The Wakulla Sun

"It's a New Day"

Locally Owned & Operated

$1 One Section

Our 5th Year 35th Issue
Thursday, August 27, 2026

War Eagles beat Gadsden/ Page 18

WAKULLA WeatherSTEM
Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms
Hi: 86° Lo: 74° 61%	Hi: 86° Lo: 74° 72%	Hi: 86° Lo: 73° 74%
Sunrise 7:11 AM Sunset 8:05 PM	Sunrise 7:12 AM Sunset 8:04 PM	Sunrise 7:13 AM Sunset 8:03 PM

If Amendment 3 passes...

County puts out 172-page plan on how it will cut services

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The county administration released a plan last week that looks at how the county government would reduce costs if Amendment 3 passes in November.

Amendment 3 is the property tax plan proposed by the state Legislature that would increase Homestead Exemption from $50,000 to $150,000 in 2027 and to $250,000 the following year.

The proposal would have devastating consequences on Wakulla County's budget, which is dependent on property taxes to pay for general services. The county anticipates a $5.5 million impact to revenues the first year.

How County Administrator David Edwards and Assistant Administrator Somer Pell propose to deal with this was outlined in a 172-page report released on Thursday, Aug. 20, just before noon.

"As a fiscally constrained county, careful long-term planning is essential," according to a press release announcing the plan. "This plan reflects the County's commitment to fiscal responsibility as we prepare for potential changes in available resources. Opportunities for public engagement to be announced shortly."

The press release notes that the priority is to "protect mandated services that the County is required by state or federal law" over services that are authorized by law but not required.

The highest priority, the plan states, is to protect public safety – through the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office and Wakulla Fire Rescue and other services.

Some "amenity services," while they "significantly enhance the community," would be reduced to focus on core government services.

To that end, the county would have a hiring freeze and seek to achieve reductions in staff through attrition.

• It's proposed that the public library would be reduced to four days a week, and programs reduced.

• The Veterans Service Officer position, currently part-time, would be cut and seek to outsource that role to the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars, with $10,000 from the

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAMPION

Hoyt Schmidt of Point Blank

The Wakulla Economic Development Council honored Hoyt Schmidt of Point Blank Enterprises with the Economic Development Champion award. The company, which manufactures body armor, will open a plant in Opportunity Park using $21.5 million in grant money, and has committed to create 300 jobs paying more than $50,000 a year. The event was held Thursday, Aug. 20 at Wakulla Springs Lodge. Quincee Messersmith was MC, Schmidt's wife, EDC president John Shuff, and EDC coordinators Beth Chichetti and Julie Dennis. (Photo by William Snowden)

Mike Kemp files federal lawsuit against detective

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

Former County Commissioner Mike Kemp filed a federal lawsuit last week against the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office and named individually Wakulla Detective Chris Ormerod, claiming the detective was biased in his investigation that led to two felony criminal charges against Kemp.

Retired major with the Wakulla sheriff's office and former County Commissioner Mike Kemp

Kemp was charged with using a public record to harass and tampering with a witness, both felonies, for providing the voter ID of a Wakulla resident to the administrator of Wakulla Citizens Page as they sought to identify an anonymous troll known by the name "Thunder Lightening" (sic) who was highly critical of them.

A third person, Deputy Don Newsome, was charged with aiding Kemp by providing information.

Kemp's lawsuit, filed by attorney Anthony Sabatini, a former representative at the Florida House, claims that Detective Ormerod was out to get Kemp, and that his investigation of the matter was biased against Kemp.

The lawsuit claims Kemp was falsely arrested without probable cause by Detective Ormerod and the sheriff's office "in response to his political expression and discussion of information connected to a public political dispute."

The lawsuit also claims that Kemp's status as a reserve deputy with the agency was excul-

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Fire Chief Lamarche will retire

Special to The Sun

Wakulla County Fire Chief Louis Lamarche has announced his plans to retire in June 2027, concluding a distinguished career in public safety that began more than two decades ago and has been marked by steady leadership, operational improvements, and an unwavering commitment to the residents of Wakulla County.

Fire Chief Louis Lamarche in a file photo from September 2024 when he was featured in the Wakulla Neighbor.

Chief Lamarche began his career in fire and emergency medical services after completing his Firefighter education at Chipola College. He went on to earn certifications as a Fire Officer I and II and as a Fire Training Instructor through Gulf Coast Community College.

Prior to joining Wakulla County Fire Rescue in 2007, Chief Lamarche served with the Lynn Haven Fire Department in Bay County. During his career with Wakulla County, he continued his professional development and earned his Paramedic certification through North Florida College. He also served for four years as a PRN EMT and Paramedic with Franklin County EMS, gaining additional experience in emergency medical services.

In 2016, Chief Lamarche was appointed Fire Chief of Wakulla County Fire Rescue. Since that time, he has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of the citizens of Wakulla County. Throughout his tenure, he has remained dedicated to strengthening the department, developing its personnel, and meeting the evolving public safety needs of the community.

"Under Chief Lamarche's leadership, Wakulla County Fire Rescue grew from a small rural operation into one of the premier first responder agencies in the State of Florida." said County Administrator David Edwards. "His professionalism, integrity, and steadfast dedication to our community and the men and women of Wakulla County Fire Rescue has been exemplary. His departure will be a significant loss to us."

Throughout his tenure, Chief Lamarche has been a valued local leader focused on building a modern, integrated fire-rescue system that delivers both advanced life support and fire suppression as part of a unified emergency response system. Under his leadership, the department expanded its fleet of ambulances and apparatus, improved training and preparedness, and

Turn to Page 3

Joseph Raker, wanted for murder, waives extradition

Arrested in Mexico on Aug. 13 for a double-murder in Sopchoppy, he won't contest extradition to Wakulla from jail in Texas

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

Joseph Ronnie Raker appeared in court in Hidalgo County, Texas and waived extradition back to Wakulla on two charges of murder.

Raker was captured on Thursday, Aug. 13 in Mexico, across the river from Brownsville, Texas, by U.S. Marshals and Mexican police.

Raker had been on the run since he was identified as the primary suspect in the murders of Rebecca Lynn Thomas, 58, and John William Luper III, 49, at a home on Otter Creek in Sopchoppy a couple of weeks ago. Both died as the result of multiple gunshot wounds, according to the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office. The bodies were found concealed on nearby property covered with underbrush in separate locations.

Raker was captured in Mexico, across the border from Brownsville, Texas.

At a press conference to announce Raker's arrest on Aug. 13, Wakulla Sheriff Jared Miller said more arrests were expected, noting that some people may have aided Raker in attempting to cover up the crime or to escape from Wakulla.

Many details about the case are still unknown and have not been revealed by the sheriff's office, citing the ongoing investigation.

It's been reported that there was a structure fire at the Otter Creek Road property where the

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Student of the Week

Bentley Taylor – Kindergartner at Crawfordville Elementary

Principal: Alena Crawford

Achievements/Reason for Nomination: Congratulations to our Kindergarten Student of the Week, Bentley Taylor! Bentley is a wonderful example of what it means to be a leader. He is kind, caring, and always looking for ways to help his teachers and classmates. Bentley has a positive attitude and is quick to encourage others, share, and lend a helping hand. He listens well, follows directions, and works hard to do his very best. His friendly smile and thoughtful personality make him a joy to have in the classroom. Bentley makes those around him feel welcomed and valued, and we are so proud of the wonderful example he sets each day. **Keep shining, Bentley—you are an amazing leader!**

STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.

Plant of the Week By Sarracenia Chapter of NPS

Pine Lily

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER

In late summer, the striking flowers of pine lily (Lilium catesbaei) attract the swallowtail butterflies that pollinate them. Each large flower has 6 brilliant red-orange petals with maroon-spotted yellow nectar guides at their base. Single flowers top erect unbranched stems up to 3 feet tall. Palamedes swallowtail butterflies are the main pollinator. Also known as Catesby's lily or southern-red lily, this long-lived perennial is native to the southeastern US. Pine lilies thrive in open mesic-to-wet pine flatwoods, wet prairies, and savannas throughout Florida. They depend on frequent fires and blooms often increase post-burn. In Florida, pine lily is a state-listed threatened species. Its habitat continues to shrink due to fire suppression, wetland loss, development, and deer. In Wakulla and Franklin counties, pine lilies still occur in public conservation lands, especially St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge.

Plant enthusiasts participate in pollinator census

STORY AND PHOTOS BY DESIREE CURETON
Special to The Sun

Ten plant and insect enthusiasts from the Sarracenia Chapter and Wakulla County Garden Club participated in the Great Southeast Pollinator Census on Friday morning, August 21, at the Sopchoppy Depot Park gardens. They counted pollinators to help biologists understand trends in overall insect populations and learn which flowers attract which type of insect. Our local Wakulla County Extension Agent, Clay Bania, also stopped by to visit.

Friday morning graced participants with clear blue skies and full sun. Attendees each chose one wildflower to observe for 15 minutes and then counted insect landings. A small native bee, the Poey's furrow bee, seemed to be everywhere. Those counting also observed the cucumberleaf dune sunflowers slowly turning to follow the rising sun. By mid-morning, temperatures rose and the butterflies, bees, wasps, and flies headed for shade or cooler areas. Thank you to all for coming out to count pollinators.

Photos of pollinators: Near right, a Great Black Digger Wasp; far right, a Green Lynx Spider.

Mike Kemp lawsuit

From Front Page

-patory as far as his dealings with Newsome. (The presiding judge in the felony case, Jeremiah Hawkes, dismissed that contention in a hearing, noting that Kemp was not communicating with Newsome on official business related to the sheriff's office.) Kemp retired as major with the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office before running for county commission.

Kemp's lawsuit claims that Ormerod's conduct was "intentional, malicious, reckless and/or undertaken with callous indifference to Kemp's federally protected rights." It seeks compenstory and punitive damages against Ormerod as an individual.

The Facebook page administrator, Becky Whaley, and Deputy Newsome entered a deferred prosecution with the state to drop the charges in exchange for admissions and an agreement to testify against Kemp.

Circuit Judge Hawkes dismissed the charge of use of a public record to harass finding that Kemp was within his rights as a candidate to respond to political speech on the internet from a critic. The state attorney's office appealed the decision – and it is still pending at the 1st District Court of Appeal.

The tampering charge was dropped days before Kemp was to stand trial.

When Thunder Lightening account posted something about his wife being nearly hit by a speeding white panel truck, Kemp asked Newsome to look up the case. It was, however, a different case and a different victim. County Commissioner Ralph Thomas provided the voter ID to Kemp from WebElect, an app for Republican elected officials to use for campaigns.

Kemp began responding to Thunder Lightening posts by referring to him as Craig Rawlings – the wrong name for the person behind the account.

At one point, Whaley, outraged over a posting by Thunder Lightening, asked Kemp to send her the name again as she was "about to bust him out." Kemp sent her the voter ID but advised her not to put all the info out there.

But she did, and soon Craig Rawlings' wife was communicating with Whaley to take the information down and eventually filed a complaint with the sheriff's office.

Because it dealt with an elected official, Ormerod's investigative report went up to State Attorney Jack Campbell and others for review. Because Kemp was up for re-election, Campbell ordered his office to hold off on arrests until after the vote. Kemp lost his election to Valerie Russell.

Kemp was represented in his felony case by Tallahassee defense attorney Steven Webster.

Craig Rawlings and his wife have filed a federal lawsuit of their own against Kemp, Whaley and Newsome, claiming to have suffered emotional distress and other harms as a result of the their actions. That case is being handled by Tallahassee attorney Marie Mattox.

Fire Chief Lamarche

From Front Page

strengthened community resilience.

"Everything we have accomplished has been a team effort. I've always believed that my responsibility as Chief is to support the people who serve this community every day and to leave the department stronger than I found it," said Chief Lamarche.

During his tenure as Fire Chief, Chief Lamarche oversaw several critical equipment acquisitions and capital improvements that strengthened the department's ability to provide uninterrupted emergency services to the community. Working closely with County Administration and his staff, he secured the emergency purchase of multiple Class A pumper fire engines following significant apparatus failures that threatened the department's operational readiness.

Chief Lamarche also guided the planning and opening of the new 13,600-square-foot Fire Rescue Station on Trice Lane in 2019. The facility was designed to bring command staff and front-line personnel together under one roof, improving communication, coordination, and the overall efficiency of department operations.

The County will soon begin formal preparations for a seamless leadership transition. Current Assistant Fire Chief Richard Lewis will move into the Fire Chief position, while EMS Division Chief Randall Waltman will assume the role of Assistant Fire Chief.

Notice of Workshop City of Sopchoppy

The City Commission of the City of Sopchoppy will hold a second budget workshop on Monday, August 31, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in the commission chambers located at City Hall, 105 Municipal Avenue, Sopchoppy, FL. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss/develop the 2026/27 fiscal year operating budgets.

Persons wishing to comment may do so in person at the workshop or by writing to the City Commission at P.O. Box 1219, Sopchoppy, Florida 32358. No formal actions will be taken at the workshop by the Commission.

If an individual decides to appeal any decision made by the commission with respect to this meeting, a verbatim transcript may be required. If so, the individual should make provision for a transcript to be made at the meeting, (RE: Florida Statute 286.0105). Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodation to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the city at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting Ashley Schilling at the above address or 850-962-4611.

August 27, 2026

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WAKULLA COUNTY ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING:

EVENT:	**School Board Meeting**
DATE:	**Monday, September 14, 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

August 27, 2026

The City of St. Marks will consider 2nd reading and adoption of Ordinance 2026-01 at their Regular Commission Meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2026, starting at 6:00pm at the St. Marks City Hall at 788 Port Leon Drive, St. Marks, Florida 32355

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. MARKS, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A TRANSIENT LODGING REGISTRATION PROGRAM; REGULATING VACATION RENTALS, SHORT-TERM RENTALS, RECREATIONAL VEHICLE OCCUPANCY, AND OTHER TRANSIENT LODGING USES TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE, AND MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; REQUIRING REGISTRATION; PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION UNDER LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION; PROVIDING FOR ZONING, FLOODPLAIN, BUILDING, FIRE, PARKING, SOLID WASTE, AND UTILITY-CAPACITY COMPLIANCE; REGULATING RECREATIONAL VEHICLE OCCUPANCY IN RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS; PROVIDING NONCONFORMING-USE AND TRANSITION PROVISIONS; ESTABLISHING INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION STANDARDS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT, PENALTIES, SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, APPEALS, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The purpose of the ordinance is to establish a transient lodging registration program that protects public health, safety, and municipal infrastructure. A copy of the full text and the business impact statement can be viewed on the city website at cityofstmarks.com, or in person at 788 Port Leon Drive, St. Marks, Florida 32355

August 27, 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.

FLORIDA PUBLIC NOTICES
WWW.FLORIDAPUBLICNOTICES.COM

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

WAKULLA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Public Announcement Requesting Bids from Pre-Qualified General Contractors

Bids are requested from pre-qualified general contractors by H2Engineering, Inc. on behalf of Wakulla County Schools

H2E PROJECT No.: 25 - 168
WCS BID NO.: 2025/26 - 04
PROJECT NAME: Riversprings Middle School AHU Replacement
BID DATE: Tuesday, September 22 , 2026
TIME: 2:00p.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION :

1 . Scope : One for one replacement and consolidation of multiple DX split system air handling units and associated condensing units with dx split system air handling units and condensing units . New 6 ' tall chain link fence will house the new condensing units. Controls modification as required for new units . Minimal electrical work will be required for the one for one replacement of the units. Code minimum commissioning will be required.

2 . The entity responsible for all aspects of project management:

H2Engineering , Inc.
114 East 5th Avenue
Tallahassee , Florida 32 303
Phone : (850) 224 - 7922
Fax : (850) 224 - 5876

3. Bids will only be accepted from General Contractors pre qualified for thi s project .

4 . All questions or requests for written interpretation or correction MUST be in writing no later than Tuesday, September 8 , 2026. Direct all inquiries to the H2Engineering Project Manager : Mark Poindexter, PE . Email: mpoindexter@h2engineering.com

5. Sealed bids must be received at the Wakulla County School Board administration building, 69 Arran Road, Crawfordville, Florida 32327, no later than **2:00p.m. local time**, on **Tuesday, September 22, 2026.** Bids must be clearly marked with project name, project number and bid number on the outside envelope. Submittals received after deadline will not be considered.

6. Bids must be submitted in full accordance with the requirements of the drawings, specifications, bidding conditions and contractual conditions, which may be obtained by contacting the H2Engineering project manager.

7. Drawings are available in digital format.

In the event the Contract is awarded to the Bidder, Bidder shall, within eight (8) Owner business days after the award by the Owner of the Contract shall furnish the required Performance and Payment Bonds; failing to do such, Bidder shall forfeit their bid guarantee as liquidated damages. The Performance and Payment Bonds shall be secured from any agency of a surety or insurance company, which agency shall have an established place of business in the State of Florida and be duly licensed to conduct business there.

The Owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and/or informalities in any Bid and to reject any or all Bids in whole or part, with or without cause, and/or accept the Bid that in its judgment will be for the best interest of the School Board of Wakulla County, Florida.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
69 ARRAN ROAD
CRAWFORDVILLE, FLORIDA 32327
RICHARD MYHRE,
SUPERINTENDENT

August 20, 27, September 3, 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."

Cleaning out the reporter's notebook of some random notes

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

I think election night is one of my favorite events to cover: There's the excitement of the returns, and usually some socializing.

I will admit that the old days were better – when the Supervisor of Elections office was at the courthouse and spectators gathered on the lawn to see results on a color TV rolled out the front door.

The goal was to catch the moment with a camera when one candidate approached his rival to concede with a handshake.

But I will also admit that returns took much longer back then than today's technology, which usually has results within 30 minutes or an hour.

Congratulations to Joe Finch, the maintenance guy at the courthouse, who retired on Friday, Aug. 21, after 21 years on the job.

When I was at the courthouse, he always greeted me with a smile.

Asked what he plans to do in retirement, he said he would be riding his Harley-Davidson and playing with grandchildren.

Congratulations to our own Lynda Kinsey, who was nominated by Farm Bureau as the a Farm Bureau Newsperson of the Year. In an email, Lynda was told:

Joe Finch of the clerk's office before retirement.

"Each year, we can nominate a newsperson in our area that we feel goes above and beyond to publish information as it pertains to Farm Bureau and/ or agriculture. You are always so good about attending our Annual Meeting and publishing an article after and we believe your efforts should be recognized."

And lastly, Senior Center Director Lara Edwards said that a person in the community read her recent profile in the monthly Wakulla Neighbor and brought in a sizeable donation to help the center.

William Snowden is the editor and publisher of The Wakulla Sun.

LETTERS FROM READERS

History highlight: Enslaved recruits

Editor, The Sun:

In 1779, the Continental Army had been waging the War of Independence for four years since the first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord; much longer than either side had anticipated. Maintaining sufficient manpower had been a challenge from the beginning.

Congress had assigned a quota of troops to be raised from each state, which was routinely not met. In an effort to fill the gaps, some new England states permitted enslaved people to serve as substitutes, with emancipation promised at the end of the term of service. Slaves could also volunteer to serve with permission of their owners. The owners were compensated for their property and the soldier was emancipated at the end of his service. By the end of the war, 5,000 black soldiers had served in the Continental Army; comprising about 5% of the fighting force. Freedmen, like their white countrymen, enlisted for pay and for principle.

In 1779, in a final effort to destroy the unity of the colonies, the British launched a Southern Strategy of warfare. Their plan was to invade, pacify and occupy first Georgia, then South Carolina, and finally, North Carolina and Virginia. They believed they had strong Loyalist support in these states that would rally to the Redcoats' cause.

A key part of the strategy was to recruit large numbers of enslaved people to their side. Fearing mass exodus of their labor pool, southern states had not allowed slaves to serve in exchange for emancipation. General George Washington, commander in chief of the Continental Army, was alarmed by this new British plan. He believed he could not divide his meager resources and fighting force between the Northeast and the south and fight effectively on both fronts. He also feared the manpower in slaves that the British would tap.

His fears were well founded. Before invading, and subsequently capturing Savannah in 1779, British General Clinton promised freedom and protection to slaves who joined British lines. In six weeks, more than 1,000 had been enlisted.

After the invasion of Charleston, which followed, 1,500 slaves deserted to the British. A total of 20,000 enslaved African Americans fought for the British, eager for freedom and a chance for a better life.

At the end of f the war, the British made good on their promises and most of these now freedmen were re-located to British colonies in the Caribbean or Nova Scotia.

Enjoy an English tea, learn more about history, and see 30 entries at "Threads through Time"; a historic clothing fashion show on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 2-5 pm at the Crawfordville Women's Club. Tickets available on wakullahistory.org.

Andrea Carter, President
Wakulla County Historical Society

Something on your mind?

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

On the Horizon

Calendar of events for the week of August 27

Thursday, August 27

• "Pillowman," a play by Martin McDonagh, will be performed at 8 p.m. at Palaver Tree Theater, 59 Shadeville Road. It's a pay-what-you-can night.
• The Rotary Club of Wakulla County meets at the TSC Wakulla Ceneter at 8:30 a.m.
• Line dancing is 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Women's Club. 6:30 to 8 for beginners. $10.
• 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, August 28

• Wakulla War Eagle travel to Perry to take on the Taylor County Bulldogs at 7 p.m.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Saturday, August 29

• "Pillowman," a play by Martin McDonagh, will be performed at 8 p.m. at Palaver Tree Theater. Tickets are $15.

Sunday, August 30

• "Pillowman," a play by Martin McDonagh, will have a matinee performance at 2 p.m. and another performance at 8 p.m. at Palaver Tree Theater. Tickets are $15.
• Wakulla Giving Hands food giveaway every Sunday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the facility across from Medart Elementary on Highway 98. Line up begins at 11 a.m.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Monday, August 31

• 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 Stetching Class with Margaret every Monday at 11 a.m. First Baptist Church CLC Building in Crawfordville. Bring a mat.

Tuesday, September 1

• 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, September 2

• BS Bingo with Kevin Story will be held at Palaver Tree Theater, 59 Shadeville Road beginning at 7 p.m.
• Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

"It's A New Day!"

The Wakulla Sun


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FLORIDA PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER

SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

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

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

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

That means:

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

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

We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

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

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

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey

Polled at the Wakulla Senior Citizens Center:

What's your favorite lunch?

GAIL MCQUAIG
Retired – Mushroom Sales

"I enjoy Paul & Asha's Kitchen. I like their roast beef, fried chicken and their sandwiches. They have most everything. They are friendly and have great service too!"

BECKY FINCH
Retired – Capital City Bank

"Roast beef, rice and gravy, green lima beans, and a roll along with the peach cobbler at Posey's in Panacea."

PRISCILLA TERRY
Retired VA Med. Tech

"I love the Firehouse subs and Pizza Hut."

DONNIE CHOINIERE
Retired – Railroad Engineer

"I like a patty melt with French fries from the Breakfast Station."

CINDY CHOINIERE
Retired – Jewelry Sales

"Probably the chicken masala at Paul & Asha's Kitchen."

Wakulla Crossroads

By VERNA BROCK

Here we are again, a week post-election day. Whether your favorite candidate prevailed or not, we came together to exercise our democratic privilege and duty. Lawn signs still litter our byways, hoping to catch voters' eyes and, hopefully, votes. Debates and forums were held, door-knocking commenced, and commercials even aired for more flush contenders. Time to take a quick breath, and prepare for the next round!

Voters have narrowed the field to two (or a few) political nominees for the general election in each contest. With just over two months until then, expect the airwaves to assault us day and night with every kind of ad. Positive and (unfortunately) negative messages have already begun to bombard the airwaves. I heartily dislike being inundated by the avalanche of appeals for money, attention, and yes, even votes. But as concerned citizens, our job is to suss out the candidates who best represent our personal values.

Wherever you stand on the issues, voting is the golden ticket to voicing your individual preferences. If you have any doubt about the value of one vote, look no further than Tallahassee. The City Commission Seat 3 race between Tom Derzypolski and Talethia Edwards for the run-off position ended with a 13 point difference. This amounts to a quarter of 1% of total votes cast. Every single vote really does make a difference.

I suppose the most important point I'd like to make is that we all should vote. People have fought and died for this privilege, and it is the most sacred secular choice we can make. I urge you to take the time to be informed, and vote. Otherwise, you have no right to complain about the outcome!

A quick update on Ed's traveling horn. After failing to be delivered to us on the 13th, it allegedly traveled to Jax, to Tallahassee, back to Jax, to South Carolina, to New York, to Pennsylvania, and back across Canada to Edmonton. Its purported destination is "Sender"... eBay Canada. The seller actually lives in Ontario, 2,000 miles away from Alberta and Edmonton. Despite repeatedly insisting the package would be delivered TOMORROW, it continued northward, passing through customs several more times. Trust me, eBay Canada has been informed that the seller is across the continent from the alleged destination listed in the system.

Truth is definitely stranger than fiction, and I'm not sure any of us would believe this tale if we weren't living it. You know how events sometimes seem to take on a life of their own, and become a comedy of errors? That is how this entire debacle feels at this point. Now, it is just a matter of watching and waiting to see what new absurdity confronts us!

Sopchoppy News

By DJ BUTCH

Life in Sopchoppy is easy living, slow and relaxed. My life sometimes can be wild. Another reason why I love to come home to peace. Where the city relaxes when the sun goes down.

I recently went to the St. Pete Open for the world's largest spearfishing tournament. What an experience!

Special thanks to Trident restaurant for having me. These guys have an awesome team of divers that went with us. I was just the cameraman because ain't no way I'm going 200 feet down in the Gulf. Over 80 miles offshore. But what an experience it was... All kinds of tropical fish... Not common inshore. Jesse even won a speargun in the tournament.

It was my birthday weekend because my birthday was Monday. We also visited the Hard Rock in Tampa. I got to see the King of Rock 'n' Roll Elvis Presley's gold piano. I saw Van Halen's mixing board. Sammy Haggar's guitar. I love these adventures but it was good to come back home.

It was storming when we arrived. We have been getting a lot of rain In Sopchoppy lately. We really needed it. I guess the power went out because my stove clock was blinking. Thank God for the rain.

I missed my normal 2nd Friday at Low Tide so I will be doing a make up day August 28th! Come see me DJ at Low Tide under Trident restaurant.

Duke Energy recently trimmed the trees around the power lines In Sopchoppy.

Sopchoppy Depot Days festival is coming to Sopchoppy on Sept. 12th! Car parade, Big Wheel race, food, vendors and fun. Make sure you visit us for this event.

Amendment 3

From Front Page

county to help pay for it.

• Stop offering county recreation sports leagues, and shift that to athletic associations like the Cal Ripkin Assocation. The county would still maintain the Medart Rec Park.

• Reduce services to certain county parks by locking bathrooms, removing trash cans and disconnecting utlities at Azalea, Hickory and Guy E. Revell Conservation parks in Crawfordville, Shell Point Beach Park in Shell Point, Woolley Park in Panacea, and Mash Island Park in Ochlockonee Bay.

Facilities would remain open and available for continued rental opportunities as long as they remain financially self-supporting at Hudson Park and the Community Center in Crawfordville; and the Newport Park, Panacea Community Center and Medart Rec Park.

• Reduce Animal Control to emergency calls only – no call-outs for strays – and either close the Adoption Center, or have another organization take it over.

• Privatize county probation office, which oversees probation for misdemeanor offenders.

• As for the Wakulla Airport, the grass airstrip at Tarpine, the county would either seek to have the Tarpine Homeowners Association take it over or else close it.

• The plan would also see the county seek to get rid of some properties that cost money for maintenance – the Old Courthouse, for example, which is the headquarters of the Wakulla Chamber of Commerce; and the Old Jail, which is a historical museum operated by the Wakulla County Historical Society.

The Old Jail, for which the county pays for utilities, insurance, plan suggests transferring to the historical society; and look at a long term lease or transfer of the Old Courthouse to the Chamber.

The full report is available on the county's website, mywakulla.com

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

So many choices in handguns

By MARJ LAW

“I looked around the gun shop, and there were so many choices!” moans a mature woman to me. “I have no idea what to look for.”

“Well, why do you want a gun?” I ask.

“I want one for self-defense,” she replies.

“In a purse? In a holster? By your bed? In your car?” I try to get a handle on why she has come to me for assistance.

“Yes! All of those! Big Eddie took me to the range a week ago. He had a Rock Island compact .45 1911 with a 3-inch barrel. He told me how to stand and how to squeeze the trigger. Well, I did exactly as he said and… Wow! It was nice trigger, but that thing kicked so bad!” She made a face as she recalls shooting it.

“And when I complained, he said: ‘It doesn’t seem to have much recoil to me! And it’s great for self-defense.’ I told him that I’d think about it, but the Rock Island is much too much gun for me. Also, it would have been too heavy for me to carry in a purse or in a holster. What is good for him certainly is not good for me.”

“That’s true,” I reply. “Big Eddie is a large-boned man. It’s not surprising that what suits him doesn’t suit you.”

“Exactly. I want a smaller handgun. One that isn’t so powerful as that .45. One that I can manage myself. I’d like an easy trigger pull. A much lighter recoil. I do want a semi-automatic, because a revolver only holds five or six shots.

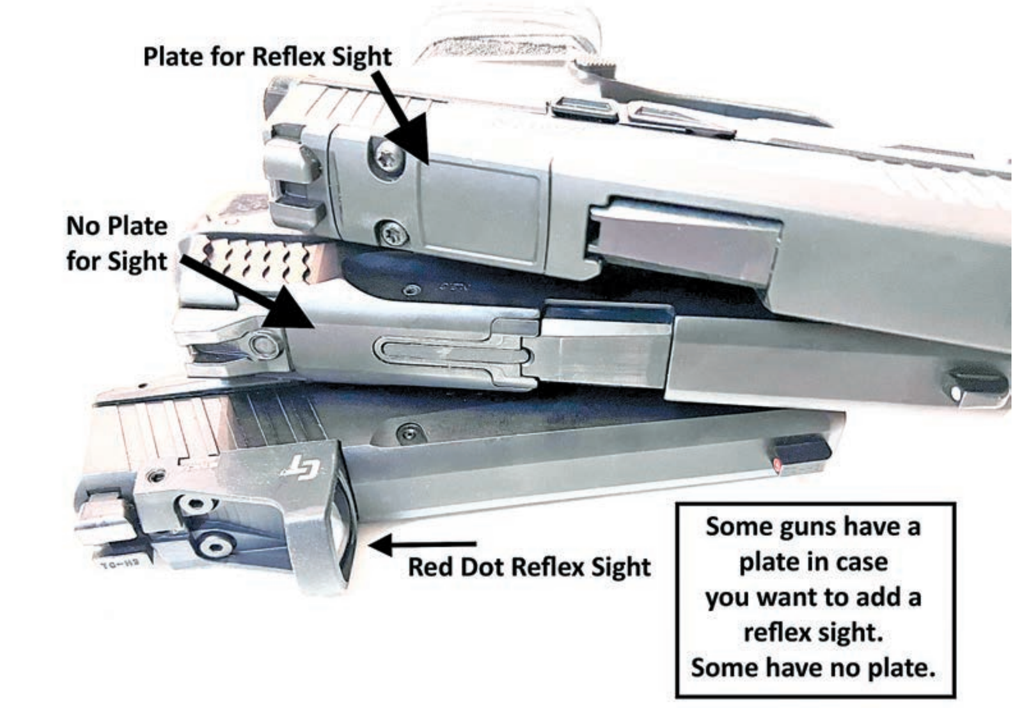
“I want a gun with a slide that’s easy to pull. One that has enough rounds, so if I miss the first time, I’ll have other opportunities to save myself.

“And goodness,” she adds. “I want one with a small enough grip that will fit my hand! Is this too much to ask? And what other kinds of things do I look for in a sea of guns at the gun shop?”

“You’re in luck,” I tell her. “These days, gun manufacturers are taking small-boned women and men, mature people, and people with some handicaps into consideration when they make handguns. There are many .380s and 9mm handguns to choose from today.”

“How do I know which one will suit me?” she wonders.

“The best way to find what you might like is to research on the internet. Several sites like Pew Pew, Sootch and Colion Noir on youtube, and The Truth about Guns will provide you with lots of information.



Then, when you’ve read about several you think you’d like, you can visit a range that allows you to rent handguns. Trying it out yourself is the best way to find a gun that’ll work for you. And, even though I find these sites to have great information, you have to try the guns out for yourself. What they have written may not be exactly what you experience.”

“Then what do I look for?”

“You look for the concerns you brought up today. Make sure you see what they say about recoil, as this seems to be a priority for you.”

“Yes, it is. I have a lot of arthritis in both my hands and my shoulders.”

“The articles will discuss those issues and much more.”

“Can you give me a beginner’s example of .380s and 9mm handguns? I’d like to find a place to start.”

“Wow! There are so many great guns out there! You might look at the: Smith & Wesson .380 Shield EZ, Ruger Security 380, Sig Sauer P365/380, Ruger LCP, Beretta 80X Cheetah, Glock 42, and the Sig Sauer P238.”

“Those are a lot of options. What about 9mm handguns?”

“Again, you have many choices. I’d start with the: Sig Sauer P365, Smith & Wesson Equalizer, Kimber Mako, Glock 19, and the Glock 43X.”

“What a list! I might make a spreadsheet to check off the qualities each has that will work best for me when I go to the range to try them out.”

“Sounds like a great idea!”

“Will trigger pull and recoil on these guns be similar? Or is there a big difference? And then, besides trigger pull and recoil, what else do I look for?”

“There is a difference on every gun when you try them out. You also want to consider: are you able to rack the slide with ease? Can you fieldstrip the gun for cleaning?”

“Hold each one to see if the grip is good for you. Is it too wide or too narrow? Do all your fingers fit on it, or does your baby finger dangle? A good grip helps to control the gun and make you more accurate.”

“So, if the grip is good, and if I can handle the recoil, slide, and fieldstripping, what more should I check out?”

“You want to consider how many rounds the gun holds. If someone broke down your door, how many rounds do you want in your gun? Also, if the gun you’re looking at doesn’t hold as many as you think you’d like, you can often find after-market extra magazines for your gun that will hold more.”

“OK. That could make a difference. What else do I look for?”

“Do you want your gun to have a safety? Some people think they might not remember to flip the safety lever, so they don’t want one. Some guns have built-in safeties, like a grip or a trigger safety. If you want a manual safety, some guns come in models that have either a safety or none.”

“What about sights? Do I want to line up the sights on the gun, or do I want to consider those reflex sights you can add to it? Do I want to add a red dot reflex sight?”

“A lot of people find it easier to use a reflex sight than to align the sights on the gun. Some sights are fixed on the gun, and you can’t move them. Some can be adjusted for elevation (height) or windage (sideways).

“Yes, I have astigmatism. I’d find it much easier to match the one dot on the reflex sight to the red dot on the target, but aren’t those sights expensive?”

“They seem to be running from about $225 to $350 for moderately-priced name-brand sights. Then, too, I’d suggest finding a qualified person to mount it for you.”

“Will I be able to fit a red dot on any of these guns?”

“Check carefully. Look on the top of the slide. Often, there will be a rectangular plate that can be unscrewed here, and a reflex sight fitted in. Or, you might be able to find a model of the same gun that is plated so you can add a reflex sight.”

“What about the guns themselves? If I’m paying a couple hundred dollars or more just for the added reflex sight, what do the .380s or the 9mm guns themselves cost?”

“I knew you’d ask that, so I looked up the prices of the ones listed here. At today’s prices, they’re running anywhere from about $300 to $900. Of course, you can find guns that cost more or less, but this is a general range.”

“Yikes. That spreadsheet seems more and more like a good idea. I know in advance what I can afford, but I really need to shoot the guns that fit in my price range to figure what works for me the best.”

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

WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO

Retired park ranger Robert Thompson was on his wildlife survey at Wakulla Springs last week and shot this photo of a green heron with a minnow.

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

Gulf Coast Weekly Almanac

Aug. 27 - Sept. 2

Tide charts by tides4fishing.com

GO FISH!

For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings:

	High Tide	Low Tide
Carrabelle	28 Min.	25 Min.
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.

First	Full	Last	New
Sept. 18	Aug. 28	Sept. 4	Sept. 10

Best fishing days this month
Best fishing day(s) is in the center of date ranges.
Aug. 25-31, Sept. 4, 7-13

Day	Sun rise/set	Moon rise/set	Moon Illumination
Thursday 27	7:11 AM / 8:06 PM	7:55 PM / 6:33 AM	99%
Friday 28	7:12 AM / 8:05 PM	8:23 PM / 7:32 AM	100%
Saturday 29	7:12 AM / 8:04 PM	8:52 PM / 8:31 AM	99%
Sunday 30	7:13 AM / 8:03 PM	9:21 PM / 9:30 AM	96%
Monday 31	7:13 AM / 8:02 PM	9:54 PM / 10:32 AM	91%
Tuesday 1	7:14 AM / 8:01 PM	10:30 PM / 11:36 AM	84%
Wednesday 2	7:14 AM / 7:59 PM	11:13 PM / 12:43 PM	75%

St. Marks River Entrance

Th	1st 2:54 AM ▲ 3.5 ft	2nd 8:24 AM ▼ 1.3 ft	3rd 2:29 PM ▲ 4.0 ft	4th 9:06 PM ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1st 3:16 AM ▲ 3.6 ft	2nd 8:58 AM ▼ 1.0 ft	3rd 3:04 PM ▲ 4.1 ft	4th 9:31 PM ▼ 0.2 ft
Sa	1st 3:37 AM ▲ 3.7 ft	2nd 9:32 AM ▼ 0.7 ft	3rd 3:41 PM ▲ 4.1 ft	4th 9:56 PM ▼ 0.4 ft
Su	1st 3:58 AM ▲ 3.9 ft	2nd 10:07 AM ▼ 0.5 ft	3rd 4:20 PM ▲ 4.0 ft	4th 10:22 PM ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	1st 4:20 AM ▲ 4.0 ft	2nd 10:45 AM ▼ 0.3 ft	3rd 5:03 PM ▲ 3.8 ft	4th 10:51 PM ▼ 0.9 ft
Tu	1st 4:45 AM ▲ 4.0 ft	2nd 11:27 AM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 5:52 PM ▲ 3.6 ft	4th 11:22 PM ▼ 1.1 ft
We	1st 5:13 AM ▲ 4.1 ft	2nd 12:17 PM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 6:51 PM ▲ 3.2 ft	4th —

City of St. Marks

Th	1st 3:30 AM ▲ 3.2 ft	2nd 9:28 AM ▼ 1.2 ft	3rd 3:05 PM ▲ 3.7 ft	4th 10:10 PM ▼ 0.1 ft
Fr	1st 3:52 AM ▲ 3.4 ft	2nd 10:02 AM ▼ 0.9 ft	3rd 3:40 PM ▲ 3.8 ft	4th 10:35 PM ▼ 0.2 ft
Sa	1st 4:13 AM ▲ 3.5 ft	2nd 10:36 AM ▼ 0.7 ft	3rd 4:17 PM ▲ 3.8 ft	4th 11:00 PM ▼ 0.4 ft
Su	1st 4:34 AM ▲ 3.6 ft	2nd 11:11 AM ▼ 0.4 ft	3rd 4:56 PM ▲ 3.7 ft	4th 11:26 PM ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	1st 4:56 AM ▲ 3.7 ft	2nd 11:49 AM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 5:39 PM ▲ 3.6 ft	4th 11:55 PM ▼ 0.8 ft
Tu	1st 5:20 AM ▲ 3.7 ft	2nd 12:30 PM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 6:28 PM ▲ 3.3 ft	4th —
We	1st 5:50 AM ▲ 3.8 ft	2nd 1:21 PM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 7:27 PM ▲ 3.0 ft	4th —

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th	1st 3:11 AM ▲ 3.6 ft	2nd 8:40 AM ▼ 1.5 ft	3rd 2:41 PM ▲ 4.1 ft	4th 9:27 PM ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1st 3:35 AM ▲ 3.7 ft	2nd 9:15 AM ▼ 1.2 ft	3rd 3:18 PM ▲ 4.2 ft	4th 9:51 PM ▼ 0.3 ft
Sa	1st 3:57 AM ▲ 3.8 ft	2nd 9:50 AM ▼ 0.9 ft	3rd 3:56 PM ▲ 4.2 ft	4th 10:16 PM ▼ 0.5 ft
Su	1st 4:18 AM ▲ 3.9 ft	2nd 10:26 AM ▼ 0.6 ft	3rd 4:37 PM ▲ 4.1 ft	4th 10:41 PM ▼ 0.8 ft
Mo	1st 4:40 AM ▲ 4.0 ft	2nd 11:05 AM ▼ 0.4 ft	3rd 5:22 PM ▲ 3.9 ft	4th 11:09 PM ▼ 1.1 ft
Tu	1st 5:04 AM ▲ 4.1 ft	2nd 11:49 AM ▼ 0.3 ft	3rd 6:13 PM ▲ 3.6 ft	4th 11:39 PM ▼ 1.5 ft
We	1st 5:32 AM ▲ 4.1 ft	2nd 12:39 PM ▼ 0.3 ft	3rd 7:13 PM ▲ 3.2 ft	4th —

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th	1st 2:46 AM ▲ 2.6 ft	2nd 8:35 AM ▼ 1.0 ft	3rd 2:21 PM ▲ 3.0 ft	4th 9:17 PM ▼ 0.1 ft
Fr	1st 3:08 AM ▲ 2.7 ft	2nd 9:09 AM ▼ 0.7 ft	3rd 2:56 PM ▲ 3.0 ft	4th 9:42 PM ▼ 0.2 ft
Sa	1st 3:29 AM ▲ 2.8 ft	2nd 9:43 AM ▼ 0.5 ft	3rd 3:33 PM ▲ 3.1 ft	4th 10:07 PM ▼ 0.3 ft
Su	1st 3:50 AM ▲ 2.9 ft	2nd 10:18 AM ▼ 0.3 ft	3rd 4:12 PM ▲ 3.0 ft	4th 10:33 PM ▼ 0.5 ft
Mo	1st 4:12 AM ▲ 3.0 ft	2nd 10:56 AM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 4:55 PM ▲ 2.9 ft	4th 11:02 PM ▼ 0.7 ft
Tu	1st 4:37 AM ▲ 3.0 ft	2nd 11:38 AM ▼ 0.1 ft	3rd 5:44 PM ▲ 2.7 ft	4th 11:33 PM ▼ 0.9 ft
We	1st 5:06 AM ▲ 3.1 ft	2nd 12:29 PM ▼ 0.1 ft	3rd 6:43 PM ▲ 2.4 ft	4th —

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th	1st 2:38 AM ▲ 2.7 ft	2nd 8:02 AM ▼ 1.3 ft	3rd 2:12 PM ▲ 3.1 ft	4th 8:45 PM ▼ 0.2 ft
Fr	1st 3:00 AM ▲ 2.8 ft	2nd 8:37 AM ▼ 1.0 ft	3rd 2:48 PM ▲ 3.2 ft	4th 9:09 PM ▼ 0.2 ft
Sa	1st 3:21 AM ▲ 2.9 ft	2nd 9:10 AM ▼ 0.7 ft	3rd 3:24 PM ▲ 3.2 ft	4th 9:34 PM ▼ 0.4 ft
Su	1st 3:42 AM ▲ 3.0 ft	2nd 9:45 AM ▼ 0.5 ft	3rd 4:04 PM ▲ 3.1 ft	4th 10:01 PM ▼ 0.6 ft
Mo	1st 4:04 AM ▲ 3.1 ft	2nd 10:23 AM ▼ 0.3 ft	3rd 4:47 PM ▲ 3.0 ft	4th 10:29 PM ▼ 0.9 ft
Tu	1st 4:29 AM ▲ 3.1 ft	2nd 11:05 AM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 5:36 PM ▲ 2.8 ft	4th 11:01 PM ▼ 1.2 ft
We	1st 4:58 AM ▲ 3.2 ft	2nd 11:56 AM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 6:35 PM ▲ 2.5 ft	4th 11:37 PM ▼ 1.6 ft

Dog Island West End

Th	1st 2:35 AM ▲ 2.4 ft	2nd 7:44 AM ▼ 1.4 ft	3rd 1:22 PM ▲ 2.8 ft	4th 8:18 PM ▼ 0.3 ft
Fr	1st 2:46 AM ▲ 2.5 ft	2nd 8:15 AM ▼ 1.2 ft	3rd 2:09 PM ▲ 2.9 ft	4th 8:44 PM ▼ 0.4 ft
Sa	1st 3:02 AM ▲ 2.6 ft	2nd 8:49 AM ▼ 0.9 ft	3rd 2:56 PM ▲ 2.8 ft	4th 9:12 PM ▼ 0.7 ft
Su	1st 3:22 AM ▲ 2.7 ft	2nd 9:29 AM ▼ 0.7 ft	3rd 3:47 PM ▲ 2.7 ft	4th 9:40 PM ▼ 1.0 ft
Mo	1st 3:44 AM ▲ 2.8 ft	2nd 10:14 AM ▼ 0.5 ft	3rd 4:40 PM ▲ 2.6 ft	4th 10:09 PM ▼ 1.3 ft
Tu	1st 4:09 AM ▲ 2.9 ft	2nd 11:04 AM ▼ 0.3 ft	3rd 5:35 PM ▲ 2.4 ft	4th 10:36 PM ▼ 1.6 ft
We	1st 4:36 AM ▲ 2.9 ft	2nd 11:57 AM ▼ 0.2 ft	3rd 6:46 PM ▲ 2.1 ft	4th —

Day	Major Times	Minor Times
Thursday 27	12:18 PM / 11:56 PM	6:03 AM / 7:25 PM
Friday 28	12:40 AM / 1:01 PM	7:02 AM / —
Saturday 29	1:23 AM / 1:45 PM	8:01 AM / 7:54 PM
Sunday 30	2:07 AM / 2:30 PM	9:01 AM / 8:22 PM
Monday 31	2:53 AM / 2:53 PM	10:02 AM / 8:52 PM
Tuesday 1	3:40 AM / 3:40 PM	11:03 AM / 9:22 PM
Wednesday 2	4:28 AM / 4:28 PM	12:05 PM / 9:53 PM

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

Gag grouper season opens Sept. 1 in Gulf state waters

From FWC News

At its August meeting, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) issued an executive order to modify the 2026 recreational season for gag grouper in state waters of the Gulf of America, excluding all state waters off Monroe County, to Sept. 1 through Sept. 30. The 2026 recreational season will close at 12:01 a.m. on Oct. 1.

This season is consistent with NOAA's recently announced season in adjacent federal waters. Maintaining consistent state and federal recreational seasons for Gulf gag grouper will help prevent exceeding the recreational quota and reduce the likelihood of a quota payback in 2027.

If you plan to fish for gag grouper or other specific reef fish species from a private recreational vessel, you must sign up for the State Reef Fish Angler Designation (annual renewal is required). As a State Reef Fish Angler, you could be selected to receive a mail survey component of the State Reef Fish Survey.

Data from the State Reef Fish Survey is now being used for Gulf gag grouper management, and by participating in the survey, you are improving recreational data that is used to provide recreational fishing opportunities in Florida.

To learn more about the State Reef Fish Survey, visit MyFWC.com/SRFS.

To learn more about gag grouper season and regulations, visit MyFWC.com/Marine and select "Recreational Regulations", followed by "Reef Fish" and then "Grouper" and "Gag."

Amberjack season opens Sept. 1 in Gulf state waters

From FWC News

At its August meeting in Panama City, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission issued an executive order to modify the 2026 recreational season for greater amberjack in state waters of the Gulf of America. The recreational season will be open Sept. 1 through Oct. 13 and will close at 12:01 a.m. on Oct. 14.

This season is consistent with NOAA's recently announced season in adjacent federal waters. Maintaining consistent state and federal recreational seasons for Gulf greater amberjack is intended to prevent quota overages and help ensure the stock continues to rebuild.

If you plan to fish for greater amberjack or other specific reef fish species from a private recreational vessel, you must sign up for the State Reef Fish Angler Designation (annual renewal is required). As a State Reef Fish Angler, you could be selected to receive a mail survey component of the State Reef Fish Survey.

Data from the State Reef Fish Survey is now being used for greater amberjack management, and through your participation, the data collected will be used to improve management and increased recreational fishing opportunities in Florida.

To learn more about the State Reef Fish Survey, visit MyFWC.com/SRFS.

For current recreational greater amberjack regulations, visit MyFWC.com/Marine and select "Recreational Regulations", followed by "Reef Fish" and then "Amberjack."

Underwater Wakulla

By Gregg Stanton

Time to get ready. *January 17, 2013*

The weather may be uncharacteristicly warm, but few are currently diving. The ocean is still on the cool side.

I do see many boats on trailers pass by us preparing for the upcoming season.

And we are no different. A good friend donated a nice boat to our efforts to move more diving offshore. Folks are tuning up engines, testing electronics and charging or replacing batteries.

April arrives soon enough. The excitement is epidemic with this warm weather.

Your diving equipment is as important a life support technology as is your boat. Your cylinder may need a visual inspection, a hydro test or valve cleaning having sat idle since last summer.

Your regulator needs an annual tune up to perform at its best.

And just like the PFDs required by the Coast Guard, so too should you inspect and test you Buoyancy Compensator.

Every year our attendance at national conferences makes us aware of diving improvements.

Our evaluation of diving incidents has taught us two lessons: 1. Life support equipment not routinely serviced and maintained leads to needless emergencies. 2. The majority of emergencies underwater are the result of poor or "rusty" training.

Both have a basis in attitude.

Refreshment training is always a good idea. This can be done by what is called continuing education: upgrade to Nitrox breathing gas, or Oxygen Delivery for management of decompression, surface-supply hose diving, spearfishing, or even rebreather diving. Better diving technology and techniques abound.

Every one of these topics are new and exciting, enabling divers more and safer bottom time.

Training is not hard to find and timely with four months until April.

Yesterday, a boater told me he fine tunes his engine, and streamlines his boat and his boating skills to be faster every year. He said he wants to avoid ocean emergencies by having the ability to return to shore rapidly should a storm threaten.

We divers need to proactively engage in similar improvements to avoid the underwater emergencies we can avoid.

Safe diving, like safe boating, is no accident!

Editor's Note: This is a repeat of a column from 2013.

Committing our dreams to the God Who loves us

By SHERYL H. BOLDT

Do you wonder if you'll ever experience the success you hope for? Do you find it difficult not to be jealous when God seems to bless others in their efforts more than He blesses you in yours?

You want to be glad for others, but you can't help wondering when it will be your turn to be recognized. If you're a pastor, when will your congregation grow? If you're an architect or engineer, when will others appreciate your designs? Or after years of struggling to pay your bills, when will you be able to take your kids on a real vacation?

As someone with big dreams, I can relate. But could it be that our view of God's plan is often short-sighted?

First Peter 5:6–7 (ESV) helps me gain the perspective I want: "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you."

Visualize God's hand as a canopy over you as you cuddle in His protection. Ask Him to help you trust Him as your Lord (the boss of your life) and, especially, as your loving heavenly Father.

These same verses from 1 Peter in the Amplified Classic Edition of the Bible say that God cares for us affectionately and watchfully.

Don't you love the way God loves us?

When we commit our dreams – and disappointments – to the God Who loves us, our relationship with Him (and our faith in Him) becomes our priority. As hard as it may be to accept, sometimes our expectations aren't His plan for us, or at least not yet. Can we be okay with that?

How might shifting our focus from, "Why isn't God blessing my efforts?" to, "Lord, I give You my life for Your pleasure and purpose" change our outlook and help us serve Him more effectively?

This different perspective might help the pastor who prays for a bigger church realize that spiritual growth within his congregation is more important than attracting more people. The same goes for the architect or engineer who wants a bigger client list. Both overlook the impact their Christ-centered work could already be having on their current clients.

And for the mom or dad who wants to treat their children to a few days of fun, helping your children see God's faithfulness, especially during lean seasons, will benefit them in ways you can't see right now.

Wouldn't we love to peek behind the curtain to see our Father's pleasure when we serve Him at our job, in our ministry or at home with a pure heart, especially when we don't receive any recognition?

And then imagine how much greater His delight will be when we continue to trust His timing and love for us as we congratulate and pray for those who are already enjoying their hard-earned success.

Sheryl H. Boldt is a sales executive for Wave 94 and author of the blog, www.TodayCanBeDifferent.net. Connect with her at SherylHBoldt.Wave94@gmail.com.

Redeemed testimony

By CHERYL CRUCE

I have discovered that in my time here, the journey of life can lead us down many different avenues.

Some are filled with pleasantries and moments we wish we could hold onto forever, while others take us places we would rather not go. Along the way, we encounter broken things – broken bodies, broken hearts, broken dreams, and sometimes broken pieces of ourselves. I have known some of those roads and I have felt alone when I traveled them.

I have seen God bring me through cancer. I have known the pain and inconvenience of broken bones. I have experienced broken hearts and the consequences of mistakes along the way – some self-inflicted and some brought into my life by the choices and circumstances of others.

Yet when I look back over those roads, I don't simply see the things that happened to me. I see the faithfulness of God. Regardless of how alone the moment felt, He never left my side.

That, I have come to understand, is where testimony begins. A testimony is not a story about having lived a perfect life. It is the story of what God can do with an imperfect one.

The Samaritan woman had lived a life that was far from perfect. When she stood at Jacob's Well, she never expected to encounter the Lord, yet He was there. He did not come to shame her, but to love her. Jesus met her in the midst of her brokenness and brought healing. She still carried scars from her past, but her future became far more glorious.

When she returned to her village, she shared her testimony, and the people went to meet Jesus. Her transformation and words brought them to Him, but after they heard Jesus for themselves, they believed. Her story opened the door, but their encounter with Jesus changed everything.

The Apostle Paul understood something about testimony too. His journey was filled with roads he never expected to travel. There was a time when Paul believed he was doing the right thing, even as he was persecuting those who followed Christ. Then came the road to Damascus – a road that would change everything. Paul encountered Jesus, and the man who had been committed to destroying the church became one of the greatest voices proclaiming the gospel. God did not erase Paul's past. He redeemed it.

Perhaps that is one of the most beautiful things about walking with God. We are not required to have a spotless past before He can use our lives. He takes the pieces – the victories and failures, the wounds and healing, the things we chose and those we did not choose – and somehow, in His hands, begins to make something beautiful. Maybe that is the road we are all walking.

Not the same road. Not the same story. Not the same wounds. But a road where God meets us, walks beside us, and transforms what we thought might be the end of our story into something that can become a testimony. Sometimes the very thing we thought would break us becomes the thing God uses to make us stronger.

Honestly, we do not need Jacob's Well or the Damascus Road to share of His goodness. We only need to allow His Word to transform our world, for even our broken places can become places where His grace is seen. Our lives can become a redeemed testimony for others to hear and see what God can do.

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.— Psalm 66:16

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

OUT TO PASTOR

The perks of being old and ugly

By JAMES SNYDER

Growing up, I never thought much about what my life would be like when I got old.

I observed my grandparents, and I'm sorry to say that I made fun of them at times, but always behind their backs. I never thought I would ever be in their situation.

It wasn't until recently that I realized getting old and ugly has some significant perks. When I was young, I never thought of it this way, but I am starting to realize it now. It makes me smile to see the perks I'm discovering.

I never in a million years realized that getting old and ugly wasn't as bad as I thought it was-especially when I consider the perks, like discounts or help from strangers, which I find amusing. I'm not sure how they handled their perks, but I'm beginning to learn that there are benefits to getting old and especially ugly.

Nobody wants to admit they are ugly. They don't spend enough time looking in the mirror to come to that universal conclusion. I have a relative, who shall be nameless, who is obsessed with their looks, especially the wrinkles on their face. As I have seen it, as you get older, wrinkles appear. But this relative truly does not like wrinkles.

I'm not sure how much money they spent on Botox and all that other stuff to get rid of their wrinkles, especially on their face. For me, I have saved that money for more important things, like Apple Fritters.

This relative who's obsessed with wrinkles is very tempting to me. Every time I see them, I look at their face and say, "Is that a new wrinkle on your face? It looks marvelous." It won't be long before they run to the bathroom and check out what I was talking about.

Some of the perks of getting old are the help sometimes people will give you. The other day, for example, I was walking to a store; I had hurt my leg a couple of days before. Because of that, I was using a cane, and I looked like I was limping. I felt grateful for the kindness I received, which warmed my heart.

When I came to the door, before I could even open it, someone was there to open it for me and invite me inside. I never expected that perk, but I'm coming to enjoy it. I must confess, I sometimes exaggerate my limping to get the attention I need. However, the attention always comes my way.

Perhaps the biggest perk in my life is being ugly-something I've come to accept and even enjoy. I realize that for some, aging might bring different perks. Still, for me, I like the way I look and the advantages it brings, like not being taken too seriously.

The perk of being ugly is something I just found out. When I was young, I was very careful around people, especially women. I made it a rule not to talk to women I did not know. I know it can look a little suspicious, and I don't want that to go on my record.

But being ugly means that nobody is going to take you seriously. I can walk up to a group of women, for example, and begin a conversation, and nobody thinks anything about it.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage can have the greatest confidence that wherever I'm at, and if I'm alone, no woman is going to hit on me. I just discovered that recently. I was so protective up to this point, but now that I'm old and ugly, I have nothing to fear.

It is a blessing to enjoy perks like this. I can be confident in some groups or on my own. I don't have to worry that someone would spread a rumor that somebody was hitting on me. People don't hit on ugly men.

It used to be that whenever I went on a trip by myself, I was very cautious. I made sure I had my wedding ring on and my cell phone with me so I could contact The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage several times a day to make sure I wasn't in any "situation."

Three weeks ago I was in a restaurant by myself, and when the waitress brought my bill to the table I said in a very joking way, "Do old and ugly men get discounts?"

We both laughed together, and when we were done laughing, she said, "As a matter of fact, we do give discounts like that. I can give you a 20% discount on your bill today."

At first, I thought she was joking, but when the bill came, I saw the 20% discount. Oh, what a joy it is to be old and ugly. It's surprising how many perks come with this stage of life, and I'm enjoying every one of them.

I want to get as old and ugly as I possibly can and live long enough to cash out on all the perks available.

The older and uglier I get, the more I understand the beauty of the life I'm living. That made me think of a wonderful Bible verse.

Proverbs 20:29, "The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the grey head."

My grey hair reveals my beauty; I'm proud of it, and I don't care what other people think.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, email jamessnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.

Obituaries

DEATH NOTICES

• **Elizabeth Moore Holton,** 90 of Crawfordville passed away August 18, 2026.

• **Elizabeth McDonald Messer,** 79 of Monticello passed away August 15, 2026.

• **James O. Revell,** 84 of Crawfordville passed away August 18, 2026.

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

Sheriff's Report

Sheriff's Report is for activity August 14 to 21. There were 1,573 calls for service.

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

• Deputy Joshua Parker responded to Tractor Supply in reference to a stolen trailer. Contact was made with the manager who advised a customer had rented a trailer on August 11th and an agreement was completed. She advised she has made multiple attempts to contact the customer but to no avail. Deputy Parker attempted to make contact with the customer via dispatch but was advised the person who answered the phone stated the wrong number was provided. Due to this, a sworn statement and an affidavit for prosecution was completed Case forwarded to Criminal Investigations Division.

• Deputy McMullen and Deputy Kittrell responded to Joe Mack Smith Road in reference to fraud. Contact was made with the reporting person who advised he has been receiving bills in the mail from AT&T. He stated he does not have any active accounts with AT&T. He called customer service and was provided a fraud case number however he continued receiving bills in the mail. He stated he believed someone opened an account in his name and is unsure of who it could be. Case forwarded to CID

• A traffic stop was conducted on a vehicle. Upon contact with the driver and sole occupant, Danielle Gray, it was discovered Gray had history of narcotics use and possession. After being warned about her expired tag, a request for consent to search the vehicle was asked for and consent was granted by verbal acknowledgement from Gray. During the search, a glass smoking pipe with residue and 0.2 grams of a white crystalline substance was located inside Gray's purse. The substance field tested positive for meth. Gray was placed under arrest and transported to the Wakulla County Jail without incident.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15

• Deputy Caleb Bushong responded to Hickory Avenue in reference to criminal mischief. Contact was made with the reporting person. He explained he believed someone he knew had damaged his mailbox and knocked it over. He stated he believed it to be this person due to him letting him go from employment. He advised he did not wish to pursue charges for this incident but only wished it to be documented in case further events arose.

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

• Deputy Jonathan Kilbourn conducted a traffic stop near the weigh station on Coastal Highway for unlawful speed. During the stop, it was discovered that Larry Whiddon, the driver, had a tag attached to the vehicle but was not assigned to it. While speaking with the deputy, Whiddon advised he placed the tag on the vehicle after purchasing it, knowing the tag did not belong on the vehicle. Whiddon also advised he was pulled over for the same reason in Thomasville, Georgia. Due to Whiddon knowingly driving an unregistered vehicle along with having a tag attached but not assigned to the vehicle, he was placed under arrest and transported to the county jail without further incident.

• Deputy Bushong responded to Raker Lane in reference to criminal mischief. Contact was made with the reporting person who advised after running errands, he returned to his camper and discovered one of his windows was broken. The reporting person named two individuals he believes to be responsible for the damages. While on scene it was discovered there were no cameras in the area to capture the incident. He completed a sworn affidavit and an affidavit for prosecution. Case forwarded to CID.

MONDAY, AUG. 17

• Deputy Jeremy Martin responded to the front lobby of the Sheriff's Office in reference to a citizen reporting his 1995 Gulfstream stolen from Mount Pleasant Road. The Gulfstream was entered into NCIC/FCIC as being stolen. Case forwarded to CID.

• Deputy Dustin Saba responded to East Ivan Road and made contact with the reporting person, who stated an unknown utility company hit his fence with a trailer mounted generator. He was unsure which utility company caused the damage, but stated an electric company had installed a base station for Xfinity, but was unsure who the generator belonged to. Case assigned to Patrol.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

• A citizen reported being scammed out of $8,200. She stated an unknown subject identifying as a sheriff's office employee advised her she had warrants for her arrest. She made three deposits in Tallahassee at a Bitcoin machine totaling $8,200. Case forwarded to Tallahassee Police Department.

• Deputies responded to Hickory Avenue in reference to a dispute. While on scene, the male half of the dispute, Troy Rose, took an aggressive stance, threw a canned beverage across the yard, balled up his first, began approaching deputies and making verbal threats. Rose was taken into custody and transported to the jail for assault on law enforcement.

• Deputy Austin Rivers responded to River Plantation and made contact with a citizen who stated upon returning home she discovered smoke and active flames coming from behind her gas range. She stated her neighbor was able to extinguish the fire prior to Wakulla Fire arriving. Approximately $5,400 in damage was caused by the fire.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19

• Deputy Arturo Cordoba conducted a traffic stop in the 2600 block of Crawfordville Highway. Contact was made with the driver, who was confirmed the registered owner, and advised the reason for the stop. While speaking with the driver, Roger Carroll, he admitted to knowing his license was suspended. Due to this, Deputy Cordoba issued him a notice to appear and the vehicle was turned over to a valid licensed driver.

• Deputy Kory Smith responded to the sheriff's office lobby in reference to a fraud. Contact was made with the reporting person who stated she received a phone call from an unknown number. The caller identified themselves as law enforcement and informed her that she had a warrant for her arrest due to missing jury duty. The caller informed her that if she sent money, they would throw out the warrant. She stated she went to two "green dot" machines and deposited $500 in each to a code provided before realizing she had been scammed. She wished for this incident to be documented for informational purposes.

THURSDAY, AUG. 20

• No reports.

FRIDAY, AUG. 21

• Deputies responded to Chinook Trail in reference to a vehicle burglary a citizen reported her vehicle had been burglarized. Misc. items were taken to include her Bible, purse, and bank cards. Case forwarded to CID.

• Walmart Asset Protection reported a delayed theft. Taken was approximately $408 worth of unpaid merchandise. Case forwarded to CID.

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

Extradition

From Front Page

murders occured. The cause and circumstances surrounding the fire remain under investigation; however, based on the information currently available, it is being treated as a separate incident from the homicides.

The sheriff's office first confirmed the murders on Aug. 4. The next day, the sheriff's office reported it had obtained arrest warrants for Raker, 46, on two counts of homicide, and offered a $10,000 reward.

A couple of days later, with social media blowing up and citizens posting comments critical of the sheriff's office's handling of the case, Sheriff Miller and Major Eddie Wester, head of Criminal Investigations Division, posted a 15-minute video on Facebook with the sheriff expressing his concern about the family and Wester laying out a timeline of events.

Wester said the case began on Aug. 2 with an intoxicated man, who could barely be understood, telling deputies that someone had been shot in the Otter Creek Road area. Deputies found signs of a struggle in the yard. They retreated to obtain a search warrant. No bodies had been found at the time.

Later, in the early morning, a fire was reported at the scene. Raker was inside the house and transported to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation. In an interview with detectives at the hospital, he indicated someone else was responsible for injuring Luper and Thomas.

Raker came back out to the scene and volunteered to help with evidence, but no evidence was discovered, Wester said. Raker was allowed to leave because he was considered a witness, not a suspect.

K9 teams from the state Department of Corrections and human remains detection K9s came out that morning and a man's body was found on neighboring property of the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. The body had been concealed and covered with underbrush, Wester said. It was identified as Luper. Later, about 100 yards away, a deceased female was discovered in heavy brush and concealed with underbrush. The body was identified as Thomas.

It's not clear yet when Raker will be transported from Texas to Florida.

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FICTICIOUS NAMES

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, James Swart, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

DEVPEEPS

Located at 23 Stone Way, Crawfordville FL 32327
In the County of Wakulla
Intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporation of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.

Published on August 27, 2026

FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice under Fictitious Name Law, pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, Whinmari Ramirez , desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of

JOW BEAUTY

Located at 118 Bedford loop Crawfordville
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 August 27, 2026

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is given pursuant to Florida Self-Storage Facility Act, Florida Statues, Chapter 83, Part IV that Seminole Self Storage will hold a sale by sealed bid August 31, 2026, at 11:00 am. at 2314 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, Florida 32327, of the contents of Mini Warehouse containing personal property of

KERESSA BRUCE

Before the sale date of August 31st, 2026. The Owners may redeem their property by payment of the Outstanding Balance and cost by mailing certified funds to 2314 Crawfordville Hwy, Crawfordville, Florida 32327 or Paying in person at the warehouse location.

August 20, 27, 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JAMES LEE THOMPSON
DECEASED
DIVISION: PROBATE

CASE NO: 2026-CP-111

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the Estate of James Lee Thompson, deceased, File 2026-CP-111 is pending in the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 3056 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL 32327. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney is set forth below.

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

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

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

The date of the first publication of this Notice is August 20, 2026.

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

Co-Personal Representatives:
Sheree T. Keeler
5 Magnolia Ridge
Crawfordville, FL 32327
Sheila D. Biblo
1316 Lehigh Dr.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Aug. 20, 27, 2026

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NOTICE OF ACTION

0806-0827 TWS NOA

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice is hereby given that SETTING SUN PANACEA, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company, has been dissolved effective October 15, 2026, pursuant to the Florida Revised Limited Liability Company Act.

The Company has ceased conducting business except as necessary to wind up its affairs. Any person having a claim against the Company must present the claim in writing to:

Setting Sun Panacea, LLC
c/o Frances C. Lowe, Esquire
Ausley McMullen
68-A Feli Way
Crawfordville, Florida 32327

The written claim must include:

The claimant's name, address, telephone number, and email address (if available);
The amount of the claim;
The basis for the claim; and
Copies of any documents supporting the claim.

Claims must be received no later than four (4) years after publication. Any claim not received by the stated deadline may be barred to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

Dated this 22nd day of July, 2026.

SETTING SUN PANACEA, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company

By: s/ Frances C. Lowe, Esquire
Ausley McMullen
68-A Feli Way
Crawfordville, Florida 32327

Published August 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

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

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, Case No.: 2025-CA-000127
V.
ANTHONY GLENN ROLLINS; ET AL.,
DEFENDANT(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: ANNISHA BATTLE- ROLLINS
2073 SW 87th Terrace, Miramar, FL 33025
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS STATED, CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN

and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under the above-named Defendant(s), if deceased or whose last known addresses are unknown.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose Mortgage covering the following real and personal property described as follows, to wit:

LOT 15, BLOCK B OF BUCKHORN VILLAGE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE (S) 10, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Alexandra Kalman, Esq., Lender Legal PLLC, 1 800 Pembrook Drive, Suite 250, Orlando, Florida 32810 and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court on or before 30 days from 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 17th day of August, 2026.

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

August 27, September 3, 2026

0827-0917 TWS NOA

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

IN THE INTEREST OF: CASE NO.: 2023 DP 9
L.A. DOB: 11/16/2025,
MINOR CHILD /

NOTICE OF ACTION- TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

TO: Amy Allshouse, address unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families, has filed a Petition to terminate your parental rights and permanently commit the following child for adoption: L.A. born on 11/16/2025. You are hereby **commanded** to appear on November 2, 2026, at 9:00 AM before the Honorable Brian Miller at the Wakulla Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway Crawfordville, FL 32327, for an **ADVISORY HEARING.**

FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THIS CHILD (OR CHILDREN). IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD OR CHILDREN NAMED IN THIS NOTICE.

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 ADA Coordinator; 301 South Monroe Street, Room 225, Tallahassee, FL 32301; 850-606-4401 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Dated August 17, 2026

{{County Court Seal}}
Greg James
As Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: **/s/ Lindsey Nichols**
As Deputy Clerk

Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF ACTION

0827-0917 TWS NOA

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

PAFFORD PROPERTIES & CONSTRUCTION, LLC, A FLORIDA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY,
PLAINTIFF, Case No.: 2026-CA-000104
V.
MARIA ELENA PICCIRILLO, IF ALIVE, AND IF DECEASED, UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST HER,
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: **MARIA ELENA PICCIRILLO, if alive, and if deceased, unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, assigns, and all other parties claiming by through, under or against her,**

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Complaint for Quiet Title on the following property in Wakulla County, Florida:

LOT 7, BLOCK 1 OF GREINER'S ADDITION TO CRAWFORDVILLE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 2, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA. LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA AS PER DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 51, PAGE 839, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Wakulla County Parcel ID No. 00-00-077-014-10391-000

Address: Dr MLK Jr Memorial Road, Crawfordville, FL

has been filed against you and others, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on **ANDREW J. POWER, ESQUIRE, SMITH, THOMPSON, SHAW & 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.

DATED this 22nd day of July, 2026.

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

August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

0827-0917 TWS NOA

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

ESTES INVESTMENT PROPERTIES, LLC, A FLORIDA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY,
PLAINTIFF, Case No.: 2026-CA-000113
V.
CARMEN M. NEGION, DONNIE EARL PRICE AND ALBERTO S. ALLEN, IF ALIVE, AND IF DECEASED, UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THEM,
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: **CARMEN M. NEGION, DONNIE EARL PRICE and ALBERTO S. ALLEN; if alive, and if deceased, unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, assigns, and all other parties claiming by through, under or against them**

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Complaint for Quiet Title on the following property in Wakulla County, Florida:

LOT 1, BLOCK C OF WAKULLA RIVER ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 48, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Wakulla County Parcel ID No. 00-00-016-006-06412-000

Address: Owl Lane, Crawfordville, FL

has been filed against you and others, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on **ANDREW J. POWER, ESQUIRE, SMITH, THOMPSON, SHAW & 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.

DATED this 19th day of August, 2026.

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

August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

0827-0917 TWS NOA

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

PAFFORD PROPERTIES & CONSTRUCTION, LLC, A FLORIDA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY,
PLAINTIFF, Case No.: 2026-CA-000107
V.
MARY JANE WITWICKI, IF ALIVE, AND IF DECEASED, UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST HER,
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: **MARY JANE WITWICKI; if alive, and if deceased, unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, assigns, and all other parties claiming by through, under or against her**

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Complaint for Quiet Title on the following property in Wakulla County, Florida:

LOT 41, BLOCK 6 OF WAKULLA GARDENS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 39, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Wakulla County Parcel ID No. 00-00-035-008-06854-000

Address: Comanche Trail, Crawfordville, FL

has been filed against you and others, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on **ANDREW J. POWER, ESQUIRE, SMITH, THOMPSON, SHAW & 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.

DATED this 19th day of August, 2026.

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

August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF ACTION

0827-0917 TWS NOA

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

PAFFORD PROPERTIES & CONSTRUCTION, LLC, A FLORIDA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY,
PLAINTIFF, Case No.: 2026-CA-000103
V.
JESSE R. RAYMOND AND LORRAINE G. RAYMOND, IF ALIVE, AND IF DECEASED, UNKNOWN SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, CREDITORS, ASSIGNS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THEM,
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: **JESSE R. RAYMOND and LORRAINE G. RAYMOND; if alive, and if deceased, unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, assigns, and all other parties claiming by through, under or against them**

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Complaint for Quiet Title on the following property in Wakulla County, Florida:

LOT(S) NUMBERED NINETEEN (19), IN BLOCK TWENTY-TWO (22) OF WAKULLA GARDENS UNIT THREE, AS SHOWN BY PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION OF RECORD ON PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 43, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Wakulla County Parcel ID No. 00-00-043-010-08943-000

Address: Klickitat Drive, Crawfordville, FL

has been filed against you and others, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on **ANDREW J. POWER, ESQUIRE, SMITH, THOMPSON, SHAW & 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.

DATED this 19th day of August, 2026.

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

August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

0813-0820 TWS NOFS

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

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, CASE NO. 25000009CAAXMX
Plaintiff,
vs.
JOSHUA L. HICKS;
Defendants

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling the Foreclosure Sale dated July 16, 2026, and entered in Case No. 25000009CAAXMX, ofthe Circuit Court ofthe Second Judicial Circuit in and for WAKULLA County, Florida. LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC (hereafter **"Plaintiff"**), is Plaintiff and JOSHUA L. HICKS, are defendants. Greg James, Clerk ofthe Circuit Court for WAKULLA, County Florida will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the **First Floor of the Courthouse Lobby, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327** at **11:00 a.m.,** on the **10TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2026**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 2, FAIRWINDS SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 68 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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 Francene Brown, Office of Court Administration, Second Judicial Circuit 301 S. Monroe Street, Room 225 Tallahassee FL 32301, Phone no. 850-606-4401 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Si usted es una persona minusválida que necesita algún acomodamiento para poder participar en este procedimiento, usted tiene derecho, sin tener gastos propios, a que se le provea cierta ayuda. Tenga la amabilidad de ponerse en contacto con Francene Brown, Office of Court Administration, Second Judicial Circuit 301 S. Monroe Street, Room 225 Tallahassee FL 32301, Phone no. 850-606-4401 por lo menos 7 días antes de la cita fijada para su comparecencia en los tribunales, o inmediatamente después de recibir esta notificación si el tiempo antes de la comparecencia que se ha programado es menos de 7 días; si usted tiene discapacitación del oído o de la voz, llame al 711.

Si ou se yon moun ki andikape ou enfim ki bezwen akomodasyon pou w ka patisipe nan pwosedi sa, ou kalifye san ou pa gen okenn lajan pou w peye, gen pwovizyon pou jwen kèk èd. Tanpri kontakte Francene Brown, Office of Court Administration, Second Judicial Circuit 301 S. Monroe Street, Room 225 Tallahassee FL 32301, Phone no. 850-606-4401 nan 7 jou anvan dat ou gen randevou pou parèt nan tribinal la, oubyen imedyatman apre ou fin resevwa konvokasyon an si lè ou gen pou w parèt nan tribinal la mwens ke 7 jou; si ou gen pwoblèm pou w tande oubyen pale, rele 711.

Dated this 3rd day of August 2026.

Counsel of Plaintiff
Van Ness Law Firm, PLC
1239 E. Newport Center Drive Suite #110
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442
Phone (954) 571-2031
Pleadings@vanlawfl.com

{{County Court Seal}}
Greg James
As Clerk of the Court
By: **/s/ Rachel Howard**
As Deputy Clerk

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 before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

August 13, 20, 2026

0813-0820 TWS NOFS

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, CASE NO. 26000037CAAXMX
Plaintiff,
vs.
BRIANNA CRONAN AND PHILLIP HIGHSMITH, ET AL.,
Defendants

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated **July 07, 2026**, and entered in 26000037CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the SECOND Judicial Circuit in and for Wakulla County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff and BRIANNA CRONAN; PHILLIP HIGHSMITH; FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION; FIFTH THIRD BANK, N.A.; COMMODORE COMMONS OF WAKULLA COUNTY PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC. are the Defendant(s). Greg James as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at 3056 Crawfordville Hwy., the Front Lobby, Wakulla County Courthouse, Crawfordville, FL 32327, at 11:00 AM, on **August 27, 2026**, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 30 OF COMMODORE COMMONS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE(S) 99, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Property Address: 10 COUNTRY WAY, CRAWFORDVILLE, FL 32327

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 in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031.

Dated this 30th day of July, 2026.

{{County Court Seal}}
Greg James
As Clerk of the Court
By: **/s/ Ethan Brown**
As Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: ADA Coordinator; 301 South Monroe Street; Tallahassee, FL 32301; 850.606.4400; at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

August 13, 20, 2026

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

0813-0820 TWS NOF
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION

SELENE FINANCE, LP Case #: 25000050CAAXMX
Plaintiff(s),
vs.
MIRANDA STORM WEST; et al.,
Defendant(s).

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Order Granting Motion to Cancel and Reschedule Foreclosure Sale entered on July 28, 2026 in the above-captioned action, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the Wakulla County Courthouse Lobby, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, Florida 32327 in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the **10th day of September, 2026 at 11:00 AM** on the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure or order, to wit:

LOT 41, BLOCK B, CHADWICK ESTATES PHASE 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGES 6 AND 7, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Property address: 105 Windsor Way, Crawfordville, FL 32327

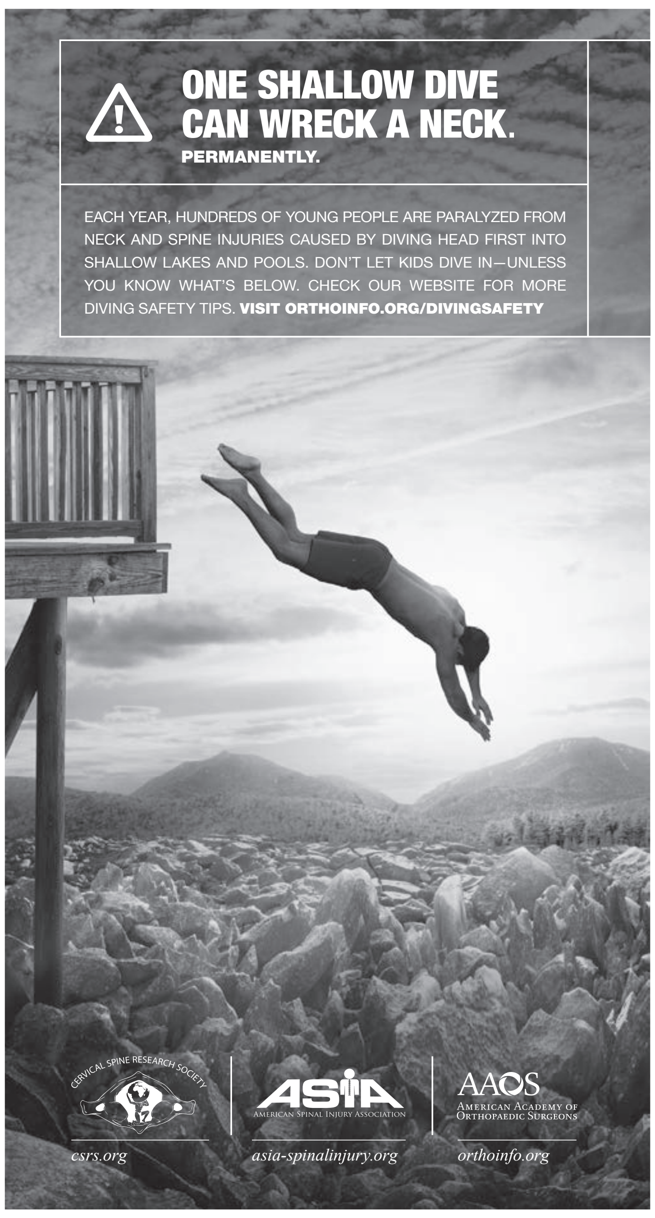
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Susan Wilson, ADA Coordinator; 301 South Monroe Street; Tallahassee, FL 32301; (850)577-4401; at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

In accordance with Rule of General Practice and Judicial administration 2.515, the undersigned represents that the legal authorities identified herein exist and are accurately cited.

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

Aug. 13, 20, 2026



STATE WIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Home Improvement/Service

PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for a quote or inspection today 1-877-641-1916 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-877-317-0311.

Medical

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-877-748-9960.

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

Miscellaneous

Donate your vehicle to help find missing children and prevent abduction. Fast free pickup, running or not, 24 hr response. No emission test required, maximum tax deduction. Support Find the Children, call: 1-877-907-0087.

Wanted to Buy

CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-877-377-4727.

We Buy Vintage Guitar's! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-877-706-0656.

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

NOTICE OF SALE

0813-0820 TWS NOS
IN THE 2nd JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT IN
AND FOR WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Case #: 2026-CA-31
Plaintiff,
-vs.-
LUKE FRANKLIN STARLING;
DENA KAY STARLING; and
UNKNOWN TENANT
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment dated August 3, 2026, entered in Case No. 2026-CA-31 of the Circuit Court in and for Wakulla County, Florida, wherein **LUKE FRANKLIN STARLING, DENA KAY STARLING, and UNKNOWN TENANT** are the Defendants, that **Greg James**, the Clerk of Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, in person at at the Wakulla County Courthouse on the first floor in lobby at 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, Fl 32327, on **September 17, 2026 at 11:00 AM**, the following described real property as set forth in the Final Judgment:

Legal: **COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT NO. 10 OF THE NATHAN DONALDSON ESTATE AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OR PLAT OF RECORD ON PAGE 481 OF DEED BOOK NO. 5 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND LOCATED IN THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N 1/2 OF NW 1/4 OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA (SAID CORNER MARKED BY AN OLD IRON AXLE), THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" WEST, 171.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF TRACT HEREIN CONVEYED; THENCE RUN SOUTH 0 DEGREES 25' 46" EAST, 315.0 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" WEST, 15.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" WEST, 156.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN NORTH 0 DEGREES 25' 55" WEST, 315.0 FEET TO AN OLD IRON PIPE; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" EAST, 171.1 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N 1/2 OF NW 1/4) OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

AND

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT NO. 10 OF THE NATHAN DONALDSON ESTATE AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OR PLAT OF RECORD ON PAGE 481 OF DEED BOOK NO. 5 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND LOCATED IN THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N 1/2 OF NW 1/4) OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA (SAID CORNER MARKED BY AN OLD IRON AXLE), THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" WEST, 171.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN SOUTH 0 DEGREES 25' 46" EAST, 315.0 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING OF TRACT HEREIN CONVEYED; FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTINUE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 25' 46" EAST, ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF A 30 FOOT ROADWAY, 315.0 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" WEST, 15.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" WEST 156.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN NORTH 0 DEGREES 25' 55" WEST, 315.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" EAST, 156.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" EAST, 15.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N 1/2 OF NW 1/4) OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

AND

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 10 OF THE NATHAN DONALDSON ESTATE AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OR PLAT OF RECORD ON PAGE 481 OF DEED BOOK NO. 5 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND LOCATED IN THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N 1/2 OF NW 1/4) OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA (SAID CORNER MARKED BY AN OLD IRON AXLE), THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" WEST, 171.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN SOUTH 0 DEGREES 25' 46" EAST, 630.0 FEET TO A POINT ON CENTER LINE OF A 30 FOOT ROADWAY AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF TRACT HEREIN CONVEYED; FROM THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTINUE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 25' 46" EAST, ALONG CENTERLINE OF SAID ROADWAY, 317.0 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 40' 39" WEST ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF COUNTY ROAD 15.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 40' 39" WEST ALONG NORTH SIDE OF COUNTY ROAD 156.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN NORTH 0 DEGREES 25' 55" WEST, 314.47 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" EAST, 156.1 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 25' 27" EAST, 15.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N 1/2 OF NW 1/4) OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 2 WEST, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

SUBJECT TO EASEMENT FOR ROADWAY, BEING A STRIP 15 FEET WIDE (WEST HALF OF A 30 FOOT ROADWAY) ACROSS EAST SIDE OF ABOVE DESCRIBED TRACT.

TOGETHER WITH A 2021 LIVE OAK 30X58 MODEL MANUFACTURED HOME, BEARING SERIAL NOS.: LOHGA30072118A AND LOHGA30072118B.

NOTICE IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN THE DATE THAT THE CLERK REPORTS THE FUNDS AS UNCLAIMED. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER THE FUNDS ARE REPORTED AS UNCLAIMED, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.

Dated this 6th day of August 2026.

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

NOTICE 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 Court Administration at Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, Florida 32327-0337, 850-926-0905 telephone, within two working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, call 1-800-955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8770.

Aug. 13, 20, 2026

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
TAX DEED FILE NO. 2026 TXD 123

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **TAX BRAKE FL LLC** The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **569** Date of Issuance: **May 31, 2024**

Parcel #: **33-2s-01e-189-04995-e02**
Description of Property:
Springwood Subd Phase 1
Lot 2 Block E OR 105 P 131
OR 242 P 545 OR 285 P 379, OR 294 P 841

Name in which assessed **CLARENCE WILSON/LUCY JOHNSON** said property being in the County of Wakulla, State of Florida. Unless suchcertificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder in the Wakulla Co.Courthouseon: **October 21, 2026** at 10:00 A.M. All bidders must pre-register in the OR Dept. prior to 9:45 P.M. to participate in the auction.

August 17, 2026

Signature: Greg James, Clerk
By: D. Dee, Deputy Clerk
Clerk of Circuit Court, Wakulla County, Florida

Published on August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
TAX DEED FILE NO. 2026 TXD 128

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **TAX BRAKE FL LLC** The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **1083** Date of Issuance: **May 31, 2024**

Parcel #: **00-00-056-430-09947-006**
Description of Property:
Lot 6 Macy Lee Acres
PB 6 P 46 OR 1273 P 322

Name in which assessed **LEANNE ROBERTS COBB** said property being in the County of Wakulla, State of Florida. Unless suchcertificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder in the Wakulla Co.Courthouseon: **October 21, 2026** at 10:00 A.M. All bidders must pre-register in the OR Dept. prior to 9:45 P.M. to participate in the auction.

August 17, 2026

Signature: Greg James, Clerk
By: D. Dee, Deputy Clerk
Clerk of Circuit Court, Wakulla County, Florida

Published on August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
TAX DEED FILE NO. 2026 TXD 129

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **TAX BRAKE FL LLC** The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **1143** Date of Issuance: **May 31, 2024**

Parcel #: **00-00-075-141-10234-a10**
Description of Property:
The Pines Unit 1
Block A Lot 10, OR 65 P 352 & OR 86 P 872
OR 130 P 373 & OR 131 P 113, OR 134 P 793 & OR 332 P 847

Name in which assessed **BILLY A GODWIN/BETTY K GODWIN ETAL** said property being in the County of Wakulla, State of Florida. Unless suchcertificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder in the Wakulla Co.Courthouseon: **October 21, 2026** at 10:00 A.M. All bidders must pre-register in the OR Dept. prior to 9:45 P.M. to participate in the auction.

August 17, 2026

Signature: Greg James, Clerk
By: D. Dee, Deputy Clerk
Clerk of Circuit Court, Wakulla County, Florida

Published on August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
TAX DEED FILE NO. 2026 TXD 130

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **TAX BRAKE FL LLC** The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **1286** Date of Issuance: **May 29, 2019**

Parcel #: **00-00-044-000-09819-000**
Description of Property:
LOT 44 HS P-6-M-11
IN SE 1/4 OF LOT 44
DB 26 P 163 OR 932 P 791, OR 933 P 415 ORDER (HENRY MAE)

Name in which assessed **HEIRS OF MRS BURTON FORBES** said property being in the County of Wakulla, State of Florida. Unless suchcertificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder in the Wakulla Co.Courthouseon: **October 21, 2026** at 10:00 A.M. All bidders must pre-register in the OR Dept. prior to 9:45 P.M. to participate in the auction.

August 17, 2026

Signature: Greg James, Clerk
By: D. Dee, Deputy Clerk
Clerk of Circuit Court, Wakulla County, Florida

Published on August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
TAX DEED FILE NO. 2026 TXD 131

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **TAX BRAKE FL LLC** The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **135** Date of Issuance: **May 31, 2024**

Parcel #: **23-4S-02W-000-02013-000**
Description of Property:
23-4S-2W P-1-M-50C
COMM AT NW COR OF SEC 23 & RUN
E ALONG SEC LINE 15 CHS THEN S
20 CHS THEN W 15 CHS TO W LINE
OF SEC THEN N ALONG SEC LINE

Name in which assessed **STEVEN H JOHNSON/ JESSICA E JOHNSON** said property being in the County of Wakulla, State of Florida. Unless suchcertificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder in the Wakulla Co.Courthouseon: **October 21, 2026** at 10:00 A.M. All bidders must pre-register in the OR Dept. prior to 9:45 P.M. to participate in the auction.

August 17, 2026

Signature: Greg James, Clerk
By: D. Dee, Deputy Clerk
Clerk of Circuit Court, Wakulla County, Florida

Published on August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
TAX DEED FILE NO. 2026 TXD 132

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that **TAX BRAKE FL LLC** The holder of the following tax certificate has filed the certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **907** Date of Issuance: **May 31, 2024**

Parcel #: **00-00-034-009-08568-000**
Description of Property:
WAKULLA GARDENS UNIT 2
BLOCK 9 LOT 24
OR 5 P 381, OR 763 P 644

Name in which assessed **JAMES R JONES/ BETTY J JONES** said property being in the County of Wakulla, State of Florida. Unless suchcertificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder in the Wakulla Co.Courthouseon: **October 21, 2026** at 10:00 A.M. All bidders must pre-register in the OR Dept. prior to 9:45 P.M. to participate in the auction.

August 17, 2026

Signature: Greg James, Clerk
By: D. Dee, Deputy Clerk
Clerk of Circuit Court, Wakulla County, Florida

Published on August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2026

WELLNESS WORD SEARCH

Y	I	M	L	B	R	E	A	T	H	E	D	V	Y	H	X	H	N	C	G
A	M	N	O	I	T	A	R	D	Y	H	A	G	F	L	G	H	N	Y	B
H	E	A	L	I	N	G	W	E	N	U	T	R	I	T	I	O	N	H	D
Y	B	X	F	S	B	R	E	B	M	U	L	S	D	B	N	T	U	E	F
R	A	A	F	S	I	B	A	X	M	M	E	D	I	T	A	T	I	O	N
D	N	D	L	B	C	A	S	E	R	E	N	I	T	Y	H	W	I	F	G
E	I	M	H	A	R	L	R	B	U	B	C	T	M	A	T	E	X	B	W
W	M	R	R	M	N	S	M	E	Y	T	F	Y	D	I	A	L	B	D	N
T	A	E	E	A	I	C	V	S	C	M	G	M	G	A	M	L	S	F	M
E	T	L	A	C	E	N	E	Y	X	O	O	A	Y	H	Y	B	A	W	T
N	S	A	S	R	N	X	D	D	G	C	V	H	X	Y	T	E	A	H	T
E	W	X	S	H	L	E	V	F	H	X	A	E	N	F	I	I	F	O	W
R	E	A	E	O	L	T	I	O	U	R	X	R	R	S	L	N	E	L	T
G	S	T	N	H	V	L	A	L	M	L	H	H	E	Y	A	G	N	I	X
Y	N	I	T	A	Y	U	B	O	I	S	N	W	H	A	T	W	I	S	B
Y	A	O	I	L	F	S	N	D	Y	S	E	E	V	V	I	A	T	T	G
G	E	N	F	O	T	Y	V	H	L	Y	E	G	S	A	V	X	U	I	F
N	L	G	R	A	T	I	T	U	D	E	U	R	B	S	H	S	O	C	H
X	C	L	A	I	S	E	X	T	V	A	T	A	T	E	Y	N	R	O	M
W	W	W	O	X	G	N	X	H	T	G	N	E	R	T	S	E	M	G	H

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

WORDS

BALANCED
BREATHE
CARE
CLEANSE
ENERGY
FITNESS
GRATITUDE
HARMONY
HEALING
HOLISTIC
HYDRATION
MEDITATION
MINDFULNESS
NUTRITION
RECOVERY
RELAXATION
RESILIENCE
ROUTINE
SERENITY
SLUMBER
STAMINA
STRENGTH
VITALITY
WELL-BEING

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Listen to
5. Presents
10. A type of guitar
14. Actor Idris
15. A citizen of Iran
16. Pretentiously artistic
17. Harness
18. Diamond weight measurement
19. "Better Call __"
20. Fervent support
22. Male cat
23. Jewish spiritual leader
24. Disposed to venture or take risks
27. A way to nail
30. Cool!
31. Women's __ movement
32. "Losing My Religion" rockers
35. Step-shaped recess
37. A princess can detect it
38. Tractor-trailer
39. Leslie and Leon are two
40. Color at the end of the spectrum
41. Lines where fabrics are sewn
42. Dodgers great Hershiser
43. Floor covering
44. Traveled aimlessly
45. Rocker Stewart
46. Body art
47. Congressman (abbr.)
48. No seats available
49. Breaks apart
52. Hand gesture
55. Ballplayer's tool
56. Sword
60. Baseball team
61. Upper bract of floret of grass
63. Italian Seaport
64. Mars crater
65. Tube on a shoelace
66. U. of Miami mascot
67. South American nation
68. Video game series "Max __"
69. Upper body part

CLUES DOWN

1. German courtesy title
2. Ancient Greek personification of mercy
3. Jewish calendar month
4. Family of long-legged frogs
5. Photo
6. Delivered a speech
7. Lute used in Indian music
8. Decorated
9. Cease to stand
10. The bottom layer
11. Member of a Semitic people
12. Part of a ticket
13. Defunct monetary unit
21. Challenges
23. Body part
25. Tell on
26. By way of
27. Shady green alcove
28. Egyptian city
29. __ and flowed
32. Widens a hole
33. Eurasian wheat
34. Act incorrectly
36. "Be back later"
37. Al Bundy's wife
38. Ocean
40. Large root eaten as a vegetable
41. Units of subjective loudness
43. Music genre
44. A way to drench
46. Popular hot beverage
47. Silk-like cotton fabric
49. Rumanian city
50. Come back
51. Vaccine developer
52. Canadian law enforcers
53. Wings
54. Observational comedian Bill
57. Small fry
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Take a chance
61. Semi-liquid food for babies
62. Consumed food

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to traffic.

P T S O

SUDOKU

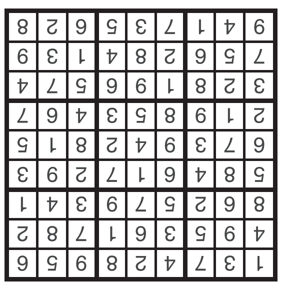
	3	7			8			
								2
	6		5				4	
		4		1			9	
	7	3	9				1	5
2			8	5	3	4	6	
			1		6			
7			2			1	3	9
9	4			3	5	6	2	

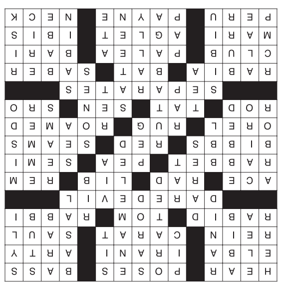
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

GUESS WHO?

I am a singer born in England on August 22, 1995. I worked as a waitress while living in London. I started posting covers of songs on YouTube. I won Grammy Awards in 2019 for Best New Artist and Best Dance Record, and I've had many hits on the charts. I recently tied the knot.





Answer: Stop

Answer: Dua Lipa


The Wakulla Sun
Robyn Hurst remembered
Hertz, Looney to return for retrial
Heavy security at hearing
St. Marks to raise sewer rates 75% on residents
Charter review discusses spring protection


Auditions for Musical
GREASE
The Wakulla Sun
Brad Harvey pleads to charges
The former property appraiser is charged with embezzling money from the office; he will be sentenced in September
SOPCHOPPY FOURTH OF JULY
Two drownings in separate incidents on July 4th
State braces for


Chomp n Stomp held at Palaver Tree
The Wakulla Sun
Election suit over after 3 years
Appeals court rules for Ed Brimner in lawsuit over 2020 property appraiser in which Colby Sparkman lost by 3 votes
Fired Chiles coach may join War Eagle coaching staff

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS FOR THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION

I, CORD BYRD, Secretary of State for Florida, do hereby give notice that the ballot title, summary and proposed text for each of the following proposed amendments and revisions to the Florida Constitution will be on the General Election ballot on November 3, 2026, in each county. The full text may also be found at https://constitutionalinitiatives.dos.fl.gov/, at FloridaPublicNotices.com, and at this newspaper's website.

No.1 Constitutional Amendment
Article III, Section 19

ARTICLE III
LEGISLATURE

SECTION 19. State Budgeting, Planning and Appropriations Processes.—

(a) ANNUAL BUDGETING.

(1) General law shall prescribe the adoption of annual state budgetary and planning processes and require that detail reflecting the annualized costs of the state budget and reflecting the nonrecurring costs of the budget requests shall accompany state department and agency legislative budget requests, the governor's recommended budget, and appropriation bills.

(2) Unless approved by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house, appropriations made for recurring purposes from nonrecurring general revenue funds for any fiscal year shall not exceed three percent of the total general revenue funds estimated to be available at the time such appropriation is made.

(3) As prescribed by general law, each state department and agency shall be required to submit a legislative budget request that is based upon and that reflects the long-range financial outlook adopted by the joint legislative budget commission or that specifically explains any variance from the long-range financial outlook contained in the request.

(4) For purposes of this section, the terms department and agency shall include the judicial branch.

(b) APPROPRIATION BILLS FORMAT. Separate sections within the general appropriation bill shall be used for each major program area of the state budget; major program areas shall include: education enhancement "lottery" trust fund items; education (all other funds); human services; criminal justice and corrections; natural resources, environment, growth management, and transportation; general government; and judicial branch. Each major program area shall include an itemization of expenditures for: state operations; state capital outlay; aid to local governments and nonprofit organizations operations; aid to local governments and nonprofit organizations capital outlay; federal funds and the associated state matching funds; spending authorizations for operations; and spending authorizations for capital outlay. Additionally, appropriation bills passed by the legislature shall include an itemization of specific appropriations that exceed one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) in 1992 dollars. For purposes of this subsection, "specific appropriation," "itemization," and "major program area" shall be defined by law. This itemization threshold shall be adjusted by general law every four years to reflect the rate of inflation or deflation as indicated in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items, or successor reports as reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics or its successor. Substantive bills containing appropriations shall also be subject to the itemization requirement mandated under this provision and shall be subject to the governor's specific appropriation veto power described in Article III, Section 8.

(c) APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

(1) No later than September 15 of each year, the joint legislative budget commission shall issue a long-range financial outlook setting out recommended fiscal strategies for the state and its departments and agencies in order to assist the legislature in making budget decisions. The long-range financial outlook must include major workload and revenue estimates. In order to implement this paragraph, the joint legislative budget commission shall use current official consensus estimates and may request the development of additional official estimates.

(2) The joint legislative budget commission shall seek input from the public and from the executive and judicial branches when developing and recommending the long-range financial outlook.

(3) The legislature shall prescribe by general law conditions under which limited adjustments to the budget, as recommended by the governor or the chief justice of the supreme court, may be approved without the concurrence of the full legislature.

(d) SEVENTY-TWO HOUR PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD. All general appropriation bills shall be furnished to each member of the legislature, each member of the cabinet, the governor, and the chief justice of the supreme court at least seventy-two hours before final passage by either house of the legislature of the bill in the form that will be presented to the governor.

(e) FINAL BUDGET REPORT. A final budget report shall be prepared as prescribed by general law. The final budget report shall be produced no later than the 120th day after the beginning of the fiscal year, and copies of the report shall be furnished to each member of the legislature, the head of each department and agency of the state, the auditor general, and the chief justice of the supreme court.

(f) TRUST FUNDS.

(1) No trust fund of the State of Florida or other public body may be created or re-created by law without a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the legislature in a separate bill for that purpose only.

(2) State trust funds shall terminate not more than four years after the effective date of the act authorizing the initial creation of the trust fund. By law the legislature may set a shorter time period for which any trust fund is authorized.

(3) Trust funds required by federal programs or mandates; trust funds established for bond covenants, indentures, or resolutions, whose revenues are legally pledged by the state or public body to meet debt service or other financial requirements of any debt obligations of the state or any public body; the state transportation trust fund; the trust fund containing the net annual proceeds from the Florida Education Lotteries; the Florida retirement trust fund; trust funds for institutions under the management of the Board of Governors, where such trust funds are for auxiliary enterprises and contracts, grants, and donations, as those terms are defined by general law; trust funds that serve as clearing funds or accounts for the chief financial officer or state agencies; trust funds that account for assets held by the state in a trustee capacity as an agent or fiduciary for individuals, private organizations, or other governmental units; and other trust funds authorized by this Constitution, are not subject to the requirements set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(4) All cash balances and income of any trust funds abolished under this subsection shall be deposited into the

(g) BUDGET STABILIZATION FUND.

(1) For purposes of this subsection, the term "revenue collections" means the last completed fiscal year's net revenue collections for the general revenue fund.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, an amount equal to at least 5% ~~of the last completed fiscal year's net revenue collections for the general revenue fund~~ shall be retained in the budget stabilization fund. The budget stabilization fund's principal balance shall not exceed an amount equal to 25% ~~10%~~ of ~~the last completed fiscal year's net~~ revenue collections ~~for the general revenue fund~~.

(3) The legislature shall transfer the lesser of $750 million or the amount required to increase the principal balance of the budget stabilization fund to an amount equal to 25% of revenue collections from the general revenue fund to the budget stabilization fund no later than June 30th of each fiscal year. The legislature may suspend this transfer in a fiscal year in which:

a. Funds are withdrawn from the budget stabilization fund pursuant to paragraph (4);

b. Funds are withdrawn from the budget stabilization fund for the purpose of funding a critical state need pursuant to paragraph (5); or

c. The legislature determines there is a critical state need that requires the expenditure of general revenue funds in an amount that exceeds the transfer amount required by this paragraph. A suspension for a critical state need pursuant to this subparagraph must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership of each house of the legislature in a separate bill for that purpose only and may not occur more than once every five years.

(4) The legislature shall provide criteria for withdrawing funds from the budget stabilization fund in a separate bill for that purpose only and only for the purpose of covering revenue shortfalls of the general revenue fund or for the purpose of providing funding for an emergency, as defined by general law.

(5) If the principal balance of the budget stabilization fund exceeds an amount equal to 15% of revenue collections, the legislature may withdraw funds for the purpose of funding on a nonrecurring basis a critical state need. Such withdrawal must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership of each house of the legislature in a separate bill for that purpose only. The withdrawal must not cause the principal balance of the budget stabilization fund to equal an amount that is less than 10% of revenue collections.

(6) General law shall provide for the restoration of this fund. The budget stabilization fund shall be comprised of funds not otherwise obligated or committed for any purpose.

(h) LONG-RANGE STATE PLANNING DOCUMENT AND DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY PLANNING DOCUMENT PROCESSES. General law shall provide for a long-range state planning document. The governor shall recommend to the legislature biennially any revisions to the long-range state planning document, as defined by law. General law shall require a biennial review and revision of the long range state planning document and shall require all departments and agencies of state government to develop planning documents that identify statewide strategic goals and objectives, consistent with the long-range state planning document. The long-range state planning document and department and agency planning documents shall remain subject to review and revision by the legislature. The long-range state planning document must include projections of future needs and resources of the state which are consistent with the long-range financial outlook. The department and agency planning documents shall include a prioritized listing of planned expenditures for review and possible reduction in the event of revenue shortfalls, as defined by general law.

(i) GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY TASK FORCE. No later than January of 2007, and each fourth year thereafter, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor shall appoint a government efficiency task force, the membership of which shall be established by general law. The task force shall be composed of members of the legislature and representatives from the private and public sectors who shall develop recommendations for improving governmental operations and reducing costs. Staff to assist the task force in performing its duties shall be assigned by general law, and the task force may obtain assistance from the private sector. The task force shall complete its work within one year and shall submit its recommendations to the joint legislative budget commission, the governor, and the chief justice of the supreme court.

(j) JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMISSION. There is created within the legislature the joint legislative budget commission composed of equal numbers of senate members appointed by the president of the senate and house members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. Each member shall serve at the pleasure of the officer who appointed the member. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. From November of each odd-numbered year through October of each even-numbered year, the chairperson of the joint legislative budget commission shall be appointed by the president of the senate and the vice chairperson of the commission shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. From November of each even-numbered year through October of each odd-numbered year, the chairperson of the joint legislative budget commission shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the vice chairperson of the commission shall be appointed by the president of the senate. The joint legislative budget commission shall be governed by the joint rules of the senate and the house of representatives, which shall remain in effect until repealed or amended by concurrent resolution. The commission shall convene at least quarterly and shall convene at the call of the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives. A majority of the commission members of each house plus one additional member from either house constitutes a quorum. Action by the commission requires a majority vote of the commission members present of each house. The commission may conduct its meetings through teleconferences or similar means. In addition to the powers and duties specified in this subsection, the joint legislative budget commission shall exercise all other powers and perform any other duties not in conflict with paragraph (c)(3) and as prescribed by general law or joint rule.

No. 2 Constitutional Amendment
Article VII, Section 3, and Article XII

ARTICLE VII
FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 3. Taxes; exemptions.—

(a) All property owned by a municipality and used exclusively by it for municipal or public purposes shall be exempt from taxation. A municipality, owning property outside the municipality, may be required by general law to make payment to the taxing unit in which the property is located. Such portions of property as are used predominantly for educational, literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes may be exempted by general law from taxation.

(b) There shall be exempt from taxation, cumulatively, to every head of a family residing in this state, household goods and personal effects to the value fixed by general law, not less than one thousand dollars, and to every widow or widower or person who is blind or totally and permanently disabled, property to the value fixed by general law not less than five hundred dollars.

(c) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this subsection and general law, grant community and economic development ad valorem tax exemptions to new businesses and expansions of existing businesses, as defined by general law. Such an exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or municipality, and only after the electors of the county or municipality voting on such question in a referendum authorize the county or municipality to adopt such ordinances. An exemption so granted shall apply to improvements to real property made by or for the use of a new business and improvements to real property related to the expansion of an existing business and shall also apply to tangible personal property of such new business and tangible personal property related to the expansion of an existing business. The amount or limits of the amount of such exemption shall be specified by general law. The period of time for which such exemption may be granted to a new business or expansion of an existing business shall be determined by general law. The authority to grant such exemption shall expire ten years from the date of approval by the electors of the county or municipality, and may be renewable by referendum as provided by general law.

(d) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this subsection and general law, grant historic preservation ad valorem tax exemptions to owners of historic properties. This exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or municipality. The amount or limits of the amount of this exemption and the requirements for eligible properties must be specified by general law. The period of time for which this exemption may be granted to a property owner shall be determined by general law.

(e) By general law and subject to conditions specified therein:

(1) Twenty-five thousand dollars of the assessed value of property subject to tangible personal property tax shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

(2) The assessed value of solar devices or renewable energy source devices subject to tangible personal property tax may be exempt from ad valorem taxation, subject to limitations provided by general law.

(f) There shall be granted an ad valorem tax exemption for

real property dedicated in perpetuity for conservation purposes, including real property encumbered by perpetual conservation easements or by other perpetual conservation protections, as defined by general law.

(g) By general law and subject to the conditions specified therein, each person who receives a homestead exemption as provided in section 6 of this article; who was a member of the United States military or military reserves, the United States Coast Guard or its reserves, or the Florida National Guard; and who was deployed during the preceding calendar year on active duty outside the continental United States, Alaska, or Hawaii in support of military operations designated by the legislature shall receive an additional exemption equal to a percentage of the taxable value of his or her homestead property. The applicable percentage shall be calculated as the number of days during the preceding calendar year the person was deployed on active duty outside the continental United States, Alaska, or Hawaii in support of military operations designated by the legislature divided by the number of days in that year.

(h)(1) Tangible personal property that meets all of the following conditions shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation:

a. Habitually located or typically present on land classified as agricultural.

b. Used in the production of agricultural products or for agritourism activities.

c. Owned by the landowner or leaseholder of the agricultural land.

(2) The exemption provided by this subsection is subject to conditions and limitations and reasonable definitions as specified by the legislature in general law.

ARTICLE XII
SCHEDULE

Ad valorem exemption for tangible personal property on land classified as agricultural.—The amendment to Section 3 of Article VII, providing for a tax exemption for certain tangible personal property, and this section, shall take effect upon approval by the electors and shall first apply for assessments for tax years beginning January 1, 2027.

No. 3 Constitutional Amendment
Article VII, Sections 4, 6, and 9, and Article XII

ARTICLE VII
FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 4. Taxation; assessments.—By general law regulations shall be prescribed which shall secure a just valuation of all property for ad valorem taxation, provided:

(a) Agricultural land, land producing high water recharge to Florida's aquifers, or land used exclusively for noncommercial recreational purposes may be classified by general law and assessed solely on the basis of character or use.

(b) As provided by general law and subject to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions specified therein, land used for conservation purposes shall be classified by general law and assessed solely on the basis of character or use.

(c) Pursuant to general law tangible personal property held for sale as stock in trade and livestock may be valued for taxation at a specified percentage of its value, may be classified for tax purposes, or may be exempted from taxation.

(d) All persons entitled to a homestead exemption under Section 6 of this Article shall have their homestead assessed at just value as of January 1 of the year following the effective date of this amendment. This assessment shall change only as provided in this subsection.

(1) Assessments subject to this subsection shall be

changed annually on January 1st of each year; but those changes in assessments shall not exceed the lower of the following:

a. Three percent (3%) of the assessment for the prior year.

b. The percent change in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(2) No assessment shall exceed just value.

(3) After any change of ownership, as provided by general law, homestead property shall be assessed at just value as of January 1 of the following year, unless the provisions of paragraph (8) apply. Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

(4) New homestead property shall be assessed at just value as of January 1st of the year following the establishment of the homestead, unless the provisions of paragraph (8) apply. That assessment shall only change as provided in this subsection.

(5) Changes, additions, reductions, or improvements to homestead property shall be assessed as provided for by general law; provided, however, after the adjustment for any change, addition, reduction, or improvement, the property shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

(6) In the event of a termination of homestead status, the property shall be assessed as provided by general law.

(7) The provisions of this amendment are severable. If any of the provisions of this amendment shall be held unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the decision of such court shall not affect or impair any remaining provisions of this amendment.

(8)a. A person who establishes a new homestead as of January 1 and who has received a homestead exemption pursuant to Section 6 of this Article as of January 1 of any of the three years immediately preceding the establishment of the new homestead is entitled to have the new homestead assessed at less than just value. The assessed value of the newly established homestead shall be determined as follows:

1. If the just value of the new homestead is greater than or equal to the just value of the prior homestead as of January 1 of the year in which the prior homestead was abandoned, the assessed value of the new homestead shall be the just value of the new homestead minus an amount equal to the lesser of $500,000 or the difference between the just value and the assessed value of the prior homestead as of January 1 of the year in which the prior homestead was abandoned. Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

2. If the just value of the new homestead is less than the just value of the prior homestead as of January 1 of the year in which the prior homestead was abandoned, the assessed value of the new homestead shall be equal to the just value of the new homestead divided by the just value of the prior homestead and multiplied by the assessed value of the prior homestead. However, if the difference between the just value of the new homestead and the assessed value of the new homestead calculated pursuant to this sub-subparagraph is greater than $500,000, the assessed value of the new homestead shall be increased so that the difference between the just value and the assessed value equals $500,000. Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

b. By general law and subject to conditions specified therein, the legislature shall provide for application of this paragraph to property owned by more than one person.

(e) The legislature may, by general law, for assessment purposes and subject to the provisions of this subsection, allow counties and municipalities to authorize by ordinance that historic property may be assessed solely on the basis of character or use. Such character or use assessment shall apply only to the jurisdiction adopting the ordinance. The requirements for eligible properties must be specified by general law.

(f) A county may, in the manner prescribed by general law, provide for a reduction in the assessed value of homestead property to the extent of any increase in the assessed value of that property which results from the construction or reconstruction of the property for the purpose of providing living quarters for one or more natural or adoptive grandparents or parents of the owner of the property or of the owner's spouse if at least one of the grandparents or parents for whom the living quarters are provided is 62 years of age or older. Such a reduction may not exceed the lesser of the following:

(1) The increase in assessed value resulting from construction or reconstruction of the property.

(2) Twenty percent of the total assessed value of the property as improved.

(g) For all levies other than school district levies,

assessments of residential real property, as defined by general law, which contains nine units or fewer and which is not subject to the assessment limitations set forth in subsections (a) through (d) shall change only as provided in this subsection.

(1) Assessments subject to this subsection shall be

changed annually on the date of assessment provided by law; but those changes in assessments shall not exceed the following percentages ~~ten percent (10%)~~ of the assessment for the prior year:

a. Before January 1, 2027, ten percent (10%).

b. Beginning January 1, 2027, five percent (5%).

(2) No assessment shall exceed just value.

(3) After a change of ownership or control, as defined by general law, including any change of ownership of a legal entity that owns the property, such property shall be assessed at just value as of the next assessment date. Thereafter, such property shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

(4) Changes, additions, reductions, or improvements to such property shall be assessed as provided for by general law; however, after the adjustment for any change, addition, reduction, or improvement, the property shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

(h) For all levies other than school district levies, assessments of real property that is not subject to the assessment limitations set forth in subsections (a) through (d) and (g) shall change only as provided in this subsection.

(1) Assessments subject to this subsection shall be changed annually on the date of assessment provided by law; but those changes in assessments shall not exceed the following percentages ~~ten percent (10%)~~ of the assessment for the prior year:

a. Before January 1, 2027, ten percent (10%).

b. Beginning January 1, 2027, five percent (5%).

(2) No assessment shall exceed just value.

(3) The legislature must provide that such property shall be assessed at just value as of the next assessment date after a qualifying improvement, as defined by general law, is made to such property. Thereafter, such property shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

(4) The legislature may provide that such property shall be assessed at just value as of the next assessment date after a change of ownership or control, as defined by general law, including any change of ownership of the legal entity that owns the property. Thereafter, such property shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

(5) Changes, additions, reductions, or improvements to such property shall be assessed as provided for by general law; however, after the adjustment for any change, addition, reduction, or improvement, the property shall be assessed as provided in this subsection.

(i) The legislature, by general law and subject to conditions specified therein, may prohibit the consideration of the following in the determination of the assessed value of real property:

(1) Any change or improvement to real property used for residential purposes made to improve the property's resistance to wind damage.

(2) The installation of a solar or renewable energy source device.

(j)

(1) The assessment of the following working waterfront properties shall be based upon the current use of the property:

a. Land used predominantly for commercial fishing purposes.

b. Land that is accessible to the public and used for vessel launches into waters that are navigable.

c. Marinas and drystacks that are open to the public.

d. Water-dependent marine manufacturing facilities, commercial fishing facilities, and marine vessel construction and repair facilities and their support activities.

(2) The assessment benefit provided by this subsection is subject to conditions and limitations and reasonable definitions as specified by the legislature by general law.

SECTION 6. Homestead exemptions.—

(a)(1)a. Every person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another legally or naturally dependent upon the owner, shall be exempt from taxation thereon, except assessments for special benefits, as follows:

1.~~a.~~ For school district levies, up to the assessed valuation of twenty-five thousand dollars; and

2.~~b.~~ For all levies other than school district levies,

I. Beginning on January 1, 2027, up to the assessed valuation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

II. Beginning on January 1, 2028, up to the assessed valuation of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

b. Every person who, on or after January 1, 2027, has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another legally or naturally dependent upon the owner, who had not maintained a permanent residence in this state as of December 31, 2026, shall be exempt from taxation thereon, except assessments for special benefits, as follows:

1. For school district levies, up to the assessed valuation of twenty-five thousand dollars; and

2. For all levies other than school district levies, up to the assessed valuation of fifty thousand dollars. Unless otherwise revised under sub-subparagraph (4)a.2., beginning with the fifth year of exemption under this subparagraph, such person shall be exempt up to the amount of assessed valuation provided by sub-sub-subparagraph a.2.II., as adjusted pursuant to subparagraph (2)a. The legislature shall, by general law, prescribe uniform procedures to administer this subparagraph.

The exemptions provided by this paragraph apply only ~~greater than fifty thousand dollars and up to seventy-five thousand dollars,~~ upon establishment of right thereto in the manner prescribed by law. The real estate may be held by legal or equitable title, by the entireties, jointly, in common, as a condominium, or indirectly by stock ownership or membership representing the owner's or member's proprietary interest in a corporation owning a fee or a leasehold initially in excess of ninety-eight years. The exemptions ~~exemption~~ shall not apply with respect to any assessment roll until such roll is first determined to be in compliance with the provisions of section 4 by a state agency designated by general law. These exemptions are ~~This exemption is~~ repealed on the effective date of any amendment to this Article which provides for the assessment of homestead property at less than just value.

(2)a. The ~~twenty-five thousand dollar~~ amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation provided in sub-sub-subparagraph (1)a.2.II. ~~subparagraph (a)(1)b.~~ shall be adjusted annually for inflation beginning on January 1, 2029, and ~~of~~ each year thereafter ~~for inflation~~ using the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, if such percent change is positive.

b. The amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation provided in sub-subparagraph (1)b.2. shall be adjusted annually for inflation beginning on January 1, 2028, and each year thereafter, using the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, if such percent change is positive.

(3) Except for the exemptions provided in sub- subparagraphs (1)a.2. and b.2. and paragraph (4), the amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation for which every person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another person legally or naturally dependent upon the owner, is eligible, and which applies solely to levies other than school district levies, that is added to this constitution after January 1, 2025, shall be adjusted annually on January 1 of each year for inflation using the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, all

items 1967=100, or successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, if such percent change is positive, beginning the year following the effective date of such exemption.

(4)a.1. The legislature shall, by general law, prescribe a uniform procedure for counties and municipalities, for their respective levies, to increase the amount of assessed valuation

exempt from taxation under paragraph (1), up to all remaining assessed valuation.

2. Beginning on or after January 1, 2030, a county or municipality, by two-thirds vote of the membership of the governing body, may determine that a reduction of the five-year

requirement provided under sub-subparagraph (1)b.2. is warranted for a critical local need.

b.1. A special district may, upon approval by referendum by the electors of the district, increase the amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation under sub-subparagraphs (1)a.2. and b.2., for its respective levy, up to all remaining assessed valuation. By general law, the legislature shall provide the manner in which a referendum may be called; the frequency with which such referendum may be held, which may not be more than once in a 12-month period; a ballot statement and question of such referendum; and other requirements for the referendum not inconsistent with this paragraph. The approved exemption increase shall take effect on and first apply beginning on the January 1 immediately succeeding approval by referendum.

2. A special district may adjust the amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation as approved under sub-subparagraph 1. annually on January 1 of each year for inflation using the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, if such percent change is positive.

(b) Not more than one exemption shall be allowed any individual or family unit or with respect to any residential unit. No exemption shall exceed the value of the real estate assessable to the owner or, in case of ownership through stock or membership in a corporation, the value of the proportion which the interest in the corporation bears to the assessed value of the property.

(c) By general law and subject to conditions specified therein, the Legislature may provide to renters, who are permanent residents, ad valorem tax relief on all ad valorem tax levies. Such ad valorem tax relief shall be in the form and amount established by general law.

(d) The legislature may, by general law, allow counties or municipalities, for the purpose of their respective tax levies and subject to the provisions of general law, to grant either or both of the following additional homestead tax exemptions:

(1) An exemption not exceeding fifty thousand dollars to a person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, who has attained age sixty-five, and whose household income, as defined by general law, does not exceed twenty thousand dollars; or

(2) An exemption equal to the assessed value of the property to a person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate with a just value less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, as determined in the first tax year that the owner applies and is eligible for the exemption, and who has maintained thereon the permanent residence of the owner for not less than twenty-five years, who has attained age sixty-five, and whose household income does not exceed the income limitation prescribed in paragraph (1).

The general law must allow counties and municipalities to grant these additional exemptions, within the limits prescribed in this subsection, by ordinance adopted in the manner prescribed by general law, and must provide for the periodic adjustment of the income limitation prescribed in this subsection for changes in the cost of living.

(e)

(1) Each veteran who is age 65 or older who is partially or totally permanently disabled shall receive a discount from the he amount of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on homestead property the veteran owns and resides in if the disability was combat related and the veteran was honorably discharged upon separation from military service. The discount shall be in a percentage equal to the percentage of the veteran's permanent, service-connected disability as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. To qualify for the discount granted by this paragraph, an applicant must submit to the county property appraiser, by March 1, an official letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating the percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability and such evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as combat related and a copy of the veteran's honorable discharge. If the property appraiser denies the request for a discount, the appraiser must notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the denial, and the veteran may reapply. The Legislature may, by general law, waive the annual application requirement in subsequent years.

(2) If a veteran who receives the discount described in paragraph (1) predeceases his or her spouse, and if, upon the death of the veteran, the surviving spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homestead property and permanently resides thereon, the discount carries over to the surviving spouse until he or she remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the homestead property. If the surviving spouse sells or otherwise disposes of the property, a discount not to exceed the dollar amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may be transferred to the surviving spouse's new homestead property, if used as his or her permanent residence and he or she has not remarried.

(3) This subsection is self-executing and does not require implementing legislation.

(f) By general law and subject to conditions and limitations specified therein, the Legislature may provide ad valorem tax relief equal to the total amount or a portion of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on homestead property to:

(1) The surviving spouse of a veteran who died from service-connected causes while on active duty as a member of the United States Armed Forces.

(2) The surviving spouse of a first responder who died in the line of duty.

(3) A first responder who is totally and permanently disabled as a result of an injury or injuries sustained in the line of duty. Causal connection between a disability and service in the line of duty shall not be presumed but must be determined as provided by general law. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "disability" does not include a chronic condition or chronic disease, unless the injury sustained in the line of duty was the sole cause of the chronic condition or chronic disease. As used in this subsection and as further defined by general law, the term "first responder" means a law enforcement officer, a correctional officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, or a paramedic, and the term "in the line of duty" means arising out of and in the actual performance of duty required by employment as a first responder.

SECTION 9. Local taxes.—

(a)(1) Counties, school districts, and municipalities shall, and special districts may, be authorized by law to levy ad valorem taxes and may be authorized by general law to levy other taxes, for their respective purposes, except ad valorem taxes on intangible personal property and taxes prohibited by this constitution.

(2) Ad valorem taxes levied by counties and municipalities shall be used only to:

a. Provide for public safety, including law enforcement, fire service, and emergency medical service;

b. Provide funding for education and public schools;

c. Finance or refinance infrastructure, including expenditures on road and bridge construction and maintenance and stormwater control;

d. Finance or refinance natural resource projects, including flood control measures;

e. Issue local bonds for uses consistent with this paragraph and to make debt service payments for existing obligations;

f. Meet obligations for retirement benefits of local government employees; or

g. Fund the operations and administration of county officers and commissioners established under Article VIII and municipalities, and the expenditures approved by such county officers or county or municipal governing bodies, except those expenditures prohibited by general law.

(b) Ad valorem taxes, exclusive of taxes levied for the payment of bonds and taxes levied for periods not longer than two years when authorized by vote of the electors who are the owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation, shall not be levied in excess of the following millages upon the assessed value of real estate and tangible personal property: for all county purposes, ten mills; for all municipal purposes, ten mills; for all school purposes, ten mills; for water management purposes for the northwest portion of the state lying west of the line between ranges two and three east, 0.05 mill; for water management purposes for the remaining portions of the state, 1.0 mill; and for all other special districts a millage authorized by law approved by vote of the electors who are owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation. A county furnishing municipal services may, to the extent authorized by law, levy additional taxes within the limits fixed for municipal purposes.

ARTICLE XII
SCHEDULE

Limitation on the assessment of real property, homestead property exemptions, and local government revenue.—This section and the amendments to Sections 4 and 6 of Article VII, relating to a limitation on the assessed value of real property, an increase to the homestead property tax exemption, and the creation of a new homestead exemption beginning January 1, 2027, and the amendment to Section 9 of Article VII, relating to the uses of certain revenues by counties and municipalities, shall take effect January 1, 2027.

August 27, September 24, 2026

PROPUESTAS DE ENMIENDAS Y REVISIONES CONSTITUCIONALES PARA LA ELECCION GENERAL DEL 2026

Yo, Cord Byrd, el Secretario de Estado de la Florida, por el presente notifico que el título del boleta, el resumen del boleta, y el texto de las siguientes enmiendas constitucionales propuestas y revisiones estarán en el boleta de las elecciones generales en el día 3 de noviembre de 22026, en cada condado. El texto completo de estas enmiendas como se presenten aquí también se puede encontrar en https://constitutionalinitiatives.dos.fl.gov/, en FloridaPublicNotices.com, y en el sitio web de este periódico.

No.1 Enmienda constitucional

Artículo III, Sección 19

ARTÍCULO III

LEGISLATURA

SECCIÓN 19. Procesos de elaboración del presupuesto estatal, planificación y apropiación de fondos. —

(a) PRESUPUESTO ANUAL.

(1) La legislación general estipulará la adopción de procesos anuales de elaboración del presupuesto y planificación del estado y exigirá que los proyectos de presupuesto presentados por los departamentos y organismos estatales, el presupuesto recomendado por el gobernador y los proyectos de ley de apropiación de fondos vengan acompañados de información detallada que refleje los costes anualizados del presupuesto estatal y los costes no recurrentes de las solicitudes presupuestarias.

(2) A menos que se apruebe por una mayoría de tres quintos de los miembros de cada cámara, las asignaciones realizadas con fines recurrentes a partir de fondos de ingresos generales no recurrentes para cualquier período fiscal no excederán el tres por ciento del total de los fondos de ingresos generales que se estime que estarán disponibles en el momento en que se realice dicha apropiación.

(3) Según lo dispuesto en la ley general, cada departamento y agencia estatal tendrá la obligación de presentar una solicitud presupuestaria legislativa que se base en y refleje las perspectivas financieras a largo plazo adoptadas por la comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta o que explique específicamente cualquier desviación respecto a las perspectivas financieras a largo plazo contenidas en la solicitud.

(4) A los efectos de esta sección, los términos «departamento» y «agencia» incluirán al poder judicial.

(b) FORMATO DE LOS PROYECTOS DE LEY DE APROPIACIONES PRESUPUESTARIAS. Se asignarán secciones independientes dentro del proyecto de ley de apropiaciones generales a cada área programática principal del presupuesto estatal; las áreas programáticas principales incluirán: partidas del fondo fiduciario de la «lotería» para la mejora de la educación; educación (el resto de fondos); servicios sociales; justicia penal y sistema penitenciario; recursos naturales, medio ambiente, gestión del crecimiento y transporte; administración pública general; y poder judicial. Cada área programática principal comprenderá un desglose de los gastos correspondientes a: operaciones estatales; gastos de capital estatales; ayudas a las operaciones de los gobiernos locales y las organizaciones sin ánimo de lucro; ayudas a los gastos de capital de los gobiernos locales y las organizaciones sin ánimo de lucro; fondos federales y los fondos estatales de contrapartida asociados; autorizaciones de gasto para operaciones; y autorizaciones de gasto para inversiones de capital. Además, los proyectos de ley de asignación aprobados por la legislatura incluirán un desglose de las asignaciones específicas que superen el millón de dólares (1.000.000,00$) en dólares de 1992. A los efectos de este subsección, los términos «asignación específica», «desglose» y «área programática principal» se definirán por ley. Este desglose se ajustará mediante ley general cada cuatro años para reflejar el índice de inflación o deflación tal como se indica en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor para Todos los Consumidores Urbanos (Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers), (U.S. City Average, All Items), o en informes sucesores, según lo reportado por el Departamento de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos, la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales o su sucesora. Los proyectos de ley sustantivos que contengan apropiaciones también estarán sujetos al requisito de desglose establecido en esta disposición y al derecho de veto específico del gobernador sobre las apropiaciones descrito en el artículo III, sección 8.

(c) PROCESO DE APROPIACIONES.

(1) A más tardar el 15 de septiembre de cada año, la comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta emitirá una perspectiva financiera a largo plazo en la que se establezcan las estrategias fiscales recomendadas para el estado y sus departamentos y organismos, con el fin de ayudar a la legislatura a tomar decisiones en materia presupuestaria. Las perspectivas financieras a largo plazo deben incluir estimaciones de la carga de trabajo y los ingresos principales. Con el fin de aplicar este párrafo, la comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta utilizará las estimaciones oficiales consensuadas vigentes y podrá solicitar la elaboración de estimaciones oficiales adicionales.

(2) La comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta consultará al público y a los poderes ejecutivo y judicial cuando elabore y recomiende las perspectivas financieras a largo plazo.

(3) La legislatura establecerá mediante la ley general las condiciones en las que podrán aprobarse ajustes limitados al presupuesto, tal y como recomienden el gobernador o el presidente del Tribunal Supremo, sin la concurrencia de la legislatura en pleno.

(d) PERÍODO DE REVISIÓN PÚBLICA DE SETENTA Y DOS HORAS. Todos los proyectos de ley de asignaciones generales se pondrán a disposición de cada miembro de la asamblea legislativa, cada miembro del gabinete, el gobernador y el presidente del tribunal supremo al menos setenta y dos horas antes de la aprobación definitiva del proyecto de ley por cualquiera de las cámaras de la asamblea legislativa, en la forma en que se presentará al gobernador.

(e) INFORME PRESUPUESTARIO DEFINITIVO. Se elaborará un informe presupuestario definitivo conforme a lo dispuesto en la legislación general. El informe presupuestario definitivo se elaborará a más tardar el 120.º día tras el inicio del período fiscal, y se enviará una copia del mismo a cada miembro de la asamblea legislativa, al jefe de cada departamento y organismo del estado, al auditor general y al presidente del tribunal supremo.

(f) FONDOS FIDUCIARIOS.

(1) No podrá crearse ni recrearse por ley ningún fondo fiduciario del Estado de Florida u otro organismo público sin el voto de tres quintos de los miembros de cada cámara de la legislatura en un proyecto de ley independiente dedicado exclusivamente a ese fin.

(2) Los fondos fiduciarios estatales vencerán a más tardar cuatro años después de la fecha de entrada en vigor de la ley que autorice la creación inicial del fondo fiduciario. Por ley, la legislatura podrá establecer un plazo más breve para la autorización de cualquier fondo fiduciario

(3) Los fondos fiduciarios obligatorios para los programas o mandatos federales; los fondos fiduciarios que se crean para cumplir con las cláusulas de los bonos, los contratos de emisión o las resoluciones, cuyos ingresos están legalmente comprometidos por el Estado o un organismo público para hacer frente al servicio de la deuda u otras obligaciones financieras derivadas de cualquier deuda del Estado o de cualquier organismo público; el fondo fiduciario estatal de transporte; el fondo fiduciario que contiene los ingresos netos anuales de las Loterías Educativas de Florida; el fondo fiduciario de jubilación de Florida; los fondos fiduciarios para instituciones bajo la gestión de la Junta de Gobernadores, cuando dichos fondos fiduciarios se destinen a empresas auxiliares y contratos, subvenciones y donaciones, tal y como se definen dichos términos en la legislación general; los fondos fiduciarios que sirven como fondos o cuentas de compensación para el director financiero o las agencias estatales; los fondos fiduciarios que contabilizan los activos mantenidos por el Estado en calidad de fideicomisario, como agente o fiduciario de particulares, organizaciones privadas u otras unidades gubernamentales; y otros fondos fiduciarios autorizados por la presente Constitución, no están sujetos a los requisitos establecidos en el párrafo (2) de este artículo**.**

(4) Todos los saldos de caja y los ingresos de cualquier fondo fiduciario suprimido en virtud de este apartado se depositarán en el

(g) FONDO DE ESTABILIZACIÓN PRESUPUESTARIA.

(1) A los efectos de este artículo, el término «recaudación de ingresos» se refiere a la recaudación neta de ingresos del último ejercicio fiscal completado para el fondo de ingresos generales.

(2) Sin perjuicio de lo dispuesto en el presente subsección, se retendrá en el fondo de estabilización presupuestaria un importe equivalente, como mínimo, al 5 % ~~de los ingresos netos recaudados durante el último período fiscal completado para el fondo de ingresos generales~~. El saldo del capital del fondo de estabilización presupuestaria no podrá ser superior a un importe equivalente al 25 % ~~10 % de los ingresos netos recaudados durante el último período fiscal completado para el fondo de ingresos generales~~.

(3) La asamblea legislativa transferirá al fondo de estabilización presupuestaria, a más tardar el 30 de junio de cada período fiscal, la menor de las siguientes cantidades: 750 millones de dólares o la cantidad necesaria para aumentar el saldo principal del fondo de estabilización presupuestaria hasta un importe equivalente al 25 % de los ingresos recaudados por el fondo de ingresos generales La asamblea legislativa podrá suspender esta transferencia en un ejercicio fiscal en el que:

a. Se retiren fondos del fondo de estabilización presupuestaria de conformidad con el párrafo (4);

b. Se retiren fondos del fondo de estabilización presupuestaria con el fin de sufragar una necesidad estatal crítica de conformidad con el párrafo (5); o

c. La asamblea legislativa determine que existe una necesidad estatal crítica que requiere el gasto de fondos de ingresos generales por un importe que excede el importe de la transferencia exigido por este párrafo. Una suspensión por una necesidad estatal crítica de conformidad con este subpárrafo deberá ser aprobada por una mayoría de dos tercios de los miembros de cada cámara de la legislatura en un proyecto de ley independiente destinado exclusivamente a ese fin y no podrá producirse más de una vez cada cinco años.

(4) La asamblea legislativa establecerá los criterios para la retirada de fondos del fondo de estabilización presupuestaria en un proyecto de ley específico destinado exclusivamente a tal fin y con el único objetivo de cubrir déficits de ingresos del fondo de ingresos generales o de proporcionar financiación para una emergencia, tal y como se define en la legislación general.

(5) Si el saldo del capital del fondo de estabilización presupuestaria sobrepasa el 15 % de la recaudación de ingresos, la asamblea legislativa podrá retirar fondos con el fin de financiar, de forma no recurrente, una necesidad estatal crítica. Dicha retirada deberá ser aprobada por una mayoría de dos tercios de los miembros de cada cámara de la asamblea legislativa en un proyecto de ley específico destinado exclusivamente a ese fin. La retirada no debe hacer que el saldo del capital del fondo de estabilización presupuestaria sea inferior al 10 % de la recaudación de ingresos.

(6) La ley general dispondrá la reposición de este fondo. El fondo de estabilización presupuestaria estará compuesto por fondos no comprometidos ni destinados a ningún otro fin.

(h) DOCUMENTO DE PLANIFICACIÓN ESTATAL A LARGO PLAZO Y PROCESOS DE ELABORACIÓN DE DOCUMENTOS DE PLANIFICACIÓN DE LOS DEPARTAMENTOS Y ORGANISMOS. La ley general preverá un documento de planificación estatal a largo plazo. El gobernador recomendará a la legislatura, de forma bienal, cualquier revisión del documento de planificación estatal a largo plazo, tal y como se define en la ley. La ley general exigirá una revisión y revisión bienal del documento de planificación estatal a largo plazo y exigirá a todos los departamentos y organismos del gobierno estatal que elaboren documentos de planificación. El documento de planificación estatal a largo plazo y los documentos de planificación de los departamentos y organismos seguirán estando sujetos a revisión y modificación por parte de la asamblea legislativa. El documento de planificación estatal a largo plazo deberá incluir proyecciones de las necesidades y recursos futuros del estado que sean coherentes con las perspectivas financieras a largo plazo. Los documentos de planificación de los departamentos y organismos incluirán una lista priorizada de los gastos previstos para su revisión y posible reducción en caso de déficit de ingresos, tal y como se define en la ley general.

(i) GRUPO DE TRABAJO SOBRE LA EFICIENCIA DEL GOBIERNO. A más tardar en enero de 2007, y cada cuatro años a partir de entonces, el presidente del senado, el presidente de la cámara de representantes y el gobernador nombrarán un grupo de trabajo sobre eficiencia gubernamental, cuya composición se establecerá mediante ley general. El grupo de trabajo estará compuesto por miembros de la legislatura y representantes de los sectores público y privado, quienes elaborarán recomendaciones para mejorar las operaciones gubernamentales y reducir los costes. El personal que asistirá al grupo de trabajo en el desempeño de sus funciones será asignado por ley general, y el grupo de trabajo podrá obtener asistencia del sector privado. El grupo de trabajo completará su labor en el plazo de un año y presentará sus recomendaciones a la comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta, al gobernador y al presidente del Tribunal Supremo.

(j) COMISIÓN PRESUPUESTARIA LEGISLATIVA CONJUNTA. Se crea, en el seno de la asamblea legislativa, la comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta, compuesta por un mismo número de miembros del senado, designados por el presidente del senado, y de miembros de la cámara de representantes, designados por el presidente de la cámara de representantes. Cada miembro permanecerá en el cargo a discreción del cargo que lo haya designado. Las posiciones vacantes en la comisión se cubrirán del mismo modo que el nombramiento original. Desde noviembre de cada año impar hasta octubre de cada año par, el presidente de la comisión legislativa conjunta de presupuesto será nombrado por el presidente del senado y el vicesecretario de la comisión será nombrado por el presidente de la cámara de representantes. Desde noviembre de cada año par hasta octubre de cada año impar, el presidente de la comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta será nombrado por el presidente de la cámara de representantes y el vicepresidente de la comisión será nombrado por el presidente del senado. La comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta se regirá por el reglamento conjunto del senado y la cámara de representantes, que permanecerá en vigor hasta que sea derogado o modificado mediante resolución conjunta. La comisión se reunirá como mínimo una vez al trimestre y se reunirá cuando lo convoquen el presidente del senado y el presidente de la cámara de representantes. La mayoría de los miembros de la comisión de cada cámara, sumada a un miembro adicional de cualquiera de las dos cámaras, constituirá quórum. Las resoluciones de la comisión requieren el voto mayoritario de los miembros de la comisión presentes de cada cámara. La comisión podrá desarrollar sus reuniones mediante teleconferencias o medios similares. Además de las facultades y funciones especificadas en este subsección, la comisión presupuestaria legislativa conjunta ejercerá todas las demás facultades y desempeñará cualquier otra función que no entre en conflicto con el párrafo (c)(3) y según lo prescrito por la ley general o el reglamento conjunto.

No. 2 Enmienda constitucional

Artículo VII, Sección 3, y Artículo XII

ARTÍCULO VII

FINANZAS E IMPUESTOS

SECCIÓN 3. Impuestos; exenciones. —

(a) Se eximirá impositivamente todo inmueble de propiedad de una municipalidad utilizado exclusivamente por ésta con fines municipales o públicos. Un municipio que posea bienes fuera de su jurisdicción puede estar obligado, en virtud de la ley general, a efectuar el pago correspondiente a la entidad impositiva en la que se encuentren dichos bienes. Aquellas partes de los bienes que se utilicen predominantemente con fines educativos, literarios, científicos, religiosos o benéficos podrán quedar exentas de imposición en virtud de la ley general.

(b) Quedarán exentos de imposición, de forma acumulativa, para cada cabeza de familia residente en este estado, los enseres domésticos y efectos personales por un valor fijado por la ley general, no inferior a mil dólares, y para cada viuda o viudo o persona ciega o con discapacidad total y permanente, los bienes por un valor fijado por la ley general no inferior a quinientos dólares.

(c) Cualquier condado o municipio podrá, a efectos de su respectiva recaudación impositiva y con sujeción a las disposiciones de este párrafo y de la ley general, otorgar exenciones impositivas ad valorem para el desarrollo comunitario y económico a nuevas empresas y a la expansión de empresas existentes, tal y como se definen en la ley general. Dicha exención solo podrá otorgarse mediante ordenanza del condado o del municipio, y únicamente después de que los electores del condado o del municipio, al votar sobre dicha cuestión en un referéndum, autoricen al condado o al municipio a adoptar tales ordenanzas. La exención así otorgada se aplicará a las mejoras realizadas en bienes inmuebles por una nueva empresa o para su uso, así como a las mejoras en bienes inmuebles relacionadas con la expansión de una empresa ya existente; asimismo, se aplicará a los bienes muebles tangibles de dicha nueva empresa y a los bienes muebles tangibles relacionados con la expansión de una empresa ya existente. El importe o los límites del importe de dicha exención se especificarán en la ley general. El período de tiempo durante el cual se podrá otorgar dicha exención a una nueva empresa o a la expansión de una empresa ya existente se determinará en la ley general. La facultad para otorgar dicha exención vencerá a los diez años de la fecha de aprobación por parte de los electores del condado o municipio, y podrá renovarse mediante referéndum según lo dispuesto en la ley general.

(d) Cualquier condado o municipio podrá, a efectos de su respectiva recaudación tributaria y con sujeción a lo dispuesto en este párrafo y en la ley general, otorgar exenciones del impuesto ad valorem por conservación del patrimonio histórico a los propietarios de inmuebles históricos. Esta exención solo podrá otorgarse mediante ordenanza del condado o municipio. El importe o los límites del importe de esta exención y los requisitos para que los inmuebles sean elegibles deberán especificarse en la ley general. El período de tiempo durante el cual se podrá otorgar esta exención a un propietario se determinará mediante la ley general.

(e) Mediante la ley general y con sujeción a las condiciones especificadas en la misma:

(1) Veinticinco mil dólares del valor tasado de los bienes sujetos al impuesto sobre bienes muebles tangibles quedarán exentos del impuesto ad valorem.

(2) El valor de tasación de los dispositivos solares o de fuentes de energía renovable sujetos al impuesto sobre bienes muebles tangibles podrá estar exento del impuesto ad valorem, con sujeción a las limitaciones previstas en la ley general.

(f) Se otorgará una exención del impuesto ad valorem a los bienes inmuebles dedicados a perpetuidad a fines de conservación, incluidos los bienes inmuebles gravados con servidumbres de conservación perpetuas o con otras protecciones de conservación perpetuas, tal y como se definen en la ley general.

(g) En virtud de la ley general y con sujeción a las condiciones en ella especificadas, cualquier persona que se beneficie de una exención por vivienda familiar según lo dispuesto en la sección 6 del presente **artículo**; que haya sido miembro de las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos o de las reservas militares, de la Guardia Costera de los Estados Unidos o de sus reservas, o de la Guardia Nacional de Florida; y que haya sido desplegada durante el año natural anterior en servicio activo fuera del territorio continental de los Estados Unidos, Alaska o Hawái en apoyo de operaciones militares designadas por la legislatura, recibirá una exención adicional equivalente a un porcentaje del valor imponible de su vivienda familiar. El porcentaje de applicable se basará en la cantidad de días durante los que dicha persona haya prestado servicio activo durante el año calendario anterior fuera de la región continental de los Estados Unidos, Alaska o Hawái en apoyo de operaciones militares designadas por la legislatura, dividido por el número de días de ese año.

(h)(1) Los bienes muebles tangibles que cumplan todas las condiciones siguientes estarán exentos del impuesto ad valorem:

a. Que se encuentren habitualmente o estén normalmente presentes en terrenos clasificados como agrícolas.

b. Utilizados en la producción de productos agrícolas o para actividades de agroturismo.

c. Propiedad del propietario o arrendatario de los terrenos agrícolas.

(2) La exención prevista en este párrafo está sujeta a las condiciones, limitaciones y definiciones razonables que especifique la legislatura en la ley general.

ARTÍCULO XII

APÉNDICE

Exención ad valorem para los bienes muebles tangibles situados en terrenos clasificados como agrícolas. —La modificación de la sección 3 del artículo VII, que establece una exención impositiva para determinados bienes muebles tangibles, y la presente sección, entrarán en vigor tras su aprobación por los electores y se aplicarán por primera vez a las liquidaciones correspondientes a los ejercicios fiscales que comiencen el 1 de enero de 2027.

No. 3 Enmienda constitucional

Artículo VII, Secciones 4, 6, y 9, y Artículo XII

ARTÍCULO VII

FINANZAS E IMPUESTOS

SECCIÓN 4. Impuesto; tasaciones. — Se establecerán disposiciones de acuerdo con la ley general para asegurar una tasación justa de todos los bienes alcanzados por el impuesto ad valorem, con las condiciones que se enumeran a continuación:

(a) Los terrenos destinados a la explotación agrícola, los terrenos que generan gran recarga de agua para los acuíferos de Florida o los terrenos utilizados en forma exclusiva para fines recreativos no comerciales pueden clasificarse según la ley general y tasarse únicamente en razón de su naturaleza o su uso.

(b) Según lo dispuesto por la ley general y sujeto a las condiciones, limitaciones y definiciones razonables especificadas en la misma, el terreno utilizado para fines de conservación se clasificará por ley general y se tasará únicamente en función de su carácter o uso.

(c) De acuerdo con la ley general, los bienes personales tangibles conservados para la venta en unidades de intercambio comercial o en cabezas de ganado podrán evaluarse para la determinación de impuestos a un porcentaje específico de su valor, podrán clasificarse con fines impositivos o podrán estar exentos del pago de impuesto.

(d) Se realizará una tasación del bien de familia al justo valor vigente al 1. ° de enero del año posterior a la fecha en que esta enmienda entre en vigencia a aquellas personas con derecho a la exención del pago de impuestos a los bienes de familia conforme en sección 6 de este Artículo. La tasación solo cambiará según lo dispuesto en esta subsección.

(1) Las tasaciones sujetas a esta subsección se modificarán el 1. ° de enero de cada año; dichos cambios no pueden exceder al monto menor de los ítems enumerados a continuación:

a. Tres por ciento (3 %) de la tasación del año anterior.

b. El cambio porcentual en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor en las ciudades, el Costo Promedio Urbano de EE. UU., todos los ítems 1967=100 o informes subsiguientes para el año calendario anterior según lo informado inicialmente por el Ministerio de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos (United States Department of Labor) y el organismo de Estadísticas Laborales (Bureau of Labor Statistics).

(2) Ninguna tasación superará el valor razonable.

(3) Con posterioridad a cualquier cambio de titularidad, de acuerdo con lo establecido por la ley general, se realizará la tasación del bien de familia al justo valor vigente al 1. ° de enero del año posterior, a menos que apliquen las disposiciones de párrafo (8). A partir de entonces, se realizará la tasación de los bienes de familia de acuerdo con las disposiciones establecidas en esta subsección.

(4) Se realizará la tasación del nuevo bien de familia según el justo valor al 1. ° de enero del año posterior a la constitución de dicho bien, salvo que apliquen las disposiciones de párrafo (8). La tasación solo podrá modificarse según lo dispuesto en esta subsección.

(5) Se realizará una tasación de las reformas, agregados, reducciones o mejoras a los bienes de familia de acuerdo con la ley general con la condición de que, con posterioridad a la revisión por cualquier reforma, agregado, reducción o mejora, se realice la tasación de los bienes de acuerdo con lo establecido en esta subsección.

(6) En caso de que caduque la condición de bien de familia, el bien se evaluará de acuerdo con lo dispuesto por la ley general.

(7) Las disposiciones de esta enmienda podrán considerarse en forma separada. En caso de que cualquiera de las disposiciones de esta enmienda sea declarada inconstitucional por un tribunal competente, la decisión de tal tribunal no afectará ni limitará las disposiciones restantes de esta enmienda

(8) a. La persona que constituya un nuevo bien de familia al 1. ° de enero y que haya recibido una exención al pago de impuestos sobre el bien de familia conforme en Sección 6 de este Artículo al 1. ° de enero de cualquiera de los tres años inmediatos anteriores a constitución del nuevo bien de familia tendrá derecho a una tasación del nuevo bien de familia a un valor menor al justo valor. El valor de los bienes recientemente constituidos como bien de familia se determinará de la siguiente manera:

1. Si el justo valor del nuevo bien de familia es mayor o igual al justo valor del anterior bien de familia al 1. ° de enero del año en que el bien anterior fuera destituido, el valor del nuevo bien de familia será igual al justo valor del nuevo bien de familia menos un monto equivalente al menor monto entre $500,000 y la diferencia entre el justo valor y el valor determinado del bien de familia anterior al 1. ° de enero del año en que el bien de familia anterior fuera destituido.

A partir de entonces, se realizará la tasación de los bienes de familia de acuerdo con las disposiciones establecidas en esta subsección.

2. En caso de que el justo valor del nuevo bien de familia sea inferior al justo valor del bien de familia anterior vigente al 1. ° de enero del año en que el bien de familia anterior fuera destituido, el valor determinado del nuevo bien de familia será igual al justo valor del nuevo bien de familia dividido por el justo valor del bien de familia anterior y multiplicado por el valor determinado del bien de familia anterior. Sin embargo, en caso de que la diferencia entre el justo valor del nuevo bien de familia y el valor determinado del nuevo bien de familia calculado conforme este sub-subpárrafo sea mayor a $500,000, se aumentará el valor determinado del nuevo bien de familia de manera tal que la diferencia entre el justo valor y el valor determinado sea igual a $500,000. A partir de entonces, se realizará la tasación del bien de familia de acuerdo con las disposiciones establecidas en esta subsección.

b. Por aplicación de la ley general y conforme los principios allí establecidos, la legislatura preverá la aplicación de este párrafo a los bienes que tengan más de un propietario.

(e) La legislatura podrá, según la ley general, a los fines de la tasación y de acuerdo con las disposiciones de esta subsección, facultar a los condados y municipalidades a autorizar por ordenanza la tasación de bienes históricos únicamente en razón de su naturaleza o uso. Dicha tasación en razón de su naturaleza o uso será aplicable únicamente dentro de la jurisdicción donde rija la ordenanza. La ley general debe especificar los requisitos para los bienes considerados admisibles.

(f) Un condado puede, de la manera establecida por la ley general, prever la reducción del valor determinado del bien de familia en el marco de cualquier incremento en el valor determinado de tal bien que resulte de la construcción o reconstrucción del bien con el fin de asignar un espacio para la vivienda a uno o varios padres o abuelos biológicos o adoptivos del propietario o su cónyuge en caso de que al menos uno de los padres o abuelos para quien se provee el espacio para la vivienda tenga 62 años o más. Tal reducción no podrá ser superior al monto menor de los ítems enumerados a continuación:

(1) El incremento del valor determinado que resulte de la construcción o reconstrucción del bien.

(2) El veinte por ciento del valor determinado total del bien mejorado.

(g) En relación con todos los gravámenes, a excepción de aquellos que sean en razón del distrito escolar, la tasación de los bienes residenciales, tal como la define la ley general, que consiste en nueve ambientes o menos y que no está sujeta a las restricciones de la tasación establecidas en las subsecciones comprendidos desde (a) hasta (d), se modificará únicamente conforme a lo dispuesto en esta subsección.

1) Las cuotas sujetas a esta subpárrafo se modificarán anualmente en la fecha de liquidación prevista por la ley; sin embargo, dichas modificaciones no podrán exceder los siguientes porcentajes el diez por ciento (10 %) de la cuota del año anterior:

a. Antes del 1 de enero de 2027, el diez por ciento (10 %).

b. A partir del 1 de enero de 2027, el cinco por ciento (5 %).

(2) Ninguna valoración superará el valor razonable.

(3) Con posterioridad a un cambio de titularidad o dominio, de acuerdo con lo establecido por la ley general, incluido cualquier cambio en la titularidad de una institución legal propietaria del bien, se realizará la tasación de dicho bien de acuerdo con el justo valor vigente a la próxima fecha de tasación. A partir de entonces, se realizará la tasación del bien según lo dispuesto en esta subsección.

(4) Se realizará la tasación de los cambios, agregados, reducciones o mejoras a dicho bien de acuerdo con lo establecido por la ley general. Sin embargo, luego de la revisión por cualquier reforma, agregado, reducción o mejora, se realizará la tasación del bien de acuerdo con las disposiciones establecidas en esta subsección.

(h) En relación con todos los gravámenes, a excepción de aquellos que sean en razón del distrito escolar, las tasaciones de bienes raíces que no estén sujetas a las restricciones a la tasación establecidas en los subsecciones comprendidos de (a) a (d) y (g) podrán modificarse únicamente según lo establecido en esta subsección.

1) Las cuotas sujetas a este subpárrafo se modificarán anualmente en la fecha de liquidación prevista por la ley; sin embargo, dichas modificaciones no podrán exceder los siguientes porcentajes: el diez por ciento (10 %) de la cuota del año anterior:

a. Antes del 1 de enero de 2027, el diez por ciento (10 %).

b. A partir del 1 de enero de 2027, el cinco por ciento (5 %).

(2) Ninguna tasación superará el valor razonable.

(3) La legislatura debe estipular que se realice la tasación de dicho bien en razón del justo valor a la fecha de tasación posterior a una mejora de calidad, conforme lo define la ley general, realizada en el bien. A partir de entonces, se realizará la tasación del bien según lo dispuesto en esta subsección.

(4) La legislatura podrá prever que se realice la tasación de dicho bien en razón del justo valor a la fecha de tasación posterior al cambio de titularidad o dominio, según lo define la ley general, incluido cualquier cambio en la titularidad de la institución legal propietaria del bien. A partir de entonces, se realizará la tasación del bien según lo dispuesto en esta subsección.

(5) Se realizará la tasación de los cambios, agregados, reducciones o mejoras a dicho bien de acuerdo con lo establecido por la ley general. Sin embargo, luego de la revisión por cualquier reforma, agregado, reducción o mejora, se realizará la tasación del bien conforme las disposiciones establecidas en esta subsección.

(i) La legislatura, de acuerdo con la ley general y sujeto a las condiciones allí establecidas, podrá prohibir la consideración de lo enumerado a continuación en relación con la determinación del valor de los bienes raíces que se utilicen con fines residenciales:

(1) Cualquier reforma o mejora realizada con el propósito de mejorar la resistencia al daño causado por viento.

(2) La instalación de un dispositivo de fuente de energía solar u otra energía renovable.

(j)

(1) La evaluación de la propiedad costera utilizable se realizará en base al uso actual de la propiedad:

a. Terreno utilizado principalmente para la pesca comercial.

b. Terreno accesible al público utilizado para el lanzamiento de embarcaciones en aguas navegables.

c. Marinas y guarderías fuera del agua con acceso al público.

d. Astilleros dependientes del agua, instalaciones para la pesca comercial e instalaciones para la construcción y reparación de embarcaciones y sus actividades de soporte.

(2) El beneficio para la tasación que se establece en esta subsección está sujeto a las condiciones y restricciones y las definiciones razonables conforme los dispone la legislatura y la ley general.

SECCIÓN 6. Exenciones impositivas para viviendas familiares. —

(a)(1) a. Toda persona que tenga título legal o equitativo sobre bienes raíces y los mantenga como residencia permanente del propietario, u otra persona que dependa legal o naturalmente del propietario, estará exenta de tributación sobre los mismos, excepto las evaluaciones por beneficios especiales, como sigue:

1.a. En el caso de los impuestos de los distritos escolares, hasta un valor catastral de veinticinco mil dólares; y

2.b. En el caso de todos los impuestos distintos de los de los distritos escolares,

I. A partir del 1 de enero de 2027, hasta un valor catastral de ciento cincuenta mil dólares.

II. A partir del 1 de enero de 2028, hasta un valor catastral de doscientos cincuenta mil dólares.

b. Cualquier persona que, a partir del 1 de enero de 2027, tenga la titularidad legal o equitativa sobre un bien inmueble y mantenga en el mismo la residencia permanente del propietario, o de otra persona legal o naturalmente dependiente del propietario, que no hubiera mantenido una residencia permanente en este estado a 31 de diciembre de 2026, estará exenta del impuesto correspondiente, salvo las tasas por prestaciones especiales, de la siguiente manera:

1. En el caso de los impuestos de los distritos escolares, hasta un valor catastral de veinticinco mil dólares; y

2. En el caso de todos los impuestos distintos de los de los distritos escolares, hasta un valor catastral de cincuenta mil dólares. Salvo que se modifique lo contrario en virtud del subpárrafo (4)a.2., a partir del quinto año de exención en virtud de este subpárrafo, dicha persona estará exenta hasta el importe de la valoración catastral previsto en el sub-sub-subpárrafo a.2.II., ajustado de conformidad con el subpárrafo (2)a. La legislatura establecerá, mediante ley general, procedimientos uniformes para la aplicación de este subpárrafo.

Las exenciones otorgadas por este párrafo se aplican únicamente a cantidades superiores a cincuenta mil dólares y hasta setenta y cinco mil dólares, previa acreditación del derecho a las mismas en la forma prevista por la ley. La titularidad sobre los bienes raíces podrá ser legal o en equidad, mancomunada, solidaria, en común, como condominio, o indirectamente mediante la tenencia de acciones o participaciones que representen el derecho de propiedad del propietario o socio en una sociedad que tenga el dominio o los derechos de arrendamiento que inicialmente superen noventa y ocho años. Las exenciones exención no se aplicará respecto a ningún registro fiscal hasta que primero un organismo estatal designado de conformidad con la ley general determine que dicho registro cumple con las disposiciones de la sección 4. Estas exenciones se revocarán Esta exención se revocará en la fecha de entrada en vigencia de cualquier enmienda a este Artículo que disponga la tasación de la vivienda familiar a un valor inferior al justo valor.

(2)a. El importe de veinticinco mil dólares de la valoración catastral exenta de impuestos previsto en el sub-sub-subpárrafo (1)a.2.II. del apartado (a)(1)b. se ajustará anualmente por inflación a partir del 1 de enero de 2029, y de cada año posterior, por inflación utilizando el porcentaje de variación del Índice de Precios al Consumo para Todos los Consumidores Urbanos, media de las ciudades de EE. UU., todos los artículos 1967=100, o los informes sucesivos correspondientes al año natural anterior, tal y como los haya comunicado inicialmente la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales del Departamento de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos, si dicho porcentaje de variación es positivo.

b. El importe de la valoración catastral exenta de impuestos dispuesta en el sub-subpárrafo(1)b.2 se ajustará anualmente el 1 de enero de 2028 y por cada año por inflación utilizando el cambio porcentual en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor para Todos los Consumidores Urbanos, Promedio de Ciudades de EE. UU., todos los elementos 1967=100, o informes posteriores para el año calendario anterior según lo informado inicialmente por los Estados Unidos. Departamento de Trabajo de los estados, Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales, si dicho cambio porcentual es positivo.

(3) Salvo las exenciones previstas en los sub-subpárrafos (1)a.2. y b.2. y el párrafo (4), el importe de la valoración catastral exenta de impuestos a la que tiene derecho toda persona que posea la titularidad legal o equitativa de un bien inmueble y mantenga en él la residencia permanente del propietario, o de otra persona legal o naturalmente dependiente del propietario, y que se aplica exclusivamente a los gravámenes distintos de los del distrito escolar, que se añada a la presente Constitución después del 1 de enero de 2025, se ajustará anualmente el 1 de enero de cada año en función de la inflación, utilizando el porcentaje de variación del Índice de Precios al Consumo para Todos los Consumidores Urbanos, media de las ciudades de EE. UU., todos los artículos 1967=100, o los informes sucesivos correspondientes al año natural anterior, tal y como los haya comunicado inicialmente la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales del Departamento de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos, si dicho porcentaje de variación es positivo, a partir del año siguiente a la fecha de entrada en vigor de dicha exención.

(4)a.1. La legislatura establecerá, mediante ley general, un procedimiento uniforme para que los condados y los municipios, en el marco de sus respectivos sistemas tributarios, puedan aumentar el importe de la valoración catastral exenta de impuestos con arreglo al párrafo (1), hasta alcanzar la totalidad de la valoración catastral restante.

2. A partir del 1 de enero de 2030, un condado o un municipio, mediante el voto favorable de dos tercios de los miembros del órgano de gobierno, podrá determinar que se justifica una reducción del requisito de cinco años previsto en el sub-subpárrafo (1)b.2. debido a una necesidad local imperiosa.

b.1. Un distrito especial podrá, previa aprobación mediante referéndum por parte de los electores del distrito, aumentar el importe de la valoración catastral exenta de impuestos con arreglo a los sub-subpárrafos (1)a.2. y b.2., para su respectivo gravamen, hasta alcanzar la totalidad de la valoración catastral restante. Mediante una ley general, la legislatura establecerá la forma en que se podrá convocar un referéndum; la frecuencia con la que se podrá celebrar dicho referéndum, que no podrá ser superior a una vez en un período de 12 meses; el texto de la boleta y la pregunta de dicho referéndum; y otros requisitos para el referéndum que no sean incompatibles con este párrafo. El aumento de la exención aprobado entrará en vigor y se aplicará por primera vez a partir del 1 de enero inmediatamente posterior a la aprobación por referéndum.

2. Un distrito especial podrá ajustar anualmente, el 1 de enero de cada año, el importe de la valoración catastral exenta de impuestos, tal y como se aprobó en el sub-subpárrafo 1, para tener en cuenta la inflación, utilizando la variación porcentual del Índice de Precios al Consumo para todos los consumidores urbanos, media de las ciudades de EE. UU., todos los artículos 1967=100, o los informes sucesivos correspondientes al año natural anterior, tal y como los haya publicado inicialmente la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales del Departamento de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos, siempre que dicha variación porcentual sea positiva.

(b) No se le permitirá más de una exención a ninguna persona o unidad familiar respecto a ninguna unidad residencial. Ninguna exención superará el valor de los bienes raíces tasables al propietario o, en caso de dominio mediante acciones o participación en una sociedad, el valor de la proporción que devengue la participación en la sociedad sobre la tasación del inmueble.

(c) De conformidad con la ley general y con sujeción a las condiciones que se especifican en la misma, el Poder Legislativo podrá entregarles a los arrendatarios que sean residentes permanentes una desgravación fiscal ad valorem sobre todos los gravámenes fiscales ad valorem. Dicha desgravación fiscal ad valorem se establecerá de la forma y en el monto que disponga la ley general.

(d) El poder legislativo podrá, de conformidad con la ley general, permitirles a los condados o municipios, para efectos de sus gravámenes fiscales respectivos y con sujeción a las disposiciones de la ley general, conceder cualquiera de las siguientes exenciones impositivas adicionales para viviendas familiares o ambas:

(1) Una exención que no supere cincuenta mil dólares para una persona que tenga la titularidad legal o en equidad sobre bienes raíces y mantenga allí la residencia permanente del propietario, que haya cumplido la edad de sesenta y cinco años, y cuyos ingresos familiares, según lo define la ley general, no superen veinticinco mil dólares; o

(2) Una exención equivalente al valor tasado del inmueble para una persona que tenga titularidad legal o equitativa sobre los bienes raíces con un valor justo inferior a doscientos cincuenta mil dólares, según se determine en el primer ejercicio fiscal que aplique el propietario y que cumpla los requisitos para la exención, y que haya mantenido en los mismos la residencia permanente del propietario durante al menos veinticinco años, que haya cumplido la edad de sesenta y cinco años, y cuyos ingresos del hogar no superen la limitación sobre ingresos que se prescribe en el párrafo (1).

La ley general debe permitirles a los condados y municipios conceder dichas exenciones adicionales, dentro de los límites que se prescriben en esta subsección, mediante una ordenanza que se adopte de la manera que lo prescribe la ley general, y debe disponer el ajuste periódico de la limitación sobre ingresos que se prescribe en esta subsección respecto a los cambios en el costo de vida.

(e)

(1) Cada veterano que tenga 65 años o más y que sufra una discapacidad parcial o total recibirá un descuento del monto del impuesto ad valorem que se adeude sobre la vivienda familiar que posea el veterano y donde el mismo resida si la discapacidad hubiera sido causada por el combate y el veterano hubiera sido dado de baja con honor tras retirarse del servicio militar. El descuento se expresará en un porcentaje equivalente al porcentaje de la discapacidad permanente vinculada al servicio del veterano, según lo determine el Departamento de Asuntos de los Veteranos de los Estados Unidos. Para optar al descuento que se concede en este párrafo, el solicitante debe presentarle al tasador inmobiliario del condado, a más tardar el 1 de marzo, una carta oficial del Departamento de Asuntos de los Veteranos de los Estados Unidos mediante la que se indique el porcentaje de la discapacidad vinculada al servicio del veterano y las pruebas que demuestren de manera razonable que la discapacidad fue causada por el combate, así como también una copia de la baja con honor del veterano. Si el tasador inmobiliario rechaza la solicitud de descuento, el tasador debe notificarle al solicitante por escrito los motivos del rechazo, y el veterano podrá volver a realizar la solicitud. El Poder Legislativo podrá, de conformidad con la ley general, desistir del requerimiento anual de solicitudes en los años posteriores.

(2) Si un veterano que recibe el descuento descrito en el párrafo (1) fallece antes de su cónyuge, y si, al fallecer el veterano, el(la) cónyuge sobreviviente posee la titularidad legal o el usufructo de la vivienda familiar y reside permanentemente allí, el descuento se transfiere al(la) cónyuge sobreviviente hasta que se vuelva a casar, venda o de otra manera disponga de la vivienda familiar. Si el(la) cónyuge sobreviviente vende o de otra manera dispone de la vivienda, se podrá transferir a la nueva vivienda familiar del(la) cónyuge sobreviviente un descuento que no exceda el monto en dólares otorgado según el registro fiscal ad valorem más reciente, si la utiliza como su residencia permanente y si no se ha vuelto a casar.

(3) Esta subsección tiene efecto inmediato y no necesita legislación de implementación.

(f) De conformidad con la ley general y con sujeción a las condiciones y limitaciones que se especifican en la misma, el Poder Legislativo podrá concederle una desgravación fiscal ad valorem equivalente al monto total o una parte del impuesto ad valorem que se adeude sobre la vivienda familiar a:

(1) El(la) cónyuge sobreviviente de un veterano que haya fallecido durante su servicio activo en calidad de miembro de las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos.

(2) El(la) cónyuge sobreviviente de un socorrista que haya fallecido en acto de servicio.

(3) Un socorrista que tenga una discapacidad total y permanente a causa de una lesión o lesiones que haya sufrido en acto de servicio. La conexión causal entre una discapacidad y el acto de servicio no debe presumirse, sino que determinarse según lo dispone la ley general. Para efectos de este párrafo, el término "discapacidad" no incluye una afección crónica o enfermedad crónica, a menos que la lesión que se haya sufrido en acto de servicio hubiera sido la única causa de la afección crónica y la enfermedad crónica. Según se usa en esta subsección y según lo defina más extensamente la ley general, el término "socorrista" hace referencia a un policía, un funcionario penitenciario, un bombero, un técnico médico de emergencia o un paramédico, y el término "en acto de servicio" significa que surge a raíz del desempeño real del servicio que sea necesario en virtud del trabajo como socorrista.

SECCIÓN 9. Impuestos municipales.

(a)(1) Los condados, los distritos escolares y los municipios estarán autorizados por ley a recaudar impuestos ad valorem, y los distritos especiales podrán hacerlo; asimismo, podrán estar autorizados por ley general a recaudar otros impuestos, para sus respectivos fines, salvo los impuestos ad valorem sobre los bienes muebles intangibles y los impuestos prohibidos por la presente Constitución.

(2) Los impuestos ad valorem recaudados por los condados y los municipios se utilizarán únicamente para:

a. Garantizar la seguridad pública, incluidos los servicios de policía, bomberos y servicios médicos de emergencia;

b. Proporcionar financiamiento para la educación y las escuelas públicas;

c. Financiar o refinanciar infraestructuras, incluidos los gastos de construcción y mantenimiento de carreteras y puentes y el control de aguas pluviales;

d. Financiar o refinanciar proyectos de recursos naturales, incluidas las medidas de control de inundaciones;

e. Emitir bonos locales para usos compatibles con este párrafo y realizar pagos del servicio de la deuda correspondiente a obligaciones existentes;

f. Cumplir con las obligaciones relativas a las prestaciones de jubilación de los empleados de la administración local; o

g. Financiar las operaciones y la administración de los funcionarios y comisionados del condado establecidos en virtud del artículo VIII y de los municipios, así como los gastos aprobados por dichos funcionarios del condado o por los órganos de gobierno del condado o municipales, salvo aquellos gastos prohibidos por la legislación general.

(b) Los impuestos ad valorem, con exclusión de los impuestos recaudados para el pago de bonos y de los impuestos recaudados por períodos no superiores a dos años cuando así lo autorice el voto de los electores que sean dueños de bienes inmuebles en propiedad plena no totalmente exentos de impuestos, no se recaudarán por encima de los siguientes tipos impositivos sobre el valor catastral de los bienes inmuebles y los bienes muebles tangibles: para todos los fines del condado, diez milésimas; para todos los fines municipales, diez milésimas; para todos los fines escolares, diez milésimas; para fines de gestión del agua en la parte noroeste del estado situada al oeste de la línea entre las cordilleras dos y tres este, 0,05 milésimas; para fines de gestión del agua en el resto del estado, 1,0 milésima; y para todos los demás distritos especiales, un tipo impositivo autorizado por ley y aprobado por votación de los electores que sean propietarios de bienes inmuebles en los mismos que no estén totalmente exentos de impuestos. Un condado que preste servicios municipales podrá, en la medida en que lo autorice la ley, recaudar impuestos adicionales dentro de los límites fijados para fines municipales.

ARTÍCULO XII

APÉNDICE

Limitación de la valoración de los bienes inmuebles, exenciones fiscales sobre la vivienda familiar e ingresos de las administraciones locales. —Esta sección y las enmiendas a las secciones 4 y 6 del artículo VII, relativas a la limitación del valor catastral de los bienes inmuebles, al aumento de la exención del impuesto sobre la vivienda familiar y a la creación de una nueva exención para la vivienda familiar a partir del 1 de enero de 2027, así como la enmienda a la sección 9 del artículo VII, relativa a los usos de determinados ingresos por parte de los condados y municipios, entrarán en vigor el 1 de enero de 2027.

August 27, September 24, 2026

WRESTLING

State champion has a nice 'ring' to it

By WALT JACOBS
Correspondent

The title "Kendal Haynie, 2026 State Champion" has a nice ring to it and now her copious collection of awards does too.

On Aug. 21st, at J.D. Jones Stadium, Wakulla High honored a legend in the making as Principal Michele Falk, joined by coaches Jon Sanchez and Tommy Haynie, presented Haynie with a ring commemorating her 2026 FHSAA girls state wrestling championship.

Last season, Haynie compiled a 24-0 record while only surrendering one takedown. Haynie simply dominated her competition via 20 pins and 4 technical falls while becoming the first girl to win a state title in any sport at Wakulla High.

Currently, Haynie is ranked No. 1 in the state, and 12th in the nation by FloWrestling.

Kendal Haynie shows her ring earned as state champion in wrestling at halftime of the Wakulla v. Gadsden football game. Joining her are Coach Tommy Haynie, Principal Michele Falk, and Coach Jon Sanchez.

PHOTO BY PERRY DISSMORE

Color Guard

With the cancellation of last week's preseason game, we didn't have a photo of this Color Guard for the Football section.

Here they are: Top row: Autumn Bodziak, Emma Carnivale, Lyla Sealy, Chase Hall, Kinley Ledington, Shannon Miller, and Makenzy Coring.

Bottom row: Kinslee Benton, Autumn Mckenzie, Emilee Mason, Violet Sexton, Annaleyse Roland, Paisley Allen, and Olivia Drapeau.

War Eagles wallop Gadsden, 27-7

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The Wakulla War Eagles and their new head coach got their first victory of the season, a 27-7 win over the Gadsden Jaguars in a weather-shortened game.

There were two lightning delays. The first delay came in the third quarter, and the game went on until the second lightning alarm, which sounded with 9:18 left in the fourth quarter.

The game was eventually called.

Head Coach Derek Allen Jr. was somewhat disappointed with his team's performance.

"We didn't play our best football, but still able to get the job done," he said.

He attributed the off-play to lack of a preseason game – last week's exhibition game against Evans High from Orlando was cancelled due to weather.

"Us not having an opportunity to play a preseason game (took away) time to clean up mental mistakes," Coach Allen said.


Ryheem Moore does a flip coming out on the field. He would have a stunning game against the Gadsden Jaguars, with three interceptions, one a pick six; and a pass reception for a 41-yard touchdown.

GAME STATS

Cornerback Ryheem Moore had an amazing game: three interceptions, returning one for a touchdown. Plus a 41-yard touchdown catch on offense.

"I've never seen numbers like that from a corner," said Allen, noting that it's usually a safety who's sitting back and able to react to a pass and make a pick.

Quarterback Ashton Brooks went 7 for 10 passing for 115 yards, plus rushing for 72 yards, most of that picked up on scrambles.

Jaylen Jones, known for his defensive play, also took some snaps as quarterback and rushed three times for 29 yards.

Running backs got some work: Danny Godbolt carried 6 times for 34 yards; Nigel Cloud had 5 carries for 10 yards; Bryce Manning had 4 carries for 39 yards.

Offensive Player of the Week Jarell Randolph had one catch for a touchdown. RB Danny Godbolt had one catch for 31 yards.

Defensive Player of the Week, linebacker Rayshon St. Hilaire, had 10 tackles in the game, 7 solo and 3 assists.

Allen was pleased with his team's defensive play, saying they played really well.

The lone Gadsden touchdown was on a play where the corner got caught looking into the backfield and the Jaguar receiver got in front of him and caught the ball and made it to the end zone.

GAME RECAP

Wakulla took the opening kickoff and drove the field – rushing plays only, no passes, and capped by a 15-yard run by RB Armon Lindsey. Kicker Colby Carranza kicked the PAT. Wakulla 7, Gadsden O.

Gadsden scored on their possession, a 96-yard TD pass and run that Coach Allen attributed to the corner looking in the backfield and letting the receiver get by him. Extra point good, tied at 7.

Wakulla responded with a 41-yard TD pass to Ryheem Moore. Wakulla up 14-7.

The War Eagles drove down to the 5 but couldn't score; Jaguars take over on downs. A few plays later, Moore makes a diving interception, his first of three.

The offense scores on that, RB Jarell Randolph starts one way, shakes a defender and cuts back across the field to score. Extra point was hindered by a 5 yard penalty for false start. Wakulla up 20-7 and that was the score at halftime.

Gadsden got the second half kickoff, and Moore got his second pick of the night.

There was the first lightning delay at 4:51 in the third. When play resumed, Wakulla was driving and attempted a field goal to start the 4th quarter, but it was no good.

Moore had his third pick and took it to the house. Wakulla up 27-7 when second lightning delay happened.

UP NEXT: TAYLOR COUNTY BULLDOGS

Wakulla travels to Perry this Friday to take on the Taylor County Bulldogs.

The Bulldogs have won the past two meetings, and Allen said the team is well-coached and disciplined.

The War Eagles have to stop the Bulldogs' athlete who wears the No. 1 jersey and plays QB, RB, receiver and some defense.

And they have to win upfront. Against Gadsden, Wakulla's O-line was moving people around.

COACH'S CORNER

Brought to you by:


COACH
Derek Allen

FROM THE COACH

Last week: First game was not our best. Lack of preseason game meant no time to clean up mental mistakes.

Scouting: Taylor County Bulldogs are a well-coached and disciplined team. On the road, so crowd will be into it.

Key to victory: Win up front, and stop the Bulldogs player wearing No. 1 who plays quarterback, running back, receiver and defense..

PHOTO THIS PAGE, AND FRONT PAGE CLUE-IN BY KEN FIELDS

MVP


RYHEEM MOORE
Cornerback

Offense


JARELL RANDOLPH
Receiver

Defense


RAYSHON ST. HILAIRE
Linebacker

Special Teams

NO PHOTO

COLBY CARRANZA
Kicker