

The Jasper News

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Today's Weather
High 93° F
 Precip: 40%
 Partly cloudy early. Scattered thunderstorms developing in the afternoon. High 93F. Winds W to 10 mph. Chance of rain 40%. For up to the minute weather go to www.nflaonline.com.



141ST YEAR, NUMBER 36

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012

3 SECTIONS 38 PAGES

50¢

How Hamilton voted

Results unofficial

Third Circuit judge Group 2

Andrew Decker III.....2,449
 Rick Schutte IV711
Statewide: Andrew Decker III, 28,737 votes, Rick Schutte IV 6,724 votes

Third Circuit judge Group 5

Wes Douglas.....1,919
 Jimmy Prevatt1,362
Statewide: Wes Douglas 20,714 votes, Jimmy Prevatt 15,860 votes

Sheriff

Mike Holton982
Harrell Reid2,623

Supervisor of Elections

Laura Dees1,918
 Joy Howell1,665

Superintendent of Schools

Martha Butler, Dem1,100
Spencer "Sarge" Lofton1,426
Lofton will face Republican Tom Moffses in November

School Board Dist. 3

Jeanie L. Daniels249
 Saul Speights235

County Commission Dist. 1

Beth Burnam, Rep.112
 Samantha Prueter, Rep.84
 Michael Wetherington, Rep.74
 Wade Goolsby, Dem300
Richard E. Williams, Dem.330
Beth Burnam and Richard E. Williams will face off in November

County Commission Dist. 3

Robert Earl Brown212
 Robert "J.J." Daniels62
 Darnell Lumpkin68
 Calvin Paul144

County Commission Dist. 5

Sue Hester Crosby296
Harry "Buster" Oxendine377

U.S. Senator

Connie Mack, Rep.429
 Mike McCalister, Rep.192
 Marielena Stuart, Rep.55
 Dave Weldon, Rep.93
 Glenn Burkett, Dem.1008
Bill Nelson, Dem.1445
Statewide: Connie Mack, Rep. 659,323 votes, Bill Nelson, Dem. 687,413 votes

U.S. Representative

James Jett, Rep.75
 Steve Oelrich, Rep.187
 Cliff Stearns, Rep.197
Ted Yoho, Rep.319
Statewide: Ted Yoho, Rep. 21,735 votes

Back to school at a glance

Kids return Aug. 20

By Joyce Marie Taylor
 joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Monday, August 20 will usher in the new school year for Hamilton County students. The school board would like to remind all students to comply with the dress code, which remains the same as last year, but with a few changes. The updated dress code can be found on the

SEE BACK, PAGE 5A

BOCC

Dev. Authority under scrutiny

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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The Hamilton County Development Authority (HCDA) came under fire at an Aug. 7 county commission meeting after complaints were aired that they weren't doing enough to help small businesses in the county.

Director Susan Ramsey explained how the HCDA works in a recent interview, stating that the HCDA is considered a "Special District" and



SEE DEV., PAGE 2A

Primary election

November ballot now clear

Butler is out, Lofton will face Tom Moffses in November for supt. of schools

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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The primary election has ended and the ballot for November is now clear.

Andrew Decker III took most of the votes in Hamil-

ton County for the Third Circuit judge Group 2 seat over challenger Rick Schutte IV, 2,449 votes to 711. Decker easily won the Third Circuit which makes up seven counties, 28,737 votes to Schutte's 6,724.

For the Group 5 seat, Wes Douglas took 1,919 over Live Oak attorney Jimmy Prevatt who took 1,362 of Hamilton County votes. Douglas won the circuit over Prevatt, 20,714 votes to 15,860 votes. Douglas will now face Angela Cancio, a write-in, in November.

For Superintendent of Schools, Spencer "Sarge"

SEE PRIMARY, PAGE 2A

Pre-k building demolished



The pre-k building at SHE damaged by TS Debby has been demolished. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

Was damaged by TS Debby

By Joyce Marie Taylor
 joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

The Pre-k building at South Hamilton that was damaged by Tropical Storm Debby in late June has now been demolished as was directed by general consensus of the Hamilton County School Board at their July 31 meeting.

Director of Business Services Bonnie Penner said, "We've got three different scenarios. We've talked to FEMA and they do not pay 100 percent of what it would take to do whatever we decide to do. We would have to pay

12.5 percent of anything that's approved. There are instances that they may not approve what's being done."

If the board decided to erect a new building, FEMA would only pay up to their portion of 75 percent to get the building up to code, Penner said, but not to get it up to DOE standards or include the cost of additional enhancements the board may desire.

The three options, Penner said, were (1) repair the old building and bring it back to the state it was in prior to the storm, (2) demolish the

SEE PRE-K, PAGE 8A

Water restrictions rescinded in some areas within the SRWMD

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) Governing Board voted today to amend the District's water shortage order to rescind water restrictions in Baker, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Putnam, Suwannee and Taylor counties.

Water restrictions will remain in effect until Sept. 30 for the following counties: Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Jefferson, Levy, Madison and Union.

The Amend Order also extends the

water restrictions to all unincorporated areas of Alachua County that are located in the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), in accordance with a delegation agreement between the two water management districts and the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners.

"Although groundwater conditions have rebounded in many areas of the District following cumulative rainfall

SEE WATER, PAGE 8A

School district balances budget

No teacher furloughs this year

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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At a recent meeting of the Hamilton County School Board the budget for the upcoming 2012-13 school year was approved without requiring furlough days for employees. Tentative millage rates were also approved. All board members were present except

for Sammy McCoy.

"The budget that you have before you is what was just advertised," said Director of Business Services Bonnie Penner. "It wasn't until this afternoon that we actually figured out a few ways to make up for the hopeful savings that I put into this original budget for the closing of Greenwood, so we had some Title I dollars that picked up and then I believe we had one position not refilled."

SEE SCHOOL, PAGE 2A

Missing Hamilton County man name released

Vanished in Suwannee River June 14, body still not recovered

By Misty A. Ward
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Suwannee County Sheriff Tony Cameron on Friday released the name of the Hamilton County man who went missing in the Suwannee River near the sandbar at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park on July 14.

Arthur Lavoy Padgett, 37, 6026 30th Terrace, Jennings, was last seen by his 12-year-old step-

SEE MISSING, PAGE 2A

Briefly

Memorial Highway Dedication postponed

Due to multiple scheduling conflicts, the dedication ceremony for the Brett Fulton and Josh Burch Memorial Highway has been postponed until further notice, Kurt Wisner, public information officer with the Florida Forest Service announced. The ceremony was previously scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012 at 11 a.m. at the Suwannee Forestry Center, 137 SE Forestry Circle, Lake City, FL 32025.

"The ceremony will be rescheduled as soon as possible. We regret any inconvenience this may cause," said Wisner.

FREE
 Publix
COOKIE
 For Kids 12 & Under
 No Purchase Necessary
 Must Present Coupon
 Limit 1 Per Person

Primary election

Continued From Page 1A

Lofton beat incumbent Democrat Martha Butler 1,426 votes to 1,100. Lofton will face Republican challenger Tom Moffses on Nov. 6.

"I am pleased and would like to thank the community for supporting me this far. There are some things that need to be changed in the school system, and this position was one of them," said Lofton. "Please continue to support me through

November.

Richard E. Williams, Democrat, 330 votes, and Beth Burnam, Republican, 112 votes, will square off in November for the County Commission District 1 seat.

Sheriff Harrell Reid kept his seat, beating challenger Mike Holton 2,623 votes to 982 votes.

"Words cannot express my gratitude for all the wonderful people of Hamilton County for their prayers and support," said Reid.

Laura Dees will remain the supervisor of elections with 1,918 votes to Joy Howell's 1,665.

"My staff and I want to thank all the poll workers for their hard work for a long day and a special thanks to the voters who took advantage of their civic duty and privilege. I humbly thank you for your continued confidence and support. Remember, Nov. 6 is the general election."

For School Board District 3, Jeanie L. Daniels

beat Saul Speights, 249 to 235.

County Commission District 3 saw Robert Earl Brown defeat Calvin Paul, 212 to 144.

County Commission District 5 saw Harry "Buster" Oxendine beat Sue Hester Crosby, 377 to 296.

For U.S. Senator, Connie Mack, Rep., will face Bill Nelson, Dem. in November.

Ted Yoho, Rep., will face Democrat challenger J.R. Gaillot in November.

Missing Hamilton County man name released

Continued From Page 1A

daughter, who tried to pull him to safety, but was unable to help him, as he went under water. Members of his family told SCSO that he did not know how to swim.

Cameron said the family was at the river "enjoying the day". Padgett's body has not yet been recovered. Local authorities continue to search for his body, from where he was last seen all the way to the Gulf Coast.

Cameron said there are two deep holes in that section of the river by the sandbar that "the current does funny things to".

"The water is flowing in two different directions there, causing a swirling effect. A good swimmer can swim right through it, but a bad swimmer would have a difficult time getting

through it," Cameron said.

A Valdosta State University cross country runner drowned in the same spot Wednesday, Aug. 8.

The body of 18-year-old Tajay Hoppines was found around 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 9 near the area he was last seen.

He went under the murky waters of the Suwannee River at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park sandbar shortly after 6 p.m., Aug. 8.

Cameron said Hoppines and fellow cross-country runners from the university were training in the park when it was decided a dip in the murky waters of the Suwannee River was needed. Hoppines and some of his fellow athletes decided to swim across the river but Hoppines never made it.

Development Authority under scrutiny

Continued From Page 1A

that she is not an employee of Hamilton County, but rather an employee of the state of Florida. The HCDA, she said, receives annual funding from the state in order to promote economic growth.

There are seven members on the HCDA Board who were appointed by Gov. Rick Scott. They are Chairman R.B. Davis, Vice-Chair Marylou Bullard, Secretary/Treasurer Danny Daniels, Charles Williams, Milton Hitson, John Cloyd and Nathan Griffin. The board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Ramsey's office in the courthouse annex. Ramsey said, "Our board members serve with no compensation and they try to do what's best for the county. They also try to do their best to follow the governor's targeted industries list."

The HCDA partners with the Rural Economic Development Catalyst Project led by Enterprise Florida. A regional Targeted Industry study was conducted to identify industries with the greatest potential for creating high value-added jobs, capital investment, and economic benefits in the region. The industries identified were logistics and distribution; building component design and manufacturing; aviation services and products; biofuels and renewable energy; healthcare services and products.

When the study was completed in 2005, it was determined that these specific industries were either currently expanding or had potential for high-wage job growth over the next five to 10 years and when Scott took office he supported the study.

The state has been offering a variety of tax credits to these targeted industries.

One of them, biofuels and renewable energy, bit the dust in Hamilton County in 2010. A 50-megawatt bio-power plant that was to be built in Hamilton was shot down after two years of planning. The project was scrapped due to the poor electric power market conditions for large-scale, base-load biomass projects.

On a positive note, the Love's project is nearly complete.

"The Development Authority is thrilled that the Love's project is at the point of hiring people right now," said Ramsey.

Love's Travel Stop with its accompanying Arby's restaurant has been under construction at the I-75 Interchange along US 129 and is scheduled to open later this month. They are currently taking applications online and expect to employ about 60 people and offer full benefit packages. Ramsey said she has been working with the project since she came onboard with the HCDA in early 2010.

The HCDA also works with the North Florida Economic Development Partnership (NFEDP), which was formed to carry out economic development programs for the North Central Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern. As a public/private partnership, it is comprised of local economic developers, county commissioners, workforce development boards, regional planning councils, and private businesses.

During the commissioner's meeting Harry "Buster" Oxendine asked Ramsey for clarification of the HCDA policies. He mentioned he

was approached by a Hamilton County resident who stated that when he applied for assistance from the HCDA a few months ago, he was told by Ramsey that the board had made a decision not to assist small businesses with economic incentives.

Ramsey said, "What the board decided was to follow Governor Rick Scott's targeted industries outline and that is more along the lines of manufacturing, industrial and industry-type jobs."

Ramsey said even though the board had made that decision, if someone comes into her office and asks for an application, she will give them one.

"Any application submitted to me and completed will go in front of the board," said Ramsey.

Oxendine said it seems already pre-determined by the board not to accept any small business applicant requests and that it is basically a waste of their time to even submit an application.

Ramsey said the board is looking at ways to create jobs by bringing in industry type jobs that will put money back into the community for small businesses. They also do not fund any business 100 percent.

"If you have 10 employers that employ six people a piece, that's 60, and those 60 employees will put money back into this community, because they're probably going to shop, spend money, buy gas, buy groceries right here," Oxendine countered. "I have some concerns with that decision being made and those guidelines that your board is apparently following."

Commissioner Josh Smith interjected that more than one applicant

who has received funding from the HCDA does not reside in the county.

"And then we turn down local businesses," Smith added.

Oxendine said another concern from the resident he spoke to was that the HCDA prefers their applicants to own, not lease or rent the facility where they want to do business.

Ramsey said it is a risky move for the HCDA to spend a lot of money improving someone else's building because if the business fails, then they are out all that money.

"I just think there should be some criteria for small industries and small businesses," Oxendine continued. "I don't think you should have a cookie cutter set of rules or guidelines that exclude a certain size of business or industry. I think it should be flexible and they should be willing to negotiate with any size business if they're going to be employing people in our county."

Ramsey said if you log on to www.eflorida.com you will find information about the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) that was created as part of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010. It was designed by the federal government to help states strengthen existing loan and equity programs and/or create new programs that support financing small businesses. Additionally, she said, there is a Small Business Development Center located at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville that can assist small business owners with advice and training and is funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration.



Hamilton County School District

4280 S.W. County Road 152
Jasper, Florida 32052
Phone: 386.792.1228 - Fax: 386.792.3681
Martha W. Butler, Superintendent

School Board Members
Damon Deas - District 1
Gary Godwin - District 2
Jeanie Daniels - District 3
Johnny Bullard - District 4
Sammy McCoy - District 5

Jasper Legals

LEGAL NOTICE

Madison Superstorage, 298 SW Martin Luther King Drive, Madison, Florida and Jasper Superstorage, Corner of US 41 & US 129 N, Jasper, Florida will have a Storage Auction on August 25, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in Madison and 12:00 p.m. in Jasper. Storage units to be sold in Madison: Craig Anderson, Unit #13H, Sierra Brown Unit #2D, Suzie Cruce, Unit #3A, Annette Davis, Unit #3D, Allison Graham unit #10D and Marva Hayling Hubbard, unit #3B, Teleasha Hudson, unit #1D, Adrienne Jackson, unit #2E, Jarvis McQuay, unit #12H, Cynthia McQuay, unit #12E and Travassia Thomas, Unit #12B. In Jasper: Michelle Carlton, Unit #28, Warren Cooks, Unit #55, Margaret Oliver, Unit #47, Marva Taylor, Unit #40, Alan Wetherington, Unit #72 and Ollie Willis, Unit #27. Owners have until 12 pm Friday, August 24, 2012 to pay in full to avoid content auction. Contents are believed to be household objects. Hickory Hill Auctions will handle the sale. For more information and to see which units or if the Auction will be held check listing at www.hickoryhillauctions.com. 08/16, 23

PUBLIC AUCTION

Location: Dennis Garage
8109 CR 146 NW
Jennings, FL 32053

Date: 09-05-12
Time: 8:00 A.M.

1997 Freightliner
Vin# 1FUPCSZB3VL712085

2000 Great Dane Trailer
Vin# 1GRAA062XYB123711
08/16

August 2012

Dear Students and Parents:

Where did the summer go? It's hard to believe that students will soon be back in class! Our summer has been a busy one, and we are excited to welcome everyone to what we know will be a productive and an enjoyable 2012-13 year.

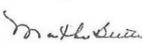
I am pleased to take this opportunity welcome both new and returning students to our district. I am confident that you will have a successful school year, and I encourage you to take advantage of the many educational opportunities we offer.

I would also like to encourage parents and other community members to join with us in promoting our academic and extra-curricular programs. Your participation is important, as your involvement will have a positive impact on the lives of our students.

I look forward to working with you as we work together as advocates for our most precious resource: the students.

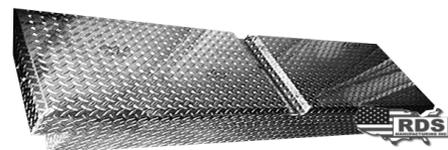
Have a great school year!

Sincerely,


Martha Butler
Superintendent

dlw

FOR SALE



Diamond Plate toolbox in great condition. Used for about one year. Toolbox has split lid for easy access. Toolbox has never been used hard, just mainly to dress up truck. Includes keys for locks. Toolbox is for a full size truck. Brand of this toolbox is RDS manufactured in Perry Fl. \$175 FIRM Call 386-249-9432.

757047



Life in WHITE SPRINGS

By Walter McKenzie

lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

Often get asked questions about White Springs by my friends from the "Big Cities" which can even include Lake City, which is a big city if compared to White Springs. "What do you do there?" "What's it like to live in a small town?" I've proba-

ably been asked many different questions, many different ways, but I answer most of them the same way. I tell them what I like about living in White Springs, and I never run out of things to say. One of the things I like is that we are a small town that gets involved. At last week's Stephen Foster Citizen Support Organization meeting we were told that we were one of two CSOs in the state that required a higher level of annual audit because of the tremendous amount of money the park generated with the help of the CSO. Small town folks...big time involvement.

I like that we retain the charm of the good old days, but have come a long way in rejecting some of the negative aspects of the bad old days, relegating them to history.

I like it that we are a loving people. Last Saturday, as the crowd of CSO members gave Ben Faure a sendoff to his new job as park manager at Fort Clinch, I heard a lot of love expressed. I was especially struck by the touching scene of big, strong men, a few with a hint of a tear in their eye, saying "I love you, Man". We are a town where, if you do your part, carry your share of the load and try to be a good person, people will love you for it.

I like that we are a resilient people. We make mistakes, but we learn from them. When we are firmly on the right track and someone knocks us down, we get up and dust ourselves off and keep on going. Our resolve is strengthened by adversity.

I like that we are connected to nature. Surrounded by the natural beauty of the Suwannee River, Florida State Parks, Osceola National Forest, lakes and streams and agricultural lands, we have a tangible daily connection to the land, the ecology and the nat-

ural environment that is unavailable to many city dwellers. Our Mayor, Helen Miller, is the Vice Chair for FLOW, Florida Leaders Organized for Walter, and is a wonderful example that big involvement and commitment to preserve rural Florida must come from small towns and communities that are still "connected" to the real, natural, original Florida.

I like that we celebrate life and all the aspects of it. On any given week, White Springs is full of celebrations. Last week some of the "White Springs birthday girls", Dorothy Bryant, Patricia Harrington, Doris Redic, Sabrina Marshall and Merri McKenzie, all got together to celebrate the birthday of Yvonne Bryant. I'm told that they had a wonderful time.

I like that we are not far removed from the world, being only a few minutes away from bigger small towns, an hour or so from bigger cities, an international airport and many cultural and educational adventures. And, should we choose to go to the capital of the Southeastern United States, Atlanta is only four hours away. We are somewhat insulated from the hectic aspects and traffic jams of big city life but we are certainly not isolated from the world and on many occasions such as the Florida Folk Festival, the world comes to White Springs.

I like that everyone has an opportunity to stand out in a small town. Efforts and activities, be they negative or positive, don't get lost or

go unnoticed as they often do in bigger cities. Do something positive and you will enjoy the support of your friends and neighbors. Do something negative and they will notice that too, only in a different way, bless your heart.

That is all the news I have for you this week. If you have any news or information about future or past goings on in our town or surrounding community please share them with me. I would love to hear from you and I hope to see you out and about, enjoying life in White Springs.

Walter McKenzie
lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com
386-269-0056

Arrest Records

Editor's note: The Jasper News prints the entire arrest record each week. If your name appears here and you are later found not guilty or the charges are dropped, we will be happy to make note of this in the newspaper when judicial proof is presented to us by you or the authorities.

The following abbreviations are used below:

- DAC - Department of Agriculture Commission
- DOA - Department of Agriculture
- DOT - Department of Transportation
- FDLE - Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- FHP - Florida Highway Patrol
- FWC - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

- HCDTF - Hamilton County Drug Task Force
- HCSO - Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
- ICE - Immigration and Custom Enforcement
- JAPD - Jasper Police Department
- JNPD - Jennings Police Department
- OALE - Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement
- P&P - Probation and Parole
- SCSO - Suwannee County Sheriff's Office
- WSPD - White Springs Police Department

- Aug. 6, Christopher Jordan, 24, 10625 Turner Street, White Springs, Fla., incite insurrection: WSPD-Goud
- Aug. 6, William A. Middlebrook, 33, 16934 Sunrise Drive, White Springs, Fla., incite insurrection: WSPD-Goud
- Aug. 7, Jesse Lee Morris, 28, 8030 Rosedale Ave., Albany, Ga., poss. of weapon by convicted felon, stolen property

- deal in, poss. of weapon by violent career criminal: HCSO-Cheshire
- Aug. 8, Hamami Taalamu Holmes, 35, East Washington Street, Indianapolis, In., driving without license: FDACS/OALE: Hingson
- Aug. 9, Alejandro Rubio Marquez, 18, 3842 NW US 129, Jasper, Fla., poss of alcoholic beverage by person under 21: HCSO-Burnan
- Aug. 9, Sarbriel Ricardo Dominguez, 32, 3842 NW US 129, Jasper, Fla., contib delinq of a minor: HCSO-Burnan
- Aug. 9, Samantha Lynn Simmons, 20, 7086 NW 22nd Place, Jennings, Fla., hold for Alachua County: HCSO-Howell
- Aug. 12, Danny Ray Dunaway, 33, 426 Palmetto Ave., Jasper, Fla., burglary, battery (DV): JAPD-Akins
- Aug. 12, Sean Patrick Corbett, 33, 3111 NW 11th Place, Jasper, Fla., burglary, battery: JAPD-Akins

Annual Awards Day Program at Poplar Springs Church

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the annual Awards Day Program at Greater Poplar Springs Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday, Aug. 26 at 11 a.m.

Awards are presented in three categories: humanitarian, evangelistic and

academic. Come out and be inspired by the motivational speaker, Bro. Calvin Williams, who is a native son of Hamilton County. Dinner will be served after the program. Enjoy some food for the soul as well as food for the body.

Rev. J.T. (Billy) Simon is pastor.

Help spot panthers

FWC asks public to share Florida panther sightings, photos on website

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) has launched a new website that makes it easy for citizens who spot Florida panthers to share the information online.

The site - <https://Public.MyFWC.com/hsc/PantherSightings/> - enables the public to report when and where they have seen a panther or its tracks and upload photos of the sighting.

As recently as the 1970s, the Florida panther was close to disappearing, with as few as 20 animals in the wild. Now there are an estimated 100 to 160 adults and sub-adults. Sub-adults are panthers that have left their mother but are not yet breeding age.

The growing population of this endangered species and its need to roam over large areas mean panthers are spreading beyond their well-documented south Florida range. The FWC has evidence of panther sightings throughout Florida and is getting increased reports from people lucky enough to have photographed a panther or its tracks.

"While it's encouraging to hear from a person who is excited about seeing a Florida panther, the FWC has to have specific documentation of the panther sighting to provide sound science-based panther management," said Darrell Land, FWC panther team leader. "We've been receiving a lot of panther pictures from people who use trail cameras, and this website makes it easy for them to share that information with the FWC."

FWC researchers will use the reported sightings to gain knowledge on the range of Florida panthers.

"The comeback of the Florida panther is a great example of what coordinated conservation efforts can accomplish," Land said. "The FWC is asking people to help document how panthers are responding to these conservation efforts and where they are coexisting with Florida's 19 million human residents."

Learn more about the Florida panther at FloridaPantherNet.org/. The site includes information about panthers for people of different interest levels, including a coloring book and activity pages for kids.

Culinary Arts and Commercial Foods Program

Classes starting August 20th
TABE testing must be completed prior to enrollment



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For more information
www.SuwanneeValleyFloodJam.com
www.MusicLivesHere.com
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Kofi Burbridge • Jamie Davis • The Swingin' Johnsons
The Heavy Pets • The Legendary J.C.'s • Beebs & Her Money Makers • Flannel Church
Mercy Mountain Boys • State Of Mind • Shane Pruitt • Down The Hatch • funkUs
Main Stream • Asheville Flood Commission • Stephanie Renee & Wreckless • Randy & Beth
Catfish Alliance • Chroma • Applebutter Express • Aquaphonics • El Groundscore • The Resolvers
Bibb City Ramblers • Dark Water Social • Paralounge Drummers • The Funky Seeds
DJ Craig Heneveld • The Funky Nuggets • SBIG BUCKSS CREW • DJ Triolops • Nicole Nouveau
Kidd Yzer • DJ Chef Rocc • C-Minus • Vlad The Inhaler • Mason Masters • Jeff Randall • DJ Ginsu • DJ Natural

100% of net profits to be donated to
The United Way-Lake City & Love INC-Live Oak
Flood Jam Silent Auction On-Site & On-Line - www.musicliveshere.com
Weekend tickets - \$45 in advance/\$65 at the gate & include primitive camping
Day Tickets - \$20 per day & available only at the gate. Camping not included
All ages welcome. Kids 12 and under admitted free. Rain or shine.
www.musicliveshere.com • www.suwanneevalleyfloodjam.com

OPINION

Obama's educational excellence initiative

President Barack Obama recently wrote an executive order that established a White House initiative on educational excellence for black Americans that will be housed in the Department of Education. It proposes "to identify evidence-based best practices" to improve black achievement in school and college. Though black education is in desperate straits, the president's executive order will accomplish absolutely nothing to improve black education. The reason is that it does not address the root causes of educational rot among black Americans. It's not rocket science; let's look at it.

The president's initiative contains not one word about rampant inner-city school violence, which makes educational excellence impossible. During the past five years, Philadelphia's

268 schools had 30,000 serious criminal incidents, including assaults -- 4,000 of which were on teachers -- robberies and rapes. Prior to recent layoffs, Philadelphia's school district employed about 500 police officers. In Chicago last year, 700 young people were gunfire victims, and dozens of them lost their lives. Similar stories of street and school violence can be told in other large, predominantly black cities, such as Baltimore, Detroit, Cleveland, Oakland and Newark.

If rampant school crime is not eliminated, academic excellence will be unachievable. If anything, the president's initiative will help undermine school discipline, because it advocates "promoting a positive school climate that does not rely on methods that result in disparate use of disciplinary tools." That means, for example, if black students are suspended or expelled at greater rates than, say, Asian students, it's a "disparate use of disciplinary tools." Thus, even if blacks are causing a disproportionate part of disciplinary problems, they cannot be



A MINORITY VIEW
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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

disciplined disproportionately.

Whether a student is black, white, orange or polka-dot and whether he's poor or rich, there are some minimum requirements that must be met in order to do well in school. Someone must make the student do his homework, see to it that he gets a good night's rest, fix a breakfast, make sure he gets to school on time and make sure he respects and obeys his teachers. Here's my question: Which one of those requirements can be accomplished by a presidential executive order, a congressional mandate or the edict of a mayor? If those minimal requirements aren't met, whatever else is done is for naught.

Spending more money on education cannot replace poor parenting. If it could, black academic achievement wouldn't be a problem. Washington, D.C., for example, spends \$18,667 per student per year, more than any state, but comes in dead last in terms of student achievement. Paul Laurence Dunbar High School was established in 1870 in Washington, D.C., as the nation's first black public high school. From 1870 to 1955, most of its graduates went off to college, earning degrees from Harvard, Princeton, Williams, Wesleyan and others. As early as 1899, Dunbar students scored higher on citywide tests than students at any of the district's white schools.

Its attendance and tardiness records were generally better than those of white schools. During this era of high achievement, there was no school violence. It wasn't racially integrated. It didn't have a big budget. It didn't even have a lunchroom or all those other things that today's education establishment says are necessary for black academic achievement.

Numerous studies show that children raised in stable two-parent households do far better educationally and otherwise than those raised in single-parent households. Historically, black families have been relatively stable. From 1880 to 1960, the proportion of black children raised in two-parent families held steady at about 70 percent; in 1925 Harlem, it was 85 percent. Today only 33 percent of black children benefit from two-parent families. In 1940, black illegitimacy was 19 percent; today it's 72 percent.

Too many young blacks have become virtually useless in an increasingly high-tech economy. The only bright outlook is the trickle of more and more black parents realizing this and taking their children out of public schools. The president's initiative will help enrich the education establishment but do nothing for black youngsters in desperate educational need.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

The Jasper News

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Letter to the editor and Article Policy

Letters to the editor and news articles can be mailed, FAXed or dropped off at the news office located in the Bank of America Building, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. till 12 noon.

Letters to the Editor should be typed, double-spaced if possible, brief and to the point, approximately 150 to 200 words or less. Not all letters are published. To be considered for publication Letters to the Editor must be signed, include the writer's address and phone number, and in the Jasper News' office on Friday before noon.

News Releases, 400 or less words, should be typed, double-spaced if possible, brief and to the point. Not all articles are published.

Letters and articles may be edited to fit available space. Well written letters/articles require less editing.

To mail your letter/article, send it to: The Jasper News, 105 NE 2nd Ave., Jasper, FL 32052 or FAX it to: 386-792-3009.

Junior ROTC Summer Leadership Program

By Lt. Col. Darrell B. Davis (Ret.)
Senior aerospace science instructor

Hamilton County High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) had an outstanding summer leadership school program, starting June 11 to June 23, 2012. It was supervised by Lt. Col. Darrell B. Davis, senior aerospace science instructor, and Master Sergeant William Snipes, aerospace science instructor.

A total of 17 cadets participated in the following

activities: Physical fitness exercises, including a daily one-mile run, basic drill routines, and leadership classroom work from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. each day. Fifteen cadets completed the program successfully. Each received a half credit and a grade in ROTC.

I would like to thank Mrs. Mavis Troy and Mrs. Ida Daniels for supplying the cadets with delicious lunch meals all week. Summer Leadership School was supervised by the following senior cadets: Winston Crosby and Edgar Perez. They

did such a superb job of managing the cadets. Six cadets attended the Cadet Officer Leadership School at the Citadel in Charleston, S.C. The following cadets who attended this outstanding event were: Winston Crosby, Edgar Perez, Nina Weise, Justin Milton, Nola Baltazaar and Charles Burnett.

They all passed COLS that consisted of physical exercises, one mile run, leadership classes, written test and a 24 step drill performance test. Cadets Charles Burnett was rec-

ognized as a honor graduate and top cadet in his flight of 20 students. He was awarded activity ribbon for outstanding sports teamwork. Cadet Burnett was awarded the outstanding drill team ribbon. Cadets Burnett and Crosby received the academic award.

They all will receive a leadership and PT ribbons for their outstanding performance also, a half credit in ROTC. All six cadets passed the PT test and our unit received the Bill Van Eeton Physical Fitness Award. The first time our program has won this award.

It was a great month of June for all the cadets. I would like to thank our principal Mrs. Wanda Law and the school administration for providing this opportunity to build better citizens and leaders for America's future.

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OBITUARY INFORMATION

All obituaries are paid notices and are placed by the funeral home or crematorium handling the arrangements as a service to the family.

For more information:
Phone: 386-362-1734
Fax: 386-364-5578
email: nf.obits@gafnews.com

757783

Obituaries



Queen E. Jelks
Aug. 8, 2012

Mrs. Queen E. Jelks, a resident of White Springs, Florida, passed away Aug. 8, 2012 in the Lake City Medical Center.

Mrs. Queen E. Jelks is survived by her children: Estelle D. Claridy, Harry L. Jelks, Queen E. Jelks, Sharon Hightower, Althea D. Jelks, Lori M. Jelks and Fernando Jelks.

Funeral services for Mrs. Queen E. Jelks will be Saturday, Aug. 18, 2012 at 1 p.m. at the New Jerusalem Baptist Church in White Springs, Florida. Viewing and visitation for family and friends will be Friday, Aug. 17, 2012 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at D.M. Udell Funeral Home Chapel and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the New Jerusalem Baptist Church in White Springs, Florida. Burial will be in the Swift Creek Cemetery in White Springs, Florida.

D.M. Udell Funeral Home is in charge of all arrangements. Call D.M. Udell Funeral Home serving Suwannee, Hamilton, Columbia and surrounding counties with the best of professional services.

D.M. Udell and Sons located at 120 South Walker Ave., Live Oak, Florida, 386-362-4189 or

Back to school at a glance

Continued From Page 1A school district's website at www.hamiltonfl.com.

Important Dates

Hamilton County High School will be holding an Open House on Thursday, Aug. 16 from 5-7 p.m.

Central Hamilton Elementary will be having a Meet the Teacher event on Thursday, Aug. 16 from 1:30-3 p.m. and an Open House on Tuesday, Sept. 11 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

South Hamilton Elementary will have a Meet the Teacher event on Thursday, Aug. 16 from 8:30-10 a.m. and an Open House on Tuesday, Sept. 18 from 5:30-7 p.m.

North Hamilton Elementary will be having

cell at 386-209-0223.

Billie L. Senea
Jan. 29, 1938 -
Aug. 7, 2012

Billie L. Senea, age 74, of Jasper, Fla., passed away early Tuesday on Aug. 7, 2012. Billie was a native and lifelong resident of Hamilton County. She was born on Jan. 29, 1938 to the late Handy and Frances Grimsley Williams. Billie was preceded in death by a great granddaughter, Emma Lei Phillips.

Survivors include three sons, Jimmy Brisbane, Jacksonville, FL., Mark Brisbane, Gainesville, FL. and Shawn Brisbane, Jasper, FL.; two daughters, Cathy Sales, Jasper, FL. and Debbie House, Ocala, FL.; one brother, Jimmy Williams, Jasper, FL.; six sisters, Maureen Waters, Jasper, FL., Mary Rhoden, Jasper, FL., Wimpy McCulley, Jennings, FL., Judy Smith, Annelle Waters and Ruth Cribbs, all of Jasper, FL.; seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday, August 10, 2012 in the chapel of Harry T. Reid Funeral Home, Jasper, FL. with Pastor Danny Henderson officiating.

Interment followed in Evergreen Cemetery, Jasper.

Harry T. Reid Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Death Notice

Willie B. Fannin

Willie B. Fannin age 81 passed away in Hill View Care Center in Montgomery, Alabama.

Willie B. Fannin was former resident of Live Oak, Fla.

D.M. Udell and Sons of D.M. Udell Funeral Home are in charge of all arrangements. 386-362-4189, 386-209-0223.

Meet the Teacher event on Thursday, Aug. 16 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and their open house is Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Greenwood School's Meet the Teacher event will be held Thursday, Aug. 16 from 1-3 p.m.

Other significant dates to keep in mind when school will not be in session for students:

- Labor Day, Sep. 3
- Thanksgiving Break, Nov. 19-23
- Christmas Break, Dec. 20-Jan. 7, 2013
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Jan. 21, 2013
- President's Day, Feb. 18, 2013
- Spring Break, Mar. 25-29, 2013
- Memorial Day, May 27, 2013
- Last Day of School, June 5

Heart Matters

By Angie Land

Ready or not, the back-to-school bells are beginning to ring! The slower pace of summer comes to a close, and as parents, we face the task of preparing our children for the challenges of the upcoming year: buying new supplies, getting bedtimes back into practice and meeting the new teacher.

Thinking back to our own school days may remind us of something important that we often to overlook as parents...our kids may begin school with some real anxiety about what the year will hold. As adults, it can be easy to get caught up in "adult" problems such as work, paying bills, etc. and tend to brush off any fears our kids may have as unimportant or even silly. To your children, these issues are as real as any you may be facing.

If your children seem less than thrilled about going back to school, ask some questions: Are you looking forward to seeing your friends? Are you nervous about how hard the work will be? What do you think about your new teacher? What do you hope will (or will not) happen this year?

Listen to how your children answer these and other questions, and respond with encouragement. Proverbs 12:25 gives great insight: "An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up." Helping your child bring their fears out into the open will not only make them less fearful, it will also help them understand how to deal with their feelings in a positive way. Commit to "checking in" with your children on a regular basis, asking questions to draw out their feelings.

One great daily practice is intentional good-byes and hellos. It works like this: every morning before your child heads off to school, encourage them about the day...no matter how stressful the morning has been or how hard it was to wake them up, make sure that you part ways on a positive note: "I love you, have a great day!" or "I know you will do great on your test!" It works the same way when you reunite at the end of the day...make sure to take a few moments to ask about the day, especially if their heart looks "weighed down". Don't get discouraged if they don't open right up and talk...give it time and practice. Keep asking and keep encouraging...our children have their own giants to face, and we want to make sure they know we are in their corner...



Because Every Heart Matters,
Angie

Heart Matters is a weekly column written by Angie Land, Director of the Family Life Ministries of the Lafayette Baptist Association, where she teaches Bible studies, leads marriage and family conferences and offers Biblical counseling to individuals, couples and families. Contact Angie with questions or comments at angieland3@windstream.net



Around the Banks of the Suwannee

By Correspondent Johnny Bullard

The summer air, full of heat and moisture, hanging like a thick veil over our home. "Around the Banks of the Suwannee" was once pungent and sweet in some areas, full of the distinctive sweet, heavy fragrance of drying deer tongue.

Deer tongue is a plant that flourishes in the moist pine flatwoods of our part of the state. Deer tongue is a small plant that grows on the ground and derives its name, because its green flat leaves, that remind one some of the leaves of tiny tobacco plants, is shaped somewhat like the tongue of a deer.

For many years, dried deer tongue leaves were used to add flavor to pipe tobacco, cigarette tobacco, and other by products. When deer tongue is dried it has a sweet, sweet fragrance that is somewhat like overpowering vanilla extract.

I can picture, in my mind's eye, a lot of folks who regularly made trips into the flatwoods in and around my home north of White Springs, Florida. The Eight Mile Still, on the Woodpecker Route, where I live, is located squarely in the flatwoods of north Florida. In the fall of the year, the deer tongue plant blooms, a tall stem grows from the base of the plant and puts forth a small brushy

deep lavender, almost purple bloom.

Scores of individuals went into the woods with burlap bags in hand to pick deer tongue. It took a lot of deer tongue to make enough for sale, but a lot of the plant flourishes across the thousands of acres of pine woodlands in our area. Those who picked deer tongue had to know what they were picking, and they did, and they had to be wary of snakes and keep a sharp eye out. You had to go "into the woods" in order to gather the small green leaves of the plant.

Once the leaves of the deer tongue plant were picked they were spread out in a dry place where they cured and/or dried before being sold to the deer tongue dealer. Dried deer tongue brought good money, and the deer tongue dealers usually paid off with cash.

There are many stories I have shared with friends from other parts of the nation, but when I begin to tell stories about folks picking deer tongue, I often get that "deer in the headlight" look (no pun intended).

It has been a while, since I've seen anyone picking deer tongue, but I know some folks who would know where and how to find it. I don't know if the decline in those

picking deer tongue is a result of a decline in the tobacco industries or whether most of the younger people in our area wouldn't know a deer tongue plant from a bald cypress. It could be a combination of both. The marketing and sell of items is usually based upon supply and demand. There are items in demand now that people would have laughed out loud if you had mentioned the sell of them a few decades ago. One example of this is bottled water.

There are many wonderful events that have a "sameness" that we share here "Around the Banks of the Suwannee", picking and eating plump and juicy scuppermons (I was grown before I knew that what we called grapes were really scuppermons). I've eaten a ton of them, the dark purple ones and the white ones, eating and enjoying the salty wonder of boiled peanuts and, for many of us, breathing in the heavy sweet fragrance of drying deer tongue.

A wonderful memory of living and life right here "Way down upon the Suwannee River".

From the Eight Mile Still on the Woodpecker Route, north of White Springs, I wish each of you a day filled with joy, peace, and, above all, lots of love and laughter.

Church & Family Go Together

ADVENT CHRISTIAN	BAPTIST (Southern)	METHODIST	PRESBYTERIAN
FIRST ADVENT CHRISTIAN N.W. 15th Avenue Jasper Rev. Wayne Sullivan Sunday Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. 717860-F	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH "Where Friends become Family" 207 N.E. 2nd Street, Jasper. 792-2658 Pastor: Roger Hutto Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Supper.....6:00 p.m. Children, Youth & Adult Programs 6:30 p.m. 717850-F	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 405 Central Ave., Jasper, FL Pastor - Dale Ames Phone - 386-792-1122 Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Family Night Dinner 3rd Wednesday Clothes Closet 4th Saturday 1-5pm 717823-F	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 204 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Jasper, 792-2258 Pastor: Alexandra Hedrick SUNDAY Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Worship Service.....11:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY Choir Practice.....7:00 p.m. 732122
BAPTIST (Southern) NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH SR 6 West, 6592 NW 48th St., Jennings, FL 32053 938-5611 Pastor: Jeff Cordero Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Youth Happening, Mission Friends, R&A & GA.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting, Teen Kids, Youth.....6:00 p.m. Van pick-up upon request 732119	CATHOLIC CHURCH ST. TERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH Three miles north of Jasper U.S. 41 P.O. Box 890, Jasper, FL 32052 Rectory U.S. 90 E., Live Oak, FL (386) 364-1108 Saturday MASS 4:00 p.m. 717846-F	NON-DENOMINATIONAL BURNHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH 4520 NW CR 146, Jennings, FL 32053 938-1285 Pastor: Johnny Brown Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Youth Program.....5:30 p.m. 732115	Building On FAITH
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 1/2 mile East on Hwy. 6, Jasper, FL 32052 792-2275 Pastor: Steve Shaw Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Children's Church.....11:00 a.m. Church Training.....6:00 p.m. Evening Worship.....7:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m. Youth Ignited/Youth Ministry 7:00 p.m. 717852-F	CHURCH OF CHRIST CHURCH OF CHRIST N.W. 3rd St., Jasper Bldg.: 792-2277 Sunday Sunday School.....9:30 a.m. Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening.....6:00 p.m. 717824-F	To list your church on our church directory, please call Virginia at 386-362-1734	

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The Sound of Music

"Rain drops on roses and whiskers on kittens. Bright copper kettles and warm woolen mittens. Brown paper packages tied up with string.. these are a few of my favorite things.."

For anyone like me 'The Sound of Music' invokes memories of Fraulein Maria and the Trapp family singing their way through an Austrian love affair and evading Nazi capture. Outside of Julie Andres and Edelweiss, what is the sound of music, or more importantly, what can the sound of music do for us?

Sound waves are oscillations of pressure

transmitted through space created by a vibration of an object, which causes vibrations in the air. The human ear can hear sounds down to 20 hertz, or vibrations per second; up to about 20,000 hertz. This is really quite an impressive range. If we could hear much below 20 hertz we could hear the movements of our own muscles! So, regardless of whether we can hear it or not, sound waves are always there. What does this mean? Sounds are vibrations, smallest of which can have an affect on our bodies.

Science has proven music has the ability to

heal, lessen pain, reduce blood pressure, speed recovery after a stroke, calm migraines and head aches. Certain sounds have been found to enhance intelligence, learning, and IQ. Improvements in memory performance, concentration, and attention have been documented. Sounds calm, relax, and relieve; can induce sleep, decrease depression and cures the blues. Music has been shown to increase work productivity and fight fatigue. Even very recent studies have shown individuals listening to play lists of their choice improved their athletic perfor-

mance, body movements, and coordination!

Realizing the potential impact of music on health is no new trend. The Sounds of Music have been used in medicine for thousands of years. Ancient Greek philosophers believed music could heal the body and soul. Native Americans have used singing and chanting as part of their healing rituals for millennia. During World War II the U.S. Veterans Administration hospitals began treating soldiers suffering from shell shock with music therapy. In 1944 Michigan State University es-

tablished the first music therapy degree program in the world. Now, the U.S. employs thousands of professional music therapists. Some music therapy services are even covered by health insurance!

If you're still not a believer, pay attention next time you hear music, or any sound, and notice changes in your mood, posture, and even breathing. By the same token be aware certain types of music also have the power to induce negative moods and effects on the body. Be selective with what you listen to, and you too can benefit from music as another



tool to advance and improve health. Let's crank up the volume and pick up those good vibrations!

"Gotta keep lovin' those good vibrations.."
~Beach Boys

~Beth Harris, CSCS, HFS, LWMC
www.jayeeelizabeth-harris.com

NFCC honors 2012 Practical Nursing graduates

Pinning and Lamp Lighting Ceremony marks beginning of new journey for graduates



Graduates celebrate in the Lighting of the Lamp ceremony.

MADISON, FL – North Florida Community College honored its Practical Nursing Class of 2012 with a traditional Pinning and Lamp Lighting Ceremony on July 19 at Van H. Priest Auditorium. Eight Practical Nursing graduates were recognized and took part in the ceremony's Lighting of the Lamps and Reciting of the Nightingale Pledge. Two graduates received special recognition: Sealy Crider (South Carolina) received the Excellence in Clinical Setting Award and Jannah Hancock (Duval County) received the Certificate of Academic Achievement for the Practical Nursing Program.

The pinning ceremony is a special moment for graduates and marks the beginning of each student's career as a

professional nurse. NFCC graduate Courtney Pape (Hamilton County) was recognized as the "Keeper of the Light" who will return next year to pass along the Lamp Lighting tradition to the next class of Practical Nursing graduates.

NFCC's 2012 Practical Nursing graduate from Hamilton County is:

HAMILTON COUNTY
Courtney Pape

For more information about NFCC's LPN program, contact Melissa Tharpe in the NFCC Allied Health Department at (850) 973-1626 or tharpem@nfcc.edu.

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Free admission for locals to Suwannee Valley Flood Jam

Suwannee, Hamilton and Columbia county residents receive free admission



The Atlanta Funk Society Horns.



Grammy Award winner Kofi Burbridge, - by Evans Photography.

Submitted

The Suwannee Music Foundation will present Suwannee Valley Flood Jam Aug. 17 & 18 at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak, Fla. Residents of Suwannee, Columbia and Hamilton counties will receive free admission to the event by showing valid photo identification with proof of local residency at the box office on the day of the show.

The Suwannee Valley Flood Jam is proud to announce several line-up additions including Grammy Award winner Kofi Burbridge, The Atlanta Funk Society Horns, Gris Gris Boys, Dark Water Social, Bibb City Ramblers, The Parlounge Drummers, Honey Henne Lime, Dead Keys and Nicole Nouveau. More than 30 bands including Music Park favorites Peter Rowan, The Lee Boys, Jamie Davis, The Swingin' Johnsons, The Heavy Pets, The Legendary JC's, Donna the Buffalo and many more will fill up the special Suwannee Valley Flood Jam line-up. Full line-up below.

The Suwannee Valley Flood Jam also announces a Thursday Night Pre-Party to be held Thursday Aug. 16 in The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Hall. Entertainment will be from 6 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. Entertainment includes Ted "Teddy Mac Elvis" McMullen with Karaoke, Quartermoon and Greenhouse Lounge. \$20 ticket is available at the door only and includes music and primitive camping. All residents of Suwannee, Columbia and Hamilton counties will be admitted free of charge with valid photo identification.

During the Flood Jam a flood victims' business expo will be held Saturday, Aug. 18, to bring flood victims together with local businesses who are members of the Suwannee County Chamber of Commerce and/or the Lake City/Columbia County Chamber of Commerce such as banks, home builders, contractors, real estate agents, insurance companies, volunteer agencies, legal assistance, faith-based organizations, home restoration companies and others who can help flood victims. Deadline for chamber members to sign up to participate

free of charge is Aug. 13. Check musicliveshere.com, the Suwannee County Chamber of Commerce at www.suwannee-chamber.com/ or call 386-362-3071; or contact the Lake City/Columbia County Chamber at 386-752-3690 or go to their website at www.lakecitychamber.com for more information. FEMA, SBA, crisis counseling and financial counseling will also be available during the expo.

On June 24, 2012, Tropical Storm Debby settled over North Florida for 4 days, dumping more than 25 inches of rain in some areas of Suwannee, Hamilton and Columbia counties. The Suwannee River rose to near record flood levels and dozens of sinkholes developed around those counties, destroying many businesses and homes while making roads impassible. The storm flooded some 1,500 families out of their homes - many were left without shelter, cars, clothes, food or any worldly possessions. The flood affected over 10,000 other people throughout the tri-counties.

Two-day tickets are \$45 in advance, \$65 at the gate and include primitive camping. Single-day tickets are \$20 per day and available only at the gate. Day tickets do not include primitive camping.

An on-line charitable auction will also be available to all, including those not able to attend.

Whether in person or not, folks will have the opportunity to bid on a variety of great items including artist memorabilia, diamond and gold jewelry, music instruments, collectible items and much more. Stay connected to www.musicliveshere.com for updates, to view the online auction and to purchase tickets.

One hundred percent of net profits from the Suwannee Valley Flood Jam will be donated to locally based charities, Love INC based in Live Oak, Fla and The United Way based in Lake City, Fla.

Since the flood, the Suwannee Music Foundation and the Spirit of Suwannee Music Park have partnered with Love INC. to deliver supplies and provide relief to affected households. These charitable efforts by music lovers everywhere have helped hundreds of people who in this desperate time of

their lives have virtually nothing. Volunteers at both agencies, along with many others throughout the three counties and from near and far, have donated thousands of hours to help family, friends and complete strangers, wading in waist deep, contaminated water to bring out precious personal belongings, prized children's toys and helping families find suitable temporary homes and pulling out soaked belonging and drywall so recovery can begin. Some homes remain flooded.

The Suwannee Valley Flood Jam full line-up is as follows: Peter Rowan, Donna The Buffalo, The Lee Boys, The Swingin' Johnsons, Jamie Davis, The Heavy Pets, The Legendary JC's, Mercy Mountain Boys, Bees & Her Money Makers, Flannel Church, State Of Mind, Shane Pruitt, Down The Hatch, Main Stream, funkUs, Asheville Flood Commission, Stephanie Renee & Wreckless, Randy & Beth, Catfish Alliance, Chroma, Applebutter Express, Aquaphonics, El Groundscoro, The Resolvers, The Funky Seeds, DJ Craig Heneveld, The Funky Nuggets, Flt Rsk, \$BIG BUCKS\$ CREW, DJ Triclops, Kidd Yzer, DJ Chef Rocc, C-Minus, Vlad The Inhaler, Mason Masters, Jeff Randall, DJ Ginsu, DJ Natural, including Grammy Award winner Kofi Burbridge, Gris Gris Boys, Dark Water Social, Bibb City Ramblers, The Parlounge Drummers, Honey Henne Lime, Dead Keys and Nicole Nouveau.

For more, go to the Suwannee Valley Flood Jam website at

www.suwanneevalleyfloodjam.com or contact the SOSMP at 386-364-1683, email spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musicliveshere.com. If you would like to make reservations for RV parking, cabins and camper parking at the SOSMP, call or contact the SOSMP at the above numbers, website or email address.

The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park is located at 3076 95th Drive 4.5 miles north of Live Oak, FL off US 129 at the famous Suwannee River. The park is 4.5 miles south of Interstate 75 and 4.5 miles north of Interstate 10 off US 129. Keep an eye out for the SOSMP sign and white painted board fence!

Small Business Loans

ATLANTA - The U.S. Small Business Administration reminds homeowners, renters, businesses and non-profit organizations in Florida of the deadline to submit disaster loan applications for damages caused by Tropical Storm Debby that occurred from June 23 through July 26, 2012. The deadline to file an SBA disaster loan application for physical damage is Sept. 4, 2012.

Anyone with insured losses should not wait for an insurance settlement before applying to the SBA. "If someone does not know how much of their loss will be covered by insurance or other sources, the SBA will consider making a loan for the total loss up to its loan limits, provided they agree to use insurance proceeds to reduce or repay their SBA loan," said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

The disaster declaration covers the counties of Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Franklin, Gilchrist, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lafayette, Manatee, Nassau, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, Suwannee, Taylor, Union and Wakulla, which are eligible for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA. Small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private non-profit organizations in the following adjacent counties are eligible to apply only for Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA: Alachua, Charlotte, Desoto, Dixie, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Jefferson, Lake, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Putnam, Saint Johns and Sumter in Florida; and Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Echols and Ware in Georgia.

Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

-more-

Interest rates are as low as 1.938 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. The SBA sets the loan amounts and terms based on each applicant's financial condition.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at 800-621-FEMA (3362), (TTY) 800-462-7585 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing and register.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road,

Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is September 4, 2012. The deadline to return economic injury applications is April 3, 2013.

For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Program, visit our website at www.sba.gov.

US 129 in Hamilton County scheduled to be resurfaced beginning August 27

Lake City -A Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) project to resurface US 129 from the western city limits of Jasper to the Georgia line is scheduled to begin Monday, August 27.

Crews will begin with drainage improvements at various side streets and driveways throughout the 7.6 mile project. Drainage pipes will be completely replaced under Northwest 97th and 99th avenues.

Once the drainage work is completed, crews will remove two inches of asphalt and replace it with three inches. Asphalt will also be added at one curve near the state line to help motorists maintain the posted speed limit while traveling through the curve. Paving is expected to begin by mid-September.

This project also includes adding or replacing asphalt at side street intersections to assist motorists turning onto and off of US 129 and replacing bridge joints and portions of guardrail at the Little Alapaha River and Alligator Creek. Two driveways

will also be reconstructed. Motorists can expect daytime lane closures Monday through Friday after 8:30 a.m. with flaggers directing traffic.

Anderson Columbia Company of Lake City has been hired by the FDOT to complete the work for \$2.9 million. The contractor has about five months to complete the work, depending on weather conditions and other unexpected circumstances.

This section of US 129 was last resurfaced in 2006. An average of 1,600 vehicles travels US 129 between Jasper's city limits and County Road 150 and 800 vehicles travel between County Road 150 and the state line each day.

For additional information regarding this project or other FDOT projects around Northeast Florida, visit www.nfroads.com or call 800-475-0044. The public can also follow this project and other projects in Northeast Florida by following the FDOT on Twitter @MyFDOT_NEFL or http://twitter.com/MyFDOT_NEFL.



Tobacco Free Partnership Training Aug. 21

By Joyce Marie Taylor

The Hamilton County Tobacco Partnership is hosting a free training session for all youth and adults in the county on Tuesday, August 21 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the FDLRS Training Room J.R.E. Lee Educational Complex.

"You will hear from professional tobacco prevention experts on how to

implement a smoke-free community," said Hamilton County Prevention Specialist Tony Ogburn.

At the training session you will be taught tips and strategies on how to prevent your teens from using tobacco and given help lines for quitting.

A light dinner will be held after the training session, compliments of the Hamilton County Drug & Alcohol Coalition.

Guiding Good Choices

Submitted

Hamilton County Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Coalition presented to Hamilton County local probationers information on Guiding Good Choices. This class assists with improving their parenting skills as well as satisfies community service hours. Instructors were Joanie Blue (HSD Teacher) and Pam Lake (FDLRS).

The Guiding Good Choices program has been offered throughout the country and has been honored with several citations of excellence including model program (the highest possible achievement) from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Guiding Good Choices is a five-session workshop series for parents of children in grades 4-8. In a lively and open atmosphere, you will learn specific strategies to help your children.

In a 4 year follow up, the program was shown to:

- Reduce current alcohol use by 40.6 %.
- Significantly reduce the rate on initiation for marijuana and drunkenness.

In other clinical studies, the program has been shown to:

- Reduce the likelihood that experimental users will advance to heavier use by 54%
- Increase the likelihood that non-users will remain drug-free by 26%
- Reduce the likelihood that young people will commit delinquent acts.

Attending Guiding Good Choices will help you give your child a better future by:

- Providing you better parenting skills
- Helping you strengthen family bonds
- Increasing your children's involvement in the family

- Decreasing the likelihood that your children will abuse drugs or be involved in other negative adolescent behaviors.

- Helping you understand "Adolescence". Risk-taking in adolescence is normal and essential to learning and personal development

Workshop Topics in five 2-hour sessions—for parents of 9-14 year olds:

- How to prevent Drug use and Risky Behaviors. Going from elementary to middle or to high school, moving to a new school or change in family structure can be stressful for a youngster. Are you ready? Is your child?

- What you know and believe matters! How to develop Healthy Beliefs and clear standards

- Help your child learn how to say NO and keep their friends (parents attend with children)

- How to Control and Express Anger Constructively. Adolescence is a tough time, sorely testing parenting. This session is practical and will help.

- How to strengthen Family Bonds. Success for your child begins at home.

We are very proud of our participants and instructors. We wish to thank the Probation and Parole staff for giving us this opportunity to reach out to parents in our community. We as a coalition are very excited about our program being utilized for the betterment of Hamilton County. This program is an excellent activity for groups of parents in various settings such as churches or parent teacher organizations. If any organization or church would like to have this program provided, please contact Grace McDonald, Executive Director of the Hamilton County Alcohol and Drug Prevention Coalition. You can call 386-938-4911 or email her at mcdonadg1@windstream.net.

Norris Notes

By Lillian Norris

News is slow coming in this week, need to hear from you.

From we hear from those we talked with who attended the Youth Week at Blue Ridge was a very inspirational time for all who were able to make the trip, it was a safe trip, all came home revitalized from a week spent in worship and recreation. Remembering days like this spent in my young days, I know that they will stay for the rest of their lives, worshipping with friends, making new friends, together, these are experiences that will stay with them all of their lives.

Received some news from Timmy Dyke last week, copy of message to Pine Grove Missionary Baptist, regarding a 24 hour Mission Trip

with Words to Works Ministry, hope to hear about this later. I believe Pine Grove is between Jasper and Live Oak, I seem to remember their choir visiting and singing at Suwannee Valley Nursing Center during my stay there, they presented a special program in music, I believe under the direction of Michelle Belote Wigglesworth and they will be back at the SVNC this month.

One thing I have learned in doing this column, sometimes in trying to get one item of information can lead to another. In talking with Frances Altman I learned that they had taken two of their granddaughters, Bailey and Hannah, to the mountains on vacation, and had spent some time in my 'neck of the woods'. I must look up that expression, don't know if it is native to our part of the country in N.C. They had a wonderful time togeth-

er, and had a safe and happy trip.

We want to give a belated 'Happy Birthday' to Mrs. Mattie King who turned 103 on Aug. 3rd. She celebrated with family and friends, and we all send our love and best wishes. As usual, SVNC stays busy, the Bingo Group came back to Jasper from Surrey Place, Live Oak, with the trophy and also as usual the residents were there to welcome them back and to learn that they brought the trophy back.

The birthday party at SVNC will be this Thursday, hosted by West Lake Church of God, to honor all of those with birthdays this month.

Will save any additional news for next week. Let me hear from you.

norrislw@windstream.net
386-792-2151

Pre-k building demolished

Continued From Page 1A

building and rebuild or, (3) demolish the building and not rebuild.

SHE has 294 satisfactory student stations available in the main building, Penner said, which can handle the projected enrollment for the 2012-13 school year of 155 students, along with the pre-k students.

"There's not a need for the space," said Penner.

The engineer from Clemmons-Rutherford and Associates had advised the school district on July 16 that he would not recommend repairing the building, Penner said. Plus, the building is 50 years old and there would be too many en-

hancements such as fire alarms, cabling, and telecommunications that would be needed to bring it up to DOE standards.

Supt. Martha Butler said there is the possibility that FEMA would help pay for a retaining wall so that the washout does not occur again, even if the building is gone.

"We're in the process of doing all the documentation," Butler said.

Butler also said FEMA may help with the costs of removing the building and the tree, and shoring up the ground where the dirt was washed away, in order to get the site back to being safe for the children on campus at SHE.

"I would like to see the board let us go ahead

and demolish that building," Butler stated at the meeting. "We've been told it's not safe for children. The recommendation from the insurance adjuster and the engineer was that we not use it for children."

Since time was of the essence with school about to start up in a few weeks, and in order to take advantage of a \$16,000 demolition estimate given to the district by a Live Oak contractor, the board agreed by unanimous consent to go ahead and demolish the building.

Board member Johnny Bullard said he would feel better having those young students inside the main building anyway, as he felt it would be safer for them.

Keep in touch with FEMA

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Tropical Storm Debby survivors who have already registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency are urged to keep in touch with the agency, especially if they have been displaced by the disaster.

Survivors who have registered for state and federal assistance should keep their contact information current to ensure timely delivery of important assistance updates.

Applicants who need to update their contact information or have questions regarding their application can call the toll-free FEMA helpline or visit a disaster recovery center for in-person help.

To register or reach the helpline survivors can call 800-621-FEMA (3362). Assistance is available in most languages and lines are open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. Those who are deaf or hard of hearing and use a TTY may call 800-462-7585.

By calling the helpline survivors can:

- Update their file with a change of address or new phone number.
- Ask questions about disaster assistance.
- Track the progress of their FEMA application.
- Get information about the inspection process.
- Learn about the steps to appeal a FEMA decision.

Before calling, survivors should have their registration number available.

They may also go online to www.DisasterAssistance.gov. By smartphone or tablet, they may use

the FEMA app or go to m.fema.gov.

For more information on Florida's disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or www.floridadisaster.org/. On Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/FloridaSERT. To receive Twitter updates: twitter.com/FLSERT or www.twitter.com/femaregion4.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). If you have a speech disability or hearing loss and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585 directly; if you use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

Gardening tips

Feast or famine: No water vs too much water

By Lucille Bobiney Heinrich

As our community emerges from a long period of drought, Mother Nature, with her wry sense of humor, has dealt us another blow: the floods of Tropical Storm Debbie now being followed by daily doses of rain. Worrying about plants is the last thing many of our less fortunate neighbors need to concern themselves with right now, but for those more fortunate, you may be seeing signs in your garden of overwatering.

One of the first signs is leaves beginning to turn brown or yellow, drooping or wilting. Plants breathe through their roots, and if the soil is saturated with water, the plant can die from lack of air. Plants are left open to attack from pests and disease if the soil is constantly kept too wet. Make sure your potted

plants are free of standing water and regularly empty water that has drained from the bottom of potted plants.

Many of our landscape plants, such as palms, fruit trees, azaleas, and Indian hawthorn, do not like wet feet. Others, such as crape myrtle, Chinese holly, red maple, sweet gum, sycamore, and bald cypress can tolerate extended periods of flooded conditions. It is best to take a "wait and see" attitude toward your landscape plants. If your plants have lost leaves during the flooding, but are now putting on new growth, that is an encouraging sign that this plant will recover. Avoid fertilizing your compromised plants and lawns right now. Nitrogen will put much demand for new growth on the damaged roots of plants and do more harm than good.

If your roses are not showing signs of water dam-

age, continue with your feeding schedule as roses are heavy feeders and need to be fertilized monthly until October. Pinch back poinsettias and mums before the end of the month to allow time for buds to form for winter bloom. Keep the weeds pulled before they have a chance to flower and go to seed again. We can also begin preparing for cool season vegetables such as broccoli, collards, onions, turnips and cauliflower. By September, we can mix in many other cool season vegetables such as lettuce, beets, cabbage and carrots.

Remember, cool weather is not too far away, and fall gardening is always a delight. Keep in mind your less fortunate neighbors and begin taking cuttings off your healthy plants and potting them so that you can share these new plants with neighbors who have lost their gardens due to flooding.

FEMA: Survivors need to spend disaster aid wisely

Tropical Storm Debby survivors should use their government grants only to meet specific disaster-related needs.

Federal assistance received from the state and the Federal Emergency Management Agency must be spent for repairs or replacement of items that were damaged as a direct result of the disaster and that are not covered by insurance.

Housing Assistance grants are intended for basic housing needs, including repairs to a septic system or private well. They may also be used for temporary rent payments or reimbursement of hotel/motel expenses.

Other Needs Assistance grants are intended to help repair or replace essential personal property and meet disaster-related medical, dental and funeral expenses.

FEMA financial assistance is provided by check or deposited electronically, and it is followed by a letter explaining how the money should be spent. Government-issued as-

sistance may be audited. Survivors should keep receipts for three years to document disaster-related expenses.

Survivors who suspect someone is filing a false damage claim may call the FEMA fraud hotline at 800-323-8603.

The first step toward obtaining recovery assistance is to register with FEMA:

By phone, call 800-621-FEMA (3362) from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. local time. Assistance is available in many languages. Those who are deaf, hard of hearing or who have a speech disability may use TTY 800-462-7585.

By computer, go online to www.DisasterAssistance.gov.

By smartphone or tablet, use m.fema.gov.

For more information on Florida's disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or www.floridadisaster.org/. On Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/FloridaSERT. To receive Twitter updates: twitter.com/FLSERT or www.twitter.com/femaregion4.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). If you have a speech disability or hearing loss and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585 directly; if you use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362.

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must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal

property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

Half a Heart Full of Love

Lowndes Heart Walk will be held on November 3, 2012 at 8am

Team Sadie

Looking for walkers and donations for the American Heart Association

Sadie was born with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS). This means she was born with the left side of her heart under developed. She has gone through four open heart surgeries. At the age of 2 years the doctor told us she had 3-6 months to live. November the 3rd will be actually five years ago and she is still living life to the fullest. So as you can see the American Heart Association is dear to our family.

The American Heart Association is an organization that acts to reduce risk of stroke and heart disease in the United States. They also provide funding for medical research, education and community services.

To make donations or join Team Sadie go to www.lowndesheartwalk.kintera.org/teamsadie

or

Send checks to 1174 Florida street Jennings, FL 32053
memo: Team Sadie ----- then I will make the donation for you.

Thank you for all your support in this great cause.

We will be having bake sales, t-shirts and bracelets to raise money. We will also be accepting baked goods for the sale.

For more information please call 229-834-8303

North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership stakeholder committee to meet Aug. 28 in Alachua

The stakeholder advisory committee to the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership will meet at 1 p.m. on Aug. 28 in the City Commission Chambers, Alachua City Hall, 15100 N.W. 142nd Terrace, Alachua.

The agenda includes discussion and adoption of committee operating procedures and a work plan. The committee also will review the process of developing a regional water supply plan. In future meetings, the committee will receive briefings on the status of minimum flows and levels (MFLs) development in the St. Johns River and Suwannee River water management districts and MFL prevention and recovery work and development of the Northeast Florida-Southeast Georgia Regional Groundwater Model.

The meeting is open to the public, and there will be an opportunity for public comment.

The stakeholder advisory committee, which was formed in May, serves as an advisory body to offer viewpoints from stakeholder groups to the St. Johns River and Suwannee River water management districts and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to help address the region's water supply issues.

The committee held its first meeting June 25, at which members offered their vision for the committee and communicated their interest in the region's water supply issues.

The Partnership seeks to improve program coordination and communication among water managers, local governments, concerned individuals and other stakeholders by working together to protect the shared water resources.

For more information about the Partnership, visit northfloridawater.com.

Deadline to apply for SBA Physical Disaster Loans is Sept. 4

TS Debby survivors should not wait for insurance settlement

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration reminds homeowners, renters, businesses and non-profit organizations in Florida of the deadline to submit disaster loan applications for damages caused by Tropical Storm Debby that occurred from June 23 through July 26, 2012. The deadline to file an SBA disaster loan application for physical damage is Sept. 4, 2012.

Anyone with insured losses should not wait for an insurance settlement before applying to the SBA. "If someone does not know how much of their loss will be covered by insurance or other sources, the SBA will consider making a loan for the total loss up to its loan limits, provided they agree to use insurance proceeds to reduce or repay their SBA loan," said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

The disaster declaration covers the counties of Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Franklin, Gilchrist, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lafayette, Manatee, Nassau, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, Suwannee, Taylor, Union and Wakulla, which are eligible for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA. Small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private non-profit organizations in the following adjacent counties are eligible to apply only for Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA: Alachua, Charlotte, Desoto, Dixie, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Jefferson, Lake, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Putnam, Saint Johns and Sumter in Florida; and Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Echols and Ware in Georgia.

Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. Businesses and non-profit organi-

zations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 1.938 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. The SBA sets the loan amounts and terms based on each applicant's financial condition.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at 800-621-FEMA (3362), (TTY) 800-462-7585 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing and register.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can be downloaded from www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is September 4, 2012. The deadline to return economic injury applications is April 3, 2013.

For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Program, visit our website at www.sba.gov.

Social Security and women

By Mary Kate Vang
Social Security District Manager,
Lake City, FL

Aug. 26 is known as Women's Equality Day. On that date in 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was signed, giving women the right to vote.

Social Security treats men and women equally. Men and women with identical earnings histories are treated exactly the same. However, there are things women in particular should know about Social Security. Although treated equally by Social Security, there are trends and differences in lifestyle that can affect benefits.

For example, women tend to care for many people: spouses, children, and parents. Taking time away from the workplace to care for a newborn child or aging parent can have an impact on your future Social Security benefits.

Also, despite significant strides through the years, women are more likely to earn less over a lifetime than men. Women are less often covered by private retirement plans, and they are

more dependent on Social Security in their retirement years.

And, women tend to live about five years longer than men, which means more years depending on Social Security and other retirement income or savings.

If a woman is married to a man who earns significantly more than she does, it is likely she will qualify for a larger benefit amount on his record than on her own.

Want to learn more? Visit our Women's page at www.socialsecurity.gov/women. Follow the link on that page to our publication, What Every Woman Should Know. You can read it online, print a copy, or listen to it on audio. We provide alternate media as well to reach as many women as possible and to provide the information the way you'd like to receive it.

Learning about your future Social Security benefits and how men and women are treated just the same in the eyes of Social Security: what better way to celebrate Women's Equality Day?

Social Security questions and answers

By Mary Kate Vang
Social Security District Manager, Lake City, FL

Question:

How can I get a copy of my Social Security Statement?

Answer:

If you are age 18 or older, you may get your Social Security Statement conveniently online at any time after creating an account at www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement. The Statement provides estimates for retirement, disability and survivors benefits, as well as a way to determine whether your earnings are accurately posted to your Social Security record. Social Security sends paper Social Security Statements in the mail only to people age 60 and older and, beginning July 2012, to workers the year they turn 25. If this applies to you, you should receive your Statement about two to three months before your birthday. Also, you can get an instant, personalized estimate of your future retirement benefit using our online Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Question:

My neighbor, who is retired, told me that the income he receives from his part-time job at the local nursery gives him an increase in his Social Security benefits. Is that right?

Answer:

Retirees who return to work after they start receiving benefits may be able to receive a higher benefit based on those earnings. This is because Social Security automatically re-computes the retirement benefit after crediting the additional earnings to the individual's earnings record. Learn more by reading the publication, How Work Affects Your Benefits, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10069.html.

Question:

I plan to retire soon. When are Social Security benefits paid?

Answer:

Social Security benefits are paid each month. Generally, new retirees receive their benefits on either the second, third, or fourth Wednesday of each month, depending on the day in the month the retiree was born. If you receive benefits as a spouse, your benefit payment date will be determined by your spouse's birth date.

Here's a chart showing how your monthly payment date is determined:

Day of the Month You Were Born	Social Security Benefits Paid On
1st-10th	Second Wednesday
11th-20th	Third Wednesday
21st-31st	Fourth Wednesday

For a calendar showing actual payment dates for 2012, see the Schedule of Social Security Benefit Payments at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/calendar.htm.



A word to the wise: Follow these tips to stay safe as you head back to school.

- 1** Seatbelts should always be worn, even on the bus. Never get out of your seat while the bus is moving.
- 2** Always look both ways before crossing the street and always use the crosswalks.
- 3** Find a safe place away from the road to wait for the school bus.
- 4** Every time you ride your bike, be sure to wear a helmet.
- 5** Tell a teacher or parent if somebody is bothering you.
- 6** Your phone number is important to know - memorize it. Also, be familiar with other important phone numbers like the police and fire departments.
- 7** Walk to school with a friend, and follow a familiar route where you won't be alone. Never talk to strangers along the way.
- 8** Instructions during fire drills should be followed carefully. This way you'll know what to do in a real fire.
- 9** Say no to smoking and drugs!
- 10** Exercise caution with unfamiliar animals you may see on your way to school. Remember, not every animal is friendly.

THIS MESSAGE APPEARS COURTESY OF:

Dixie Grill
101 Dowling Ave. SE
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-364-2810
758893

Mayo Truss Co.
845 E. HWY 27
Mayo, FL 32066
386-294-3988
758897

North Florida Printing, Inc.
109 Tuxedo Ave. NE
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-362-1080
758901

Daniels Funeral Home
1126 Ohio Ave. N
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-362-4333
758894

Live Oak Paint Center
1512 Ohio Ave. S
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-362-7066
758898

WB Howland Co.
610 11th St. SW
Live Oak, FL 32060
386-362-1235
758902

Browns Flowers & Gifts
106 1st Ave. SW
Jasper, FL 32052
386-792-1120
758895

Suwannee Health & Fitness
405 11th St. SW #101
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-362-4676
758899

Spirit of Suwannee Music Park
3076 95th Drive
Live Oak, FL 32060
386-364-1683
759165

Live Oak Gathering
602 W. Howard St.
Live Oak, FL 32060
386-362-1189
758896

Suwannee Valley Dental
510 S. Ohio Ave.
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-362-1408
758900

Tractor Supply, Co.
207 72nd Trace NE
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-362-1515
759169

Dr. Herbert Mantooth
602 Railroad Ave. SE
Live Oak, FL 32064
386-362-6556
759170

School bus safety for kindergarteners

A kindergartener's first day of school is a day to cherish. There are so many firsts to experience, from wearing a backpack for the first time to making new friends to riding on a school bus. All of these firsts can be exciting and overwhelming at the same time.

For many youngsters, school marks the first time they are away from their parents for an extended period of time. As a result, safety concerns -- especially concerning transportation to and from school -- is foremost on the minds of many parents. School bus safety is something that should be presented to children in terms they can understand.

Riding on a school bus is often a fun experience for kids, but the prospect of leaving Mom or Dad behind at the curb can spark mixed feelings. It is best to prepare students for the school bus a few weeks prior to the first day of school to gauge their reactions and plan accordingly.

Although safety tips may be covered at orientation, it is a good idea to reinforce lessons at home in preparation for the first day of school.

P.R.E.P. TRAINING

Promoting Retailers Education Program in Florida



PREP Training: Instructor Betty Adazio - Courtesy Photo

Submitted

On July 12, 2012 Hamilton County Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Coalition provided training for the Alcohol and Tobacco vendors of Hamilton County. This class was taught by ABT Agent Betty Aldoio (Retired). We had a successful turn-out.

The classes provided participants with an understanding of the importance of responsible alcohol and tobacco sales and services, knowledge of laws that control the sales and services of alcohol and tobacco, knowledge of how to check ID's, how to refuse service to underage or intoxicated customers, and prevent alcohol and tobacco sales to underage persons.

Underage drinking and tobacco use are serious problems throughout the United States. The facts may surprise you. Under age alcohol use accounts for about 20 percent of all alcohol used in the United States each year.

If a teen begins drinking before 15, he or she is four times more likely to have serious problems with alcohol than if he or she started at age 21. On the average, most youth in the United States have their first drink at 12 years old.

By the time Florida students become high school seniors around 70 percent of them have used alcohol at least once and almost 50 percent are current users.

Youth ages 12-17 who smoke more than 16 times are likely to drink more

heavily than youth who do not smoke.

Nearly 440,000 deaths in the United States each year are caused by cigarette smoking - more than alcohol, cocaine, heroin, other illicit drugs, homicide, suicide, car accidents, fires, and Aids combined.

Store owners and clerks face jail time and expensive fines for selling alcohol and tobacco to underage individuals. They also may be held responsible for injuries that occur as a result of irresponsible sales.

We must work together to stop underage drinking and tobacco use. Vendors responsible for the sale of alcohol and tobacco products must do their part to keep alcohol and tobacco out of the hands of underage individuals.

The Hamilton Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Coalition commend the following vendors for allowing their employees to attend this training; Hitchcock Grocery, Gator Den, Sheila's Bar and Jasper Liquor Store.

We are pleased that these responsible vendors have utilized this opportunity to help their employees feel more confident and ensure that the laws are being followed.

In the future we encourage other vendors to give their employees this same opportunity. Thank you again for participating in this important training that will help us save our children and youth from accessing alcohol and tobacco. You have a very important responsibility in keeping our community safe for everyone.

FWC researchers witness spawning of rare coral in Florida

On a Saturday night dive near Key Largo, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) researchers saw something previously unseen in the state: male and female pillar coral spawning together.

The divers, in Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary waters, witnessed male pillar coral colonies release sperm, followed a few minutes later by female colonies releasing eggs. The Aug. 4 event marked the first officially documented occurrence of this behavior in Florida.

Previously, it had been unclear whether a female pillar coral population existed in the state, as no one had documented the release of pillar coral eggs. Researchers were on hand to try to observe this activity during the two- to five-day period after the August full moon, a time when corals are known to spawn.

"We are excited to confirm the presence of male and female pillar coral

colonies in Florida," said Kate Lunz, an FWC research scientist who participated in the dive. "This indicates a population with the potential to reproduce."

Unlike many other stony coral species, which produce both sperm and eggs, pillar coral form separate male and female colonies for reproduction. The colonies are made up of multiple pillars, or columns, clustered together and rising from the ocean floor.

Pillar coral is a state-listed threatened species and is rare in the Florida reef tract. Its range in the state is believed to stretch from Palm Beach County to the Dry Tortugas. It was a popular target of the curio trade before its collection was banned. The coral continues to face threats from disease, sedimentation and other factors.

For more information on corals in Florida, visit MyFWC.com/Research, click on "Habitat," and select "Coral Reefs."

AGENDA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
Room 112 - Courthouse 207 Northeast First Street
Jasper, Florida

MEETING DATE: AUGUST 21, 2012

THE AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BY NUMBER WILL BE TAKEN IN ORDER FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING REGARDLESS OF TIME. HOWEVER, THE TIME CERTAIN ITEMS LISTED WITH SPECIFIC TIMES WILL COMMENCE AT THE SPECIFIED TIME.

LISTED ITEMS

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - UNAGENDAED APPEARANCES (*)
 CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL
 FLORIDA LEADERS ORGANIZED FOR WATER (FLOW)
 HEALTH DEPARTMENT ROOF PROJECT
 WELL FLORIDA COUNCIL - BOARD APPOINTMENT
 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL - APPOINTMENT - REPRESENTATIVE FOR TOWN OF JENNINGS
 911 STREET ADDRESSING SIGNS
 APPROVE BILLS
 CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 ADJOURN

TIME CERTAIN ITEMS

6:00 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER - INVOCATION - PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
 6:05 P.M. - 2010 CDBG PROGRAM
 6:10 P.M. - COUNTY ROAD PROJECTS - STATUS REPORT
 A) SW 42nd Drive - Limited Maintenance Agreement
 6:20 P.M. - LAND USE AND SHIP PROGRAM - UPDATES AND REQUESTS
 6:25 P.M. - HAMILTON HUMAINE SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS - INTRODUCTION
 6:30 P.M. - NORTH FLORIDA BROADBAND AUTHORITY - RICHELLE SUCARA

DUE TO PUBLICATION DEADLINE, THIS AGENDA MAY NOT CONTAIN ALL MATTERS BEFORE THE BOARD. A COMPLETE COPY OF THE AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED, AFTER 1:00 P.M., FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, COUNTY COURTHOUSE, JASPER, FLORIDA, ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2012.

Persons appearing before the Board are requested, if possible, to submit in writing the subject matter of their appearance before the Board not later than Tuesday prior to the Board Meeting the following Tuesday.

(*) NOTICE: Persons appearing before the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners, not having given notice in time to be included and shown on the Agenda, and desiring to make a presentation, will be limited to five (5) minutes, in the interest of meeting time. The Board of County Commissioners will hear and listen to persons appearing whose subject has not been shown on the agenda; however, action by the Board on any such matter can only be taken upon determination of an emergency situation. Any identifiable group of three (3) persons or more shall be limited to a total of ten (10) minutes per topic.

In accordance with Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, notice is given that if any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board, agency or commission, with respect to proceedings and that, for such purpose, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

NOTIFICATION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMODATION FOR ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, ROOM 106, 207 NORTHEAST FIRST STREET, JASPER, FLORIDA. TELEPHONE (386) 792-1288, NOT LATER THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE PROCEEDINGS. IF HEARING IMPAIRED, TDD (386) 792-0857.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2012 AT 9:00 A.M.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
CONSENT AGENDA

August 21, 2012

1) MINUTES - APPROVE:
 A) August 7, 2012 Regular Meeting
 B) August 7, 2012 Budget Workshop

2) DEPARTMENT HEADS - INFORMATION ITEMS:
 A) EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
 1) Operations Report - July 2012 - file

3) APPROVE GRANT PAYMENT FROM THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 TO THE WHITE SPRINGS SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE TO HELP FUND THE 2012 CHRISTMAS PARADE AND 2013 WILD AZALEA FESTIVAL AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

4) APPROVE PAYMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING INVOICES FROM SECURITY SAFE COMPANY:
 A) Invoice No. 35947 - White Springs Library - Comm Fire Alarm System Prewire Balance Due - \$2,240.00
 B) Invoice No. 35948 - White Springs Library - Security System Prewire Balance Due - \$672.00
 C) Invoice No. 36294 - Hamilton Senior Center/White Springs Library Comm Fire Alarm/Security System - Trim Out Balance Due - \$3,330.50
 D) Invoice No. 36295 - Hamilton Senior Center - Security System Annual Monitoring - \$333.00
 E) Invoice No. 36296 - Hamilton Senior Center - Comm Fire Alarm System Annual Monitoring - \$525.00

5) APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE FOLLOWING INVOICES FROM ARD, SHIRLEY & RUDOLPH, P.A. :
 A) Invoice No. 8325 - Phosphate Mining - \$155.22
 B) Invoice No. 8326 - 2012 DR/Comp Plan Amendment - \$1,075.00
 C) Invoice No. 8337 - Five Year PCS Audit - \$241.50

6) APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE FOLLOWING INVOICE FROM DARABI AND ASSOCIATES:
 A) Invoice No. 12-500-01-08 - Closed/Class III Landfill Monitoring - \$9,684.00

755469

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FHSAA reminds schools of new standards to protect student-athletes

~ Safety Re: Heat, Hydration, Concussions of Primary Concern ~

GAINESVILLE, Fla. – With the fall sports practice season about to begin, the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) today reminded schools of new standards that have been put in place to safeguard the health and well-being of student-athletes. The FHSAA's director of athletics will conduct a workshop on the new safety requirements at a compliance seminar next week.

Pre-season practices officially began Monday (August 6) for student-athletes competing for their schools in football, golf, swimming/diving and girls volleyball, and new procedures are in place to protect the youths from the heat, inadequate hydration and concussions. Cross country and bowling practices begin one week later.

"For coaches, parents and everyone else associated with high school athletics, nothing is more important the safety of the students," said FHSAA Executive Director Dr. Roger Dearing. "At the FHSAA, we are committed to making sure our members understand what they must do to ensure that competitors have safe, enjoyable experiences as high school athletes."

The FHSAA's Board of Directors adopted new heat-related policies in June, designed to ensure that young athletes drink plenty of water and do not practice too many hours each week. Under the new policies, schools must:

- Limit weekly practice time to 18 hours during the first two weeks of practice, to allow student-athletes to adapt to conditions

- Ensure that for every 30 minutes of practice, student-athletes get a minimum five-minute rest and hydration break

- Require unrestricted access to water for student-athletes at all times

- Require coaches and others in authority to never deny a student-athlete access to water if requested.

The FHSAA also adopted a new concussion and heat-related illness form intended to create safety awareness among students and their caretakers by explaining the risks and symptoms associated with each problem. A concussion action plan developed by the FHSAA's Sports Medicine Advisory Subcommittee and adopted by the Board requires that:

- Any student-athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion – such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems – must be immediately removed from the competition and cannot return to play until he or she is cleared by an appropriate health care professional.

- All head coaches and other paid coaches are required to view an online education course about concussions.

- The FHSAA also developed a new consent form related to concussions and heat-related illness to ensure that parents understand the conditions and the

rules that apply to them.

About the FHSAA

Since it was established in 1920, the Florida High School Athletic Association has provided opportunities for high school students in Florida to participate fairly and equally in interscholastic athletic programs that produce vital educational benefits. The

FHSAA sponsors championship programs through which 108 teams and more than 720 student-athletes are crowned state champions in 30 sports each year. Through participation in these athletic programs, almost 800,000 students annually are extended opportunities to receive lessons in leadership, sportsmanship and citizenship.

Hamilton County Varsity Football 2012



Fri. Aug. 24	Classic (Trenton)	Home	7:30
Fri. Aug. 31	Fort White	Away	7:30
Fri. Sept. 7	Suwannee	Away	7:30
Fri. Sept. 14	Bradford	Home	7:30
Fri. Sept. 21	OPEN		
Fri. Sept. 28	Dixie (HC)	Home	7:30
Fri. Oct. 5	Lafayette	Home	7:30
Fri. Oct. 12	Crescent City	Away	7:30
Fri. Oct. 19	Branford	Away	7:30
Fri. Oct. 26	The Villages	Away	7:30
Fri. Nov. 2	Jefferson	Away	7:30
Fri. Nov. 9	Yulee	Home	7:30

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