

# Basketball season continues/B7

# The Gadsden County Times

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013 • WWW.GADCOTIMES.COM • VOLUME 113/ISSUE 49 • 50¢ • 32 PAGES, 2 SECTIONS

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Early Christmas deadlines ahead

Deadlines for *The Gadsden County Times* will be adjusted to accommodate early production for the Dec. 26 edition.

● 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, display advertising deadline.

● Noon Thursday, Dec. 19, legal advertising deadline.

● 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, classified advertising deadline.

● 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, obituary deadline.

● 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, community news submission deadline (including church and school news well as all other submissions).

*The Gadsden County Times* office will close at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24, and reopen at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 27. For information, call 850-627-7649.

### Chamber leader resigns from GCDC

David Gardner, executive director of the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce (GCCC), has resigned from the Gadsden County Development Council (GCDC), effective Dec. 9. Gardner had been an active member of the council since 2004.

The decision comes after the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners voted not to approve a \$70,000 contract for the local chamber to provide support services to the GCDC. Gardner declined comment on his resignation.

"This is unfortunate," said Gadsden County Administrator Robert Presnell. "I sincerely hope we can work with the GCCC, as we move forward with economic development in this county."

### Havana holiday event ahead

The Havana Holiday Festival and Lawnmower Parade will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. The parade starts at 1 p.m.

## The Gadsden County Times

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## BoCC moves ahead with new EMS home

*County commissioners vote 4-1 against \$70,000 to Gadsden's chamber of commerce for economic development*

CURT WILKERSON  
*Times Correspondent*

Rising artistic talent was on display at the Dec. 3 meeting of the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC). East Gadsden High art teacher Andre Barnes and star pupil Devonte King drew sketches of the BoCC throughout the evening, much like courtroom sketch artists depict a trial.

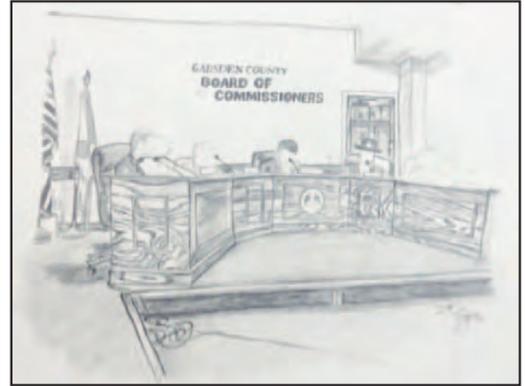
By the evening's end, King and Barnes had both rendered remarkable depictions of the BoCC dais. At 15 years of age, King has already garnered international attention for his work.

"Devonte competed in an international competition last year, where he designed an iPad cover for the London Branch of Apple and came in sixth place," said

Barnes.

Barnes, in his third year at East Gadsden High School, has been instrumental in bringing an advanced placement art program to the school.

The program allows students to receive college credit while still in high school, and can also help students obtain scholarships to study art in college. Barnes reported that various



Devonte King's sketch is shown. Photo by Curt Wilkerson

colleges have already expressed interest in several EGHS students. In regular business, Clerk of Court Nicholas Thomas presented. See BOCC/Page A2

## Christmas cheer rolls in



Gadsden County Sheriff Morris Young stands in for Santa this past Friday during the Quincy Christmas Parade. More photos of the festive event start on page A10. Photo by Cheri Harris

### CHERI HARRIS *Times*

The sun went down and the holiday magic shone this past Friday night when the Quincy Christmas Parade took to the streets.

Spectators lined up along the parade route to watch the colorful

cavalcade roll by. Many schools, bands, cheer-children waved at their leading squads and favorite characters — other groups participated in the festive colorful characters — event hosted by Quincy including Sponge Bob Parks and Recreation Square Pants. And any-

one tossing candy also ward, children lined up to sit on Santa's lap and share their Christmas wishes.

## Courthouse celebration a century in the making

CHERI HARRIS  
*Times*

The bash that brought elected leaders from the local and state level this past Friday was a century in the making — the centennial celebration for the Gadsden County Court House.

Those gathered on the courthouse grounds honored the edifice with speeches, songs, prayers and applause.

Gadsden County Commission Chairman Eric Hinson read the official proclama-

tion marking the occasion. This document traced the history of the county court, from its beginnings as a log cabin complex constructed for \$50 to the present structure, which has recently undergone some renovations.

Gadsden County Clerk of Courts Nicholas Thomas told the audience that only a handful of courthouses in Florida still serve their original purpose. Gadsden County's courthouse shares this distinction

State Rep. Alan Williams was among a number of dignitaries at the centennial celebration this past Friday for the Gadsden County Court House. Photo by Cheri Harris

with the courthouses in Madison, Suwannee, Jefferson, Washington, Nassau and Lafayette counties.

"We're in good company," Thomas said.

Circuit Judge James O. Shelfer told

See BASH/PageB15



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Pictured here, from left: Sherrie Taylor, Doug Croley, Andre Barnes, Brenda Holt, Devonte King and Eric Hinson.

Photo by Curt Wilkerson



## BOCC

Continued from Page A1

sented a budget analysis of the 2013 fiscal year, stating that the general fund had increased by \$1.1 million.

However, \$700,000 of that revenue has already been appropriated. That, combined with a decrease in revenue in various departments, may create problems down the road.

“You’re on a path where your transportation fund balance is going to be

down to zero,” said Thomas. “When you start preparing next year’s budget, if revenues don’t increase, you’re going to have to subsidize the transportation fund with the general fund.”

Currently, the general fund has an unrestricted balance of \$6 million, but that number is declining.

One contribution that will help ease budget woes came in the form of a \$38,816 return-of-premium check presented to the board by John Pat Thomas, vice president of Pat Thomas

and Associates Insurance. Thomas presented the check on behalf of Pat Thomas Insurance and the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust, the insurance carrier for Gadsden County.

“What this represents is that the property trust was profitable, so they are returning monies back to the members,” said Thomas. “Merry Christmas.”

A request from the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce (GCCC) for \$70,000 in funding to offer support services

to the Gadsden County Development Council (GCDC) raised debate.

“We funded the GCDC at the beginning of the year and did not consider funding the GCCC at the regular level,” said Commissioner Sherrie Taylor. “I think we’ll send mixed messages if we fund both agencies. We should go with one or the other but not both. This is ridiculous.”

Commissioner Gene Morgan expressed a different opinion.

“I would encourage us to really think through this and commit to seriously invest-

ing in economic development the right way,” Morgan said. “The planning for economic development needs to come from those who have expertise and relationships in that area. In my opinion, I don’t think this (GCDC) board has that.”

With a 4-1 vote, the BoCC opted to table the issue and revisit it.

In other business:

With a 4-1 vote, the BoCC approved a contract with Capital City Bank to purchase the Thomas Motor Cars property in Quincy, to be used for

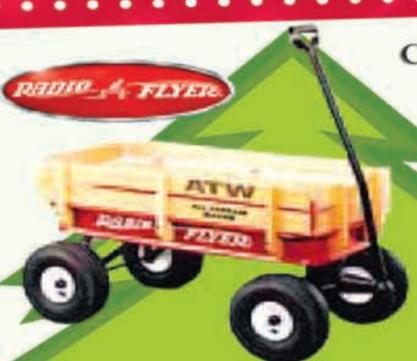
the county’s main EMS facility. Capital City Bank agreed to aid in seeking grant funding for the purchase and renovation of the facility. Brenda Holt cast the dissenting vote, citing environmental concerns.

The BoCC also approved a contract with CenturyLink for their assistance with the enhanced 911 system,

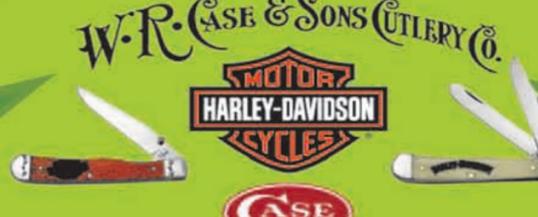
which is said to provide seamless coverage for emergency calls. The county receives funding for this program through a grant from the state of Florida.

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# Obituaries

## Milton Thomas Jr.

Mr. Milton Thomas, Jr., 55 years of age, died on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 in Tallahassee, FL. a memorial will be Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013 at Williams Funeral Home at 11:00 a.m.

## Oz Jessie Marshall Jr.

Mr. Oz Jessie Marshall, Jr., 79 years of age, of Quincy, FL, died on Saturday, December 7, 2013 in Quincy, FL. The service will be 11:00 am, EST, Saturday, December 14, 2013 at Second Elizabeth M.B. Church, with burial at church cemetery. The family will receive friends from 1 to 6 p.m., Friday, December 13, 2013 at Williams Funeral Home of Quincy, FL.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley Marshall, of Quincy, FL, three sons, Oz Marshall III (Ash-

ley), Daren Marshall (Erica), both of Quincy, FL, Anthony Marshall (Teresa), of Nashville, TN, six daughters, Shirley Dobbin (Maurice), Betty Bryant (Randolph), Phyllis Marshall, all of Tampa, FL, Shonnie Marshall, of Quincy, FL, Wendy Marshall, of Largo, FL, Ann Marshall, of GA, two brothers, Johnny L. Marshall, Jake Marshall (Jessie Mae), both of Clearwater, FL, five sisters, Margie Butler (James), of Quincy, FL, Frances Marshall, of Tallahassee, FL, Dorothy Montgomery, Madeen Carter, both of Hartford, CT, Hazel Marshall, of St. Petersburg, FL. A host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, relatives and friends. Williams Funeral Home of Quincy, Florida is in charge of arrangements.

*Linger Longer*  
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Dr. Carolyn E. Poole, Director

## Santa goes high-tech

Santa Claus is coming to town and he's got a sleigh full of free computers!

The Gadsden County Public Library System has partnered with the 1 L.I.F.E. Foundation and other community agencies to give away 50 free computers to local residents just in time for Christmas.

"Gifts for Gadsden" is a promotion to empower Gadsden families with free computer systems, basic computer training and affordable Internet service in order to help bridge the digital divide that still exists in poor and rural areas. Access to technology can open up new opportunities for low-income individuals.

The big computer giveaway event will be from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, at the William A. "Bill" McGill Library in Quincy.

Registration for the free computers has been going on for a month, but applications are still being accepted. Please drop by any Gadsden public library to fill out an application today. Phone 627-7106 for more details.

1 L.I.F.E. Foundation (acronym for Living in Faith Everyday) assists those who are seeking

See LIBRARY/Page A5

## Payments for Hospice care virtually nonexistent

As a hospice nurse, I often find when families learn all that hospice care has to offer, they are both relieved and concerned: relieved the comprehensive list of services aims to comfort their loved one and assists them as the caregiver; concerned about how such valuable services are paid for. Many times people are hesitant to contact hospice because they are unsure of the cost.

They are comforted when they learn once someone is medically qualified for hospice most hospice patients are covered through Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance. As your local hospice, we are also able to offer services to anyone regardless of ability to pay, thanks to community support.

Medicare Part A provides coverage for hospice services to people over the age of 65, including expert pain and symptom



Wendy Melton Abbott

management, medicines, medical equipment and supplies related to the hospice diagnosis. Specifically, it covers physician and nursing services, hospice aides, spiritual, continuous care during crisis periods, trained volunteers and bereavement services.

The hospice benefit does not require patients to be homebound. Hospice patients are free to go out to visit friends and family, or participate in other activities as they are able.

A patient can remain in hospice care beyond six months if a physician re-certifies that the patient is terminally ill. Regular Medicare coverage is available to Hospice beneficiaries for non-terminal related services. Keep in mind that the hospice benefit does not pay for round-the-clock care for patients; however, sometimes hospice social workers may be able to help figure out how to get additional care.

Florida also offers Medicaid hospice coverage, which is patterned after the Medicare hospice benefit. Coverage by private insurance is similar to the Medicare and Medicaid Hospice benefits. Hospice services are covered for military families under Tri-care.

Sometimes a terminally ill patient's health improves or their illness goes into remission and the pa-

tient can be discharged from service. Also, as a hospice patient, you always have the right to stop getting hospice care, for any reason. If you stop your hospice care, you will receive the type of Medicare or Medicaid coverage that you had before electing hospice. If you are eligible, you can go back to hospice care at any time.

When you have hospice care, the financial burdens usually associated with caring for a terminally ill patient are virtually nonexistent.

Wendy Melton Abbott is the team leader for Big Bend Hospice in Gadsden and Liberty counties. Big Bend Hospice has been serving this community since 1983 with compassionate end-of-life care along with grief and loss counselors available to provide information and support to anyone in Leon, Jefferson, Taylor, Madison, Gadsden, Liberty, Franklin or Wakulla counties. If you would like additional information about services, please call 850-878-5310 or visit [www.bigbendhospice.org/](http://www.bigbendhospice.org/).

## Happy 97th birthday



Mrs. Lessie Mae Blake of Quincy, shown here, was born Dec. 10, 1916. Mrs. Blake was honored with a gathering of family and friends at Riverchase Care Center in Quincy. Photo submitted

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**Gadsden County Enterprise Zone #2001**  
**Boundary Amendment Notice**

A resolution will be considered for a change in the boundary of the Gadsden County Enterprise Zone #2001 (EZ) at the **December 17, 2013** Regular Meeting of the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Gadsden County Government Complex, 9-B East Jefferson Street, Quincy, Florida. If adopted, this change in the boundary of the EZ will result in an increase of EZ eligibility for areas affected by the change. If you have any questions regarding the boundary change, please contact Henry G. Grant at (850) 875 -7255.

*If a person decides to appeal any decision by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at such public meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose he/she may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence to which the appeal is to be heard.*

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Facilities Management Office, 1-B East Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL 32353, by written request at least 48 hours prior to the proceeding. Telephone: (850) 875-8665 or 850-510-7842.

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## Things you learn while trying to eat right

A year ago I made the mistake of subscribing to a nutrition advice publication called "Eat right or die!" They gave my name to other health and nutrition magazines. Now I'm drowning in food-related advice and factoids. Here are some examples.

Did you know that if you try to cook a rabbit in your microwave oven, the rabbit will really not appreciate it? You should first boil the rabbit in a large pot; the way Glenn Close did in the film "Fatal Attraction."

Next time your mother-in-law gives you a box of grapefruit or grapefruit juice, she may be trying to kill you. That's because science has identified more than 85 common drugs that may interact poorly (i.e., explode) when brought in contact with grapefruit. Not actually explode. Just make you dizzy or cause gastrointestinal bleeding.

If you don't eat right and put on too much weight, chances are your brain will turn into oatmeal faster than if you ate properly and stayed slim. Furthermore, if you have a low level of vitamin C and beta-carotene, you may be inviting Alzheimer's disease into your life. So check with your doctor. Or at least have a beta-carotene discussion at your next bridge club or Elks meeting.

Nutrition newsletters can be disillusioning, even though helpful. For the past 23 years my Aunt Rachel has been giving me 10 pounds of sea salt at Christmas. "It's better for you than table salt," she said. And I believed her. So I spent the ensuing 12 months putting sea salt on everything I ate, including tapioca pudding. But Aunt Rachel was wrong. The experts now say that sea salt is "not viable" as a sodium-reduction measure. It contains almost as much sodium as table salt, and really doesn't taste that much better.

For years, scientists and the food industry have been removing transfat and gluten from our diets. Where does all that unwanted stuff go, once it's taken away? I have wondered that, and now I have an unconfirmed report: Nebraska. My sources tell me that two separate fields — each 5 miles square, 40 miles west of Lincoln — have been set aside for the gluten and transfat. Both substances will remain there for the next 20 years while the experts answer this question: "What are we gonna do with this stuff?"

Have you noticed that during the past few years TV programs about food and cooking have increased almost as much as Spanish-language channels? Along with whiter teeth, clear skin and trashy sit-coms, Americans love food. One result of that is that more babies are being given the



Bob Driver

names of food items. Don't be surprised if you hear about infants named Aspic, Watercress, Finocchio, Rata-touille, Cumin and Horehound.

Do you suffer from osteoarthritis? Are you easily confused by what you read? If so, forget about doing research on the various drugs and food supplements aimed at reducing arthritis pain. You'll end up not knowing whether to toss out or keep most of the contents of your bathroom shelf. A detailed report in "Nutrition Action" reported on studies of glucosamine, chondroitin, MSM, fish oil, krill oil, Vitamin D and SAM-e — all of which have been touted as

painkillers for arthritis patients. The verdict on the studies: you might as well flip a coin to decide whether to buy these medicines. Pain reduction was either absent or minimal. I've been popping glucosamine tablets for years, but now I'm quitting.

Alzheimer's and peanut butter? Those were main items in a University of Florida study, in which subjects were asked to sniff a spoonful of peanut butter as it was held several inches from their noses. Of 94 patients tested, 18 had already been diagnosed with early-stage Alzheimer's. All 18 were less able to smell the peanut butter with their left nostrils than their right nostrils. A degraded sense of smell is a recognized Alzheimer's symptom. Because Alzheimer's usually affects the left side of the brain first, researchers believe the sniffing test may help to better detect the onset of the affliction. But they warn the public that self-administered peanut butter tests be avoided, since odor sensitivity can be affected by many factors.

In your nutrition reading, you are sure to find a warning about your favorite food or drink. The experts have a knack for finding something dangerous in almost every food or beverage known. But don't be discouraged. The flip side is that, each week, scientists discover that a previously-banned item has been given the OK. Even as I finish writing this column, I see on the Web that moderate consumption of beer may help ward off cancer. And several times a year researchers change their minds about coffee — one month it will bring an early death, but a short time later we learn that caffeine may cure impetigo or con-niption fits. So don't give up — just keep reading, and eating.

Bob Driver is a former columnist for the Clearwater Sun. His email address is tralee71@com-cast.net.

## Letters to the editor

### Cell phone tower worries

I am concerned that citizen notification from the county is not working. How would you like to wake up one morning and see a 250-foot lit cell tower 150 feet from your property line? It could happen. Some county representatives feel we should do away with the county code that requires notification when huge cell towers are located near residents. I think that notification and discussion at county meetings should continue. It worked with Mr. Peavy's cell tower. At least the people who were against Mr. Peavy's cell tower had notification and got to speak against the cell tower in county meetings.

If you live near an industrial zone, no notification to residents is necessary of combustible or hazardous materials located on the industrial site. It is my understanding that the county lawyers think the county can be sued if the county mentions hazardous material. We all need to remember the state will not take action under the present state government. What the county commissioners decide is what we get. Call your county commissioner and tell them we need proper notification for hazardous material and cell towers. These corporations can afford to pay for the hearing process. Notification and watching our local government is very important at this time.

Michael Dorian  
Quincy

### How to contact us

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## 4Gen Journal

# Grandma's hands

Here's a story sent to me by a dear friend. It conveys a faith-filled message which spans the generations. I hope you'll agree and will choose to share it during this holiday season:

Grandma, some 90-plus years of age, sat serenely on the garden bench. She didn't move but sat alone with her head down staring at her hands.

I sat down beside her. She didn't acknowledge my presence and I wondered if she was OK.

Finally, while hesitating to disturb her, I asked her if she was doing all right.

She raised her head and looked at me and smiled. "Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking," she said in a clear voice strong.

"I didn't mean to disturb you, Grandma, but you were just sitting here staring at your hands and I wanted to make sure you were OK," I explained to her.

"Have you ever looked at your hands," she asked. "I mean really looked at them?"

I slowly opened my hands and stared down at them. I turned them over, palms up and then palms down. I realized I had never really looked at my hands as I tried to figure out the point she was making.

Grandma smiled with a twinkle in her eyes and related this to me:

"Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout your years. These hands of mine, though wrinkled and weak, have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life.

They braced and caught my fall when as a toddler I was about to hit the floor after running a bit too fast.

They put food in my mouth and clothes on my body. They tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. As a child, my mother taught me to fold them in prayer.

They held my pencil as I struggled through math problems and while I wrote poems about nature and people I liked.

They were clumsy when I held my newborn son and steady in kneading dough and stirring



Jack Levine

pots of soup.

Decorated with my wedding band they showed the world that I loved someone special.

They held my husband tight and wiped my tears when he went off to war.

They wrote letters to him as he served in foreign lands and they trembled in grief when I watched my parents being buried.

They opened wide to welcome my returning hero and they patted his strong hands when he tearfully spoke of losing his buddies in combat.

They have held my children and grandchildren, consoled neighbors, carried meals to the grieving and wrote checks to causes dear to my heart.

They shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand how some people could be so callous to the detriment of others.

They have combed my hair, washed my face and cleansed the rest of my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and raw as I planted my garden and yanked out stubborn weeds.

They took care of stray pets and made sure that my small piece of property was clean and welcoming to all visitors.

And to this day when not much of anything else on my body works real well, but these hands still help raise me up, lay me down, and continue to fold in prayer.

These hands are the mark of where I've been in joy and sadness and give silent testimony the ruggedness of a life well-lived.

But most important it will be these hands that God will reach out and take when he leads me home for my final rest."

I will never look at my hands the same again. I remember with resolute faith the day God reached out and took my Grandma's hands and led her home.

When my hands are hurt or sore or when I stroke the face of my children, grandchildren and other loved ones I think of Grandma.

Her wisdom and wonderful loving nature live in me and all who were graced to know her...and to have touched those sensitive hands.

## Cell phone users more likely to speed and drive drowsy

TAMPA — Motorists who use cell phones while driving are more likely to engage in additional dangerous behaviors such as speeding, driving drowsy, driving without a safety belt and sending texts or emails, according to a survey conducted by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. Additionally, more than two-thirds (69 percent) of licensed drivers reported talking on a cell phone while driving within the last month, though

nearly nine-in-ten respondents (89 percent) believe other drivers using cell phones are a threat to their personal safety.

"Ninety percent of respondents believe that distracted driving is a somewhat or much bigger problem today than it was three years ago, yet they themselves continue to engage in the same activities," said Peter Kissinger, president and CEO of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. "More work

clearly is needed to educate motorists on the risks associated with using a cell phone while driving, especially given that most Americans believe this problem is becoming worse."

Motorists who fairly often or regularly used their cell phones over the last month also reported that they engaged in additional risky behaviors. The research shows:

See CELL/Page A5

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- Persons wishing to contact the general manager or executive editor should call 627-7649.
- All letters must be signed and include a telephone number and community name, including letters sent via e-mail. Names and communities will be printed; phone numbers will not be published or made public.
- We reserve the right to edit letters for length, libel, fairness and good taste. Not all contributions will be printed.
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## The Gadsden County Times

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# Hooray, hooray! It's Garbage Day!

In my notorious slob days, I missed a lot, mainly because I didn't have a calendar in plain sight. It's one thing to miss an appointment for a haircut, because your bangs will start blocking your vision and remind you to get in immediately. I always loved the walk-in, no appointment needed places even though I always came out of them with a look I had to get used to.



Pam Young  
**MAKE IT FUN**

heard the hydraulic sound of the truck compacting someone else's refuse) trying to catch up with the truck before I heard another SHHHHHHH, an indication it was through and moving on. The driver knew me and my night gown sprint well, and I'm sure he missed the entertainment when I got a calendar and got organized.

Missing garbage day however, has its own special drama. I routinely missed the event and had to suffer the consequences. On the days I actually got my garbage picked up, it often involved an embarrassing dash in my night gown, passed three or four neighbor's homes (depending on when I'd

I know from experience having two-week-old garbage in the garage is not ideal and the garbage companies add insult to a smelly garage by charging for pick-up anyway! I'm ashamed to say that in my messy past, I got away with not paying many times by lying and saying my can was out at the curb and the garbage man missed it. For your information, I've now re-

linquished the responsibility of getting the can to its pick-up place. It's one of the pre-nup negotiations I made with Terry my second husband.

I found out today that the disorganized can no longer lie about not taking out the can. It's called GPS and it doesn't stand for Garbage Pick-up Service. In this age of technology, they're busted.

When a garbage company gets a call like, "You didn't pick up my garbage today!" All they have to do is consult with their 24-hour GPS map and the camera mounted on the truck and they can actually see that the guy's garbage was NOT out. I'm told that the first transgression is noted and forgiven, but if the customer continually misses garbage day and tries to lie his way out of it, it won't work and he's going to have to pay.

Now that you know you can be watched by

the big garbage man in the sky, and you tend to miss garbage day, it might be time to look at garbage pick-up as a very special day. Celebrate it every week. Wake up with, "Hooray, hooray it's garbage day" on your lips and while you're at it, why not dress for the occasion, prepare a special meal and use the fine china? After all, garbage pick-up day is really an opportunity to put your past behind you and with an empty can, start over with a clean slate.

Here are a couple of organizing tips about your garbage. Have fish the day before garbage pick-up day so any leftovers don't get a chance to stink up your home or garage. If you have a garbage container under your kitchen sink, use a plastic garbage bag with a drawstring and empty it often. I love the bags Costco sells. Let emptying the garbage remind you to

let go of the past and live in the freshness of now.

Pam Young has been a reformed slob for more than 35 years. She teaches with humor and insight and her audiences take away creative strategies and practical steps to self-improvement in whatever area they choose. In 1977 Pam and her sister Peggy Jones decided they simply had to get organized and in the process found themselves with a business that has helped hundreds of thousands of disorganized women around the world and

across at least two generations.

After writing six best-selling books together, being on thousands of radio and television shows, and speaking to audiences of thousands, Peggy retired in 2002. In addition to running their original business, Sidetracked Home Executives Inc., Pam decided to take her creativity and delightful sense of humor and launch the very popular website [www.makeitfunanditwillgetdone.com](http://www.makeitfunanditwillgetdone.com) to help a new generation of SHEs.

## LIBRARY

Continued from Page A3

reentry into the workforce or higher education by providing free refurbished computers to those in need. Their focus in Gadsden County is to get information technology into homes that have none, and vital education that families need to improve the quality of their lives.

Recipients of the computers this Saturday will get a training session overview on how to use the equipment and enjoy a good lunch. They will also receive information about Comcast's Internet Essentials program that offers high-speed broadband for only \$9.95 per month plus tax to qualified families with children attending

schools in Gadsden County.

The Internet is no longer just a convenience used for e-mail and entertainment. It's a requirement nowadays for employment, health care, safety, socialization, civic and electoral participation.

The foundation always needs more contributions to help refurbish computers for new users. Go to <http://www.1lifefoundation.org/> to see ways you can send in donations online.

Gadsden County public library customers look forward to Santa's visit on December 14. You'll be able to hear cheers of delight all the way up and down Pat Thomas Parkway as families pick up their new digital bundles of joy.

Come in, and linger longer!

## Gadsden teachers ratify contract to include raise

The Gadsden County Classroom Teachers' Association and the Gadsden County School Board have been in negotiations since early August and have reached an agreement that includes a \$1,900 salary increase for teachers who received an effective or highly effective rating during the 2012-2013 school year.

"Gadsden County teachers are some of the best in the state and are well deserving of this raise," said Ronte Harris, GCCTA President.

This raise has been highly anticipated since Gov. Scott's announcement earlier this year that all teachers would receive a raise. Teachers will begin receiving the raise in December

and it will be retroactive to July. Superintendent Reginald James has been in support of the teacher raise from the beginning, and he supported the union's rush to get it to the teachers as soon as possible.

Moreover, the new teachers' contract includes language that allows for the transfer of sick leave to any Gadsden County school employee and provides provisions that allow teachers the opportunity to develop plans for a duty-free lunch.

Harris said he looks forward to future collaborations with the Superintendent and the school board.

## CELL

Continued from Page A4

- ★ 65 percent also reported speeding
- ★ 44 percent also reported driving while drowsy
- ★ 53 percent also reported sending a text or email
- ★ 29 percent also drove without a safety belt

Conversely, drivers that reported never using a cell phone were much less likely to report additional risky behaviors:

- ★ 31 percent re-

- ported speeding
- ★ 14 percent reported driving drowsy
- ★ 3 percent reported sending a text or email
- ★ 16 percent drove without a safety belt

Despite the near-universal disapproval of texting and emailing while driving (95 percent), more than one-in-four licensed drivers (27 percent) reported sending a text or email at least once in the past 30 days, and more than one-third (35 percent) said they read a text or email while driving. Young drivers age 16 to 24 were even more

likely with more than half (61 percent) reporting having read a text or email while driving in the past month, while more than one-in-four (26 percent) reported checking or updating social media while driving.

"Every time you get behind the wheel and engage in risky driving behaviors, you're endangering your life and that of others on the road," said Michele Harris, director, AAA Traffic Safety Culture. "Distracted driving crashes are preventable tragedies and we must all take personal responsibility to fully focus on the task of driving."

Driver use of cell phones impairs reaction times and roughly

quadruples crash risk. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports more than 3,000 people are killed and nearly half a million are injured each year in crashes involving distraction. This is likely an underestimate given the challenges associated with determining the role of distraction in crashes.

AAA and the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety have long been leading advocates in educating motorists about the risks of distracted driving. AAA recommends that motorists turn off their phone before driving or pull over to a safe place to talk, send texts or use email. AAA also has launched a legislative campaign

to advocate for a text messaging ban in all 50 states. To date, 39 states and the District of Columbia have adopted this key traffic safety measure and AAA expects all 11 remaining states to consider this legislation in 2013. Florida is one of few states that have not yet passed a text-messaging ban. AAA is currently advocating for this life-saving legislation. For more information or to get involved, visit [AAA.com/GetInvolved](http://AAA.com/GetInvolved).

The distraction data were collected as part of the AAA Foundation's 2012 Traffic Safety Culture Index, a nationally representative, probability-based survey of 3,896 U.S. residents ages 16 and older. The sample is representative of all U.S. households reachable by telephone or by regular mail. The questionnaire was made available in English and Spanish, and respondents were able to complete it in the language of their choice. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety pro-

vides additional details in the 2012 Traffic Safety Culture Index and as part of a report called Distracted and Risk-Prone Drivers.

The Auto Club Group (ACG) is the second-largest AAA club in North America. ACG and its affiliates provide membership, travel, insurance and financial services offerings to approximately 8.8 million members across 11 states and two U.S. territories including Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; most of Illinois and Minnesota; and a portion of Indiana. ACG belongs to the national AAA federation with nearly 53 million members in the United States and Canada and whose mission includes protecting and advancing freedom of mobility and improving traffic safety.

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**Breanna Tye' Shy**  
the daughter of  
Shelia Thomas-Dickey  
& Andrew Dickey and Eddie Shy

will be graduating from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science with a major in Criminology and Criminal Justice on Friday, December 13, 2013 at 7:30 PM at Tallahassee Leon County Civic Center.

She is the granddaughter of  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Thomas;  
Mr. & Mrs. Chester Davis;  
and Mr. Charlie Harris.

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# Praise the Lord



Salem United Methodist Church is at 202 E. 9th Ave., Havana. Photo by Cheri Harris

### Event to spark Christmas spirit

Friendship Primitive Baptist Church at 5775 Ben Bostick Road, Quincy, with Elder A. Louis Ivey, Pastor, will host its annual Community Bonfire at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20. The public is invited to come out and join in an evening of "Fun — Food & Fireworks" as well as sitting around the fire singing Christmas carols and hearing about the birth of Jesus. There will be games, hay rides, giveaways, hot chili, hot dogs, hot chocolate and much more.

### Church planning revival in Midway

Advancing the Kingdom of God 50 Nights of Anointed Revival" presented by Presiding Elder Prophet Anthony J. Sanders and The West Florida Diocese Church of Christ Written in Heaven will be

through Jan. 19 at Whosoever Will Church of Christ Written in Heaven, 587 East Brickyard Road, Midway at noon Healing School & Prayer and 7 p.m. Nightly Worship Service. For information, call Prophet Anthony Sanders, 850-567-1902.

### Festive banquet planned in Quincy

The Union Baptist Association and Moderator John L. Gardner Sr. will host its First Annual Christmas Banquet at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Senior Citizen Center in Quincy. The congregation will be favored by a message from Minister Betty Richardson, pastor of St. James MB Church, Sycamore Community. Tickets are \$10 in advance \$12 at the door. For information or to purchase tickets, call Sister Diane White at 229-202-6568 or Sister Debbie Simmons at 850-590-8980.

### Celebrating 60 years for Mother English

The First Restored Church of Jesus Christ Inc., 867 Joe Adams Rd., Quincy, will host an appreciation/60th Birthday Program for Mother Shirley English, "A Beautiful Lady of God." The program will be at 3 p.m. Dec. 21. There will also be a celebration

after the program. The pastor Min. Hattie Harper, assisting Pastor Marcus Reed and congregation welcomes the public. The event is sponsored by Hope for Women Organization.

### Getting together for lunch

Grace Baptist Church will host a free Community Appreciation Lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 13.

## Daylight after the fog lifts

Recently, a local church pastor stopped by the newsroom to talk about depression — his.

He had just come through a second bout of it and thought it was important to tell people that Christians and Christian pastors are not immune to it.

It's not a character thing; it's a chemical, brain thing, he said.

He called his depression a "dark night of the soul." It made him tired and unable to eat, doubtful of God's love for him, although not God's existence.

He said he felt guilty getting up and preach-



Nancy Kennedy  
**GRACE NOTES**

See GRACE/Page A7

### MEETING NOTICE

The next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be Tuesday, December 17, 2013 starting at 6:00 p.m. The following items have been agendaed: **Amendments and Approval of Agenda; Awards, Presentations and Appearances; Clerk of Courts:** County Finance and County Clerk Issues. **Consent:** Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2013 Regular Meeting; Ratification of Approval to Pay County Bills; Approval of Resolution for New Chairman's Facsimile Stamp. **Items Pulled for Discussion: Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3 minute limit): Public Hearings: Public Hearing –** Amendment of Chapter 66, Article II, Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) By Adoption of Ordinance 2013-009; **Public Hearing –** Amendment of Chapter 5, Development Standards; Section 5800, Communication Towers; **Public Hearing –** Amendment of Chapter 6, Subdivision of land, Section 6000, Establishment for Subdivision of Land, Subsection 6600, Family Exception. **General Business:** Appointment of Members to the Gadsden County Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) & Adoption of Resolution 2013-031; Approval of Reappointments / Appointments to the Apalachee Regional Planning Council; Accepting Existing Non-maintained Roads; Vendor Performance Evaluation (Legacy Marketing) from the TDC and Continuation of Service; Approval of Gadsden County Enterprise Zone Boundary Amendment Resolution; Joshua L. & Sarah E. Rudd, Parcel ID No.3-11-2N-3W-0000-00222-0300. **County Administrator:** Update on Board Requests. **County Attorney:** Update on Various Legal Issues **Discussion Items by Commissioners:** Report and Discussion on Public Issues and Concerns Pertaining to Commission Districts and Gadsden County. (A listing of the Receipt/File items can be found on the County's website at [www.gadsdencountyfl.gov](http://www.gadsdencountyfl.gov)

If a person decides to appeal any decision by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at such public meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose he/she may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence to which the appeal is to be heard.

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Facilities Management Office, 1-B East Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL 32351, by written request at least 48 hours prior to the proceeding. Telephone: (850) 875-8665 or 850-510-7842.

### LEGAL NOTICE

The SCHOOL BOARD OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, announces a workshop and its regularly scheduled Board Meeting, to which all interested persons are invited.

DATE: Tuesday, December 17, 2013  
TIME: WORKSHOP - 4:30 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING - 6:00 P.M.  
PLACE: School Board Meeting Room  
Max D. Walker School Administration Building  
35 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Quincy, Florida

**PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP:** To discuss financial issues/data update.

**PURPOSE OF THE REGULAR MEETING:** To ratify payment of bills, consider personnel actions, consider bids and quotations, consider and/or act on proposal and/or adoption of Administrative Rules, and such other business as may be ready for consideration.

A copy of this agenda may be obtained by writing to, or otherwise contacting: The School Board of Gadsden County, Florida, Attention: Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent of Schools, 35 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Quincy, Florida 32351.

Notice is hereby given that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings are made, which records would include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Dated this 9th day of December, 2013 A.D.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA

Reginald C. James, Superintendent of Schools

### IN LOVING MEMORY Major David Ganious, Jr.

July 4, 1950 - December 13, 2012

If roses grow in Heaven, Lord,  
Please pick a bunch for us.  
Place them in David's arms and  
tell David they are from us.



Tell David that  
we love him  
and miss him  
and when David  
turns to smile,  
place a kiss upon David's cheek  
and hold David for awhile.

Because remembering David is easy,  
we do it every day, but there's an ache  
within our hearts that will never go away.

We love and miss you so much, David.

Dedra & Shakeriya Ganious & Family

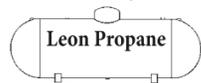
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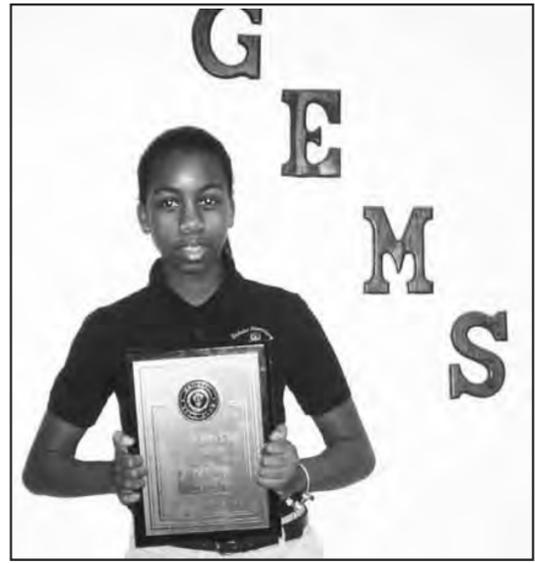
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## Education

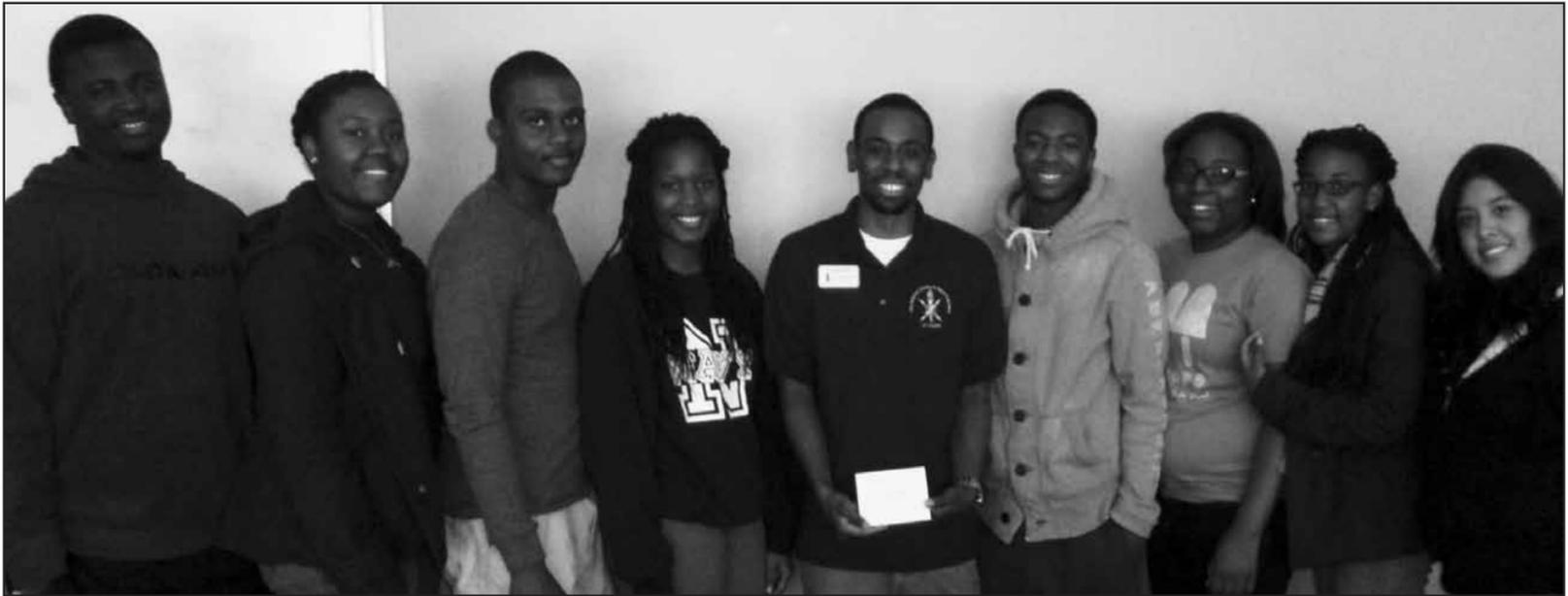
# GEMS student wins third place at state Junior Beta Club Convention

The Junior Beta Club at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School (GEMS) was well represented at the National Convention Dec. 2 and 3 in Orlando. Forty-three students from Gadsden Elementary Magnet attended the convention. The students entered projects in several competitions with more than 3,000 students from Junior Beta Clubs throughout Florida. GEMS Junior Beta Clubs students were excited about performing and entering their projects in competitions. Students prepared for weeks after school and during their spare time on their projects and group performances.

For the first time in GEMS history, a student placed or won a competition at the state Junior Beta Convention. Congratulations to Trinesiah Sapp, an eighth-grade student, for winning third place in the math competition. Trinesiah competed against hundreds of students on the computer to solve math problems. She was third in solving problems correctly. Trinesiah was presented a plaque at the convention.



Trinesiah Sapp



Pictured here, from left: Ronald Vickers, Meaghan Sapp, Marcus Scott, Jasmine Jones, Christopher Bailey, Karlin Thomas, Patricia Jones JaLia Randolph and Zarah Zamudio. Photo submitted

## Bailey speaks to STEM scholars

President of the University of Florida National Society of Black Engineers, Christopher Bailey spoke to a group of STEM scholars teachers, parents and school board members at a "Meet and Greet" Nov. 27 at the TCC House in Quincy. The students who are part of the FloridaLearns STEM Scholars program at East and West Gadsden high schools are

provided opportunities to interact with professionals in STEM related careers. Bailey began his presentation by stressing the correlation between receiving a college degree and having an edge in the job market; having better options and opportunities; and being better equipped to make a range of life changing decisions. He explained the importance of preparing

for college in high school by researching those qualifications that would increase a student's chance of acceptance into the school of their choice. He also shared tips and insights about the academic and social aspect of college life.

When asked what advice he would give anyone entering college, Bailey replied, "In addition to studying hard and attending all classes, make

sure you network and socialize with the right crowd." After a question and answer session, Bailey gave each attendee a University of Florida gift bag filled with various items including Gator paraphernalia.

Christopher visited China for two weeks in 2012 as a part of a delegation of engineers. For three months during the summer of 2013 Bailey interned with the Illi-

nois Department of Transportation in Yorkville, Illinois. As President of the University of Florida National Society of Black Engineers, Bailey assists the Dean of the College of Engineers recruit students and communicate with sponsors in regards to transitions programs.

Christopher graduated as Valedictorian in 2009 from East Gadsden High School.

He is the son of Elmer and Deborah Bailey of Havana. His grandparents are the late Mitchell Curtis and Eva Curtis of Havana. He is currently a fifth-year Civil Engineering major at the University of Florida. Chris's finance, JaNaye Majors, a Nuclear Engineering major at UF from Jacksonville accompanied him and also spoke briefly to the audience.

## GRACE

Continued from Page A6

ing on Sundays, encouraging people when he felt discouraged.

Things were dark, but he was never suicidal, he said.

I told him that a few years back I had gone through something that might be depression, although for me it was never a dark pit of hopelessness, but more like a constant, dulling fog.

I was sad, sort of, but I didn't cry. Instead, I'd go to Wal-Mart a lot and push a cart around, thinking about buying pajamas because what I really wanted to do was go to bed.

Maybe it wasn't true

depression. Maybe it was depression-lite. Depressionish. Not enough to check myself into a hospital but enough to feel like I was in a fog and unable to see clearly, feeling out of sorts and out of touch.

Depression-lite isn't as obvious as a dark night of the soul or the black hole that swallows some people, but it's real nonetheless.

According to the World Health Organization, depression is the second most common cause of disability after cardiovascular disease and is on-track to be number one within 10 years. As many as 25 percent of people in the U.S. will experience some form of depression during their lifetime.

Mine lasted about a year. During that time I had a hard time getting to church. I'd get into my car and try to get to a particular intersection. If I made it that far without turning around I knew I could make it into the building, and if I made it into the building, I knew I'd stay.

However, more often I wouldn't — couldn't — make it to my regular spot down front. I'd sit somewhere way in the back, praying to be invisible.

A Christianity Today report said depression is "in part a withdrawal by the weary into an inner world, an attempt to create a protective cocoon against real-world demands."

That's how I felt as I still went to work, still

wrote my column every week, still told you all about God's mercy and grace, still believing it was true, just not quite feeling it through the fog.

Years ago, we lived on the Monterey Bay in California, where the summers are foggy and cold. Sometimes it would stay foggy all week.

One time I had to drive through fog that was so dense I could barely see, which was quite scary. All I could do was stay behind the car in front of me with my eyes fixed on its taillights, praying all the way.

After about 10 or so miles, the fog lifted — and I was never so happy to see daylight.

During the Monterey summers, when the fog would finally burn off

I would grab towels and sand toys and head to the beach with my girls. We'd wade through the tide pools looking for crabs, watch the sea otters on their backs in the water cracking open abalones on their bellies or watch people hand gliding over the bay.

I rejoiced when the fog lifted. I loved the feel of hot sunshine on my face and bare arms. After days on end of grayness you forget how good it is to be warmed by the sun. You forget that there could be anything different, anything better. You forget that the sun is always there, above the gray and the cold, damp mist.

However, I never completely forgot, and neither did the pastor who came to see me. That's because God never leaves his children without hope, never leaves his children alone, even when it feels like it.

The psalmist cried out to God in his distress and God sent thunder and lightning, hurled spears and reached from heaven deep into the deepest pit, pulled him out and set him safely in a "spacious place" because "he delighted in me" (Psalm 18).

In the deepest darkness, in the thickest fog, even in depression-lite, God is still there, still able to save, still holding out hope, still loving his own.

Nancy Kennedy is the author of "Move Over, Victoria — I Know the Real Secret," "Girl on a Swing," and her latest book, "Lipstick Grace." She can be reached at 352-564-2927, Monday through Thursday, or via email at [nkennedy@chronicleonline.com](mailto:nkennedy@chronicleonline.com).

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## Hellenic happenings



For Social Studies, sixth-grade students got to dress up as Greek gods and goddesses. In order to better understand Greek mythology, sixth-grade students researched and dressed like a famous ancient Greek character. Students worked hard to create different goods that would be sold in the agora, or marketplace. Photo submitted

## Pumpkin pondering



Benjamin Thompson and Jon Daniel Gay watch as Miss Laura empties a pumpkin. Kindergarteners learned about the life cycle of a pumpkin, estimated the seeds inside of a pumpkin, and got to eat roasted pumpkin seeds. Their favorite part was touching the pulp inside of the pumpkin! Photo submitted

## Saying thanks to veterans



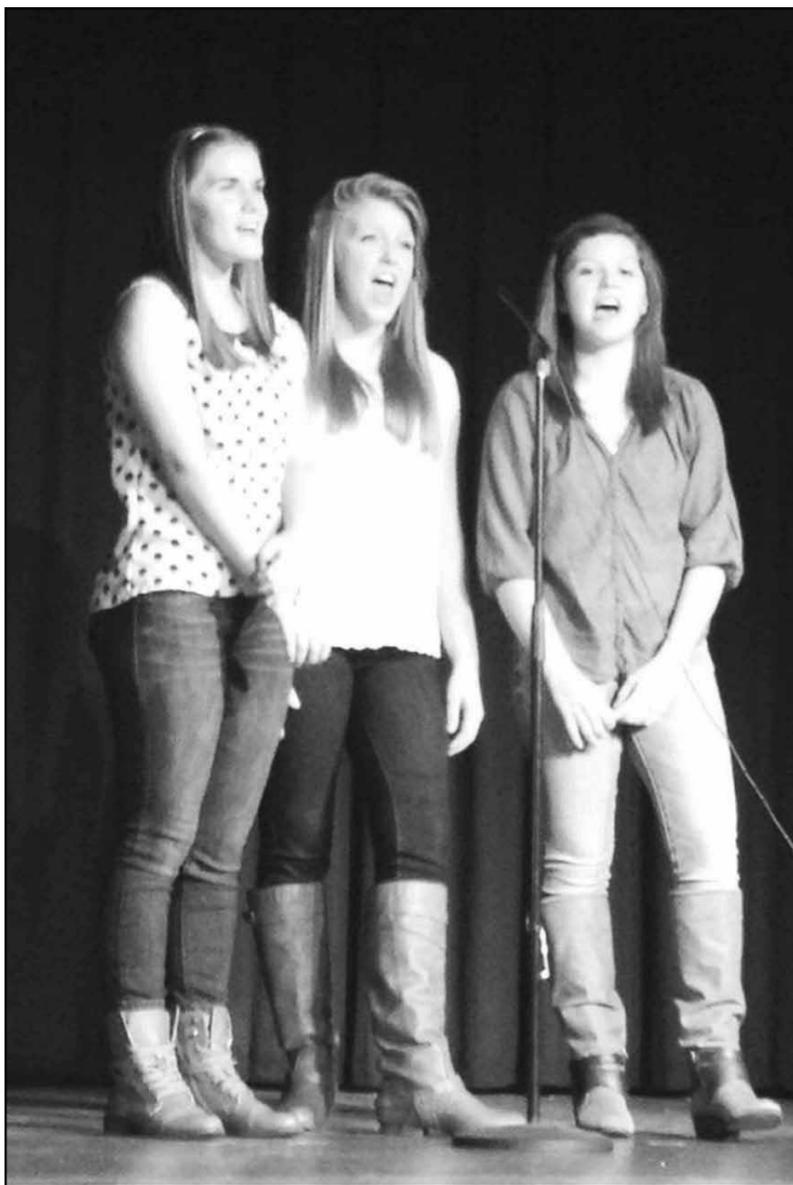
First-graders participated in the Anchor Club-sponsored Veteran's Day coloring contest. The students decorated lunch tray papers thanking veterans for their service to our country. These papers will be put on the lunch trays at the VA Hospital. Lolley Bell, Mary Ryan Mitchell, and Hugh Thomas show off their artwork. Photo submitted

## Math in the spotlight

Hannah Touchton, an eighth-grade student presents her project on mathematician August Ferdinand Mobius, who discovered the Mobius strip. Photo submitted



## Boots made for singing



During homecoming, Robert F. Munroe hosted a talent competition. Students of all grades and talents were encouraged to partake in the fun. Some students showed off their acrobatic skills, performed a dance routine or sang their hearts out. The second-place winner was senior John Paul McMichael who played the guitar while singing his original song. First-place winners were Grace Kelleher, Allison Bergman and Hilary Erde who sang an a cappella version of "Radioactive." Photo submitted

## Entertainment

# The Tallahassee Ballet presents 'The Nutcracker'

The Tallahassee Ballet (TTB) is proud to announce its 2013 production of the holiday classic, "The Nutcracker" at Ruby Diamond Concert Hall Dec. 20 and 21.

This year's production is a collaboration between TTB's new Artistic Director, Tyrone Brooks, Performance Director and Guest Resident Choreographer, Kathryn Karrh Cashin, and Artistic Associate, Lauren Owen. These talented choreographers make this a must-see tradition as it earmarks the height of the holiday season.

"The Tallahassee Ballet performances of 'The Nutcracker' bring every segment of the community together under one umbrella to enjoy the spirit of the holiday in perfect harmony," remarks Artistic

Director, Tyrone Brooks.

This year's performance will feature guest

He trained at Victor Ullate Ballet. In 1996, Lopez won the Silver Medal at the Seventh International Dance Competition in Paris. Carlos joined American Ballet Theatre in 2001 and was appointed soloist in 2003.

Sara James

for North Carolina Dance Theatre under Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and Patricia McBride where she performed many soloist and principal roles.

"The Nutcracker" will also feature The Tallahassee Ballet Orchestra which is comprised of award winning musicians from Florida

promises something for everyone! Live music, professionally designed sets and costumes, and exquisite dancing all combine to make a spectacular event.

"The Nutcracker" has always and will always be my most favorite holiday tradition. It's a wonderful story with magical music, and beautiful dancing. I always tear up

Edenfield remarks, "So many families make it an annual event. My daughter and I go together and while I reminisce about my favorite memories as a performer, I can see the excitement in her eyes about dancing and Christmas."

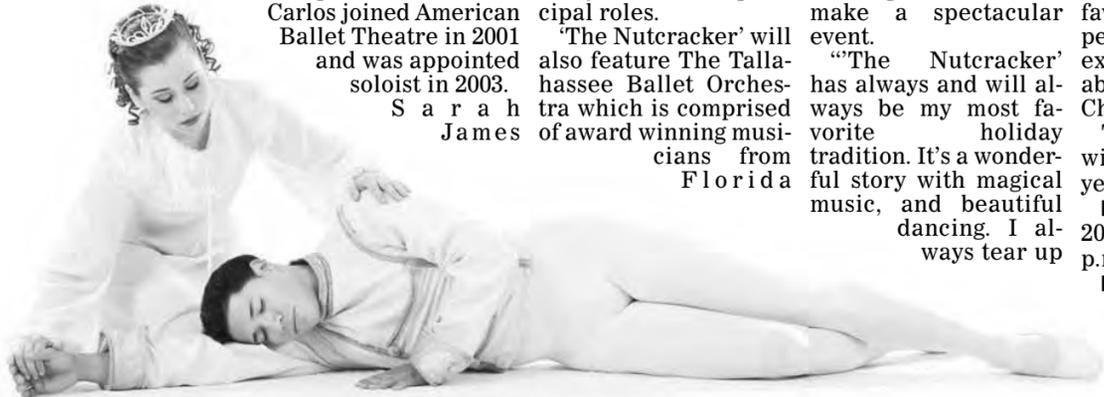
Three performances will be offered this year:

■ Friday, December 20: Opening Night, 8 p.m.

■ Saturday, December 21: Special Abbreviated Children's Performance, 10:30 a.m.

■ Saturday, December 21: Matinee, 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now and seating is limited, so go online to [www.tallahasseeballet.org](http://www.tallahasseeballet.org) or call 850-224-6917, and make your reservations today.



Tallahassee Ballet is presenting a holiday production of "The Nutcracker." Photo submitted

artists with professional experience from American Ballet Theatre and North Carolina Dance Theatre.

Carlos Lopez is a native of Madrid, Spain.

is from Emmaus, Pa. She graduated from The Harid Conservatory and trained with the School of American Ballet and The Kirov Academy. She danced

State University. It is conducted by Douglas Fisher who has served as conductor and coach of the Florida State Opera since 1990.

"The Nutcracker"

every time I'm on stage performing for it," states Lauren Owen, TTB choreographer and soloist.

TTB Board of Directors President Holly

## Christmas classic on stage in Tallahassee

TALLAHASSEE —Reawaken the Christmas spirit with Charles Dickens' timeless tale, "A Christmas Carol" on stage Dec. 12 to 22 at Theatre Tallahassee.

On Christmas Eve, three spirits visit the cold-hearted Ebenezer Scrooge and take him on a journey to his past, present, and future to discover the true meaning of Christmas. This fully staged production of the classic story was adapted for the Theatre Tallahassee stage, and includes traditional holiday music and Christmas carols. Directed and adapted by Naomi Rose-Mock, "A Christmas Carol" features a massive ensemble of local performers of all ages. No matter if this is your 1st or 100th time experiencing this Christmas classic, this performance is sure to fill you with holiday cheer!

"A Christmas Carol" is a Theatre Tallahassee's Special Holiday Event. This performance runs for two weekends and opens on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 8 p.m. Additional performances are December 13-15 and 19-22. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances start at 8 p.m. Sunday performances start at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and government employees and \$10 for students. Tickets may be purchased online at [TheatreTallahassee.org](http://TheatreTallahassee.org) or

by calling the box office at 850-224-8474. Tickets are also available the day of the show on a first-come, first-served basis.

Theatre Tallahassee (formerly Tallahassee Little Theatre) is the region's flagship community theater, lifting the arts community to new heights with professional caliber productions that showcase the talents, passions and commitment of your friends and neighbors. For over 65 years Theatre Tallahassee has been producing Tony-winning musicals and cutting-edge satire to traditional dramas and comedies. Our Mainstage offers large-scale and more traditional productions, from classic musicals and dramas to recent Broadway hits. The Coffeehouse offers powerful and thought-provoking theater in an intimate setting. Theatre Tallahassee also offers educational opportunities through workshops and classes. Theatre Tallahassee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that produces seven to ten shows per season, and is funded through a combination of ticket sales, grants and community donations.

Visit [TheatreTallahassee.org](http://TheatreTallahassee.org) or call 850-224-4597 for more information on this and other upcoming productions, to purchase tickets or to learn about volunteer opportunities.



Theatre Tallahassee is presenting "A Christmas Carol" on stage Dec. 12 through Dec. 22. Photos submitted

## Groovin' in Gretna



Gretna Elementary's Annual Can-Can Dance was held Nov. 21st in the school cafeteria, which was decorated in the colors of Fall and boasted a theme of "Remember to be Thankful!" According to students, faculty and staff this was one of the "best dances ever". The students learned the importance of giving and helping others by raising money and collecting canned goods to provide Thanksgiving meals for families in the community which is an annual Gretna Ram tradition.

This year's event was highlighted with a special guest DJ. The students enjoyed the latest sounds being engineered by DJ Woadie. Even Principal Micheal Franklin and other staff hit the dance floor with students who gained admission to the dance by contributing canned goods or one dollar. Special thanks to faculty and staff who filled Thanksgiving baskets that helped six local families enjoy a bountiful dinner with all the trimmings.

## Broadway star performing for FSU benefit

TALLAHASSEE — Broadway star and local legend, Davis Gaines ("Phantom of the Opera," "Hello Dolly," and "Camelot"), returns to Tallahassee for one "De-lovely" evening, to star in the School of Theatre's seventh annual Benefit Concert, "Cole," a musical review of the works of Cole Porter. Ten music theatre students join Gaines in this celebration of the works of one of America's most illustrious composers. The Benefit Concert is 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at the Fallon Theatre, 540 W Call St., at Florida State University. All proceeds from this fundraiser support the students at the School of Theatre.

"We are excited to welcome Davis back to Tallahassee," said Executive Director of the School of Theatre Cameron Jackson. "It is a thrill that Davis is eager to come back and share his talent with our audience. He has been shaped as an artist by his time at FSU and is now lending a hand to help support the next generation of theatre professional."

This is not just "Another Opening, Another Show," it is a chance for the School of Theatre to showcase the world-class talent that starts at Florida State University. This one-night-only concert performance features crowd-pleasing classics, including: "Night and Day," "What is this Thing Called Love," "Why Can't You Behave?" and "Let's Misbehave," among many other classic American standards. After the performance, Gaines and the cast join guests on-stage for a reception.

Davis Gaines is most noted for performing the title role in Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera, more than 2,000 times in runs on Broadway, in Los Angeles, and San Francisco. In addition to appearing in multiple Broadway and regional performances and winning numerous honors and awards, Gaines has sung for five US presidents, performed at the Kennedy Center Honors and performed with every major orchestra in North America. Gaines

frequently returns to Tallahassee to give back to the community; however, this performance marks his first time back to perform for Tallahassee audiences since 2011.

Produced by arrangement with Derek Glynn and first presented at the Mermaid Theatre, this concert production is directed by Fred Chappell and music directed by Gayle Seaton. Benny Green and Alan Strachan devised this entertainment based on the words and music of Cole Porter. Music and lyrics are by Cole Porter and original music arrangements are by Kenneth Moule. Cole is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH INC.

Tickets: tickets for Cole are \$75 and \$45 (without post-show reception). Tickets can be purchased through the Fine Arts Ticket Office at [tickets.fsu.edu](http://tickets.fsu.edu) or 850-644-6500. The Fine Arts Ticket Office is located at 540 W Call Street, Tallahassee, FL and is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm.



**TOP:** The BASF float came complete with artificial snow. **RIGHT:** The Walgreens parade entry was popular because of the smiling faces and the candy. Photos by Cheri Harris



**ABOVE:** A number of entries in this nighttime parade featured lighted vehicles. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Spectators enjoyed looking for candy. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Cheerleading squads practice their enthusiasm on appreciative parade audiences. Parade photos continue on page A15. Photos by Cheri Harris

# What's Up

## Pooches on parade

Bring your dogs to meet Santa and support the Gadsden County Humane Society! GCHS will dress your pooch in holiday finery and take a photo with Santa that's worthy of the Christmas newsletter! For a \$10 donation, you'll get a printed photo, a photo Christmas card of your choice and they will even e-mail the photo to you! Santa will be at the Lawn Mower Parade from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, in downtown Havana from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, at the First Presbyterian Church, 213 N.E. 1st St., Havana. All proceeds benefit homeless animals in Gadsden County.

## Clothing, food distribution set for Dec. 21

Gadsden County residents, due to the Holidays, The Liberty Center (the old Chattahoochee High School) will have its food and clothing donation on Saturday, Dec. 21, for Gadsden County residents.

You can still register for the fiscal year July 2013 to June 2014. Registration will start at 8:30 a. m. Forms can be gotten in advance from FACTS members, the Chattahoochee Library and Chattahoochee Utilities.

Food distribution will be 9 a. m. to 11 a. m. Food distribution will be the third

Saturday (December only) unless otherwise stated. USDA is an equal opportunity provider.

## Friends of the Library to meet

You are invited to attend the annual Friends of the Gadsden County Public Library meeting at 5 p.m. Jan. 14 at Gadsden County Public Library, 732 Pat Thomas Parkway, Quincy.

## Give the gift of literacy

"Basic Literacy: The Foundation of Life-Long Learning". A call for Adult Literacy Tutors and Supporters. Presentation: McGill Public Library, Quincy, Florida on Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. (Light Refreshments served)

Literacy Volunteers of Gadsden County, Inc. Contact Info: Literacy Office: (850) 875-8680 Cell: (850) 524-1054. Website: www.lvaofgadsdencountyinc.org or E-Mail: gcplAdultLiteracy@yahoo.com HAPPY HOLIDAYS and HAPPY NEW YEAR - LVA-Gadsden's Board of Directors

## Social Security

# Ring in the new year with a COLA

**MICHAEL W. GROCHOWSKI**  
Atlanta Regional  
Commissioner

Many people ring in the New Year with champagne. People who receive Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) get to ring it in with a COLA. This year, more than 60 million Americans are receiving a 1.5

percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) in their monthly benefit payment.

The 1.5 percent COLA begins with increased benefits for more than 57 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2014, and payments to more than 8 million SSI recipients in late December 2013.

The estimated average monthly Social

Security payment to a retired worker is \$1,294 (in 2014), up from \$1,275 (in 2013). The average monthly Social Security disability payment for an individual is \$1,148 (in 2014), up from \$1,131 (in 2013).

The basic monthly federal payment for SSI is \$721 (in 2014), up from \$710 (in 2013).

Some other changes that take effect in Jan-

uary of each year are based on the increase in average wages. For example, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security payroll tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$117,000, up from \$113,700. Of the estimated 165 million workers who will pay Social Security taxes in 2014, about 10 million will pay higher

taxes as a result of the increase in the taxable maximum.

The amount of earnings needed for one credit of Social Security coverage has gone up as well, but all workers can still earn up to four credits in a year. In 2014, a worker earns a credit after earning \$1,200. In 2013, one credit of coverage was \$1,160. It takes forty credits

to be fully insured for retirement benefits.

Information about Medicare changes for 2014 is available at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice) to learn more about the COLA and other Social Security changes in 2014.

From everyone at Social Security, have a Happy New Year.

## Protect yourself from 2013 tax hikes with 2012 tax planning

### *Three tips for taking advantage of this year's lower tax rates*

Income taxes are going up next year, and not just for those who earn more than \$200,000 a year.

"Taxes are likely to be higher for everyone" said financial planner Rick Rodgers, author of *The New Three-Legged Stool: A Tax Efficient Approach To Retirement Planning* ([www.RodgersSpeaks.com](http://www.RodgersSpeaks.com)).

"We all know about the expiring Bush tax cuts, which may or may not be extended for everyone or just some," he said. "There are also new taxes that were part of the healthcare reform law passed in 2010; the expiring payroll tax cut; the alternative minimum tax that already expired in 2011, and many other provisions that have expired or will expire at year end."

Nearly everyone should prepare to pay more, Rodgers said.

The good news is, you still have time to take advantage of 2012 tax rates, which may turn out to be the lowest we will see in some time. Rodgers offers these strategies that can be implemented before the end of 2012:

- **Roth Conversion:** No one knows for sure what will happen

to the tax code next year, which is why a Roth conversion is one of the best tax-planning strategies available. Converting a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA creates a taxable event in 2012. All future earnings in the account will be tax-free, as long as you wait five years and are age 59 1/2 or older when you take withdrawals. The biggest advantage to the Roth conversion strategy is the ability to "undo" the transaction as late as Oct. 15, 2013. Should the new Congress pass a major tax reform bill next year that lowers tax rates across the board, you can put the money back into your IRA. It will be like the transaction never happened.

- **Harvest capital gains:** Harvesting gains is similar to harvesting losses. Sell appreciated securities you've held for at least 12 months to realize the long-term gain for tax purposes. You can immediately repurchase the same asset because there is no wash-sale rule for realizing gains. This allows you to pay tax on the gain in 2012, when rates are low, and establish a new cost-basis in the asset to minimize increased gains

that may be taxed at higher rates. This strategy should appeal to anyone in the 15 percent tax bracket, because capital gains are taxed at zero and may jump to 8 to 10 percent in 2013 if the tax cuts expire. The strategy is also appealing to anyone subject to the Medicare surtax. If the current tax laws expire, the tax rate on long-term capital gains will jump from 15 percent to 23.8 percent (21.8 percent for assets held more than five years).

- **Pay medical expenses:** Anyone who normally itemizes medical expenses on their tax return should accelerate those expenses into 2012 if they can. Medical expenses are deductible only if they exceed 7 1/2 percent of adjusted gross income (AGI). This means if your AGI is \$50,000, you can deduct only medical expenses more than \$3,750. Next year the threshold jumps to 10 percent of AGI. Pay your January medical insurance premium in December to move this deduction to 2012. Any routine eye exams or dental visits should be moved up to December. Paying with a credit card would give you the deduction this year

and delay the actual payment until 2013.

Rodgers warns that a common mistake is to wait and see what happens. It has not been uncommon for Congress to make significant changes to the tax code late in December, leaving taxpayers little time to react. He advises a diversified approach to tax planning. Make a partial Roth conversion, harvest some capital gains but don't wait until it's too late to do anything about rising taxes.

Take a proactive approach to tax planning this year to cushion any fall from the fiscal cliff.

Certified Financial Planner Rick Rodgers is president of Rodgers & Associates, "The Retirement Specialists," in Lancaster, Pa. He's a Certified Retirement Counselor and member of the National Association of Personal Financial Advisers. Rodgers has been featured on national radio and TV shows, including "FOX Business News" and "The 700 Club," and is available to speak at conferences and corporate events ([www.RodgersSpeaks.com](http://www.RodgersSpeaks.com)).

# Decay can cause hazardous defects in trees

Tree failure is a major cause of residential property damage, as well as the leading cause of power outages nationwide. An ice storm can overload all the branches on a tree, a hurricane or high wind can blow down a tree if its roots are compromised, or a cracked tree can fail under its own weight.

"Homeowners who are worried about trees falling and damaging property should call a professional arborist for an on-site inspection," advises Tchukki Andersen, CTSP, BCMA, staff arborist with the Tree Care Industry Association.

Andersen said trees are genetically designed to withstand most storms, but all trees can fail — and defective trees fail sooner than healthy trees. A sound tree becomes potentially dangerous when the tree's woody structure is weakened by one or more defects. During storms, pre-existing

defects predispose trees to failure.

"To a professional arborist," said Andersen, "defects are visible signs that a tree has the potential to fail."

**Broadly defined, there are seven categories of defects:**  
Decayed wood.  
Cracks.  
Root problems,  
Weak branch unions.  
Cankers.  
Poor tree architecture.

Dead trees, tops or branches.

Stress.  
Healthy, well-maintained trees growing on suitable sites will be able to minimize the extent of decay and other defects.

Trees that are stressed have reduced energy reserves, and therefore have less ability to deal with wounds and decay.

Most urban trees survive on construction-altered soils that may be compacted, poorly drained, high in clay, sand or gravel, very alkaline or littered with construc-

tion debris.

Additionally, many urban trees are subjected to chemicals such as herbicides and fertilizers commonly used in landscape maintenance. Poor tree maintenance is another contributor to stress. These cumulative stresses all take a toll on tree vitality and structural integrity, increasing the risk of failure.

**Defects and decay**  
Professional arborists have an understanding of the factors that create or accelerate the development of defects in trees. They also understand that some species have growth characteristics that make them prone to certain defects.

All defects in trees cannot be detected, corrected or eliminated. Although a professional arborist can readily recognize most defects, there are root problems and some internal defects that are hidden. These trees may require in-depth

assessments and specialized diagnostic tools. Homeowners should also keep in mind that defects change with time. A tree that looked fine three years ago may have severe problems today. By doing regular inspections, arborists can successfully manage the risk of tree failure.

Advanced decay and cavities result in less structural strength and reduced stability. Wood decay is an internal process with just a few external indications, such as mushrooms, conks, rotten or punky wood, cavities, hollows, holes, in-rolled cracks, and bulges in the wood.

The healthy layer surrounding the decay column is called the shell. If the shell thickness is thin relative to the size of the tree, the shell is likely to fracture, causing the tree to fail. A tree can have internal decay and an opening and still be structurally sound pro-

vided that the shell is thick enough and the opening is not too wide.

If a tree is repeatedly wounded by the presence of in-rolled cankers, included bark, cracker-rot fungi, or equipment (mowers, plows and weed whips), decay occurs in every annual ring of wood. These trees should be carefully inspected by a professional arborist because they do not form a sound shell of wood. The tree is likely to fail at or near the location of the crack or wound because a large and ever-expanding column of decay is present there. Again, a professional arborist can evaluate shell thickness and opening width to help determine the tree's potential for failure.

**Find a professional**  
A professional arborist can assess your landscape and work with you to determine the safest course of action. Contact the Tree

Care Industry Association (TCIA), a public and professional resource on trees and arboriculture since 1938. It has more than 2,000 member companies who recognize stringent safety and performance standards and who are required to carry liability insurance. TCIA has the nation's only accreditation program that helps consumers find tree care companies that have been inspected and accredited based on: adherence to industry standards for quality and safety; maintenance of trained, professional staff; and dedication to ethics and quality in business practices.

An easy way to find a tree care service provider in your area is to use the "Locate Your Local TCIA Member Companies" program. You can use this service by calling 1-800-733-2622 or by doing a ZIP Code search on [www.treecaretips.org](http://www.treecaretips.org).

# Gov. Scott announces \$88M in proposed environmental and recreational early restoration projects

TALLAHASSEE — Governor Rick Scott announced the third set of Natural Resource Damage Assessment early restoration projects proposed by Florida's Trustees to remedy damages made by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. On April 20, 2011, BP agreed to provide \$1 billion in early restoration funds to the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees for early restoration projects. The total 28 proposed early restoration projects will be implemented throughout affected panhandle counties and are expected to utilize approximately \$88 million of Florida's total allocation.

Governor Scott said the announcement "is great news for Florida and the families who call the Panhandle home. This funding will work to protect Florida's environment so future generations of Floridians will be able to enjoy our state's great natural treasures."

Each Trustee, including Florida, has access to \$100 million for early restoration projects that meet criteria described in the Framework Agreement. The first two sets of projects in Florida put forth by the Trustees used approximately \$12 million of Florida's share of the billion dollars. The first two sets of projects include boat ramp and dune restorations along with coastal conservation projects, which seek to remedy damages incurred by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and resulting response activities.

The third phase of projects includes a \$19 million marine fisheries hatchery enhancement center in Escambia County, a \$12 million artificial reef creation and restoration regional project and a \$10 million restoration and recreation project in Okaloosa County. Other projects include beach nourishment efforts, habitat restoration, oyster reef and dune restoration and increased recreation opportunities in the form of boat ramps, beach access points and park improvements.

Before any of the proposed projects are finalized, the projects will go through a 60-day public

comment period that runs through Feb. 4. Included in the comment period are two public meetings in Florida; one in Pensacola on Jan. 28 and one on Jan. 29 in Panama City.

Senator Don Gaetz, Senate President, said, "I applaud Governor Scott, Secretary Vinyard of the FDEP, and Nick Wiley of FWC for their commitment to the counties that have been affected by the BP oil spill. The selection of the Norriego Point Restoration and the Habitat Restoration in Ft. Walton Beach demonstrate the good work that comes out of state and local communities working together."

Senator Bill Montford said, "I want to recognize Governor Scott and Secretary Vinyard of the FDEP for their commitment to the counties that have been affected by the BP oil spill. I am happy to see projects being proposed in Franklin, Gulf, and Wakulla Counties and other regional projects that will benefit its citizens in a major way."

Representative Halsey Beshears said, "Governor Scott and Secretary Vinyard of the FDEP are committed to the counties that have been affected by the BP oil spill. The regional projects being proposed show this and are a great way to improve the areas hardest hit in Florida by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill."

Representative Mike Hill said, "I want to thank Governor Scott and Secretary Vinyard of the FDEP for their commitment to the counties that have been affected by the BP oil spill. Today's announcement of the proposed project at Escibano Point is an example of the link Florida has between a healthy environment and a strong economy. This project along with the three others in Santa Rosa County will improve access to natural resources for our residents and visitors."

Representative Clay Ingram said, "I am excited that six projects have been proposed for Escambia County, and I applaud Governor Scott and FDEP Secretary Vinyard for their continued work to restore Florida's Gulf Coast, which was so badly damaged as a result of the Deepwater

Horizon oil spill."

Representative Jimmy Patronis said, "I applaud Governor Scott and Secretary Vinyard of the FDEP for their commitment to the counties that have been affected by the BP oil spill. The improvements to the Panama City Fishing Pier are vital, since this is the only fishing pier in Panama City, and use of natural resources is what draws so many people to our area."

Walton County Commissioner Sara Comander said, "I am excited to see the proposal of several projects specifically for Walton County as well as other regional projects benefitting our county, which will allow visitors and residents to use our beautiful natural resources."

Santa Rosa County Commissioner Jim Melvin said, "Today's announcement is welcome news for Santa Rosa County. The proposed projects are an important investment in our vital local natural resources, resources which not only support our diverse wildlife, but also support the quality of life for our residents by enhancing economic and recreational opportunities. We look forward to the public review process and implementation of these restoration projects."

Wakulla County Commission Chairman Merritt said, "It is an honor to have three of Wakulla's NRDA projects selected out of hundreds submitted from other counties and organizations. These funds are an asset to Wakulla and will be put to good use by improving and enhancing our parks for the enjoyment and use of our citizens and visitors."

Okaloosa County Commissioner Dave Parisot said, "The projects of the Norriego Point Restoration in Destin and the Northwest Florida Estuarine Restoration in Fort Walton Beach have been jointly proposed and supported by Okaloosa County and the two cities' mayors and staff. These projects will serve to enhance and protect the Destin Harbor, improve recreation activities, and enhance eco-tourism in Okaloosa County. We are most grateful to the NRDA Trustee Council and to FDEP Secretary Vinyard in supporting these projects."

Destin City Mayor Sam Seevers said, "On behalf of the City of Destin, I wish to thank DEP, FWC and the NRDA Trustees for recognizing the significance of the Norriego Point Project. I realize the decisions to fund projects is a very difficult one but you all have made the City of Destin and Okaloosa County very happy. There are simply no words great enough that can possibly express our gratitude."

"The City of Destin began applying for assistance through the NRDA process in late 2010, after the oil spill diminished a promising tourist season and crippled the city's charter fishing fleet. Over the last three years, we have worked tirelessly to submit applications and file for permits to qualify for NRDA funds to stabilize Norriego Point."

"Norriego Point is the city's most unique asset and protects our wonderful charter fishing fleet which is vital to our local, as well as regional, economy. This funding provides us with the means to permanently eliminate the erosion of the point and ensure that our harbor is accessible for years to come."

"We look forward to working with DEP through this process and look forward to cutting the ribbon on this much needed project."

Bay County Commission Chair Guy Tunnell said, "The Gulf oil spill was a tragedy not only for Bay County and Northwest Florida, but all along the Gulf of Mexico, threatening our environment, our economy and our very way of life. Through assistance such as this, communities can begin to rebuild for the future."

FDEP Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard, Jr. said, "Governor Scott's announcement of the third set of projects and the Draft Early Restoration Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and Programmatic Early Restoration Plan is a significant step in restoring Florida's environment, which was damaged as a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. We recognize that we still have a long way to go in terms of restoration, and look forward to hearing from the public during the

comment period."

Nick Wiley, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Executive Director, said, "These projects are important steps in restoring our habitat and recreational opportunities for today and for future generations. There are several projects in this package that would help recover and ensure a bright future for saltwater fishing in the Gulf. We look forward to the upcoming public meetings and input from the public and our stakeholders."

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission are co-Trustees for the state of Florida in the Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment. Other members of the Trustee Council include the U.S. Department of Interior, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Trustees from the other affected Gulf States (Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas). The Trustee Council represents the public interest and works together to assess the injury to natural resources and develop plans to restore the injured resources through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process.

For more information on the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process, public meetings, and projects ideas being submitted visit [www.deepwaterhorizonflorida.com](http://www.deepwaterhorizonflorida.com).

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is the state's principal environmental agency, created to protect, conserve and manage Florida's environment and natural resources. The Department enforces federal and state environmental laws, protects Florida's air and water quality, cleans up pollution, regulates solid waste management, promotes pollution prevention and acquires environmentally-sensitive lands for preservation. The agency also maintains a statewide system of parks, trails and aquatic preserves. To view the Department's website log on to [www.dep.state.fl.us](http://www.dep.state.fl.us).

## Eliminate stains this holiday season

### Family Features

Parties filled with festive drinks, food and fun are in full swing this holiday season. Every event is a chance to come away with great memories, plenty of pictures and sometimes, a stubborn stain or two.

Arm yourself with these stain-fighting tricks as you end this year and head into the next:

**Coffee and wine stains:** From hot chocolate to peppermint martinis and sparkling wine, these concoctions can make any holiday party feel extra special, but spills on clothes, furniture and table linens are bound to happen. Don't let it ruin the holiday cheer by discretely blotting the stain. Then, post-party soak the fabric in a powerful chlorine-free and color-safe solution, such as OxiClean(tm) Versatile Stain Remover and water to remove the stubborn stain.

**Food residue:** Don't panic if you notice gravy dripping down your blouse or cranberries smeared on your holiday table runner. Sim-



Photo courtesy of Getty Images.

ply blot away as much of the excess stain as possible, and then post-party, soak clothes and linens overnight in a solution of water and OxiClean Versatile Stain

Remover powder. The next day, add an extra scoop of OxiClean to your wash to boost detergent for better overall cleaning and whitening.

**Everyday dirt:** Friends and family tend to make frequent appearances during the holidays, which mean extra dirt, mud and snow get tracked

inside your house. Easily remove the mess from your carpets and rugs by applying an oxygenated-based stain fighter solution directly to the affected

area. Wait one to five minutes, blot well with a dry towel, rinse with water and then let it dry. Find more stain fighting tips at [www.oxiclean.com](http://www.oxiclean.com).

# HOLIDAY HAM AND SAVORY SIDES

## FAMILY FEATURES

Holidays are a time filled with family, friends and — perhaps most importantly — feasts. Traditional holiday menu items have the power to evoke warm memories of holidays past while continuing to bring people together year after year. For many, the center of that coveted holiday table would not be complete without a sweet and savory spiral-sliced ham.

But what kind of holiday spread would it be without a plethora of delicious side dishes to accompany and complement the meal? Whether you prefer ham with notes of honey, nuts or fruit, make sure your dinner table boasts a variety of options that enhance its delectable flavor. Look for recipes that incorporate both traditional and unexpected ingredients for a holiday menu makeover. Doing so will keep guests pleased with familiar favorites, yet pleasantly surprised with the new variations.

### Savory side selections

If you're looking for a savory side that spotlights the distinct flavors of the season, butternut squash is an excellent choice.

White Beans with Bacon and Butternut Squash is a perfect blend of savory, sweet and salty. Serve it alongside your favorite Smithfield ham — Honey, Caramel Apple or Pecan Praline glazed — for a true taste of tradition. For more great recipes, visit [www.smithfield.com](http://www.smithfield.com).

A potato dish is also a must for many holiday spreads. Break away from mundane mashed potatoes and gravy with this recipe for Smashed Bacon Ranch Potatoes. Family and friends will line up for seconds when they get a taste of the ranch dressing and smoky bacon combination. Or, try this recipe for Green Bean Corn Casserole for another new twist on a classic holiday favorite.

### Holiday Spiral Sliced Ham with Honey Glaze

Cook time: 10 to 12 minutes per pound  
Yield: 14 servings

#### 1 Smithfield Spiral Sliced Ham with Honey Glaze

Preheat oven to 325°F.

Remove packaging; reserve liquid. Place ham cut-side down on large sheet of foil in roasting pan, pour reserved liquid over ham and wrap completely with foil. Warm ham in oven for 10 to 12 minutes per pound. Do not overheat. After removing from oven, let sit for 5 minutes before glazing. Heat glaze packet for 15 seconds in microwave. Glaze is hot, so be careful when opening packet. Holding packet with towel or oven mitt, cut corner off packet and pour glaze into bowl. Stir well and spoon over ham. Let glazed ham sit for 5 minutes before serving to allow glaze to melt over ham.



### 3 ways to make ham leftovers delectable

For many, the best part of the holiday meal awaits them in the fridge the next day. If you find yourself with a kitchen still stocked for a holiday feast, here are some easy ways to turn delicious ham into a flavorful meal with just a few extra ingredients:

**Pizza:** Nothing pleases a child — or a parent for that matter — more than pizza. Simply place marinara sauce, cheese and cubed ham atop broiled French bread or English muffins for a crunchy post-holiday lunch.

**Pasta salad:** Whip up a cool classic you can nibble on all week long. Prepare your favorite whole-wheat noodles, then mix in cubed ham, your favorite cheeses, diced tomatoes, spinach and a generous pour of creamy Italian dressing. It's an easy meal in just minutes.

**Sandwiches:** Take standard ham and cheese sandwiches to new levels with uneaten goodies from your cheese platter. Fill leftover artisan rolls from your holiday fare with sliced ham. Experiment with your favorite cheeses — Gouda, Gruyere or Roquefort — and place on the grill for a gooey, crunchy bite.



### Smashed Bacon Ranch Potatoes

Cook time: 20 minutes  
Yield: 4 servings

- 1 1/2 pounds Yukon gold potatoes, cut into 1 1/2-inch pieces
- 4 to 6 slices Smithfield Naturally Hickory Smoked Bacon
- 1/4 cup bottled ranch dressing
- 2 tablespoons buttermilk or whole milk
- 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar
- Salt and pepper

Cook potatoes in boiling, salted water until very tender, 15 to 20 minutes. Drain; return to saucepan and mash coarsely. Cook bacon in a large heavy skillet over medium heat until browned; drain and crumble. Pour off drippings from skillet, leaving clinging particles in skillet. Add potatoes, salad dressing, buttermilk and vinegar to skillet; stir until well blended. Cook, stirring constantly, until hot. Add salt and pepper to taste.

### Green Bean Corn Casserole

Cook time: 50 minutes  
Yield: 8 servings

- 1 bag frozen French-style green beans
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1 can corn, drained
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1/2 cup cheddar cheese, grated (or more)
- 1 sleeve butter crackers, finely crushed
- 3 tablespoons melted butter

Preheat oven to 350°F. In large mixing bowl, combine first 7 ingredients and place in prepared 13-inch by 9-inch casserole dish. Combine crushed butter crackers and melted butter and spread over top of casserole. Bake for 45 minutes or until hot and bubbly.

**Note:** Add 1 cup diced ham and 1 cup shredded cooked chicken to this recipe to make it a main dish.

### White Beans with Bacon and Butternut Squash

Cook time: 30 minutes  
Yield: 4 servings

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 slices Smithfield bacon, chopped
- 1 pound diced butternut squash
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon curry powder
- 1/2 cup chicken stock
- 2 cans cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
- 2 cups fresh spinach, stems removed and chopped

Heat olive oil in large skillet over medium heat. Add bacon to skillet and cook for 5 to 7 minutes or until crumbly; remove from skillet, drain on paper towels and reserve 2 tablespoons of drippings in skillet. Add butternut squash, onion, salt, pepper, nutmeg and curry powder to the skillet; saute for 5 minutes; add chicken broth to the skillet, reduce heat to medium low, cover and cook for 5 additional minutes or until butternut squash is tender. Add beans and spinach to the skillet and cook for 3 minutes or until all vegetables are heated through. Sprinkle with reserved bacon.

# Just Kidding

## SEEK AND FIND

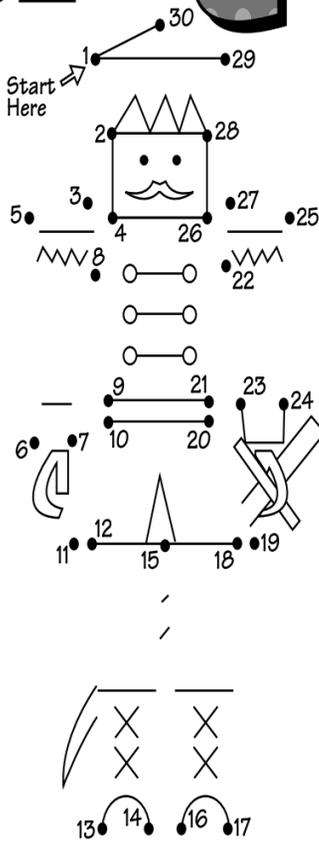
FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BABBLE	CONVERSE	PARLEY
CHAT	DISCUSS	RAP
CONFER	GOSSIP	SPEAK
CONSULT	JABBER	TALK

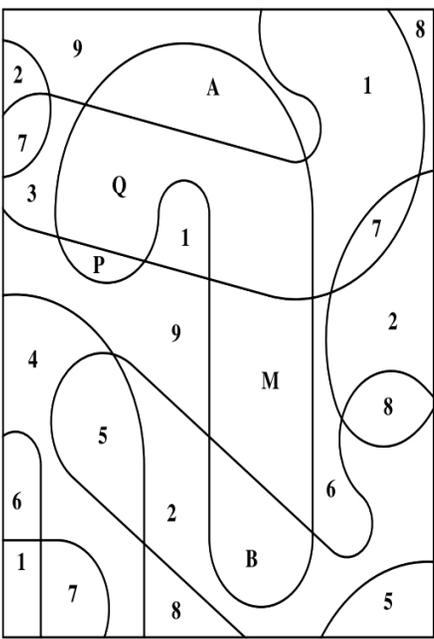
THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

G	O	S	S	I	P	W	B	A	B
A	C	S	C	H	A	T	A	L	K
C	O	N	V	E	R	S	E	D	C
K	N	D	J	H	L	G	L	F	O
L	S	I	Q	W	E	E	B	R	N
O	U	S	I	U	Y	Y	B	T	F
P	L	C	M	N	R	V	A	C	E
W	T	U	W	J	A	B	B	E	R
Z	A	S	S	D	P	S	P	E	A
T	A	S	P	E	A	K	J	A	B

## CONNECT the dots

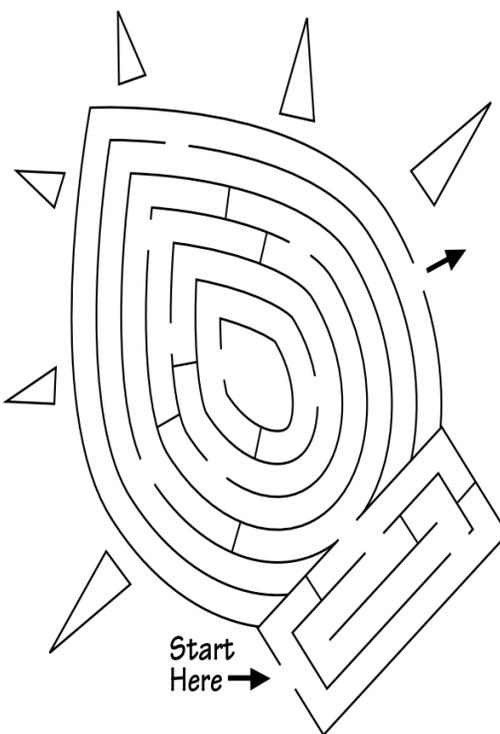


## HIDDEN PICTURE



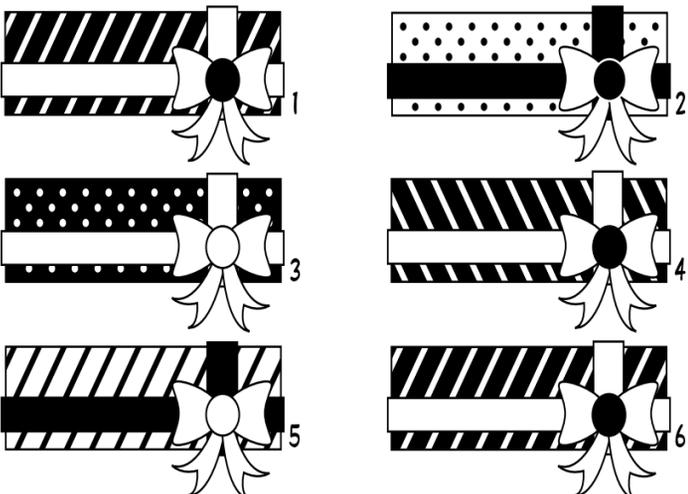
Color in each space that contains a letter.

## MAZE



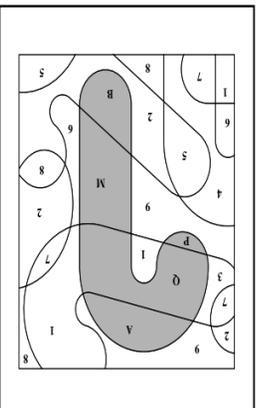
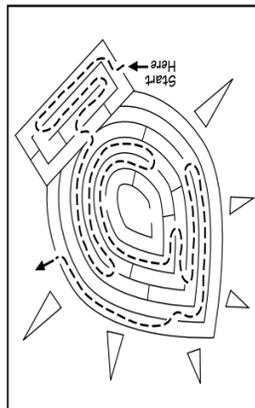
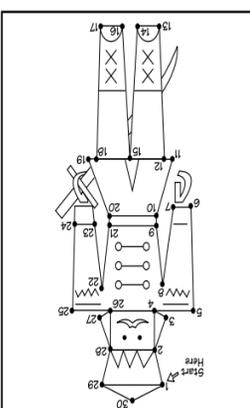
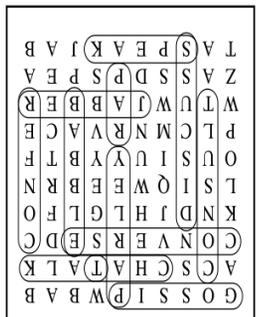
## FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



ANSWER: ONE AND SIX

## ANSWERS



### Holiday Web Sites

Celebrate your holidays with some fun, food and festive Web sites!

**Holiday site—Christmas.** Visit this site to learn about the story of Christmas and see how Santa dresses in other countries. There are pictures to color and crafts. With an adult's permission, you can dress up your computer for the holidays.  
<http://www.holidays.net/christmas/>

**Holiday site—Hanukkah.** Learn about Hanukkah and the special menorah, listen to a cantor sing holiday music or make your own gift wrap and boxes. You can send an electronic Hanukkah card from here, too.  
<http://www.holidays.net/chanukah/>

**Kids' domain—Christmas.** Find holiday games, puzzles and software to download. Get great ideas on Christmas gifts and decorations you can make, or you can send an e-card.  
<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/xmas/>

**Kids' domain—Kwanzaa.** Learn all about Kwanzaa with music, games, activities and more. You can even use the ancient Nubian language to decode a message.  
<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/kwanzaa/>

**Kids of all ages—Christmas.** This fun Christmas site has games, an Advent calendar and all kinds of fun things to make for the holidays. You can build a snowman, too.  
<http://www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/Christmas/Christms.htm>

**Kids of all ages—Hanukkah.** Spin the dreidel and learn what each letter means. Print and make your own dreidel and ornaments. There are Hanukkah games, too.  
<http://www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/hanukkah/hanukkah.htm>

**Kids of all ages—Kwanzaa.** Do you know what the seven principles of Kwanzaa are? Find out here. In addition, print and use Kwanzaa stationery for your letters and greetings.  
<http://www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/kwanzaa/kwanzaa.htm>

**Three-holiday site.** This site includes information on the three December holidays. Learn about Hanukkah and its celebrations, and find out how to make *latkes*. Then there's the story of Christmas and a recipe from a Laura Ingalls Wilder book. Or learn how to greet people during Kwanzaa and how to make benne cakes.  
<http://harperchildrens.com/holiday/>

**Just for girls.** Visit A Girl's World site for the December holidays of Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. You can read about family traditions, pick up holiday activity ideas and link to other Christmas Web sites.  
<http://www.agirlsworld.com/amy/pajama/winter/index.html>

**How long 'til Christmas?** Find out how many days, minutes and seconds there are until Christmas day. You can also listen to Christmas songs and e-mail Santa.  
<http://Christmas.com>

**Christmas around the world.** Click anywhere on the world map to learn about Christmas there. Find out what the symbols of Christmas—tree, star and holly—mean. Learn how to say "Christmas" in other languages.  
<http://Christmas.com/worldview/>

**Hanukkah for kids.** Lots of fun graphics tell the story of Hanukkah and Judah the Maccabee. Light the menorah, enjoy games, and print and color pictures for the Festival of Lights.  
<http://www.torah tots.com/holidays/chanuka/chanuk.htm>

**Kwanzaa fun and more.** How did Kwanzaa start? Find out here along with what the holiday's symbols mean. Then you can learn how to say Kwanzaa words and how to celebrate the holiday.  
<http://www.afroam.org/children/fun/kwanzaa/kwanzaa.html>



**TOP ROW RIGHT:** Talquin Electric had a colorful entry. **ABOVE LEFT:** Students Working Against Tobacco carry their message. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Sponge Bob Square Pants was very popular. **LEFT:** The royal court of St. John Elementary School rides atop a colorful float. More parade photos continue on page A16. Photos by Cheri Harris



**RIGHT:** Quincy's Customer Service sled-shaped float is very colorful. **CENTER:** A member of the Shanks Middle School band gives a great leap. **BELOW:** One church had a very colorful entry. **BOTTOM:** East Gadsden High School band members march in the parade. Parade photos continue on page B3. Photos by Cheri Harris



# In The Huddle

A weekly look at college football in the Sunshine State



## FLORIDA STATE SEMINOLES

# ACC Champions

By TIM LINA FELT

CHARLOTTE, N.C. -- Sooner or later, they were bound to run out of Powerade coolers on the Florida State sideline.

As the seconds ticked down on No. 1 Florida State's 45-7 victory over No. 20 Duke in the ACC Championship Game, just about every member of the Seminoles' coaching staff fell prey to a shower of ice, water and high-fructose corn syrup in the midst of 40-degree temperatures in downtown Charlotte.

"I just felt like everyone else was doing their coaches, so why not do our coach?" Devonta Freeman said after he and fellow running back James Wilder Jr. doused coach Jay Graham.

Not that anyone minded. In clinching their first appearance in the BCS National Championship Game in 13 years, the Seminoles partied like it was, well, 1999.

Senior safety Terrence Brooks clutched an oversized rose between his teeth, a nod to the title game's host site, the Rose Bowl stadium in Pasadena, Calif.

Players danced, hugged and swam through a sea of confetti as quarterback and Jameis Winston preached from the post-game podium that they still had work to do.

Even newly minted celebrity Frankie Grizzle-Malgrat, the FSU ball boy better known as "Red Lightning" after his bright-as-a-tomato hair and beard, took part in the revelry on the field at Bank of America Stadium.

"It's surreal, man," senior receiver Kenny Shaw said. "It's what we came here for and we finally got it."

It was hardly an easy road. A program that won a combined 22 games in the three seasons before Jimbo Fisher took over as head coach required a thorough renovation.

A year ago, after a 12-2 season, an ACC title and a victory



FSU Coach Jimbo Fisher holds up the ACC Championship Trophy.

in the Orange Bowl, the Seminoles were needed by national media who said that this was as good as things would get for this program. That season-breaking losses to the North Carolina States and Virginias of the world, the likes of which FSU had suffered often in Fisher's first three seasons, were here to stay.

But by the time the clock hit zero here on Saturday night, Florida State - from Fisher on down to his senior class, Heisman favorite quarterback and beyond - had irreversibly rewritten the narrative.

Jimbo Fisher's Seminoles are the unanimous No. 1 team in the nation. In a month, they'll play SEC champ Auburn for the national championship.

"It was just a reckoning," senior linebacker Telvin Smith said. "We tried to put ourselves back to where we were supposed to be."

In the 13 years following the end of Florida State's "dynasty" era, the program has been fol-



Quarterback Jameis Winston gives Jimbo Fisher a celebratory dousing of Gatorade.

lowed by the same, dogged question:

When will Florida State be "back?"

We asked it as the Seminoles slogged through a decade that

actually featured more highlights - in the first half of it, anyway - than people tend to remember.

We doubted it when Florida State sunk to once unthinkable depths in the late-2000s, regularly losing to perennial ACC bottom-feeders while its chief rival hoarded Heisman Trophies and national championships.

And as the program started to show signs of life under Fisher, we still wondered if he was the right man for the job after its occasional stumbles.

It turns out, though, that we were asking the wrong question all along.

These Seminoles were never interested in placing themselves alongside their predecessors from the '80s and '90s. They're making their own way.

It's fitting, then, that Florida State will play for the national championship game at the Rose Bowl, a place where no FSU team has ever played.

No, the Seminoles aren't back.

They're going somewhere they've never been.



Receiver Kelvin Benjamin makes a run after catch.



Nick O'Leary takes a shot in the chest from a Duke defender, who was ejected from the game for a launching foul.

yeah, we're **excited** too!

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## THE WEEKEND SLATE

#1 FSU (13-0) vs. #2 Auburn in Pasadena, Calif. for the BCS National Championship.

Monday, Jan. 6, 2014 at 8:30 p.m. ET

The game can be seen on ESPN/radio WTNT 94.9.

# FAMU Libraries get new dean

TALLAHASSEE — Florida A&M University (FAMU) has tapped Faye Watkins to serve as the new dean of libraries. In this position, Watkins will continue the mission of transforming the delivery of library resources and services and expanding access to the extensive knowledge base offered by the global academic community.

"It is an honor to have been selected to serve as the dean of libraries at Florida A&M University," said Watkins, who will begin work at FAMU in early January 2014. "The library serves a fundamental role in the process of higher education because it organizes and provides access to the information resources that support teaching, learning and research. I am looking forward to working with the staff

and students and to serving their needs at the library."

Watkins, who has more than 14 years of experience working as an academic librarian and library director, says she also looks forward to using her position to contribute in any way she can to the institution's stalwart academic programs, research initiatives and legacy of excellence.

"I look forward to the opportunity to support the intellectual development of students and meeting the teaching and research needs of faculty within an intellectually engaging, academic environment," Watkins said. "I have a tremendous appreciation for the value of higher education to inspire individuals and transform communities. This position offers many opportunities to



Faye Watkins

cultivate and support faculty, student and community engagement at an institution of higher education that has a legacy of educational accomplishments."

Since October of 2007, Watkins served as director of the library at Hampton University, in Hampton, Va., where she worked to ensure that the library had the necessary resources to support the university's

academic programs.

Her responsibilities included strategic leadership for the library, supervising a staff of 34 librarians and support staff, coordinating budget planning and expenditures for a total budget of \$2.1 million, and developing and implementing the strategic plan for the main campus library, as well as the satellite campus library located at Virginia Beach, Va.

Watkins earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Texas at Austin in 1990. In 1998, she earned a dual master's degree in English and library and information science from the University of South Carolina.

Watkins began her professional career as the collection development librarian at Johnson C. Smith University

in Charlotte, N.C. She was promoted to systems and collection development librarian and served in this position from 1999 to 2004. She was later promoted to the position of associate director of library services in 2004. During 2006, she served as acting director of the library and, in 2007, was appointed director of the library at Johnson C. Smith University.

Watkins is a long-time advocate for library and information initiatives that focus on meeting the needs and expectations of students and faculty. She currently serves on the board of directors for the New Library Directors Mentor Program and is a mentor to up-and-coming library directors.

Samuel H. Coleman Memorial Library, the university's main li-

brary, is named for Samuel Harrison Coleman, who served the university as general alumni president for 14 years.

Coleman Library was built in 1948, renovated in 1972 and expanded in 1990 and 2004. The 88,964-square-foot facility includes group study rooms, a student study lounge and cafe, graduate/faculty study carrels, teleconference rooms and a state-of-the-art information literacy classroom. Along with the additional 20,000-square-feet available in the branch libraries, the university libraries provide a seating capacity of 920. The libraries hold nearly two million volumes, more than 155,000 e-books and e-journals and 256,126 microforms, which are accessible to users both onsite and online.

## Measles still threatens health security

Fifty years after the approval of an extremely effective vaccine against measles, one of the world's most contagious diseases, the virus still poses a threat to domestic and global health security.

On an average day, 430 children — 18 every hour — die of measles worldwide. In 2011, there were an estimated 158,000 measles deaths.

In an article published on December 5 by JAMA Pediatrics, CDC's Mark J. Papania, M.D., M.P.H., and colleagues report that United States measles elimination, announced in 2000, has been sustained through 2011. Elimination is defined as absence of continuous disease transmission for greater than 12 months. Dr. Papania and colleagues warn, however, that international importation continues, and that American doctors should suspect measles in children with high fever and rash, "especially when associated with international travel or international visitors," and should report suspected cases to the local health department. Before the U.S. vaccination program started in 1963, measles was a year-round threat in this country. Nearly every child became infected; each year 450 to 500 people died each year, 48,000 were hospitalized, 7,000 had seizures, and about 1,000 suffered permanent brain damage or deafness.

People infected abroad continue to spark outbreaks among pockets of unvaccinated people,

including infants and young children. It is still a serious illness: 1 in 5 children with measles is hospitalized. Usually there are about 60 cases per year, but 2013 saw a spike in American communities — some 175 cases and counting — virtually all linked to people who brought the infection home after foreign travel.

"A measles outbreak anywhere is a risk everywhere," said CDC Director Tom Frieden, M.D., M.P.H. "The steady arrival of measles in the United States is a constant reminder that deadly diseases are testing our health security every day. Someday, it won't be only measles at the international arrival gate; so, detecting diseases before they arrive is a wise investment in U.S. health security."

Eliminating measles worldwide has benefits beyond the lives saved each year. Actions taken to stop measles can also help us stop other diseases in their tracks. CDC and its partners are building a global health security infrastructure that can be scaled up to deal with multiple emerging health threats.

Currently, only 1 in 5 countries can rapidly detect, respond to, or prevent global health threats caused by emerging infections. Improvements overseas, such as strengthening surveillance and lab systems, training disease detectives, and building facilities to investigate disease outbreaks make the world — and

the United States — more secure.

"There may be a misconception that infectious diseases are over in the industrialized world. But in fact, infectious diseases continue to be, and will always be, with us. Global health and protecting our country go hand in hand," Dr. Frieden said.

Today's health security threats come from at least five sources:

- The emergence and spread of new microbes

- The globalization of travel and food supply

- The rise of drug-resistant pathogens

- The acceleration of biological science capabilities and the risk that these capabilities may cause the inadvertent or intentional release of pathogens

- Continued concerns about terrorist acquisition, development, and use of biological agents.

"With patterns of global travel and trade, disease can spread nearly anywhere within 24 hours," Dr. Frieden said. "That's why the ability to detect, fight, and prevent these diseases must be developed and strengthened overseas, and not just here in the United States."

The threat from measles would be far greater were it not for the vaccine and the man who played a major role in creating it, Samuel L. Katz, M.D., emeritus professor of medicine at Duke University. Today, CDC is honor-

ing Dr. Katz 50 years after his historic achievement. During the ceremony, global leaders in public health are highlighting the domestic importance of global health security, how far we have come in reducing the burden of measles, and the prospects for eliminating the disease worldwide.

Measles, like smallpox, can be eliminated. However, measles is so contagious that the vast majority of a population must be vaccinated to prevent sustained outbreaks. Major strides already have been made. Since 2001, a global partnership that includes the CDC has vaccinated 1.1 billion children. Over the last decade, these vaccinations averted 10 million deaths — one fifth of all deaths prevented by modern medicine.

"The challenge is not whether we shall see a world without measles, but when," Dr. Katz said.

"No vaccine is the work of a single person, but no single person had more to do with the creation of the measles vaccine than Dr. Katz," said Alan Hinman, M.D., M.P.H., Director for Programs, Center for Vaccine Equity, Task Force for Global Health. "Although the measles virus had been isolated by others, it was Dr. Katz's painstaking work passing the virus from one culture to another that finally resulted in a safe form of the virus that could be used as a vaccine."

## Greener holidays ahead

EarthTalk  
E - The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk: What are some ideas for being greener this holiday season? — Beth Livingston, Camden, NJ

While the holidays are festive and fun, they can take a toll on the environment. All that shopping, decoration, food preparation and travel adds up to more carbon emissions and more waste. But there are ways to minimize our impact and still celebrate the season in grand style.

For starters, buy fewer gifts. Homemade, personal gifts are always appreciated as much or more than something store-bought. Paint a painting, bake a cake, or make a playlist of favorite songs. EarthEasy.com recommends giving services instead of goods to cut down on the materialism of the holidays: "A great gift could be an hour's massage at a local spa, or music lessons for a budding musician." Other service gift ideas include childcare or tutoring, dog walking, cooking, window-washing, a car wash and vacuum or even Internet/computer lessons. Another way to cut down on the amount of stuff passing under your tree is by having a Secret Santa exchange among grown-ups so that every adult doesn't have to get gifts for several others.

Another way to save energy and

waste is to tone down the holiday decorating, especially with regard to lighting. A 2008 report commissioned by the Department of Energy found that holiday lighting across the U.S. uses up some six terawatt-hours of electricity per year, which is equivalent to the total electricity consumption of half a million homes in a month. If you do still decide to indulge in holiday lights, try to go LED. The smaller "light emitting diode" bulbs don't get hot to the touch (and are less likely to start a fire) and consume a fraction of the electricity of their incandescent predecessors while lasting 10 times longer. HolidayLEDs.com gives customers who recycle their old holiday lights with them a voucher for 15 percent off a new order of LED lights.

Believe it or not, your choice of a Christmas tree affects your environmental footprint as well. The Epoch Times reports that artificial trees are not necessarily the answer, as most are made out of petrochemicals, PVC, metals or sometimes even lead, and can't usually be recycled so end up in landfills after a few years of useful life. Furthermore, some 80 percent of artificial trees are made in China, meaning shipping them on trucks, railways and container ships uses a lot of fuel and emits a lot of carbon dioxide accordingly.

Getting a real tree, preferably one that is organic and sustain-



Holidays are festive and fun but they can take a toll on the environment. One way to be greener is to get a real tree, especially a potted (living) tree, which you can keep for years after the holidays pass. Photo by Leonora Enking, courtesy Flickr

ably harvested by a local tree farmer, is a better choice. After all, real trees provide habitat for wildlife while they are growing, and they filter dust and pollen out of the air while producing oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide. The Epoch Times adds that typically one to three tree seeds are planted for every Christmas tree harvested in the U.S. And if you get a potted (living) Christmas tree, you can keep it for years after the holidays pass, either in its pot (or a bigger one as it grows) or in the ground outside.

Of course, another way to keep your carbon footprint down over the holidays is by just staying home. A third of the carbon emis-

sions we generate in our daily lives come from driving our cars, so why not stay off the roads over the holidays? And air travel is one of the biggest carbon splurges any of us indulge in, so not jetting across the country to visit in-laws might be the best environmental action you take all year.

CONTACTS: EarthEasy.com, www.eartheasy.com; The Epoch Times, www.theepochtimes.com; HolidayLEDs.com, www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom\_christmas\_light\_recycling\_program.

EarthTalk is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com).



TOP LEFT: Mr. and Miss East Gadsden High School ride in the parade. TOP RIGHT: Main Street Cafe has a parade float with al fresco dining. LEFT: Creek Entertainment staffers wave. BELOW: Band members strut their stuff. BOTTOM: A little artificial snow and a bright light create a rock star moment on the BASF float. Parade photos continue on page B4. Photos by Cheri Harris





TOP: Gretna Police Department participates in the parade. TOP ROW LEFT: Havana Girl Scouts walk in the parade. TOP ROW RIGHT: Parade officials smile for the camera. BOTTOM ROW: Shanks Middle School band members make a hasty exit from the parade route. RIGHT: This drum major takes a moment to pose for a photo. Parade photos continue on page B5. Photos by Cheri Harris



## Midway paying bills, planning zoning map update

CURT WILKERSON  
*Times Correspondent*  
Gordon Hansen, who had recently come out of retirement to fill Midway's vacant Planner II position, has decided to step down after spending one month in office. Interim City Manager Dot Inman-Johnson announced the decision at the Dec. 5 meeting of the Midway City Council.

A city's Planner II assists in all aspects of growth management, such as permitting and zoning review. Hansen explained that he lacked critical tools needed to accomplish this task. Most importantly, he said the zoning map for the city of

Midway has not been updated since 2006.

"It would be a major task to reconstruct all of the subsequent rezoning after 2006; that's a basic shortcoming that needs to be resolved," said Hansen.

Additionally, Hansen said the property appraiser's office does not have records of recent annexations nor does the county planning department.

"The most basic tools that are needed in the growth management department are missing," said Inman-Johnson. "One of the first things we have to do is recreate the zoning map in Midway."

Despite stepping

down as Planner II, Hansen will stay on as a consultant, working for Midway free of charge.

For the time being, the council voted 5-0 to approve an amended contract for the continued services of Spectra Engineering and Research Inc. to the city. Spectra, a civil engineering, site-planning and land-surveying firm, will continue to assist the city in matters related to growth management. The amendment to the contract provides that Spectra will be compensated with a flat rate, as opposed to the hourly wage the company has collected in the past.

"We've been here for 25 years, working for cities in North and Central Florida, and would love to continue working for the city of Midway," said Spectra Engineering President Peter Okonkwo.

Mayor Pro-Tem DeLores Madison expressed concern over the contract due to the financial constraints the city is under, but Inman-Johnson stressed the need for Spectra's help.

"Since Peter already has the experience, knows the lay of the land in Midway and understands a lot of these issues, I figured this could be the best fallback position," she said.

As for the vacant Planner II position, Inman-Johnson said she had made a public records request and obtained applications from the city of Tallahassee, which recently hired a new planner.

In other business: ● Dot Inman-Johnson reported that the city is catching up on its delinquent bills. As a result, property taxes and other revenues are now regularly received, stabilizing finances.

● After a presentation by Vietnam veteran James Brennan on behalf of the Havana chapter of the American Legion, the council gave approval to the American Le-

gion to pursue funding for the construction of a veterans services center. The project is still in the planning stage but would be located off Highway 90 in Midway.

● Don Hart has been hired as the city's part-time chief financial officer.

The Midway Police Department will host "Coffee with the Chief," an event allowing citizens the opportunity to meet Midway Police Chief Jerome Turner and other members of the MPD.

The event will be from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 21 at the Comfort Inn at 215 Commerce Blvd., Midway.

## County leader looks ahead to year of job growth, rebuilding economy

### Year in Review: 2013

CURT WILKERSON  
*Times Correspondent*  
Since the end of the Great Recession in 2009, states across the nation have continued to feel the crunch of a slowly rebounding economy.

As of October 2013, the national unemployment rate was 7.3 percent, a slow but steady improvement since unemployment reached its peak nationally in 2010, according to the Department of Labor.

However, many states, counties and municipalities are still struggling. Detroit's recent, history-making declaration of bank-

ruptcy serves as a prime example of this.

Gadsden County is no exception to this trend. With a 7.7 percent unemployment rate as of August 2013 according to Enterprise Florida, economic growth is something sorely needed. These days, however, there is reason for optimism.

In an interview with the *Times*, County Administrator Robert Presnell discussed what the county has been doing to create an environment conducive to economic growth.

Presnell, who served as Gadsden

Public Works Director for 14 years, took office in October 2012.

"My philosophy is to provide an environment where business can prosper and flourish," said Presnell. "Our biggest challenge in 2013 was streamlining our processes — specifically our comprehensive plan for our land development code — and we've done that. We've really worked on our internal processes: moved some people, saved some dollars and are now more efficient."

A major project for the county in 2013 has been the further development of the

Gadsden County Development Council (GCDC). The council, headed by former Executive Director of the Tallahassee Economic Development Council Beth Kirkland, is tasked with luring new business to the area while encouraging the continued growth of existing businesses.

The GCDC is funded by a \$100,000 contribution from the county, as well as smaller contributions from each municipality within Gadsden County.

"Our board saw, in their infinite wisdom, the need to work as a team," said Presnell. "Now we're working

as a group, trying to see if we can get some economic development here in Gadsden County. We're in a prime location and have the infrastructure in place but in the past, all the different pieces weren't working together."

Another advancement toward economic prosperity Presnell helped initiate in 2013 was the utilization of the Florida Enterprise Zone program, which offers tax breaks to businesses that operate within a specific area targeted for economic revitalization.

"We've had our enterprise zone on the

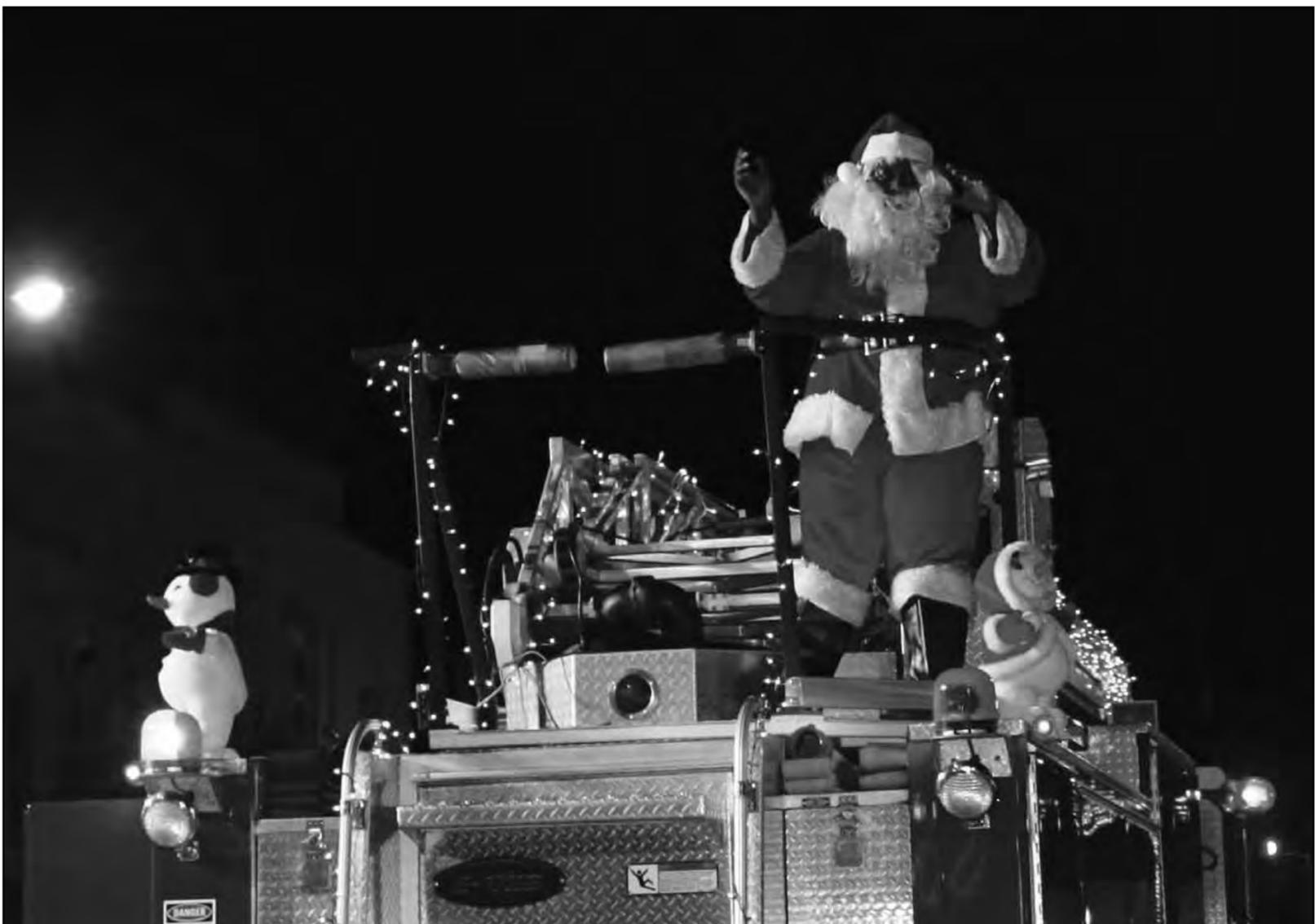
books for years, and now that it's a reality, we've had five takers creating 32 jobs," Presnell said. "That, in conjunction with the GCDC, I really think is going to give us the kick we need."

Looking ahead to 2014, it's clear that creation of jobs is the most crucial initiative.

"Folks need jobs; that's the big issue for this county," said Presnell. "Everybody is happier with a little change in their pocket."

As for 2013, the county's general fund increased by \$1.1 million; that's nothing to shake a stick at.

**CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT:** Santa stayed after the parade to hear from children. **TOP RIGHT:** These little cheerleaders treated the crowd to some of their routines. **BOTTOM:** No Christmas parade is complete until Santa arrives on a fire truck. Photos by Cheri Harris



# State Surgeon General visits Gadsden County

On Monday, Nov. 25, the Florida Department of Health in Gadsden County was excited to welcome the State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, Dr. John Armstrong, to their Quincy facility. Administrator Aaron Kissler led Armstrong to the conference room where the Surgeon General spoke to staff, city, county and state leaders and community stakeholders. Local organizations represented included the Gadsden County Court System (County Judge), Healthy Start Coalition, the Gadsden Community Health Council Inc., the Prescription Assistance Medical Services Program, Gadsden County Sheriff's Department, the Board of County Commission and County Administration, Mother Care Inc., Riverchase Home Health Care, Life Sciences of Washington and Ladies in Pink. Armstrong spoke about the Healthiest



Aaron Kissler, Dr. John Armstrong and Maximo Martinez pose for a photo during Armstrong's visit to Gadsden County. Photo submitted

Weight Initiative and the obesity epidemic that is occurring throughout the United States and his vision to make Florida the healthiest state in the nation by encouraging all Floridians to maintain a healthy weight. He encourages everyone to make

healthy lifestyle choices and to add fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables to meals. He encouraged the group to "eat what is in season" in order to help make these healthy choices affordable. He responded to several questions from the

media. Thereafter, Armstrong toured the facility where he spent time speaking with Florida Department of Health Gadsden County staff and thanked them for their dedication and service to the citizens of Gadsden County and the state of Florida.

## Lunch, learn about employee retention

TALLAHASSEE — WORKFORCE plus will hold a Power Hour Lunch & Learn session discussing "Keys to Employee Engagement and Retention in Today's Uncertain Economy" from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, at Regions Bank.

The speaker for the session is Joyce Chastain, a senior professional in human resources and president of the HR Florida State Council.

In this session, Chastain will review eight no-cost tactics to ensure employees will choose to stay with their current employer based on employee loyalty. Following the session, attendees will examine the culture of their workplace to determine the level of employee loyalty and take steps to either improve it or sustain it.

As a human resources consultant, Chastain specializes in talent development, employee relations, internal investigations, employment law compliance, and affirmative action plans. Chastain holds a Business Administration degree from Emmanuel College; was awarded Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) designation by the Human Resources Certification Institute and holds an Advanced Certificate in Internal Investigations.

Power Hour Lunch & Learn sessions are held quarterly at varying locations to enhance the community with topics of interest.

Regions Bank serves as the sponsor for the Power Hour Lunch & Learn sessions.

## TCC offers tracks for GIS, surveying careers



TCC student Ronnie Mathews records survey data. Photo submitted

TALLAHASSEE — Laura Bollmann already holds a bachelor's degree in geography. However, she is now studying surveying and geographic information systems (GIS) at Tallahassee Community College in order to expand her skill set and prepare for a career in wildlife and environmental management.

Bollmann graduated from Florida State University in 2011. She considered enrolling in FSU's program leading to an Applied Master of Science degree in GIS, but TCC's affordability appealed to her, as did the flexible class schedule. "It allows me to work and go to school at the same time," Bollmann said.

To help Bollmann reach her career goals, the College recently sent her to a two-day workshop of the Seven Hills Regional User Group for GIS, where she attended presentations and networked with TCC alumni and area employers.

That is just one benefits of the TCC program, said Bollmann. "I'm learning all the latest versions of the software," she said, "including AutoCAD and ArcGIS. We are also working with GPS, which is a huge component of GIS."

A new course for Bollmann this semester is Fundamentals of Land Surveying, taught by Jeremiah Slaymaker, a professional surveyor at the Wantman Group, Inc. The hands-on course covers basic principles of surveying and mapping, such as using survey equipment, leveling, traversing and preparing a map of survey. Slaymaker's students can often be seen around campus taking horizontal and vertical measurements of various features. They also learn to process field data and import data into an electronic drawing.

"I place a strong focus on real-world applications," said Slaymaker. "We've spent several classes on a project involving a topographic survey for the design of a sidewalk."

That's right on target for student Ronnie Mathews, who expects to earn his associate's degree in drafting and design technology with a surveying/GIS specialization in Spring 2014. Unlike Bollmann, who is interested in a GIS-related career, Mathews definitely wants to become a surveyor.

According to Slaymaker, the program will prepare students for entry-level positions in either GIS or traditional surveying. "Our students will have plenty of opportunities no matter which career path they choose."

In the spring, Fundamentals of Land Surveying will be offered during the eight-week

## Area gas prices slipping in past week

TALLAHASSEE — Average retail gasoline prices in Tallahassee have fallen 2.5 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.33/gallon Sunday. This compares with the national average that has fallen 0.7 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.24/gallon, according to gasoline price website TallahasseeGasPrices.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Tallahassee during the past week, prices yesterday were 4.5 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 13.5 cents per gallon higher than a month ago. The national average has increased 3.9 cents per gallon during the last month and

stands 10.4 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

"The National Weather Service says this week begins with much of California under a 'hard freeze warning' and separate storm systems tracking across the Great Lakes region and from the Gulf Coast to the northeast, bringing snow, sleet and freezing rain from the Lower Mississippi River Valley northeastward to New England," said Gregg Laskoski, senior petroleum analyst, GasBuddy.

"Under conditions like that, consumer demand usually declines and that often results in a nominal decrease in retail

gas prices," Laskoski added. "That may be what lies ahead this week."

GasBuddy operates GasBuddy.com, Tallahassee-GasPrices.com, and over 225 other local gasoline price-tracking websites that follow prices at over 125,000 gasoline stations in the United States and Canada. GasBuddy also uses Facebook (facebook.com/gasbuddy) Twitter (twitter.com/gasbuddy), and phone apps to keep motorists ahead of changing gasoline prices. GasBuddy.com was named one of Time magazine's 50 best websites and to PC World's 100 most useful websites of 2008.

# A resolution for life



Karen Barber

The New Year's resolution to be healthy often comes with the realization that we must change our lifestyle, for our own sake and for loved ones. Each year, millions of people make this resolution, but quickly revert to old habits as they struggle to balance responsibilities of everyday life. Without first receiving a diagnosis, not many comprehend the serious issues associated with a sedentary lifestyle, from depression to diabetes to cancer itself.

As a physical therapist, I understand that making lifestyle changes can be difficult. However, my work with cancer patients has proven that a commitment to exercise and nutrition does not have to be complicated.

Here are several steps to better health which will turn your New Year's resolution into a significant long-term investment:

**Make it real.** Our society tirelessly promotes rehabilitation — a reactive measure that most only consider after neglecting an existing issue. In reality, the most effective way to combat health problems is to address them before they arise or become worse — let's call it "prehabilitation." Make a commitment to get ahead by writing down a few weekly goals today.

**Develop a great mindset.** Cancer patients who choose to exercise and eat healthy before and during treatment are



Drinking eight glasses of water a day is just one small way to improve your health.

more likely to experience an improved response to medication. After a long day at work or even in the face of good-natured joking from friends who might be surprised to see you order a healthy meal, adopt the mantra "I will not be defeated." Doing so ensures your resolution does not fall short like previous years.

**Start small.** Don't make the mistake of thinking minor activities do not count. Consider the many cancer patients who only have enough energy for a gentle walking program on a flat terrain for five to 10 min-

utes a day. Despite their physical limitations, they exercise with remarkable consistency and ultimately see results. Light aerobic exercise five times a week, even if it's only a few laps around the mall or your local grocery store, is a great place to start.

**Drink 8 ounces of water, eight times a day.** Drinking the right amount of water each day helps you maintain higher energy levels, keeps you fresh and extinguishes the "icky" feeling you have when you

## Bobcats searching for first victory

The Robert F. Munroe Boys Basketball winless streak continued this past week, as the team dropped three games to John Paul II, Aucilla and Escambia Charter. The Bobcats' season record now stands at 0-8.

"We're very frustrated right now," said Coach Joey Birdsong. "We're still turning the ball over way too much and rebounding is still an issue. A bright spot is that the kids are hustling and playing hard. Our basketball IQ isn't what it needs to be in order for us to

be successful, but we'll keep working." The Bobcats first fell to the Panthers of John Paul II on the road in Tallahassee by the score of 70-46. The game was close for the first half, but JPII pulled away in the second half behind some hot shooting.

The Panthers shot 63 percent from the field (31/49) and collected 26 rebounds. The Bobcats were led in scoring by senior guard Jalyn Lewis with 28.

The next game saw the Bobcats succumb to the Aucilla Chris-

tian Warriors by 72-29. Lewis again led the Bobcats in scoring, but the team was once more dominated on the boards, giving up several second chance baskets and turning a relatively close game in the first half into a blow-out in the second.

"It hurts to lose a rivalry game like this one" said Birdsong. "We played hard and were close for a while, but it was more of the same with turnovers and not rebounding well."

The Bobcats closed out the week with a

Friday home defeat at the hands of Escambia Charter 70-26 and were never in it, as the athletic and talented team from Pensacola surged to a 45-8 half-time lead. Joey Sloan led the Bobcats with 10 points.

Munroe will have three chances this week to finally get into the win column with games against North Bay Haven at home on Monday (7 p.m.), Brookwood in Thomasville on Tuesday (8 p.m.), and at Grace Christian in Bainbridge on Friday (7:30 p.m.).

## Munroe volleyball players score accolades

Three Munroe volleyball players were recognized All Big Bend Volleyball on Sunday. Maddey Pappadakis, a junior setter, was selected to the second team. Pappadakis finished the 2013 season with 296 assists, 121 kills and 78 digs. Earning honorable mention for the Lady Cats were junior outside hitter Karleebeth Perkins and freshman middle hitter Katie Howell. Munroe is coached by Rich Tenney.

## Basketball event set for Saturday

The fifth annual Reginald C. James Middle School Basketball Classic will be at the Havana Middle school gym on Saturday, Dec. 14, with tip-off at 9 a.m. This is the fifth year that middle-school boys and girls teams will showcase their talents and athletic abilities. Please come out and support Carter-Parramore Academy, Tallavana Christian School, East Gadsden, Jefferson, Shanks, and Havana Middle school in this annual basketball classic. Admission is \$5 for students and adults and will give you access to all games. This event is sponsored by the 21st CCLC Gadsden GREAT Centers.

## Girls basketball season sees mostly positive spin

SUSIE MORRIS  
Times Sports Correspondent  
EAST GADSDEN

East Gadsden High School's girls basketball team is off to their best start in recent years. The Jaguars are 5-1 on the season and defeated Tallavana Christian last week in an inter-city matchup. In that contest, two players scored in double figures. Ednia McCall and Dondrea Harris, both sophomores, combined for 31 points. The two also combined to hit three 3-pointers.

On Thursday night the team lost a close 62-61 contest to district opponent Madison

County. More disheartening was falling short after mounting a major comeback effort in the fourth quarter. After being down 20 points entering the final stanza, the Jaguars outscored the Cowgirls 26-7 before falling one point short.

The Munroe girls basketball picked up a key district win that was a long time in coming on Friday night. For the first time in six seasons, Munroe defeated Aucilla, winning 44-36.

MUNROE  
Munroe jumped out early, leading 14-5 at the end of the first quarter and 23-11 at the

half. Anna Jones led scorers with 14 points, hitting three 3-point attempts.

Karleebeth Perkins added nine points and Mary Pat Thomas pulled down 15 rebounds and five steals. The Lady Cats move to 4-3 on the season and are 2-0 in district play.

WEST GADSDEN  
The Panthers were upended by Maclay 83-21 last week. After scoring 11 points in the first quarter, the Panthers managed only 10 points over the next three quarters. The halftime score was Maclay 51 to West Gadsden's 13.

## Embry-Riddle to join Sunshine State Conference

DAYTONA BEACH — Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University has officially accepted an invitation to join the NCAA Division II Sunshine State Conference (SSC), potentially taking on nine other Florida-based universities in a conference that boasts 84 national titles and is the No. 1 ranked conference in Division II for academic success rate.

"We are pleased to be invited to join the Sunshine State Conference. With ERAU's strong history of academic excellence and record of significant achievement in athletics, we feel that the Conference would be a good fit for us," said Embry-Riddle President Dr. John P. Johnson. "We are excited about the opportunity and new challenges inherent in joining the SSC Conference and NCAA membership."

The invitation is contingent upon Embry-Riddle being admitted into the NCAA's membership process, which begins with a Feb. 1, 2014 deadline for application.

The NCAA Division II Membership Committee is expected to announce final decisions in July. If accepted, Embry-Riddle would then enter year-one candidacy during the 2014-2015 season

with eligibility for NCAA postseason play beginning in fall of 2017.

Embry-Riddle currently is a long-standing member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and The Sun Conference. Embry-Riddle has finished in the top 15 in the NAIA Director's Cup for 12 straight seasons, has claimed 14 consecutive Sun Conference Commissioner's Cups, has earned two team national titles in men's basketball (2000) and men's tennis (2013), and has two dozen individual national championships for student-athletes in men's and women's tennis and track & field.

"Being part of NAIA for more than 25 years is something we are extremely proud of. The relationship our university has had with the NAIA and the student-athlete experience has been special. This transition to NCAA Division II is the natural next step for our university as we continue to grow academically and athletically," said Embry-Riddle Athletic Director Steve Ridder. "This potential acceptance into the NCAA and the Sunshine State Conference aligns with where we're going as a university moving for-

ward. The SSC's record for academic excellence, their numerous national titles, along with their commitment to the NCAA's Life in the Balance program exemplifies Embry-Riddle's philosophy of developing the Student-Person-Player."

With nine private universities currently comprising the Florida-based SSC, Embry-Riddle could compete with Rollins College, St. Leo University, University of Tampa, Eckerd College, Florida Southern College, Barry University, Florida Institute of Technology, Lynn University and Nova Southeastern University. Former SSC student-athletes include Lou Piniella, Rocco Mediate, Tim Wakefield, Brett Tomko, Lee Janzen, Jeff Leonard, Tino Martinez and many others.

"The Sunshine State Conference is thrilled to offer provisional membership to Embry-Riddle. Our presidents and athletic leadership believe that Embry-Riddle brings a great blend of academic and athletic success that fits perfectly within the SSC and NCAA Division II model," said Sunshine State Conference Commissioner Jay Jones. "We look forward to working with

Embry-Riddle through this membership transition and know that the institution will help strengthen our conference's proud legacy."

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the world's largest, fully accredited university specializing in aviation and aerospace, is a nonprofit, independent institution offering more than 40 baccalaureate, master's and Ph.D. degree programs in its colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Business and Engineering. Embry-Riddle educates students at residential campuses in Daytona Beach, Fla., and Prescott, Ariz., and through the Worldwide Campus with more than 150 locations in the United States, Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

The university is a major research center, seeking solutions to real-world problems in partnership with the aerospace industry, other universities and government agencies.

For more information, visit [www.embryriddle.edu](http://www.embryriddle.edu), follow us on Twitter (@EmbryRiddle) and [www.facebook.com/EmbryRiddle](http://www.facebook.com/EmbryRiddle) and find expert videos at [YouTube.com/EmbryRiddleUniv](http://YouTube.com/EmbryRiddleUniv).

## TCC

Continued from Page B6

January Express I term, and will lead directly into a related course, Route Surveying, which will be offered in the March Express term, so stu-

dents can complete the sequence in just one semester.

Slaymaker believes that the skills taught in these courses are applicable to a broad range of areas. "Surveying is the true foundation of all infrastructure," he said. "Think about all the roads we drive on, the campus

the home we live in...they all started with a survey."

For information, contact Bret Hammond at (850) 201-8334 or [hammond@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:hammond@tcc.fl.edu), or visit <http://catalog.tcc.fl.edu>, choose Areas of Study and scroll to the Drafting and Design Technology programs to find the Surveying/GIS specialization.

## BARBER

Continued from Page B6

begin working out. Many studies show that athletic performance decreases when an individual is dehydrated by as little as 2 percent of body weight.

**Add fresh fruits and vegetables to your diet.** Give your body the vitamins and nutrients it needs to recharge for your next

activity. While canned fruits and vegetables can offer comparable nutritional value, most contain artificial colorings and harmful preservatives such as bisphenol A (BPA), an estrogenic chemical that has been linked to breast cancer. A compound on the U.S. EPA's chemical concern list, BPA is a substance you should avoid consuming.

**Reward yourself for your commitment.**

Choose one day each week and give yourself permission to indulge in a sweet treat or craving as a reward for staying committed to your goals. Don't forget to pay close attention to portion size.

**Find an accountability partner.** For example, cancer patients have caregivers, usually spouses or close friends, who encourage them to continue with prescribed fitness and nutrition

plans when they return home. An accountability partner will hold you to your resolution and ask you the questions you might otherwise avoid. Besides, an emotional connection with someone who cares deeply about your well-being will help you keep sight of your resolution. You might even motivate them to exercise with you.

**Set the example.** Knowing that the ef-

fects of their treatment are cumulative, many cancer patients exercise and eat healthy in order to build strength and energy to engage in family activities. Children model what they see at home, so make time to exercise, or even cook a healthy meal together. You will show your kids the value of taking care of themselves for the rest of their lives.

Whether you are

battling cancer or are just a newcomer to exercise, you can begin a new routine today with these tips and a good pair of shoes. After all, shouldn't living a healthy lifestyle be a life-long resolution?

*Karen Barber, PT, is director of oncology rehabilitation at Cancer Treatment Centers of America at Southeastern Regional Medical Center in Newnan, Ga.*



**Outdoor World**

**WINTER CATS**

Wintertime provides a great opportunity for you to catch some really large catfish. Bait too small will be ignored by the larger catfish and bait that is too large will not be taken by the smaller ones. Using the wrong size bait can keep you from getting the most from your trip. Keep in mind that normally fishing near the bottom will get you the best results when you are winter catfishing.

You also need to be aware that catfish will move slower during the winter; move the bait at a slow even pace. Like most all species of fish, the catfish will gather together in groups even in the wintertime, so your first job is to find where they are congregating together.

Dress up warm and go catch a winter cat.

*Bill Dance is Host of "Bill Dance Fishing"*

For more tips, log onto [basspro.com](http://basspro.com) and click on News & Tips

## Move Over Law

- On a two-lane roadway, you are required to slow to a speed that is 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit.
- If the speed limit is 20 miles per hour or less, you must slow down to five miles per hour.
- If you are driving on an interstate or roadway with multiple lanes of travel in the same direction, and you approach an emergency or law enforcement vehicle parked along the roadway, you must vacate the lane closest to that vehicle as soon as it is safe to do so. If you are not able to safely move over, you must slow down to a speed of 20 mph below the posted speed limit unless directed otherwise by a law enforcement officer.

# BSC cosmetology students realize talents, passions

Whether experimenting with hair color or realizing their flair for doing facials or nails, several Bainbridge State College students enrolled in its cosmetology program are discovering where their aptitudes are, and more importantly, where their passions are.

Kayla Jade Dodson of Bainbridge said she has always loved experimenting with hairstyles and makeup, but initially listened to others who advised her that going into other professions would bring her more money.

But none of those other professions could fulfill her happiness like cosmetology.

"It's something I always wanted to do — hair and makeup," Dodson said. "I love it. I just love people, and this profession will give me an opportunity to meet people, eventually allowing me to be my own boss and to work with my hands in a profession I enjoy."

It was Dodson's late friend, Jordan Harris, who encouraged Dodson to pursue a cosmetology degree at Bainbridge State, and Dodson will forever remember her friend after she graduates in May.

Harris died in August along with two other young citizens of Decatur County — Adam Goodman and Hillary Brock — in a single-car accident.

Dodson said because of Harris' encouragement, she and fellow cosmetology student Misti Gordon of Blakely want to go into business together, start their own salon and name it in honor of the three victims.

Dodson said she did not know much about hair-coloring techniques, but decided to experiment under the direction of LaDonna Thomas, the College's cosmetology program coordinator and instructor.

What they came up with was a new color application that was well received.

Gordon said cosmetology is something she always wanted to do, and especially now because it is a career she can work in while still devoting time with her children.

"It's something I always wanted to do it, and it's something I can do while juggling with my children's schedules," Gordon said. "I wanted to come back to school and pursue this. I love this program because it is very hands-on and almost feels like the real working world."

Shameca Calloway of Cairo wanted to pursue a program of study that involved expressing more of her creative side.

She had tried programs in the medical field, but found cosmetology more appealing because it would allow her to be creative as well as fulfill her true passion.

Enrollment is presently underway at Bainbridge State for students interested in studying cosmetology.

Classes will start in January for the spring and summer semesters, and there are day and night classes available.

To earn a Cosmetology diploma and prepare to take the state board exams, Bainbridge State students must complete 56 credit hours with 46 of those hours related to cosmetology such as separate courses on hair, skin and nail care.

Students are also trained on microdermabrasion, light therapy and body vacuum.

For more information about the Cosmetology program, contact LaDonna Thomas at (229) 248-2910, or email her at [ladonna.thomas@bainbridge.edu](mailto:ladonna.thomas@bainbridge.edu).

If you have general



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If you have general

**ABOVE:** Bainbridge State College cosmetology student Misti Gordon of Blakely tends to her fellow student, Kayla Jade Dodson of Bainbridge and Cairo, who is seated in the chair.

**RIGHT:** Bainbridge State College cosmetology student Shameca Calloway of Cairo found her calling in cosmetology. She had tried the medical field, but said cosmetology will allow her to be more creative.

Photos submitted

questions about enrolling in Bainbridge State, call (229) 248-2504 or go to its website, [www.bainbridge.edu](http://www.bainbridge.edu).



# Holiday sights, sounds lighting up Florida State Parks

TALLAHASSEE — The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service invites Florida residents and guests to join us as we celebrate

the winter holiday season. Many of the 161 state parks throughout Florida will be decorated with lights or hosting special holiday activities.

Gov. Rick Scott said,

"The holidays are a great time for Floridians and their guests to visit our award-winning state parks. Seasonal events are just one reason why more than 25 million people

visit our parks each year."

In October, the Florida State Parks system was awarded the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in the man-

agement of state park systems for the third time. Considerations for this award are based on the agency's ability to address needs of those it serves through collec-

tive energies of citizens, staff and elected officials. The achievement makes Florida the only system in the nation to win a third

See PARKS/Page B13

# PROTECTING YOUR DREAMS

Renters insurance  
safeguards  
families, assets

## FAMILY FEATURES

There are many reasons people choose to rent over home ownership. Whether saving up for a dream home, you're having difficulty affording one or you simply enjoy commitment-free, hassle-free living, renting certainly has its perks. For those who choose to rent, having adequate protection is a must — and with advances in the industry, finding the right coverage is easier than ever.

### Protecting your assets

For many looking to rent a home or apartment, the thought of renters insurance may seem less important with so many other things to think about. Though not all landlords require it, many do, and for good reason.

"Though you never hope you have to use it, insurance is so valuable to the protection of your family, your belongings, and, overall, your peace of mind," said Kathy McDonald, senior vice president at Assurant Specialty Property. "Many returning to the rental market will be pleased with how the insurance industry has evolved, which makes acquiring the best coverage easier than ever."

### Advancements in the industry

The conveniences brought on by computers, tablets and smartphones have greatly improved the services insurance providers now offer. With easy-to-follow websites, apps and customer service chats, one can check the status of a claim 24 hours a day.

### Keep a home inventory

To evaluate the amount of coverage you need — and assist if you ever need to file a claim — keeping a well-documented list of your possessions is important. A recent survey conducted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) stated 59 percent of consumers do not have a proper listing of their possessions in the event of a fire, robbery or other loss incident.

"All renters and homeowners should develop a home inventory," said McDonald. "Whether it is electronics, furnishings, collectibles, jewelry or clothing, families need to know what they own and how much it's worth."

#### ■ Use tracking tools

Put down the pen and paper and get out your smartphone. Many new apps are available to properly keep track of every item in your home. Some even allow you to track every belonging room-to-room with bar codes, pictures, photos or scans of receipts and descriptions. This helpful tool also can create a back-up file — just in case.

#### ■ Update your list

According to the survey, 59 percent of those who do have a list of their belongings admit they haven't updated the list within the past year. That can fail to account for many gifts and purchases throughout the year. Make a mental note to add to your list after each birthday, the holidays or other similar occasions.

#### ■ Note valuable items

Make sure you get sufficient coverage for expensive belongings such as artwork or collectibles, which may be subject to policy limits. As many policies only cover \$1,000 for jewelry, you may need additional coverage, considering many jewelry items exceed that amount.

#### ■ Consider everything has value

Many items have more value than you think. To better understand this, consider how much it would cost to replace every item in one load of laundry. Sometimes, it's the little items that add up. Jot down everything — clothing, shoes, kitchen gadgets and power tools.

In-depth information on renters insurance is available from providers. For information on renters insurance from Assurant, visit [www.renterssecurity.com](http://www.renterssecurity.com).



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

### Did you know?

Through the simple act of listening to the needs of their customers, insurance companies are finding real solutions to increase customer satisfaction. A recent survey conducted by Assurant Specialty Property revealed that many long-time renters didn't know they could transfer policies from one rental unit to another. Instead of beginning a new policy each time they move, the company advises these renters to simply update their address and they can keep the same policy.

## 5 things to look for in a rental property

Along with choosing the best renters insurance coverage to fit your needs, there are other things to consider. Before you sign your name on the line, make sure you take into account these five important items to look for when searching for that perfect apartment or rental home.

#### ■ Affordability

Add up monthly rent, utilities and all other costs to ensure you can afford it with your current budget.

#### ■ Safety

It's important to find out about crime occurring in the neighborhood in which you are interested. Contact the local police department for information and police reports on robberies and other crimes in the area. An evaluation of the property's safety is also essential, such as the lock features on doors and windows and working smoke detectors.

#### ■ Environment

Make sure your fellow residents match your own lifestyle. For example, an older community is typically quieter, while an apartment complex with college students may involve some loud, late nights. Choose an area that fits your personality and your needs.

#### ■ Amenities

Check out the features of the property and determine what is important for your family and lifestyle. Does the facility have a gym, an area for walking your dog or that porch you've always wanted? Keep these ideas in mind as you will likely be living here at least one year.

#### ■ Appliances

One major deciding factor of rentals should be the appliances that are included with the unit. Ensure the stove, oven and refrigerator are all in working order. Other essential devices, such as air conditioning, heating, hot water heaters and, if applicable, washer and dryer units, should be tested beforehand.



Illustration by Tom McFarland

# How TECHNOLOGY Can Simplify Your Holiday Season

## FAMILY FEATURES

The advancements in technology have changed many things in our daily lives including how we celebrate the holidays. From making shopping easier to planning holiday getaways, the endless capabilities of smartphone devices have made the holidays easier and better than ever before, allowing you to save time and money all with the touch of a button.

From travel to shopping, here are some of the ways to use technology to enhance your yuletide celebrations and resolve some of the stress-inducing activities of the season.

### Holly jolly entertaining with ease

Time spent with loved ones is what the holidays are all about. Here are some ways your smartphone can make these occasions even more joyous:

- **Festive films and shows:** Whether you want to entertain the kids while waiting to board the plane or just want to catch your favorite holiday movie from the convenience of your phone, you can do so with ease with the Netflix app. Included with your Netflix membership, this easy app lets you download and stream thousands of your favorite television shows and movies to enjoy at any time you please.
- **Merry-making invitations:** Send out invitations to your ugly sweater party or caroling bash with unique, perfectly decorated invites with the Evite app. This helpful tool also allows you to manage guest lists and RSVP to other events in a snap.
- **Good tidings and great tunes:** The holidays would not be complete without the sounds and songs of the season filling the air. From kids' school parties to a holiday feast with family and friends, you can create your own personal holiday playlists to fit every event and mood. This unlimited access to music at your fingertips is a gift in itself.

### Festive holiday apps for kids

Let the little ones in on all the merriment with these great apps designed just for them. Just download onto your device and let your child play away while embracing the holiday spirit.

- **Gingerbread Crazy Chef — Cookie Maker**  
With ingredients for dough and plenty of fun ways to decorate, kids learn to make their own gingerbread cookies with this creative app.
- **Jolly Jingle**  
This musical app teaches the words to popular holiday songs, encouraging kids to join in on the fun by singing along.
- **Toca Hair Salon — Christmas Gift**  
Let the kids take Santa to the salon for a special haircut or dye job. Kids will have a blast giving Santa a makeover just in time for his big night.

### Holiday shopping simplified

So many gifts to purchase and so little time. Try these handy helpers to get all the gifts you need and still have time to stop and enjoy the eggnog:



- **Guesswork-free gifts:** Some apps, such as the Pickie's Best Gift Giver tool, use the Facebook likes and preferences of your gift recipients to create a list of suitable items they would love. It also combines all of these recommended items in a convenient, click-through catalog to make purchasing gifts easier. Make the shopping experience go even more smoothly by ensuring your phone has a strong, reliable signal. The zBoost SOHO cell phone signal booster kit increases signals up to 2500 square feet, making it perfect for your home or office. For more information, visit [www.zboost.com](http://www.zboost.com).
- **Lists you'll love:** When it comes to keeping track of presents, there's no need for pen and paper. The Christmas Gift List app allows you to create a budget for each recipient and then track gifts as they are purchased.
- **One cool countdown:** Follow the @ChristmasCount on your Twitter app for jolly updates on your favorite holiday. Besides keeping you aware of how many days you have left to shop, it also includes trivia and giveaways to keep you in the spirit.
- **See Santa save:** Ever wondered if you could get a gift at a better price? The RedLaser app allows you to search for a specific product and find its price at all retailers within the area. It's "In-store pickup" function allows you to purchase the gift directly from your phone for easy pickup and to ensure availability during those last-minute scrambles.

### Taking the stress out of travel

If your holiday plans require traveling with the family, the proper planning tools are essential. Try these holiday helpers that make traveling a breeze:

- **Joyful journeys:** Need a break from the family? Want to explore the best attractions in grandpa's hometown? The Tripomatic app allows you to customize your own travel itinerary by entering the dates and location of your stay. Along with top attractions for your vacation spot, the app also pulls up an easy download of city guides so you can find the best diner, historic monument or shopping venue in town.
- **Travels by road:** If your holiday travels require a car ride, give the RoadNinja app a try. Restaurants, gas stations and other points of interest are posted for each highway exit on your route. Make sure you can access such helpful apps by ensuring you have the proper signal in your car. The zBoost zForce Cell Phone Signal Booster improves signal strength for voice and data to help you enjoy the journey.
- **Plans and planes:** Keep all of your travel plans in one spot with the Triplt itinerary app. By linking to your email account, it sorts and places confirmation emails and other travel documents into the app.
- **A cheerful stay:** Whether you didn't plan far enough ahead, or your mother's house is overflowing with relatives, a peaceful hotel room is at hand with the Hotel Tonight app. By specializing in last-minute deals provided by area hotels, you end up with a luxurious room at a lower price.





Photo courtesy of Getty Images

# KITCHEN MUST-HAVES

FAMILY FEATURES

Every chef knows a properly outfitted kitchen is a must in order to create culinary masterpieces. This year, make sure the special food lover in your life has everything he or she needs to stir their passion for food and drink. Expand their culinary library with a book that serves up helpful food tips and original recipes. Let them prepare their favorite recipes with a set of ergonomic and innovative knives. Perk up their mornings with a coffee maker that quickly brews a customized cup at the touch of a button. Or, help them serve up delightful dishes by keeping their pantry stocked with superior quality olive oil. This guide will help you find unique gifts for every kitchen connoisseur on your list.

**A Better Brew**

www.keurig.com  
\$179.00

Create the perfect cup of coffee every time with the Keurig K-Cup Platinum Brewing System. This single cup brewer allows you to choose between five different cup sizes to brew your favorite coffee, tea, hot cocoa or specialty beverage with the simple touch of a button. With a sleek design and availability in three colors, your favorite foodie will love adding it to their kitchen or office.



**A Sharp Gift**

www.cutco.com  
\$241.00

Whether you're a master cook or you aspire to be one, everyone needs a good set of high-quality kitchen knives. CUTCO Cutlery's Kitchen Classics Set is the perfect foundation to build on for any home cook. The Petite Chef Knife, Trimmer and 2 3/4-inch Paring Knife will have you chopping, slicing and dicing like your favorite food celebrity. American made and carrying a Forever Guarantee, they'll quickly become kitchen favorites.



**A Great Find for Foodies**

www.snacksthebook.com  
\$19.99

Should you take a bath with your strawberries or blow dry your chicken? Clever culinary insights are offered in small bites in "Snacks: Adventures in Food, Aisle by Aisle," a book by food adventurer Marcy Smothers. The perfect gift for the foodies on your list, the book takes the reader on a grocery store journey, revealing Smothers' knowledge, quirky fun facts, and great passion for exploring food. It's packed with helpful tips, original recipes and tantalizing tidbits.

**In the Kitchen, the Little Things Matter**

www.facebook.com/olivarioliveoil  
\$6.00 to \$12.00

Great dishes start with the finest ingredients, such as the superior quality of Olivari olive oil. The people at Olivari believe it's the little things that help make great olive oil. From harvesting olives so they never touch the ground to staying eco-friendly by making sure nothing goes to waste. This holiday, give the thoughtful cook in your life a gift that embodies care, quality and excellence.



# Fun and GAMES

## POPEYE

WHAT'S GOING ON? BRUTUS WAS HIT WITH POPEYE'S COSMIC PUNCH! WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT?

THE COSMIC PUNCH SENDS ITS VICTIM INTO THE STRATOSPHERE!

SO WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW? POPEYE ALWAYS AWAITS HIS RE-ENTRY!

WHY? SO HE CAN CATCH HIM BEFORE HE PLUMMETS TO EARTH!

I YAM HAPPY I KETCHED HIM... CUZ HE COULDA GOT RILLY HURTED IFN HE HIT TH' GROUND! HE'S ALL HEART!

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

EATING PASTURE GRASS FOR EVERY MEAL IS REALLY BEGINNING TO GET DULL.

OH MY GOSHI! THE FARM KID FORGOT HIS BACKPACK AND LUNCH BOX FULL OF GOODIES!

HEY BOY, ARE YOU JUST WATCHING BESSY GRAZE?

I WAS UNTIL SHE GOT IN TO MY CANDYBARS. NOW SHE'S A ONE COW STAMPEDE ABOUT TO BURST!

## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

THIS WEATHER BUSINESS OF NAMING SNOWSTORMS LIKE HURRICANES IS JUST SILLY!

I DUNNO WHAT THE BIG DEAL IS -- DAD HAS ALWAYS NAMED SNOWSTORMS.

YEAH, BUT IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME NAME!

SIM! LITTLE EARS!

SORRY JUNE!

## Henry

BY DON TRACHTE

HEY, HENRY -- WAIT UP!

THE TOWN IS ASKING THE KIDS TO MAKE SNOW SCULPTURES BEFORE IT ALL MELTS.

AN' THEY'RE GONNA GIVE PRIZES FOR THE BEST ONES.

THIS MUST BE HENRY'S ENTRY.

TOO BAD HE DIDN'T STICK AROUND TO COLLECT THE PRIZE -- THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A WINNER!

## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

I QUIT DRINKING.

GULP...

WELL, I DIDN'T ACTUALLY QUIT DRINKING. BUT I DID GIVE IT MY TWO WEEKS NOTICE.

## SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Blunt  
TUBRAP

Close  
BRANEY

Chase  
SUPEUR

Spare  
TAXER

TODAY'S WORD

## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

I FEEL LIKE A COMPUTER.

I KEEP GETTING REBOOTED.

## Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Joe of "Raging Bull" singer

6 Boss woman

13 Gabs with flirtatiously

20 Routinely

21 Explorer Leif

22 Carolina of fashion

23 Bought brass and bronze?

25 Swallow greedily

26 Selected passages

27 Medocre grades

29 Field marshal Erwin

30 Took a chair

31 Where a beautiful woman swims?

34 Jay-Z hit, e.g.

37 Moon of Jupiter

40 Restroom, for short

41 City in central Sicily

42 "Alas, it's true, Ms. Bergen?"

47 Autumn chill

49 Dolled (up)

50 Library of Congress ID

52 "Hawaiian Favorites" singer

57 "Yer darn --"

58 Show off parquet work?

62 Ocean Spray flavor prefix

63 Take -- (chance it)

65 Oil qty.

66 "... some kind of --?"

67 Ruminant's chew

68 Guthrie launches a Jedi master into a somersault?

73 Addenda to ltrs.

74 Blind as --

76 Hiesod's H

77 Like Carroll's "borogoves"

78 Part of TLC

80 Tinkerbell's ancient milky gem?

84 "The Raven" maiden

86 Blase feeling

87 Yemen port

88 Sugar quantity

90 During each

92 Maneuver to avoid a traffic jam doesn't work?

96 Hot tub locales

100 Succor

102 Beaverlike rodent

103 Driver's peg

104 Inundate

Liotta's bucket?

108 Size up from medium: Abbr.

111 Actor Brando

112 Big drink

113 Recurring melodic fragment

118 Scale ranges

120 What each of this puzzle's eight longest answers is a

93-Down of

123 Least nice

124 Hit from behind

125 Rainer of film

126 Classifies gem?

127 Myopic cartoon guy

128 Rocker Bob

DOWN

1 Pontiff

2 PC-sent page

3 Glue -- (adhesive brand)

4 Gives up

5 Prefix with red

6 Pal of Ernie

7 Savings plans, briefly

8 Jazz poet

Scott-Heron

9 Cato's 1,150

10 Withdrawn from people

11 "True Blood" co-star Stephen

12 Adams of photography

13 "Evita" role

14 Title king for the Bard

15 Strong rival of Sparta

16 -- I'oeil

17 Homily

18 Spur

19 Simmered

Spanish dish

24 Decided to enter

28 "My Gal --"

31 Dandy fellow

32 GI's address

33 Popular Irish ballad

34 Spellbound

Like the conga drum, ethnically

36 Destine

38 Manipulate

39 Fishing stick

43 " -- girl!"

44 1986 book by rocker Turner

45 Sassy talk

46 Big inits. in fashion

48 Many a sharable PC file

51 Soft as a -- bottom

53 Ending for Rock

54 Like the United Way and NPR

55 Locale-specific regulation

56 Meal bits

58 "What's the --?"

59 Molokai or Maui: Abbr.

60 Penny-pinch

61 Municipal

63 pol.

64 Writer Dahl

67 Snug eatery

69 Not a bus.

70 Ms. Zadora

71 Size that's the opp of

108-Across

72 -- clubs (certain card)

75 Capote, to his buddies

79 Kourmikova of the court

81 Quick bark

82 Berlin article

83 Yoko --

84 Sticking by

85 In addition

88 35mm camera type

89 Maui paste

91 Impassioned

93 Letter shuffle

94 Hwy. crime

95 Old religious scandal inits.

96 Gallery in western CA

97 Sites

98 Big arteries

99 California county

101 Bad: Prefix

105 Capital of Delaware

106 Bee cluster

107 Pled --

109 Fish parts

110 Come after

113 -- concern

114 " -- I" ("Me too")

115 Take -- at (insult)

116 Hit with a zapping gun

117 -- and terminator

119 Aves.

121 Lyric-penning Gershwin

122 Tripp piece

## Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Careful, Lamb. Don't let your generous nature lead to some serious overspending as you contemplate your holiday gift-giving. Your social life kicks off into high gear by week's end.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A positive attitude helps you weather annoying but unavoidable changes in holiday plans. Aspects favor new friendships and reinforcement of existing relationships.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Demands on your energy level could be much higher than usual as you prepare for the upcoming holidays. Be sure to pace yourself. Friends and family will be happy to help.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Don't allow a suddenly icy reaction from a friend or family member to continue without learning what caused it -- and what can be done to restore that once warm and caring relationship.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A relationship seems to be unraveling, mostly from a lack of attention. It might be a good idea to ease up on whatever else you're doing so you can spend more time working to mend it.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) New facts emerge that not only help explain the recent rift with a trusted colleague, but also might provide a chance to wipe the slate clean and make a fresh start in your friendship.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A family member's personal situation is, fortunately, resolved in time for you to get back into your hectic round of holiday preparations. An old friend might bring a new friend into your life.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Pace yourself in meeting holiday pressures and workplace demands to avoid winding up with a frayed temper and a Scorpian stinger that lashes out at puzzled kith, kin and colleagues.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A financial matter requires close attention. Also, news from a trusted source provides the means to help sort out a long-standing state of confusion and put it into perspective.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) This is a good time to reinforce family ties. Make it a priority to assess and resolve all outstanding problems. Start the upcoming holiday season with a full measure of love.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Don't be pressured into a so-called solid-gold investment. Wait until the holiday distractions are over. Then take a harder look at it. You might find that the "gold" is starting to flake off.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A former friend might be trying to heal the breach between you by using a mutual friend as an intermediary. Best advice: Keep an open mind despite any lingering bad feelings.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a way of saying the right thing at the right time. Your friendships are deep and lasting.

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## top 10 movies

- The Hunger Games: Catching Fire** ..... (PG-13) Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson
- Thor: The Dark World** . (PG-13) Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman
- The Best-Man Holiday** ..... (R) Monica Calhoun, Morris Chestnut
- Delivery Man** ..... (PG-13) Vince Vaughn, Chris Pratt
- Free Birds** ..... (PG) animated
- Last Vegas** ..... (PG-13) Robert De Niro, Michael Douglas
- Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa** ..... (R) Johnny Knoxville, Jackson Nicoll
- Gravity** ..... (PG-13) Sandra Bullock, George Clooney
- 12 Years a Slave** ..... (R) Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael K. Williams
- Dallas Buyers Club** ..... (R) Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner

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## The Garden Bug

Watering in winter

For most houseplants, water when the soil surface begins to dry; rooms that are heated affect how often you do so. The water given should not be too cold or hot, and be sure to provide adequate drainage. Houseplants with more tuberous roots, such as dracena and philodendron, should be kept on the dry side.

Source: www.colostate.edu

- Brenda Weaver

## crossword

## Counseling CORNER

**American Counseling Association**

Though we may look forward to traveling home again and sharing time with family and friends, for many that holiday visit home can be a time of anxiety, stress and conflict. Instead of that magical holiday visit, it can be traveling back to an experience filled with old hurts, misunderstandings and family quarrels.

Why can it be stressful? For starters, you've become someone different. Parents and family members may still carry the image of you when you were much younger. They may treat you as they did then, making you feel like you haven't actually grown and changed.

There also may be unhealed wounds, memories of stressful times, awkward relationships and old fights and misunderstandings — issues that may have moti-

vated you to move away in the first place.

Another problem area can be when you have fallen short of family expectations. Perhaps you were supposed to be the "successful one," but instead you've had to face problems — a failed marriage, an unsatisfactory job, or financial problems.

How to reduce the discomfort of an upcoming visit? Recognize that what you're feeling is a normal reaction to stress. Try to understand what is causing you stress and what you can do to minimize it.

If time spent with certain family members is always an unpleasant experience, find ways to limit time with those people. Plan to maximize time with family members you enjoy, or to head for activities outside the family when you need to escape stress.

### Gadsden County Sheriff's Office Arrest Report Dec. 2, 2013

1. Timothy A. Copeland — Possession of Contraband.
2. David Smith — Smuggling Contraband into detention facility.
3. Lamonta Deonshea Peacock — Agg. Assault with a deadly weapon without intention to kill.
4. Gabriel Lamar Peacock — Agg. Assault with a deadly weapon without intention to kill.
5. Marques Arman Lewis — Dealing in stolen property.
6. Zachary Matthew Bush — Possession of Cocaine and ROWOV.
7. Harold Eugene Charlton — Court Order bond revocation/ Burglary of conveyance with person assaulted and tampering with a witness.
8. Davecia Desmona Koonce — VOP/ Burglary.
9. Phillip A. Allison — Agg. assault with firearm.

### Gadsden County Sheriff's Office Arrest Report Dec. 9, 2013

1. Tanisha Rishawanda Barnes — VOP/ Fraud/ To Increase Benefits.
2. Martina McClay — VOP/ Agg. Battery, with a deadly weapon.
3. Markeith Louis Watson — Felony Fleeing or attempting to elude an officer.
4. Kanisha Guyton — VOP/ Public Assistance Fraud.
5. Darius Ammanci Moore — Grand Theft and Fraud.
6. Fredrick Jamison — VOP/ Criminal Mischief.
7. Raymond Brown — VOP.

## PARKS

Continued from Page B8

Gold Medal award. In fact, no other system has ever won two Gold Medal awards and systems are not allowed to apply for the award within five years of receiving a Gold Medal.

"Our parks offer something for everyone, whether you like kayaking, hiking, exploring caverns or spending a day on the beach," said DEP Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. "I encourage all Floridians to visit one of our state parks any time of year, but especially with glistening holiday lights and shows on display."

Holiday lights events being offered are:

Show at Three Rivers State Park in Sneads. Dec.6-8 and Dec.13-15. 6-8 p.m.

Laser Light Show at Silver Springs State Park in Ocala. Dec.6-8, Dec.13-15 and Dec.19-31. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Caroling the Ravines at Ravine Gardens State Park in Palatka. Dec.7. 6-9 p.m.

Night of Lights at Fort Cooper State Park in Inverness. Dec.13-15. 6-8:30 p.m.

Celebration of Lights at Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park in Homosassa. Dec.19-26 (Closed Christmas). 5:30-9 p.m.

Festival of Lights with award-winning holiday sights and sounds at Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs. Dec. 6-Jan. 3 (Closed Christmas). Sundown-9 p.m.

Other events being offered are:

25th Annual Camellia Christmas at Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park in Tallahassee. Dec.6. 6-9 p.m.

Christmas on the Florida Frontier at Dade Battlefield Historic State Park in Bushnell. Dec.7. 3-8 p.m.

Holiday Crafts for Kids at Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park in Tallahassee. Dec.7. 9-11 p.m.

Lignumvitae Key Christmas at Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park in the Florida Keys. Dec.7. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Plantation Christmas at Gamble Plantation Historic State Park in Ellenton. Dec.8. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Candlelight Experience at Fort Foster at Hillsborough River State Park and Fort

Foster State Historic Site, just north of Tampa. Dec.13. 6-9 p.m.

Christmas in the Park at Blue Spring State Park in Orange City. Dec.14. 3-10 p.m.

Holiday in the Gardens Celebration at Washington Oaks Gardens State Park in Palm Coast. Dec.14. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Holidays in the Park at Big Lagoon State Park in Pensacola. Dec.20-21. 4-7 p.m.

Santa Over the Rainbow at Rainbow Springs State Park in Dunnellon. Dec. 13-15, Dec. 20-22, Dec. 26-27. 6 to 8 p.m.

Winter Waterland 2013 at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park in Spring Hill. Dec.20-21. 7-11 p.m.

Holiday in the Woods at Faver-Dykes State Park in St. Au-

gustine. Dec.21. 4-6 p.m.

Third Annual Holiday Songs in the Park at Wekiwa Springs State Park in Apopka. Dec.21. 7-8 p.m.

Holiday Golf Cart Parade at Lake Kissimmee State Park in Lake Wales. Dec.28. 2-4 p.m.

For a complete list of special events at Florida's state parks, visit [www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org).

The Florida Park Service is the proud recipient of three National Gold Medals for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management, making Florida America's first three-time Gold Medal winner. The awards were received in 1999, 2005 and 2013 from the American Academy and the National

Recreation and Park Association.

Florida's 171 state parks and trails inspire residents and visitors with recreation opportunities and scenic beauty that help strengthen families, educate children, expand local economies and foster community pride. With 161 parks, 10 state trails, nearly 800,000 acres, 100 miles of beaches and more than 1,500 miles of multi-use trails, visit soon and often to enjoy Florida's natural treasures. Download the Florida State Parks Pocket Ranger® mobile app, available on iTunes and Android Market, to plan your trip and enhance your experience while visiting. For more information, visit [www.FloridaStateParks.org](http://www.FloridaStateParks.org)

# Classifieds

1-877-676-1403



**Today's New Ads**

FURNITURE Brocade style couch with matching chair, large brown recliner \$1400, dining room table round with 4 matching chairs \$500, beautiful like new!!!! Please call: 352-341-0952

**Career Opportunities**

Heavy Equipment Operator Training!

Bulldozers, Backhoes, Excavators. 3 Weeks Hands On Program. Local Job Placement Assistance. National Certifications. GI Bill Benefits Eligible! 1-866-362-6497

**Apartments Unfurnished**

QUINCY 4/2. We accept HUD Call Sheila for info (850) 875-1212

**Retail/Office Rentals**

QUINCY Former Beauty Salon/Office Space For Rent Call Sheila for info (850) 875-1212

**Tax Deed Notices**

4965-1226 GCT (Cert# 706)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 706 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 119 P 580; BEGIN AT A PT. 610 FT. N. OF SEC OF SW 1/4, RUN N. 88 FT. W. 88 FT. S. 88 FT. E. 88 FT. TO P.O.B. IN SECTION 14-3N-4W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 2143N4W000003440200

Name in which assessed: LOUVENIA SAILOR

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

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CERTIFICATE NO: 706 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 119 P 580; BEGIN AT A PT. 610 FT. N. OF SEC OF SW 1/4, RUN N. 88 FT. W. 88 FT. S. 88 FT. E. 88 FT. TO P.O.B. IN SECTION 14-3N-4W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 2143N4W000003440200

Name in which assessed: LOUVENIA SAILOR

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4969-1226 GCT (Cert# 2748)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, TC Tampa 1, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 2748 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 482 P 358 COMMENCE AT THE NEC OF LANDS PER OR BOOK 436 P 1447 AND RUN S 66 DEG 34' 53" E 202.16 FT. S 59 DEG 55' 29" E 81.15 FT TO BEGIN; THENCE S 59 DEG 55' 19" E 58.99 FT; S 60 DEG 28' 30" E 451.58 FT; S 18 DEG 34' 43" W 2.00 FT TO RD 65-8; N 71 DEG 25' 17" W 510.57 FT; N 23 DEG 58' 39" E 99.95 FT TO THE POB. IN LOT #73 LITTLE RIVER SURVEY

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 50LDR0000733000600

Name in which assessed: Joaquin Jimenez and Lucero M Jimenez

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4970-1226 GCT (Cert# 1723)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, TC Tampa 1, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 1723 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 533 P 1983 OR 120 P 158 - OR 326 P 611 - OR 345 P 1084 - BEGIN 1811.1 FT EAST AND 975 FT NORTH FROM THE SW CORNER OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4; RUN N 93.60 FT; N 38 DEG 59' WEST 459.74 FT. S 486.87 FT. N 82 DEG 55' E 291.50 FT TO THE P.O.B. LESS ANY PREVIOUSLY SOLD. IN SECTION 5-2N-4W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3052N4W000001320100

Name in which assessed: Wanzella McCray; Melvin Charles McCray

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4971-1226 GCT (Cert# 533)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, TC Tampa 1, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 533 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 444 P 20 COMM AT A POINT 210 FT. S & 210 FT. W. OF NEC OF SE 1/4 OF SE 1/4, RUN W. 777.7 FT. TO BEGIN; RUN W. 91.3 FT., S 238.65 FT., E. 91.3 FT., N. 238.65 FT TO THE P.O.B. IN SECTION 3-3N-3W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 2033N3W00000420300

Name in which assessed: Margaret B Gordon, or the Lawful Heirs of Her Estate

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

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**Tax Deed Notices**

4966-1226 GCT (Cert# 1816)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1816 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: DB 118 P 32 - BEGIN 300 FT. N. OF N.W.C. OF KING & 9TH STS. N. 112.5 FT. W. 150 FT. S. 112.5 FT. E. 150 FT. TO P.O.B. IN SECTION 12-2N-4W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3122N4W000001211500

Name in which assessed: William Finley McMullen

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4967-1226 GCT (Cert# 1320)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1320 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 487 P 3 PLAT BOOK 2, P 31-33 LOT 9, BLOCK "C", LAKE YVETTE ESTES, UNIT #4.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3312N2W058400000090

Name in which assessed: Auburn E Ford Jr and Chaunda A Ford

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4967-1226 GCT (Cert# 1320)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1320 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 487 P 3 PLAT BOOK 2, P 31-33 LOT 9, BLOCK "C", LAKE YVETTE ESTES, UNIT #4.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3312N2W058400000090

Name in which assessed: Auburn E Ford Jr and Chaunda A Ford

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4972-1226 GCT (Cert# 594)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, TC Tampa 1, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 594 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 494 P 1615 OR 487 P 1742 OR 476 P 159 COMMENCE AT THE SEC OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 30-3N-3W AND RUN N 00 DEG 04' 48" W 1369.55 FT; S 89 DEG 43' 48" W 460.25 FT TO BEGIN; THENCE S 89 DEG 43' 48" W 243.75 FT; S 00 DEG 13' 01" E 355.82 FT TO TILLMAN RD; S 89 DEG 57' 44" EAST FOR 121.04 FT; S 88 DEG 12' 58" E 122.78 FT; N 00 DEG 13' 01" W 360.87 FT TO THE P.O.B. IN SECTION 30-3N-3W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 2303N3W000002411000

Name in which assessed: Cilioni Y Swain

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4972-1226 GCT (Cert# 594)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, TC Tampa 1, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 594 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 494 P 1615 OR 487 P 1742 OR 476 P 159 COMMENCE AT THE SEC OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 30-3N-3W AND RUN N 00 DEG 04' 48" W 1369.55 FT; S 89 DEG 43' 48" W 460.25 FT TO BEGIN; THENCE S 89 DEG 43' 48" W 243.75 FT; S 00 DEG 13' 01" E 355.82 FT TO TILLMAN RD; S 89 DEG 57' 44" EAST FOR 121.04 FT; S 88 DEG 12' 58" E 122.78 FT; N 00 DEG 13' 01" W 360.87 FT TO THE P.O.B. IN SECTION 30-3N-3W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 2303N3W000002411000

Name in which assessed: Cilioni Y Swain

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4972-1226 GCT (Cert# 594)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, TC Tampa 1, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 594 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 494 P 1615 OR 487 P 1742 OR 476 P 159 COMMENCE AT THE SEC OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 30-3N-3W AND RUN N 00 DEG 04' 48" W 1369.55 FT; S 89 DEG 43' 48" W 460.25 FT TO BEGIN; THENCE S 89 DEG 43' 48" W 243.75 FT; S 00 DEG 13' 01" E 355.82 FT TO TILLMAN RD; S 89 DEG 57' 44" EAST FOR 121.04 FT; S 88 DEG 12' 58" E 122.78 FT; N 00 DEG 13' 01" W 360.87 FT TO THE P.O.B. IN SECTION 30-3N-3W.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 2303N3W000002411000

Name in which assessed: Cilioni Y Swain

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

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FURNITURE Brocade style couch with matching chair, large brown recliner \$1400, dining room table round with 4 matching chairs \$500, beautiful like new!!!! Please call: 352-341-0952

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**Tennessee Log Cabin on 6 acres with FREE Boat Slip! Only \$74,900 New 3BR, 2BA log cabin shell, lake access, nicely wooded, level setting. Quiet paved road frontage. Excellent financing. Call now 877-888-0267, x 453**

**Tax Deed Notices**

4968-1226 GCT (Cert# 1277)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1277 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 383 P 1157-LIFE ESTATE. BEGIN AT THE SEC OF SECTION 14-2N-2W AND RUN S 161.70 FT; S 84 DEG 01' 53" W 352.43 FT TO W/LY R/W OF POWER EASEMENT; N 23 DEG 56' 08" W 255 FT; S 85 DEG 37' 34" E 455.30 FT TO POB. SUBJECT TO 100 FT POWERLINE.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3142N2W000001100300

Name in which assessed: BOBBY JOE CHAMBLISS AS TO LIFE ESTATE INTEREST, MARI-LENA CHAMBLISS AS TO REMAINDER INTEREST

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4968-1226 GCT (Cert# 1277)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1277 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 383 P 1157-LIFE ESTATE. BEGIN AT THE SEC OF SECTION 14-2N-2W AND RUN S 161.70 FT; S 84 DEG 01' 53" W 352.43 FT TO W/LY R/W OF POWER EASEMENT; N 23 DEG 56' 08" W 255 FT; S 85 DEG 37' 34" E 455.30 FT TO POB. SUBJECT TO 100 FT POWERLINE.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3142N2W000001100300

Name in which assessed: BOBBY JOE CHAMBLISS AS TO LIFE ESTATE INTEREST, MARI-LENA CHAMBLISS AS TO REMAINDER INTEREST

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4968-1226 GCT (Cert# 1277)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1277 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 383 P 1157-LIFE ESTATE. BEGIN AT THE SEC OF SECTION 14-2N-2W AND RUN S 161.70 FT; S 84 DEG 01' 53" W 352.43 FT TO W/LY R/W OF POWER EASEMENT; N 23 DEG 56' 08" W 255 FT; S 85 DEG 37' 34" E 455.30 FT TO POB. SUBJECT TO 100 FT POWERLINE.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3142N2W000001100300

Name in which assessed: BOBBY JOE CHAMBLISS AS TO LIFE ESTATE INTEREST, MARI-LENA CHAMBLISS AS TO REMAINDER INTEREST

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013

NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida

BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk

Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Tax Deed Notices**

4968-1226 GCT (Cert# 1277)  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1277 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 383 P 1157-LIFE ESTATE. BEGIN AT THE SEC OF SECTION 14-2N-2W AND RUN S 161.70 FT; S 84 DEG 01' 53" W 352.43 FT TO W/LY R/W OF POWER EASEMENT; N 23 DEG 56' 08" W 255 FT; S 85 DEG 37' 34" E 455.30 FT TO POB. SUBJECT TO 100 FT POWERLINE.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3142N2W000001100300

Name in which assessed: BOBBY JOE CHAMBLISS AS TO LIFE ESTATE INTEREST, MARI-LENA CHAMBLISS AS TO REMAINDER INTEREST

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 201

**Tax Deed Notices**

**4973-1226 GCT** (Cert# 860)  
**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, TC Tampa 1, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:  
**CERTIFICATE NO: 860 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2011**  
**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:**  
 OR 461 P 619 OR 111 P 271-OR 117 P 249 OR 263 P 102- BEGIN AT THE NEC OF LOT 1 BLK 42 TOWN OF GRETTA THENCE RUN S/WLY ALONG THE S SIDE OF CEDAR ST 66 FT THENCE S/Ely PARALLEL TO THIRD ST 66 FT THENCE N/Ely PARALLEL TO CEDAR ST 66 FT THENCE N/WLY ALONG THE W SIDE OF THIRD ST 66 FT TO POB SAID LOT 1, 66 FT., S/WLY PARALLEL WITH SAID CEDAR ST. 66 FT. TO SAID ST., N/WLY ALONG STREET 66 FT TO P.O.B. OR 299 P 898.  
**PARCEL ID NUMBER: 2323N4W043000420011**  
 Name in which assessed: **Stephanie Elaine Faison and Patricia Ann Faison**  
 Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5th Day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.  
 Dated this 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013  
 NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gadsden County, Florida  
 BY: Glenda McPherson, Deputy Clerk  
 Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2013.

**Foreclosure Sale/ Action Notices**

**4974-1219 GCT**  
 vs. Anderson, Samuel J. 20-2013-CA-000373 Notice of Action  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 20-2013-CA-000373 DIVISION:

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR STRUCTURED ASSET SECURITIES CORPORATION MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-RF3,  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
**SAMUEL J. ANDERSON, et al,**  
 Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF ACTION**  
 TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST, SAMUEL J. ANDERSON ALSO KNOWN AS SAMUEL JAMES ANDERSON,  
 DECEASED  
 Last Known Address: Unknown  
 Current Address: Unknown

**ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS**  
 Last Known Address: Unknown  
 Current Address: Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Gadsden County, Florida:

**LOT 8 BLOCK "A" FOREST HILLS, A SUBDIVISION AS PER PLAT OR MAP THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1 PAGE 215 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA. (AS TO PARCEL A)**

ALSO:  
**A PART OF LOT 9 BLOCK "A" FOREST IDLIS SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1 PAGE 215 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA SAID TRACT BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 9, SAID POINT BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING THENCE RUN SOUTH 50 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 58 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY OF LOT 9 A DISTANCE OF 504.11 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT, THENCE RUN NORTH 68 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 330.12 FEET TO A 1/4 INCH IRON ROD, THENCE RUN NORTH 25 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 210.59 FEET TO A 1/2 INCH IRON ROD LYING ON THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY OF FOREST CIRCLE (60' R/W) SAID POINT BEING ON A CURVE LYING CONCAVE TO THE NORTHWEST, THENCE RUN NORTHEASTERLY ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY AND CURVE HAVING A RADIUS OF 130.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 03 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 34 SECONDS FOR AND ARC DISTANCE OF 7.81 FEET (CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE-NORTH 40 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 7.81 FEET) TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. (AS TO PARCEL B)**

**A/K/A 752 FOREST CIR N HAVANA FL 32333-3509**

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Albertelli Law, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 23028, Tampa, FL 33623, and file the original with this Court either before January 11, 2014 service on Plaintiff's attorney, or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.  
 This notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the Gadsden County Times.  
 WITNESS my hand and the seal of this court on this 26 day of November, 2013.  
 NICHOLAS THOMAS, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
 (SEAL) By:/s/ Charlotte Willeby, Deputy Clerk  
 Albertelli Law, P.O. Box 23028, Tampa, FL 33623.

**\*\*See the Americans with Disabilities Act**  
 If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Gadsden County Clerk of Courts at the Gadsden County Courthouse 10 E. Jefferson St., Quincy, FL 32351, telephone numbers (850) 875-8601 for voice or (850) 875-8612 for fax, within two working days of your receipt of this document. To file response please contact Gadsden County Clerk of Court, P.O. Box 1649, Quincy, FL 32353.

December 12 & 19, 2013 PH - 015745F01

**4975-1219 TWN**  
 Vs. Holloman, Sandra 2012CA000826 Notice of Foreclosure Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, CASE NO. 2012CA000826

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 HOLLOWAN, SANDRA, et. al,  
 Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment entered in Case No. 2012ca000826 of the Circuit Court of the 2ND Judicial Circuit in and for GADSDEN County, Florida, wherein, Plaintiff, and, HOLLOWAN, SANDRA, et. al., are Defendants, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at, South Front Steps, Gadsden County Courthouse, 10 E. Jefferson St., Quincy, FL, at the hour of 11:00 AM, on the 31 day of December, 2013, the following described property:

**LOT 19, BLOCK A, GRETTA ESTATES, UNIT NO. 2, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 10A OF THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.  
 DATED this 25 day of November, 2013.  
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk Circuit Court  
 (SEAL) By: /s/ Pam K. Carter, Deputy Clerk

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\***  
 If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Clerk of the Court's disability coordinator at OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION, 301 S MONROE STREET, ROOM 225, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303, (850-577-4401), at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

December 12 & 19, 2013, 20187.8149

**4976-1219 GCT**  
 Vs. Brown, Jennie 20-2011-CA-001348 Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO.: 20-2011-CA-001348

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.,  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 JENNIE BROWN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JENNIE BROWN; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; AGUA FINANCE, INC., A CORPORATION, AS ASSIGNEE OF DISCOVERY MARKETING & DISTRIBUTING, INC.; FARMERS FURNITURE; UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY;  
 Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that, in accordance with the Default Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated October 7, 2013, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at South Door of the Gadsden County Courthouse, 10 E. Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL 32351, at 11:00 A.M. on February 11, 2014 the following described property:

**LOT 13, OLD FEDERAL RANCH, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 91, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH THAT MOBILE HOME, VIN #FHLML3F158026513AB.**

Property Address: **85 EAGLE DRIVE, QUINCY, FL 32351**

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 WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Danny Davis, Court Technology Office, Office of Court Administration, 301 S Monroe St, Rm 225, Tallahassee, FL 32303, (850) 577-4401, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

WITNESS my hand on 9 day of October, 2013.  
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Circuit Court  
 (COURT SEAL) By:/s/ Pam K. Carter, Deputy Clerk of Court

MARINOSCI LAW GROUP, P.C., Attorney for Plaintiff  
 100 West Cypress Creek Road, Suite 1045, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
 Phone: (954) 644-8704 Fax (954) 772-9601

December 12 & 19, 2013 11-01511

**4977-1219 GCT**  
 v. Glass, Milton V. 2012-CA-990 Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO: 2012-CA-990

GULF WINDS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION AS SUCCESSOR TO SCORE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION VIA MERGER,  
 Plaintiff,  
 v.  
 MILTON V. GLASS, et al  
 Defendants.

**CLERK'S NOTICE OF SALE UNDER F.S. CHAPTER 45**

December 12 & 19, 2013 PH# 12886

**4978-1219 GCT**  
 vs. Knight, Buddy A. 12000334CAA Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 12000334CAA

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-20,  
 Plaintiff  
 vs.  
 BUDDY A. KNIGHT, et al,  
 Defendant(s)

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Judgment dated November 15, 2013, entered in Civil Case Number 12000334CAA in the Circuit Court for Gadsden County, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-20 is the Plaintiff, and BUDDY A. KNIGHT, et al., are the Defendants, Gadsden County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in Gadsden County, Florida, described as:

**LOT 15, BLOCK "A", RUSTLING PINES, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 110 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

**Foreclosure Sale/ Action Notices**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 15, 2013, in the above-styled cause, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Gadsden County Courthouse, South Door, 10 E. Jefferson St., Quincy, Florida, at 11:00 o'clock AM on December 31, 2013, the following described property:  
**COMMENCE AT THE CONCRETE MONUMENT MARKING THE INTERSECTION OF THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, GADSDEN COUNTY FLORIDA (BY OCCUPATION) WITH THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF THE 240.00 FOOT RIGHT OF WAY OF STATE ROAD NO. 10 (U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 90), AND RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WEST BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 9 (BY OCCUPATION) AND 4.00 FEET EAST OF AN PARALLEL TO A FENCE LINE 175.14 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST 267.80 FEET OF THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING CONTINUE THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST 217.80 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST 100.00 FEET, THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 15 SECONDS EAST 100.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND BEING LOT 30 OF THE UNRECORDED HAYWARD/DUPONT SUBDIVISION IN GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

**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 PROVISIONS OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT: COURT ADMINISTRATION, SUSAN WILSON LEON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 301 S. MONROE STREET, ROOM 225, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301 PHONE (850) 877-4401 At least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing impaired call 711.**

Dated: November 25, 2013  
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of Court  
 (Court Seal) By:/s/ Pam K. Carter, Deputy Clerk

December 12 & 19, 2013.

**4978-1219 GCT**  
 vs. Knight, Buddy A. 12000334CAA Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 12000334CAA

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-20,  
 Plaintiff  
 vs.  
 BUDDY A. KNIGHT, et al,  
 Defendant(s)

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Judgment dated November 15, 2013, entered in Civil Case Number 12000334CAA in the Circuit Court for Gadsden County, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-20 is the Plaintiff, and BUDDY A. KNIGHT, et al., are the Defendants, Gadsden County Clerk of Court will sell the property situated in Gadsden County, Florida, described as:

**LOT 15, BLOCK "A", RUSTLING PINES, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 110 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

A/K/A 550 Rustling Pines Blvd., Midway, FL 32343.

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the South door of the Gadsden County Courthouse, 10 East Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL 32351 at 11:00 AM, on the 31 day of December, 2013.

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 within 60 days after the sale.  
 Dated: November 25, 2013.  
 NICHOLAS THOMAS, Gadsden County Clerk of Court  
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
 (SEAL) By:/s/Pam K. Carter, Deputy Clerk

"In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons in need of a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall, within seven (7) days prior to any proceeding, contact the Administrative Office of the Court, Gadsden County Courthouse, 10 East Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL 32351, telephone (850) 875-8601, TDD 1-800-955-8771 or 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service."

FLORIDA FORECLOSURE ATTORNEYS, PLLC  
 4855 Technology Way, Suite 500, Boca Raton, FL 33431 (727) 446-4826

December 12 & 19, 2013 CA13-02964-TJL

**4979-1219 GCT**  
 Vs. Croom, Charity N. 20-2012-CA-00877 Amended Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, CIVIL DIVISION Case No. 20-2012-CA-00877 Division:

BRANCH BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 CHARITY N. CROOM A/K/A CHARITY NICOLE CROOM AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/ OWNERS,  
 Defendants.

**AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**  
 Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on November 15, 2013, in the Circuit Court of Gadsden County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Gadsden County, Florida described as:

**A PARCEL OF LAND BEING A PORTION OF LANDS HAVING BEEN RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 322, PAGE 520 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA AND LYING IN THE EAST-ONE HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP-2-NORTH, RANGE-6-WEST, GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

**COMMENCE AT A CONCRETE MONUMENT, FOUND, MARKING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH ONE-HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14 TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST, GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA AND RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST 1342.48 FEET TO A 5/8 INCH IRON BAR AND CAP #5831 , FOUND, ON THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY OF BRANDY BOULEVARD, A 50 FOOT MAINTAINED ROADWAY;**

**THENCE RUN SOUTH 02 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST 265.00 FEET TO A 5/8 INCH IRON CAP #6297, SET, ON THE WESTERLY BOUNDARY OF SAID BRANDY BOULEVARD MARKING THE POINT OF BEGINNING.**

**FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING CONTINUE THENCE SOUTH 02 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST 998.08 FEET TO A 5/8 INCH IRON BAR AND CAP #6297, SET;**

**THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 30. MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST 436.93 FEET TO A 5/8 INCH IRON BAR AND CAP #6297, SET;**

**THENCE RUN NORTH 02 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST 998.08 FEET TO A 5/8 INCH IRON BAR AND CAP #6297, SET;**

**THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST 436.93 FEET TO SAID POINT OF BEGINNING.**

and commonly known as: **330 BRANDI BLVD, QUINCY, FL 32351**; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, South Front Door of the Gadsden County Courthouse, 10 East Jefferson Street, Quincy, Florida 32351, on December 31, 2013 at 11 AM.

Any persons 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 within 60 days after the sale.  
 Dated this 3rd day of December, 2013.  
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
 (COURT SEAL) By:/s/ Pam K. Carter, Deputy Clerk

December 12 & 19, 2013 266400/1210938/amp

**4980-1219 GCT**  
 Vs. Rojas, Luis 09000276CAA Notice of Foreclosure Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 09000276CAA

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CVALT, INC. ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-23CB, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-23CB  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 LUIS ROJAS, et al  
 Defendants.

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated September 13, 2013, and entered in Case No. 09000276CAA of the Circuit Court of the SECOND Judicial Circuit in and for GADSDEN COUNTY, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CVALT, INC. ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-23CB, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-23CB, is Plaintiff, and LUIS ROJAS, et al are Defendants, the clerk will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, beginning at 11:00 AM at the South Door, Gadsden County Courthouse, 10 E. Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL 32351, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, on the 14 day of January 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to wit:

**LOT 5, BLOCK "B", RUSTLING PINES, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 110 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus funds from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.  
 Dated at Quincy, GADSDEN COUNTY, Florida, this 19 day of September, 2013.  
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of said Circuit Court  
 (CIRCUIT COURT SEAL) By:/s/ Pam K. Carter, As Deputy Clerk

c/o Phelan Hallinan, PLC, Attorneys for Plaintiff  
 2727 West Cypress Creek Road, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309 954-462-7000

**IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN A COURT PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT: DANNY DAVIS, COURT TECHNOLOGY OFFICE, OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION, 301 S MONROE ST, RM 225, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303 (850) 577-4401 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 day; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**

December 12 & 19, 2013, PH# 12886

**4981-1219 GCT**  
 vs. Brown, Willie J. 20-2010-CA-000873 Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 20-2010-CA-000873

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC,  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 WILLIE J. BROWN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF WILLIE J. BROWN; SUSAN J. BROWN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SUSAN J. BROWN; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. ACTING SOLELY AS A NOMINEE FOR COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC.; FARMERS FURNITURE;

December 12 & 19, 2013, 665100797

**4982-1219 GCT**  
 vs. Amico, Peter J. 20-2012-CA-000919 Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, CIVIL DIVISION Case No. 20-2012-CA-000919 Division:

CENLAR FSB  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 PETER J. D'AMICO A/K/A PETER J. D'AMICO A/K/A PETER JOSEPH DAMICO, SILVIA D. AMICO A/K/A SILVIA D. A MICO A/K/A SILVIA D'AMICO AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/ OWNERS,  
 Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on November 15, 2013, in the Circuit Court of Gadsden County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Gadsden County, Florida described as:

**LOTS 18 & 19 TALQUIN PLANTATION, PREVIOUSLY A RENTAL SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS WILDWOOD MOBILE HOME VILLAGE, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 44, A SUBDIVISION AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 50 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA. TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 1999 SKYLINE BUDDY MOTOR HOME MOBILE HOME, VIN(S) 8D610326LA, TITLE# 76320261 and VIN 8D610326LB, TITLE# 76320262**

and commonly known as: **67 CARLENE LN, QUINCY , FL 32351**; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, South Front Door of the Gadsden County Courthouse, 10 East Jefferson Street, Quincy, Florida 32351, on December 31, 2013 at 11 AM.

Any persons 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 within 60 days after the sale.  
 Dated this 25 day of November, 2013.  
 Nicholas Thomas, Clerk of the Circuit Court  
 (COURT SEAL) By:/s/ Pam K. Carter, Deputy Clerk

Michael L. Tebbi (813) 229-0900 x1346 Kass Shuler, P.A.  
 P.O. Box 800, Tampa, FL 33601-0800 ForeclosureService@kasslaw.com

December 12 & 19, 2013 327470/1204612/sbl

**4983-1219 GCT**  
 vs. Crombie, William Lawrence 20-2013-CA-000568 Notice of Sale  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 20-2013-CA-000568

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.  
 Plaintiff,  
 v.  
 WILLIAM LAWRENCE CROMBIE A/K/A WILLIAM L. CROMBIE A/K/A WILLIAM CROMBIE; JEAN CAROLE CROMBIE A/K/A JEAN C. CROMBIE; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT 2; AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S), WHO (S) ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIM AS HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, SPOUSES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT;  
 Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on November 18, 2013, in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Gadsden County, Florida, the clerk shall sell the property situated in Gadsden County, Florida, described as:

**COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND THENCE RUN NORTH 03 DE**



**FAR LEFT:** A member of East Gadsden High School's jazz ensemble performs during the centennial celebration for the Gadsden County Court House. **LEFT:** Jade Livingston performs for the event. Photos by Cheri Harris



**ABOVE RIGHT:** A number of local leaders including elected officials gathered this past Friday to celebrate the centennial celebration of the Gadsden County Court House. **ABOVE LEFT:** Eric Hinson and Carolyn Poole prepare to seal a time capsule.

**BASH**

Continued from Page A1

the audience that, to him, "the courthouse is a temple" and people seek the courtroom to find truth and justice.

"When people leave," he said, "they feel like they have been heard."

He described the courthouse as a "grand old lady."

"We can be proud of this grand old lady here on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday," he said.

County Judge Kathy Garner described the courthouse as the focal point of Gadsden County's diverse heritage and culture.

She honored county commissioners for approving needed renovations.

"I celebrate you

today for your commitment to Gadsden County," she said. "Without hesitation, without delay they unanimously approved and ensured that this courtroom was renovated and it's beautiful."

The program also

included sealing a 50-year time capsule as part of Viva Florida 500 activities, cake and punch inside the courthouse, a presentation by Joe Munroe about the courthouse's history and a group photo of all leaders attending the event to

commemorate the historic occasion.

*Times Executive Editor Cheri Harris can be reached at 850-627-7649 or editor@gadco-times.com.*

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# Gathering for a good cause

**CHERI HARRIS**  
*Times*

The inaugural Big Bend Cultural & Diversity Harvest Festival took place Friday and Saturday at the Carolyn Ford Amphitheater in Quincy.

Festival organizer and former Quincy Mayor Carolyn Ford said about 200 people attended the event Saturday evening. It was

created as a fundraiser for the North Florida Educational Development Corp.

Quincy native Thaddeus "T-Shaw" Shaw was the headliner for Saturday's lineup. He received a key to the city from current Quincy Mayor Keith Dowdell and was also recognized by members of the Florida Grand Lodge who attended the event Sunday.



**TOP LEFT:** Lillian Jackson, Oscar Clark, Marilyn Holloway and Viola Baker volunteer at the entrance. **TOP RIGHT:** Keith Dowdell presents a key to the city to T-Shaw. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Carolyn Ford, left, and T-Shaw pose for a photo. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Volunteers from Back to Basic Academy pose for a photo. Photos by Cheri Harris



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2010 Chevrolet Camaro LT  
IMPRESSIVE!  
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LEATHER & SUNROOF  
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