



See Page 14

Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	PM Thunderstorms
Hi: 87° Lo: 65° 11%	Hi: 85° Lo: 67° 15%	Hi: 84° Lo: 66° 35%
Sunrise 6:53AM Sunset 8:15 PM	Sunrise 6:52 AM Sunset 8:16 PM	Sunrise 6:51 AM Sunset 8:17 PM



\$1  
One Section

"It's a New Day"

Locally Owned & Operated

Our 3rd Year 18th Issue  
Thursday, May 2, 2024

# Hiring freeze lifted

New deputies, firefighters, other county personnel cleared for hiring as of June 1

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN  
Editor

The county will move forward with hiring six new road deputies and nine firefighters as of June 1.

The new hires, along with other county positions including those to staff the new golf course, had been in a holding pattern as the county commission weighed the impact of the more than \$1 million budget shortfall after a mistaken \$307 million tax valuation on a vacant lot skewed the county and school board budgets.

At a special meeting on Tuesday, commissioners heard that the county had saved \$1.9 million

from not spending on budgeted positions until the third quarter.

"Other revenues are performing better than expected, which helped overcome the ad valorem problem," said Brandy King, the county's finance officer.

After determining they will have money to pay for the positions this year and next, commissioners made a motion to move forward with the new hires as of June 1 – if the audit committee approved.

The scheduling was a bit reversed with commissioners meeting a day before the audit committee, but the audit committee – made up of constitutional offi-

cers – gave a thumbs up at their meeting on Wednesday after reviewing the financials.

Sheriff Jared Miller has stressed his need for six new road deputies – though he was given the OK earlier to hire three new dispatchers with medical training as required under a new state law.

Wakulla Fire-Rescue will be able to hire a whole new engine company to staff the new station in the eastern part of the county.

And the county has two maintenance positions to fill, plus 21 full-time equivalent positions to staff the new Wakulla Sands Golf Course when it opens Aug. 16.

In the audit committee, Clerk of Court Greg James has been most conservative about the budgetary impacts of the new hires, especially on next year's budget.

After reviewing the financial information last week, he said: "I think it's a good plan. But does everything work as it's supposed to? No."

Sheriff Miller asked James about his concerns.

"My concern is in a year," James said. "But I don't have significant concern to the point I would vote no."

The sheriff made a motion to move forward, saying: "Selfishly, I need the positions."

Turn to Page 5

# Veterans upset with service officer's hours

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN  
Editor

About 10 members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars including Post Commander Sean Golder expressed their concerns about the hours and outreach availability of the county's Veteran Service Officer Winston Murphy.

The VSO's hours are 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. weekdays, plus 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

At the county commission meeting on April 22, Golder said the concern of veterans is the office hours are not easily accessible for veterans – and the VFW members were critical of outreach efforts made by the VSO.

County Administrator David Edwards countered that it's one month in of a six month trial period. Last year, Edwards said, Murphy saw 316 veterans, helped 313 of those, including 95 from Leon County.

"Winston is the best VSO that we've ever had," Edwards said. At the same time, he did acknowledge that the office hours are inconvenient.

County Commissioner Fred Nichols, a veteran, went on the record to say he's with the veterans. "I don't like their hours," he said, adding it should at least be 8 to 11 a.m.

County Commissioner Ralph Thomas, another veteran, said that Murphy was planning to leave the position but that the county administrator talked him into staying part-time.

Edwards insisted that his office needed documentation of complaints from veterans in order to assess the success of the VSO.

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## STEPHEN C. SMITH REGATTA



The 51st annual Stephen C. Smith Regatta was held at Shell Point Beach on Saturday. The event is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society and features sailboard and Hobie Cat races, auctions and more. (Photo by Gerald Brown)

## CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENT

# Josh Brown running for school board

Seeking re-election based on achievements of past four years

By JOSH BROWN  
Candidate

Hello fellow Wakulla County neighbors, my name is Josh Brown and I am respectfully requesting that you grant me the opportunity to continue building upon the successes that we have achieved for our school system over the last four years.

In 2020 you elected me on a simple campaign promise: that I would do my absolute best for your children and our county as your District 4 School Board Member. While there remains work to be done, I am extremely proud of the achievements that we have made, some of which include:

- Returning the Wakulla County School System back into the top 10 statewide in testing results, (No. 9 currently) while simultaneously being near



Josh Brown and his family.

the BOTTOM statewide in state funding. Talk about overachieving!

- Together we were able to raise the graduation rate for our students from 10th statewide in 2020 to first in 2024. You read that right, the

Wakulla County School District, which is one of the least funded districts, leads all other Florida school districts in the graduation rate for our students!

- Increasing the minimum pay for teachers by

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

over 21% during the last four years, the largest four-year increase in the school district's history. While this was a huge feat, there's more work to be done to ensure that our teachers not only receive better pay, but more importantly, have more take-home pay.

- Improving the safety of our schools by adding more School Resource Officers and School Guardians. It's unfortunate that the state of our society has necessitated these additional resources, but I'm proud that we were able to act proactively during my first term. We

Turn to Page 3

# David Harvey honored with naming



The retired Wakulla sheriff, David Harvey, with wife Rhonda at the ceremony on Monday.

The former sheriff has building at sheriff's self-insurance fund named for him

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN  
Editor

Back in 1978, a Letter to the Editor in the Wakulla newspaper complained about an inmate's treatment at the Wakulla County Jail under then-Sheriff David Harvey, who was a year into his first term and only 26.

The inmate who wrote the letter, Kenneth Revell, complained of mistreatment, medical negligence and brutality and had filed a lawsuit against the sheriff's office. Noting that the prior sheriff had managed to operate the jail without the request for budget increase that Harvey was seeking, the letter concluded: "Perhaps Harvey, as Florida's youngest 'Boy Sheriff,' should look around for old leadership."

Harvey fired back a letter of his own the next week, calling the lawsuit a "nuisance lawsuit."

Almost 50 years later, Harvey sounds still rankled by the case – being called the "Boy Sheriff" as well as having his office's insurance company cancel their coverage.

At a sheriffs conference after that, Harvey expressed his concern about the insurance problems – and that led to the creation that year of the Florida Sheriff's Self-Insurance Fund.

After 35 years as Wakulla's sheriff, Harvey

Turn to Page 7



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**Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office**


**SPECIALTY TAGS**  
\$15 - \$30 additional to cost of tag.



Lisa Craze, CFC  
Wakulla County Tax Collector

**ENACTED: June 8, 1999**

The annual use fees shall be distributed to Bike Florida, Inc., up to 25 percent of which shall be used for marketing and promotion of the “Share the Road” concept and license plate. The remaining funds shall be divided equally between Bike Florida, Inc., and the Florida Bicycle Association, Inc., to be used for: Education , Training, bicycle safety and more.



FLORIDA IBIKE  
[www.ShareTheRoad.org](http://www.ShareTheRoad.org)

# Student of the Week


## Washington-Wilson – students at Medart Elementary

**Student Names:** Abriannah Wilson – 1st grade, Nolan Washington – 1st grade, Ariannah Washington – 2nd grade, Na’ Juan Washington – 3rd grade

**Principal:** Stan Ward

**Achievements/Reason for Nomination:** When your entire family is awesome, it is impossible to pick just one! This week we want to recognize the Washington-Wilson siblings. Abriannah, Ariannah, Na’Juan, and Nolan are hardworking and smart students. More than that, they are respectful and kind to everyone, and come to school each day ready to give their best to their teachers and classmates. We are proud of them, and extremely happy they are Medart Mustangs.

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



## Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

# Hooded pitcherplant

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER



Hooded pitcherplant (*Sarracenia minor*) is the most common of six pitcherplants native to Florida. Found in boggy and swampy areas, only this pitcherplant extends into central Florida. It is also distinguished by the hood that curves over each hollow tubular leaf, keeping out rainwater. Hooded pitcherplants lure insects with sweet nectar from leaf glands. Once under the hood, insects try to escape through translucent white spots, eventually falling into the slippery tube with downward hairs and into the digestive liquid at the tube bottom. Ants, flies, wasps, and bees are most often caught. In late spring, the foot-high clusters of pitchers sport large yellow down-facing flowers that are pollinated by small bees. A threatened state species, hooded pitcher plants are blooming now in the small sunken bog garden at Sopchoppy Depot Park.



SCAN ME for an electronic edition of

*The Wakulla Sun*

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Publication Date: May 16



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# Josh Brown

## From Front Page

have one of, if not the highest SRO/student ratios in the state.

- Obtaining almost \$20 million dollars in funding to build the new War Eagle Career Academy. This facility will support our students' ability to concentrate on Career and Technical (CTE) programs rather than collegiate programs only. Along with obtaining the funding for the Academy (which did not come from taxpayer dollars), we added four new additional CTE programs (HVAC, Diesel Mechanic, Phlebotomy, and Drone Piloting), as well as starting a fledgling program in Education, further expanding the multiple CTE options available.

- Getting our kids back into the strong educational environment our children loved as soon as possible during the Covid pandemic. It's been four years so it's easy to forget, but while a lot of other school districts hesitated and waffled back and forth, we took action and kept our kids' safety in mind while returning them back into a safe school environment as soon as possible.

For the next four years I make the same promise to you: I will do my absolute best to ensure we continue to build on what we have achieved and continue our growth to becoming the best we can be. Simple as that. My biggest goal – I would like for the Wakulla School District to be No. 1 in statewide test scores as well as graduation rate.

We have made great strides over the last four years, but we need to continue to find ways we can reduce our costs and increase our effectiveness. In a time where we are seeing many new faces both on the board and at the district level, having a strong, experienced, business-minded board member will be more crucial now than ever.

For those neighbors I have not had the pleasure to get to know yet, I'd like to take a moment and provide a little background about myself: I am a lifelong resident of Wakulla County and am a proud graduate of Wakulla High School. After graduating from Florida State University, I was blessed to start both a family and a career right here in Wakulla County. I have been married to my wife Ginni Joyner Brown for 17 years and for the last 20 years, Ginni has been a teacher. Together we have a son and a daughter, both of whom attend Wakulla High School and have spent their entire educational journey in the Wakulla County School System.

Each morning, the three individuals that encompass my whole world leave our home and head into our schools.

Ensuring that our educational system is the best it can be is not some corny political slogan for me, rather as a husband and a father with literal skin in the game, it's personal to me. I have no political agenda, and my loyalty is to the students first. I don't have to cater to any special interests, and I have no allegiances to anyone other than the students and staff of our school district and

citizens of our county. I believe that you can boil down even the most complicated of decisions by asking yourself one simple question: Is this what is best for the students? If so then you can count on me to support that regardless of politics or public opinion.

As the owner and operator of Waypoint Properties, I get to see daily the positive impacts having a strong school system has on our community. I am proud of the fact that as a local business owner we can reinvest in our community by sponsoring local sports and scholastic teams; supporting multiple local non-profits; and providing career opportunities to dozens of employees. The business acumen and engrained philosophy of helping one's neighbor, both of which have been reinforced throughout my career, have proven to be valuable assets on your local School Board.

With a near \$60 million budget directed by the School Board, it's imperative to have business experienced professionals present on the Board. Similarly, during these economically and socially challenging times, having Board members who embody a philosophy of loving their neighbor as themselves is equally as important. I try hard each day to be more Christ-like, selfless, treating people with kindness, respect, and understanding.

I have volunteered to serve my community in other capacities long before being your school board member, including being a Past President of the Chamber of Commerce, a Board Member of the Panacea Area Water System, a member of the Wakulla County Planning and Zoning board, and the Rec Park Advisory board. My greatest enjoyment though has come from the years I have volunteered coaching youth sports, having coached multiple teams for many, many years. It brings a smile to my face to hear a former player call me "Coach," knowing that during our time together they not only learned about the sport being played, but hopefully they also learned about the game of life, and I was blessed to be a small part of that.

I will close by stating this, if you are looking for an experienced veteran of the School Board, with a parent's heart, and a business mindset, who is not afraid to make the hard decisions required to ensure that our children have their best opportunities for success, then I respectfully request the honor of serving you a final four years.

Judge me based on the person I have always been, not just the politician I have to be now. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 528-6385 anytime to ask questions or discuss ideas you might have for the betterment of our Wakulla Schools. If it's what is best for the kids, then you can count on me to support it.

Respectfully,  
Joshua E. Brown  
Wakulla County School District 4 Representative

# Journalism students visit TV station

By ELLA WREN MOODY  
WHS Student

Nine career driven students from WHS's journalism class took a field trip to WCTV on April 16th. They got to tour the WCTV facility and speak with many employees, all from different departments.

Some of the departments include engineering, finance, production, meteorology, and talent. They got a behind the scenes observation of Lenetra Bennett as an anchor on the 12 o'clock news.

Students learned firsthand how the news we receive is made. "The news making process is loaded but it's interesting," said student Emily Ruggless. Loaded is the right word. Students observed a single person controlling the script, images flashed



on the screen, anchor queues and more! They were baffled at how much was in one person's control. Following the news broadcast, Bennett did a question-and-answer session with the students. Some questions the students presented were, "How is the work-life balance in this ca-

reer field?" and "How hard is it to talk (live) while listening to operators in her earpiece?"

Aislyn Hamilton said her favorite part of the tour was the control room. She says it was her favorite because, "It's super cool to see behind the scenes and how many people create what we see every

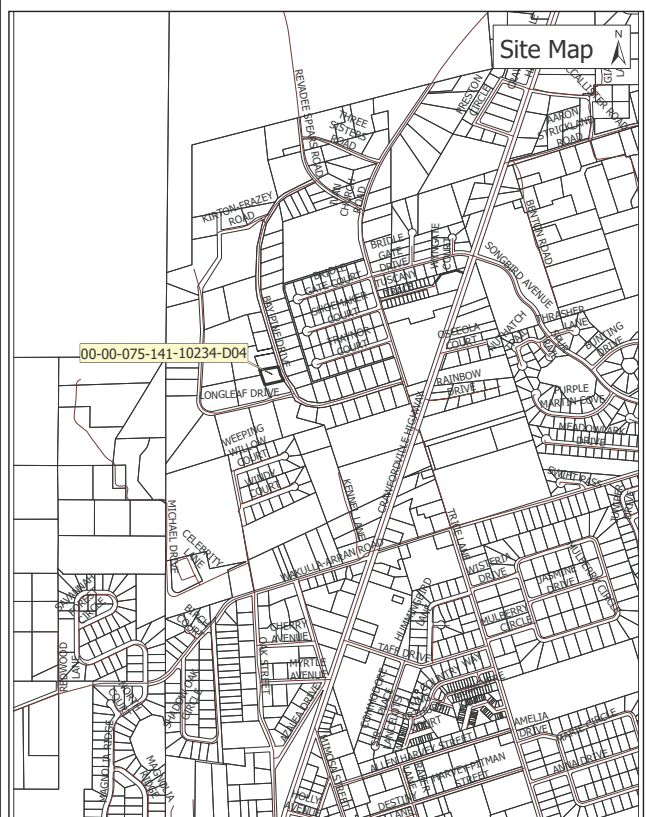
day." Overall, the students had a blast on their informative field trip to WCTV. Thank you to Journalism teacher, Mrs. Rodriguez, chaperone, Ms. Pope and the whole WCTV crew. We are grateful for your investment in our students and mentorship.

## 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 HEARING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY USE

The Wakulla County Planning Commission proposes to consider the following application. A Public Hearing is scheduled regarding the following before the **Planning Commission on Monday, May 13, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M., unless otherwise noted below or as time permits.** All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



**1. Application for Temporary Use Permit: TU24-01**  
 Applicants: Rex and Sabrina Phipps  
 Proposal: Family Enclave Application  
 Tax ID Number: 00-00-075-141-10234-D04  
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Fringe (FLUE Policy 1.2.7)  
 Current Zoning: RR-1 (Section 5-27, LDC)  
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" zone on Panel 0225E  
 Parcel Size: 1.0+/- acres  
 Location: 168 Bay Pine Drive – The Pines Unit 1, Lot 4, Block D

**Hearings Required: Planning Commission: Monday, May 13, 2024 @ 6:00 PM**

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

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

May 2, 2024



## Additional public notices appear on page 13.

### Notice of Public Meeting:

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners has scheduled a Public Meeting of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee on May 23, 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 [ADARquest@mywakulla.com](mailto:ADARquest@mywakulla.com) May 2, 2024

### ORDINANCE NO. 2024- 2

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. MARKS, FLORIDA: AMENDING SECTION 26-6 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ST. MARKS, FLORIDA, ENTITLED "CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION PERIOD"; REDUCING THE TIME IN WHICH A CANDIDATE MAY QUALIFY FOR ELECTION TO THE CITY COMMISSION TO MATCH THE QUALIFYING PERIOD OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**First Reading: May 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm**  
**Final Reading: May 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm**

The City of St. Marks located at 788 Port Leon Drive, 9 AM to 4:30 PM T/F; Phone (850) 925-6224. Persons needing special access considerations should call the City Office at least 24 hours before the date for scheduling purposes. The Board Office may be contacted at (850) 925-6224 May 2, 2024

### The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners is Seeking a Member to Serve on the Historic Preservation Committee

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners is seeking a volunteer to serve on the Wakulla County Historic Preservation Committee. This Committee was established to review and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on matters related to the designation, regulation, and administration of historical, cultural, and architectural resources in Wakulla County.

The BOCC is seeking one (1) member who must be a resident of Wakulla County from the disciplines of architecture, history, architectural history, planning, prehistoric and history archaeology, folklore, cultural anthropology, curation, conservation, landscape architecture or related disciplines; or who can demonstrate special interest, experience, or knowledge in history, architecture, or related discipline.

Interested persons should submit a cover letter explaining their interest in serving on the Historic Preservation Committee and provide a resume or other detailed information related to professional experience, education, background, knowledge, etc., which shall also include the person's name, address, telephone number, and email address **no later than May 24, 2024.** Please e-mail your information to [Ashley Rowland-Yost, Planner, \[ayost@mywakulla.com\]\(mailto:ayost@mywakulla.com\)](mailto:Ashley.Rowland-Yost@mywakulla.com) or by fax to 926-1528. May 2, 2024

# FOLLOW THE SUN.



# 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.”

## Keep Wakulla County Beautiful celebrates Earth Day

By **TAMMIE NASON**  
KWCB Director

Keep Wakulla County Beautiful and community volunteers gathered at Azalea Park on Saturday, April 20, to commemorate Earth Day and contribute to the preservation of local ecosystems.

Organized by Keep Wakulla County Beautiful, the event saw participants engage in a variety of activities aimed at enhancing the natural beauty of the area.

The focal point of the event was the planting of a diverse array of native plant species, carefully

chosen to thrive in the local environment. Coreopsis, Salvia, Azalea, Beauty Berry, Aster, Rudbeckia, and Horsemint were among the species lovingly placed into the earth, adding both color and biodiversity to the landscape. By concentrating on native plants, participants aimed to promote ecological balance and support local wildlife habitats.

The efforts extended beyond planting, as community members came together to address another pressing issue: litter. Fabiana and Andrew Mercure exemplified the spirit of environmental activism by diligently picking up litter around the park, demonstrating that every action, no matter how small, contributes to the greater cause of conservation.

Rachell Mathis from Wakulla County Parks lent her expertise and support to the event, ensuring its smooth execution and providing valuable guidance to participants. Together, they engaged in various tasks, including planting, litter collection, raking, and weeding, all while fostering a sense of camaraderie and shared purpose.

The plants themselves were generously provided by White Squirrel Nursery, highlighting the importance of collaboration between local businesses and community organizations in promoting environmental sustainability. Additionally, Rachell sourced some plants from Tallahassee Nursery, showcasing the interconnectedness of neighboring communities in the pursuit of a common goal.

As the day drew to a close, participants reflected on the significance of their actions and the importance of preserving the natural wonders of Wakulla County for future generations. Through their collective efforts, they not only beautified Azalea Park but also reaffirmed their commitment to protecting the planet and nurturing the ecosystems that sustain us all.

Keep Wakulla County’s Earth Day event served as a poignant reminder that by working together, we can make a tangible difference in safeguarding

our environment and fostering a more sustainable future for all.

*Tammie Nason is director of Keep Wakulla County Beautiful.*

### LETTERS FROM READERS

## Thanks from Optimists

Editor, **The Sun**:

The Coastal Optimist Club would like to thank our fifteen bakers and the many people in our community for their generous donations and support for our MEN BAKE CAKES FOR KIDS Facebook Auction on April 11-12. Our club raised over \$8,000 for the kids of Wakulla County. As a result of your efforts, we can continue to fund our four scholarships and many other projects.

Thank you to all our bakers: Ed Brimmer, Josh Brown, Eddie Hand, Wrenn Harvey, Greg James (who was also our Mystery Baker), Mike Kemp, Josh Lawhon, Robert Manning, Jared Miller, Kinsey Miller, Joe Morgan, Rick Myhre, Fred Nichols, Matt Payne and Chris Russell. Thank you to all those in the community who supported our bakers by purchasing cakes and making donations!

As a “Friend of Youth,” we have focused all our efforts on helping kids since 1971.

Again, thank you for your help and support!

**Gail Quinton**  
President

Coastal Optimist Club of Wakulla



KWCB volunteer Ethel Jefferson working in Azalea Park for Earth Day.

## On the Horizon

### Calendar of events for the week of May 2

Thursday, May 2

Saturday, May 4

- Wakulla High School Presents Anything Goes at 6:30 p.m. at Wakulla High.
- 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 third “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, May 3

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

- Night of Joy, a prom event for the special needs community of Wakulla, will be held at The Lodge at Wakulla Springs from 5 to 8 p.m.
- Wakulla High School Presents Anything Goes at 6:30 p.m. at Wakulla High.
- A bike helmet fitting and giveaway hosted by the Wakulla County Commission will be held at Hudson Park from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Star Wars Day will be held at the Wakulla County Public Library from 2 to 4 p.m.
- Kids Fishing Rodeo will be held in Woolley Park in Panacea from 12 noon to 3 p.m.
- Classic Customs 3rd Annual Car Show will be held at 56 Jer-Be-Lou Blvd. in Panacea starting at 10 a.m.
- A Community Shred event will be held at the Wakulla Community Center from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.
- The Panacea Community Garden Farmer’s Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Panacea.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Saturday at, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group meets at the Wakulla County Public Library at 10 a.m. every Saturday.

Sunday, May 5

- CINCO DE MAYO (or, as it’s celebrated locally, “Sinkhole de Mayo”)

- Wakulla High School Presents Anything Goes at 2:30 p.m. at Wakulla High.

Monday, May 6

- The Wakulla County Commission meets at 5 p.m. in the commission chambers.
- 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, May 7

- 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 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, May 8

- 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 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.

## Library News

By **LINDA OAKS**

For May 2nd-May 8th:

- May 2nd**
  - Creative Writing 10am
  - Math Night 5:30pm
  - The Park HOA 6pm
- May 3rd**
  - Quilting Guild 9:30 am
- May 4th**
  - Star Wars Special Event 2-4pm
- May 5th**
  - Closed
- May 6th**
  - Closed

May 7th

- Crafting Group 9:30am
- Book Bunch 10am
- Lego Club 4pm
- Wakulla Democratic Executive Committee 6pm

May 8th

- Book Babies 10am
- Team Dads Group 10:30am
- Knitters 4pm
- 3D Printing for Kids 4:30pm

Upcoming Holiday Closings

Saturday, May 25th for Memorial Day

## SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

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

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

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

That means:

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

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

We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden  
Editor & Publisher  
The Wakulla Sun

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

*“It’s A New Day!”*

# The Wakulla Sun







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## ◀ Question of The Week ▶

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at Client Appreciation Day hosted by Prime Meridian Bank:

# What do you like to spend your money on?



**LANDON LEE**  
Prime Meridian Bank

“My wife and I like to spend it on good food & drinks.”



**SHARYN JOHNSON**  
Cashier

“Clothes, shoes and my mani-pedi.”



**CLAUDIA GLOVER**  
Retired FHWA

“Clothes, thrift stores and enjoying life.”



**DAVE VATTER**  
Retired Tropical Fish Wholesaler

“Fishing equipment and fishing.”



**JACK HENDERSON**  
Retired-State of Florida

“Family and the church.”

## Sopchoppy News

By DJ BUTCH

Well well look who they let write in the Wakulla Sun. Hey y'all! Yeah it's meeeee! DJ Butch!

I'm so excited about this opportunity to represent my city of Sopchoppy. I was raised in Sopchoppy.

I'm several generations Sopchoppy. I write songs about Sopchoppy! I just love this little town.

I hope y'all are ready.... Let the entertainment from Sopchoppy begin, baby!

We are all still recovering from the Worm Grunting Festival. We had

8,000-10,000 people come to Sopchoppy. We have a population of around 500 so that is a whole lotta people for us.

We had a great time! I got to host the Worm Grunting Contest and I had a blast. Did you know that Jase – the worm grunting winner – has won two years in a row... He is from Sopchoppy so worm grunting is in his blood.

Sopchoppy has an easy living, small town family environment. Sopchoppy is special. We have so many artists in this small little area. God has blessed this land.

Well, I look forward to entertaining y'all with this column. You know I'm going to tell it like it is. I just love Sopchoppy and if you know me or my music then you already know that.

## Wakulla Station News

By VERA BROCK

What amazing weather we've been enjoying the past two weeks! It was absolutely perfect last weekend, considering all the fun activities going on in Wakulla County and Tallahassee.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the fundraiser/yard sale for the Food Pantry at the Wakulla United Methodist Church. They earned more than \$300 to help purchase food for

folks having a hard time right now. Kudos to George and Gloria Dock for organizing this event!

This coming Sunday the Wakulla UMC will celebrate Communion and gather after the service for our monthly fellowship dinner. Everyone is welcome to join us at 10 a.m. for church, and at 11 a.m. for a delicious covered dish dinner. Hope to see you there!

Our Springer Spaniel, Beau, had

his two week post-op check, and passed with flying colors. Now we are tasked with keeping him “quiet” for four more weeks. This boils down to keeping him on a leash for the next month. Bless him, he is being so good, despite straining to be foot-loose!

Happy birthday to John Collomy! Please keep his sister, Janet, in your prayers as she is recovering in hospital from health issues. My cousin, Mike Harrison, needs prayers as he undergoes chemotherapy for bladder cancer in Orlando. My cousin Sar-

ah Kane covets your prayers as she seeks treatment for health concerns also.

I'm happy to report Clem Bunker is making good progress in healing from several fractures; Norma Woodcock, and Thelma Watts remain in good spirits during rehab; the Rev. John Hay, Deborah Giles (sister of Cindy Blackstock) and Pam Adams' brother, Scott, need our prayers, as does Jimmy Gainey. Please continue to lift the family of Sondra Martin as they mourn her loss.

## Sheriff's Report

This report is for activities April 19-25:

### FRIDAY, APRIL 19

• James Vernon reported being the victim of a fraud. Vernon advised was communicating with a subject on Facebook for an English Bulldog. Vernon went to Panama City on Monday, April 15 to pick up the dog and agreed to meet at a certain address. After arriving, Vernon realized the people he was communicating with did not reside there and he had been scammed. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation. Lt. Gibby Gibson investigated.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 20

• Deputy Payden Surrette made contact with Jamar, a FedEx driver. Jaymar stated he was in an argument with Andrew Carter, who claimed Jamar was speeding on Danly Grade, where he resides, so he confronted Jamar. Jamar wished the incident be documented for his employer.

• Deputy Payden Surrette responded to Marie Circle and made contact with Christopher Garrett, who stated someone broke a picket on his fence, causing \$2 in damage. There was no evidence or suspects identified in this case.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 21

• Deputy Payden Sur-

rette responded to Tractor Supply in reference to a rented trailer which was never returned. A suspect has been identified and this case has been submitted to the State Attorney's Office for a warrant request.

• Eric Bukes called in stating an unknown white male driving a navy blue Volkswagen intentionally rammed the rear of his vehicle after a road rage incident. After he damaged Buke's vehicle, the suspect's vehicle fled northbound on Woodville Highway. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

### MONDAY, APRIL 22

• Deputy Ernesto Trujillo responded to Lake Avenue in reference to a possible fraud. Upon arrival Deputy Trujillo made contact with Jane

Rodgers, who advised she befriended someone over the internet and has been conversing with him for months. Lately the suspect has been asking her for money. Rodgers believes she has been swindled by the suspect. This case has been sent to detectives for further investigation.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 23

• Deputy Arturo Cordoba responded to the front lobby of the sheriff's office in reference to a walk-in complaint. Upon arrival the deputy made contact with Amanda McKenzie, who advised she attempted to buy a dachshund puppy off Facebook. McKenzie said after she sent the money, she has not been able to contact the person and the ad has been removed. This case has been sent

to detectives for further investigation.

• Deputy Kory Smith conducted a traffic stop at 84 Ochlocknee Street, in reference to tag attached not assigned. Upon further investigation the driver, Geoffrey Grove, was found to have an invalid driver's license. Grove was placed under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

• A traffic stop was conducted on a vehicle Dewayne Greene was operating due to a faulty headlight. It was discovered Greene did not have a valid license, with four prior convictions. Greene was placed under arrest and transported to the jail without incident. Deputy Anthony Paul investigated.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 25

• Jason Pack was discovered intoxicated, acting out, and stealing merchandise while at Walmart. Pack was placed under arrest and transported to the jail facility. Deputy Zac Monroe investigated.

• Deputies Nick Gray and Anthony Paul along with Lt. David Pienta responded to Pine Lane in reference to a family disturbance between Flint McKinney and others. Investigation revealed Flint was in possession of 12.9 grams of fentanyl. Flint was arrested on scene.

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



The winners of the race held at Worm Gruntin' – the Wiggle Worm Fun Run – were Titus Sivyver, Adelaide Sivyver, Brady Strutz, Beau May, Gracie Kauffman, Brynn Strutz, Leonar-

do Canete, Andrew Nix, Henry Lewis, Isabella Laughton, Emmalee Anutson, and Kaylee Sanders. (Photo by Mary Katherine Westmark)



The Wakulla County Health Department held a Family Fun Day in Hudson Park on Saturday. The events were aimed as outreach

to minority communities including African-American, disabled, senior citizens and veterans. (Photo by Legion Taylor)



# Outdoors

outdoor sports

## HOME ON THE RANGE

### Sig Sauer's 365 X Macro vs Sig's 365-.380



By MARJ LAW

I've shot the Smith & Wesson Shield .380 EZ. It's really easy. Really. Can Sig make a handgun even easier to shoot? We're a little skeptical here...

That EZ has an amazingly easy trigger pull and trigger pull travel is nice and short. The slide is very easy to manipulate: you don't have to be Popeye to pull that thing back. Competing the Sig .380 with the Smith & Wesson EZ is going to be insurmountably difficult. Insurmountably? Let's see...

I don't want to sound a bit irascible, but a 365-.380? How many numbers do we need to remember for a handgun's name? Why not stop the confusion and call it instead "Sig's .380 Masterpiece?"

And is it really a masterpiece?

Well, Joe has the 9mm X Macro version of the 365. I had a 365 myself once, and traded the basic 365 for the 365 XL. XL just means extra long. The grip was longer than the original 365 and big hands often liked it better. Then came the 365 SAS, where the levers and buttons were set inward so they wouldn't snag on holsters, pockets, or purses. Made sense to me, so I traded the 365 XL for the 365 SAS.

Turns out, I found dismantling the SAS version very annoying. Since the takedown button was inset, Joe fashioned a flat head screwdriver with electrical tape over the tip to avoid scratching the gun's finish when pulling out the button.

Who wants to have to devise tools to take down a gun? And it still wasn't easy. So I got rid of that 365, too.

This Wednesday, I get to compare Joe's 9mm 365 X Macro with the .380 rendition of the 365. That 9mm Sig Sauer 365 has sold really well. Will gun owners like the .380?

First, Joe and I shoot his 9mm 365 X Macro. Although the barrel of his Macro and the barrel of the .380 are the same at 3.1 inches, Joe's 9mm has a compensator over the barrel, making it 6.6 inches long. This way, the gun appears to be longer than its .380 counterpart, but the added length is in the compensator.

This 9mm 365 is 6.6" long, 1.1 inches wide and 5.2 inches high. Barrel length is 3.1 inches. The gun weighs 21.5 ounces. This Sig is a striker-fired handgun. It has a stainless slide and comes with 2 17-round magazines. It's small and lightweight, portable and concealable.

We shoot. Even though Joe has much larger hands and has been shooting for a much longer time, our scores for the 9mm 365 are about the same. We rate aspects of the gun on a 1-5 basis. If we like it, or if it's easy, it gets a 1. If it's difficult or if we hate it, it gets a 5.

We both agree that trigger pull rates a 2.5. It's fairly easy. Trigger travel is easy too, and so travel rates a 2.5 as well.

Joe finds the recoil quite easy and rates it a 2. I perceive more kick and give it a 2.5.

Joe likes the grip and he finds it very easy to rack the slide. Both get a 1.



I feel the grip is made for a slightly larger hand than mine and give it a 2. The slide is fairly easy, but to me it is harder than a 1, so I give it a 2.

Altogether, Joe and I both agree that the 9mm Sig Sauer 365 X Macro handles easily. All our 6 shots hit the 8" target; and all are within the 9-ring except for one in the 7 ring. Had Mr. Bad been coming towards us with deadly intent, he would have gone down, down, down.

The Sig Sauer 365 .380 is a .380 caliber handgun as opposed to the 9mm 365 X Macro. It's a fairly new gun to the market. Will it be significantly easier to handle?

According to John Boch in Shooting News Weekly: "None of us are getting any younger, and for those with hand strength issues, the .380 version of the P365 should be on anyone's very short-list for consideration. Depending on your caliber preference, it remains the gun to beat

when it comes to general concealed carry or as a backup gun for the truly hard core.

Although I'll admit I'm pretty partial to my 9mm pistol, .380's ease of slide manipulation and milder recoil makes this perhaps as good or maybe an even better pick for women or those with reduced grip strength who appreciate the milder handling piece.

I can't sing this gun's praises loudly enough."

Really. Do we believe this?

Let's look at the .380 version of the 365. Barrel length is the same at 3.1". Width is the same at 1.1".

Here's some difference. The 9mm is 5.2" high, while the .380 is shorter at 4.2" high. The length of the 9mm is 6.6" while the .380 is 5.8".

And weight? The 9mm is 21.5 ounces and the .380 weighs 15.7 ounces.

Clearly, if carrying is your main objective, the .380 is smaller and weighs less.

Again, both Joe and I shoot 3 times each at the target with the .380. 5 of the rounds hit within the 8-ring, and 1 is in the 7-ring. Again, all in the critical mass.

Graham Baates, writing Gun Review: SIG SAUER P365-380 .380 ACP Pistol says of this .380: "While it's certainly not the most powerful option out there, I have yet to find anyone willing to be shot with it."

Joe and I find the trigger pull and trigger travel of the 365-.380 easier than the 9mm 365. We feel the recoil to be lighter. The slide is about as easy as we've ever found. Joe has big hands and thinks the grip is a bit small. My small hands love the grip

The Sig Sauer 365-.380 is indeed easy to manipulate and fun to shoot. Certainly, it is easier to shoot than the 9mm 365. But how easy is it? Is it easier than Smith & Wesson's .380 EZ Shield?

Truthfully, I couldn't recall. I did remember

that the .380 EZ was easy to shoot. But between these .380s, did the new Sig Sauer 365-.380 beat out the Smith & Wesson's .380 EZ?

Fortunately, I had brought the S&W .380 EZ to the range.

The S&W has a grip safety, while the Sig does not. This makes the Sig's grip feel smaller and comfortable and ergonomic to me.

If the Great Gun Fairy were to call down to me and say: "You get to own either the Sig 365-.380 or the Smith & Wesson .380 Shield EZ, which would you like?"

It's the Sig 365-.380, no question. I love the way it fits my hand.

And, not to be superficial or anything, but this one has what's called a "glossy rainbow titanium" slide.

It's pretty. Sorry, S&W.

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



ATLANTIC STINGRAY  
(*Dasyatis Sabina*)

Stringrays are best known for their whip-like tail armed with venomous spines. When threatened, they lash their tail to jab at the attacker. Poison from glands along the grooves on each side of the spines flows into the wounds. Stingrays are not aggressive and will swim quickly away if you shuffle your feet slowly forward when entering the water. They lie on the bottom almost covered in sand or mud. Here they forage for worms, small clams, and shrimp.

Eukarya, Animalia, Cordata, Elasmobranchiomorph, Rajiformes, Dasyatida

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory  
www.gulfspecimen.org



Leave Nothing  
But Your Footprints

## WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

On a recent weekly wildlife survey at Wakulla Springs, retired park ranger Bob Thompson snapped this shot of a bellowing alligator.





# Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences



## 24/7 PRIORITY ON-WATER ASSISTANCE

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



### Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

May 2 - May 8



Tide charts by tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month  
May 7-23

<b>Thursday 2</b>	
Sun rise/set 6:52AM 8:15PM	Moon rise/set 3:25AM 2:28PM
Moon Illumination 39%	
<b>Friday 3</b>	
Sun rise/set 6:51AM 8:16PM	Moon rise/set 4:01AM 3:36PM
Moon Illumination 28%	
<b>Saturday 4</b>	
Sun rise/set 6:50AM 8:16PM	Moon rise/set 4:34AM 4:42PM
Moon Illumination 18%	
<b>Sunday 5</b>	
Sun rise/set 6:49AM 8:17PM	Moon rise/set 5:06AM 5:50PM
Moon Illumination 10%	
<b>Monday 6</b>	
Sun rise/set 6:48AM 8:18PM	Moon rise/set 5:39AM 6:59PM
Moon Illumination 4%	
<b>Tuesday 7</b>	
Sun rise/set 6:48AM 8:18PM	Moon rise/set 6:15AM 8:09PM
Moon Illumination 1%	
<b>Wednesday 8</b>	
Sun rise/set 6:47AM 8:19PM	Moon rise/set 6:55AM 9:20PM
Moon Illumination 0%	

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

#### St. Marks River Entrance

Th	3:54 am ▼ 0.2 ft	10:57 am ▲ 3.0 ft	4:17 pm ▼ 1.8 ft	10:03 pm ▲ 3.0 ft
Fr	5:01 am ▼ 0.4 ft	11:43 am ▲ 3.5 ft	5:39 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	11:41 pm ▲ 3.1 ft
Sa	5:57 am ▼ 0.4 ft	12:21 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	6:38 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	
Su	12:51 am ▲ 3.4 ft	6:45 am ▼ 0.6 ft	12:54 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	7:28 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Mo	1:50 am ▲ 3.6 ft	7:27 am ▼ 0.9 ft	1:26 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	8:15 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Tu	2:43 am ▲ 3.6 ft	8:05 am ▼ 1.2 ft	1:58 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	8:59 pm ▼ -0.9 ft
We	3:32 am ▲ 3.5 ft	8:40 am ▼ 1.4 ft	2:28 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	9:43 pm ▼ -1.0 ft

#### City of St. Marks

Th	4:58 am ▼ 0.1 ft	11:33 am ▲ 2.8 ft	5:21 pm ▼ 1.6 ft	10:39 pm ▲ 2.7 ft
Fr	6:05 am ▼ 0.2 ft	12:19 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	6:43 pm ▼ 1.1 ft	
Sa	12:17 am ▲ 2.9 ft	7:01 am ▼ 0.4 ft	12:57 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	7:42 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	1:27 am ▲ 3.1 ft	7:49 am ▼ 0.6 ft	1:30 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	8:32 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Mo	2:26 am ▲ 3.3 ft	8:31 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:02 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	9:19 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Tu	3:19 am ▲ 3.3 ft	9:09 am ▼ 1.1 ft	2:34 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	10:03 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
We	4:08 am ▲ 3.3 ft	9:44 am ▼ 1.3 ft	3:04 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	10:47 pm ▼ -0.9 ft

#### Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	4:22 am ▼ 0.3 ft	11:23 am ▲ 3.0 ft	4:42 pm ▼ 1.8 ft	10:28 pm ▲ 3.0 ft
Fr	5:28 am ▼ 0.4 ft	12:06 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	6:02 pm ▼ 1.2 ft	
Sa	12:05 am ▲ 3.4 ft	6:23 am ▼ 0.5 ft	12:42 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	7:00 pm ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	1:13 am ▲ 3.4 ft	7:10 am ▼ 0.8 ft	1:14 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	7:49 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Mo	2:10 am ▲ 3.6 ft	7:50 am ▼ 1.1 ft	1:45 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	8:34 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
Tu	3:01 am ▲ 3.6 ft	8:26 am ▼ 1.3 ft	2:15 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	9:18 pm ▼ -0.9 ft
We	3:49 am ▲ 3.6 ft	9:00 am ▼ 1.6 ft	2:46 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	10:02 pm ▼ -1.0 ft

#### Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	4:05 am ▼ 0.1 ft	10:49 am ▲ 2.2 ft	4:28 pm ▼ 1.3 ft	9:55 pm ▲ 2.2 ft
Fr	5:12 am ▼ 0.2 ft	11:35 am ▲ 2.4 ft	5:50 pm ▼ 0.9 ft	11:33 pm ▲ 2.3 ft
Sa	6:08 am ▼ 0.3 ft	12:13 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	6:49 pm ▼ 0.4 ft	
Su	12:43 am ▲ 2.5 ft	6:56 am ▼ 0.5 ft	12:46 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	7:39 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Mo	1:42 am ▲ 2.6 ft	7:38 am ▼ 0.7 ft	1:18 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	8:26 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Tu	2:35 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:16 am ▼ 0.9 ft	1:50 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	9:10 pm ▼ -0.6 ft
We	3:24 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:51 am ▼ 1.0 ft	2:20 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	9:54 pm ▼ -0.7 ft

#### St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	4:05 am ▼ 0.2 ft	11:33 am ▲ 2.4 ft	5:10 pm ▼ 1.7 ft	10:05 pm ▲ 2.3 ft
Fr	5:14 am ▼ 0.3 ft	12:00 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	6:07 pm ▼ 1.1 ft	11:44 pm ▲ 2.4 ft
Sa	6:09 am ▼ 0.5 ft	12:24 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	6:51 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	
Su	12:58 am ▲ 2.6 ft	6:54 am ▼ 0.8 ft	12:47 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	7:32 pm ▼ 0.0 ft
Mo	1:58 am ▲ 2.8 ft	7:33 am ▼ 1.1 ft	1:12 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	8:11 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Tu	2:53 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:07 am ▼ 1.4 ft	1:38 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	8:52 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
We	3:45 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:37 am ▼ 1.6 ft	2:07 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	9:33 pm ▼ -0.9 ft

#### Dog Island West End

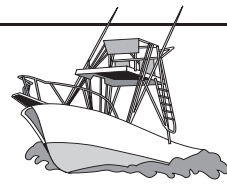
Th	4:12 am ▼ 0.3 ft	11:45 am ▲ 2.1 ft	5:24 pm ▼ 1.5 ft	10:20 pm ▲ 2.0 ft
Fr	5:22 am ▼ 0.5 ft	12:04 pm ▲ 2.2 ft	6:29 pm ▼ 1.0 ft	11:55 pm ▲ 2.1 ft
Sa	6:27 am ▼ 0.7 ft	12:26 pm ▲ 2.3 ft	7:17 pm ▼ 0.5 ft	
Su	1:25 am ▲ 2.3 ft	7:22 am ▼ 1.0 ft	12:52 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	7:57 pm ▼ 0.0 ft
Mo	2:36 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:04 am ▼ 1.2 ft	1:21 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	8:35 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Tu	3:34 am ▲ 2.5 ft	8:38 am ▼ 1.5 ft	1:52 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	9:12 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
We	4:28 am ▲ 2.5 ft	9:07 am ▼ 1.7 ft	2:25 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:51 pm ▼ -0.8 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



Thank you to Duane Treadon for submitting this week's article.

This past weekend Division One held its spring meeting at the National Naval Aviation Museum, Naval Air Station (NSA) Pensacola. Division Commander Mike Fitzgerald began the meeting by welcoming everyone and recognizing Coast Guard Operations and Training Officer Kevin Smith CWO-2 of the Director of Auxiliary Office, New Orleans for our District.

A lot of great information was passed on, including discussion on how best to improve boating safety. D-Capt East Doug Ritchie talked about the importance of the Vessel Safety Check program. He explained that this program can be thought of as preventative search and rescue mission. When Vessel Examiners interact with boaters they educate them about safe boating practices and ensure proper safety equipment is onboard the boat.

Another exciting announcement was that

**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

after several decades of not having an air asset, our Division now has one. Aux Air is the aviation program of the Auxiliary where members can offer the use of their airplane for safety patrol and search and rescue operations. The aircraft is based out of Panama City making it centrally located to respond across our Division.

Prior to the meeting closing OTO Smith giving an overview of updates to the surface operations program. Of local interest is the adoption of standardized drill sheets. These drills cover training in person-over-board,

vessel fires, grounding, search patterns and towing to name a few. These drill sheets are set up to be a quick reference for crews when out on safety patrols to augment their time with training. When you are out and about boating on our great waters and see you might see us training through one of these evolutions.

Fellowship followed the meeting where many enjoyed touring the impressive collection of airplanes housed within the museum's two huge hanger-like buildings. There was even a special section dedicated to Coast Guard Aviation.

Thanks to Sherrie, we

will always remember safe boating is no accident!

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

Please contact us for more information about our safe boating classes or learning more about getting involved in the Auxiliary, check out our website at [www.uscgaux.net](http://www.uscgaux.net) follow us on Facebook @ Apalachee Bay Flotilla 12 or contact our Flotilla Commander Jim Kenny at [jimc809@gmail.com](mailto:jimc809@gmail.com).

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

## Harvey

From Front Page

retired and became first executive director of what is now known as the Florida Sheriffs Risk Management Fund, which consists of 59 sheriff's offices in Florida is the biggest self-insurance fund in the U.S. with assets of more than \$400 million.

As of Monday, April 29, a plaque on the outside wall at the front entrance of the building notes it is "In recognition of Sheriff David F. Harvey for his leadership and vision of the Florida Sheriffs Risk Management Fund, Est. 1978."

Harvey is credited with negotiating the

sheriffs' taking over the operation of the fund in 2013.

Several sheriffs and dignitaries were at the event, including Wakulla's current sheriff Jared Miller, who praised Harvey as a mentor.

Noting that Harvey is very competitive, with a smile Miller recounted some of Harvey's achievements: first quarterback at Wakulla High School (in 1967), scored the first touchdown on the first play of the first game at Wakulla

High, and married the school's first Homecoming Queen and Valedictorian - pausing before adding that it was the same woman.

After laughs, Miller noted that Harvey continues to help people

in Wakulla County and pushes him to do so.

Florida Sheriffs Association Executive Director Steve Casey noted that Harvey is also a member of the Florida Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.



Hamilton Sheriff Harrell Reid, David Harvey, Wakulla Sheriff Jared Miller and Gulf Sheriff Mike Harrison, president of the fund.

## Underwater Wakulla

By Rusty Miller

### The need for various scuba training.

In the late 1960s when the California divers association began to teach scuba diving in the recreational side it started a phenomenal sport that has swept this country. It was television shows like my all time favorite "Sea Hunt," and it wasn't reruns of the show it was the original version. That show inspired many young folks (at the time) like me to want to see the underwater world for the first time.

At that time you couldn't go down to your local dive shop because frankly they just didn't exist. If you had a local YMCA they would give you an introductory scuba course after you took their swim course. If you were interested in the scuba you had to seek out an instructor that they approved. Fortunately for me it was my brother-in-law at the time.

So the journey began. At that time in the late '60s, early '70s your basic open water certification was all they had. There were no specialty courses like advanced open water or rescue courses, it was just called scuba.

In that course we learned in great detail the basic gas laws for air under pressure and at depth. These classes were several weeks long, then we were able to get in the pool after you passed the exam. Once the pool portion began it was also several weeks long at least two nights four hours each week. By the time you were able to go to the open water portion you had the equivalent to a rescue certification. In other words, you were a well-trained scuba diver.

Through the classroom portion we learned how to plan our dives using the U.S Navy dive tables to predict the nitrogen absorption in our bodies. We also learned how to "Drown the Rat" which is to calculate the residual trace nitrogen after the surface interval after each dive or repetitive dive.

Then the pool exercises we had to go through. They were very intense and grueling. You would be swimming underwater and without notice the instructor or their assistant would come and rip your mask off your face just to see if you would panic. Then they might grab your regulator out of your mouth to the same end. If you didn't panic then you could proceed with the rest of the class and that was during the introduction portion. That would weed out at least 50% of the students. At the time I thought it wasn't fair to do it that way but looking back it made sense because the equipment was not as sophisticated as it is today, by that I mean there was no redundancy with an alternate air source (octopus second stage regulator) to breathe on.

There was so much training involved before you were ready for the open water portion of your training but I will say that you were very confident that you could safely dive and survive most any failure that could happen with your equipment or the environment that might happen.

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



# Why we should bear others' shortcomings

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Can you imagine how deeply our heavenly Father grieves when He sees His children mis-

treating each other?

If I had as many children as God does, I wouldn't last a day. Correction: I wouldn't last five seconds.

Thankfully, God is long-suffering.

I yearned for my children to learn what it means to bear (tolerate, endure) one another's shortcomings rather than mercilessly mocking and tattling on one another. I prayed that one day they'd work harder at helping each other succeed than at

spotlighting each other's weaknesses.

I wonder if God yearns for this too.

Sometimes, we fail to extend grace over the weaknesses of our spiritual brothers and sisters. We fall short in coming alongside them discreetly (not ignoring the issue, but choosing not to broadcast it) – with compassion – as they work to change.

Each time we expose or pick on people's flaws, we perpetuate their shame and embar-

rassment and fuel their growing disappointment with themselves.

God not only sees the pain we cause, but also the destruction such actions cause in our own hearts when we behave this way.

If it tugs at our hearts when one of our dearly loved children mistreats their sibling, whom we also love, imagine how much it grieves our heavenly Father when we undermine one another.

Let's focus on the

first four words of 1 Corinthians 13:7 (ESV): "Love bears all things."

Imagine what our world would look like if we accept that the people in our lives will never be perfect and chose instead to tolerate their imperfections. And pray for them to have the grace to bear with ours as well. Sometimes, the best way to love each other, besides praying for one another, is to remember that we're all works in progress.

May we learn (and re-

member) how much God loves us and try to see others through His eyes of unconditional love.

Then, perhaps we can move toward bearing with each other for more than five seconds at a time.

*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 faithfulness of God

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

Growing up in a large family, I may have experienced disappointments during my early years. Perhaps I didn't receive the back-to-school supplies I desired or missed out on specific opportunities that may have seemed significant at the time.

But as I have grown older, I have found that I remember fewer of those childhood disappointments with each

passing year. Instead, what stands out to me are the years of togetherness we shared as a family. We were always there for one another, and the faith and trust of our parents held us together.

We were a family of seven with one bathroom. Nonetheless, I cannot recall anyone fighting over their turn. We gathered at the family table three times daily to share a meal. The house was always clean, and the laundry was always folded and put away. I have concluded that our home flowed so harmoniously because of our parents. Mom and Dad built our home on the unity of their relationship, but the core of our family was their faith in God.

I know we struggled, as all families do, for there were some weeks when those daily meals included multiple servings of macaroni and cheese and freshly baked biscuits. Nonetheless, our parents did not look at the hardship but trusted God to carry them through. They depended upon God's faithfulness.

In the Old Testament, the Prophet Jeremiah wrote about his struggle against the hard times of life. Jeremiah wrote that all his splendor had left him. He had lost hope. He was afflicted and bitter. Still, Jeremiah decided not to look at his circumstances but instead to think about God's great love, which was continual toward

him. He recalled God's faithfulness and that the Lord's mercies were new every morning. He knew God would not fail him because God had always remained compassionate toward His people (Lamentations 3:18-24).

God's faithfulness to us is reciprocal in the sense that it is based on a loving relationship. The more we trust God and follow His ways, the more we experience His faithfulness. As we seek Him and strive to live according to His will, He blesses us with His presence. However, our faithfulness to God is not about earning His favor or rewards but rather about living in a way that honors Him and brings glory to His name. He is faithful to

us even when we fall short, but it is our responsibility to remain faithful to Him and to trust in His unfailing love and grace.

Our parents followed the reciprocal faith pattern of faithfulness from God to man and from man to God. We learned from their example that strengthening our faith would help us when we face life's challenges. Even though I am sure some encounters weakened their faith, they never let go of God's promises of provision and protection. Through their faith, we learned that the Heavenly Father will always make a way in the wilderness and give us a stream in the wasteland (Isaiah 43:19).

I don't know where

you are now, but I am sure that God's faithfulness is with you. His mercies are new every morning. If you are in a storm, look for a place of refuge beneath the shadow of His wings. Our Father promises to rescue those who trust Him (Psalm 57). Allow His faithfulness to rescue you today. Keep pushing forward, and know you are never alone in this journey.

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings, you will find refuge. His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart (Psalm 91:4).

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

### OUT TO PASTOR

## Being sick is not my cup of tea

By **JAMES SNYDER**

I do not have a history of being sick. I rarely even have a headache, but I must confess, I give headaches.

The last two weeks have been different for me. I have never experienced such a long stretch of sickness before. One day in the hospital and then two weeks in bed. What kind of experience is that?

The great thing about being sick, if there is anything great about it, is that you have a big excuse for not doing anything. For several days, I did not even get out of my pajamas or out of bed.

I can't imagine anybody being sick all the time; it just doesn't make sense to me.

If there is a good side – and I'm really not convinced there is – I have yet to find it. When I think things are coming to an end, the road suddenly turns right.

For several days, I coughed and sneezed and coughed and sneezed. One day, I sneezed so

bad that I sneezed my brains out. No problem, I haven't missed my brains.

Getting well is a process I'm not very familiar with. I've had to take more pills than I have ever seen in my life. And, thanks to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage I take those pills every day. She is my drug lord. I never knew drugs were so important.

There is an ongoing contest with me. That is, how soon can I get to the bathroom? The bathroom is at one end of the house, and my easy chair is at the other end. Oh boy, I've never seen such a long distance before.

Most of the time, I made it on time, but that's for another time.

In thinking about my medication, I have found myself a little woozy when I get up to walk. It doesn't last long, just long enough to make me feel crazy.

Not only did I spend one day in the hospital, but I had several trips to the doctor's office for checkups and to monitor the medication I was taking.

At one doctor's visit, the nurse had to do blood work for me. She came and brought all of her equipment, I looked at her and said, "Why don't you just punch me in the nose and get my blood that way. That would be

easier for both of us."

The way she looked at me seemed like she was ready to punch me in the nose. But all that poking on my arm with needle after needle after needle I think she got even with me. Why is my blood so important to them? After all, it's my blood, so let me keep it.

For some reason, they can look at my blood and tell my whole health history.

The thing about my sickness is that my energy has gone on vacation. I hope it enjoys the vacation wherever it is, and I'm anxious for it to return and hear it's stories.

I didn't realize how unenergetic I was until the other day when the great-granddaughter stayed with us. She was running around in circles, giggling, jumping up and down, and doing all kinds of things, and I got tired just watching her do all of those things.

I wanted to grab her, but I didn't have the energy, and find out where she gets all that energy and ask to borrow some of it just for a day.

In pondering this, I've come to the conclusion that the older you get, the less energy you have.

If I had known this when I was young, I would not have spent all of my energy so foolishly. I would have put some of it in a savings account

for my senior years.

One good thing about the great-granddaughter, as I watch her running and jumping and giggling and rolling on the floor, I forget about what I'm doing at the time. I even can laugh a little.

Once I get better, and that will be TOMORROW, I will be cautious about how I use my energy. I'm going to find some way to put a little bit of energy every day into some kind of savings account to use later. I'm not sure how that works, but I'm going to take the time I have getting better trying to figure out how I can do that.

There could be a good side to all of this sickness nonsense. Once I get better and return to normal life, I could use the experience for my own benefit.

For example, when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asks me to do something I'm not very anxious about, I can say, "Oh, boy. I'm starting to feel dizzy right now?"

Then, she will feel sorry for me, lead me to my chair and help me sit down. I'm not sure how long I can play this violin, but I will play it as long as I can.

Someone once said that there is a rainbow after every storm. I guess this is my rainbow.

A verse of scrip-

ture came to mind as I thought about being sick. "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

Prayer is the solution to every problem, even my health.

*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



### Dave Bussey

Dave Bussey, age 70, of Crawfordville, Florida, passed away on April 26, 2024. Dave, also known as Loren David Bussey, was born on July 6, 1953, in Ponca City, Oklahoma. He was a Market Manager at Publix Super Markets until he retired in 2016. Dave was a man of many interests and talents. He enjoyed HAM radio, riding Harley's, playing in a band, flying model airplanes, and wood-working.

Dave had a larger-than-life personality, known for his infectious laughter and love for life. He cherished his family above all else, finding his greatest joys in his children and grandchildren. Dave shared his passions with his high school sweetheart, Midge, for over fifty years. He is survived by his beloved wife, Midge (Marie) Bussey, his son Scott Bussey (Alison), grandchildren Chayton Bussey (Riley), Caylie Atkins (Dylan), and Cayden Bussey, as well as his siblings James Bussey (Loyce), Marylin

Beckberger (Ken), Robert Bussey (Edna), and other extended family members. Dave was preceded in death by his son, Paul Bussey, his mother Hattie Bussey, his father Robert Bussey, and others. There will not be a memorial service at this time. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Big Bend Hospice or the American Cancer Society. Susie Mozolic of Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the family with their arrangements. (www.bevisfh.com or 850-385-2193)

## DEATH NOTICES

- Daniel A. Dobbins, 73, of Crawfordville, died April 19, 2024.
- Paul Kenneth Harrison, 45, of Crawfordville, died April 26, 2024.

- Almyra "Myra" Vause Mathis, 87, of Sopchoppy, died April 27, 2024.
  - Larry James Smith, 25, of Crawfordville, died April 20, 2024.
- Family Funeral Home at Harvey Young Chapel. 850-926-5919 Familyfh.com

## Weekly Roundup: Turning up the heat

By RYAN DAILEY  
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – Legal battles that could determine whether Florida State University stays in the Atlantic Coast Conference expanded this week, with Attorney General Ashley Moody jumping into the fray.

Florida State and the ACC have been fighting in court for months in Tallahassee and in North Carolina, where the conference is headquartered.

FSU filed a lawsuit in December in Leon County circuit court that alleges financial penalties for leaving the conference would be an "unreasonable restraint of trade" and would "violate Florida public policy and are unconscionable." That lawsuit came a day after ACC filed a case in Mecklenburg County, N.C., against the university about many of the same issues.

The university's desire to leave the ACC is focused in part on the conference's contract with ESPN, Inc. and ESPN Enterprises, Inc., originally signed in 2010.

Florida State essentially contends the ACC has shortchanged its members through television contracts, with FSU widely viewed as wanting to move to a more-lucrative conference such as the Big Ten or the Southeastern Conference.

Moody filed a lawsuit Thursday accusing the conference of violating

the state's public-records laws by refusing to hand over media-rights contracts that are a critical element of the dispute.

"It is incredibly astounding that the media agreements would not be given to the state of Florida when the ACC is demanding over half a billion dollars from one of our entities," Moody said in an interview with The News Service of Florida, referring to FSU allegations that it could face more than \$500 million in penalties.

A 2013 "grant of rights" agreement "irrevocably transferred" the schools' media rights to home games to the ACC, in exchange for a collective media-rights contract with ESPN, according to court records. The grant-of-rights agreement was modified in 2016 and lasts until 2036.

Moody in January asked the ACC for documents related to the dispute with FSU, including the grant-of-rights agreement and the conference's contract with ESPN. The ACC responded by saying the grant-of-rights agreement and other documents were publicly available, but the ESPN contract was off limits.

Moody's lawsuit, filed in Leon County, argues that the contracts should not be shielded from scrutiny under Florida's broad open-records law.

During a hearing Monday, meanwhile, Leon County Circuit Judge

John Cooper gave FSU time to revamp its lawsuit.

Arguments during the hearing focused largely on whether the lawsuit could be brought against the conference in Florida, in an issue known as "personal jurisdiction." The university was given 10 days to file an amended complaint that addresses the issue.

### PRESS START TO PLAY

As more and more schools in Florida offer, or express interest in offering video gaming as an official sport, the Florida High School Athletic Association is taking notice.

Esports, as it is known, already is offered as a team or club at more than a quarter of the 425 schools that the FHSAA recently surveyed.

The organization held a discussion about esports Monday during a meeting in Gainesville, with talks focusing on the share of Florida schools that would be interested in offering programs if the games are sanctioned as an official sport.

Overall, 26.4 percent of schools that responded reported sponsoring an esports team or club. Of that overall number, 24.9 percent of public schools have teams or clubs, while 25.2 percent of private schools and 39.1 percent of charter schools said they have such programs.

The FHSAA requires at least 20 percent of

schools in at least two of its four "sections," or regions of the state, to offer a sport for it to be eligible for sanctioning.

Interest in offering esports is high among schools that did not report having programs.

More than half — 54.6 percent — of the schools surveyed said they would be interested in offering esports to students if the FHSAA sanctioned the games. Nearly 50 percent of public schools surveyed indicated interest, while more than 56 percent of private schools and 82 percent of charter schools expressed interest.

FHSAA officials did not indicate during Monday's discussion when a potential decision could be finalized on sanctioning esports but said the organization is in the early stages of the process. The next step would be requesting petitions from member schools that would announce their intent to add esports programs.

FHSAA board member Trevor Berryhill, who also is athletic director for Oviedo private school The Master's Academy, was among the members who voiced support for sanctioning esports.

"Last year we had a student get a scholarship to Florida State (University) in esports. He also is a part of their NIL (name, image and likeness) collective," Berryhill said, referring to college athletes being able to earn

money from business agreements such as endorsement deals.

"So it's just another opportunity for kids to be involved in something," Berryhill added.

### HARDEN THAT HOME

Gov. Ron DeSantis on Wednesday approved \$200 million to continue a home-hardening grant program that could help about 20,000 mostly low- and moderate-income residents cut property-insurance costs.

The governor signed two bills related to the My Safe Florida Home grant program and said he also intends to support an additional \$30 million in the state budget aimed at expanding the program to include condominiums.

"There's more help on the way," DeSantis said during an appearance at the Redington Shores Town Hall. "We understand it's been popular and it's been effective."

The program offers inspections and grants

up to \$10,000 to help residents upgrade homes and qualify for property-insurance discounts for residences valued up to \$700,000.

### STORY OF THE WEEK

Attorney General Ashley Moody on Thursday amped up a legal battle between Florida State University and the Atlantic Coast Conference, filing a lawsuit accusing the conference of violating the state's public-records law by refusing to hand over media-rights contracts that are a critical element of the dispute

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"This would be a way for us to reach out and bring some more student athletes in." — Gulf County Schools Superintendent and Florida High School Athletic Association member David Norton, on a proposal to sanction competitive video gaming, or esports, as an official sport.

## Hiring freeze

From Front Page

The motion was seconded by Property Appraiser Ed Brimmer, and approved with the votes of Tax Collector Lisa Craze and Commission Chair Quince Messersmith. (Supervisor of Elections Joe Morgan was absent due to surgery.)

While ad valorem revenues were below projections, the county was bolstered by a \$1.15 million increase in Fiscally Constrained County payments from the state; an increase of \$413,000 in the half-cent sales tax; and an increase in revenues from the Public Service Tax of \$323,000.

## Veterans services

From Front Page

Golder said there had been "erroneous claims of county administrator" of not enough work for a fulltime VSO, but countered there are 2,400 veterans in Wakulla County – and 426 were using the VSO in Leon County, not Wakulla.

A week later, on April 29, Golder said he and some VFW members met with Murphy about what they could do to help with outreach efforts.

Golder and some VFW officials also attended the Veteran Townhall event in Sopchoppy on Thursday which was attended by a handful of people, including Commissioner Nichols.

Golder said the VFW remains committed to doing what it can to help veterans.

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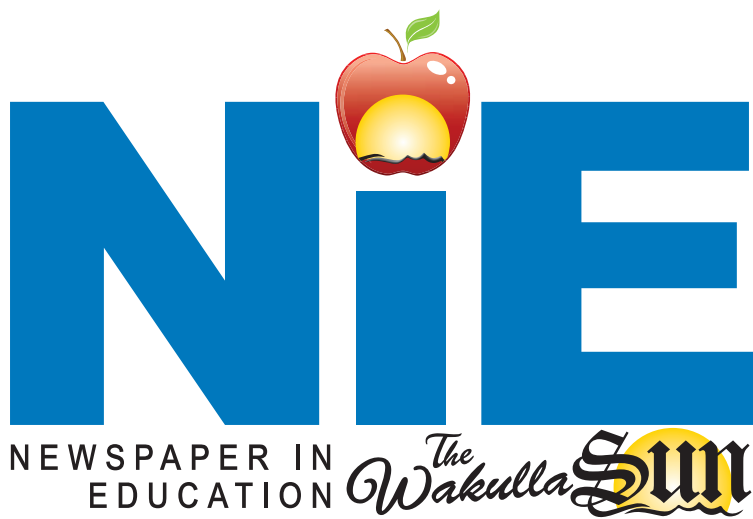
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## USE THE NEWS

### 1. TUNNELS FOR TOURISTS

Below London, there's a secret network of tunnels that may soon be open to the public. The maze-like network of tunnels was built in the 1940s during World War II. It was later used as storage for government documents and the site of a secret communications system used during the Cold War. The tunnels haven't been used since the 1980s and have been vacant since then. But soon, people will be able to visit the tunnels to look at art, watch fashion shows, and more. A businessman bought the complex of tunnels and plans to turn it into a tourist destination by 2027, restoring them and adding technology like new lighting. Write a summary of this story, including five facts you learned.

### 2. FIRST S.T.E.M. FESTIVAL

Last week, the United States Department of Education hosted the first National STEM Festival in Washington, D.C. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The event celebrates students who have come up with new and interesting ideas on topics like the environment, food shortages, health, technology, and outer space. It started with the STEM Challenge, where students submitted projects in one of the topics. Then, up to two hundred finalists from around the country were chosen to share their projects at the festival. Some of the nation's leaders attended the festival to learn from these young, creative minds! If you were to create a project for this festival, what world issue would you want to help tackle? Write down some ideas for problems and brainstorm solu-

tions with your classmates.

### 3. DEBRIS IN FLORIDA

A family in Florida got a big surprise when a hunk of metal the size of a soda can fell through their roof and into the floor. It wasn't a meteorite, but instead a large battery pallet from the International Space Station. The International Space Station is about the size of a football field. It orbits around the Earth and astronauts from different countries use it to conduct experiments and research. NASA

dropped the batteries and pallet three years ago and said what day they would reenter the Earth's atmosphere. The object fell through the Florida home the exact day they predicted. They thought it would break up when it came through the atmosphere instead of staying intact and potentially causing damage. Because the space station is used by several countries, the country that controls the part that the debris came from will be responsible for the damage. This piece seemed to be from the United States' equipment. Write

a summary of this story, including five facts you learned.

### 4. CICADA SEASON

Police in South Carolina got calls from concerned residents about strange noises that sounded like sirens or a loud roar, but the cause turned out to be insects! The sheriff's office posted a message on Facebook letting people know that what they were hearing were cicadas. The noisy bugs burrow into the ground for years and come up in 13- or 17-year cycles. This year, those two cycles line up and there will be more cicadas than usu-

al that come out of their underground hiding to mate. They can sound like a lawn mower or even as loud as a jet engine! Read more about cicadas online or in books. Then, write a list of at least five facts you learned about cicadas and how they're similar or different from other insects.

### 5. NEW TRAFFIC TOLLS

New York City is launching a new program to help deal with some of the country's worst traffic. The city will begin charging tolls on June 30 to get into the busiest areas during peak times. It will

cost regular cars \$15 a day to enter Manhattan's "congestion zone," or the busiest areas, and trucks will pay based on size. The program is anticipated to bring in at least \$1 billion a year for projects like improving the city's buses and trains. It will also lower the number of vehicles in the area by around 17 percent. A survey showed that 63 percent of New Yorkers are against the new toll, while a study of public comments showed that around 60 percent of commenters support it. Write a summary of this story and how you think this would affect the city.



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ANSWER: READING

### Math Blocks

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

2	15		18
	4	19	32
10			21
21	22	28	

8	3	01
19	4	6
1	15	2

Solution

### Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

TEG UACTHG DAERNIG

Answer: Get caught reading

### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1536: THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND, ANNE BOLEYN, IS ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED.
- 1611: THE KING JAMES VERSION OF THE BIBLE IS PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME.
- 1920: THE FIRST GAME OF THE NEGRO NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL IS PLAYED IN INDIANAPOLIS.



### EMPATHY

the ability to understand and share the feelings of others

How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Page

**SPANISH:** Página

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# Sports

## BASEBALL

# War Eagles finish regular season at 19-4-1



By **KEITH ANDERSON**  
Baseball Coach

The Wakulla High School Varsity base-

ball team came into the last week of the regular season with a record of 18-3-1. They hosted Maclay for senior recognition night on Tuesday, April 23 and won the game 9-2 to improve to 19-3-1.

Starting pitcher Ryan Newberry threw 3.1 innings scattering 5 hits, giving up 1 run

and striking out 2 to get the win to improve his record to 3-0.

Will Chipman threw 2.2 innings shutout innings giving up no hits.

Hayden Wright closed out the 7th giving up a run, but striking out the side.

The War Eagles tallied 6 hits on the

night. Jed Hoffman was 2-2 with a double. Haden Klees was 2-3 with 4 RBIs and a 2-run homerun. Michael Hurley drove in 2 runs with a single and Parker Lawhon drove in a run with a single.

On Thursday, April 25th, the War Eagles hosted Chiles High

School for their last regular season game.

Chiles won the contest 7-2.

The War Eagles managed 6 hits. Parker Lawhon was 2-4. Brady Crum added a double. Sam Bruce, Gavin Gautreau, and Jed Hoffman each had singles.

Jesse Nazworth

threw 3.1 shutout innings.

Owen Klees threw an inning in relief and Gavin Estep closed the 7th with a shutout inning.

The War Eagles ended the regular season with a 19-4-1 record and will start the district tournament this coming week.

## PUBLIC NOTICES:

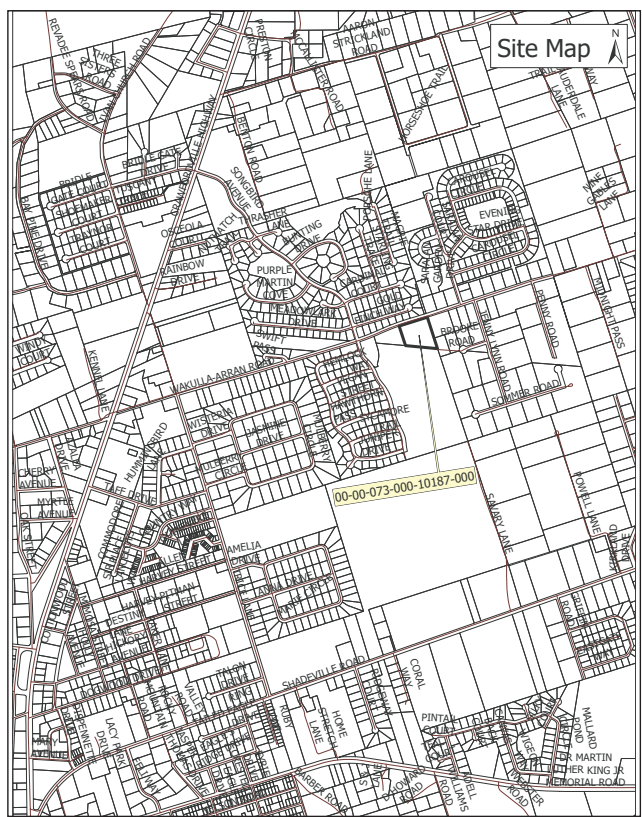
For our readers' convenience, The Wakulla Sun provides this Public Notice Section for all Public Notices not published in the Legal Notice section of the newspaper.



## Additional public notices appear on page 3.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR FINAL PLAT

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners will hold public hearings to consider the proposed application for final plat approval described below. Public Hearings are scheduled before the **Planning Commission on Monday, May 13, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M., and before the Board of County Commissioners on Monday, May 20, 2024, at 5:00 P.M. unless otherwise noted below or as time permits.** All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



**1. Application for Final Plat Approval: FP24-04**  
 Applicant: BCB FLP 1, LLC  
 Agent: Ben Boynton  
 Proposal: create 8-lot residential subdivision – Hammocks Phase IV  
 Tax ID Number: 00-00-073-000-10187-000  
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Fringe (FLUE Policy 1.2.7)  
 Current Zoning: PUD (Section 5-50, LDC)  
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" zone on Panel 0250E  
 Parcel size: 4.17+/- acres  
 Location: south side of Wakulla Arran Road, abutting the northern boundary of Hammocks PH III

**Hearings Required: Planning Commission: Monday, May 13, 2024 @ 6:00 PM**

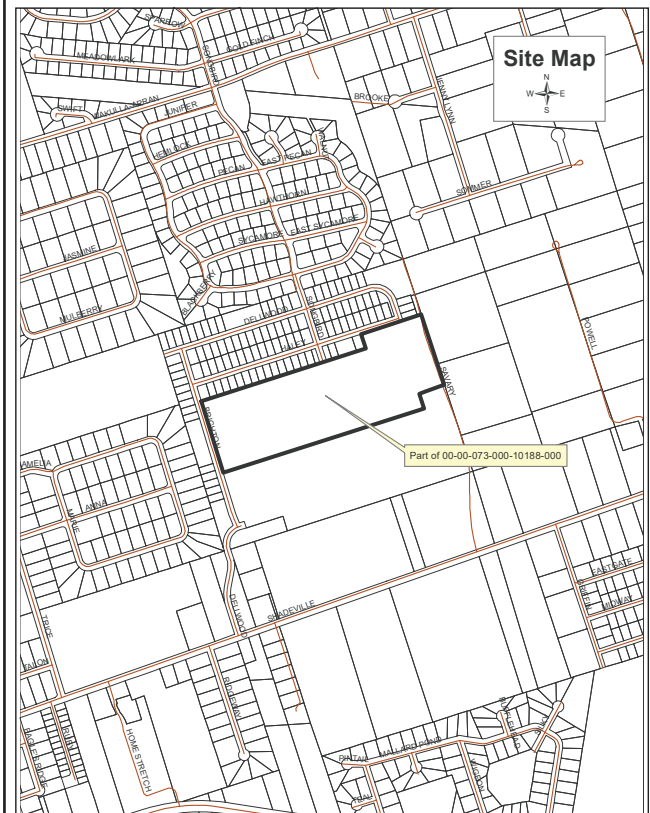
**BOCC: Monday, May 20, 2024 @ 5:00 PM**

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

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

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**1. Application for Final Plat Approval: FP24-02**  
 Applicant: Shadeville of Wakulla County, LLC  
 Agent: Urban Catalyst Consultants, Inc./William Colbert  
 Proposal: create 109-lot residential subdivision – Wesley Park Phase II  
 Tax ID Number: part of 00-00-073-000-10188-000  
 Existing FLU Map: Suburban Transitioning (FLUE Policy 1.2.8)  
 Current Zoning: LDR (Section 5-68, LDC)  
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" zone on Panel 0250E  
 Parcel size: 32.14+/- acres  
 Location: north side of Shadeville Road, abutting the southern boundary of Wesley Park Phase I

**Hearings Required: Planning Commission: Monday, May 13, 2024 @ 6:00 PM**

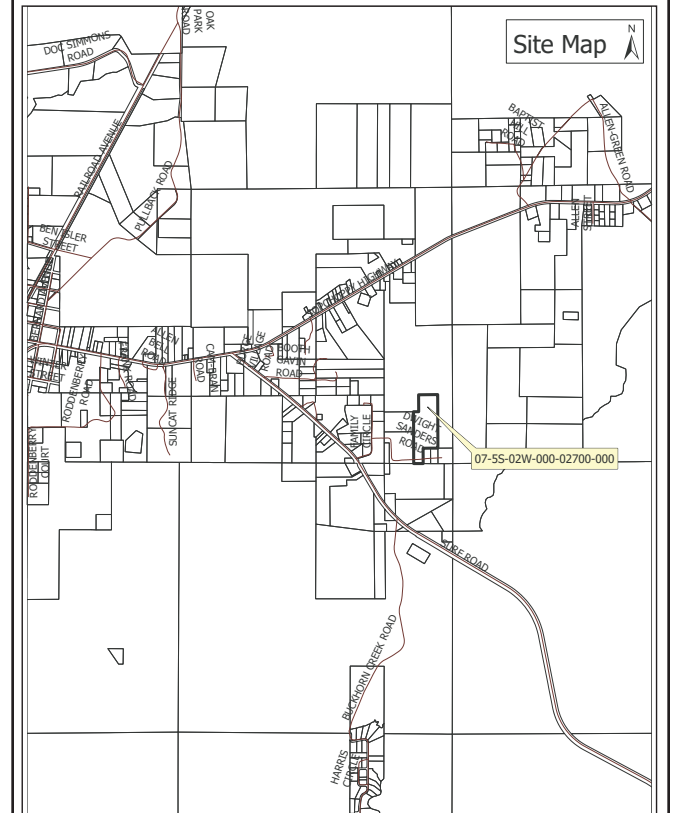
**BOCC: Monday, May 20, 2024 @ 5:00 PM**

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

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ZONING

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners proposes to consider the following application and/or adopt the following by ordinance and has scheduled Public Hearings before the **Wakulla County Planning Commission on Monday, May 13, 2024, beginning at 6:00 P.M. and before the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners on Monday, May 20, 2024, beginning at 5:00 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



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

**1. Application for Change of Zoning: R24-05**  
 Applicant: Byron Frederic Potter, Sr.  
 Proposal: rezone from agricultural and semi-rural residential to agricultural  
 Tax ID Number: 07-55-02W-000-02700-000  
 Existing FLU Map: Rural 1 (FLUE Policy 1.2.4)  
 Current Zoning: AG (Section 5-25, LDC) and RR-1 (Section 5-27, LDC)  
 Proposed Zoning: AG (Section 5-25, LDC)  
 FEMA Flood Info: "AE" zone and "0.2PCT" zone on Panel 0365E  
 Parcel size: 10.27+/- acres  
 Location: 88 Dwight Sanders Road

**Hearings Required: Planning Commission: Monday, May 13, 2024 @ 6:00 PM**

**BOCC: Monday, May 20, 2024 @ 5:00 PM**

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

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# ROCK THE DOCK WINNERS



Winner of the 2024 Skeeter boat was Keith Wisham Sr. of Sylvester, Georgia, above; and the youth boat was won by Otis Guffey.



BOAT WINNER PHOTOS LAURIE FALK; OTHER PHOTOS BY GERALD BROWN



1st Place winner Inshore Redfish Joshua Crum 8.52 pounds



First place redfish in a kayak Brian Neal



Youth division Blake Roberts with his winning trout.



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1st place trout inshore Teresa Mercer  
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