



Worm Gruntin' Festival/Page 14

The Wakulla Sun

WAKULLA WeatherSTEM
 Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Partly Cloudy
Hi: 82° Lo: 58° 24%	Hi: 83° Lo: 58° 8%	Hi: 84° Lo: 62° 7%
Sunrise 7:09 AM Sunset 8:05 PM	Sunrise 7:08 AM Sunset 8:06 PM	Sunrise 7:07 AM Sunset 8:06 PM



\$1
One Section

"It's a New Day" Locally Owned & Operated

Our 5th Year 16th Issue
Thursday, April 16, 2026

Wakulla Transportation fights on

Senior citizens travel in buses to Tallahassee where Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged rejects bids

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Dozens of seniors from the Wakulla Senior Center loaded up on buses last week and traveled to Tallahassee to appear at the meeting of the state Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged – urging them to reject a recommendation that Big Bend Transit replace Wakulla Transportation in providing transportation services.

At that meeting on Wednesday, April 8, members of the commission expressed concern about the bid process and voted not to award the bid to Big Bend Transit.

The matter was to go back to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, which judged the two bids, and come back before the commission for its June meeting.

“An error has been made and you have the chance to correct it,” attorney Sean Gellis, representing the senior center and Wakulla Transportation, told the commission. He raised several issues with the bid process and



Some of the seniors from Wakulla County at the meeting in Tallahassee.

procedures – the three judges didn't sign their scoresheets, points were awarded to Big Bend Transit for items not submitted such as an audit, nor did BBT submit names and resumes

for managers.

While the Wakulla Senior Center Board and executive director were aware of the problems and initially sought to file a protest, the decision

was ultimately made not to protest the bid citing the requirement to file a \$13,000 bond.

It's not clear what the ARPC will do. Wakulla Transportation is hopeful that problems with the bids will lead the ARPC to throw out the bids and have a re-do.

CTD Chair Monica Russell expressed concern that the local board voted 4-3 to reject Big Bend Transit's bid. The local board's recommendation is purely advisory, not binding, but Russell was concerned about the lack of local support. She also expressed concern that there was no cost comparison between Big Bend Transit and Wakulla Transportation.

CTD Member Krysta Carter said, based on comments, she was concerned that how the bids were actually scored could have been outside requirements of Florida statutes.

The commission's legal counsel noted that statute 427 which outlines their responsibility in awarding community transportation contracts said

Turn to Page 3

CANDIDATE VISITS WAKULLA



Paul Renner on affordability

Republican Gubernatorial candidate Paul Renner made his first stop to a rural county on his affordability tour, stopping by the old Wakulla County courthouse on Monday, April 13, for a roundtable.

Some Wakulla elected officials were on hand to hear Renner's opinions, including county com-

missioners Valerie Russell and Ralph Thomas, at left, also joined by Molly Jones BoWell and Kyle Jones. Other elected officials who met with Renner included county commissioners Josh Lawhon and Quincee Messersmith, Clerk of Courts Greg James, Tax Collector Lisa Craze, and Supervisor of Elections Joe Morgan. (Photo by William Snowden)

Special meeting set to declare local burn ban

Citing drought conditions, county commissioners will meet Wednesday, April 15 at 2 p.m.

Staff Report

The Wakulla County Commission has set a special meeting for Wednesday, April 15 at 2 p.m. to consider a resolution to declare a local state of emergency due to drought conditions and implement a county-wide burn ban.

The meeting will be held in the commission meeting room.

Former teacher is charged with felony mischief

Jeffrey Duggar, who served prison time after death of child, is charged with damaging a church

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Jeffrey Duggar, once a popular teacher at Wakulla High School who was later imprisoned for aggravated child abuse after a 15-month-old he took in was killed, was arrested in February for breaking out windows at Zion Hill Church.

Duggar was arrested on Feb. 23 after sheriff's deputies were called about a man breaking out windows at the church. A neighbor heard noise and saw a man with a “large metal object” in his hands at the church and photographed him.

Deputies followed footprints from the church to a house on Whiddon Lake Road where Duggar was seen with a bloody face, “acting delusional.”

Duggar reportedly admitted to deputies that he was breaking windows at the church. It was estimated to cost \$30,000 to repair the damage.

Duggar faced a first degree murder charge after



Jeffrey Duggar

Wakulla Academic team excels

The team scores second in the state

By **BILL TAYLOR**
Academic Team Coach

Wakulla High School has something to celebrate. The school's Academic Team recently finished second in the state of Florida at the 2026 Commissioner's Academic Challenge, competing against teams from school districts across the entire state.

It is the latest chapter in a proud tradition — the Wakulla Academic Team was founded by the Coastal Optimists Club more than 40 years ago, and has competed in all 39 editions of the Commissioner's Academic Challenge since the tournament began in 1986.

Now in its 39th year, the Commissioner's Academic Challenge is Flor-



Academic team of Ronin Taylor, Gavin Mullins, Troy Thaxton, and Matthew Thaxton.

ida's official statewide high school academic tournament, sanctioned

by the Florida Department of Education. Students compete across a

broad range of subjects — language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, world languages, physical education, health, and technology. It is a demanding competition that rewards hard work, broad knowledge, and the ability to think clearly under pressure, and Wakulla's team showed all of those qualities in abundance.

Four students made the trip to Orlando and represented their school and community with great distinction. Troy Thaxton, a senior specializing in mathematics, provided steady, calm leadership throughout the competition — the kind of cool head under pressure that every team depends on.

Ronin Taylor, a junior,
Turn to Page 3

Turn to Page 3

Precision Carpentry & Home Repair

850-428-9891

- Small Jobs • Large Jobs
- Experienced • References
- Whole House Trim Outs
- Custom Trim Work & Fabrication



AIR-CON Of Wakulla Heating & Air

Serving Wakulla & Franklin Counties

850-926-5592

Sales & Service

All Makes & Models



Turn to the Experts



3232 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville
Owned and Operated by Gary Limbaugh Lic. # CAC1814304

Congratulations on Your Success! 850-926-4677

The Mike's Feed Store family is proud of you & knows that you will do great things!

Proud Sponsor of Student of the Week... FEED STORE

Our current store address is
28 McCallister Road
www.mikesfeedstore.com

Monday-Friday 8-6:30
Saturday 8-5



Student of the Week

Blakely Wade– Kindergartner at Medart Elementary

Principal: Stan Ward

Achievements/Reason for Nomination: Blakely is a shining example of what it means to be a model kindergarten student. Each day, she comes to school ready to learn, demonstrating a strong work ethic and a genuine love for learning. Academically, she consistently meets and exceeds expectations, eagerly participating in lessons and taking pride in her work. She shows outstanding citizenship by following classroom rules, showing kindness to her peers, and always being respectful to teachers and classmates. A natural leader, she sets a positive example for others by helping classmates, making thoughtful choices, and encouraging those around her. Her positive attitude, responsibility, and caring nature make her a true star student and a joy to have in the classroom.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.

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



formerly Habitat for Humanity

Re-Sell Store

850-926-4544
940 Shadeville Rd.

FLORIDA MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER

2026 UF/IFAS Wakulla Master Gardener Volunteers Annual Plant Sale!

WAKULLA COUNTY

APRIL 25, 2026
9:00AM – 12:00PM

(No early birds)
Cash or Checks ONLY

84 Cedar Ave, Crawfordville, FL 32327

Rain or Shine - ARENA

FOLLOW THE SUN.



OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT AT WAKULLA SPRINGS

A Film Experience Under the Stars



THE PAPER BEAR
Saturday, April 18 • 7:00PM
Wakulla Springs State Park

A father and son journey into the wilds of North Florida to document black bears, sharing campfire stories, local history, and the magic of the natural world along the way.

- Bring your lawn chairs
- Bring your friends
- \$10 Adults • \$5 Kids (12 & under)



The Paper Bear at Wakulla Springs
By Paper Bear Inc
Hosted by The Florida Park Foundation and Friends of Wakulla Springs



The Wakulla Sun Readers' Choice Winners 2024

BLACKFOOT ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

3152 Crawfordville Highway
Crawfordville, FL 32327

(850) 251-9792

www.blackfootroofing.com

SELECT ShingleMaster Certified

Veteran Owned Business Certified
VOB VERIFIED PROUD MEMBER

CCC1332583



A Wakulla Wild Animal Rescue
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

We always need donations of these items:

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

Florida Wild Mammal Association

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

Wakulla County Tax Collectors Office

SPECIALTY TAGS

\$20 - \$30 additional to cost of tag.

Lisa Craze, CFC

Wakulla County Tax Collector

FLORIDA STATE PARKS SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE RELEASED: OCTOBER 2021

The revenue collected annually from the sale of the Florida State Parks specialty license plate will be distributed to the Florida State Parks Foundation, a Florida nonprofit, for their efforts to preserve, protect, sustain, and grow Florida state parks.

Floridians interested in purchasing one of the many specialty license plates offered in Florida are encouraged to visit their local tax collector or license plate agency. A complete list of Florida's specialty license plates can be found on the department's website.

The Paper Bear

Optimist Oratorical contest winners announced

Special to The Sun

On Thursday, April 2th, the Wakulla Coastal Optimist Club held their annual Oratorical Contest. The topic for the speech was: "The Moment I Realized I Belonged: My Definition of Community."

The contest is open to students from 7th through 12th grade.

Jordan Herron, a senior at Chiles High School, won first place. She received the \$100 cash prize.

Second place was awarded to Amelia Ricks who received \$75. Amelia is a 7th grader at Riversprings Middle School.

The third place winner of \$50 was Jolene Bull, also a 7th grade student at Riversprings Middle.

All three of these top winners have been invited to participate in the District Regional Oratorical Competition which will be held in Gulf Breeze on Saturday, April 11th.

The Optimist Club offers students a chance to express their views on the topic which is chosen by the North Florida Junior Optimist board members at their convention in May each year. The judges for this event were Dr. Andrea Carter, Jan Hamilton and Beth Mims, all experienced educators.

The event was organized by RMS teacher Amanda



Optimist President Jo Ann Daniels, Jordan Herron, Jolene Bull, Amelia Ricks and Riversprings teacher Amanda LaTour.

LaTour and Jo Ann Daniels, President of the Coastal Optimists. All of the students who participated did a great job and spoke with conviction, relating per-

sonal experiences including their involvement in our community. This type of competition gives students practice speaking in front of a group and helps build confidence. It also helps them learn good techniques and builds their leadership skills.

Also speaking in the competition were Annabelle Bennett, Hayleigh Blackshear, Zoey Bramblett, Josie Gooch, Maxx McCarty, Jackson Morse, Isabelle Scott and Ashley Waters.

PUBLIC NOTICES:

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



Notice of Public Meeting:

The Wakulla County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group will hold a Public Meeting on April 28, 2026, at 9:00a.m. at the Wakulla County Community Center (Wakulla Room), 318 Shadeville Rd, Crawfordville, FL, (850) 926-3695.

Purpose of Meeting:

To discuss the Local Mitigation Strategy, which is a comprehensive, coordinated planning document utilized to decrease the County's vulnerabilities to natural and man-made hazards.

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 ADARequest@mywakulla.com.

April 16, 2026

Wakulla Transportation

From Front Page

the commission "approves" the awards, which led to a convoluted procedure in which the chair made a motion to approve the award to Big Bend Transit and members voted to reject it.

Senior Center Chairman John Shuff noted Wakulla Transportation got a perfect score from ARPC for its service, and that ridership was up 20% over last year.

Lara Edwards, the senior center's executive director, noted that ridership was up 100% over the past 5 years, and that Wakulla Transportation had been providing the ride service to the community for 35 years. She also had petitions to keep Wakulla Transportation signed by 642 people, representing 98% of riders.

Several Wakulla seniors were at the meeting and told the commissioners how important

Wakulla Transportation and the senior center are to them, and how much the drivers care for riders.

The commission voted to approve contracts for Calhoun County, and Franklin and Gulf counties, all of which had only one bidder.

The Wakulla County process was the only county with more than one bid.

Big Bend Transit's manager Shawn Mitchell disputed some com-

ments by some speakers, saying the company provides much the same service – out-of-town trips, scheduling rides, etc.

Mitchell said Big Bend Transit is looking for a location in Wakulla and intends to expand services, building on what Wakulla Transportation has done.

Depending on what happens next, Big Bend Transit could take over the ride service as of July 1.

Wakulla Academic Team

From Front Page

handled literature and art for the squad, bringing a depth of knowledge in the humanities that gave the team an important edge throughout the tournament.

Matthew Thaxton, a junior specializing in music, was the team's leading scorer, dominating one of the competition's most challenging categories and playing a central role in Wakulla's run to the awards podium.

Gavin Mullins, a junior specializing in history, rounded out the team

with the kind of solid, dependable performance that holds a team together when it matters most.

Coaches Bill Taylor and Trey Thaxton expressed how proud they were of the way the boys carried themselves throughout the competition. The feeling from both coaches was that these four young men put in the work, competed with class, and represented Wakulla County in a way that made everyone connected to the program very proud.

A second place finish in the state of Florida

is a genuine achievement, and these four young men are a credit to their families and their school. The support of the Wakulla County School District has made opportunities like this possible, and that investment in its students was on full display in Orlando this spring.

As for what comes next — the team isn't resting for long. Senior Troy Thaxton, who has earned an ROTC scholarship from the Marine Corps and will attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in the fall,

leaves behind a standard worth chasing.

Ronin Taylor, Matthew Thaxton, and Gavin Mullins, all returning next year, have already set their sights on going one step further and bringing home a state championship.

If this year's performance is any indication, the Wakulla Academic Team will be a force to be reckoned with in 2027.

Please join us in congratulating Troy Thaxton, Ronin Taylor, Matthew Thaxton, and Gavin Mullins on a job very well done.

Former teacher charged

From Front Page

the death of a boy in 2007. A jury found him not guilty of murder but guilty of aggravated child abuse at a trial in 2009 and he was sentenced to six and a half years in prison.

The judge who presided over the case, Circuit Judge William Gary, noted at the sentencing that he had never seen such an outpouring of support from a community as had come out in support of Duggar.

Duggar had taken in the child from a mother who couldn't care for him.

Judge Gary called the case a tragedy as Duggar had been the child's best hope out of a life of poverty.

Jack Campbell, who was chief prosecutor in Wakulla at the time and prosecuted the case, claimed Duggar had beaten the child and put him in a coma.

Duggar was released from prison in 2013.

Free Community SHRED EVENT

SATURDAY | APRIL 18

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

or until the shred trucks are full

Wakulla County Transfer Station
159 Landfill Rd,
Crawfordville, FL 32327



- No binders, metal or plastic - i.e. CDs, floppy discs, ziplock bags, credit cards, etc.

- No need to remove staples, paperclips or file folders.

Join us for this free community service!

Saturday, April 18th from 9am - 1pm.

Your items for shredding must be within the trunk or rear of your vehicle.



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

INVITATION TO BID

Allstate Construction, Inc. (CGC1518758), the Construction Manager, will receive sealed bid proposals from pre-qualified subcontractors for Wakulla County Schools WAKULLA HIGH SCHOOL project, Crawfordville, Florida, for the following work:

- 02B – Selective Demolition
- 03A – Concrete
- 04A – Masonry
- 05A – Steel
- 05B – Metal Trusses
- 06A – Cabinets & Trim
- 07A – Moisture Control Systems
- 07B – Insulation
- 07C – EIFS
- 07C – Roofing
- 07D – Metal Wall Panels
- 08A – Doors, Frames & Hardware
- 08B – Overhead Doors
- 08C – Glass
- 09A – Gypsum Board Assemblies
- 09B – Acoustical Ceilings
- 09C – Wood Gym Flooring
- 09D – Epoxy Flooring
- 09E – Porcelain, Resilient & Carpet Flooring
- 09F – Acoustic Panels
- 09G – Painting
- 10A – Accessories
- 10B – Signage
- 10C – Walkway Canopies
- 11A – Food Service Equipment
- 11B – Theatrical Rigging & Draperies
- 11C – Theatrical Lighting
- 11D – Theatrical Audio & Video Systems
- 11E – Gym Equipment
- 12A – Window Blinds
- 12B – Auditorium Seating
- 13A – Bleachers
- 13B – Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings
- 14A – Elevator
- 21A – Fire Sprinkler
- 22A – Plumbing
- 23A – HVAC
- 23B – HVAC Testing, Adjusting & Balancing
- 23C – HVAC Control System
- 26A – Electrical
- 27A – Communications Cabling System
- 27B – Audio-Video Systems
- 28A – Access Control & Video Surveillance Systems
- 28B – Fire Alarm System
- 31B – Ramped Aggregate Pier Foundations
- 32A – Fencing

Subcontractor Bid Proposals will be received until 2:00pm local time on May 12, 2026, at Allstate Construction, Inc., 5718 Tower Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Pre-Bid Site Visit will be held on April 23, 2026, 3:30pm. 3237 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327.

Bid Proposal documents are available from Allstate Construction, Inc. Email: dteague@allstateconstruction.com Phone: 850-514-1004

Allstate Construction, Inc. reserves the right to waive any irregularities and/or reject any and all Bid Proposals.

April 16, 2026

FOLLOW THE SUN.

Opinions

THE FIRST AMENDMENT

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

WCSO Citizens Academy is worthwhile experience

By REV. DR. BETSY GOEHRIG

Last year I applied to attend the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Academy to get to know more about our local law enforcement agency. I have been in ministry for 45 years including 15 years as a volunteer Police Chaplain, and we have family who serve in and with law enforcement. I thought it would be interesting to learn more about WCSO.

My head knew all that. It was my heart that reminded me at every session of the academy that my connection to law enforcement – and especially with the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office – runs even deeper. On July

18, 2020, our daughter, Brittany Nicole Steier, was murdered in an act of domestic violence in Wakulla County. Some people might complain about law enforcement in general and wonder what difference they make. For my family, they were exactly where they needed to be, doing all the things that needed to be done, and made all the difference in the world! Every Division that I learned about in the Citizens Academy contributed in a powerful way during the loss of my child and continues to do so every day in their work on behalf of our community. Through their timely, diligent, and effective work, our family was able to get justice, with a solid case based on



The Rev. Dr. Besty Goehrig with Sheriff Jared Miller at the graduation for the recent Citizens Academy.

the contributions of all involved. Going through each department was eye-opening, realizing how many people were actually involved in the Sheriff's Office and how many were actually involved in our own case on every level. While

each session held some trauma triggers, it was incredibly healing to get to say “Thank you!!” to so many who helped make a life-changing difference for our family and who serve tirelessly every day – and every night – for all of you and

your families too.

In Week One, Sheriff Jared Miller, welcomed the class attendees and gave an overview and introduction to the WCSO Citizen's Academy. Presentations were made by Capt. Brett Surace and Lt. Tom Mallon and participants from the community introduced themselves. A wonderful welcome dinner was provided for all participants.

In Week Two, we learned about Wakulla County Corrections and Maintenance Divisions, with a tour of the jail. Corrections Division presentations were made by Major Lindsay Maxwell and Major Scott Taff. The Maintenance Division presentation was by Pete Cochran, Director. Operating the

jail is like overseeing a town within a town, with every kind of service from meal preparation three times a day, linen/laundry service, medical care, and more provided for 100+ inmates 24 hours/day. Visiting the jail was a heavy trigger for me, as the man who killed my daughter was processed at the Wakulla County Jail that very night she was murdered. My family was very grateful for their quick response that put the person who forever changed our lives behind bars in a short time from the crime.

In Week Three, we learned about the Road Patrol Division & Community Outreach Unit. That Road Patrol Division presentation was

Turn to Page 5

LETTERS FROM READERS

Baffled by air service out of TLH

Editor, The Sun:

I am baffled by the anemic air service provided by TLH.

Tallahassee is the capital of the 3rd most populous state in the Union. Folks are moving into FL

in vast numbers. Sure, SoFL is receiving the bulk of those moves but NoFL is getting a lot of play. Tallahassee is home to two universities and one state college. It is the center of everything political in Florida. The world's largest mag lab is

in Tallahassee.

Yet, Team TLH can only provide two commercial carriers with another “penciled” in to start this summer. There are numerous announcements of a new “international” terminal and I just have to laugh. Why is an international terminal required when TLH can't even get domestic travel to Houston or Chicago?

Not only is air service at TLH anemic, Team TLH is getting their pants spanked by much smaller airports. Take MTJ for example. Tallahassee has around 200,000 in population where as Montrose County's population is around 43,000. Yes, Mon-

trose is the gateway to Telluride but Tally has the universities and it is the capital of Florida.

MTJ has four commercial carriers with direct service to Denver, LAX, DFW, Dallas Love Field, Houston, Chicago's O'Hare and Phoenix. In addition to direct service to the aforementioned gateways, larger mainline equipment is utilized, unlike the tiny regional equipment primarily used at TLH.

Perhaps, MTJ can adopt and operate TLH. It can't get any worse, flying out of Tally, or can it?.

Robert Franco
Surf Road

Something on your mind?

Email Letters to the Editor to editor@thewakullasun.com; or mail it The Wakulla Sun, 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327; or drop it by the office on the courthouse square.

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of April 16

Thursday, April 16

- The Rotary Club of Wakulla meets at TSC Wakulla at 8:30 a.m.
- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville, every Thursday. There are concessions and raffles.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Friday, April 17

- Earth Day at Palaver Tree will be held at the theater. 59 Shadeville Road, beginning at 7 p.m., featuring music, poetry, puppetry, dancing and more. \$10.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Saturday, April 18

- Earth Day Responsible Disposal Event, Household Hazardous Waste and Shred-It will be held at the landfill from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., sponsored by Keep Wakulla County Beautiful.
- Public Library's Dr. Seuss Open House will be held at the library from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be Story Time, crafts and games.

Sunday, April 19

- Gulf Specimen fundraiser Mermaids & Mimosas will be held at the lab in Panacea from 4 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40. Live music, silent auction, drinks and more.
- 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, April 20

- County commission meets in the commission boardroom beginning at 6 p.m.
- Wakulla County School Board meets at the district office at 5:45 p.m.
- The Wakulla Respite Program is available for anyone with memory impairment at no cost from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Ellen Baptist Church every Monday.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. for women and 8 p.m. for men every Monday at 54 Ochlockonee St.
- Gentle Yoga and Stretching Class with Margaret every Monday at 11 a.m. First Baptist Church CLC Building in Crawfordville. Bring a mat.
- Line Dancing Class is held at Wakulla Dance Academy every Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. \$5 per person. Wear dance shoes or tennis shoes.

Tuesday, April 21

- Sarracenia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, meets. at the public library at 6:30 p.m. Barbara Clark with the Florida Public Archaeology Network explores how archaeologists recover plant remains from ancient sites, and important plants used in the Southeast. For a Zoom link email Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com. Free and open to the public.
- Sopchoppy community dinner is held every week at the Towles House at 6:30 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Wednesday, April 22

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

Are donations tax deductible?

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

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

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

That means:

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

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

We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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

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

"It's A New Day!"

The Wakulla Sun






<p>Editor/Publisher: William Snowden editor@thewakullasun.com</p>	<p>Production Manager/IT: Eric Stanton estanton@thewakullasun.com</p>	<p>Circulation: Krystal Sheppard circulation@thewakullasun.com</p>	<p>Sales & Marketing Lynda Kinsey lkinsey@thewakullasun.com</p>
--	--	---	--

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/@TheWakullaSun
TWITTER: www.twitter.com/@TheWakullaSun

DISTRIBUTOR
Jessi Smith

The Wakulla Sun, Copyright © 2023 is published weekly by Hot Water Publishing, 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL. Periodicals postage is pending at Crawfordville FL.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Wakulla Sun, 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327.

Subscriptions to The Wakulla Sun
In County - \$40/yr. - \$25/6 mo. Out of County - \$50/yr. - \$30/6 mo.
Out of State - \$60/yr. - \$35/6 mo.
To subscribe call (850)962-8019.





Tree service & Stump grinding
850-509-3868

**If you are a business and want to be seen...
this is your spot to advertise!!!**

**Would you like to remind people that you are open for business,
have you moved, are you offering new products or services?
This is your spot to advertise!**

Contact Lynda Kinsey 850-962-8019 • LKinsey@TheWakullaSun.com

Polled at the Polled at the 24th Annual Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin' Festival:

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Have you ever grunted for worms?



JESSI OXENDINE
Radiant Image

“Heck yes, growing up we would do well grunting for worms with my dad, Joe Morgan, on Gertie Brown Road, then we would go fishing.”



ROBERT PILKINGTON
Coast & Country Realty

“Yes, I actually just started doing it while I was under pressure when a news reporter was here filming.”



MEGAN DIAZ
Stay-at-home mom

“Yes, not here though, over in Otter Creek, then we would fish in the pond.”



MICHAEL BARWICK
Fisherman

“Yes, I have. If you grew up in the ‘60s and ‘70s going to Sopchoppy School you grunted worms. We would all go behind the football field by the ditch. It would be the Mathis boys and all of them.”



KEITH HUBBARD
Hubbard Christmas Tree Farm

“No, I have not. My girlfriend has though. I had to google what it was. This is my first rodeo and I can’t say that about many things.”

Wakulla Crossroads

By **VERNA BROCK**

I was doing some genealogical research into Ed’s mother’s family last week, and it has been so interesting. She was born in 1913, in the hills of West Virginia. Her life was hard; she lived much like her ancestors did 100 years prior. One of 12 children, she was orphaned at age 13. She moved to Akron, Ohio to live with an older sister, where she found a job sewing drive belts for the burgeoning auto industry at Goodyear. She had to lie about her age, but she could support herself.

My maternal grandmother was born in 1900, so she and my mother-in-law were basically contemporaries. Granny Harrison was also one of 12 children, but they led very different lives. My grandmother attended normal school to become a teacher,

and was one of six women in her graduating class of nearly 50. She taught until she married my grandfather, because women were not allowed to marry and teach back then!

People don’t seem to realize how far we have come regarding women’s rights. Both of my grandmothers remembered when they could finally vote, thanks to the 19th Amendment’s passage in 1920. Remember, a woman wasn’t even guaranteed the right to open a credit account without a man’s signature until 1974. The world changed enormously during their lives.

Sadly, some people would still limit our daughters and granddaughters freedoms today if they could. I wish we were more mindful of our history and applied those lessons to life today. The old adage, “Those who cannot remember the past are

condemned to repeat it,” is painfully true.

Both my grandmothers marvelled at men walking on the moon, and the recent success of Artemis II would have made them happy. My Grandma Swanson was very proud of my Uncle Edward, an engineer at NASA who worked on the space program, and she would wonder why it has taken more than 50 years to continue the journey!

You are invited to movie night this coming Sunday evening at the Wakulla United Methodist Church. Starting at 6 p.m., there will be a showing of the 2018 film, “I Can Only Imagine,” starring Dennis Quaid. Popcorn and drinks will be provided, but you are encouraged to bring any other snacks you’d like.

This spring weather has been great, except for the complete lack of precipitation. We have had blue skies, warm days, and nice breezes

for most of the past two weeks. My lawn and flower gardens are struggling with the seemingly endless dry weather. I never thought I would miss thunderstorms, but I do.

Apparently, combining last year’s, and this year’s, rainfall totals leaves our area with a 20 inch deficit. That’s pretty significant for everyone, but especially for farmers. No rain equals no crops, and that means food prices will rise too. I’m about ready to do my best raindance at this point.

Our little corner of the region is officially under an exceptional drought warning, with little chance of any relief in sight. This is the most extreme designation, meaning we are in danger of a wildfire erupting with the slightest exposure to fire.

The landscape is basically tinder, so it is very important we avoid any kind of burning. Personally, I won’t be barbecuing anything, setting off fireworks, or tempting fate in any way.

Please be careful out there!

Library News

By **LINDA OAKS**
Library Director

Library News April 16th– April 22nd

Thursday, April 16th

- Tiny Tummy Time 9:30am
- Creative Writing I 10am
- Windows 11 10am

- Veterans Meetup 11am
- Wakulla Amateur Radio Club 7pm

Friday, April 17th

- Quilting Guild 10am
- Career Source- Employ Florida 2pm

Saturday, April 18th

- Spring Open House 9-1pm

- Read Therapy Dogs 10am

Sunday, April 19th

- Closed

Monday, April 20th

- American Legion Post 114 6pm
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 114 6:30pm

Tuesday, April 21st

- Book Bunch 10am
- Creative Writing II 10am

- Windows 11 10am
- Lego Club 4:30pm
- Bible Chat 6pm
- Florida Sarracenia Chapter of the Native Plant Society 6pm

Wednesday, April 22nd

- Book Babies 10am
- Excel 10am
- Mahjong 1pm
- Knitting Group 4pm
- Wakulla Youth Baseball Association 6:30pm

Citizens Academy is worthwhile

From Page 4

by Capt. Danny Harrell. We are thankful to the response of the Road Patrol who immediately went to the scene of the crime and pursued the murderer. Every available person responded and located the person who was on the run and led them through a car chase in excess of 100 mph on Wakulla County Roads. Even with his knocking an officer off the road, they were able to stay with him and apprehend him, without incident. The Community Outreach & Youth Services Unit presentation was by Lieutenant Tom Mallon and Chase Savary. They provide special services for both senior citizens and youth, including School Resource Officers in all Wakulla County schools.

In Week Four, we met at the WCSO Shooting Range to learn about the Training Division. The presentation

was led by Captain Scott Rojas and Reserve Lt. David Pienta. We were each given a digital gun with a lifelike scenario where we had to decide if we were to shoot our weapon. That was a trigger for me, in light of our daughter being killed by a firearm, but I was grateful for those who serve and defend and put their lives on the line daily.

In Week Five, we met with the Criminal Investigations Division and the Crime Scene Unit. Presentations were made by Major Eddie Wester for CID and by PES Jeff Grimm, CST Brittany Owens, and CST Tatum Price for the Property and Evidence and Crime Scene investigation. The work of this Division and Unit, in securing and protecting the evidence at the scene of the crime provided solid testimony for court proceedings and getting justice 2.5 years later that put the criminal in prison for life without parole. Ini-

tially the gun was not found during a thorough search of the surrounding property, but they pursued finding the weapon with the help of a canine unit to search for it the next morning – even with it having rained, the dog was able to quickly find this important piece of evidence that tied the murderer to the crime. At the academy, we were shown a demonstration of how the K9 Pax can quickly seek and find firearms and explosives and is used in schools to detect anything suspicious in student book bags.

In Week Six, our final session included a visit to the Emergency Management and Communications Divisions and Graduation. Presentations were made about the Communications Division by Lucy Gowdy, Deputy Director, and Emergency Management by Jennifer Nagy, Director. I learned how the 911 call was made for my daughter’s case and how they stayed on the phone with her friend until she could arrive at my daughter Christy’s home. Their quick response

helped each Division that night work together in their various areas.

The Graduation Ceremony was led by Sheriff Miller with participation by Capt. Surace and Lt. Mallon. Sheriff Miller spoke and presented each participant with a certificate of completion at our Graduation Ceremony. Another wonderful meal was provided for the class.

The Citizens Academy was truly a worthwhile and eye-opening experience that shows what an effective and responsive law enforcement agency we are blessed to have in Wakulla County. They do tremendous work with a limited budget, and they serve with the greatest of professionalism and with compassion for the victims and families.

Thank you, Wakulla County Sheriff’s Office! If you are interested in learning more, the next class for the Citizens Academy begins April 21st. You can still apply today by contacting Capt. Surace at bsurace@wco.org or Lt. Mallon at tmallon@wco.org.

FOLLOW THE SUN. Your local source for news.

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

A Couple of Vintage .38s



By MARJ LAW

Joe knows that I don't like .38s. This is because often a male relative assures Newbie Mature Person that if he or she gets a .38, all one has to do is point and shoot for defense.

Often this mature person will find a small .38. It fits in her hand. For a woman, it fits in her purse. It's lightweight. It's reliable. It comes in colors. It's not too expensive. Yay! But wait! Wait! Don't buy! This small cute gun has little mass to absorb the recoil. Put in some .38 ammunition and "Ouch!" says the mature person with arthritis. "Ouch!" says the person with carpal tunnel syndrome. "Ouch!" says the fragile or small-boned person having trouble controlling the gun.

This is why I'm not happy with .38s. They're often sold to people who will have difficulty controlling the gun's recoil. And I won't be shooting a snub-nosed .38 because I'd rather not deal with much recoil myself.

Let's talk about .38s. They are revolvers. A lot of guys buy them for their

women because they "will never jam," and they have great "take down power." Even Joe, knowing how I feel about those .38s, says he likes them because yes, they are reliable. He likes the snub-nose Smith & Wesson Chief's Special. He says it is very accurate. And, he says that for him, it is easily controllable.

Do you believe such balderdash? We'll start with the phrase "never jam." The .38 has a cylinder that turns. C'mon. Anything that moves can be made not to move. For instance, if a bit of chewing gum wrapper or other debris insinuates itself somewhere around the cylinder, it can stop the cylinder from rotat-

ing freely. Naturally, if the cylinder only moves partway, individual chambers won't align with the barrel. Age, grease gunk, debris... All these things can wreak havoc with the timing of the cylinder's turn. Good luck thinking smugly that it can never jam!

And the .38 is controllable? Sure. It's controllable for Joe. He has huge bones and lots of military training. But you take Newbie, that person we spoke about with arthritis, with carpal tunnel syndrome, a small-boned or a mature person... Have any one of them shoot a tiny .38. Warn them, of course, that they'll have to have a very firm grip and be ready for a harsh recoil.

But today, Joe is going to change my mind about .38s. Good luck. "You will like shooting these .38s." So he says. He brings two revolvers to the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range: the Colt Diamondback and the Smith & Wesson Model 14 K-38 Masterpiece. They are vintage handguns.

But they're still .38s. This K-38 has a 6-inch barrel. Okay, so it's a hunk of metal with a

6-inch barrel. It's still a .38.

The Colt is a hunk of metal with a 4-inch barrel. "You shoot first," I say, planning to watch him with the Colt. If he jerks a bit at the recoil, I'll know to be ready to hold the gun extra firmly.

He shoots. Not bad. We're aiming at 8-inch targets at 21 feet. He's on target. He shoots the full five rounds.

"Wow!" he calls happily. "Smooth!"

Okay. I don't quite believe him, but now it's my turn.

I plant my feet. Shake out my shoulders. Lean forward a bit. Line up those sights. Firm up the arms and wrists. Squeeze that trigger.

Squeeze? No! More like slide! The trigger is smooth: like butter! Where is the recoil? Did he fool me? Am I shooting a .22?

I look at the sides of the gun. It really is the Colt. What happened?

"Did you put in those 148-grain Wadcutters?" I ask suspiciously. Wadcutters are made for target shooting and have less powder and lighter grains than other .38 ammo. However, I've noticed that

if you put Wadcutters in the cute purse-sized .38s, most of the mature people we've been talking about still cannot manage the .38.

Yes, Joe did load Wadcutters. Somehow, this 4-inch barreled, all-metal gun is acting like a .22 with the smoothest trigger I've ever squeezed.

"Put in the plain lead round-nose 158-grain rounds," I suggest, knowing that when he does, this thing will kick like a rented mule.

Okay. The 158-grain does have more recoil. It's not heavy, but it certainly is more than the Wadcutters. Not bad. I could really like this gun. I'd shoot those Wadcutters for practice and pleasure all day long and load the 158-grain ammo for defense.

Maybe I don't hate all .38s. Just those tiny ones with the nasty kick.

"Let's try the K-38!" I ask.

Again, Joe loads the Wadcutters first, and again, the K-38 is easy to manage. The K-38 also has the nicest, smoothest trigger pull. The recoil is a bit more than the Colt. But not too much more. And I find the balance to

be nose-heavy because of that 6-inch barrel. This is a personal feeling. Joe doesn't feel the balance to be nose-heavy.

Next, we both take turns shooting the 158-grain lead round nose ammo. The K-38 shoots well with another butter trigger and a middling recoil. Recoil is sturdier than the Colt, but not at all harsh like the snub-nose .38s.

Grips on the two guns are different. The ability to get a good grip on the gun you shoot will make for better shooting. Joe likes the grip on the K-38. I do not. It is too curved for me. As Shooters Gate says: "It provides a means of control over the firearm, allowing you to stabilize, aim and fire accurately. The design and angle of the grip can affect everything from your shooting stance to how well you can control recoil."

I really like the grip on the Colt. Grips on both guns are nicely checkered for a firm hold, but when you hold a gun, you'll feel if the grip is good on your hand. Again, this is a personal choice.

"Okay, you win," I grumble to Joe. "Not all .38s are harsh and hard to control. When you put those nice Wadcutters in either the Colt or the K-38, both shoot very smoothly and with very easy recoil. So, if you have one of these vintage revolvers, you can practice with the Wadcutters. This teaches you how to manage your gun. When you load it for defense, even though the recoil will be stronger, now you'll have the experience to shoot well. The only downside is that the Wadcutters rounds are more expensive and sometimes difficult to find."

"Ha!" Joe is grinning. "I've taken you over to the dark side. Now you have to admit that you like some .38s!"

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



.38 Wadcutters

Two Vintage 38s

Smith & Wesson Model 14 K-38 Masterpiece



6" Barrel



Colt Diamondback

4" Barrel



GREEN SEA TURTLE
(Chelonia mydas)

GREEN SEA TURTLES ADULTS GRAZE ON THE VAST SEA GLASS BEDS OF THE TROPICS. Florida's coastal waters are an important feeding grounds. Juveniles hunt crabs jellyfish and sponge. Each year they will swim thousands of miles to return to their birthplace to mate and lay eggs. Artificial lights on beaches confuse them and prevent them from laying eggs. Sea walls block their path. This turtle is called "green" because it was favored for soup and the fat is greenish. Hunting for the turtle meat and eggs and habitat destruction means this turtle is now endangered. This is the one of the largest of the living sea turtles and can grow to 700 pounds.

Eukaryria, Anamalia, Chordata, Reptilia, Testunides, Cheloniidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
www.gulfspecimen.org

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO



Another photo from local photographer Lisa Vince, this one a close-up of a Amaryllis.

Wakulla Lawn Ranger

Gene Darby

850-251-9122



Mowing
Edging - Trimming
Sidewalk/Driveways
Pressurewashing
Landscaping

Licensed & Insured
Great Prices - Great Work

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

SEA TOW

24/7 PRIORITY ON-WATER ASSISTANCE

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



© 2023 Sea Tow. Including words, phrases and logos, are trademarks of Sea Tow Services International, Inc. All rights reserved.

Thursday 16

Sun rise/set: 7:09 AM / 8:04 PM
Moon rise/set: 6:22 AM / 7:30 PM

Moon Illumination 1%

Friday 17

Sun rise/set: 7:08 AM / 8:05 PM
Moon rise/set: 6:56 AM / ---

Moon Illumination 0%

Saturday 18

Sun rise/set: 7:06 AM / 8:06 PM
Moon rise/set: 7:36 AM / 8:40 PM

Moon Illumination 2%

Sunday 19

Sun rise/set: 7:05 AM / 8:06 PM
Moon rise/set: 8:22 AM / 9:52 PM

Moon Illumination 7%

Monday 20

Sun rise/set: 7:04 AM / 8:07 PM
Moon rise/set: 9:17 AM / 11:06 PM

Moon Illumination 14%

Tuesday 21

Sun rise/set: 7:03 AM / 8:07 PM
Moon rise/set: 10:19 AM / 12:16 AM

Moon Illumination 23%

Wednesday 22

Sun rise/set: 7:02 AM / 8:08 PM
Moon rise/set: 11:27 AM / 1:19 AM

Moon Illumination 34%

Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

April 16 - April 22

GO FISH!

Tide charts by tides4fishing.com

Best fishing days this month
Best fishing day(s) is in the center of date ranges.
April 14 - 20, 23, 29 - May 5

Thursday 16

Major Times: 12:17 AM / 11:51 AM
Minor Times: 5:52 AM / 7:00 PM

Friday 17

Major Times: 1:11 AM / 12:43 PM
Minor Times: 6:26 AM / ---

Saturday 18

Major Times: 2:10 AM / 1:40 PM
Minor Times: 7:06 AM / 8:10 PM

Sunday 19

Major Times: 3:13 AM / 2:41 PM
Minor Times: 7:52 AM / 9:22 PM

Monday 20

Major Times: 4:17 AM / 3:45 PM
Minor Times: 8:47 AM / 10:36 PM

Tuesday 21

Major Times: 5:21 AM / 4:50 PM
Minor Times: 9:49 AM / 11:46 PM

Wednesday 22

Major Times: 6:21 AM / 5:53 PM
Minor Times: 12:49 AM / 10:57 AM

St. Marks River Entrance					City of St. Marks					Shell Point, Spring Creek				
Th	2:20 am ▲ 3.6 ft	8:06 am ▼ 0.6 ft	2:03 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	8:40 pm ▼ -0.5 ft	Th	2:56 am ▲ 3.3 ft	9:10 am ▼ 0.5 ft	2:39 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	9:44 pm ▼ -0.5 ft	Th	2:38 am ▲ 3.7 ft	8:28 am ▼ 0.7 ft	2:23 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:00 pm ▼ -0.5 ft
Fr	3:06 am ▲ 3.6 ft	8:38 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:28 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	9:20 pm ▼ -0.9 ft	Fr	3:42 am ▲ 3.4 ft	9:42 am ▼ 0.8 ft	3:04 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	10:24 pm ▼ -0.8 ft	Fr	3:24 am ▲ 3.8 ft	9:01 am ▼ 0.9 ft	2:50 pm ▲ 4.0 ft	9:41 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Sa	3:52 am ▲ 3.6 ft	9:09 am ▼ 1.1 ft	2:56 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	10:03 pm ▼ -1.0 ft	Sa	4:28 am ▲ 3.3 ft	10:13 am ▼ 1.0 ft	3:32 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	11:07 pm ▼ -0.9 ft	Sa	4:11 am ▲ 3.6 ft	9:33 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:19 pm ▲ 4.1 ft	10:25 pm ▼ -1.0 ft
Su	4:39 am ▲ 3.4 ft	9:40 am ▼ 1.3 ft	3:26 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	10:48 pm ▼ -1.0 ft	Su	5:15 am ▲ 3.2 ft	10:44 am ▼ 1.2 ft	4:02 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	11:52 pm ▼ -0.9 ft	Su	4:59 am ▲ 3.6 ft	10:06 am ▼ 1.4 ft	3:50 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	11:12 pm ▼ -1.0 ft
Mo	5:29 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:12 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:00 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	11:38 pm ▼ -0.8 ft	Mo	6:05 am ▲ 2.9 ft	11:16 am ▼ 1.4 ft	4:36 pm ▲ 3.9 ft		Mo	5:49 am ▲ 3.3 ft	10:39 am ▼ 1.7 ft	4:24 pm ▲ 4.2 ft	
Tu	6:24 am ▲ 2.8 ft	10:47 am ▼ 1.7 ft	4:38 pm ▲ 4.1 ft		Tu	12:42 am ▼ -0.7 ft	7:00 am ▲ 2.6 ft	11:51 am ▼ 1.6 ft	5:14 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	Tu	12:03 am ▼ -0.8 ft	6:44 am ▲ 3.0 ft	11:16 am ▼ 1.9 ft	5:02 pm ▲ 4.0 ft
We	12:36 am ▼ -0.5 ft	7:30 am ▲ 2.5 ft	11:28 am ▼ 1.9 ft	5:22 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	We	1:40 am ▼ -0.4 ft	8:06 am ▲ 2.4 ft	12:32 pm ▼ 1.7 ft	5:58 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	We	1:01 am ▼ -0.5 ft	7:50 am ▲ 2.8 ft	12:00 pm ▼ 2.0 ft	5:46 pm ▲ 3.7 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay					St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.					Dog Island West End				
Th	2:12 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:17 am ▼ 0.4 ft	1:55 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:51 pm ▼ -0.4 ft	Th	2:18 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:08 am ▼ 0.7 ft	1:51 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:33 pm ▼ -0.4 ft	Th	2:49 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:38 am ▼ 0.9 ft	2:09 pm ▲ 2.4 ft	8:56 pm ▼ -0.4 ft
Fr	2:58 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:49 am ▼ 0.6 ft	2:20 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:31 pm ▼ -0.6 ft	Fr	3:07 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:39 am ▼ 1.0 ft	2:16 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	9:12 pm ▼ -0.7 ft	Fr	3:43 am ▲ 2.5 ft	9:08 am ▼ 1.1 ft	2:37 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	9:35 pm ▼ -0.7 ft
Sa	3:44 am ▲ 2.7 ft	9:20 am ▼ 0.8 ft	2:48 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:14 pm ▼ -0.8 ft	Sa	3:57 am ▲ 2.8 ft	9:10 am ▼ 1.3 ft	2:45 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	9:55 pm ▼ -0.9 ft	Sa	4:38 am ▲ 2.5 ft	9:38 am ▼ 1.4 ft	3:07 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:18 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Su	4:31 am ▲ 2.6 ft	9:51 am ▼ 1.0 ft	3:18 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	10:59 pm ▼ -0.7 ft	Su	4:49 am ▲ 2.7 ft	9:40 am ▼ 1.5 ft	3:18 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	10:42 pm ▼ -0.9 ft	Su	5:33 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:07 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:40 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	11:09 pm ▼ -0.8 ft
Mo	5:21 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:23 am ▼ 1.1 ft	3:52 pm ▲ 3.2 ft	11:49 pm ▼ -0.6 ft	Mo	5:45 am ▲ 2.5 ft	10:10 am ▼ 1.7 ft	3:55 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	11:35 pm ▼ -0.8 ft	Mo	6:29 am ▲ 2.4 ft	10:37 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:17 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	
Tu	6:16 am ▲ 2.1 ft	10:58 am ▼ 1.3 ft	4:30 pm ▲ 3.1 ft		Tu	6:49 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:40 am ▼ 1.8 ft	4:37 pm ▲ 3.2 ft		Tu	12:04 am ▼ -0.7 ft	7:32 am ▲ 2.1 ft	11:10 am ▼ 1.9 ft	4:59 pm ▲ 2.7 ft
We	12:47 am ▼ -0.4 ft	7:22 am ▲ 1.9 ft	11:39 am ▼ 1.4 ft	5:14 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	We	12:35 am ▼ -0.6 ft	8:09 am ▲ 2.1 ft	11:11 am ▼ 1.9 ft	5:25 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	We	1:01 am ▼ -0.5 ft	8:06 am ▲ 2.6 ft		

Best hunting and fishing based on solunar times: MAJOR feeding periods are 2 hours long, centered on the solunar time. MINOR feeding periods are only 1 hour long, again centered on the solunar time.

BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

Shorebirds are migrating

By DON MORROW

I was down at Lighthouse Pool at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge last month. High tide had pushed shorebirds in and more than 2,000 of them were feeding in the pool's shallow waters. There were Short-billed Dowitchers, Black-bellied Plovers, Willets, and both Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, but more than 90% of the birds were Dunlins. Suddenly, they all began to fly as a Merlin swooped in. I watched as the flock twisted, turned, and split up. There were brief white flashes as thousands of Dunlin simultaneously showed their light bellies before spiraling away.

The Merlin was persistent and kept up the chase, its flight path corkscrewing across the surface of the pool. It was, however, eventually unsuccessful and flew off down the coast to seek other victims. Most of the pool's shorebirds had

simply flown around in circles and they landed when the Merlin left. This was just a normal part of life for them.

The Dunlin that comprised most of that flock are the most common shorebird at the refuge in winter.

They are a medium-sized sandpiper, just a bit chunky, but weigh only two ounces. Dunlin are on the refuge from October through the middle of May and are already in their winter plumage when they arrive. They are a dull grayish brown above and have a slightly decurved black bill. They were once called Red-backed Sandpipers, because in breeding plumage, they have a bright rufous back along with a black belly patch. Some Dunlin are already beginning to molt into breeding plumage.

Dunlin are a cosmopolitan species and breed in the arctic throughout the world. The hudsonica

subspecies that we see at the refuge are from a population that breed in central Canada, roughly from Victoria Island down to the southwest coast of Hudson Bay. In winter they feed on tidal flats and eat polychaete worms and small shellfish. On their breeding grounds, they mainly eat insect larvae, although female Dunlin eat Lemming teeth and bones as a calcium source for egg laying.

Shorebirds are active right now. Dunlin numbers have dropped by 40% from their winter high as birds begin to stage northward, but there are still 2,300 Dunlin on the refuge. Short-billed Dowitcher and Semipalmated Plover numbers have jumped as migrants from further south move through and if you look closely, you'll see that our Willets are now mostly the eastern subspecies. Most of the western Willets are gone.

Several shorebird

species that are here only on migration, Stilt Sandpiper and Piping Plover, are passing through and our summer breeders are returning. Three pairs of Black-necked Stilts are on the back end of Stony Bayou 2 where they have nested in past years, Wilson's Plovers have begun to show up and an uncommon refuge breeder, Killdeer, already has two fledglings running on the mudflats at East River Pool.

I like shorebirds. They are one of my favorite groups of birds. They are creatures of wind and tide with continent-spanning migratory flights that connect us to the arctic and the pampas of Argentina. If I was a shorebird, I would want to be a Pectoral Sandpiper.

Come down to St. Marks and figure out what kind of shorebird you want to be.

Don Morrow can be contacted at donaldcmorrow@gmail.com



Underwater Wakulla

By Nicole Stanton

What is it like to grow up as a diver? July 19, 2012

Many times I've been referred to as a fish rather than a young woman. With both my parents being avid divers, I suppose that I grew up with saltwater in my veins. I remember snorkeling before I knew how to swim, and as those dreaded swimming lessons came, I refused to give up my fins. At the age of 10 my first diving lesson came from my father, his words were, "Breathe normally and don't hold your breath!"

Looking back now I can tell that watching oceanographic documentaries and mimicking how a lion seal would swim was probably a strange behavior. But what I remember the most was the magic of it all.

When I was 13 I had the opportunity to dive at the Aquarius habitat, now the last underwater habitat in the USA, and rather than looking at the amazing feat of a home under the sea, I was playing with the fish. I was imagining that they were talking to me, just as if we were waiting for the bus on any street in America, and they would divulge what their daily lives were like. As life moved forward, opportunities arose that many people would strive for a lifetime to achieve. At 16 my father insisted that my big brother and I would be taking a cavern diving class so that, God forbid we ended up in a cave, we would have an idea of how to get out. I was hooked. I remember the moment well, as we descended into the last dive of the class, at Orange Grove Spring in the Peacock Springs State Park, the powerful lights of the divers illuminating this vast cavern that held at least half a dozen divers comfortably, the rocky crags hiding holes yet to be explored. The sheer potential of that dive drove me into cave diving just two years later.

At the age of 19, I began my new journey into diving, surface support. Now most people would say surface support isn't diving! Well, I say that you don't know how you're diving until you know how your equipment is working during a dive. I spent the better part of the next four years learning how scuba equipment of all shapes and sizes worked.

I can't say that I found myself underwater much, but the times that I did were magical. In Rhode Island, I dove the U-853 Submarine, a U-boat that came within just a few miles of the U.S. coastline during World War II. At 110 feet, all that remains off of Block Island is a shattered shell of a boat. Looking at the remains haunted me; the cold tendrils of the Atlantic shivering down my spine, knowing how all hands were lost when depth charges tore the submarine into three distinct pieces.

After a few years of barely diving due to my pursuit of an Electrical Engineering Degree, I found my way home and directly in a re-breather class. Most divers seldom have the means or the need to dive one of these amazing pieces of technology, but due to weight restrictions for my heart, it was either give up diving, or go high tech. Mixing re-breathers and cave diving meant that I could now explore to the back and beyond to my heart's content.

Now at the ripe old age of 24, I am a re-breather, cave diver-certified and trained to perform maintenance most of the equipment that I may encounter during my travels.

And this is only the beginning.
Editor's Note: This is a repeat of a column from 2012.



Shorebirds have begun their migrations and are plentiful at the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge.

In honor of all our volunteers

By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

We are surrounded by extraordinary people who quietly and selflessly serve others. They inspire us to pause, reflect and even pray that we might live with the same kind of compassion.

If you are one of these people, thank you. Thank you for all you do for those you graciously

serve and for the difference you make in your community.

I wanted to better understand the heart behind volunteerism, so I reached out to a few people near my community in Florida. Here is what I learned:

“Imagine a world where every volunteer said, ‘We’ve done enough,’ what would happen to everything we depend on if they quit serving their community?” asked John Solomon, Executive Director of the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce – and a volunteer himself. “What volunteers do is not for fortune or fame, but from love for their

community and fellow humans.

John is passionate about ensuring volunteers receive the recognition they deserve. He named some of the area’s most dedicated helpers: “Firefighters, first responders, ball coaches, non-profits, and people helping at senior centers – the list goes on.”

This kind of service is never small. As Sheryl Clouse, a Franklin County Volunteer of the Year recipient, shared, “Giving your time is giving a part of your life, and that makes it meaningful and helps build a better world.” Sheryl beautifully added, helping make

“someone’s worst days a little brighter...that’s what volunteering is all about.”

In that giving, something powerful happens. “It’s amazing to see how good people are. We’re all connected in ways that change lives,” said Teresa Adams, secretary and volunteer at the Carrabelle Food Pantry. She has witnessed how simple acts of kindness can lift up others in lasting ways. “Volunteers often fail to realize the full impact of their actions.”

For many recipients, the impact is immediate and deeply personal. “Some people wouldn’t have enough to eat if volunteers didn’t help –

and they’re so grateful,” shared Barbara Hutto, who serves with Aaron Meals, the Carrabelle Food Pantry and Farm Share. “I find volunteering very rewarding ... I feel like I am doing what the Lord has brought me here to do.” Her words are a powerful reminder that showing up again and again can mean the difference between hardship and hope for the recipients.

In a world filled with an entitlement mentality, the selfless acts of volunteers reflect love in action. Matthew 5:16 (ESV) reminds us, “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and

give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

I would love to hear from more of you. If you serve as a volunteer or have been blessed by one, please share your story. If your ministry or organization needs more volunteers, feel free to reach out.

As John Solomon reminds us, “April is Volunteer Month. Let’s celebrate those who give of themselves by helping others. Thank you all!”

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.

Not broken – opened

By **CHERYL CRUCE**

To say I am a beginning gardener would be more accurate than calling myself an avid one. Somewhere in these later years, I have come to appreciate the beauty of the soil – and what a good day of “dirt therapy” can do for the soul. I remember, as a child, following Daddy out into the garden, watching the quiet joy he found in the har-

vest. And I remember some of the wisdom he passed down along the way.

One piece has stayed with me all these years. He would say, “Never plant before the pecan trees begin to bud.” I always thought it was just an old Southern saying, but he explained it simply: when the pecan trees begin to bloom, the danger of frost has passed.

This year, I learned the truth of his wisdom for myself. Spring seemed to come early, and I was eager to see the garden bed filled again with fresh life, so I planted, even though the trees still stood bare. Within a few days, I began to see the first signs of growth, the promise

of what looked to be a good harvest – and then the frost came.

Perhaps it is in those unexpected moments that we begin to look a little closer. With lessons learned, I found myself turning over the soil for replanting. In my hand was a bulb of garlic – small, unassuming, whole. At first glance, it seemed ready to be planted just as it was. However, I did what felt counterintuitive: I broke it apart, discovering many pieces beneath the surface ready for the ground. Each piece complete in itself. Each one carrying the potential to grow.

It seems almost relational that seasons of my life have felt much the same as that

bulb broken open in my hand. There have been times when things didn’t hold together as I expected – plans shift, circumstances press in, and what once felt whole and complete becomes separated, almost broken, leaving me with questions. We have all been there, using words like broken, undone, and falling apart, but what if we are naming it wrong? What if, instead of breaking apart, we are being opened for greater potential?

Scripture shows us this in Simon Peter. In a moment of fear, he denied even knowing Jesus, something he never imagined he would do (Luke 22:61-62). It could have defined him as a failure

– broken beyond repair. But it was not the end of his story. Jesus met him again, not with condemnation, but with restoration. What looked like breaking became the place where Peter was reshaped and called forward. He was not discarded. He was opened, and from that place, his life bore fruit beyond what he could have imagined.

Could it be that this is where we find ourselves more often than we realize? We’re not in pieces beyond repair, but in the careful hands of a loving God who is opening us, layer by layer, revealing what has been placed within all along. Maybe that old wisdom daddy passed down holds a spiritual

truth: there is a timing to growth, a wisdom in waiting, a knowing that what cannot yet be seen is already being prepared.

So if this season feels like things are coming apart, take heart. You may not be breaking down. You may simply be being opened – held in the hands of the Gardener, who knows exactly when the season is right, and who is preparing in you a harvest yet to come.

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.” (John 15:1)

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

OUT TO PASTOR

Does anybody ever grow up?

By **JAMES SNYDER**

In a few months, I will celebrate another birthday. Interestingly, these birthdays come every year. This year, if I’ve kept up to date, I will celebrate my 75th birthday. I never expected to get this far along in life. I always thought 75 was old.

If I believe one of my old uncles, my 75th birthday amounts to 7+5 = 12. So I will be 12 years old in a few months. I can’t imagine what it’s going to be like to be 12 once again. I guess I don’t know the difference between 75 and 12. There may not be much of a difference.

As a youngster, my mother would often say in a very sarcastic tone, “Are you ever going to grow up?” Sometimes she would say, “Just grow up.”

At the time, I didn’t quite understand what she was saying. By the time I reached 6 feet, I began to realize that wasn’t what she meant by growing up. Of course, I really don’t know what she meant by that.

Looking back over the years of my life, I’m not quite sure what it means to grow up. I can’t see anywhere in

my life where I have actually grown up. Sure, I’ve gotten older, but I haven’t grown up.

I’m not sure I work hard enough throughout my life to grow up. Of course, not knowing what growing up means, how do I know if I got there?

I spent some time reflecting on my family and trying to figure out which one of them actually grew up. When I assumed one relative had grown up, they did something that completely destroyed the image I had of them.

What does growing up mean?

Getting older does not mean you’re actually growing up. I know a lot of old people who certainly do not show any signs of having grown up. For example, look at some of the politicians at the White House. If they represent what grown up is, then I do not want to grow up in any regard.

Back when I was in my teenage glory, I thought I knew everything. I thought I was smarter than my teachers, and of course, I was smarter than my parents at the time. I assumed that I had grown up back then. But as my life unwound, I saw very clearly that I was nowhere near being grown up.

My resolution for my birthday this year will be to discover what it actually means to be grown up. After I study that subject, I may come to the conclusion that I really don’t want to grow up.

Looking at the people around me and thinking they are grown-ups would make me want not to grow up, as far as that is concerned.

The only person I know who has honestly grown up is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. After all, that’s why I married her. If she has grown up, then I don’t have to be grown up, which is the case all through these years of marital bliss.

Every once in a while, when I do something really stupid, she will reply to me and say, “Oh, why don’t you just grow up.”

Of course, if I knew what she meant by “grow up,” I might do a little bit about it. But I’m enjoying life too much to stop and try to figure out what it means to grow up. After all, one grown up in a marriage is all that is needed. Since she is a grown-up, I don’t have to worry about that at all.

This year, we will celebrate our 55th wedding anniversary.

Throughout that time, I had never noticed that I had achieved any “grow up” status. All of that weighs on the shoulders of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She’s the grown-up in this relationship, and I’m very happy with that.

When you grow up, you lose a lot of fun times in your life. What is the purpose of that? I want to live life on the “Fun Train,” and my understanding is that you can’t ride it once you have grown up.

I have some friends that I’ve known for a very long time who think that they have grown up. According to what I see, because they have grown up, there are a lot of things that they can no longer do, things that are fun in life. They have sacrificed fun activities for the sake of being grown-ups.

Whatever somebody accuses me of doing something stupid, my excuse is, “I’m just not grown up yet.” That has gotten me out of many difficult situations.

When I’m ready, I’ll surrender to being grown up. Until then, I’m going to enjoy all of the fun things in life. When I run out of steam for enjoying these things, I will consider growing up.

As I was reflecting on this a Bible verse came to mind. 2 Peter 3:18, “But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”

Honestly, I’m not sure what it means to

“grow up”, but my focus as a Christian is seen in this verse. I am to “grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” The most important growth is my relationship with Christ..

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

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

Sopchoppy United Methodist Church

Pastor Cheryl Mixon-Cruce 850-962-2511

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

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

SUNDAY SERVICE...

10:17 a.m.

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

Obituaries



Phyllis Marie Berninger

Phyllis Marie Berninger
May 9, 1940 - April 8, 2026

Phyllis was a devoted wife, loving mother, caring friend and cherished sister to 10 siblings. She was born in Bechyn, Minnesota and is predeceased by her father William John Wohnoutka and mother Helena Therese Frank Wohnoutka. She is lovingly remembered by her daughter Brenda Earle (Don), her son Steven (Suzanne), her grandsons Christopher (Elyse) and Charles (Sarah) and 12 great-grandchildren,

her sisters Margaret Bergo (Dick), Betty Dubert (Marvin), Dianne Nichols (Allan), Karen Barta (Dennis), and Debra Kull (Lionel) and her sisters-in-law Diane, Sue, Kathy and Rebecca Wohnoutka and Jane Adams.

She was preceded in death by her devoted husband of 65 years Augustus Chris Berninger, her cherished daughter Helen Michelle (Shelly), her brothers Robert, Gerald, James, and Gregory Wohnoutka and her sister Therese

Kragenbring.

She found great joy in traveling across the United States with her husband and treasured time spent gardening, sewing, and fishing. She will be remembered for her love of family and the quiet, steady care she gave to those around her. The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to her caregivers, Coco and Shy, for the compassion and care they so lovingly provided.

Phyllis was a faithful member of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church.

A mass will be held on Monday April 20th at 10 a.m. and her final resting place will be with her husband and daughter at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made in her memory to Big Bend Hospice.

Skip and Trey Young are assisting the family, along with Paula, Heather and Amanda. Young Family Funeral Home, Crawfordville 850-926-5919.



James Steven Robinson

James Steven Robinson, 54, of Crawfordville, passed away April 4, 2026.

James had lived in Wakulla County most of his adult life where he did construction work. James was a cowboy and outdoorsman, working sunup to sundown. He was an avid Star Trek enthusiast, and he truly loved his family and enjoyed every minute spent with his grandson.

He will be remembered by his son Austin Robinson (Rebecca), fiancé Helen McCormick, brothers

John Robinson and Jack Sparks, sisters Lane Roberts and Nancy Byrd and his grandson John Joseph Robinson.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, April 15, 2026, from 9 to 10 a.m. at Young Family Funeral Home/Harvey Young Chapel. The Funeral Service will begin at 10 a.m. Burial will immediately follow at the New Testament Bible Believer's Church Cemetery.

Skip & Trey Young with Young Family Funeral Home are assisting the family with their arrangements.



Michael 'Cody' Allen Terranova

Michael "Cody" Allen Terranova, 41, of Crawfordville, passed away unexpectedly on April 3, 2026.

Cody was a proud Wakulla County native and graduate of Wakulla High School. He went on to earn a degree in psychology from Florida State University before beginning his law enforcement career in 2007 with the Tallahassee Police Department.

Cody will be remembered as fun-loving, gen-

uine, and full of life – with a smile as big as the sky. He loved the Wakulla River and spent countless hours at his river house, working on it and the dock or just enjoying the water. A passionate craftsman, he proudly rebuilt his Chevelle and was always happiest surrounded by his tools, projects, and the people he loved. He cherished date nights with the love of his life, his wife Ciera, and their adventures traveling the world together.

Cody is survived by his loving wife, Ciera Terranova, and their two beloved fur children, Casper and Gus; his father, Michael Terranova; his mother, Linda Terranova; his brothers, Taylor Terranova and Peyton Terranova; his aunt, Sherry Sapp; and his uncle, Rick Terranova; and many extended family and friends.

He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.

A memorial service was

held on Friday, April 10, 2026, at 3Y Ranch beginning at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Florida Public Safety Institute. A scholarship for the police academy will be established in Cody's honor to support a basic recruit.

Skip and Trey Young are assisting the family along with Paula, Heather and Amanda. Young Family Funeral Home, Crawfordville 850-926-5919.

DEATH NOTICES

- **Phyllis Marie Berninger**, 85, of Crawfordville, died April 8, 2026.
- **Mary Lewis**, 65, of Crawfordville, died April 7, 2026.
- **James McDonald**, 79, of Crawfordville, died April 8, 2026.

- **James Steven Robinson**, 54, of Crawfordville, died April 4, 2026.

- **Michael "Cody" Terranova**, 41, of Crawfordville, died April 3, 2026.

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

Sheriff's Report

This report is for activity April 3 to 10. There were 2,000 total calls for service during the week; 20 arrests; 102 traffic stops; 18 citations and 84 traffic warnings.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

- Deputy Arturo Cordoba conducted a traffic stop at Shell Point Road and Spring Creek Highway on a vehicle with an expired registration. Upon contacting the driver, it was determined he has never possessed a valid driver's license and has never had one issued. The driver was subsequently placed

under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

- A citizen reported losing/misplacing her 9mm Ruger pistol. She does not believe the weapon was stolen, only lost during a recent move. The weapon was entered into NCIC/FCIC as lost/missing.

- Deputy Zachary Godwin responded to Crestwood Lane and made contact with the reporting person, who stated upon returning home from a trip, he discovered his wallet miss-

ing. He stated his parents and other unknown guests were at his home while he was away. He requested this case be documented only.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

- Deputy Karius Mcmillan responded to Arapaho Trail in reference to a theft complaint. The reporting person discovered his E-Tek electric bike and charging box missing from his residence. The bike is black and blue and is valued at \$4,800. There were no witnesses to the incident. He was unable to provide any serial numbers for the missing items at this time.

- Deputies responded to 194 Hollywood Way in reference to a suspicious incident. Contact was made with William Phillips, who advised his sister who resides at the above address passed away recently. William and other family members have since been removing items from the residence. William advised he located some

damaged items throughout the residence during his visits at the residence. William requested the incident be documented.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

- Deputy Ashton Williams responded to the sheriff's office in reference to a fraud complaint. The reporting person advised he discovered a charge to his bank account on April 6 for \$203.31 from Duke Energy. He advised he is not a Duke Energy customer. He advised he experienced a similar incident last year and the issue was handled by Duke. He advised his bank is aware of the issue and has stopped payment for the amount.

- Deputy Dakota Haddock responded to Allen Lake Road in reference to a fraud. Contact was made with the reporting person who stated he had found some heavy machinery online and set up to purchase it. The machinery was

located in Texas at the time. He made contact with the seller and organized a deal to purchase the machine and have it shipped to his residence. Several days after the supposed delivery date, the equipment did not arrive. He attempted to contact the seller but discovered he had been blocked. He advised the total monetary loss was approximately \$24,530. Case forwarded to Criminal Investigations Division.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

- Deputy Ian Kilbourn responded to Walmart and made contact with Asset Protection, who stated two unknown suspects entered the store, gathered \$584 worth of merchandise and passed the last point of sale without paying. Case forwarded to CID.

- A citizen reported a theft while attending church. Her phone and wallet were taken along with \$415 in cash. She located her phone later at San Marcos. Case forwarded to CID.

land responded to Klickitat Drive and made contact with a citizen who stated an unknown suspect broke the windows on the front of her residence.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

- Deputy Kory Smith responded to the sheriff's office in reference to a lost property complaint. Upon arrival, contact was made with the reporting person, who advised she lost her cellphone on April 9. She stated she last remembers having the phone at a store in Crawfordville. She stated she believes she sat her phone down briefly while shopping. The phone is described as a purple iPhone 14 and is inside a black case. The phone is valued at \$600. Deputies made contact with a clerk at the business and he advised no one has located a missing phone at this time. The clerk also advised the store's surveillance cameras have been out of service due to connection issues.

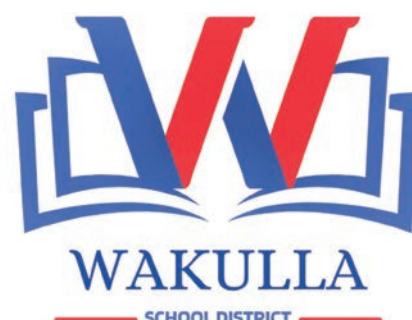
Report suspicious or illegal activity at 850-745-7100, or call 911 for emergencies.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

- Deputy Aimee Hoag-



School distribution sponsored by



USE THE NEWS

1. ARTEMIS II COMES HOME

NASA's Artemis II astronauts returned to Houston after a 10-day trip around the moon, where they were greeted by their families, friends, and other astronauts. The mission was the first time people had traveled into deep space in more than 50 years, and the crew spoke about how powerful it felt to see Earth from so far away. Reid Wiseman said being distant from home made him think deeply about family, while Christina Koch described Earth as a small lifeboat in the universe. The astronauts also spoke about teamwork, gratitude, and the idea that all people share one planet. Even without landing on the moon, the mission was a major moment in space exploration. Imagine your school is making a giant "Welcome Back, Artemis II" hallway poster. Write three short captions that could go next to three pictures: one of the crew in space, one of Earth seen from far away, and one of the astronauts reuniting with their families. Each caption should be 1-2 sentences long and should help readers understand why this mission mattered.

2. \$1 MILLION IN STOLEN LEGO SETS

Police in California arrested three men after deputies found a large amount of stolen Lego products in two box trucks. Authorities said the toys were worth about \$1 million and had been taken from freight trailers traveling from Texas to California. Lego sets have become a target for theft because they are valuable, easy to carry, and simple to resell. Experts say cargo theft is growing across the country and causes major losses for businesses. This case shows that even toys can become part of a serious crime when they are worth enough money. Create a short news script for a student news show. In 4-5 sentences, explain what happened, where the theft took place, and why Lego products may be at-

tractive to thieves. Then add one final sentence that sounds like advice to viewers about why communities should care when cargo is stolen.

3. HELPING AUTHORS STAY SAFE

PEN America, an organization that supports free expression, has launched a new safety program to help writers who are facing harassment and threats. In recent years, more authors, illustrators, and translators have reported being targeted online and even in person, especially when their work becomes part of debates about censorship. Some writers have re-

ceived hate messages, threats, or had to remove their contact information to stay safe. The new program will offer safety training and resources so that writers do not have to choose between sharing their ideas and protecting themselves. Publishers and literary groups are helping fund the program, showing that many people in the book world are working together to support authors. Create a short "advisory guide" for writers that could be shared at a book event. Write a title for your guide and then include three short pieces of advice, each written as a complete sentence, that explain how authors can stay

safe while still sharing their ideas. End with one sentence explaining why protecting writers is important for everyone, not just authors.

4. CHIMPS IN A MYSTERIOUS CONFLICT

Scientists studying chimpanzees in Uganda found that one large chimp group split apart and then became locked in a long, deadly conflict. Researchers have followed these chimpanzees for decades and say they have never seen violence on this scale before among chimpanzees. They do not know exactly what caused the fighting, but they think the deaths of certain important males may have weakened social connections in the group. The study

may help scientists better understand how conflict can grow when relationships break down. It also suggests that strong social bonds may help prevent violence in both animals and humans. List at least three important lessons that can be learned from watching these chimpanzees. For each item on your list, write at least two sentences to explain your thinking.

5. "THE OLDEST OCTOPUS" GETS RECLASSIFIED

Scientists now say a fossil once believed to be the world's oldest octopus is actually a different sea animal related to a nautilus. The fossil, found in Illinois, is about 300 million years old and had puzzled researchers

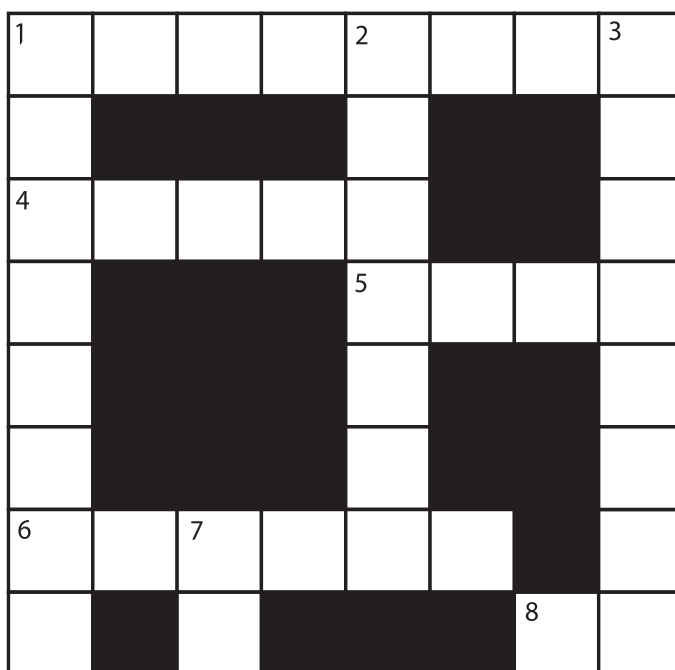
for many years. At first, some experts believed it was an octopus because of the way it looked. Later, scientists used powerful new technology to study the fossil more closely and found teeth that did not match an octopus at all. The new evidence solved the mystery and changed how the fossil is classified. This is a good example of how science can improve when new tools help people take a closer look. Write a short "myth or fact?" classroom challenge based on this story. Create two statements that sound like they could be true about the fossil, but make one a myth and one a fact. Then write 1-2 sentences under each statement explaining why it belongs in that category.



People are urged to avoid doing this in their driveways and instead rely on facilities that recycle water.

Answer: Wash their cars

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- Speed
- Walks through woods
- Slightly open
- Motor
- For example

DOWN

- Cars and trucks
- Group of travelers
- One year old animal
- Move from one place to another

Answers:
Across
1. Velocity 4. Hiker 5. Ajar 6. Engine 8. EG
Down
1. Vehicles 2. Caravan 3. Yearling 7. Go



1736: The ultimately short-lived Kingdom of Corsica is founded.

1861: President Abraham Lincoln tries to calm the insurrection that will become the Civil War.

1923: Insulin becomes generally available for those with diabetes.

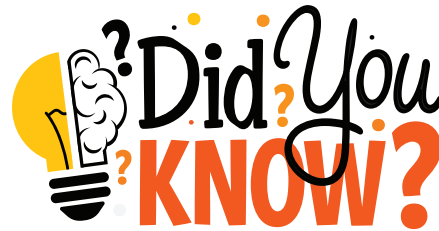


PRESSURE

application of force exerted against an object



- English: Engine
- Spanish: Motor
- Italian: Motore
- French: Moteur
- German: Motor



Maintaining proper tire tread and air pressure are two vehicle maintenance tips that help keep drivers safe.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Dashboard

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

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

Installation Services: FOR QUALITY AND SERVICE THAT WILL FLOOR YOU

Hardwood Engineered Floating Flooring
Glue Downs Laminate Nail Downs & Vinyl

Call Today for your FREE Estimate

850-745-8723 LHFQuality
LabigsHardwoodFlooring@gmail.com

Susan Schatzman
Broker Associate

Mobile: 850-519-2292
SchatzmanSusan@gmail.com

kw TOWN & COUNTRY REALTY
KELLERWILLIAMS. **IR** MLS

Massages, Facials, Body Treatments

info@SunraysSpa.com
Easy Online Scheduling
www.SunraysSpa.com
2655-A Crawfordville Hwy.
Crawfordville FL 32327
850-745-6422
Follow us on **f** MM43237

Sunrays Spa
Relax Revive Rejuvenate

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

CORBIN'S Land Clearing
Driveways
Ponds
Site Work
Demolition
Hauling

HEAVY EQUIPMENT
850-933-8505
FREE ESTIMATES

Listing Properties for Sale or Manage!

Larson Park Realty
Commercial & Residential

Email or Text Me
CarolAnn@LarsonPark.com
LarsonPark.com

Carol Ann Williams
Broker Associate, Realtor®

850-566-9293 • Local In-Person Service

Licensed & Insured 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

FORGOTTEN COAST TRACTOR SERVICE LLC
Tavis Clayton

850.273.9101
text or call

Skid Steer Mowing Concrete Removal Demolition
Land Clearing Grading Driveways

TREE TRIMMING

TREE TRIMMING and REMOVAL
24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Storm Damage
- Tree Preservation

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

SERVICES

LEATHER REPAIR / REFURBISH
850-766-4562
www.allcornleather.com
John Allcorn Leather

Bags, Belts, Holsters
Some work on Shoes and tack
Also - Custom Products

A Free Press Your Key To Freedom

If your Dream Home is on the Water, Chances are you'll find it here in Wakulla

By the Sea... On The Lake... Up The River...
Or Through The Woods...

Call a realtor who's not afraid to get her feet wet!

Shari Edington 850-933-6364
Broker Associate Shell Point Realty Inc

GELLIS LAW PLLC
A CONCIERGE COUNSELOR

Local Wakulla Attorney ~ Resident & Neighbor ~

Sean W. Gellis, Esq
Founder & Managing Member

561-371-2848 / 2931 Crawfordville Hwy. Next to DQ
Sean@gellislaw.com www.GellisLaw.com

Send Me The Bill

Lori L. Lewis
Chief Executive Officer

sendmethethebillLLC@gmail.com
Cell 717-413-6761
Fax 717-256-7199
www.SendMeTheBill.net

1037 Gulf Shore Blvd.
Alligator Point, FL 32346

40 ACRES FOR SALE

D. E. BILLINGSLEY
LIC. REAL ESTATE BROKER

850-510-3309
www.debillingsley.com

Southern Maid
Cleaning Service

850-212-2908
Servicing the surrounding area Since 2017

• Licensed • Owner operated • Serving Surrounding Counties

KEEP WAKULLA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

Leave Nothing But Your Footprints

www.kwcb.org

YARD SALES

SATURDAY 7-12
4 PINTAIL COURT, CRAWFORDVILLE

HOUSEHOLD, A FEW HUNTING / FISHING ITEMS, VINTAGE, PLANTERS, CHRISTMAS, BLUEBIRD HOUSES & MORE...

LAWN SERVICE

QUALITY LAWN & TRACTOR LLC
RES. & COMMERCIAL

- * MOWING * TRIMMING * EDGING
- * HEDGE TRIMMING

For all your lawn service needs
850-363-6341 Lic&Ins

TOWING SERVICE

BIG BEND TOWING, INC

- * TOWING * ROADSIDE ASST.
- * JUMP START
- * TIRE CHANGE
- * LOCK OUT
- * FUEL

CALL BILLY HAYNIE
850-631-2361

NOTICE OF FICTITIOUS NAME

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 856.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, James Davis, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

JAMES E. DAVIS, CPA

Located at 1733 Old Plank Road, Crawfordville FL 32327
In the County of Wakulla
Intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporation of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.

Published on April 16, 2026

NOTICE OF ACTION

0326-0416 TWS NOA
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR WAKULLA, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 2025DR327

CHRYSTAL MARIE RODRIGUEZ, PETITIONER,
AND
JOSE ERMILSON RODRIGUEZ, RESPONDENT.

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)

TO: JOSE ERMILSON RODRIGUEZ, 1585 Marburg Way Apt. B-09 San Jose, CA 95133.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on **CHRYSTAL MARIE RODRIGUEZ** whose address is 4300 18th Street West Apt. J205 Bradenton, FL 34205 on or before 4/16/2026 and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 3056 CRAWFORDVILLE HWY CRAWFORDVILLE, FL 32327 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this **March 18, 2026**.

{{County Court Seal}}

Greg James
As Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Cathi Copeland
As Deputy Clerk

Published March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 2026

NOTICE OF SALE

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

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Case #: 25000026CAAXMX
Plaintiff,
-vs-
Brian Bonislawsky; Kimberly Bonislawsky; Brian Bonislawsky, as Trustee of the Joseph S. Bonislawsky, III Trust u/w dtd 11/23/2005; Brian Bonislawsky, as beneficiary of the of the Joseph S. Bonislawsky, III Trust u/w dtd 11/23/2005; Unknown Spouse of Brian Bonislawsky; Unknown Spouse of Kimberly Bonislawsky; Wakulla County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida; Wakulla County Animal Services Department; Unknown Parties in Possession #1, if living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s); Unknown Parties in Possession #2, if living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s), Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to order rescheduling foreclosure sale or Final Judgment, entered in Civil Case No. 25000026CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the 2nd Judicial Circuit in and for Wakulla County, Florida, wherein Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Plaintiff and Brian Bonislawsky are defendant(s), I, Clerk of Court, Greg James, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash AT THE FRONT LOBBY OF THE WAKULLA COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 3056 CRAWFORDVILLE HWY, CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA AT 11:00 A.M. on May 14, 2026, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOTS 27 AND 28, BLOCK "5" OF WAKULLA GARDENS UNIT TWO, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 42, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2026.

{{County Court Seal}}

Greg James
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Wakulla County, Florida
By: /s/ Ethan Brown
As Deputy Clerk

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 the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator; 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301; (850) 606-4401 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification of the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

April 16, 23, 2026

QUALITY RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL REPAINTING

- PRESSURE WASHING
- LIFT AVAILABLE IN HOUSE
- WOOD ROT REPAIRS
- DECK RESTORATION
- CABINET PAINTING

A NEW LOOK PAINTING
A NEW LOOK PAINTING.NET
850-926-2400
SINCE 1993

Locally Owned & Operated
Serving Wakulla & Surrounding Counties Since 1993

Open to Serve You

Jim Porter & Todd Porter
Member of Chamber of Commerce and the Better Business Bureau

Please Recycle

KEEP WAKULLA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

Leave Nothing But Your Footprints

www.kwcb.org

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

MORTGAGE RESEARCH CENTER, LLC Case No.: 25000145CAAXMX
D/B/A VETERANS UNITED HOME LOANS, A
MISSOURI LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY,
PLAINTIFF,
V.
ROBERT A. NORTON, ET AL.,
DEFENDANT(S).

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: **ROBERT A. NORTON**
27 ZION HILL RD, CRAWFORDVILLE, FL 32327
UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ROBERT A. NORTON
27 ZION HILL RD, CRAWFORDVILLE, FL 32327

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS STATED, CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose Mortgage covering the following real and personal property described as follows, to-wit:

LOT 39, EDGEWOOD, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 83, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

LESS AND EXCEPT A RIGHT OF WAY TAKING, PER FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DEED DESCRIPTION AND RIGHT OF WAY MAP DATED 2/18/2016

(FINANCIAL PROJECT NUMBER 2204975):

EXCEPT HERE FROM: A PORTION OF LOT 39, EDGEWOOD, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 83 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING IN SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT A 4 INCH BY 4 INCH CONCRETE MONUMENT (NO ID) MARKING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST 114 OF SAID SECTION 6; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 52 MINUTES 03 SECONDS EAST 2,641.91 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 6 TO THE CENTERLINE OF SURVEY OF STATE ROAD 369 (US 319), AS SHOWN ON FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (F.D.O.T.) RIGHT OF WAY MAP F.P. NO. 2204957 (SAID MAP BEING ON FILE AT F.D.O.T. DISTRICT 3 OFFICE, CHIPLEY, FLORIDA); THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 1,716.83 FEET ALONG SAID CENTERLINE OF SURVEY; THENCE DEPARTING SAID CENTERLINE OF SURVEY RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 39 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST 50.00 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION OF THE EXISTING WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF STATE ROAD 369, AS SHOWN ON SAID RIGHT OF WAY MAP, WITH THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 140, PAGE 505, SAID PUBLIC RECORDS, AND POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST 150.12 FEET ALONG SAID EXISTING WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE TO THE NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT 38, SAID EDGEWOOD; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 41 SECONDS WEST 118.30 FEET ALONG SAID NORTHERLY LOT LINE TO A POINT ON A NON-TANGENT CURVE TO THE RIGHT (CONCAVE EASTERLY); THENCE DEPARTING SAID NORTHERLY LOT LINE, FROM A TANGENT BEARING OF NORTH 00 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 36 SECONDS WEST, RUN NORTHERLY ALONG SAID CURVE, HAVING A RADIUS 11,814.00 FEET, FOR AN ARC DISTANCE OF 129.53 FEET, THROUGH A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 00 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 41 SECONDS TO END OF CURVE; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 21.59 FEET TO SAID SOUTHERLY PROPERTY LINE DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 140, PAGE 505; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 39 MINUTES 28 SECONDS EAST 119.00 FEET ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY PROPERTY LINE TO POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL NUMBER: 06-3S-01 W -243-04301-039

has been filed against you and you are required to file a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Sara Collins, Esq., McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP, 225 East Robinson Street, Suite 155, Orlando, FL 32801 and file the original with the Clerk of the above- styled Court on or before **May 13, 2026** or 30 days from the first publication, otherwise a Judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

This notice is provided pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2.065.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said court at Wakulla County, Florida 30th day of March, 2026.

{{County Court Seal}}

Greg James
As Clerk of the Court
Wakulla County, Florida
By: /s/ **Ethan Brown**
As Deputy Clerk



April 9, 16, 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC S/B/M Case No.: 26000027CAAXMX
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC,
PLAINTIFF,
V.
DEBRAA. NEW. ET. AL.,
DEFENDANT(S).

NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE

TO: **THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF RUSSELL A. SMITH, DECEASED,**

whose residence is unknown if he/she/they be living; and if he/she/they be dead, the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property:

TRACT NO. 15, OF AN UNRECORDED PLAT OF SHADY ACRES: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, (MARKED BY A CONCRETE MONUMENT BURIED IN COUNTY ROAD); THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 24 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST BOUNDARY OF SECTION 24, 1,321.4 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 26 MINUTES WEST 1,688.65 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE, WHICH IS THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE TO RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 26 MINUTES WEST 230 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE, THENCE RUN SOUTH 01 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST 186.09 FEET TO THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY OF A COUNTY ROAD, THENCE RUN SOUTH 88 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 30 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF SAID COUNTY ROAD, 230.0 FEET TO AN IRON PIPE, THENCE RUN NORTH 1 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 50 SECONDS WEST 191.47 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. BEING SITUATE IN THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, AND BEING OTHERWISE DESCRIBED AS TRACT NO. 15 OF AN UNRECORDED PLAT OF SHADY ACRES. TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON, DESCRIBED AS A 2002 PIONEER WITH VIN NUMBERS PH1124GA19527A AND PH1124GA19527B.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on counsel for Plaintiff, whose address is 6409 Congress Ave., Suite 100, Boca Raton, Florida 33487 on or before 1/30 days from Date of First Publication of this Notice) and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition filed herein.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said court at Wakulla County, Florida 1st day of April, 2026.

{{County Court Seal}}

Greg James
As Clerk of the Court
Wakulla County, Florida
By: /s/ **Rachel Howard**
As Deputy Clerk



ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ,
AND SCHNEID, PL
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF
6409 Congress Ave., Suite 100
Boca Raton, FL 33487
PRIMARY EMAIL: rfm@raslg.com
April 9, 16, 2026

STATE WIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Home Improvement/Service

PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for a quote or inspection today 1-833-542-1732 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-833-754-2465

Miscellaneous

Donate your vehicle to help find missing children and prevent abduction. Fast free pickup, running or not, 24 hr response. No emission test required, maximum tax deduction. Support Find the Children, call: 1-833-546-7050.

Medical

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-661-3729

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-877-349-1243

STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! Reduce premiums and out-of-pocket costs while getting the coverage you need! Call now for a competitive free quote. 1-877-351-3442. Plus... Income based government subsidies are available for those that qualify!

Wanted to Buy

CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-833-641-0211

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

We Buy Houses for Cash AS-IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Call today for your fair cash offer: 1-321-603-3026



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

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

CROSSWORD

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
4. Ceramic jars
9. Monetary units
14. Alias
15. "Superman" actor
16. Britonic tribe
17. Shorten
18. LA Dodgers manager
20. Hoarded
22. Theatrical-ly portray
23. Noah's grandson
24. Dependent
28. Peyton's little brother
29. Cools the house
30. Principle part of
31. Type of wrap
33. Peels
37. Commercial
38. Make an attempt
39. Arrange in steps
41. U. Utah athlete
42. Old English
43. Trade
44. Nostrils
46. Ticket seller ___Hub
49. Of I

50. Institute legal proceedings against
51. Takes apart
55. Doorway
58. Long int'l river
59. Trailblazing athlete
- Gibson
60. Former CBS News host
64. Sign language
65. Badgerlike mammal
66. Thin strips of wood
67. Brooklyn hoopster

68. Portents of good or evil
69. Footwear
70. When you think you'll arrive

CLUES DOWN

1. Batflower genus
2. Predatory seabirds
3. Fish farm
4. Arrangements
5. Go in advance of others
6. Bulgarian monetary unit
7. "___ Maria"

8. W. African ethnoreligious group
9. Wild Asian oxen genus
10. Vinegary
11. To this
12. Explosive
13. Female sibling
19. Orlando museum (abbr.)
21. Type of hoop
24. About Holy Father
25. Academic environment
26. Extremely angry
27. Surrenders

31. Swiss mountain pass
32. Sharp mountain ridge
34. Erases
35. Spielberg's alien
36. Absurd
40. Dorm worker
41. Used to make pesticides
45. The sister of your father or mother
47. A way to let know
48. Can't produce much

- vegetation
52. Small streams
53. Folk singer DiFranco
54. Weights
56. Start over
57. Black Sea resort city
59. Wimbledon champ
60. Corporate executive (abbr.)
61. Unskilled actor who overacts
62. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
63. Of or relating to ears

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	
14				15						16					
17				18						19					
20				21					22						
23								24	25				26	27	
				28				29				30			
31	32							33		34	35	36		37	
38					39	40							41		
42					43							44	45		
46				47	48			49				50			
51					52	53	54					55		56	57
				58								59			
60	61							62	63					64	
65								66						67	
68								69						70	

Bill Webster, Attorney
General Law Practice
50 Years Experience
Since 1975
By Appointment Only

850-443-5901

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

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

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

Weekly Roundup: ‘Making great progress’

By **JIM TURNER**
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Lawmakers remain in a holding pattern, with no concrete progress made on the budget.

Legislative leaders issued memos to members saying they won't need to return to the Capitol next week because there's no agreement on allocations – top line numbers for the spending plan.

But Gov. Ron DeSantis did receive and sign a slate of bills and the January jobs report showed the unemployment rate ticking up again to 4.5 percent – enough to cause concern even among some Republicans.

MID-APRIL

When talks between the House and Senate to allocate funding for different parts of the fiscal year 2026-2027 spending plan crashed in early March, requiring extra time for budget talks for the second consecutive year, a general “mid-April” timeline was given for the return.

That led many to anticipate lawmakers to take up the process on April 13, with the work overlapping the five-day special session Gov. Ron DeSantis called for congressional redistricting that begins April 20.

On Wednesday, House Speaker Daniel Perez, R-Miami, and Senate President Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula, sent separate memos telling lawmakers no deal on allocations has been reached and they aren't ready to begin formal negotiations.

“While I believe we are making great progress, it will not be necessary for you to return to Tallahassee prior to the special session called by Governor DeSantis,” Albritton wrote. “We will share a schedule for that special session as soon as possible.”

Perez called “external speculation” of a special session next week “not accurate.”

The special session for congressional redistricting is still moving forward, although the motivating reason DeSantis gave for calling the session hasn't come to pass.

DeSantis cited a pending U.S. Supreme Court decision on a Louisiana redistricting case as the primary reason to redraw Florida's congressional districts.

He believes the ruling, when it comes, will strike down part of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that allows districts to be drawn on racial grounds to address historic discrimination. That would require, DeSantis claims, the state to redraw some districts in South Florida.

Despite the lack of a ruling, though, DeSantis doesn't think lawmakers need to wait.

“We know how that Supreme Court case is going to come out at this point. I don't think there's much of a dispute about that,” DeSantis said while at a bill signing event at the University of South Florida. “And I think Justice Alito is writing the opinion. So, us looking at our map, understanding

the issues in that case, and fixing it, I think that's appropriate whether the decision comes before we do it or after.”

STATE LABELING

DeSantis started the week with a bill signing, this one to designate groups as “domestic terrorist organizations.”

The measure was crafted to back up an executive order he issued in December placing that label on two Islamic groups.

The law, effective July 1, bars courts from enforcing any provision of a religious or foreign law. It was crafted to prevent the use of the Islamic code known as Sharia law.

Another provision allows the state's Chief of Domestic Security – currently Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Mark Glass – to designate a domestic or foreign terrorist organization. The Governor and the Cabinet would approve the designation.

“The legislation we'll sign today is the strongest action Florida has ever taken to protect its people from this influence,” DeSantis said during a bill signing event at the University of South Florida's Gibbons Alumni Center in Tampa. “And obviously, it spans finance, it spans political, it spans culture.”

The bill (HB 1471) was filed in support of DeSantis' executive order classifying the Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR, and the Muslim Brotherhood as terrorist organizations.

In March, U.S. District Judge Mark Walker issued a preliminary injunction against the order, writing that it violated CAIR's rights by targeting and threatening those providing the organization with material support.

Criticizing the legislation DeSantis' office helped author as advancing “a political agenda,” CAIR-Florida Executive Director Hiba Rahim said in a statement on Monday the law jeopardizes student speech, freedom of religion and due process.

“This is not just about CAIR. This expanded and deeply flawed framework can attack any organization that dares to dissent,” Rahim said in a statement. “As Floridians, together, we'll watch how this unprecedented law is enforced, and whether it is used or abused.”

JOBS

Florida's jobless rate for January was posted Wednesday at 4.5 percent, 0.2 percentage points higher than in December.

The jobless mark is also 1 percentage point higher than a year earlier, with the Department of Commerce figures showing the state lost 20,600 jobs in that time.

U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, who while governor maintained “jobs, jobs, jobs” as his mantra, expressed concerns over the state's trajectory.

“Florida shouldn't be losing so many jobs, and we shouldn't be sur-

passing the national unemployment average for the first time in years. Creating more jobs needs to be PRIORITY #1!” Scott posted on X.

The January figure represents 499,000 people qualified as out of work from a labor force of 11.12 million.

The number of people out of work is 20,000 higher than revised December figures. Meanwhile, the workforce declined by 7,000 in the same month-to-month comparison.

The monthly report was released a day after Gov. DeSantis joined business leaders and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott at the Perez Art Museum in Miami to promote the Texas Stock Exchange.

In brief remarks, DeSantis talked of the “very healthy competition” Florida has for business with states including

Texas, Tennessee and Georgia.

“That's been really, really good, not just for the people of our individual states, but for the region as a whole,” DeSantis said. “We've shown a great framework for how you can succeed and really grow your economies and give people more opportunities.”

STORY OF THE WEEK: DeSantis signed a bill allowing the state to designate groups as “domestic terrorist” organizations.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “Union and Glades (counties) are the canary in the coal mine.” – Sen. Jennifer Bradley, R-Fleming Island, after the state stepped in to help manage the distressed finances of two rural school districts.

Wakulla County Library Presents
DR. SEUSS
Spring
OPEN HOUSE
& Community Partner Fair
APRIL THE 18TH
9am-1pm

Explore the Library Get a Library Card
Meet the staff StoryTime
Crafts Games
Refreshments & Face Painting

Organizations that wish to participate can contact LOaks@mywakulla.com

Sponsored by the Friends of Wakulla County Public Library

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
SPONSORED BY AMNESTY DAY

WAKULLA COUNTY WASTE PRO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FLORIDA

Tires must be off the rim Up to 12 tires per resident

Tire Amnesty NO commercial tires

and Document Shredding SRS

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
Saturday • April 18, 2026
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Wakulla County Transfer Station
159 Landfill Rd • Crawfordville, FL

Documents must be placed in the trunk or rear of your vehicle. Staples, paper clips, and file folders are OK. Please do NOT bring: Binders Metal or plastic items, CDs or floppy disks, Ziplock bags, Credit cards or similar items.

Bring your household cleaners - such as oven cleaners, wood/metal cleaner or polishers, toilet bowl cleaners, disinfectants, drain openers. Automotive products - such as additives, solvents, refrigerants, starter fluid, body putty, anti-freeze, gasoline, diesel, kerosene. Home Improvement Products - such as non-latex paints, paint thinner, paint stripper/remover, adhesives. Lawn & Garden Products - such as herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, wood preserver. Miscellaneous Hazardous Items - such as recyclable batteries (automotive batteries, lithium-ion batteries, button cell batteries, phone batteries, nickel batteries, battery packs, power tool batteries), nail polish remover, fluorescents, photo developing chemicals, pool chemicals, aerosols/compressed gas, reactive materials.

NO LATEX PAINT ACCEPTED NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE

EARTH DAY
RESPONSIBLE DISPOSAL EVENT
APRIL 18 • 9 AM - 1 PM

RECYCLE • SHRED • DISPOSE & GET A FREE TREE!
Wakulla County Transfer Station 159 Landfill Rd • Crawfordville, FL

Sopchoppy's annual Worm Gruntin' Festival is held



The 4-year-old great-grandson of Lossie Rosier, the first Worm Gruntin' Queen, working the staub and iron.



Master of Ceremonies Merle Robb crowns Gary and Audrey Revell as they are joined by their son Snap.



Gary and Audrey Revell are joined by past queens Oleta Lawhon and Lossie Rosier and their families.



The Rick Ott Band at the Worm Grunters Ball, held at Civic Brewery.

PHOTOS BY GERALD BROWN



The Currys perform on the main stage.

Big Bend Hospice *Celebrating our Volunteers in* **WAKULLA COUNTY**

Mary (Molly) Akin | Anne Campbell | Stephanie Clark
Preston SR Colangelo | Erin Fortier | Debra Dix
Sarah Garber | Maryanne Geers | Amy Geiger
Cindy Heath | Hanna Henderson | Samantha Kennedy
Natalie Knowles | Leslie Linka | Diane Martinez
Quincee Messersmith | Sheriff Jared Miller | John Parks
Megan Smith | Bill Snowden | Patricia Terebelski

Thank You for all you do for our Patients, Families, & Staff!

If you would like to learn more about becoming a BBH Volunteer, Contact Katie Mandell at (850) 933-1878 | kmandell@bigbendhospice.org

 Big Bend | Hospice




Please Recycle



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

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

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

LOST DOG
Please Help, We miss him very much!

Went missing from the neighborhood beside the Walmart in Crawfordville
Had Green light up collar on.



Contact
The Wakulla Sun
Eric 850-962-8019
850-848-9440
or
@ChampsChance on social media

Please contact us if you picked up this pup or have any information!



Trusted by Wakulla County for over 20 Years!



**ESTATE
PROBATE
FAMILY LAW
REAL ESTATE
MEDIATION**

LoweLegalAndTitle.com (850) 926-8245