



Emily Cordell signs volleyball scholarship with Wheaton/
Page 13

The Wakulla Sun

"It's a New Day"

Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Partly Cloudy Hi: 83° Lo: 65° 8% Sunrise 7:00AM Sunset 8:10 PM	Partly Cloudy Hi: 84° Lo: 64° 7% Sunrise 6:59 AM Sunset 8:11 PM	Partly Cloudy Hi: 86° Lo: 64° 8% Sunrise 6:58 AM Sunset 8:12 PM



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Our 4th Year 17th Issue
Thursday, April 24, 2025

Spring Towards Peace

Wakulla Interact Club holds an event to raise awareness about violence

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The Wakulla High School Interact Club held a Spring Towards Peace event on Saturday at the community center, part of an effort to raise awareness about violence.

Interact President Sophia Kamal and Vice President Mckenna Sanders said the event was prompted by death of some students at the beginning of the school year and a threat of a school shooting.

Speaker Christy Bertera spoke of the personal impact of domestic violence with the loss of her sister, Brittany Steier, who was murdered in July 2020 by the father of Brittany's children.

And Bertera, a social worker and victim advocate, noted that "Violence is all around us... How do we respond



to it?" She was on-scene after last week's mass shooting at Florida State, and described students walking around crying and being impacted by violence.

Bertera's sister suffered domestic violence, including being held at gunpoint with threats to kill her and the children. A few months later, he killed her in front of the kids.

In December 2022, he was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life in prison.

Bertera took in her niece and nephew.

Her message: Believe people when they tell you who they are.

Top photo, Mckenna Sanders and Sophia Kamal of Interact; Christy Bertera speaking on the loss of her sister to domestic violence.

Civil lawsuit settled in hit-and-run

Back in January, Alfreda Nelson hit a boy on a bike and left him in the road with serious injuries

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The family of a boy struck by a hit-and-run driver back in January filed a civil lawsuit in Wakulla Circuit Court seeking unspecified damages and then shortly settled the case for a lump sum.

Alfreda Lashon Nelson, 44, was arrested by law enforcement shortly after the incident and charged with felony hit and run. She was released on \$50,000 bond.

The lawsuit was filed by Jonathan Crawley and Kaitlyn Crawley, parents of the little boy, Sawyer, 9, who suffered serious head injuries. The family is represented by attorney Ryan Hobbs of the Tallahassee law firm of Brooks, LaBoeuf, Foster, Gwartney & Hobbs.

The Crawley family agreed to accept a lump sum payment of \$16,218, according to filings seeking court approval of the settlement.

The parents indicated they accepted the settlement to pay for any medical bills not covered by insurance and would save the proceeds to put towards the purchase of a car for Sawyer when he's older.

The order for the settlement was submitted on April 9 and a week later the family filed to voluntarily dismiss the case with prejudice, meaning they cannot refile it at a later date.

Nelson originally faced a criminal charge of Leaving the scene of a crash involving personal injury, a third degree felony punishable by up to 5 years in state prison. But in February, Wakulla Chief Prosecutor Andrew Deneen upgraded the charge to Leaving the scene with serious bodily injury, a second degree felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

On Jan. 8, Sawyer was riding a motorized scooter on Country Way at Excalibur Drive when he was struck by a car and sustained life threatening injuries, including two brain bleeds. The car that struck him drove off.

Neighbors with video showed the boy being hit in a head-on manner by a small red SUV. Law enforcement eventually identified Nelson as a suspect.

On Jan. 9, Nelson was interviewed at the sheriff's office and reportedly said she was driving her red 2020 Acura MDX in a neighborhood she wasn't familiar with and she was driving down the road when she saw something coming from a side street and she felt and heard a bump but kept on driving.

Sawyer was released from the hospital after a nearly month-long stay and received a rousing welcome from the community – including a ride on the sheriff's float in the Valentine Parade.



Alfreda Nelson

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN



Special Olympics

The Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run was held on Tuesday, April 15, with Special Olympian athletes and officers carrying the torch from the sheriff's office to the courthouse. Sheriff Jared Miller spoke, above, as did Superintendent of Schools Rick Myhre, expressing support for the athletes. (Photos by William Snowden)



After 29 years, Lindy's Fried Chicken closes

Story & Photos By
LINDA ANN McDONALD
Correspondent

Outside of true tragedies, there are few things worse than your favorite restaurant closing. After 29 years of business, Lindy's Fried Chicken has closed its doors.

"I'm kind of numb," said owners Jerome and Terri Robinson. "We knew the people of Wakulla loved us, but the closing of Lindy's really showed us, I have been reading and crying looking at all the Facebook posts our son, Cecil Robinson, posted announcing our closing."

When asked about closing and retiring, Jerome said, "It's time."

Terri said the closing was hastened by the fact they are about to have our first grandchild. "It's just time."

The couple plans on traveling to



Terri and Jerome Robinson with one the big chickens outside their restaurant.

Jamaica, cruising and enjoying life and family, along with their grand

dog and grand cat.

"Retiring is a feeling of fulfillment,

and we have no regrets; we feel we have made history here in Wakulla," the couple said.

The restaurant was known for its many chicken dinners from tenders to wing boxes, the best fried pork chop, and various homemade sides and desserts, not to mention the sweet tea. Lindy's was cherished by Wakulla County.

When the Robinson family began their business journey at Lindy's, Terri said, "I don't know how we did it – it was crazy. Our son was 6 months old, I quit my job to start Lindy's and we had a couch and a play pen at the restaurant, there are just too many good memories."

"A good memory for us is working with all the high school students," Terri said. "We had the opportunity to watch them grow up and it is rewarding to see them come by the

Turn to Page 5



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WHS theatre group earns gold status

Wakulla High School Theatre returned from State Competition in Tampa with a Superior rating on their one act play “The Last Illusion.” Troupe 5036 previously won the District One-Act Play Competition which was held at Chiles High School in late November and got to advance to State Competition in Tampa in March. As part of this, Wakulla students got to perform their show at the Straz Center for the Arts on the Morsani stage. This theatre boasts a huge stage and seats almost 3,000. The students received high praises from the judges including one judge remarking “You all have so much talent, I know we will see you back at state next year.” On top of their one act play they earned four superiors on their individual events. The biggest recognition of the festival however was Wakulla High School’s Theatre Troupe 5036 being named a Gold Level Honor Troupe which is the highest recognition given to troupes from the Florida Thespian Society. This recognition is not only based on their talent and the success of their shows but also their community service, community involvement, academic success and more. The Florida Thespian Festival is the largest student based theatre competition in the world and it is an amazing opportunity that our students have earned to be a part of that. Congratulations Troupe 5036 and Wakulla High School for being a school of excellence in theatre!

Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

Red Buckeye

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER



The striking upright flower spikes of red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) are an important food source for ruby-throated hummingbirds migrating north. The long tubular red flowers provide energy-rich nectar when nectar from other plants is scarce. The blooms also attract butterflies and bees and persist for several weeks. This small deciduous tree has an open, rounded crown and prefers part-shade and moist soil. While it may grow to 25-30 feet tall, it more often reaches 15-20 feet tall and wide. The attractive drooping leaves are palmate with 5 centrally joined leaflets, each up to 6 inches long and 3 inches wide. The leaf stems are as long as the leaves. The tree’s foliage dies in late summer. Red buckeye is flowering now along the woodland edge in Sopchoppy Depot Park



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2024
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In cooperation with the Wakulla Chamber of Commerce

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FILE PHOTO/GERALD BROWN

Windsurfers race at last year’s regatta at Shell Point.

Special to The Sun

The Regatta is back – April 25 -27 at Shell Point Beach.

For the past 51 years, the Stephen C. Smith Memorial Regatta (www.smithregatta.com) has been held at Shell Point Beach in southern Wakulla County for the benefit of the American Cancer Society in memory of Stephen Smith, a local sailor who died from a rare form of leukemia at the age of 29. This year, April 25-27, this home-grown family-friendly event is back for another year of fun and fundraising. Come sail, watch, eat lunch at the Regatta grill and participate in the Sunday afternoon live auction!

The Regatta draws more than 200 registered participants (sailors & guests) with hundreds more spectators from all over the southeast. The event includes races for PHRF yachts, catamarans such as Hobie Cats, smaller day sailors including Sunfish, and windsurfers which are the most numerous and arguably the most colorful participants in the Regatta.

The windsurfing fleet will be competing in multiple races Saturday and a long-distance race Sunday morning. Catamarans and one design day sailors, and small and large (22 feet and over) monohulls will race over their own courses on Saturday. The public is invited to view the races on Saturday and Sunday. Eat your lunch on the beach – food will be available for purchase at the Regatta Grille!

THE AUCTION

Thousands of dollars’ worth of donated items, from jewelry to sailboats will be auctioned at approximately 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. Everyone has a great time as our auctioneers describe the items and ask for bids. You can pick up some great deals while contributing! We encourage generous offers since all the proceeds will benefit residents in the Big Bend area.

AN AMERICAN CAN-

CER SOCIETY (ACS) BENEFIT

In addition to the many patient services provided to children and adults, the American Cancer Society funds research and public education, which are vital in the effort against this stealthy killer. The ACS receives no government funding, relying exclusively on the generous support of private donations. Thanks to our MANY wonderful supporters and volunteers, over the last fifty years the Stephen C. Smith Memorial Regatta Foundation, Inc. contributed over \$670,000 to the ACS, most of which stayed in Wakulla, Leon, Jefferson, Gadsden, Madison, Taylor and other Big Bend Counties, providing services to our area residents.

Contributions may be made by donating items for the auction, in-kind merchandise to support the event, or negotiable funds. To join our team or to donate auction items, contact an event chairman www.smithregatta.com/foundation.cfm.

Can’t make the Re-

gatta but would still like to help? Then donate directly by going to <http://www.smithregatta.com/donate/> Thank you!

THE FOUNDATION

The Stephen C. Smith Memorial Regatta Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)3

nonprofit organization that conducts the regatta annually. The 2023 event organizers are the Shell Point Sailboard Club (SPSC), the American Cancer Society (ACS), the Apalachee Bay Yacht Club (ABYC) as well as numerous businesses and individuals.



The City of St. Marks will consider 2nd reading and adoption of Ordinance 2025-05 at their Regular Commission Meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 6:00pm at the St. Marks Yacht Club at 36 Yacht Club Ln, St. Marks, Florida 32355

ORDINANCE 2025-05
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. MARKS, FLORIDA: ESTABLISHING FEES RELATED TO BUILDING WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF ST. MARKS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The purpose of the ordinance is to increase building fees to current standards. A copy of the full text and the business impact statement can be viewed at 32 Shell Island Road, St. Marks Firehouse, St. Marks, Florida 32355 or by contact Katherine Gatewood, City Manager at kgatewood@cityofstmarks.com April 24, 2025



The City of St. Marks will consider 2nd reading and adoption of Ordinance 2025-02 at their Regular Commission Meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 6:00pm at the St. Marks Yacht Club at 36 Yacht Club Ln, St. Marks, Florida 32355

ORDINANCE NO. 2025- 02
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. MARKS, FLORIDA: SUBSTANTIALLY REVISING PART II, CHAPTER 74, ARTICLE II OF THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED “CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL”; REPEALING NUMEROUS PROVISIONS; PROHIBITING THE MAKING OF CROSS CONNECTIONS TO THE CITY’S PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY RULES AND REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION; DEFINING THE TERM “CROSS CONNECTION”; REQUIRING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO DETERMINE SPECIFICATIONS FOR TESTING REQUIREMENTS, FOR LOCATION AND TYPES OF EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS TO BE USED, FOR INSTALLATION OF DEVICES, AND FOR INSPECTIONS OF INSTALLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR TESTING BY THE CITY AT COST TO WATER SERVICE CUSTOMERS FAILING TO COMPLY WITH TESTING REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS BY DISCONNECTION; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The purpose of the ordinance is to establish modern standards regarding cross connections. A copy of the full text and the business impact statement can be viewed at 32 Shell Island Road, St. Marks Firehouse, St. Marks, Florida 32355 or by contact Katherine Gatewood, City Manager at kgatewood@cityofstmarks.com April 24, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICES:

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



The City of St. Marks will consider 2nd reading and adoption of Ordinance 2025-04 at their Regular Commission Meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 6:00pm at the St. Marks Yacht Club at 36 Yacht Club Ln, St. Marks, Florida 32355

ORDINANCE 2025-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. MARKS, FLORIDA: ESTABLISHING APPLICATION FEES AND COSTS FOR THE REZONING OF PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF ST. MARKS; ESTABLISHING APPLICATION FEES AND COSTS FOR OWNER INITIATED LARGE AND SMALL SCALE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The purpose of the ordinance is to increase rezoning fees to current standards. A copy of the full text and the business impact statement can be viewed at 32 Shell Island Road, St. Marks Firehouse, St. Marks, Florida 32355 or by contact Katherine Gatewood, City Manager at kgatewood@cityofstmarks.com April 24, 2025

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

WAKULLA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Pre-qualified General Contractors are invited to bid on a General Contract for the addition of metal canopies to the front of Wakulla Middle School in accordance with Contract Documents. All bids must be a lump sum basis; segregated Bids will not be accepted.

PROJECT: Wakulla County Middle School – Canopy Addition
BID DATE: May 13,2025
TIME: 2:00 p.m. local time
WCS BID NO. 24/25:03

A Pre-Bid conference will be held on **April 17, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at 69 Arran Rd, Crawfordville, FL 32327**, and all bidders or their representatives are encouraged to be in attendance. The Pre-Bid Conference date is subject to change.

The Wakulla County School Board **will receive sealed bids until 2:00 p.m. local time on May 13, 2025**. Bids received after this time will not be accepted. All qualified bidders are invited to attend the Bid Opening; Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at the following location:

Wakulla County School Board Administration Building (Board Room) 69 Arran Rd., Crawfordville, FL 32327

Drawings and Specifications may be obtained by contacting: Emily Winston Clemons, Rutherford & Associates Phone: 850.385.6153 ewinston@craarchitects.com

In accordance with the Instructions to Bidders upon receipt of \$50 (non-refundable) per digital set. All materials furnished and all work performed shall be in accordance with Drawings and Specifications. Each Bid shall be addressed to:

**Mr. Michael Barwick
Director of Facilities and Maintenance
Wakulla County Schools
Post Office Box 100 Crawfordville, FL32327
and be marked:**

- 1. Bids for Wakulla Middle School Canopy Addition**
- 2. (Name of Bidder)**
- 3. (Address of Bidder)**
- 4. (City, State, Zip Code)**

April 10, 17, 24, 2025

CDBG SECOND PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY OF ST. MARKS, FLORIDA
FIRST PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of St. Marks plans to apply to the Florida Department of Commerce for a FFY 2025 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$7,075,000 in the Neighborhood Revitalization category under the Urgent Need national objective. The activities followed by CDBG dollar amounts and estimated percentage benefit to low- and moderate-income persons are as follows:

Activity	CDBG Funding	LMI Benefit
Administration	\$500,000	NA
Engineering	\$100,000	NA
Replacement of wastewater lift stations	\$5,000,000	NA
Installation of diesel bypass pumps	\$500,000	NA
Installation of smart water meters, isolation valves, fire hydrants, and backflow prevention devices	\$975,000	NA

Within the city limits, the City of St. Marks will replace the lift stations in the city limits, install diesel bypass pumps on the lift stations, and install smart water meters, backflow devices, fire hydrants, and water main isolation valves. The project will modernize both the wastewater and water systems.

The City of St. Marks does not expect that anyone will be displaced as a result of CDBG-funded activities. If any persons are displaced as a result of the planned activities, the City of St. Marks will assist them as described in the City’s anti-displacement and relocation policy, which is available for review at City Hall.

A public hearing to provide citizens an opportunity to comment on the application will be held at St. Marks Volunteer Fire Department, 32 Shell Island Road, on April 29, 2025, at 6:00 pm ET. A draft copy of the application will also be available for review during normal business hours at the St. Marks Volunteer Fire Department by noon ET on April 29, 2025. Persons wanting to submit written comments on the application should send them to Katherine Gatewood, City Manager, by e-mail at kgatewood@cityofstmarks.com or by mail to 788 Port Leon Drive, St. Marks, Florida 32355 no later than April 29, 2025.

A copy of the final application will be available for review at the St. Marks Volunteer Fire Department no later than May 1, 2025. The application will be submitted to Florida Commerce on or before May 2, 2025. To obtain additional information concerning the application and the public hearing, contact Katherine Gatewood, City Manager, at (850) 320-5220 or by e-mail at kgatewood@cityofstmarks.com.

The public hearing is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in the hearing is asked to advise the City at least five days before the hearing by contacting Katherine Gatewood at (850) 320-5220. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the City using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800) 955-8770 (Voice).

Any non-English speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Katherine Gatewood at (850) 320-5220 least five days prior to the hearing and an interpreter will be provided.

April 24, 2025

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at The Kast Net Chamber After Hours Event:

What are your plans for Easter?



MARY WALLACE
Capital City Home Loans

“First thing is to go to church and give thanks to our Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ. Then, spend time with family and an Easter Egg hunt.”



FRANK MESSERSMITH
Chamber President

“Easter will be family all over the house, enjoying God’s gifts of Wakulla County and each other.”



GWEN STATEN
GStaten Notary Signatures

“I’ll go to church on Sunday morning, then try not to cook the rest of the day.”



JEANIE BOOTH
Career Source

“Count my blessings and pray for peace.”



KRISTIN CORBIN
Corbin Systems

“Church and family!”

Wakulla Station News

By Verna Brock

hope everyone had a blessed Easter. Part of my celebration was having children and grandchildren at the house for a big Sunday dinner, followed by an Easter egg hunt.

We decorated boiled eggs the day before, and the eggs were hidden and discovered with much excitement. I realize my youngest grandchildren will soon outgrow this tradition, and it is a bittersweet thought. Watching them mature and move on is rewarding, but I confess to already anticipating missing the sweet days of shining eyes and childlike enthusiasm.

So it is in our own lives. We spend our days in a tug of war between what was, what is, and what is to

come. Time seems so fleeting, even though we spend years toiling and planning for the future. I miss many things from my youth (including my knees!), but can’t imagine going backwards either.

We begin our lives with so many hopes and expectations, but none of us can foretell what lies ahead. Well actually, we know what awaits each of us, eventually. But it’s in the living, versus the waiting, that makes existence so precious.

How to savor the present, while benefiting from the lessons learned from our past? Perhaps the answer literally rests on the word present. Despite myriad distractions and mundane responsibilities, we can strive to be wholly present in the moments of our sojourn here. Can

we resolve to be fully immersed in the moments of our daily routine?

I know life isn’t always perfect. Sorrow and pain, if we live long enough, will inevitably find us. Must we be wholly present in those moments too? I think so. Discovering a balance in the living of our days is crucial to finding peace, and it absolutely can be a struggle. There is an old saying, “Change hurts. If you’re not changing, you’re not growing. If you’re not growing, you’re not living. Change hurts.”

But not always, not ultimately. I choose to opt for change, and growth, and life.

More and more, I’m finding my days filled with beauty and blessing, sometimes where I least expect it. The caress of a cool Spring breeze on my skin, filled with the scent of fragrant blooms, moves me to breathe a prayer of gratitude. The

recognition of the beauty of earth is almost a physical sensation, felt in my bones. Everywhere I look, my vision is soothed by miracles on the minutest of scale, to the vastness of the Florida night skies.

Simple daily pleasures happen all around us. I marvel as I watch my blind dog trot fearlessly, cheerfully along, nose pressed to the earth as his compass, leading him unerringly to his destination. Sharing laughter and companionship with friends, new and old alike, is pure pleasure, absolute oxygen to my soul. And yes, watching my grandchildren grow into the people they are meant to become gives me enormous joy.

Heaven forbid I take any of it for granted. I would hate to miss even a moment of this la dolce vita!

Miss Wakulla Pageant is Saturday

Special to The Sun

The 49th Annual Miss Wakulla County Scholarship Pageant is set for Saturday, April 26, at 3 p.m. in the Wakulla High School Auditorium. Doors open at 2:30 p.m., and tickets will be available at the door for \$10. This year, 37 contestants will compete across five age divisions: Tiny Miss Division (K & 1st), Little Miss Division (2nd & 3rd), Young Miss Division (4th & 5th), Junior Miss Division (6th to 8th) and Miss Division (9th to 12th). All participants will take part in the evening gown segment and an on-stage conversation to demonstrate their poise and communication skills.

Contestants in the Miss Division will be judged in several areas including academic and community accomplishments, a written essay, personal interview, personal introduction, on-stage question, evening gown presentation, and a finalist Q&A. The Miss Division Contestants will be competing for the coveted Miss Wakulla County title and accompanying scholarship.

At right: Audrey McKenzie, Mac Taff, Kathryn Taff, Whitley Harvey, Abigail Lawhon, Madison Hurley, Elizabeth Bertera. Bottom Row: Julia Sanders, Kylie Lassiter, Vanessa Foreman



After 29 years, Lindy’s closes

From Front Page

restaurant to say bye and thank you. They say things to us like, ‘I don’t know what would happen in our lives if we never met you.’”

“I would chew them out while working and if they still were not listening, I would keep chewing, and here they are coming back to say thank you, I knew I did a good job with these kids, you truly don’t know the impact you have on kids as their boss, it was joyful.”

Lindy’s was a mainstay in the Wakulla community by sponsoring Wakulla sports and activities with chicken and providing containers to those in need.

Terri said, “I can’t tell you how many chicken boxes and containers we donated, it was unreal, but it’s our way of giving back to the community we love, we sponsored the 1996 Cougars, and we will sponsor them again.”

“In the future, we talked about volunteering and giving back to the community with the Wakulla Christian Coalition alongside Kenny and Robert Manning. We will still be active in our community; we can’t help it, this is our home.”

“We were the only chicken place, REAL chicken place in Crawfordville,”

they said. “You had Hardees, but that’s about it.”

Back in the ‘90s when the mobile home park owned by Ms. Gretchen Harvey, on Bulldog Lane, was across the street from us, she would come in every FSU gameday Saturday and get chicken salad and a cup of coleslaw to take with her to tailgate with.”

When asked about the fate of the two large, iconic, monumental chickens in the front of the restaurant, Terri said, “I don’t know yet, I may bring one home and let the new granddaughter ride it!”

“We have seen it all, people come by and put kids on the chickens, we wanted to make a landmark by way of the chickens.”

Years ago, the couple rode up to Thomasville Road and spotted the chickens at a place called the Tomato Patch. “We bought them, and the man dropped them off at the restaurant and that was our landmark.”

As a final farewell, the Robinson family said, “Thank you Team Wakulla for all the love you have shown us. We appreciate it and without you, we could not be in business 29 years.”

“I don’t have to get up at 5 a.m. anymore and I am still going to eat chicken,” Jerome said. “I can eat chicken 7 days a week!”

RIBS AND BUTTS

Team Cone

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HOME ON THE RANGE

The Sphinx and the Mako



By MARJ LAW

How many of us remember a commercial where the slogan goes: “Hey Mikey! Try it! You’ll like it!”

That was a commercial for Life cereal many decades ago.

But how many of us like something so much that we want our friends to like it as well?

That’s how I feel about my Kimber R7 Mako. If someone comes to the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO) range and they want to try out other handguns, I often offer the Mako as a great gun that is easy to shoot.

If anyone has an inclination to purchase another gun, they know it is best to try it out before they spend big money.

The Mako I found came with four magazines. Yes, four. And three of them have nice pinky extensions for those who have larger hands. With the gun’s low low price, I expected maybe two mags, but four was really a nice surprise. Mags for the Mako cost about \$40 each, so in my opinion, this is a very good buy.

The Mako has a light



The Sphinx

- Compact
- Light trigger in single action
- Accurate
- Slide that may be hard to manipulate

trigger pull, is accurate, and this particular one came with a Crimson Trace red dot sight.

Personally, I find acquiring a good sight picture is much easier with a red dot than lining up 2 big white dots in the rear and 1 big white dot up front.

The grip has a light palm swell, unlike many grips which feel square and boxy. Very comfortable.

The Mako is quite sleek. Named after the Mako shark: “the fastest shark, clocked at nearly 50 miles

per hour, it wields the strongest bite at 13,000 Newtons, and they’re big and smart, too. They can grow to about a ton, and they have the biggest brain-to-body ratio of all sharks,” says Jay Langston on The Truth About Guns.

The Mako is now my favorite handgun. It is striker-fired. Now, Joe has always liked Kimbers because they are 1911-styled and are hammer guns. We have a running discussion about striker versus hammer-fired guns. In the past, Joe has equated Kimber with hammer-fired. When he found out that my new gun was a Kimber, but is a striker-fired gun, well, he said: “No way.”

But yes, the Mako is Kimber’s very first striker-fired gun. I bet it handles so well because in departing from their usual hammer guns, Kimber knew they’d have to make it special.

It is. So now I’m big on “try it. You’ll like it,” when new friend Jim visits the WCSO range.

Joe and I watched as Jim fired and fired his own

handgun. Wow! He made holes in the centers of all his targets.

It was impressive. We always notice other shooters. First, to see if they’re following safety rules, and second, because we’re just plain interested. And seeing this new shooter doing so well, then yes, we’re interested.

Inquiring minds want to know.

“What are you shooting?” I ask.

Jim is happy to show us his 9mm Sphinx. It’s a gun made in Switzerland. It’s larger than the Mako, but then, wouldn’t a Sphinx be large with a name like that?

The name Sphinx makes me think of the Great Sphinx in Egypt. With the body of a lion and the head of a woman, sphinxes are symbolic of strength and wisdom.

Well, Jim is certainly shooting the heck out of it.

“I shoot my guns about 1,000 times before I clean them,” declares Jim.

I believe it. He sure shoots well repetitively. Jim, too, is happy to show his gun.

The 9mm Sphinx is

bigger all around than the Mako. While the Mako has a 3.37 inch barrel, the Sphinx’s is 3.5 inches long. The Mako’s length is 6.2 inches while the Sphinx’s is 7.4 inches.

The Sphinx holds 15 rounds and weighs 28 ounces. My Kimber holds 10 rounds and weighs in at 19.9 ounces. The Sphinx is considered compact, and the Mako is more of a subcompact. The Sphinx is a hammer gun.

The Sphinx has a white dot front sight and an adjustable black rear sight.

“Would you like to shoot both handguns and see how they compare?” I ask.

Jim is interested.

He picks up my Kimber and shoots five rounds through it on one target and five rounds of the Sphinx on the other target.

He shoots my Kimber so well, I think I’ll wait until he’s back at his own stall before I’ll shoot it again. (Wouldn’t want to look bad.)

Jim had cocked the hammer of the Sphinx first, so he would be shooting in single action.

This way, he didn’t have a double action trigger pull on his first shot. According to Patrick Roberts on Ammoland, that double action trigger is pretty darn hard. “All of that said, my Sphinx SDP Compact is a fantastic shooter as long as you get past that abysmal double action.”

“How did you like the Mako’s trigger pull?” I ask him.

“Trigger pull and trigger travel on both guns is similarly easy,” he says thoughtfully.

“They both have a firm recoil and very nice grips. Actually, my wife finds the Sphinx’s slide too difficult,” he continues, “so she got herself a revolver. But I think she could handle the Kimber.”

The Sphinx’s slide is different in that it sits inside the frame’s rails instead of sliding on the outside of the rails like the Mako does. But it’s the heavy recoil spring that makes this larger and heavier slide harder to manipulate.

I ask Jim: “So, you like the Mako?”

“Yes. I’d especially like it for my wife. Since her major objection to my Sphinx is racking the slide, I think she’d like it!”

Later at home, I asked Joe if the slide is really that harsh. He brought out his CZ P-07 which is a similar handgun. I tried to pull back the slide. Didn’t work.


“Cock the hammer first,” suggested Joe.

I cocked the hammer, then tugged the slide. It was still too much for me. Better eat spinach and grow more muscle.

Jim tried the Mako and he liked it. It’s special and fun to share the qualities of a good handgun. It’s fun watching someone who’s a very good shooter, too.

Especially when it is 78’ out, the sun is shining, and there’s a light breeze at the WCSO range.


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



LINED SEA HORSE
(*Hippocampus erectus*)

This larger seahorse species lives in sea grass and coral reefs feeding on tiny crustaceans using its long tongue. All sea horses are “marsupium” with the father taking eggs from the mother and carrying the babies until they are ready to swim free. Sea horse males will spar for a female with tail wrestling and head snapping. Seahorses form monogamous pair bonds after an elaborate courtships dance that lasts for three days before mating. The female stay with the male throughout his pregnancy.

Eukarya, Animalia, Chordata, Actinopterygii, Gasteroteiformes, Sygnathidae, Hippocampus erectus



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Palm Tree Trimming

Maternity season begins for bats

By FWC News

Florida’s 13 native and beneficial bat species typically roost in trees, caves or other natural spaces, but are sometimes attracted to buildings and other human-made structures, including buildings still undergoing construction. With bat maternity season starting April 16, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) reminds the public that April 15 is the last day to legally exclude bats from buildings without a permit, until Aug. 15.

Florida’s bat maternity season, the time when most of our state’s bats give birth and raise their young, starts on April 16 and lasts until Aug. 14 each year. During maternity season, it is illegal to block bats from returning to their roosts. This helps prevent flight-

less bat pups from being trapped inside structures — something that wouldn’t be good for either people or bats.

If you have bats roosting in your house or building, the most effective and only legal method to remove roosting bats from structures is the use of exclusion devices, which allow bats to safely exit a structure but block them from returning to their roosts. It is only legal to use exclusion devices from Aug. 15 until April 15, which is outside of the maternity season. Permits are required to use exclusion devices during Florida’s bat maternity season.

Exclusion guidelines were developed to ensure bats are removed safely and effectively from buildings outside of maternity season to avoid problems for people and prevent the killing or harming of bats, which

is illegal in Florida. Bat exclusion is a multi-step process that begins by identifying all potential bat entry and exit points in a building. To legally exclude bats, exclusion devices must be installed on key exit points, left up for a minimum of four nights and the exclusion must be conducted when the overnight temperature is forecast to be 50°F or above.

Bats are highly beneficial, both ecologically and economically. Florida’s bats are insectivores, with a single bat eating up to hundreds of insects a night, including mosquitoes and other garden and agricultural pests. Worldwide, bats serve critical functions due to their roles in insect pest control, and as pollinators and seed dispersers, and their guano can be a valuable fertilizer.

Our state’s native bat

populations include endangered species including the Florida bonneted bat. Want to help our bats? There are several ways that residents and visitors can support bat conservation:

- Preserve natural roost sites, including trees with cavities or peeling bark.
- Leave dead fronds on palm trees to provide roosting spots for bats.
- Install a bat house on your property.
- Add native plants when landscaping your property to attract native pollinators and benefit bats.
- Report unusual bat behavior and sick or dead bats to MyFWC.com/BatMortality.

For more information about how to properly exclude bats as well as other tips to bat-proof your home, visit MyFWC.com/Bats and click “Bats in Buildings.”

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

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<div><div>Thursday 24</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:59AM 8:10PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 4:53AM 4:54PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 14%</div><div>Friday 25</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:58AM 8:10PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 5:25AM 6:02PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 7%</div><div>Saturday 26</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:57AM 8:11PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 5:58AM 7:12PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 2%</div><div>Sunday 27</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:56AM 8:12PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 6:34AM 8:25PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 0%</div><div>Monday 28</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:55AM 8:12PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 7:16AM 9:41PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 1%</div><div>Tuesday 29</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:54AM 8:13PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 8:04AM 10:54PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 6%</div><div>Wednesday 30</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:54AM 8:13PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 9:00AM -----</div><div>Moon Illumination 12%</div></div> <div><div>For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings:</div><div><div>High Tide</div><div>Low Tide</div><div>Carrabelle 28 Min. 25 Min.</div><div>Apalachicola 1 Hr., 53 Min. 2 Hrs., 31 Min.</div><div>Cat Point 1 Hr., 13 Min. 2 Hrs., 3 Min.</div><div>Lower Anchorage 1 Hr., 36 Min. 2 Hrs., 3 Min.</div><div>West Pass 1 Hr., 26 Min. 2 Hrs., 39 Min.</div></div><div><div>Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac</div><div>April 24 - April 30</div><div><div></div><div>Tide charts by tides4fishing.com</div><div></div></div><div><div>First May 4</div><div>Full May 12</div><div>Last May 20</div><div>New April 27</div></div><div>Best fishing days this month April 25-30, May 1-12, 26-31</div></div><div><div>Thursday 24</div><div>MinorTimes 4:08AM 4:09PM</div><div>MajorTimes 9:34AM 9:59PM</div><div>Friday 25</div><div>MinorTimes 4:40AM 5:17PM</div><div>MajorTimes 10:24AM -----</div><div>Saturday 26</div><div>MinorTimes 5:13AM 6:27PM</div><div>MajorTimes 10:49PM 11:15AM</div><div>Sunday 27</div><div>MinorTimes 5:49AM 7:40PM</div><div>MajorTimes 11:42PM 12:10PM</div><div>Monday 28</div><div>MinorTimes 6:31AM 8:56PM</div><div>MajorTimes 12:39AM 1:09PM</div><div>Tuesday 29</div><div>MinorTimes 7:19AM 10:09PM</div><div>MajorTimes 1:40AM 2:11PM</div><div>Wednesday 30</div><div>MinorTimes 8:15AM -----</div><div>MajorTimes 2:44AM 3:16PM</div></div></div>

Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon

Over the next month, we will be sharing safe boating information from the Coast Guard in support of National Safe Boating Week.

The Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary celebrate National Safe Boating Week, May 17 through May 23, and urge mariners and beachgoers to be safe this Memorial Day weekend.

Memorial Day weekend is considered by many as the unofficial start to the recreational boating season. As boaters take to the water, there is an increased likelihood for search and rescue situations, mechanical failures and accidents.

In calendar year 2023, In calendar year 2023, the Coast Guard counted 3,844 accidents that involved 564 deaths, 2,126 injuries and approximately \$63 million dollars of damage

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

to property as a result of recreational boating accidents.

The fatality rate was 4.9 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.

This rate represents a 9.3% decrease from the 2022 fatality rate of 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. Compared to 2022, the number of accidents decreased 4.9%, the number of deaths decreased 11.3%, and the number of injuries decreased 4.3%.

Where cause of death was known, 75% of fatal boating accident victims

drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 87% were not wearing a life jacket.

The months of May, June and July specifically saw the highest number of deaths in boating accidents.

Please do your part to promote safety on the water for yourself and those around you! Check back next week for more information from the 2023 Recreational Safe Boating report.

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

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

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.

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

On his weekly wildlife survey at Wakulla Springs last week, retired park ranger Bob Thompson took this photo of a yellow-crowned night heron.

Underwater Wakulla

By Gregg Stanton

Parker Turner. June 2, 2011

I was fresh out of a study in the Antarctic in the mid-1980s that required diving in 27 degree salt water under ten feet of ice when I met Parker Turner.

He invited me to a conference in Cozumel, Mexico, to discuss the future of cave research and exploration.

The previous policy of the cave community was to keep a low profile, a secret society so to speak, but that was changing as folks like Parker realized educating the diving public was far more effective in curbing the rising concern about cave safety.

He offered to join us in our fledging university dive program, to forge a new perspective that included cave research.

What developed over the course of five years was a dramatic facelift that defined scientific diving at Florida State University for decades to follow.

No greater difference could be found between what was then called the scientific diver and what was happening in the cave diving community.

Scientific divers were working at depths shallower than 40 feet and mostly in salt water. They based their training and technology on recreational standards, but were task oriented in the pursuit of data.

The cave community had long ago established a rigorous training standard that included a deviation from the recreational community, in their pursuit of cave exploration.

Both communities had their politics that excluded the other. It seemed the two were not likely to mix well.

When Parker joined our staff, we began a dialogue that tore the premises of both communities down to their elemental basics.

Then we reconstructed using the best of both to form a university program with a dynamic that embraced underwater research at all levels.

We hosted in Tallahassee the first meeting of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) in 1986 and included the cave community.

This event was the first for both: an AAUS meeting outside of San Diego and putting the cave community in concert with a research organization.

The following proceedings of that meeting sold out immediately. At that national meeting we began the long debate for meaningful change within the scientific diving community that continues to this day.

The AAUS now has standards for cave research amongst many others in challenging environments and using advanced (non-recreational) technology, all stemming back to that time period in the late 1980 and Parker Turner.

To bolster the reformation, Parker and I went on the road to teach Nitrox and Trimix workshops, and support innovative research such as the Surface Interval Oxygen project held at Wakulla Springs in 1992.

He became the University's Cave Research Coordinator and participated on numerous cave research projects.

I became a cave instructor and taught every member of my Applications of Diving to Research class the practice of Cavern Diving until I retired in 2004.

The university collaborated with the cave diving community on several projects that furthered the objectives of each.

We defined exploration separately from science diving and encouraged each to mature independently.

Now retired and the owner/operator of Wakulla Diving Center, I have dedicated our new facility to the memory of Parker Turner and all that he contributed to our understanding of this aquatic world.

Do you always have to have the last word?



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

I like to think I'm a kind person, but when someone disrespects me or disagrees with me on something I care about, I find it hard.

Don't you hate the part of you that has to

get in the last word? We can't let the matter drop. We spit out words fueled by the heat of the moment – words that continue to sting and cut long after they've left our lips. Long past the moment we regret saying them.

We're fired up, and although we're confident in our position, we get lost in our passion. Sometimes the tables turn, and we find ourselves on the receiving end of blistering cutting words.

What if our angry words were the last

words we spoke before we suddenly faced God in eternity? Would you wish for a do-over? Or what if our hateful language were the last words our husband, sibling or neighbor heard from us before we or they died?

When I'm angry, my mind goes 100 miles per hour. It's embarrassing how difficult it is for me to get my thoughts under control. Meditating on a Bible verse, however, always corrects my train of thought. It brings me back to the heart of God – and His

heart toward the other person.

What would happen if we applied 1 Peter 3:9 (ESV)? "Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing."

Which part of this verse speaks to you?

Notice the word "repay." This word implies that God knows we will experience offensive behavior. Furthermore, what if God has placed some of the people in our lives to help us mature?

It's not easy to bless

someone who disrespects us. Yet according to the second half of our verse, blessing our tormentors isn't a suggestion, it's a command. It's our calling. When we act on our calling, including not insisting on having the last word, we position ourselves to receive a blessing from God.

The Amplified, Classic version of 1 Peter 3:9 offers guidelines on how to bless those who revile us: "praying for their welfare, happiness, and protection, and truly pitying and loving them." Remark-

ably, when I pray for my opponent (thus blessing them), I feel better about them – and about myself.

In Christ, I want to grow in my ability to love, respect and bless others, even those who offend or persistently disagree with me. I have a feeling you do too.

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.

Sacred spaces and snapping peas



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

Old dirt roads and front porches bring me to a simpler time. Somehow, laughter and sweet iced tea were always on the agenda. I remember walking through the neighborhood as a child, seeing neighbors sitting on their porches, bowls in their laps, snapping peas, and talking. Sometimes, they'd invite me to join in. I can still feel the snap of the pea pod in my fingers. Most of

the time, I just sat and listened.

The conversations weren't anything extraordinary – just simple updates about a new fishing spot or how the garden was coming along. Other times, there was no talking at all, just the steady rhythm of snapping peas. But in those quiet moments, I learned something valuable: how to simply be with others. It wasn't the words that mattered most – it was the presence.

Now, years later, I see something familiar taking shape on the front porch of our church. It's a small, simple kind of ministry – just a few rocking chairs and open hearts. Every Thursday and Friday morning, a few of us gather. There

are no sign-up sheets, agendas, or lesson plans – just conversation, quiet moments, and a desire to be present. It's simple, but it's become my favorite part of the week.

Jesus had an unconventional way of reaching people too. In the Gospel of Luke, He said He came to seek the lost. His seeking wasn't always through sermons or miracles. More often, Jesus met people right where they were – around tables, on dusty roads, in homes, under trees, on boats, and beside wells. He connected by being present.

Being present has always been God's way. From the beginning, God designed us for connection in the Garden of Eden. He saw it wasn't good for man to

be alone, so He created a companion to walk alongside him. But it wasn't just about human relationships – God Himself walked in the garden with Adam and Eve, spending time with them in the cool of the day. That kind of presence is what He has always wanted with us.

That desire hasn't changed. Often, we're the ones pulling away – distracted and over-committed. Ministry doesn't have to be polished or programmed. It doesn't have to look like what everyone else is doing. Sometimes, the most powerful moments happen when we give ourselves permission to think outside the box – or maybe outside the sanctuary. Jesus was God's way of drawing

near to His creation. He met people face-to-face, story-to-story.

The world has become too noisy. People are more "connected" than ever, yet ache for real connection. What we need is not more activity but more availability. Maybe we need to rediscover the front porch – not just as a physical place but as a posture of ministry – the kind that welcomes, listens, and lingers a little longer than necessary.

Those old front porches where peas were snapped, and stories were told were places where relationships were built. Today's front porch still has the power to raise something beautiful in us: patience, kindness, presence, and peace. When we don't

make time to draw near to God or each other, we miss out on what we were created for: meaningful connection.

So come by sometime. Sit a spell. Let's talk – or not. Either way, you're welcome. And who knows? In the gentle rhythm of a rocking chair and the hush between conversations, you might find Jesus there too.

Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. – Jeremiah 6:16

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

OUT TO PASTOR

How much sleep is too much?



By **JAMES SNYDER**

I have noticed recently that sleeping has become a very important part of my life. This just snuck up on me overnight.

When I was young and living at home, I tried to come up with excuses and reasons for not going to bed at night. My parents had an early bedtime schedule that they enforced rather strictly. Try as I might, I was never successful in beating that schedule.

Lately, I have noticed a completely different attitude about sleeping. I'm not sure where it came from, and I'll have to ponder it for a while to find out.

It's not just my problem but also the problem I share with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Maybe I got it from her, I just don't know.

When the sun goes down, so does my interest in staying awake.

After we finish the day, we watch a little

bit of television before we go to bed. If there's anything more boring than television, I haven't found it yet.

Usually around 9 o'clock, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage will look at me and say, "Is it time to go to bed yet?"

I have been married long enough to realize that when your wife asks a question, she may not be asking the question she's asking, but setting a trap for something else. I never know what else it might be.

When she asked that question, I looked at her seriously and asked, "Are you ready to go to bed yet?" Then, looking at my watch, I said, "It's not quite 9 o'clock yet."

She clears her throat and then says, "I was just wondering if you were ready to go to bed."

I'm not going to fall into that trap because I know she's trying to set it up, so I became the reason we went to bed this early. Every once in a while, I noticed that her eyes were shut and I asked her, "You're not sleeping are you?"

"Oh no," she will say.

Then it goes around the other way, and she sees my eyes are closed and asks me, "Are you sleeping?"

"Oh no," I will say, "I've just been praying

for the day."

She will smile and say, "I thought so because I heard you snore."

As we age, our time schedule begins to change a bit, and it seems healthier to go to bed earlier and get more sleep.

I don't want to be the first one to go to bed because I don't want her to know that I am tired. I want to ensure she realizes I have my old energy, which is actually getting out of date.

Being retired has redefined our schedule. Our doctor's appointments are the only things on our schedule during the week. We have so many doctor appointments that we might have to hire a secretary to help us keep up with our schedule.

Lately, I've been trying to stay awake until 10 o'clock, and then go to bed. I'm not sure why I stay up until 10, but

I'm trying to convince myself that I'm not as old as I think I am.

The next thing about sleep is getting up in the morning. It is funny that I can be awake just about all night and then fall into a sleep that lasts several hours by 4 o'clock in the morning. I know I should have an alarm clock to get me up, but what do I need to get up for?

The only reason to get up in the morning is for breakfast. I can't think of anything else to schedule my early rising from La-la land.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage needs to get up when the great-grandchild comes for the day. She babysits for the granddaughter throughout the week, so she has a reason to get up at a certain time.

When I am on the other side of the bed, I do not have any reason to get up at a certain time

in the morning. When I get out, I get up.

Sometimes, I wake up around 5 o'clock and enjoy the silence in our neighborhood. I think I should be getting up very soon, but then I fall back into such a sound sleep that I don't get awake until 7:30. I wake up, look at my clock, and wonder where in the world the time went.

I stare at the clock and wonder how in the world I could have slept for 9 ½ hours. That doesn't seem possible at all. And yet it happens more than I like to admit.

The question I have is, how much sleep is too much? What is the right amount of sleep for a person my age?

Another aspect of this sleep problem is that I usually nap in the afternoon. I think I sleep

more than I'm awake, which may be suitable for the people around me.

In all of my considerations about this, I must confess that I really enjoy sleeping. I'm not sure of any activity I enjoy more than this.

Thinking about this, I was reminded of what David said. "It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep." (Psalms 127:2).

Sleeping is a blessing from God.

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

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Obituaries



Benjamin Franklin Keller Sr.

Benjamin “Franklin” Keller Sr., 85, of Crawfordville, passed away on Monday, April 14, 2025, surrounded by his family. He was born on June 22, 1939 in Greenville, Florida. He served in the United States Army and retired after many years as a Heavy Diesel Mechanic. He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting, fishing and boating, but his favorite time was spent with his family and friends around a fire. Franklin cherished his family, especially his grandchildren that affectionately called him Boo Daddy. He is survived by his loving wife Carol of 64 years and his children. Lisa Davis (Danny), Benjamin Franklin Keller Jr. (Julia Fleming), Leighanne Batt-Taff (Darryl), Lori Winkler



James ‘Jim’ Virgin

James “Jim” Virgin was born in Hamilton, Ohio on July 24, 1953, to George E. Virgin and Joan Bradley Virgin of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida and Crawfordville. He is survived by his sister, Carol Ann Virgin Williams; his nephew, George Jacob Christopher Williams (Jennifer) and his niece, Elizabeth Ashley Williams (Darren Prock); and three grandnieces, Allison, Elliana, and Reese; and one grandnephew Jake. James left to be with his Lord on April 3, 2025, from Tallahassee Memorial Hospital’s Big Bend Hospice Suites, with his family by his side. James attended FSU for six years and studied Theology. His passion was designing cars. He was

(Lane), Lynn Abell (Jonathan), 10 grandchildren Chad (Michelle), Trey (Hannah), Jessica, Justin (Natalie), Branden, Amber (Jack), Ashley, Kayley, Kyle & Benjamin. He also had seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Benjamin Keller and Ruby Scarboro Keller Herold. A Celebration of Life was held Friday, April 18, 2025, at 1 p.m. at Family Funeral Home/Harvey Young Chapel. The family will receive friends 1 hour prior to service at 12 noon. Interment will be at the Tallahassee National Cemetery at a later date. Skip & Trey Young along with Paula are caring for and assisting the family.

an artist, writer, an inventor, a preacher, teacher, and evangelist. He led his home, Varnum Rest Home in Bristol, in Sunday prayer services. He loved his friends and family and cherished his cousins in the Midwest. He had a great memory of people and events and would often recall stories of cherished family history. James loved to travel and explore, whether it be local road trips or cross-country trips to see family in Illinois and Ohio. He especially treasured time with friends and family, and he will be missed by all. His never-ending optimism, kindness, and generosity to others will always be an inspiration to us. A family Memorial will be held on May 3, 2025. James will be placed to rest at St. Elizabeth Seton Cemetery, next to his parents.

DEATH NOTICES

• **Tracie Ann Diehl**, 49, of Crawfordville, died April 12, 2025.

- **Benjamin “Frank” Keller Sr.**, 85, of Crawfordville, died April 14, 2025
- **Tony J. Laird**, 79, of Crawfordville, died April 17, 2025.
- **Virginia Sue Nicholas**, 76, of Tallahassee, died April 15,

2025. Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com.

Sheriff’s Report

This report is for activity April 11 to 18. There were 1,617 total calls for service during the week.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

• Deputy Smith conducted a traffic stop on a green Astro van, in the area of Spring Creek and Coastal Highway. Contact was made with the driver, identified as Felipe Perez Santiz by his Mexico driver’s license. A driver’s license check from all 50 States confirmed Santiz did not possess a driver’s license. Subsequently, Santiz was placed under arrest for Operating a Motor Vehicle without a Valid License, and was transported to the Wakulla County Detention Facility.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

• Deputy Parker responded to a Walmart in reference to a delayed report of a retail theft. Asset Protection reported an unknown male stole approximately \$136 worth of merchandise. Case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

- Deputy Parker conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Roberts-Williams Road. The driver, Keith Wendell Mills Jr., was found to have an invalid license. Mills was placed under arrest for Driving While License Suspended or Revoked (DWLSR) and was transported to the Wakulla County Detention Facility.
- Deputy Bennett conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Wakulla Park Drive. The driver, Michael P. Castro, had an active warrant out of Leon County for Failure to Appear on a DWLSR charge. Castro was arrested on the Leon County Warrant and was also charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle Without a Valid License and was transported to the Wakulla County Jail.
- Deputy Smith conducted a traffic stop on a gold van in the area of Kenneth Circle and Shadeville Road. Contact was made with the driver, who was identified as Rachel Elaine Lopez. A driver’s license check confirmed Rachel Lopez’s license was sus-

pending and there was a seize tag order for the vehicle. Subsequently, Rachel Lopez was issued a Notice to Appear for DWLSR and the vehicle was towed from the scene. Deputy Buckhalt responded to the AMI Store at 7223 Coastal Highway in reference to a retail theft. The complainant advised a white female entered the store and retrieved an alcoholic beverage. The female then exited the store passing all points of sale. Deputies made contact with the suspect traveling eastbound on Coastal Highway. The suspect was identified as Theresa Esther Dunlavey, and was arrested and transported to the Wakulla County Detention Facility.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

- Deputy Godwin responded to Hickory Avenue in reference to a Theft. Complainant reported a delayed theft which occurred last month where several government phones were taken from her backpack.
- Deputy Godwin responded to Hickory Hill Road in reference to a fraud report. Complainant reported her

personal information had been compromised through her bank approximately one year ago, and she received an email advising they were with the bank and needing account information, but she denied the request. Report was written for bank and informational purposes.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

- Deputy Sullivan responded to Canopy Lane in reference to a structure fire. The residents reported a small burn pile getting out of control and catching a mobile home on fire. The mobile home was a complete loss.
- Deputy Weekes responded to Roland Harvey Road for a Vehicle Fire. The resident reported his tractor had caught fire. The fire is believed to have started from a damaged hydraulic line. Damages to the tractor was estimated at approximately \$75,000.
- Deputy Post responded to a residence on Guinevere Lane for a Criminal Mischief and Theft of services. City of Sopchoppy reported a suspect stealing water and damaging the meter box. A curb value, dual check valve, and a bar-

rel lock were destroyed. Damages were estimated at approximately \$168. Case was forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

- Deputies responded to Wildlife Lane, in reference to a suspicious package. Complainant advised he located a possible undetonated device in the front yard of his residence. It was determined the device was a simulation and did not pose a threat to the public. The device was seized.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

- Deputy Williams responded to Woodville Highway in reference to lost property. Complainant advised she lost a few identification cards recently during a medical transport.
- Deputy Parker responded to Stow Away Center at 2669 Spring Creek Highway in reference to a theft from a storage unit. Storage unit owner advised multiple items were taken from his storage unit which he has not been to in for almost a year. Case forwarded to the Criminal Investigations

Division. Lieutenant Alexander responded to the area of Rocky’s for a reckless vehicle call. Upon observing the vehicle committing multiple traffic violations, he conducted a traffic stop. The driver, Cierra Charlene McGee, was highly intoxicated, and after a field sobriety investigation, McGee was placed under arrest for DUI (over three times the legal limit) and was transported to the Wakulla County Detention Facility. Deputy Smith responded to the Dollar General at 1885 Crawfordville Hwy. in reference to a theft complaint. Contact was made with store employee who advised an unknown black male exited the store with a shopping cart full of items and passed all points of sale. The suspect was last seen fleeing the area northbound on Crawfordville Hwy. in a silver Chevy Impala towards Leon County. Case forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

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

ETERNAL FEW

Poker Run to Benefit Wakulla Giving Hands

1st Annual

Registration 10Am
KSA 10:30 Am
Last Bike Out Noon
Last Bike In 4Pm

1st Stop (Start)
Tallahassee Harley Davidson
1745 Capital Cir NW

Just One More Bar
3808 N Monroe St

Cooter Stew Cafe
859 Port Leon Dr

Tropical Trader Shrimp Co
91 Coastal Hwy

Final Stop
Panacea Plaza
1325 Coastal Hwy

Registration \$20
\$20 Per Additional Hand

Raffle tickets, Beverages, and BBQ Plates sold at final destination starting at 3PM

Saturday, April 26 10AM to 6PM

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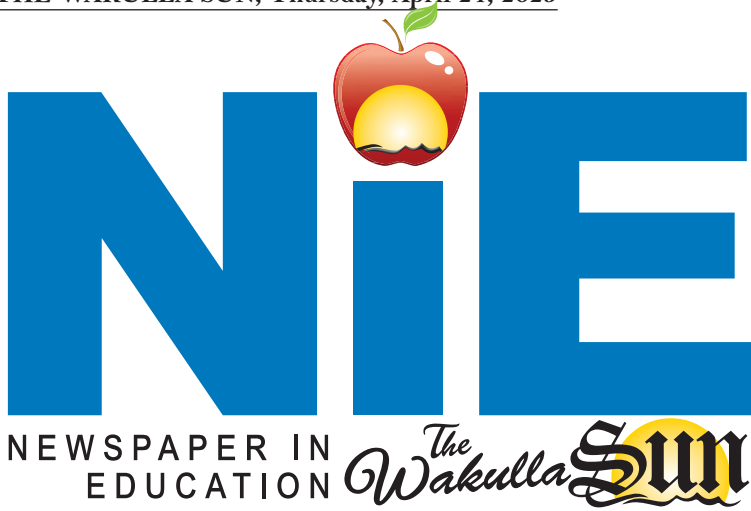
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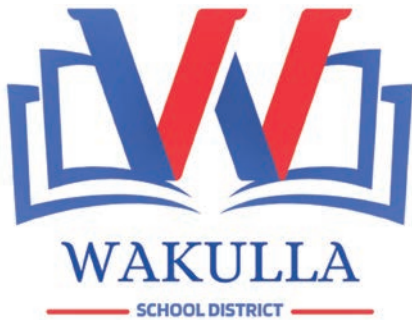
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USE THE NEWS

1. PUERTO RICO’S POWER OUTAGE

Puerto Rico had a big problem this week when the whole island lost electricity. The blackout started after a power line stopped working, and it caused all the electricity generators to shut down. That meant people couldn’t use lights, air conditioning, or even water in many places. Hospitals and the airport had to use backup generators, and businesses had to close. After two days, most people got their power back, but some still didn’t. The government is trying to figure out what went wrong and how to stop it from happening again. Puerto Rico has had many blackouts before, especially after a big hurricane in 2017, and a lot of people are asking leaders to fix the power system. Think about what it would be like if your home lost power for a whole day. Make a list of five things you would need or do to stay safe and comfortable. For example, what would you use for light? How would you stay cool or warm? What kinds of food could you eat? After making your list, write a few sentences about how being prepared can help people during a blackout.

2. HELPING FROGS CROSS THE ROAD

Every spring in Russia, volunteers help toads and frogs cross a road safely so they can reach a pond to lay their eggs. The animals live in the forest but need to get to the water in the Sestroretsk Bog nature reserve to have their babies. Without help, many of them could be hurt or killed by cars. Volunteers wear bright vests, carefully pick up the frogs and toads, place them in buckets, and carry them across the road. They’ve been doing this since 2016, and now hundreds of people come to help each year. A special fence even helps keep the frogs safe until someone can move them. The volunteers say it feels good to protect animals and help nature. Learn how to become a wildlife helper! Look up an animal that lives near your home or school (like a bird, squirrel, turtle, or bug). Find

out what it needs to stay safe – like clean water, food, or safe places to live. Then, write a short safety tip that people can follow to help protect that animal.

3. LIFE ON A DISTANT PLANET?

Scientists studying a planet far away from Earth, called K2-18b, may have found an exciting clue that could mean life exists there. The planet is 120 light-years away and is very different from Earth, but it might have warm oceans and an atmosphere. Astronomers using a powerful space telescope found a gas in the planet’s air called dimethyl sulfide. On Earth, this gas is only made by living

things, like ocean algae. Scientists aren’t sure yet if this means there’s life on K2-18b, but it’s one of the best clues they’ve found so far. They say they need more time and research to know for sure. Imagine you’re a space scientist looking for signs of life on another planet. Draw a picture of what you think a planet like K2-18b might look like. Would it have oceans? Strange animals? Clouds? Then, write a few sentences explaining what clues you would look for to tell if life exists there.

4. FAMOUS TREE ROOTS

In a small town in France called Auvers-sur-Oise, a big

disagreement has started over some tree roots that appear in the last painting ever made by the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh. These roots are very old and still grow near a road in the town. The mayor says the roots should belong to everyone, but the people who own the land say they should be allowed to take care of them. Many tourists visit the town to learn about Van Gogh and see where he lived and painted. Now, the town and the landowners are trying to figure out the best way to protect the roots so people can continue to enjoy this special piece of art history. Look at a picture of Van Gogh’s painting “Tree Roots” and imagine what the tree might have looked like when it was alive. Then, draw your own

version of a tree with twisty roots. After drawing, write a few sentences about why you think it’s important to protect special places from history, even if they’re just tree roots!

5. CAPYBARA TAKEOVER

In a fancy neighborhood in Argentina called Nordelta, hundreds of capybaras – the world’s largest rodents – have taken over! These big, friendly animals started showing up more during the Covid-19 lockdowns, and now there are nearly 1,000 of them. They roam the streets, nap on volleyball courts, and munch on lawns. While some people think they’re cute, others worry because the capybaras sometimes cause traffic problems, eat plants,

and even chase small dogs. Scientists are trying to manage the capybara population using special medicine that keeps them from having more babies. Some people want to protect the capybaras, saying the animals were there first, before the neighborhood was built. The big question now is: how can people and wild animals live together in peace? Draw a picture of a place where wild animals and people live together, like a neighborhood, park, or forest. Then, write 3 or 4 sentences about how people can help animals stay safe and healthy while also keeping their towns or cities clean and safe for everyone. Think about what wild animals need and what people need too!



Holiday FACT:

This religious holiday is celebrated by billions of people across the globe each spring.

Answer: Easter

How they say that in...

- English: Rabbit
- Spanish: Conejo
- Italian: Coniglio
- French: Lapin
- German: Kaninchen

What’s the Difference?

Find the four differences between the two pictures.

A



B



Answers: 1. Bunnies in background 2. Missing egg in hand 3. Extra egg in grass 4. Shadow on tree trunk

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1792: “La Marseillaise,” the French national anthem, is composed by Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle.

1859: British and French engineers break ground for the Suez Canal.

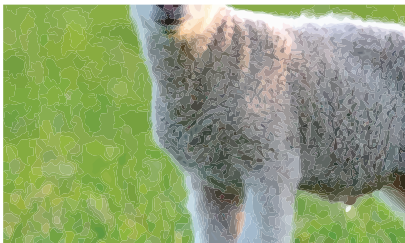
1954: The first practical solar cell is demonstrated by Bell Telephone Labs.

NEW WORD

FAITH

a strong belief or trust in something

Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Lamb

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- APRIL
- AWAKENING
- BLOOMS
- BREEZE
- BUDDING
- BUNNY
- CHIRPING
- EGGS
- FLOWERS
- GARDEN
- GREEN
- GROWS
- INSECTS
- NEST
- POLLEN
- REBIRTH
- SAPLING
- SHOWERS
- SPRING
- SUNNY
- SUNSHINE
- TREES

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. English TV station
4. It fuels cars
7. Where ships dock (abbr.)
10. Indigenous people of Thailand
11. Midway between northeast and east
12. Small Milky Way constellation
13. Fritz __, Austrian chemist
15. A Brit’s grand-mother
16. Colombian city
19. Visualize
21. Charged
23. People’s assets
24. Informative books
25. Jeer
26. You can do it with your horn
27. Agents of your downfall
30. Central Uganda city
34. Supervises flying
35. Type of tree
36. Alfalfa
41. Dishwasher soap brand
45. Hall where military eats
46. Ancient Greek City
47. Speaks incessantly

50. Discuss again
54. Extreme greed
55. Adopt or support
56. Fantasy writer Russell
57. Seize
59. Early Mesoamerican civilization
60. Noted pet detective Ventura
61. Automobile
62. Georgia rockers
63. Color opposite green
64. Amount of time
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Sheep sound
2. Some can be emotional
3. Inflammation of colon lining
4. Origins
5. Comedienne Gaster
6. Perceived by the senses
7. A place to play ball
8. Occur before
9. Animal body parts
13. Thanksgiving dessert
14. Root mean square (abbr.)

17. 1960s teen idol Bobby
18. Promotional materials
20. One point east of northeast
22. Piers Anthony protagonist
27. Popular sports league
28. Cologne
29. Partner to cheese
31. Constrictor snake
32. Not good
33. Supplement with difficulty
37. Hug with fondness
38. Enforced again
39. Small amount of time (abbr.)
40. Substance
41. Anterior parts of the brain
42. Brews
43. Where ships load cargo
44. Holiday season singer
47. “__ humbug!”
48. Monetary unit of Macao
49. Popular children’s book elephant
51. Glutinous
52. Function
53. Old world, new
58. Swiss river

			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							50				51	52 53
54									55					
56								57	58			59		
			60					61				62		
			63					64				65		

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to spring.

S B R D I

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

Y	R	T	A	V	E	M	E	R	O	C	V	E	
M	E	T	O	B	V	N	N	V	A	V	O	H	
E	E	O	P	S	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		
G	O	G	Y	H	S	8	1	6	1	3	8		
V	E	I	3	S	8	2	8	7	7	3	8		
O	C	S	V	C	V								
I	O	O	T	S	E	R	I	S					
B	B	E	T	N	S	S	E	2	W	N			
S	E	S	V	I	T	V							
D	E	I	O	D	V	S							
V	A	I	E	N	N	V	N						
V	R	V	E	N	E		O	V					
L	P	T		S	V	D		C	B				

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

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

GUESS WHO ?

I am a professional wrestler born in Massachusetts on April 23, 1977. I pursued a career in bodybuilding and worked as a chauffeur at a limousine company. I went on to win 25 wrestling championships, including 16 WWE World Heavyweight titles.

Answer: Birds

Answer: John Cena

I	F	P	N	L	A	K	B	G	P	Z	O	O	T	A	Y	G	R	O	M	S
K	A	S	M	F	F	I	C	E	S	E	E	E	E	I	B	R	W	B	S	N
U	R	U	A	U	R	M	M	V	L	R	K	I	S	S	I	M	V	A	M	
B	A	V	R	K	V	R	N	d	C	C	I	S	R	E	I	M	E			
Z	O	f	H	K	A	G	I	R	H	C	J	9	E	U	9	I	N	H		
Z	d	B	d	C	G	N	d	I	8	H	C	9	M	W	H	N	9			
I	W	9	d	C	G	N	d	I	7	9	3	S	O	3	9	9	N	T		
I	d	p	L	d	V	E	N	I	D	9	3	S	I	H	K	N	F	Y		
I	T	I	N	E	N	E	N	T	S	I	D	N	T	K	N					
N	E	9	N	I	d	R	I	H	C	9	V	E	O	S						
R	L	C	3	3	d	M	S	L	N	O	E	I	d	R	I	N	d	I	H	
G	M	f	S	0	9	H	L	J	d	N	7	3	E	H	V	N	Z	C		
K	H	I	R	M	I	K	S	R	I	N	7	I	R	I	S	N	7	9	I	
T	L	O	d	d	M	J	S	R	I	O	N	C	V	O	N	S	N	H	I	
I	K	N	N	N	M	N	H	J	I	O	N	C	V	L	O	C	9	d	C	
U	I	d	I	N	L	Z	d	T	8	M	I	M	J	T	I	n	O	S		
K	C	N	K	N	9	Z	T	H	8	S	3	S	C	9	T	3	N	M		
T	M	E	Y	Z	M	d	d	B	M	Z	T	R	R	9	9					
K	N		P	N	T	M	R	K	V	E	M	9	H	S	T	C	d	N		

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Leave Nothing But Your Footprints



Emily Cordell signs volleyball scholarship

Emily Cordell, center, signed a volleyball scholarship on Thursday, April 17, to play for Wheaton College in Massachusetts. She is flanked by her mom and dad, and longtime coach Elizabeth Andrews, far left, and current coach Hannah Strickland. Cordell thanked her parents, coaches and fellow players – going back to travel league, several of whom were at the signing.

– William Snowden



Softball win

Wakulla Lady War Eagles softball team beat Lincoln High School 9-2 last week. The team celebrates a Cylie Long homerun, above; and Mackenize Taff scores another run, right. (Photos by Perry Dissmore)



Winter Guard goes to championship

By MILES BREITHAUPT
Special to The Sun

A few weeks ago, Wakulla High Schools Winter Guard, lead by their director Brooke Post, went to state with their ensemble show, “Nothing Without a Woman,” where they received the highest possible score of a superior. On top of this, each one of the 14 girls on the team brought a solo to state, with some even bringing multiple solos.

Co-captains Isabel Brown and Sophia Kamal both brought a flag and rifle solo, and for the first time in Wakulla High’s history, head captain Lillian Mitchell brought three solos to state, performing her flag, rifle, and sabre solos respectively. All the captains got superiors on their solos, with the whole team collectively accomplishing 15 out of 17 superiors. The championships took place in Daytona, where teams from across Florida and Georgia all competed with their programs, and Wakulla came out with an accomplishment of 8th place in their division! Lillian Mitchell’s sabre solo

earned a 3rd place medal. When asked about it, she said guard is all about the constant improvement of yourself and your abilities.



Winter Guard in performance.

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Wakulla County School District

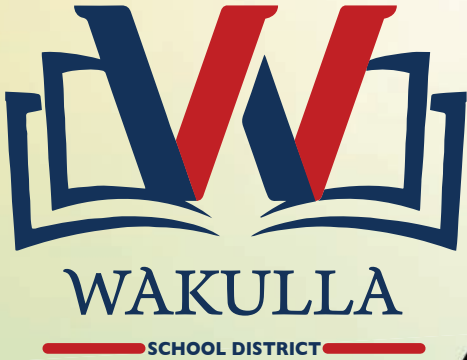
Summer Enrichment Camp Program

This summer, the Wakulla County School District is offering an enrichment camp program for current students finishing kindergarten through 4th grade, ages 6-10 (must be currently enrolled in WCSD to attend). Each week will offer a different theme and include fun, hands-on activities for your student! Our program will be a great opportunity to keep your student active and engaged all summer long! There are limited spots available, so register early! Your deposit(s) will secure your child’s enrollment.

Where will camp be?

June (9-12; 16-18; 23-26)
Crawfordville Elementary School

July (7-10; 14-17; 21-24)
Riversink Elementary School



WAKULLA

SCHOOL DISTRICT

When? What?

Camp runs Monday—Thursday; 8:00—3:00
TRANSPORTATION IS NOT INCLUDED!

Week 1: All About Sports (June 9-12)
Week 2: Love of Animals (June 16-18)
Week 3: Arts and Crafts (June 23-26)
Week 4: Cooking Fun (July 7-10)
Week 5: Sealife (July 14-17)
Week 6: Water Fun (July 21-24)

What are the Fees?

\$250 per student per week
**fees include breakfast, lunch, field trips and all supplies*
**\$50 nonrefundable deposit fee (per week)*

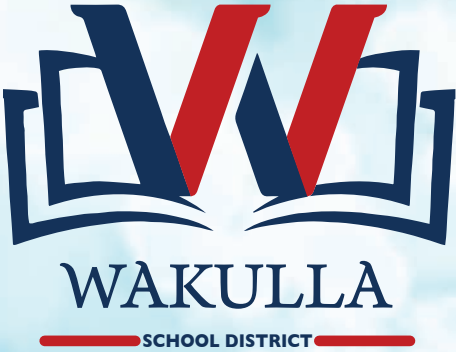
BREAKING NEWS!!
We are adding an extended day option!!
Hours: 3:00—5:30
Cost: \$50 per week per student

Planned Field Trips

Week 1—June 12th Capital Lanes Bowling
Week 2—June 19th Tallahassee Museum
Week 3—June 26 CMX FallsChase Movies
Week 4— July 10th Orchard Farm
Week 5—July 17th Gulf Specimen Lab and Wooley Park
Week 6– July 24th Urban Air

If you are interested in enrolling your student in our Summer Enrichment Program, please complete the information below and return it via email (summerenrichment@wcsb.us) or drop it off at the District Office (69 Arran Road). The program director will contact you directly to confirm your student’s acceptance. Once acceptance is confirmed, parents will be required to submit the \$50 deposit fee per week (non-refundable) and complete the enrollment packet for the summer. Students will be required to adhere to the WCSB Code of Conduct at all times. Additional program details will be provided prior to the beginning of camp. Please complete one application for each student.

Completion of this form does not guarantee enrollment.



Student Name

Grade:

Parent Name:

Parent Email:

Parent Phone:

Extended Day: Y: N:

Enrollment 1:

2:

3:

4:

5:

6:

****You must pay the \$50 deposit fee (non-refundable) for each week you which to secure enrollment.**



Need more information? Please contact the camp directors at summerenrichment@wcsb.us

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