



# The Wakulla Sun



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM Thunderstorms	Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Hi: 78° Lo: 54° 96% Sunrise 7:14 AM Sunset 8:02 PM	Hi: 77° Lo: 51° 5% Sunrise 7:13 AM Sunset 8:03 PM	Hi: 79° Lo: 54° 6% Sunrise 7:12 AM Sunset 8:04 PM



\$1  
One Section

"It's a New Day"

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Our 3rd Year 15th Issue  
Thursday, April 11, 2024

## Time for Worm Gruntin'

Wilhelmina Morrison will be this year's Worm Gruntin' Queen

Special to The Sun

The 2024 Worm Gruntin' Queen is Wilhelmina White Morrison, affectionately known as "Willie," of Lake Ellen in Medart.

She was born in 1927 in Fort Myers to Willie Atlas White ("Will") of Medart and Sarah Emily Johnson ("Sally") of DeFuniak Springs.

She grew up on Lawhon Mill Road and graduated from Sopchoppy High School in 1945, where she was voted class prom queen her senior year. She had five sisters and four brothers.

She moved to Tallahassee after high school



Wilhelmina Morrison, above, and this year's art for the festival, right.

and went to work for Lewis State Bank, where she retired as an Assistant Vice President in 1977.

She married the late Clarence Love Morrison in 1950 at Lake Ellen  
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## Wakulla Sun finalist for five press awards

Staff Report

The Wakulla Sun was recently notified that it is a finalist for five awards from the Florida Press Association for weekly newspapers.

The awards are for in-depth reporting, breaking news story, education news coverage and front-page makeup. The other award is for reader-generated photo submitted by Neil Hostnick, who sends occasional nature photos to the Sun.

This is the first year that the Sun was able to apply for the awards.

The awards will be presented at the Florida Press Association's annual convention in July, to be held in Orlando.

### ELECTION 2024

## Sparkman files to run against Brimmer

Sheriff Miller also draws opponent in Armand 'Army' Reyes

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN  
Editor

Longtime property appraiser Donnie Sparkman filed last week to challenge against incumbent Ed Brimmer.

Sparkman retired as property appraiser back in 2018. His then-chief deputy Brad Harvey won the election that year, but was arrested and removed from office in 2020 for embezzling more than \$200,000 in office funds. Harvey was sentenced last year to 12 years in prison for theft, followed by 17 years of probation.

Brimmer won the 2020 election against Sparkman's son, Colby, by a handful of votes. Colby was working at the property appraiser's office under Harvey and was fired after Brimmer came into office. Colby Sparkman sued for wrongful termination and the case was settled last year.

Brimmer has also served as a county commissioner.

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## Inmate pleads guilty to murder at prison

Joseph Simmons accepts plea offer of 15 years for 2021 murder at WCI

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN  
Editor

An inmate at Wakulla Correctional Institution, already serving a 15-year prison sentence for robbery in Miami-Dade County, accepted a plea deal on Thursday, April 4, to serve 15 years for the murder of another inmate at WCI back in June 2021.

Joseph Simmons, 31, entered a plea of no contest to second-degree murder, a crime punishable by life in prison, and was sentenced to 15 years concurrent to the Miami-Dade sentence.

According to the information filed in the case, Simmons stabbed to death another inmate, Devin Johnson, at WCI.

Simmons also pleaded no contest to a charge of tampering with evidence for hiding the home-made knife. He accepted a five-year sentence for that crime.



Joseph Simmons

### SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH RUN



It's that time of year again: the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. On Friday, April 5, Wakulla deputies and other law enforcement officers were joined by Special Olympian athletes on the run from the

sheriff's office to the courthouse. Sheriff Jared Miller was joined by Special Olympics Wakulla Director Sharon Scherbarth for a gathering of athletes and law enforcement on the courthouse lawn. (Photo by Lynda Kinsey)

### CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENT

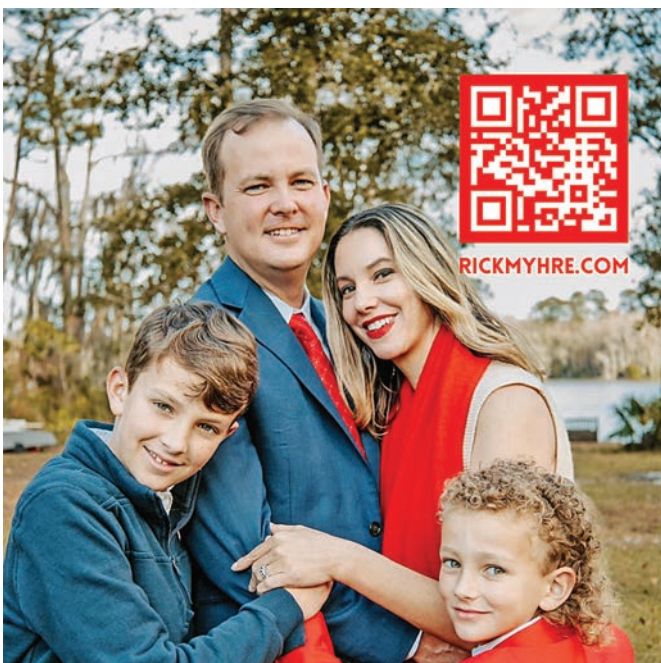
## Rick Myhre running for superintendent

Army veteran, longtime educator seeks to be superintendent of schools

By RICK MYHRE  
Candidate

Change. As we prepare for the 2024 election season, an overwhelming majority of Americans want things to change for the better in our country. Locally, as I have spoken to our students, teachers, parents, and community members, I hear the same desires. To a person, everyone has positive things to say about our Wakulla County Schools, but likewise, everyone is aware of opportunities for improvement. Wakulla County is still unique in our country in that you, the citizens, get to select our next Superintendent of Schools via an election.

I look forward to campaigning before you and laying out my credentials, and vision, so that you may compare my experiences to other candidates and make the best



Rick Myhre and family.

decision on behalf of our wonderful community.

In my opinion, this election comes down to two very important components, the direction a candidate would like to lead the district, and the experience a candidate

has in leading organizations the size of our school district through change and improvement.

As for my personal beliefs, and the direction I would like to move our district, my values were

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

instilled in me at an early age as I was born and raised in Wakulla by two remarkably successful lifelong educators, Bob and Judy Myhre in a conservative Christian home. My only sibling Katie was born with Downs Syndrome, the experience of being raised alongside her taught me I must use the blessings God has given me in the service of others.

The selfishness that seems to prevail in our current society has no place in our schools, and we must ensure that teachers are empowered

**Turn to Page 3**



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Lisa Craze, CFC  
Wakulla County Tax Collector

**LAUNCHED IN 2000**

Every day, the State Wildflower license tag touches thousands of residents and visitors through environmental education on social media and the Florida Wildflower Foundation website. It funds university students performing valuable research, makes possible grants for public places, and much, much more.




When you purchase and renew the State Wildflower license tag, an annual \$15 specialty tag fee is collected and given to the Florida Wildflower Foundation to fund work for wildflowers and wildlife throughout the state.

# Student of the Week

## Everest Burns – 1st grader at Crawfordville Elementary

Principal: Alena Crawford

**Achievements/Reason for Nomination:** Everest is a 1st grade student here at Crawfordville Elementary School. He is an A honor roll student and super citizen. Everest is a joy to see every morning, says his teacher. He is smart, funny, and always willing to help a friend. He is also kind and honest and the whole class loves him. He entertains us all with his gift of storytelling! We look forward to seeing all that he accomplishes while here at Crawfordville Elementary School.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.

## Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

### American wisteria

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER



Most of us know the invasive Asian wisterias that were cultivated and escaped into natural areas they now harm. However, there is a less aggressive native alternative. American wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*) is a high-climbing, deciduous woody vine with fragrant drooping 6-inch-long clusters of lilac-purple flowers. The flower clusters are shorter and denser than Asian wisterias and appear after the leaves emerge. Further, the mature brown seed pods are smooth, not hairy, and American wisteria climbs by twining counterclockwise. American wisteria occurs naturally in moist woods and along riverbanks. It is a larval food for many skippers, butterflies, and moths. American wisteria can be grown on arbors and columns as was done in Sopchoppy Depot Park. It requires regular pruning for flowering as it blooms only on new wood.



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# Crawfordville woman displays hand-knitted fashions

Story & Photos By  
**LINDA ANN McDONALD**  
Correspondent

Elvira Hamilton hosted a hand-knitted fashion show for family and friends on Sunday, April 7th at her home in Crawfordville. In the fashion show, two models presented 21 hand knitted outfits showcasing scarves, dresses, suites skirts and berets.

Elvira is from the Republic of Mari El in Russia. Elvira's parents had sheep in Russia and her mother cut, collected and cleaned the wool by hand and spun it by hand, and this is where she learned to knit. She explained the Republic of Mari El is about a 12-hour car ride from Moscow.

"I worked 14 years for the State of Florida, and I met many good people," Elvira says. "I made scarves for my coworkers in many different colors and styles."

Laura Resech, a model in the fashion show who worked at the state with Elvira since 2006, said, "I enjoyed working with Elvira and her clothes



Model Laura Resech, above, wearing a hand-knitted wool jacket. At right, Resech in a hand-knitted skirt, with model Alexis in a hand-knitted skirt and vest.

are just beautiful to look at."

To add even more Russian culture to the fashion show, Elvira had a presentation of the indigenous Mari people's culture who belong to Finno-Ug-



ric group of people including the Finnish, Estonian, Hungarian, Mordovian, Komi, Udmurtia. At the party was Mari National dance, costumes and a Mari National dish called "Torik Kogylo" which is made from Amish cheese, mashed potatoes, and onions.

"I wash the wool with Woolite and then rinse and lay on a flat table to dry," Elvira says. "When it is half dry, I iron to press and starch to hold the shape and make them more beautiful. I must be careful when washing and ironing not to destroy the fabric, I am always happy with the end results."

When speaking of clothing containing buttons, Elvira said, "Before I sew buttons on a garment, I put a fabric liner into the garment that will hold the buttons even tighter."

Elvira is very proud of her work. "I hope my suits will find the owner that will make her beautiful and more comfortable."

"I design my clothes with many designs in mind that will bring a special charm."

## Oratorical contest winners announced

Special to The Sun

On Thursday, April 4th, the Wakulla Coastal Optimist Club held its annual Oratorical Contest. The topic for the speech was: "How to Change the World with Optimism."

The contest is open to students from 7th through 12th grade. Hayden Peacock, a senior at Wakulla High School, won first place. He received the \$100 cash prize. Second place was awarded to Kaylie Kosec who received \$75.

The Optimist Club offers students a chance



to express their views on the topic which is chosen by the North Florida Junior Optimist board members at their convention in May each year. The judges for this event were pleased with the quality and comprehensive content of the speeches.

This type of competition gives students practice speaking in front of a group, something that most people are nervous about doing. However, this is something that most of us will be called upon to do often in our lifetime.

## Sparkman, Brimmer

From Front Page

In the fall, before tax notices went out, a \$307 million assessment mistake by the property appraiser's office was found. It meant county and school budgets were off by millions – and delayed the hiring of new deputy sheriffs and firefighters while the budget mess is sorted.

Meanwhile, in the sheriff's race, local real estate agent and retired New York policeman Armando 'Army' Reyes filed to challenge incumbent Wakulla Sheriff Jared Miller.

In response, Miller reported raising more than \$63,000 over the past quarter from some 250 donors.

Reyes has not yet filed a candidate contribution and expenditure report.

## PUBLIC NOTICES:

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



## Notice of Public Meeting:

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners has scheduled a Public Meeting of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee on April 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM in the Wakulla County Fire and Rescue conference room at 318 Trice Lane in Crawfordville, FL. Interested parties are invited to attend and participate.

Persons with a disability needing a special accommodation should contact the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office at least two (2) days prior to the meeting at (850) 926-0919; Hearing & Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at [ADAReqe\\_st@mywakulla.com](mailto:ADAReqe_st@mywakulla.com)

April 11, 2024

## Myhre

From Front Page

to uphold good order and discipline in the learning environment otherwise all learning is disrupted due to a few out-of-control students. The establishment of parental choice pathways which may enact more stringent codes of conduct based on a heightened sense of moral behavior would undoubtedly be a positive impact on student learning and would keep teachers from leaving the field of education, and our public schools.

Additionally, my sense of fiscal conservatism will ensure we are not wasting limited funds on failed and unnecessary programs so that more funding can be utilized to improve salaries and benefits for our teachers. A full and completely transparent budgeting process must be established, and I look forward to leading that process as Superintendent.

Of course, it is easy for any candidate to expound on their beliefs, especially when most of us share these beliefs as Republicans. What I believe sets me apart from other candidates is something that cannot be manufactured overnight, and that

is a successful career of increasing complex leadership experiences.

I began teaching in 2003, but soon left to enlist in the U.S. Army for five years as an Infantryman where I would deploy to both Afghanistan and Iraq as a Sniper. Upon returning to public education in 2009, I utilized the G.I. Bill to attain a Masters in Educational Leadership and began my journey as a school, district, and state level educational leader. After six years in the classroom, I then served as Dean of Students at Crawfordville Elementary, and Principal at Wakulla Middle School before being recruited by the Florida Department of Education to lead reading instruction for the entire state as the Executive Director of Just Read, Florida!

Following four successful years at FLDOE, I felt ready to rejoin a school district to better prepare myself for a role as a Superintendent; the best way to do that is by gaining experience at the executive level as an Assistant Superintendent. In 2020, I moved our family to Vero Beach and accepted the role as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction where I was responsible for all aspects of teaching and learning for a district three times the

size of Wakulla County. Refusing to make excuses for why things could not be improved during the pandemic and instead pushing forward with the implementation of necessary amendments to their style of teaching and learning moved that district from the bottom half of school districts into the top quartile in less than three years.

For every problem currently facing Wakulla County Schools, I have already been a part of solving those complex issues with success. As the campaign continues, I look forward to clearly articulating not only my recognition of the areas of concern, but also proposing workable and actionable solutions. However, my experience has shown me that the role of Superintendent is not one of autonomy; it is imperative I work seamlessly with our School Board, our teacher's association, our parents, our community organizations, and most importantly our students to protect the components of the schools we love while working collaboratively to generate greater successes for all.

Our children deserve a leader who is ready to step in on day one, not one who will need time to learn how to do this job. One thing I can assertive-

ly promise this community is that I move at a rapid pace, and four years is a long time for me. If you bless me with the opportunity to be your next Superintendent you will undoubtedly recognize the positive differences in our schools within the first half of my term, and by the second half these changes will be an established way of work.

Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy for this critical role, and please know, your attention to this race is instrumental to the success of thousands of children in Wakulla County. For more information on my policy beliefs and resume visit [RickMyhre.com](http://RickMyhre.com). God Bless.



## 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

## Barbecue fundraiser returns

Editor, The Sun:

Good morning to all. It's time again for our annual ribs and butts fundraiser. Thanks to all of you in the past for participating. We are shifting gears a little this year. We are trying to focus more on local charities. We will still do some kind of donation to St Jude's as well, but we feel we can make a larger impact on smaller local charities vs a nationally recognized charity. If you want to participate, but feel very strongly about your donation going to St Jude, we can take a check made out to them for your order. All other checks will need to be made out to "Community Foundation" or cash will be taken as well. There will be prizes raffled off at pickup

location the day of as well.

This event will be centered around Sleep in Heavenly Peace. This organization builds and delivers beds to children in need of a bed and a safe place to sleep. Their mission is "NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!"

They will be building beds in our community later this year.

I look forward to seeing each of you again this year. Please call or text me with any questions you may have. Lets make this another successful event like the years past. Thank you.

**Kenny Kinsey**  
Cone Distributing

## What candidates don't explain

Editor, The Sun:

Reference Wakulla Sun 28 March 2024

It's the season for the citizens to consider and vote in local elections. Furthermore, we experience candidates tooting their horns on why they are qualified and why we should elect them. And, of course, we read see all the yard signs.

The Wakulla County School Board is no exception. There is one candidate summarizing her excellent parenting and academic credentials and how those experiences make her the ideal candidate.

Hogwash and bull feathers! This candidate states her commitment to fiscal responsibility but fails to mention that a school board members role is to be a representative and advocate for the property taxpayers. Funding for schools starts with us. We, the property taxpayer

fund the majority of the schools and for candidates to mention children, teachers, etc is nothing more than platitudes and misguided reasons for wanting to be on the school board.

Why don't school board candidates express their advocacy for the property taxpayers? If the candidates are all for "fiscal responsibility" what does that mean beyond the ability to spell the words? How are the candidates going to safeguard our resources? Do they promise minimal tax rate increases? The school board received an increase in local sales tax dollars. How is this candidate going to advocate for us and resist another increase on actual property tax outlays?

Scratch this one. Who's next?

**Robert Franco**  
Ochlockonee Bay

## A note with subscription renewal

Editor, The Sun:

Hello, Wakulla Sun!  
Enclosed please find our check for a one year renewal of your fine publication.

...  
Keep up the great journalism.  
Good day!

**Vickie Bergeron**  
Crawfordville

## Something on your mind?

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

## Historical society yard sale set

The Wakulla Historical Society's Yard Sale Benefit has been reset for April 27, 8 a.m. to noon on the Old Jail Museum East Lawn, at 24 High Drive.

All profits from the sale will benefit the Historical Society in maintaining the Museum and Archives. Please contact us by phone at the

museum 850-926-1110 or email at mailbox@wakullahistory.org if you have questions.

All items should be brought to the museum no later than Friday morning, April 26th so that we may evaluate items and prepare for this event. We will not be able to accept furniture or heavy items.

## On the Horizon

### Calendar of events for the week of April 11

#### Thursday, April 11

- The Wakulla 4-H will hold a public speaking competition at 6:30 p.m. at the Wakulla County Extension Office
- St. Marks City Commission meets at the St. Marks City Hall at 6 p.m.
- The Wakulla County Cancer Support Group meets in the Education Center of the Crawfordville United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. This group meeting is for men and women, regardless of the type of cancer. Spouses, caregivers, and friends are welcome. For more information, call 850-926-6050.
- The first "Get to know your iPhone" tech class will be held at the Wakulla County Public Library from 9:30 a.m. to noon.
- Rotary Club meets at TCC Wakulla at 8:30 a.m.
- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville, every Thursday. There are concessions and raffles.
- Gentle Yoga at 9 a.m. and Yin Yoga at 6 p.m. with Zoe every Thursday.

Classes are \$12, at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Friday, April 12

- Second Harvest Food Bank is holding an event at the Sopchoppy Congregational Holiness Church starting at 9 a.m.
- Wakulla Giving Hands is holding a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at the Wakulla Senior Center at 5:30 p.m.
- One Night of Spring, an event featuring art, music, and poetry, will be held at Palaver Tree Theater starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Saturday, April 13

- The Annual Sopchoppy Worm Grunting festival will have events from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Sopchoppy Depot Park. See ad on Page 13.
- PAWS Pamper Your Pooch dog wash at Hudson Park from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 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.

#### Monday, April 15

- The Wakulla County School Board meets in the school administration building at 5:45 p.m.
- The American Legion Post 114 will be meeting at the Wakulla County Public Library at 6:30 p.m.
- Yoga with Nellie, Restorative yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Classes are \$12, packages available at New Posh on 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Tuesday, April 16

- The Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society will meet at 6:30 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 or text/call at (850) 528-5838.

#### Wednesday, April 17

- 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.

## SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

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

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

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We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden  
Editor & Publisher  
The Wakulla Sun

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


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

*"It's A New Day!"*







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## ◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

# Polled at the Chamber of Commerce's Low Country Boil at 3Y Ranch: What is your favorite thing about the Low Country Boil?



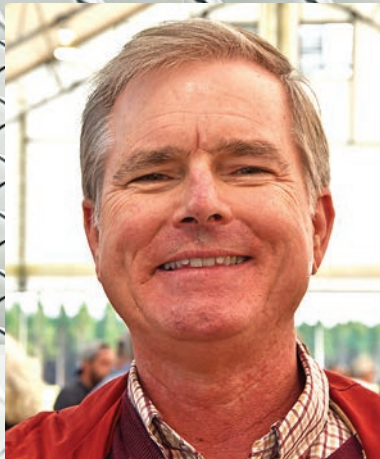
**PEPPER YOUNG**  
Professional cowboy

"The crawfish!"



**LINDA RAKER**  
Retired

"I like the music, and the food was really good."



**KEVIN VAUGHN**  
HUB Insurance

"The fellowship, all the people. Having the time to visit with everyone since we all have busy workdays."



**TOMMY OWEN**  
Cranky Boomer

"The Low Country...And the Boil!"



**CRISSY BRYAN SMITH**  
Bryker Body Care

"This is my first year. It would be the band and I want to win the raffle."

## Wakulla Station News

By **VERNA BROCK**

What an outstanding weekend we just had! Perfect weather, filled with lots of spring activities, was well worth the wait. For many folks, attending the annual Springtime Tallahassee festivities was a must. For some, being outside in our amazing North Florida environment was the first priority. For others, tending our gardens was our zen moment.

I got to briefly visit with Sue Austin and her mother on Saturday afternoon, and am looking forward to spending more time with them this week. Mrs. Thorton is up for a nice

visit with Sue, and soaking up this beautiful spell of weather we're enjoying. Heaven knows, it sometimes seems rare and precious.

Instead of church this past Sunday morning, I had to travel up to Tallahassee with our Springer Spaniel Beau. Not sure what was wrong, we just knew he needed a doctor. Shout out to the Northwood Emergency Veterinarians, especially Dr. Smith. I was on their doorstep before the vet had even arrived, and they quickly took us in for triage. After an exam and X-rays, they determined Beau has a damaged spinal disc, prescribed med-

ications and sent us home. I would welcome any prayers you can offer for his swift and total recovery. We fervently wish to avoid surgery for him.

After returning home to Casa Brock, we welcomed children and grandchildren for a delayed Easter dinner. After a delicious meal, we dyed and decorated eggs, followed by a couple of bouts of hunting for them. Better late than never!

That evening I had the pleasure of attending an event featuring Wakulla County's very own superstar, Alvin Hall. What a delight to hear about his years growing up here in Wakulla and the amazing trajectory of his illustrious career. How blessed we are to not only have him to represent us around the world, but to have an amazing gem like the Palaver Tree Theatre. Many

thanks to Herbert Donaldson and the Christian Coalition for providing a place for the culture and the arts in Crawfordville! By the way, there will be a special event this Friday evening at the theater, full of art, history and poetry.

Don't forget! This coming Sunday evening you can enjoy great music, fellowship and food at the Woodville United Methodist Church, starting at 5 p.m. All are welcome.

Please keep our dear friend, Robert Manning, in your prayers as he continues to recover from medical issues, including an injured knee. Also in need of prayer are Deborah Giles, Clem Bunker, Norma Woodcock, and the family of Ronald Fred Crum.

## Sheriff's Report

This report is for activities March 29 - April 4:

### FRIDAY, MARCH 29

- Ana Browning was observed sitting in the yard of a residential property on Woodville Highway behind the wheel of the vehicle. Upon contact by deputies, Browning allegedly admitted to drinking and was believed she was still in Leon County. Further investigation revealed Browning was operating a motor vehicle while under the influence. Browning was placed under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail without incident. Deputy Matt Hinson investigated.

- A road rage incident

turned into a fight near a food truck location. The victim pulled over at Lex and Roll which caused the suspect Travis Hill to follow. Once stopped Hill forced his way into the victim's vehicle and began to hit him. Travis fled to Franklin county. Franklin County Deputies eventually located Hill and returned him for processing at Wakulla County Jail. Travis Hill was charged with Burglary With Person Assaulted and Criminal Mischief. Deputy Ashton Williams investigated.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 30

- Deputy Ernesto Trujillo responded to the Dollar General at 3134 Crawfordville Highway

in reference to a retail theft complaint. Upon arrival Deputy Trujillo made contact with the manager. The manager advised she observed a white male pass the last point of sale without paying for his items. The manager went on to say there is video footage of the incident that could be retrieved at a later date. This case has been forwarded to detectives for further investigation.

- Deputy William Montgomery responded to the Dollar General on Shadeville Road in reference to a customer throwing items at the clerk. Upon arrival Deputy Montgomery made contact with the victim. The victim advised she recognized a customer that had been told not to come back to the store, from a couple weeks ago. The victim advised she approached

the customer, Joanna Ross, and told her she was not allowed at the store and she needed to leave. The victim stated that is when Ross became angry and threw a candy bar at her, hitting her in the chest. Ross then left the store. A short time later Deputy Ernesto Trujillo was able to locate Ross. Subsequently Ross was placed under arrest for Battery and transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 31

- Deputy Ernesto Trujillo responded to an address on Woodville Highway in reference to a stolen tag and other items. Upon arrival Deputy Trujillo made contact with Doria Parker, who advised she left her car back in July 2022 to get fixed. When she retrieved her vehicle

in Tallahassee, she observed the tag missing. Parker was also advised by the mechanic that the catalytic converter was missing off the vehicle as well. Due to the car being moved from one mechanic shop to another it is uncertain where the vehicle was when the items were taken. This case has been forwarded to detectives for further investigation.

### MONDAY, APRIL 1

- Deputy Heather Will responded to 803 Crawfordville Hwy. and made contact with Hugh Johnson, who stated while attending Easter service two fishing poles were stolen from his vehicle. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

- John Padgett reported losing his wal-

let. Padgett believes the wallet was lost while shopping at WalMart. Deputies were unable to locate the wallet during their shift. Lt Gibby Gibson investigated.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

- Deputies responded to Herring Circle in reference to a disturbance. During the investigation, it was revealed a physical altercation occurred involving James Evans, who was found to have wielded a knife during the incident towards the victim. Evans was arrested on one count of aggravated assault and transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

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

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FOLLOW THE SUN.



# Outdoors

outdoor sports

## HOME ON THE RANGE

### Mistakes: Silly, Sloppy and Serious



By MARJ LAW

Shooting guns makes me think of a quote from The Lord of the Rings: "It's a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no knowing where you might be swept off to."

Yes, when practicing at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range, or anywhere else, shooting is a sport that can be dangerous. If you're not extremely careful, there's no knowing what can happen. Sometimes it's silly. Sometimes it's sloppy. And sometimes, it's downright serious.

One day, I'm talking to an intelligent friend at the range. For some reason, she doesn't put her handgun down at the shooting bench. Instead, she turns and faces me, gun still in her hands. The gun is now pointing directly at me.

Yikes. Do I hit the floor? No. Run? No. Afraid to move, I do my utmost to sound calm. "Darla, let's make sure the muzzle is pointing downrange." Of course, inside I'm shrieking: "Put that blankety blank gun down Now!"

That incident was both very serious and frightening at the same time. Darla put her gun down immediately and apologized profusely, understanding the gravity of what she had just done.

The most serious happenings I've observed occurred with well-seasoned shooters. You'd think that

newbies would make errors, and they do, but these serious happenings were not from newbies. Two friends accidentally shot themselves while cleaning their guns. One had serious damage to a finger, the other man hurt himself high in the leg. Fortunately, while neither man was critically injured, one has lasting troubles with his hand.

Like Frodo not keeping his feet on the road, a moment of inattention when dealing with guns can cause bigtime after effects.

Another incident could have turned dangerous was when a friend put a 9mm round into his .40 S&W Springfield. Well, the diameter is the same, right? Easy mistake to make!

These mistakes could be serious, but other mistakes can be sloppy and make for inconsistent shooting.

How about the guy who leaves his ramrod in his black powder gun, and then shoots? We all make stupid mistakes, but we sure hope they are simply errors and not dangerous ones.

Let's get real, here. We all make sloppy errors when we first practice shooting. One is in the grip. If you don't hold the gun high into the beavertail (that swooping indentation at the top of the grip), it can cause the muzzle to flip. Slide your hand all the way up into the grip. Getting a good grip helps with consistent shooting.

Do you see someone standing up straight as they shoot? Notice that with each shot, they rock backwards some because of the recoil. If you move your head slightly forward and bend a bit forward at the waist, you can adjust your center of gravity to help combat the recoil. This is important because someday, you might need to make an accurate second shot. A strong stance



can help you stay on target.

Beginning shooters are warned to "squeeze that trigger," and to have a steady trigger pull. Slapping the trigger instead causes the gun's sights to move when the shot breaks. So control your trigger pull. Squeeze, squeeze, and give a smooth, consistent shot. Again, you may need a second accurate shot one day. A smooth trigger pull can help you to stay on target.

Sights. "How do I aim?" is a question new shooters often wonder. Standing at the shooting bench, picking up your gun and looking at the target isn't enough. It takes a while, if you have two rear dots and one front dot sight, to learn how to align them.

Usually, making the top of all three dots (front and back) form a straight line begins a good sight alignment. With this straight line, you'll find your shot will hit the target's center just above that front (center) of the three dots.

Sometimes, depending on your particular handgun, the center sight will need to be directly covering the center of the target.

Either way, you first make that straight line with front and back sights, then discover if your gun aims best with that front dot above or on the center of the target. Lining up your sights helps you to have consistent shooting.

OK, some of us might leave washing dishes until the morning, or scatter our clothes on the bed or the floor, but we can't be sloppy by leaving our handguns anywhere in the house.

Are children present? Do you have other members of the family? Do friends and neighbors visit?

Guns need to be stored in locked, safe places.

Do you have a safe for your gun? How about a lockable room where you locate your safe? To go even further, how about a locked safe attached to a cement floor in a locked room?

Some of us (ahem) might have sloppy tendencies, but there is no room for sloppy when storing your gun.

We have a well-organized and neat friend who was careful to lock up her handgun. She kept it in a locked closet. However, when she took out her gun to go to the range, she found it was covered in rust-colored spots. What do you know, but it was actual rust?

It's not sufficient just to have your gun locked up: it needs to be safe from humidity too. This friend was certainly not intentionally sloppy and you can bet when she discovered the rust, she sure found a new dry place to store her handgun.

So some errors have the potential to be serious and some are sloppy. Some are just plain silly, and you'd think "that will never happen to me."

But it does.

Truthfully, both Joe and I have gone to the range with our guns. Silly thing is: we forgot to

bring the ammunition. Not much good to have a gun with no ammo!

We were recently at the range, and the range was "hot." A friend placed his gun on the shooting bench. Then he looked around. Sure enough, he had no ammo! He ended up returning home and then coming back to the range. What a waste of time!

You never know where, like Frodo, "you step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no knowing where you might be swept off to."

When you own a gun, newbies and oldies alike have to be super careful. Even with care, mistakes happen. I'd never make the mistake of saying: "This will never happen."

Hopefully, the errors we make will be simply silly or sloppy, but not end up to be serious.

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



KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLE  
(*Lepidochelys kempii*)

The rarest of sea turtles, they mate offshore and then females come in a large group called an 'arribada' to all nest at the same time on beaches with dunes or swamp. A female will nest three times during each nesting season almost always on Rancho Nuevo beach in Mexico. Some also nest on the San Padre Island, Texas. The dark baby turtles hide in the sargassum beds. They hunt for mollusks, crustaceans, jellyfish, algae, sea weed and sea urchins. Critically endangered, almost all sea turtles killed by the BP oil spill were Kemp's Ridelys.

Eukaryria, Anamalia, Chordata, Reptilia, Testunides, Cheloniidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory  
www.gulfspecimen.org



Leave Nothing  
But Your Footprints

## WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO



At his weekly wildlife survey at Wakulla Springs last week, retired park ranger Bob Thompson snapped this shot of a Great Egret fishing for minnows off the dock.



# Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences



## 24/7 PRIORITY ON-WATER ASSISTANCE

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### Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

April 11 - April 17



Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month April 8-23

Thursday 11	
Sun rise/set 7:13AM 8:02PM	Moon rise/set 9:05AM 11:43PM
Moon Illumination 10%	
Friday 12	
Sun rise/set 7:12AM 8:02PM	Moon rise/set 9:54AM -----
Moon Illumination 18%	
Saturday 13	
Sun rise/set 7:11AM 8:03PM	Moon rise/set 10:47AM 12:48AM
Moon Illumination 27%	
Sunday 14	
Sun rise/set 7:09AM 8:03PM	Moon rise/set 11:46AM 1:48AM
Moon Illumination 37%	
Monday 15	
Sun rise/set 7:08AM 8:04PM	Moon rise/set 12:45PM 2:39AM
Moon Illumination 47%	
Tuesday 16	
Sun rise/set 7:07AM 8:05PM	Moon rise/set 1:45PM 3:22AM
Moon Illumination 57%	
Wednesday 17	
Sun rise/set 7:06AM 8:05PM	Moon rise/set 2:43PM 3:59AM
Moon Illumination 66%	

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

#### St. Marks River Entrance

Th	5:09 am ▲ 3.2 ft	10:08 am ▼ 1.3 ft	3:55 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	11:21 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Fr	5:58 am ▼ -0.4 ft	10:32 am ▲ 2.5 ft	4:22 pm ▲ 1.8 ft	3:7 ft
Sa	12:10 am ▼ -0.4 ft	6:54 am ▲ 2.5 ft	10:56 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:50 pm ▲ 3.7 ft
Su	1:09 am ▼ 0.0 ft	8:10 am ▲ 2.2 ft	11:20 am ▼ 1.9 ft	5:22 pm ▲ 3.4 ft
Mo	2:28 am ▼ 0.3 ft	6:04 pm ▲ 3.0 ft		
Tu	4:03 am ▼ 0.5 ft	11:48 am ▲ 2.3 ft	2:20 pm ▼ 2.2 ft	7:44 pm ▲ 2.6 ft
We	5:20 am ▼ 0.6 ft	12:17 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	5:14 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	11:08 pm ▲ 2.6 ft

#### City of St. Marks

Th	5:45 am ▲ 3.0 ft	11:12 am ▼ 1.2 ft	4:31 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	
Fr	12:25 am ▼ -0.7 ft	6:34 am ▲ 2.6 ft	11:36 am ▼ 1.4 ft	4:58 pm ▲ 3.6 ft
Sa	1:14 am ▼ -0.4 ft	7:30 am ▲ 2.3 ft	12:00 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	5:26 pm ▲ 3.4 ft
Su	2:13 am ▼ 0.0 ft	8:46 am ▲ 2.0 ft	12:24 pm ▼ 1.8 ft	5:58 pm ▲ 3.1 ft
Mo	3:32 am ▼ 0.3 ft	6:40 pm ▲ 2.8 ft		
Tu	5:07 am ▼ 0.5 ft	12:24 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	3:24 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	8:20 pm ▲ 2.4 ft
We	6:24 am ▼ 0.5 ft	12:53 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	6:18 pm ▼ 1.8 ft	11:44 pm ▲ 2.4 ft

#### Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	5:26 am ▲ 3.4 ft	10:33 am ▼ 1.4 ft	4:20 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	11:43 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Fr	6:14 am ▲ 3.1 ft	11:00 am ▼ 1.6 ft	4:48 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	
Sa	12:31 am ▼ -0.5 ft	7:05 am ▲ 2.7 ft	11:27 am ▼ 1.8 ft	5:18 pm ▲ 3.7 ft
Su	1:27 am ▼ -0.1 ft	8:10 am ▲ 2.5 ft	11:59 am ▼ 2.0 ft	5:52 pm ▲ 3.5 ft
Mo	2:37 am ▼ 0.2 ft	9:43 am ▲ 2.3 ft	12:49 pm ▼ 2.1 ft	6:38 pm ▲ 3.1 ft
Tu	4:02 am ▼ 0.5 ft	11:20 am ▲ 2.4 ft	2:43 pm ▼ 2.2 ft	8:25 pm ▲ 2.7 ft
We	5:20 am ▼ 0.5 ft	12:14 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	5:21 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	11:20 pm ▲ 2.7 ft

#### Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	5:01 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:19 am ▼ 1.0 ft	3:47 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	11:32 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Fr	5:50 am ▲ 2.1 ft	10:43 am ▼ 1.2 ft	4:14 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	
Sa	12:21 am ▼ -0.3 ft	6:46 am ▲ 1.9 ft	11:07 am ▼ 1.3 ft	4:42 pm ▲ 2.8 ft
Su	1:20 am ▼ 0.0 ft	8:02 am ▲ 1.6 ft	11:31 am ▼ 1.4 ft	5:14 pm ▲ 2.5 ft
Mo	2:39 am ▼ 0.2 ft	5:56 pm ▲ 2.3 ft		
Tu	4:14 am ▼ 0.4 ft	11:40 am ▲ 1.7 ft	2:31 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	7:36 pm ▲ 1.9 ft
We	5:31 am ▼ 0.4 ft	12:09 pm ▲ 1.9 ft	5:25 pm ▼ 1.4 ft	11:00 pm ▲ 1.9 ft

#### St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	5:24 am ▲ 2.5 ft	10:12 am ▼ 1.5 ft	3:52 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	11:19 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Fr	6:19 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:36 am ▼ 1.6 ft	4:25 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	
Sa	12:09 am ▼ -0.6 ft	7:21 am ▲ 2.1 ft	10:54 am ▼ 1.8 ft	5:01 pm ▲ 3.0 ft
Su	1:07 am ▼ -0.3 ft	8:53 am ▲ 1.9 ft	10:55 am ▼ 1.8 ft	5:43 pm ▲ 2.7 ft
Mo	2:21 am ▼ 0.0 ft	6:41 pm ▲ 2.4 ft		
Tu	3:52 am ▼ 0.3 ft	1:21 pm ▲ 2.0 ft	4:21 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	8:43 pm ▲ 2.2 ft
We	5:12 am ▼ 0.4 ft	12:58 pm ▲ 2.1 ft	6:02 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	10:56 pm ▲ 2.1 ft

#### Dog Island West End

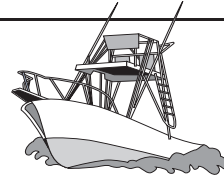
Th	5:59 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:34 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:11 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:41 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Fr	6:50 am ▲ 2.0 ft	10:57 am ▼ 1.7 ft	4:43 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	
Sa	12:30 am ▼ -0.4 ft	7:56 am ▲ 1.8 ft	11:08 am ▼ 1.8 ft	5:17 pm ▲ 2.5 ft
Su	1:21 am ▼ -0.2 ft	5:52 pm ▲ 2.4 ft		
Mo	2:25 am ▼ 0.1 ft	6:33 pm ▲ 2.2 ft		
Tu	3:52 am ▼ 0.3 ft	7:50 pm ▲ 1.9 ft		
We	5:13 am ▼ 0.4 ft	1:31 pm ▲ 1.8 ft	6:24 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	10:27 pm ▲ 1.8 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.



## Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon



### 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

Spring cleaning is not just about baseboards and ceiling fans. In boating, there are critical steps that need to be taken to ensure a good boating season. One critical step is to ensure you inspect all of your life jackets. Look for mildew, straps that are fraying and any damage from critters. It is important to have one for every person who will be onboard, and ensure they are the proper fit.

Paul Barnard from U.S. Coast Guard Heartland Safe Boating wrote the following: What's the best life jacket?

The best life jacket is one that you will wear. Often, this means boaters are going to select an inflatable device. They are great, but they do take routine maintenance and inspection. Your owner's manual, available online if you can't find the printed one, will detail how to service and maintain your device. Let's go over some basics.

There are manual only devices, and there are automatic inflating devices. Manual devices have a manual "jerk" tab and an oral inflation

tube. Automatic devices have an auto inflation mechanism, a "jerk" tab and an oral inflation tube.

Automatic devices are activated in two ways. One is a hydrostatic (water pressure) mechanism, and the other is a bobbin or dissolving "pill" type mechanism. Both the hydrostatic and the bobbin mechanisms have to be replaced according to the manufacturers guidelines as part of your routine inspection and maintenance.

The CO2 cylinder should also be removed and screwed back in snugly. Once a year, life jackets should be inflated with the oral inflation device and left to stand for 12-24 hours

to test for leaks. Accident investigations sometimes reveal that automatic inflatable life jackets did not auto inflate as designed. I most cases it has been because maintenance has been neglected. In some cases it is because the CO2 cylinder never was installed.

Have you ever read your life jacket label? It spells out some important information such as whether or not it has to be worn to count toward the carriage requirements. Inflatable devices are not approved for people under 16 years old, nor are they approved for towed water sports. They are not recommended for weak or non-swimmers.

Please take a moment

to conduct maintenance and inspection of your device and to read the label.

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

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

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

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

### Night diving.

Night diving is a totally different type of diving experience: you have heard the old expression "strange things come out at night." In the ocean environment it is a true enough statement. In this environment there are animals and invertebrates that you will only see after the sun goes down, and, yes, sharks do come out at night too. I can say with all my years of diving with students that I have seen, on a rare occasion, a shark or two. It was very thrilling to be able to see them swimming around the area we were diving. Let me state that as a general rule sharks don't like the loud noises of the bubbles we make so they generally keep away from us. Now all bets are off when you are spearfishing but that's for another column.

To me, the best part of the night dive is the descent to the wreck that we are exploring. Remember the first scene of the movie "Titanic" when they are descending in the deep dark water and then the ghost silhouette of the bow of the ship comes into view? That's kind of the way it happens when you go on your night dive and you are descending down the anchor line to the top of the wreck. The silhouette of the ship comes out and it's a tremendous sense of awe and for a moment you feel like you're the first one to set eyes on it. Your heart is beating very rapidly and you can hear every beat, you start to feel a little anxious and then you are at the bottom of the anchor rope. Now you have to make a conscious decision to leave your anchor of safety and start swimming around with you, your buddy and flashlights.

At this point now you're focused on "don't forget where we left the anchor rope" then you start to venture off into the darkness only revealing itself just beyond the beam of your flashlights. At this point I would recommend you check your pressure gauge to make sure you have enough gas in your scuba cylinder because through the nervous breathing you want to gauge how far around the wreck you can go before you head back to the anchor point. So I suggest that before you start exploring that you stop and get your breathing under control.

You are ready to begin your exploration of the wreck. You give your buddy the OK and go. Remember NOT to penetrate any of the holes that seem big enough for you and your gear to get through - you are not trained for wreck penetration. You can, however, use your flashlight to see a small distance inside the wreck. I have seen on almost every night dive on the wrecks under gunnels, or small holes in the side of the wreck several species of sea anemone. There are all kinds of fish species that you will only see at night and did I mention invertebrates, a lot of those sharp things that look dead and like little bowls you see during the day come out at night and if you are very slow in your movement you will see what looks like little flowers that are catching the small plankton in the water for food.

At this point in time you need to check your air pressure so that when it gets to 1200psi you start making your way back to the anchor rope to make your ascent and commit what you saw to your memory and write it in your log book when you get back on the boat.

Russell Miller NAUI Instr#59999

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

## FWC Law Enforcement Report

### From FWC

This report represents some events the FWC handled March 15-21 in the Northwest Region. (No cases were reported in Wakulla County)

### FRANKLIN COUNTY

• Officer Sizemore conducted a resource inspection on a vessel with four individuals coming into the boat ramp on St. George Island. The officer located three undersized black drum and two undersized redfish. Officer Sizemore issued

citations accordingly.

### GULF COUNTY

• Master Officer M. Webb and Lieutenant Guy responded to a search and rescue on St. Joe Bay involving two individuals on kayaks. Strong winds and seas had swept the two out, and they were unable to make their way back. The officers located the individuals and brought them on board the patrol vessel, including their watercraft. The individuals were unharmed from the experience and

didn't need medical attention.

### HOLMES COUNTY

• Senior Officer E. Fowler and Officer J. Touchton attended the West Pittman Creek Church Fall Game Dinner. There were approximately 300 people in attendance and the officers were able to answer numerous questions related to chronic wasting disease (CWD) and other wildlife related issues.

• Senior Officer E. Fowler and Officer J. Touchton were patrolling

two bait sites on private property. The officers observed individuals hunt wild turkey within 100 yards of the bait. The appropriate citations were issued.

### WASHINGTON COUNTY

• Lieutenant W. Walsingham was patrolling a wild turkey bait site on private property that he had located earlier. Two individuals were observed hunting within 100 yards of the bait. The appropriate citations were issued.



# Resentment brings out the worst in us



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Remember when you were newly married? You loved doing whatever you could for your spouse. You found yourself humming while emptying

the dishwasher, mowing the lawn, even scrubbing toilets.

Do you recall when you first started that new job? How you smiled as you pitched in because you were thrilled to be part of the team?

Now that time has passed, are you still humming? Still smiling? Or do you spend more time muttering and scowling? When people don't sufficiently show their appreciation, most of us begin to feel used and taken advantage of.

Would you feel re-

sentful if I told you 1 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV) says, "[Love is not] resentful"?

It's hard to maintain a good attitude when we don't feel appreciated. We're not asking for billboards to be erected in our honor, but a simple "thank you" now and then would be nice.

If we're not careful, though, the more we dwell on feeling overlooked, the more we resent the very people we previously found joy with.

Resentment brings out the worst in us, causing us to think

and behave in ways we'd never admit to. We might sabotage a coworker's promotion by slandering his or her reputation. Or shame a family member by bringing up an unkind action from the past just to torment him or her. We know they don't deserve our mean-spirited actions, but we're so miserable that we want them to suffer too – especially if they're receiving the praises and "attaboys" we crave.

What would happen if we completely shifted our mindset and refused to allow ourselves

to feel like a martyr? Especially during this National Volunteer Appreciation Month, what if our highest desire was to honor God in all we do? And what if we gave those by whom we feel slighted the benefit of the doubt, at home and at work? They're likely aware of how much we contribute and would miss us dearly if we were to leave. But, as we also do at times, they allow their distractingly busy schedules to keep them from taking the time to express their gratitude.

As we allow God to

change our motives and grow in our ability to love others, we'll be quicker to overlook offenses, even when we feel slighted. And, miracle of miracles, we might even find ourselves spending less time muttering and scowling and more time humming and smiling.

*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 three-minute sermon



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

There are times when, as a pastor, I spend days praying and studying, pulling together a sermon for Sunday morning.

Sermons should be engaging, thought-provoking moments that inspire the congregation to live closer to the Lord and each other. There are many different ideas on the length of a good sermon. I believe an ap-

propriate time limit is 15 to 20 minutes. However, some of the greatest sermons do not come from the pulpit. Sometimes, they come from the congregation in one sentence, taking less than three minutes.

A short but powerful message can significantly impact one's perspective in various areas of life. Here's an example: a man once prayed, "Lord, let me walk in a way that others see you coming." Even after two decades, this single sentence spoken in prayer continues to influence my life.

Life can have its challenges, and often, I respond in a very human fashion. Then I wonder what others may have seen and if I reflected

the grace of God. Did I honor the Lord with my actions?

Scripture teaches of a man who desires to please God with offerings. He wonders which would be more pleasing to God, burnt offerings or elaborate gifts. He questions if he would become worthy of the Lord's presence by offering all he had, including his firstborn child. The response that came was simple yet powerful. The Lord's only request is that the man walk humbly before Him and to be kind and merciful (Micah 6:6-8). If we follow this scripture, men will always see the Lord walking before us.

In a recent Sunday morning service, we shared our joys and

concerns with one another.

During this time, a man spoke about his wife's health and her impending surgery. The people were empathetic as he shared the recovery road ahead of them. And then it happened – the one-sentence sermon from the newest member of the congregation. She said, "May I bless you and your wife." She had been a nurse before retirement and offered her skills to help care for this member of our church family.

I had spent three weeks preparing for my sermon that day, yet her words spoke volumes. The Lord has a warehouse full of spiritual gifts, and He has gener-

ously given these gifts to His people. Some have the gift of speaking as if the Lord is speaking through them. Others have a gift of helping, and they help others with the strength of the Lord. In everything they do is to bring glory to the Father (1 Peter 4:10-11). We are called to bless others, and she offered her nursing skills to bless others.

Truthfully, we all have a sermon within us. The teaching is up to the individual. Do we offer blessings or curses, do we build up or do we tear down? The message is our lives becoming an imitation of the life of our Lord Jesus. If we follow the pattern outlined in the scripture, we will walk in the way

of love, just as we are loved (Ephesians 5:1-2). In offering our gifts, we can become walking sermons that bless others and reveal the Lord's grace for we are all called to preach the love and mercy of our Lord.

John 13:34: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this, everyone will know you are my disciples if you love one another." We decide if we offer blessings or curses. Do we use our gifts for good or evil?

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

### OUT TO PASTOR

## It was a fool's game – and I lost



By **JAMES SNYDER**

When it comes to games, I am not a good player. I lose more times than I win, and I can't remember the last time I won.

My paternal grandfather's favorite holiday of the year was April Fools' Day. He often would spend the whole year developing a prank for family and friends.

He had a construction company, and I'm not sure how many employees he had, but every one of them was the subject of some prank during their time with him.

Some pranks were so bad I can't mention them today.

Through the years, I have tried unsuccessfully to prank The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. One of these days, cross my fingers, I will come up with a prank that works.

A week before April Fools' Day, The Gracious Mistress of the

Parsonage asked me a rather silly question. "When was the last time you had an Apple Fritter?"

I was very suspicious of this question because I'm not allowed to bring them into our house, at least if she knows about it.

I was thinking that when she asked me this question, she was suspicious that I had been eating an Apple Fritter behind her back.

Being old has a great deal of benefits to it so I told her, "Oh, my dear. I can't remember eating an Apple Fritter lately."

Looking at me rather strangely and with some air of unbelief, she said, "I was just thinking that maybe this April Fools' Day would be a good time for you to have an Apple Fritter."

I smiled at her, thinking she was trying to set me up for something.

"Well, it would be very nice."

With a twinkle in her eye that I couldn't explain, she said, "How would you feel if I got you an Apple Fritter for April Fools' Day?"

She has tricked me so many times that I'm not quite sure if this was a trick on her part or if she was having some "buyer's remorse" about not allowing me to eat an Apple Fritter in the

house.

With a pleasant smile, I replied, "I would feel very good about an Apple Fritter on April Fools' Day."

At the time, I did not know she was setting me up. I didn't think she could do that to me and I would not notice it. After all, I'm the one who tries to prank her every chance I get.

With a smile like I've never seen before, she replied, "Maybe I'll do that for you for April Fools' Day." With a laugh, she turned around and walked away.

I didn't know if I should be happy or suspicious at the time.

I went on with my week as normal and was busy with a few projects. I forgot about the Apple Fritter because I assumed she was just pranking me. I did not expect an Apple Fritter on April Fools' Day. I did, however, think about going out and getting one for myself behind her back.

It was a busy week because we were preparing for Easter Sunday. Usually, our family gets together for dinner on Easter, so there was a lot of work in preparation for the family gathering.

During dinner, The Gracious Mistress of the

Parsonage said something rather strange. I pretended not to hear, but she said something to our oldest daughter, "What do you think about having an Apple Fritter on April Fools' Day?"

I had no idea why she asked that question. She was pretending to say it behind my back but did it in such a way that I could hear it without knowing that she knew I was listening.

Several times during our family get-together, she mentioned the word "Apple Fritter." There was no substance to what she was talking about; she just mentioned the word. I knew there was no chance of her getting me an Apple Fritter for April Fools' Day. I knew she was trying to play with my expectations.

All that day I couldn't help but think of Apple Fritters and how much I would really like one but I knew it was a prank, so I had no expectations.

The more I thought about it, the more I began to think that maybe, just maybe, she wanted me not to believe she was going to give me an Apple Fritter and then, at the last moment, surprise me and give me an Apple Fritter.

That breakfast on

April Fools' Day, she brought me a little box, and on the top of the box, it said, "This is your Apple Fritter for April Fools' Day."

I must say I was a little surprised when she handed me that little box. I smiled, opened the lid, and saw written at the bottom of the box was, "April Fool."

Sometimes what you do to others comes back on you. I was reading my bible and came across this verse. "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise" (Luke 6:31).

That got me thinking about some of my actions. Would I want others to do to me what I sometimes do to them? Maybe I should begin doing good to people and see how that works. I think I'll start with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

*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

• **Pat “Davy” Burns**, 55, of Sopchoppy, died April 3, 2024.

• **Andra Dole Loftin**, 73, of Crawfordville, died April 5, 2024.

• **Martha Ceil Riley**, 73, of Crawfordville, died April 1, 2024.

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

## Weekly Roundup: Abortion becomes ‘front and center’

By **DARA KAM**  
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Supreme Court this week issued explosive decisions that rolled back decades of legal precedents and set in motion a dramatic restriction on abortion while paving the way for an electoral clash over abortion rights in November.

In a 6-1 decision last Monday, justices ruled that a privacy clause in the state Constitution does not protect abortion rights. That overturned precedents dating to 1989 and effectively gave the go-ahead to a six-week abortion limit that the Republican-controlled Legislature and Gov. Ron DeSantis approved last year.

But justices, in a sharply divided decision, also approved the wording of a ballot measure that would enshrine abortion rights in the Florida Constitution, galvanizing Democrats and other supporters who say the issue will be “front and center” in November.

The proposed constitutional amendment says, in part: “No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient’s health, as determined by the patient’s health-care provider.”

The ruling on privacy rights will have the most-immediate impact. The case stemmed

from a 2022 law that imposed a 15-week limit on abortions, but lawmakers last year also tied the six-week limit to the case. The court’s ruling means the six-week restriction will take effect May 1.

In a 51-page majority opinion, Justice Jamie Grosshans wrote that the Constitution’s privacy clause does not address abortion and that voters did not understand it to include a right to abortion when they passed the clause in 1980.

“Era-appropriate dictionary definitions and contextual clues suggest that abortion does not naturally fit within the rights at issue. Reliable historical sources, like the technical meaning of the terms contained in the provision, the origin of the amendment, and the framing of the public debate, similarly do not support a conclusion that abortion should be read into the provision’s text,” Grosshans wrote in the opinion joined by Chief Justice Carlos Muniz and Justices Charles Canady, John Couriel, Renatha Francis and Meredith Sasso.

But in a dissent, Justice Jorge Labarga wrote that he is “convinced that in 1980, a Florida voter would have understood that the proposed privacy amendment ‘included broad protections for abortion.’” He pointed, in part, to the U.S. Supreme Court issu-

ing the Roe v. Wade abortion-rights decision seven years before the 1980 state constitutional amendment passed.

The abortion-rights proposal will share the November ballot with President Joe Biden’s re-election matchup against his predecessor, former President Donald Trump. While Trump lost nationally in 2020, he defeated Biden by more than 3 percentage points in Florida.

Political insiders had largely written off Florida for Democrats in this year’s elections, as Republicans have built a large voter-registration advantage and hold all statewide elected offices and supermajorities in the Legislature.

But Democrats are seizing on the abortion issue as a potential crack in the GOP’s dominance in the state.

Hours after Monday’s court opinions, Biden’s campaign issued a memo with the subject line “President Biden’s opening in Florida.”

“Make no mistake: Florida is not an easy state to win, but it is a winnable one for President Biden, especially given Trump’s weak, cash-strapped campaign and serious vulnerabilities within his coalition,” the president’s campaign manager, Julia Chavez Rodriguez, wrote.

Abortion rights “will be front and center this election cycle,” she

added.

### SEEING GREEN

The court last week also set “potlandia” buzzing by giving the green light to a ballot proposal that would authorize recreational marijuana for people ages 21 and older, an effort that sparked DeSantis’ ire.

Attorney General Ashley Moody’s office had urged the court to reject the measure, arguing it would be misleading to voters and was not limited to a single subject as required by Florida law.

But the 5-2 decision, authored by Grosshans, found that the proposal met requirements under the court’s limited review.

“Our role is narrow — we assess only whether the amendment conforms to the constitutionally mandated single-subject requirement, whether the ballot summary meets the statutory standard for clarity, and whether the amendment is facially invalid under the federal Constitution. In light of those limited considerations, we approve the proposed amendment for placement on the ballot,” Grosshans wrote.

The recreational-marijuana measure comes after voters in 2016 approved a constitutional amendment broadly authorizing medical marijuana. Florida now has more than 600 medical-mar-

ijuana dispensaries scattered throughout the state.

Trulieve, the state’s largest medical-marijuana company, has spent more than \$40 million on the effort to get the weed initiative before voters.

DeSantis criticized the pot proposal on Thursday, pointing in part to the number of dispensaries already in existence.

“Every part of Florida, not just South Florida, I see marijuana stores. ... but do we really need to do more? With that? Do we want to have more marijuana in our communities? I don’t think it’ll work out well, but it is a very, very broad amendment,” DeSantis said.

### STORY OF THE

## tobe7encouraged faith column In the midst of broken pieces... Wait!

Greetings Wakulla citizens! As we go out into the world today in the midst of chaos, know we are not alone. **Psalm 37:24** “**though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand**”. Jesus knows we will stumble in this chaotic world! Having a heart for repentance is key! We are to wait on Him in all that we do because He is working in and through us. Even though we are unable to see His blessings in the midst of our broken pieces in our lives. **Psalm 27:13-14** **I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**

To wait means; 1. To remain or rest in expectation: *synonym: stay*. “waiting for the guests to arrive.” Similar: *stay* 2. To stay in one place until another catches up. “waited at the corner for everyone else in the group.” 3. To remain or be in readiness. “Lunch is waiting at the counter.” It is difficult today in this world to “wait”! Jesus does everything opposite of this world! Praise God! If we received all that He promises immediately we’d be a bunch of very ungrateful children! He, Jesus, is always right on time! **2 Peter 3:9** **The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.**

In all that we experience if we keep our eyes on Him, waiting, we will learn something and grow from it to better serve God. This definitely can be a painful journey! **Romans 8:18** **For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. Which leads us to Psalm 25:5** Lead me

**WEEK:** The Florida Supreme Court upheld a law that will prevent abortions after six weeks of pregnancy, while also advancing a ballot proposal that would enshrine the right to abortion in the state Constitution.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** “But the problem with some of these constitutional amendments is, it’s all rainbows and unicorns because it’s drafted by proponents. Which, in the case of both abortion and marijuana, it looks innocuous, but then you start asking yourself, well, can you smoke on a child’s playground, can you smoke in an elevator? Things that we’ve restricted when cigarettes are concerned.” — House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast.

**in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.**

Seek Him my friends, discover the Treasures of Him in the midst of His WORD, then sit back and wait.

We hope this message blesses you!,

Deb Quimby-Quackenbush  
[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. WOOO-HHHOOOO!! Welcome to the family! Your life just got EXCITING!!! The next step is to be water baptized (1 Peter 3:21, 1 Corinthians 6:11) so that our old self will be buried. It is important now to get involved in a Spirit filled full Gospel church and dive in and learn all about who you now are becoming. Congratulations my friend!**

Visit my youtube channel by scanning the QR code below.



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## Worm Gruntin’

From Front Page

Church in Medart. She has three children, Sarabeth Jones, Mina Sutton, and Trey Morrison, 10 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

She remembers grunting for worms as a child with her father at the ponds near her home on Lawhon Mill Road.

“We would grunt the worms, then go fishing for bream with poles made from the limbs of a gallberry bush.”

Her favorite pastimes are quilting, watching television, and going, going, going!

Says Morrison, “Don’t ask me if you don’t want me.” She thanks the good Lord for her longevity in life, and praises Him every day.

For information and schedule of events for the Worm Gruntin’ Festival, see the ad on Page 13.

At right, artwork for the back of the festival T-shirt.



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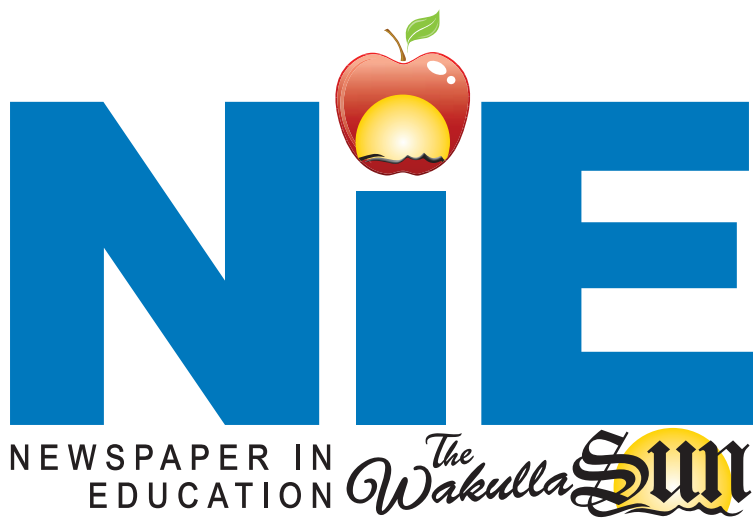
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## USE THE NEWS

### 1. CAUGHT ON VIDEO

Babe Ruth set many records in his career as a baseball player. By the time he retired in 1935, he had hit 714 home runs. That record was broken in 1974 by Hank Aaron while playing for the Atlanta Braves. While at the game in Atlanta, a fan named Charlie Russo snuck onto the field with Hank's family and caught the moment he broke the record on video—but he kept that video a secret until now. The video shows him just feet from Hank as he celebrates breaking the record, surrounded by his family and teammates. Now 81 years old, Russo has finally shared the video with the media, bringing footage of the historic day to a new generation. If you were able to get a picture or video of something so exciting and historic, would you want to share it with everyone or keep it to yourself? Why? Write at least 5 sentences about your opinion and then discuss your answer with your classmates.

### 2. LEANING TOWER OF BOLOGNA

You may have heard of Italy's famous landmark "the Leaning Tower of Pisa." The famous tower was built in the 1170s (more than 800 years ago!) but soon after it was finished, part of its base sank into the soft ground and caused it to lean to one side. Now, another town in Italy is looking to Pisa for help with its own leaning tower to keep it from falling over. Experts say the Garisenda Tower in Bologna (spelled like the lunch meat but pronounced "Bo-LO-nya") is at risk of falling over soon. It started leaning during its construction in the 1300s, but it wasn't until 25 years ago that people started to worry about it falling over. Now, visitors can't get close to the base of the tower and experts are using sensors to keep an eye on any movement. Based on a recent trip to Pisa to look at how that tower has been protected, the experts plan to attach big metal cables to the tower that would keep it stable so workers can make the founda-

tion stronger. Write a short summary of this story, including at least 5 facts that you learned, and draw a picture to go along with it.

### 3. SILVER LINING FOR SALMON

A recent truck crash could've ended in disaster, but it ended up better than expected. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife was moving thousands of young salmon from a hatchery, where fish are bred, to a nearby river. They were doing this because the salmon population in some areas is low because of dams that were built to change the flow of the water. They were being moved in a tanker truck full of water when the driver

made a sharp turn and dew on the road caused the truck to slide, flipping it onto its side as it fell down a rocky hill. Tens of thousands of the fish were thrown from the truck and luckily landed in a creek at the bottom of the hill! They were able to swim away and join the salmon migration down the Grand Ronde River to the Pacific Ocean. Write a summary of this story including at least 5 facts you learned.

### 4. MOON TIME

NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, wants to come up with a different way of telling time on the moon. Because there is less gravity on the moon than there is here on

Earth, time moves faster there than here. It's only a small difference, 58.7 microseconds every day (there are 1,000,000 microseconds in one second) but even that little amount can eventually add up. Also, if there were astronauts on the moon, a difference of microseconds could be important when working with the very high-tech instruments and equipment they have. The European Space Agency also suggested creating a time zone for the moon. Right now, space missions operate on the time zone of the country operating the space craft, but that can become complicated as countries and private companies collaborate to send astronauts to the moon again. They suggested the moon have its own "lunar time

zone." Think about all the ways that your day depends on knowing what time it is. It helps you know when to get up in the morning, when to get to school, when to eat dinner, and so on. How would that change if you didn't know what time it was or if the time you saw didn't match what's happening around you, like if it's dark at noon and bright and sunny and midnight? Write a paragraph about what that would be like.

### 5. THE UNKNOWN GETS NOTICED

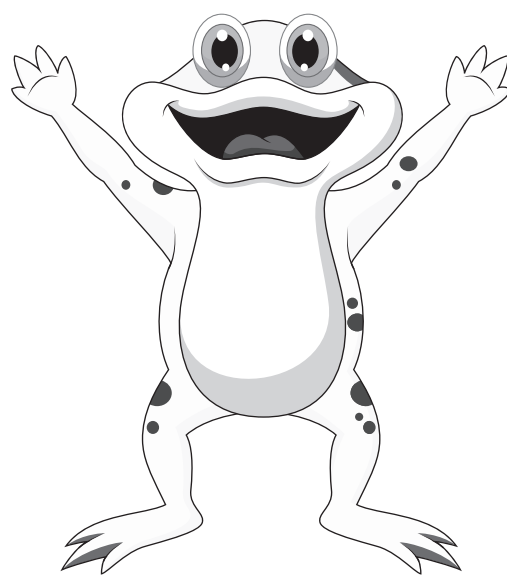
Earlier this year, kids and parents alike were very disappointed when a Willy Wonka-themed event in Glasgow, Scotland, turned out to not be what they expected. One of the problems with the event was

that the script for the actors was generated by artificial intelligence and didn't make much sense. It introduced a new character called The Unknown, an evil chocolate maker who lives in the walls of Willy Wonka's factory. The character was played by sixteen-year-old Felicia Dawkins, who got millions of followers on TikTok after she revealed that she was the actor in a widely shared video from the event. Felicia has now gotten several action jobs because of the event and her publicity after it, helping her fulfill her dream of being a professional actress. Write a paragraph about a time in your life where something bad happened, but something positive ended up coming from it.



### Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



### Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

M J P U   

O R F G         
1    2    4

S K E L A          
5    8

D P T E O L A            
6    9    3    10    7

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

Y .  
1    10

Answers: Jump, Frog, Lakes, Tadpole; Frog catches a fly.

### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- **1606:** THE UNION FLAG IS ADOPTED AS THE FLAG OF ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH SHIPS.
- **1900:** PRESIDENT WILLIAM MCKINLEY SIGNS THE FORAKER ACT INTO LAW, GRANTING PUERTO RICO LIMITED SELF-RULE.
- **1980:** CANADIAN RUNNER AND ATHLETE TERRY FOX BEGINS HIS MARATHON OF HOPE RUN IN ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND.



### TOAD

a tailless amphibian with a stout body and short legs



FROGS HAVE A BACKBONE AND ARE COLD-BLOODED VERTEBRATES. THEY LIVE ON BOTH LAND AND IN WATER, MAKING THEM THIS TYPE OF ANIMAL.

ANSWER: AMPHIBIAN



- ENGLISH:** Frog
- SPANISH:** Rana
- ITALIAN:** Rana
- FRENCH:** Grenouille
- GERMAN:** Frosch



A FROG COMPLETELY SHEDS ITS SKIN ABOUT ONCE A WEEK. AFTER IT SHEDS THE DEAD SKIN, IT USUALLY EATS IT.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: FROG



# LYME DISEASE WORD SEARCH

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

## WORDS

- BITE
- BLACK-LEGGED
- BULLSEYE
- DEER
- DIAGNOSTIC
- DOG
- FEVER
- HOST
- ILLNESS
- INFECTION
- JOINTS
- LYME DISEASE
- NYMPH
- PAIN
- PARASITE
- PATHOGEN
- PREVENTION
- RASH
- RESPONSE
- SPIROCHETE
- SPREAD
- STIFFNESS
- SYMPTOMS
- TICK

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

## CROSSWORD

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Island nation
7. Platforms
13. Project plan
14. French fishing port
16. South Dakota
17. Oakland's baseball team
19. Military policeman
20. Ornamental stone
22. Garland
23. Process that produces ammonia
25. Mousses
26. Music notation "dal \_\_\_"
28. Fail to win
29. Peyton's little brother
30. Not near
31. Some cars still need it
33. Lizard genus
34. An idiot (Brit.)
36. Postponed
38. African country
40. Gazes unpleasantly
41. In a way, traveled
43. Ukraine's capital
44. Appropriate
45. Dash
47. Twitch
48. Swiss river
51. Data file with computer animations
53. City in S. Korea
55. Particular region

56. They have eyes and noses
58. Tear
59. Large Madagascan lemur
60. Not out
61. Ornamental saddle covering
64. A driver's license is one
65. Latin term for charity
67. Rechristens
69. Objects from an earlier time
70. Hindu male religious teachers

### CLUES DOWN

1. Used as a weapon
2. Yukon Territory
3. Makes a map of
4. An established ceremony prescribed by a religion
5. Unnilhexium
6. Merchant
7. Playing the field
8. Folk singer DiFranco
9. Something to scratch
10. Mexican agave
11. Equal to one quintillion bytes
12. Session
13. North American people

15. Ranches
18. Electroencephalograph
21. A type of compound
24. Avenue
26. High schoolers' test
27. A type of meal
30. Gradually disappeared
32. Ancient Frankish law code
35. Popular pickup truck
37. Buzzing insect
38. Deal illegally
39. Lying in the same plane
42. Obstruct
43. Related
46. Challenge aggressively
47. Nocturnal hoofed animals
49. Bird's nests
50. Forays
52. \_\_\_ B. de Mille, filmmaker
54. Title of respect
55. One-time name of Vietnam
57. Self-immolation by fire ritual
59. Private school in New York
62. Political action committee
63. A way to fashion
66. Email reply
68. "The Great Lake State"

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Lyme disease.

K T C I

--	--	--	--

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

S	I	M	V	M	S	C	O	I	T	E	R	
S	E	N	V	N	E	R	V	T	I	M	V	D
G	I	N	O	S	T	R	V	P	I	M	V	D
I	H	O	N	T	H	E	S	E	C	O	V	
V	B	V	N	V	S	V	N	S	E	C	O	V
H	V	A	C	T	I	G	E	R	V	O	V	
S	H	E	E	T	G	V	H	O	L			
O	B	E	V	I	L	V	J	F				
V	L	I	S	V	O	H	V	J	I	T		
E	S	O	T	O	N	G	E	S	S	T	E	D
W	R	H	I	T	E	R	H	I	V	O	S	
W	S	O	I	T	E	R	H	I	V	O	S	
S	E	E	I	T	V	E	N	I	T	I	O	
S	E	S	I	V	O	H	V	J	I	T		

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

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

## Guess Who?

I am an actress born on April 13, 1980, in Georgia. I studied theater at the University of Evansville in Indiana. I am best known for my role on the soap opera "All My Children" and for playing a detective on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit."

Answer: Tick Answer: Kelli Giddish

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



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**Big Bend Hospice**  
your hometown hospice licensed since 1983

Big Bend Hospice is seeking direct patient care volunteers to provide companionship and respite services in Wakulla County.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kara Walker at (850) 878-5310.

## FICTITIOUS NAME

**FICTITIOUS NAME**  
Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 856.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, First Pentecostal Church of Crawfordville, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of  
**APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE, UPCI**  
Located at 5 Crescent Way, Crawfordville FL 32327  
In the County of Wakulla  
Intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporation of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Published on April 11, 2024

## NOTICE OF SALE

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
Notice is given pursuant to Florida Self-Storage Act, Florida Statutes, Chapter 83, Part IV, that ABC STORAGE will hold a sale by sealed bid on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 2 p.m. at 3743 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville FL 32327, of the contents of Mini Warehouse containing personal property of:  
--FINAL NOTICE--  
**JAMES DALTON SKEENS**  
Payment must be made before Saturday, April 20, 2024 by 12:00 noon before the sale date of April 20, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. The owners may redeem their property by payment of the outstanding balance and costs by contacting ABC Storage at (850)508-5177. Or by paying in person at the warehouse location. April 11 & 18, 2024

## 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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF NORMAN BARWICK, DECEASED.  
CASE NO. 2022-CP-142

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of NORMAN BARWICK, deceased, whose date of death was September 6, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is the Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The names and addresses of the personal representative and her 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 ON OR BEFORE 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 FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 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 decedent's date of death was September 6, 2022.  
The date of first publication of this notice is April 11, 2024

WILLIAM H. WEBSTER Attorney at Law P.O. Box 4 Hosford, FL 32334 850 443-5901 [billwebsterlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:billwebsterlaw@yahoo.com)

SHARON B. LEWIS Personal Representative 77 Bottoms Road Panacea, FL 32346

April 11, 18, 2024



**BASEBALL**

# War Eagles improve to 12-3-1 on season



By **KEITH ANDERSON**  
Baseball Coach

The Wakulla High Varsity War Eagles baseball team split two

games this past week to improve to 12-3-1 on the year.

On Tuesday, April 2, they traveled to Liberty County to win a close one 5-3.

Will Chipman took to the mound for Wakulla throwing 4.2 innings scattering 7 hits and giving up 3 runs. Jesse Nazworth came in fourth down 2-1 to squelch a rally by the bulldogs, then finished the game

giving up no hits and striking out 1.

Shortstop Haden Klees had a big night at the plate going 2-3 with a double and a 2 run homerun to break the tie at three to go ahead 5-3 in the 6th inning. Michael Hurley also had a two hit night.

Parker Lawhon, Owen Klees, and Josiah Pierini each had a hit also.

The War Eagles then traveled Thursday April

4th to district rival Suwannee. After the War Eagles made a comeback from a 3-0 deficit to go ahead 4-3, the Bulldogs would not be denied swinging well and taking an 8-4 lead in the 5th. The War Eagles mounted a rally with a towering shot off the top of the wall by Josiah Pierini to score two runs to cut the score to 8-7 in the sixth, but the bulldogs held on for the win in the last

frame.

Leaston Spears started on the mound throwing 3 innings. Hayden Wright, Jesse Nazworth, Owen Klees, and Gavin Estep all threw in relief to keep the game close.

The War Eagles racked up 9 hits, out hitting the bulldogs, but couldn't push a few runners across to seal the win.

Josiah Pierini had a huge night at the plate

going 3-4 with a solo homerun and was less than an inch from notching a grand slam in the 5th inning. He had 4 RBIs on the evening.

Haden Klees and Brady Crum each had multiple hit games with both having a double a piece. Michael Hurley and Owen Klees also each had a single in the affair.

## Alvin Hall visits



Alvin Hall being interviewed by Palaver Tree director Herb Donaldson.



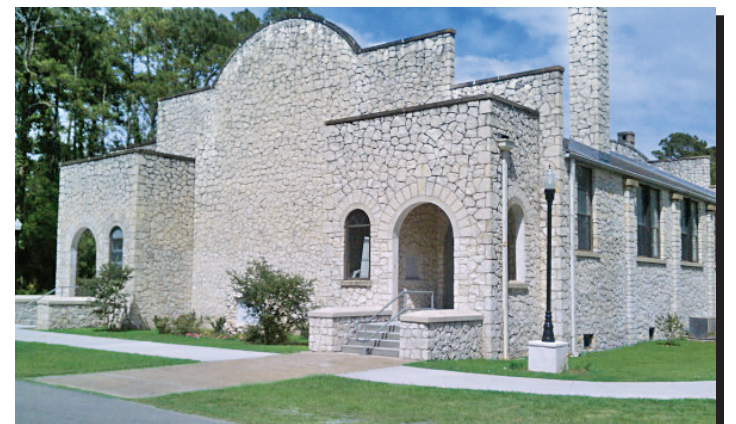
Special to The Sun

Alvin Hall, author, BBC broadcaster, contributor to magazines and newspapers, and financial educator, was born and raised in Wakulla County and is back in town to record his hometown early life for a podcast he is producing for the BBC in London. He is in town for a couple of weeks to interview relatives and old friends and walk the dirt roads of his youth. Sunday evening at the Palaver Tree Theater director Herb Donaldson interviewed Hall and took questions from the audience. (Photos by Gerald Brown)



Built 1924

## Sopchoppy High School Centennial Celebration



**Celebrating 100 years April 13, 2024 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM**  
**Historic School & Gym Tours • Oral History**  
**Storytelling • Food Trucks • Historic Themed T-Shirts**  
**Contact: Callie Quigg 850-926-7373**



Friday night was prom and tradition is go to Azalea Park for photos. Here are Hayden Fringer, Nathan Braverman, Caitlin Hall, Kyra Ferreira, Hanna Hall, and Elizabeth Gertera. (Photo by Lynda Kinsey)

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## 22nd Annual SOPCHOPPY WORM GRUNTIN' FESTIVAL

A truly unique celebration highlighting the rich tradition of worm grunting, set in the heart of beautiful and historic downtown Sopchoppy.

The festival is fun for all ages. (bring a chair or blanket to enjoy the all-day live music)

### EVENT SCHEDULE

- 7:00 a.m. Wiggle Worm Fun Run Registration
- 8:00 a.m. Wiggle Worm Fun Run Begins
- 9:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony & Vendors Open
- 9:15-10:00 Sign Up for Worm Gruntin' Contest
- 9:15-9:45 LIVE MUSIC: Senior Wigglers
- 9:45-10:00 Worm Gruntin' Demo
- 10:00-11:00 Worm Gruntin' Contest 12 & under
- 11:00-11:15 Gummy Worm Contest 12 & under
- 10:00-11:15 LIVE MUSIC: DJ Butch
- 11:15-11:30 Announcements- Winners & Activities
- 11:30-12:30 LIVE MUSIC: Whitehead Family
- 12:45-1:45 LIVE MUSIC: Humble Road
- 2:00-3:00 LIVE MUSIC: Johnny Wayne Mills Band
- 3:15-3:30 Crown the Queen & Scholarship Winner
- 3:30-4:30 Rick Ott Band (featuring Lindsay Sparkman and Jerry Evans)
- 4:30-5:00 Hula Hoop Contest
- 5:00-6:30 LIVE MUSIC: Jason Byrd

WITH MASTER OF CEREMONIES - MERLE ROBB

More Information  
[www.facebook.com/SopchoppyFL/](http://www.facebook.com/SopchoppyFL/)  
[www.facebook.com/SopchoppyWormGruntinFestival/](http://www.facebook.com/SopchoppyWormGruntinFestival/)



- WIGGLE WORM FUN RUN
- 100 ARTISAN VENDORS
- FOOD VENDORS
- BEER GARDEN
- KID COMPETITIONS/ACTIVITIES
- WORM GRUNT QUEEN CROWNING
- WORM GRUNT COMPETITION
- EXCLUSIVE FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE
- LIVE MUSIC ALL DAY
- MUSICAL HEADLINER, JASON BYRD



9 AM - 6:30 PM

**13**  
APRIL

**SOPCHOPPY DEPOT PARK**

34 ROSE STREET,  
SOPCHOPPY FLORIDA



# LOW COUNTRY BOIL

Chamber of Commerce's 13th annual event at 3Y Ranch on Saturday brings in a huge crowd



The Low Country Boil is served up, and Leslie Weiss scoops up a helping.



Dallas Marshall with a plate.



Niraj Patel and John Shuff cooking.

PHOTOS BY GERALD BROWN, ABOVE, & LYNDA KINSEY, BELOW



Randy Merritt, Shirley Howard, Shannon Merritt



Trey Young, Quincee Messersmith



Heather Bryan, Chris Russell, Doug Gove, Petra Shuff



PROPERTY APPRAISER

**WAKULLA**

ESTD 1843

**ED BRIMNER**

— CERTIFIED GENERAL APPRAISER, RZ3797 —

**850-926-0500**



KEEPING YOU INFORMED


Last week, all property owners who had an exemption in 2023, should have received an Automatic Renewal card.

Please review and confirm that the exemption(s) are correct for 2024.  
**If nothing has changed, no action is necessary.**  
 We will continue the exemption on your property.

If something has changed as of January 1, 2024, please return this card to let us know.  
**This would include the following:**

- \*Property was not your permanent residence on January 1, 2024
- \*Property was rented on January 1, 2024
- \*Owner has remarried / \*Owner is deceased

**If you are unsure whether you still qualify for the exemption, give us a call!**



YOU GOT MAIL



WAKULLA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
PRESENTS THE 1ST ANNUAL

## Daddy Daughter Dance

Saturday, April 20th, 2024  
 The Sopchoppy Gymnasium  
 159 Yellow Jacket Road  
 Sopchoppy, FL 32358

*Ticket Information*

- This event is for ages 3K thru 12th grade and open to the public!
- \$50 per couple, \$10 for each additional daughter.
- Choose to purchase your tickets from 5-7PM or 7-9PM time slots.
- Dads, grandpas, uncles, any father figure is welcome as an escort.
- \*Please visit [wakullachristian.com](http://wakullachristian.com) to purchase tickets\*



*Pamper your Pooch*

Dog Wash

SATURDAY, April 13, 2024

9:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Hudson Park, Crawfordville

**Spa package\***

**Amenities include:**

- Aromatherapy Bubble Bath
- Le Flea & Tick Spray  
All Natural Ingredients
- Towel Drying
- PAWdecure

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\$15\* Bath only    \$10\* Nail Trim only  
 \$15\* Anal Gland Expression only



\*SUGGESTED DONATION, PROCEEDS BENEFIT HOMELESS ANIMALS,  
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