2:23PM
Moon Illumination 91%		Moon Illumination 84%		Moon Illumination 76%		Moon Illumination 67%		Moon Illumination 57%		Moon Illumination 46%		Moon Illumination 35%	

St. Marks River Entrance

Th	5:28 am ▲ 2.1 ft	10:41 am ▼ 1.1 ft	4:26 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	11:23 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	6:12 am ▲ 1.8 ft	11:02 am ▼ 1.3 ft	4:51 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	
Sa	12:07 am ▼ -0.3 ft	7:02 am ▲ 1.8 ft	11:20 am ▼ 1.5 ft	5:17 pm ▲ 2.4 ft
Su	12:56 am ▼ -0.3 ft	8:22 am ▲ 1.7 ft	11:19 am ▼ 1.6 ft	5:47 pm ▲ 2.4 ft
Mo	1:57 am ▼ -0.2 ft	6:25 pm ▲ 2.3 ft		
Tu	3:23 am ▼ -0.1 ft	7:36 pm ▲ 2.2 ft		
We	4:53 am ▼ -0.1 ft	1:48 pm ▲ 1.9 ft	5:15 pm ▼ 1.8 ft	10:07 pm ▲ 2.1 ft

City of St. Marks

Th	4:45 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:10 am ▼ 0.8 ft	4:06 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	11:03 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	5:26 am ▲ 3.0 ft	10:38 am ▼ 1.0 ft	4:28 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	11:41 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Sa	6:14 am ▲ 2.8 ft	11:09 am ▼ 1.3 ft	4:55 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	
Su	12:30 am ▼ -0.2 ft	7:19 am ▲ 2.5 ft	11:45 am ▼ 1.6 ft	5:29 pm ▲ 3.4 ft
Mo	1:39 am ▼ 0.0 ft	8:56 am ▲ 2.4 ft	12:37 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	6:15 pm ▲ 3.2 ft
Tu	3:12 am ▼ 0.0 ft	10:50 am ▲ 2.5 ft	2:18 pm ▼ 2.2 ft	7:38 pm ▲ 2.9 ft
We	4:40 am ▼ -0.1 ft	11:59 am ▲ 2.8 ft	4:34 pm ▼ 2.1 ft	10:07 pm ▲ 2.9 ft

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	5:21 am ▲ 2.9 ft	11:14 am ▼ 0.7 ft	4:42 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	
Fr	12:07 am ▼ -0.3 ft	6:02 am ▲ 2.8 ft	11:42 am ▼ 0.9 ft	5:04 pm ▲ 3.3 ft
Sa	12:45 am ▼ -0.3 ft	6:50 am ▲ 2.6 ft	12:13 pm ▼ 1.2 ft	5:31 pm ▲ 3.3 ft
Su	1:34 am ▼ -0.2 ft	7:55 am ▲ 2.3 ft	12:49 pm ▼ 1.5 ft	6:05 pm ▲ 3.2 ft
Mo	2:43 am ▼ 0.0 ft	9:32 am ▲ 2.2 ft	1:41 pm ▼ 1.8 ft	6:51 pm ▲ 3.0 ft
Tu	4:16 am ▼ 0.0 ft	11:26 am ▲ 2.3 ft	3:22 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	8:14 pm ▲ 2.7 ft
We	5:44 am ▼ -0.1 ft	12:35 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	5:38 pm ▼ 1.9 ft	10:43 pm ▲ 2.7 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	5:13 am ▲ 3.2 ft	10:38 am ▼ 1.0 ft	4:26 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	11:23 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	5:53 am ▲ 3.1 ft	11:04 am ▼ 1.2 ft	4:48 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	
Sa	12:00 am ▼ -0.3 ft	6:40 am ▲ 2.8 ft	11:33 am ▼ 1.4 ft	5:16 pm ▲ 3.6 ft
Su	12:48 am ▼ -0.1 ft	7:42 am ▲ 2.6 ft	12:08 pm ▼ 1.7 ft	5:50 pm ▲ 3.5 ft
Mo	1:57 am ▼ 0.0 ft	9:15 am ▲ 2.4 ft	12:58 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	6:37 pm ▲ 3.3 ft
Tu	3:30 am ▼ 0.1 ft	11:06 am ▲ 2.5 ft	2:30 pm ▼ 2.2 ft	7:55 pm ▲ 3.0 ft
We	5:03 am ▼ 0.0 ft	12:17 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	4:42 pm ▼ 2.1 ft	10:23 pm ▲ 3.0 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	4:37 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:21 am ▼ 0.6 ft	3:58 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:14 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Fr	5:18 am ▲ 2.2 ft	10:49 am ▼ 0.7 ft	4:20 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:52 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Sa	6:06 am ▲ 2.1 ft	11:20 am ▼ 0.9 ft	4:47 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	
Su	12:41 am ▼ -0.1 ft	7:11 am ▲ 1.9 ft	11:56 am ▼ 1.2 ft	5:21 pm ▲ 2.6 ft
Mo	1:50 am ▼ 0.0 ft	8:48 am ▲ 1.8 ft	12:48 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	6:07 pm ▲ 2.4 ft
Tu	3:23 am ▼ 0.0 ft	10:42 am ▲ 1.9 ft	2:29 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	7:30 pm ▲ 2.2 ft
We	4:51 am ▼ -0.1 ft	11:51 am ▲ 2.1 ft	4:45 pm ▼ 1.5 ft	9:59 pm ▲ 2.2 ft

Dog Island West End

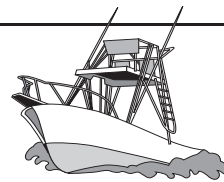
Th	5:03 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:23 am ▼ 1.0 ft	4:09 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:03 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Fr	5:47 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:47 am ▼ 1.2 ft	4:34 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:42 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Sa	6:38 am ▲ 2.1 ft	11:10 am ▼ 1.4 ft	5:01 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	
Su	12:30 am ▼ -0.3 ft	7:47 am ▲ 1.9 ft	11:30 am ▼ 1.6 ft	5:32 pm ▲ 2.6 ft
Mo	1:36 am ▼ -0.2 ft	6:13 pm ▲ 2.5 ft		
Tu	3:07 am ▼ -0.1 ft	7:34 pm ▲ 2.3 ft		
We	4:43 am ▼ -0.1 ft	1:05 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	5:25 pm ▼ 1.9 ft	9:53 pm ▲ 2.3 ft

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



Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



The following information comes from the National Safe Boating Council.

With spring and warmer weather on the horizon, the Safe Boating Campaign is reminding boaters to always boat responsibly and to follow safety guidelines while on the water. Routinely checking your equipment and preparing for the upcoming boating season is good sense, and the sign of a real boater.

Following are reminders as boaters prepare for spring:

- **Ensure your life jacket fits properly.** Check the manufacturer's ratings for your size and weight. Make sure the life jacket is properly zipped and/or buckled. You can check for fit by raising your arms above your head while wearing the life jacket and asking a friend to grasp the shoulder lappels and gently pulling up. There should be no excess room above the openings and the life jacket should not ride up

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

over your chin or face. A snug fit in these areas shows the life jacket fits properly.

- **Inspect your life jacket.** Inspection should include orally inflating your life jacket and ensuring it holds air for 16-24 hours, inspecting the cylinder (there should be no discharge or corrosion), checking that the cylinder is screwed in tight, and doing a flotation check on inherently buoyant life jackets. Always refer to the owner's manual.
- **Restock your first aid kit if necessary,** replacing anything that has expired.
- **Ensure all bat-**

- tery-powered devices have fresh batteries.**
- **Order any gear that needs to be replaced.** Never use expired or faulty gear.
- **Make sure you have two communication devices that will work when wet,** such as a VHF radio and emergency locator beacon.
- **Double-check your trailer.** Tire pressure, lights, tie downs, and other equipment should be tested and potentially replaced.
- **Take a safe boating course** to brush up or learn new skills.
- **Get a vessel safety check to ensure you're ready to go!**

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.

FWC Law Enforcement Report

From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled Feb. 23-29 in the Northwest Region. (No cases were reported in Wakulla County)

HOLMES, WASHINGTON, JACKSON COUNTIES

- During a focused night hunting detail in northern Holmes, Washington, and Jackson counties, officers made five separate night hunting cases where individuals shined numerous fields and were in possession of firearms. Appropriate citations were issued. Ap-

proximately 30 officers, including FWC aircraft, were used.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

- Officer Specialist W. Brookes was on patrol in the Aucilla Wildlife Management Area. Officer Brookes found a vehicle parked in a secluded area. A pair of dirt covered gloves was on the hood of the vehicle, leading the officer to believe the subject was digging for artifacts on the WMA. Officer Brookes contacted K-9 Officer J. Miller for assistance with locating the subject. K-9 Glory tracked a short distance and officers found a

freshly dug artifact looting site. They also found a shovel and camo bag hidden next to the freshly dug hole. K-9 Glory began to track a short distance and Officer Brookes observed an individual hiding in a hole. The subject was in possession of a probe and other tools used for excavating artifacts. The subject was arrested and transported to the Jefferson County Jail.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

- Officer Hahr responded to a request for assistance from the Escambia County Sheriff's Office in searching for an adult subject

who had not returned from a kayaking trip down a small creek. The creek traveled a remote area of a hunting club property that is not a navigable waterway. The subject's mother called for help when her son's phone died after leaving a message that he was cold, wet, and stranded on the creek bank. A sheriff's office investigator located the subject's position using a drone and provided Officer Hahr with the coordinates of his location. Officer Hahr located the man and assisted him in walking to the closest logging road where he was reunited with his family.

Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

When was the last time you did maintenance on your spearfishing equipment?

Yesterday a friend of mine asked me, when are we going spearfishing again? I had to think about it as we were discussing it, it's been a couple years since the last time he and I went spearfishing. It's been a while for me because I get so busy teaching scuba classes that I don't even have time to go diving for fun anymore.

That brings me to this article today and the question I have for you is when was the last time you did maintenance on your essential spearfishing equipment? All of my spearfishing stuff is kept inside my house in my closet so I think that it should be OK. Well, that might not be the truth. So I had to get my spearguns out of my closet to check them out.

I keep my spearguns in my closet instead of tin the garage because the environment is more controlled, plus I have what are called socks over the end that completely covers the bands to keep dust and any other stuff off of them that might decay the bands.

I still went through them and pulled on the bands to make sure there were no small cracks that could cause a malfunction while I was using them. Fortunately they are still new looking and in good shape.

I checked the spears and trigger to make sure they functioned properly and gave a good overall look to make sure the wood stock was not cracked or had a dull finish on it. Everything looked in great shape so I'm ready for this summer, providing I can find the time to go.

The other pieces of my spearfishing equipment like my stringer loop I looked it over real good to make sure it didn't have any rust or strange little hair line cracks on it. I also checked my reel to make sure the string on it had no frays or knots in it. If you use a reel to suspend your stringer from, I would recommend you unspool it completely to do the check then spool it back up and secure it.

The last piece of equipment I check is my shark shield. I never go spearfishing without it. I fully charge it up about every three months even if I'm not using it. I also have a little shark shield tester that I will check it with to make sure it is working properly. So far I have had the SS for about 6 years and it still works like it is supposed to.

Well for now if I get to go spearfishing I should be ready to slay the big one that always gets away. Until next week, keep making bubbles.

Russell Miller NAUI #59999.

The Wakulla Sun

Subscribe & Save.

Call (850) 962-8019 to get started.

What if we had witnessed Jesus' crucifixion?

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

The words on the page are vivid. So excruciatingly vivid that you wish the plot would read

differently. Emotions catch in your throat, and suddenly, you're there – part of the story.

"Stop!" you scream as soldiers viciously beat Jesus. But the slapping, mocking and whipping continues. You cover your ears, desperate to shut out the pounding of the hammer and the sound of Jesus' screams as the nails tear through His flesh. When you look up, you see Him hanging on a wooden cross – beaten and bloody. Unrecogniz-

ably bloody.

Six agonizing hours pass before He bows His head and dies.

"No!" You drop to your knees in devastating grief. "Why?!"

The scene fades, but your heart continues to ache. As you read on, more tears fall. Tears of amazement. Tears of indebtedness. After years of not understanding the gospel message, you finally get it. "You suffered all of that ..." you whisper as the reality sinks in "... for me?"

What would inspire such an act of amazing, incomprehensible love? Hebrews 12:2 (ESV) answers this question: "Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross."

I'm confident Jesus looked forward to defeating Satan by His death, resurrection, and return to heaven. Yet as magnificent as those motivations were, I believe we (each one of us) were a big part of the joy that was set before Him. Our heavenly Fa-

ther knew that if Jesus didn't die and rise from the grave, we would suffer the unbearable consequences of our sins – from the moment we were born all the way through eternity. Had Jesus not borne the punishment for our sins, life and death would be unimaginably, horrifically different.

Picture yourself enslaved to sin. Devoid of unconditional love. Hopeless with no assurance of an eternity with our Savior.

Thankfully, we don't have to envision these scenarios.

Our Savior, "for the joy that was set before him," chose to endure the cross – even before we knew we needed Him to.

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.

Reclaiming Canaan

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

During a conversation with a friend, she shared a childhood memory of falling off an old gas tank at the age of three and breaking her leg. The tank was used to heat the home. We laughed when I asked if she was pretending it was a horse. It's incredible how a child's imagination can turn anything into an adventure. We had one of those

tanks behind our house, and I rode that old horse many miles. Childhood creativity could work magic, like making a telephone from tin cans tied on each end of a string. Raking pine straw into a large square and sectioned by smaller squares became a playhouse with front and back door entries. The two-can telephone was always in my kitchen, just like Mom's.

"On some days, my niece (who was a year younger than me) would come over to play. We would both make these pretend houses, which we would set up next to each other. We always built our little dwellings next to the gas tank horse in case we decided to take a ride into town.

Then, we would stretch a make-believe telephone line between the two pine straw homes.

Somehow, the innocence of those years faded along with the imagination. The motivational writer William Author Ward wrote, "If you can imagine it, you can create it. If you can dream it, you can become it."

A child's imagination is a training ground for vision, and vision is a divine gift given by God. Scripture teaches us that people who don't have vision perish, but our happiness lies in following God's path (Proverbs 29:18).

One day, some parents gathered their children and brought them before Jesus so that He could bless them.

When the disciples saw this, they scolded the parents, telling them to leave Jesus alone. However, Jesus called for the children to come to Him, saying the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like them (Luke 18:15-17). Why? Because children have an innocence and a vision for things that can be.

Fear can hinder our vision and faith. In the biblical story of the children of Israel, Moses sent 12 spies to explore the land of Canaan. Ten returned with a negative report, saying the people were like giants. They were afraid and believed that they would be killed if they entered the land. Their fear controlled their faith, and as a re-

sult, they could not see God's promise. In contrast, Joshua and Caleb had faith in God and believed that He would give them the land. They did not let fear steal their vision, and as a result, they were able to lead the new generation of Israelites into the promised land. The first generation died outside the land because they allowed fear to control their faith (Numbers 13 and 14).

What is obstructing your vision today? Is it fear? Remember, if you contemplate fear, your faith will be contaminated. Hold on to God's promises for your life and allow Him to restore the vision He placed in you. Don't let anyone discourage you from

seeking the Lord or introducing your loved ones to Him. Jesus welcomed the children into His presence despite the protest of the disciples. Today, let us walk in the promises of God's love as He restores the vision of His eternity within us. Let us reclaim our Canaan.

Habakkuk 2:3

For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

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

OUT TO PASTOR

Don't knock on the door if you like breathing

By **JAMES SNYDER**

I'm unsure if this is a new phenomenon or I'm just starting to catch up on the culture. I know I have a lot to catch up on, and I'm slowly doing it.

Lately, there's been a lot of activity at our front door.

That's not to diminish the activity at the back porch door. That activity has to do with a variety of critters in the neighborhood. The food dish is out there, and the critters come throughout the day at their own discretion. It is an open invitation.

Two cats live on the porch, about three cats visit us to have something to eat, two possums show up regularly, and, last but not least, three raccoons show up nightly.

These critters come for the food I put out daily. I welcome them to the porch and to the food, unlike The Gracious Mistress of the

Parsonage, who makes sure they never get inside the house.

But the front door is a different situation altogether. I've noticed lately that the activity and visitors to our front door has increased and that just frustrates me to no end.

When I answer the door, there will be somebody who has something for me that I just can't turn away. If only he knew.

When anybody tells me they can do something for free and that it will lower some bills in the house, I know what they are saying is not true at all. If it was free, how in the world do they get paid?

Several of them talked about the idea of climate control. If we switch over to solar panel power, we will solve the climate control problems.

Once, when they were telling me how much money I could save, I interrupted them and said, "If you're really interested in helping me save money, how about paying my electric bill for the year. That I would be interested in."

He looked at me as though I was an idiot. I think he was seeing his reflection in my eyes.

Another group of

people that come to our front door has to do with our security system. They want to come in and examine our security system, and then they have a proposition for a brand-new security system that won't cost me anything.

I may be a country boy, but I have two brain cells that are still working. I know why they want to come in and examine my security system. The purpose is to be able to understand what my security is, and then they can override that security system and rob me.

They want to go through my house to see all of the treasures I have that they can steal for their profit. I would pay them a finder's fee if they found any money in our house. I've been looking for years and have come up empty.

If I let them in, and that'll never happen, I will only let them see my library, where I have approximately 8,500 books. If they plan to steal some of my books, they are dumber than the dead possum up the street. I have nothing worth anything that a smart-minded person would want to steal.

I was sitting in my office doing work when I heard somebody at the front door. Before I

could get up and go to the door, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage beat me and opened the door.

"Yes," she asked, "can I help you?"

I didn't hear everything, but I listened to the guy at the door go into his spiel about the solar panel system he wanted to give her. "I guarantee," he said to her with the biggest smile I've seen in a long time, "that it will cut your electric bill in half or even more."

At times like this, I wish we had a security camera to record this activity at the front door.

The guy hardly finished his spiel before The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage jumped in.

"Do you have a permit for this?" she said with a great deal of authority in her voice. "You're not allowed to come in our neighborhood and knock on our doors without a permit. Let me see your permit."

He stammered and said, "No, ma'am. I don't need a permit to do this."

Looking at him as he had not been looked at for a long time, she said, "If I say you need a permit to do this, you better believe you need

a permit to do this. Now show me your permit or I'm gonna call the cops."

Can life get any better than this? If only I had the sense to turn a tape recorder on, I could at least get the audio of this interaction.

She talked to him very briefly, and as I looked at his face, I could see the blood draining out of his face; he didn't say a word but turned and walked away as fast as he possibly could.

As he walked away, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "And don't you dare come back here ever again if you love breathing."

I couldn't help but think of Psalm 118, "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

Man will fail me, but God will never fail me. I'm going to put my trust in God, not man.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamessnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.

God Is Real
SPRINGS
OF HOPE
CHURCH
SpringsofHope.us

JESUS IS KING
SUN 10:15 a.m.
WED 7:00 p.m.

Where Love Abounds & Church Becomes Family

850-556-0320
850-926-4065
2028 Bloxham Cutoff Rd.

Sopchoppy United Methodist Church

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Bible Study Wed. 6 p.m.

Pastor Cheryl Mixon-Cruce 850-962-2511

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

Fr. Paul Raj, HGN • Dcn. Dave Harris
Director of Music & Choir - Jeff Cook
3609 Coastal Hwy. Crawfordville FL 32327
85 89

Saturday Mass 5:00 pm • Sunday Mass 11:00 am
Tuesday and Thursday: Mass at 8:30 am.
Wednesday: Mass at 7:00 pm
1st Saturday: Adoration and Confessions at 8:30 am
1st Saturday: Mass at 9:30 am
Every Saturday: Confessions at 4:30 pm
Live Streaming - Sundays
Facebook - Seas Parish

850-509-7630
Cemetery lots and
Cremaim spaces available. 850-745-8359
or the Church Office at:

FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF CRAWFORDVILLE

SERVICES:
Sunday School 10:30 am
Morning Worship 11:30 am
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:30 pm

5 Crescent Way, Crawfordville, FL
(850) 926-4889
<https://www.fpccupci.org>

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

SUNDAY SERVICE...10:17a.m.
LENTEN MID WEEK SERVICES...
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

850-926-7808 • 3254 Coastal Hwy., Crawfordville
In Medart Across from Wakulla High School

Obituaries



W. 'Janie' V. Waldrop

Winifred "Janie" Virginia Waldrop, of Crawfordville, passed away on March 23, 2024, after an extended illness.

She was born in Wakulla County to the late Revadee and Mildred Spears on June 21,

1929. She was a longtime employee and retired with 30 years in 2003, from the State of Florida in the Comptroller Office. She was a member of Ivan Assembly of God Church.

She is survived by her sons Donald Wayne Bennett and Larry Revadee Bennett (Stephanie); her beloved sisters Marlene Jefferies and Elayne Huebner (Sheldon); five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her loving sons Dennis O. Bennett and Gary Bennett; and her beloved brother L.C. Spears.

The family will receive friends and family on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, from 10 to 11 a.m. at Ivan Assembly of God in Crawfordville, and a Celebration of her Life will begin at 11 a.m. Burial will follow at Ivan Assembly of God Cemetery.

The family would like to thank Covenant Hospice for the great and loving care they gave their mother.

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

DEATH NOTICES

• **Freddie Lee Blankenship**, 74, of Crawfordville, died March 24, 2024. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com

926-5919 Familyfhc.com

• **Esther N. Pelt**, 92, of Crawfordville, died March 20, 2024. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-

• **Ricky Joe Shepherd**, 63, of Crawfordville, died March 21, 2024. Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

Camden Smit

From Front Page

gained a deep appreciation for the challenges and opportunities within our schools. My experience led me to pursue a teaching certificate and a Master's in Educational Leadership. I have been a Kindergarten Teacher, a 5th Grade Teacher, and an Associate Dean of Students (administrative role).

Driven by a commitment to continuous improvement, I am currently pursuing a Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership and Technology. Alongside my studies, I work with the External Affairs Department at Florida Virtual School, where I collaborate with legislators and advocate for policies that benefit students and educators across the U.S.

Recently our legislative session was adjourned where an agreement was reached on a \$117.46 billion dollar spending plan for education. Within this agreement, \$28.4 billion was allocated for PreK-12 schools, which is a \$1.8 billion increase from last year's budget. Pertaining specifically to teacher salaries, \$200 million of the funds were earmarked for that. If elected as a school board member, I will strive to ensure that Wakulla County School District's allocation is properly expended to our teachers.

Our Florida Legislature has made many changes to Florida's pub-

lic school system in the past few years as well as this past session. The Florida Legislature has passed the largest public K-12 deregulation bill that puts many education laws that were at the state level back into the hands of the school districts. Wakulla will have the opportunity to embrace these changes for the betterment of our

students and families.

If elected, I will prioritize transparency, fiscal responsibility, and educational excellence. I will advocate for fair compensation and benefits for all district employees and ensure that our budgetary decisions reflect the needs of our students, faculty, and staff.

Most importantly, I will be a voice for our community – listening to parents, students, and educators – and working

tirelessly to address their concerns and implement effective solutions.

With your support, we can ensure that Wakulla County Schools provide the highest quality education for every child. Together, let's build a brighter future for our community. Vote Camden Smit for Wakulla County School Board, District 4, on August 20, 2024.

1st Annual Ministers Prayer Meeting

Attention ALL Ministers

Calling all apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers; bishops, deacons, elders, and fathers, etc. to come and join us in

Prayer

Saturday, March 30th, 2024
From 10:00 til 11:30 AM

LOCATION:

Wakulla County Community Center
In the Crawfordville Room

God invites you to come!

Sponsored by the Minister's Prayer Team

For more information
call: 850-528-2356

WAKULLA LOVES JESUS!

AND JESUS LOVES WAVE 94!



MAKE YOUR DAY
BETTER WITH
WAVE 94.1 FM
850-926-8000



tobe7encouraged faith column Surrender leads to Freedom...

Greetings Wakulla citizens! Thank you for your time. By the time you read this Easter will be upon us or just have happened. Either way, His Birth, Crucifixion, Death, and Resurrection are so very much WORTHY to be celebrated and talked about! Because of what God did through His Son, if we "surrender" to Him... "Freedom" comes!

In this world, we serve only 1 of 2 kingdoms, Heaven or hell, God or satan. Whether we realize it or not we do surrender willingly to one of the kingdoms. Freedom or bondage...we choose. Pretty simple right?? Nooo! Our flesh hates God and satan knows this and will use it to encourage us to be disobedient to God and His way!

I won't give the long story just the short one. I have been saved for many many years! Or so I thought! My Salvation hadn't been finalized yet! I kept making the same mistakes of living for Him then the world, from church to church! Back and forth! Then! Finally, I surrendered! God had been chasing my Husband and he kept running from God! God got'em!! He ran to the Altar, literally ran to the Altar, and invited Jesus in! We then sealed the deal 2 weeks later in Water Baptism! This was our funeral for our "deadman"! We showed the world in and through our actions Who we now serve and live for...Jesus! Total "SURRENDER"! We have not looked back! WOO-HHHOOOO!!!! FREEDOM IS OURS!

The kingdom of darkness still tries to show its authority and power that it LOST over us, BUT!, we have overcome satan BECAUSE of the BLOOD of The LAMB and the word of our testimony **Revelation 12 11!!** This is why we must attend Spirit filled church gatherings and be around like-minded people! To stay encouraged so that we endure to the end. **Hebrews 3:13** But encourage one another every day, as long as it is still called today, so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,

who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

James 1:22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not just hearers who deceive themselves. **23** For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; **24** for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.

Be encouraged! Learn His Word, it may seem boring at first, pick a Scripture and focus on that for a while and He will ignite something in you that will illuminate Himself inside you for YOU!! Then you will want more knowledge of His Word! Then BAM!!! FREEDOM!!!!

Stay encouraged in Him,

Deb Quimby Quackenbush

You are welcome to reach out to us, our email is tobe7encouraged@gmail.com.

If you do not know Jesus and want to, say this out loud... **Romans 10: 13** for **Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.** "Jesus, I am a sinner I know, I repent and turn away from all that I did as a sinner, I renounce their hold on me. I believe in faith God sent You to become my sin, on the Cross, to cleanse me from them and now make me new. I believe You died and rose on the 3rd day so that I may live and become Your Righteousness. I now give you my life and live for You! By God's Grace I am now Born Again. WOO-HHHOOOO!! Welcome to the family Your life just got EXCITING!!! The next step is to be water baptized (**1 Peter 3:21, 1 Corinthians 6 11**) so that our old self will be buried. It is important now to get involved in a Spirit filled full Gospel church and dive in and learn all about who you now are becoming. Congratulations my friend!

Visit my youtube channel by scanning the QR code below.



Please Like and Subscribe!

Habitat for Humanity®
Re-Store
850-926-4544
940 Shadeville Rd.



Please Recycle

Sheriff's Report

This report is for activities March 15-21:

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

- Tammy Gray-Walker reported her vehicle stolen. A suspect was identified in this case. The vehicle was entered into NCIC/FCIC as stolen. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy William Montgomery investigated.

- Craig Tyrone Lowery was observed sitting at a stop sign with his vehicle idling. Upon contact by deputies, Lowery drove off and came to a stop in the middle of MLK. Further investigation revealed Lowery was operating a motor vehicle while under the influence. Lowery was placed under

arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail. Deputy Norman De Guzman investigated.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

- The Asset Protection Officer with Walmart reported an unknown white male passing the last point of sale with a lawn mower and chainsaw. The items taken were valued at \$515. After collecting the evidence from Walmart, Deputies were able to identify a possible suspect in the case. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Matt Hinson investigated.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

- Kimberly Swor reported a window had been busted on a rental home she owns. Swor believes it to be former tenants whom she recently evicted caused the damage. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Sgt Edward Webb investigated.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

- Deputy Austin Rivers responded to Evans Avenue and made contact with Cody Cook who stated upon arrival home, he discovered his residence was broken into and several items missing. Crime scene investigators and detectives responded to assist with the investigation. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.
- Ryan Zimba called and reported a subject

was trading a shotgun in, when the weapon was run through NCIC/FCIC, it was discovered stolen out of Escambia County from 1988. The weapon was collected and placed into property and evidence. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

- Deputy Heather Will conducted traffic stop for expired tag. The driver, Matthew Barineau was determined to not possess a valid driver's license and in possession of several types of illegal narcotics. Matthew was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended or revoked (DWLSR) as well as possession of synthetic cannabis, possession of drug paraphernalia, and transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

WEDNESDAY,

MARCH 20

- Melissa Patrick, manager of Advanced Auto, reported two juveniles coming into the store over a two-day period of time stealing items from the store. Patrick was able to provide names of the suspects. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy William Montgomery investigated.

- A brush fire got out of control burning a small shed and a broken-down vehicle. The owner valued the lost items at approximately \$500. The vehicle was used for a storage shed and a small make-shift shed was attached. Neither item had insurance coverage for the loss. Deputy Arturo Cordoba responded.
- Andrew Lee Wasser reported receiving a call

from a male identifying himself as a lieutenant from the Leon County Clerk's Office. The suspect advised Wasser he had a bench warrant for his arrest for failure to show up for jury duty. Wasser was advised he needed to make a payment of \$1,000 in order to clear the warrant. The suspect sent Wasser a photocopy of a fraudulent warrant document from the FBI and a Walmart barcode to submit payment to. Wasser was advised by the suspect not to contact Wakulla sheriff's office because he would be arrested. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Matt Hinson investigated.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES:

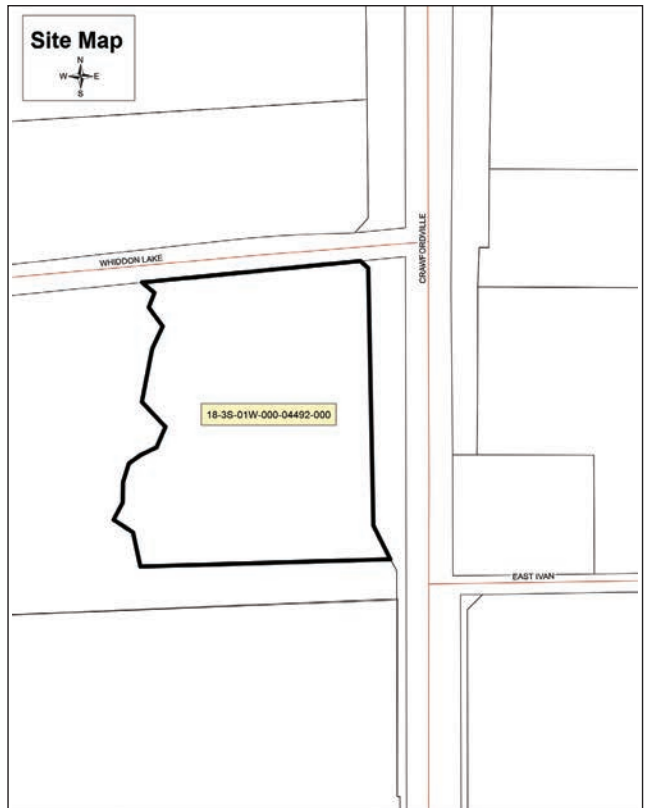
For our readers' convenience, The Wakulla Sun provides this Public Notice Section for all Public Notices not published in the Legal Notice section of the newspaper.



Additional public notices appear on pages 3, 11 & 12.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE

The Wakulla County Planning Commission proposes to consider the following application. A Public Hearing is scheduled regarding the following before the **Planning Commission on Monday, April 8, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M., unless otherwise noted below or as time permits.** All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



1. Application for Conditional Use: CU23-06
 Applicant: Jerry Moore Florida Operations, LLC
 Agent: Stonefield Engineering & Design/Michael Pannell
 Proposal: Wawa - convenience store, with fuel sales
 Tax ID Number: 18-3S-01W-000-04492-000
 Existing FLU Map: Rural 2 (FLUE Policy 1.2.5)
 Current Zoning: C-2 (Section 5-38, LDC)
 FEMA Flood Info: "A" zone on Panel 0250E
 Parcel size: 4.820+/- acres
 Location: intersection of Crawfordville Hwy and Whiddon Lake Road

Hearings Required:
Planning Commission: Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

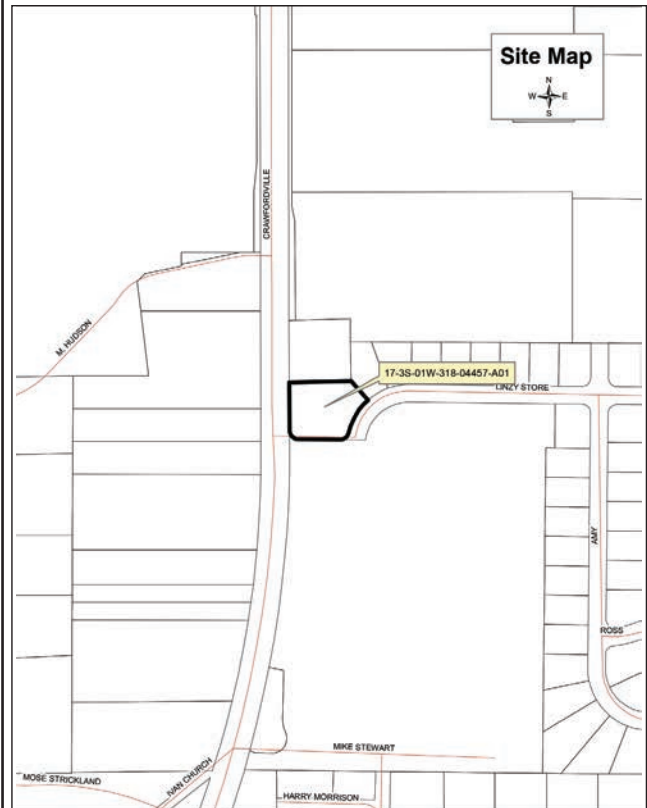
If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at ADARquest@mywakulla.com.

March 28, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE

The Wakulla County Planning Commission proposes to consider the following application. A Public Hearing is scheduled regarding the following before the **Planning Commission on Monday, April 8, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M., unless otherwise noted below or as time permits.** All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



1. Application for Conditional Use: CU24-01
 Applicant: Piedmont Crawfordville Partners, LP
 Agent: Urban Catalyst Consultants, Inc./William Colbert
 Proposal: Firestone Crawfordville - retail tire store and automotive service station
 Tax ID Number: 17-3S-01W-318-04457-A01
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Fringe (FLUE Policy 1.2.7)
 Current Zoning: PUD (Section 5-50, LDC)
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" zone on Panel 0250E
 Parcel size: 1.01+/- acres
 Location: northeast corner of Linzy Store Road and Crawfordville Highway intersection

Hearings Required: Planning Commission: Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

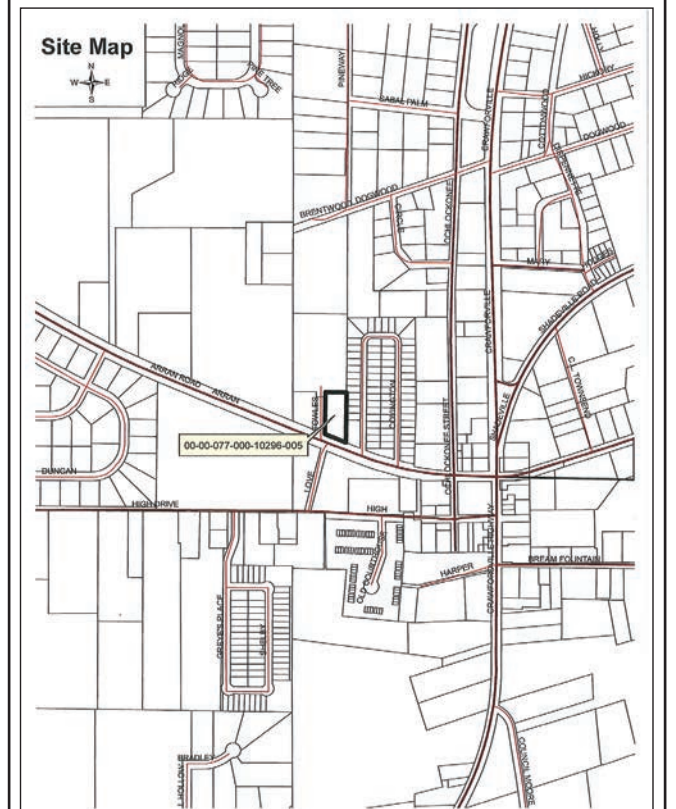
If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at ADARquest@mywakulla.com.

March 28, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR FINAL PLAT

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners will hold public hearings to consider the proposed application for final plat approval described below. Public Hearings are scheduled before the **Planning Commission on Monday, April 8, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M.,** and before the **Board of County Commissioners on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 5:00 P.M. unless otherwise noted below or as time permits.** All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



1. Application for Final Plat Approval: FP23-08
 Applicant: Dorado Design & Construction, Inc.

Agent: Edwin Brown & Associates, Inc./Wade Brown
 Proposal: create 7-lot residential subdivision - Canopy Ridge
 Tax ID Number: 00-00-077-000-10296-005
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Core (FLUE Policy 1.2.7)
 Current Zoning: HDR (Section 5-69, LDC)
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" zone on Panel 0225E
 Parcel size: 0.99+/- acres
 Location: northeast corner of the intersection of Arran Road and Towles Road

Hearings Required:
Planning Commission: Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
BOCC: Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM M-F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at ADARquest@mywakulla.com.

March 28, 2024



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ZONING

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners proposes to consider the following application and/or adopt the following by ordinance and has scheduled Public Hearings before the **Wakulla County Planning Commission on Monday, April 8, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M.** and before the **Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners on Monday, April 22, 2024, beginning at 5:00 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WAKULLA COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ORDINANCE NO. 85-4, AS AMENDED; CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION AND OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM C-2 TO R-1 FOR PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A" TO THE ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

1. Application for Change of Zoning: R24-04
 Applicant: Donald K. and Heather M. Clark
 Proposal: rezone from general commercial to single-family residential
 Tax ID Number: 24-5S-02W-057-03077-000
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Core (FLUE Policy 1.2.9)
 Current Zoning: C-2 (Section 5-38, LDC)
 Proposed Zoning: R-1 (Section 5-30, LDC)
 FEMA Flood Info: "AE" zone on Panel 0370E
 Parcel size: 0.213+/- acres
 Location: 1509 Coastal Highway, across from Posey's Seafood Restaurant

Hearings Required:
Planning Commission: Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
BOCC: Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

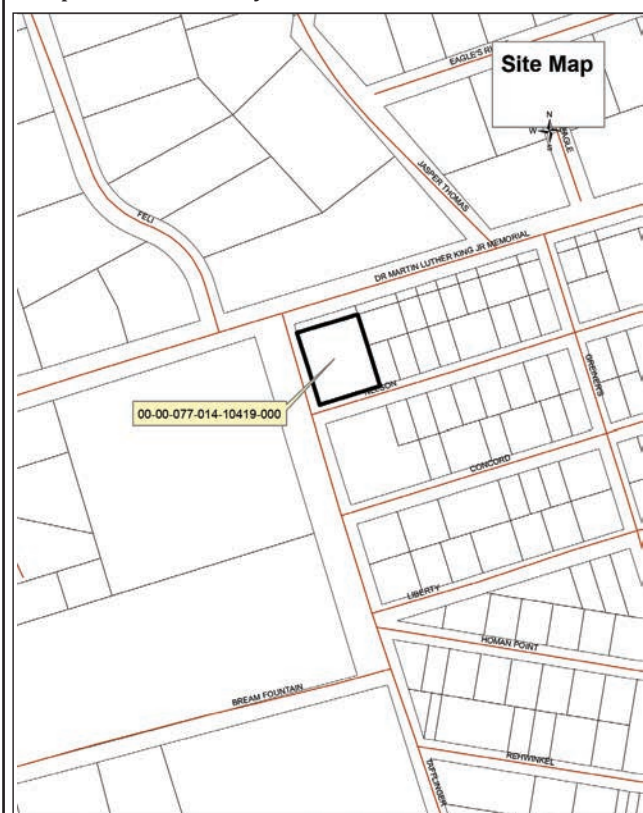
If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at ADARequest@mywakulla.com.

March 28, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ZONING

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners proposes to consider the following application and/or adopt the following by ordinance and has scheduled Public Hearings before the **Wakulla County Planning Commission on Monday, April 8, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M.** and before the **Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners on Monday, April 22, 2024, beginning at 5:00 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WAKULLA COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ORDINANCE NO. 85-4, AS AMENDED; CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION AND OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM RMH-1 TO LIC FOR PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A" TO THE ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

1. Application for Change of Zoning: R24-02
 Applicant: Cypress Electrical Systems, Inc.
 Agent: Edwin Brown & Associates, Inc./Wade Brown
 Proposal: rezone from mobile home residential to high intensity commercial
 Tax ID Number: 00-00-077-014-10419-000
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Fringe (FLUE Policy 1.2.7)
 Current Zoning: RMH-1 (Section 5-43, LDC)
 Proposed Zoning: LIC (Section 5-67, LDC)
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" zone on Panel 0250E
 Parcel size: 0.61+/- acres
 Location: southeast corner of Dr. MLK Jr Memorial Road and Rehwinkel Road intersection

Hearings Required:
Planning Commission: Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
BOCC: Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

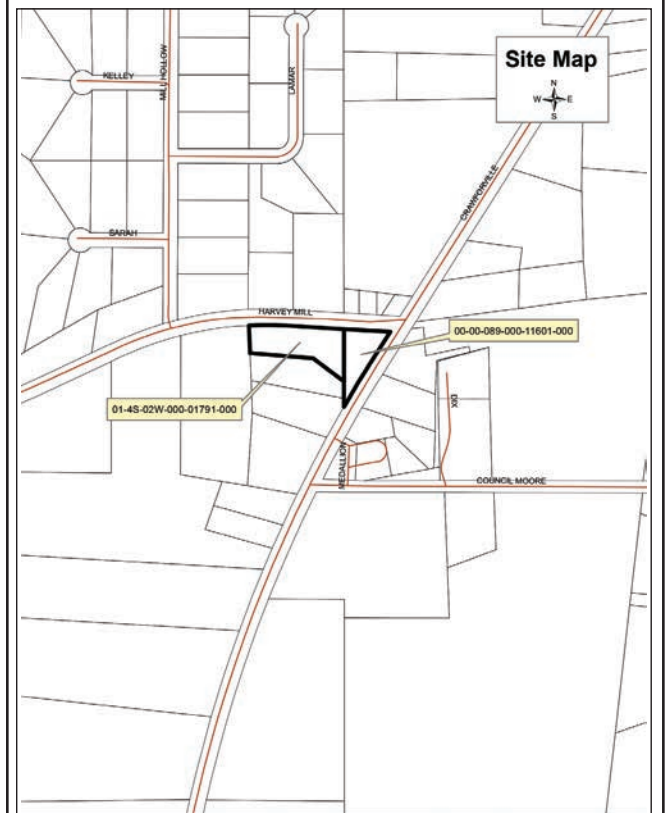
If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at ADARequest@mywakulla.com.

March 28, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ZONING

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners proposes to consider the following application and/or adopt the following by ordinance and has scheduled Public Hearings before the **Wakulla County Planning Commission on Monday, April 8, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M.** and before the **Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners on Monday, April 22, 2024, beginning at 5:00 PM**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WAKULLA COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ORDINANCE NO. 85-4, AS AMENDED; CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION AND OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM RR-1 TO LIC FOR PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A" TO THE ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

1. Application for Change of Zoning: R24-01
 Applicant: Summit Star, LLC
 Agent: Sedita Cayson
 Proposal: rezone from rural residential to low intensity commercial
 Tax ID Numbers: 01-4S-02W-000-01791-000 & 00-00-089-000-11601-000
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Fringe (FLUE Policy 1.2.7)
 Current Zoning: RR-1 (Section 5-27, LDC)
 Proposed Zoning: LIC (Section 5-67, LDC)
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" zone on Panel 0225E
 Parcel size: 2.20+/- acres
 Location: 3328 Crawfordville Highway, southwest corner of Harvey Mill Road and Crawfordville Highway intersection

Hearings Required:
Planning Commission: Monday, April 8, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
BOCC: Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at ADARequest@mywakulla.com.

March 28, 2024



Leave Nothing But Your Footprints



You can now subscribe to The Sun online! To receive our Weekly Newspaper please visit www.thewakullasun.com and click on the subscribe today button or scan the QR code Here.



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.



Additional public notices appear on pages 3, 10 & 11.

City of Sopchoppy, Florida Notice of Adoption of Ordinances

The City Commission of the City of Sopchoppy gives notice of its intent to adopt the following Ordinances:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES TO REVISE THE FEES AND CHARGES FOR MONTHLY WATER SERVICE AND QUANTITY CHARGES FOR ALL USERS OF THE CITY'S POTABLE WATER SYSTEM; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

And

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF SOPCHOPPY SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES TO INCLUDE A CAPACITY FEE CHARGEABLE TO ALL NEW USERS OF THE CITY'S POTABLE WATER SYSTEM; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A public hearing on the proposed Ordinances will be held on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., or as soon as can be heard in the City Hall, 105 Municipal Avenue, Sopchoppy, FL. A copy of the Ordinances may be obtained and persons wishing to comment may do so in person at the public hearing or by writing to the City of Sopchoppy, P.O. Box 1219, Sopchoppy, Florida 32358.

If an individual decides to appeal any decision made by the commission with respect to this meeting, a verbatim transcript may be required. If so, the individual should make provision for a transcript to be made at the meeting, (RE: Florida Statute 286.0105). Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodation to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the city at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting Ashley Schilling at the above address or by phone at 850-962-4611.

Glenn Rudd, Mayor

Attest: Ashley Schilling, Municipal Clerk

March 28, 2024

WAKULLA COUNTY/CITY OF ST. MARKS COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM PROGRESS REPORT

March 6, 2024

On October 29, 1999, the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners adopted the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) as the County's Community Rating System (CRS) Floodplain Management Plan. Once every five years, the LMS must be evaluated to assess what should be revised in the plan to ensure that it is up to date and compliant with federal and state requirements. This plan has been updated as required over the years by the LMS Steering Committee (a volunteer workgroup). The current LMS was adopted by the City of St. Marks Council on March 11, 2021, and approved by the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners on April 5, 2021. The revised LMS was reviewed and approved by state and federal agencies on May 4, 2021, which places its expiration in 2026.

The LMS contains a list of projects that can be utilized to assist Wakulla County (County) and the City of St. Marks (City) in reducing their risk and vulnerability to known hazards. This list is routinely updated by the LMS Working Group, and the current version of this list contains 75 projects. A Crawfordville area stormwater study and the acquisition of land in Crawfordville for stormwater use are ranked as the first two priority projects. Funding is being sought to complete these projects, and both are included in the County's Adopted Infrastructure Plan.

The third and fourth-ranked projects seek to improve stormwater drainage in Panacea through a drainage study and associated drainage improvements. Currently, the County is conducting an elevation survey of local roads on the east side of Panacea from Bottoms Road to Levy Bay Road to facilitate these projects. Both components of this project have been included in the Adopted Infrastructure Plan.

The replacement and elevation of the Sopchoppy River Bridge on Highway 375, Smith Creek Road, is the next priority item. Funding is being sought to replace and elevate this critical infrastructure. The sixth-ranked project is for stormwater mitigation in the Wakulla Gardens subdivision. To date, a stormwater study for the Wakulla Gardens subdivision has been completed, and construction plans for six flood basins in the subdivision are also complete. Stormwater improvements are currently being made in this subdivision in conjunction with central sewer expansions and road improvements.

The next several projects pertain to sewer infrastructure. Project seven seeks to upgrade and expand the entire countywide sewer system and better protect it from flood-induced impacts.

Phase III of the Magnolia Gardens septic-to-sewer project is completed. Wakulla Gardens Phase III septic-to-sewer is currently underway. Several additional phases of septic-to-sewer projects are slated to be designed, engineered, and constructed over the next five years. Projects eight through 22 on the LMS Projects List involve the raising and waterproofing of electrical panels located in the Special Flood Hazard Areas to prevent stormwater intrusion. These improvements are proposed at the following sewer lift stations: Number 1 – 12, 28, 30, and 34. Thus far, funding has been secured from the Florida Commerce, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) Resilient Florida Program, and FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program for improvements to each of these lift stations.

The study, acquisition of land, and implementation of stormwater improvements in Magnolia Gardens and Greiner's Addition subdivisions is the 23rd ranked item. Stormwater improvements in conjunction with central sewer expansion have been completed in a portion of Magnolia Gardens. Plans for both stormwater improvements and central sewer expansion are completed in Greiner's Addition subdivision. The 24th and 25th ranked endeavors pertain to the City of St. Marks and are awaiting funding. These projects include sewer expansions and the removal of septic tanks from the surge area within the City of St. Marks and a stormwater mitigation project that focuses on the conveyance of flood water through the City. While the City has completed some drainage improvements along Fire Escape Road, funding is required to support further drainage improvement efforts within the City limits. In the interim, the County is performing the required ditch maintenance for conveyance.

The next several projects cover a variety of topics. Project number 26 is the Florida Division of Forestry's fire prevention public awareness campaign. This is an ongoing project that has included activities, such as seminars, on fire prevention. An upgrade of the road construction standards in flood-prone areas is the next ranked project, and County staff will pursue this regulation change as time permits. Item number 28 pertains to a natural hazard ongoing public outreach campaign. Wakulla County has placed updated flood zone maps and flood informational material on its website as part of this project. In addition, educational information related to hurricane preparedness, flood insurance, and permitting within the flood zone is included in the local newspaper each year.

Projects ranked 29 and 30 on the LMS list affect the Sopchoppy area. Project 29 proposes the replacement and elevation of the Sopchoppy River Bridge on County Road 22, Rose Street. Funding for this item is required to move this project forward. Stormwater mitigation in Sopchoppy to include a study, land acquisition, and construction of detention ponds is ranked as project 30. The City of Sopchoppy continues to seek funding from the Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Program (CDBG-MIT) to complete Phase Three of its planned stormwater improvements.

The next few items on the list cover various topics. The first of these implements is the Florida Forestry Service's fuel reduction plan to better protect residents from wildfires. Progress towards this goal has been made through prescribed burning during the last year. The next item on the list is the replacement of overhead power lines with underground cables in the City of St. Marks. This relocation project includes work that so far has been completed on Waterfront Street, Riverside Drive, and a portion of Port Leon Drive, extending north to City Hall. Funding is required for the next phase which will extend north to the town center. Item numbers 33 and 34 are for beach renourishment along the Mashes Sands shoreline. This will address several coastal erosion problems in the area and has been included in the Adopted Infrastructure Plan. Funding is needed to update the feasibility study for this project. The retrofitting of homes was ranked as project number 35, and this can improve a structure's resistance to the effects of natural hazards. Through programs such as the State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) funding, qualifying residential property owners can better prepare their homes for natural events. Additional funding is anticipated for the SHIP program, and citizens are encouraged to inquire about their eligibility.

Flooding and evacuation-related activities make up the next few projects. The four-laning of Crawfordville Highway, which is a critical evacuation route, was included as the next priority. County staff has worked with the Capital Regional Transportation Planning Agency and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on this project and four-laning is currently underway in the northern portion of the County. The acquisition of severe repetitive loss properties for the purpose of creating open space is the next project. As severe repetitive loss property owners become interested and funding is available, these projects will be pursued. An ongoing education campaign targeted towards the owners of properties within repetitive loss areas, which are areas where property owners have made multiple flood insurance claims, is the next item included on the list. Each year County staff sends informational materials covering several flood-related topics and property protection measures to these owners.

The list of undertakings continues with projects for the hardening of government facilities, electrical lines, and roadways. The next project proposes to install a generator at the Wakulla County Court House. The pursuit of funding for the Wakulla County Court House generator project is ongoing. Funding requests under the Florida Department of Emergency Management's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program were awarded in 2021 for generators which have been installed at St. Marks City Hall, Sheriff's Office Annex, Public Works Fuel Station, Board of

County Commissioners Administration Complex, and Wakulla County Community Center. Project number 42 includes the installation of wiring for generators in new government buildings.

Retrofitting overhead electrical lines with underground lines in areas with heavy tree canopies throughout the County makes up the next item. Project 44 proposes to elevate Mashes Sands Road, which is subject to flooding. To date, portions of Old Fort Road have been elevated. Project number 45 in this group is for a road elevation study. This would include a County-wide study to assess which roadways have the greatest need and would be the most feasible to elevate above potential floodwaters. This project is awaiting funding.

Project number 46 on the list seeks to replace septic tanks on Live Oak Island with central sewer. Next, the Working Group has included a project to construct a Category 3 shelter within the County as there are currently no shelters in the County that have been built to that standard. Funding is needed to proceed with these projects. The County has been awarded funding through CDBG-MIT to develop a comprehensive Shelter Plan which seeks to assess existing shelters and identify suitable facilities that meet American Red Cross Hurricane Evacuation Selection Standards. This project is projected to be complete by Fall 2024. Another project is to obtain a new First Responder Communication System. Wakulla County was approved for funding from Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. in November 2022 to support the installation of a new Project-25 700/800 MHz digital simulcast turnkey radio network capable of meeting current and future communication needs. This project is underway and will include the construction of new tower sites.

The following set of projects relates to Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s infrastructure improvements. The first of these projects is to pursue the installation of a generator at the Songbird well water site to continue to serve 2,600 residents after a storm event. Talquin has indicated that they intended to apply for grant funding to complete this project. The next is to convert 5,573 overhead electrical service wires to underground service. The final project in this group is to install anchors at 115 transformer pads in the coastal areas of Shell Point, Live Oak Island, Oyster Bay, and Spring Creek to prevent storm surges from moving the transformers off the pads. Funding is needed to proceed with these two projects.

Conducting needed repairs to the existing bridge located over the Sopchoppy River on Highway 375 makes up the next project. The County is currently seeking funding to support this project. Performing prescribed burning at County facilities, including Mashes Sands, Big Bend Maritime Center, the Wakulla Welcome Center, and the Wakulla Equestrian Center to reduce hurricane impacts are included as projects numbered 53 through 56, respectively. Currently, the Mashes Sand Land Management Plan is being updated and will include provisions for prescribed burning. Funding is being sought for the remaining sites and burning is anticipated to be completed in the future. The next project seeks to conduct a climate change study regarding the potential impacts of climate change and to identify mitigation techniques. The County has been awarded funding from CDBG-MIT to create a Disaster Risk Analysis and Adaptation Plan to enhance resiliency planning by analyzing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions. This project is currently underway with assistance from the Apalachee Regional Planning Council.

Project number 58 aims to construct a new combined Emergency Operations Center (EOC)/E911 Communication Center to serve as the Primary Public Safety Answering Point. The County was approved in 2022 for appropriation funding through the Dunn Community Projects to support the project and additional federal funding in 2023. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2024. Additional public safety infrastructure projects are listed as projects numbered 59 through 61, with land acquisition and/or construction of three new Fire Rescue Stations located in Shell Point, the City of St. Marks, and at the intersection of Lonnie Raker Road and Bloxham Cutoff. These new stations will maximize coverage areas and response times for public safety and emergency response throughout Wakulla County. Currently, the County has acquired all three sites and is seeking funding for the construction of each station.

Project 62 is for the design, construction, and replacement bridge for Otter Creek Rise along Surf Road. Currently this structure is considered critical as it is significant to public safety, evacuation, and flood mitigation efforts. This project is also included within the County's Adopted Infrastructure Plan and Capital Improvements Element. FDOT has committed funding to support this project. Preliminary engineering and design are currently underway.

Projects 63 through 65 relate to various sewer improvements including, a new master lift stations at Wakulla Middle School and Medart Recreation Park, sewer collection system infrastructure, and septic-to-sewer projects in the Wildwood subdivisions, as well as at the Medart Recreation Park. These projects are awaiting funding for design and construction; however, FDEP has awarded partial funding for the first phase of the Wildwood septic-to-sewer project.

The projects listed as 66 through 69 are Talquin Electric Cooperative, Inc. additional infrastructure improvement projects. These projects are all awaiting funding. Project 66 is for installation of backfeeds for two circuits at Wakulla substation providing reliability to a major grocery store, Wakulla County Sheriff's Office, and Senior Center. The next project is to replace underground facilities to the Shell Point community. Project 68 is to improve reliability between circuits in a loop feed by installing downline protection devices. The project listed as 69 is for additional Land Mobile Radio coverage to improve communication throughout Talquin's coverage area to allow for more efficient response to service requests and outages.

Project 70 is an ongoing project through several county departments to analyze existing transportation corridors, identify potential improvements and possible alternative access to improve evacuation routes.

Currently, funding is being sought to fund the next two projects. Project 71 is a feasibility study for providing sewer to east Wakulla County. Project 72 is to retrofit Panacea Community Center with doors, windows, elevate electrical, install wiring for a portable generator and replace the roof with a wind proof roof to harden the structure to serve as a Post Disaster Recovery Center.

Project 73 is a private project through the HOA for Paradise Village of Shell Point to repair their seawall. They are currently seeking funding for this project.

Constructing a new Fire Rescue Training Facility with a logistical staging area is Project 74. The anticipated design of this facility is planned to begin in 2024.

Lastly, Project 75 is to expand the gymnasium at the Wakulla County Community Center to add bathroom facilities and electrical improvements so the site will serve as a Regional Host Disaster Recovery Center. A grant application is currently underway seeking funding through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to complete this endeavor.

This Progress Report was prepared by Ashley Rowland-Yost of the Wakulla County Planning and Community Development Department. It will be made available to the governing boards through a memorandum and through a news release to the local press, "The Wakulla Sun", for publication. Its availability to the public will be posted on the Board of County Commissioners Public Notice board and County website, www.mywakulla.com. Copies of this Report and related documents may be obtained from the Planning and Community Development Department, which is located at 3093 Crawfordville Highway.

For more information, please contact Somer Pell, CRS Coordinator for Wakulla County and City of St. Marks, at (850) 926-3695 or spell@mywakulla.com.

March 28, 2024



Flooding can threaten at any time of the year from various sources. Wakulla County and the City of St. Marks regulate construction and development in the floodplain to ensure that buildings will be protected from flood damage. All developments in the floodplain, not just construction of buildings, need permits. Filling and similar work are prohibited in certain areas, so check with the Planning and Community Development Department before you begin a project to build, fill or otherwise. Should unauthorized development in the floodplain be witnessed by a citizen, they can report it to the County's Code Enforcement at (850) 926-3695. One thing Code Enforcement always needs assistance with is litter. Remember that dumping litter is prohibited in or on any freshwater lake, river, stream and tidal or coastal water of the County. It is vital to keep trash out of our floodplain!

It is also important to know that houses in the floodplain that are substantially damaged by events such as fire or flood must be repaired to new construction standards. This includes elevating the structure to or above the base flood elevation when it is repaired. Damage is considered to be substantial when the cost of reconstruction equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value. When damage of this type occurs to a structure and repairs are necessary, visit the Planning and Community Development Department for a Development Permit Application to begin your permitting process. A recorded warranty deed and site plan, showing the improvements/repairs to the property, will be required to complete this Application. Once the Development Permit Application is obtained it should be submitted to the Building Department for permitting. Depending upon the types of work performed additional materials will be requested from the Building Department and/or other Departments to complete the permitting for the structure. Applicable fees are due for Development Permit Applications and Building Department permits, unless otherwise waived by the Commissioners for widespread storm damage. Even when flood damage is not substantial, consider constructing all of your improvements so they are elevated above the flood level.

An important protection measure in regard to flooding is flood insurance. Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods, so obtaining a flood insurance policy can help you should you experience a flood. Since Wakulla County and the City of St. Marks participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy in these areas. This insurance is backed by the Federal government and is available to properties that have been previously flooded. Don't wait for the next flood to buy insurance protection. In most cases, there is a 30-day waiting period before National Flood Insurance Program coverage takes effect. Also, consider obtaining contents coverage if it is not already included in your current insurance policy. Contact your insurance agent for more information on rates and coverage.

When the County experiences a flood remember to turn around, don't drown!

For further information on these topics contact the Planning and Community Development Department at (850) 926-3695.

March 8, 2024

You can now subscribe to The Sun online!
To receive our Weekly Newspaper please visit
www.thewakullasun.com and click on the subscribe
today button or scan the QR code Here. →



Wakulla 4-H aims high for youth life skills

By **RACHEL PIENTA**
4-H Director

The Wakulla 4-H Shooting Sports program has been hard at work since January preparing for competitions and traveling across the state to compete. Youth traveled to the Easton Newberry Sports Complex for the State FITA Archery Match on February 24, 2024. Archery Team members representing 4-H at the state competition level are Nate Garvey, Kensley Rosier, Keira Thornton, Lauretta Compton, and Sam Garvey. Nate Garvey placed first in the Junior Division, the competition level for youth ages 8 to 10. The Archery Club meets monthly to practice at the UF/IFAS Wakulla County Extension office. Youth ages 8 to 18 are eligible to participate. The Archery Team will compete again April 3 and 4 at the Easton Newberry Sports Complex in the final state archery match of the year. Youth ages 8 to 13 interested in archery are eligible to register for the Wakulla 4-H Archery Camp July 22-25, 2024. Registration for 4-H camp is currently open until June 1 or when camp enrollment is full.

The Wakulla 4-H Shotgun Team members have also been hard at work preparing for the upcoming state competition. Youth will travel to the Jacksonville Clay Target Sports on March 23, 2024 to compete. Shotgun Team members representing 4-H in competition are Noah Pearson, Isabella Collier, Blake Harrell, Emiliano Cadena, Parker Smith, and Warner Counce. Youth ages 10 to 18 are eligible to participate in the club. The Shotgun Club meets at least once a month at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Shooting Range in Sopchoppy and also makes trips to Talon Range in Midway.

The clubs will accept new members in September 2024. To learn more about 4-H clubs, including Shooting Sports, mark your calendar for the UF/IFAS Wakulla Extension Open House event on August 24. 4-H club leaders and Extension faculty will be on hand to help the community to connect to all the 4-H club options. Wakulla 4-H is pleased to announce that Air Rifle Club will return in September 2024. This club is open to ages 8 to 18 and practices will be held at the Extension office.

The Wakulla 4-H Shooting Sports extends a since



Nate Garvey won 1st Place in the Archery Match in the Junior Division.



4-H Archery team members: Nate Garvey, Kensley Rosier, Keira Thornton, Lauretta Compton and Sam Garvey.

of Extension 4-H youth programs. The 4-H Shooting Sports Program teaches young people the safe and responsible use of firearms, principles of archery, and hunting basics. Lifelong skill development is one of the main benefits of involvement in the 4-H Shooting Sports Program and applies to both youth and adults involved in the program. Specifically, the 4-H Shooting Sports Program is designed to provide youth proper training in the use of firearms, archery equipment, and other areas of shooting sports, provide thorough instruction in shooting sports safety, as well as to develop life skills, such as self-confidence, personal discipline, responsibility, and sportsmanship. The 4-H Shooting Sports program also strives to create an appreciation and understanding of natural resources and their wise use. UF/IFAS Extension provides volunteer instructors safe and proper instructional techniques and Extension faculty supported volunteers in planning and managing 4-H Shooting Sports Clubs and related 4-H activities. The 4-H Shooting Sports Program is a national program with guidelines provided by the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee. This committee is made up of Extension professionals, industry representatives, volunteers, and others.

thank you to the Friends of the NRA and the NRA Foundation for continued support through equipment grants and to the Wakulla County Sheriff's office for range use. The Wakulla 4-H Shooting Sports Program should be viewed as a vehicle for achieving youth development, which is the mission

Classes reunite

From Front Page

Hinson coached a couple more seasons, going 6-4-1 the next year and 8-2 before handing over coaching reins to Jerry Reynolds.

Miller and then-Superintendent William Payne recounted that Reynolds cut himself shaving one day, and it would not stop bleeding. He went to the doctor and was diagnosed with leukemia and died shortly thereafter. The death shocked the com-

munity, Miller said, adding that Payne moved to name the football field as Reynolds Field. And noting there was an eagle on the Reynolds family crest, Payne tried to get the mascot changed to the Eagles. But, Miller said, North Florida Christian had recently opened and their mascot was the Eagles.

Payne, who went to Auburn, told people that this was no ordinary eagle, it's a War Eagle.

The colors of red, white and blue stayed

the same – and the county became united as Wakulla War Eagles.

The story of how consolidation went through was portrayed as masterful statesmanship by then-Superintendent Dr. William Whaley.

As recounted by Miller, the five-member school board was split over the central high school. The two members from Sopchoppy and Panacea opposed consolidation; the members from St. Marks and Crawfordville supported it. The fifth vote was the board chair named Edison Roddenberry.

Dr. Whaley reportedly went to Roddenberry and told him that building Wakulla High School was the right thing to do for the kids.

Roddenberry was convinced and the motion passed 3-2 to build the school.

Of the new construction, the \$20 million career academy is being built with BP oil spill money through the Triumph Gulf Coast.

"There will not be a rural school district in Florida with the vocational programs that Wakulla County has," Miller said, adding:

"Working with Lively" Vocational School in Tallahassee.

"This school has served its purpose and it's time has come," Miller said.

He noted that Wakulla High's construction convinced the state Department of Education to stop building schools with a flat roof.

"It leaked from the first day," said Superintendent Payne.

"We've spent more on this roof (for repairs) than it cost to build the whole school," Miller said. The original school construction was \$1

million back in 1966-67.

Retired Sheriff David Harvey, Class of '68, praised the county's school system as the one of the main reasons people move to Wakulla – also citing low crime and other amenities.

The new school construction will cost about \$65 million, of which local taxpayers will have to pay about \$12 million. But the bulk of the cost will be paid by the state through Special Facilities monies.

The new school will be two-story, with a Fine Arts wing, and new gym, and one way in and out.

Wakulla High School hosts author Tyrell Waiters

By **VICTORIA POPE**
Wakulla Schools

Wakulla High School's library proudly hosted a Q & A-style Author Visit with graphic novelist Tyrell Waiters on January 25, as part of the school's observance of Celebrate Literacy Week. The event provided an exciting opportunity for students to engage with an accomplished author and delve into the world of graphic illustration.

Tyrell Waiters, an accomplished illustrator, resides and works in the Northeast. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration from Ringling College of Art and Design in 2013. Over the years, he has

made a mark in various industries, including marketing, apparel, music, and entertainment.

The event primarily centered around Waiters' debut graphic novel, Vern, Custodian of the Universe, an imaginative and comical journey through time and space. This captivating work delves deep into the essence of humanity within a world filled with uncertainty.

Vern, the protagonist of the novel, finds himself on the precipice of burnout and decides to start anew by returning to his family in the Sunshine State. Taking up a seemingly ordinary custodial job at Quasar, a local science facility with



Wakulla High School students have question-and-answer time with author Tyrell Waiters.

hidden motives, Vern discovers that his responsibilities extend far beyond cleaning. From black holes to space-time anomalies and even galactic ooze, Vern's role as a custodian takes on a whole new meaning.

As Vern dabbles with a mysterious machine and unintentionally places himself on the verge of universal destruction, he is faced with the fundamental question of existence. "What is the point?" echoes throughout the narrative, exploring the depths of human purpose.

The event was moderated by Wakulla High School's Media Specialist, Victoria Pope. Pope adeptly fielded questions

from students, delving into Waiters' past experiences, current projects, and future endeavors in the literary world.

The students at Wakulla High School thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to engage with a published author, gain insights into the creative process, and witness the vibrant world of graphic novels come to life. Excitement is mounting for the upcoming author's visit in March, when the school will welcome local author Zelle Andrews.

We would like to extend our gratitude for Mr. Waiters for generously sharing his time and talent with our War Eagles!

Wakulla teachers, employee of the month for March



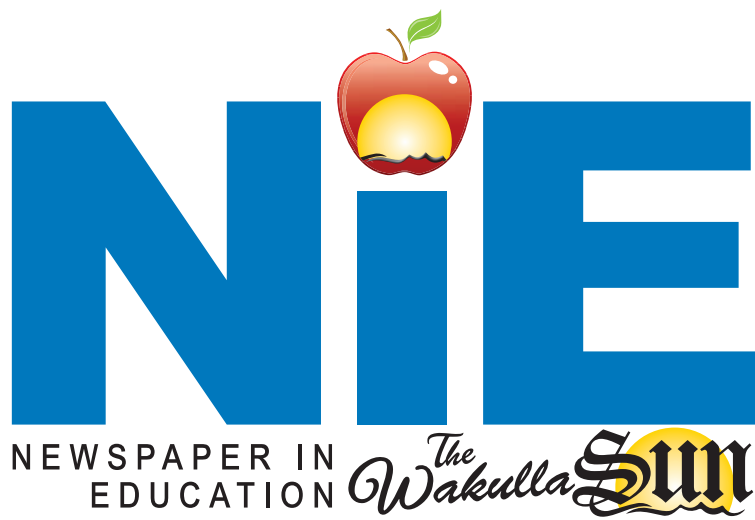
Maranda Bowen, Crawfordville Elementary School Teacher of Month.



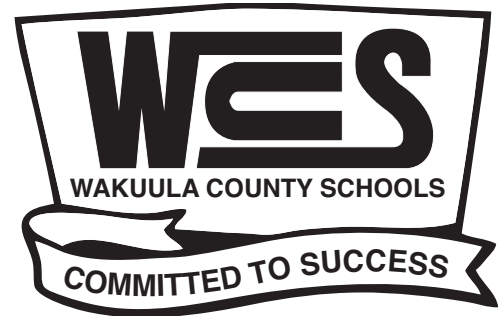
Jenifer Monroe, Wakulla High School Employee of Month.



Charlotte Hoover, Wakulla Middle Teacher of Month.



School distribution sponsored by



USE THE NEWS

1. CHERRY TREE RENOVATION

More than a hundred cherry blossom trees will be cut down in Washington, DC, including one tree that's become a social media star: Stumpy. The short tree found social media fame during 2020 – there's even a mascot costume version of Stumpy and people have made T-shirts to commemorate the short, stubby tree. It will be one of the trees cut down so the nearby sea wall can be fixed. Right now, the Potomac River floods the area with the cherry blossom trees twice a day, covering pathways and the trees' roots with brackish water (water that has salt in it, but isn't as salty as the ocean). City workers will fix the sea wall, so it protects the area from flooding, then plant almost 300 new cherry blossom trees in the fixed area. Write a summary of this story, including at least five facts you learned.

2. BIRD BRAINS

Parrots are some of the smartest birds, which makes them great pets for bird lovers. They can learn to recognize shapes and colors and learn to speak and understand words. They also require a lot of attention and activities to keep from getting bored. Some parrot owners have started using iPads or other tablets with apps designed for young kids to keep their birds entertained. The parrots use their tongues to interact with the touch screens, inspiring some designers to create apps specifically for birds and their bodies. Researchers collected data about how 20 pet parrots learned and played apps – they touch the screen softer than humans do and usually tap repeatedly instead of just once at a time. If you were going to design an app for parrots to play, what would it look like? How would you catch a bird's attention? Write a few sentences describing your app or draw a picture and label it with what you chose to include.

3. THE SIMS TAKE

THE BIG SCREEN

Have you ever played The Sims? The video game series that first came out in 2000 lets players create characters, from their look to their personality and skills, and control them as they interact with their game environment. Soon, there will be a film version of the games! The producers behind the "Barbie" movie last summer will create the film. Fans have said the movie should be in "simlish," the gibberish language spoken by characters in the video games. Not much is known about what the plot

of the new movie will be yet. Write your own plot synopsis of what you think the new movie could be about.

4. HAPPINESS IN TROUBLE

For the 12th year, a research company called Gallup released a World Happiness Report, based on surveys of people around the world. This year was the first time that the United States was not in the top 20 happiest countries in the world. It ranked 23rd this year, down from number 15 last year. According to the report, happiness went down across all

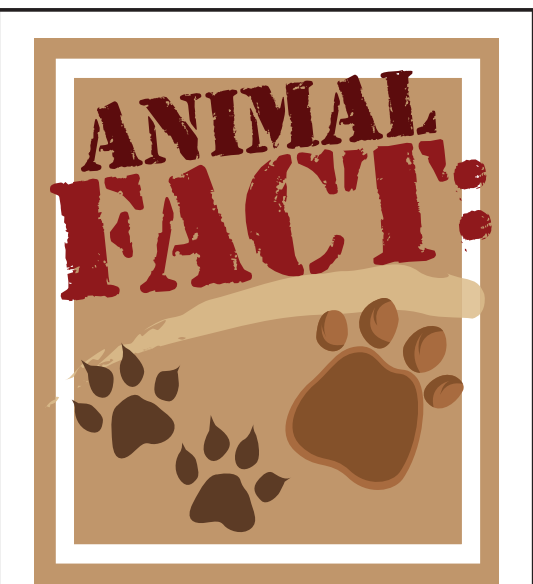
the age groups that were surveyed in the United States, but it went down the most for young adults. According to the report, the happiest area in the world is Scandinavia, a group of countries in Northern Europe. It's made up of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden, which were all in the top 10 happiest countries on the list. What do you think makes one country's people happier than another? List at least five reasons why someone might report they're happy with their lives and five reasons why someone might say they're not, based on where they live.

5. FESTIVAL OF

COLORS

On Monday, March 25, people in India celebrated Holi, the Festival of Colors. It's a holiday in the Hindu religion, which about 80 percent of the people in India follow. In the early morning on the day of the festival, people cover each other in lots of colorful powder. It's a celebration of the beginning of spring and the power of good over evil. The festival is a two-day event that takes place every year during a full moon in spring. The first night, people light bonfires to burn away negative energy. The next day, the fun begins with people throwing colored powder all over each

other in the streets. The colors each have different meanings: Blue is for the Hindu god Krishna, who is pictured with blue skin; green means rebirth and the new beginnings that come with spring; yellow is the color of the spice turmeric, which is sacred in Hinduism; and red is the color of marriage and unity in the religion. While the biggest celebrations of Holi are in India, there are big Holi parties in many major cities in the United States and other countries around the world. Write a summary of what Holi is and who celebrates it, including facts you learned here. Draw a colorful picture to go along with your summary.



THIS SEASON IS A NOTABLE PERIOD FOR ANIMAL BIRTHS.

ANSWER: SPRING

What's the Difference?

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



Answers: 1. Missing tea kettle 2. Extra vase 3. Cat on counter 4. Left cabinet is wood

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1806: CONSTRUCTION IS AUTHORIZED ON THE GREAT NATIONAL PIKE, BECOMING THE UNITED STATES' FIRST FEDERAL HIGHWAY.
- 1927: SUNBEAM 1000HP BREAKS THE LAND SPEED RECORD AT DAYTONA BEACH.
- 1973: THE LAST UNITED STATES COMBAT SOLDIERS LEAVE SOUTH VIETNAM.



EQUINOX

a date when day and night are almost of equal length

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Bud

SPANISH: Capullo

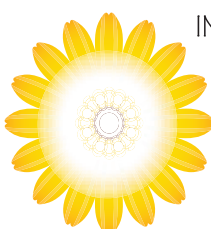
ITALIAN: Boccio

FRENCH: Bourgeon

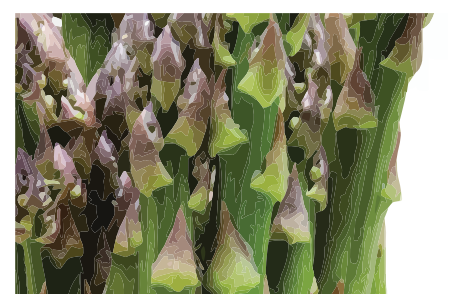
GERMAN: Knospe



MANY EARLY SPRINGTIME FLOWERS ARE BULBS, INCLUDING CROCUSES, HYACINTHS AND SNOWDROPS.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: ASPARAGUS

CLASSIFIEDS MARKET

HOME OF THE \$5 CLASSIFIED AD
UP TO 20 WORDS

CLASSIFIED AD
ADD WORDS FOR 25¢ PER WORD

DISPLAY ADS \$5 PER COL INCH

Please call The Wakulla Sun at 850-962-8019 email classifieds@thewakullasun.com

SERVICES

MOBILE OPTICAL
PRESCRIPTION GLASSES & FRAMES
BROKEN GLASSES OR JEWELRY REPAIR
WE COME TO YOU!
Jimmy Carter,
LDO Board Certified
386-688-2805
HarlinJames12@Yahoo.com

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICES
TREE TRIMMING and REMOVAL
• STORM DAMAGE
• TREE PRESERVATION
Michael Mongeon
ISA Certified Arborist, FL-6125A
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
850-421-8104

Experienced Individual to assist me with my established lawn business. Part time weekdays.
Call Gene 850-251-9122

NOW HIRING!
Cashiers, Deli Cooks & Servers.
Positions starting at \$14. Hr.
ROCKY'S - MEDART
(850)926-4353

Groundsman for established tree service company
Must have drivers license, hard working & dependable. Must be able to work with hands & head.
Good pay! 850-421-8104.

Big Bend Hospice
your hometown hospice licensed since 1983
Big Bend Hospice is seeking direct patient care volunteers to provide companionship and respite services in Wakulla County.
If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kara Walker at (850) 878-5310.

REVERSE MORTGAGES
If you would like to learn more about Reverse Mortgages Call 850-556-6694 OR visit www.LearnAboutReverse.com Or email LearnAboutReverse@gmail.com for more information

SERVICES

CRUM'S HOME DETAIL
Chris Crum
HANDYMAN & PRESSURE WASHING SERVICES
Crawfordville & surrounding areas
850-694-4832

LEATHER REPAIR / REFURBISH
850-766-4562
John Allcorn Leather
Bags, Belts, Holsters
Some work on Shoes and tack
Also - Custom Products

PAT GREEN'S LAWN SERVICE
WE DO IT ALL!
20+ Years Experience
850528-2371 or 850926-7461
TREE TRIMMING, TRACTOR WORK AND LAWN MAINTENANCE
• LAND CLEARING
• LANDSCAPING
• IRRIGATION
• SOD • MULCHING
• BUSH HOGGING
• DRIVEWAYS
• CULVERTS INSTALLATION
• ROAD MILLINGS
FREE QUOTES!
Call us for all your outdoor projects!
Locally Owned and Operated
Licensed and Insured

RENTALS

Wakulla Realty
"Specializing in Wakulla County"
Sonya Hall
Broker
(850) 926-5084
Sonya@wakullarealty.com

Real Estate Sales, Listings & Rental Management
Storage
Unit Rentals
8x10 - \$66.65
10x12 - \$98.90

Karen Williams
Broker / Associate
(850) 567-8279
Karen@wakullarealty.com
10 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville
PO Box 535, Crawfordville FL 32326
WAKULLAREALTY.COM

Licensed & Insured **30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE**
FORGOTTEN COAST TRACTOR SERVICE LLC
Travis Clayton
850.273.9101
text or call
Skid Steer Mowing Land Clearing
Concrete Removal Grading
Demolition Driveways

Payne's PAINTING
Serving All Your Painting Needs!
339-4155
Our licensed painters will be happy to give you a Free Estimate at your convenience. We serve Tallahassee & surrounding area in Residential & Commercial painting needs. References available. We look forward to serving you.
Greg Payne 850-339-4155

Massages, Facials, Body Treatments
info@SunraysSpa.com
Easy Online Scheduling
www.SunraysSpa.com
2655-A Crawfordville Hwy.
Crawfordville FL 32327
850-745-6422
Sunrays Spa Relax Revive Rejuvenate
Follow us on MM43237

CORBIN'S Land Clearing
Driveways
Ponds
Site Work
Demolition
Hauling
HEAVY EQUIPMENT
850-933-8505
FREE ESTIMATES

20Years Experience Certified Arborist
TRIMMING TIMBERS
TREE REMOVAL & STUMP GRINDING
Ben Burns **850.591.8351** FREE Estimates
Licensed & Insured

Southern Maid
Cleaning Service
850-212-2908
Servicing the surrounding area Since 2017
• Licensed • Owner operated • Serving Surrounding Counties

DANIEL KINSEY
owner
SUNSHINE SOLAR PANELS
Getting clean energy from the sun!
P 850-518-0238
E SUNSHINESOLARPANELS@YAHOO.COM
W sunshinesolarpanels.net

Spears Engines & Tires
Est. 1978
Spring Special
Mention this ad -Get 10% OFF Mower Blades
• Small Engine Repair • Automotive Repairs
• Tire Sales & Service • Carport & Portable Building Sales
850-926-2338
3211 Crawfordville Hwy. 32327

A&W Services
AIR CONDITIONING REFRIGERATION & HEAT
Commercial • Residential • Fast and Reliable Scheduling
A & W Services Heating & Air is The Authority on HVAC Repairs, Maintenance, Installation and Upgrades!
(850) 504-6053
1221 Commercial Park Drive G-3 Tallahassee, FL 32303
Over 60 years combined experience • Lic. # CAC1815061

Bonnie THE LIFE COACH
BonnietheLifeCoach.com
Bonnie Holub
Certified Life Coach
850-570-8271
Follow Bonnie's Monthly Advice Column
BonnieTheLifeCoach.com/ask-bonnie
Bonnie@BonnietheLifeCoach.com

FICTITIOUS NAME

FICTITIOUS NAME
Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 856.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, Victoria Beck, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **CREATIVE EDGE BY TORI**
Located at 58 Bunting Drive Crawfordville, FL 32327
In the County of Wakulla
Intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporation of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Published on March 28, 2024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TWS NTC LISA ANN HOWE MARSH
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 24-CP-00002

IN RE: ESTATE OF LISA ANN HOWE MARSH, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:
The administration of the estate of Lisa Ann Howe Marsh, deceased, whose date of death was November 13, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 3056 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is March 28, 2024.

Personal Representative:
Reagan M. Richardson
3 Forty Fifth Residences, Unit 2PH,
Indo-China Dr, Alabang, Muntinlupa,
Metro Manila, Philippines, 1781

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ NATHAN S. BRUEMMER
Florida Bar ID #1035475
BLACKBURN LAW FIRM, PLLC
5230 Central Avenue St. Petersburg, FL 33707
Telephone: (727) 826-0923
E-Mail: Nathan@lifeplanlaw.com

March 28, April 4, 2024

Good Fences... Good Neighbors LLC
All of your fencing needs and more...
Licensed & Insured
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
WOOD • VINYL • CHAIN LINK • ALUMINUM
(850) 926-9455
GoodFencesGoodNeighbors.com
LE@GoodFencesGoodNeighbors.com

• Rock • Road Base
• Debris Removal
• Land Clearing
• Driveways
• Culverts
• Ponds
HARVEY & SONS ENTERPRISES
Locally Owned & Operated by Shawn Harvey
Fill Sand & Topsoil
22 YEARS EXPERIENCE
850-661-4194

Wakulla Lawn Ranger
Gene Darby
850-251-9122
Mowing
Edging - Trimming
Sidewalk/Driveways
Pressurewashing
Landscaping
Licensed & Insured
Great Prices - Great Work

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
Gene Lambert Agency Manager
FARM BUREAU INSURANCE of Wakulla County
(850) 926-3425
GENE.LAMBERT@FFBIC.COM
2468 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327

JOY-Filled Easter at Wakulla Springs

By LINDA ANN McDONALD
Correspondent

JOY-Filled Journeys hosted an Easter Holiday event at Wakulla Springs Lodge on Thursday, March 21.

Activities included meeting the Easter Bunny, decorate a cookie, creating ingn Easter craft, and face painting.

JOY-Filled Journeys is a non-profit giving back to those with special needs in Wakulla County.

Wakulla County's Clerk of Court Greg James donned the organization's mascot costume named "Joy" for the event. "This is great to be a part of this," James said. "The kids love it and I know how much joy it brings to the children and their families; even on a small scale, it makes an impact on everyone involved."

Jessie Askew of Wakulla Springs Lodge said, "We love to partner any way we can; everything we do promotes inclusivity and out look for a safe place



Abigail Maddi, Sara Logan, Rachel Seibert and Sarah Andrews with the Easter Bunny.

for the kids to experience great events, we are lucky to be able to extend this experience to all those involved, and we are blessed to be a part of it."

Elizabeth Goble, a visitor to the event with special needs said, "I am having fun, I like these events because I get to see old friends and make new friends, and this is great because we are celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

"This is the first time I have been to an

event like this, this is great," said Jan Jensen, grandmother to a special needs child Abigail Maddi. "The kids are having a ball, and everyone is excited to see the Easter Bunny, this is very cute."

Out of town visitors to the Wakulla Springs Lodge Debby Russell and Lynn McLaughlin were watching the event from a distance. "We didn't know what was going on," said Russell, "but it looked really special with all the kids making Easter eggs

and with their faces painted. As a special ed teacher myself, I can tell you this is a spectacular thing this community is having."

Frank Messersmith, husband of Wakulla County Commissioner Quincee Messersmith surprised the visitors of the event by being the Easter Bunny for the evening.

JOY-Filled Journeys and be reached at (850) 228-5667 and joyfilled-journeyscorp@gmail.com.





SunBlest open house

SunBlest Plant Nurseries held its semi-annual open house on Saturday and Sunday and offered plants for sale to the public.

Rotarians Donna Clark and Tonya Hobby helped load plants for customers. (Photo by Lynda Kinsey)



LOOKING FOR A SPEAKER FOR YOUR NEXT GROUP OR ORGANIZATION MEETING?

Your property appraiser is available to speak on property assessments, leadership, community issues and more! Call our office at 850-926-0500 to schedule.



Ed Brimmer, CFA
Wakulla County
Property Appraiser



Saturday, April 27, 2024
Wakulla Community Center • 8 am-12 NOON or until capacity is met

318 Shadeville Rd., Crawfordville

For Wakulla County Residential Households and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators Only

(CESQG's will be charged for disposal and must register by calling 850-926-7616 by October 13)

NO NEED TO WAIT FOR AMNESTY DAY. DISPOSE OF OIL AND E-SCRAP AT THE LANDFILL NOW

VISIT KWCB.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CALL 745-7111



What to bring to Household Hazardous Waste Day...

- Bring your household cleaners - such as oven cleaners, wood/metal cleaner or polishers, toilet bowl cleaners, disinfectants, drain openers.
- Automotive products - such as additives, solvents, refrigerants, starter fluid, body putty, anti-freeze, gasoline, diesel, kerosene.
- Home Improvement Products - such as non-latex paints, paint thinner, paint stripper/remover, adhesives.
- Lawn & Garden Products - such as recyclable batteries (automotive batteries, lithium-ion batteries, button cell batteries, phone batteries, nickel batteries, battery packs, power tool batteries), herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, wood preserver.
- Miscellaneous Hazardous Items - such as nail polish remover, fluorescents, photo developing chemicals, pool chemicals, aerosols/compressed gas, reactive materials. Televisions will be accepted at this time, but **NO OLD TUBE TVs**.
- Wakulla County Sheriff's Office will be accepting prescriptions and ammunition. Please note that they will not be taking sharps.

- No Latex Paint * No Household Alkaline Batteries * No Oil * No Household Trash • Free disposal of oil at the landfill
- Paint will be limited to 5 gallons per resident (Latex can be dried and put in trash) • Small electronics can be donated to Goodwill or deposited in your trash.
- Household alkaline batteries need to be placed in a container and placed in your trash (i.e. milk jug, plastic bottle, etc.)

The Landfill will accept the following items on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays 8-5 & Saturdays 8-3. • OIL - FREE DISPOSAL * E-scrap - FREE DISPOSAL * Recyclable Material - FREE DISPOSAL
Tires - \$10 off rim, \$15 on rim (NO BIG TIRES) * TIRES WILL NOT BE TAKEN AT THIS AMNESTY DAY • Free Curbside Bulk Pickup on 1st and 3rd Saturdays. • Call 926-7010 to schedule ahead of time. (up to 2 cubic feet)

Bulk Waste Service 1. Residential bulk items will be picked up on normal trash routes. Citizens do not have to schedule with Waste Pro. For residential bulk pick-up, place the items out with your trash can. 2. Waste Pro asks citizens to place out only 1-2 bulky items per week (not to exceed 2 yards (approximate size of a refrigerator)), as space on the trucks is limited. 3. Metal items still must be scheduled through Waste Pro, 850-926-7010. 4. Waste Pro still does not service yard waste or anything that is considered construction debris. 5. If residential bulk items are not picked up within three days of your regularly scheduled trash day, and no notice as to why has been given, contact the Wakulla County Public Works Department at 850-926-7616

Celebrate
with Your
Loved Ones
at



a Special Easter Buffet

Sunday, March 31 2024 from 11:30 - 3:30

Consisting of...

- Fried catfish
- Fried clam strips
- Fried shrimp
- Grilled shrimp
- Fried Chicken
- Roast beef
- Ham
- Macaroni and cheese
- Green beans
- Corn pudding
- Mashed potatoes
- Cabbage
- Cheese grits
- Rolls
- Hush puppies
- Sweet potato casserole



Dessert, Salad Bar, and drink included

OUR SEINEYARD ROCK LANDING LOCATION IS OPEN FROM 11:00-9:00 WITH FULL MENU...

RESERVATIONS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.

3870 COASTAL HWY. CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA • WALK-INS WELCOME

850-926-9191



13th Annual

LOW COUNTRY BOIL

5:30 - 10PM

APRIL 6TH AT 3Y RANCH

LIMITED TICKETS

MUSIC BY
SALT ROCK



ADDITIONAL TABLES!

Contact Heather for tickets
info@wakullacountychamber.com

850-926-1848



PREMIER SPONSORS:

