



Purple gallinule

See Birding Column, Page 6



\$1
One Section



"It's a New Day"

Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
PM Tunderstorms	Scattered Tunderstorms	Scattered Tunderstorms
Hi: 90° Lo: 73° 42%	Hi: 88° Lo: 74° 59%	Hi: 87° Lo: 74° 53%
Sunrise 6:37 AM Sunset 8:42 PM	Sunrise 6:38 AM Sunset 8:42 PM	Sunrise 6:38 AM Sunset 8:42 PM

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Our 4th Year 25th Issue
Thursday, June 26, 2025

WCSO stymied trying to seize scammer’s Bitcoin

An account in Miami allegedly scammed local woman of \$6,000 – but court finds the cryptocurrency can’t be seized because it was never in Wakulla

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

Wakulla Circuit Judge Layne Smith dismissed a case last week in which the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office had seized and was seeking to have forfeited a cryptocurrency account that had received money from a financial scam of a Wakulla woman as the judge found the account was in Miami, and the account had never been located in Wakulla.

According to state statute, for a law enforcement agency to seize an asset used in a criminal case – such as a car or money – it has to be located in the agency’s jurisdiction.

The sheriff’s office “lacked the authority to seize property in another county,” says Judge Smith’s order, signed on Tuesday, June 17. “The record shows the account at issue has never been located in Wakulla County, Florida.”

The lawsuit to seize the account was filed on May 23 for the sheriff’s office by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Office of the Attorney General.

Back in November 2024, a woman living in Wakulla County reported being the victim of a fraudulent cryptocurrency



transaction: a man called her and falsely identified himself as a Federal Trade Commission agent named “John Martin” and told the victim she was under investigation due to her Social Security number being leaked and subsequently used in other fraudulent transactions.

The victim was convinced to withdraw \$6,000 from her bank accounts and send the funds to a Bitcoin ATM. The victim also went a Lululemon store and purchased \$2,000 in gift cards and turned the numbers over to the perpetrator.

Capt. Nicholas Boutwell of the Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office traced the wallet address and went to FDLE to conduct a blockchain search for the stolen money. It was determined the wallet owner swapped Bitcoin for

multiple other virtual currencies.

A subpoena to Binance determined the account holder for the wallet was identified as Barry Glenn Augustinsky, and there was a balance of \$416,362 in the account, including the victim’s stolen funds.

On May 7, Capt. Boutwell obtained a search and seizure warrant to seize funds in the wallet.

On May 13, FDLE seized the wallet containing various cryptocurrencies.

The agency then informed Augustinsky that it seeking forfeiture as contraband under the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act.

On May 27, Judge Smith initially did an order finding probable cause to seize the funds and giving Augustinsky 20 days to respond.

At a hearing on June 11 and in a motion to dismiss filed that day, Tampa attorney Leslie Sammis argued that the court lacked jurisdiction since the account was not in Wakulla County.

On June 17, Judge Smith signed an order dismissing the case for lack of jurisdiction.

“The court orders the (Sheriff’s Office) to return the seized account to the claimant,” reads the judge’s order.

Post office seeks blue ribbon on homes with dogs

Crawfordville mail carriers have one of the highest rates of dog bites in the district, says postmaster

By AMY GERLEMAN
Crawfordville Postmaster

The Postal Service celebrates National Dog Bite Awareness during the month of June every year. Our district safety coordinator has asked each associate office to get creative and find a way to get the entire office, and their customers, involved in becoming aware of the dangers of dog bites.

My plan is to ask each family with a dog to put a blue ribbon around their mailbox. If they do not have any blue ribbon or cannot get any blue ribbon, just leave us a note in your mailbox and we will leave you some blue ribbon (and I was just thinking some paper or the balloon tail type ribbon so it would last through storms and sun and would be cheap).



Postmaster Amy Gerleman

This would be for indoor dogs as well as outdoor dogs. When a carrier gets to your house to deliver a package, they might not see the dog sitting under the bushes for shade, or you may have an inside dog and at the time that you take the dog out to do its business, just happens to be the time that the carrier is coming up to the door to drop off the package. Inside dogs can be even worse about bites than outside dogs because they are not used to seeing the carriers drive by every day.

Dogs are only protecting their property, protect-

Turn to Page 3

LOCAL MOVIE SCREENING



‘Tate’ shown at Palaver Tree

Locally produced movie “Tate,” based on the legend of Tate’s Hell, got a screening Saturday night at Palaver Tree Theater. Clockwise from above, Frank Lindamood played and sung the song “Tate’s Hell” by Will McLean; Movie Producers Stacy Brown Jr. and Joseph Badia answer questions from the audience; and the Dusty Gravelers opened the show. (Photos by Gerald Brown)



Salute to Veterans offers services on Friday, Saturday

Staff Report

The second annual Salute to Veterans will be held at the Wakulla Community Center on Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event, hosted by the VFW and Auxiliary Post 4538 is open to all veterans and their families and offers access to medical, dental and eye care, as well as veteran services, counseling and financial services.

For more information, email asaluteto ourveterans@gmail.com.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP OF STATE GOVERNMENT

‘Long and winding road’ in the rearview

By JIM TURNER
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — House and Senate leaders brought the gavel down on the 105-day legislative session before midnight last Monday, celebrating with the traditional hanky drop signaling a wrap to their work.

Attention now is focused on which items in the \$115.1 billion state spending plan, which took 45 days longer than regularly scheduled to patch together, will survive Gov. Ron DeSantis’

veto pen.

SINE SIGH

“Here we are at the end of the long and winding road,” House Speaker Daniel Perez, R-Miami, opined as the House session drew to a close on Monday.

The budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year, which begins July 1, stands at about \$3.5 billion smaller than the budget for the current fiscal year and weighs in a little leaner than the \$115.6 plan the governor proposed in early

February.

Sen. Ileana Garcia, a Miami Republican who chairs the Senate Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations Committee, described the spending plan as “lean yet strategic.”

Lawmakers used the budget and linked bills to pay down state debt and to give most state employees pay raises.

The only dissenting votes on the budget were cast by Rep. Angie Nixon, D-Jacksonville, and Rep. Dotie Joseph, D-North Miami. While she voted for the budget,

Rep. Anna Eskamani, D-Orlando, said it represented “a lot of missed opportunities” for working families.

Lawmakers also approved a \$1.3 billion package of tax cuts, dominated by the elimination of a commercial-lease tax that has long been a target of business lobbyists.

Some of the heaviest debate Monday came on bills linked to the budget, including on what is known as an implementing bill (SB 2502). Democrats criticized part of

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Correction



This photo from the Rockin’ Reds fishing tournament misidentified the man talking to Chris Russell about his friend, Gage Pitman, who the tournament is held in memory of. The man’s name is Keith Godden.

We regret the error.

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The Wakulla Sun

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Flower of the Week at Sopchoppy Depot Park

Pale meadowbeauty

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER



Pale meadowbeauty (*Rhexia mariana*) is a dainty wildflower only 1-2 feet tall that is common throughout Florida and the south-east. Its four petals are often pale pink but vary from white to pink to lavender. The flowers have long curving yellow-to-orange anthers that contrast with the petals and extend beyond them. The showy blooms attract bees and small butterflies and are pollinated mainly by bumblebees. Unlike most flowers, meadowbeauties are buzz pollinated, meaning bees use vibration to obtain pollen. The anthers are sealed except for tiny openings that allow pollen to exit when vibrated but keep other insects out. Though individual flowers last only a day, the plants flower for 1-2 months. Pale meadowbeauty prefers moist soil in full sun. It is blooming now near the pond at Sopchoppy Depot Park

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Wakulla County Tax Collector

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Weekly Roundup

From Front Page

that bill that could lead to the governor’s Office of Policy and Budget reviewing the budgets of local governments.

Sen. Carlos Guillermo Smith, D-Orlando, asked if the governor would “send a bunch of 20-year-old bros” to review local governments. But Sen. Jason Pizzo, a Sunny Isles Beach lawmaker who has no party affiliation, backed the measure.

Cities in Pizzo’s district are “blowing untold amounts of money on really stupid things. On trips all over the world. On productions and shows,” he said.

Lawmakers did not pass property-tax rebates championed by DeSantis or reduce the overall sales-tax rate as sought by Perez. But Senate President Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula, and Perez said cutting property taxes remains a goal that lawmakers will revisit during the 2026 session.

IN WITH THE NEW

DeSantis’ effort to reshape higher education

continued to advance this week, as his allies took over the helms of three universities and a state college.

The state university system’s Board of Governors on Wednesday signed off on former Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nuñez as president of Florida International University, Marva Johnson as president of Florida A&M University and Education Commissioner Manny Díaz Jr. as interim president of the University of West Florida.

Nuñez, who stepped down as lieutenant governor to become interim FIU president in February, is getting a base salary of \$925,000.

Díaz, a former state legislator from Hialeah who has served as education commissioner since 2022, has indicated he’s interested in a permanent position at the Pensacola university.

Johnson, whose base salary will be \$650,000 a year, was a Charter Communications executive and former chairwoman of the State Board of Education.

Members of the audience at the board meet-

ing at Florida Atlantic University booed when her nomination was introduced.

“As students, as primary stakeholders ... we are very concerned about the future of our university,” FAMU student Devin Nobles Jr. told the board. “The candidate does not meet the qualifications as set for us by our own presidential search committee.”

Board of Governors member Alan Levine defended Johnson, saying she demonstrated “resilience and spine” amid the public attacks.

A day earlier, Eric Hall was named president of Pasco-Hernando State College. Hall, who had been serving as interim president, was a senior chancellor at the Florida Department of Education before being appointed by DeSantis in 2021 to lead the Department of Juvenile Justice.

OUT OF ORDER

U.S. District Judge Kathleen Williams on Tuesday found Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier in civil contempt because of a letter he sent in April to police after she ordered a halt to enforcement of a new state immigration law.

The decision came after a series of events that started April 4 when Williams issued a temporary restraining order to block enforcement of the law, which passed during a February special legislative session and created state crimes for undocumented immigrants who enter or re-enter Florida.

“Uthmeier’s role endows him with a unique capacity to uphold or undermine the rule of law, and when he does the latter by violating a court order, the integrity of the legal system depends on his conduct being within the court’s remedial reach,” Williams wrote in a 27-page decision.

The Florida Immigrant Coalition, the Farmworker Association of Florida and two individual plaintiffs filed the lawsuit on April 2, contending, in part, that the law violates what is known as the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution because immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility.

In issuing a preliminary injunction, Williams said the state law likely was preempted by federal immigration

THE WAKULLA SUN, Thursday, June 26, 2025 – Page 3

authority.

Uthmeier has argued that the temporary restraining order — and a longer-lasting preliminary injunction issued later — should only apply to him and local state attorneys because they were the named defendants in the underlying legal challenge to the law (SB 4-C).

“I think she’s overstepped her bounds,” Uthmeier said during an interview on Fox News. “But if being held in contempt is the price to pay for standing on principle and standing on the law, then so be it.”

DRILLING INTO DRILLING

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection on Monday denied a permit for Louisiana-based Clearwater Land & Minerals Fla. to drill for oil near the Apalachicola River.

The ruling upheld recommendations of an administrative law judge and gave a temporary victory to environmentalists and Northwest Florida residents.

While Clearwater is expected to appeal, critics of the permit now await DeSantis’ action on legislation (HB 1143) that would effectively prevent drilling within 10 miles of the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve.

The bill was delivered to DeSantis on Wednesday.

STORY OF THE WEEK:

Florida lawmakers finalized a \$115.1 billion state spending plan for the fiscal year that begins July 1.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

“We want to make sure we don’t create sticker shock for students that are here currently.” — State university system Board of Governors member Alan Levine, referring to plans that will allow universities to raise tuition for out-of-state students by 10 percent this fall and impose another hike next year.

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.

Local students earn plaudits

• Taylor Pierini named to Dean’s List at SNHU

Taylor Pierini of Crawfordville has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s Spring 2025 Dean’s List. The spring terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Southern New Hampshire University is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with a 92-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults.

• Katlynnne Borosky named to Dean’s List at Belmont

Belmont University recently released the Dean’s List for the spring 2025 semester. Approximately 47% of the University’s 6,912 undergraduate students qualified for the spring 2025 Dean’s List, including Katlynnne Borosky of Crawfordville.

“Achieving the Dean’s List

accomplishment showcases the resilience, discipline and academic excellence of these deserving Belmont students,” said Dr. David Gregory, Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Excellence.

Dean’s List eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Belmont University is located near the heart of thriving Nashville, Tennessee, Belmont University consists of nearly 9,000 students who come from every state and 33 countries.


The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners is Seeking Members to Serve on the Industrial Development Authority

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners is seeking volunteers to serve on the Wakulla County Industrial Development Authority. This Committee was established for the purpose of financing and refinancing of industrial development projects and for fostering the economic development of the County.

The BOCC is seeking two (2) members who must be a residents and electors of Wakulla County.

Interested persons can submit a letter of interest in serving on the Industrial Development Authority, which shall include the person’s name, address, telephone number, and email address *no later than Thursday, July 31, 2025*. Please send your information via e-mail to Ashley Rowland-Yost, Planner, at ayost@mywakulla.com, or mail to 3093 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327 or by fax to 926-1528.

June 26, 2025



WAKULLA COUNTY

Notice of Public Meeting:

The Wakulla County Industrial Development Authority will hold a Public Meeting on Wednesday, **July 16, 2025** at 4:00p.m. in the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Conference Room, 3093 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL., (850) 926-0919.

Purpose of Meeting:

To Discuss Financing & Refinancing of Projects for Public Purposes, and for the Purpose of Fostering Economic Development Pursuant to Ord. #2016-5.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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

June 26, 2025

SOPCHOPPY WATER SYSTEM
CITY OF SOPCHOPPY, FLORIDA
WELL NO. 7 MODIFICATIONS

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the Well No. 7 Improvements will be received, by the City of Sopchoppy, at the City Hall, 105 Municipal Avenue, Sopchoppy, Florida 32358, until 2:00 PM E.D.S.T. on July 10, 2025, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project consists of installing two 1,000 gallon-per-minute wells, a 200,000-gallon ground storage tank, two 1,000 gallon-per-minute booster pumps, a mechanical / treatment building and associate yard piping and appurtenances to connect to the existing water distribution system.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum price basis as indicated in the Bid Form.


The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is Baskerville-Donovan, Inc., 449 West Main Street, Pensacola, Florida 32502, 850-438-9661, contact Jeffrey W. Jones, P.E. jjones@baskervilledonovan.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM C.D.S.T. and may obtain electronic copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described above.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Bidding Documents are available as portable document format (PDF) files) for a non-refundable charge of \$50.00. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the prospective Bidder’s date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. **Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.**

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 AM E.D.S.T. on July 1, 2025, at City Hall, 105 Municipal Avenue, Sopchoppy, Florida.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

June 19, 26, July 3, 10, 2025



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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

WAKULLA COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
(RFQ) 2025-14

SPECIAL MAGISTRATE FOR CODE
COMPLIANCE

ADVERTISEMENT BEGIN DATE:
JUNE 26, 2025

RELEASE DATE: JUNE 26, 2025

RESPONSE DUE DATE AND TIME:
JULY 31, 2025 AT 3:00 P.M. EST

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Board of County Commissioners, 3093 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327; until 3:00 P.M., Local Time, on JULY 31, 2025 at which time the proposals will be opened and read aloud. Proposals received after said time will be returned unopened.

The principal feature of this procurement by the County is known as: SPECIAL MAGISTRATE FOR CODE COMPLIANCE. The specifications of this procurement are stated in **RFQ 2025-14**

The RFQ and any addenda issued will be posted to the County’s Website at www.mywakulla.com or can be obtained by contacting the County Procurement Office at 850-926-0919 or bnowak@mywakulla.com.

A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted Respondent list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY TWO (\$35,000) for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted Respondent list.

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid; reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; re-bid a project, in whole or in part; and to accept a proposal that in its judgment is the lowest and best bid of a responsible bidder. In accepting a bid, Wakulla County may award a contract based only on the base bid, the base bid plus all alternates, or the base bid plus any alternates which Wakulla County selects -- with all decisions being made based upon what Wakulla County believes to be the best interests of its ratepayers, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion. Wakulla County further reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as may be required to meet the needs of Wakulla County, at the unit price which was bid. Wakulla County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status and disability/handicapped status in employment or provision of service.

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ADA – Special Accommodations: Any person requiring accommodations by the County due to a disability should call the Purchasing Office at 850-926-0919 at least five (5) days prior to any pre-response conference, response opening, or meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the County Purchasing Office by the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

June 26, 2025

Polled at the screening of 'Tate' at Palaver Tree Theater:
Have you ever been lost in the woods?



SUZANNE BRYAN
Spiritual Life Coach

“Actually, before Blue Ridge became a state park, you had to look for a bridge in Madison and then go down a pig trail to find the springs. We were lost for about an hour. ”

By VERA BROCK

Listen to the world around you, it will tell you what you need to know.

Always stop and smell the roses... and the grass, and the leaves, and the scents wafting on the breeze. Keep your friends and family close, so they can hold you up and keep you safe. Accept help from everyone (even cats) when you need it. Relish the good things in life... cheese is always a plus! Trust your instincts, so you don't fall off the bed, the steps, or the way. Never miss an opportunity to love. Speak up when you need to! When everyone around you is raising Cain (looking at you, BlueDog) and rushing towards the trouble, stand and wait for clarity.

Above all else, slow down and think. I'm certain I will continue to learn lessons from my sweet Brown Sugar, but maybe these will resonate within you, dear readers.

In these tumultuous times, it can feel like our world is spinning out of control. But we are not completely at the mercy of chaos and confusion. Breathe and settle. Follow the example of a small, brave doxie and never give up. You, too, can find peace and joy every day!

Speaking of peace and joy, let's join together in prayer for a rapid resolution to the conflict with Iran. I can't help but recall the lyrics from the Christmas hymn, It Came Upon A Midnight Clear, "When peace,

over all the earth, its ancient splendors fling..."

Those words are so evocative to me. I am so ready for peace to break out in the Middle East.

Please hold your friends and family close in prayer. I would ask you to remember Clem Bunker, Cindy Blackstock, Buddy Lewis, Faye Sweeney, Jimmy Gainey, John Foster, Fred Morfield, Gloria Dock, and Terry McClure.

Also in need of prayer are the families of Tom McClure, John Johnson, Thelma Watts, and Mary Jane Thornton.

By DJ BUTCH

Sopchoppy was on national TV. CBS morning show came and went worm grunting with the Revell family. They also came to the Worm Gruntin' Festival. They showed me for two to three seconds, but they did play my voice introducing Mr. Gary.

They also showed my logo. It was awesome! I thought it was going to be a longer episode but it was still really good. Worm Gruntin' is real-

ly an interesting topic to the world. I am viral on three platforms grunting worms. Millions of views on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. You should follow me.

The Fourth of July is around the corner and it is always a big day for Sopchoppy. I think it has rained every year since I was born but always fun. The parade, good food, good music and good times.

Oh, and you cannot forget the fireworks. Come on down to Sopchoppy

and enjoy the Fourth of July.

Speaking of rain, it has been raining a lot lately. We needed it though. It's definitely making the grass grow faster.

The Yella flies are better but here comes the skeeters... The Yella flies are not gone yet.... Also the temperature is heating up. It's time for River, beach, sand bars and pools, baby....

I went to the Sopchoppy School workshop. They are getting help from a planning committee. They asked the community what they wanted to see happen with the property. I was impressed with that. We are a com-

munity and we care deeply for our history. Most of us anyway. The real Sopchoppy does, that's for sure. Only a few of us left but we will stand up for our history. I think this is a step in the right direction. The city will be having another meeting/workshop about renting space at the school on June 23rd like the auditorium and more. I'm super interested in this. I plan on attending that meeting also.

I did WTXL ABC 27 news recently. They did a story on the future of the Sopchoppy Historic School. I like to let my people know what is going on with our community.

Love from Sopchoppy!

BRIAN C. ENGLISH

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**Samantha Jacobs Riverspring
Middle School Employee of the
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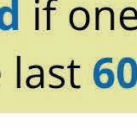


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This program is supported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$13,792,500 with 100 percent funded by CMS/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CMS/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

Finishing cleaning the S&W .380 Shield EZ



By MARJ LAW

Last week, we talked to Ellen about cleaning her S&W .380 Shield EZ. She had been horrified to learn that she had to clean her gun more than once every two to three years. Actually, I think she really was afraid to fieldstrip her gun.

Once she learned to lock back the slide, flip the take-down lever to a 90’ angle, and move the slide off the frame, she learned that taking down her gun wasn’t such a big mystery after all.

“It makes sense to me,” she said. “The slide has to come off the frame. Now that you’ve got these two parts, you can see inside the gun. Once you see inside, you can spot all the places to clean. Makes sense!”

She notices: “We cleaned the ramp, and yes, it sure was dirty. I may have etched the metal a bit because the gun shooting residue had lasted so long there. But now, we polished it with Maas metal polish, and the ramp is all shiny again. Next, I dampened

the snake with solvent and ran it through the barrel, making sure to drop the snake in on the ramp side of the barrel. The barrel is cleaned, the ramp is cleaned and let’s put the gun back together!”

“Not so fast, Ellen! We did clean the inside of the barrel with the snake, but now we have to clean off the outside of the barrel, too. Here, take this small square of T-shirt material and dampen it with solvent.”

“Can I use any old brand of solvent? Daddy uses Hoppe’s. Should I borrow his?”

“No, Ellen. Hoppe’s is good and has been used for years. However, many people have a reaction to its very strong fumes. It can cause watery eyes, sneezing, and runny nose. Almost any gun store will carry synthetic solvents. They also clean well, but they don’t seem to cause allergic reactions.”

I add: “Take the T-shirt square and clean all around the outside of the barrel. The ramp side is the beginning of what we call the breech block.”

“OK! Now that the barrel is clean all over, shall we drop it back inside the slide?”

“No, Ellen. We’re not done here. Before we put the barrel back in, notice all these grooves had lasted so long there. But now, we polished it with Maas metal polish, and the ramp is all shiny again. Next, I dampened



dirty, just throw it out and use another.”

“OK. I expect you want me to clean the other side too.”

“Good idea! See the hole where the firing pin comes out? Clean all around that.”

“Yuck. That’s really bad.”

“Clean all the grooves above the firing pin hole.”

“Those are bad too.”

“Keep using clean swabs until they come up clean with no black residue.”

“OK. Looks like we’re done here!” Ellen says triumphantly.

“Not quite! Now, see these grooves along both sides? These grooves are where the slide rides on the frame. Naturally, they need to be clean so both parts of the gun slide easily together.”

“Do I use more swabs?”

“Sure.”

“These grooves are nasty. See all the gunk I got out of them? But I’m not sure I’m getting all the stuff out with the swabs. They’re a bit wide. What else can I use?”

“You’re right! The slide grooves need special attention. We’ve found some plastic tools that look like something your dentist uses. Plastic, because they won’t scratch the metal. Dampen another tee-shirt square. Place the square over the groove, and, with the pointy end of this tool, run it along the slide rails. Some people use toothbrushes, and some have found other tools that work. The bottom line is, these rails need a thorough cleaning.”

“Are we done with the three parts of the slide yet?”

“Not quite. Take one more damp cloth and wipe down the spring. Good. You’re done with the slide.”

“Can I put the gun back together now?”

“No, Ellen. We’ve cleaned inside the slide, but we haven’t cleaned inside the frame yet.”

“Darn. I was afraid of that. So, where do we clean here?”

“Use your swabs and wipe down all the surfaces in the frame including the top of the magazine well.”

“This is sure taking a lot of swabs!” Ellen protests.

“Swabs are cheap, Ellen. When they get dirty, just throw them out!”

“I see rails here too, but they’re not so long as the rails in the slide. They want cleaning, too, don’t they?”

“You got it!”

“OK. I think it’s all clean. Time to put the gun back together again, right?” Ellen sounds hopeful.

“Close, but not yet. We have some greasing yet to do.”

“Why grease? Isn’t grease just going to add goo that could jam up the gun?”

“Well, sure. Too much grease is not a good thing, so we’ll be careful. Check out the barrel. Do you see any shiny places on the outside, especially the top of the barrel block? If parts are shiny when they should be blued, that means there is some wear at that location. Put some firearm grease on a piece of tee-shirt or on your fingers and smooth a very thin coat wherever you see signs of wear.”

“OK. Is that all?”

“No. We’ll grease the rails next. Remember, this is where the slide rides on the frame. Line the rails with a thin coat of grease. You don’t want too much or the excess grease will collect shooting debris, so wipe out the excess.”

“I suppose you want me to grease the slides on both the upper and

the lower.”

“Exactly!”

“Now, finally, can we put the gun back together?”

“Sure. We drop the barrel back into the upper. Then, we push the spring onto the top of the barrel. Notice the spring has a curved side that fits into the curve of the barrel block.”

Ellen presses on the spring and fits it into the groove.

“Carefully align the upper and the lower so that the rails match up. Push the slide over the frame. Keep pushing until you can lock back the slide. After you lock the slide back, flip the take-down lever until it is parallel to both slide and frame. Release the slide lock lever. Now, squeeze the trigger. If you hear the click of the trigger, you’ve assembled the gun properly.”


“What happens if the trigger doesn’t click?”

“Then you take apart the gun and put it back together carefully. You might not have replaced the spring properly.”

“Well, I heard the trigger click, so I’m home free! Wait a sec. I’m home free! I did it! I field stripped, cleaned and lubed my gun! It took time, but it was easy!”

“I won’t be waiting two or three years to clean my gun again!”


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



CALICO CRAB
(*Hepatus epheliticus*)

Considered to be the most attractive crab in Florida, it lives in costal areas from Chesapeake Bay to the Dominican Republic at depths to 150ft. Its brightly colored 3” carapace, often with an anemone on it, provides camouflage. It stays buried beneath the sand, with it eyes showing. When worms, small clams, fish or other prey appear, the crab pops up and shreds it with sharp pincers. The crab spawns in summer and females carry eggs until hatching. Crabs have five larval stages. Calico crabs are a favorite food of Ridley sea turtles.

Eukarya, Animalia, Arthropoda, Malacostraca, Decapoda, Aethridae



BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

Visiting Headquarters Pond

By DON MORROW

Headquarters Pond lies about five miles past the St. Marks NWR Visitor Center on Lighthouse Road. It is not a particularly large pond, only 17-acres or so. Named for its proximity to the refuge’s former headquarters site, it was formed when the construction of Lighthouse Road dammed a section of marsh. It has a raised viewing platform that gives you a good vantage point over the pond. To get to it, park at the Tower Pond Trailhead, where the bathrooms are located, and walk out the short, well-marked trail.

dark duck-like birds with red-and-yellow “candy corn” bills that extend up to a red frontal shield on their forehead. They spend most of their time swimming near floating leaved plants and will occasionally walk on them. They are year-round residents at St. Marks. Once called the Florida Gallinule, in 1983 ornithologists lumped them with the Common Moorhen, a species found in Eurasia and considered them a single species. In 2011, they were separated from the moorhen and the Common Gallinule is again considered a distinct species.

Their Purple Gallinule cousins are slimmer and more brightly colored with deep purple, light blue, and iridescent green plumage. They also have a red-and-yellow bill, but have a pale blue frontal shield. Unlike Common Gallinules, they spend most of their time walking on floating leaves. They have long toes that spread their weight and allow them to climb stems to reach seed heads. Although some overwinter, they are mainly summer residents. Headquarters Pond has always been the easiest spot on the refuge to find Purple Gallinule.

The pond has always had a marshy edge; a good place for Green Herons and Least Bitterns or for Sora and Virginia Rails, depending on the season. Shallow wetlands like

Headquarters Pond can evolve over time. Successive generations of wetland plants die and decompose, forming an ever-thickening layer of mud that fills the pond. New species of wetland plants are brought in by birds, wind, or storm surge.

White water lily, a common wetland plant at St. Marks, became established on Headquarters Pond and for years its large round floating leaves covered parts of the pond, providing habitat for Purple Gallinules and leaving deeper open areas for ducks, American Coots and Common Gallinules. This changed after Hurricane Michael’s storm surge inundated the pond. In the years since that storm, American Lotus has replaced the water lilies.

American lotus has large yellow flowers that open in late morning and close in mid-afternoon. The plant’s seed pods resemble a showerhead. Some of its large round leaves float on the surface of the water, while others are raised above the surface. This summer, its leaves have almost completely covered the pond, leaving few spots of open water. Common Gallinule numbers are down, but Purple Gallinules, which feed on lotus seed pods, seem to be doing well.

There are also other changes occurring on the pond. Cattail has be-

come established and now forms a border along the edge of the pond. Cattail creates a single-species thicket, crowding out all other plants.

The changes that are occurring at Headquarters Pond are natural processes of wetland succession. Other natural processes, like drought, storm surge or fire, may intervene, but unless they do, cattail will eventually form a monoculture in the shallows and American lotus will dominate the deeper areas. Both American Lotus and Cattail are native species and are not without wildlife value. However, a wetland dominated by two plant species has less diversity of insects and birds and is a less interesting place.

St. Marks NWR is a dynamic and ever-changing landscape. The larger pools at St. Marks are actively managed by refuge staff, primarily for waterfowl, but also for species like Wilson’s Plover and Least Tern. Without periodic draining and flooding, they would slowly fill with vegetation. However, the refuge has limited staff and resources and is facing increasing shortages. Because of that, Headquarters Pond can no longer be actively managed and is slowly changing into Headquarters Marsh.

Don Morrow can be contacted at donaldcmorrow@gmail.com.

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<div><div>Thursday 26</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:37AM 8:42PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 7:37AM 10:19PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 2%</div><div>Friday 27</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:37AM 8:42PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 8:45AM 11:01PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 6%</div><div>Saturday 28</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:38AM 8:42PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 9:52AM 11:37PM</div><div>Moon Illumination 13%</div><div>Sunday 29</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:38AM 8:42PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 10:53AM ----</div><div>Moon Illumination 21%</div><div>Monday 30</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:38AM 8:42PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 11:52AM 12:07AM</div><div>Moon Illumination 30%</div><div>Tuesday 1</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:39AM 8:42PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 12:47PM 12:34AM</div><div>Moon Illumination 39%</div><div>Wednesday 2</div><div>Sun rise/set 6:39AM 8:42PM</div><div>Moon rise/set 1:41PM 1:01AM</div><div>Moon Illumination 49%</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., 38 Min.</div><div>Cat Point 1 Hr., 13 Min. 2 Hrs., 31 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>June 26 - July 2</div><div><div>Tide charts by tides4fishing.com</div><div></div></div></div><div><div><div>First July 2</div><div>Full July 10</div><div>Last July 17</div><div>New July 24</div></div><div>Best fishing days this month</div><div>June 25-30, July 7-13</div></div></div> <div><div>Thursday 26</div><div>MinorTimes 6:52AM 9:34PM</div><div>MajorTimes 1:16AM 1:46PM</div><div>Friday 27</div><div>MinorTimes 8:00AM 10:16PM</div><div>MajorTimes 2:15AM 2:42PM</div><div>Saturday 28</div><div>MinorTimes 9:07AM 10:52PM</div><div>MajorTimes 3:09AM 3:33PM</div><div>Sunday 29</div><div>MinorTimes 10:08AM ----</div><div>MajorTimes 3:57AM 4:19PM</div><div>Monday 30</div><div>MinorTimes 11:22PM 11:07AM</div><div>MajorTimes 4:41AM 5:02PM</div><div>Tuesday 1</div><div>MinorTimes 11:49PM 12:02PM</div><div>MajorTimes 5:22AM 5:42PM</div><div>Wednesday 2</div><div>MinorTimes 12:16AM 12:56PM</div><div>MajorTimes 6:02AM 6:22PM</div></div>

Coast Guard Auxiliary Reports

By Carolyn Brown Treadon

The following was shared by Scott Hausmann and originally appeared in Soundings: The Safety Equipment You Really Need for Your Boat by Mario Vittone on May 29. This article highlights several points made by Vittone.

In 2023, 2,126 people were injured and 564 people died while boating in the United States. Far and away, the leading contributing factor to those accidents was operator inattention and improper lookout, and the leading cause of death (67 percent) was drowning. If we could get everyone to pay attention while underway, and wear life jackets when operating open vessels under 26 feet, we could cut those death and injury rates in half.

The Coast Guard, the Guide does state that federal equipment requirements are minimum requirements and do not guarantee the safety of your vessel or its passengers. One area of critical importance is that of flotation and signaling.

You want to combine the requirements of

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

flotation and signaling into a single, properly outfitted PFD and—just as important—set your own standards for when you will wear it. Whether you choose an inflatable or a closed-cell foam life jacket, you should stow, attach or secure the following items—listed in order of importance—to your flotation device:

- A Personal Location Beacon or a combined PLB/AIS device
- A waterproof flash-light
- A whistle – it will be louder than your voice and carry farther
- A USCG-approved strobe light
- A See Rescue Streamer
- If you truly want to put things over the top in terms of a safe return to the vessel from the

water, attach a marine VHF radio to your PFD

Every boater should set their own standards by considering the risk of falling overboard, the severity of that risk, and then decide when to wear a PFD.

Every year, for the past 20 years, we’ve had over 2,500 boating injuries and deaths, and in almost every instance the boat had all the federally required gear aboard. Clearly, as the regulators say, the minimum requirements “do not guarantee the safety of your vessel or its passengers.” So, what can?

The risk of a mishap in any activity, including boating, can never be fully eliminated. But you can greatly reduce the risks by creating your own set of rules

based on the reality of what can go wrong at sea.

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.

Underwater Wakulla

By Gregg Stanton

Underwater weather. August 11, 2011

With all this much needed afternoon rain, comes a change in our underwater weather.

Since our inland dive sites are fed mostly by rain, the more of it, the higher the current flowing on its way to the coast. Much of the rain falling locally collects first in what we locally call swamps.

Swamps are digestive pits where organics collect, such as leaves, releasing their contents, such as tannin. As the swamp water level rises, these organics flow into nearby sink holes and begin their trek to the ocean.

Of course we can just climb back into our car and drive peacefully home when poor underwater conditions prevail. For us divers, this is a recipe for poor underwater visibility. And if we were to choose the one sensory system to rely on most underwater, it is visibility.

With poor visibility we can not see our cave line, our map leading the way out. We run into walls, ceiling and sediment floors with poor visibly. The current increases and we exhaust more energy to swim.

Simply put, why bother diving?

Wakulla Springs State Park is similarly impacted. The popular glass bottom boat rides shut down when the water turns dark in the main basin.

Indeed, Wakulla County is best known to divers as having unpredictable underwater weather. Several world class exploration projects have been postponed when Wakulla’s waters turned unexpectedly black.

Closer to the coast, we add a new dimension to our underwater weather. Caves with approximately 10 miles from the coast are archaean haline, or saltwater influenced. The more distant show tidal rise in the sinkhole, elevating as much as a meter (three feet) from the start of the dive to the end.

We often find a distinct warm saltwater layer or lens at the deepest part of these caves. We also find distinct fauna (animals), often new to science. Also, here we find clearer water, a fascinating combination for cave diving.

But further south and closer to the ocean we are more constrained by the tide. The closer to the ocean, the more the saltwater mixes with the tide, making it turbid as is often found in the marshes along the coast.

During the dryer months our clean fresh water encourages us to dive on the low tide. During the rainy season, we may find the high tide better. And now water quality changes during the dive.

Most of the caves south of Highway 98 are very tidal.

When we reach the coastline, we find sinkholes with connecting caves that are fully tidal. When the rain is abundant and the tide is low, they pump fresh water outward. When the opposite happens, they siphon saltwater in. Here divers MUST be vigilant to avoid becoming trapped in a siphoning coast sinkhole (called blue holes in the Bahamas).

As we proceed further seaward, our diving weather becomes ever more connected to the atmosphere.

Yes, tides bring cleaner water from the deep, low tides bring murky marsh water from shore. But wind generates waves that can reach down to the bottom and mix it all up.

Afternoon squalls are common close to the coast this time of year. If you are diving from a small boat, when the wind comes up and the waves reduce your underwater weather enough to retreat, returning home is not so peaceful.

All divers share a common concern for underwater visibility. Blame it on the weather.

Editor’s Note: This is a repeat of a column from 2011.

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

On his weekly survey of Wakulla Springs, retired park ranger Bob Thompson shared this photo of a Palemedes Swallowtail butterfly on a Buttonbush flower.

Which scenario do you want for your children?



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

What do our children or grandchildren see when they watch us? Do they see people who are discerning about the company we keep? Are they observing

parents who honor God in all their choices, words and thoughts? Psalm 1 presents two contrasting scenarios. Take a moment to look up the psalm and read all six verses. As you read, notice how the first half highlights the blessings and delights we experience when we allow ourselves to be nourished by God’s Word. “He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he pros-

pers” (:3 ESV). Then, observe the stark contrast in the latter half of the psalm, which depicts those who live in disobedience to God’s Word: “The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish” (Psalm 1:4-6 ESV). The Amplified Bible,

Classic Edition ends verse six with “but the way of the ungodly [those living outside God’s will] shall perish (end in ruin and come to nought).” Are these words persuasive enough to inspire you to make some changes? For sure, the last half of Psalm 1 isn’t as fun as the first half to read or even think about. But its warnings are important. Since our heavenly Father is loving, good and merciful, we can only begin to imagine how profoundly He longs for

us to choose the correct path. But the choice is ours. How would it change us – and our day – if we consistently honored God with our choices, words and thoughts? Would it help (and change everything we did) if we remembered how much God loves us? That He is walking with us? Do you desire the rewards that come from seeking God and His wisdom? Or do you prefer the consequences of rebelling against God

and His ways? We can find purpose, direction and meaning – or we can live recklessly, suffering disappointment and regret. Which scenario do you want for yourself? Which scenario do you want for your children? They are learning from your example. *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.*

Men of peppermint integrity



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

It was a time of civil unrest in our country – riots in Detroit, upheaval in California, the Civil Rights Movement pushing forward, and the Vietnam War raging across the world. It was the 1960s, and I was just a child. The evening news showed images of chaos and violence, both overseas and here at home. Somewhere in the mid-

dle of it all, I learned one of the greatest lessons of my life. Though I was young, I felt the weight of the world’s brokenness. Fear crept in as I watched the flames of conflict rise on our screen. But then something happened – something small and quiet – that changed me forever. It was a blustery winter day, and our mother had been sick for some time. Mr. Skeeter Sales, a man who often helped my father care for the yard, had heard of her illness. On that cold, damp day, Mr. Sales bundled himself up and walked three miles to the local store. He used what little he had to buy two peppermint can-

dies. Then he walked three more miles to our home to deliver them. When he arrived, I watched from the doorway as he handed the small paper sack to my father. But Dad didn’t just take it and close the door. He insisted that Mr. Sales come in and give the gift personally. Afterwards, my father grabbed his coat and drove Mr. Sales home. It was such a simple gesture. No one reported it. It didn’t make the evening news. No one in our community even heard about it. But I did. I saw it. And it shaped something deep in me. In the Gospel of Luke, there’s a moment when Jesus and His disciples were rejected by a Sa-

maritan village. James and John, burning with righteous anger, asked, “Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to destroy them?” (Luke 9:54). But Jesus rebuked them. That wasn’t the way. Instead, Jesus showed us a different way – a path of mercy and humility. He said that those who work for peace are truly blessed and will be known as God’s own children (Matthew 5:9). He challenged us to love even those who hurt us, to pray for those who speak against us, and to choose kindness over anger (Matthew 5:43-45). Jesus called us to do good to those who wish us harm, to bless those who curse us, and

to pray for those who mistreat us (Luke 6:27-28). It’s a hard way to live, but it’s the way that leads to true peace and healing. That’s the way of Christ. Not fire from heaven – but peppermint in a paper sack. My father and Mr. Sales never raised their voices in outrage. They didn’t demand recognition or justice. They simply lived the gospel, quietly, humbly – two men with peppermint integrity who walked together in peace when the world around them shouted with division. Their friendship lasted a lifetime. And now, here we are in the 2020s. The world doesn’t look all that different. Headlines still

rage. Fear still creeps in. But every now and then, if you’re watching closely, you’ll catch a glimpse of the kingdom – small, kind acts that carry the weight of heaven. Let’s be people who don’t call down fire – but who are willing to take each other home. Let us be the change others see. “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” — John 14:27 *Cheryl Mixon-Cruce is Pastor of Ochlockonee Bay United Methodist Church and Sopchoppy United Methodist Church.*

OUT TO PASTOR

Did my body warranty just expire?



By **JAMES SNYDER**

Just when I recover from the latest ache in my body within a few minutes, I will get a “Boo, I’m back.” I’m not quite sure why these Aches and Pains love my body so much. Why don’t they just get over it and move on to another circus. The problem is, after I’m through with one ache, the next ache is just a wee bit more painful. I think the previous ache is just a practice for the next ache. Getting up from bed the other day, I complained to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage that my body was achy all over. I’m not sure why I thought she needed to know about all of these aches and pains, but I had to spill my beans. After my lecture, she looked at me and said, “Maybe you need some body parts replaced.” Then she continued, “I know an antique store I could take you.” I did not find that

very funny, and smiled sarcastically at her and went to my office to complain to myself. I’ve been to the doctor quite a few times in the last few years to deal with a variety of body aches and pains. He prescribed to me so much medicine that I kind of believe I’m a drug addict at this point. I have a pill for every ache and pain in my body along with substitutes. While in my office, the telephone rang, and it was, you guessed it, a call reminding me that my car warranty was about to expire. Of course, I have no such warranty on any of my vehicles. However, it did get me to think about something. Is my body warranty on the verge of expiring? I’m waiting for someone to call me and offer me a renewed body warranty. That would solve a lot of my problems, I think. In the meantime, I have to settle for what I got. I started to chuckle. I discovered The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is having an affair with Mr. Arthur Ritis. He’s in her hand, fingers, and knee. No matter where she goes, Arthur goes along with her. I will never know why she puts up with Arthur.

Some of my worst pain is a pain in the neck. I get this so often as I get older. When I was younger, I had no pain of this nature. But getting older, I’ve had this pain in the neck. Personally, I want to be a pain in the neck to somebody, like The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I know what would happen if I were a pain in her neck. She would say something very nice at my funeral. I was having a little trouble with my hip, and was tempted to ask her to take me to her favorite antique store. After all, what did I have to lose in that regard? When I told her, she smiled at me and said, “I don’t think I can. I’m afraid they will want to keep you.” Talk about a pain in the neck? As I get older, I am trying to learn how to deal with all the aches and pains that come

daily. As soon as I get used to one pain, a new one shows up and I have to start all over again. Why isn’t there one pain pill to deal with all the pain in my body? I tried several things to deal with my pain. First of course is the doctor. Every time the doctor sees me he smiles and greets me very heartily. I used to think he was happy to see me, but then I realized when I went to him, he was getting money out of my insurance, Medicare, and whatever else I have. Realizing this, I began to understand that to all those doctors I am an ATM machine. I guess I’m glad that my pain benefits somebody in this world. Another thing I try to deal with is ignoring my pain. Pretending it doesn’t exist. That doesn’t always work. When I wake up in

the morning, the first thing The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asks is, “How are your aches and pains today?” It’s hard to ignore them when somebody is always talking about them. Then there’s another aspect of this. I am learning that although these aches and pains are a curse, they are also a blessing. I never knew that before. When The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asks me to do something I don’t want to do, I start complaining. “Oh, dear, I’d love to, but my shoulder hurts so much. I just can’t do it.” I’m not sure she believes me or not, but it works most of the time, and I’m happy with anything I can get. I might never get used to my aches and

pains. But if I can turn them into an advantage, that will be a very happy day for me. I then thought of one of my favorite verses in the Bible. James 1:2-4, “My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” A pain sometimes helps me to be patient and learn a new lesson of patience in life. *Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, email jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.*



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Worship 11 a.m.
Bible Study
Wed. 6 p.m.

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Wednesday: Mass at 7:00 pm
1st Saturday: Adoration and Confessions at 8:30 am
1st Saturday: Mass at 9:30 am.
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Obituaries

DEATH NOTICES

- **Brenda Alford**, 76, of Tallahassee, died June 11, 2025.
- **Augustus Berninger**, 85, of Crawfordville, died June 12, 2025.
- **William Blair**, 68, of Crawfordville, died June 19, 2025.
- **Jimmy Brooks**, 75, of Crawfordville, died June 21, 2025.
- **Ronald Caruso**, 81, of Crawfordville, died June 17, 2025.

- **Norman Glisson**, 69, of Crawfordville, died June 20, 2025.
- **Audrey Jernigan**, 74, of Carrabelle, died June 5, 2025.
- **Joseph Lowery**, 70, of Crawfordville, died June 19, 2025.
- **Milton Moffett**, 94, of Crawfordville, died June 16, 2025.
- **Catherine Morgan**, 72, of Crawfordville, died June 13, 2025.
- **Paul Pigott**, 85, of Crawfordville, died June 21, 2025.
- **James Qualls**, 78, of Crawfordville, died June 19,

- 2025.
 - **Ed Reynolds**, 89, of Tallahassee, died June 6, 2025.
 - **Linda Rogers**, 68, of St. Marks, died June 15, 2025.
 - **Lavonne Sullivan**, 75, of Crawfordville, died June 17, 2025.
 - **Steven Woods**, 74, of Crawfordville, died June 13, 2025.
 - **Charles Whatley**, 79, of Tallahassee, died June 16, 2025.
- Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com.

Sheriff’s Report

This report is for activity June 13th to 20th. There were 1,808 total calls for service during the week.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

- Deputy Post responded to grass fire on Crawfordville Highway. The resident reported lawn mower catching fire. It appeared as if the belt got hot and caught the grass on fire. Wakulla County Fire Rescue responded and safely extinguished the fire.
- Deputy Munroe responded to a residence on Janet Drive in reference to a fraud. The president of the homeowner’s association reported paying an individual approximately \$450,000 to work on and build seawalls expecting him to complete the work. The complainant advised some work has been done, but the contractor has yet to complete the rest of the project. Complainant stated the contractor was last seen on April 13th. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.
- Deputy Godwin responded to Walmart located at 35 Mike Stewart Drive in reference to a Retail Theft. Asset Protection reported a theft which occurred on June 12. Two subjects exited the last point of sale with unpaid merchandise. Taken was approximately \$48 worth of merchandise. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

- Deputy Godwin investigated a fraud at the Shell Station located at 2616 Crawfordville Highway. An employee at the Shell Station, reported being scammed out of \$1,000, sending \$1,000 via cash app to a subject pretending to be a representative from the Shell Company. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

MONDAY, JUNE 16

- Deputy Parker responded to the Sheriff’s Office lobby for a fraud complaint. A citizen reported a male refusing to pay for the services that were provided to him which cost approximately \$500. As the investigation was being conducted, the citizen received a phone call from the subject promising to pay the amount due. The citizen advised she did not wish to proceed with pursuing charges at this time but would if he failed to keep the promise. A follow up will be conducted for this case by Road Patrol.
- Deputy Marshall took a Criminal Mischief complaint on Carter Road. An employee of Sopchoppy City Water reported a subject had tampered with the water meter. During the investigation, the parties settled the dispute and the subject paid the bill that was due along with paying for the damaged lock.

- Deputy Sammons responded to the Sheriff’s Office lobby in reference to a vehicle burglary. Complainant reported her vehicle was burglarized between June 3 and June 13 in the parking a parking lot on Crawfordville Highway after she was transported from the location for a medical episode and doesn’t remember securing her vehicle prior to leaving. Complainant stated multiple items were missing from the vehicle upon her return including a Coach bag, prescription glasses, and gold hoop earrings. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.
- Deputy Buckhalt responded to Spring Creek Highway in reference to a criminal mischief complaint. Complainant reported an individual recently removed two mobile homes from his property. During the removal of the mobile homes, complainant stated he observed the individual use a Sawzall to cut the electric pole away from one of the mobile homes and remove it from the property as well. Complainant advised he never authorized the removal of the electric pole and wished to pursue charges for the damage caused. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.
- Deputy Buckhalt responded to Dwight Sanders Road in reference to a trespass complaint. Contact was made with the resident who reported he observed a person known to him on his property via trail camera footage.

Complainant stated the individual appeared to remove a rope outlining his property allowing her access. The suspect has previously issued a trespass for the property on April 23. A warrant request is being submitted for the trespass after warning.

- Deputy Williams responded to Quapaw Street in reference to a suspicious incident. Contact was made with the resident who advised he observed one of his neighbors flying a drone near his residence. The resident only requested the incident be documented.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

- Sergeant Trujillo conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Mohave Road and Powhatan Drive. During the stop it was discovered that the registered owner, who was also the driver, had an expired identification card and no valid Florida license. The driver, James R. Holcomb Jr., was subsequently placed under arrest for Operating a Motor Vehicle Without a Valid License and was transported to the Wakulla County Detention Facility.
- Deputy Marshall responded to the Sheriff’s Office lobby where he investigated a Fraud. Complainant reported receiving fraudulent activity alerts from LifeLock advising him that an unknown subject had attempted several times to retrieve various bank cards in his name. Complainant stated he was unsure who the subject could be and resided alone so no one should have

access to his information. Complainant advised he has not lost any property or currency and needed a report for informational purposes.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

- Deputy Buckhalt responded to Mother Nature’s Place in reference to a trespass. The homeowner reported someone came onto their property earlier in the day. A burgundy vehicle was captured on her cameras. The homeowner requested a watch order for the residence.
- Deputy Weekes responded to Wakulla Arran Road in reference to a house with smoke coming from the roof. Wakulla County Fire Rescue responded and swiftly located the source of the fire in the attic and extinguished it.
- Deputy Rivers responded to the Sheriff’s Office Lobby in reference to unauthorized charges. The complainant reported multiple Walmart transactions to her account that she did not authorize. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

- Deputy Godwin responded to Walmart located at 35 Mike Stewart Drive in reference to a Retail Theft. Asset Protection reported a theft from earlier in the day. An unknown subject passed the last point of sale without purchasing a shaft trimmer. Taken was a

shaft trimmer valued at \$98. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

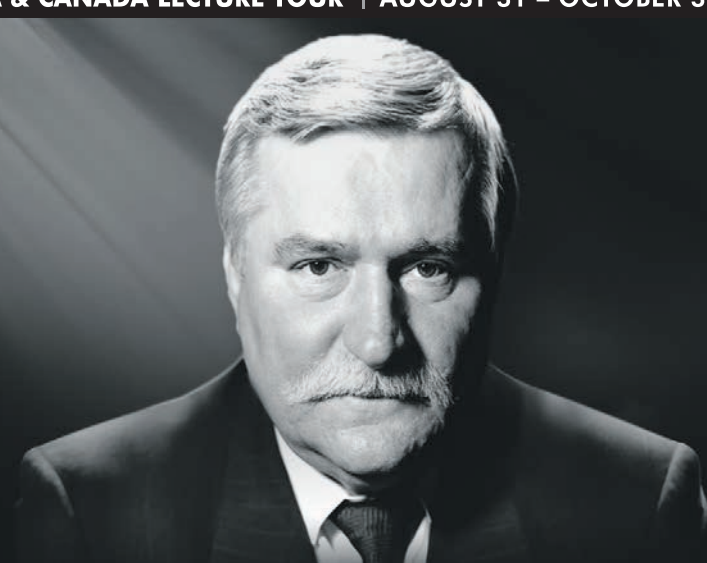
- Deputy Sullivan responded to Pop-eye’s restaurant located at 2123 Crawfordville Highway. A complainant reported a male known to her threw a drink at a vehicle she was riding in. The vehicle was not damaged and no one was struck by the cup.
- Deputy Weekes responded to Hudson Park Pavilion located at 21 Ochlockonee Street in reference to a criminal mischief. Complainant reported one of his employees alerted him the men’s and women’s bathroom at Hudson Park had been vandalized. Approximately \$1,500 worth of damaged occurred. The case has been forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Division.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

- Deputy Marshall responded to St. Marks Powder in reference to a suspicious incident. Complainant reported a suspicious vehicle on the St. Marks Powder property attempting to deliver hazardous materials. Complainant advised the driver did not have the proper documentation regarding the materials, therefore, he was unable to accept the materials and asked the driver to leave.
- Report suspicious or illegal activity at 850-745-7100, or call 911 for emergencies.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PAUL FLORENCE HENDRICK, DECEASED

DIVISION: PROBATE

CASE NO: 2025-CP-48

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the Estate of Paul Florence Hendrick, deceased, File 2025-CP-48 is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 3056 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney is set forth below.

All creditors of the Decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's Estate including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the Decedent and persons having claims or demands against Decedent's Estate, including unmatured, contingent or unliquidated claims must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is June 19, 2025.

Attorney for Personal Representative: Frances Casey Lowe, Esq. Florida Bar No. 521450 Frances Casey Lowe, P.A. 68-A Feli Way Crawfordville, Florida 32327 (850) 926-8245

Personal Representative: Dalton Keith Hall 49 Richland Rd. Crawfordville, FL 32327

June 19, 26, 2025

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

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SHARON R. JOYNER, DECEASED

DIVISION: PROBATE

CASE NO: 2025-CP-81

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration)

You are notified that a Petition for Summary Administration has been filed in the Estate of Sharon R. Joyner, deceased, File 2025-CP-81 with the Second Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 3056 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL 32327; that the Decedent's date of death was March 1, 2024; that the total Estate is to be assigned to the following Beneficiary under Court Order:

Name	Address
Ronnie Reid Joyner, I	49 Satinwood Dr. Crawfordville, FL 32327

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the Estate of the Decedent and persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent other than those for whom provisions for full payment listed in the Petition for Summary Administration must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED AFTER TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is June 19, 2025.

Attorney for Personal Representative: Frances Casey Lowe, Esq. Florida Bar No. 521450 Frances Casey Lowe, P.A. 68-A Feli Way Crawfordville, Florida 32327 (850) 926-8245

June 19, 26, 2025



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THE NEWSPAPER

WEEKLY

NOTICE OF ACTION

0626 - 0717 TWS NOA
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WAKULLA
COUNTY, FLORIDA


CASE NO.: 24000148CAAXMX

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A
QUICKEN LOANS INC.,
PLAINTIFF,
V.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES,
LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY
CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF RONALD KWIATKOWSKI,
DECEASED; MARY BETH MCCOY, AS POTENTIAL HEIR OF RON-
ALD KWIATKOWSKI, DECEASED; ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIM-
ING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED
DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE
ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DE-
SCRIBED,
DEFENDANT.

NOTICE OF ACTION

To the following Defendant(s):
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES,
LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY
CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF RONALD KWIATKOWSKI,
DECEASED (RESIDENCE UNKNOWN) MARY BETH MCCOY, AS PO-
TENTIAL HEIR OF RONALD KWIATKOWSKI, DECEASED
372 SPRINGDALE DRIVE ALTAMONTE SPRINGS FL 32714
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for **Foreclosure of Mortgage** on
the following described property:
**LOT 8, BLOCK 17, WAKULLA GARDENS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT
THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE(S) 39 OF
THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.**
a/k/a 137 Choctaw Rd, Crawfordville, FL 32327
has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of
your written defenses, if any, upon Kelley Kronenberg, Attorney for
Plaintiff, whose address is 10360 West State Road 84, Fort Lauder-
dale, FL 33324 on or before, **July 19, 2025**, a date which is within thirty
(30) days after the first publication of this Notice in The Wakulla Sun
and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on
Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be
entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
This notice is provided pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2.065.
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, If you are a
person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to
participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to
provisions of certain assistance. Please contact the Court Adminis-
trator at 3056 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327, Phone No.
within 2 working days of your receipt of this notice or pleading; if you
are hearing impaired, call1-800-955-8771 (TDD); if you are voice im-
paired, call1-800-995-8770 (V)
(Via Florida Relay Services).
Dated in Wakulla County, Florida this 26th day of June, 2025.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this **June 19, 2025**.

{{County Court Seal}}



Greg James
As Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: **/s/ Rachel L Howard**
As Deputy Clerk

Published June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 2025

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sion test required, maximum tax deduction.
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trators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-
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sional installs. Senior & Military Discounts
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or damaged frames? Need outside noise
reduction? New, energy efficient windows
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0211

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We Buy Vintage Guitar's! Looking for 1920-
1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch,
Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker,
Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And
Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands
only! Call for a quote: 1-833-641-6789



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DROP
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GRAB BARS
INVERSION
LAUNCH
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STANDUP
TURNAROUND
TWISTER
WOODEN

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

The Wakulla
Sun



WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell
something pertaining to roller coasters.

L P S O O

--	--	--	--	--

CLUES ACROSS

1. Computer manufac-
turer
5. Noted space station
8. Kurt Russell film
“Captain”
11. Automaton
13. Everyone has one
14. Incline from the ver-
tical
15. Fights
16. Dunn & Bradstreet
(abbr.)
17. Finishes off
18. Places to store things
20. Dutch painter Gerard
—
21. Smaller quantity
22. There’s a North,
South and Central of
these
25. In an early way
30. More spacious
31. Short-term memory

32. One who possesses
33. Sesame
38. Forbid
41. A way to explain
43. Not around
45. Evoke or suggest
47. Ancient kingdom
near Dead Sea
49. Dekameter
50. Fencing sword
55. “Luther” actor Idris
56. Affirmative (slang)
57. Afflicted
59. One point north of
northeast
60. Born of
61. Arabic name
62. Hong Kong food
stall: __ pai dong
63. Not the start
64. Post

CLUES DOWN

1. Creative expression

2. Fiber from the outer
husk of a coconut
3. City in ancient Syria
4. College army
5. More disturbed
6. Pays no attention to
7. Restored
8. Competitions
9. Lyric poems
10. Famed American
lawman
12. Expression of disap-
pointment
14. Scars
19. Satisfy
23. Central European
river
24. Brass instrument
25. One who gets paid to
perform
26. Propel with oars
27. Long period of time
28. Woman (French)
29. Type of plane

34. Pitching stat
35. Pointed end of a pen
36. Pro sports league
37. Body part
39. Inoffensive
40. Yellowish cotton
cloth
41. Feline
42. Does not tell the
truth
44. Set out to attract
45. Spiritual leader of a
Jewish congregation
46. Abba __, Israeli pol-
itician
47. Repair
48. Genus of flowering
plants
51. Tributary of the High
Rhine
52. Prejudice
53. C. European river
54. Restrain
58. Father

9215

674891

4381657

53269

7694

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 ?

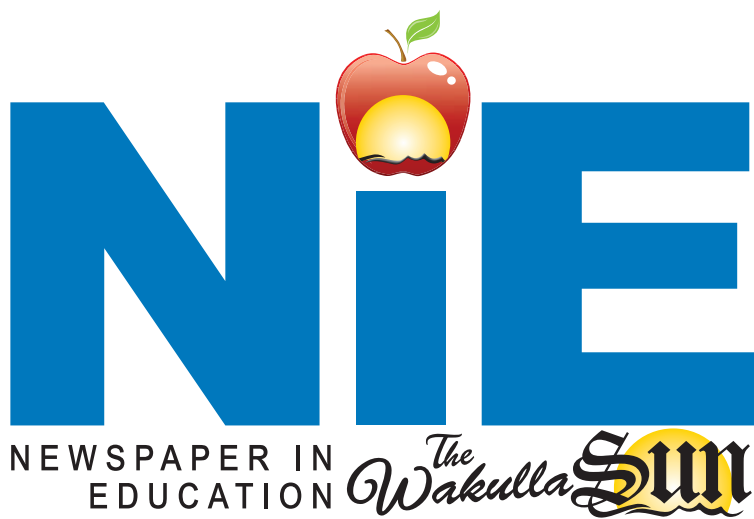
I am a singer and actress born in Florida on June 26, 1993. I began my career as a soloist with various symphonies. I made my Broadway debut at the age of 13. After doing some Nickelodeon shows, I released my debut album in 2013. Recently, I appeared as a “good” witch on the big screen.



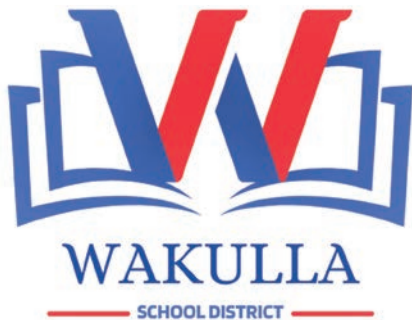
Answer: Ariana Grande



Answer: Loops



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USE THE NEWS

1. JUNETEENTH IN HARLEM

In Harlem, New York, people celebrated Juneteenth with music, dancing, and joy at an event called the Big Band Jubilee. Juneteenth is a holiday that celebrates the end of slavery in the United States. It started on June 19, 1865, when news finally reached the last group of enslaved people in Texas that they were free. Even though slavery had officially ended two years earlier, it took a long time for the message to spread. Today, Juneteenth is a special day to remember freedom, honor African American history, and celebrate with music, food, family, and fun. The event in Harlem was created to honor Black history and the Harlem Renaissance, a time when jazz music and art flourished in Harlem long ago. People came from near and far to listen, dance, and enjoy the fun. The Jubilee is a way to remember the past and celebrate Black joy, culture, and freedom. Create a colorful event poster inviting people to the Big Band Jubilee in Harlem. Include the date, the type of music featured (jazz and big band), and a few details about the celebration’s connection to Black history and the Harlem Renaissance. Use drawings, symbols, or designs that reflect the joy, culture, and community spirit of the event.

2. BUGS BY STARLIGHT

In Australia, a special bug called the Bogong moth travels a very long way – about 620 miles – to stay cool in mountain caves. Scientists have now discovered that these moths find their way by looking at the stars! That makes them the first bugs ever known to use stars to travel such a long distance. Scientists tested this by putting moths in a flight simulator that showed the night sky. When the stars looked normal, the moths flew the right way. But when the stars were scrambled, the moths got confused. This shows that the stars help them know where to go. Even though their brains are very tiny – smaller than a grain of rice – these moths are amazing travelers! Imagine you are a Bogong moth

getting ready for your big trip. Write a short story (5–7 sentences) about your adventure flying under the stars. Where are you going? What do you see in the sky? How do you feel when you reach your cool, cozy cave? Use your imagination and try to describe what the journey is like from a moth’s point of view!

3. FAKE ECLIPSE TEST

Two European satellites have made the first-ever artificial solar eclipses from space! These small satellites fly in a special way so that one blocks the sun, just like the moon does during a real eclipse. The other satellite takes pictures of the sun’s outer light, called the corona. This helps scientists learn

more about the sun. The satellites fly very carefully – only about as far apart as a football field – and must stay in perfect position, within the width of a fingernail. These space eclipses can last for hours, which gives scientists much more time to study the sun than normal eclipses on Earth. The pictures they took made scientists very excited! Imagine you were on a team of scientists who helped fly these special satellites. Write a paragraph explaining what it would feel like to see an artificial solar eclipse in space for the first time. What might the sun look like? Why do you think learning about the corona is important? Be sure to include one fact from the article, like how far apart the satellites are or how long the eclipses last.

4. LARGEST CAMERA ON EARTH

The Vera C. Rubin Observatory in Chile has built the biggest digital camera ever made. It’s about the size of a small car and takes huge pictures of the night sky—each one has 3.2 billion pixels! The camera uses supercooled sensors to take very clear images and can map more of the sky at once than most telescopes. Even though some parts of the camera have tiny problems, it still works really well. The observatory will start sharing its pictures with the public soon. Scientists hope to use the camera to study stars, planets, and other space mysteries for more than 10 years. Pretend you are an astronomer using the Rubin Observatory’s giant camera. In a short paragraph, write what you hope

to see through the telescope. Will you discover a new planet, a shooting star, or something nobody has ever seen before? Be sure to include one true fact from the article—like how many pixels the camera has or how long it takes to take a picture—to make your writing more realistic.

5. DOCUMENTARY ON DEAFNESS

Marlee Matlin is a famous actress who is deaf. She has a new movie about her life called “Not Alone Anymore.” It tells the story of how she grew up, became a movie star, and worked hard to help deaf people in movies and TV. Marlee chose her friend Shoshannah Stern, who is also deaf, to help make the movie. Together, they used special ways of filming so people could see how deaf people

communicate using their eyes and hands, not just their voices. The movie helps people understand more about the deaf community. Marlee hopes her story will inspire others and make the movie world more welcoming to everyone. After reading about Marlee Matlin’s life and her new documentary, think about how people can communicate in different ways. In a short paragraph, describe a time when you had to use something other than words to share a message—like using your hands, pictures, sounds, or facial expressions. How did it feel? Was it easy or hard? Then, imagine you are making a short film like Marlee’s. Write a short idea for a movie about your life that shows how you express yourself and what makes your story special.



Shopping at this type of store keeps 67 cents of every dollar spent in the community.

Answer: Small, local business



English: Retailer
Spanish: Minorista
Italian: Rivenditore
French: Détaillant
German: Einzelhändler

What’s the Difference?

Find the four differences between the two pictures.



Answers: 1. Missing sign on left 2. Cat crossing the street 3. Man on balcony 4. Spire on church

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1840: The Province of Canada is created by the Act of Union.

1903: The Ford Motor Company sells its first car.

1962: Jackie Robinson is inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.



RETAIL

sale of goods to the public in small quantities



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Main St. street sign

KWCB awards dinner is set for Friday at community center

By **TAMMIE NASON**
KWCB Director

Keep Wakulla County Beautiful (KWCB) invites the community to come together in celebration of environmental leadership and creativity at the Just Imagine Awards Dinner, taking place on Friday, June 27, at 6 p.m.

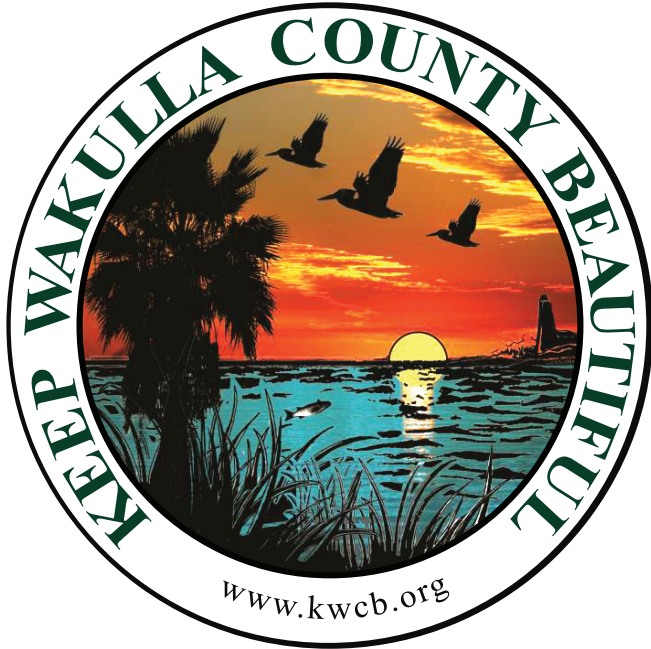
Now in its fifth year, the KWCB Awards Dinner began as a way to recognize unsung heroes in Wakulla County who are dedicated to environmental stewardship, beautification, and waste reduction. Each year, the event grows in energy and inspiration, spotlighting individuals, youth, businesses, and organizations making a real difference.

This year’s theme, “Just Imagine... A Cleaner, Greener Future Starts with You,” reflects KWCB’s mission to inspire action and innovation in protecting and enhancing Wakulla’s natural beauty.

The evening will feature a delicious dinner catered by Old South Café, a silent auction featuring unique and valuable items, a drawing for a Reencle Gravity Composter, and creative displays of repurposed items.

Special guest speakers:

- Cal Jamison, discussing the recent removal of a vehicle from a Wakulla sinkhole, and
- Kellie Keys, presenting on FSU’s Springs Protection Project.



“This isn’t just a dinner – it’s a night to connect, celebrate, learn, and enjoy,” said Tammie Nason, Executive Director of KWCB. “We want our community to feel proud of the progress we’re making and the people driving it forward.”

KWCB is a nonprofit organization established in 1991 with a mission to promote environmental responsibility and enhance the appearance and health of Wakulla County through litter preven-

tion, waste reduction, community cleanups, tree planting, youth engagement, and public education initiatives. Whether it’s through tire amnesty events, public art collaborations, or educational outreach, KWCB works to empower citizens to care for the environment.

Nominees will be recognized at the dinner, with winners announced live.

This years categories are:
Adopt-a-Road of the Year
Business or Neighborhood Community Pride Award

“Community Roots” Civic Organization Award
“Don Henderson” Award
Eco-Excellence Business Award
Eco-Friendly Classroom Award
“Green Trailblazer” Youth or Youth Group Award
“Heart of Service” Public Service Award
Preservation Excellence Award
Wakulla Eco-Excellence (Eco-tourism) Award
“Waste Wise” Waste Reduction Award
Volunteer of the year “Golden Vest” Award

Tickets are on sale now and include dinner, entry to the drawing and silent auction, and a seat at one of Wakulla’s most meaningful and fun-filled community events of the year.

To submit a nomination, purchase tickets, or learn more, visit keepwakullabeautiful.org or email keepwakullabeautiful@gmail.com

Post office

From Front Page

ing their owners, they are doing what they are meant to do. Many love dogs, I do myself, but if someone strange comes up to my house, my dog becomes totally different until she knows I’m safe, then she may still try to kill someone with kisses. But to get back to the seriousness of dog bite awareness, the Crawfordville office has one of the highest numbers of dog bites in the Florida 1 district.

The blue ribbons on mailboxes would not just help the USPS carriers but would help UPS, FedEx, Amazon, and all delivery carriers but also any emergency medical, fire, or law enforcement personnel.

Hopefully this plan will pass on to the state and maybe on to the nation.

A Secure
Dog Means a
Safe Delivery

National Dog Bite Awareness Campaign 2025

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Wakulla Giving Hands
C.A.R.E.S. Program
Essential Support

C.A.R.E.S. Summer Feeding Program is a wonderful initiative designed to ensure that children have access to nutritious food during the summer months.

Running from May 25th to July 27th, 2025, the program operates every Sunday from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM, or until the gate is closed, 2569 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville FL 32327.

Each child must be present to receive their own bag of food, which is intended to last them throughout the week.

This effort coincides with the community giveaway, emphasizing the importance of supporting the younger members of the community. Remember, this program is exclusively for children, ensuring that they receive the nourishment they need to grow and thrive.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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Drive-Thru Distribution
Saturday, July 26, 2025
Panacea Plaza
1353 Coastal Hwy.
Panacea, FL
9:00am—12:00 pm

FREE!!!

Drive-Thru Distribution
Saturday, August 2, 2025
Sopchoppy City Hall
105 Municipal Ave.
Sopchoppy FL
9:00am—12:00 pm

FREE!!!

Drive-Thru Distribution
Saturday, August 9, 2025
Wakulla Community Center
318 Shadenville Road
Crawfordville, FL
On-site
9:00am—2:00 pm

FREE!!!

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For more information, please
contact event coordinators:
Kenny Manning (850) 545-5982
Cheryl Randolph (850) 284-9233
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2025


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