TROJAN BASKETBALL

2 wins, 1 loss

SPORTS, 7A

MLK Day:

The town of White Springs will be celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 21 on the grounds of South Hamilton Elementary School beginning at 10:30 a.m. Story Below

The Jasper News

nflaonline.com

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Today's Weather

High 59° F
Low 37° F

Precip: 50%

Overcast with showers at times. High 59F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph. Chance of rain 50%. For up to the minute weather go to www.nflaonline.com.

White Springs road improvements continue

Downtown Jasper road improvements coming

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com
And
Submitted information

The construction on US 41 in White Springs is underway as part of a 16-mile resurfacing project from US 129 to the Columbia County line.

Work began in October with one crew replacing sections of sidewalk, curb and ditch pavement in town, while a second crew removed and replaced the top layer of asphalt from just north of White Springs to US 129 south of Jasper.

Paving began Monday, Jan. 14 in White Springs near the entrance of the Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park and continues south to the Columbia County line at the Suwannee River Bridge. Crews will then turn around and pave the northbound lane. Motorists can continue to

SEE WHITE, PAGE 2A

The paving process on US 41 in White Springs.

Hundreds turn out for Stephen Foster Day

Stephen Collins Foster.

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

Sunday, Jan. 13, was National Stephen Foster Day, a time to celebrate and honor the "Father of American Music", Stephen Foster (July 4, 1826-Jan. 13, 1864).

It was nearly standing room only inside the Carillon Bell Tower at Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park on Sunday, Jan. 13, as folks came out to listen to a live concert on the carillon bells, as well as musical performances by Michael Vickey on the Hammered and Appalachian Dulcimer, Jan Krautheim on piano and guitar, and the reigning Stephen & Jeanie, Christopher Longo and Jessica Bianco.

White Springs' very own storyteller/historian Johnny Bullard was emcee, even though he was recovering from a bout of the winter sniffles. The gathered crowd of about 200 people joined Bullard in singing Foster's most famous song, "Old Folks at Home."

Bullard was followed by events supervisor Elaine McGrath who welcomed everyone to the park and to the ceremony honoring Stephen Collins Foster and his legendary music.

This year's Stephen and Jeanie performed a variety of songs, accompanied by Nadiya Caspary on the piano, and the audience showed their appreciation with loud applause after each set.

SEE HUNDREDS, PAGE 8A

2013 Stephen & Jeanie, Christopher Longo and Jessica Bianco. - Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor

Commissioners agree to SVTA board consolidation

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

Director of Operations of the Suwannee Valley Transit Authority (SVTA) William Steele addressed the Hamilton County Commissioners on Friday, Jan. 4 to ask for their approval to combine the three member counties of the SVTA (Suwannee, Columbia and Hamilton) into one regional advisory board, which would eliminate having to hold three separate and identical meetings in the three counties and help reduce operating costs.

Suwannee County commissioners have already approved a similar request.

SVTA is a public agency that serves low income individuals and families, elderly, disabled, frail elderly and the general public. According to Steele, the SVTA was created by an interlocal

SEE COMMISSIONERS, PAGE 2A

Chili cook off is Jan. 26

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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The Hamilton County Chamber of Commerce would like to invite everyone to the 7th Annual Chili Cook-Off to be held Saturday, Jan. 26, at the Jasper Women's Club.

Set up will begin at 10:30 a.m. and judging will start at 11:30 a.m. Awards will be present-

SEE CHILI, PAGE 2A

Hamilton County Courthouse. -Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

County officials and circuit judge to be sworn in

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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Recently elected and re-elected county officials will be sworn in today at the Hamilton County Courthouse beginning at 4 p.m. and on Friday, Jan. 18, the investiture of Circuit Judge Andrew J. Decker III will take place at 4:30 p.m.

County Constitutional Officers to be sworn in on Thursday are Harrell Reid, Sheriff; David Goolsby, Property Appraiser; Mary Sue Adams, Tax Collector; Greg Godwin, Clerk of Court; Laura Dees, Supervisor of Elections.

Circuit Judge Andrew J. Decker III will have his office in Hamilton County, according to County Clerk Greg Godwin.

The public is invited to both ceremonies.

MLK Jr Day celebration

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

The town of White Springs will be celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 21 on the grounds of South Hamilton Elementary

SEE MLK, PAGE 2A

Feed-A-Family helps hundreds

Volunteers Jim Johnston and Donna Carpenter (far left) stuff the bags with food on Wednesday. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

Catholic Charities Feed-A-Family Mobile Outreach Program out of Lake City made an emergency unscheduled stop in Jasper on Wednesday, Jan. 9, with nearly 500 Hamilton County residents turning out to accept almost 8,000 pounds of donated food.

The outreach program returned on Jan. 16, with another 4,000 pounds of

SEE FEED, PAGE 2A

FREE
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Limit 1 Per Person
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White Springs road improvements continue

Continued From Page 1A

expect daytime lane closures through Friday after 8:30 a.m. and possibly some weekend construction.

Anderson Columbia Company, Inc. of Lake City is doing the work for FDOT at a cost of $4.4 million. The work is expected to be completed by early March, depending on weather conditions and other unexpected circumstances.

The main drag through the city of Jasper will be undergoing major improvements soon thanks to FDOT and the city of Jasper, who will be footing just a small portion of the bill, according to City Manager Charles Williams.

On Wednesday, Jan. 9, Williams was busy preparing for another meeting with FDOT officials to discuss the upgrades to the storm drains and the repaving of US 41 (Hatley Street) through town.

"All of this downtown is going to be torn up," he said.

FDOT will be installing new storm drains along US 41 that will require ripping up the road and installing 72-inch pipe. Williams said basically the entire street has to go.

"It's going to be a mess in about six months," he said. "The planning is already done."

These upgrades are part of FDOT's five-year plan for Hamilton County, Williams said. The nearly $3 million dollar project will improve drainage along US 41 from CR 6 to the US 129 split. Detours around the construction area will more than likely be necessary.

Williams said the area out in front of town hall floods really bad when it rains and it has been that way for about 30 years.

"Typically, when a truck goes by out front, it throws water up against the front door," said Williams, laughing.

What FDOT is going to do, Williams said, is take water from out on Hatley Street and funnel it down to Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and over to the old railroad right-of-way, and then funnel it south of town.

When the storm drainage and repaving project is completed, Williams said, FDOT has plans to make a paved rails-to-trails bicycle path within the city limits along US 41.

Eventually, assuming the town continues to grow, Williams said there is the possibility US 41 from US 129 through downtown will be turned into a one-way street heading north. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive would then be turned into a one-way street going south, but that is looking into the future.

For additional information visit www.nflroads.com or call 800-475-0044.

Commissioners agree to SVTA board consolidation

Continued From Page 1A

agreement in 1979 between the three counties.

For years, however, the SVTA has been fraught with problems, including non-compliance with state and federal agencies in their accounting procedures. Also, previous mismanagement of funds resulted in millions of dollars worth of debt.

Gwendolyn Pra, formerly of the Florida Department of Transportation, took over as director of SVTA on Aug. 15, 2011 and promised to make changes. One of those changes was the hiring of Steele as the operations manager.

Steele said after he and Pra were hired, the board of directors helped guide them to come up with a three-year plan to straighten things out at SVTA.

"The first year in the plan was just a broad stroke," he said. "To get things in compliance. To get the budget working."

Steele said they have successfully completed that part of the plan and they are paying their bills on time.

"More importantly, we qualify now under the state FDOT requirements," he said.

FDOT, he said, certified them in November to continue operations and took them off probation.

Now, during the second year of the plan they will be looking at more ways to cut costs. Reducing their monthly phone bill of $1,500 in half was one that he mentioned.

Another cost-cutting measure, Steele said, is to combine the three county boards into one local coordinating board. Suwannee County, he said, has already agreed, and he will be speaking to Columbia County Commissioners to request the same. By holding only one group meeting each quarter for the three counties, Steel said it would save time, money and paperwork, further reducing operating costs.

One thing that would change with the combined regional board is there would be one chairman and one vice chairman, instead of one chair and vice chair from all three counties, and they would be on a rotation basis. Quarterly meetings would also rotate between all three counties.

Aside from local funding from the three counties the SVTA also receives grant monies from both federal and state government programs. Steele explained that under the new regional board all funding that each county gets from state and federal agencies will now go into one pot and be used as needed for each county.

Steele said the SVTA receives two major sources of funding. He said they get $198,000 per month from Medicaid. The other source funds come from each county. In the past he said SVTA would supply transportation for each individual county until those funds ran out. With the combined regional agreement, however, the SVTA could use funds from the single, general pot of money to provide transportation services in case one of the county's funds ran out.

Any funds that aren't used have to be returned to Tallahassee, Steele said.

Commissioner Beth Burnam made a motion to declare an emergency and that the board approve the consolidation of the three boards. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Feed-A-Family helps hundreds

Continued From Page 1A

food, consisting of frozen hamburger and sausage patties, rice, canned beans, breads and pastries. Volunteer Jim Johnston said he started volunteering one day a week and gradually as time went by he found himself volunteering five days a week as the program grew.

"This morning I had to go pick up the bread at Publix, and then load up and get down here," said Johnston.

There were about 100 people in line already when Johnston arrived at the civic center. Among the other regular volunteers, Donna Carpenter from Lake City said this was her first time volunteering with Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities Executive Director Suzanne Edwards and her mobile outreach team, along with Kenny Altman, USDA representative for Hamilton County arrived in Jasper early Wednesday morning, Jan. 9, to deliver 7,900 pounds of food to 498 people who came out to the Jasper Civic Center. A total of 167 needy families were served.

On Tuesday, Jan. 8, Catholic Charities was notified that Florida Gateway Food Bank would be receiving a tractor trailer load of frozen USDA meats, which consisted of chicken and pork patties, as well as frozen orange juice. With not enough freezer space to accommodate about 300,000 pounds of frozen food, immediate action was needed in order to get the food out to those who needed it before it spoiled. Catholic Charities in Lake City serves five counties; Union, Hamilton, Suwannee, Lafayette and Columbia.

In Hamilton County, thanks to quick responses on everyone's part, a distribution location was secured at the Jasper Civic Center and then word got out to the public via the *Jasper News* website, Facebook, Twitter, telephone calls and just plain word of mouth.

At a moments notice Edwards said she and her team, "put their travel kit in CC mobile, Scott & Danny loaded the freezer truck, and we took the entire team and volunteers to the location."

More than 100 people were already in line by 8:30 a.m. Wednesday and when Edwards and her team arrived they were greeted by Hamilton County Sheriff Harrell Reid and Emergency Management Director Henry Land, who offered whatever assistance was needed.

The civic center was immediately unlocked and tables and chairs were set up. Meanwhile, the team was busy setting up their tables outside by the refrigerated truck and intakes were handed out to those already in line.

"We need to support our people just as much as the people in the surrounding counties," Land said. "Hamilton County deserves their share."

"We definitely have an economic need here," Sheriff Reid interjected.

Edwards had called Land the day before to ask if he had a proper location where they could distribute much needed frozen meats to the community. Land immediately contacted City Manager Charles Williams who authorized use of the civic center.

Williams said, "Basically, for not-for-profits, we allow them to use it free of charge. Anything that can help the community, we're all for it."

Land and his staff then placed emergency signs along downtown Hatley Street announcing Catholic Charities would be in town at 9 a.m. Wednesday, which impressed Edwards.

"Everything remained orderly and in 95 minutes we gave out 7,900 pounds of food to 498 people that made up 167 families," said Edwards. "Not only did I have the emergency operations director, sheriff, county and city manager personally come by to thank us and welcome us, but they have offered these facilities and office space free of charge as needed."

The Catholic Charities Feed-A-Family Mobile Outreach Program, Edwards said, has been welcomed and folded into the government family in Hamilton County.

"As a result of today, the county and city manager have asked me to be the key speaker on agenda this Monday evening, of which I gladly agreed," Edwards said. "Additionally, two applications to become a member of our Florida Gateway Food Bank were given out to two local pastors who attended."

All in all, Edwards said, their mission was fulfilled.

"Thank you to all of you for continuing to be supportive to thinking outside of the box with us as we meet the needs as they arise," said Edwards.

Obituary

Stephen "Micheal" Cordle
April 23, 1990 - Dec. 24, 2012

Stephen "Micheal" Cordle, age 22, of Ft. White, Florida passed from this life Monday, Dec. 24, 2012 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident near White Springs. Micheal was born in Jasper, Florida on April 23, 1990 and was employed by Industry Services in Lake City, FL. He was a loving husband, father, son, brother and friend and loved spending time with them. He was preceded in death by grandparents whom he loved dearly, James and Hazel Farnell.

Survivors include his wife, Ginny W. Cordle and step-daughter, Payten Kay Corbett; a son, Mason Cordle; his father, Stephen S. Cordle and step-mother Ginger, of Live Oak, FL.; his mother, Yvonne M. Farnell, Cherokee, N.C.; two brothers, Keith Cordle, Live Oak, FL. and Dillon Putnel, Temecula, CA; two step sisters, Traci McCormick (Rick) and Amy Steed (Aaron) of Lake City, FL. grandparents, William T. Cordle, Ocala and Susan Cordle, Gainesville, FL. Stephen was so proud of his new family that included sister-in-law, Katlyn Mitchell and grandfather-in-law, John Wagoner all of Jasper.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2012 at the First Presbyterian Church in Jasper, FL. Interment followed in Live Oak Cemetery, Live Oak, Florida.

Harry T. Reid Funeral Home, Jasper, FL. was in charge of arrangements.

Chili cook off is Jan. 26

Continued From Page 1A

ed at 1 p.m. The deadline to enter is Jan. 24.

Entrance fee for contestants is $10 per individual and $30 per business. Awards will be given to you or your business.

Entrance fee for spectators is $5 per person-which allows you to "taste-test" all the chili entries you want. It is also a great opportunity to mingle with others in the community.

Chamber members get a $10 discount on the business entry fee. For more information, please call 386-792-1300 or visit: www.hamiltoncountycoc.org.

MLK Jr Day celebration

Continued From Page 1A

School beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The public is invited to come out and be a part of this beautiful ceremony that will honor the late Dr. King with inspirational songs and storytelling. It will also be a time to remember King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

The winner of the Beautiful Dreamer Award will also be announced at the gathering with a proclamation.

First Baptist Church of Jasper welcomes Pastor DeRocco

First Baptist Church of Jasper is bringing Pastor Laddie DeRocco for a four-evening January Bible Study from Sunday Jan. 20 through Wed. Jan. 23. The services begin each evening at 6 p.m. Pastor DeRocco is presenting a series: "Angels/Demons". DeRocco had this to say about angels and demons:

"We all remember where we were on September 11, 2001 when 19 terrorists took control of four commercial airliners and tried to bury them all in America's most influential buildings, murdering thousands of people in the process. We will never forget.

What makes a terrorist so frightening is that you never know what they are targeting, you never know when they are targeting, and you rarely know who they are targeting until it's too late.

Another characteristic that makes them frightening is that they have no regard for their own well being. They will gladly die in the process of committing whatever atrocity they have set their minds to accomplish. This makes them even more difficult to persecute because what do you do to a guy who has no regard for any life at all, even his own?

Believe it or not, there are terrorists in our churches every Sunday. They have no regard for their own well being and you never know what they are doing or who they are doing it to until it's too late. These terrorists once walked the streets of Heaven and communed with God. Now they are his sworn enemy and they are attacking His children. They are demons. You don't have to believe in them. That doesn't make them any less real and it certainly doesn't prepare you to fight this spiritual battle that we are all in.

It's time we get informed. It's time we suit up. It's time we allow the Bible to teach us how to deal with these terrorists of the church."

Come to First Baptist Church of Jasper, Fla., on Jan. 20-23 at 6 p.m. to learn from the Bible about angels, demons and Satan. We will learn their strategies and influences and we will get armed to fight back.

Jasper First Baptist is located at 207 2nd Street NE in Jasper. For questions, please feel free to call 386-792-2658.

Life in WHITE SPRINGS

By Walter McKenzie

lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

This stretch of warm weather has got the plants and animals all confused. Our Japanese Magnolia thinks that it is spring and is in full bloom. The northern buzzards that roost on the White Springs water tower are thinking about going back home and the snowbirds in all of the campgrounds around here are just as happy as they can be. It is nice but it is also a bit extreme to be this warm for this long at this time of year.

There are a few things coming up in town that I want to share with you. First of all, there will be a celebration ceremony of Martin Luther King day at South Hamilton Elementary School Monday, January 21st at10:30 am. The program will include inspirational speeches and wonderful music. I always enjoy attending this celebration that reminds me of what a wonderful country we live in and what a great part of that country is our little community of White Springs.

Hundreds of bicyclists will be in town for Suwannee Bicycle Association's "Ididaride XIX" event this Saturday, January 26. You probably won't see much of them because they will spend most of their time in the woods. Ididaride is a bicycle challenge ride. It is not a race but rather an off-road endurance ride through woodlands along the Suwannee River. Approximately 50 miles of single-track trails and woods roads have been linked to form a continuous route with minimum of pavement. The cyclists will be on our roads as they ride to and from these wooded trails. Remember, these are the folks who donate bicycles and helmets to Breakfast with Santa every year. Give them plenty of room and patience and consideration if you encounter them on the road. A friendly wave would be nice too. They appreciate your friendliness and if they don't wave back, it's only because they are being careful to control their bikes!

There are some activities at the Stephen Foster Park coming up. The next Stephen Foster Citizen Support Organization (CSO) meeting is Monday, January 21, at 6P.M. in the park auditorium. The hostess for this meeting is board member Karen Williams. Members and folks who would like to become members are encouraged to come and bring a side dish. The CSO will provide sweet and unsweetened tea. The entrée will be pulled pork and meatballs subs. The CSO also tells me that the Festival of Lights was a huge success. Every year this event gets bigger and better. The addition of the model trains by the Lake City Train Club was excellent. The children were fascinated and we older people were taken back to our youth. The Lake City Train Club made it interactive with their neat treasure hunt. They are looking forward to remodeling and enlarging their display next year to include an outdoor train set on the dance stage next to the auditorium. Thank you Lake City Train Club!

I don't know if you all realize the Festival of Lights is the largest single event held in the whole Florida Park System. It is followed by the Battle of Olustee and the Fl. Folk Festival. During the Festival of Light the park volunteers, CSO members, and the park staff do all the work. We are small community that turns into a well-oiled machine that brings joy to thousands of people during the holidays.

For a real change of pace, how would you like to step back in time to a yesteryear, more primitive Florida? Come to our Stephen Foster Folk Park on Saturday, February 2nd for an introduction to early pioneer arts and crafts. You will have the opportunity to learn about the 400 year old Inkle weaving and see the brawny blacksmiths, including our own John Lacefield and Pablo Gonzalez, working at the fiery forge. Find out about Saggar Pit fired pottery, clay pots will be wrapped in organic materials such as hay, leaves, grasses, and moss and fired in open flames. Watch as talented spinners, weavers, knitters, crotchetier and quilters create their wares before your eyes. The demonstrators will happily answer your questions and sell their goods. School groups are welcome. The event will take place in the Craft Square and will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. For more information, call 386- 397-1920.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be part of our community. I hope you will contact me with any news you want to share, and I hope to see you out and about, doing your part and enjoying life in White Springs.

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

First Federal Bank of Florida contributes $41,200 to local communities through the Community Rewards Program

Hamilton County Public School's Foundation received $1,000 from the Community Rewards Program. Courtesy photo

Hamilton County, FL – First Federal Bank of Florida proudly announces the completion of the 2012 Community Rewards Program. Thanks to our customers, First Federal gave $41,200 to local schools, after-school programs, intellectual and developmental disability organizations, sports programs, animal shelters and other non-profit organizations this past year.

The Community Rewards Program is a way for First Federal and the community to partner together to support local organizations. Every time a First Federal customer who is enrolled in the program, uses their debit card to make a signature-based transaction, First Federal donates money to a participating organization. First Federal customers just have to swipe, sign and support! All money raised comes from First Federal.

The participating organizations for Hamilton County were the Florida Gateway College, Hamilton County Public Schools Foundation & Hamilton County High School FFA.

"I am grateful to the loyalty of our customers who share in our mission to provide support to our communities," said Keith Leibfried, President and CEO of First Federal. "It is through their commitment to First Federal that we are able to donate to these organizations that provide valued services to our communities."

At First Federal we believe that banking with us is an investment in you. For over 50 years we have been committed to building vibrant communities through the support of education, sports, the arts and improving the quality of life for all. Since its inception in 2010, First Federal has given over $62,000 to local agencies through the Community Rewards Program. This is in addition to the thousands of dollars and volunteer hours that First Federal and its employees give each year.

The Community Rewards Program is underway for 2013. If you are interested in helping support your community through the Community Rewards Program, stop by your local First Federal branch or call customer service at (386) 792-2400 to enroll your debit card. If you are an organization that is interested in participating in the Community Rewards Program, please visit our website www.ffsb.com and click on the Contribution Requests learn more picture.

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OPINION

Are guns the problem?

A MINORITY VIEW

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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

When I attended primary and secondary school -- during the 1940s and '50s -- one didn't hear of the kind of shooting mayhem that's become routine today. Why? It surely wasn't because of strict firearm laws. My replica of the 1902 Sears mail-order catalog shows 35 pages of firearm advertisements. People just sent in their money, and a firearm was shipped.

Dr. John Lott, author of "More Guns, Less Crime," reports that until the 1960s, some New York City public high schools had shooting clubs where students competed in citywide shooting contests for university scholarships. They carried their rifles to school on the subways and, upon arrival, turned them over to their homeroom teacher or the gym coach and retrieved their rifles after school for target practice. Virginia's rural areas had a long tradition of high-school students going hunting in the morning before school and sometimes storing their rifles in the trunks of their cars that were parked on school grounds. Often a youngster's 12th or 14th birthday present was a shiny new .22-caliber rifle, given to him by his father.

Today's level of civility can't match yesteryear's. Many of today's youngsters begin the school day passing through metal detectors. Guards patrol school hallways, and police cars patrol outside. Despite these measures, assaults, knifings and shootings occur. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2010 there were 828,000 nonfatal criminal incidents in schools. There were 470,000 thefts and 359,000 violent attacks, of which 91,400 were serious. In the same year, 145,100 public-school teachers were physically attacked, and 276,700 were threatened.

What explains today's behavior versus yesteryear's? For well over a half-century, the nation's liberals and progressives -- along with the education establishment, pseudo-intellectuals and the courts -- have waged war on traditions, customs and moral values. These people taught their vision, that there are no moral absolutes, to our young people. To them, what's moral or immoral is a matter of convenience, personal opinion or a consensus.

During the '50s and '60s, the education establishment launched its agenda to undermine lessons children learned from their parents and the church with fads such as "values clarification." So-called sex education classes are simply indoctrination that sought to undermine family and church strictures against premarital sex. Lessons of abstinence were ridiculed and considered passé and replaced with lessons about condoms, birth control pills and abortions. Further undermining of parental authority came with legal and extralegal measures to assist teenage abortions with neither parental knowledge nor consent.

Customs, traditions, moral values and rules of etiquette, not laws and government regulations, are what make for a civilized society. These behavioral norms -- transmitted by example, word of mouth and religious teachings -- represent a body of wisdom distilled through ages of experience, trial and error, and looking at what works. The importance of customs, traditions and moral values as a means of regulating behavior is that people behave themselves even if nobody's watching. Police and laws can never replace these restraints on personal conduct so as to produce a civilized society. At best, the police and criminal justice system are the last desperate line of defense for a civilized society. The more uncivilized we become the more laws that are needed to regulate behavior.

Many customs, traditions and moral values have been discarded without an appreciation for the role they played in creating a civilized society, and now we're paying the price. What's worse is that instead of a return to what worked, people want to replace what worked with what sounds good, such as zero-tolerance policies in which bringing a water pistol, drawing a picture of a pistol, or pointing a finger and shouting "bang-bang" produces a school suspension or arrest. Seeing as we've decided that we should rely on gun laws to control behavior, what should be done to regulate clubs and hammers? After all, FBI crime statistics show that more people are murdered by clubs and hammers than rifles and shotguns.

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.

Free Mobile Dental Clinic A Success

Submitted

The first week of December proved to be a blessing to many local residents when they were given free dental care by several dentists from our area. The Bellville Community Baptist Church, located just outside of Jennings, hosted the Florida Baptist Mobile Dental Unit from Dec. 3-7. During this time 93 patients were seen by a dentist, 124 teeth were pulled, countless fillings were placed, xrays were taken, and over $28,000 worth of dental work was donated.

This could not have been accomplished without the generous hard work done by the following dentists and their assistants: from Live Oak- Dr. John Bonura, Assistant Shelia Todd, Dr. Harold Arthur, Assistant Holly Albritton, Hygenist Kerry Palmer; from Lake City- Dr. Morgan Ellis, Assistant Leslie Caruthers, Dr. Michael Foreman, Assistant Danielle Poole, Dr. Melanie Holden, Assistant Brandi Raulerson; from Jasper- Dr. Jerry Smith, Assistant Lula Tanner, Dr. Ben Norris, Hygenist Nan Hamm; from Madison- Dr. Robert Baldwin, Asistant Ashley Kinsley; local volunteer coordinator of the Mobile Dental Unit- Jennifer Smith from Lake City.

The Mobile Dental Unit is a ministry own and operated by Florida Baptists. If your church is interested in hosting the Mobile Dental Unit and serving the people of your community in a unique way, contact Marc Johnston at the Florida Baptist Convention. Thank you to all who served! Your name may not be on this list, but your hard work did not go unnoticed.

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.

Father/Daughter
Valentine's Dance
February 9th, 2013
Jasper Civic Center
7 PM until 9 PM
Come celebrate Valentine's Day with Hamilton County 4-H.
All Father Figures are invited to bring their "daughter" including Uncles, Stepdads, Granddads, etc.

For more information please contact
Hamilton County Extension at (386)792-1276.

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CHE 2013-14 Teacher of the year and 2012-13 School-Related Employee of the Year

Penny Henderson and Kathy Griffin - Courtesy Photo:

Central Hamilton Elementary is proud to congratulate Kathy Griffin as our Teacher of the Year for 2013-14. Ms. Griffin currently teaches fourth grade and has taught at Central for 10 years in third and fourth grades.

She has a Master of Science degree in Educational Leadership and Human Services and a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. Ms. Griffin is dedicated to putting forth every effort to ensure the success of her students.

She encourages them on a daily basis to do their best. She is determined to strive for more every day and every school year. Her message to her peers and the community would be to always remember to put our children first. We must focus on the holistic aspect of learning, in order to determine the specific academic as well as social needs of the children we serve.

Central Hamilton Elementary is especially proud that Ms. Griffin was also chosen as the District Teacher of the Year! Congratulations!

Our School Related-Employee of the Year for 2012-13 is Penny Henderson. Mrs. Henderson is our receptionist. She welcomes our students, parents and community members everyday with a smile and monitors all who enter our school to ensure the safety of our students.

Mrs. Henderson is dedicated to creating a positive environment and communicating effectively to parents and families. She is consistent and flexible in order to meet the needs of our students. Multi-tasking is her strength, and between the telephone, intercom and radio she maintains order. Mrs. Henderson is knowledgeable, committed and dedicated. She is our gatekeeper!

We are pleased and proud to congratulate Penny Henderson as our School Related-Employee of the Year.

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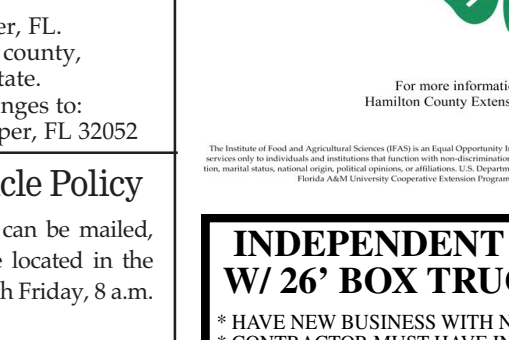

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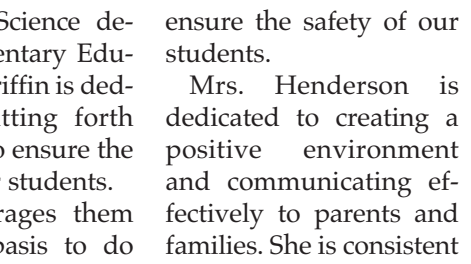

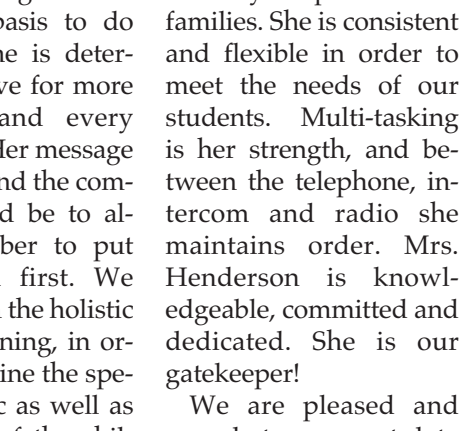

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Heart Matters

By Angie Land

When someone is really important to us, we will go to great lengths to be with them, or even just to see them or hear their voice. A young man recently told me about how his girlfriend, who is not a morning person, came out at 7am to cheer him on in a 5K he was running. Going out of her way to be there was a loud and clear statement to him that he is valuable to her! A Samaritan Woman shared a similar experience as Jesus contradicted the cultural norm between the Jews and Samaritans to find her at the well:

"So He (Jesus) came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as He was from His journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to Him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) John 4:5-9

As the writer of this gospel, John was inspired by the Holy Spirit to tell us of the prejudice between the Jews and Samaritans that we may see beyond the surface of what is taking place. One thing is certain; the Scriptures do not condone prejudice in this passage, but simply reflect the condition that was present. Jesus went out of His way to pursue her despite this condition.

By definition, the word prejudice means to pre-judge. This happens when we arrive at an opinion of a person, or group of people, without any input on their part. This being the case, the origins of prejudice can usually be traced to the past. In II Kings 17:21-24, the Old Testament records the Assyrian conquer and resettlement of the nation of Israel by bringing in people from many other countries. This mixture of people came to be known as Samaritans and was despised by the Jews, so much so that the typical travel routes involved going the long way around the region of Samaria, avoiding the area at all costs.

Prejudice can be a difficult subject to discuss, because it often evokes strong emotions. However, it is unlikely that any of us avoid stopping by the store for fear of bumping into a Samaritan, so this passage can help us look at prejudice a little more objectively. Here are a few truths we can observe:

Prejudice is a waste of time and energy. Prejudice may not cause us to travel completely around an entire town, but it will never work for the building up of the kingdom of God. Sadly, we have all witnessed evidence of how it works against it.

Prejudice never travels alone; pride and fear are constant companions.

Consider why prejudice demands isolation. If we get to know someone personally, those prejudged ideas become harder to justify.

Walking with Christ will expose any prejudice in our thinking. In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) Jesus pushed the issue of a Samaritan being the "neighbor" to the Jew.

It is God's desire that none should perish, but that all will have eternal life…prejudice gets in the way by preventing the spread of the gospel to everyone. As we seek to walk with Christ, let's make sure we only go out of our way to pursue, not avoid, because every heart matters...

Blessings,
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.

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Jasper, FL 32052
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Fax: (386) 792-6446
Web site: hamilton.ifas.ufl.edu

VITA contact
Heather Futch
Email: hfutch@ufl.edu

Thank You

Heartfelt thanks from the family of Stephen "Micheal" Cordle for your acts of kindness and caring shown during this difficult time in our lives. His untimely and tragic death has been overwhelming for us.

Thank you for all the visits, cards, calls, food, and beautiful flowers. We most especially appreciate all of your prayers and ask that you continue to pray for us as our hearts are mending.

Special thanks to Pastor Sandra Hedrick at First Presbyterian Church in Jasper for her words of comfort, and Harry T. Reid Funeral Home for the arrangements.

Micheal will be forever missed by all who knew and loved him.

Steve & Ginger Cordle
Yvonne Farnell
Keith Cordle
Ginny Cordle

Chili/Soup Kitchen: Fill the Community with Kindness and Food

Hamilton County 4-H S.W.A.G.G, also known as Girl Scout Troop 1162 will hold their annual Chili/Soup Kitchen on Monday, Jan. 21, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This is free of charge to the entire community. The girls originally started feeding the community three years ago around Thanksgiving to help fill hungry tummies. These ladies earned their Bronze award through Girl Scouts with this project. They have continued to hold this event to help feed their community FREE of charge.

The walk of a faithful minister

By Hugh G. Sherrill

As a minister of the Gospel and a student of the word, it is my responsibility to preach and teach the truth about God's Word; the same is true for all ministers of the Gospel.

Paul, in his writing to young Timothy said "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons" I Tim 4:1 (Please read verses 2-3). It is plain truth to say that so many today have departed from the faith. Paul, in this chapter, is compelling ministers of the Gospel to "walk the good walk"; to be sure they are not lured into departing from the faith; in other words compromising the doctrine of God. (Compromise is to partially wave one's teaching of principles for the sake of settlement, anything of intermediate or mixed kind.) The doctrine of God cannot be mixed with the doctrines of demons and anything that is not of God is of the Devil (doctrine simply means teaching).

It is a sad thing today as we prepare to start a new year, that so many in every denomination have departed from the teaching of God. As we face the New Year, our only hope as a people, as a nation, is to turn back to God. We want to make our little groups right and everyone else wrong. The Bible says let God be true and every man a liar (Romans 3:4).

Without God as the head, no one knows what to expect in the coming year. If we will only follow Paul's instruction to young Timothy in chapter 4 of I Timothy, where there are four references to teaching and doctrine. Verse 6 says: "If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed". In this verse a good minister is to instruct in good doctrine. Verse 11 says: "These things command and teach". A good minister commands the truth to be taught. Verse 13 says: "Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine". Here Paul says not only to read but to entreat, to urge one to pursue a course of conduct, staying with the doctrine. Then in verse 16 Paul sends a warning to Timothy: "Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine, continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you". Paul is saying to be a good minister one must heed; in other words to pay attention more earnestly to doctrine; to continue in them. This is the way to bring lost souls to the Lord.

Verses 7-8 tell us that we are to reject unbiblical things emphatically. The text makes it clear that just as closely we should keep Biblical doctrine we should distance ourselves from unbiblical doctrine. We should clearly reject false doctrine. See I Timothy 6:20; II Timothy 2:16. Paul also told the Galatians and the church at Corinth the same thing.

Brothers and sisters, the only way to help our nation is to heed the doctrine of God and to walk in it.

Hugh G. Sherrill
ems-hugh43@comcast.net

Church & Family Go Together

ADVENT CHRISTIAN

FIRST ADVENT CHRISTIAN
N.W. 15th Avenue Jasper
Rev. Wayne Sullivan
Sunday
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
Wednesday
Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.
784022

CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. THERESE 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.
784014

BAPTIST (Southern)

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
SR 6 West, 6592 NW 48th St.,
Jennings, FL 32053 784013
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

BAPTIST (Southern)

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 Programs6:30 p.m.
784012

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

BURNHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH
4520 NW CR 146, Jennings, FL 32053
938-1265
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.
784003

METHODIST

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
783995

PRESBYTERIAN

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.
783982

Building On FAITH

To list your church on our church directory, please call Treena at 386-362-1734
783932

Jasper Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AIR PERMIT
Florida Department of Environmental Protection Northeast District Draft Air Construction Permit No 0470002-079-AC and Draft/Proposed Permit No. 0470002-080-AV White Springs Agricultural Chemicals, Inc. Suwannee River and Swift Creek Complex Hamilton County, Florida

Applicant: The applicant for this project is White Springs Agricultural Chemicals, Inc. The applicant's responsible official and mailing address are: Mr. Terry L. Baker, General Manager, White Springs Agricultural Chemicals, Inc., Suwannee River and Swift Creek Complex, E of SR 137, E of US 4, White Springs , FL 32096.

Facility Location: The applicant operates the existing Suwannee River and Swift Creek Complex, which is located in Hamilton County E of SR 137, E of US 4, White Springs , FL 32096.

Project: The applicant applied on November 1, 2012 to the Department for a Air Construction modification and Title V air operation permit revision. This is a revision of Title V air operation permit No. 0470002-077-AV. This facility processes phosphate rock to produce several products at the Suwannee River/Swift Creek Complex (two plants). The facility consists of one rock grinder, two phosphoric acid plants, two defluorinated phosphate (DFP) plants, one monocal/dical process, two monoammonium/diammonium phosphate (MAP/DAP) plants, one Storage and Shipping building, one screening/shipping building, four sulfuric acid plants, two phosphoric acid filters, three superphosphoric acid plants, one green superphosphoric plant, the Swift Creek Mine (SCM) rock dryer, and one acid clarification plant. The facility also has storage silos associated with the Swift Creek Mine and the DFP plant.

The purpose of this project is for Air construction permit and Title V Revision, which authorizes the streamlining of recordkeeping for EUs 008 "Y" Train and EU032 "Z" Train to limit the capacity based on P2O5 feed input; to allow flexibility to operate with an ammonia vaporizer on both EUs; to change the scrubber liquid in the dryer cooler scrubbers, reactor/pugmill cooler scrubbers and dust cooler scrubbers from once-through pond water to recirculating fresh water for both EUs; the addition of a heat exchanger for the indirect contact cooling of the recirculating water; to allow the tail gas scrubber pressure drop for EU032 to be reported based on the entire scrubber; and to add a temporary, portable Ammoniated Polyphosphate Plant to manufacture liquid fertilizer to the Insignificant List and to revise Title V air operation permit No. 0470002-077-AV, for the above referenced facility. Details of the project are provided in the application and the enclosed Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination and Statement of Basis.

Permitting Authority: Applications for Title V air operation permits are subject to review in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapters 62-4, 62-210, 62-213 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The proposed project is not exempt from air permitting requirements and a Title V air operation permit is required to operate the facility. The Department of Environmental Protection's Air Resource Section in the Northeast District Office is the Permitting Authority responsible for making a permit determination for this project. The Permitting Authority's physical address is: Baymeadows Way West, Jacksonville, Florida 32256. The Permitting Authority's mailing address is: 8800 Baymeadows Way West, Jacksonville, Florida 32256. The Permitting Authority's telephone number is 904/256-1700.

Project File: A complete project file is available for public inspection during the normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except legal holidays), at the address indicated above for the Permitting Authority. The complete project file includes the Draft Air Construction Permit and draft/proposed permit, the Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination, the statement of basis, the application, and the information submitted by the applicant, exclusive of confidential records under Section 403.111, F.S. Interested persons may view the draft permit by visiting the following website: http://www.dep.state.fl.us/air/emission/apds/default.asp and entering the permit number shown above. Interested persons may contact the Permitting Authority's project review engineer for additional information at the address or phone number listed above.

Notice of Intent to Issue Permit: The Permitting Authority gives notice of its intent to issue a draft Air Construction Permit and draft/proposed Title V air operation permit revision to the applicant for the project described above. The applicant has provided reasonable assurance that continued operation of the existing and proposed equipment will not adversely impact air quality and that the project will comply with all appropriate provisions of Chapters 62-4, 62-204, 62-210, 62-212, 62-213, 62-296 and 62-297, F.A.C. The Permitting Authority will issue a final Air Construction Permit and a subsequent final permit in accordance with the conditions of the draft Air Construction Permit and draft/proposed permit unless a response received in accordance with the following procedures results in a different decision or a significant change of terms or conditions.

Comments: The Permitting Authority will accept written comments concerning the draft Air Construction Permit for a period of for a period of 14 (fourteen) days from the date of publication of the Public Notice and the draft/proposed Title V air operation permit for a period of 30 days from the date of publication of the Public Notice. Written comments must be received by the close of business (5:00 p.m.), on or before the end of this 15-day and 30-day period by the Permitting Authority at the above address. As part of his or her comments, any person may also request that the Permitting Authority hold a public meeting on this permitting action. If the Permitting Authority determines there is sufficient interest for a public meeting, it will publish notice of the time, date, and location in the Florida Administrative Weekly (FAW). If a public meeting is requested within the 30-day comment period and conducted by the Permitting Authority, any oral and written comments received during the public meeting will also be considered by the Permitting Authority. If timely received written comments or comments received at a public meeting result in a significant change to the draft Air Construction Permit or draft/proposed Title V permit, the Permitting Authority shall issue a revised draft Air Construction Permit or draft/proposed Title V permit and require, if applicable, another Public Notice. All comments filed will be made available for public inspection. For additional information, contact the Permitting Authority at the above address or phone number.

Petitions: A person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed with (received by) the Department's Agency Clerk in the Office of General Counsel of the Department of Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station #35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. Petitions filed by the applicant or any of the parties listed below must be filed within 14 days of receipt of this Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit. Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), F.S., must be filed within 14 days of publication of the attached Public Notice or within 14 days of receipt of this Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit, whichever occurs first. Under Section 120.60(3), F.S., however, any person who asked the Permitting Authority for notice of agency action may file a petition within 14 days of receipt of that notice, regardless of the date of publication. A petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above, at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., or to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party to it. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the approval of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Permitting Authority's action is based must contain the following information: (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known; (b) The name, address and telephone number of the petitioner; the name address and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial rights will be affected by the agency determination; (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the agency action or proposed decision; (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate; (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and, (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action the petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action. A petition that does not dispute the material facts upon which the Permitting Authority's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, as required by Rule 28-106.301, F.A.C.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Permitting Authority's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this Public Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Permitting Authority on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation: Mediation is not available for this proceeding.

EPA Review: EPA has agreed to treat the draft/proposed Title V air operation permit as a proposed Title V air operation permit and to perform its 45 day review provided by the law and regulations concurrently with the public comment period, provided that the applicant also transmits an electronic copy of the required proof of publication directly to EPA at the following email address: oquendo.ana@epamail.epa.gov. Although EPA's 45-day review period will be performed concurrently with the public comment period, the deadline for submitting a citizen petition to object to the EPA Administrator will be determined as if EPA's 45-day review period is performed after the public comment period has ended. The final Title V air operation permit will be issued after the conclusion of the 45-day EPA review period so long as no adverse comments are received that result in a different decision or significant change of terms or conditions. The status regarding EPA's 45–day review of this project and the deadline for submitting a citizen petition can be found at the following website address: http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/permits/Florida.htm.

Objections: Finally, pursuant to 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 7661d(b)(2), any person may petition the Administrator of the EPA within 60 days of the expiration of the Administrator's 45 day review period as established at 42 U.S.C. Section 7661d(b)(1), to object to the issuance of any Title V air operation permit. Any petition shall be based only on objections to the Permit that were raised with reasonable specificity during the 30-day public comment period provided in the Public Notice, unless the petitioner demonstrates to the Administrator of the EPA that it was impracticable to raise such objections within the comment period or unless the grounds for such objection arose after the comment period. Filing of a petition with the Administrator of the EPA does not stay the effective date of any permit properly issued pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 62 213, F.A.C. Petitions filed with the Administrator of EPA must meet the requirements of 42 U.S.C. Section 7661d(b)(2) and must be filed with the Administrator of the EPA at: U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. For more information regarding EPA review and objections, visit EPA's Region 4 web site at http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/permits/Florida.htm.
01/17

LEGAL NOTICE

In February 1976 for 1967 or 1968 crops and in June 1978 for 1969, 1971 or 1972 crops Flue Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation ("Stabilization" now known as U S Tobacco Cooperative) issued Certificates of Interest in Capital Reserve, to its members who delivered tobacco to Stabilization for any year listed above ("Certificate").

We are pleased to offer to redeem the Certificate of any member who voluntarily accepts this offer. This is not a mandatory redemption, it is an offer, which may be accepted only at your election. You are under no obligation to accept it, and if you elect not to accept it, you will retain all rights in and to the Certificate, and your Certificate will be subject to redemption in the same manner as if there had been no offer.

Any Certificate holder (including heirs, beneficiaries and/or estate administrators of deceased Certificate holders) who would like to accept this redemption offer should call 1-877-277-7422 for more information. To obtain a redemption application form go to www.tobaccocheck.com and click on the application form. You may also request a redemption application form by mail, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Certificate Redemption
P.O. Box 12300
Raleigh, N.C. 27605

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING A PROPERLY DOCUMENTED REDEMPTION APPLICATION IS March 29, 2013. Applications postmarked after March 29, 2013, or faxed or emailed after March 29, 2013 or not properly completed or sufficiently documented by March 29, 2013 will not be processed.

Tommy Bunn
President/Secretary
U.S. Tobacco Cooperative
01/17

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF PETITION FOR VARIANCE

The Department announces receipt of a petition for a variance from PCS Phosphate – White Springs, Post Office Box 300, White Springs, Florida 32096 (PCS) seeking a variance under paragraphs 378.212(1)(c) and (d), Florida Statutes (F.S.) from the time period for reclamation required by paragraph 378.209(1), F.S. for approximately 35 acres of mineable faces within the Hamilton County Mine in Hamilton County, Florida.

This application is being processed and is available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's Mining and Mitigation Program, 2051 East Dirac Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32310-3760. Any comments or objections should be filed in writing with the Department at this address. Comments or objections should be submitted as soon as possible to ensure that there is adequate time for them to be considered in the Department decision on the petition.
01/17

LEGAL NOTICE
HAMILTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING AND BUSINESS MEETING

The **North Central Florida Regional Planning Council** announces a public hearing and business meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: **February 6, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.**

PLACE: **Hamilton County Commissioners' Meeting Room, Hamilton County Courthouse located at 207 NE First Street, Jasper, Florida.**

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: **To conduct a public hearing and regular business of the Hamilton County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.**

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, 2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this public hearing and business meeting is asked to advise the agency at least **2 business days** before the meeting by contacting **352.955.2200**. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800. 955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800. 955.8770 (Voice).

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.
01/17

Healthy Living

~Beth Harris, CSCS, CHFS
bethharrisfitness@gmail.com

Make it easy

By Beth Harris

My husband loves The Splendid Table Radio Show. Every sunday I wake to the sound of Lynne Rossetto Kasper's voice educating on everything from the best beer brewing to recipes that tickle the taste buds. Last Sunday as I whipped up a batch of pancakes for my kiddo I listened to a story about a town in California.

San Luis Obispo, California, founded in 1772, is one of California's oldest communities. Located midway between L.A. and San Fran, SLO's population sits somewhere around 45,000, that's about 10,000 less than Valdosta. The city's been awarded the "Best Downtown in the west"; happiest city in America, and the Number 1 city in the US for overall emotional health. What is it about this Tree City USA community that makes it so great?

SLO has found the answer to health: make healthy choices the easiest choice. Here the obesity rate is nine percent lower than the national average at only 17.6 percent. This is attributed to several factors beginning with SLO's prohibition of drive-through restaurants that began in 1982. An original idea to reduce traffic, has become a blessing in disguise. You may think, why would a drive-through ban matter, but how easy is it to pop through a drive-through when you want a quick snack? Most people must agree because 50-60 percent of Burger King's total revenue comes from the drive through. Nonetheless, fast food giants like McDonald's have been shut out by this close knit California community again and again.

SLO was also the first city to enact anti-smoking legislation in bars. They have strict city-wide bans-no smoking in the workplace, in parks, in front of office buildings or stores. Their plan is to "de-normalize" smoking, giving little reminders to smokers wherever they go, that is is absolutely the wrong thing to do. They've banned big blink signs with small tasteful signs that not only make the city more aesthetically pleasing, but also minimize fast food marketing which reduce the consumption of the greasy junk food industry.

They have a greenbelt plan in place, which limits its housing growth to one percent per year, and value their green downtown, biking and hiking trails, and wildlife preserves that encourage healthy outdoor activity. They support the arts like painting, film, art, opera and orchestra which studies show is strongly tied to well being. In SLO nearly a quarter of the population is self employed which not only reduces commuting times, but makes for happier people. Their focus is not optimizing a business environment, but enhancing the quality and longevity of life.

Many cities like Buckhead, Atlanta and Alexandria, Virginia are following suit. We can glean a few lessons from SLO, beginning with ourselves in our own homes. Make bad choices hard. Don't buy sodas or junk food. If you're a smoker, make accessing your cigarettes difficult. It's human nature to take the easiest avenue possible, make healthy choices easy and you might be surprised at the result. As always, enjoy the process. In the words of Lynne Kasper, "The process becomes the pleasure, not solely the outcome. The trick is to enjoy the doing, not just the eating." Let's make it our mission to make every table Splendid!

~Beth Harris, CSCS, HFS, CHC
www.jayeelizabeth-harris.com

SRWMD agreement for Mobile Irrigation Lab Services

Submitted

The Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) at its January 8 meeting approved an agreement with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to expand the partnership-based Mobile Irrigation Lab Services (MIL).

The MIL is part of the ongoing efforts between the Suwannee River Partnership and the agricultural community to assist farmers in irrigation efficiencies.

The MIL provides free water conservation evaluations to the farmer. The MIL in the District is being expanded to address the enhanced water conservation and water quality improvement efforts in the Suwannee River and Santa Fe River basins.

The MIL services provide site-specific expertise in analyzing irrigation systems and educating property owners on how to improve water conservation and are free-of-charge to the farmer. After the site-specific analysis is completed the farmer is provided with recommendations to improve existing irrigation system efficiencies. The MIL will also provide information on water conservation, irrigation planning, and irrigation management.

During 2012, the MIL conducted 171 site-specific evaluations covering more than 16,000 acres that identified a potential water savings of over 900 million gallons within the District.

The expanded partnership-based agreement will provide for about 20 additional pre-evaluations and post-evaluations at a funding level of $40,000. This increase effort will save an estimated 179 million gallons of water annually or just under 0.5 million gallons per day.

For more information about the District's Mobile Irrigation Lab Services, please contact Kevin Wright of the District's Ag Team at 386.362.1001 or KLW@srwmd.org.

Special Olympics is March 16

This year's Special Olympics competition will be held at Hamilton County High School on Saturday, March 16 beginning at 9 a.m. Hamilton County is hosting the area competition that will bring folks in from Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Columbia and Marion counties, as well as from Hamilton. Everyone is invited to attend.

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer your time for this special event, contact Helen Udell at 386-397-2563 or 904-504-5632.

Register Now!
Early Childhood Education Program
Classes start January 22nd
Call (386) 647-4210 to schedule TABE test
SUWANNEE-HAMILTON TECHNICAL CENTER
415 S.W. Pinewood Dr., Live Oak, FL 32064
FINANCIAL AID IS AVAILABLE AND ACCEPTED. APPROVED FOR VA TRAINING BENEFITS. ACCREDITED BY THE COUNCIL ON OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, INC.
All vocation opportunities will be (are) offered without regards to race, color, national origin, sex or disabilities.

780700

Culinary Arts and Commercial Foods Program
Classes starting January 22nd
TABE testing must be completed prior to enrollment
SUWANNEE-HAMILTON TECHNICAL CENTER
415 S.W. Pinewood Dr., Live Oak, FL 32064
(386) 647-4200
FINANCIAL AID IS AVAILABLE AND ACCEPTED. APPROVED FOR VA TRAINING BENEFITS. ACCREDITED BY THE COUNCIL ON OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, INC. ALL VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE (ARE) OFFERED WITHOUT REGARDS TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX OR DISABILITIES.
780716

Sports

TROJAN BASKETBALL

2 wins, 1 loss

By Andrew McGee
andrew.mcgee@gaflnews.com

The Hamilton County High School Trojan boys basketball team won their game against the Branford Buccaneers.

The first quarter had the Trojans pulling ahead with a lead of 28-8. Then, the second quarter they made an even bigger gain with 31 to the Bucs five bringing the score to a devastating 59-13 for the half.

The third quarter, the Trojans cooled their engines a bit and only made eight to the Bucs 10 putting the score at 67-23.

The fourth and final quarter, the Trojans were able to coast and pull in a low seven points to the Bucs eight and still win with a staggering margin of 74-31.

The high rebounders were Anthony Claridy and Justin Milton both with eight rebounds, Andrew Manalis and Darian Speights both with six rebounds and Aaron Cooks had five.

Kevin McCain had five steals, Speights had three and Manalis and Cooks had two each. There were 21 total assists for the team.

Trojans swat the Hornets

The Trojans won their game against the Lafayette Hornets with the final score of 86-57.

The first quarter, the Trojans took the lead with 28-18. The second quarter, they secured 21 to the Hornets 19 bringing the score for the half at 49-37.

The third quarter, the Trojans kept bringing the heat and the Hornets seemed to lose their sting with the quarter ending 70-47, Trojans.

The fourth quarter, the Trojans didn't let up at all and were able to bring in 16 more to the Hornets 10. When the final buzzer sounded, the score was 86-57.

The high rebounders for the game were Joseph Cooks with 11, Jeremiah Lee and Shaquille Williams both with nine, Antefernee Smith with seven and Anthony Claridy with six.

Kevin McClain had the highest in steals with four followed by Jacquez McCray with three and Joseph Cooks had two.

McClain also had the most assists with six, Lee and Smith both with four and McCray and Cooks both had two.

Trojans lose to St. Francis

The Trojans Boys lost at home in a non-conference game against the St. Francis Catholic Wolves.

The first quarter, the Trojans took a pretty promising lead with 21-6. The second quarter, the Wolves turned up the heat bringing the score to 33-29 with the Trojans barely keeping their lead before the half.

The third quarter, the Trojans were only able to secure eight points to the Wolves 23, so they took the lead with the score 52-41 with Wolves on top.

The final quarter, the Trojans turned it up again with 19 points and the Wolves with 12, but not quite enough to take the victory as the final score was 64-60 Wolves.

The leading rebounder for the game was Joseph Cooks with 10. Tyler Chapman and Antefernee Smith both snagged four each and Jeremiah Lee, Kevin McCain and Shaquille Williams all had three.

Steals were made by Smith, Cooks and Williams grabbing two each while Lee, McCain and Tyler Chapman all had one.

The top assists were made by McCain with four, and Antefernee, JacQuez McCray and Chapman all had two each.

Girls basketball

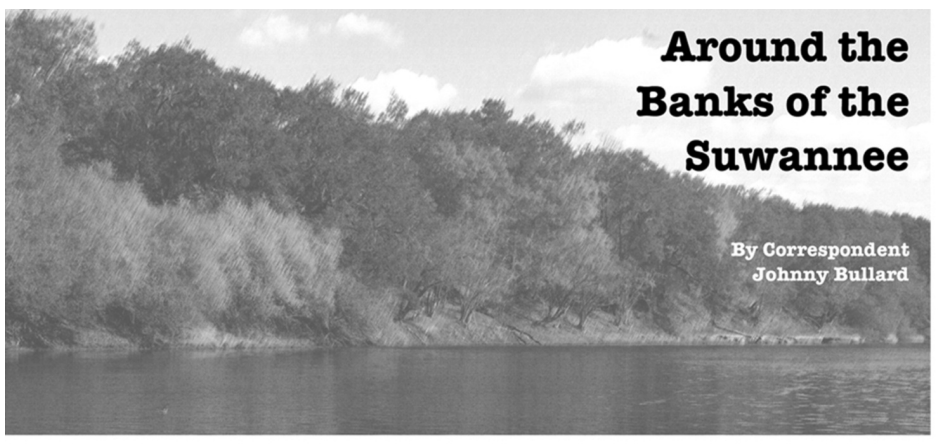
Trojans beat Bucs

By Andrew McGee

The Hamilton County High School Trojan basketball team defeated the Branford High School Buccaneers Jan. 8, 50-44.

The first quarter, the Trojans were able to secure 13 points and the Bucs were able to secure eight. The second quarter, the Trojans made 12 and Bucs made nine, bringing the score at the half to 25-17 with Trojans on top.

The third quarter, the Trojans were able to bring the score to 35-24. By the final buzzer the score was 50-44 with Trojans taking the victory.



On Monday, Jan. 21, we will celebrate a national holiday honoring the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. While Dr. King's importance to the civil rights movement in this nation cannot be diminished nor underestimated, did you know that two very famous civil rights activists, one black, one white, one male, one female, were born here "Around the Banks of the Suwannee"? I found their stories quite interesting.

Lillian Eugenia Smith, (Dec. 12, 1897-Sept. 28, 1966), a southern white woman who openly embraced a liberal position on matters of racial and gender equality and was unafraid to criticize racial segregation and worked toward dismantling of "Jim Crow" laws at a time when such actions guaranteed almost certain social ostracism was born to a prominent upper middle class family in Jasper, Florida. She was the seventh of nine children. Her life took a turn when her father lost his extensive timber, turpentine and business holdings in and around Jasper in 1915 and the family, not without resources, moved to some property in Clayton, Georgia, where Miss Smith would spend the remainder of her productive life. She published her most famous novel "Strange Fruit" in 1944. It was a novel that exposed her own beliefs about the system of segregation in the south that she saw as morally wrong and wondered in her own mind, how white southerners could cleave to such a strong Christian doctrine that taught unconditional love for everyone and, yet, in practice, executed and perpetuated a system of social segregation that, in her mind, was morally unacceptable.

Subsequent works of Miss Smith included "Killers of the Dream", a collection of essays and stories about her own beliefs about segregation and life in the "Jim Crow" south.

She corresponded frequently with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during his ascendancy as a major figure in the civil rights movement and, supposedly, wrote to him while he was incarcerated in the Birmingham Jail. It is believed that passages from her "Killers of the Dream" were mailed to him for encouragement in which she wrote about her "Dreams" for a new south free from the social stigma of segregation. It is also believed that Dr. King used her ideas as well as some of her paraphrased quotes in his famous "I Have a Dream Speech" delivered in Washington, D.C. in 1963.

Smith spent much of her life writing and publishing books, reviews and essays about the moral wrong of segregation, as well as her beliefs in racial as well as gender equality. The basis for her book "Strange Fruit" was taken from her childhood and early teen years in Jasper, Florida. A more lighthearted book also set in Jasper is her poignant "A Memory of a Large Christmas". Miss Smith grew up in a large, rambling Victorian home situated directly across the railroad track from the Jasper United Methodist Church. As a child, she and her family attended and were members of the Methodist Church in Jasper.

The second prominent Floridian, an African American male, was born Nov. 18, 1905 in Suwannee County just east of Live Oak in the small farming community of Houston. He was the only child of his parents who owned a small store and operated the fueling station for the railroad company. His name was Harry Tyson Moore. Moore went on to receive a college education at Bethune Cookman College and became principal of an all black high school in Brevard County. He also became state secretary of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) in the mid 1940s and almost single handedly helped form and bring into prominence the Progressive Florida Voters League from 1944-50. He was instrumental in helping register some 116,000 African American voters in the state of Florida at that time - more than almost every southern state combined.

He was an activist for voters rights for African Americans and fought for equality for all educators in the state of Florida. On Dec. 25, 1951, at his home in Brevard County, he and his wife had just celebrated their silver wedding anniversary when a bomb exploded under Moore's home, killing him. He became the first martyr of the modern civil rights movement.

In today's world, it is much easier to make a stand for what one believes in many areas that affect modern society. What I found unique about these two individuals is "where" they were born - from very different backgrounds - and, yet, both went on to have a major impact on our world in their own sphere and both stood firm for what they believed. It cost both ostracism. It cost one his life.

Both grew up in "hollering distance" of the banks of the Suwannee. As we celebrate the life and works of Dr. King, we can be proud of the stand he took that ensured more equality for Americans from many walks of life and of all creeds and colors. We can also be very proud of these two native children, both part of our area, our home, who grew up in "our own backyard" so to speak, saw the world for what it was and dared to make it a better place.

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

Baseball/Softball signups in Hamilton County

January 7 through February 8. Cost is $50. Late registration is February 9-22 at a cost of $60.

Little One: Age 4 and Under: $35
T-Ball: Age 6 and Under: $45
Rookie League: Ages 7&8: $50
Minor League: Ages 9&10: $50
Major League: Ages 11&12: $50
Senior League: Ages 13&15: $50
Softball: Ages 7 to 16: $50

So get signed up and let's have a great spring season!!!

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

Jan. 7, Richard D. Hopkins III, 31, PO Box 924, Jasper, Fla., vop, dwls, JAPD-Rickerson

Jan. 7, Napoleon Ambrose Whitfield, 53, 784 NW Suwannee Valley Rd., Lake City, Fla., false ID LEO, HCSO-Jackson

Jan. 8, Eric Devon Brooker, 24, 10494 NW 36 Dr., Jasper, Fla., larceny, poss. narcotic equip, battery, HCSO-Hughes

Jan. 8, Raphael Quitoni, 52, 7509 Johnson St., Hollywood, Fla., dwls, habitual, HCSO-Cribbs

Jan. 8, Jesse Wayne Greer, 28, 4988 SW 71 Loop, Jasper, Fla., dwls, habitual, HCSO-Burke

Jan. 9, Rosene Gibson, 26, Cross City CI, hold for Orange Cty., OCSO-Burk

Jan. 9, Winston Rawlings, 22, Hamilton CI, hold for Orange Cty., OCSO-Burk

Jan. 9, James Daughtry, 44, Taylor CI, hold for Orange Cty., OCSO-Burk

Jan. 9, Diomedes Cifuentes, 33, Taylor CI, hold for Orange Cty., OCSO-Burk

Jan. 9, Herbert Goss, 27, Taylor CI, hold for Orange Cty., OCSO-Burk

Jan. 9, Mkhan Singh JUJ, 34, 1949 Harbans Dr., Yuba City, 95993, deadly missile into occ. vehicle, traff. meth, dwlsr, poss. drug para, narcotic equip, possess, manuf. deliver, FHP-Hughes

Jan. 9, Darryl Renard Weary, 45, 11048 NW 39 Way, Jasper, Fla., vop, dwls, HCSO-Murphy

Jan. 10, Izet Tursunovic, 53, 1400 Gandy Blvd., apt. 207, St. Petersburgh, Fla., dwls, HCSO-Murphy

Jan. 10, Freddy Lee Davis, 35, 3031 NW 22 Blv., Jennings, Fla., nonsupport, HCSO-Thomas

Jan. 10, Dominique B. Allen, 25, 11944 SW CR 249, Jasper, Fla., petit theft warrant, HCSO-Curry

Jan. 10, Terry Tyrone Bristol, 38, 4404 Webster St., Tampa, Fl., dwls, JAPD-McGauley

Jan. 11, Catrice Davinia Glivens, 40, 1540 SW 97 Terr., Pembroke Pines, Fla., vop, warrant, possess methamphetamine, cocaine, HCSO-walk-in

Jan. 11, Deana Franklin Ball, 39, 1307 NW 3 St., Jasper, Fla., served 5th weekend, HCSO-walk-in

Jan. 12, Benjamin L. Robinson, 35, 10944 NW 36 Dr., Jasper, Fla., agg. assault, criminal mischief, resist w/o violence, HCSO-Burke

Jan. 12, Lovie Leroy Folmar, 30, 10558 Moore St., White Springs, Fla., battery, resist w/o violence, battery on LEO, threatening public official, WSPD-Raulerson

Hundreds turn out for Stephen Foster Day

Continued From Page 1A

Bianco graduated from Stetson University in Deland, Fl. last year and currently resides in Pembroke Pines in South Florida. She teaches voice and piano.

Longo hails from Tampa and is a senior at Florida State University. He started out playing violin, he said, but a teacher convinced him to take voice studies. Once he graduates he plans to audition wherever he can and see where it takes him.

A special treat at the end of all the performances was Longo's beautiful rendition of "Quanto 'e bella" from L'Elisir d'Amore by Gaetano Donizetti.

A delightful assortment of finger sandwiches, fruits, veggies and desserts awaited everyone after the last song of the day where everyone ventured outside to listen to Nancy Metzger, as she played "Amazing Grace" on the carillon bells.

It was an afternoon of music and memories as everyone visited together on a gorgeous Sunday in the park. Be sure to watch the online video for a snapshot of the day's performances at www.suwanneedemocrat.com.

The Carillon Bell Tower begins to fill up right before the beginning performances.

Michael Vickey plays the hammered dulcimer accompanied by Jan Krautheim.

Jan Krautheim played several of Foster's songs on the piano.

Jeanie 2013, Jessica Bianco sings "Hard Times Come Again No More", accompanied by Nadiya Caspary on piano. -Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor

Stephen 2013, Christopher Longo, sings "Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair", accompanied by Nadiyal Caspary on piano.

Nancy Metzger explains how the carillon bells work before she plays.

Emcee Johnny Bullard of White Springs.

Some came dressed in period attire.

A lighthearted moment after the performances.

The crowd goes outside to hear "Amazing Grace" on the carillon bells.

A feast of refreshments was enjoyed by all after the performances.

Stephen and Jeanie chat with the crowd.