



Wakulla beats Chiles/Page 14





WeatherSTEM

Weather forecast from Wakulla High School

Thursday



PM Thunderstorms
Hi: 87° Lo: 75° 79%
Sunrise 7:15 AM
Sunset 7:57 PM

Friday



Thunderstorms
Hi: 87° Lo: 75° 85%
Sunrise 7:16 AM
Sunset 7:56 PM

Saturday



Scattered Thunderstorms
Hi: 88° Lo: 74° 50%
Sunrise 7:18 AM
Sunset 7:51 PM



\$1
One Section

"It's a New Day"

Locally Owned
& Operated

Our 5th Year 37th Issue
Thursday, September 10, 2026

Raker returned to Wakulla

Wanted for a double homicide in Sopchoppy, he was captured in Mexico on Aug. 13, taken to Texas, and returned to Wakulla County on Saturday

By **WILLIAM SNOWDEN**
Editor

Joseph Ronnie Raker was returned to Wakulla County on Saturday, Sept. 5, according to the Wakulla County Sheriff's Office.

Raker was wanted as a suspect in a double murder: the bodies of Rebecca Lynn Thomas, 58, and William Luper III, 49, were found in the woods near a home on Otter Creek in Sopchoppy on Aug. 4. Both died as the result of multiple gunshot wounds.

The warrants for murder were issued for Raker on Aug. 5, along with a \$10,000 reward for his capture.

An intense manhunt

was underway for a couple of weeks until U.S. Marshals and Mexican police captured him on Aug. 13 in Mexico, across the border from Brownsville, Texas.

He was taken to Hidalgo County, Texas, and waived extradition when given a court appearance some days later.

Capt. Brett Surace, public information officer for the sheriff's office, said Raker was transported by contract agents from Texas to Wakulla.

He was booked into the Wakulla County Jail on Saturday. Surace told The Sun he believed Raker was given a first appearance on the murder charges on Sunday, but the Labor Day holiday



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

made it difficult to confirm.

So far, the sheriff's office has released no information about the motive in the murders.

In announcing Raker's capture on Aug. 13, Sheriff Jared Miller anticipated more arrests for those who may have aided Raker in covering up the crime or fleeing from Wakulla.

In a video made by the sheriff's office and posted to Facebook back in the first week of August, Major Eddie Wester of Criminal Investigations said that an intoxicated person came forward telling deputies that people had been shot at Otter Creek.

Deputies went to the scene, found signs of struggle, and called for a warrant to search. Eventually, two bodies were found on neighboring refuge property hidden by underbrush.

Outdoor artist, writer George Weymouth has died

By **MADELEINE CARR**
Special to The Sun

George Weymouth, an accomplished outdoor artist and a longtime wildlife columnist, died on Sept. 2, 2026 in Gainesville. He was 92.

The natural world in Wakulla County offered birders, fishers, butterfly and plant lovers, and stargazers continuous seasonal wonders to explore. A couple of decades ago, Tallahassee Community College trained people wanting to interpret this world on hikes, on the water, or simply by pointing out the occasional migrating bird or waterfowl. Certificates were issued to Green Guides. Many locals and visitors took advantage of their knowledge.

One Green Guide and artist was George Weymouth. While never really retired, George moved from Crawfordville to Smith Creek a few decades ago, traveled with his fourth wife to many continents, always returning and offering to guide those who wanted to know more about Wakulla and Franklin counties.

George did not simply walk and talk. He was an accomplished wildlife artist. He instructed a few in Wakulla how to carve birds. His own creations are in many homes. And as a flintknapper recreating native stone tools, he used those emblems on T-shirts. From small to very large, his artistry includes murals, one of which depicts Tate's Hell. It was moved from Carrabelle's City Hall to the Carrabelle Museum.

For decades, he wrote a weekly wildlife column for the former Wakulla News (now the Wakulla Sun). He taught bow hunting at an archery range off Arran Road. George was the first guide at Sanibel Island's Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, putting his knowledge about birds he learned at the Junior Audubon Society to use. By 1986, the legendary Roger Tory Peterson called him. He guided Peterson, his boyhood hero, for three days through the Everglades National Park.

Most recently, he was Honorary Trustee of Coastal Plains Institute, where he donated much time, expertise, and financial support to Ryan Means.

George was an Indiana native whose family had moved to South Florida on a doctor's advice to improve his health. Whatever was part of our natural world, George had an intense curiosity to learn about it, and the artistic ability to convey meaning.



Artist George Weymouth in 2023 with one of his artworks that was purchased by the Wakulla County Property Appraiser's office.

NEW SIGN IN SOPCHOPPY



Welcome to Sopchoppy

Sopchoppy has a new welcome sign to greet visitors and identify the City of Sopchoppy. Creating a sense of pride for the community, local artist Rachell

Mathis of Sol Eclectica, and Bri Miley of Signs By Bri in Crawfordville, worked together to create Sopchoppy's new attractive entrance to the city. (Photo by Linda Ann McDonald)

Philip Rosier is a seafood cook

By **LINDA ANN McDONALD**
Correspondent

Wakulla County's seafood restaurants are famous for their authentic "fresh off the boat" seafood dining experiences and unforgettable sunsets.

With experience gained by cooking seafood within several local restaurants, under several skilled chefs for many years, Philip Rosier absorbed these "fresh off the boat" experiences and created his own individual flare within the kitchen.

Rosier consistently chases experiences, embraces learning and growing within the kitchen, all in effort to perfect his culinary skills and deliver fantastic meals to all customers.

"If they are not smiling while dining, something is not right," said



Philip Rosier with the catch of the day.

Rosier. Locally, Rosier is known and called Pee Wee, or Ole P.

By posting vivid pic-

tures of his visually appealing seafood plates on social media, Rosier inadvertently created

a fanbase of culinary admirers and followers enticing them to ask, where he is working, and what he is cooking? He mentioned, "I want folks to smell the food through the pictures."

For the seafood enthusiast, Rosier does not disappoint with tasty dishes he prepares such as pecan crusted grouper over creamy garlic sauce topped with Baltimore crab cake and fried shrimp. Another tasty dish he created is seared tuna over sautéed shrimp and scallops topped with bourbon infused mandarin teriyaki.

He said, "Sometimes I get in a creative mood and then BOOM, I created a tuna and lump crab meat stacker, with pineapple and other fruit, and a special sauce, I enjoy cre-

Turn to Page 9

Lost boater found by FWC, Coast Guard

Staff Report

On Saturday night in Wakulla County, a boater's family reported him overdue after he failed to return from the day's fishing trip.

State Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers and the United States Coast Guard immediately sprang into action, searching by both water and air.

Luckily, officers had interacted with the boater earlier in the day and were able to use those coordinates to begin their search.

After nearly three hours, USCG aviation spotted a damaged vessel with the captain asleep at the helm.

FWC officers on the water made contact and confirmed the boater was unharmed before safely returning him to his family on land.



TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL
Clint Wagoner
Owner / Operator
850-510-6703

AIR-CON Of Wakulla
Heating & Air
Serving Wakulla & Franklin Counties
850-926-5592
Sales & Service
All Makes & Models

Turn to the Experts

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



GRILL & CANTINA
Lunch Specials
Monday – Friday
11:00 – 3:00
850-962-8079
INDOOR & PATIO SEATING
DINE IN OR CARRY OUT

We don't want ALL the Business – but we want YOUR Business
2000 Crawfordville Hwy.
Across from Wal Mart
Sun. – Thurs. 11-9
Fri. and Sat. 11-10
Toasttab.com/SanMarcosCrawfordville

Free Phones Designed Around You

Can't hear your phone ring?
Want to have clearer conversations?
Apply for your free phone today!

Built for Real Life
Provided at No Cost
Landline NOT Needed

How to Qualify

- Florida Resident
- Age 3+
- Have Hearing Loss or Speech Disorder

How to Apply

- Online: WWW.FTRI.ORG/FREE
- Request an application form: 800-222-3448 - customer@ftri.org
- Visit an FTRI Regional Distribution Center: FTRI.ORG/LOCATIONS



RF 2026
www.ftri.org
800-222-3448
1820 E. Park Ave, Suite 101, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Student of the Week

Elizabeth Davis – 5th grader at Riversink Elementary

Achievements/Reason for Nomination: Elizabeth Davis is known for her kindness, enthusiasm, and strong work ethic, and has made a positive impact on her classmates, teachers, and school community throughout her years at Riversink. Elizabeth has attended Riversink since kindergarten and has always been known as a student who is polite, respectful, and eager to learn. Whether participating in class discussions, helping others, or taking on a new challenge, Elizabeth approaches everything with a positive attitude and a genuine love of learning. Outside the classroom, Elizabeth enjoys developing her keyboarding skills and challenging herself to learn the location of every key on a keyboard without looking. Her determination and curiosity are reflected in her many interests and accomplishments. A talented writer, Elizabeth has a passion for creative writing and is currently working on multiple novels. She also loves reading, especially historical fiction, which allows her to combine her love of storytelling with learning about the past. Elizabeth is actively involved in school and community activities. She is a member of the Optimist Club, Otter Singers, and the Good News Club, demonstrating her commitment to leadership, service, and participation. She is also trying out for Odyssey of the Mind, where her creativity and problem-solving skills are sure to shine. In addition, Elizabeth hopes to become a member of the school's Art Club, another opportunity to explore and develop her creative talents. Those who know Elizabeth describe her as a thoughtful, hardworking, and well-rounded. Her positive attitude, strong character, and enthusiasm for learning make her a role model for her peers and a joy to have in the Riversink community. Riversink is proud to honor Elizabeth Davis as Student of the Week. Her dedication, creativity, and involvement both inside and outside the classroom make this recognition well deserved. Congratulations, Elizabeth, on this outstanding achievement!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK FEATURES A DIFFERENT SCHOOL EACH WEEK.



Plant of the Week By Sarracenia Chapter of FNPS

Godfrey's Blazing Star

By LYNN ARTZ, DAVID RODDENBERRY, and SANDY TEDDER



Blazing stars beautify September with star-shaped purple flowers encircling tall thin flower spikes. The nectar-rich flowers attract many butterflies. Among Florida's 19 native Liatris is an endangered species found only in southern Wakulla and Franklin Counties. Godfrey's blazing star (*Liatris provincialis*) grows 2-3 feet tall with a 6-12-inch flower cluster and florets attached to the main stem at nearly right angles. It requires full sun, well-drained sandy soil, and frequent fire. Discovered in 1959 on stable dunes at Alligator Point, it is mainly found inland in coastal live oak-sand pine scrub, sandy ridges of turkey oak-long-leaf pine, and transitions to coastal flatwoods. Coastal development and storms – plus inland fire suppression and pine plantations – have reduced its habitat. Three local state parks and St. Marks NWR preserve this rare *Liatris*.

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



Wakulla County Tax Collector

MARGARITAVILLE BENEFITS THE SINGING FOR CHANGE CHARITY



The Margaritaville specialty license plate in Florida benefits the Singing for Change charity. This charity, founded by Jimmy Buffett, provides grants to Florida nonprofits that help communities recover from natural disasters. Specifically, the funds are directed towards organizations assisting with hurricane and other disaster recovery and rebuilding efforts.

LOWE LEGAL & TITLE HAS JOINED AUSLEY MCMULLEN
A Trusted Legacy. Expanded Resources.



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



AUSLEY.COM 850-926-8245



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

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

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

Sopchoppy Depot Days is Saturday

Special to The Sun

Join us Saturday, September 12th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in beautiful, downtown Sopchoppy for the Annual Sopchoppy Depot Days. We will be celebrating the historic Sopchoppy Depot, one of the original depots along the historic Georgia, Florida & Alabama (GF & A) line.

Sopchoppy’s Depot Days Festival has been designed to highlight our local heritage with a focus on our community and the Train Depot history. Lots to do for the whole family!

HISTORIC TRAIN DEPOT! The Sopchoppy Depot is the only remaining depot still standing in Florida on the GF & A line. It was beautifully restored in 2010 and now serves as a museum with historical exhibits and a collection of old photographs, memorabilia and recovered artifacts.

Make sure to visit and hear some incredible stories from curator Nelson Martin.

NEW THIS YEAR-FOR THE KIDS! We’re hosting a new, very special event for the kids ages 3-8. Bring

the kids for the 1st Big Wheels Race! We’ll be partnering with David & Evelyn Sellers of Horsepower Patriots to give the young’uns a race of their own. Parents can sign up their child between 9-9:30 a.m. at the Big Wheels Race Tent on the corner of Municipal & Rose St. Some of our sponsors have purchased the Big Wheels and there will even be a raffle so you may be the lucky one to take a Big Wheel home!

MODEL RAILROAD! Every railroad enthusiast, from young to “seasoned”, will enjoy the Model Railroad display set up by the Big Bend Model Railroad Association (BBMRA). The HO Division will be setting up a modified HOT-TRAK layout in the Towles House that adjoins the Depot.

PARADE! As a crowd favorite, DJ Butch will again be hosting the Rails & Wheels Parade of classic and contemporary vehicles starting at 10:15 a.m. Drivers, led by David Earle, will be showing off their wheels in a parade down Rose Street.

There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes awarded based on

the People’s Choice.

As MC for the parade, DJ Butch will be spinning your favorite oldies.

No cost to enter the parade. Interested parties may sign up on our Facebook event page so we can get an idea of the number of registrants. However, it’s not necessary to sign up; just show up Saturday morning and register at 9 a.m. on the corner of Rose & Winthrop in downtown Sopchoppy.

VENDORS! The park will be full of vendors with homemade & handcrafted items. Food trucks on the Depot Green. Be sure to grab a coffee or lemonade with your homemade goodies to start your day! Shop for some unique, handcrafted treasures from our artisan vendors.

ALL THROUGH THE TOWN! The Festival will be located downtown, encompassing the Sopchoppy Depot Park, Train Depot, and the green space by the Sopchoppy Train Depot. The Depot Park has a circular, paved walking path, two covered pavilions, beautiful Native Wildflower gardens, playground

and covered stage. The Depot Museum will be open for visitors to learn more about the spirited history of the area. Don’t forget to explore our unique Sopchoppy shops: Sand & Soul Boutique, Vintage & Vain Shop, Sopchoppy Feed Store. Coast & Country Realty, Petal Wings Greenhouse, Sopchoppy Bakehouse and Civic Brewery & Pizza.

Marsh & Main and The Corner Marsh store are the latest additions to downtown and will be hosting their Grand Opening too!

Schedule for the Day:

9-10:00 Rails & Wheels Parade Registration

9-9:30 Registration for Kids’ Big Wheel Race (age 3-8)

9-1 DJ Butch Announcer & MC

9-1 Historic Depot Museum Open

9-1 Model Train Display at Towles House

9-1 Artisan Vendors Open For Business

9-1 Food Vendors Open For Business

9:30-10:15 Kids’ Big Wheel Race on Municipal Avenue

10:15-12 noon Rails & Wheels Parade & Awards on Rose Street

THE CITY OF ST. MARKS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANT SERVICES

The City of St. Marks is requesting qualifications from firms or individuals licensed to practice in the State of Florida for professional engineering and consulting services.

For a complete copy of the RFQ, please email: kgatewood@cityofstmarks.com or visit the city website under news – cityofstmarks.com. Prospective firms/individuals should submit proposals on or before October 8, 2026, at 2:00PM Eastern Standard Time. Qualifications will be opened immediately after the deadline at 788 Port Leon Drive in the Commission Chambers of the City of St. Marks. Open to the public.

Sept. 10, 17, 2026

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners is Seeking a Member to Serve on the Historic Preservation Committee

The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners is seeking a volunteer to serve on the Wakulla County Historic Preservation Committee. This Committee was established to review and make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on matters related to the designation, regulation, and administration of historical, cultural, and architectural resources in Wakulla County.

The BOCC is seeking two (2) members who must be a residents of Wakulla County from the disciplines of architecture, history, architectural history, planning, prehistoric and history archaeology, folklore, cultural anthropology, curation, conservation, landscape architecture or related disciplines; or who can demonstrate special interest, experience, or knowledge in history, architecture, or related discipline.

Interested persons should submit a cover letter explaining their interest in serving on the Historic Preservation Committee and provide a resume or other detailed information related to professional experience, education, background, knowledge, etc., which shall also include the person’s name, address, telephone number, and email address *no later than October 31, 2026*. Please e-mail your information to Ashley Rowland-Yost, Planner, ayost@mywakulla.com or by fax to 926-1528.

Sept. 10, 2026

Youth Leadership Summit invites teens to connect

Special to The Sun

For one day this fall, the UF/IFAS Extension facility in Crawfordville will become a hands-on leadership lab where young people can test ideas, practice new skills and discover how their voices can strengthen their communities. The 2026 Big Bend Youth Leadership Summit will welcome all Wakulla County youth ages 11 to 18 on Oct. 12. Youth do not need to be 4-H members to participate.

Built around the theme “Explore. Connect. Create. Lead.,” the summit

offers interactive workshops rather than a day of lectures. Participants can create with 3D pens, record a short advocacy podcast, tackle team missions, navigate a realistic household-budget simulation, develop an entrepreneurial pitch and explore career pathways. Additional sessions address hospitality and service, personal finance, environmental stewardship, community advocacy, and the life and career skills developed through 4-H experiences.

The summit is designed to give youth a place to try something new, learn

alongside peers and connect leadership to real-world choices.

The registration fee is \$30 per youth and includes snacks, lunch, workshop materials and a conference T-shirt. Full and partial scholarships are available for Wakulla County youth. Applicants may request either a 50% scholarship or a 100% scholarship.

Scholarship applications are available at the Wakulla Extension office, 84 Cedar Ave. in Crawfordville. Applications will also be sent to Wakulla

Middle School, Riversprings Middle School and Wakulla High School.

- Eligibility: All Wakulla County youth ages 11–18, including youth who are not current 4-H members.
- Registration: <https://4HBigBendYouthLeadership.4honline.com>
- Extension office: 850-926-3931
- 4-H agent: Rachel Pienta, r.pienta@ufl.edu
- Location: UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County, 84 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville FL 32327



WAKULLA COUNTY

Notice of Public Meeting:

The Wakulla County Tourist Development Council will hold a Public Meeting on September 22, 2026, at 9:00a.m. at the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Conference Room, 3093 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL 32327, (850) 926-3695.

Purpose of Meeting:

To Discuss General Business of the Tourist Development Council.

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

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

Sept. 10, 2026



WAKULLA COUNTY

Notice of Public Meeting:

The Wakulla County Historic Preservation Committee will hold a Public Meeting on September 22, 2026, at 3:30p.m. at the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners Administration Conference Room, 3093 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL., (850) 926-0919.

Purpose of Meeting:

To review and make recommendations to the BOCC on matters related to the designation, regulation and administration of historical, cultural and architectural resources in the County based on the criteria set forth in Ordinance #13-04.

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

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

Sept. 10, 2026



WAKULLA COUNTY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Wakulla County Code Enforcement Special Magistrate will hold a

Public Hearing

On September 25, 2026 at 9:30am

in the Wakulla County Courthouse, Courtroom B, 3056 Crawfordville Hwy., Crawfordville, FL 32327.

Interested parties are invited to attend and participate.

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

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

Sept. 10, 2026



WAKULLA COUNTY

Notice of Public Meeting:

The Wakulla County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group will hold a Public Meeting on September 24, 2026, at 9:00a.m. at the Wakulla County Community Center (Wakulla Room), 318 Shadeville Rd, Crawfordville, FL, (850) 926-3695.

Purpose of Meeting:

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

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

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

Sept. 10, 2026

City of Sopchoppy

NOTICE OF FAIR HOUSING

This notice will serve to advise all residents of the City of Sopchoppy that the following actions, if based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status (families with children), or handicap (disability) are prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Act):

- Refusing to sell or rent to, deal or negotiate with any person.
- Discriminating on terms or conditions for buying or renting housing.
- Discriminating by advertising that housing is available only to persons of a certain race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, handicap (disability), age, ancestry or with no animals.
- Denying that housing is available for inspection, sale or rent when it really is available.
- Denying or making different terms or conditions for home loans by financial institutions.
- Denying to anyone the use of or participation in any real estate services, multiple listing services or other facilities related to the selling and renting of housing.
- “Blockbusting” and “steering” are two discriminatory practices that are also prohibited by the Act. Blockbusting includes engaging in conduct which conveys the impression that a neighborhood is about to undergo certain changes and, thus, panic owners into selling their properties. Steering involves guiding an individual seeking housing toward or away from particular property for discriminatory reasons.

If you would like to obtain more information about fair housing, or file a fair housing complaint, please contact the Fair Housing Coordinator listed below:

Ashley Schilling, City Clerk/Fair Housing Coordinator
105 Municipal Avenue (P.O. Box 1219) City of Sopchoppy, 32358
Phone: 850-962-4611

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER
HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES**

Sept. 10, 2026

CITY OF SOPCHOPPY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

OLD SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL CAFETERIA AND LIBRARY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Sopchoppy is soliciting proposals for the use of the old Sopchoppy High School cafeteria and library building located at 164 Yellow Jacket Avenue, Sopchoppy, FL 32358.

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated on the basis of: (i) whether the proposed use is for profit or not for profit, (ii) the range and type of uses proposed, (iii) the compensation to be paid to the City and (iv) capital investment proposed. Minority enterprises are encouraged to apply.

Proposals are due at City Hall, 105 Municipal Avenue, Sopchoppy, FL 32358 by 10:00 am, Friday, September 25, 2026. The proposals will be ranked by the City Commission on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. Questions concerning this solicitation may be sent by email to Ashley Schilling, Municipal Clerk at ashley.schilling@sopchoppy.org.

The City of Sopchoppy is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace. The City will take affirmative steps to reasonably accommodate the disabled and ensure their needs are equitably represented in this solicitation. Pursuant to Title VI and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Town will not exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination anyone on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, language, income, or family status.

Leonard Tartt, Mayor
Attest: Ashley Schilling, Municipal Clerk
Publication Date: September 3, 2026

September 3, 10, 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.”

LETTERS FROM READERS

Concern about last week’s highlight

Editor, The Sun:

I enjoyed the Letter to the Editor entitled ‘History Highlight: Decisive Victory’ where the account of action during our War of Independence was described in both military and political terms. This was a crucial period in our struggle for independence from the tyranny and oppression of England and its king. We have much to be

thankful for during this 250th anniversary of our nation and the wonderful achievements and contributions we as a nation have made to the world as a whole. No other nation has advanced the civilization of our planet as much as we have. This brings me to the untoward mention of “native Americans” and their occupation and subsequent ‘banishment’ from our country in this article. This was like a black fly in the Chardonnay.

The centuries-long existence of nomadic tribes roaming the continent prior to the arrival of Western culture from Europe consisted of these tribes

engaging in brutal tribal warfare for territory. Once victory was achieved these tribes would banish the competing tribe from the territory. The process of territorial claims was no different with our Anglo-Saxon tribe which proved to be superior in all respects. The American Indian, as they are often referred to, also made the unfortunate decision to support the British in our War of Independence which left them in an unenviable position after our victory over the British. Much solace has been afforded these “native Americans” over the last several decades, primarily from left leaning liberal groups who oc-

cupy their time demonstrating against our country for any reason available. But if the truth be told, these ‘natives’ were treated infinitely better than most tribes who lost their territorial battles in the course of history. Let us not lose sight of how our nation was founded and created by courageous American pioneers who established Western culture as the vanguard for our future. Our history is one of greatness and need not include any notion of lament.

Tim Caldwell
Panacea

History highlight: Five flags of Florida

Editor, The Sun:

Florida’s history is exceptionally colorful and complicated. “The Five Flags of Florida” is an expression referring to the fact that Florida has been governed by five different nations. Chronologically, they are Spain, France, Britain, the Confederate States of America and the United States of America.

Nevertheless, the French claim was ever so brief! As we all learned in 4th grade Florida history, the Spanish first claimed Florida in 1513 when Ponce de Leon landed on the peninsula’s east coast. This is the first known European contact in Florida. In 1562, Jean Ribault, a French naval officer, sailed into pres-

ent-day Jacksonville and explored the St. Johns River area. Two years later, in 1564, 300 French Protestants, known as Huguenots, who were persecuted in Catholic France, sailed for New France, yearning for religious freedom. Near Ribault’s first exploration site, they established Ft. Caroline and began building a permanent settlement. Things went badly. They became too dependent on the native Timucuan tribes for food, and frequent grumbling led to a mutiny against their commander, Rene Ladonniere. In an attempt to redeem the settlement, Ribault returned with provisions and more settlers, only to be murdered along with most of the other residents, in a surprise dawn attack on the fort by Spanish conquistador Pedro Menendez de Aviles and his troops. Fewer than 60 of the French escaped to two ships moored off the coast and returned to France.

Thus, the French claim on Florida collapsed when challenged by Spain and lasted only three years. The Spanish established the first permanent European settlement in America in St. Augustine that same year, 1565. However, Spain’s claim to Florida ended in 1763, when she lost Florida to the British in the French and Indian War. After only 20 years, the British subsequently returned Florida to Spain when Britain lost the American War of Independence. This second Spanish possession of Florida ended when the state became a United States Territory in 1821.

In all, the Spanish held Florida

over 200 years, longer than the state has been part of the United States of America! Caramba!

We are nearly sold out at “Threads Through Time”: an historic clothing fashion show and tea on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 2-5 pm at the Crawfordville Women’s Club.

This upcoming event was featured by WFSU’s Tom Flanagan this week on “Speaking Of.” Listen to the podcast at WFSU’s public media website, and on our Facebook page.

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 September 10

Thursday, September 10

- The Rotary Club of Wakulla County meets at the TSC Wakulla Center 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, September 11

- A 9/11 memorial ceremony will be held in the sheriff’s office parking lot beginning at 8:30 a.m.
- Wakulla War Eagles travel to Santa Rosa County to take on the Pace Patriots at 7:30 p.m. CDT.
- Echo and Vibe Gong Experience will be held at Palaver Tree Theater from 7 to 10 p.m. Advance tickets \$25 or \$30 at the door.

- 16th annual Rock the Dock fishing tournament, sponsored by Panacea Waterfronts, will be held over the weekend. Three divisions: offshore, inshore and youth. To register, go to visitpanacea.org.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon and 7 p.m. every Friday at 54 Ochlockonee St.

Saturday, September 12

- Sopchoppy Depot Days will be held in Sopchoppy from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. See story on Page 3 for details.
- Threads Through Time, a presentation of the Wakulla Historical Society, will be held at the Crawfordville Women’s Club from 2 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, September 13

- 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.

- Rock the Dock

Monday, September 14

- School board meets at 5:45 p.m. at the district office.
- Planning Commission meets in the commission chambers at 6 p.m.
- Sopchoppy City Commission meets at city hall at 6:30 p.m.
- The Wakulla Respite Program is available for anyone with memory impairment at no cost from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Ellen Baptist Church every Monday.
- Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. for women and 8 p.m. for men every Monday at 54 Ochlockonee St.
- Gentle Yoga and Stetching Class with Margaret every Monday at 11 a.m. First Baptist Church CLC Building in Crawfordville. Bring a mat.

Tuesday, September 15

- Sarracenia Chapter of the Flori-

da Native Plant Society meets at the Wakulla County Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Chuck Hess will present a program on Trends in Vegetation, Prescribed Fire and the Landscape Trap in the Apalachicola National Forest. For a Zoom link email: Sarracenia.nps@gmail.com. Free and open to the public.

- Chamber Lunch and Learn on disaster preparedness will be held at the new Emergency Operations Center behind the sheriff’s office from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Lunch is \$15 for Chamber members; \$25 for non-members. To register, call (850) 926-1848.
- 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 16

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

SUPPORT COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

Are donations tax deductible?

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

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

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

That means:

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

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

We would very much appreciate your contribution.

William Snowden
Editor & Publisher
The Wakulla Sun

Yes, the Florida Press Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization with its principal place of business in Florida.

The Florida Press Foundation is registered to solicit charitable contributions in Florida. Financial and other information about the Florida Press Foundation’s purpose, programs and activities can be obtained by visiting <https://floridapressfoundation.org> or by writing to Florida Press Foundation at 336 East College Avenue, Suite 304, Tallahassee FL 32301.

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

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

“It’s A New Day!”

The Wakulla Sun



Editor/Publisher:
William Snowden
editor@thewakullasun.com



Production Manager/IT:
Eric Stanton
estanton@thewakullasun.com



Circulation:
Krystal Sheppard
circulation@thewakullasun.com



Sales & Marketing
Lynda Kinsey
lkkinsey@thewakullasun.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/@TheWakullaSun

TWITTER: www.twitter.com/@TheWakullaSun

The Wakulla Sun, Copyright © 2023 is published weekly by Hot Water Publishing, 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL. Periodicals postage is pending at Crawfordville FL.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Wakulla Sun, 12 Arran Road, Crawfordville FL 32327.

DISTRIBUTION
Jessi Smith

Subscriptions to The Wakulla Sun

In County - \$40/yr. - \$25/6 mo. Out of County - \$50/yr. - \$30/6 mo.

Out of State - \$60/yr. - \$35/6 mo.

To subscribe call (850)962-8019.





Tree service & Stump grinding
850-509-3868

If you are a business and want to be seen...this is your spot to advertise!!!
Would you like to remind people that you are open for business, have you moved, are you offering new products or services? This is your spot to advertise!
Contact Lynda Kinsey 850-962-8019 LKinsey@TheWakullaSun.com

Polled at the Crawfordville Quik Stop:

As summer ends, what temperatures do you look for?

– Compiled by Lynda Kinsey



FRANCIS PANZARINO
Student

“Around 57 degrees, just cold enough for a sweater and long sleeves.”



CARA KIRKSEY
Empty Nester

“We actually just moved here, we came for the warmth.”



MICHAEL LINDSEY
Retired FAMU

“If it would stay around 60 degrees all year around, that would be lovely weather.”



REGINALD MCKINNEY
HVAC Tech

“Looking forward to the mid-70s, maybe 75, 76 degrees.”



JARROD HARVILLE
Sights & Sounds Co.

“Cooler weather... around 75 degrees. Fishing weather!”

Wakulla Crossroads

By **VERNA BROCK**

Lately, my friends and I have been remarking upon how impossibly fast a quarter of a century rushes by. It seems like yesterday that we were anticipating that rare milestone, the turn of a millennium. I assure you, the years leading up to it crawled by in comparison to the whirlwind of the past 25 years.

This week, we commemorate another, more somber, 25th anniversary: the 9/11 attack that took 2,977 innocent lives in terrifying fashion. There are a handful of historical events that elicit a definite response when asked, “Where were you?... Where were you when President John Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Bobby Kennedy were assassinated... when Apollo 1 burst into flames... when the Challenger Space Shuttle exploded?”

We can vividly recall the moments

of those shocking events if we experienced them. But for those of us who lived through 9/11, nothing compares to the disbelief and horror of that day and the days that followed. I clearly remember driving through Wacissa and Waukeenah on a gloriously crisp September morning, surrounded by crystalline blue skies that seemed to vibrate. I was on my way to work at the Jefferson County Public Library, with my radio tuned to the CBS Morning Show.

Suddenly Bryant Gumbal broke into the broadcast with a special announcement (those are never good news). A small plane was reported to have flown into one of the World Trade Center Towers. As I listened, the report quickly updated to a full-sized airliner, shortly followed by another airliner flown into the second tower just as I skidded up to the library.

As I blew through the front doors, I called for my staff to follow me upstairs. We crowded into the staff lounge and watched in disbelief as another airliner slid into the Pentagon and seemed to evaporate. This was shortly followed by yet another airliner ploughing headfirst into a field in Pennsylvania, thwarting a plan to destroy the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. There were genuine heroes among us, there and at the other crash sites, and we watched with grief and pride. I was overwhelmed with the need to speak to my own parents and hear their voices, and I was not alone in that feeling.

Little was accomplished that day, as everyone, everywhere, basically sat glued to the unfolding nightmare on the screens before us. We at the library placed a television on the first floor, at the front of the building. People wandered in and out over the next few days to catch the unending coverage. It is safe to say we were all in a state of stunned shock for days following the attack.

It took months and years to determine the how, who and what of it all. What was once inconceivable became real, forever altering our nation’s reality. Even now, investigations continue, and first responders suffer health complications from breathing contaminated air from the wreckage 25 years ago.

So this 9/11, an unbelievable 25 years later, take a moment to pause and absorb the significance of the day. Where were YOU? Share your memories with those among us who weren’t yet born, for whom the telling seems like ancient history, remote and detached from their truths. Let us try to convey to our children and grandchildren the gravity of this anniversary, and the importance of treating the remembrance with reverence.

For those keeping track and placing wagers, the inevitable lack of progress with the euphonium continues unabated. Perhaps there will be news next week. Frankly, I am waiting to see how long it can possibly drag out! Who has a clue?!

Library News

By **LINDA OAKS**
Library Director

Library News September 10th– September 16th

Thursday, September 10th

- Tiny Tummy Time 9:30am
- Creative Writing I 10am
- Amateur Radio Testing Sessions 6:30pm

Friday, September 11th

- Quilting Guild 10am

Saturday, September 12th

- Zeta Amicae 9am
- Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group 10am

Sunday, September 13th

- Closed

Monday, September 14th

- CLOSED FOR MOVE

Tuesday, September 15th

- CLOSED FOR MOVE

Wednesday, September 16th

- CLOSED FOR MOVE

Chamber luncheon held at Wakulla Springs Lodge



Chamber members and guests serve themselves on the terrace on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



MC Mary Wallace with Chamber Executive Director Heather Bryan at the luncheon.



The Wakulla Sun is your local source for news.

Outdoors

outdoor sports

HOME ON THE RANGE

Starting to shoot with a .22



By MARJ LAW

No matter which handgun you end up with, making a .22 the very first gun you shoot is a good choice. And no, don't listen to guys who tell you not to bother with a .22. They'll say it's little better than a peashooter and that it's no good for defense.

When they're done lecturing you on the uselessness of a .22, ask them to stand right in front of you while you load and aim that .22 at them. Since it's obviously no good at all for defense(!), they wouldn't mind if you pop them a few times in the heart, neck and head, now would they? (Seriously, don't ask them to do this. I'm just making a point. You can ask they if they would do this.)

Suddenly, they don't want you to shoot them with a .22. Huh. Is it perhaps that it's better for defense than they've been saying?

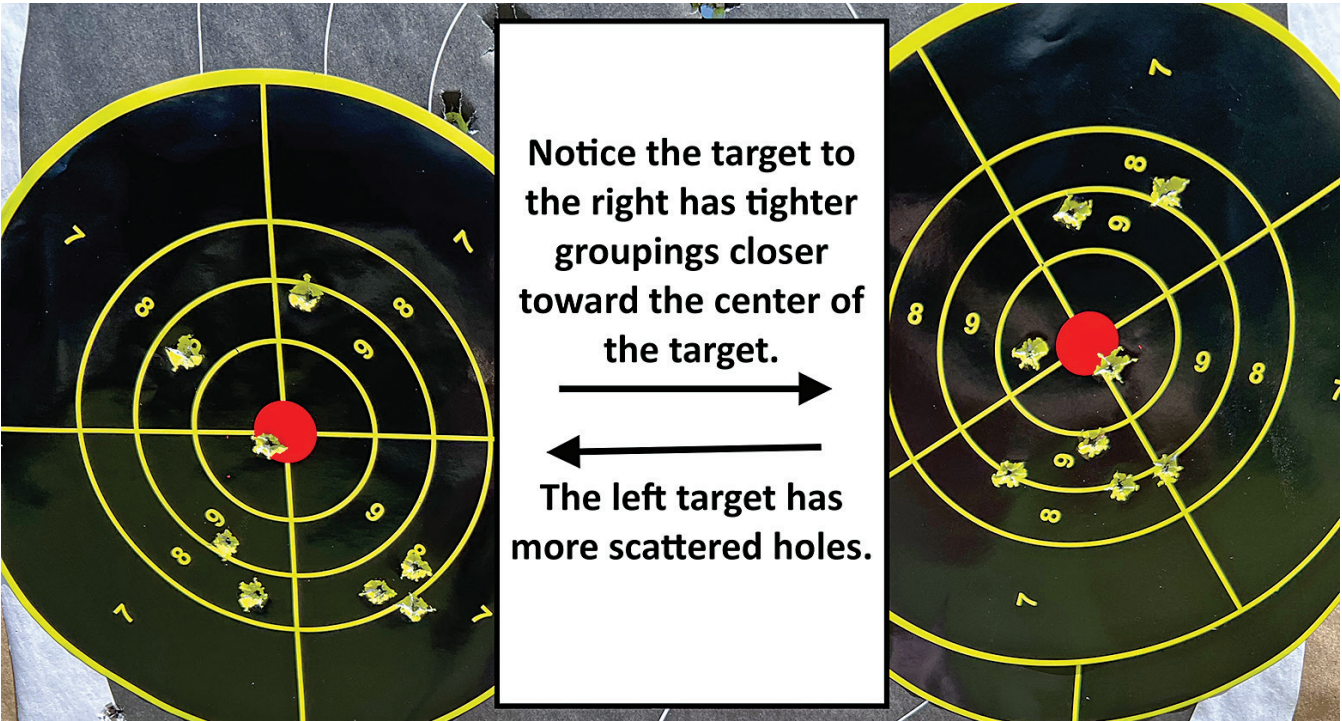
The truth is, nobody wants to be shot

with any gun. Even a .22. However, perhaps they're correct when they point out that almost any other gun is better for defense than a .22.

So, why are we discussing the .22? We'll be talking .22 semi-automatics today.

The .22s are usually the easiest handguns to load. First, the Ruger Mark III 22/45 has a magazine with a button at the top. You can push that button downward and plop a round into the magazine. How easy was that? The next round goes in the same way. Continue until you can't load any more rounds. The magazine can hold 10 rounds, and you can probably load at least 7 rounds before the spring in the mag becomes too tight for your thumb to press in any more rounds. At this point, you can finish loading with an UpLula, which runs around \$35 – which is an inexpensive price to make loading easier.

The Sig Sauer P322 is a bit more difficult to load. Just purchase an UpLula (again about \$35). When the range is "hot," hold the magazine upright on the shooting bench. Place the UpLula over the top of the mag. Squeeze it as you move it downward over the mag. Then you'll be able to drop a round in. Unsqueeze the UpLula



and lift upwards. The round will stay in the mag, and you can perform the same action over and over again until the entire 20-round magazine is loaded.

By this time, you've heard and understood the Wakulla County Sheriff Office range rules and you're wearing your "eyes" and "ears." You also know that you cannot touch your gun or ammunition when the range is "cold," but you are allowed to touch both when the range is "hot."

So today, we will be shooting the Sig Sauer P322 and the Ruger Mark III 22/45. The Sig is a compact handgun. Because of its stacked grip, it can hold a whopping 20 rounds in its magazine. The much longer-barreled Ruger handles 10 rounds. It has a 5.5 inch barrel, and is quite a lot heavier because of its thick bull barrel.

Generally, you'll be told that the longer barrel with its rifling will help your bullet fly longer and more accurately. So, the Ruger ought to shoot more accurately than the Sig, right?

We're making the competition even easier because we've placed a red dot reflex sight on the Ruger. Most new people at the range prefer lining up the red dot sight on the gun to the red dot on the target than to line up rear sights to front sights. It's just plain easier. So, the Ruger has the advantage of the longer barrel and the reflex sight.

Why are we suggesting shooting .22s? Most new shooters are concerned about "recoil" or "kick." They don't want to feel kick. 22s are known for having very little kick.

Little kick helps new shooter to overcome fear of hurting themselves with a harsh recoil. This is a valid fear.

Also, when a new shooter experiences a harsh kick, his eyes lose their sight picture.

The upward movement of his hands take away the view of the target he's sighting in. If he needs to shoot a second time perhaps because he was somewhat off target the first time, his hands are in the air and the target is no longer in sight.

You've got to keep your eyes on the target if you need to defend yourself.

I've seen women who are afraid of a harsh recoil. They squinch their eyes shut and sometimes even turn their head. Is there any chance of hitting a target when you're not looking at it? The .22 can help you to acquire your sight picture and to stay on it. This is a strong reason to acquire good habits with a .22.

So, today when we compare the Sig Sauer P322 with the Ruger Mark III, the compact Sig is 7-inches long and 1.4 inches wide. It has a 4-inch barrel, and it weighs only 17.1 ounces.

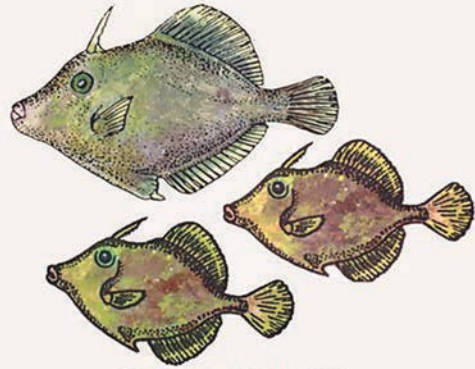
The much heavier metal Ruger is 9.5-inches overall and is 1.3-inches wide. It has a 5.5-inch bull barrel and it weighs 32 ounces.

Which will shoot better? And did I neglect to mention the Ruger has a red dot reflex sight on it?

Well, this Wednesday, it was very hot. The temperature began at 88 degrees when I was shooting the Sig. While all seven shots hit the target, I didn't see any tight groupings. By the time I shot eight shots with the Ruger, the temperature had risen to 93 degrees.

While this isn't by far my best shooting, since all I fired in both guns hit their targets, this is great practice shooting.

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



GREEN FILEFISH
(*Stephanolepis hispidus*)

Fishermen named this fish for the sandpapery skin using it to strike matches. The fish has a trigger like mechanism on its dorsal spine that makes it spring erect when they are threatened. This fish lives in in sargassum (seaweed) beds where it eats tiny marine invertebrates. Juveniles often inhabit floating sargassum weed rafts. It grows to about 14" and is often eaten by dolphins and larger fish.

Eukarya Animalia Cordata Osteichthyes
Tetraodontiformes Monacanthidae

Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
www.gulfspecimen.org

Wakulla
Lawn Ranger

Gene
Darby

850-251-9122

Mowing
Edging - Trimming
Sidewalk/Driveways
Pressurewashing
Landscaping

Licensed & Insured
Great Prices - Great Work



WEEKLY WILDLIFE PHOTO



Retired park ranger Robert Thompson was on his wildlife survey at Wakulla Springs recently and shot this photo of an blue heron.

FOLLOW THE SUN.

Water Ways

a peek into life on and under the water

Local writers share their experiences

SEA TOW

24/7 PRIORITY ON-WATER ASSISTANCE

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



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

Thursdays 10		For tides at the following points add to Dog Island Listings:			
--------------	--	---	--	---	--

3rd 2:22 PM

▲ 4.2 ft

3rd 3:07 PM

▲ 4.2 ft

3rd 3:48 PM

▲ 4.0 ft

3rd 4:27 PM

▲ 3.8 ft

3rd 5:05 PM

▲ 3.5 ft

3rd 5:45 PM

▲ 3.2 ft

3rd 6:31 PM

▲ 2.9 ft

4th 8:54 PM

▼ 0.3 ft

4th 9:24 PM

▼ 0.6 ft

4th 9:49 PM

▼ 0.9 ft

4th 10:12 PM

▼ 1.2 ft

4th 10:33 PM

▼ 1.4 ft

4th 10:55 PM

▼ 1.7 ft

4th 11:19 PM

▼ 1.9 ft

City of St. Marks

Th

1st 3:06 AM

▲ 3.4 ft

Fr

1st 3:35 AM

▲ 3.5 ft

Sa

1st 4:00 AM

▲ 3.6 ft

Su

1st 4:23 AM

▲ 3.6 ft

Mo

1st 4:44 AM

▲ 3.6 ft

Tu

1st 5:04 AM

▲ 3.5 ft

We

1st 5:24 AM

▲ 3.4 ft

2nd 9:15 AM

▼ 0.8 ft

2nd 9:58 AM

▼ 0.5 ft

2nd 10:38 AM

▼ 0.3 ft

2nd 11:16 AM

▼ 0.2 ft

2nd 11:53 AM

▼ 0.2 ft

2nd 12:32 PM

▼ 0.3 ft

2nd 1:16 PM

▼ 0.5 ft

3rd 2:59 PM

▲ 3.9 ft

3rd 3:43 PM

▲ 3.9 ft

3rd 4:24 PM

▲ 3.7 ft

3rd 5:03 PM

▲ 3.5 ft

3rd 5:42 PM

▲ 3.3 ft

3rd 6:22 PM

▲ 3.0 ft

3rd 7:08 PM

▲ 2.7 ft

4th 9:59 PM

▼ 0.3 ft

4th 10:28 PM

▼ 0.5 ft

4th 10:54 PM

▼ 0.8 ft

4th 11:16 PM

▼ 1.1 ft

4th 11:38 PM

▼ 1.3 ft

4th 11:59 PM

▼ 1.5 ft

4th

—

Shell Point, Spring Creek

Th

1st 2:57 AM

▲ 3.4 ft

Fr

1st 3:19 AM

▲ 3.6 ft

Sa

1st 3:39 AM

▲ 3.7 ft

Su

1st 3:58 AM

▲ 3.7 ft

Mo

1st 4:18 AM

▲ 3.8 ft

Tu

1st 4:39 AM

▲ 3.8 ft

We

1st 5:00 AM

▲ 3.7 ft

2nd 8:34 AM

▼ 1.1 ft

2nd 9:11 AM

▼ 0.7 ft

2nd 9:46 AM

▼ 0.4 ft

2nd 10:19 AM

▼ 0.3 ft

2nd 10:52 AM

▼ 0.2 ft

2nd 11:27 AM

▼ 0.3 ft

2nd 12:08 PM

▼ 0.5 ft

3rd 2:42 PM

▲ 4.2 ft

3rd 3:26 PM

▲ 4.1 ft

3rd 4:07 PM

▲ 4.0 ft

3rd 4:45 PM

▲ 3.8 ft

3rd 5:23 PM

▲ 3.5 ft

3rd 6:01 PM

▲ 3.2 ft

3rd 6:48 PM

▲ 2.9 ft

4th 9:13 PM

▼ 0.4 ft

4th 9:42 PM

▼ 0.7 ft

4th 10:08 PM

▼ 1.0 ft

4th 10:31 PM

▼ 1.3 ft

4th 10:52 PM

▼ 1.6 ft

4th 11:14 PM

▼ 1.8 ft

4th 11:40 PM

▼ 2.0 ft

Alligator Point, Ochlockonee Bay

Th

1st 2:23 AM

▲ 2.7 ft

Fr

1st 2:52 AM

▲ 2.8 ft

Sa

1st 3:17 AM

▲ 2.9 ft

Su

1st 3:40 AM

▲ 2.9 ft

Mo

1st 4:01 AM

▲ 2.9 ft

Tu

1st 4:21 AM

▲ 2.8 ft

We

1st 4:41 AM

▲ 2.8 ft

2nd 8:22 AM

▼ 0.7 ft

2nd 9:05 AM

▼ 0.4 ft

2nd 9:45 AM

▼ 0.2 ft

2nd 10:24 AM

▼ 0.2 ft

2nd 11:02 AM

▼ 0.2 ft

2nd 11:41 AM

▼ 0.4 ft

2nd 12:25 PM

▼ 0.4 ft

3rd 2:14 PM

▲ 3.1 ft

3rd 2:58 PM

▲ 3.1 ft

3rd 3:40 PM

▲ 3.0 ft

3rd 4:19 PM

▲ 2.8 ft

3rd 4:58 PM

▲ 2.6 ft

3rd 5:38 PM

▲ 2.4 ft

3rd 6:24 PM

▲ 2.2 ft

4th 9:06 PM

▼ 0.2 ft

4th 9:36 PM

▼ 0.4 ft

4th 10:01 PM

▼ 0.7 ft

4th 10:24 PM

▼ 0.9 ft

4th 10:45 PM

▼ 1.1 ft

4th 11:06 PM

▼ 1.2 ft

4th 11:31 PM

▼ 1.4 ft

St. Teresa, Turkey Pt.

Th

1st 2:34 AM

▲ 3.3 ft

Fr

1st 2:57 AM

▲ 3.4 ft

Sa

1st 3:19 AM

▲ 3.5 ft

Su

1st 3:40 AM

▲ 3.5 ft

Mo

1st 4:02 AM

▲ 3.5 ft

Tu

1st 4:22 AM

▲ 3.4 ft

We

1st 4:43 AM

▲ 3.3 ft

2nd 8:34 AM

▼ 1.1 ft

2nd 9:11 AM

▼ 0.7 ft

2nd 9:46 AM

▼ 0.5 ft

2nd 10:19 AM

▼ 0.3 ft

2nd 10:52 AM

▼ 0.3 ft

2nd 11:27 AM

▼ 0.4 ft

2nd 12:08 PM

▼ 0.5 ft

3rd 2:14 PM

▲ 3.3 ft

3rd 2:54 PM

▲ 3.3 ft

3rd 3:36 PM

▲ 3.2 ft

3rd 4:16 PM

▲ 3.1 ft

3rd 4:56 PM

▲ 2.9 ft

3rd 5:36 PM

▲ 2.7 ft

3rd 6:24 PM

▲ 2.4 ft

4th 9:13 PM

▼ 0.4 ft

4th 9:42 PM

▼ 0.6 ft

4th 10:08 PM

▼ 0.8 ft

4th 10:31 PM

▼ 1.1 ft

4th 10:52 PM

▼ 1.3 ft

4th 11:14 PM

▼ 1.5 ft

4th 11:40 PM

▼ 1.7 ft

Dog Island West End

Th

1st 2:35 AM

▲ 2.5 ft

Fr

1st 2:57 AM

▲ 2.6 ft

Sa

1st 3:17 AM

▲ 2.8 ft

Su

1st 3:39 AM

▲ 2.8 ft

Mo

1st 3:59 AM

▲ 2.8 ft

Tu

1st 4:19 AM

▲ 2.8 ft

We

1st 4:40 AM

▲ 2.7 ft

2nd 8:15 AM

▼ 1.2 ft

2nd 8:49 AM

▼ 0.9 ft

2nd 9:29 AM

▼ 0.7 ft

2nd 10:08 AM

▼ 0.5 ft

2nd 10:46 AM

▼ 0.4 ft

2nd 11:25 AM

▼ 0.5 ft

2nd 12:10 PM

▼ 0.6 ft

3rd 2:09 PM

▲ 2.9 ft

3rd 2:56 PM

▲ 2.8 ft

3rd 3:47 PM

▲ 2.7 ft

3rd 4:28 PM

▲ 2.6 ft

3rd 5:08 PM

▲ 2.4 ft

3rd 5:50 PM

▲ 2.2 ft

3rd 6:38 PM

▲ 2.0 ft

4th 8:44 PM

▼ 0.4 ft

4th 9:12 PM

▼ 0.7 ft

4th 9:40 PM

▼ 1.0 ft

4th 10:04 PM

▼ 1.2 ft

4th 10:26 PM

▼ 1.4 ft

4th 10:48 PM

▼ 1.6 ft

4th 11:14 PM

▼ 1.7 ft

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

State expands bear hunt permits, adds private lands

By JIM TURNER
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – Hunters in Florida will have a chance to kill more bears later this year than in the 2025 hunt, and once again non-hunters are expected to apply for the permits to undermine the planned hunt.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is offering up to 215 permits, of which 193 people can bid on at \$5 an entry starting Sept. 11. The rest are to go to large private landowners whose property includes bear populations.

That’s more than the 172 permits made available for last year’s hunt. This year’s hunt is set for Dec. 5 to Dec. 27 at four different parts of the state.

Last year’s hunt, the first state-sanctioned bear hunt in Florida since 2015, resulted in 52 bears killed over 23 days in December.

Opponents of the hunt have taken credit for the gap in permits and kills by getting non-hunters to acquire many of the permits. The agency received 163,459 permit applications last year from 14,996 individuals.

“This year, we will be working to spare even more bears, and we’ll hope that you join us,” Sierra Club Florida posted on a fact sheet about the upcoming hunt.

Commission officials warned last year that a move to lower the kill count by bear hunt opponents by securing numerous permits would likely result in an increase quota for subsequent hunts.

Long a controversial issue in Florida, supporters say a hunt could help better manage bear populations as the animals interact with humans. They also point to a voter-approved ballot measure in 2024 that enshrined hunting and fishing rights in the state Constitution.

Opponents question if hunting reduces human-bear interactions and say the state should use non-lethal options to address bear populations.

This year’s permitting application window runs Sept. 11 through Sept. 21. Those drawn would have between Sept. 25 and Oct. 5 to pay for a non-transferable permit that costs \$100 for Florida residents and \$300 for non-residents. The state limits non-resident participation to 10 percent.

Unclaimed permits would be redrawn during the acceptance window, from Oct. 9 to Oct. 19.

A third round for unclaimed permits would be held Oct. 23 to Nov. 2.

The state is making 78 permits available in the East Panhandle region, which includes the Apalachicola Wildlife Management Area and encompasses parts of Bay, Washington, Jackson, Calhoun, Gulf, Franklin, Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, Wakulla, and Jefferson counties.

Another 31 permits will be available to the North zone, which runs along the Florida-Georgia state line, includes the Osceola Wildlife Management Area and encompasses parts of Hamilton, Suwannee, Columbia, Union, and Baker counties.

There will be 21 permits available in the Central zone, which includes the Ocala Wildlife Management Area and encompasses parts of Sumter, Marion, Alachua, Bradford, Clay, Putnam, Lake, Orange, Seminole, Volusia, Flagler, and St. Johns counties.

The South zone, with a permit total of 63, includes parts of Lee, Hendry, and Collier counties but does not include the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area.

Separately, 22 permits will be made available in the four areas to private landowners that meet requirements that include ownership of at least 5,000 contiguous acres and a bear management plan developed by a certified wildlife biologist. At least five bears must be documented on the property for a permit to be issued. Larger properties could get two permits for at least 10 documented bears or three permits for at least 15 documented bears.

The Sierra Club Florida has described the new rule as “an exclusive, privatized trophy hunt system.”

Hunting would be allowed in those areas held by private landowners starting Oct. 1 and continuing through the end of the year.

In 2025, the hunt was held in four regions of the state where an estimated 3,609 bears lived.

All but three of the bears were killed with a rifle. Two were killed with a shotgun. One death was attributed to a hunter with a bow.



Underwater Wakulla

By Gregg Stanton

Crustacean Condominiums. *January 31, 2013*

Two decades ago, Dr. Bill Lindberg of the University of Florida and I at Florida State collaborated on a Sea Grant study into crustacean reproductive strategies, by first building an artificial reef that would attract our target species.

We chose the Stone Crab for obvious economic reasons and expected community support (or so we thought). I set to build what we thought would attract this crab after discussions with local crabbers in St. Marks and Cedar Key.

Our presentation on the topic in Wakulla County was met with considerable push-back, ultimately informing us that if we tried, the shrimpers would drag the sites and destroy them. Taking the hint, we moved the research entirely to Cedar Key.

We spent the first summer building reef modules underwater out of broken cinderblock with a rebar mast in the middle. Mother nature pushed back as well, by sending us a hurricane that sat on the site for several days and buried it under three to six feet of sand.

My father, a civil engineer, reminded us of Archimedes Law, that states that an object is buoyed up by a force equal to the weight of the displaced material it occupies. In this case it was concrete in sand. Our reefs were heavy and easily sunk. His design was a floating block that would ride over the sand that hurricanes move.

The next winter I set to constructing reef modules or condominiums at the Hensen Wood & Hoe (HWH) cinderblock facility at Four Points, south of Tallahassee. The module contained holes on all lateral faces, elevated enough to keep the sand out and “float” the unit on the sea floor. HWH donated more blocks and let us assemble wooden forms to contain surplus concrete.

Each module cost us 50 cents each because of industry and student cooperation. Soon we had more than 250 modules, loaded up on several flat bed railroad cars and shipped to Cedar Key. They were loaded on a barge and dropped at the same coordinates of the previous reef the next summer.

For three years, we studied this reef underwater and found we could attract up to 10 crabs in our meter square module during the winter. During the summer, their residency was considerably less but more a matter of food limitations than mating strategies.

Single modules developed a halo in the sand around them, where the crabs would forage during the night. All of the halos were roughly the same radius suggesting when they ran out of food in the sand in a “comfortable” distance from the protective module, they moved on.

Assemblages of modules had the same radius out from the collective pile as the single module. The Crab Condominiums also attracted octopus occasionally, dispelling the crabs temporarily. Large fish also occupied the reefs suggesting a typical artificial reef community would ultimately develop and our exclusive habitat would develop greater predatory pressure.

I suggested a “scare fish” floating device that might chase octopus away, since we were farming the sea, but it was never tried.

This research reef still floats on the sand today, just as productive as it was during our study, and still used by UF students to study reef dynamics. The results of our research are published under Florida Sea Grant Publications.

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



FLORIDA
PUBLIC NOTICES
FLORIDAPUBLICNOTICES.COM

FLORIDA LEGAL NOTICES
AVAILABLE ONLINE IN
ONE CONVENIENT LOCATION

Thousands of legal notice advertisements published weekly online in one convenient, searchable database – and at no added cost to taxpayers, local government, or attorneys. If yours are missing, contact membership@flpress.com or your local newspaper.

FLORIDAPUBLICNOTICES.COM

A free service of the Florida Press Association and your local newspaper

Is there hope for our divided nation?



By **SHERYL H. BOLDT**

Immediately following 9/11, I cringed every time I heard a plane fly overhead. Like so many others, I prayed for our nation’s survival. That frightful event’s

only bright spot was that it brought our nation together – for a short while. Twenty-five years have passed since that horrible day. Sadly, America seems more divided than ever. But are we truly each other’s enemies? Apparently thin skin and America-bashing are in vogue. Our nation is in a crisis. Families, friendships and communities are suffering. Even our churches feel the effects of our current political climate. Why are we so divided? Is this divisiveness a

byproduct of terror? Has our fear driven us to turn on one another? Regardless of its cause, the United States of America can rise above this distrust and hatred. We can begin by finding ways to serve our families, churches and communities. If we have financial means or good, old-fashioned physical strength, we can help the elderly and the disabled. We can assist those who have suffered property damage from the recent storms, floods or fires – even if we end up helping those with whom we

disagree. Would people trapped in a flooded house ask about the rescuer’s political affiliation before accepting his or her help? Would parents, holding their infant child saved from a burning home, resent the hero’s kindness because he or she was in favor of closing the borders? Would the many elderly and disabled people in our own communities welcome help, even if their benefactor favored the “wrong” political party? Romans 12:20 (ESV) reminds us how we are

to treat our enemies (or those whom we consider our enemies): “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.” Aren’t these words compelling? How would our country change if each of us sought to obey Romans 12:20? Something as simple as meeting the needs of our “enemies” could transform our nation – while changing the hearts of those served and those who serve. If we want the United States to survive, we must unite as a people. I

have a feeling we’re going to need each other even more in the future. This September 11 is a sobering day for America. In honor of those who lost their lives that day, let’s pray for truth and righteousness to prevail in the country we love, the United States of America. *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.*

Through Malakai’s eyes



By **CHERYL CRUCE**

There are some things I will never understand. I will never understand how a caterpillar can disappear into what looks like a lifeless cocoon and emerge as a beautiful butterfly. I cannot fully explain how a river, aided by snow, ice, rain, wind, and time, can carve something as magnificent as the Grand Canyon. I cannot explain what brings

such breathtaking colors to a sunrise or how the setting sun can close out a day with such beauty. Yet these are the things that keep me looking upward. Maybe I have spent too much of my life thinking that everything must be explained before it can be appreciated. But some things are not meant to be understood. Some things are meant to leave us standing in awe. I think about that when I watch my grandson, Malakai. Towering over his mom, he looks every bit of 16, and yet he still needs the comfort of a 6-year-old child. His games are simple. SpongeBob and Patrick are his best friends.

His patience doesn’t always last long. His love is boundless. A simple walk through a store can at times be an impossibility because of his desire to hug everyone of every age. To Malakai, love simply reaches out its arms to embrace another. There are things about his journey I’ll never understand. Autism has placed challenges before him that I wish I could take away. Seizures and illness have stolen parts of his childhood. Some of the weight he carries I would gladly take from him. I may not understand his world, but he has taught me something about mine. Through his love, Malakai has taught me to slow down and see

things I might otherwise miss – to see people from the inside out. Mrs. Glee will forever be his Daddy-O, and their bond is solid. She has been part of his care since he was 3 years old, and he loves her with the same comfort and trust he finds in his mom. There is no complicated explanation for it in his world. He simply knows who loves him, and he loves them in return. He finds goodness in the simplest moments and joy in places I might never think to look. He sees the world differently, without fear or the boundaries that often hold us back. Perhaps that is one of the greatest gifts Malakai has given me:

the understanding that I don’t have to explain everything to recognize the fingerprints of God – I only need to pause long enough to notice. Maybe that is what creation does for all of us. I look at a butterfly and wonder about the transformation I never saw. I think of the Grand Canyon and how God can take something as natural as flowing water and, over time, create something so extraordinary. And the sunrise – those colors – remind me I am given a new day to stand in awe of Him. And then there is Malakai, always reminding me that God’s goodness can be found in a life that does not look exactly like everyone else’s.

Perhaps faith is not about having all the answers but about the ability to stand in the mystery of a moment and say, “God, I see You.” So I will keep looking upward – to the beauty of creation and to the precious child who has taught me that some of the greatest lessons about God’s love come from recognizing the goodness already there. “Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them.” — Psalm 111:2 *Cheryl Mixon-Cruce is Pastor of Ochlockonee Bay United Methodist Church and Sopchoppy United Methodist Church.*

OUT TO PASTOR

A fruitcake isn’t always sweet



By **JAMES SNYDER**

When it comes to sweet items, I am a connoisseur with a delicate palate. All I need is something sweet set before me, and I can tell you how wonderful it is after the first bite. I may be a little addicted to sweet things. After celebrating 55 years of marital bliss, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage makes some of the sweetest desserts I have ever tasted. Whether it’s a pie, a cookie, or a cake, they are all the sweetest I have ever tasted. Over the past few years, she has limited my intake of sweets for my health’s sake, and I acknowledge her dedication. After these years of marriage, I have noticed that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage

comes up with names that confuse me. I try not to let it bother me, and I don’t ask her to explain herself because I know what that would lead to. I take note of the words she uses, especially when she describes other people. I’m not very good with these kinds of words; once in a while I will say to her, “You’re as sweet as an Apple Fritter.” Of course, she is not very appreciative of that name, which is why I use it as often as I possibly can. I don’t know anything sweeter than an Apple Fritter. Just recently, I heard her use a new name I’d never heard before. We were watching TV together, and I believe it was Judge Judy. If you ever watched that show, you know there are a lot of crazy people who come before that judge. We were watching this program, and there was one guy who was really loopy in many regards. When Judge Judy announced her verdict, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, “That guy was a real fruitcake.”

I had never heard that word in that context. Yes, I’ve heard it referring to food, but never about a person. Staring at her for a few moments, I said, “What do you mean he’s a fruitcake?” “Didn’t you hear that guy? He was the most eccentric idiot I’ve ever seen. To me he is the face of a fruitcake.” That sorta hit me by surprise. I’ve never heard that definition before, or that word used to describe somebody. But if The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage used it, it must be so. That put me on guard because I was watching to see whether she would call me a fruitcake. If so, I knew it would not be in a very positive or nice way. Of course, I may be a fruitcake in that sense of the word, but I hope she doesn’t use it to define me. Thinking about that for several days, it came to my mind that the world is filled with fruitcakes. Everywhere I looked recently, I’ve been seeing fruitcakes all around me.

This is an election year in our country, so there are a lot of politicians on TV, and I hate to admit it, but many of them are fruitcakes in this sense of the word. It has nothing to do with their political affiliation and everything to do with being crazy. I can think of a lot of relatives that would qualify for this definition. Thinking about it, I come from a family of fruitcakes. If that is so, it would explain a lot of things that happen in our family. I’m waiting for my children and grandchildren to realize that they have “Fruitcake” in their DNA. I will not press the subject, but maybe The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me as a fruitcake. I look at her as an Apple Fritter, which is a whole lot different than a fruitcake. There are a lot of people in this world that are eccentric in every sense of that word. Examining them, you can see that they are slightly strange in a lot of things that they do and say. I never thought of it this way before, but

being a little strange is not that bad. I may be a little strange to certain people, if that’s what eccentric means, but I’m OK with it. I hope I never find out who those people are who think I’m a fruitcake. Most importantly, I hope I never hear The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage call me a fruitcake. I’m sure it’s true, or she would not say it. We were driving across town to do some shopping together, and as we were going, I happened to mention it. “Do you sometimes think that I’m a fruitcake?” Without missing a beat, she said, “Look at the license plate on that car over there. They’re from California. I wonder what they’re doing here.” I knew exactly what she was doing, and it really got me out of trouble I might have

gotten into. Sometimes it is best not to ask questions, particularly if I’m around The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. A verse from the Bible came to mind as I thought about this. Ephesians 4:32, “And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” The troubling aspect of the verse is treating others as God has treated me. Reflecting on this I thought if God can do this to me, then I could do this to everyone around me. *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.*

FOLLOW THE SUN.



Your Local
NEWSPAPER
Subscribe Today!

Your local source for news.

YOU ARE WELCOME

No Pressure. No Pretending.
Just a loving family seeking to serve God and others.



CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN

Sunday Worship - 10 AM
(Also on Facebook)
3383 Coastal Hwy,
Crawfordville, FL
(850) 745- 8412
Dr. James Needham, Pastor



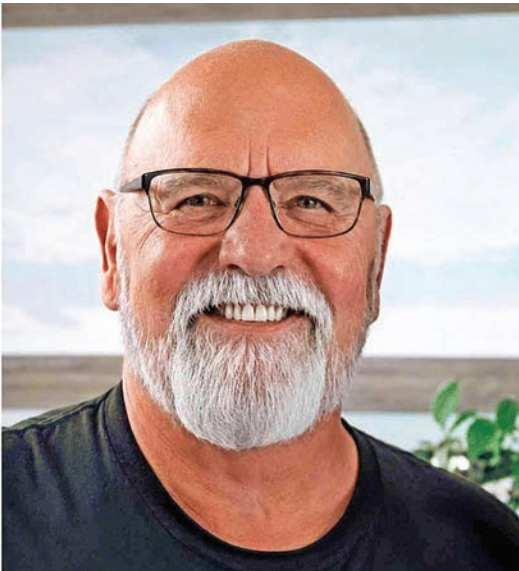
Sopchoppy United Methodist Church

Pastor Cheryl Mixon-Cruce

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

850-962-2511

Obituaries



Jesse Michael ‘Mike’ Vise

Jesse Michael “Mike” Vise, 71, of Crawfordville, Florida, passed away at his home in Kenansville, Florida on August 9, 2026.

Mike was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on August 10, 1954, to James and Faye Vise. He served four years in the United States Navy before beginning a 40-year career with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), from which he retired. His work took him to many destinations, but it was his time in Alaska that he cherished most.

A true outdoorsman and

traveler, Mike rarely sat still. If he wasn’t on the road to another national park, at a St. Louis Cardinals game, or exploring the American West, he could be found fishing at his lake house, planting another garden, or cheering on the Florida Gators. Mike shared his life and adventures with his longtime companion, Marguerite Robison, who preceded him in death.

Mike was a great cook, a curious listener, and a natural storyteller who always had a good joke ready. He had a gift for finding perspective and humor in everything, and

his charismatic nature made life a little more entertaining for everyone around him.

He was preceded in death by his father, James Vise, and his son-in-law, Josh Johns.

He is survived by his mother, Faye Vise; his brothers, Randy Vise (wife, Patty) and Richard Vise; his children, Jessica Johns, Cole Vise (wife, Kaylee), and Molly Vise; and his grandchildren, Jett Johns, Jagger Johns, and Haisley Vise.

A Celebration of Life for Mike will be announced at a later date.

DEATH NOTICES

- **William Craig Overstreet**, 78, of Carrabelle passed away August 31, 2026.
- **Paul David Causseaux**, 83, of Crawfordville passed away September 1, 2026
- Family Funeral Home at Harvey-Young Chapel, 850-926-5919, www.familyfhc.com.

Philip Rosier

From Front Page

-ating and pleasing folks.”

Working in a large restaurant for the first time in 1999, Rosier started working his way up by cutting hushpuppies at Angelo’s Seafood Restaurant, in Panacea, under Head Cook Mike Godbolt. Godbolt is still the head cook at Angelo’s.

Rosier added, “It was Marcus Jefferson, another cook at Angelo’s, who taught me to broil, grill, cook steaks.”

Since then, Rosier continued to work alongside the Petrandis family within the family’s additional restaurant, The Seafood Shack, which is currently Tropical Trader.

It is here, Rosier wanted to step out and try different things. “I asked Thomas (Petrandis), ‘Can we do soup and sandwich?’ So, they purchased me a press and we served Cubans, Reubens, and we also had a chicken tortellini soup or gumbo.”

Events changed for Rosier when Chef Rashard Plummer from the Edward Ball Dining Room of Wakulla Springs called him, saying he needed a sous chef. Rosier asked him, “What does it pay?” Soon after, Rosier went to work at the Lodge. Chef Plummer is a third-generation chef whose family has worked at the lodge for decades.

The Lodge is where Rosier met the executive

chef with the Lodge’s corporate company and learned to prepare Oriental and Italian cuisine and pulling together exotic menus.

“All this just blew my mind!” he said. “I have been cooking seafood all my life and to go to this exquisite cuisine was crazy!” He grinned and proudly declared, “This is where Chef Pee to the Wee came alive. It was here that I worked under Chef Kay and Chef Kellie Hunter at the Springs, who also taught me a lot.”

Rosier said, “The next call I got was a call from Nola from St. James Bay Golf Resort, she needed a sous chef and again, I asked, What are you paying?” Rosier followed his passion for learning and broadening his culinary skills and went to work at St. James Bay in Carrabelle.

Here, Rosier’s sister-in-law worked with Franklin County’s commissioners at the time, so work crowds and church crowds visited the restaurant. “We were steady all the time, we served steady all the way up until closing time.”

After working at St. James Bay, Rosier came back to Wakulla to work for Bird’s on the Bay, a sister restaurant to the popular oyster bar in Tallahassee, Bird’s.

Speaking of Bird’s, Rosier said, “It was a simple place, but simple is not my speed, I got bored.”

Ultimately, Bird’s



One of Rosier’s culinary creations posted online, griller shrimp stuffed tomatoes.

closed, and the restaurant was sold to Dallas Porter, who called Rosier asking him to come to work. And again Rosier asked, “What’s the pay? I agreed to work and before we knew it, Porter Island Restaurant was in the making.”

The restaurant industry does not recognize weekends or holidays. After a year with the Porter family, and many years of working hospitality, Rosier said, “I got burned out, I went to landscaping and lawn service and went to work with Alligator

Point Water Resources. I loved having weekends and holidays in my life; it was wonderful. I was gone from the restaurant business for 15 years.”

“It was around Mother’s Day, 2023, I came back to cooking again,” Rosier said. “I visited Angelo’s Restaurant to say hello to everyone and Mike Godbolt asked me if I can step in on Mother’s Day to help, and the next thing I knew, I was on the schedule.”

Rosier is currently working with John

and Michelle Turner at Salty Donkey’s in Panacea. “It’s a great environment and it’s a lot of fun. I work under John Daley, and we have a great time.”

Rosier credits his mother for his cooking roots. “I was cooking three course meals at 7 years old. My mother was gone working multiple jobs, one was driving the school bus. I had siblings, and we only saw her in the mornings

and late at night. I burnt the kitchen down a time or two, but we made it.”

Rosier also worked in a food truck across from the old Franklin’s Café. “I couldn’t get creative there with my cooking, so I came up with creative names for the sandwiches. We had the Birdman sandwich, for example, I named the sandwich after the customer when I couldn’t remember their name.”

“I’m not a chef, I’m just a good cook,” Rosier said. “When customers comment with positive feedback about my cooking, that’s how I know I’m doing the right things.”

“I love Pinterest. I go on there for ideas and I follow cooking channels and I binge-watch cooking shows on television.”

Rosier said: “It was Thomas Petrandis who taught me how to run a restaurant, it was Angelo who taught me discipline in the kitchen, and I thank Ms. Marian Lundquist for keeping my straight when things got busy in the kitchen.”

When speaking of his future and opening a restaurant of his own, he said, “I’m not open to having my own, but if I do, I’ll be old and retired by then, and I will just put all the money towards my family.”

There is no Sheriff’s Report this week because of the Labor Day Holiday. – Editor

READ THE ROAD.
AND YOU WON'T NEED AS MANY NEW PARTS.

MOTORCYCLE CRASHES DON'T ALWAYS INVOLVE ANOTHER VEHICLE. SLICK SURFACES AND ROAD DEBRIS CAN LEAD TO BROKEN BIKES, AND BROKEN BONES. RIDE AT A SPEED THAT GIVES YOU TIME TO REACT. CHECK OUR WEBSITE BELOW FOR MORE CYCLE SAFETY TIPS.

ORTHOPAEDIC
—TRAUMA—
ASSOCIATION

ota.org

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

orthoinfo.org

VISIT ORTHOINFO.ORG/CYCLESAFETY

MEDIA INTELLIGENCE

Study Smarter. Teach Easier.
Any media.

secure.echosaw.com/academics

BRIAN C. ENGLISH

Financial Products / Services

Investments

Life Insurance

DROP Rollovers

401(k) Rollovers

926-7487

HIGHEST STANDARD OF KNOWLEDGE & TRUST

Chartered Financial Consultant®

RETIREMENT INCOME CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL®

The Chartered Advisor for Senior Living® (CASL®) designation is issued by The American College after acquiring specialized knowledge on advanced retirement and estate planning strategies.

CASL

Securities products and advisory services offered through Park Avenue Securities LLC (PAS), member FINRA, SIPC. Guardian, its subsidiaries, agents and employees do not provide tax, legal or accounting advice. Not affiliated with the Florida Retirement System.

A-AAA **HARRISON** *We've Moved*

BAIL BONDS

850-926-2299

Franklin County 850-670-3333

Locally Owned & Operated by Mike Harrison Since 1995

3049 Crawfordville Hwy. • Across from Court House

www.wakullabailbonds.com

CLASSIFIEDS MARKET

HOME OF THE \$5 CLASSIFIED AD UP TO 20 WORDS

DISPLAY ADS \$5 PER COL INCH

ADD WORDS FOR 25¢ PER WORD

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

SERVICES



Licensed & Insured
30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
FORGOTTEN COAST
TRACTOR SERVICE LLC
Travis Clayton
850.273.9101
text or call

Skid Steer Mowing
Concrete Removal
Demolition

Land Clearing
Grading
Driveways

SERVICES



Abbott
TREE SOLUTIONS
Your Trusted Local Tree experts since 1998
Serving Crawfordville and Surrounding areas

850-307-7721 | **FREE ESTIMATES**
Lic. & Ins.

YARD SALE

HUGE Sat., Sept 12. 9am-1p.m
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
- 3609 Coastal Hwy, Medart
Furniture, knick-knacks, House-
hold goods, clothing, children's
things, kitchen items and much
more.

TOWING SERVICE

BIG BEND TOWING, INC
*TOWING *ROADSIDE ASST.
*JUMP START
*TIRE CHANGE
*LOCK OUT
*FUEL

CALL BILLY HAYNIE
850-631-2361



Susan Schatzman
Broker Associate

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




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

SERVICES

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

TREE TRIMMING

**TREE TRIMMING
and REMOVAL**
24 HOUR
EMERGENCY SERVICES
• Storm Damage
• Tree Preservation
Michael Mongeon
ISA Certified Arborist, FL-6125A
ISA Tree Risk Assessment
Qualified 850-421-8104



Gene Lambert
Agency
Manager

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

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

SERVICES

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



CORBIN'S
HEAVY EQUIPMENT
850-933-8505
FREE ESTIMATES

Land Clearing
Driveways
Ponds
Site Work
Demolition
Hauling

Installation Services:
Hardwood Engineered
Floating Flooring
Glue Downs Laminate
Nail Downs & Vinyl
Call Today for your
FREE Estimate
850745-8723  LHFQuality
LabigsHardwoodFlooring@Gmail.com

FOR QUALITY
AND SERVICE
THAT WILL
FLOOR
YOU


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



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

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

850-443-5901



Lori L. Lewis
Chief Executive Officer
sendmethebillLLC@gmail.com
Cell 717-413-6761
Fax 717-256-7199
www.SendMeTheBill.net
1037 Gulf Shore Blvd.
Alligator Point, FL 32346

Mental Health/Medical Billing

**QUALITY RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
REPAINTING**
• PRESSURE WASHING
• LIFT AVAILABLE IN HOUSE
• WOOD ROT REPAIRS
• DECK RESTORATION
• CABINET PAINTING

Locally Owned & Operated
Serving Wakulla &
Surrounding Counties
Since 1993

Jim Porter & Todd Porter
Member of Chamber of
Commerce and the
Better Business Bureau BBB
LICENSED & INSURED
Open to Serve You



**Gerald Brown
Photography**
• Licensed Drone Operator
• Beach Portraits
• Special Occasions
• Events
Follow me on instagram: **850-545-4281**
[GeraldBrownPhoto](https://www.instagram.com/GeraldBrownPhoto)
GeraldBrownPhoto@Gmail.com



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




Here to help
With all your
REAL ESTATE
Needs
Buying, Selling
Or just looking?
Let's connect!


Marsha Tucker
Broker / Associate / Top Producer
MarshaTucker@KW.com
850-570-9214
Serving Leon, Wakulla, Franklin



The Wakulla Sun
Your Local
NEWSPAPER
Subscribe Today!
www.thewakullasun.com/subscribe



**DON'T LET YOUR FUTURE
GO UP IN SMOKE.**

One study showed that over 30% of drug users won't graduate.
To counter, we have provided tens of thousands of education packages to schools
and reached over 13 million students with the Truth About Drugs. These students
now have the information to make the right decision, including staying in school.


DrugFreeWorld.org
Let's better the world.

© 2021 Foundation for a Drug-Free World. All Rights Reserved. This Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

NOTICE OF ACTION

0903-0924 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-000102
V.
CLAIRE P. HOUSER AND BEN P. HOUSER, 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: **CLAIRE P. HOUSER and BEN P. HOUSER; 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 FIFTY-TWO (52) BLOCK “N” MAGNOLIA GARDENS, AS PER PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 37, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Wakulla County Parcel ID No. 00-00-078-013-11303-000

Address: Ted Lott 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 24th day of August, 2026.

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



September 3, 10, 17, 24 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
REIS D. ALSBERRY
DECEASED
DIVISION: PROBATE

File No.: 26000134CPAXMX

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Reis D. Alsberry, deceased, whose date of death was July 7, 2026, is pending in the Circuit Court for WAKULLA County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Wakulla County Courthouse, 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative’s attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT’S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is September 10, 2026.

Attorney for Personal Representative: Personal Representative:
/s/Wendy Hill ElDeiry /s/Barbara Alsberry
Wendy Hill ElDeiry, Attorney /s/Barbara Alsberry
Florida Bar Number: 091340 Barbara Alsberry
ELDEIRY & ELDEIRY PA 7401 Yahley Mill Hollow
480 Sawgrass Corp. Pkwy., Ste 110 Henrico, VA 23231
SUNRISE, FL 33325
Telephone: (954) 670-2800
E-Mail: whe@eldeirylaw.com

Sept. 10, 17, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
FANNIE ROSE SAITTA
DECEASED
DIVISION: PROBATE

File No.: 26-CP-000133

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Summary Administration)

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of Fannie Rose Saitta, deceased, File Number: 26-CP-000133, by the Circuit Court for Wakulla County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 3056 Crawfordville Highway, Crawfordville, Florida 32327; that the decedent’s date of death was February 13, 2026; that the total value of the estate is \$137,248.00 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:

Name	Address
William Joseph Saitta	4 Chinook Trail, Crawfordville, FL 32327

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT’S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The personal representative has no duty to discover whether any property held at the time of the decedent’s death by the decedent or the decedent’s surviving spouse is property to which the Florida Uniform Disposition of Community Property Rights at Death Act as described in sections 732.216-732.288 Florida Statutes, applies, or may apply, unless a written demand is made by a creditor as specified under section 732.2211, Florida Statutes. The written demand must be filed with the clerk.

The date of first publication of this Notice is September 10, 2026.

Attorney for Person Giving Notice: Person Giving Notice:
/s/ Michele Diglio-Benkiran, Esquire William Joseph Saitta
Michele Diglio-Benkiran, Esquire 4 Chinook Trail
Florida Bar Number: 0162620 Crawfordville, Florida 32327
Legal Counsel, P.A. Sept 17, 24, Oct 1, 8, 2026
13330 W. Colonial Drive, Unit 110
Winter Garden, FL 34787
Telephone: (407) 982-4321
E-Mail: efilings@legalcounselpa.com
Secondary E-Mail:
michele@legalcounselpa.com
Attorney for Petitioner, William Joseph Saitta

Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1, 2026

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

0903-0910 TWS NOFS

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

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT CASE NO. 2025-CA-000127
MORTGAGE SERVICING,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ANTHONY GLENN ROLLINS; et al.,
Defendants

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

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, 1800 Pembroke 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.

Dated this 17th day of August 2026.

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



Sept. 3, 10, 2026



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

- Bleach
- Paper towels
- Fruit cocktail
- Birdseed & nuts

- Pedigree wet & dry dog food
- Friskies wet & dry cat food

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

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

0910-0917 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 October 01, 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 27th day of August 2026.

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



Sept. 3, 10, 2026

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. Sept. 10, 17, 2026

STATE WIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Home Improvement/Service

Miscellaneous

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.

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!

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

DRUG ABUSE HAS COME TO
MANY OF OUR DOORSTEPS.
A WAY TO PREVENT IT CAN COME
TO THE SAME PLACE.

Just order your free Truth About Drugs kit. It contains 14 individual booklets covering every drug someone could be tempted to take. All free of charge. Why so many booklets?
Drug abuse is an extensive problem. The solution should be just as extensive.
Go to **DrugFreeWorld.org/booklets** to get your booklets delivered right to your door.



**DrugFreeWorld.org**
Let’s better the world.

© 2024 Foundation for a Drug-Free World. All Rights Reserved.
The Foundation for a Drug-Free World Logo is a trademark owned by the Foundation for a Drug-Free World and is used with its permission. #5201419

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

ACOUSTIC
ANTHEM
BALLAD
CADENCE
CHORD
CRESCENDO
DYNAMIC
ENSEMBLE
HARMONY
IMPROVISE
LYRICS
MELODY
OCTAVE
OVERTURE
RHAPSODY
RHYTHM
SERENADE
SOLO
SONATA
STACCATO
SYMPHONY
TEMPO
TIMBRE
VIBRATO

SDOACBCELEBDOSTIT
 HDYPLCEBDMOTNE
 CULMCEBDACTE
 LCECEHEDCTAV
 LEITPCHDCEBWM
 AITPHEEDABSL
 AMTADONBSL
 MPVLTNSHCLN
 VOTLTYPCBP
 AOHOTPAACBCH
 WMSUPAHYRSC
 IHTITICANCO
 HMPCTAHRESC
 DCAIUMETSL
 RVEITREDOE
 SAEYCELEB
 OPDRECECN
 BHOINCEB
 HROONYASHB
 CUCUMWADY
 TCEHTYHNC
 OETHMNBAB
 UDRYDWBAT
 VADCDLLO
 AHHVBCUN
 RISSCPCKRYL
 AITDST

DeSantis: ‘I’ll be involved somehow’

By JIM TURNER
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – Gov. Ron DeSantis continues to express increased support for the property tax cut measure the Legislature put before voters on the November ballot.

But he still isn’t going to be at the forefront pushing the proposal to voters and believes his approach lawmakers modified was better.

“I’ll be involved somehow,” DeSantis said this week during a grant distribution event at Florida State College at Jacksonville. “I don’t know if it’s going to be, like, barnstorming and holding campaign events.”

He said he won’t lead a political committee and fundraise across the state for Amendment 3, as the measure will appear on the ballot.

“I’m not going to do that just because you know I had an amendment a little bit different,” DeSantis said, referring to the changes made by Republican lawmakers to his proposal.

The initial plan drafted by DeSantis increased the homestead exemption from \$50,000 to \$250,000 over two years. But the Legislature amended it to exempt the portion of the property tax bill that pays for K-12 schools.

Another provision lowers the cap on annual increases to non-homestead property assessments from 10 percent to 5 percent.

Opponents argue the proposal will result in dramatic cuts to essential local services and shift taxes to renters, commercial property and first-time home buyers.

A legislative staff analysis of the resolution put the revenue impact on local governments at \$4.95 billion in fiscal year 2027-2028, growing to \$8.78 billion the following year and eventually \$11.86 billion by fiscal year 2031-2032.

ELECTION SUIT

The Southern Poverty Law Center and Democracy Defenders Fund filed a federal lawsuit on behalf of Black Voters Matter Fund and the League of United Latin American Citizens over a law (HB 991) requiring voters to prove their citizenship in future elections.

The suit filed Tuesday in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida contends the law violates the National Voter Registration Act by requiring additional proof of citizenship beyond that required by federal law, blocking voters from being registered, applying list maintenance rules unevenly across counties and purging voters within 90 days of a federal election.

The citizenship requirement doesn’t take effect until 2027, after the 2026 election cycle. Voting rights groups have also filed lawsuits against the new law.

The bill is Florida’s version of the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) America Act, a federal proposal that requires voters to provide proof of citizenship when they register to vote and present a photo ID when casting their vote at the ballot box. The federal bill, which hasn’t passed Congress, restricts mail ballots, Florida’s measure does not.

Limiting mail ballots is a priority of President Donald Trump.

DeSantis anticipated lawsuits when he signed the bill on April 1.

“They go to a liberal judge. The liberal judge sides with them. Then we appeal and we win,” DeSantis said at the time.

LADY COLUMBIA

Gov. Ron DeSantis harkened back to America’s beginnings as he brought a statue of Lady Columbia to Lake City this week as part of his administration’s celebrations of the nation’s 250th anniversary this year. Lake City is the county seat of Columbia County in north Florida.

Lady Columbia is often portrayed as an aspirational goddess holding a sword, olive branch or laurel to represent justice, peace and victory.

“The Lady Columbia statue stands on a pedestal depicting the Sunshine State’s iconic symbols, landscapes, and historic moments,” DeSantis said.

Now most frequently seen as the logo for Columbia Pictures, Lady Columbia was the first emblem of the United States, introduced during the colonial period, serving as a rallying cry during the Revolution and later, with “Hail Columbia” as the nation’s first unofficial anthem, she served as the symbol of the country’s westward expansion. But as the nation grew, the welcoming sight of the Statue of Liberty replaced Lady Columbia by the start of the 20th century.

The statue series includes a replica of the Liberty Bell in Liberty County, a statue of President Abraham Lin-

coln in The Villages, a statue of President Thomas Jefferson in Jefferson County, President James Monroe in the Florida Keys in Monroe County, Alexander Hamilton in Hamilton County, Benjamin Franklin in Franklin County, a statue of President Andrew Jackson in Jackson County, a statue of President Ronald Reagan at Florida International University, President Calvin Coolidge at Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales, abolitionist Frederick Douglass in St. Augustine, a statue of Spanish conquistador Juan Ponce de Leon in the state Capitol, and statues of George Washington in the Capitol and Washington County.

A Tampa Bay Times/ Miami Herald analysis of state records put the cost for commissioning and acquiring the statues at nearly \$2 million, with additional statues of President John Quincy Adams, Christopher Columbus and baseball legends Lou Gehrig and Babe Ruth still pending.

SOCIAL MEDIA POST OF THE WEEK

“Tiger should be able to drive a golf cart on the golf course.” --- Gov. Ron DeSantis (@RonDeSantis) after professional golfer Tiger Woods agreed to give up his driver’s license as part of a no contest plea that came with a reduced charge of reckless driving and refusal to submit to a lawful test following a March 2026 rollover car crash in Martin County.

The Rotary Club of Wakulla presents

Boots & Bingo

Saturday
Octoberber 10th
5-11PM

Individual Tickets
& Tables Available

3Y Ranch

195 Harvey-Young Farm Road

50/50 Raffle
Live Auction
Cash Bar

wakullarotary@yahoo.com

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/boots-and-bingo-2>



Let's have a
Grand Ole Evenin'

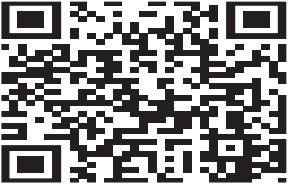
Get Your
Tickets Now!

The Wakulla Sun

NEWSPAPER

Subscribe Today!

You can now subscribe to The Sun online!
To receive our Weekly Newspaper please visit www.thewakallasun.com
and click on the subscribe today button or scan the QR code Here.



VOLLEYBALL

Wakulla defeats Lincoln

On Tuesday, Sept. 1, the Wakulla Lady War Eagles volleyball team defeated Lincoln 3 games to 0, 25-14,

– Perry Dissmore



PHOTOS BY PERRY DISSMORE

Top Row - Coach Andrews, Taylor Mercer, Zoe Balkcom, Parker Stubbs, Amariyah Donaldson, Renny Langford, Makenna Pedicord, Ayla Miller, Coach Strickland. Bottom Row - Paisley Swanson, Mia Withers, Kinley Lawhon, Mackenzie Hurley, Hailey Carroll.



Going high for the block at the net.



A team huddle.

ONE SHALLOW DIVE CAN WRECK A NECK. PERMANENTLY.

EACH YEAR, HUNDREDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE ARE PARALYZED FROM NECK AND SPINE INJURIES CAUSED BY DIVING HEAD FIRST INTO SHALLOW LAKES AND POOLS. DON'T LET KIDS DIVE IN – UNLESS YOU KNOW WHAT'S BELOW. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DIVING SAFETY TIPS.

ORTHOINFO.ORG/DIVINGSAFETY

ASIA
AMERICAN SPINAL INJURY ASSOCIATION
asia-spinalinjury.org

AAOS
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS
orthoinfo.org

A Wakulla Wild Animal Rescue

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

We always need donations of these items:

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

Florida Wild Mammal Association

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

Scallop Season Is here July 1 – September 24

RMS Marine

SINCE 1985
FORMERLY AMS

Specializing in All of your Commercial Fishing, Crabbing & Scalping Supplies

850-926-3114 • 800-726-3104

3026 Coastal Hwy, Crawfordville FL
RMSMarineSupply.com

If we don't have it... We can get it!

Big Bend Hospice

bigbendhospice.org

Big Bend Hospice

Wakulla Volunteers Wanted

Become a Hospice Volunteer Today!

No prior experience needed - just an open heart and a desire to help.

At Big Bend Hospice, Volunteers are essential to our mission of compassionate care. Whether you're supporting patients or helping behind the scenes, your time makes a lasting difference.

READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Visit bigbendhospice.org or call Andrea Zinker at 850-878-5310 to learn more and get started.

Apply Now!

Trademark Homes Center

New / Used Land • Home

2027 Model Homes Arriving Weekly!

In-house, on-the-spot financing, No Minimum Credit Score Required and ZERO down for qualified buyers. All credit situations considered.

Top dollar paid for your Trade-in, regardless of age or condition.

OPEN HOUSE DAILY-

Custom build your home online at www.TrademarkHomesCenter.com

At Trademark Homes...you have friends with LOW PRICES

1700 S. Jefferson St., Monticello, FL

(850) 459-4864 - call or text anytime

WP

WAYPOINT

PROPERTIES

850-926-9100

WPTPROPERTIES.COM

“Let Waypoint Properties help you find your way home...”

Next game:

Friday, September 11

Wakulla War Eagles travel to Santa Rosa County to play Pace at 7:30 p.m. CDT.



War Eagles beat Chiles, 26-7

By WILLIAM SNOWDEN
Editor

The Wakulla War Eagles improved to 3-0 on the season with a 26-7 win over the Chiles Timberwolves on Friday night.

Head Coach Derek Allen Jr. said the game was notable in that his team cleaned up some of the penalties that had dogged them in their first two games.

And while the War Eagles are still a run-first offense, they went to the air more – a couple of long bombs were attempted, but some were overthrown or just off the fingertips of receivers.

“We threw the ball more – about 20 times – but didn’t complete as many,” Coach Allen said.

“We beat a good Chiles team,” he said. “Last year was the first time Chiles beat Wakulla, and we’re glad to put that to an end.”

Quarterback Ashton Brooks went 6 for 17 passing for 67 yards and a touchdown, according to MaxPreps. Coach Allen said he thought that stat was wrong, that Brooks had more attempts and more yardage.

Running back Nigel Cloud carried the ball 11 times for 44 yards.

And Player of the Week Demarkus Roberts had one catch on offense for 36 yards. On defense, he had two picks,

GAME RECAP

A pick six by War Eagle Rayshon St. Hilaire after he intercepted a pass on a fake field goal by Chiles and took it 60 yards the other way for a score.

After a back-and-forth battle in the first quarter, Chiles scored first after returning a Wakulla kick to the 35. The drive culminated with a pass over the middle in the end zone. Extra point makes it Chiles 7, Wakulla 0 with 2:09 in the 1Q.

In the second quarter, a Wakulla punt was muffed by the Timberwolves and recovered by Wakulla at the 12. Two runs by Nigel Cloud gave

Wakulla a first and goal at the 1. A quarterback sneak was stopped by Chiles inches from the goal. Second attempt Brooks was pushed in. Extra point by Colby Caranza was good. Tied at 7

with 7:42 in 2Q.

On the next series, Chiles QB under pressure throws the ball and it’s picked off by Demarkus Roberts. Jaylen Jones comes in as wildcat QB and rushes for a

score. Extra point puts Wakulla up 14-7 with 6:24 in 2Q.

Chiles drive stalls, and they line up for a long field goal – it’s a fake and the ball is intercepted by Rayshon St. Hilaire who takes it back 60 yards for a score. PAT no good. Wakulla 20-7 at halftime.

No scoring in the third quarter.

In the 4th, Brooks connected to Demarkus Roberts on a 40-yard pass play. Couple of plays later, Brooks hits receiver Jarrell Randolph in the end zone for a score. Extra point blocked. Wakulla 26-7 with 5:31 left.

Later, Demarkus Roberts has a long punt return to inside the 10, but it’s called back on a sideline infraction.

Wakulla runs the clock down to 2 minutes and punts. Roberts seals the win with his second interception of the night and the War Eagles go into victory formation.

UP NEXT:
PACE PATRIOTS

The War Eagles round out a three game road series traveling to Pace this Friday night. The Patriots are 1-2 and have a running back who is a three or four star commit to South Alabama.

Coach Allen says Pace is physical like Wakulla.

To win, Allen says Wakulla needs to take care of the football, connect on passes and stop the Patriots’ rushing attack.

COACH'S CORNER

Brought to you by:

Coaches Corner brought to you by

3Y OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

850- 926- 3300

2219 Crawfordville HWY, Crawfordville

LET'S MOW DOWN THE COMPETITION

3youtdoorequipmentcrawfordville.stihldealer.net



COACH
Derek Allen

FROM THE COACH

Last week: Beat a good Chiles team. Cleaned up penalties from past two games.

Scouting: The Pace Patriots are probably the most physical team the War Eagles will face. Running back is 3 or 4 star prospect.

Key to victory: War Eagles need to take care of the football, connect on passes, and stop the Patriots rushing attack.

At right, War Eagle Demarkus Roberts with the ball, evading Timberwolf defenders.

PHOTOS BY KEN FIELDS

Mobil

Rotella

STOP

Locally Owned by **Charlie Grim** • charliegrim@msn.com • LubeXpert.us (850)926-6526

LUBE-XPRT

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 5pm
Sat. 8am - 2pm
2219 Crawfordville Hwy.,
Crawfordville, FL 32327

Proud sponsor of players of the week

GO WAR EAGLES



MVP

Offense

Defense

Special Teams



DEMARKUS ROBERTS
Athlete



TRENTEN BARWICK
Lineman



ANTONIO HARVEY
Lineman



CED HICKS
Athlete

WAR EAGLES
FOOTBALL



IS ON THE AIR

94.1
WAVE 94

ALL GAMES LIVE
ON 94.1 FM,
WAVE94.COM AND
OUR FREE APPS FOR
APPLE AND ANDROID

TUNE IN AFTER EVERY GAME FOR THE
TOTAL CARE DENTAL COACH'S SHOW!