Sun Neighbor Monthly
"The little paper"
Locally Owned & Operated
VOL. 5, NO. 10 • OCTOBER 2026
LOCAL RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER
**********ECRWSS**********
PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #300
STUART, FL

Serving Wakulla County, Alligator Point and St. Teresa

Tyson Folsom

The Wakulla STEAM guy

By LINDA ANN McDONALD
Correspondent

Tyson Folsom is dedicated to enriching the lives of Wakulla's youth through STEAM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

Wakulla STEAM is a local nonprofit community organization that creates a learning environment where kids build and program robots, learn engineering concepts, and prepare for competitions.

Tyson Folsom's pours into children while creating spaces where kids feel welcomed, connected, and inspired.

While focusing on helping kids get involved and making real friendships while building things with their own hands, Folsom fosters an environment where Wakulla's youth learn side by side, working on projects that spark curiosity and confidence.

Partnering with Wakulla County Public Library and the UF/IFAS Extension Office, Wakulla's youth have access to tools, mentors, and

Turn to Page 7



PHOTO LINDA ANN McDONALD

Tyson Folsom started Wakulla STEAM as a non-profit, and has partnered with the public library and 4-H to do programs.

Q: "When can I buy a revolutionary 'top-rated' self-charging Hybrid SUV?

A: "When Kraft Nissan rolls out the 2027 Hybrid Rogue In a few weeks"



JD Power's #1 compact SUV for New-vehicle quality

Introducing the groundbreaking 2027 Nissan Rogue Hybrid. Equipped with hybrid E-POWER, it is self-charging with 40 MPG city. -This AWD wonder will be arriving at Kraft Nissan in November with MSRP under $36,000

KRAFT NISSAN

KraftNissan.com
Mahan Drive. Tallahassee.





Understanding extended care



By BRIAN ENGLISH

Addressing the potential risks of extended-term care expenses may be one of the biggest financial challenges for individuals who are developing a retirement strategy.

Seven in ten people over age 65 can expect to need extended care services at some point in their lives. So understanding the various types of extended care services – and what those services may cost – is critical as you consider your retirement approach.1

WHAT IS EXTENDED CARE?

Extended care is not a single activity. It refers to a variety of medical and non–medical services needed by those who have a chronic illness or disability – commonly associated with aging.

Extended care can include everything from assistance with activities of daily living – help dressing, bathing, using the bathroom, or even driving to the store – to more intensive therapeutic and medical care requiring the services of skilled medical personnel.

Extended care may be provided at home, at a community center, in an assisted living facility, or in a skilled nursing home. And extended care is not exclusively for the elderly; it is possible to need extended care at any age.

HOW MUCH DOES EXTENDED CARE COST?

Extended care costs vary state by state and region by region. The 2025 national average for care in a skilled care facility (single occupancy in a nursing home) was $129,575 a year. The national average for care in an assisted living center (single occupancy) was $74,400 a year. Home health aides cost a median of $35 per hour, but that rate may increase when a licensed nurse is required.1

WHAT ARE THE PAYMENT CHOICES?

Often, extended care is provided by family and friends. Providing care can be a burden, however, and the need for assistance tends to increase with age.2

Individuals who would rather not burden their family and friends have two main choices for covering the cost of extended care: they can choose to self-insure or they can purchase extended care insurance.

Many self-insure by default – simply because they haven't made other arrangements. Those who self-insure may depend on personal savings and investments to fund any extended care needs. The other approach is to consider purchasing extended care insurance, which can cover all levels of care, from skilled care to custodial care to in-home assistance.

When it comes to addressing your extended care needs, many look to select a strategy that may help them protect assets, preserve dignity, and maintain independence. If those concepts are important to you, consider your approach to extended care.

1. Carescout.com, 2026

2. ACL.gov, 2026

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

Securities and investment advisory services offered through Osaic Wealth, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Osaic Wealth is separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of Osaic Wealth. Osaic Wealth does not provide tax or legal advice.









HIS-TORy-Headline news
October 1926

Oct 1: Electrosurgery was performed at the first time as Dr. Harvey Cushing used an electrosurgical device in an operation for removal of a mass from a patient's head at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Oct 6: In Game 4 of the World Series, Babe Ruth became the first player in the fall classic to hit three home runs, in a 10 to 5 win over the St. Louis Cardinals.The feat would not be matched again until 1977 (by Reggie Jackson for the Yankees against the Los Angeles Dodgers), and then again in 2011 by Albert Pujols (for the Cardinals against the Texas Rangers).

Oct 14 : A. A. Milne's book "Winnie the Pooh" is released .

Oct 22 - Boxer J. Gordon Whitehead sucker punches magician Harry Houdini in the stomach in his dressing room at the Princess Theater in Montreal. The attack started or helped cause the appendicitis that would take Houdini's life 9 days later.

SALES - SERVICE - REPAIR
3 OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT
STIHL® GENERAC® AUTHORIZED DEALER DR®
WE SERVICE ALL MAKES & MODELS - CHAINS SAWS FROM $199.99
2219 Crawfordville Hwy • Crawfordville • 926-3300 Open Mon. – Fri. 8-5, Sat 8-Noon • 3youtdoorequipment.com

MISS INFORMATION FUN PAGE
By Lynda Kinsey

Content contributor William Dickman

SAUSAGE DISH
Server over RICE
*Suatee kielbasa sausage w/onions & fresh chopped garlic. Add a can of Ro*Tel Original Diced Tomatoes & Green Chilies, simmer.*
Add 1/2 to a cup of heavy cream- Simmer, add fresh Spinach, simmer.
Serve over your choice of rice.
Recipe was shared with me by a young lady while we were waiting on our food at the Publix Deli.
I think we were both hungry!



Gardening
STRAWBERRIES:
October is a great time in North Florida to put in strawberry bare-root plants or live transplants.
:EAFY GREENS & ROOT VEGGIES
FLOWERS: Annuals like snapdragons, pansies, and sweet alyssum thrive when planted in the fall.
HERBS: Cillantro, Dill, Basil, Parlsey, Oregano, Thyme, Marjorime, Garlic.
For all year gardening check out which greenhouse is best for you

WAKULLA Sign COMPANY
– – Quality Signs Of All Kinds – –
vinyl · digital print · stickers · banners · real estate · magnetics
autos · boats · license plates · hand letter · screen print
aluminum · wood · plastic · foam · sandblasted · routered
business cards · apparel · graphics · logo design
850-421-2301
wakullasign@gmail.com
Wakulla Sign Company

TREE TRIMMING and REMOVAL
• STORM DAMAGE •
• TREE PRESERVATION •
Michael Mongeon
ISA Certified Arborist, FL-6125A
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified
850-421-8104



TRIVIA
- HALLOWEEN -

#1. On an average -How many seeds are n a Pumpkin?
#2. What is another name for a Lycanthrope
#3. What do you call a group of wiches?
#4. Who wrote the classic 1818 book "Frankenstein"?
#5. Which first lady was the first to decorate the White House for Halloween.

Answers:
#1. 500
#2. A Werewolf
#3. A Coven
#4. Mary Shelly
#5. Mamie Eisenhower

"If you see someone without a smile today, give 'em yours."
– Dolly Parton

SnArkyiSms!

Son: "Dad, I dont think you even know what a hard drive is".
Dad: "Son, I've driven across this entire country with my wife, 4 kids and a dog. I know what a hard drive is"!

-FUN FACTS-
Halloween

dates back thousands of years as the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain and evolved through Christian and American traditions into the modern holiday we celebrate today. The ancient Celts lived in Ireland, Britain, and northern Europe. They celebrated their new year on November 1st.

October 31st marked the transition between harvest and winter. People believed the boundary between the living and the dead blurred on this night.

October 31st—was called All Hallows' Eve, which eventually shortened to Halloween.

The church added All Souls' Day on November 2nd to pray for the dead, featuring bonfires, parades, and dressing in costumes as saints, angels, and devils.

n the 19th century, millions of Irish immigrants fled the Great Famine and brought their Halloween customs to North America.

Jack-o'-Lanterns: In Ireland, people carved scary faces into turnips or potatoes to ward off spirits. In America, they discovered native pumpkins, which were much easier to carve.

Trick-or-Treating: Early American celebrations included pranks and community parties. By the 1930s, vandalism led communities to promote door-to-door trick-or-treating as a safe, friendly alternative to property damage.

WHO INVENTED THAT?
Melitta Bentz: Paper Coffee Filter: One day, she ripped some blotting paper from a pad & strained her coffee. She was thrilled with the results. She & her husband started the Melitta company. It's now an international organization selling coffee, coffee makers, & paper coffee filters. (1873–1950)

Auguste and Louis Lumière: Cinema Camera
Known for: The Lumière brothers gave us one of the most popular inventions of all time: the movies! Their Cinématographe was a three-in-one machine that could record, develop, and project films for an audience. (Auguste Lumière: 1862–1954, Louis Lumière: 1864–1948)



"To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment."
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

SPORTS
When did the First World Cup take place?

Answer: 1930

You asked, I answered…
October really is a time to fall into your next chapter…
XO, Quincee

-Vintage -AnTiquing -COLLECTING
Polly pockets

Polly Pocket were created in 1983 by British designer Chris Wiggs, he fashioned a miniature dollhouse inside a powder makeup compact for his daughter.

Licensed by Bluebird Toys, they hit store in1989, featuring tiny, one-inch dolls that could bend at the waist & stand securely on pegs inside pastel, pocket-sized cases.

The Bluebird Era (1989–1998): Characterized by iconic clamshells, hearts, and circles with domestic, fairy tale, and leisure themes. Mattel acted as a US distributor during the early 1990s.

(1998–2002): Mattel purchased Bluebird Toys and introduced "Generation 2", giving Polly a signature ponytail and creating compacts shapes like 90s gadgets.

Fashion Polly Era (2002–2015): Shifted away from micro-scale to larger 3.75-inch fashion dolls with

ble, rubbery "quick-click" clothing.

Sales slowed down, leading to a temporary discontinuation in the US around 2012–2015.

Mattel brought back the original micro-compact style in 2018 accompanied by an animated television series centered on a magical shrinking locket.

Original Bluebird Toys sets produced between 1989 and 1998 are the most valuable Polly Pockets

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

Riverside Cafe On the River
Come & Join us for a Taste of the Island Life!
GREAT FOOD... ALWAYS!
LIVE MUSIC... ALWAYS!
Riversidebay.com
850-925-5668 • 69 Riverside DR., St. Marks Florida
ANY FURTHER SOUTH AND YOU'RE ALL WET!! ALWAYS!

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

SEA the MUSIC by the BAY
Available at Palaver Tree & Amazon
By Gerald Brown
Co-authored by Herb Donaldson



ADOBE STOCK

Many older adults experience depression. Recognizing the signs and symptoms can help connect them with important resources.

Depression in older adults



By SAMANTHA KENNEDY
Extension Office

As Americans live longer, researchers are paying closer attention to mental health in later life. While depression is not considered a normal part of aging, studies continue to show that it remains a common and often underrecognized condition among older adults.

Research from Johns Hopkins University found that depression affected 6.2% of nearly 3,000 adults ages 65 to 79 who participated in a national study. The researchers noted that rates were higher among women, unmarried individuals, people with lower incomes, and those living with chronic health conditions such as diabetes and anxiety.

Experts say aging can bring challenges that increase the risk of depression. Retirement, the loss of loved ones, declining physical health, reduced mobility, and social isolation can all affect emotional well-being. Although many older adults remain satisfied with their lives, mental health professionals emphasize that persistent sadness, loss of interest in activities, and feelings of hopelessness should not be dismissed as an inevitable consequence of growing older.

The prevalence of depression is not the same across all groups of older adults. A study from Stanford University found that 10.2% of more than 175,000 Medicare Advantage participants aged 65 and older screened positive for depression. The research also showed significant differences among racial and ethnic groups, suggesting that some populations may face greater risk and may benefit from targeted outreach and support services.

Older adults who participate in community programs may be especially vulnerable. According to the University of Washington, between 10% and 25% of older adults connected with senior centers experience clinically significant depression. Researchers there note that many seniors who are referred for mental health care never engage in treatment, highlighting a gap between identifying depression and receiving help.

At the same time, university researchers have identified factors that may help protect against depression. The Johns Hopkins study found that volunteering was associated with substantially lower odds of depression. After accounting for demographic and health differences, older adults who volunteered had a 43% reduction in the likelihood of experiencing depression compared with non-volunteers. Researchers suggest that volunteering may provide social connection, purpose, and meaningful engagement, all of which can support emotional health.

Mental health specialists stress that depression is treatable. Evidence-based approaches include counseling, behavioral interventions, medication, and community-based support programs. Programs that use trained volunteers and community partners to help older adults manage depressive symptoms and access care have been shown to make a significant positive difference in the mental health of older adults.

As the nation's population continues to age, researchers and health professionals agree on one key message: depression among older adults is common enough to demand attention, yet effective treatments and supportive interventions are available, though only on a limited basis. Recognizing symptoms early and encouraging older adults to seek help may improve quality of life and help many seniors remain active, connected, and emotionally healthy.

For more information about this and other mental health topics, contact Samantha Kennedy at the UF/IFAS Wakulla County Extension office at 850-926-3931.

GHOST YOUR EX, NOT YOUR REALTOR
WAYPOINT PROPERTIES
GO PINK

FWMA
A Wakulla Wild Animal Rescue
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?
We always need donations of these items:
- Bleach
- Paper towels
- Fruit cocktail
- Birdseed & nuts
- Pedigree wet & dry dog food
- Friskies wet & dry cat food
- Dawn Dish Soap

Florida Wild Mammal Association
198 Edgar Poole Road
Crawfordville, FL 32327
FWMA.org
363-2351

NEED MORE STORAGE?

WE DELIVER THE SOLUTION.



FREE DELIVERY IN LEON, WAKULLA & GADSDEN

A SHIPPING CONTAINER IS THE MOST AFFORDABLE OPTION!

GUARANTEED DRY WIND & WATER TIGHT

FREE DELIVERY IN LEON, WAKULLA & GADSDEN

PRICES AS LOW AS $239 DOWN

Let us deliver a "Guaranteed Dry" new or used 20 or 40ft shipping container to your property.

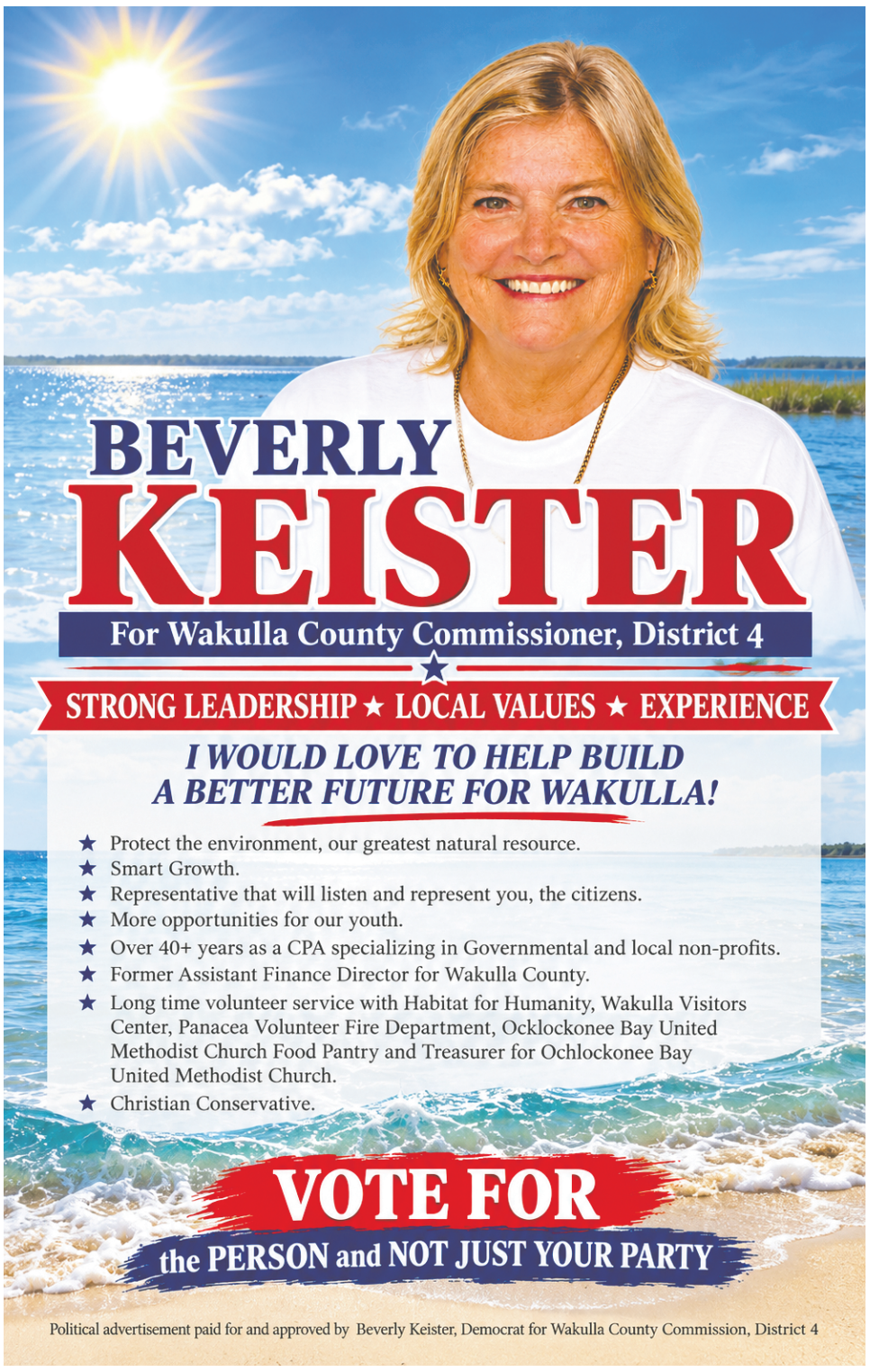
- SEE AND TOUCH BEFORE YOU BUY – PAY ON DELIVERY!
- GUARANTEED WIND & WATER TIGHT
- PORT DIRECT PRICING

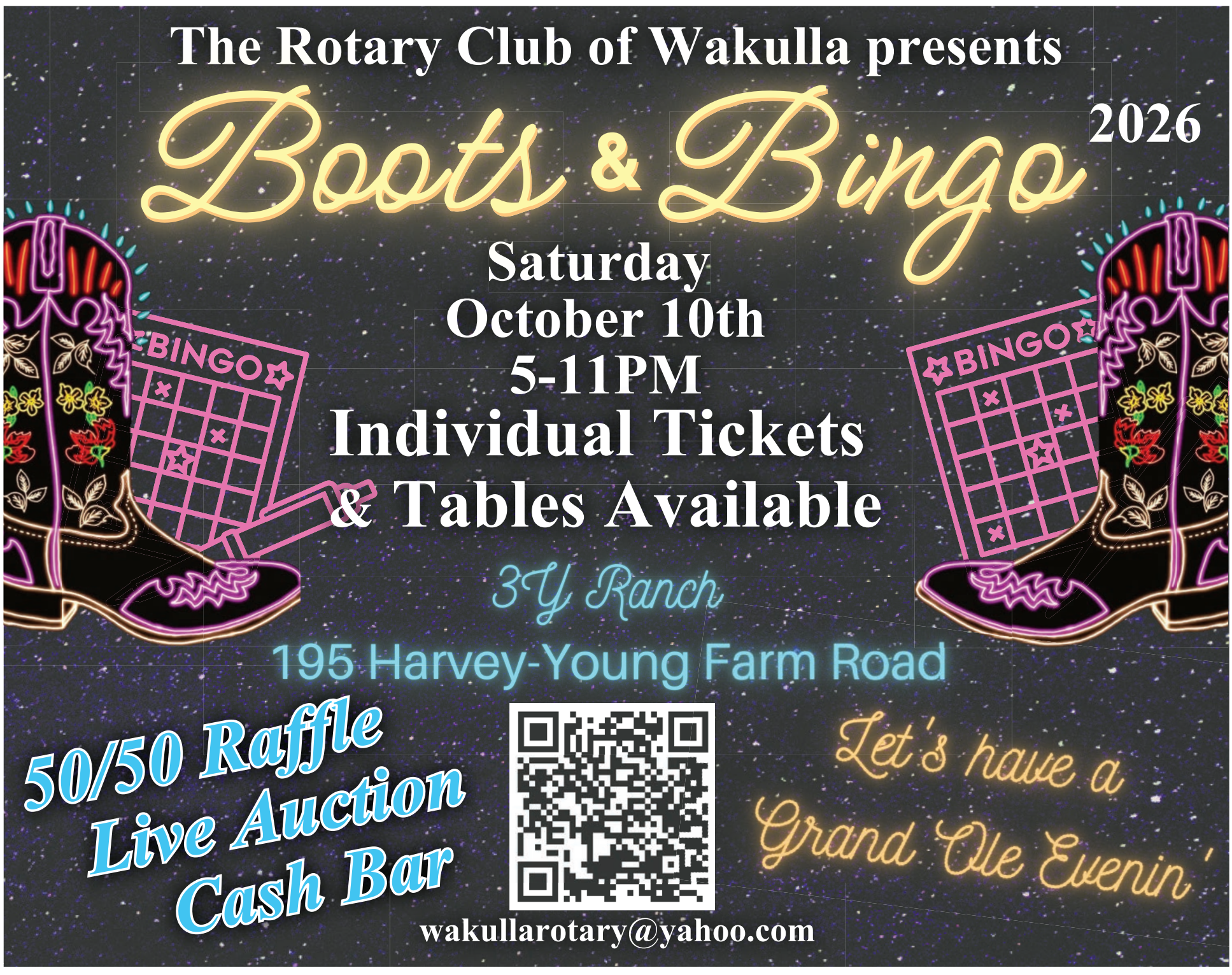
AS LITTLE AS $239 DOWN DELIVERS

VISIT OUR TALLAHASSEE CONTAINER SUPERSTORE
687 CROSSWAY ROAD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
850-591-7640
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT

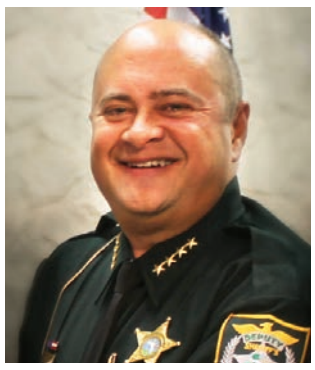
KONTAINERS NORTH AMERICA
TALLAHASSEE

STRONG. SECURE. AFFORDABLE. DELIVERED. GET YOURS TODAY!





Public safety that follows through



By JARED MILLER
Wakulla Sheriff

When someone calls the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office, they deserve more than a response to the immediate problem. They deserve deputies who will look closely at what is happening and, when possible, help keep the same problem from bringing them back to the same doorstep.

That belief guides our work every day. We will continue to investigate crime, hold offenders accountable, and respond when our community needs us.

We are also investing in ways to address the conflicts, crises, and hardships that can lead to repeated calls for help.

Our Sustained Solutions (S2) Program grew out of that commitment. Some problems, such as long-running neighborhood disputes or recurring nuisance complaints, cannot be resolved in a single visit.

Through S2, deputies take a closer look at the history of a situation, listen to the people involved, and work toward a lasting resolution. That may mean bringing community partners to the table. It may also mean taking enforcement action when the facts warrant it.

The goal is to follow through until we have addressed the underlying problem.

Our adult behavioral health deflection partnership with DISC Village gives deputies another option when they encounter an adult struggling with mental health or substance use.

When a referral is appropriate, we can connect that person with an assessment, treatment, and other support. It is an opportunity to address an underlying need before another crisis brings the person back into contact with law enforcement.

Through Handle With Care, deputies responding to a traumatic event identify children in the household who may have been affected. We then notify their schools so educators know those students may need extra understanding or support.

A child does not have to be the focus of an emergency call to feel its effects, and that awareness can make a meaningful difference when the child returns to school.

Our Senior Watch Program has shown what can happen when we take the time to learn what a resident needs. Through visits and follow-up, our Community Outreach Team has helped seniors obtain mobility supplies and worked with community partners to have multiple accessibility ramps built.

A ramp can mean the difference between being confined to a home and being able to leave it safely. These visits also help us recognize isolation, connect residents with resources, and give their families peace of mind.

These programs share a simple purpose: to see the person behind the call and take the next step that will make a difference.

None of this work happens through law enforcement alone. It depends on our deputies and staff, our schools and service providers, and residents who look out for their neighbors.

Thank you for trusting us to serve Wakulla County.

We will keep showing up, listening, and doing the work that helps our community stay safe and strong.

Jared Miller is Wakulla County Sheriff.


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

Mobil 1 DuraMAX LIQUID ARMOR ROTELLA STOP
LUBE-XPERT
Synthetic Oil DuraMAX LIQUID ARMOR
$10 OFF
(Includes 5 Quarts)
$6 Per Additional Quarts
A/C SERVICE
Offered
With coupon. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 10/30/26
$5 OFF
Full Service Conventional Oil Change
$5 OFF
Set of Wiper Blades
Locally Owned by Charlie Grim charliegrim@msn.com • LubeXpert.net
(850) 926-6526
Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5pm • Sat. 8am - 2pm
2219 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL 32327

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON LADIES CIRCLE
CRAFT, BAKE & PLANT Sale
$15 Vendor Table Available
Contact Nickki 850-339-7461
SATURDAY - OCTOBER 17
9am - 3pm
3609 Coastal Hwy, Crawfordville, FL

CARROLL APPRAISAL COMPANY, INC
Appraisals in
Leon, Wakulla, Gadsden, Jefferson & Franklin Counties
Rhonda A. Carroll, MAI
State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser #RZ459
850-694-3333
Competitive Rates • County Resident
Specializing in Commercial & Residential Appraisals
(Including Mobile Homes)
• Leon/Wakulla Native •
• Over 40 Years Experience Appraising Real Estate •
VISA Visit Our Website at: www.carrollappraisal.com MasterCard

Fresh-Mixed MARGARITAS
SAN MARCOS
GRILL & CANTINA
Lunch Specials
Monday – Friday
11:00 – 3:00
850-962-8079
INDOOR & PATIO SEATING
DINE IN OR CARRY OUT
DOORDASH
We don't want ALL the Business – but we want YOUR Business
2000 Crawfordville Hwy.
Across from Wal Mart
Sun. – Thurs. 11-9
Fri. and Sat. 11-10
Toasttab.com/SanMarcosCrawfordville

G3 Boats ROBALO SEA HUNT SH BOATS
Panacea Mike's Florida
MARINE SUPPLY Est.1970
SKEETER PERFORMANCE FISHING BOATS
TIDEWATER boats
YAMAHA
OPEN
Mon-Tues: 8:00-5:00 • Wed: 8:00-1:00
Thurs-Fri: 8:00-5:00• Sat: 8:00-1:00 • Closed Sunday
Phone: 850-984-5637
Fax: 850-984-5698
1296 Coastal Highway, Panacea FL 32346
http://www.mikesmarineflorida.com

Tyson Folsom

From Front Page

collaborative learning spaces.

Growing up in rural Lafayette County, Folsom grew up in the woods with a lot of land and a lot of farming. "Dad and I worked a 160-acre farms growing snap beans."

"Along with my father, I learned to work dairy cows, beef cows, and did some land surveying for my uncle."

Folsom's ability to work as a mechanic and engineer didn't come from textbooks or classrooms. It started from fixing the machines people depended on every day. His skills were built through real work, real problems.

Learning technical skills taught to him by his father, Folsom said, "Dad was a heavy equipment diesel mechanic, a preventative maintenance engineer and the lead mechanic for Proctor and Gamble forestry. He was also the mechanic lead at and at the Buckeye paper mill in Perry and other large companies."

Folsom often credits his father for instilling the skills, discipline, and work ethic that shape how he shows up every day. Carrying these same skills instilled in him, are now poured into his work with Wakulla STEAM. The way he teaches, how he mentors, and how he builds community, is being absorbed by Wakulla's youth.

Furthering his education, Folsom attended college in Tampa and graduated with a Network Technology Degree and later worked as a tech support for AOL.

"Later down the road, a cousin of mine said he needed someone to run a warehouse. I got there, and I was working on electronics rebuilding printers, telephone systems, computers... I loved that job!" He shared, "I'm a natural problem solver."

"When BellSouth equipment shut down, together, we bought their old stuff and we fixed it."

Of his family life, he says: "I married a Navy girl, Aimee Daniel 'Danny' Folsom, and we have three boys, Wyatt, Hudson and Levi; we also have three dogs."

Sharing his computer experience, Tyson said, "In 2008, my wife and I moved to Whidbey Island in Washington, where she had Permanent Change of Station flight training. During those 5 years, I worked on printers, real estate, and ran Orchis Island Bakery, and my wife worked as a Manager in the Pentagon until 2011.

"I also worked for Omni in Alexandria and Herndon, Virginia," he says. "I did business system copies and printers and also a smart board reproduction manager."

Virginia is where Folsom stepped into his role in STEAM. He said, "I started STEAM Lego robotics in Virginia, and we tried to do something for the boys there; I wanted them to have hands on experience and learn."

The family moved to Wakulla a couple years ago. Already looking for opportunities to invest in his sons and his community, the Folsom family desired to create STEAM in Wakulla.

"Later, I was messing around online, and I found Leadership Wakulla and I was interested," he says. Leadership Wakulla is program through the Wakulla Chamber of Commerce to foster growth in both emerging and established leaders in the community. Folsom was in the first class of Leadership Wakulla two years ago.

After unsuccessful attempts to launch STEAM – contingent on teacher sponsorship commitments – through Leadership Wakulla, he met Eddie Hand and Ralph Thomas. And Eddie's wife, Tanya, said, "Why don't you start a non-profit?" So he did.

"We talked to the schools for Lego robotics for the younger kids, ages 5-8 and we had to find a teacher sponsor.

Through networking within Leadership Wakulla, doors opened for Folsom and Linda Oaks of Wakulla County Public Library said, "Why don't you do it at the library?" Friends of the Library president Andy Riddle helped recruit sponsors, and then Folsom was introduced to Rachel Pienta of Wakulla 4-H.

And then Wakulla STEAM was "full steam" ahead on the track of youth development.

"The first event was Lego Robotics; it went very well. We had growing pains and learned lessons, such as, don't mix the older kids with the younger kids, etc..."

Wakulla STEAM also hosts educational events such as 3D printing and, in July, Derby Maker races.

"Wakulla Cub Scouts were involved in the Derby Maker event by loaning their racetrack to us. Kyle Barnes and Josh Havrid over at Scouts also helped at the event, they are awesome," says Folsom.

"We grew from one to five robotic teams. My main goal is to spark curiosity," he says, adding: "I want to spark curiosity and want them to learn something from it. That's what I want for my kids. I don't want kids to sit around all weekend. You only have a certain amount of time in this world. What's your life going to be worth if sitting around is all you do?

"I want to trigger ambition, hands-on experience, thought-provoking exercises, and get the brain thinking.

"When I catch my kids on the TV, I say what are you doing? Go do something!"

To learn about Wakulla STEAM you can visit wakullasteam.org, or contact Folsom at tyson@wakullasteam.org.



Tyson Folsom, far left, with winners of the STEAM Makers Derby in July.





N E E D H E L P with
Y O U R M E D I C A R E
Or
HOSPITAL CO-PAYS
????
N E E D H E L P with your
Cash Burial Coverage
Or Final Expenses

Call or text
Joe Storey Agency
706-639-3153

JStorey707@Gmail.com

Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office
SPECIALTY TAGS
$15 - $30 additional to cost of tag.



FLORIDA BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION LICENSE PLATE



The Florida Breast Cancer Foundation (FBCF) was founded by 3 Miami women in 1993. Originally named The South Florida Breast Cancer Coalition, the organization began as a nonprofit, grassroots organization dedicated to ending breast cancer through advocacy, education, and research. With the introduction of the specialty End Breast Cancer license plate in 2002, a second organization was formed the Florida Breast Cancer Coalition Research Foundation - created to receive the funds from the sale of the plate. A few years later our official name changed to the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation, but our mission and vision remains the same.

Real life courage



By GREG GAST

Courage is about stepping out of your comfort zone. It is confronting your fears and anxieties white resisting the need to run away.

Courage is not just physical bravery; it can also be just speaking out against some injustice. It is not just about-facing fear; it is about perseverance, integrity, and the willingness to act in accordance with one's values.

It can enhance personal growth by leading to the achievement of goals despite obstacles, and it builds resilience and the capacity to confront larger challenges in the future.

Courage requires us to stand up for what we believe in. To express our true thoughts and feelings even when faced with opposition or possible failure.

There are different types of courage:

Physical courage is often seen in acts of bravery such as rescuing someone from harm, enduring physical hardship, or putting your life at risk for a cause.

Moral courage is standing up for what is right despite social pressure, ridicule, or personal risk.

Social courage is advocating for others, standing up against injustice, challenging societal norms.

Intellectual courage is the willingness to challenge your own beliefs engaging in critical thinking even when it's uncomfortable.

And **emotional courage** is facing your inner fears and vulnerabilities such as expressing and confronting feelings honestly or coping with loss.

Fostering courage is a continuous process. It requires intentionality and commitment. Start by identifying your core values. What truly matters to you. When you are clear about your values, it becomes easier to make courageous decisions.

Practice being vulnerable to the possibility of rejection, failure, and criticism will build courage. Start small by achieving small goals your confidence will grow making it easier to tackle the bigger challenges. Speaking up. his doesn't mean being confrontational, it is expressing your genuine thoughts and feelings in a respectful way. Step out of our comfort zone and take some calculated risks that align with your values and goals.

Learn to advocate for yourself and others, especially those who may not have a voice. Courage can make a difference in the lives of others whether setting personal boundaries, standing up against injustice or supporting a friend in need.

Embracing change in one's life is often scary but is a necessary part of growth. Courage is living authentically. It creates opportunities and teaches you to think for yourself.

"The opposite of courage is not cowardice, it is conformity. Even a dead fish can go with the flow." – Jim Hightower.

Let me know what you think…

Gregory E. Gast, MS, LMHC is at 3295 Crawfordville Hwy. Suite 4 Crawfordville, Florida 32327 or call at (850) 271-8258.

Putting Out the Fleece



Robert W. Kornegay, Sr.

Judges 6 tells of the Hebrews' suffering in Canaan after they turned away from God and embraced idols. To encourage repentance in the Hebrews, God allowed the Midianite armies and their allies to attack. Israel was invaded during harvest, and their produce was stolen and they were left in deep poverty. Invasions against Israel would continue for seven years. Just before the eighth invasion, God called a farmer named Gideon to deliver his people from the Midianites. Gideon was reluctant to go because he lacked confidence that he could do it. Although God had already promised Gideon a victory, Gideon asked for signs that He'd keep His promise. He tells God, he'll put a fleece on the floor, and if God's truly going to save Israel with Gideon's help, God should make the fleece wet, but leave the floor under it dry. The next morning it's just as he asked. But Gideon is unsatisfied, he risks God's anger by asking for more. So, for the second night, he asked for a wet floor with a dry fleece. Again, the next morning it's as he asked. The floor is wet and the fleece is dry. Gideon is convinced God would keep his promise. This episode in Gideon's life opened the door to many people's imaginations. People ask for physical, literal, signs from God. This is a major mistake. Scripture clearly warns against asking for such. Deuteronomy 6:16 prohibits putting God to the test by such demands. This principle is confirmed by Jesus when he is tempted by Satan in the wilderness in Luke 4:12. The Jews incessantly demanded signs from Jesus during his earthly ministry, but Jesus steadfastly refused to give them any. Paul implies the Jews would suffer severe consequences as a result of their demands and doubts. "Putting out the fleece" is an approach used by people like Gideon who lack faith to trust God to do what He says he will do. Twice Gideon reminded God of what he had said, and twice Gideon asked God to reaffirm His promises with a miracle. Who are we to remind God of what He said? Who are we to tell God what conditions He must meet, especially when He has already spoken to us in His Word? "Putting out the fleece" is not only evidence of our unbelief, but it usually results in our fleecing ourselves and suffering severe consequences. One fundamental fact is that there is no way to know God's will or to receive His guidance, apart from the Holy Scriptures. The Scriptures are not a catalog of do's and don'ts on all matters of life in alphabetical order. Instead, the Scriptures consist largely of general and special principles that are applicable to all life. These principles are available to those who make the effort to understand the Bible adequately. Wise Christians study the Scriptures regularly to learn these principles so that when needed decisions can be made with Bible understanding.

Come worship with us each Sunday @10:00 am

Oyster Bay
Church of Christ
1044 Shadeville Road
Crawfordville, Florida
www.oysterbaychurchofchrist.org

Contact Info:
Robert W. Kornegay
oysterbaychurchofchrist@gmail.com
Listen to more @
PearlsOfWisdomOnline.org

FWMA

A Wakulla Wild Animal Rescue
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?
We always need donations of these items:

- Bleach
- Paper towels
- Fruit cocktail
- Birdseed & nuts
- Pedigree wet & dry dog food
- Friskies wet & dry cat food
- Dawn Dish Soap

Florida Wild Mammal Association
198 Edgar Poole Road
Crawfordville, FL 32327
FWMA.org
363-2351

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
SUNDAY SERVICE...
10:17a.m.
850-926-7808 • 3254 Coastal Hwy., Crawfordville
In Medart Across from Wakulla High School

Sopchoppy United Methodist Church
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
Bible Study Wed. 6 p.m.
Pastor Cheryl Mixon-Cruce 850-962-2511

First Baptist Church CRAWFORDVILLE
3086 Crawfordville Highway
(Just south of the Courthouse on Hwy 319)
850-926-7896
www.crawfordvillefbc.com
facebook.com/fbccrawfordville
Come & See Come & Worship
Sunday Mornings at 11 am
DADS, WE'RE SAVING A SEAT FOR YOU & YOUR FAMILY!

YOU ARE WELCOME
No Pressure. No Pretending.
Just a loving family seeking to serve God and others.
CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN
Sunday Worship - 10 AM
(Also on Facebook)
3803 Coastal Hwy,
Crawfordville, FL
(850) 745- 8412
Dr. James Needham, Pastor

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Catholic Church
3609 Coastal Hwy. Crawfordville FL 32327
850 745-8359
Pastor Michael Hartley
Masses: Saturday 5:00 pm • Sunday 11:00 am
Monday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 am
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
First Saturday: Mass at 9:00 am
Confessions: Every Saturday 9:30am – 10:30am
Saturdays 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Or by appointment
Cemetery lots and cremain spaces
850-509-7630 or 850-745-8359

WAR EAGLES FOOTBALL LIVE ON
94.1 FM WAVE 94
Listen at 94.1 FM, or with the free Wave 94 app, or here: www.wave94.com/listen-live

Sun Monthly Neighbor "The little paper"
View the Sun Monthly e-edition on mobile or PC using this QR code.
The Wakulla Sun

KEEPING PEOPLE & PROPERTY SAFE FROM THE CAPITAL TO THE COAST
CORBIN SYSTEMS
Commercial & Residential
Security Systems
Cameras
Smart Home Technology
Monotoring
Wireless & Networking
Audio/Visual Systems
Sound Systems
Digital Signage
Biometrics
Data Cabling
Fiber Optics
Access Control
Gates
24 hours a day/ 7 days a week
850 491-6277
Locally Owned and Operated • Insured – Licensed Contractors • Alarm Lic#EF20001549 Low Volt Lic#ES12001531

On the Horizon

The calendar of events for October

Thursday, Oct. 1

• The Rotary Club of Wakulla County meets at the TSC Wakulla Center at 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays.
• Coastal Optimist Club meets at noon at Myra Jean's on the first and third Thursdays.
• The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville, every Thursday. There are concessions and raffles.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Friday, Oct. 2

• Celebration of Dolly, a musical tribute to Dolly Parton by Wakulla Community Theater, will be held at Sopchoppy Theater (old Sopchoppy auditorium) beginning at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $20.
• Wakulla War Eagles travel to Alachua County to play the Hawthorne Hornets at 7 p.m.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 7 p.m. every Friday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Saturday, Oct. 3

• The Panacea Community Garden Farmer's Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Panacea.
• Wakulla Non-Profit Resource Fair will be held at the community center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's a chance to meet 20 of the organizations serving Wakulla and get support, get connected, or volunteer.
• Artistic swimming at Wakulla Springs with a performance by the Serinas at 5:30 p.m. Free with park admission.
• Cinema at the Springs, from Tarzan to Creature from the Black Lagoon, with film historian Dr. David Morton at the terrace at the Wakulla Springs Lodge at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 4

• Wakulla Giving Hands holds a food giveaway every Sunday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the facility across from Medart Elementary on Highway 98.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Monday, Oct. 5

• County commission meets in the commission chambers at 6 p.m.
• The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group meets at Lake Ellen Baptist Church at 9:30 a.m every Monday .
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. every Monday at 54 Ochlockonee St.
• Gentle Yoga and Stetching Class with Margaret every Monday at 11 a.m. First Baptist Church CLC Building in Crawfordville. Bring a mat.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

• Grand opening of the new public library, built on the grounds of the community center, is at 9 a.m.
• Sopchoppy community dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Wednesday, Oct. 7

• Wakulla County Coalition for Youth meets at the Wakulla Public Library at 12:30 p.m.
• Muffins with Moms Prenatal Support Group meets at 9 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10 a.m. at the Wakulla County Health Department. Contact Liz Neighbors at 850-888-6078 or elizabeth.neighbors@flhealth.gov for more information.
• A line dance class is held at 1 p.m. at the Wakulla Senior Center every Wednesday.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Thursday, Oct. 8

• St. Marks City Commission meets at City Hall at 6 p.m.
-926-6050.

Friday, Oct. 9

• Wakulla War Eagles host district rival Godby Cougars at J.D. Jones Stadium at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 10

• Boots and Bingo, a fundraiser by the Rotary Club of Wakulla, will be held at 3Y Ranch from 5 to 11 p.m. Tickets are $75 each.
• Wakulla High School Class of '76 will hold its 50 year reunion at Trident Restaurant in Panacea from 4 to 8 p.m. $50 per person attending.
• The Wakulla Caregiver Support Group will meet at the Wakulla County Public Library at 10 a.m. every second Saturday of the month.

Monday, Oct. 12

• Columbus Day – banks will be closed.
• Planning Day for Wakulla County Schools – No school for students.
• 4-H Youth Leadership Summit will be held at the extension office. Cost is $30 per youth, ages 11 to 18. Deadline to register is Oct. 7.
• Planning commission meets at 6 p.m. in the commission chambers.
• The Sopchoppy City Commission meets at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.
• Crawfordville Woman's Club monthly meeting is the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 64 Ochlockonee St., in Crawfordville. Call (850) 566-5727 for more information.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

• Wakulla Garden Club will meet at Just Fruits and Exotics from noon to 2 p.m. Speaker will be Jamake Robinson, co-owner of Just Fruits, on fruit tree pruning and management.

Thursday, Oct. 15

• Stone Crab Season opens.
• Chamber After Hours will be held at Barns Spirits in Panacea from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 16

• Wakulla War Eagles have a bye week.

Saturday, Oct. 17

• Feathers and Fur, a masquerade ball fundraiser for Florida Wild Mammal Association, will be held at the Sopchoppy Gym from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Tickets are $75 each.
• First Baptist Church Fall Festival will be held at the church from 3 to 6 p.m.
• Craft Bake and Plant Sale will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 19

• Wakulla School Board meets in the district office at 5:45 p.m.
• County commission meets in commission chambers at 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 23

• Wakulla War Eagles travel to Glen St. Mary to take on the Baker County Wildcats at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24

• Story Walk, the Wakulla Public Library's giant Halloween-themed festival, will be held at Hudson and Azalea parks from 5:30 to 8 p.m.
• Spooky Specimens will be held at Gulf Specimen Marine Lab from 5 to 8 p.m. Free admission for kids in costume.

Saturday, Oct. 31

• HAPPY HALLOWEEN!
• Be the Light, with music, games, food and candy, will be held at Sopchoppy Depot Park from 5 to 8 p.m. Everything is free.
• St. Marks Community Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in St. Marks.



GELLIS LAW PLLC
A CONCIERGE COUNSELOR
Sean W. Gellis, Esq
Founder & Managing Member
Local Wakulla Attorney • Local Resident & Neighbor
Services
Estate Planning
Civil Litigation
Corporate Formation
Asset Protection
Contract Drafting & Review
Probate & Trust Administration
Government Consulting
Insurance Claims
Practice Areas
Wills & Trusts
Lawsuits
Probate Cases
Administrative Law
Business Law
Corporations
THE FLORIDA BAR BOARD CERTIFIED
State & Federal Government & Admin Practice
Office 2931 Crawfordville Hwy
(448) 500-6327
Sean@gellislaw.com
www.GellisLaw.com
www.WakullaLegacy.com





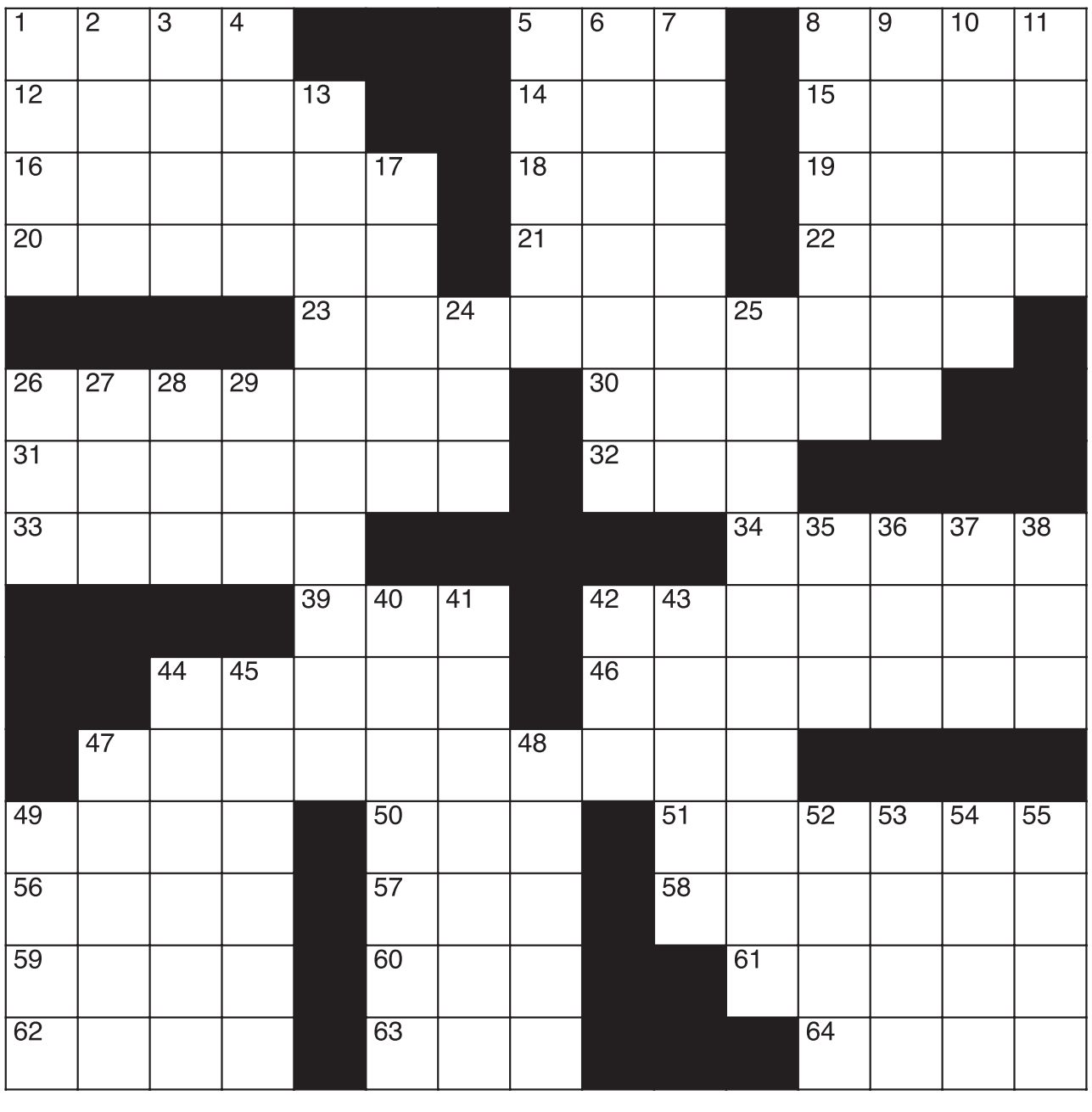
CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. El __, Texas town
5. Rocker's tool
8. A lot
12. Traveling by ground
14. Spelling competition
15. Two-toed sloth
16. Small perfumed bag
18. "Much __ about nothing"
19. Tough-skinned mollusk
20. Removes from record
21. It warms the planet
22. Leafy green
23. Quality of arriving favorably
26. Living thing
30. "Six of Crows" author Bardugo
31. Got around a rule
32. Resin from burned substance
33. Iraq seaport
34. Religious leaders
39. Fugitives are on it
42. Samson's influencer
44. Italian city
46. A quality of lacking interest
47. Predatory tropical fishes
49. Nobel physician Isodor
50. Luck
51. Stationary part of a motor or generator
56. Orthopedic professional group (abbr.)
57. One point south of due east
58. It follows 79
59. Paper currency
60. Anger
61. Spanish seaport
62. Sleep in a rough place
63. Famous museum
64. Selfs

CLUES DOWN

1. Bullfighting maneuver
2. From a distance
3. Soul and calypso song
4. Expressions of delight
5. Lower in esteem
6. Inner region of an organ
7. Flowers
8. A bog
9. Remove a fastening
10. Membranes
11. Enormous
13. One who abstains from drink
17. Malayan wild ox
24. Type of student
25. Rejecting all moral principles
26. Sino-Soviet block
27. Egyptian unit of weight
28. Wrong
29. Make a mistake
35. Indicates location
36. Boxing's "GOAT"
37. Where wrestlers compete
38. Timid
40. Disney town
41. Suggesting the horror of death and decay
42. Male parent
43. Remove for good
44. Simple shoes
45. Flowers
47. Hindi courtesy title for a man
48. Not pleased
49. "Atlas Shrugged" author
52. CIA officer and writer
53. Hoodlum
54. __ Von Bismarck, Iron Chancellor
55. Woolen rugs

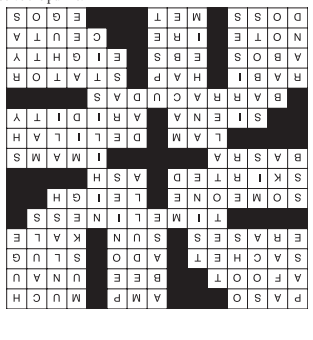


7	1	4	5			8	9					
		6		1	7		5					
5				6	9			2				
		1		7			4	3				
		9	3	4	8	5						
					5	6	8					
4		3		8		2	7					
2	9				4							
1				5	6							

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!

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



CLASSIFIEDS MARKET

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

DISPLAY ADS $5 PER COL INCH

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

MR STUMP
TREE SERVICE | STUMP GRINDING
Mike Nissley
850.509.8530 MRSTUMP.COM
CRAWFORDVILLE

Installation Services:
Hardwood Engineered
Floating Flooring
Glue Downs Laminate
Nail Downs & Vinyl
Call Today for your FREE Estimate
FOR QUALITY AND SERVICE THAT WILL FLOOR YOU Labig
850745-8723 LHFQuality
LabigsHardwoodFlooring@Gmail.com

NEW VISION GUTTERS
YOUR LOCAL WATER DIVERSION SPECIALIST
448 220 2311
www.newvisiongutters.com

Southern Maid
Cleaning Service
850-212-2908
Servicing the surrounding area Since 2017
• Licensed • Owner operated • Serving Surrounding Counties

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
Gene Lambert
Agency Manager
FARM BUREAU INSURANCE of Wakulla County
(850) 926-3425
GENE.LAMBERT@FFBIC.COM
2468 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327

Licensed & Insured
30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
FORGOTTEN COAST TRACTOR SERVICE LLC
Travis Clayton
850.273.9101
text or call
Skid Steer Mowing
Concrete Removal
Demolition
Land Clearing
Grading
Driveways

CORBIN'S HEAVY EQUIPMENT
850-933-8505
FREE ESTIMATES
Land Clearing
Driveways
Ponds
Site Work
Demolition
Hauling

Wakulla Lawn Ranger
Gene Darby
850-251-9122
Mowing - Edging - Trimming
Sidewalk/Driveways
Pressurewashing
Palm Tree Trimming
Licensed & Insured
Great Prices - Great Work

Susan Schatzman
Broker Associate
kw
Mobile: 850-519-2292
SchatzmanSusan@gmail.com
kw TOWN & COUNTRY REALTY KELLERWILLIAMS
MLS

Send Me The Bill
Lori L. Lewis
Chief Executive Officer
Mental Health/Medical Billing
sendmethebillLLC@gmail.com
Cell 717-413-6761
Fax 717-256-7199
www.SendMeTheBill.net
1037 Gulf Shore Blvd.
Alligator Point, FL 32346

Massages, Facials, Body Treatments
info@Sunraysspa.com
Easy Online Scheduleing
www.SunraysSpa.com
2655-A Crawfordville Hwy.
Crawfordville FL 32327
850-745-6422
Follow us on
Sunrays Spa
Relax Revive Rejuvenate
MM43237

40 ACRES FOR SALE
D. E. BILLINGSLEY
LIC. REAL ESTATE BROKER
850-510-3309
www.debillingsley.com

Bill Webster, Attorney
General Law Practice
50 Years Experience
Since 1975
By Appointment Only
850-443-5901

STOP DRINKING

"Do you want to stop drinking, but can't? Let other alcoholics show you not just how to stop, but how to live a rich, fulfilling life.
Apalachicola Bay Serenity Group
A chapter of
Alcoholics Anonymous
Call: 850-323-2510"

TOWING SERVICE

BIG BEND TOWING, INC
*TOWING *ROADSIDE ASST.
*JUMP START
*TIRE CHANGE
*LOCK OUT
*FUEL
CALL BILLY HAYNIE
850-631-2361

Big Bend Hospice

your hometown hospice licensed since 1983

Big Bend Hospice is seeking direct patient care volunteers to provide companionship and respite services in Wakulla County.
If you are interested in learning more, please contact Andrea Zinker at (850) 878-5310.

SERVICES

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

REAL ESTATE

CELEBRATING 38 YEARS
Wakulla Realty
"Specializing in Wakulla County"
Sonya Hall
Broker
(850) 926–5084
Sonya@wakullarealty.com
Real Estate Sales
Listings &
Rental
Management
Karen Williams
Broker Associate
(850) 567-8279
Karen@wakullarealty.com
MLS
10 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville
PO Box 535, Crawfordville FL 32326
WAKULLAREALTY.COM

Carol Ann Williams
Senior Real Estate Specialist
850-566-9293
Coastal Gems Real Estate Inc. Est. 2000
carolannw@Coastalgems.com • CoastalGems.com

Abbott TREE SOLUTIONS
Your Trusted Local Tree experts since 1998
Serving Crawfordville and Surrounding areas
850-307-7721 FREE ESTIMATES Lic. & Ins.

Sandulls Custom Construction Solutions, LLC
850-666- 2435
Concrete - Stone - Masonry - Carpentry
Rot/Repairs – Remodels- Renovations
Landscape / Hardscape Skidsteer work
Junk Removal
- FREE ESTIMATES -

Bonnie THE LIFE COACH
It isn't about how your life looks to others... It's about how it feels to you!
Bonnie Holub
Certified Life Coach
850-570-8271
BonnietheLifeCoach.com



FROM THE WAKULLA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A tale of three tombstones

By Elizabeth F. Smith, published in the May1967 edition of the Magnolia Monthly

PART 3 OF SIX.

On September 22, 1827, the KENNEBEC JOURNAL of Augusta, Maine, published an advertisement for the town of Magnolia on the St. Marks River, Florida, which had been founded less than 3 months before by four Augusta brothers named John, George, Nathaniel, and Weld Hamlin. The paper in which they advertised was owned by their brother-in-law, Luther Severance, who had married Ann Hamlin, and founded the paper three years previously. The ad stated:

TOWN OF MAGNOLIA

Since Florida has come into possession of the United States government, the settlement of that territory has been very rapid. It is the southernmost point of the Union and is capable of producing any number of articles of commerce nowhere else to be found within our limits. The orange, olive, the vine, etc. thrive in Florida, but it is the adaptation of the soil and climate to the culture of the sugarcane that renders it most valuable for it is only in Florida and Louisiana that we can produce sugar. But a great proportion of Florida is pine land, with a thin sandy soil, incapable of producing much, interspersed with tracts of rich upland, covered with oak, hickory, and other hardwood. There is an extensive tract of this highly valuable land about Tallahassee, the new capital of Florida. It still bears the marks of a former Spanish colony which was destroyed or driven away by the Indians nearly two centuries ago. The orange groves and other trees and plants believed not to be indigenous, in the Alachua district, and the traces of roads in every direction about Middle Florida, evince that the colony had made considerable advances in agriculture. To all the district around Tallahassee which has just been brought into the market by the United States, the Bay and river of St. Marks is the natural channel of communication with the sea. At the head of navigation on this River Messrs. J. G. and N. Hamlin, formerly of this town, have fortunately purchased a considerable tract of land and laid out a town to which they have given the name of Magnolia. It is upon the first high and arable land on the river; the banks below (i.e., to the south - Ed.) are marshy and subject to inundation. We have obtained the following description of the situation of Magnolia from one of the proprietors: "This place is situated on the St. Marks River, eight miles above Ft. St. Marks, about 15 miles southeast from Tallahassee, the seat of government for Florida, about midway from Pensacola and St. Augustine, nearly on the same parallel of latitude, about 200 miles from either. It is every way eligible as a commercial depot and place of business, its site sufficiently elevated, dry and healthy, combing every advantage which this part of the territory admits. Its local convenience, and the healthiness of its situation, warrant the confident belief that it will, in a short time, become an important commercial place. It must necessarily command the extensive inland trade of a large portion of rich and fertile country, rapidly increasing in population and resources. There are two large sulphur springs at this place, one of which is within 200 yards of the public square. The valuable medicinal qualities of these springs, known to be efficacious in relieving a variety of complaints in all countries, will at no distant period render Magnolia a fashionable resort both for health and pleasure, thus happily and rarely combining advantages of business, sources of pleasure, and enjoyment in relief of the afflicted. Already there have been built 10 or 12 houses for commercial purposes, since the first of August last year (the writer means the same year - Ed.), the time of its first location. Others are contemplated and numbers of lots have been sold at low rates to actual settlers by the proprietors.

Apalachy or St. Marks Bay is the only harbor which Florida affords in the Gulf of Mexico where ships drawing over 6 feet of water, find safe anchorage and ready access to the interior of the country by roads, from Apalachicola Bay (where only 11 feet of water can be carried over its bar) to Tampa Bay – including a seacoast of 350 miles in extant. Apalachy Bay is accessible to vessels drawing from 14 to 18 feet of water, at high water, safe anchorage against all winds, a good holding ground. Vessels drawing 8 feet water had no difficulty in ascending the St. Marks River, 13 miles, to the town of Magnolia. The tides ebb and flow regularly twice every 24 hours, from 2 to 6 feet, varied by the wind in this respect differing singularly from the other ports in the Gulf, which are little affected by the tides, and only once in 24 hours. Three good and sufficient buoys have been places on the banks at the entrance of the harbour, by order of the general government, and a lighthouse may be confidently expected next spring.

The same issue of the JOURNAL mentioned that Joseph Eveleth had arranged for travelers to go to New Orleans on his ships, and he himself was to visit Magnolia two years later.

There are other items in the Kennebec paper, not all concerning Magnolia. The October 6 issue advertises "Fifty Living Rattlesnakes from South America" on exhibition for 12-1/2 cents.

In the October 27th issue it states, "The people of the southern states begin to turn their attention to manufacturers. In Tennessee slaves have been employed in a factory with great advantage- the children, particularly, are said to be just as tractable and ready (to) learn as white children. This discovery will soon reconcile the southern states to the protecting system," which is the JOURNAL's way of saying that child labor can be just a productive in the South as in the North.

Meanwhile, the town of Magnolia was beginning to take shape in the pine woods and palmetto scrub along the St. Marks River. The advertisement in the Kennebec journal DID NOT BRING A FLOOD OF Yankees to the south, and it is hard to estimate the selling point that the Hamlins made in a similar piece in the PENSACOLA GAZETTE for August 10, 1827.

A post office was apparently established before the end of 1827. A report to the U.S. House of Representatives giving receipts of the various post offices in Territorial Florida for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1828, lists Magnolia and gives its receipts as $21.73. During the next year these jumped to $213.76.

There is no evidence in the Leon County records that the brothers sold any lots in 1827. The first purchase was made in 1828 by Jason H. Knapen who bought one lot on Broad Street for $50. Witnesses were Edward Seixas, Magnolia's postmaster, and Alexander Steele.

A study of land purchases indicate that the town had one street running from the river (flowing south) in a westerly direction, for all purchases were made either north or south of Broad Street. Apparently there was a sulphur springs to which the street ran, for it is advertised as being near the main square.

Knapen, the first recorded buyer, used his collateral in the lot three days later to borrow $150 from Frederick Towle at 6% interest a month until paid.

The second purchaser was better known in the Territory, Benjamin Byrd. Byrd was born in North Carolina, a descendant of William Byrd, and the first Treasurer of Florida. He bought 671 acres of land in the magnolia tract from the three Hamlins (who advertised themselves always as J, N, and G Hamlin) for use in land speculation. Byrd was born in 1798, married Mary Burney of Tallahassee after arriving in the capital about 1825. He had one son who was a student at the Quincy Academy. Whether he profited from the land he bought in Magnolia is not known, but he was a merchant and councilman and probably died in the 1870's. The land he bought cost slightly more than $1 an acre, since he paid a total of $838.60 for what he purchased from the

Turn to Next Page



Magnolia Monthly

From Previous Page

Hamlins.

A Josua Byrd lived in St. Marks in 1840 and a Robert F. Byrd, b. in N.C. in 1825, was a farmer in the Shell Point district in 1850, but whether they were relatives of Benjamin is not known. There are no Byrds living in Wakulla County at the present time.

In November 1828 John Hamlin gave his brother George power of attorney to sell lots in Magnolia. Later one was sold to Jesse E. Brown of New York City for $150. Subsequent sales were made to Mahala Cotton of Leon County, 1829, one lot for $37.50. In the same year William Haskins, who used his property for a large mercantile establishment, bought 2 lots for $75. David Burley, who went into partnership with Haskins on a schooner and its cargoes, bought 8 lots for $350.

In September 1829, Thomas Delphy of Jefferson County bought one lot for $100. Delphy was a hard drinking man, a perennial mover, and a bad credit risk. In 1831 in Gadsden County he bought on credit from June 15th to September 12, from a storekeeper named Sadberry, a book, a pound of gunpowder, 22 pounds of beef, a pair of shoes, four and a half quarts of whiskey, two quarts of gin, and 11 shots of assorted spirits. He died sometime thereafter, possibly of liver complaint, and his bill was not settled until 1839.

In July 1829, Ann Gause of Leon County bought 2 lots in Magnolia for $75, followed by William Burgess, same place, who bought 3 lots for $225.

The witnesses for this transaction were J.W. Klein, another Magnolia merchant, and Joseph Ladd. The appearance in these records for the first time of Joseph Ladd (buried under the second tombstone makes clear that he came to Magnolia before 1833, tho most records indicate he did not appear there before then. Joseph had married a sister of the Hamlins in Maine and was a leading mill owner on the Kennebec River before coming to Magnolia.

The St. Marks River, seen today, looks very narrow at the place where Magnolia was supposed to have been, two miles north of Newport. But men who fish in the stream or know it from other experiences claim that it is deep. Nevertheless, getting coastal schooners to the town presented a problem. In 1828 the U.S. War Department had a survey made and in a letter to his Chief of Engineers, dated September 11, David B. Macomb, engineer in charge, said "Vessels drawing over 6 feet of water are now under the necessity of lightening their cargoes before they can reach Magnolia. About three-quarters of a mile below the town is a casual obstruction of about 100 yards long and 20 feet broad, lying at the bottom and parallel with the river, on the right bank, consisting of a deposit of mud and grass, the removal of which would make the river navigable for vessels drawing 10 feet of water at high tide…The removal would cost 500 dollars.

Two months after this report, the first issue of THE MAGNOLIA ADVERTISER appeared. The editor of this paper, Augustus Steele, was a native of Connecticut, and one of the promoters of Magnolia. The paper lasted not quite two years, but considering the time and its place of publication it is little short of remarkable. The heavy iron presses, the type, and the paper had to be shipped in by boat. The durability of the newsprint makes modern paper suspect, because a complete set of the original ADVERTISERS reside in an air conditioned vault at the University of Florida, and are not even yellow or brittle from age. They look as tho they had been printed on good quality bond, and the type is identical to that used in Franklin's POOR RICHARD'S ALMANAC. All this type had to be set by hand.

The ADVERTISER was the seventh paper to begin publication after Florida was purchased from Spain in 1821. In the space between 1821 and 1845 when Florida entered the Union as a state, Tallahassee had 11 papers, Apalachicola 10, Key West 6, Jacksonville 5, St. Augustine 4, Pensacola 3, St. Joseph 2, Magnolia, Quincy, and Newport 1. Most of the editors were northerners and seldom did they stay more than a year at their task. The future of a newspaper on the frontier was precarious, since it depended on the economy of the area. It was business that paid the cost of advertising, as it does today. Seldom did the readers number more than 200 in any place.

That Magnolia had thrived could be indicated in the prospectus of the first issue published on December 12, 1828:

The rapid and almost unprecedented increase of population and of business, which in little more than a year have made Magnolia a place of considerable commercial importance, the extent and variety of the resources on which depend her prosperity and support, and the necessity of having a vehicle of general intelligence at a point where the earliest information, in a commercial as well as all other points of view, can be obtained together with growing prosperity and increasing population of this portion of the Territory, have induced the subscriber (that is, the editor) to present himself to the public for their patronage, in support of a commercial paper in this place.

There is more to the prospectus which points to a glowing commercial future on the St. Marks, as well as the growth of a "liberal and enlightened community."

And as if to ensure that the trade up and down the river will continue, there is a warning in the periodical that anyone caught cutting trees into the river below the town would be fined by the Justice of the Peace.

Advertising rates were $0.75 per column inch and half that much for each succeeding issue. Subscriptions were $4 a year.

(To be continued)

The Wakulla County Historical Society Museum is in the Old Jail at 24 High Drive in Crawfordville. We are open to the public on Thursdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Visit us online at WakullaHistory.org. The museum houses a complete, indexed collection of the Magnolia Monthly magazines for review in our reading room, and several partial sets available for purchase.



LOWE LEGAL & TITLE HAS JOINED AUSLEY MCMULLEN

A Trusted Legacy. Expanded Resources.

AUSLEY MCMULLEN

Lowe Legal & Title joins with Ausley McMullen, expanding the resources available to our clients while continuing our longstanding commitment to serving Wakulla County and North Florida.



AUSLEY.COM 850-926-8245

FWMA

A Wakulla Wild Animal Rescue

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

We always need donations of these items:

- Bleach
- Paper towels
- Fruit cocktail
- Birdseed & nuts
- Pedigree wet & dry dog food
- Friskies wet & dry cat food
- Dawn dish soap

Florida Wild Mammal Association

198 Edgar Poole Road
Crawfordville, FL 32327
FWMA.org
363-2351

Sun Neighbor Monthly "The little paper"

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

Your local source for news Subscribe online!

HELP COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO SUPPORT THE WAKULLA SUN THROUGH THE FLORIDA PRESS FOUNDATION.

The Wakulla Sun

FPF FLORIDA PRESS FOUNDATION

Your donation will help keep the presses running.

KEEP WAKULLA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

www.kwcb.org

Leave Nothing But Your Footprints

26TH ANNUAL

HAVANA PUMPKINFEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026
10 AM – 4 PM

VENDORS | FOOD TRUCKS
KIDS ZONE | CONTESTS
LIVE MUSIC | PONY RIDES

QUILT SHOW&SALE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2026
10 AM – 4 PM
Havana History and Heritage Museum
204 2nd Street NW • Havana, FL

HAVANA MAIN STREET
A Very Different Florida.

For more information, visit
www.HavanaMainStreet.com

WAKULLA SENIOR CENTER
RECREATION • TRANSPORTATION • NUTRITION • BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE

BACKYARD BBQ & BEYOND

Good Food • Great Company
A Brighter Future for Our Seniors

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026

WAKULLA SENIOR CENTER
33 Michael Dr
Crawfordville, FL 32327

5:30 PM – 9:00 PM

SCAN TO BUY TICKETS
or visit
zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/backyard-bbq-and-beyond

Great Food. Great Music. Great Cause!

TICKETS ARE LIMITED
— RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY! —

SPONSORED BY
AIR CON of Wakulla, LLC
Capital City Bank. MORE THAN A BANK

Tally Contra Dance

Fall 2026 Dance Schedule

Sept 11
JJ LUXE + IN CAHOOTS

Sept 25
JOEY NORTON + RUNAWAY BISCUITS

Oct 9
RACHEL FLEMMING + MYSTIC GORILLAS

Oct 23
DREW THOMAS + BUNNY BREAD BANDITS

Nov 13
RACHEL FLEMMING + GREASY STRING BAND

Dec 11
VICKI MORRISON + YAZOO KICKSTARTS

Dec 12
CAJUN DANCE WITH GUMBO LIMBO



NO EXPERIENCE OR PARTNER NEEDED
BALLROOM AT 1400 N. MONROE

7:15 LESSON | 7:30-10:00 DANCE
$10 ENTRY | $6 FOR STUDENTS

TALLYDANCER.COM

COCA Council on Culture & Arts · Visit Tallahassee · City of Tallahassee

WAKULLA COMMUNITY THEATER PRESENTS

Noel Coward's

BLITHE SPIRIT

Abridged Adaption By:
Laurence Maslon

November 7 at 3:00 & 7:00
November 8 at 3:00 & 7:00

164 YELLOW JACKET AVENUE SOPCHOPPY, FL

www.wakullacommunitytheater.org
www.concordtheatricals.com

KEEP WAKULLA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL
www.kwcb.org

Leave Nothing But Your Footprints

Keep up with What's Happening in Wakulla

If you enjoy this Monthly paper but want more hard hitting local news please consider subscribing to our newspaper.

Call us at 850-962-8019

The Wakulla Sun *is Your Local News Source*

Subscribe for only $40 per year in county



Robyn Hurst remembered

Page 14 · $1 One Section · "It's a New Day" · Locally Owned & Operated · Our 2nd Year 24th Issue Thursday, June 15, 2023

Hertz, Looney to return for retrial

The two were found guilty of the Spears-King murders 25 years ago, will have a re-do of the death penalty phase of their trial

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The resentencing of Guerry Wayne Hertz and Jason Looney on murder charges is scheduled to get underway on June 19 with jury selection.

The question before jurors will be whether or not Hertz and Looney should be sentenced to death for the 1997 murders of Melanie King and Keith Spears. At their 1999 trial, Hertz and Looney were found guilty of two counts of first-degree murder and, by a vote of 10-2, the jury recommended death, which was ordered by the court.

(A third man involved in the murders, Jimmy Dempsey, testified against Hertz and Looney at the trial in exchange for a sentence of life in prison.)

The only issue before the jurors will be whether to recommend a death sentence. The guilt of Hertz and Looney is not at issue, and they will never be released from prison even if a jury recommends a life sentence.

In 1999, there was not a requirement in Florida for a unanimous jury verdict for a death sentence. The case was sent back for a re-do of the death penalty phase in 2020, and has been pending for several years.

In this year's Legislative session, in response to the lack of a unanimous jury verdict for the death penalty at the trial of Parkland High School shooter Nikolas Cruz, Florida lawmakers changed the standard to an 8-4 vote for death.

Defense attorney Zachary Ward, who represents Hertz, noted at a docket sounding hearing on Wednesday, June 7, that the defense had agreed to set the resentencing for June 19. The Florida Legislature made the change in jury verdicts immediate.

Turn to Page 3

Guerry Wayne Hertz

Jason Looney

Heavy security at hearing

There was drum-tight security at the Wakulla County Courthouse on Wednesday, June 7, as death row inmates Guerry Wayne Hertz and Jason Looney were present for a hearing on their planned resentencing.

Wakulla deputies and Florida Department of Corrections officers were all over the courthouse – including 16 armed officers inside the courtroom during the hearing.

Security will be tight when the death penalty phase of Hertz's and Looney's trial gets underway starting June 19.



Members of the Charter Review Committee at a meeting last week at the community center.

Charter review discusses spring protection

St. Marks to raise sewer rates 75% on residents

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

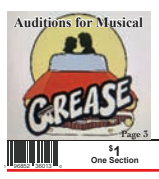
Warned by their accountant that they are facing financial ruin if they don't do something, St. Marks City Commissioners voted to raise sewer rates 75% – which would translate to a $46 increase per month on residential utility bills.

It was roughly estimated that the increase would translate into an additional $183,000 into the city's utility fund.

City commissioners voted 3-1 for the increase, with the motion made by Dan Albers, seconded by Paula Bell, and supported by Mayor Paul Sheldan. Steve Remke was the lone vote against the increase. Remke had made a motion earlier for a 50% increase, which was seconded by Bell for discussion and was ultimately voted down 1-3. City Commission Sharon Rudd was absent due to illness.

The meeting room at City Hall was full of citizens on Thursday, June 8, but none seemed especially upset by the sharp increase in rates.

Our citizens did suggest that there must be money to cut, and Mayor Sheddan appeared irritated at the comment. The mayor replied that city commissioners had cut everything they could think of, but there was no way to make enough financial cuts to get out of the problem. Several residents in the audience suggested just going ahead with a 100% increase to get the pain over with.



Auditions for Musical

Page 3 · $1 One Section · "It's a New Day" · Locally Owned & Operated · Our 2nd Year 28th Issue Thursday, July 13, 2023

Brad Harvey pleads to charges

The former property appraiser is charged with embezzling money from the office; he will be sentenced in September

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

Former Wakulla Property Appraiser Brad Harvey pleaded no contest in Wakulla Circuit Court on Wednesday, July 5 to numerous fraud charges that stemmed from overpayments he made to himself as well as using the office credit card for personal expenses.

Harvey had been set to go to trial later this month. After the plea, a pre-sentence investigation was ordered to determine what Harvey scores for punishment.

He is scheduled for sentencing on Sept. 7.

Harvey is charged with stealing more than $200,000 from the office, which he used for expenses like outfitting a hunting truck, and to take his family on a cruise after his daughter graduated from high school.

Assistant State Attorney Andrew Demeres, who is prosecuting the case, will reportedly be asking Wakulla Circuit Judge Layne Smith, who is presiding over the case, for prison time for Harvey.

The matter started after members of the Rotary Club of Wakulla realized that checks and cash for a fundraiser had never been deposited. Harvey was club treasurer. After being told of the missing money, Sheriff Jared Miller, also a member of Rotary, ordered an investigation. After being interviewed by detectives, Harvey turned over about $1,000 in cash from a gun raffle the club had held. No charges were brought in the case because the evidence – namely, ticket receipts for the raffle – had not been retained by the club.



Former Property Appraiser Brad Harvey

But the Rotary incident prompted a member of Harvey's staff to begin looking into office finances – and evidence quickly piled up that Harvey was stealing public money.

The staff member went to County Administrator David Edwards with the concerns – and FDLE was brought in to investigate.

In April 2020, Harvey was arrested on a warrant and processed in the Wakulla County Jail. Because of Covid restrictions at the time, Harvey was not put in a jail cell, and he did not have to post bond.

The same day, Gov. Ron DeSantis removed Harvey from office.

During the FDLE investigation, the newspaper was aware of the suspicions of financial improprieties and, along with another interested party, began making public records requests and writing news stories about it. Later public record requests indicated that Harvey continued overpaying himself even after he knew he was under investigation by FDLE.

Asked by the newspaper to provide justification for the overpayments, Harvey pointed to a supplement he had received when he was chief deputy under the prior property appraiser for work done on Fire and Solid Waste tax rolls. He seemed to think he was still entitled to the supplement – though the total amount of overpayment far exceeded the supplement.

Harvey's statutory salary was $103,000 in 2016 when he was elected. It increased to $107,500 the next year and to $108,336 in 2018.

Harvey had done payroll and other office financials as chief deputy under former appraiser Donnie Sparkman, lost by four votes, presented no evidence that he would have won the election but for alleged misconduct.

The judge noted the lawsuit is "based on the treatment of 12 ballots out of 9,164" ballots cast in the race. The 12 ballots represented the number of votes rejected by the canvassing board because the signatures on the vote-by-mail ballot did not match the signature on file.

Sparkman's attorney, Mark Herron, argued at a hearing held by Zoom back in February 2022 that the 12 ballots were not able to be cured because of miscanvass by the supervisor of elections and the canvassing board. That included not telling voters whose ballots were rejected the correct amount of time they had to cure the problem, and telling Sparkman that he should not contact the 12 voters.

Turn to Page 14

SOPCHOPPY FOURTH OF JULY



Independence Day celebration in Sopchoppy starts with a parade, includes music and vendors, and concludes with

Two drownings in separate incidents on July 4th

A man died while scalloping; a child drowned in a home pool

Staff Report

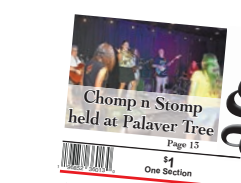
Two unrelated drownings were reported in Wakulla on July 4th: a man scalloping in St. Marks and a child who drowned in a backyard pool.

Names and other details were not released by the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office.

The sheriff's office did put out a press release the next day that read: "Yesterday The Wakulla County Sheriff's Office responded to two separate and unrelated instances of drowning in our community, one at a residence in Crawfordville and another on the water near St. Marks. So far, the investigations into both instances appear to show these are nothing more than tragic accidents. Out of respect for the families and those involved The Wakulla County Sheriff's Office will not be making any further releases regarding either incident.

"WCSO would like to remind everyone to always be careful when swimming or enjoying the water, as drowning incidents can occur suddenly and even to the strongest swimmers.

"Please join Sheriff Miller and the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office in praying for the families affected by these incidents."



Chomp n Stomp held at Palaver Tree

Page 13 · $1 One Section · "It's a New Day" · Locally Owned & Operated · Our 2nd Year 30th Issue Thursday, July 27, 2023

Election suit over after 3 years

Appeals court rules for Ed Brimner in lawsuit over 2020 property appraiser in which Colby Sparkman lost by 3 votes

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee has upheld the Wakulla Circuit Court Judge's ruling finding that Ed Brimner was properly elected as property appraiser in 2020.

The DCA's ruling was released Tuesday, July 18, and said simply: Per curiam affirmed," which means that the appeals court affirms the trial court's decision without issuing an opinion or explanation of its own.

In February of last Year, Wakulla Circuit Judge Jon Flury granted a summary judgment to the Wakulla County Canvassing Board and Property Appraiser Ed Brimner finding that Colby Sparkman, who was a candidate for property appraiser against Brimner in the 2020 election but who lost by four votes, presented no evidence that he would have won the election but for alleged misconduct.

The judge noted the lawsuit is "based on the treatment of 12 ballots out of 9,164" ballots cast in the race. The 12 ballots represented the number of votes rejected by the canvassing board because the signatures on the vote-by-mail ballot did not match the signature on file.

Sparkman's attorney, Mark Herron, argued at a hearing held by Zoom back in February 2022 that the 12 ballots were not able to be cured because of miscanvass by the supervisor of elections and the canvassing board. That included not telling voters whose ballots were rejected the correct amount of time they had to cure the problem, and telling Sparkman that he should not contact the 12 voters.



The 2020 candidates for Wakulla Property Appraiser, incumbent Colby Sparkman, left, and Ed Brimner.

But Judge Flury wrote that, during the election, a total of 53 ballots had signature problems. "Of those 53 ballots," the judge wrote, "41 were cured."

One of the 12 ballots, belonging to Debra Russell, was cured in a timely manner, but because of the narrow vote margin, she noted that her vote not be counted because it would reveal how she voted. The canvassing board accepted her appeal and did not count her vote.

"No evidence has been presented that shows the precluded ballots favored any particular candidate," Judge Flury wrote in his order. "Factually, the mathematical probability of a change in the result here is nonexistent."

At the hearing last year, attorneys Leonard Collins, representing Brimner, and Wayne Malaney, representing the canvassing board, acknowledged that reform were made with the election, but contended there was no fraud and no effort to help one candidate or another.

The judge agreed: "There is not evidence to suggest that there was no ulterior motivations motive that actually drove the canvassing board's decision. There is no reason to overturn the will of the people as expressed in the election results presented."

Sparkman appealed the judge's decision in March of 2022.

In the meantime, Sparkman did get a settlement in his lawsuit for wrongful termination. Sparkman was a deputy property appraiser under Brad Harvey, who was removed from office by Gov. Ron DeSantis after his arrested in 2018 on embezzlement and fraud charges. Harvey has pleaded to contest to the charges and faces a maximum sentence of 30 years when he is sentenced in September.

After Brimner was installed in office in January 2021, he subsequently fired Sparkman for cause.

Much of the controversy in the case arises from Sparkman being told not to contact any of the 12 voters with the rejected ballots. He asked for and was given the names of the voters and acknowledged in deposition that he had called one, but couldn't remember who it was.

A voter called County Administrator David Edwards with concerns about Sparkman calling voters, and Edwards called two canvassing board members – County Judge Jill Walker, and County Commissioner Quincee Messersmith. Both said the issue would be brought before the canvassing board and then Supervisor of Elections Buddy Wells.

Edwards walked over to Wells' office and confronted the elections

Turn to Page 3



Fired Chiles coach may join War Eagle coaching staff

Kevin Pettis and son Trey might join coaches at Wakulla High

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Staff Report

Kevin Pettis, who was recently fired as head football coach at Chiles High School may join the coaching staff of the Wakulla War Eagles under head coach Scott Kees.

Superintendent of Schools Bobby Pearce noted that Pettis was offered a teaching and coaching position at Wakulla High School, but he reportedly turned the teaching position down as was



Your *Hometown* Financial Advisors

ENGLISH
FINANCIAL GROUP
GUARD ~ PLAN ~ INVEST

It All Starts With A *Conversation*

(850) 926-7487

Financial Products	Investments
Financial Services	Social Security Planning
Life Insurance	Retirement Planning
DROP Rollovers	Estate Planning
401(k) Rollovers	Roth IRAs / IRAs / 403(b)s

www.EnglishFinancialGroup.com

71 B Songbird Ave, Crawfordville

Securities and investment advisory services offered through **Osaic Wealth, Inc.** member FINRA/SIPC. **Osaic Wealth** is separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of **Osaic Wealth**. **Osaic Wealth** does not provide tax or legal advice.