

SUN Monthly Neighbor

Locally Owned & Operated

"The little paper"

VOL. 3, NO. 4 • APRIL 2024

*****ECRWSS*****
 LOCAL RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

PRSR STD
 ECRWSS
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT #300
 STUART, FL

Serving Wakulla County, Alligator Point and St. Teresa

Tonya Hobby

Administrator of the Wakulla and Taylor health departments, she leads by example

By LINDA ANN McDONALD
 Correspondent

Leading by example is a leadership style where you model the behavior you want to see in your team members.

When you lead by example, you don't just push team members towards excellence – you actively demonstrate that excellence.

Leading by example is the difference between saying, "You can do this" and "We can do this together."

Tonya Hobby, Health Officer for both Wakulla and Taylor counties, is a firm believer in leading by example, listening actively and makes it her duty as an administrator to provide staff with the tools and training to grow and be successful.

"As the Health Officer of Florida Department of Health in two rural



Tonya Hobby

Turn to Page 7

Solar energy is an alternative solution to energy independence and cost reduction for home and business owners. By investing in solar energy, you can reduce your dependence on the energy company to provide your electricity, as well as add value to your home.



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE SUN

Jay www.ckr solar.com
 CGC1511520
 (850) 445-8643 • (844) 206-2806
 jay@ckrsolar.com

CKR SOLAR
 DESIGN, CONSULTING, SALES

Fasig | Brooks
 LAW OFFICES

INJURED?
 (850) 777-7777

2023 **BEST** of TALLHASSEE
 Destin
 Tallahassee
 Jacksonville

Camille Duke, Broker
850-692-9449
www.JeepGirlRealty.com

WE BUY HOUSES
 3 Bedroom and 2 Baths
 up to 4 Bedrooms and 3 1/2 Baths

WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN RENT TO OWN?
 Beautiful homes to choose from.
 Visit our other website:
BuyNowNoBanks.com
850-692-9449

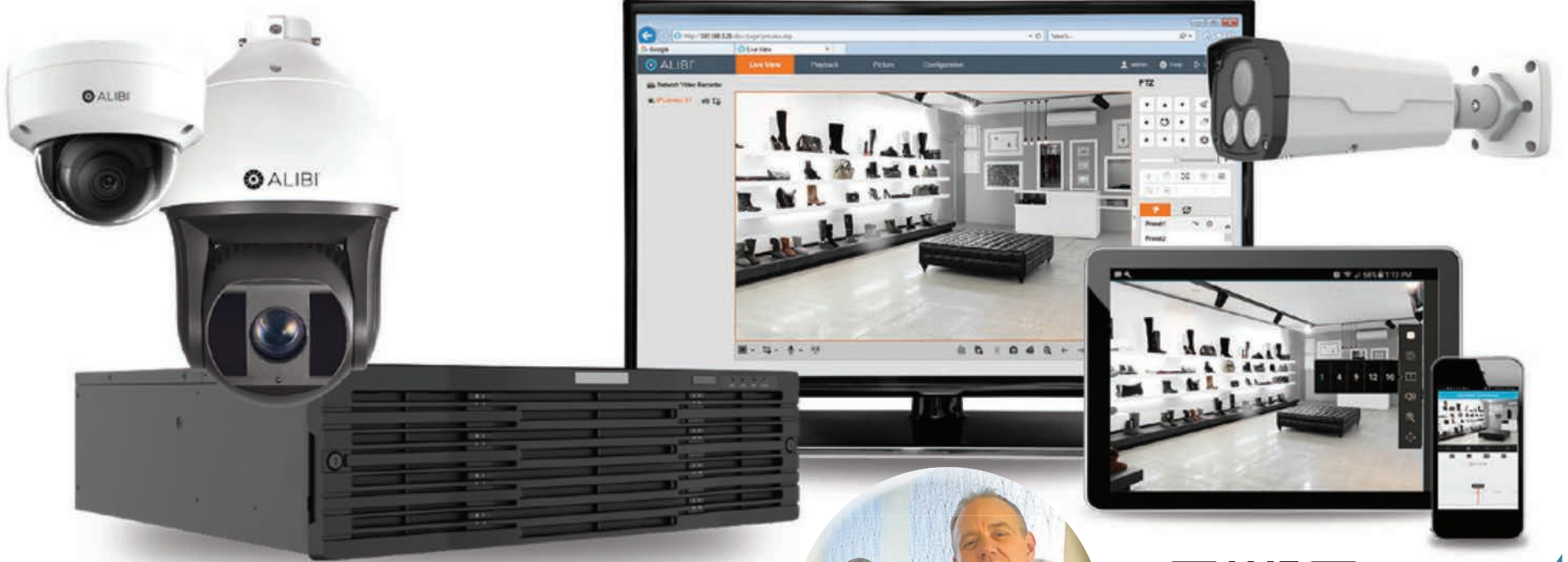
MOVE IN TODAY RENT TO OWN
 Camille Duke
 850-692-9449
 JeepGirlRealty.com

TALLHASSEE INVESTORS NETWORK
 ACCREDITED BUSINESS
 BBB



HomeView Pro

THE CLEAR CHOICE



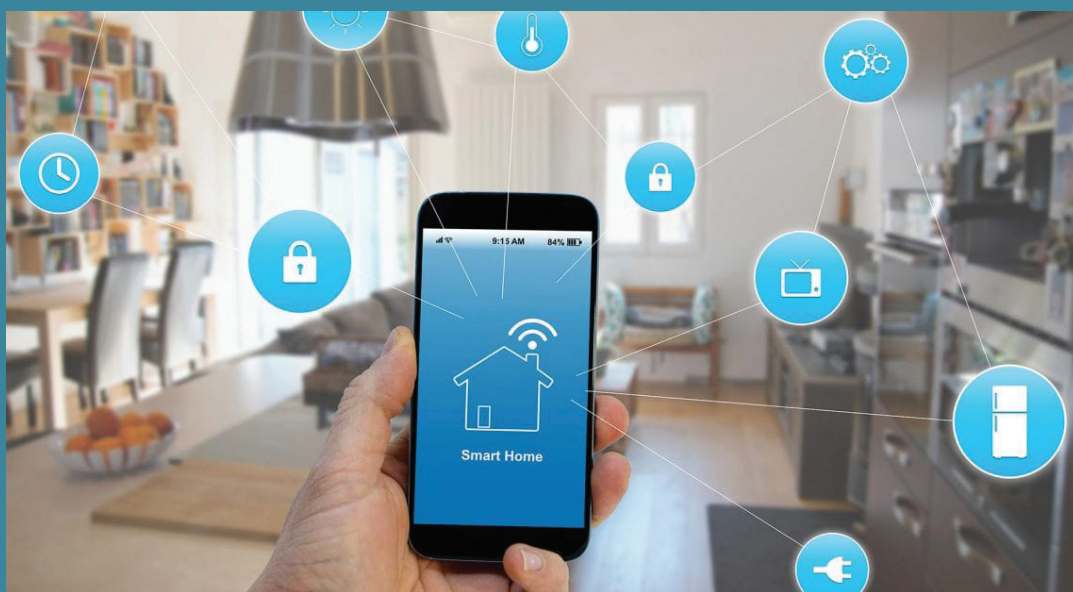
SCAN ME to Find us on facebook

Smart homes have four benefits that save money and time: Convenience, Security, Entertainment & Energy Efficiency.

SECURITY ESSENTIALS

FOR YOUR HOME AND OFFICE PROPERTIES

WE PROVIDE



HOME AUTOMATION EXPERTS

- CCTV Cameras
- Intercom Systems
- Networking
- Maintenance
- Product Sales
- PC Service & Repairs
- Installation

(850) 713-9001



SCAN ME to Call Now

GET YOUR FREE ESTIMATE, MENTION THIS AD, THEN →

SPECIAL PROMO

GET 20% OFF

Locally Owned and Operated



www.HomeViewPro.com



Open year round
to serve you.

SHEPARD

ACCOUNTING & TAX SERVICE

Jessica S. Revell, CPA Lorra L. Phillips, CPA

Friendly, professional and here to stay.

26 years serving Wakulla

850-926-9802

Tax Returns

Individual & Business

**Bookkeeping & Payroll Services
Year Round**



AWARDS

2013 Business Excellence Award

10 years (2014-2023) nominee
Business Excellence Award

2023 Accounting Firm
Readers' Choice, Wakulla Sun

2023 Accountant – Jessica Revell
Readers' Choice, Wakulla sun

10 years (2014-2023)
Accounting & Tax Firm
Readers' Choice, Wakulla News

Located at 3234 Crawfordville Hwy. • www.shepardaccounting.com

Lorra@shepardaccounting.com | Jessica@shepardaccounting.com

HOT MESS

Weight Loss

**BRINGING RELIABILITY
TO THIS INDUSTRY**



WWW.HOTMESSWEIGHTLOSS.COM

The **Wakulla Sun** *NEWSPAPER*
Your Local
Subscribe Today!

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



cabs and counters

850-745-6053

Mon. - Fri. 9am to 4pm with appointments available to better serve.

We like to work with you and discover what kitchen or Bath layout & features

Best fit YOUR life style & budget

DREAM IT & WE

WILL DESIGN IT



**Locally Owned and Operated – 2510 Crawfordville Hwy. Crawfordville
Remodeling Services – Wakulla & Tallahassee to St. George Island**

www.CabsandCounters.com

Party Tents-n-More
 Tents • Tables • Chairs
 850926-7339
 850933-1718 (cell)
 Located in Wakulla County
 Locally owned and operated by Charlene & Billy Bishop

Gerald Brown Photography
 • Beach Portraits
 • Special Occasions
 • Events • Musicians
 850-545-4281
 GeraldBrownPhoto@gmail.com
 Follow me on Instagram: *GeraldBrownFoto*

AIR-CON Of Wakulla
 Heating & Air
 CELEBRATING 35 YEARS!
 Serving Wakulla & Franklin Counties
 850-926-5592
 Sales & Service
 All Makes & Models
 Carrier
 Turn to the Experts
 3232 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville
 Owned & Operated by Gary Limbaugh Lic. # CAC1814304

RMS Marine
 SINCE 1985
 FORMERLY AMS
 Specializing in All of your
 Commercial Fishing & Crabbing Needs
 850-926-3114 • 800-726-3104
 3026 Coastal Hwy, Crawfordville FL
 RMSMarineSupply.com
 If we don't have it...
 We can get it!



SCOTT THOMPSON, ADOBE STOCK ARCHIVE

Spending time with loved ones in nature has been shown to reduce feelings of stress, depression, and anxiety.

Stress-reducing power of nature



By **SAMANTHA KENNEDY**
 Extension Director

For many of us in today's fast-paced society, stress has become an almost constant companion. From the pressures of work deadlines to the demands of social obligations, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. However, in the middle of the daily jungle of stressors, there lies a powerful antidote: nature. Research has shown time and again that spending time in green spaces can significantly reduce stress levels and improve overall well-being. And here is Wakulla County, we are blessed with a variety of beautiful places where we can get close to nature.

Here are five ways in which nature works its magic on our minds and bodies:

- Step into a forest and be greeted by

a symphony of bird-song, rustling leaves, and babbling brooks. These natural sounds have a remarkable ability to soothe frayed nerves and calm anxious minds. Studies have found that exposure to nature sounds can lower levels of cortisol, the stress hormone, and promote relaxation. Additionally, the fragrances emitted by plants and trees, such as pine and lavender, have been shown to have therapeutic effects, reducing stress and anxiety.

- The sight of lush greenery and expansive landscapes can have a huge impact on our mental well-being. Whether it is a sprawling meadow, a tranquil lake, or a majestic mountain range, natural scenery provides a visual feast that helps alleviate stress and elevate mood. Even a brief glimpse of nature through a window or a walk in the park during lunch breaks can rejuvenate the mind and enhance cognitive function.

- Spending time outdoors exposes us to fresh air and sunlight, both of which are essential for our physical and mental health.

Sunlight triggers the production of serotonin, a neurotransmitter that regulates mood and promotes feelings of happiness and relaxation. Additionally, exposure to natural light helps to regulate our circadian rhythms, leading to better sleep quality and overall well-being. Meanwhile, fresh air rich in oxygen boosts brain function and invigorates the body, providing a natural energy boost.

- Engaging in physical activities such as hiking, gardening, or even just taking a leisurely stroll in the park allows us to reap the dual benefits of exercise and nature. Exercise is known to be a potent stress reliever, releasing endorphins that act as natural mood lifters. When combined with the calming effects of nature, physical activity becomes even more effective at reducing stress and improving mental health. Furthermore, outdoor exercise encourages mindfulness and promotes a sense of connection with the natural world, fostering feelings of peace and contentment.

- Interacting with wildlife, whether it is watching birds soar overhead or spotting deer in the woods, fosters a sense of connection with the natural world. Studies have shown that spending time in nature and observing wildlife can evoke feelings of awe and wonder, which in turn reduces stress and increases feelings of happiness and well-being. Additionally, caring for pets or spending time with animals has been found to have therapeutic effects such as lowering blood pressure and reducing anxiety.

In conclusion, the healing power of nature is undeniable. By immersing ourselves in green spaces and reconnecting with the natural world, we can effectively manage stress, improve mental health, and enhance overall quality of life. So, the next time feelings of stress seem overwhelming, consider taking a stroll in the park or escaping to the great outdoors.

For more stress management tips, please contact Samantha Kennedy at 850-926-3931.



Karen Williams
 (850) 567-8279

Sonya Hall
 (850) 528-0857

- Sales
 - Rentals
 - Storage Unit Rentals
- 8x10 - \$66.65
 10x12 \$98.90

Wakulla Realty
 (850) 926-5084
 Lic. Real Estate Broker and Associates

www.WakullaRealty.com

10 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville • PO Box 535, Crawfordville FL 32326

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

Camouflage = disguise + setting



By ERIK LOVESTRAND

The “grizzled mantis,” pictured below, is obvious to anyone while sitting on my hand.

But on a lichen-covered tree trunk, it is virtually impossible to spot unless it moves. However, even the most perfect disguise in one setting, would be worthless in a different environment. Remember Schwarzenegger in Predator, or Wahlberg in Shooter?

The background ultimately determines what type of disguise will be effective for hiding within view.

Animals that depend on camouflage for survival are generally very closely linked with environments where they blend well with the background.

They are also adept at being very still for long periods of time. This combination of behavior and morphology traits serves two key purposes. First, avoiding predation and second, if they are predators, it gets them within striking distance of prey.

In addition to basic colors and patterns, many animals that depend on camouflage possess

uniquely shaped body parts that aid in the illusion, and some can even vary their color and pattern configurations. This is called “adaptive camouflage.”

You may have seen video footage of the ability of an octopus to change its color and pattern. It also has a close cousin that will blow your mind. If you have the patience to type the following URL into your web browser, this short video about cuttlefish is worth a look: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgDE-2DOICuc>

One of my most heart-thumping camouflage encounters occurred while following a pig trail through thick

underbrush while hunting. Only after I had placed my right foot within about six inches of a four-foot eastern diamond-back, did the signal from my optic nerve register in my brain exactly what I was looking at.

Thankfully, it was quite chilly that morning and this snake was of no mind to do anything. I really do appreciate our amazing reptilian fauna here in Florida, but I did not hang around to study this particular specimen on that morning.

Erik Lovestrاند is a UF/IFAS regional Sea Grant agent in Wakulla, Franklin and Gulf counties.



PHOTO BY ERIK LOVESTRAND

A Grizzled Mantis out of its environment.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
 “NOT ALL TRASH IS CREATED EQUAL”

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

KEEP WAKULLA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL
 www.kwcb.org
 KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

318 Shadeville Rd., Crawfordville

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

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



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

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



What to bring to Household Hazardous Waste Day...

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

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

The Landfill will accept the following items on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays 8-5 & Saturdays 8-3. • OIL - FREE DISPOSAL * E-scrap - FREE DISPOSAL * Recyclable Material - FREE DISPOSAL
 Tires - \$10 off rim, \$15 on rim (NO BIG TIRES) * TIRES WILL NOT BE TAKEN AT THIS AMNESTY DAY • Free Curbside Bulk Pickup on 1st and 3rd Saturdays. • Call 926-7010 to schedule ahead of time. (up to 2 cubic feet)
Bulk Waste Service 1. Residential bulk items will be picked up on normal trash routes. Citizens do not have to schedule with Waste Pro. For residential bulk pick-up, place the items out with your trash can.
 2. Waste Pro asks citizens to place out only 1-2 bulky items per week (not to exceed 2 yards (approximate size of a refrigerator), as space on the trucks is limited. 3. Metal items still must be scheduled through Waste Pro, 850-926-7010.
 4. Waste Pro still does not service yard waste or anything that is considered construction debris. 5. If residential bulk items are not picked up within three days of your regularly scheduled trash day, and no notice as to why has been given, contact the Wakulla County Public Works Department at 850-926-7616

You matter in real life



By GREG GAST

Doesn't everyone want to be seen and heard? Everyone wants to count in life.

Yet much of the time we feel the opposite. We feel judged, denied, or completely ignored. Validation does not

mean that everyone will agree with what you have to say, but it does mean that you are being acknowledged and are accepted, regardless of your point of view.

After all, you are who you are. And that's OK.

Mattering in life starts with self-validation. Accepting your internal experiences and building your identity. But how do you do that?

It is the understanding of your internal thoughts and feelings. It doesn't mean whatever you think and feel are justified, it doesn't

mean approval, it's understanding.

If you fight your thoughts and feelings, or judge yourself for having them, you will most likely become emotionally distressed and you will fail to learn from them.

Self-validating will help you to stay calm and manage yourself more effectively. You will be more accepting of yourself leading to a stronger identity and better at regulating intense emotions. Self-validation helps you find wisdom.

Psychologist Marsha Lineham de-

finied six levels of validation. Mindfulness is being in the here and now. Being present means listening to yourself, acknowledging the bitter with the sweet in life. Acceptance allows intense emotions to pass, and allows you to build resilience. Engage in honest reflection, to acknowledge your internal state and label it accurately. You don't make interpretations: you stick to the facts.

Guess your emotions. If you're not sure what you're feeling or thinking, ask yourself: *Am I*

feeling ____? If someone else were in this situation, they would probably feel ____.

Remember the past. Sometimes our thoughts and feelings are based on events that happened in our past.

Normalize your feelings. Everyone has emotions. No one is happy all the time. It's normal to have painful emotions.

Be genuine. Don't lie to yourself or pretend to be someone you're not. Who you are is different from what you do.

You are not your behavior. Self-validation

is critical for living with intense emotions.

The more you practice, the more healthy you will become in the long run.

Let me know what you think...

Send your questions to Real Life Counseling, 3295 Crawfordville Hwy., suite #4, Crawfordville FL 32327 in care of Gregory E. Gast, MS, LMHC, NCC. Your name will be changed and the answer to your question will appear in an upcoming issue of The Wakulla Sun Monthly.

LUBE-XPERT

<p>Synthetic Oil</p> <p>\$10 OFF</p> <p>(Includes 5 Quarts) \$6 Per Additional Quarts</p> <p>With coupon. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 5/3/24</p> <p>\$5 OFF</p> <p>Full Service Conventional Oil Change</p>	<p>ASK FOR MILITARY DISCOUNT</p> <p>\$5 OFF</p> <p>Set of Wiper Blades</p>
--	--

Locally Owned by Charlie Grim charliegrim@msn.com • LubeXpert.us

(850) 926-6526

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 6pm • Sat. 8am - 4pm
2219 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL 32327

CARROLL APPRAISAL COMPANY, INC

Appraisals in Leon, Wakulla, Gadsden, Jefferson & Franklin Counties

Rhonda A. Carroll, MAI
State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser #RZ459

850-575-1999 • **850-926-6111** • 850-694-3333

Competitive Rates • County Resident
Specializing in Commercial & Residential Appraisals (Including Mobile Homes)

- Leon/Wakulla Native •
- Over 37 Years Experience Appraising Real Estate •

Visit Our Website at: www.carrollappraisal.com

BLACKFOOT ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

3152 Crawfordville Highway
Crawfordville, FL 32327

(850) 251-9792
www.blackfootroofing.com

CCC1332583

A & W Services

AIR CONDITIONING REFRIGERATION & HEAT

Commercial • Residential • Fast and Reliable Scheduling

A & W Services Heating & Air is The Authority on HVAC Repairs, Maintenance, Installation and Upgrades!

Our skilled technicians can get an older model running smoothly again. We can also replace your old unit for a New, Upgraded, More Efficient Model!

Whatever your HVAC needs, call A & W Services Heating & Air now for expertise you can count on.

(850) 504-6053

5125 Woodlane Circle Tallahassee, FL 32303
Over 60 years combined experience

Lic. # CAC1815061

San Marcos Mexican Grill & Cantina

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

850-962-8079

INDOOR & PATIO SEATING
DINE IN OR CARRY OUT

DOORDASH

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

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

Toasttab.com/SanMarcosCrawfordville

Mike's Florida Marine Supply

Est. 1970

YAMAHA OPEN

Mon-Tues: 8:00-5:00 • Wed: 8:00-1:00
Thurs-Fri: 8:00-5:00 • Sat: 8:00-1:00 • Closed Sunday

Phone: 850-984-5637
Fax: 850-984-5698

1296 Coastal Highway, Panama FL 32346
<http://www.mikesmarineflorida.com>

FOLLOW THE SUN.

Your local source for news.



Tonya Hobby

From Front Page

counties, it is my job to identify public health needs through partnership with local business, agencies, faith based organizations and community members.

“We identify these needs through a Community Health Assessment and Community Health Plan which consists of the community with input on their needs along with the data to match the problem; this is called the Wakulla Task Force, the task force then takes the identified needs and creates a plan on how tackle the needs within the community,” says Hobby.

“Rural public health agencies work to protect and improve the health of rural populations

by preventing injuries, spread of disease and promoting and encouraging positive health behaviors.”

“I decided to pursue a career in public health because my mother retired as a public health servant from the Leon County Health Department,” Hobby says. “As a child, I would go to her work after school and help put the educational packets together.

“Public Health is my passion as we can prevent and promote great health outcomes with the health services and programs the county health departments have to offer.

“Growing up in a rural area in Leon County,” she says, “I saw areas that needed improvement, we had no resources, there were struggles, so this en-

couraged me to pursue a field where I can help and make a difference.”

Hobby received her undergraduate degree from Liberty University in Psychology and a Master of Arts in Human Services Counseling in Addition and Recovery in 2016.

“I initially wanted to be a social worker or counselor,” Hobby says.

“I have a passion for mental health; I have seen over the years a deficit of social mental health counselors, so that passion drove the path of my education. I have firsthand experience with friends and relatives who have struggles with mental health and working in public health, I know I can make a difference.”

Leading by example and promoting growth and success does not stop when she leaves her office at the Health Department.

“I have three beautiful children: Sadie, Kyra and Nolan. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends I love the community I live in as it is like one big family. I enjoy serving people as it fills my emotional inner tank with peace and joy; I want to be the best example I can possibly be for my children.”

Hobby also owns an English Bulldog named Jules, a rescue dog.

“Every life is important, and every life is precious.” Hobby said, “My go-to place and happy place is the beach, I love to enjoy it and listen to live music with family and friends.”

Hobby currently serves on the Wakulla Extension Board of Directors, Healthy Start Board of Directors, Wakulla Transportation Disadvantaged Board, Big Bend

AHEC Board of Directors. She is an active member of Wakulla County Community Task Force, Wakulla Chamber, Wakulla Senior Board, Substance Exposed Newborn Task Force, and the Wakulla County Library Board. Hobby is also a member of the Rotary Club of Wakulla.

“What I love most about Wakulla is we are one big family; when someone is in need, everyone pulls together and supports the cause, no matter how big or small,” she says.

“I worked Hurricane Idalia which hit Taylor County very hard with devastation and Wakulla had some challenges from the storm, and I was overwhelmed with the support and resources that were provided to us, everyone pulled together and ensured everyone was safe.”

“The minute we were allowed to drive on the roads after the storm, I was adamant about getting to my staff and making sure everyone was safe.”

Hobby has served with the Florida Department of Health since 2000 and assumed her current role as the administrator for FDOH in Wakulla and Taylor counties in 2021.

Prior to her most recent position as Administrator, Hobby served as Assistant Administrator from 2014-2021.

In the 21 years of service with the DOH, she has held several other positions including a Community Health Manager, as well as a Tobacco Prevention Specialist with Tobacco Prevention and a Family Support Worker with Health Families and Healthy Start.

JOY-Filled Easter at Wakulla Springs

By LINDA ANN McDONALD
Correspondent

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

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

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

Wakulla County’s Clerk of Court Greg James donned the organization’s mascot costume named “Joy” for the event. “This is great to be a part of this,” James said. “The kids love it and I know how



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

much joy it brings to the children and their families; even on a small scale, it makes an impact on everyone involved.”

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

for a safe place for the kids to experience great events, we are lucky to be able to extend this experience to all those involved, and we are

blessed to be a part of it.”

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

“This is the first time I have been to an event like this, this is great,” said Jan Jensen, grandmother to a special needs child Abigail Maddi. “The kids are having a ball, and everyone is excited to see the Easter Bunny, this is very cute.”

Out of town visitors to the Wakulla Springs Lodge Debby Russell

and Lynn McLaughlin were watching the event from a distance.” “We didn’t know what was going on,” said Russell, “but it looked really special with all the kids making Easter eggs and with their faces painted. As a special ed teacher myself, I can tell you this is a spectacular thing this community is having.”

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

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

READ THE ROAD.
AND YOU WON'T NEED AS MANY NEW PARTS.

MOTORCYCLE CRASHES DON'T ALWAYS INVOLVE ANOTHER VEHICLE. SLICK SURFACES AND ROAD DEBRIS CAN LEAD TO BROKEN BIKES, AND BROKEN BONES. RIDE AT A SPEED THAT GIVES YOU TIME TO REACT. CHECK OUR WEBSITE BELOW FOR MORE CYCLE SAFETY TIPS.

VISIT ORTHOINFO.ORG/CYCLESAFETY

OA ORTHOPAEDIC TRAUMA ASSOCIATION
AAOS AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

Habitat for Humanity®

Re-Store
850-926-4544
940 Shadeville Rd.

Harbor Point Realty
www.harborpointrealty.com

Mobile: 850-519-2292
susan@harborpointrealty.com
www.susanschatzman.com

Susan Schatzman
Broker Associate

734 Shadeville Road
Crawfordville FL 32327

EXIT REALTY CAFÉ

Call Lionel Dazevedo (850) 284-6961
Owner/Agent Exit Realty Café
lionel7769@gmail.com

Desirable River Plantation Estates! Enjoy gated community perks: boat ramp, pool, tennis, clubhouse. Spacious 3/2 home with 12 ft ceilings, skylights, wet bar, fireplace, quartz counters, split bedroom plan. Tile & wood floors, two screened porches, triple carport on a low-maintenance private acre. Call for all the details.

\$445,000

Hebel Brick construction – solid & wind resistant.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

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

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



Sopchoppy United Methodist Church

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

Pastor Cheryl Mixon-Cruce 850-962-2511



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

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



First Baptist Church
CRAWFORDVILLE

3086 Crawfordville Highway
(Just south of the Courthouse on Hwy 319)
850-926-7896
www.crawfordvillefbc.com
facebook.com/fbccrawfordville

Sunday Mornings at 11 am

DADS, WE'RE SAVING A SEAT FOR YOU & YOUR FAMILY!



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

Fr. Paul Raj, HGN • Dcn. Dave Harris
Director of Music & Choir - Jeff Cook
3609 Coastal Hwy. Crawfordville FL 32327
850 745-8359

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

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



ARE YOU BEING SNAPPED AT?
Need a night out? Join us!

Thursdays at 7PM at the Senior Center Auditorium,
1400 N. Monroe St. in Tallahassee.

Fun Fellowship



Annual Show June 8th
(and we sing a capella)

Info@capitalchordsmen.com 850-570-3148

WAKULLA LOVES JESUS!

AND JESUS LOVES WAVE 94!
(HOPEFULLY)

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




Pamper your Pooch
Dog Wash

SATURDAY, April 13, 2024
9:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Hudson Park, Crawfordville

Spa package*
Amenities include:

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

All this for only a \$20 suggested donation!

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



***SUGGESTED DONATION, PROCEEDS BENEFIT HOMELESS ANIMALS, OUR LOCAL SHELTER AND OTHER PROGRAMS**



PO Box 1195, Crawfordville FL 32326 ♦ www.pawsofwakulla.org ♦ Like us on Facebook

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. 800-435-7352 License # CH13163

Spring is Here!

Let's get your home listed and SOLD!


Karen Ann Ward
850-509-2996 Realtor




Google **FIVE STAR CUSTOMER RATING**




www.karenisthekey.com
yourrealtor850@gmail.com
Serving Wakulla & surrounding counties

View the Sun Monthly e-edition on mobile or PC using this QR code.



PHONES ACCESSORIES REPAIRS



TECH PROS

850-459-1975

Between AT&T and Papa John's



On the Horizon: The calendar of events for April

Monday, April 1

- The Wakulla County Commission meets at 5 p.m. in the commission chambers.
- The Wakulla County Library Advisory Board is holding a Public meeting at the Wakulla County Public Library at 10 a.m.
- The Wakulla Respite Program is available for anyone with memory impairment at no cost from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Ellen Baptist Church every Monday.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. every Monday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- Restorative yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. with Zoe, every Monday at New Posh, 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.

Tuesday, April 2

- Sopchoppy community dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- Flow Yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. with Nellie, every Tuesday at New Posh, 3079 Crawfordville Hwy. RSVP to newposh3079@gmail.com or text/call at (850) 528-5838.

Wednesday, April 3

- Muffins with Moms Prenatal Support Group meets at 9 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10

a.m. at the Wakulla County Health Department. Contact Liz Neighbors at 850-888-6078 or elizabeth.neighbors@flhealth.gov for more information.

- A line dance class is held at 1 p.m. at the Wakulla Senior Center every Wednesday.
- Wakulla County Coalition for Youth meets at 12:30 p.m. at the health department.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- Gentle Yoga and Stetching Class, every Wednesday, 11 a.m. Wakulla Community Center. Bring a mat. Come early to sign in. Chair Yoga participants welcome. \$2 per class.

Thursday, April 4

- 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.
- The Rotary Club of Wakulla County meets at the TCC Wakulla Center at 8:30 a.m. every Thursday.
- Yin Yoga at 9:30 a.m. and 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.
- The fifth Windows 10 training class will be held at

the Wakulla County Public Library from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Friday, April 5

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

Saturday, April 6

- The Panacea Community Garden Farmer's Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Panacea.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Saturday at the American Legion, 54 Ochlockonee St.
- The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group will meet at the Wakulla County Public Library at 10 a.m. every Saturday.
- Petal Wings and the Wakulla County Garden Club are hosting a plant swap at Petal Wings, 2126 Sopchoppy Hwy. in Sopchoppy, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday, April 8

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

Thursday, April 11

- St. Marks City Commission meets at the St. Marks City Hall at 6 p.m.
- The Wakulla County Cancer Support Group meets in the Education Center of the Crawfordville United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. This group meeting is for men and women, regardless of the type of cancer. Spouses, caregivers, and friends are welcome. For more information, call 850-926-6050.
- The first "Get to know your iPhone" tech class will be held at the Wakulla County Public Library from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Friday, April 12

- Second Harvest Food Bank is holding an event at the Sopchoppy Congregational Holiness Church starting at 9 a.m.
- Wakulla Giving Hands is holding a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at the Wakulla Senior Center at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 13

- The Annual Sopchoppy Worm Grunting festival will have events from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Sopchoppy Depot Park. See ad on Page 17.
- PAWS Pamper Your Pooch dog wash at Hudson Park from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monday, April 15

- The Wakulla County Commission meets at 5 p.m. in the

commission chambers.

- The Wakulla County School Board meets in the school administration building at 5:45 p.m.
- The American Legion Post 114 will be meeting at the Wakulla County Public Library at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 20

- The Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus and Ladies Circle are hosting a Shrimp Boil Dinner and 50/50 Drawing at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church from 6:10 to 8:10 p.m.
- Wakulla Christian School is holding a Daddy-Daughter Dance from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Sopchoppy High Gym, tickets are on sale online at WakullaChristian.com.
- LifeWalk 2024 will be held at the Wakulla Community Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Palaver Tree Theater is hosting "Night Life Bingo", a 21+ event, from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight.

Wednesday, April 24

- The Wakulla County Audit Committee meets at the county Administrative Conference Room at 10 a.m.

Friday, April 26

- Rock the Dock fishing tournament weekend begins from 6 to 8 p.m. in Woolley Park in Panacea.
- Day one of the 51st Annual

Stephen C. Smith Memorial Regatta will be held at Shell Point Beach from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 27

- Small Business Saturday of Wakulla will be in Hudson Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Rock the Dock fishing tournament will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. in Woolley Park in Panacea.
- St. Marks hosts a community market every fourth Saturday of the month at 815 Leon Port Drive from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.
- Day two of the 51st Annual Stephen C. Smith Memorial Regatta will be held at Shell Point Beach from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Wakulla County Department of Health Family Fun Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Hudson Park in Crawfordville.
- The Sopchoppy Opry, featuring the Easy Company Band, will hold a performance at the old Sopchoppy Highschool, starting at 7 p.m.
- Palaver Tree Theater is hosting "Camo and Karaoke", a 25+ event, from 7 to 11 p.m.

Sunday, April 28

- Rock the Dock fishing tournament will be held from 12 to 4 p.m. in Woolley park in Panacea.
- Day three of the 51st Annual Stephen C. Smith Memorial Regatta will be held at Shell Point Beach from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

God Is Real
SPRINGS
OF HOPE
CHURCH
Springsofhope.us

JESUS
IS KING
SUN 10:15a.m.
WED 7:00 p.m.
*Where Love
Abounds
& Church
Becomes Family*
850-556-0320
850-926-4065
2028 Bloxham Cutoff Rd.



americandreamnorthflorida



theamericandreamnorthflorida



www.theamericandream.house

Whether it's buying or selling a primary home or your next vacation home in Wakulla County and the surrounding areas, our agents have got you covered!

LET OUR TEAM HELP YOU TODAY!



1-800-451-1605



ANGIE BROOKE
BROKER ASSOCIATE
850.766.3675
Angie@theamericandream.house



HOPE WEBB
BROKER | OWNER
850.838.7640
Hope@theamericandream.house

Please
Recycle

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between south and southeast
4. Celebrations
9. Pulpits
14. Pin
15. Rare laughing
16. Parts of the circulatory system
17. Financial term
18. Pearl Jam frontman
20. Cores of vascular plants
22. Strong sharp

23. City in S. Korea
24. One from Damascus
28. Short message at the end of an email
29. It cools your home
30. Towards the mouth or oral region
31. Intestinal pouches
33. Boys and men
37. The 12th letter

- of the Greek alphabet
38. Former CIA
39. A way to arrange
41. Body cavity
42. The Great Lake State
43. A type of seal
44. Stop for a moment
46. Ancient kingdom
49. Of I
50. White clerical

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20			21					22						
23						24	25						26	27
		28				29						30		
31	32					33		34	35	36			37	
38				39	40								41	
42				43						44	45			
46		47	48					49						
51				52	53	54				55			56	57
		58								59				
60	61							62	63				64	
65						66							67	
68						69							70	

vestment

51. Songs to a lover
55. Prices
58. Sun-dried brick
59. Where to park a boat
60. One who values reason and knowledge
64. Partner to feather
65. Sailboats
66. Actress Zellweger
67. Type of screen
68. Country singer Haggard
69. Puts together in time
70. When you hope to arrive

7. Singer Di Franco
8. Water at boiling temperature diffused in the atmosphere
9. Asserts to be the case
10. Doctor (Spanish)
11. Auction attendee
12. Characterized by unity
13. Soviet Socialist Republic
19. Way to analyze video (abbr.)
21. Nonclerical
24. Tree resin
25. The academic world
26. Khoikhoi peoples
27. Infer from data
31. Arrives
32. Apart
34. Takes on cargo
35. Beloved Hollywood alien
36. Takes apart
40. Dorm official
41. Secondary or

- explanatory descriptor
45. Relating to wings
47. Speaker
48. Situated in the middle
52. Loop with a running knot
53. Alaska nursing group (abbr.)
54. Beloveds
56. Establish by law or with authority
57. Border river between India and Nepal
59. Millisecond
60. Revolutions per minute
61. They ___
62. ESPN broadcaster Bob
63. A place to stay

CLUES DOWN

1. An involuntary muscular contraction
2. PA transit system
3. Leaves a place
4. Sweet greenish fruit
5. Lends support to
6. Chap

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

WAKULLA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
PRESENTS THE 1ST ANNUAL

Daddy Daughter Dance

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

Ticket Information

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

Please visit wakullachristian.com to purchase tickets

Tie-Dye Butterfly
Locally owned & Operated by Cothee Tomaini

A Unique Boutique
850-745-8137

Eclectic Local Gift Shop
5 Shadeville Rd, Crawfordville, FL 32327
OPEN: Tuesday – Saturday 11:a.m – 6p.m.

Local Artwork
Gift Baskets
Jewelry

Potted Plants
Pottery

Soaps
Candles
Clothing & Purses

Furniture & Home Décor
Man cave items
Antiques, Vintage, Up-cycled Decore

Tax season also means identity theft



By **JARED MILLER**
Wakulla Sheriff

Tax season is here and if you haven't done so already, you'll need to get them completed before April 15th. Unfortunately tax season is also a peak time for identity theft and fraud in general. As with any crime you cannot completely help becoming a victim, but there are steps you can take to help protect yourself during this season and throughout the year.

In a broad sense, it's important for everyone to keep personal infor-

mation such as Social Security and credit card numbers safe. Please remember that your bank, credit card company, or government agencies will never call you and request this information from you over the phone (or via email if that be the case). These agencies will already have your personal information and would not require you to provide it to them. A common scam is for a scammer to contact you via phone and state they are from a bank, or government agency. They say there is some sort of problem with your account but before they can help you fix it, they'll need you to verify your personal information. That information could be anything from your bank account, credit card information, or

your Social Security number depending on the scam. Do not give out this information.

If you believe you are being scammed via one of these phone calls, hang up. If you have a question for the agency, or are doing legitimate business with them, they all will have phone numbers or emails posted on their website where they can be contacted. And always report suspicious or fraudulent activity to the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office by calling 850-745-7100.

Regarding tax season and the IRS, the same rules apply: The IRS will never contact you either by email, or phone and request that you provide them with your Social Security number. If you happen to owe taxes or fees to the IRS, this will

be done through the Electronic Federal Tax Payment system. They will never contact you directly and require you to make a payment over the phone or email. This and so much more information regarding Identity theft, and securely filling your taxes can be found at the IRS's website (www.IRS.Gov).

A good rule of thumb during this time of year is if it sounds suspicious or too good to be true, it probably is. If you receive a phone call or email requesting credit card or personal information, and the caller/writer is either making threats (arrest, foreclosure, etc) or making promises which seem to good to be true, please end that communication to protect yourself.

On a day-to-day ba-

sis, make sure you are careful about when and who you provide personal information too. Limit the number of websites and phone apps you provide credit card and personally identifying information to, as even if they are legitimate they run the risk of being hacked. Most importantly safeguard your Social Security number.

Stolen credit card information can be dealt with, cancelled, and if need be reimbursed. But once your Social Security information becomes compromised, there is no way to get that information back. It is a mistake that can continue to haunt you for many years to come. Many forms and applications still have places to input this information, but often it is no longer required. Only give out your Social Security number to agencies/businesses with which you wish

or need to do business, and which the use of your Social Security number is explicitly required to do business. Again, this is to limit the number of people who have access to, or number of places your personal information is located to help avoid theft.

If you currently carry your Social Security card in your purse or wallet, I advise you to take it out and store it some place safe in your home. There simply is no need to carry it on a day-to-day basis and doing so only creates an opportunity for it to be stolen or lost.

If you believe you have been the victim of identity theft, fraud, or know of suspicious or criminal activity, call WCSO at 850-745-7100 and speak with one of my deputies or detectives.

Jared Miller is sheriff of Wakulla County.



QUALITY
TOWING & RECOVERY

now OPEN




10% OFF
BEST PRICE in TOWN


FLAT RATE TO TALLAHASSEE

850-556-3182


29 Rainbow Drive • Crawfordville, FL



ED BRIMNER
— CERTIFIED GENERAL APPRAISER, RZ3797 —
850-926-0500



KEEPING YOU INFORMED



YOU GOT MAIL

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

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

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

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

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

Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office

SPECIALTY TAGS

\$15 - \$30 additional to cost of tag.



Lisa Craze, CFC
Wakulla County Tax Collector

LAUNCHED IN 2000



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

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



A Free Press Your Key To Freedom

The St. Marks River towns

By Elizabeth F. Smith, published in the Magnolia Monthly in 1964

Chapter Four

At one time the St. Marks River in the eastern part of Wakulla County had five towns that served as cotton ports for the interior of north Florida and Georgia. Beginning in 1826 these towns saw their greatest heyday in the 1820's and 1830's, but by the middle of the 1840's the construction of railroads to carry cotton north proved the death knell of a profitable water-borne shipping business. Not until 1843 when Wakulla County was formed out of Leon County did the character of the county change. Instead of shipping and merchandising, most of it done by New Englanders, the center of activity moved from the St. Marks River westward, and a new breed of settler came into the area. Instead of Yankee merchants, the new arrivals were farmers and small tradesmen from Georgia, Alabama, and the Carolinas. From then on their story vies with that of the St Marks River tradesmen, so that it can be said that Wakulla County had two different, but parallel, pasts.

Shipping did not end on the St. Marks River when the first mule tram was built from Tallahassee to St. Marks and Port Leon in 1836, but it altered trade considerably. The St. Marks Railroad which originated from the mule tram is erroneously called the oldest railroad in Florida, but a real steam railroad was built at St. Joseph, another cotton port on the Apalachicola River (now extinct) the same year. The St. Marks Railroad did not get a steam engine for several years thereafter, when the mules were finally converted to Puffing Billies, the first crude steam locomotives built in America from English designs.

But mule or machine, the railroad ended the prosperity of the river's most famous town, Magnolia. It was 6 miles upriver from the settlement around the fort at St. Marks,



A drawing showing a stop along the Tallahassee-St. Marks Railroad which ran to Port Leon until the bridge over the St. Marks River and the town of Port Leon were destroyed in a hurricane in 1843.

and the railroad bypassed the town for the downriver terminus. Actually, the railroad extended across the river to Port Leon on a wooden bridge, which cut off upriver packets anyway. The people at St. Marks had lots to sell and spruced up their town to attract buyers, but the St. Marks Railroad, miffed that the legislature gave it only 10 acres in St. Marks instead of the 100 acres it asked for, continued its line on a wooden bridge across the river to Port Leon, where it could take advantage of the cheap government land.

Port Leon got off to a pretty fair start before the end of 1840, but its growth wasn't quite as rapid as the railroad

anticipated.

Nathaniel Hamlin had the biggest merchandising business in Port Leon, the same as in Magnolia. His nephew, Daniel Ladd, still a youngster in his twenties, started out as a cotton broker on his own. A hotel was built. But the town grew slowly. It was not incorporated till 1841 and its postal receipts for that year were \$101.44, considerably less than Magnolia's when it had already started to decline.

Probably the halting start that Port Leon got was due to the yellow fever epidemic in Florida in 1841. A letter in the manuscript collection of the Florida State Library speaking of conditions in and

around Tallahassee at that time say 1841 was known as the "sickly year". In the "American Wanderer", a book relating the life and adventures of Alonzo P. DeMilt, we are told of a severe epidemic of fever in Port Leon, causing the death of DeMilt's parents.

By the end of that year, however, Port Leon started showing a marked growth as the result of advertisements in such papers as the Pensacola Gazette telling of its convenience as a port for shipping cotton, at a time when waterways were still the main means of transportation and trade in West Florida. An ad in the December 31, 1841, edition of the Tallahas-

see Sentinel reads as follows:

NOTICE

The commission and forwarding merchants of Port Leon unanimously deem it proper to make it generally known that their charges are made in specie and other monies will be taken in payment only at their value.

The year 1842 was undoubtedly prosperous for the town and until the destructive storm of 1843, all evidences we have show continued improvement. Nathaniel Hamlin, who had gone into partnership with Hamlin V. Snell (no doubt a relative), advertised his extensive wharves and warehouses in the Sentinel on September 30,

1842. A month earlier William H. Brodie and John J. Rowles advertised their new partnership in the Sentinel and offered their services in shipping, forwarding, and storing cotton. "The American Wanderer" mentions one tavern in the town and there were probably more.

And toward the end there was the inevitable newspaper.

As early as September 21, 1839 Albert R. Alexander advertised in the Tallahassee Floridian that he would publish a newspaper in Port Leon with the name of "The Southern Merchant". However, probably because the town did not get started as quickly as

Turn to Page 14

⚠

ONE SHALLOW DIVE CAN WRECK A NECK. PERMANENTLY.

EACH YEAR, HUNDREDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE ARE PARALYZED FROM NECK AND SPINE INJURIES CAUSED BY DIVING HEAD FIRST INTO SHALLOW LAKES AND POOLS. DON'T LET KIDS DIVE IN—UNLESS YOU KNOW WHAT'S BELOW. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DIVING SAFETY TIPS.

[VISIT ORTHOINFO.ORG/DIVINGSAFETY](http://VISIT.ORTHOINFO.ORG/DIVINGSAFETY)



csrs.org



asia-spinalinjury.org



orthoinfo.org

CLASSIFIEDS MARKET

HOME OF THE \$5 CLASSIFIED AD
UP TO 20 WORDS ADD WORDS FOR 25¢ PER WORD

DISPLAY ADS \$5 PER COL INCH

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

Payne's PAINTING
Serving All Your Painting Needs!

339-4155

Our licensed painters will be happy to give you a Free Estimate at your convenience. We serve Tallahassee & surrounding area in Residential & Commercial painting needs. References available. We look forward to serving you.

Greg Payne 850-339-4155

Riverside Bay
Come & Join us for a Taste of the Island Life!
GREAT FOOD... ALWAYS!
LIVE MUSIC... ALWAYS!

Riversidebay.com
850-925-5668 • 69 Riverside DR., St. Marks Florida
ANY FURTHER SOUTH AND YOU'RE ALL WET!! ALWAYS!

HELP WANTED

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

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

SERVICES

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

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

ADT Solar

MICHAEL COLLINS
Home Energy Consultant
954.732.0768
michaelcollins@theprocompanies.com
goatsolar.com

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE

Gene Lambert
Agency Manager

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE of Wakulla County

(850) 926-3425
GENE.LAMBERT@FFBIC.COM
2468 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327

REVERSE MORTGAGES

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

PAT GREEN'S LAWN SERVICE
WE DO IT ALL!
20+ Years Experience
850528-2371 or 850926-7461

TREE TRIMMING, TRACTOR WORK AND LAWN MAINTENANCE

- LAND CLEARING
- LANDSCAPING
- IRRIGATION
- SOD • MULCHING
- BUSH HOGGING
- DRIVEWAYS
- CULVERTS INSTALLATION
- ROAD MILLINGS

FREE QUOTES!
Call us for all your outdoor projects!
Locally Owned and Operated
Licensed and Insured

20Years Experience **Certified Arborist**

TRIMMING TIMBERS

TREE REMOVAL & STUMP GRINDING

Ben Burns 850.591.8351 **FREE Estimates**
Licensed & Insured

Spears Engines & Tires
Est. 1978

Spring Special
Mention this ad -Get 10% OFF Mower Blades

- Small Engine Repair • Automotive Repairs
- Tire Sales & Service • Carport & Portable Building Sales

850-926-2338
3211 Crawfordville Hwy. 32327 **U-HAUL**

Please Recycle

Good Fences... Good Neighbors LLC
All of your fencing needs and more...
Licensed & Insured

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
WOOD • VINYL • CHAIN LINK • ALUMINUM

(850) 926-9455
GoodFencesGoodNeighbors.com
LE@GoodFencesGoodNeighbors.com

CORBIN'S HEAVY EQUIPMENT

Land Clearing
Driveways
Ponds
Site Work
Demolition
Hauling

850-933-8505
FREE ESTIMATES

CAC#1822950

Fletcher's Cooling and Heating LLC
Keep it Cool!

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

850-510-0140

Licensed & Insured **30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE**

FORGOTTEN COAST TRACTOR SERVICE LLC
Travis Clayton

850.273.9101
text or call

Skid Steer Mowing
Concrete Removal
Demolition

Land Clearing
Grading
Driveways

Massages, Facials, Body Treatments

Sunrays Spa
Relax Revive Rejuvenate

info@Sunraysspa.com
Easy Online Scheduleing
www.SunraysSpa.com
2655-A Crawfordville Hwy.
Crawfordville FL 32327

850-745-6422
Follow us on **f** MM43237

Wakulla Lawn Ranger

Gene Darby
850-251-9122

Mowing - Edging - Trimming
Sidewalk/Driveways
Pressurewashing

Licensed & Insured
Great Prices - Great Work

Southern Maid Cleaning Service

850-212-2908
Servicing the surrounding area Since 2017

• Licensed • Owner operated • Serving Surrounding Counties

HARVEY & SONS ENTERPRISES
Locally Owned & Operated by Shawn Harvey

Debris Removal

22 YEARS EXPERIENCE
850-661-4194

Bonnie THE LIFE COACH

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

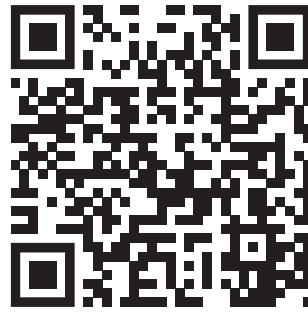
DANIEL KINSEY
owner

SUNSHINE SOLAR PANELS
Getting clean energy from the sun!

P 850-518-0238
E SUNSHINESOLARPANELS@YAHOO.COM
W sunshinesolarpanels.net



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



A Subscription to...



*For One Year Subscription,
Use This Convenient Form!*

Mail To:
The Wakulla Sun
12 Arran Road
Crawfordville, FL 32327
(850) 962-8019

**\$35 – Wakulla County
\$50 – Out Of County
\$60 – Out Of State**

Mail subscription to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-MAIL _____

**YOU CAN ALSO SUPPORT THE WAKULLA SUN
THROUGH THE FLORIDA PRESS FOUNDATION**

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

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

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

That means:

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

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

We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

Are donations tax deductible?

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

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

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

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

The St. Marks River towns
From Page 12

he expected, it was nearly 4 years before he issued his paper and then with a different name. On page 28, Territorial Florida Journalism, by James Owen Knauss, 1926, it is stated that "so far as known no paper was published in Port Leon before June 1843." Little did the town know that its first newspaper would be its obituary notice.

The Tallahassee Sentinel of June 13, 1843, announced that A. R. and R. H. Alexander had begun the publication of the Port Leon Commercial Gazette, which prove that if Dr. Kanuss was not exactly accurate in his statement he was substantially so.

Besides cotton, Port Leon shipped out tobacco, sugar, and hides. What mercantile stores the town had were partly supported by Fort Stansberry, an Indian War post about 14 miles southwest of Tallahassee (and located near where the County Line Store is now. More will be written about Fort Stansberry in a future issue) and about the same distance north of Port Leon, where the U. S. War Department kept two regiments of soldiers for several years.

One can catch some glimpses of strife between St. Marks and Port Leon to judge from the two advertisements of Holt and Miller appearing below. The first is dated September 1, 1842, and appeared in a territorial paper (name unknown) but dated October 21, 1842, and now in the Florida State Library.

STORAGE AND COMMISSION BUSINESS RESUMED AT ST. MARKS

The subscribers having been solicited by many of their friends both planters and merchants, to resume the Storage and Commission Business at St. Marks, well knowing the facilities arising from the location over that of Port Leon, have again established themselves at St. Marks, where they intend carrying on the Storage, Shipping, Receiving, Forwarding and General Commission of Produce and Merchandise, hoping from their long experience and strict attention to business they will receive a liberal patronage. Their warehouses are large and in good repair, and their charges will be low. They feel assured that many of the planters and merchants, who have not as yet given a thought to the difference in expense, and the greater certainty of getting their crops to a shipping port, and the exact time on which they can make of the arrival of the return wagon, with their goods and them all in safety, will induce them to transport their cotton to old St. Marks, where there is less risk of fire and water than at Port Leon. Under these circumstances, and by their united attention to give general satisfaction they hope to receive a share of the public patronage.

Holt and Miller

In the other ad by the same merchants, published a month later as if in repudiation of some apparent gossip from Port Leon, it said:

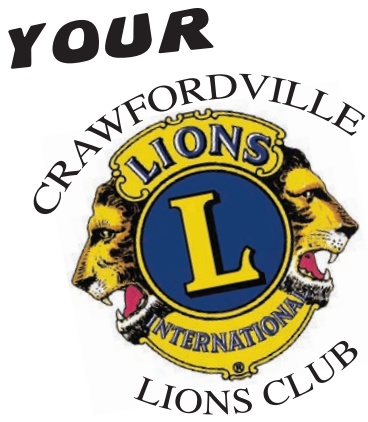
NOTICE TO PLANTERS DESIROUS OF SENDING THEIR COTTON TO ST. MARKS

The subscribers (Holt and Miler) having been informed by some of their friends, that persons prejudiced to the interests of St. Marks have circulated reports that planters sending their crops there will have to pay an extra expense in order to have their cotton shipped, as no vessel will go to St. Marks to receive freight, and thereby they will suffer disappointment and delay in shipping, feel bound to contradict such statements, they being entirely false. We now have a first class brig loading at St. Marks, and pledge ourselves, should any vessel refuse to come to St. Marks to receive freight shipping orders, we will lighter alongside of such vessel free of expense to the owner.

Holt and Miller

In its heyday one may imagine Port Leon as having a year-round population of perhaps 200 with 8 or 10 business houses, three or four warehouses, a hotel and one or two taverns. It became the county seat of Wakulla after that county was created March 11, 1843, but as only six months passed before that town was destroyed, there was hardly time to build a courthouse.

The Wakulla County Historical Society Museum is in the Old Jail at 24 High Drive in Crawfordville. We are open to the public on Thursdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Visit us online at WakullaHistory.org.



Crawfordville Lions Club

Offers a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported our 21st Annual St. Patrick's Day Festival and Parade with Special Thanks to:

Congratulations to our drawing prize winners:

**Grand Prize
Jordan Smith**

**1st Place
Dane Clemons**

**2nd Place
Scott Taff**

Congratulations Parade winners:

**1st Place
Wakulla County Youth Football and Cheer Association**

**2nd Place
Marzuq Shrine Bandits (Wakulla Shrine Club)**

**3rd Place
Tiger Rock Martial Arts**

We would also like to THANK The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners, Sheriff Jared Miller and the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office, Wakulla County Parks Department, Wakulla County Fire Rescue, and all those who worked to promote and make the event a success.

Proceeds from the St. Patrick's Day Festival go towards LIONS Club programs and initiatives in the community

Sponsors



Lisa Craze, CFC

Wakulla County Tax Collector

SHAMROCK

AIR-CON Of Wakulla Heating & Air



4 LEAF CLOVER

WAKULLA TITLE CO. INC.

P.O. Box 1022, Crawfordville, Florida 32326-1022 • (850) 926-3934 • FAX (850) 926-1852



LEPRECHAUN



Barn's Spirits
Fine Wine & Liquor

Barn's Liquor
OPEN 7 DAYS

PRIME MERIDIAN BANK



Engineering & Construction



RAINBOW



M & L Plumbing, Inc.
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
CFC 1429327



Post 114



ACE
The helpful place.
Crawfordville HOME CENTER

SOUTHEASTERN Dermatology

Shepard Accounting & Tax Service

SMIT
FOR SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4

Pd. Pol. Adv. Crawfordville Lions Club
PO Box 1543, Crawfordville, FL 32326

And Two Anonymous Donors



In Kind General Supporters

Amazing Mail Solutions

Ming Tree Restaurant

Dominos Pizza – Crawfordville

Maria's Pet Grooming

Bealls Outlet

Hungry Howies – Crawfordville

Auto Zone

Jimmy John's

Walgreens

Rocky's Wakulla

Collectable Arms LLC



We Serve

Since 1917, Lions have met the needs in their communities and continued to improve the areas in which they live. As long as there are needs around the world, we will work to meet those needs.

Sopchoppy School celebrates 100 years in April

By **COLEMAN WELLS**
Of **Wakulla High School**

It's a milestone worth celebrating as the Historic Sopchoppy High School prepares to commemorate its 100th birthday in 2024. This cherished institution holds a special place in the hearts of both its alumni and the local community, having played a pivotal role in the educational and cultural history of Wakulla County.

Constructed at a cost



of \$9,500 by the skilled hands of Guy Winthrop, Sopchoppy High School proudly holds the distinction of being the first high school in Wakulla County. However, the journey to its establishment was a community effort. Mrs. Edmonia Stansbury took the reins and organized fundraisers that

rallied the community to contribute towards the construction costs, ensuring the school's accreditation.

The City of Sopchoppy's citizens and the School Board also chipped in, solidifying their commitment to education and the future of their community. As Wakulla

County continued to grow during the 1930s, two additional buildings were added to the school campus, a testament to the institution's commitment to keeping pace with progress.

In 1996, Sopchoppy High School closed its doors to students, teachers, and staff, as they transitioned to Me-

dart Elementary. However, the school's legacy did not fade away. The building quickly found a new purpose, becoming a thriving center for the community.

The Wakulla Community Theater and the Sopchoppy Opry

became tenants, hosting major events that breathed life into the historic halls. Notably, the Opry played a vital role in generating revenue to support the ongoing restoration of the school's iconic buildings.

tobe7encouraged faith column Surrender leads to Freedom...

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

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

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

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

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and ^{1a}the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,

who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

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

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

Stay encouraged in Him,
Deb Quimby-Quackenbush

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

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

Visit my youtube channel by scanning the QR code below.



Please Like and Subscribe!

Hi! I'm your good neighbor.

Contact me for your insurance needs.

I'm happy to walk you through your options and help you choose the coverage that's right for your needs, lifestyle, and budget.



Kiersten Smith 850-745-2148

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.



23 Azalea Dr. Unit A

<https://www.kierstensmithinsurance.com>

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



24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICES
TREE TRIMMING and REMOVAL

- STORM DAMAGE
- TREE PRESERVATION

Michael Mongeon
 ISA Certified Arborist, FL-6125A
 ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
850-421-8104



Little Napoli Café
 ITALIAN RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA

Family owned & operated
LUNCH | DINNER | CATERING
 Pizza, Pasta, & Subs
FRESH DOUGH MADE DAILY IN HOUSE
Homemade Sauces • Premium Fresh Toppings
Rich Flavors • Generous Portions

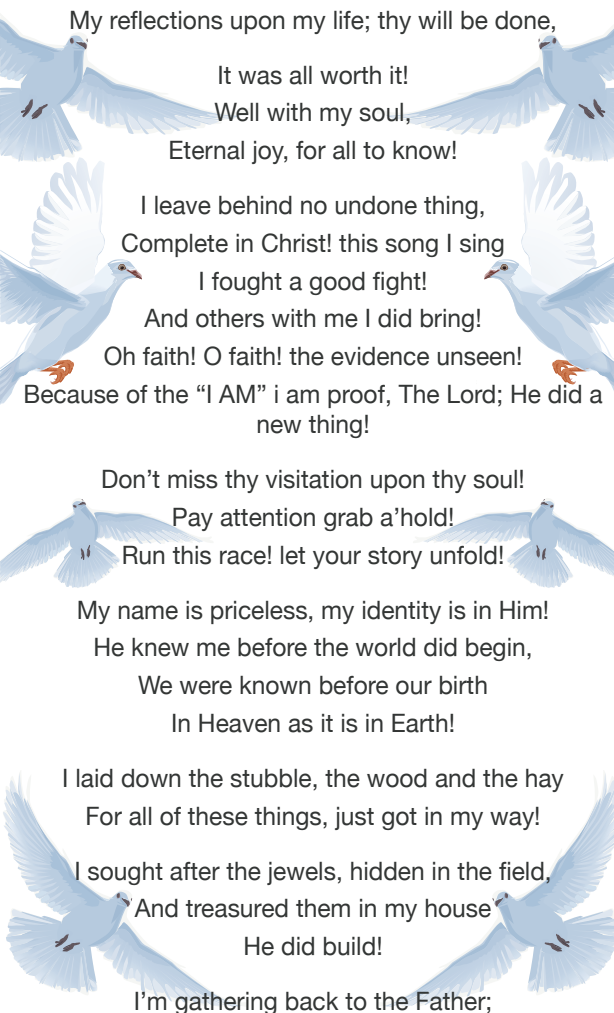
DOORDASH

Tuesday -Saturday 11-9 • Sun 12-8 • Monday - closed
(850) 745-8676
 2000 Crawfordville Highway Suite D - Across from Wal Mart



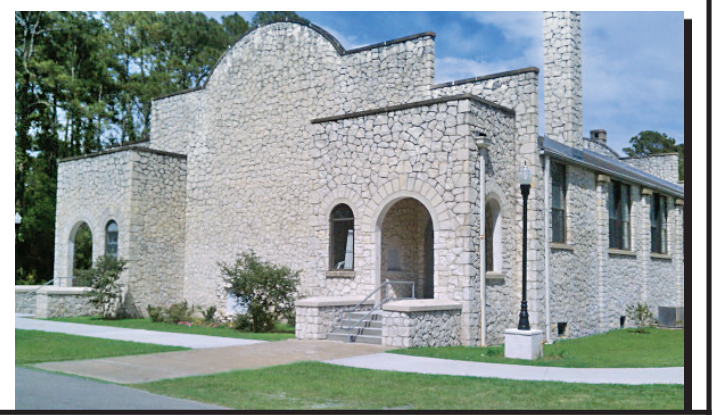
THE RETURN

I'm gathering back around the bend, to the place
 whence I came from
 Back to the Creator; Thy kingdom come,
 Back home to the Fathers arms, into I run
 My reflections upon my life; thy will be done,
 It was all worth it!
 Well with my soul,
 Eternal joy, for all to know!
 I leave behind no undone thing,
 Complete in Christ! this song I sing
 I fought a good fight!
 And others with me I did bring!
 Oh faith! O faith! the evidence unseen!
 Because of the "I AM" i am proof, The Lord; He did a
 new thing!
 Don't miss thy visitation upon thy soul!
 Pay attention grab a'hold!
 Run this race! let your story unfold!
 My name is priceless, my identity is in Him!
 He knew me before the world did begin,
 We were known before our birth
 In Heaven as it is in Earth!
 I laid down the stubble, the wood and the hay
 For all of these things, just got in my way!
 I sought after the jewels, hidden in the field,
 And treasured them in my house
 He did build!
 I'm gathering back to the Father;
 As it is written and foretold
 I pray I will magnify Thee" O'Lord "
 And my soul reflect like gold. Tony Duncan
 -All Glory Given to Jesus




Built 1924

Sopchoppy High School Centennial Celebration



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

22nd Annual
SOPCHOPPY WORM GRUNTIN' FESTIVAL

A truly unique celebration highlighting the rich tradition of worm grunting, set in the heart of beautiful and historic downtown Sopchoppy.
 The festival is fun for all ages.
 (bring a chair or blanket to enjoy the all-day live music)

EVENT SCHEDULE

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

WITH MASTER OF CEREMONIES - MERLE ROBB

More Information
www.facebook.com/SopchoppyFL/
www.facebook.com/SopchoppyWormGruntinFestival/



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



9 AM - 6:30 PM
13
 APRIL

SOPCHOPPY DEPOT PARK
 34 ROSE STREET,
 SOPCHOPPY FLORIDA



OFFICE OF
**ATTORNEY GENERAL
ASHLEY MOODY**
— Stronger, Safer Florida —



OFFICE OF
**ATTORNEY GENERAL
ASHLEY MOODY**
— Stronger, Safer Florida —

TU **PARAR**
PUEDES **TP**

CUALQUIERA

PODRÍA SER VÍCTIMA DE LA TRATA DE PERSONAS

RECONOZCA LAS SEÑALES

FÍSICAS

- Marcas: cicatrices, quemaduras o tatuajes
- Desnutrición
- Problemas dentales graves
- Estado de desorientación o confusión
- Infecciones
- Adicción a las drogas
- Privación del sueño

VERBALES

- Respuestas guionadas
- Permite que otra persona hable en su nombre
- Miedo, ansiedad o paranoia
- Se niega a hablar sobre sus lesiones

Más información: YouCanStopHT.com

YOU **STOP**
CAN **HT**

ANYONE

COULD BE A VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

KNOW THE SIGNS

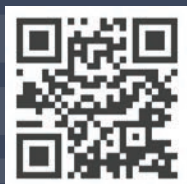
PHYSICAL

- Branding - scars, burns, or tattoos
- Malnourished
- Serious dental issues
- Disoriented or confused
- Infections
- Drug addiction
- Sleep deprivation

VERBAL

- Responds as if coached
- Allows someone else to speak for them
- Fearful, anxious, or paranoid
- Reluctant to discuss their injuries

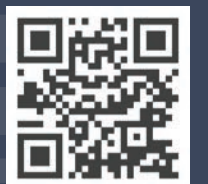
Learn More: YouCanStopHT.com



DENUNCIE EL DELITO

Para Denunciar Sospechas De Trata De Personas
Ante Las Fuerzas De Seguridad En Florida

LLAME AL 1-855-FLA-SAFE



REPORT THE CRIME

To Report Suspected Human Trafficking to Law Enforcement in FL

CALL 1-855-FLA-SAFE



The **Wakulla Sun** *NEWSPAPER*
Your Local **NEWSPAPER**
Subscribe Today!

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



Reviewing your life insurance needs



By **BRIAN ENGLISH**

Life is an ever-evolving journey marked by significant milestones, personal growth, and unexpected changes. As life unfolds, your financial and insurance needs also shift, changing from year to year, decade to decade. A good example of this is life insurance. If you have a life insurance policy that you haven't reviewed recently, it may no longer align with your current needs. That is why reviewing your life insurance periodically may be a good approach.

Several factors affect the cost and availability of life insurance, including

age, health, and the type and amount of insurance purchased. Life insurance policies have expenses, including mortality and other charges. If a policy is surrendered prematurely, the policyholder may also pay surrender charges and face income tax implications. You should consider determining whether you are insurable before implementing a strategy involving life insurance. Any guarantees associated with a policy are dependent on the ability of the issuing insurance company to continue making claim payments.

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF PERIODIC REVIEWS

Some may think that once you secure a life insurance policy, you can set it and forget it. But life insurance isn't static. Just as your life

doesn't stand still, neither should your life insurance.

Periodic reviews of your policy help keep your life insurance in step with your evolving situation. Changes in your life can impact the role you want life insurance to play.

HOW TO REVIEW YOUR LIFE INSURANCE NEEDS

Reassessing your life insurance and bringing it in line with your life doesn't have to be complicated. Here are some suggestions that may help:

THE DIME METHOD

One practical approach to determining your life insurance needs is the DIME method. This method involves adding your Debt, Income, Mortgage, and Education expenses.

- Debt - Consider

all your outstanding debts, excluding your mortgage. This could include credit card debt, personal loans, or car loans.

- Income - Calculate ten years of your income. This can start to help you understand what financial gaps may occur if you were gone.

- Mortgage - Add the amount required to pay off your mortgage. Using life insurance proceeds to pay off a mortgage may help your family keep its home.

- Education - Estimate the cost of your children's college education. You may want to use a range since costs can vary from school to school.

LIFE CHANGES

Has any life-changing event happened to you? These are situations that may alter your needs and responsibilities moving forward.

- Change in Mar-

ital Status - A marriage or a divorce can change your financial situation as well as factors such as your policy's beneficiary.

- Birth of Child - A child is a gift. But they are also a financial consideration that you may want to take into account.

- Change in Employment - A new job or role in your company may change your income, which may cause you to reconsider your life insurance benefit.

- Buying, Selling, or Paying off a Home - Changes in ownership or the standing of your mortgage can alter your needs and strategy for the future.

THE VALUE OF PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE

While these steps provide a general idea of your life insurance needs, nothing can replace the expertise of a financial pro-

fessional, who can provide assistance, answer your questions, and guide you through the process. In addition, a financial professional can provide insights into how certain policies are structured and may have thoughts on the life insurance company you may be considering.

Life insurance is not a one-size-fits-all solution. It is a dynamic financial tool that may need to evolve with your life. Periodic reviews can help determine what your family needs, no matter what life brings your way.

Brian can be reached at (850) 926-7487.

Securities offered through Securities America, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC and advisory services offered through Securities America Advisors, Inc., Brian C. English, Representative. English Financial Group and Securities America are unaffiliated.

The Old Pro: Hunting, fishing updates



By **AL HARTMAN**
The Old Pro

With more than 6-million acres of state-managed conservation lands, options for experiencing wild Florida can be difficult to narrow down.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

(FWC) is proud to announce the WMA Recreation Finder, an interactive virtual map for Florida residents and visitors looking to find their perfect outdoor experience on public lands. This is a handy tool they came up with.

Spotted Seatrout and Triggerfish opened season started March 1 in the Gulf. If the weather cooperates the Seatrout should be showing up at St. Marks waters soon.

The Triggerfish can be found mostly further off shore on the

reefs. Don't forget to requester for a permit to fish reefs with FWC.

In case you didn't know, Turkey season started March 16 and runs to April 21. Turkeys are on the de-

cline in a lot of states because of predators.

I haven't seen a turkey on my land for two years. We can help by predator hunting coyotes and raccoons. They are wiping them out



Spotted seatrout



Triggerfish

by killing the turkeys themselves and also eating their eggs. We can reduce the losses by doing a little predator hunting. Hope you have success in both of these activities.

If you are having fe-

ral hog problems, let me know I can help you reduce them.

Happy hunting and fishing, and take a young'un.

Al Hartman can be contacted at redmanldpg@aol.com.



The Sun Monthly Neighbor is published monthly by The Wakulla Sun at 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327. Periodicals postage paid at 12 Arran Rd., Crawfordville FL 32326-2017.

For advertising please call Lynda at 850-962-8019

For editorial please call William at 850-962-8024

Editor/Publisher: William Snowden
editor@thewakullasun.com

Reporter: Legion Taylor
reporter@thewakullasun.com

Advertising: Lynda Kinsey
lkinsey@thewakullasun.com

Production Manager/IT: Eric Stanton
advertising@thewakullasun.com

Circulation: Krystal Sheppard
circulation@thewakullasun.com

Correspondent: Linda Ann McDonald

Free Community SHRED EVENT

SATURDAY | MAY 4

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

or until the shred trucks are full

Wakulla County
Community Center

318 Shadeville Road
Crawfordville, FL 32327



- **Limit of 3 boxes or bags per person**
- **No need to remove staples, paperclips or file folders.**
- **No binders, metal or plastic - i.e. CDs, floppy discs, ziplock bags, credit cards, etc.**

Join us for a free community shred day Saturday, May 4th from 8am - 12pm. Please place items for shredding near the trunk or rear of your vehicle and enter the Community Center from Trice Lane.



For additional information or questions regarding accepted items, please contact Secure Records Solutions at (850) 656-6900 or visit www.securerecordssolutions.com/shred-day-faq