



Wakulla High Graduation/Page 14

# The Wakulla Sun



Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Scattered Thunderstorms Hi: 85° Lo: 72° 57% Sunrise 6:37 AM Sunset 8:32 PM	Thunderstorms Hi: 84° Lo: 73° 62% Sunrise 6:37 AM Sunset 8:32 PM	Scattered Thunderstorms Hi: 85° Lo: 73° 42% Sunrise 6:36 AM Sunset 8:33 PM



\$1 One Section

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

Our 5th Year 22nd Issue  
Thursday, May 28, 2026

## Lady War Eagles fall

The softball team loses to Eustis on Thursday on the cusp of the state title game

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN  
Editor

The Wakulla Lady War Eagles softball team fell 14-7 to Eustis in the state semi-final, a game away from playing for the 3A state title.

The game was played on Thursday, May 21, in Longwood, and the five seniors of the team still had time to make it back to walk for graduation with their classmates.

A special graduation ceremony was held on Wednesday morning for the five seniors before the team left for the playoffs – and they also visited other district schools before traveling.

They finished with a 25-6 record.



Seniors on the softball team – Brianna Stephens, Allison Stephens, Makenzie Marlow, Abigail Lawhon, and Aislin Hunter – had a pre-graduation ceremony on Wednesday before traveling.

PHOTO BY PERRY DISSMORE

## County to take over sewer billing for customers

Special to The Sun

Wakulla County is taking over billing for its sewer customers who receive water service from the City of Sopchoppy beginning with the June billing cycle.

Sopchoppy had formerly billed its water customers who received county sewer service. The county issued a press release:

### • WHO IS AFFECTED

City of Sopchoppy water customers with sewer service will be transferred to Wakulla County's billing system.

### • WHAT TO EXPECT

You do not need to take any action at this time. The County will notify paperless billing customers by email when your new account is ready, the remaining customers will automatically receive your new bills by mail when they are issued.

### • WHEN YOU CAN EXPECT THIS CHANGE

Your first bill issued by the County will be for the June 2026 billing cycle. Bills are issued during the first week of each month and are due on the 20th of each month.

### • WHY WE ARE IMPLEMENTING THIS CHANGE

We are committed to ensuring fair and accurate billing to every customer. This change will improve efficiency and allow us to control costs and maintain lower sewer rates.

### • HOW WILL YOUR BILLS BE CALCULATED

Current Rates: (Customers with a winter months average for 2025/2026 will be billed based on their average.)

- \$42.05 for the first 2,000 gallons
- \$6.31 for each additional 1,000 gallons

### • WHAT ARE YOUR PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Pay by phone: 850-318-3829
- Pay online through your customer portal: wakulla.epayub.com
- Checks may be mailed to:  
Wakulla County Revenue Collections  
P.O. Box 340  
Crawfordville FL 32326
- Or paid in-person or at the drop box:  
340 Trice Lane  
Crawfordville FL 32327

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 850-745-6508.

## REMEMBERING THE FALLEN



## Memorial Day observed

Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars placed a wreath for fallen soldiers and lowered the flag to half-staff as part of a Memorial Day ceremony held Monday, May 25, at the courthouse, in an event organized by Veterans Service Officer Win-

ston Murphy. They speaker was U.S. Navy veteran and former Supervisor of Elections Henry 'Buddy' Wells, who recently returned from an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. Wells spoke of pausing to reflect on the sacrifice of fellow Americans to preserve freedom. Murphy read the names of Wakulla's War Dead. (Photo by William Snowden)

## Point Blank project honored as 'Rural Deal of the Year'

Special to The Sun

The Wakulla Economic Development Council was presented with the Rural Deal of the Year award Thursday evening, May 14, 2026, at the Florida Economic Development Council (FEDC) Annual Conference in Orlando — the highest statewide recognition a rural community can receive for economic development achievement. The award celebrates Wakulla County's successful recruitment of Point Blank Enterprises, one of the nation's leading manufacturers of body armor and protective equipment for military and law enforcement communities.

The deal represents the single largest economic development achievement in Wakulla County history. Point Blank Enterprises has committed to creating 300 high-wage jobs in the community, supported by a \$21.5 million grant incentive package assembled by the Wakulla EDC and its partners — including \$13.5 million from Triumph Gulf Coast, \$4.5 million from the Florida Department of Commerce Rural Infrastructure Fund, and \$3.5 million in Florida Job Growth Grant funding. A ground-



Wakulla Economic Development Coordinators Julie Dennis and Beth Chichetti

breaking ceremony is anticipated for Fall 2026, with facility completion targeted for December 2027.

The FEDC Rural Deal of the Year award is presented annually to recognize an outstanding economic development project in a rural Florida community that demonstrates

exceptional partnership, innovation, and impact. For Wakulla County — a small, rural community in Northwest Florida — the recognition reflects years of strategic investment in economic development infrastructure, regional collaboration, and a commitment to creating opportunity for

local residents.

The project is expected to generate significant economic ripple effects across the region. Point Blank will provide at least 300 jobs offering wages above the county median and create a pipeline of opportunity for graduates of Wakulla High School's War Eagle Academy career and technical education programs — themselves built in large part through Triumph Gulf Coast investment. Beyond direct impact, the project is expected to generate more than 200 additional indirect and induced jobs and more than \$46 million in wages circulating through Wakulla's local economy, supporting small businesses. In addition, it will generate new tax revenue for Wakulla County to support essential services without increasing the tax burden on residents. The deal reflects the broader vision of the Wakulla EDC: to create meaningful, high-wage careers so that Wakulla County residents can build their futures without leaving home.

"This recognition belongs to every partner who believed in Wakulla County before the finish line was **Turn to Page 9**

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Lisa Craze, CFC  
 Wakulla County Tax Collector

ENACTED: December 15, 2025



Unlike specialty plates, the America 250 plate serves as an alternative to the standard Florida license plate, with all regular fees applying. Motorists may request the America 250 license plate at the time of vehicle registration or renewal.

# Celebrating America's 250th

**Special to The Sun**

This year, the United States turns 250, and you're invited to celebrate. On May 29-31, at Goodwood Museum & Gardens in Tallahassee, you can join Theater with a Mission for a birthday party that's been 250 years in the making. It's free, it's family-friendly, and it's three days of once-in-a-lifetime fun.

"Time Travel into Florida 1776" is Theater with a Mission's birthday present to America, designed to carry you back to the USA's first birthday in ways that tantalize your taste buds, stir your feet, challenge your brain, and reconnect you with your roots. Like the milestone birthday party it is, you'll find cake & ice cream, songs & dances, surprises and special effects – all with an authentic Revolutionary twist.

Because Florida stayed loyal to Great Britain during the Revolutionary War, the cake & ice cream

– one of George Washington's favorite treats – will honor the 38th birthday of George III, the first King of England from the German House of Hanover who spoke English as his first language. Wait till you see King George's cake, majestically unfurling a royal coat of arms on all four sides! Wait till you taste the ice cream, hand-scooped by Tallahassee's own Lofty Pursuits!

Because songs and social dances were as important as military maneuvers to the Revolution, you can move to marches that moved our founding fathers, including "Yankee Doodle" and "God Save the King," watch minuets that our founding mothers danced, re-created by Atlanta Historic Dance, and step into a Pursuit of Happiness Costume Ball, where you dress up as any character who catches your fancy from history. At the Ball, you'll learn dances from 1776 under

the expert instruction of Susan de Guardiola, who is internationally famous for showing people how to have a ball while we dance dances that our great-great-great grandparents loved.

Because parades and breaking news were as thrilling then as they are now, this birthday bash will feature residents of Wakulla County marching with the Suwannee River Fife & Drum, inviting you to hoist a flag and join the parade. There'll be horsemen galloping in with news flashes about threats to Florida's freedom from Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. And

Sons of the American Revolution will teach you how to drill with the militia to Keep Florida Free. You can witness a reenactment of Patrick Henry's death-defying speech "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" and hear the latest draft of the Declaration of Independence!

It's the party of two and a half centuries, and you're invited! Visit TheaterwithaMission.com for a full schedule of events and a link to let us know you're coming. Spread the word to family and friends about Time Travel into Florida 1776, May 29-31, at Goodwood Museum & Gardens in Tallahassee.

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WAKULLA COUNTY ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING:**

**EVENT:** School Board Meeting  
**DATE:** Monday, June 15, 2026  
**TIME:** 5:45 pm  
**PLACE:** School Board Room, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida  
**PURPOSE:** Monthly School Board Meeting

**For further information please contact:**  
**Superintendent's Office**  
**Wakulla County Schools**  
**Post Office Box 100, 69 Arran Rd**  
**Crawfordville, Florida 32326**  
**850-926-0065**

May 28, 2026

**Public Service Announcement Meeting Announcement**

The Apalachee Regional Planning Council announces a meeting to which all persons are invited. The Wakulla County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board will meet on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 10:00 am Eastern Time, at the Wakulla County Community Center, 318 Shadeville Rd., Crawfordville, FL 32327. The agenda will include its regular quarterly business items and updating the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. For additional information contact Austin Britt, TD Program Coordinator at the Apalachee Regional Planning Council at 850-312-1862, or by email at [abritt@arpc.org](mailto:abritt@arpc.org).

May 28, June 4, 2026

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**WAKULLA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS INVITATION TO BID NO. ITB 2026-12**

**WAKULLA COMMUNITY CENTER GYM EXPANSION CONSTRUCTION**

**ADVERTISEMENT BEGIN DATE: MAY 28, 2026**

**RELEASE DATE: MAY 28, 2026**

**BIDS DUE TO BOCC: JULY 9 @ 3:00 PM EST**

Sealed bids will be received at the office of the Board of County Commissioners, 3093 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327; until 3:00 P.M. EST. on **JULY 9, 2026**, at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. Bids received after the deadline will not be accepted.

The principal feature of this procurement by the County is known as **WAKULLA COMMUNITY CENTER GYM EXPANSION CONSTRUCTION**. The specifications of this procurement are stated in **ITB 2026-12**.

The ITB and any addenda issued will be posted to the County's Website at [www.mywakulla.com](http://www.mywakulla.com) or can be obtained by contacting the County Procurement Office at (850) 926-0919 ext. 715, or email [Procurement@mywakulla.com](mailto:Procurement@mywakulla.com).

All technical inquiries and clarification requests shall be submitted in writing to the Procurement Office or [Procurement@mywakulla.com](mailto:Procurement@mywakulla.com) in accordance with the ITB. **Verbal clarifications will not be provided.**

A mandatory pre-bid conference is scheduled for **JUNE 11, 2026, at 10 A.M. EST**. The meeting will be held at the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Office, 3093 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL 32327. The meeting is **MANDATORY** for all contractors who plan to submit bids. Attendees must sign in at the pre-bid conference in order to be authorized to bid on the project. All questions asked at the pre-bid meeting will not be formally addressed via addendum unless provided to the County in writing.

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

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid; reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; re-bid a project, in whole or in part; and to accept a proposal that in its judgment is the lowest and best bid of a responsible bidder. In accepting a bid, Wakulla County may award a contract based only on the base bid, the base bid plus all alternates, or the base bid plus any Alternates which Wakulla County selects -- with all decisions being made based upon what Wakulla County believes to be the best interests of its ratepayers, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion. Wakulla County further reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as may be required to meet the needs of Wakulla County, at the unit price which was bid.

**Wakulla County is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
**MBE/WBE businesses are encouraged to participate**  
**Wakulla County strictly enforces open and fair competition**  
 Wakulla County does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status and disability/handicapped status in employment or provision of service.

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

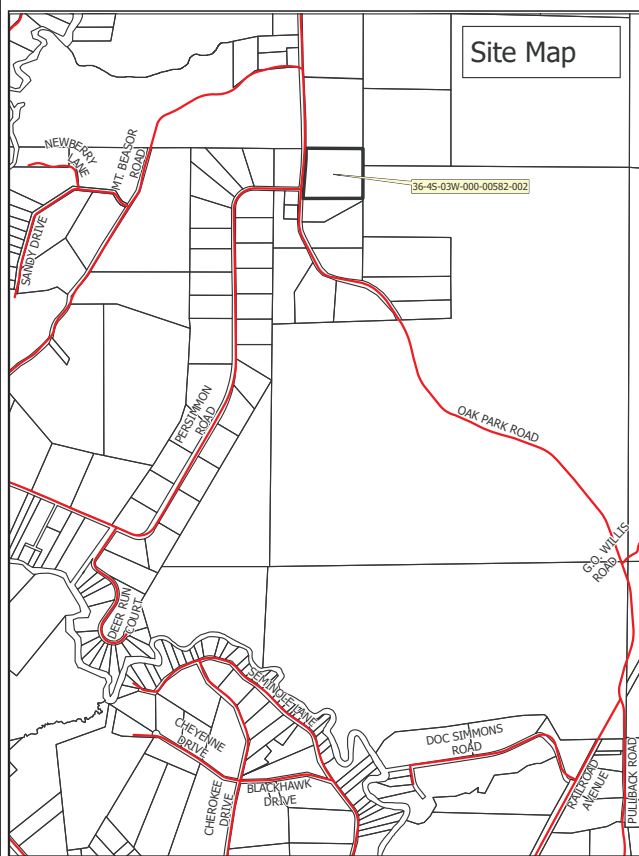
May 28, 2026

**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 HEARING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR PRELIMINARY PLAT**

The Wakulla County Planning Commission proposes to consider the following application. A Public Hearing is scheduled regarding the following before the **Planning Commission on Monday, June 8, 2026, beginning at 6:00 P.M., unless otherwise noted below or as time permits.** All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



**1. Application for Preliminary Plat Approval: PP26-02**  
 Applicant: Frank David Lindamood, Jr.  
 Proposal: create 2-lot residential subdivision- Hawks Roost  
 Tax ID Number: 36-4S-03W-000-00582-002  
 Existing FLU Map: Rural 1 (FLUE Policy 1.2.4)  
 Current Zoning: AG (Section 5-25, LDC)  
 FEMA Flood Info: "X" and "A" zones on Panel 0355E  
 Parcel size: 15.0+/- acres  
 Location: 675 Oak Park Road, Sopchoppy  
**Hearing Required: Planning Commission: Monday, June 8, 2026 @ 6:00 PM**

If an individual wishes to submit documents or other materials related to a matter before the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission at a public meeting, they are strongly encouraged to submit copies of all such documents or other materials to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development at least 3 days prior to the date of the meeting so that they can be provided to the Commission Members. If an individual wishes to bring documents or other materials for consideration by the Planning Commission that were not previously provided to the Wakulla County Office of Planning and Community Development in accordance with the preceding sentence, they must bring at least twelve (12) copies of each such document to the meeting.

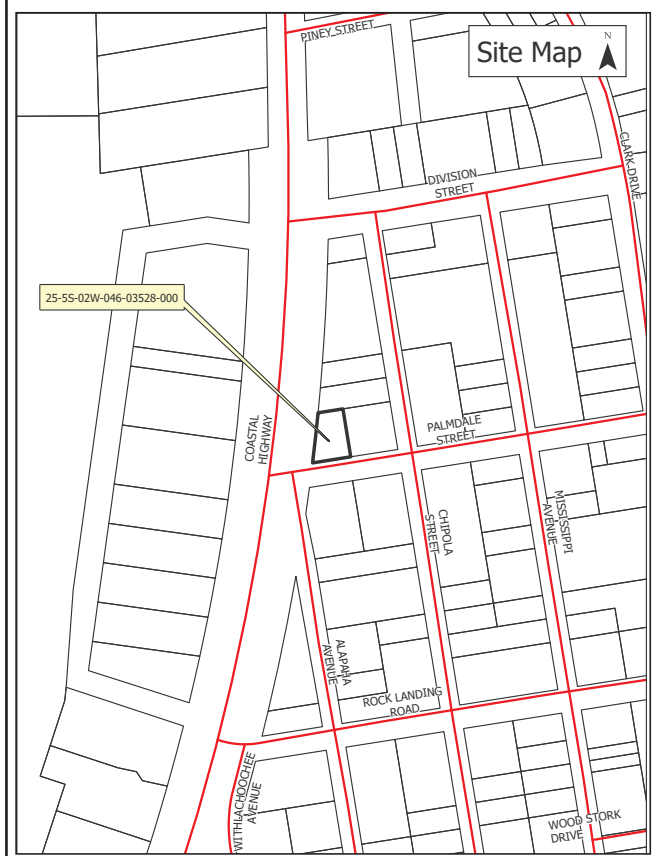
Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM M-F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. 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 and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at [ADAResult@mywakulla.com](mailto:ADAResult@mywakulla.com).

May 28, 2026



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ZONING**

The Wakulla County Planning Commission and Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners propose to consider the following application and/or adopt the following by ordinance and has scheduled Public Hearings before the **Wakulla County Planning Commission on Monday, June 8, 2026, beginning at 6:00 P.M.** and before the **Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners on Monday, June 15, 2026, beginning at 6:00 PM,** or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. All public hearings will be held at the County Commission Chambers located west of the County Courthouse at 29 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. Interested parties are invited to attend and present testimony.



**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WAKULLA COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ORDINANCE NO. 85-4, AS AMENDED; CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION AND OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FROM R-1 TO C-2 FOR PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A" TO THE ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**1. Application for Change of Zoning: R26-05**  
 Applicant: Gulf Specimen Company, Inc.  
 Agent: Cypress Rudloe  
 Proposal: rezone from single-family residential to general commercial  
 Tax ID Number: 25-5S-02W-046-03528-000  
 Existing FLU Map: Urban Core (FLUE Policy 1.2.9)  
 Current Zoning: R-1 (Section 5-30, LDC)  
 Proposed Zoning: C-2 (Section 5-38, LDC)  
 FEMA Flood Info: "AE" zone on Panel 0370E  
 Parcel size: 0.298+/- acres  
 Location: intersection of Coastal Highway 98 and Palmdale Street, Panacea  
**Hearings Required: Planning Commission: Monday, June 8, 2026 @ 6:00 PM**  
**BOCC: Monday, June 15, 2026 @ 6:00 PM**

Copies of applications, draft ordinances, and any related public record files may be viewed at the County Planning Department located at 11 Bream Fountain Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327, 8 AM to 4:30 PM M/F; Phone (850) 926-3695. Any person desiring to appeal a decision of a County Board must ensure a verbatim transcript or copy is made of the testimony and exhibits presented at said hearings. 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 and Voice Impaired at 1-800-955-8771; or email at [ADAResult@mywakulla.com](mailto:ADAResult@mywakulla.com).

May 28, 2026

# 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.”

## For Memorial Day: Wakulla County War Dead since World War I

### World War I

Private Walter McClary  
Private David Harris  
Private Neal Williams  
Machinist Mate Daniel Syfret Jr.

Cpl. John Hardcastle  
PFC Arthur Johnson  
PFC Edgar M. Pigott  
Pvt. Guy Strickland  
Columbus M. Woolley (no rank given)

Lance Cpl. Charles Hanson Jr.  
Sgt. First Class Mary Mitchell Taylor

the Memorial Day observance. It includes the names of more than 60 local men killed in the Civil War.

### World War II

PFC Joseph Anderson  
Tech Sgt. Idus F. Coleman  
Sgt. Lawrence E. Council  
PFC Tobard E. Clover Jr.  
Lt. William H. Green  
PFC Waldon G. Grimes

### Vietnam

Staff Sgt. Arthur Lee Andrews

### Gulf Wars

CPO Matthew Bourgeois  
Sgt. Javier Garcia

Also recognized was Col. Cecil H. Bolton, Wakulla’s only known Medal of Honor winner. Col. Bolton received the award during World War II.

The full list of Wakulla’s war dead was read by Veteran Service Officer Winston Murphy at

*This list of war dead was compiled by local resident Andrew Riddle, and there were several additions to this year’s list for new names for World War I, World War II and the Gulf Wars.*

## Ask Judge Smith: U.S. Citizenship



By JUDGE LAYNE SMITH

**Q.** Judge Smith, how does one become a U.S. citizen? What are some of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship? Thank you, Katherine

**A.** The 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution provides two pathways to becoming a citizen at birth, and a pathway for those born abroad:

- Birthright citizenship based on the location of one’s birth: Unless modified by pending federal litigation, anyone born within the territory of the United States, including its territories, is automatically a U.S. citizen. A case pending before the U.S. Supreme Court may tighten this pathway.

- Acquisition of citizenship based on one or both parent’s citizenship: Anyone born outside the United States to at least one parent who is a U.S. citizen, subject to certain residency requirements for the parent, is also a citizen at birth.

- Naturalization: For foreigners, the path involves a legal process. Eligible foreign nationals must hold a Green Card for several years,

show good moral character, pass an English and civics test, and take the Oath of Allegiance during a naturalization ceremony.

### RIGHTS AND BENEFITS OF CITIZENSHIP

The U.S. Constitution and federal laws shield and empower citizens with unique rights. Here are some examples:

**Right to Vote:** The power to participate in federal elections to choose national leaders.

**Freedom of Expression & Religion:** The right to speak freely, protest peacefully, and practice any religion without government interference. The right of a free press.

**Fair Criminal Trials:** The right to counsel and a prompt, public trial by

an impartial jury.

“Natural Born” Citizens May Run for President Presidential candidates must be born within the territory of the United States.

U.S. Passport & Protection The right to travel abroad with government protection and assistance from U.S. embassies worldwide.

Federal Employment Eligibility for some federal government jobs requires citizenship for security reasons.

### THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENSHIP

Citizen rights do not exist in a vacuum. The law requires certain things from citizens, in return. Here are some examples:

Mandatory Legal Obligations

- Obey the Law: Every citizen should respect and abide by federal, state, and local laws.

- Pay Taxes: Filing honest income tax returns and paying federal, state, and local taxes funds our national infrastructure, defense, and service needs.

- Jury Service: If summoned, citizens should show up for jury service and serve if selected.

- National Defense: Male citizens aged 18 to 25 must register with the Selective Service System and serve if drafted.

### CIVIC & MORAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Stay Informed: Citizens should keep up with local, state, and national issues to make educated decisions.

- Vote Wisely: Participating in the democratic process by casting informed votes.

Democracy thrives on good manners and the respectful exchange of ideas.

The Bottom Line: Citizenship is more than a legal status recorded on birth certificates and naturalization papers. Think of it as a contract between the federal government and the people it governs.

Be on the lookout for my next column, “A Sprint through the Bill of Rights.”

*The Honorable J. Layne Smith is the Circuit Judge assigned to Wakulla County, Florida, a bestselling author, and a public speaker.*

## On the Horizon

### Calendar of events for the week of May 28

#### Thursday, May 28

- Seat at the Table, a community discussion, will be held at Palaver Tree Theater, 59 Shadeville Road, at
- The Rotary Club of Wakulla County meets at the TSC Wakulla Center at 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays.
- The VFW Auxiliary Bingo Night will be held at 7 p.m. at 475 Arran Road in Crawfordville, every Thursday. There are concessions and raffles.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Friday, May 29

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon

and 8 p.m. every Friday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

#### Saturday, May 30

- Sopchoppy Feed Store will offer free pet vaccines for dogs/puppies, and cats/kittens from 9 a.m. to noon. Dogs must be on a leash; cats must be in a carrier.

#### Sunday, May 31

- 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, June 1

- County commission meets in the commission boardroom at 6 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, June 2

- 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, June 3

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

## SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

### Are donations tax deductible?

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William Snowden  
Editor & Publisher  
The Wakulla Sun

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“It’s A New Day!”


# The Wakulla Sun




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– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

## Polled at VFW Post 4538’s Memorial Day event: How do you like to spend your Memorial Day?



**SUZANNE MARIE**  
Hair It Is

“By remembering those who gave their lives for our country.”



**ERIC HAYNES**  
Veteran & Singer/Songwriter

“It’s two-fold: We watch the concert the night before that’s held in DC, and on Memorial Day we go to a barbecue with family and friends.”



**SARA BARFIELD**  
Billy’s Heating & Air

“We like to spend it right here at the VFW.”



**NEIL HOSNICK**  
Retired

“Reflecting.”



**LAURA MANNO**  
Paralegal

“I like to spend it with my family while remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms.”

## Wakulla Crossroads

By **VERNA BROCK**

This past weekend we celebrated Memorial Day. Considering this is the 250th anniversary of our nation’s founding, this commemoration seems particularly meaningful. First celebrated as Decoration Day following the end of the Civil War, members of the Union GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) soon established it as Memorial Day. North, South, Black and White – soldiers and their families honored those lost during the War Between the States. It was first held at Arlington Cemetery on May 5th,

1868.

The Civil War was catastrophic, with an estimated 850,000 soldiers dead and another estimated 750,000 injured. The number of civilian dead and injured has never been calculated, but total casualties are thought to have easily exceeded 2.5% of the total population, an astronomical number at the time. The Civil War remains, to this day, the bloodiest conflict the U.S. has ever experienced, and one with devastating social consequences.

The long road through history has led us to today and the nation’s 250th

birthday. The way has been neither straight nor easy. One way survivors chose to heal was by remembering the losses, and forgiving the other side as much as they could. Recognizing the sacrifices of patriots has been an important part of that process.

Now, more than ever, we are called to salute our defenders, honor our dead, and work to ensure their values are preserved. There’s a difference between patriotism and nationalism. True patriots understand the importance of upholding the Constitution and its guaranteed rights for all our people.

Our path to equality and freedom continues to be a winding one, with many detours, bumps and even an avalanche or two along the way. But when

push comes to shove, our citizens have always found a way to work together for the common good. Somehow, our belief in the ideals upon which this country was founded manages to prevail.

Every generation must be both idealistic and realistic, and always vigilant against threats from within and without. Protecting and maintaining precious rights like freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of, and from, religion, the right to assemble, and to bear arms—this is all of our responsibility.

This is the perfect year for each of us to recommit to doing our part to ensure our descendants have another 250 years to celebrate!

## Sopchoppy News

By **DJ BUTCH**

Yella flies have been spotted in a few areas.... Nothing too crazy yet but they are on the scene.

We finally got some rain. Thank God! The Market Days in Sopchoppy got canceled due to the weather. We needed the rain bad though. Speaking of rain... I got me some low top Panacea nikes. They are like the old school crab boots but low top and a whole lot more style. I needed these for my fishing adventures. Sopchoppy had a food drive Friday.

Second Harvest and Sopchoppy Congregational Holiness Church puts this on. Follow the Sopchoppy page to get updates on the food drive and all kinds of Sopchoppy news and events.

I was the DJ for the Special Olympics and they recently sent me a thank you card. Some things in life are worth more than money. It is a blessing to be a part of this event and I appreciate my card.

I went fishing with an old friend (Pee-Wee) in Buckhorn Creek and we had a great time. I got a hilarious video on

Facebook. The truck got stuck on the boat ramp, but we caught fish and had a great time... They say if the yella flies biting the fish are biting. Both were biting – haha. We gave most of the fish to a friend (K2) visiting from near Atlanta. He sent me a pic of the fried fish and it looked amazing.

We are blessed to be surrounded by water and woods. Special thanks to Dallas for letting us put in at his house and pulling us out of the boat ramp—haha. This adventure is available to watch on my social media.

I was riding the golf cart in Sopchoppy and ran out of gas... luckily for me my family lives up the road. I wasn’t

stranded long. Guess I need to check the gas before I ride out... oops.

I think little things like that make the adventure remembered. You know, a little more exciting. Just like the boat ramp issue...

Sometimes in life what we think is a bad situation is really a blessing in disguise. The Bible says lean not on your own understanding.

So enjoy every minute, every memory and every moment. Laugh about it... I record moments so everyone can laugh at it.... I keep it real, life isn’t perfect but that is what makes it perfect!

Love and adventure from Sopchoppy, Florida!

## Library News

By **LINDA OAKS**  
Library Director

Library News May 28th– June 3rd

- Thursday, May 28th
- No Children’s Programs
  - Creative Writing I 10am

- Friday, May 29th
- Quilting Guild 10am

- Saturday, May 30th
- Girl Scouts 9:30am

- First LEGO Robotics Parents Meeting 6pm

- Sunday, May 31st
- No Programs

- Monday, June 1st
- No Programs

- Tuesday, June 2nd
- No Children’s Programs
  - Creative Writing II 10am
  - Parent& Child Meeting for Small

Car Derby Race 6pm

- Wednesday, June 3rd
- No Children’s Programs
  - Wakulla County Garden Club Board 10am
  - Mahjong 1pm
  - Knitting Group 4pm
  - WCYFCA 6pm



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# Outdoors

outdoor sports

## HOME ON THE RANGE

### Battleship with .22s



By MARJ LAW

Last week, Joe and I shot at "Battleship" targets with our 9mm handguns at the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office range.

How'd we do?

Well, this week we plan to shoot at Battleship targets again. But this time with .22s; not 9mm handguns. I guess that tells you how well we did last week. (sigh)

Today, Rona and Wilson are playing with us. Okay, you've guessed that we didn't shoot wonderfully well last week with my Kimber R7 Mako and Joe's Springfield Ronin. What happened? Was it the breakfast coffee? Was it just a "bad" day? Or was it... Age?

Oh, couldn't be. Age? The last time we played Battleship with .22s was back in March 2019 at the WCSO range. That wasn't so long ago, was it? People don't age and shoot worse in a mere 7 years. Do they? Do we?

Maybe we didn't do so well last week because we were shooting 9mm guns. This week we'll do better with the smaller

caliber .22 handguns like we did in 2019.

In 2019, Joe shot with his K-22 Masterpiece Smith & Wesson Model 17. I used my Ruger Mark II. Today, Joe is shooting his K-22 again, but I'm using a newer Ruger Mark III.

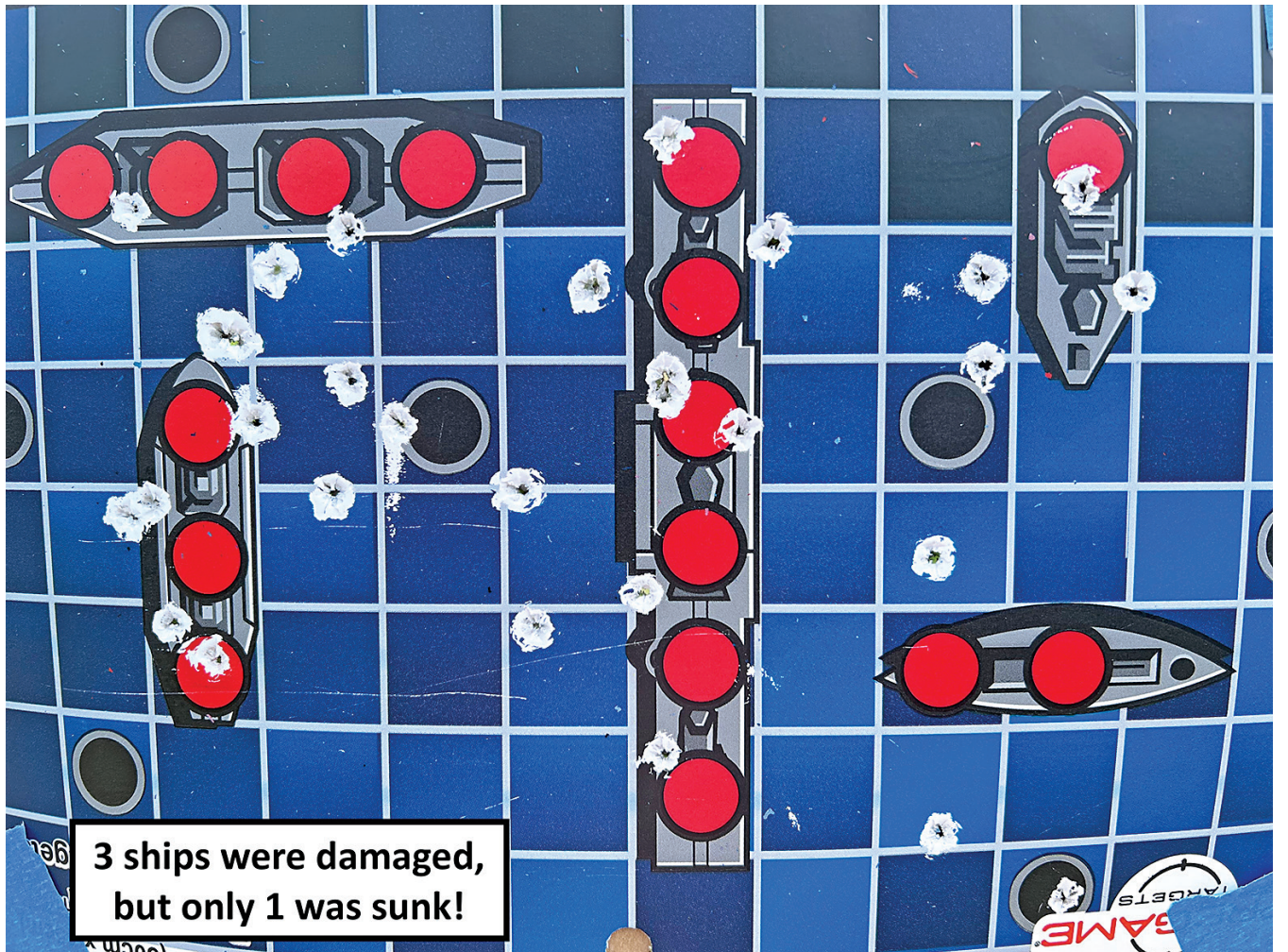
Rona and Wilson are also mature shooters, and are happy to shoot Battleship with us. Rona has a Walther and Wilson has a Buckmark. It will be interesting to see the results of shooting four different handguns: all .22s.

The four of us plan to shoot 26 rounds each into the targets.

This is going to be fun. These .22s don't have much recoil. Not like the 9mm guns of last week. They will make the difference. No 9mm, just the long-barreled target-shooting 22s. We'll be outdoors and we'll improve our hand/eye coordination. We'll do so much better than we did last week. Rona and Wilson won't have any problem shooting at their targets either. They practice fairly regularly with their familiar guns.

The Battleship targets have 1 to 5 circles in each group and they are on a blue-checked background. Inspecting these targets more closely, I realize that those circles are really quite small. Barely an inch in diameter.

Back at the shooting bench, I squint. Even though the target is in the closest position at about 21 feet from the



shooting position, I can barely make out the little red circles. At least they're easier to see than the green circles on Joe's target.

"The circles," explains Joe, "denote boats. Our targets have one circle representing a gunboat, two circles which are submarines, three circles are destroyers, four circles are cruisers, and the five-circle grouping is the carrier."

"This is how it works," he continues. "You pick a boat, and shoot a hole into all the circles of the boat. When you've 'sunk' one boat, go on to the next until you have sunken all my ships. Since my K-22 is a revolver and can carry six shots, I'll just continue filling it until I've shot 26 times. We'll shoot our each other's boats until they are all sunk, or until we've shot the 26 times."

"Remember," he says to me, "your Ruger has very little recoil. The barrel is one-half inch shorter than my K-22, but they weigh about the same. And now you've put on a green reflex sight on your Ruger.

It'll be close to an even match. Really. You can go first."

It has truly been some time since I've shot the Ruger. It holds 10 rounds in its magazine, so I fill two magazines and put six rounds into a third magazine. Funny, but the gun seems heavier than I remember.

With some serious squinching, I hone in on one of those itty-bitty red circles.

Bang! Bang! I keep shooting until all my mags are empty. I look out to the target which is just those 21 feet away. Strange. Not many of the red dots seem to show that they've been struck.

Joe fills his K-22 and will continue filling it until he shoots 26 rounds as well.

"You've got an advantage," he complains again. "You have a green dot reflex sight on your Ruger."

"True," I return. Not at all feeling competitive, right? "But you've had your gun for decades and decades. And it has a longer barrel. That's your advantage."

He shoots. Bang! I keep listening as he shoots all his 26 rounds. Finally, Joe is out of ammunition.

He lowers his K-22 and gazes at my target. "What'd you get?" he asks.

I pick up binoculars to see the unharmed green circles on his target. "My" boats are still alive in the water.

Then I look at my mostly pristine target. Joe's boats are still safe in the water too. Drat.

We hear that Rona and Wilson have stopped shooting also.

We call "cold" and Rona calls "cold" back at us. Nodding in agreement, we all trudge downrange toward our targets.

"Remember," calls Joe to them, "if your shot even touches the black rimming on the red or green circles, it counts."

We begin counting our strikes.

"If one shot touches the rim of two circles at the same time, is that one hit or two?" asks Rona.

Joe thinks for a moment. "That counts as two hits." He turns to me. "We need all the hits we

can tally."

We walk from target to target. It's depressing. I look at Rona and Wilson and think, "They used to be better shooters too!" But I don't say that aloud.

Ah, well. So what if we don't shoot so well as we did 7 years ago? We're at the range with friends. The sun is shining and a light breeze is blowing. It's not too hot yet and we have time for practicing some more before lunch.

Lunch!

We all perk up as we agree on a place for lunch. When we get there, we sit down and catch up on what we've been doing for the last month or so. We discuss family members, and trips we're planning. But we don't say much about our little shooting competition.

"Sometimes," Joe says, bringing that subject to a conclusion, "it's just not the right day for shooting."

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



#### SAND DOLLAR

(*Mellita quinquiesperforata*)

The sand dollar lives most of its life party buried in sand in coastal regions from Virginia to Brazil. They burrow through the sand eating tiny crustaceans and sea mites and leaving others behind such as nematodes. A relative of sea urchins and sea stars its underside is covered with tiny hairs that it uses to move. Thousands, all of one size exist in a single beach. They spawn in summer.

Eukarya, Animalia, Echinodermata, Echinodermata, Echinoidea, Clypeasteroidea, Mellitidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory  
www.gulfspecimen.com

#### WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

Retired park ranger Bob Thompson was back on the water for his weekly survey of Wakulla Springs, and took this photo of an anhinga.



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# Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

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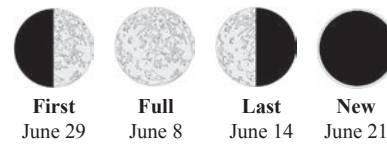


## Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

May 28 - June 3



Tide charts by  
tides4fishing.com



Best fishing days this month  
Best fishing day(s) is in the center of date ranges.  
May 29 - June 3

Thursday 28	
Sun rise/set 6:37 AM 8:31 PM	Moon rise/set 6:26 PM 4:33 AM
Moon Illumination 93%	
Friday 29	
Sun rise/set 6:37 AM 8:32 PM	Moon rise/set 7:24 PM 5:06 AM
Moon Illumination 97%	
Saturday 30	
Sun rise/set 6:36 AM 8:32 PM	Moon rise/set - 5:43 AM
Moon Illumination 100%	
Sunday 31	
Sun rise/set 6:36 AM 8:33 PM	Moon rise/set 8:21 PM 6:25 AM
Moon Illumination 100%	
Monday 1	
Sun rise/set 6:36 AM 8:33 PM	Moon rise/set 9:17 PM 7:13 AM
Moon Illumination 98%	
Tuesday 2	
Sun rise/set 6:36 AM 8:34 PM	Moon rise/set 10:09 PM 8:06 AM
Moon Illumination 95%	
Wednesday 3	
Sun rise/set 6:35 AM 8:34 PM	Moon rise/set 10:56 PM 9:02 AM
Moon Illumination 90%	

For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings:  
 Carrabelle 28 Min. High Tide 25 Min. Low Tide  
 Apalachicola 1 Hr., 53 Min. 2 Hrs., 38 Min.  
 Cat Point 1 Hr., 13 Min. 2 Hrs., 31 Min.  
 Lower Anchorage 1 Hr., 36 Min. 2 Hrs., 3 Min.  
 West Pass 1 Hr., 26 Min. 2 Hrs., 39 Min.

### St. Marks River Entrance

Th	1:41 am ▲ 2.9 ft	6:38 am ▼ 1.7 ft	12:49 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	7:55 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Fr	2:21 am ▲ 3.0 ft	7:13 am ▼ 1.8 ft	1:22 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	8:33 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Sa	2:56 am ▲ 3.0 ft	7:47 am ▼ 1.7 ft	1:53 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:09 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Su	3:30 am ▲ 3.1 ft	8:21 am ▼ 1.7 ft	2:24 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:44 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Mo	4:04 am ▲ 3.1 ft	8:55 am ▼ 1.7 ft	2:54 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	10:17 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	4:39 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:31 am ▼ 1.6 ft	3:25 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	10:50 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	5:16 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:08 am ▼ 1.7 ft	3:57 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	11:23 pm ▼ -0.2 ft

### City of St. Marks

Th	2:17 am ▲ 2.7 ft	7:42 am ▼ 1.6 ft	1:25 pm ▲ 3.3 ft	8:59 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Fr	2:57 am ▲ 2.7 ft	8:17 am ▼ 1.6 ft	1:58 pm ▲ 3.4 ft	9:37 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Sa	3:32 am ▲ 2.8 ft	8:51 am ▼ 1.6 ft	2:29 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	10:13 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Su	4:06 am ▲ 2.9 ft	9:25 am ▼ 1.5 ft	3:00 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	10:48 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Mo	4:40 am ▲ 2.9 ft	9:59 am ▼ 1.5 ft	3:30 pm ▲ 3.6 ft	11:21 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	5:15 am ▲ 2.9 ft	10:35 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:01 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	11:54 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	5:52 am ▲ 2.9 ft	11:12 am ▼ 1.5 ft	4:33 pm ▲ 3.5 ft	

### Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	1:59 am ▲ 3.1 ft	7:04 am ▼ 1.8 ft	1:01 pm ▲ 3.7 ft	8:12 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Fr	2:40 am ▲ 3.2 ft	7:37 am ▼ 1.9 ft	1:31 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	8:49 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Sa	3:17 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:08 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:00 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	9:26 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Su	3:52 am ▲ 3.2 ft	8:39 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:28 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	10:01 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Mo	4:28 am ▲ 3.2 ft	9:10 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:58 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	10:36 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	5:03 am ▲ 3.1 ft	9:43 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:30 pm ▲ 3.9 ft	11:10 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	5:40 am ▲ 3.1 ft	10:20 am ▼ 1.9 ft	4:04 pm ▲ 3.8 ft	11:44 pm ▼ -0.1 ft

### Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	1:33 am ▲ 2.1 ft	6:49 am ▼ 1.3 ft	12:41 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	8:06 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Fr	2:13 am ▲ 2.2 ft	7:24 am ▼ 1.3 ft	1:14 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	8:44 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Sa	2:48 am ▲ 2.3 ft	7:58 am ▼ 1.3 ft	1:45 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	9:20 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Su	3:22 am ▲ 2.3 ft	8:32 am ▼ 1.2 ft	2:16 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	9:55 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Mo	3:56 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:06 am ▼ 1.2 ft	2:46 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	10:28 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Tu	4:31 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:42 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:17 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	11:01 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	5:08 am ▲ 2.3 ft	10:19 am ▼ 1.2 ft	3:49 pm ▲ 2.8 ft	11:34 pm ▼ -0.1 ft

### St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	2:08 am ▲ 2.4 ft	6:55 am ▼ 1.7 ft	12:24 pm ▲ 2.9 ft	7:52 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Fr	2:49 am ▲ 2.5 ft	7:25 am ▼ 1.8 ft	12:51 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	8:25 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Sa	3:24 am ▲ 2.5 ft	7:50 am ▼ 1.8 ft	1:21 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	8:57 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Su	3:56 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:15 am ▼ 1.9 ft	1:52 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	9:30 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Mo	4:29 am ▲ 2.4 ft	8:43 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:27 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:05 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	5:04 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:15 am ▼ 1.8 ft	3:04 pm ▲ 3.1 ft	10:42 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	5:42 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:54 am ▼ 1.8 ft	3:43 pm ▲ 3.0 ft	11:20 pm ▼ -0.1 ft

### Dog Island West End

Th	2:51 am ▲ 2.1 ft	7:19 am ▼ 1.7 ft	12:11 pm ▲ 2.5 ft	8:07 pm ▼ -0.1 ft
Fr	3:31 am ▲ 2.2 ft	7:55 am ▼ 1.8 ft	12:46 pm ▲ 2.6 ft	8:36 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
Sa	4:06 am ▲ 2.3 ft	8:22 am ▼ 1.8 ft	1:24 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	9:06 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Su	4:41 am ▲ 2.3 ft	8:46 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:02 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	9:37 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Mo	5:15 am ▲ 2.3 ft	9:09 am ▼ 1.9 ft	2:38 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:12 pm ▼ -0.3 ft
Tu	5:48 am ▲ 2.2 ft	9:34 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:15 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	10:52 pm ▼ -0.2 ft
We	6:20 am ▲ 2.2 ft	10:06 am ▼ 1.9 ft	3:52 pm ▲ 2.7 ft	11:33 pm ▼ -0.1 ft

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

## BIRDING AT THE REFUGE

# Mid-May at the refuge

By DON MORROW

It is the second half of May at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. Our winter birds have left. Migration – the cool part with warblers, tanagers and grosbeaks – is over, but shorebirds are continuing to move through in diminishing numbers. Chickadees are feeding young at the Double Bridges and the Common Gallinules at Headquarters Pond are beginning their second broods.

Buttonbush, elderberry and wild rose are in full flower. Clumps of orange lantern along the levees are attracting pollinators: Queens, Monarchs, Black Swallowtails, skipper, bumblebees and solitary bees. They are also a good place to watch for Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Swamp dogwood and poison ivy have finished blooming for the year. The dogwood fruit matures quickly and will provide summer food for vireos and woodpeckers. Poison ivy fruit ripens slowly and will feed kinglets, sapsuckers and Yellow-rumped Warblers when they return.

When I arrived at the refuge on Wednesday, Chuck-wills-

Widows were calling and pig frogs were grunting from out in the marshes where Common Nighthawks were silently gliding. The sun rises early in late May and I had little time to get out to the end of Stony Bayou 2. A lone Wood Duck was sitting on a cypress branch as the sun rose and I began a shorebird survey.

Each shorebird year follows a similar pattern with minor variations. Our wintering shorebird numbers and spring migration numbers have been robust, but are now going through their seasonal drop as the last of the wintering Dunlin leave and trans-migrants finish moving through. I found only 110 Dunlin on the refuge. At their winter high, there were almost 4,000.

The remaining shorebird migrants moving through were mainly Semipalmated Sandpipers. May is the peak of their migration period and they represented almost half of the 626 shorebirds that I saw. There were also Least Sandpipers, Spotted Sandpipers, Whimbrels, Semipalmated Plovers, Black-bellied Plovers, and Short-billed Dowitchers. About half of

the black-bellies and short-bills were in winter plumage, indicating that they are yearling birds that will remain at the refuge for their first summer.

The refuge has shorebirds that breed on the interior ponds; Wilson's Plover, Black-necked Stilt, Willet and Killdeer. One of the continuing effects of the drought is a thick growth of grasses on the mudflats, which can make it hard to see shorebirds. However, Wilson's Plovers can be found on Stony Bayou 1 and Tower Pond. Stilts are easily seen on Mounds Pool 3 and East River Pool. Willets lurk everywhere and I had a pair of Killdeer on Stony Bayou 2 that I suspect are breeding there.

Barn Swallow numbers seem low at the refuge this year. They are not breeding at several of their

usual sites. Least Tern numbers also seem low with most having moved over to Mounds Pool 3 and, just generally, bird numbers seem a little low, possibly due to the drought. However, I managed to log seventy-five species at the refuge during my survey trip.

St. Marks is drifting into summer with its heat, humidity and, hopefully, thunderstorms. Summer mornings at the refuge are incredibly beautiful, but they are an ephemeral quantity and dissipate with the mid-morning heat. You must adapt to the rhythm of the day to experience them.

Set an alarm, get up early and come down to the refuge. There is much to see here.

Don Morrow can be contacted at donaldcmorrow@gmail.com

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## Underwater Wakulla

By Gregg Stanton

A change in the season.

September 13, 2012

The cooler weather is a welcome change that marks more than just the end of our summer. The beginning of the school year also marks a change in the rhythm of our culture. Parents, now distracted by the demands of a new school year, are no longer thinking about going to the beach, diving or fishing. By the end of August, customer traffic at Wakulla Diving Center has dropped from 20 to 4 a day.

By the end of September, our cave diving community will have replaced the ocean focus folks, especially this year with the much anticipated opening of the springs of Wakulla Springs State Park. This enthusiasm brought Steve Cushman from Texas to open Cave Connections, a dedicated cave diving store just to the west of Indian Springs on Rt 267. The National Speleological Society's Cave Diving Section scheduled their national conference at Wakulla High School this year! Folks from across Europe have been planning their diving vacations in anticipation of this great opportunity.

Only, one small detail was omitted. The State of Florida said no, go away, we don't want your business in Wakulla County.

So, we will continue to truck our customers out of the county to spend their funds in Jackson, Lafayette, Suwannee, and counties to the south who have recognized the value of this community. I don't know what the new dive store will do. I suspect the NSS-CDS may reschedule their conference of 300 people elsewhere in the state.

We are now digging in for a series of in-house projects to expand alternative diving opportunities, such as travel to other counties, off shore ventures, and even more rebreather stuff. The national diving front is an alternate arena we are now free to pursue. Next summer will come soon enough.

And please don't talk to me about jobs or the economic needs of our county. I just don't think we care.

**Editor's Note: This is a repeat of a column from 2012.**



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## Be encouraged: This is not your ‘forever’



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Years ago, when I was in and out of mental hospitals, Millie, a kind nurse, cared for me. When I was discharged after a nine-month stay, she and her husband,

Paul, reached out and encouraged me to begin memorizing God’s Word. During this very difficult season of my life, I began writing verses on index cards – and fell in love with God on a deeper and deeper level. I also grew to love God’s Word! Scripture calmed me. It gave me peace and hope. Eventually, it gave me stability. The more I recognized how holy, righteous and wise God was, the more I trusted His sovereignty (His ultimate control over my life).

Are you in the middle of a spiritual battle or a difficult trial? Be encouraged: This is not your “forever,” even though it feels like it is. When I spent those years in and out of mental hospitals (I was even told by professionals that I’d never get better), I felt as if my life would never change. Like I was stuck in a “forever” situation. When we, or someone we’re praying for, are in that “forever” spot, something happens when we pray as if we truly believe God’s Word. That He is

powerful. Good. Wise. Holy. Sovereign. And that this powerful, good, wise, holy, sovereign God ... loves ... us. And loves the people on our prayer list. Proverbs 9:10 (ESV) says, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.” Pause for a moment and imagine life for those who don’t know Christ... those who don’t fear God. They have no anchor for truth, wisdom or hope. How does this per-

spective deepen your gratitude for God’s Word? His sovereignty? Consider how a reverent fear of God protects us. The fear of God is the beginning of – the starting point – of knowing right from wrong. Growing in the knowledge of God provides the insight we need in our “forever” situation. After I came to revere and know God on a deeper level, I was better able to submit my life, my will and even my emotions to a loving, holy, wise and sovereign God ... and was set free from major

depression. Let’s pray: Every time we read Your Word, Lord, whenever we enter into worship, every time we pray ... may we picture ourselves at Your throne of grace, kneeling, fully aware of Your goodness, Your majesty, Your sovereignty ... present and intervening in our “forever” situation. *Sheryl H. Boldt is a sales executive for Wave 94 and author of the blog, www.TodayCanBe-Different.net. Connect with her at SherylHBoldt.Wave94@gmail.com.*

## The voices we feed



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

If I had the proverbial nickel for every time Mom said, “You’ve got the same britches to get glad in,” or, “You and your brother will sit in that corner until you decide to get along,” I would be a wealthy woman today. Then there was one of her favorites: “God gave you two good hands and a clear mind. If you’re bored, that’s

your choice.” And with that she would hand me a bucket of peas to shell, laundry to fold, or some other task she believed would improve both my attitude and my character. Mom did not allow much room for idle complaining or bad attitudes. Somewhere along the way she taught us that choices were not limited to the things we did. We also chose what kind of thoughts we allowed to settle into our hearts and minds. I suppose the lessons of our youth eventually settle into our adult lives as we learn what kind of paths we will choose to follow. Over the years I have discovered that whatever voices we lis-

ten to become the voices that shape our hearts. When we focus on forgiveness, then forgiveness becomes easier to offer. But when we continually dwell on anger or unforgiveness, those things slowly shape the spirit of our lives, defining the way we respond to life and to others. Scripture has long reminded us that the condition of the heart shapes the condition of life. Even the Apostle Paul openly admitted the struggle in his own life in Romans 7, describing the conflict between the good he desired and the thoughts that sometimes pulled him in another direction. Perhaps that is why we must be careful what voices we allow to

settle within us, for over time those thoughts shape both our spirit and our actions. In Genesis 4, Cain allowed anger and jealousy to grow until they eventually consumed his life. Yet Cain’s choices did not affect Cain alone. Rage grew from his anger. Abel lost his life, and Adam and Eve lost both of their sons that day—one to death and the other to separation. God had warned Cain that sin was crouching at the door, but Cain continued feeding the wrong voice. Still, in the Book of Ruth, we see that Naomi chose a different path. After losing her husband and her sons, she once cried, ‘Call me Mara,’ which means bitterness.

Her grief was real, and her pain was deep. But Naomi did not remain there. She returned to the place where her faith had first taken root. She returned home, surrounded herself with her people once again, and little by little hope began growing where bitterness had once lived. Ruth remained beside her, Boaz entered the story, and ultimately Naomi held her grandson Obed in her arms as joy slowly returned to her life. Looking back now, I realize Mom was teaching us far more than how to stop complaining or stay busy. She was teaching us that the things we continually allow to settle into our hearts and minds will

eventually shape the direction of our lives. Little by little those thoughts shape the spirit in our being and influence the paths we choose to follow. Thankfully, God continually calls us back toward faith, hope, forgiveness, and peace. And with the help of our Heavenly Father, we can choose to feed the voice of His Spirit. Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God (Psalm 42:5). *Cheryl Mixon-Cruce is Pastor of Ochlockonee Bay United Methodist Church and Sopchoppy United Methodist Church.*

### OUT TO PASTOR

## What if I don’t want to act my age?



By **JAMES SNYDER**

Throughout my life, I have often heard people telling other people what they should be or do. I do not know where they get the right to say that about other people. I first encountered this attitude with my mother. She would often say to me, “Son, you need to start acting your age.” At the time, I did not know what she really meant by that. As far back as I can remember, I have never had any thespian ambitions. From the day I was born, I was always the real me. I never acted like something I was not. How could my mother look at me and tell me to start acting my age? If anyone should know how old I was, it would be her. I had a hard time handling that until I went to school. At school, I did not know any other kids who were acting their age. Maybe they did not have a mother like mine. I lived with it but could never act my age. By the time I figured out my age and learned how to act it, I had another

birthday, which pushed me beyond that aspiration. When do you stop aging so that you can learn how to act your age? When I left home, I got married, and The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage seemed to have the same kind of ideas as my mother. Too often she would say, “Why don’t you just act your age?” The first time she said that to me, I was quite stunned. I don’t know how to do all of this acting. I can act like a fool, and I know how to do that quite well. But I don’t know how to act my age because I don’t know what my age is today. I do know that by the time I understand my age, I’ll have another birthday, and I’ll have to start the process all over again. In all my years, I have never had any thespian training. I wouldn’t even know where to start with that sort of thing. Once, when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, “Why don’t you just act your age?” I responded, “If you can give me the script I’ll study it so that I can act my age.” The look she gave me was well worth my comeback. But it is true. If I’m going to act my age, I need to have the script, but where do I find that script? I had one concern:

what if she gave me a script and I had to follow it? So far, she hasn’t given me a script, so, fortunately, I will not have to act my age. Recently, I was at the mall for some shopping. After getting my items, I got a cup of coffee and sat down in the middle of the mall. When it comes to shopping, I certainly don’t have the energy. So resting after the shopping is what I do. As I sipped my coffee, I looked around and watched people come and go. And then that question of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage seemed to pop into my head. I looked at the people and thought to myself, “Are they really acting their age?” I watched everyone and asked myself that question about them. I could not find anyone that afternoon who really knew their age. If they

did know, they certainly were not acting it. The older the person was, the less they acted their age. What if I get up one morning and feel like I’m 25? Do I then need to act my age, which is 25? I’m sure that would not thrill The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. The next morning, I get up feeling like I’m 65. Do I then need to act my age of 65? I’m sure that would not thrill The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. In fact, I don’t think it would thrill me either. I don’t know how to act like I’m limping. Instead of acting my age, why can’t I live my age? The problem with both sides is that we cannot define age. Age is not a number, so they tell us. Embracing who I am feels more genuine than conforming to societal norms. If I lined up 10 people

who are 25, each would act differently from the others. They would all be different, so how can I act my age when I really don’t understand what my age is? Fifteen years ago, on my 60th birthday, I made a resolution to myself that I would have no more birthdays. At 60, I was all I needed to be. I don’t need any more age to define myself. If I don’t know who or what I am at 60, I will never find out. I’ve decided to never act my age because embracing my true self, regardless of societal norms, brings me more happiness and freedom than conforming ever could. The great challenge of

life for me is always to be true, and it’s not always easy. In reflecting on this, I was reminded of a verse of scripture. “Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight” (Proverbs 12:22). Pondering this verse, I believe my main objective in life is to delight God and not yield to the demands of anybody else. *Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com.*

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# Obituaries

## DEATH NOTICES

- **Omer Allbaugh**, 73, of Crawfordville, died May 24, 2026.
- **Thomas Jordan Brown**, 39, of Sopchoppy, died May 22, 2026.

- **Anniedia Daws**, 88, of Woodville, died May 25, 2026.
- **James Hall**, 84, of Crawfordville, died May 23, 2026.
- **Duane Wallace Simmons**, 101, of Carrabelle, died May 18, 2026.

- **Larry Thompson**, 77, of Sopchoppy, died May 22, 2026.
- Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com.

## WEEKLY ROUNDUP: State budget in limbo

By **JIM TURNER**  
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE— Gov. Ron DeSantis still isn't fully on board with cutting the state gas tax to counter mounting fuel prices.

But as legislative budget leaders head into the Memorial Day weekend having spent the past week of the special session quietly behind closed doors, DeSantis said Friday he'd sign a tax package that includes a reduction in the state's 22-cent-a-gallon gas tax.

"If they put it in the tax package, I'll happily sign it," DeSantis said during a bill signing event in Jacksonville.

### BUDGET BATTLES

DeSantis' comment on a potential portion of the tax package was more than budget negotiators had said most of this week regarding the ongoing talks.

Unresolved issues were tossed to Senate Appropriations Chairman Ed Hooper, R-Trinity, and House Budget Chairman Lawrence McClure, R-Dover, on May 15. They held their first public conference meeting Friday at 4:20 p.m.

"Chair Hooper and I will continue to work on the budget throughout the long weekend," Senate President Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula, advised the Senate Friday afternoon. "At this

time, our goal is to finalize all decisions and lay the budget on the desk by the close of business on Tuesday evening at the latest. Senators should be prepared to return to Tallahassee on Thursday, May 28 to vote on the budget and related bills on Friday, May 29."

Because of a required 72-hour cooling-off period, the budget must be "printed" by Tuesday to get a final vote from the House and Senate on Friday.

The gas tax is an issue raised by Democrats for weeks and comes as President Donald Trump has also suggested Congress suspend the 18-cent-per-gallon federal gas tax.

Yet DeSantis isn't convinced that the change will help as the average gallon of gas in Florida stood at \$4.47 on Friday, 18 cents higher than a week ago and \$1.57 more than on Feb. 28, when the U.S. and Israel began military operations against Iran.

"When we did that last time, I think the Legislature was less than impressed on the results," DeSantis said.

The state lifted the gas tax in 2022 for the month of October, but because of market fluctuations and supply chain pricing, the average savings was about 13 cents per gallon.

### AROUND THE SWAMP

Stuart Bell, who stepped down last summer after a decade as president of the University of Alabama, was announced Monday as the lone finalist to be the University of Florida's next president.

DeSantis was quick to voice support.

"Dr. Bell did much to elevate the University of Alabama when he was the president in Tuscaloosa and I have no doubt that he will help UF reach new heights during his tenure in Gainesville. He is a great selection and has my full support!" DeSantis posted on X on Monday.

But conservatives opposed to diversity, equity and inclusion programs were also quick to take aim at Bell over his past efforts to support DEI initiatives at the Tuscaloosa school.

John Sailer, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, was among those leading the crusade against Bell. His postings on X derided Bell's "dismal record at Alabama" as not reassuring for those hoping for "continued and deeper reform at the University of Florida."

Meanwhile, DeSantis' predecessor, Rick Scott, now a U.S. Senator, also raised questions about the selection.

Scott wrote State University System Chancellor Ray Rodrigues about the search process that produced just

a single finalist, as well as the school's contract with Donald Landry, who served as interim president since September.

Landry's contract provided an annual base salary of \$2 million and included the potential for another \$2 million in severance if he didn't get the permanent job as president.

"Frankly, what is occurring at UF sounds like something we would see coming out of states like California or New York," Scott wrote.

Scott also took aim at Attorney General James Uthmeier's \$100,000 contract to teach at UF's Levin College of Law. The letter included a request for all contracts involving the hiring of elected officials or their family members.

### GROUNDING CELEBRATIONS

Floridians were advised this week they might have to celebrate the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary without fireworks if heavy, ground-soaking rains don't soon arrive.

Members of the state Cabinet warned Tuesday they won't hold back on taking legal action against those responsible for blazes that get out of control and affect residential areas as the peak of an already highly active year for wildfires has yet to arrive.

Attorney General

genuinely committed to a long-term relationship. We are proud to be expanding our operations here and look forward to everything we will build together."

— Hoyt Schmidt, Point Blank Enterprises

The Wakulla Economic Development Council is a nonprofit public-private partnership dedicated to creating high-wage job opportunities for the residents of Wakulla County, Florida. The EDC is supported by the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners, NG Wade, and a coalition of local businesses and community partners. Economic development services are provided by Beth Cicchetti and Julie Dennis.

## Point Blank project

From Front Page

in sight. We are a small, rural community that went up against larger, better-resourced competitors and won — because we had the right team, the right relationships, and a community worth fighting for. We are so proud and deeply grateful."

— John Shuff, Wakulla EDC Economic Development President

"This award means the world to me personally, because I know what it represents for the families in our community. For years, we have watched our brightest young people leave Wakulla County to find

opportunity elsewhere — and that has always broken my heart. What we have accomplished with this project is about so much more than a building or a business. It is about giving our kids a reason to stay, giving our families a foundation to build on, and showing this community that its leaders believe in its future. I am so proud of every partner who helped make this happen, and I cannot wait to see what comes next for Wakulla County."

— Commissioner Quincee Messersmith, Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners

"This award reflects

the hard work of an entire community. The Board of County Commissioners is honored to have supported this effort and proud of what Wakulla County has achieved. Three hundred jobs means three hundred families with new opportunities right here at home — and that is what this is all about."

— David Edwards, County Administrator, Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners

"Wakulla County earned this. The community, the partners, and the leadership team demonstrated at every step that they were serious, prepared, and

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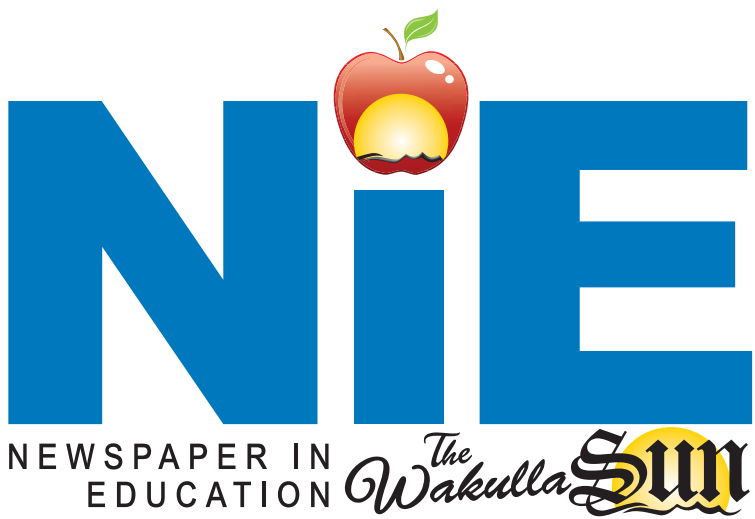
**WEEK:** DeSantis signals he'd sign suspension of state gas tax in tax package.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

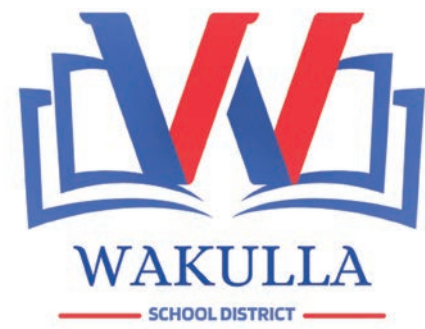
"Have fun. Have a good time. Enjoy some beers over the holidays this summer. But if you're in one of these burn ban counties ... please take this seriously." — Attorney General James Uthmeier during a press conference on drought conditions and wildfires at the Withlacoochee Forestry Training Center in Brooksville.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

**The Sheriff's Report is not appearing this week because of the Memorial Day holiday. It will resume next week.**



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## USE THE NEWS

### 1. FLORIDIANS SEND AID TO CUBA

Many people in Cuba are having a difficult time because there are shortages of food, fuel, and electricity. Some families only have power for a few hours each day, and many people struggle with the heat and darkness during blackouts. Relatives in Florida are sending boxes filled with rice, beans, canned food, flashlights, fans, medicines, and even solar-powered generators to help their loved ones. Some people in Miami work very hard and still spend extra money to support family members in Cuba. Others disagree about whether these shipments help the Cuban government or mainly help ordinary people survive. Even though opinions differ, many families continue helping relatives who are facing hard conditions every day. Imagine one of your family members lives far away and needs help during a difficult time. Create a “care package plan” for them. Draw or list at least five items you would send and explain why each item would be useful. Then write a short paragraph explaining how helping others can make people feel supported even when they live far apart.

### 2. CAVE RESCUE

A cave explorer from Brooklyn became stuck while crawling through a narrow part of a cave in upstate New York. He was trapped deep underground for six hours while his friends and rescue workers tried to free him safely. The cave was cold and damp, and the trapped man began to develop hypothermia, which happens when the body loses too much heat. Rescue teams used ropes, drills, and special tools to remove the rocks trapping him. They even gave him miniature peanut butter cups to help keep up his energy. After several hours of careful work, rescuers finally pulled him free, and he survived without serious injuries. Pretend you are part of a cave rescue team. Design a safety guide for people exploring caves for the first time. Include at least

three important safety rules and explain why each rule matters. You may also add drawings of helpful equipment such as helmets, flashlights, ropes, or warm clothing.

### 3. A TEEN’S MUSEUM

A 15-year-old boy named Luke Morrison started a small military museum in Vermont to honor veterans and preserve their stories. He collects uniforms, medals, boots, photographs, and other items from people who served in wars. Luke also spends time talking with veterans and listening to their memories about friendship, bravery, hardship, and loss. Some veterans

shared difficult experiences from war, while others told stories about helping friends and working together. Luke believes it is important for younger generations to learn from these stories and remember the people who served. His museum helps keep history alive and shows respect for veterans and their families. Think about an older person in your family or community who has interesting memories or experiences. Write five interview questions you would ask them about their life. Then explain why it is important to listen to and preserve stories from older generations.

### 4. CORAL REEFS AND CONCRETE?

Scientists and conservation workers near Pom Pom Island in Malaysia are building artificial coral reefs to help damaged ocean habitats recover. Some coral reefs in the area were destroyed by illegal fishing methods that used homemade explosives. Rising ocean temperatures have also harmed reefs by causing coral bleaching. To help sea life return, workers are placing large concrete reef structures on the ocean floor. Fish, turtles, corals, and other sea creatures have already started gathering around the new reefs. Scientists hope these artificial reefs will give marine animals safe places to live while natural reefs slowly recover. Even though the project is helping, experts say protecting the environment

and reducing pollution are still very important. Create your own “ocean rescue project.” Draw a picture of an underwater habitat that needs help and show how people could protect it. Label at least three sea animals or plants in your picture. Then write a paragraph explaining what problems the habitat faces and how your project could help ocean life recover.

### 5. JELLYFISH MYTHS

Jellyfish are ancient sea creatures that have lived in Earth’s oceans for more than 500 million years. They do not have bones, hearts, or brains, but they can still move and sting using their tentacles. Scientists say jellyfish do not try to sting people on purpose. Most stings

happen when swimmers accidentally touch their tentacles in the water. Experts also say a popular myth is not true: urinating on a jellyfish sting does not help and can sometimes make the pain worse. Instead, doctors recommend rinsing the area with saltwater or vinegar and using ice to reduce swelling. Even jellyfish washed up on the beach can still sting people, so experts warn everyone not to touch them. Make a colorful beach safety poster about jellyfish. Include at least four safety tips people should remember when swimming or walking on the beach. Add drawings and warning signs to help teach younger children how to stay safe around jellyfish.



**Holiday FACT:**

In 2026, the United States will celebrate this big and exciting event on July 4.

Answer: 250th anniversary

### What’s the Difference?

Find the four differences between the two pictures.



Answers: 1. Extra firework burst on left. 2. Missing building back right. 3. Missing light on building at front right. 4. Extra building on skyline



**1812:** France declares war on Russia, starting Napoleon’s invasion.

**1911:** George V and Mary of Teck are crowned King and Queen of the United Kingdom.

**1986:** Diego Maradona scores the famous “Hand of God” goal in the World Cup.



**IGNITE**

to catch fire or to cause to catch fire

**How they say that in...**

**English:** Pop  
**Spanish:** Pum  
**Italian:** Scoppio  
**French:** Bruit  
**German:** Knall

**Did You Know?**

Modern fireworks use metallic salts for color and can reach temperatures 15 times hotter than boiling water.

**Get the PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Fireworks

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- CABINET PAINTING

A NEW LOOK PAINTING

850-926-2400

Open to Serve You

Locally Owned & Operated  
Serving Wakulla & Surrounding Counties Since 1993

Jim Porter & Todd Porter

Member of Chamber of Commerce and the Better Business Bureau

### 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

### NEIGHBORHOOD SALE

May 30th, 2026, 9:00-2:00

GARAGE/ESTATE ANTIQUES/CRAFTS

Home Decor, floral items, purses, Shoes, crystal, accessories, paintings, Inlaid wood furniture, 1860's Melodeon, Music box with metal disks, crank, Decanters, knives, pottery, Classical Albums, music, books, jewelry.

River Plantation Estates  
River Plantation Road  
Off East Shadeville Rd.  
Crawfordville, FL 32327  
Wakulla Co.

### 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

### FOR RENT/SALE

BUILDING For RENT OR SALE

1138 Coastal Hwy. \$750/Mo. - \$750. Dep. Negotiable. Living quarters will need fixing up.

Panacea 850-228-0313  
Text or leave message

### 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, VHI Holdings LLC, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

**DOCUSSENTIALS**

Located at 135 Dickson Bay Road Panacea FL 32346  
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 May 28, 2026

### 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, VHI Holdings LLC, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

**VHI ADVISORY**

Located at 135 Dickson Bay Road Panacea FL 32346  
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 May 28, 2026

### 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, VHI Holdings LLC, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

**VHI LABS**

Located at 135 Dickson Bay Road Panacea FL 32346  
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 May 28, 2026

### 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, VHI Holdings LLC, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

**VHI VENTURES**

Located at 135 Dickson Bay Road Panacea FL 32346  
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 May 28, 2026

### NOTICE OF SALE

0528-0604 TWS NOS


NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO SECTION 328.17 NON-JUDICIAL SALE OF VESSELS:

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 328.17 Non-Judicial Sale of Vessels, that Sembler's Marina will hold a sealed bid on June 15th, 2026 at 10:00 AM at 28 Lynn Circle, St. Marks, FL. Vessel will go to highest cash bidder, with a minimum bid of \$2,200.00. Vessel will be sold as-is and must be removed by the buyer immediately following the sale. Arrangements for removal should be made prior to start of auction.


Morgan Sailboat, Registration number: FL 1110 CJ, HIN: None, Owner: Robert Ray.

For more information, call (850) 925-6083

May 28, June 4, 2026



**Gene Lambert**  
Agency Manager



**FARM BUREAU INSURANCE**  
of Wakulla County

(850) 926-3425  
GENE.LAMBERT@FFBIC.COM

2468 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327

### NOTICE OF SALE

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

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Case No.: 25000026CAAXMX PLAINTIFF,  
V.  
BRIAN BONISLAWSKY; KIMBERLY BONISLAWSKY; BRIAN BONISLAWSKY, AS TRUSTEE OF THE JOSEPHS. BONISLAWSKY, III TRUST U/W DTD 11/23/2005; BRIAN BONISLAWSKY, AS BENEFICIARY OF THE OF THE JOSEPHS. 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 June 25, 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.

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.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said court at Wakulla County, Florida 19th day of May, 2026.

{{County Court Seal}}

Greg James

As Clerk of the Court

Wakulla County, Florida

By: /s/ Rachel Howard

As Deputy Clerk



May 28, June 4, 2026

### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

0528-0604 TWS NOFS

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

MOVEMENT MORTGAGE, LLC, CASE NO. 25000095CAAXMX Plaintiff,  
vs.  
EMANUEL JULIAN ROMAN; JESSICA A. ROMAN; FIFTH THIRD BANK, N.A.; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF EMANUEL WLIAN ROMAN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JESSICA A. ROMAN, Defendants

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment entered in the above styled cause NOTICE OF SALE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on May 4, 2026 in Case No. 25000095CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit, in and for Wakulla County, Florida, wherein MOVEMENT MORTGAGE, LLC is Plaintiff and EMANUEL JULIAN ROMAN; JESSICA A. ROMAN; FIFTH THIRD BANK, N.A.; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF EMANUEL JULIAN ROMAN; and UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JESSICA A. ROMAN are Defendants, the Office of Greg James, Wakulla County Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on the first floor in the Courthouse lobby at 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327, beginning at 11:00 a.m. on the 25th day of June, 2026, in accordance with Section 45.031(10), Florida Statutes, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

A PART OF LOT 1, BOYNTON ESTATES, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 22 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 1 AND THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SAID LOT 1 A DISTANCE OF 30.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY OF A 60.00 FOOT ROADWAY, THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 35 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY 7.14 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 35 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY 120.00 FEET TO A SET IRON ROD AND CAP LB# 4923; THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST, 294.96 FEET TO A SET IRON ROD AND CAP LB# 4923; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 35 SECONDS WEST, 120.00 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT, THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST, 295.10 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SITUATE LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA. MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY RECENT SURVEY DATED SEPTEMBER 20, 2005 AND PREPARED BY THURMAN RODDENBERRY AND ASSOCIATES INC., JOB #05-748 AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1, BOYNTON ESTATES, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 22 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA AND THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SAID LOT 1 A DISTANCE OF 30.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF WAY BOUNDARY OF WILL ROAD (A 60.00 FOOT COUNTY MAINTAINED ROAD), THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 35 SECONDS EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY BOUNDARY 7.14 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT (MARKED #2919) MARKING THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 35 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY BOUNDARY 119.94 FEET TO AN IRON ROD AND CAP (MARKED #4923) THENCE LEAVING SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY BOUNDARY RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST, 294.95 FEET TO AN IRON ROD AND CAP (MARKED# 4923) THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST, 119.85 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT (MARKED #2919), THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST, 294.94 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 1997 "OAKWOOD" DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME, ID# OW56905A, TITLE #73410140 AND ID #OW56905B, TITLE #73410139.

Also known as: 15 Will Rd, Crawfordville, FL 32327 together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, improvements and fixtures.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus funds from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031.

Dated this 22nd day of May, 2026.

{{County Court Seal}}

Greg James

As Clerk of the Court

By: /s/ Ethan Brown

As Deputy Clerk



May 28, June 4, 2026

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

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

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF:  
SARAH KATHREEN REAKES,  
DECEDENT.  
DIVISION: PROBATE

CASE NO.: 26-CP-73

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the Estate of SARAH KATHREEN REAKES, Deceased, Case No. 26-CP-73 is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of Court, Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of Court, Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's Attorney are set out at the end of this Notice.

ALL CREDITORS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702, FLORIDA STATUTES, WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The Personal Representative or curator has no duty to discover whether property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in sections 732.216-732.228, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under section 732.2211.

The date of first publication of this notice is May 21, 2026.

**Personal Representative:**

Sonny Brown  
18 Twin Lakes Dr.  
Crawfordville, FL 32327

/s/ Sean W. Gellis

SEAN W. GELLIS  
Florida Bar No. 105924  
GELLIS LAW, PLLC  
2931 Crawfordville Hwy  
Crawfordville, FL 32327  
Phone: 561-371-2848  
sean@gellislaw.com

May 21, 28, 2026

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

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF:  
CYNTHIA BROWN SIMMONS,  
DECEASED.  
DIVISION: PROBATE

CASE NO.: 2024 CP 000107

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of Cynthia Brown Simmons, deceased, whose date of death was April 5, 2022, is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 3056 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in ss. 732.216-732.228, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under s. 732.2211, Florida Statutes. The written demand must be filed with the clerk.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is May 21, 2026.

/s/ Andrea Valencia Nelson

Andrea Valencia Nelson, Esq.  
Florida Bar No.: 933260  
Nelson Law Firm, PLC  
3119 Crawfordville Hwy.,  
Crawfordville, Florida 32327  
Telephone: (850) 925-4766  
E-mail Address:  
anelson@nelsonlaw.cc  
Alternate Email: mbrantley@nelsonlaw.cc

**Personal Representative:**

Erika McCarthy

May 21, 28, 2026

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

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF:  
SHANNON PHILLIPS JOINER,  
DECEDENT.  
DIVISION: PROBATE

CASE NO.: 26-CP-69

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the Estate of SHANNON PHILLIPS JOINER, Deceased, Case No. 26-CP-69 is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of Court, Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of Court, Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's Attorney are set out at the end of this Notice.

ALL CREDITORS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702, FLORIDA STATUTES, WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The Personal Representative or curator has no duty to discover whether property held at the time of the decedent's death by the decedent or the decedent's surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in sections 732.216-732.228, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under section 732.2211.

The date of first publication of this notice is May 21, 2026.

**Personal Representative:**

Stacie Phillips  
113 Mysterious Waters Rd.  
Crawfordville, FL 32327

/s/ Sean W. Gellis

SEAN W. GELLIS  
Florida Bar No. 105924  
GELLIS LAW, PLLC  
2931 Crawfordville Hwy  
Crawfordville, FL 32327  
Phone: 561-371-2848  
sean@gellislaw.com

May 21, 28, 2026

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

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

RANDOLPH SMITH,

Case No.: 2025 CA 14

PLAINTIFF,

V.

AKIRBY HOLDINGS, LLC; KATIE WILLIAMS RASHED; JEROME A. HAWKINS; DEL VERNA RUTH HAWKINS HENRY; DOROTHY LEE HAWKINS; ALBERT HAWKINS, JR. DECEASED, ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISES, GRANTEEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST HIM; JOEL R. LAY AND BARBARA N. LAY, DEFENDANTS.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

To: KATIE WILLIAMS RASHED

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT a **Complaint for Access** has been filed on the following property in Wakulla County, Florida:

THE WEST 15 FEET OF THE FOLLOWING PARCEL:

THE SOUTH 8 ACRES OF THE NORTH 40 ACRES OF THE SOUTH-EAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT A CONCRETE MONUMENT MARKING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND THENCE RUN NORTH 01 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 39 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST BOUNDARY OF SAID SOUTHWEST QUARTER 281.46 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT, THENCE RUN WEST 1357.63 FEET TO THE WEST BOUNDARY OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 24, THENCE RUN SOUTH 02 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 31 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID WEST BOUNDARY 281.58 FEET TO A ST. JOE PAPER COMPANY CONCRETE MONUMENT, THENCE RUN EAST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER 1360.73 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING 8.78 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

AND THE SOUTH 15 FEET OF THE FOLLOWING PARCELS:

THE EAST ONE-HALF OF SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SOUTHWEST QUARTER (E 1/2 SE 1/4 SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4) OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, AND CONTAINING FIVE (5) ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

AND

THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 OF SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4) CONTAINING 2.50 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

AND

THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4) OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, CONTAINING 10 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

AND

COMMENCE AT A ST. JOE PAPER COMPANY CONCRETE MONUMENT MARKING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 59 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 23 (AS MONUMENTED) A DISTANCE OF 711.07 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT (MARKED #2919), THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 24 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST 36.82 FEET TO A RE-ROD (MARKED #4261), MARKING THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 24 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST 264.88 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT (MARKED #2919), THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST 699.64 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT (MARKED #2919), THENCE RUN NORTH 88 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 01 SECONDS WEST 308.37 FEET TO A ST. JOE PAPER COMPANY CONCRETE MONUMENT, THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 31 MINUTES 26 SECONDS WEST 612.22 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT (MARKED #1254), THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST 377.29 FEET TO A RE-ROD (MARKED #4261), THENCE RUN EAST 655.92 FEET TO A RE-ROD (MARKED #4261), THENCE RUN SOUTH 328.45 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING 10.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

TOGETHER WITH A 20.00-FOOT-WIDE INGRESS AND EGRESS EASEMENT BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT A ST. JOE PAPER COMPANY CONCRETE MONUMENT MARKING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 23 (AS MONUMENTED) A DISTANCE OF 592.49 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST 1044.62 FEET, THENCE RUN WEST 20.00 FEET TO A RE-ROD (MARKED #4261), THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 21 SECONDS EAST 1044.77 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT (MARKED #1254) LYING ON THE SOUTH BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 23, THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID SOUTH BOUNDARY A DISTANCE OF 20.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Has been filed against you and others, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on JAMES C. THOMPSON, ESQUIRE, SMITH, THOMPSON, SHAW, COLON & POWER, P.A., Plaintiff's attorneys, 3520 Thomasville Road, Fourth Floor, Tallahassee, Florida 32309-3469, no more than thirty (30) days from the first publication date of this Notice of Action, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorneys or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said court at Crawfordville, Florida 30th day of April, 2026.

**County Court Seal**

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



May, 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

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

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, Case No.: 2026CC47  
FSB AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF CFS15 GRANTOR TRUST,,  
PLAINTIFF,

V.

UNKNOWN HEIRS BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEE, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEE, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, HOWARD WILLIAM FRYE, DECEASED, AS AN HEIR TO DOROTHY FRYE AIKJA DOROTHY DISTLER, DECEASED; ET AL., DEFENDANT(S).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

UNKNOWN HEIRS BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEE, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEE, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, HOWARD WILLIAM FRYE, DECEASED, AS AN HEIR TO DOROTHY FRYE A/ KIA DOROTHY DISTLER, DECEASED

93 Stoney Lane Crawfordville, FL 32327

UNKNOWN HEIRS BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEE, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEE, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, CARRIE ANN GARCIA, DECEASED, AS AN HEIR TO SHARON GARCIA, DECEASED, AS AN HEIR TO DOROTHY FRYE A/KIA DOROTHY DISTLER, DECEASED

93 Stoney Lane Crawfordville, FL 32327

UNKNOWN HEIRS BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEE, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEE, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST, SHARON GARCIA, DECEASED, AS AN HEIR TO DOROTHY FRYE A/ KIA DOROTHY DISTLER, DECEASED

93 Stoney Lane Crawfordville, FL 32327

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY FLORIDA AND THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 16 SECONDS WEST 1848.00 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 08 SECONDS EAST 633.00 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST 262.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST 101.00 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 08 SECONDS EAST 431.29 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 16 SECONDS WEST 101.00 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST 431.29 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

CONTAINING 1.00 ACRE, MORE OR LESS.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, to it on Michael C. Coyle, Esq., Storey Law Group, 221 NE Ivanhoe Blvd, Suite 300, Orlando, FL 32804, within 30 days after the first publication, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said court at Wakulla County, Florida 13th day of May, 2026.

**County Court Seal**

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



May 21, 28, 2026

**0528-0618 TWS NOA  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR WAKULLA, FLORIDA  
FAMILY LAW DIVISION**

CASE NO.: 2026 DR 5

TINA GRIER,  
PETITIONER/WIFE,,  
AND

DEREK GRIER,  
RESPONDENT/HUSBAND.

**NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE**

TO: DEREK GRIER  
106 CANTONMENT RD.  
CANTONMENT, FL 32533

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT the Petitioner/Wife Tina Grier's Petition 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 Adam R. Cowhey, Esquire, Petitioners' attorney, whose address is 247 E. 7th Avenue, Tallahassee, Florida 32303, no more than thirty (30) days from the date of first publication of this Notice Of Action, and file the original with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Family Law Division, at 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327 before service on Petitioners' attorney 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 addresses 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 seal of this Court this May 18, 2026.

**County Court Seal**

Greg James  
As Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: /s/ Lindsey Nichols  
As Deputy Clerk



Published May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026

**0528-0618 TWS NOA**

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

MICHAEL THOMAS HADDEN

CASE NO.: 2024 DR 43

Former Husband,

and

DESTINY AMANDA HADDEN,

Former Wife.

DIVISION: FAMILY LAW

**NOTICE OF ACTION FOR MODIFICATION OF TIME-SHARING AND SUPPORT**

TO: DESTINY AMANDA HADDEN

Last Known Address: 107 AVALON DR, HUNTSVILLE, TX 77320

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT an action for Modification of Time-Sharing and Support has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Michael Thomas Hadden, whose address is C/O Jeffery S. Richardson, Esq., 400 Capital Circle SE, #18-134, Tall. FL 32301, on or before June 15, 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 addresses 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.**

Dated May 18, 2026

**County Court Seal**

Greg James  
As Clerk of the Circuit Court  
By: /s/ Lindsey Nichols  
As Deputy Clerk



May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026

**Bill Webster, Attorney***General Law Practice*

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# Wakulla High School's 2026 Graduation



Graduates toss their caps at the completion of the ceremony on Thursday, May 21 at J.D. Jones Stadium.



Valedictorian David Jamarion Davis



Salutatorian Madison Rose Baroody



Smiles, melancholy, and tears from graduates Jazmyn Sammons, Alivia Sample and Julia Ray Sanders.



Class President Aaron Robbins gives opening remarks.

PHOTOS BY GERALD BROWN



Alex Akins leads the students onto the field.



## Law Day

On Friday, the Wakulla County Sheriff Jared Miller hosted the department's annual Law Day at the community center. The event is opportunity to bring together the community over lunch, catered by Posey's



this year, and present awards to some of the agency's employees. This year's Civilian Employee of the Year was Desiree Willis; Communications Employee of the Year was Keara McAnally; William Bennett was Correction Officer of the Year; and Sgt. Wade Wright was Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. County Judge Brian Miller, at left, gave opening remarks and noted that working law enforcement in Wakulla is different from a big city: Deputies see people they've arrested at the rec park. Judge Miller said he's seen people who've been before him in court at the Walmart. The judge praised the service of those at the sheriff's office, and noted when he first started as Wakulla's chief prosecutor for the state attorney's office, he had read Luke 12, which includes the line: 'For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.'

(Photos by Lynda Kinsey)

Good Through 2026- Limited to 30 families.

# SWIM this Summer

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**FAMILY SWIMMING POOL MEMBERSHIPS \$500**  
Per Family Membership plus \$10. per guest

**3874 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville**



**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 Edgier, Poole Road  
Crawfordville, FL 32327  
www.FWMA.org  
363-2351



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