



**Wakulla Christian softball**  
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# The Wakulla Sun



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Hi: 72° Lo: 48° 2%	Hi: 74° Lo: 47° 3%	Hi: 72° Lo: 50° 3%
Sunrise 7:22 AM Sunset 7:58 PM	Sunrise 7:21 AM Sunset 7:59 PM	Sunrise 7:20 AM Sunset 7:59 PM



\$1  
One Section

"It's a New Day"

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Our 3rd Year 14th Issue  
Thursday, April 4, 2024

## First Lady Visits

First Lady Casey DeSantis visited the Wakulla Senior center during a food share

By LEGION TAYLOR  
Reporter

First Lady Casey DeSantis paid a visit to the Wakulla Senior Center on Wednesday, during a food giveaway put on by Wakulla Giving Hands.

This visit comes as part of DeSantis' Hope Florida initiative, which seeks to bolster the prosperity of Floridians and promote community collaboration, through the Hope Florida Fund. The fund, which is entirely paid for by Florida's private sector, enables the state government the ability to easily award money to nonprofits across the state, such as the \$20,000 that Wakulla Giving Hands was awarded at the event.

"Thanks to the generosity of the private



First Lady Casey DeSantis at the senior center with Wakulla Giving Hands

sector, we have the opportunity through the Hope Florida Fund to support nonprofits that

are making a difference in their communities," said First Lady DeSantis in a news release from

the Governor's office. "It was heartwarming to meet with Wakulla Giv-

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## Donnie Crum, former Wakulla sheriff, dies

From Wakulla Sheriff's Office

Former Wakulla County Sheriff Donnie Crum died Tuesday, March 26 at home with his family.

Donnie Crum was born and raised in Wakulla County and began his law enforcement career in 1973 with the Sheriff's Auxiliary. He then spent the next 35 years diligently working his way through the ranks of the WCSO. He worked as a Special Agent with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in domestic narcotic operations between 1985 and 1989 before returning home to assume the position of Major with WCSO. Later, he was promoted to Undersheriff. The pinnacle of his career came when he was appointed as the Wakulla County Sheriff twice: the first in 2008 as Interim Sheriff by former Gov. Charlie Crist and then as Sheriff by former Gov. Rick Scott in 2011. Crum served in this role until his retirement in 2013.



Donnie Crum

Crum attended the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute. He was a proud member of the Florida Sheriff's Association, the Florida Intelligence Unit, and a founding member of the extremely successful Big Bend Narcotics Task Force. Over the course of 38 years, he worked undercover with local, state, and federal agencies, including the Florida Marine Patrol, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, which resulted in the seizure of drugs and money totaling millions of dollars. These operations led to the prosecution of hundreds of offenders and contributed to his lifelong and decorated law

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## Carson Falk, fisherman

The Panacea native is making a name for himself at Bassmaster tournaments

Staff Report

Carson Falk of Panacea is having success in bass fishing tournaments. Falk and fishing partner Trey Blackmon III recently finished second in the 2024 Strike King Bassmaster High School Classic.

Competitors qualified for the High School Classic by placing first or second in one of four Strike King Bassmaster High School tournaments last year or by winning the 2023 Bassmaster High School Series or Bassmaster Junior Series championship tournaments.

In April of 2023, Falk

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Carson Falk being interviewed after he and teammate Trey Blackmon III finished second in the prestigious High School Bassmaster Classic in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

## Governor signs bill changing name of TCC

On July 1, school will be renamed as Tallahassee State College

From TCC

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed Senate Bill 522 into law on Wednesday, March 27, renaming Tallahassee Community College as Tallahassee State College effective July 1. A group of TCC leaders were invited to attend, including TCC President Jim Murdaugh, Trustees Eugene Lamb Jr., Frank Messersmith, Karen B. Moore, Monte Stevens, and Charlie Ward Jr., Vice President and Chief of Staff Candice Grause, and Student Body President Jullion Griffin. They were joined by SB 522 sponsor Sen. Corey Simon and Sue Dick, President and CEO of the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce.

"This college does an outstanding job preparing students for success," said Gov. DeSantis. "Florida is proud to be home to the nation's finest education system."

TCC opened as Tallahassee Junior College in 1966. The name was changed to Tallahassee Community College in 1970 to reflect its community

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Gov. Ron DeSantis at the bill-signing ceremony for the school to be known as Tallahassee State College.

### CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENT

## Valerie Russell announces candidacy

She seeks District 3 seat on the Wakulla county commission

By VALERIE RUSSELL  
Candidate

After much prayer and careful consideration, I have filed to run for the Wakulla County Commission District 3 Seat. This decision did not come lightly nor without second thoughts. However, when considering this decision, a question once posed by Ronald Reagan kept racing through my mind: "Are you better off now than you were four years ago?"

Quite frankly, the answer is a resounding no for the majority of the residents of Wakulla County. Multiple county commission-imposed taxes and assessments were increased since the 2020 election; our local roadways are choked with traffic; local infrastructure has been pushed towards despair,



Valerie Russell

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

resulting in untreated sewage being released directly into our local environment and discolored water flowing from our home faucets far too often; and our local youth are being hampered by overcrowded recreational facilities, while their parents are scrounging to pay the fees required for their children to participate.

I sincerely love Wakulla County and I'm truly disheartened by the direction that it is heading. Wakulla County has been a cornerstone in my life. I'm extremely

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# Student of the Week

## Trenidy Resor – 11th grader at Wakulla High

Principal: Michele Falk

**Achievements/Reason for Nomination:** Trenidy Resor is Wakulla High School's Student of the Week. Trenidy is a Junior at Wakulla High School and the daughter of Angela and Jesse Cook. Trenidy is an outstanding War Eagle! She is an integral member of Wakulla High School's Theater Troup 5036. She recently received Superior for at State for her set design of Finding Nemo and a nomination for Best Actor. Krissy Sanchez, Trenidy's favorite teacher, says "Trenidy is extremely helpful and always willing to volunteer to help her teachers and fellow students. She always gives her best work and does everything with a positive attitude. She shows up early and stays late and overcomes every obstacle thrown her way." Wakulla High School is proud to have Trenidy Resor represent them as a truly exceptional student.


**STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.**



## Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

### Woolly pipevine

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER



Woolly pipevine (*Aristolochia tomentosa*), or Woolly Dutchman's pipe, is one of many vines in this family with flowers resembling pipes once smoked in the Netherlands. The intriguing S-shaped, yellowish-green flowers have a strong scent that attracts pollinating flies. This deciduous, woody climbing vine feeds the caterpillars of pipevine swallowtail butterflies. The large heart-shaped leaves, young stems, and flowers are hairy. This fast-growing, twining vine prefers moist, well-drained soil in full to part sun. Sought for butterfly gardens, this vine also can provide dense cover for a sun porch. In the wild, woolly pipevine grows along stream banks and in bottomlands in panhandle counties west of Wakulla. Now endangered, obtain only from reputable native nurseries. Planted last fall, two woolly pipevines in flower are climbing pine trees in Sopchoppy Depot Park.



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The Wakulla Sun

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# Man found not guilty in arson, animal cruelty case

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**  
Editor

A six-person jury returned a not guilty verdict against a Crawfordville man who had been charged with burning his girlfriend's house down and killing a puppy.

Bobby Joe Sampson Jr. was found not guilty of arson and aggravated animal cruelty after a one-day trial on Tuesday, March 19.

Testimony at the trial indicated that Samp-

son was angry that a 9-month old puppy had chewed his headphones and continued to complain about it to his girlfriend, Tina Sanders, until she finally told him to get out of the house.

He left the house that day, Aug. 26, 2021 and his GPS monitor he was wearing for a criminal charge of failure to register as a sex offender tracked him leaving the house at 7:25 p.m., coming back at 8:01 p.m., then leaving again at 8:34.



**Bobby Joe Sampson Jr.**

A few minutes later, Sanders and some friends returned to the home and found it on

fire. A call to 911 came in at 8:42.

The puppy was found dead in the home from injuries from the fire.

The state fire marshal's office determined the fire was purposefully set in the bedroom. But the investigation did not find an accelerant like gasoline.

Sampson elected not to testify in his own defense at his trial.

Defense attorney Manny Garcia was obviously effective at casting doubt in jurors' minds

– questioning whether someone else had set the fire, including Sanders herself.

Wakulla Chief Prosecutor Andrew Deneen, in his closing, questioned that logic, noting that Sanders lost everything in the fire and was homeless for a period after the fire.

The jury deliberated for about an hour before returning a verdict finding Sampson not guilty of arson and animal cruelty.

In addition to the

pending criminal charge in Wakulla for failure to register as a sex offender, Sampson was sentenced in May 2022 in Holmes County for perjury and sentenced to 5 years of probation.

Sampson's criminal history includes charges in Holmes in 2011 for procuring for prostitution a person under 12 years old for which he was adjudicated guilty; and a case in 2018 for failure to register as a sex offender and was adjudicated guilty.

## Huge crowd visits Panacea for Oyster & Brewfest

A big crowd converged on Panacea and Woolley Park on Saturday for the annual Oyster & Brewfest, a fundraiser for Waterfronts Panacea that helps pay for local projects like activities for local kids. One local official, at the entrance to the park to collect signatures for petitions, said he had been there for nearly two hours and seen thousands of people pass by – but only recognized a handful from Wakulla. "That's good," the official said, noting that out-of-town visitors were coming to spend their money. The event was hugely successful. (Photo by William Snowden)



## First Lady visits

From Front Page

ing Hands today and volunteer alongside them as they serve Florida Seniors."

The Senior Center has been partnering with Wakulla Giving Hands for the last two months; coordinating food shares at the senior center every other Wednesday. Giving Hands obtains food from local sources, including

fresh fruit, vegetables, and meat, and with the help of the senior center distributes food to seniors in need.

"We see on average probably 100 to 175 people right now," said Senior Center Director Lara Edwards. "And it's growing. This is our fourth Wednesday... and we're just seeing the numbers grow and grow."

Wakulla Giving

Hands also does other food shares around the community, and has recently begun to deliver food to those who are unable to make it to the food share events, providing for 500 people each week, according to a post made on the Wakulla Giving Hands Facebook page.

On Friday, people from Giving Hands traveled to Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare to hand out Easter baskets to the patients in the Children's Center. The

baskets included toys and activities to help the patients feel more comfortable during their stay.

"With the support of our community and donations like yours, patients and families can still experience some normalcy while in the hospital on holidays," says Zoe Zablocki, Child Life Specialist at TMH, in an email that Wakulla Giving Hands posted to the group's Facebook page.

## Sun reporter told to leave event

Staff Report

A Wakulla Sun reporter was told to leave the visit by First Lady Casey DeSantis to the Wakulla Senior Center, despite being invited by senior center staff.

Legion Taylor, the reporter, was approached by a woman who identified herself as being on the First Lady's staff and told he could not attend the visit.

"This is a closed event," the staffer said, and said photos and information would be sent to the Sun about the event. (It was not.)

## Carson Falk

From Front Page

and Blackmon were able to weigh a five-bass limit of 25 pounds, 3 ounces to best a huge field of talented high school anglers at the 2023 Strike King Bassmaster High School Series at Chickamauga Lake presented by Academy Sports + Outdoors.

As reported by Bassmasters, "Although it was an eight-hour drive from the Tallahassee, Fla., area, the pair was able to find water that

looked and fished similarly to Lake Seminole, their home lake.

"We started off on a bed fish this morning that we figured was around 4 1/2 pounds but we eventually had to leave it," said 15-year-old Falk. "We stayed in the lower portion of the lake all day because it just set up perfectly for what we're best at. It had clear water, stumps and grass which is a perfect combination."

During practice, Falk and Blackmon used large

swimbait like the Megabass Magdraft and Bass Mafia Dangerous. The big bass would follow the swimbait out of the grass and as soon as the bass showed themselves, the anglers would quickly get the swimbait back into the boat and mark a GPS waypoint in order to return on tournament day.

"They were eating big crappie while also spawning on those grass flats," Falk said. "We used your typical grass baits such as bladed jigs to catch the fish that previously followed our big baits. The conditions lined up per-

fectly and we were able to fish with our favorite baits and had a blast.

Falk's mother, Laurie Falk, posted on Facebook: "We are so proud over their 2nd place finish in this prestigious tournament! There were only 8 teams who qualified, and not only are we proud of how they placed, but we are also so proud to be representing Tallahassee's Capital City Bass Hunters and Wakulla County. This was a surreal experience for us all.

Thank you BASS High School and Glenn Cale for giving these kids from all over the country this experience. Thank you Brent for being their Captain and a mentor to these two! You three make a great team! Thank you to all of the family who made the trip to support these boys. We had quite the cheering section! Thank you to their sponsors for everything!"



Carson Falk and Trey Blackmon show their catch at the tournament.

## Donnie Crum

From Front Page

enforcement career. Sheriff Crum dedicated almost 40 years to serving the citizens of Wakulla County. Sher-

iff Crum's leadership during that time period helped guide and transform WCSO into the modern and professional organization that it is today.

Rest in Peace Sheriff Crum, thank you for your dedicated service, we have the watch from here.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, March 30th, at Soppchopy Southern Baptist.

## 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.



### THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WAKULLA COUNTY ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING:

**EVENT:** School Board Meeting  
**DATE:** Monday, April 15, 2024  
**TIME:** 5:45 pm  
**PLACE:** School Board Room, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida  
**PURPOSE:** Monthly School Board Meeting

For further information please contact:  
Superintendent's Office  
Wakulla County Schools  
Post Office Box 100, 69 Arran Rd  
Crawfordville, Florida 32326  
850-926-0065

April 4, 2024



### INVITATION TO BID

Allstate Construction, Inc. (CGC1518758), the Construction Manager, will receive sealed bid proposals from pre-qualified subcontractors for Wakulla Shadeville Elementary HVAC, Crawfordville, Florida, for the following work:

#### 23A – Chiller Equipment

Subcontractor Bid proposals will be received until 2:00 pm Eastern Time on April 18, 2024, at Allstate Construction, Inc., 5718 Tower Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Bid Proposal documents are available from Allstate Construction, Inc.

Email: [jwright@allstateconstruction.com](mailto:jwright@allstateconstruction.com) Phone: 850-514-1004

Allstate Construction, Inc. reserves the right to waive any irregularities and/or reject any and all Bid Proposals.

April 4, 11, 2024

# Opinions

THE FIRST AMENDMENT

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

LETTERS FROM READERS

## Youth speak out against tobacco

Students Working Against Tobacco gives youth the tools they need to help reduce the tobacco industry's influence and advocate for change

By **MADELYN WAYNICK**  
SWAT President



STUDENTS WORKING AGAINST TOBACCO

The need for youth to speak up and make their voices heard about the issues they care about is as important as ever, which is why one student-led organization in Florida is leading the way in the fight against the tobacco industry and the addictive products that target youth.

Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) is a statewide youth organization focused on educating, empowering, and mobilizing Florida youth to revolt against and de-glamorize Big Tobacco. As a member of the Wakulla County SWAT chapter, I believe SWAT is an important cause more youth should get involved in. SWAT can help youth, or even adults, stop tobacco use by explaining the cons of tobacco use, SWAT can teach youth about how tobacco is bad, and allows youth to share personal experiences without shame, overall, SWAT is a great program for those looking to help prevent other youth from tobacco use. Despite significant prog-

ress over the years, tobacco and e-cigarette use is still prevalent, and the tobacco industry's antics must be stopped. SWAT is working to change the social norms associated with tobacco, including e-cigarettes.

SWAT has been educating and empowering youth and communities since 1998. SWAT has had several successful initiatives throughout the years. 'Not a Replacement' was a statewide campaign where thousands of youth reminded tobacco companies that they are unique individuals with the potential to make a positive impact on their community. 'Not a Lab Rat' is the current state-

wide campaign that focuses on the truth behind e-cigarettes and how youth can stop the spread of misinformation. Through such initiatives, SWAT continues to work toward changing the way people think about tobacco, making it less desirable, less acceptable and less accessible.

My reason for joining SWAT was clear. I joined SWAT because I wanted to educate my family who uses tobacco about the health issues it can cause. My second year, I wanted to continue educating myself and others about what tobacco can do to you and your friends. Joining SWAT helped me by finding the courage to ask my family and friends to stop vaping, without just saying, "It's bad for you." I was, instead, able to provide information to them about how tobacco is bad for them, and how it can seriously affect their future.

In our community, the Wakulla County SWAT chapter helped make a difference by spreading our program around the county to educate and encourage others to help prevent tobacco use.

There is still work to be done to

protect our generation and future generations from the tobacco industry. By working with peers, students can create change that will keep tobacco products out of Wakulla County and improve the health of our family, friends, and community. SWAT is open to all Florida youth in 6th-12th grade. There is a SWAT chapter in every county in Florida, and some counties also have clubs in schools and community organizations. In Wakulla County, we have three current locations, Wakulla High, Wakulla Middle, and Riversprings Middle School.

If you are interested in learning more about SWAT and how youth can get involved, contact Kandra Saracinaj, kandra.saracinaj@flhealth.gov, (850)888-6108, or visit [www.SWATFlorida.com](http://www.SWATFlorida.com). I hope that in writing this, more youth are inspired to stand up and speak out against the tobacco industry by joining SWAT.

*Madelyn Waynick is the president of Students Working Against Tobacco in Wakulla County.*

## On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of April 4

Thursday, April 4

- Rotary Club meets at TCC Wakulla at 8:30 a.m.
- 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](mailto: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, April 5

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

Saturday, April 6

- Chamber of Commerce's 13th annual Low Country Boil will be held at 3Y Ranch from 5:30 to 10 p.m.
- The Panacea Community Garden Farmer's Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Panacea.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Saturday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group will meet at the Wakulla County Public Library at 10 a.m. every Saturday.
- Petal Wings and the Wakulla County Garden Club are hosting a plant swap at

Petal Wings, 2126 Sopchoppy Hwy. in Sopchoppy, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday, April 8

- The Wakulla Planning Commission meets at 6 p.m. in the commission chambers.
- The Sopchoppy City Commission meets at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.
- Crawfordville Woman's Club monthly meeting is the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 64 Ochlockonee St., in Crawfordville. Call (850)566-5727 for more information.
- 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](mailto: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 9

- 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.

- 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](mailto:newposh3079@gmail.com) or text/call at (850) 528-5838.

Wednesday, April 10

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

**Something on your mind?**  
Email Letters to the Editor to [editor@thewakullasun.com](mailto:editor@thewakullasun.com); or mail it or drop it by the office at 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327.

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William Snowden  
Editor & Publisher  
The Wakulla Sun

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

*"It's A New Day!"*

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## ◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at the Crawfordville Quick Stop:

# What was your favorite food that you had on Easter Sunday?



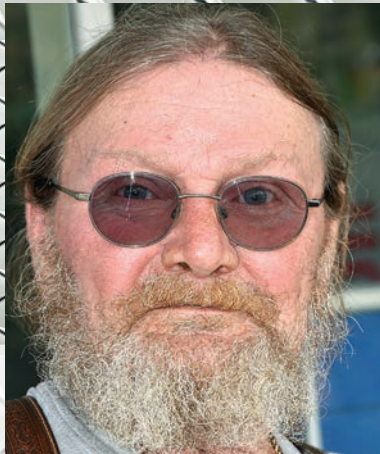
**CYNTHIA DICKEY**  
Foster Mom

“The baked ham. My husband makes the ham with pineapple and he basted it with honey.”



**MATHEW MOSER**  
Clerk of Court's Office

“The Easter honey glazed ham that my dad makes.”



**ROLLER MATHIS**  
Trucking

“Deviled eggs, my favorite side. My wife made them.”



**VANESSA DINER**  
Retired

“My homemade roast and vegetables and bread. I cook it real slow so that it just falls apart. It's great for sandwiches.”



**ROSS MONROE**  
Water Operator

“We were in the middle of moving here from Tallahassee this weekend so we just had spaghetti.”

## Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

I hope everyone had a blessed Holy Week and Easter. We all love the chocolate bunnies and Easter bonnets, but the real message is even more meaningful. How great the love of our Creator, to provide a pathway to reconciliation between us, Him, and our world! The words of the great old hymn, “I love to tell the story, for those who know it best, are hungering and thirsting, to hear it like the rest!” have never been more true.

The teams of students from Wakul-

la County who traveled to Orlando to compete in the state Odyssey of the Mind challenge all made strong showings. None of our contestants made it to the World Trials, but you can be proud of their accomplishments.

I am heartily tired of dealing with the bountiful supplies of oak and pine pollen. My sinuses are about ready to cry “Uncle!” and give up the ghost. Hopefully, we're at the tail end of allergy season, at least for a little while. Meanwhile, flowers wild, and domestic, are blooming prettily along our byways. The ditches are full of lillies,

and the woods are full of wild Cherokee roses, dogwood and tung tree blossoms, as well as stalks of wild purple salvia.

My daffodils, tulips, and California poppies are springing up, and my roses are beginning to put on a show. My fingers are itching to dig some dirt and plant some annuals. If only my sinuses would settle down...

On several occasions over the past few weeks, I have spotted a Bald Eagle traversing Woodville Highway. He has found fresh carrion upon which to feast, and seems to like flying over the roadway to gain altitude. Keep your eyes peeled. He is a majestic sight.

Meanwhile, back on terra firma, critters of all shapes and sizes

are on the move. Beware of errant bears, deer, squirrels, raccoons, and possums wandering into traffic. No doubt, brother Eagle and his Buzzard cousins appreciate your offerings, but that can sure play havoc with your fenders!

I am happy to report Clem Bunker continues to do well with her rehab, as does Ms. Norma Woodcock. Thelma Watts covets our prayers, as does Jimmy Gainey. Please keep Deborah Giles in your prayers also. Please hold the families of the men lost to the destruction of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore close in prayer too.

## Sheriff's Report

This report is for activities March 22-28:

### FRIDAY, MARCH 22

- Paula Fluty reported being scammed out of \$800. Fluty paid a suspect money upfront for repairs on her camper. The work has never been done, nor has the suspect returned her money. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Dakota Haddock investigated.

- Susan Jones of Blue Water Realty reported the theft of her signs. Jones stated six realty signs were stolen from behind her office. Jones valued the signs and materials at \$3,600. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Payden Surrette investigated.

- Deputy Don Newsome and Austin Rivers were at Dux's conduct-

ing a security check, when they detected the odor of marijuana coming from a vehicle. The passenger, Dennis Rosier, was observed attempting to hide something under the seat. Rosier then exited the vehicle and fled the scene on foot. After a short foot pursuit, Rosier was apprehended. It was discovered he was in possession of crack cocaine, powder cocaine and marijuana. Rosier was placed under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

- Deputy Nick Gray conducted a traffic stop on Bloxham Cut-off and Spring Creek Highway. The driver, Sharon Johnson, was determined to be intoxicated and placed under arrest. Johnson was transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- Ryan Laird noticed damages to the historic houses at the end of Zion Road. Further investigation revealed the windows had been busted out of the homes. Crime Scene responded and processed the scene to assist with the investigation. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Zac Monroe responded.

### MONDAY, MARCH 25

- Deputies responded Stephens-Donaldson Road in reference to an unknown black male in the complainant's house. Upon arrival, deputies located Jeremy Williams exiting from the rear of the residence. Williams was taken into custody and placed in the patrol vehicle. Deputy William Montgomery made contact with the complainant, Bryan O'Connor, who said he was in his shed when he heard

a loud noise coming from inside the residence. O'Connor stated when he entered the residence, he observed a unknown black male hitting the window seal with a pool cue. O'Connor asked the guy why he was in his house and said the unknown male responded by coming towards him with the pool cue. O'Connor said that is when he retreated to the shed and called the sheriff's office. Williams was transported to the Wakulla County jail without incident.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 26

- Karen Ann Ward reported writing a check to Wakulla Giving Hands for \$500. After mailing the check from her home mailbox. Ward's neighbor told her she found the contents of the envelope (minus the check) in her front yard. After making contact with Wakulla Giving Hands,

it was determined the check was never received by the agency. Capital City Bank advised Ward that the check had been cashed and to contact the sheriff's office. This case has been forwarded to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Kendrick Gavin investigated.

- Deputy James Williams responded to Gavin Road, in reference to a possible fire complaint. Upon arrival Wakulla Fire & EMS were already on scene. Deputy Williams made contact with Fairystine Randolph, who said as she started cooking, she noticed smoke coming from behind a cabinet on the wall. Randolph advised when she couldn't get it to stop smoking, she called the Fire Department. No foul play is suspected in the cause of the fire. The damage was estimated at \$1,500.

### WEDNESDAY,

### MARCH 27

- Two unknown subjects passed the last point of sale in Walmart without paying for items in their possession. The merchandise had an approximate value of \$730. This case has been forwarded to detectives for further investigation. Deputy Nick Gray investigated.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 28

- Deputy Don Newsome responded to the front lobby in reference to a fraud report. Melissa Roberts reported there were several fraudulent bank transactions on her bank account totaling over \$1,000. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

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

## TCC

### From Front Page

orientation and involvement. Now in its 57th year, the College is one of the top-ranked two-year institutions in the nation, having earned prestigious recognitions from organizations like the Aspen Institute, the American Association of Community Colleges, and Achieving the Dream. The College is recognized as the top transfer institution to both Florida State University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

“We are so grateful to the governor for taking the time to mark this significant occasion with us,” said Dr. Jim Murdaugh. “The new name reflects who we are as an institution, better recognizing our institutional status and impact. We look forward to moving into the future together as Tallahassee State College.”

The College hired Pace Branding and Marketing (Boca Raton and New York) for consulting services to rebrand the institution. After conducting focus groups,

town hall meetings, individual interviews, and online surveys of students, faculty and staff, alumni, and community members, Pace recommended three options for a new name to the District Board of Trustees (DBOT) in November 2023. DBOT

members unanimously selected Tallahassee State College. Senator Corey Simon (R-District 3) filed SB 522 on Nov. 17, 2023, and Rep. Jason Shoaf (R-District 7) filed the companion bill, HB 501, in the House, allowing for the name change.

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**FOLLOW THE SUN.**

# Outdoors

outdoor sports

## HOME ON THE RANGE

### Gun store etiquette



By MARJ LAW

What? Gun store etiquette? Does this mean you extend your pinky finger when you're handed a gun? Sheesh. Aren't we going a little too far with this etiquette thing?

No.

It's not that Ann Landers is watching you as you enter your favorite gun shop, but guidelines for gun store behavior are for your safety, the safety of people at the store, and to help the store owner from acquiring (new) gray hairs.

Do you notice that the person behind the counter always dumps the magazine, racks the slide, and peers into the chamber before he or she hands you the gun? They do this right in front of you, so you can see too. This is to demonstrate that the gun is indeed unloaded.

Yep. Looks unloaded to you. So, when he passes the gun to you, what should you do?

First, you'll remember to point the gun in a safe direction; not at any person. Yes, the sales person has demonstrated the gun is unloaded. But whether you're at the range or anywhere else, point the gun in a safe direction. It becomes a good habit. It's like extending your pinkie

when holding a tea cup, right?

What will you do next?

The gun has settled between your thumb and forefinger (your thumb). Now that the gun is comfortably in your thumb, you'll want to point the gun in that safe direction (always) and look down the sights. Do you like little white dots, big fat white dots, colorful fiber optics, or tritium sights? And what about those red dot sights or the new green red dot sights?

Ah, and how hard is it to pull the trigger? Stop! Stop!

You wouldn't be holding a .22, .22 Magnum or a 17 HMR handgun, would you? These and any rimfire guns cannot be dry-fired. You could break the firing pin by doing so.

Center fired guns are different. You can usually dry-fire a center fired gun, like a 9mm, a .40 or a .45 caliber handgun. It doesn't hurt, even when dry-firing a center fired handgun, to ask the salesperson if it is all right to do so. Mama brought you up with good manners.

And now you want to see how easy it is to fieldstrip this new gun. Stop! Stop!

In most cases, store personnel do not want you to perform any fieldstripping. Why? Well, often, when you're reassembling the gun, an ejector is sticking upright in the path of the slide. Push hard enough to get the slide back in position and you may break the ejector. Allowing prospective buyers to fieldstrip a gun may result in costly repairs.

When you consider

**Yes, there's some gun store etiquette. But it's not crooking your little finger!**



ammunition, you'll notice more than one type will fit in your prospective gun. For instance, you've picked out a 9mm Sig Sauer. Do you want the 115, 124 or 147-grain rounds?

You might feel like a kid in a candy store and want to check out each one. Stop! Stop!

Don't open the boxes of ammunition. If the box says 115-grain 9mm Luger then that's what's in the box. These different grained rounds won't have a different appearance, so why open the box? And if you should pull the flap and take out a round, who is to know that you'll return that round into the same place you found it?

Imagine what anxiety you'd put the gun store owner through if he had to open each box to ensure nobody played switcharoo with each round? Bottom line: never open ammunition boxes.

Planning on trading your handgun for a new one? Just like at a gun range, bring your gun in a pouch or its original package. If you're swinging a "naked" gun, the other 38 people in the store may hit the floor or dash out the door. They don't know what you're planning. They only see the gun in your hands.

Speaking of bringing a gun into a gun store, if you have a concealed carry license, and are carrying your holstered gun under your shirt or in a deep pocket, that's OK in almost any Florida gun store. Just make sure it's well hidden so you don't inadvertently cause a panic.

Remember the "Easy Rider" rifle racks that people used to carry in the back windows of their pickup trucks? No more! A lot of people are uneasy just to see a gun. In Florida, it's not legal to show a "public display of a firearm."

So, if you bring your unloaded gun to the store, bring it a pouch/package. When you bring it in your car or truck, put it in an unoccupied area, like the trunk if you don't have your concealed carry license. Make sure it's not visible. Miss Manners will be proud of you. You're showing consideration for others as well as carrying legally.

Many people coming to a gun store are really enthusiastic about handguns. I'm pretty interested myself. Likely, the salesperson is intrigued by them as well and has a wealth of knowledge.

What fun it is to meet up with a person who appreciates the merits and differences between guns!

But, just like visiting an antique store and saying at great length how your grandmother had an antique rocking chair similar to the

one on display, the antique store guy could probably care less. He doesn't want to know about you have; he's interested in selling his own wares.

The same is true about gun store owners. They don't need to hear about every gun you own; they want to sell their own guns. They may be polite and listen, but Miss Manners is whispering in your ear that they're chewing their hind leg off to get away from you.

Store personnel are selling to you. They are not selling to your neighbor, who figures you know more about guns than he, so he wants you to choose the right gun for him.

Oh, sure, it's flattering that someone thinks so highly of you. But you can't do it.

You cannot buy a gun for another person. You attest on the Firearm Transition Record Form 4473 that you are not purchasing the gun for someone else. That person must come to the store and fill out the paperwork himself. Yes, you can relate what you know about any gun he might buy, but he has to complete that 4473 form.

Gun store etiquette includes what is legal, what is safe, and what is considerate of others.

Oh, and when you're holding a gun, don't stick out your pinky finger. You'll get a much better hold if all your fingers fit firmly on the grip.

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



**HAWKSBILL SEA TURTLE**  
(*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

Reaching about 150 pounds as an adult, this turtle prefers to be in coastal waters where it can easily find its favorite food, sponges. It's omnivorous and will also eat mollusks, jellyfish, fish, shellfish and algae. When they are young their shell is heart shaped but as they grow it becomes oval. The pattern on their carapaces is made from overlapping bony plates. Unfortunately these turtles are still being killed for their shell and eggs. They have become critically endangered, mostly due the activity of humans.

*Eukaryota, Anamalia, Chordata, Reptilia, Testunides, Cheloniidae*

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory  
www.gulfspecimen.org

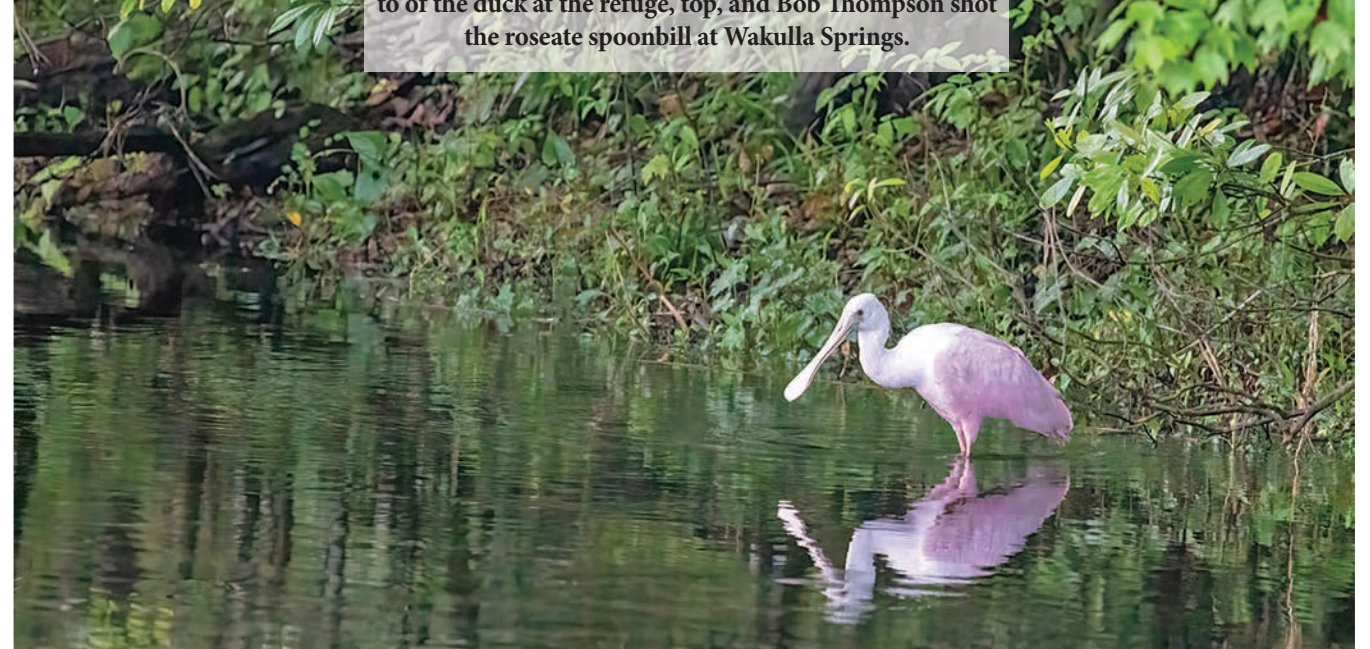


Leave Nothing  
But Your Footprints

## WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO



A double-helping this week: Perry Dissmore took the photo of the duck at the refuge, top, and Bob Thompson shot the roseate spoonbill at Wakulla Springs.



# Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

SEA TOW

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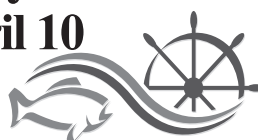


### Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

April 4 - April 10



Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month April 8-23

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

#### St. Marks River Entrance

Th	5:48 am ▼ -0.3 ft	12:41 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	6:01 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	11:49 pm ▲ 3.1 ft
Fr	6:41 am ▼ -0.4 ft	1:14 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	6:58 pm ▼ 1.0 ft	
Sa	12:57 am ▲ 3.7 ft	7:26 am ▼ -0.3 ft	1:44 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	7:45 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Su	1:54 am ▲ 3.7 ft	8:05 am ▼ 0.0 ft	2:12 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	8:29 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Mo	2:46 am ▲ 3.7 ft	8:40 am ▼ 0.7 ft	2:39 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	9:12 pm ▼ -0.9 ft
Tu	3:35 am ▲ 3.5 ft	9:12 am ▼ 1.0 ft	3:04 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	9:54 pm ▼ -0.9 ft
We	4:22 am ▲ 3.5 ft	9:41 am ▼ 1.0 ft	3:30 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	10:37 pm ▼ -0.9 ft

#### City of St. Marks

Th	6:52 am ▼ -0.3 ft	1:17 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	7:05 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	
Fr	12:25 am ▲ 2.9 ft	7:45 am ▼ -0.3 ft	1:50 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	8:02 pm ▼ 0.9 ft
Sa	1:33 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:30 am ▼ -0.2 ft	2:20 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	8:49 pm ▼ 0.3 ft
Su	2:30 am ▲ 3.4 ft	9:09 am ▼ 0.0 ft	2:48 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	9:33 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Mo	3:22 am ▲ 3.5 ft	9:44 am ▼ 0.3 ft	3:15 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	10:16 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Tu	4:11 am ▲ 3.5 ft	10:16 am ▼ 0.6 ft	3:40 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	10:58 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
We	4:58 am ▲ 3.3 ft	10:45 am ▼ 0.9 ft	4:06 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	11:41 pm ▼ -0.8 ft

#### Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	6:13 am ▼ -0.1 ft	1:00 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	6:16 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	
Fr	12:08 am ▲ 3.2 ft	7:07 am ▲ 3.5 ft	1:33 pm ▼ -0.2 ft	7:16 pm ▲ 1.0 ft
Sa	1:17 am ▲ 3.5 ft	7:51 am ▼ -0.1 ft	2:04 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	8:05 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Su	2:14 am ▲ 3.8 ft	8:30 am ▼ 0.1 ft	2:32 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	8:49 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Mo	3:05 am ▲ 3.8 ft	9:05 am ▼ 0.4 ft	3:00 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:33 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Tu	3:53 am ▲ 3.8 ft	9:37 am ▼ 0.8 ft	3:26 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	10:15 pm ▼ -0.9 ft
We	4:40 am ▲ 3.7 ft	10:06 am ▼ 1.1 ft	3:53 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	10:58 pm ▼ -0.9 ft

#### Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	5:59 am ▼ -0.2 ft	12:33 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	6:12 pm ▼ 1.1 ft	11:41 pm ▲ 2.4 ft
Fr	6:52 am ▼ -0.3 ft	1:06 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	7:09 pm ▼ 0.7 ft	
Sa	12:49 am ▲ 2.8 ft	7:37 am ▼ -0.2 ft	1:36 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	7:56 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Su	1:46 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:16 am ▼ 0.0 ft	2:04 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:40 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Mo	2:38 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:51 am ▼ 0.2 ft	2:31 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:23 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Tu	3:27 am ▲ 2.8 ft	9:23 am ▼ 0.5 ft	2:56 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	10:05 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
We	4:14 am ▲ 2.6 ft	9:52 am ▼ 0.8 ft	3:22 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	10:48 pm ▼ -0.7 ft

#### St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	5:55 am ▼ -0.2 ft	1:14 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	6:28 pm ▼ 1.5 ft	11:37 pm ▲ 2.4 ft
Fr	6:48 am ▼ -0.2 ft	1:30 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	7:10 pm ▼ 1.0 ft	
Sa	12:50 am ▲ 2.7 ft	7:31 am ▼ -0.1 ft	1:47 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	7:49 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	1:51 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:09 am ▼ 0.2 ft	2:07 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	8:28 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Mo	2:46 am ▲ 2.9 ft	8:44 am ▼ 0.5 ft	2:29 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:08 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Tu	3:39 am ▲ 2.9 ft	9:16 am ▼ 0.9 ft	2:54 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	9:49 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
We	4:31 am ▲ 2.7 ft	9:45 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:22 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:33 pm ▼ -0.9 ft

#### Dog Island West End

Th	6:11 am ▼ -0.1 ft	1:43 pm ▲ 2.0 ft	6:50 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	11:38 pm ▲ 2.2 ft
Fr	7:13 am ▼ 0.0 ft	1:52 pm ▲ 2.0 ft	7:36 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	
Sa	1:03 am ▲ 2.4 ft	7:59 am ▼ 0.1 ft	2:07 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	8:14 pm ▼ 0.4 ft
Su	2:15 am ▲ 2.5 ft	8:36 am ▼ 0.3 ft	2:26 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	8:51 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Mo	3:15 am ▲ 2.5 ft	9:09 am ▼ 0.7 ft	2:49 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	9:29 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Tu	4:12 am ▲ 2.5 ft	9:39 am ▼ 1.0 ft	3:14 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	10:09 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
We	5:07 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:08 am ▼ 1.3 ft	3:41 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:54 pm ▼ -0.7 ft

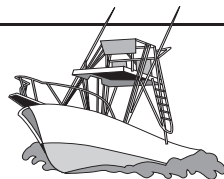
Best hunting and fishing based on solunar times. MAJOR feeding periods are 2 hours long, centered on the solunar time. MINOR feeding periods are only 1 hour long, again centered on the solunar time.

Thursday 4	
Minor Times 4:03AM 2:49PM	Major Times 8:53AM 9:20PM
Friday 5	
Minor Times 3:59PM	Major Times 9:47AM 10:13PM
Saturday 6	
Minor Times 5:18AM 5:08PM	Major Times 10:39AM ----
Sunday 7	
Minor Times 5:52AM 6:18PM	Major Times 11:05PM 11:30AM
Monday 8	
Minor Times 6:25AM 7:27PM	Major Times 11:56PM 12:21PM
Tuesday 9	
Minor Times 7:00AM 8:38PM	Major Times 12:47AM 1:14PM
Wednesday 10	
Minor Times 7:37AM 9:48PM	Major Times 1:41AM 2:09PM



## Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



The National Safe Boating Council provides many great resources.

One important one is about using your engine cut of switch. Boats and jet skis are equipped with this safety feature to help ensure the safety of everyone on board.

It is typically a lanyard that can be clipped to your life jacket or worn around your wrist.

It is a very disconcerting feeling to see your boat speed away from you after you have fallen overboard. In addition, using the engine cut-off switch reduces the risk of a propeller strike by stopping the engine in the event the operator falls overboard or there is an emergency. It allows the operator to gain control of the

### 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

vessel more quickly.

Using the engine cut off switch is also the law!

Operators of recreational vessels less than 26 feet in length are required to use an engine cut-off switch (ECOS) and associated ECOS link (ECOSL) as of April 1, 2021, as the U.S. Coast Guard implements a law passed

by Congress.

Do your part to help make our waterways safer for all!

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](http://www.uscgaux.net) follow us on Facebook @ Apalachee Bay Flotilla 12 or contact our Flotilla Commander Phil Hill at [pnkhill2000@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.cgaux.org).*

### Enhanced certification.

Let's look at how you can enhance your scuba skills beyond your Open Water certification. Various agencies have different ideas on what you need to further you're under water experience. The basic progression from open water certification is to the advanced level.

The advanced certification gives you the opportunity to continue on with what you have learned from your open water cert. It may sound intimidating but it's not, it gives you the opportunity to get more diving and enhance your knowledge and skills.

For the advanced certification you are required to be 15 years or older, open water certified / Jr. Open water 10-14 accompanied by a parent or guardian.

In the advanced course you will be required to make (6) dives, (3) required dives; (1) navigation (use of a compass under water), (1) night dive, and (1) deep dive (below 80 feet) not to exceed 130 feet.

Now the other (3) dives that are given (my personal favorites); (1) boat diving, (1) intro in to wreck diving (no penetration), and (1) Eco or under water marine life observation. There are a few more to choose from but I would like to touch on the required dives.

The deep dive; that sounds scary but it's not if you are properly trained on what to look for as you descend into the abyss. When you took your open water I hope your instructor really focused on the physics and physiological aspect of diving. The physics help you deal with the pressures at the various depths and the physiological deals with your body's reaction to those pressures at different depths. When you're dealing with 4-5 atmospheres below it sounds scary but in all honesty you really don't notice any change in pressure (once you have gone deeper than 70-80 feet your ears will generally clear on their own), the thing you need to watch for is the narcosis. The way I train my advance students to keep most of the effects of narcosis away is to do simple math problems once they get past 60 feet.

Before you are aware of it you're at 100-130 feet and then you need to monitor your gas, bottom time, and O2 levels (if you're using 32% Nitrox). It's that simple and fun especially if you go to PCB and dive the Accokeek or the twin tugs, both are in 110 feet of water.

You can also go diving on several of the bridge spans that used to be the old Hathaway Bridge that connected Panama City Beach to the mainland. Several of those are in 80-100 feet of water.

Intro into wreck diving; this one is especially fun because of the various types of wrecks that are available in the Gulf around Panama City. With this specialty you will have the opportunity to see the parts of a large boat that is sitting at the bottom of the ocean like you've not seen before. My advice is to look online and go to one of the several dive shops websites in PCB and go on the "Florida Panhandle Shipwreck Trail. It consists of 12 unique shipwrecks along Florida's Panhandle.

Until then leave nothing but bubbles.  
Russell Miller NAUI #59999

**This is a repeat of a column that originally appeared in April 2022.**

## FWC Law Enforcement Report

### From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled March 8-14 in the Northwest Region. (No cases were reported in Wakulla County)

### FRANKLIN COUNTY

- Officers Hartzog and T. Nelson observed a recreational vessel with two individuals on board leaving from the bank of the East River with gear consistent with wild hog hunting. The officers stopped the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection. During the inspection the officers observed the vessel displayed registration indicating it was a homemade vessel, but a contradicting hull identification number was attached to the stern along with a manufacturer's decal on the side. Through further investigation,

it was determined the vessel was recently purchased and the previous owner forged a vessel builder's statement and committed title fraud. The violations were cited accordingly.

- Officers Hartzog and Forbes observed a recreational vessel on the Carrabelle River with two individuals who were fishing. The officers stopped the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection. During the inspection, the officers observed the individuals to be in possession of undersized red drum and one of the individuals to be over his daily bag limit. The violations were cited accordingly.

- Officers Hartzog and Forbes were conducting a night water patrol on Apalachicola Bay and observed a commercial vessel with one individual on board who was flounder gigging. The officers stopped

the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection. The individual was identified as a commercial angler with extensive history of resource violations. During the inspection, the subject was observed to be in possession of multiple undersized flounder. The violations were cited accordingly.

### SANTA ROSA COUNTY

- Officer Bower located a sailboat that appeared to be a derelict vessel. It tilted to its side and had washed ashore and was grounded. The vessel did not have a 360 white navigation light displayed. The owner was issued a notification of rights package and a notice to appear citation for storing a derelict vessel upon waters of the state and a warning for vessel breaking anchor and a warning for no navigational lights present.
- Officers Bown and

Waters conducted a resource inspection on a subject fishing with a rod and reel. The subject stated he had a valid fishing license but did not have it in his possession. Upon investigation, the officers confirmed he did not have a fishing license and had an active warrant. The officers placed the subject under arrest for his warrant and he was transported to the Santa Rosa County Jail. The subject was cited appropriately.

In the North Central Region:

### TAYLOR COUNTY

- Officers Rowe and Edwards and Lt. Loyed responded to an airboat accident at Keaton Beach. The operator of the airboat hit a stump and made impact with a palm tree causing four occupants to be ejected from the boat. Two subjects were transported to a local hospital. The operator received a citation for the navigation violation.

# Should we have warned our spouse at the altar?



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Standing there before God and man, I grasped my soon-to-be-husband's hands tightly. "I need to confess something, Bert. I haven't quite mastered 1

Corinthians 13:5 yet. So, maybe I'd be more honest if I said my vows this way: 'I, Sheryl, take you, Bert, to be my husband if you don't insult me, hurt my feelings, or do anything to upset me from this day forward, until death do us part.'"

Even though my revised wedding vows would have more honestly revealed the woman Bert was about to spend the rest of his life with, I didn't actually reword them almost 18 years ago. I have no doubt, however, that he would've appreciated the warning.

This week we're focusing on the third challenge in 1 Corinthians 13:5: "[Love] is not irritable" (ESV). The Amplified Bible makes sure we get the point. "It is not provoked [nor overly sensitive and easily angered]." What?! Irritable?! Overly sensitive?! Easily Angered?! Me?! When do I ever act like that?!

But seriously, don't you hate it when your behavior escalates the problem? Would the people in your life benefit if you meditated on and applied 1 Corinthians 13:5?

Let's meditate on this

week's verse to prevent walking-on-eggshell moments, especially when we're so overly sensitive and easily angered that people would rather not be around us.

We could ask God to help us not be so thin-skinned and remind us to count to ten or, better yet, recite 1 Corinthians 13:5 (in the Amplified Bible) to give us space before we say anything we regret.

Let's also pray for God to help us not take everything so personally. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to give us discernment to be able to perceive when

someone's comment or act wasn't meant to be hurtful – and, if necessary, give us grace to forgive.

We can pray with confidence because God knows us well. He knows the areas we're the most sensitive. He knows our triggers. And thankfully, He knows how much we want to behave in ways that honor Him.

On my worst days, the more I meditate on Scripture and focus on God (all He is to me – and I to Him) the more I experience satisfaction, peace, and joy, as well as less frustration, anger

and hurt. I'm calmer. Less defensive.

Less likely to blow it. When we trust God's love for us, we become better at loving others. The better we become at loving others, the less we'll wonder if we should've given our spouse a warning before they said, "I do."

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

## The love recalls



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

There isn't a day that goes by without me thinking of my parents in some way; the feeling is especially strong on some days. It is true that while you learn to cope with the loss, you never truly get over their passing. The one beautiful truth I have learned is that the memories that once caused me grief have become my greatest comfort, including

the holidays.

Thanksgiving filled the house with the scent of turkey and sweet homemade desserts. Christmas was filled with secrets wrapped in pretty paper beneath a silver Christmas tree. There was also the special holiday meal with Mom's fruitcake made from scratch and Dad's special ambrosia. Easter was filled with baskets and the dying of bright-colored eggs. It was the one time of the year we all got new clothes and shoes for Sunday Service.

I remember one Easter when my mom took out her sewing machine and made matching maxi skirts and shirts for my sister and me. The skirt fabric had a

quilt pattern with orange, blue, and white print; the orange shirts sported puffed sleeves. It's funny how out of all the Easter clothes I received, this is the one outfit I recall so vividly. I believe it's because it was made with love. It is the love that recalls the prized memories of my youth.

Ultimately, due to their declining health, my parents required 24/7 care, necessitating their placement in a nursing home. Over time, my mother's eyesight deteriorated due to various illnesses. Regardless of her lack of vision, Mom could always recognize us by how we kissed her cheek. The love we shared refreshed her memories.

If memories are revived by love, hope is the gift that love brings. As Alexander Pope wrote in his Essay of a Man, hope springs eternal. Without love and hope, what do we have? Among all the gifts my parents gave us, the most valued is the love and hope they instilled in us from early childhood. Our hope, or faith, teaches us not to lose hope, even though we may be wasting away on the outside. Our faith renews our inner selves daily, reminding us that this world is only temporary. However, an eternal dwelling awaits each of us, as stated in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.

During His time on earth, Jesus talked about an eternal dwelling place. Did you know

faith is perfected when we keep our focus on Him? Jesus endured the cross because He knew His suffering would ease our pain. Because of Him, we have the hope that we will see our loved ones again.

After His resurrection, Jesus taught His disciples of a better place. He said that heaven has many rooms. He said He would go and prepare a place for those who believe in Him. He promised to return for the faithful ones, assuring them that they would not be left alone but that He would always be with them. He also promised to give them peace, not of the world, but of the Kingdom of heaven (John 14).

Honestly, I know loss

hurts; mere words cannot diminish its pain. Nonetheless, when waves of grief come my way, I pull up my memories and smile. I relive Easter Sundays and picnics after church. I allow the love to recall words of faith and rejoice in the hope of eternal life.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. Revelation 21:14.

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

### OUT TO PASTOR

## Second thoughts can be dangerous to my health



By **JAMES SNYDER**

Many things in life can be rather dangerous. For me, the most dangerous things in my life are thoughts.

I thought about this one day, and by the end of the day, I was in deep trouble. Thoughts have a way of doing that with me.

My New Year's resolution one year was to have one thought per day. After the first week, I ran out of thoughts.

This year, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I will be married 53 years. During that time, I discovered how vital just one thought can be.

If anybody thinks a lot, it is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She has everything thought through before I have a chance to even know what it is. Like most women, she is an expert in multitasking. That means it takes a lot of thought to do all those things simultane-

ously. She does it quite well.

She often says how many headaches she has during the day, and if I could put several thoughts together, I might tell her that those headaches are a result of all that thinking she does during the day. But, on second thought, I better just leave that one alone.

Over the years, I have tried to focus on thinking, but I haven't gotten very far. This may be why I don't have any headaches during the week. From my point of view, that's one benefit that I relish every day.

Once, while we were driving along the highway, she was driving, and I was staring out the window. She took one quick look at me, and said, "What are you thinking about?"

Looking back at her, I responded, "You're not really thinking that I'm doing any thinking, are you? That's way above my pay scale."

Of course, she laughed, and I laughed along with her, but sometimes the truth is the truth.

One of her favorite phrases along this line is, "Do you have any second thoughts on that?"

Recently we were remodeling our house

and adding a room that would be my office upon retiring. I had some really great ideas, at least I thought so, and I shared them with her. When I was done with my presentation, she looked at me and said, "Do you want to give that a second thought?"

It was enough for me to give her the first thought, let alone come up with a second thought. But by that time, I was all thought-out.

Then she gave me a whole list of her thoughts about the project and she did it so fast I couldn't keep up with it and I had no idea what she was talking about. I was almost ready to say, "Do you want to give them a second thought?" I knew if I did that, her second thought may not be what I want it to be – if you know what I mean.

Over the years, we have become a wonderful team. I call it the T&N team. What that means is that she Thinks, and I just Nod my head in agreement. I'm sure I didn't think that through, but I must confess it sure does work. It has produced almost 53 years of marital bliss.

After 53 years of being "thought-free," my

life is quite remarkable. I've had very few headaches because there is nothing up there to ache.

Sometimes, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage will ask me about a particular problem and ask, "What do you think about that problem?"

After 53 years of the T&N team experience, I simply shoot back, "I'm not sure. What do you think about it, and what should we do?"

And when I say that, I can sit back and listen to all the good advice and nod my head at the appropriate places, and at the end, we both are smiling. No thought on my part involved.

The best thought I have ever had, and where I harbor no second thoughts, is when I asked The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to marry me. I'm not sure what her thought process was then, but I can assure you there were no second thoughts on my side of the aisle.

I can sit back and remember a lot of the things I did in the past. Of course, at my age, my memory is not up to par, but at least there's a little bit left. There were a few times when I thought about something and then had

second thoughts, and it was the second thought that got me into trouble.

I have learned that I need to gather all the information before exercising my first thought. If I have everything before me, then I can proceed to the next step in making a decision based on my thought process.

I remembered a special verse of scripture that encouraged me in this regard.

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

This is where I need to surrender all my thoughts to God and obey His Word.

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

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# Obituaries

## DEATH NOTICES

• **Donnie Crum**, 74, of Panacea, died March 26, 2024.

• **Richard Iverson**, 62, of Crawfordville, died March 27, 2024.

• **Lilburn “Vernon” Bruce**, 63, of Crawfordville, died March 29, 2024.

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

## Weekly Roundup: Bracing for a courtroom brawl

By **RYAN DAILEY**  
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – Gov. Ron DeSantis’ signature on perhaps the highest-profile bill of the 2024 legislative session means many teens in Florida could be prohibited from opening social media accounts starting next year — but legal challenges are sure to follow.

Lawmakers this month overwhelmingly passed the bill (HB 3), fulfilling a major priority of House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast. DeSantis signed the measure Monday.

The bill, in part, seeks to prevent children under age 16 from opening social-media accounts on at least some platforms — though it would allow parents to give consent for 14- and 15-year-olds to have accounts. Children under 14 could not open accounts.

DeSantis in the waning days of the session vetoed an earlier version of the bill that did not include the parental opt-in provision. The previous version also would have required age-verification for platforms, which would have affected adults creating accounts.

Despite the changes, the House speaker said the new law stands to protect youths from what he has described as addictive features and other aspects of social-media that he argues are harmful to mental health. Renner, who was among many

to predict legal challenges to the measure, said he expects it to withstand First Amendment challenges.

“You will not find a line in this bill that addresses good speech or bad speech because that would violate the First Amendment. We’ve not addressed that at all,” Renner, an attorney, said. “What we have addressed is the addictive features that are at the heart of why children stay on these platforms for hours and hours on end.”

The industry group NetChoice this month urged DeSantis to veto the revamped measure, arguing it would violate First Amendment rights. Spokeswoman Krista Chavez said in an email Monday that the group does not publicly discuss legal strategy, but it quickly recirculated the veto request and earlier statements about the constitutionality of the bill.

“An unconstitutional law will protect exactly zero Floridians,” Carl Szabo, NetChoice’s vice president and general counsel,” said in a statement. “HB 3 is also bad policy because of the data collection on Floridians by online services it will in effect require. This will put their private data at risk of breach.”

Meanwhile, the state’s top attorney signaled that she will be ready to rumble when and if the measure is challenged in court.

“You better believe, I am going to fight like hell

to uphold this in court,” Attorney General Ashley Moody said during Monday’s bill-signing event in Jacksonville.

The bill is slated to take effect Jan. 1.

### SETTLE DOWN

This week brought another settlement between DeSantis’ administration and a courtroom foe, leading to the governor declaring victory.

Walt Disney Parks and Resorts and the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District reached a legal settlement Wednesday that ended an Orange County circuit-court lawsuit. The lawsuit came amid a feud between DeSantis and the entertainment giant over its opposition to a 2022 state law that restricted instruction about sexual orientation and gender identity in schools.

Walt Disney World Resort President Jeff Vahle said in a prepared statement that the company was “pleased to put an end to all litigation pending in state court.”

The legal settlement includes nullifying controversial development agreements that the entertainment giant entered with the former Reedy Creek Improvement District, which had close ties to Disney. The Legislature and DeSantis replaced the district with the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District last year.

The settlement also lifts changes imposed

by the new oversight board. District plans now revert to 2020 conditions as the two sides work on a new development agreement.

Appearing at a bill signing Thursday in Fort Lauderdale, DeSantis chalked it up as a win.

“Yesterday’s agreement acknowledges that those covenants and those 11th-hour agreements, done between the old district and the company, are null and void,” DeSantis declared.

Initially set up in the 1960s, the district provides government services for a swath of Central Florida that includes Disney properties.

The agreement also includes language that allows Disney to hold off on advancing its appeal of a federal lawsuit “pending negotiations among other matters of a new development agreement between Disney and the district.”

Disney’s federal case alleged state officials unconstitutionally retaliated against the company over its opposition to the education law, which supporters formally named the “Parental Rights in Education” measure but opponents labeled “don’t say gay.” The company’s appeal is pending at the Atlanta-based 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

### HURRY UP AND WAIT

Two major Florida Supreme Court deci-

sions didn’t come down this week as many expected, but the court on Thursday evening issued an announcement that the opinions are likely to be published next week — on the deadline that they’re due.

Justices appear poised Monday afternoon to issue rulings about whether proposed constitutional amendments that seek to ensure abortion rights and allow recreational marijuana will go on the November ballot.

Political committees behind the two proposed amendments have submitted enough petition signatures to reach the ballot. But the Supreme Court plays a key role because it must decide whether the wording of initiatives’ ballot titles and summaries — the parts that voters see when they go to the polls — meet legal tests. Those tests include whether the wording is clear and whether it deals with

only single subjects.

The court Thursday evening issued a statement that said it will release “out-of-calendar” opinions at 4 p.m. Monday. The court typically releases opinions each Thursday morning, with “out-of-calendar” opinions released other times.

### STORY OF THE WEEK:

With the state preparing for a legal challenge from the tech industry, Gov. Ron DeSantis on Monday signed a high-profile bill aimed at keeping children off social-media platforms.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

“We have ordinances that we passed we spent a lot of money on and did a lot of work on. This seems to wipe those out in favor of a bureaucratic agency.” — Melbourne Beach Mayor Alison Dennington, who opposes a bill (SB 280) that seeks to regulate vacation rentals at the state level.

### tobe7encouraged faith column

#### Looking into a mirror...

Greetings Wakulla citizens! His reflection through us is what is on my heart this day. As I go out each day, I am around a lot of people sharing their life experiences. The stories they share are quite eye opening to who they live for, the kingdom they serve. My response to their stories is an eye opener to them of who I live for and the kingdom I serve as well. The same goes for you who are reading this. I bring this up to ask ourselves...are we mimicking Jesus and His ways? As we grow in God, our interests and desires start to change. The conversations we would partake in are no longer interesting to us. The same goes for how we spend our time.

So, when we look in the “mirror” of our mind of a conversation or time spent with someone, the reflection of that situation we were in...was it “carnal” or Christ-like? Did we encourage the people we were with to be more like the world or Jesus? I do not mean by preaching at them, just simply through our new way of living...the joy we now have in us, the peace we now have. Scripture says this “Proverbs 27:19 As in water, face reflects face, So the heart of man reflects man.” It becomes evident in us, through our words and actions, how we spend our time and Who we spend our time with. Scripture says this “Luke 6:45 “The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.”

The “Fruit” God is growing in us should start to be seen by others. Scripture says this “2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.” His WORD is our Seed for His Harvest that is in the world. Matthew 9:37 Then He \*said to His

disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup>Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.” We are His workers. Praise God!! Be encouraged in and through His WORD, allow Him to do in you what only God can do! His WORD is the ONLY way for anyone and anything to change! Remember!! NO MATTER WHAT WE’VE DONE!!! HE LOVES US!!!

Stay encouraged in Him,  
Deb Quimby-Quackenbush

You are welcome to reach out, our email is [tobe7encouraged@gmail.com](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. WOOHHHOO!!!** 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.



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## Valerie Russell

### From Front Page

proud of the fact that my husband and I have been married for 28 years and that together we built our home, raised our children, and have spent decades volunteering right here in Wakulla County.

Through these volunteer activities and via my career as a local medical provider, I observe the stress our neighbors are experiencing daily. Many of the families that I serve are struggling to stay afloat financially. Increased local taxes and higher assessments don’t allow a paycheck to stretch out as far as it used to; the lack of available higher wage local jobs has resulted in more residents commuting back and forth to Tallahassee, costing families financially due to transportation costs while also negatively impacting their limited precious family time; and sadly, increased property

taxes associated with real estate values that have skyrocketed due to unprecedented growth are making it hard for families to hold on to properties they have had for generations.

While there is no quick and easy fix to the above challenges, the fact of the matter is this: there has been a noticeable lack of concern in these areas by some on the county commission. Change needs to occur this upcoming election. Change that will result in our quality of life being protected, while also ensuring that Wakulla County does not become South Tallahassee!

Should you choose to elect me to be your new District 3 County Commissioner, my service to you will be guided by a moral compass centered on my Christian faith. A faith that embodies my strong conservative values, while simultaneously invoking my true and sincere compassion

for others. I do not believe in making empty campaign promises that can’t be delivered upon and by no means will I guarantee that Wakulla County will become a land flowing with milk and honey the day I take office. However, should I become elected, I will make each of you the following promise: I will work as hard as possible and do everything within my power to accomplish the following: reduce your county-imposed taxes; bring in more high wage jobs; protect our

fragile and unique environment; and ensure that each and every resident of Wakulla County has a voice that will be heard!

Are you and your family better off now than you were four years ago? If you feel that you aren’t, then I graciously request your support of my candidacy to be your new District 3 County Commissioner.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 879-0759 should you have any questions regarding my candidacy.

# WAKULLA LOVES JESUS!

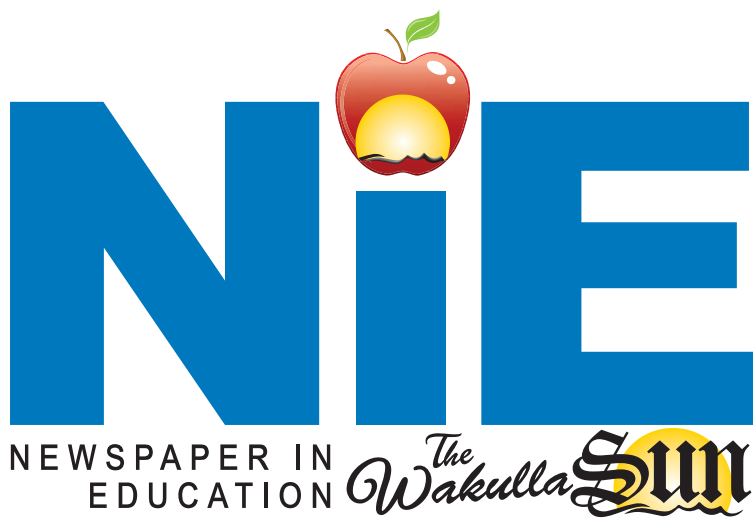
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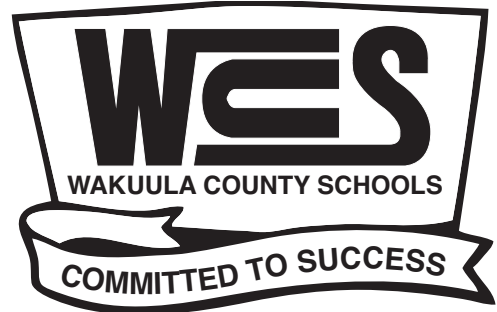
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## USE THE NEWS

### 1. CHOCOLATE COSTS

Last weekend was Easter, which means you've probably seen a lot of chocolate bunnies, eggs, and other festive spring shapes in stores recently. But what you may not have noticed is the prices of those treats going up. The cost of cocoa, which is what's used to make all the chocolate treats you can think of, has gone up to the highest prices ever. A lot of the world's cocoa is grown in West Africa, and farmers there have faced a lot of issues with their cocoa crops recently. Bad weather and cocoa plant diseases have affected how much cocoa they're able to send around the world, which has made the price higher because there's less of it to go around. Write a summary of this story, including at least five facts that you learned.

### 2. DOG DILEMMA

A German breed of dogs called dachshunds are very popular around the world. They're also called "wiener dogs," because they have short legs and long bodies that remind some people of hot dogs. However, a new rule in Germany could affect people who breed dachshunds and possibly even keep them from doing it at all. The new rule is meant to keep people from breeding dogs that will have health problems because of their breed – for example, some dogs with very short snouts, like pugs, have trouble breathing. Dachshunds could be affected by the new rule because of their short legs, which can lead to back problems. Write a summary of this story, including facts that you learned, and draw a picture to go along with it.

### 3. ABSENCE INCREASE

When was the last time you were absent from school? What about your friends? In the four years since the Covid-19 pandemic closed schools and made it normal for people to learn on their computers at home, there's been a big increase in school absences. In some districts, the number of absences has doubled compared to before the pandemic. Students might miss school for many reasons,

including illnesses, family vacations, or taking care of siblings. But even when make-up work is posed online, students aren't learning as well when they aren't in school. Write down a list of reasons why being absent isn't good for a student. Share your list with your classmates and talk about why it's important to be in school.

### 4. PROP DOOR SOLD

If you've ever heard about or

seen the movie "Titanic," chances are you've heard about one of the final scenes, where Rose floats on a door in the freezing waters after the Titanic sinks. The scene has been the subject of intense discussion on whether two people could've fit on the door while it stayed afloat. Now, the wood panel that Rose floated on was sold for \$718,750 at an auction with other iconic movie props. The auction set records for how many people joined from around the world to bid on the movie props and costumes. Think

about your favorite movie. If you could have a prop from the movie, what would it be? What would you do with it? Write a short, fictional story about your answers.

### 5. CANADA'S "FIRST LADY OF JAZZ"

Famous Canadian jazz singer Eleanor Collins died last week at 104 years old. She was the first Black person and first woman to host a television program in Canada with "The Eleanor Collins Show," which ran for three months

in the summer of 1955. She was an accomplished jazz singer but never made an album under her own name and rarely traveled to perform. Instead, she focused on her husband and four children, hosting her show and performing around their home of Vancouver, Canada. What would you ask someone that's more than 100 years old? What advice could they give you? Write down some questions you would have for someone who's lived an entire century!



### BOOK FACT!

IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS FORM OF LITERATURE CAME BEFORE LANGUAGE ITSELF, PROBABLY BECAUSE IT HAS CLOSE TIES TO MUSIC.

ANSWER: POETRY

### Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	10	2	16
20		1	29
	15		26
30	33	8	

5	15	6
1	8	20
2	10	4

Solution

### Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

HRYGNMI DSOWR

Answer: Rhyming words

### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1614: NATIVE AMERICAN POCAHONTAS MARRIES ENGLISH COLONIST JOHN ROLFE.
- 1862: THE BATTLE OF YORKTOWN BEGINS DURING THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.
- 1998: THE AKASHI KAIKYO BRIDGE OPENS TO TRAFFIC IN JAPAN, BECOMING THE LONGEST BRIDGE SPAN IN THE WORLD.



### METER

the rhythm of a piece of poetry

### How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Verse  
**SPANISH:** Verso  
**ITALIAN:** Verso  
**FRENCH:** Strophe  
**GERMAN:** Verse

### Did you Know?

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## NOTICE OF ACTION

0404-0425 TWS NOA  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR WAKULLA, FLORIDA  
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION  
CASE NO.: 2022DR137

JESSICA LANE,  
PETITIONER,  
AND  
ROBERT LANE,  
RESPONDENT.

### NOTICE OF ACTION- MODIFY PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES SUPPLEMENTAL PETITION TO MODIFY PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

TO: JESSICA LANE, 90 Harry Morrison Rd. Crawfordville FL 32327.  
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action for DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE WITH CHILDREN has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Robert Lane, whose address is 47A Dispenette Dr. Crawfordville FL 32327, on or before APRIL 26, 2024 (30 days from Date of First Publication of this Notice) and file the original with the clerk of this court at 3056 Crawfordville Hwy. Crawfordville FL 32327 before service on Petitioner immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the addresses on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanction's, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.  
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this March 26, 2024.

{{County Court Seal}}   
Greg James  
As Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: /s/ Jessica Peak  
As Deputy Clerk  
Published April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TWS NTC LISA ANN HOWE MARSH  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROBATE DIVISION  
File No. 24-CP-000002

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  
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# Sports

## BASEBALL

### War Eagles sweep opponents, improve to 11-2-1



By **KEITH ANDERSON**  
Baseball Coach

The Wakulla War Eagles varsity baseball team had a big week this past week with a 3 game sweep of their opponents on the diamond to improve their record to 11-2-1.

They began the week traveling to a tough Thomasville High team on Tuesday, March 26,

defeating them 13-3.

Senior starter Leaston Spears had another strong start only allowing 2 hits and striking out 5 over 4 innings of work to receive the win. Senior Jesse Nazworth threw a shutout inning to end the game in the fifth.

Josiah Pierini led the offense with 3 RBIs, going 2-4 with a double. Owen Klees and Michael Hurley each added a double. Sam Bruce and Parker Lawhon each had two hits and two RBIs each. Brady Crum also had a hit and an RBI.

The game ended with a bases loaded two-out spectacular catch by center fielder Parker

Lawhon who jumped up and made a leaping grab as he hit the wall.

The War Eagles then traveled to district foe Godby on Thursday, March 28th, defeating them 12-1.

Junior Ryan Newberry got his first start on the mound this season and made the most of it. He gave up 4 hits and one unearned run over five innings striking out two and walking none.

Submariner Hayden Wright threw one shutout inning in relief striking out 1.

The War Eagles started slow, but racked up 14 hits on the evening. Parker Lawhon, Sam Bruce, Michael Hurley,

Josiah Pierini, and Owen Klees all had multiple hits. Will Chipman and Brady Crum each added a single. Haden Klees had a solo homerun to centerfield.

On Friday, March 29th, the War Eagles hosted Florida High with the War Eagles walking it off in the bottom of the 8th. Florida High had a strong showing at the plate, but it was not enough in the end.

Gavin Estep started on the mound for the War Eagles battling for 3 1/3 innings giving up 6 hits and 3 runs. Jesse Nazworth came on in relief to work out of a high leverage situation in the third to limit the

damage. He threw 2.2 innings giving up 5 hits and 3 runs. Will Chipman came to the mound in the 7th down 6-4 to throw two shutout innings giving up two hits and 2 runs and received the win.

The War Eagles managed 6 hits. Parker Lawhon, Brady Crum, Josiah Pierini, Sam Bruce, Gavin Gautreau, and Garrett Veltkamp all had a hit a piece.

The excitement started in the bottom of the 7th with two outs. Josiah Pierini hit a clutch 2 run homerun to deep centerfield to tie the game up to go to extra innings.

Florida High quickly went to work in the top

of the 8th with a lead-off single, then bunting him over to second. Will Chipman then induced a harmless infield popup for the second out. The next hit a sharp single to left field. Left fielder Sam Bruce picked it up cleanly throwing a perfect one hop strike to Brady Crum at the plate for the third out.

In the bottom of the eighth with the score tied, the patient War Eagle hitters produced two walks and a hit by pitch to load the bases with one out.

Baserunner Jed Hoffman then slid in and safely scored the winning run on wild pitch to end the game.

## SOFTBALL

### WCS started season with 6 straight wins

By **LINDA ANN McDONALD**  
Correspondent

Wakulla Christian Girls Softball season began with an explosive start with 6 consecutive wins which included 2 shutouts and an at least 10 points spread in each game until losing to Cottdale on March 14.

Head Coach Trina Baker said, "To be the leader of this team is a huge blessing, a lot of times these girls minister to me as much as I do to them; we give God the glory whether we win or lose."

"Coaching these girls is not a job to me, it is my ministry, it is what I love to do."

"This is my 4th year coaching," Baker said. "I was the previous coach at North Florida Christian in Tallahassee. I was working so work took me away from coaching and I saw the opportunity at Wakulla Christian, so I started my ministry."

Baker's husband Wayne Baker is the Assistant Coach and the Pastor of First Baptist at Wakulla Station.

D. Morris is the Assistant Coach of the girls' softball team.

Coach Trina Baker has played ball since she was 5 years old; she was coaching at North Florida Christian School her freshman year of college, Baker



The Wakulla Christian School softball team.

graduated Tallahassee Community College with a degree in Radiology Technology. Her father was her Pitching Coach and a as a student.

"I had the opportunity to play against Florida A&M University while I was a student at North Florida, I thought that was a great opportunity for experience."

The team is comprised of 8 Seniors, 6 on Varsity and 2 on Junior Varsity.

"These 8 Seniors have been with me since day

one and everything we have taught and instilled, we are breathing it to life: it's all coming together this year. Their leadership is exceptional along with their attitudes and resilience," she said.

Senior Madison Chester has a batting average of .548 and 19 RBIs, Avery Baker has 17 Runs with Madison Chester right behind her with 16 runs, and other star players include Mateah McClendon, Logan Kenon, Sadie Donaway

and Annsley Baker.

"Two of the seniors I am losing this year are my own daughters," she said. "This reality is hard for me but I am excited for their next chapter. In addition to my seniors, my younger crew is amazing too, and they contribute a significant amount to our team's overall success and happy, fun-loving morale."

"I want to thank the parents and say how amazing they are, I'm telling you, these par-

ents just love they game," said Baker. "I leave all practices open to parents so they can see the progress and we are just here to encourage each other."

"We are big on no cliques, no groups, we connect the girls with someone they are not necessarily "best friends" with, we mix it up."

"The one thing we talk about when we go to other places is to leave it better than you found it, not just cleaning up the dugout, we leave people with an uplifting feeling."

"The future of this team is the best team in Wakulla Christian School's softball history, making it to state is our goal."

There will be future fundraising events for the team. "We have a huge outpour of support from our local community and both Crawfordville and Tallahassee businesses, and I want to thank everyone for all the support and good luck."

"We want to win games but bigger than winning games is the winning of souls and the goal is to secure that, that is what is important to us."

"The support from the Administration at Wakulla Christian has been very valuable and they are just awesome," Baker said.

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# Wakulla High students visit Extension Office

By **RACHEL PIENTA**  
4-H Director

Each school year, University of Florida Extension faculty located at the Wakulla Extension office in Crawfordville offer school enrichment programming to all our area schools. Programs include agricultural education, embryology, public speaking, nutrition, personal finance, horticulture, environmental education, civic education, and more. University of Florida Extension faculty participate in Project Learning Tree weeks at area schools on request. The Extension team can visit schools, help plan field trips, or host a visit to the Extension facility.

The UF/IFAS Wakulla County Extension hosted the Wakulla High School Exceptional Student Education Community Based Instruction class at the Extension facility on Monday, March 11. Some 27 high school aged youth participated in a series of mini workshops that included education on nutrition, basic food preparation, and the importance of pollinators. The youth had the opportunity to tour the Extension grounds and view Florida-friendly landscaping.

County Extension Director Samantha Kennedy taught a Family and Consumer Sciences lesson on the importance of eating a variety of foods from all the food groups, especially fruits and vegetables. These principles were reinforced through an interactive game about

fruits and vegetables. The students then made yogurt parfaits using a variety of healthy ingredients.

Amy Frazier, from the Family Nutrition Program, led a session that helped youth to gain a better understanding of the sugar content commonly found in popular drinks and educated the group about healthier beverage choices. The session concluded with the group participating in an activity to create nutritious smoothies. The lesson emphasized the importance of reading Nutrition Facts labels when selecting beverages. Participants learned to assess and compare calorie counts, added sugar levels, and serving sizes. The Family Nutrition Program is dedicated to educating families and youth on making healthier food choices and improving their management of available food resources for optimal health and development. Program initiatives cover fundamental nutrition, physical activity, proper food handling, and economical food shopping.

In addition to learning about nutrition and healthy food choices, the students delved into important discussions about the crucial roles of pollinators in our food system and environment with Horticulture and Agriculture/Natural Resources Agent Khadejah Scott. One fascinating species they explored was the Mason bee, a member of the Megachilidae family known for living above ground and



Wakulla High School students visited the extension office on March 11.

lining their nests with mud. These solitary bees play a significant role in pollinating fruit trees and blueberries. Inspired by what they learned; the students decided to act by crafting bee houses to support these native pollinators. Using simple materials like paper cups and handmade newspaper tubes, they created cozy shelters. Through this project, they not only helped preserve these vital insects but also gained a deeper appreciation for the intricate web of life in nature.

4-H Youth Development agent Dr. Rachel Pienta and 4-H Program Assistant were on hand to greet the students and staff from Wakulla High School, assisting the Extension team during the morning's activities.

Annual signature school enrichment programs offered by the University of Florida

Wakulla Extension team include but are not limited to the following:

**4-H Embryology:** Our faculty members support classrooms with equipment and curriculum to teach poultry science with an egg hatching unit.

**4-H Public Speaking:** Faculty provide curriculum, ribbons, and medallions for elementary and middle school-level classroom and school public speaking contests (formerly known as the Tropicana competition). A county level contest is held at the Extension office in Crawfordville in April. Youth advance to a district level contest in May.

**4-H Ag Adventures:** An elementary school partner is invited to bring 4th graders on the Annual Ag Adventures field trip to enjoy an educational day on a demonstration farm in Quincy.

**Living On My Own:** Financial education program that includes a facilitated personal budget simulation exercise. This program is provided to middle and high school classes by request.

**4-H Day at the Capitol:** School age youth ages 5 to 18 are invited by 4-H to spend a day in Tallahassee during the legislative session. Youth meet with public officials, tour the House and Senate chambers, and participate in a legislative debate and voting simulation.

**School Garden Programs:** In previous school years, we have helped local schools plan and install school gardens and provide age-appropriate curriculum for teachers to use with students in addition to serving as guest instructors and facilitators.

Grant writing support: Extension faculty can

help teachers prepare applications for Florida Farm Bureau mini-grants, Florida Agriculture in the Classroom and/or School Garden grants.

**STEM Skill-a-Thon(s):** Extension faculty have resources to support science units with hands-on activities and more.

**4-H Service Learning:** Extension faculty can help teachers implement service learning with youth that engages students from planning to hands-on service.

Whether teachers or schools want a credentialed guest speaker or an expert program facilitator, Extension faculty are only a phone call away at 850-926-3931. For more information about local Extension programs, visit us online at <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/wakulla/>.



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