



## CURSIVE WRITING AT RISK

Common core stresses keyboarding - not cursive



## RELAY FOR LIFE APRIL 19-20

Hamilton County's annual Relay for Life event will be held Friday and Saturday, April 19-20 at the old high school track in Jasper. SEE STORY, BELOW.

# The Jasper News

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50¢

## Internet cafe ban passes

By Bryant Thigpen  
bryant.thigpen@gafnews.com

Florida legislators have passed a bill to ban Internet cafes and Governor Rick Scott said he would sign the measure into law. Ac-

cording to reports, Scott was set to sign the bill Wednesday. The Florida Senate voted 36-4 on Thursday in favor of the ban that has already been approved by the Florida House of Representatives.

Once the law is signed, three Internet cafes in Hamilton County will be forced to close their doors for good.

One Internet cafe in Live Oak was shut down in March as a result of a raid

last month.

On March 13, Live Oak Internet Services, LLC, located at 1525 Ohio Ave. North, Live Oak, was a part of a raid of Internet cafes

**SEE INTERNET, PAGE 2A**

Local law enforcement feeling the pinch on ammo

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

With all the recent debate and the soon to be passed legislation for stricter gun control laws, which includes a provision limiting ammunition magazines to 10 rounds, Americans are stockpiling as much and as many guns and ammo as they can get their

**SEE LOCAL, PAGE 8A**

Burton's gypsy wagon crusades through county

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Hamilton County resident Bob Burton has been taking his crusade against regional forms of government on the road with his gypsy wagon loaded with informative documents in an attempt to educate the public about what he believes to be illegal and uncon-

**SEE BURTON'S, PAGE 2A**

Come out and support Relay for Life April 19-20

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Hamilton County's annual Relay for Life event will be held Friday and Saturday, April 19-20 at the old high school track in

**SEE COME, PAGE 11A**



### JASPER MARKET DAYS



A fresh produce stand enticed a lot of buyers. - Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor

## Jasper Market Days draws a crowd ...and 'Harley Jay' loves his "Hog"

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

**O**n Saturday, April 6, Jasper Market Days returned to City Park for year number two of the monthly event compliments of Ronnie Herring and friends. A sweet addition this time around was a motorcycle show, which drew curious onlookers to check out the big, bad bikes.

**SEE JASPER, PAGE 8A**



"Harley Jay" Papescu beside his pride and joy.

## CURSIVE WRITING AT RISK

Common core stresses keyboarding - not cursive

*Local school official says it is directly affected by new technology*

**Staff**  
The debate over the value of teaching cursive writing in schools has escalated since the nation's governors and state

education commissioners launched the Common Core State Standards Initiative in 2009.

**SEE COMMON, PAGE 9A**

Teacher colleges join digital trend

**Staff**  
The trend toward de-emphasizing cursive writing is also occurring at universities that prepare teachers for the classroom.

Students studying to be elementary teachers at the University of Florida are in-

**SEE TEACHER, PAGE 9A**

**The debate over cursive writing in U.S. schools**

**By Maureen Hayden**  
**CNHI News Service**  
INDIANAPOLIS — Not far from State Sen. Jean Leising's capitol office is a museum that prominently displays documents penned by

**SEE THE DEBATE, PAGE 9A**

**ONLINE EXTRA**  
Video: 'What your handwriting says about you'

## Decision on food bank delayed until April 16

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Discussion continued on use of the White Springs elections polling place for a food pantry at the April 2 meeting of the Hamilton County Board of

County Commissioners.

Richard Marshall from the town of White Springs is moving forward with his New Hope food pantry ministry and presented the board with a \$1 million dollar certificate of insurance as the board had re-

quested, in order to release the county of any liability issues.

At the March 19 commission meeting Marshall was given tentative approval for use of the county-owned voting

**SEE DECISION, PAGE 9A**



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## Burton's gypsy wagon crusades through county

Continued From Page 1A

stitutional actions by national and multi-national corporations who are taking over the country. The difficulty in his crusade is that it is so far-reaching and goes back so many years that most people can't comprehend or understand all the implications and ramifications, he says.

Burton was the subject of a raid by Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) agents in January, 2011 and then arrested five months later, charged with illegal wiretapping of a phone conversation with a state legislative aide as they reportedly discussed illegal activities of high-ranking state officials. The case was thrown out January, 2013, and Burton was released from prosecution. Since then, Burton was able to get back some of the items that were seized in the raid, including his video camera and computer, however, he states many of his computer files have been corrupted with virus worms and he can't open them.

On Burton's Facebook page he remarks, "Those documents I can't open are Writ of Prohibition, Writ of Mandamus, Cancellatura, Notice of Disfranchisement, etc. There are hundreds more including my book. All of my footage is blocked. This is my governmental, political, as well as our woodworking history and portfolio. I will call FDLE ... and see if they will unlock it. If not, it is definite 'Theft Under Color of Law', as well as 'exceeding the warrant.'"

Burton has been on the agenda at the county commission meetings for the last couple of months and has spoken about criminal and civil immunity of Hamilton County Economic Development partners. He has also been e-mailing the commissioners with his investigative findings, asking them to read and understand how regional forms of government are unconstitutional.

On April 2, Burton's gypsy wagon was parked across the street from the county court-

house where inside he was about to address the commissioners at their bi-monthly meeting.

"I am very concerned that our state agencies are being recruited to carry out missions of international law here on the residents of Hamilton County," Burton told the board. "I was present where 34 men with machine guns, full combat gear, came out and extracted a nine-year-old and an 11-year-old from a house and took family photos out of the home. That's crossing over into the law enforcement issue of things."

Burton was speaking about yet another Feb. 27, 2013 raid by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Florida Department of State at the home of a man, who was charged with removal of artifacts from state lands/waterways. That investigation is still ongoing.

Decisions that the governmental body (the county commissioners) are making, Burton said, are benefiting these same multi-national cor-

porations that are lobbying our state agencies and enlisting them to be, literally, troops to carry out their global development and governance nations' agendas.

With this new Klausner coming in (in Suwannee County), that's going to be wonderful for jobs, but myself, coming out of the timber industry, I would be horrified to see this big multi-national corporation coming in with the government that I have to pay taxes into funding its operations."

Klausner Lumber One is supposed to be coming to Suwannee County soon. Burton said the Hamilton County Economic Development Council is also working with Klausner.

"What will happen, there will be no more mom and pop sawmills around like my dad and I built machinery systems for, for decades."

Meanwhile Burton and his wife continue to try to make a living in their carpentry business and Burton said he will continue to send the commissioners more information.

## Internet cafe ban passes

Continued From Page 1A

ed on the document are Michael Graham and Joseph Harrington, both of JM Land Investments LLC, 103 North Main Street, Tabor City, N.C. Harrington has been arrested and was transported to the Florence County Detention Center in Longs, S.C. Graham remains wanted.

According to the FDLE, Operation "Reveal the Deal" uncovered a sophisticated racketeering and money laundering scheme stemming from 49 illegal gambling centers operating under the guise of "Internet cafes." The organization falsely claimed to be a charitable veterans' organization, but instead deceived the public and government while lining the pockets of its operators.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement said Allied Veterans of the World was led by four co-conspirators: Johnny Duncan, 62, of Boiling Springs, S.C.; Jerry Bass, 62, of Jacksonville; Chase Burns, 37, of Fort Cobb, Okla. and Kelly Mathis, 49, also of Jacksonville. Duncan serves as the former national commander of the organization, Bass is the current commander, and Mathis is the organization's attorney.

According to the Florida Department of State Division of Corporations, Live Oak Internet Services filed as a Florida limited liability company on Feb. 25, 2010. The registered agent for the company is Kelly Mathis, Esq., 1200 Riverplace, Blvd., Jacksonville, who was among those arrested and incarcerated at the Seminole County Jail. Business managers list-

Game makers argue the games are legal because there are a predetermined number of winners, much like the game Monopoly hosted by McDonald's, however, the operations of the gambling devices were not heavily regulated.

The proposed bill will also place limits on sweepstakes and says arcades will be prohibited from offering gift cards or cash as prizes. It also mentions that arcades should be using coin-operated machines that involve an element of skill to win, not casino-style games.



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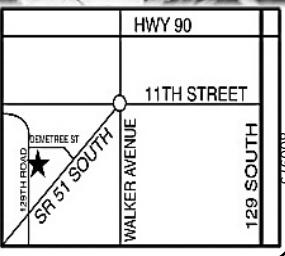
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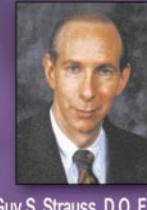
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Bob Burton and wife Kathy Scott set up their gypsy wagon outside the Hamilton County Courthouse.

- Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

## College Placement Tests

Monday - Thursday

Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m. (by appointment): College Placement Test (CPT), NFCC Testing Center (Bldg. #16), 5 p.m., Madison. Register in NFCC Student Services 24 hours before test. For information please call 850-973-9451.



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# *Life in* **WHITE SPRINGS**

By Walter McKenzie

[lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com](mailto:lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com)

A friend of mine passed away this week. His name was Bahoon Rose and he was a long time resident of the White Springs Bed and Breakfast. Bahoon was an imposing presence and when he first came to White Springs his size, (he was big) and his tone, (the porch vibrated when he spoke sometimes) were a little intimidating, but I soon learned that he was really a gentle soul who just liked to say hello in his own way. He greeted visitors to the B&B and would often hang out on the front porch with them, listening to their stories about their

travels. He was a faithful companion to Judith McClure, and she cared for him in his advancing years as old age began to take its toll. He was fond of my two dogs, Haggis and Rarebit, who can sometimes be overly enthusiastic with their greetings. Bahoon understood, and would give a friendly wag of his tail while my dogs barked and sniffed. Bahoon loved a good head scratching too. We will all miss seeing him lying on the B&B's porch and we'll miss hearing his deep, rumbling, gentle hello. Rest well, Bahoon, you were a good and faithful dog and neighbor.

Birthdays are a joyous occasion! On April 6th, Sammy Bryant celebrated his 73rd birthday with family and friends. Happy birthday, Sammy!!

Lovely Mae Williams will celebrate her 80th birth-

day on this Friday, April 12th. Let's give a big shout out to Lovely Mae Williams.

Merri McKenzie will celebrate her ??th birthday (she's not telling!) on April 26th with the White Springs birthday girls at the Olive Garden!! Happy birthday Merri! You're looking good, good looking!

Bobbie Henderson had a family and friends day at Beulah Baptist church, Saturday, April the 6th. Robert Thomas from Tampa was the speaker. Everyone had a great time!

That is about it for this week. I hope to see you out and about, enjoying life in White Springs

Walter McKenzie  
[Lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com](mailto:Lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com)  
386-269-0056

## Hamilton County Celebrates 5th Annual Tobacco Free Florida Week

Tobacco Free Florida has helped 72,000 people quit through its 3 Ways to Quit services.

JASPER – The fifth annual Tobacco Free Florida Week runs from April 6-13. Themed "High Five: Celebrating Five Years of Tobacco Free Florida Week," it will highlight progress made in protecting Floridians from tobacco's deadly toll.

Hamilton County Alcohol & Other Drug prevention Coalition works together with the Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Tobacco Free Florida to educate youth about the harmful effects of tobacco use, aid current tobacco users in their efforts to quit, and bring to light the impact tobacco has on the community's health and economy.

"This is an important week for us (Hamilton County Tobacco Free Partnership) and the community," said Colby Hooper, Hamilton County Tobacco Prevention Specialist. "We work so hard all year to encourage policies and resolutions, so this is the week that we have the rest of the state behind us."

Since the inception of the Tobacco Free Florida program, the following milestones have been achieved:

### Protecting the People:

There are more than 500,000 fewer adult smokers in Florida.

Tobacco Free Florida has helped 72,000 people quit through its 3 Ways to Quit services.

### There are now 70,000 fewer youth smokers.

There are more than 220,000 fewer youth in Florida exposed to secondhand smoke, which contains a deadly mix of more than 7,000 chemicals, hundreds of which are toxic and 69 that can cause cancer.

### Benefiting the Community:

Hamilton County passed a resolution to urge retailers to stop the sale and marketing of flavored tobacco products.

In June 2011, Gov. Rick Scott signed a law amending the Florida Clean Indoor Air Act to give school boards the authority to designate all district property as tobacco free. Currently Hamilton County Schools have a "no tobacco" policy on their campuses.

### Helping the State:

The reduction in smokers has helped save more than \$4.2 billion in personal health care costs.

Twenty colleges and universities in Florida have taken the bold step to enact 100 percent smoke-free campus policies.

These efforts are supported by a statewide media campaign driven by powerful advertisements that demonstrate the dangers and real-life consequences of tobacco use, inspiring Floridians to quit and encouraging youth to never start. Research shows that hard-hitting media campaigns are effective.

"Each year, Tobacco Free Florida week turns up the heat on tobacco by educating Floridians about the dangers to health from smoking and chewing tobacco," said State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong. "Florida has seen remarkable success in reducing smoking rates in recent years, one of the program's many accomplishments that we will celebrate during this five-year anniversary."

Tobacco Free Florida offers three ways to quit: CALL: Call the Florida Quitline at 1-877-U-CAN-NOW to speak with a Quit Coach who will help you assess your addiction and help you create a personalized quit plan.

CLICK: Enroll in the Web Coach®, which will help you create your own web-based quit plan that's right for you, visit <https://www.quitnow.net/florida>.

COME IN: Visit your local Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Network to sign up for Quit Smoking Now group classes.

**ABOUT TOBACCO FREE FLORIDA WEEK**  
The fifth annual Tobacco Free Florida Week takes place from April 6-13. Join the conversation on Twitter using the hashtag #WhyImTobaccoFree.

### ABOUT TOBACCO FREE FLORIDA

Tobacco Free Florida is a statewide cessation and prevention campaign funded by Florida's tobacco settlement fund. Tobacco Free Florida is managed by the Florida Department of Health, specifically the Bureau of Tobacco Free Florida.

Smokers and smokeless tobacco users interested in quitting are encouraged to call the Florida Quitline at 1-877-U-CAN-NOW to speak with a Quit Coach. To learn about Tobacco Free Florida and the state's free quit smoking resources, visit [www.tobaccofreeflorida.com](http://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com) or follow the campaign on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/TobaccoFreeFlorida](http://www.facebook.com/TobaccoFreeFlorida) or Twitter at [www.twitter.com/tobaccofreefla](http://www.twitter.com/tobaccofreefla).

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Renee Poole with her mom, Eleanor Preston

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## Norris Notes

Hello! How great to be able to get back in touch with you; still not able to do it directly. Many thanks to *The Jasper News* for all that is being done to keep us informed for our community and area-my special appreciation!

The purlieu dinner on March 22nd "was quite a success", said President Nancy Cozart. The lunch went well in spite of the delays as the scheduled cook could not be available. If you ate with us, you know those who stepped in did a great job. Many thanks to all who made the dinner and sale a success. The finances of

the Club are greatly improved enabling need repairs and other expenses. Thanks again to all of you.

Larry Cail, President of Kiwanis Club, will speak to the Club on Friday, April 12th regarding a Kiwanis/Key Club project (HCHS). Join us for this information and for a visit with us. Club members provide a delicious meal.

Next week will be news from the past Tuesday night Sisterhood at First Baptist Church, Jasper; always a special time for ladies to gather for Christian fellowship.

Hope all of you had a special Easter weekend with children, egg hunts, families and special "Reason for Easter".

Blessings to all,  
Lillian Norris  
386-792-2151

## 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, P.O. Box 370, Live Oak, FL 32064 or FAX it to: 386-364-5578..

## Suwannee River Jam Audition Finals April 13 and Pete Hunt & the Southern Branded Band April 12 at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

Get ready for a huge weekend with Pete Hunt and the Southern Branded Band opening the weekend Friday night, April 12, followed by the BIG Suwannee River Jam Audition Finals Saturday night, April 13, all in the Music Hall at the beautiful Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak.

The finals to pick regional performers for the 2013 Suwannee River Jam May 1-4 will begin at 7 p.m. April 13 in the Music Hall. Be early, these contestants are bringing their friends and family! Seventeen of Florida's best new artists will compete for the right to perform during the Suwannee River Jam. Judges will make selections from among the competitors but the number chosen will not be decided until the night of the contest, according to 1st Street Music and Sound Company's Steve Briscoe who is in charge of the program.

It's a night you do not want to miss, especially if you know any of these 17 competitors - Kevin "Ski" Swenszkowski, Brittney Lawrence, Connor Blackley, (all from Jacksonville area) Sondra Hunt (Starke), Javier "JR" Hernandez (Bell), Shelby Clark (Hampton), Crystal Black (Lake City), Emily Brooke (South Florida), Ken Walker (Branford), Willow Veda (Lake City), Nalani Quintello (Orange Park), Chloe Davis (Orange Park), Jeremiah Ross (Live Oak), Jamie Howard (Sanderson/Starke), Rion Paige, Cassidy Kinsman and Kara Frazier (Jacksonville). If you don't know any of them, it won't really matter, you are bound to have a favorite (or 3 or 4) before the night is over and be cheering them on. When the contest is over, you'll definitely decide to attend the Jam so you can see these great artists perform.

Pete Hunt and the Southern Branded Band will kick off the weekend Friday, April 12. Pete Hunt is no stranger to the music business. He grew up with a father who was a singer, entertainer, recording artist and who toured the country known as "Tony Vee." After a stint on Wall Street, Pete came home to his beloved Florida and started his band "Southern Branded," which became one of the hottest country bands in Central Florida. Pete recorded "Alligator Alley," which became a huge hit with his fans. Pete's butter smooth, country rock, voice has a cutting edge in step with the country rock feel of today's country radio. Don't miss this great band as the weekend kicks off in the Music Hall.

Doors to the Music Hall open at 6 p.m. Friday and show begins at 8 p.m. On Saturday, due to the length



of the program, doors will open at 5 p.m. for dinner, competition begins at 7 p.m. Admission is free both nights. As always, the SOSMP's SOS Café and Restaurant will be open during events and have available delicious food at regular prices along with nightly specials and a full service bar.

If you would like to make reservations for overnight at the SOSMP or to purchase tickets for upcoming events, call 386-364-1683, email spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musicliveshere.com.

Upcoming festivals and events include Wanee, Suwannee River Jam with the Ms. Suwannee River Jam Daisy Duke Style contest, Purple Hatters Ball, and much, much more.

The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park is located at 3076 95th Drive, Live Oak, Fla, 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.

## Trojans track SPORTS 7A

COME ONE  
COME ALL.

### The Board of Directors for YOUR Suwannee Valley Transportation Authority (SVTA) is meeting!

DATE:  
Monday, April 15, 2013  
TIME: 6 PM  
LOCATION:  
SVTA HQ Building,  
1907 Voyles St., SW,  
Live Oak, FL 32064

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Thursday:** Randy Houser, Eli Young Band & More

**Friday:** Easton Corbin, Rodney Atkins & More

**Saturday:** Aaron Tippin, LoCash Cowboys, Florida Georgia Line & Sheryl Crow

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NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013 AT 9:00 A.M.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CONSENT AGENDA  
April 16, 2013**

1) MINUTES – APPROVE:

- A) March 19, 2013 – Regular Meeting
- B) April 2, 2013 – Regular Meeting

2) COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEADS – ACTION ITEMS:

3) APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE FOLLOWING INVOICE FROM FLORIDA FILL & GRADING INC AS RECOMMENDED BY NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

- A) Invoice No. 13-2440 – Flood Repairs – White Springs Roads - \$35,407.10

4) APPROVE FOR CHAIRMAN TO SIGN LETTER STATING HAMILTON COUNTY'S INABILITY TO PROVIDE THE 6% LOCAL MATCH FOR THE SCHOOL READINESS ACT IMPLEMENTED BY EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF FLORIDA'S GATEWAY INC.

5) APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE FOLLOWING INVOICE FROM ARD, SHIRLEY & RUDOLPH PA.:

- A) Invoice No. 8748 – Phosphate Mining - \$3,204.25

801002

## Obituaries

**Joseph H. Kennedy**  
April 6, 2013

**J**oseph H. Kennedy passed away at his home in Lake City, Saturday, April 6, 2013, surrounded by immediate family. Joe was born May 1, 1945, in Hamilton County. He and his family moved to Lake City in 1963. He and his fraternal twin brother, Jim, were the youngest of eight children reared by the late Robert and Quinda Kennedy. He served one tour in the US Army and was a member of Masonic Lodge #27, of Lake City. Colonel—"Smoking Joe"—Kennedy was employed with the Fl. Dept. of Corrections for 30 years and retired from Hamilton Correctional Institute in August 1998.

He is survived by his loving wife of 35 years, Evelyn Hathaway Kennedy, of Lake City, and three sons; Shane Joseph Kennedy and his wife Kimberly Dawn NesSmith Kennedy, of Lake City; Christopher Keith Shumaker, of Lake City; and James Robert "Bobby" Shumaker and his wife Angelia Christie Shumaker, also of Lake City.

Referred to as simply "Poppy", Joe was also a proud grandfather of five. He is survived by three granddaughters; Brittany Kaye Shumaker, Katelyn Briann Shumaker and Kylie Brooke Shumaker, all of Lake

City; and two grandsons; Shawn Landon Cloud and Brock Nicholaus Shumaker, of Lake City.

Joe is also survived by an older brother, Billy Kennedy and his wife Mozelle Kennedy, of South Carolina; and a sister, Barbara "Peggy" Carter, of Lake City.

Joe also will be missed dearly by numerous nieces and nephews, as well as friends.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2013 in Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens. GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME, 3596 South U.S. Hwy 441, Lake City, Florida 32025, (386) 752-1954. Please leave words of comfort for the family at www.gatewayforest-lawn.com

### Death Notices

**Brister Addison Jr.**  
April 2, 2013

**M**r. Brister Addison Jr. passed away April 2, 2013. D.M. Udell and Sons of D.M. Udell Funeral Home in charge of all arrangements.

**I.C. Hodges**  
April 4, 2013

**M**r. I.C. Hodges passed away April 4, 2013. D.M. Udell and Sons of D.M. Udell Funeral Home in charge of all arrangements.

## Jasper First United Methodist Church



Courtesy photo:

Jasper First United Methodist Church Second Sunday Sing will host the return of Amber Lee Abbott, Sunday, April 14, at 11 a.m.

Amber began her singing career at the tender age of two, performing for her church congregation. At seven, she kicked it up a notch, singing at weddings and other area churches. By 14, Amber cut her first country CD and at 17 won first place in a Southern Gospel competition. When it comes to gospel music, Amber is truly one of Hamilton and Madison County's

favorite gospel artists. Jasper First invites everyone to join them for this special worship service, sharing Amber's love for our Lord and *h e a r t f e l t* testimony. Lunch will follow in Fellowship Hall.

## Hamilton County Wide Brotherhood

The Hamilton County Wide Brotherhood will have their next meeting on Thursday, April 25 at 7 p.m. at Harvest Fellowship Church. Please bring a dish.

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## Heart Matters

What if you received a letter that began like this: "Dear Friend, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you, but rejoice..." Right about now I would start hoping this letter was delivered to the wrong address and wonder who in their right mind would rejoice about suffering? But then you read on...

"...that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed...for it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God: and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?" (1 Peter 4:12-13,17)

According to this passage, we can rejoice in suffering when our priority is God's glory rather than our own comfort! As humans we can get so engrossed in making our own nest comfortable we may grow immune

to the suffering of the rest of the world. We become callous to the fact that many people (even our own friends and family) are walking through this life and into eternity without ever having met Christ. This time of hardship facing our country is a golden opportunity to realize that the luxury surrounding us will not last, nor will it satisfy. Sadly, this luxury has only served to blind us to the reality that we need God.

It is comforting to me that this passage tells us not to be surprised at the trials we are going through...this means it didn't catch God not looking! In His love for us, He will allow us to suffer the consequences of our own choices, not to punish us, but to motivate us to choose Him. With this motivation, perhaps we will again choose Him as our founding fathers did when they established this "One Nation Under God". As Christians we have spent too many generations looking out

for our own interests and growing callous to the immorality around us, shrugging it off as someone else's problem. Now the result of that indifference is sitting squarely on our doorsteps. What will we do?

According to this passage the great news for all of us is first, as Christians, God is our Father and the discipline starts with His children. Hebrews 12:11 confirms what we know: "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest or righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."

Anyone who is or has been a parent understands this perfectly...discipline is necessary to produce great kids! Secondly, if we respond to God's discipline, the outcome for those who do not know God will be much brighter...we will step outside our isolated lives and grow concerned about the sufferings of others and show them by our example how



able God is to meet our needs during times like these...may it be so...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](mailto:angieland3@windstream.net)

## The 2 beasts of Revelation 13 - Part 2

*By Hugh G. Sherrill  
ems-hugh43  
@comcast.net*

Last week we talked about the first beast of Revelation 13:1-10. V8 says "All who dwell on earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world".

We turn to the second beast as recorded in verses 11-18. Verse 11 says "Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth (land), and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon". The first thing we should note is this second beast comes up out of the earth or land. Most Bible scholars agree that the earth here means out of Israel. He will be of Jewish descent. This had to be true because according to II Thessalonians 2:3-4 "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away come first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all this is called God or that is worshipped, so that he

sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

We know that shortly after the rapture of the Church the temple in Jerusalem will be rebuilt. It will not have the outer court of the Gentiles as the first temple did. Anyone that understands Jewish customs will know that there is no way that they would ever allow a Gentile in the temple; let alone the Holy of Holies. So this person will most certainly have to be of Jewish descent. This person will no doubt be the Antichrist.

The second beast makes his appearance out of the earth. This beast will have two horns like a lamb; but he has the voice of a dragon. These two beasts are world dictators; one political, the second religious.

Oliver Greene put it this way "When the second beast makes his appearance, things will be leveled off politically. It will be a time of false peace. Let us compare the two beasts. The first beast is a secular power; the second beast is a religious power. The first

beast is a Gentile; the second is a Jew. The first beast has ten horns; the second had two horns. The first beast is a civil authority; the second is a religious authority. The second beast is subordinate to the first beast. He uses military power of the first beast to force his demand and his dictatorship. The second beast is lieutenant to the first. He appears after the first beast. They do not appear at the same moment. The first beast is the head of a vast military and political system, and as such he perishes at the coming of the Lord at the close of the Tribulation. No power on earth can withstand this tremendous political beast. The sec-

ond beast will rule in Palestine. He is the minister of the first beast. The second beast is the one who deceives the world and labors untiringly to put Judaism and all religions on the world into the arms of Satan."

The world church that we hear so much about today will come to pass. Behold today is the day of Salvation!



## Volunteers/Donations Needed

Do you have a skill or hobby you would like to share with the elderly of Hamilton County? We are in need of volunteers at the Senior Center in Jasper. Can you spare a few hours a week teaching arts & crafts, low impact exercises, computer classes, blood pressure checks, or help by being a game leader? We are also in need of arts & crafts supplies, board games and other recreational items. Please contact Linda Kramer at 792-1136 for more information.

# Church & Family Go Together

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N.W. 15th Avenue Jasper Rev. Wayne Sullivan Sunday	"Where Friends Become Family" 207 N.E. 2nd Street, Jasper 792-2658 Pastor: Roger Hutto	405 Central Ave., Jasper, FL Pastor - Dale Ames Phone - 386-792-1122	204 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Jasper, 792-2558 Pastor: Alexandra Hedrick SUNDAY
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday.....7:00 p.m. 784022	Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday	Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday	Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Worship Service.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday
<b>CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>	<b>NON-DENOMINATIONAL</b>	<b>PASTOR: Jeff Cordero</b>	<b>Building On FAITH</b>
<b>ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>	<b>BURNHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b>	<b>PASTOR: Johnny Brown</b>	<b>Building On FAITH</b>
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.	4520 NW CR 146, Jennings, FL 32053 938-1265 Pastor: Jeff Cordero	Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday	Family Night Dinner 3rd Wednesday Clothes Closet 4th Saturday 1-5pm 783995
<b>BAPTIST (Southern)</b>	<b>NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH</b>	<b>PASTOR: Pastor: Jeff Cordero</b>	<b>Building On FAITH</b>
SR 6 West, 6592 NW 48th St., Jennings, FL 32053 938-5611	SR 6 West, 6592 NW 48th St., Jennings, FL 32053 938-5611	Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday	783992
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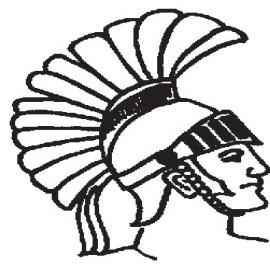
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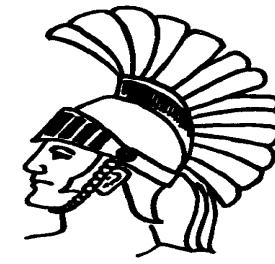
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# Sports



## Trojans track



Running for the finish line.



A Hamilton County runner keeps up with her opponent at a recent meet.

The Hamilton County High School Trojans boys and girls track team performed well at the recent Harmon's Viking/Vikette Invitational.

20) Lloyd Andrews 19.79	M 400 Meter Dash 11) Trey Norris 52.90
21) Lance Griner 20.81	F 4x100 Meter Relay 19) 56.54
F 1,600 Meter Run 19) Adelina Ponce 7:35.08	M 4x100 Meter Relay 14) 45.03
M 1,600 Meter Run 18) Jestyn Roberts 5:34.19	F 800 Meter Run 20) Kaleigh Norris 3:28.45
M 200 Meter Dash 24) Daveona Melvin 14.49	M 800 Meter Run 21) Jessica Carter 3:30.95
25) Zikirria Starling 14.62	10) Trey Norris 2:12.15
M 100 Meter Dash 4) Jarvis Lee 11.25	22) Jestyn Roberts 2:21.40
11) Kenric Williams 11.50	5) Guadalupe Ponce 16:10.65
M 300 Meter Hurdles 22) Kaleigh Norris M 110 Meter Hurdles 1:17.28	M Long Jump 17) Malik Robinson 7.5
	20) Lloyd Andrews 17-4



Hamilton County performed well at a recent meet. - Photos: Paul Buchanan (SuwanneeSports.com)

### April 2013 "Fish Busters' Bulletin"

## April brings great fishing before May flowers

By Bob Wattendorf

April showers bring May flowers, but in Florida there is already an abundance of blooms and a bonanza of freshwater fishing opportunities that began earlier this spring. All across the state, anglers have reported great catches of a variety of freshwater fishes. Anglers especially target sunfishes moving into the shallows to spawn in spring.

In Florida, nearly everyone is within 45 minutes of a fishing hole. For help finding a location or fishing tips and seasonal fishing forecasts, check out MyFWC.com/Fishing (under "Freshwater Fishing," choose "Sites & Forecasts"). Quarterly forecasts by biologists are supplemented with links to local bait-and-tackle shops, marinas or guides for even more timely updates.

Florida's Big Catch Angler Recognition Program provides an opportunity for anglers to commemorate impressive freshwater catches with a certificate and having their photo posted online. Thirty-three different species are included in the program, and all it takes to participate is a photo of a fish that exceeds either a specified length or weight. It's a great incentive for youth, who can qualify by catching fish that are roughly 25 percent smaller than qualifying measures for adult anglers. Visit MyFWC.com/BigCatch

for more details and to enroll.

However, the ultimate challenge is the race for the biggest trophy bass of the year. Florida's fame as a bass-fishing destination lies in an abundance of lakes and rivers that consistently produce trophy-size bass. To document locations and frequency of bass catches over 8 pounds, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) launched TrophyCatch ([TrophyCatchFlorida.com](http://TrophyCatchFlorida.com)) in October with support from industry partners. The goal is to enhance and sustain trophy bass fisheries and to promote Florida as the Bass Fishing Capital of the World, based on documented catches.

To participate, catches

must be verified by the FWC for the angler to earn awards. For Lunker Club (8 to 9.9 pounds) and Trophy Club (10 to 12.9 pounds), verification requires photos of the entire bass showing its length and weight, and then the bass must be released. Photos are submitted via the website. For Hall of Fame bass, which earn for the angler a free replica valued at \$500 and an additional \$500 in other prizes, the fish must be caught before the end of April and weighed on certified scales by an FWC representative. If you catch one, keep it alive and call 855-FL-TROPHY. From May through September, bass over 13 pounds can still be photo-documented as Trophy Club bass, but

they won't be entered into the Hall of Fame, to prevent undue stress from warmer waters.

The biggest bass of this season (ending Sept. 30) verified by TrophyCatch will earn a \$3,000 championship ring provided by the American Outdoor Fund. The biggest bass caught in Osceola County and verified by TrophyCatch will take home \$10,000, courtesy of Explore Kissimmee. If a registered guide helped, the guide earns a \$2,500 bonus (see website for details).

So register now, check out the rules, grab a rod-reel, camera, scale and tape measure, and go catch yourself a lunker, document it and then release it. By the way, just registering gets you into a drawing for a

Phoenix bass boat powered by Mercury.

The biggest fish of the year currently is a 13-pound, 14-ounce monster caught by Bob Williams, while fishing wild shiners on Rodman Reservoir, with guide Sean Rush (Trophy Bass Expeditions). Check out YouTube.com/TrophyCatchFlorida to see a video of the current leaderboard, including Williams' catch.

Now it's your turn! Enjoy the great freshwater fishing Florida has for you this spring. Make memories and celebrate them through Florida's angler recognition programs at TrophyCatchFlorida.com, and if you release a lunker bass, you'll be able to say "My Trophy Swims in Florida!"

### OFFICIAL BALLOT GENERAL TOWN ELECTION WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA APRIL 23, 2013

No. 0000

SIGNATURE OF VOTER

INITIALS OF ISSUING OFFICIAL

STUB NO. 1

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TOWN COUNCIL

White Springs  
Town Council  
Vote for TWO  
(2)

Tonja Brown  
 Rhett Bullard  
 Joe E. Griffin

802023

## Country artist Josh Thompson added to Suwannee River Jam line-up

The Suwannee River Jam scheduled for May 1-4 at the beautiful Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak is proud to announce the addition of country artist Josh Thompson. Josh joins a fantastic line-up of country artists already signed - Sheryl Crow, Rodney Atkins, Florida Georgia Line, Eli Young Band, Easton Corbin, Randy Houser, Aaron Tippin, LoCash Cowboys, Adam Sanders, Steel Bridge Band and Justin Case Band. Josh will open for Easton Corbin on Friday night of the Jam.

Josh believes country music is real life set to music where there is no sugar coating, just what you see and hear is what you get. This accurately

describes the man himself. Shortly after arriving in Nashville, Josh quickly began to establish himself as a singer/songwriter on the rise in the country music scene. Josh Thompson is not just a songwriter but a country music artist. His talent is widely recognized by both fans and Nashville music professionals alike. He has a soulful distinctive voice and a style reminiscent of legends like Haggard, Waylon, and Cash. Josh recognizes that his life will always be grounded by the blood, sweat, and tears of his blue collar life.

Tickets are still available for the Suwannee River Jam May 1-4. If you would like to make



reservations for RV parking, cabins, primitive camping or camper parking for the SOSMP or to purchase tickets, call 386-364-1683, email spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musicliveshere.com.

The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park is located at 3076 95th Drive, Live Oak 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.

### Local law enforcement feeling the pinch on ammo

Continued From Page 1A

hands on.

In President Barack Obama's plan to reduce gun violence, he states, "We won't be able to stop every violent act, but if there is one thing that we can do to prevent any of these events, we have a deep obligation, all of us, to try."

The President made this statement on Dec. 4, 2012 in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy in Newtown Connecticut where 26 people were shot and killed.

Some local law enforcement agencies are beginning to experience difficulties obtaining needed ammunition to keep their departments running smoothly and effectively, especially the larger agencies.

In Jasper, where there are only eight officers on the force, JAPD Chief Jeff McGuire said, "I haven't experienced any problems at all in getting ammunition. We just go to the local hardware store and pick it up."

White Springs Police Department has four full time officers and four reserve officers. Chief Ken Brookins said he hasn't needed to buy any ammunition lately, but was told by his supplier to "get my order in."

Hamilton County Sheriff Harrell Reid, on the other hand, said he has encountered minor problems already. There are 20 deputies at HCSO, including part time.

"We have experienced shortages in obtaining ammunition both locally and in shopping around," said Reid.

One time, Reid said, they had to postpone their officer certification qualifying, which is done at Hamilton Correctional Institution, because enough ammunition didn't arrive in time.

Reid explained that law enforcement officers have to be firearm certified at the minimum once every two years, which means every officer must shoot a qualified round of ammo under certified supervision in order to be certified or re-certified as a law enforcement officer. For HCSO, Reid said his deputies are certified twice a year.

When you consider how many law enforcement officers there are in this country, that's a lot of bullets being spent just on certification qualifying alone.

## Jasper Market Days draws a crowd

Continued From Page 1A

Jay Papesca, better known as "Harley Jay" when he's comfortably seated on his 2009 flame blue pearl, Ultra Classic Harley Davidson, was more than eager to talk about his pride and joy.

In 2008, Papesca said he and his friend Ricky went to Milwaukee for the Harley Davidson 105th Anniversary Celebration to hopefully trade up their bikes.

"I had an '06 and he had an '08," said Papesca.

Although not shocking for motorcycle enthusiasts, both of them came back home with brand new 2009 Harleys.

"We went and toured the factory and seen all the changes they made and just had to have one," Papesca said. "He (Ricky) went and got him one, so I said, what the heck? My wife said, go get you one. We cut the umbilical cord and got 'em straight out of Milwaukee," he added with a proud grin.

Papesca's newly designed Ultra Classic came with a redesigned frame, front forks, rear shocks, cast aluminum wheels, Dunlop tires, a redesigned isolated drive system and an air cooled twin cam 96 engine. It was Harley Hog at its finest in 2009 and still is if you ask Papesca.

Born in South Bronx, NY, Papesca said he lived in New Jersey for 18 years. "We moved to Jersey when I was just a little guy," he said. "I left there in '77 and came here."

Both he and his friend Ricky work at PCS in White Springs. Papesca has been there for 34 years and is currently a safety facilitator for the company.

"Actually, I'm an elec-

trician by trade," he said. "I've been doing the safety job for about two years."

As for his Harley, Papesca said, "I love it. I've got 20,000 miles on it already."

On one adventure with his buddies, Papesca said they racked up 2,200 miles in seven days on a scenic trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains and West Virginia.

"We never hit an Interstate," he said. "It was 23 degrees when we got there. I had on my gloves and cold weather gear, but I had a good time."

Aside from mountain trips on his Harley, Papesca said, he and his buddies have also traveled to the Florida Keys, Panama City and Myrtle Beach.

"I went to Bike Week this year in Daytona," he said. "My younger brother is a deputy down in Volusia County."

When asked if he applied his safety knowledge and rode his bike wearing a helmet, Papesca said, "Yeah."

There were several other nice looking bikes lined up along the street during Jasper Market Days and their proud owners were happy to brag on them if asked, even if they weren't a glorified Harley.

One gentleman was a good sport as he took the brunt of some jokes by his buddies about his motorcycle. He was proud of his bike, though, a 2007 BMW that was spit shined and clean as a whistle.

One of his buddies referred to it as "By Mattel and Waters".

"I think he did a wheelie a while ago by just pushing on it," another man joked.

Herring was standing nearby and couldn't resist, stating that BMW

stood for "Bring More Wampum."

A search on the Internet revealed dozens of other meanings of the acronym, some a bit nicer than others. All in all, the motorcycle show was Hog Heaven for everyone who came out for the event.

There were also food and craft vendors, as well as fresh produce at one stand that was brought in from Immokalee. All the succulent fruits and vegetables had everyone's mouths watering. There was fresh corn, red and green tomatoes, cabbage, onions, cucumbers, apples, oranges, strawberries and a host of other fresh fruits and veggies.

Herring, aside from hosting the event, also had his own stand set up where he was selling his handmade bird houses, each one truly unique.

Betty's Funnel Cakes stand offered a variety of eats, including, not only funnel cakes, but curly fries, pork skins, pickles and mama's sweet tea.

Across the street from the produce stand, the aroma of smoked barbecue chicken and ribs was wafting through the air enticing appetites.

Fresh baked goods, jars of pickled vegetables and a variety of crafts were also on display and for sale.

Herring said there were several vendors who backed out at the last minute for various reasons, including health issues, but he hopes to see them back at next month's Jasper Market Days.

Jasper Market Days is held the first Saturday each month, so mark your calendar for Saturday, May 4 and come see what Jasper Market Days is all about.

## County commissioners unhappy with development authority

Continued From Page 1A

the next month's meeting and then installed shortly thereafter.

"It's just now being approved?" Commissioner Josh Smith asked Godwin.

"That's what she said," Godwin replied.

"The material's been sitting there how long with you?" Smith asked Godwin.

Smith said he'd like to make a serious recommendation that the board find someone else to do the sign.

"I just don't know that we're getting, uh...there's a serious lack of motivation with that group, that board, the entire...I don't know. We've had that sign paid for, for how long?"

"Close to a year," Commission Chair Randy Ogburn said.

"And they're just now

getting around to approving?" Smith asked.

Ogburn suggested they ask Ramsey to attend the next day commission meeting.

Smith cut him off and said, "This is just my opinion, but I'm tired of asking."

Smith also said the board deserved a little more effort on the part of the economic development council and Ogburn agreed. Smith said if things didn't change drastically by the end of the fiscal year he would have a recommendation for the board.

Commissioner Buster Oxendine said, "The only thing about it is we're not going to have the funds they have. The way the statute's legislation is written, they have the authority to have those funds. They have the authority to do exactly what they're doing, and they

have the authority not to answer to this board whatsoever."

"That can be changed, Mr. Oxendine," Smith said.

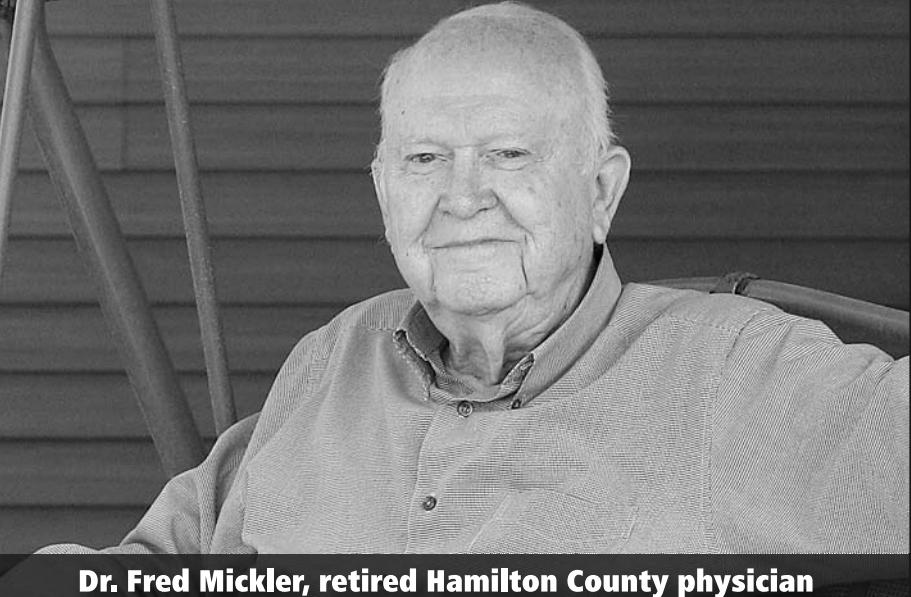
Oxendine explained that two weeks ago he called County Coordinator Danny Johnson and asked him to look into the issue of the sign and get an answer from Ramsey's office. He said he didn't know if Ramsey would have even mentioned the sign to Godwin over the phone if he hadn't inquired about it.

"I was ready to go buy a sign and have it installed myself," said Oxendine. "It's been long enough."

"I agree with both of you," said Ogburn. "We need to do something. And I agree with you Mr. Smith, if they don't do something, we will do something, one way or another."



The Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners. -Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor



**Dr. Fred Mickler, retired Hamilton County physician**

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80/905

## Common core stresses keyboarding - not cursive

Continued From Page 1A

Forty-five states and the District of Columbia have since adopted the national standards, beginning next year. Only Alaska, Minnesota, Nebraska, Texas, and Virginia have not.

The goal of the standards is to develop uniform education standards that spell out what students in kindergarten through 12th grade are taught so they can be competitive in the global economy. States can supplement the national rules with state standards.

The national standards don't require children to learn how to read and write in cursive. They do, however, require that by the end of fourth grade, students demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to complete a one-page writing assignment.

The requirement is found in the literacy standards for English Language Arts for fourth-graders in a section that spells out standards for writing: "With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a mini-

mum of one page in a single sitting."

The common core standards don't preclude teaching cursive writing. But as more time is devoted to mastering skills mandated by the standards, penmanship is dropped or less time is spent on it.

There are mixed responses in the states. Many are simply leaving it up to local school districts to decide whether cursive writing is taught in their schools.

Florida's State Board of Education adopted the CCSS in 2010, according to Tiffany Cowie, public information officer for the Florida Department of Education. And it is up to the school districts how they handle cursive writing instruction.

"There is no specific standard in the common core for cursive writing. This does not prevent a teacher to include cursive writing in their instruction," said Cowie.

Currently, grades K-2 have transitioned to CCSS, while all others will begin implementing CCSS next year. Full implementation with aligned assessment will occur in the 2014-15 school year.

Florida currently follows standards of Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

According to Suwannee County Schools Di-

rector of Curriculum Dawn Lamb, cursive writing is an expectation of those standards.

Hamilton County Schools Director of Curriculum Rex Mitchell said, "In my opinion the decrease in the teaching of cursive writing has been directly affected by technology. The writing test our students currently take will soon be changing to a computer based test, so handwriting will not be a part of the process."

Mitchell said most of their FCAT assessments are now given as a computer based test.

"The short and extended responses that will be required on the new PARCC assessment for the Common Core will be a computer based assessment," said Mitchell.

"Most of the communication in the world today is accomplished through technology programs, such as e-mail, Twitter and Facebook. This type of change occurred in math years ago with the introduction of the calculator for student use."

Skills such as interpolating values from a printed table, Mitchell said, were no longer included in the curriculum, as the calculator would automatically do this and do it much more accurately.

"As a district we do not mandate specific

curriculum to include the teaching of cursive writing, but we feel confident many of our veteran teachers, in particular, continue to include it to some extent in their language arts instruction," Mitchell went on. "I think the whole question of possibly eliminating the teaching of cursive writing is one that is difficult for those of us who grew up using it every day to grasp. However, with the new generation of students, many have been using a keyboard before they ever learned to use a pencil or pen to write."

Mitchell said this is one of those areas of education that will be hotly debated over time, the same as the use of a calculator by students.

The state boards of education in Alabama and Georgia voted in July 2012 to include cursive in their supplemental state standards. The Massachusetts Department of Education requires that fourth graders should be able to "write legibly by hand, using either printing or cursive handwriting."

To find out more about the Common Core State Standards Initiative visit: [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org).

Details for this story were provided by the *Jasper News* and CNHI News Service.

## Teacher colleges join digital trend

Continued From Page 1A

partment at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Mo., prepares future teachers to instruct in "very straightforward letters without lots of curls," said associate professor Becky Gallemore.

Gallemore said student teachers are also taught how best to teach computer keyboarding and other technology skills.

Still, she said, cursive writing remains important to everyday communication.

"What if you don't have a computer handy and you have to leave a note for your secretary?" asked Gallemore.

"Are you going to print it? It's going to take you three times as long. It's just much faster to write in cursive."

Details for this story were provided by the *Jasper News* and Joplin, Mo., Globe.

## TABE tests

Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m. (by appointment): TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education) at NFCC Testing Center (Bldg. #16), Madison. TABE is required for acceptance into vocational/technical programs. Photo ID required. Pre-registration & scheduling time & date are required. To register please call 850-973-9451.

## The debate over cursive writing in U.S. schools

Continued From Page 1A

Abraham Lincoln. It's a favorite educational destination for Indiana schoolchildren in the state where the 16th president grew up.

But Leising worries Lincoln's elegant script may soon be indecipherable to young visitors because schools in Indiana and elsewhere are now allowed to drop cursive writing instruction under new national teaching standards crafted for the digital age.

Leising is convinced it's a dangerous trend. To preserve penmanship, she has championed a bill to mandate cursive writing courses in all Indiana elementary schools.

"If kids aren't taught how to write it, they won't be able to read it," said Leising. "So, in a sense, we'll be creating a new kind of illiteracy."

The use of cursive writing has been fading from society since the arrival of the computer keyboard. Advocates of longhand blame the so-called common core education standards for hastening its demise. Debate over the issue has pitted teachers against teachers, and a fear by historians we are raising a generation of handwriting illiterates.

Rolled out in 2010 by the National Governors Association and adopted by 45 states for implementation by next year, the standards set uniform expectations for what students need to learn to succeed in the technology-centric 21st century.

Those standards include proficiency in computer keyboarding by the fourth grade, but make no mention of the need for cursive writing ability, even though it has been integral to American culture since the nation's founding.

That lack of mention has moved schools to abandon resources and courses once devoted to teaching penmanship — much to the dismay of those who say the curriculum change will eventually lead to an inability to comprehend both historic and contemporary handwritten documents, including identifying signatures.

Supporters of the change aren't concerned. They say that today's textbooks and other reading material are widely available in electronic form — on computers, tablets, e-readers and smartphones. As for signatures, they predict scanned eyeballs and fingerprints are destined to replace scribbled names. Hand writing, they insist, is simply no longer worth time-consuming lessons.

Among other trends, they point to a recent poll by Xerox Mortgage Services that found by 2016 half of all home loans will be closed electronically without an actual signature.

Sandra Wilde, a professor of childhood education at Hunter College in New York and a member of the National Council of Teachers of English, says cursive writing isn't an essential skill in the digital era.

"A hundred years ago, you needed to have good penmanship to get a good job," said Wilde. "Today, you need to know how to use technology. Cursive has fallen by the wayside with the realization that kids just don't need to have good handwriting anymore."

Wilde teaches courses on literacy and reading. She's convinced it's the content of writing that counts, not the tool used to write. She says the opposition to de-emphasizing penmanship

comes from "a pushback against the common core standards."

Studies show the fading interest in longhand lessons. A National Association of State Boards of Education report released last fall found the average third-grader was getting only 15 minutes of handwriting instruction a day, down from the standard 30 to 45 minutes a generation ago.

"More time is spent teaching a kid how to kick a soccer ball than how to hold a pen and paper," said Iris Hatfield, a Louisville, Ky., handwriting coach and creator of a new cursive curriculum popular with homeschooled. "We're abandoning one of our most basic and important skills."

Advocates for cursive writing have taken their fight to the political arena. In addition to Indiana, lawmakers in Idaho and North Carolina have authored legislation that would compel schools to devote time to penmanship.

"Our children can't write a simple sentence," said North Carolina State Sen. Pat Hurley, sponsor of a mandatory cursive writing measure. "They think printing their name is their signature."

Last year, in adopting the common core standards, boards of education in Alabama, California, and Georgia included a cursive writing requirement for their schools. Massachusetts repealed its cursive requirement but also adopted language that says fourth-graders should be able to "write legibly by hand, using either printing or cursive handwriting."

In Utah, state officials agreed to study the issue; Kansas educators adopted a policy that encourages, but doesn't re-

quire, schools to teach cursive.

"The debate is national," said Steve Berlin, spokesman for the National Association of State Boards of Education.

Last September, the association issued a policy statement to provide state schools boards with unbiased research and analysis on the issue.

Titled "The Handwriting Debate," it acknowledged the impact of digital technology on writing and reading: "(W)ith the proliferation of personal computers in the 1990s and smartphones and tablets in the 21st century, many educators and policymakers have been questioning the usefulness of spending ever-more-valuable class time teaching handwriting to students who have been born into -- and will live and work in -- a digital world."

But the policy also acknowledged that "new research has been emerging that points to the educational value of handwriting in ways that go well beyond being able to read cursive or take notes without benefit of a handheld device."

That research suggests the practice and process of handwriting may improve students' cognitive and motor skills development, enhance their literacy and help them retain what they've learned.

Indiana University neuroscientist Karin Harman James has studied the effect of printing and writing by hand as well as keyboarding in the development of children's brains, using imaging technology to document how significant changes occur in the brain. The research led her to believe teaching young children how to write by hand is criti-

cally to how they eventually learn to read.

"These kinds of findings point to there being something really important about printing and potentially also about cursive," said James.

"They're both fine motor skills, so they might be equally important in understanding cognitive development in children."

Supporters of cursive skills argue there's also a critical handwriting connection to the adult brain. Since a person's handwriting becomes distinctive with age, they point out that a person's penmanship is a symbol of their personality.

"I'm not saying we shouldn't use all those digital tools," Ortega said. "I just think we need the connectivity of cursive writing to equalize the force of technology."

*Maureen Hayden is the Indiana state reporter for CNHI. You can contact her at Maureen.Hayden@indianamedia-group.com.*

## Decision on food bank delayed until April 16 meeting

Continued From Page 1A

building in White Springs to continue his food pantry ministry, pending receipt of the insurance certificate and a review of the Good Samaritan Act that Marshall had referenced. It was agreed that County Attorney John McCormick would research the matter and place it back on the agenda for the April 2 meeting.

Commissioners Randy Ogburn and Buster Oxendine had both told Marshall they thought all the details could be worked out.

After Marshall gave the insurance documents to McCormick on April 2, Ogburn said, "We'll ask Mr. McCormick to review these documents. We're still waiting on word from our insurance carrier

whether they would continue to insure the county or allow this to happen at this building site. We don't have that answer. Today we are not in a position to render a motion to approve. We're going to have to re-agenda this."

Meanwhile, McCormick will review all the documents while the county awaits a decision from their insurance company.

It was noted again that Marshall would have to vacate the premises prior to any election in White Springs.

"It's on the same grounds that we allowed the town of White Springs to use the building for adult education in the past, in order to give the Supervisor of Elections time to set up," said Ogburn.



# 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 Po-

lice Department  
OAEL - Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement  
P&P - Probation and Parole  
SCSO - Suwannee County Sheriff's Office  
WSPD - White Springs Police Department

April 1, Christopher Kreider, 46, 1459 Eisenhower Pkwy., Macon, Ga., battery dom. viol. HCSO-Fouraker

April 2, Zachary Lee Bexton, 26, 1189 Weeks Rd., Lucedale, Ms., out of state warrant, HCDTF-McDaniel

April 2, Stanley Ray Smith, 33, 8071 W. SR 6, Jasper, Fla., poss. less than 20 grams marijuana, HCDTF-McDaniel

April 2, Janie Beth Weller, 24, 1189 Weeks Rd., Lucedale, Ms., dwls, HCDTF-McDaniel

April 3, Terrell Wrenston Smith, 27, 424 Miller St., Live Oak, Fla., unlawful compensation, intro contraband into prison, HCSO-Cribbs

April 6, Bobby C. Clark, 54, 10762 NW 37 Trail, Jasper, Fla., agg. fleeing/eluding, dwls knowingly, resist w/o viol., reckless driving, JAPD-McGaughey

April 6, Douglas MacArthur Parr, 42, 5152 SW 57 Ct., Jasper, Fla., dwls, JAPD-Rickerson

April 7, Eddie Sanders Butler, 60, 706 SW 6 St., Jasper, Fla., retail theft, JAPD-Vickers

April 7, Gary Thomas Plair, 60, 1330 Johns St., Jennings, Fla., trespassing, HCSO-Griffin

April 7, Sergio Sierra Huerta, 35, 1105 Winter Creek St., Dublin, Ga., dwls, bypass ag station, DOA-Kissing

## Trappers conference and expo

Submitted

The Florida Trappers Association is proud to host the National Trappers Association's Southeast Regional Conference and Outdoor Expo at the Suwannee County Agricultural Complex, 1320 11th St. SW, in Live Oak, May 3, 4, and 5.

Come meet Willie Jr. and Teresa Edwards from the History Channel's "Swamp People" TV series on Saturday, May 4, for a meet and greet, photo opportunities and to purchase their merchandise. There will be trapping demonstrations, vendors, tailgaters, auctions, family activities, food, and a whole lot more throughout the weekend.

Please keep checking our website for more details: [www.floridatrappers.org](http://www.floridatrappers.org)

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### Notice of annual meeting

The Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Florida Regional Housing Authority will hold its Annual Meeting on April 23, 2013, at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 2725 Graves Road, Tallahassee, Florida. Meeting will begin at 1 p.m. E.D.S.T. The meeting will be open to the public.

### AARP Driver Safety Class for Seniors

AARP is offering the Driver Safety class for Seniors at Advent Christian Village - Depot Room, Village Center,

23728 Park Center Drive, Live Oak, FL 32060 on

Friday April 12 from 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM with

1/2 hour for lunch. Please

bring a sack lunch. Defensive driving techniques will be taught aimed at keeping you safe on the road. The impact of aging on driving, current and new rules of the road in Florida will be reviewed. There are no tests. The Certificate of Completion is good for a discount on your vehicle insurance for 3 years. Drive safer with confidence, longer. Registration is required. Please call 352-333-3036.

### Pickin' & Grinnin'

Every Saturday 6 p.m. Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

If you play an acoustic instrument or just like to sit and listen to good

Country, Gospel or Blue

Grass music, come on out to the Pickin' shed in

the loop camping area. Pot luck dinners the

## Community Calendar

third Saturday of each month. Join us --- its fun ---- its free! Sponsored by Suwannee River Bluegrass Association.

### Free English Classes

Clases de Ingles - Gratis, aprenden, Pronunciacion, Conversacion, cada lunes y jueves, 7-9 p.m. Maestra Felicia Doty y el equipo, 386-249-0096. Las clases van estar en la Iglesia Episcopal, San Lukas, 1391 SW 11th St., (Se encuentra la Iglesia en frente del hospital en Live Oak).

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### I am putting together a family history book

On the descendants of Stephen, William &

Sarah Ann Grant. Surnames include Grant,

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formation or photos or are interested, please contact Cher Newell at 386-209-1559 or 386-364-1608.

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### Donate your old cars

People may be thinking of donating their old cars as part of a clean up. The Boys and Girls Clubs would be happy to take their old cars. People donating to the Clubs will not only get rid of the unwanted car but will be contributing

to the clubs. Boys and Girls Clubs really work with kids in most communities and offer a safe place for them. If you wish to donate a car, call 800-246-0493. Not only will donators be helping the kids, they will be able to take sale price as a contribution for income tax purposes.

### CJBAT tests

Monday - Thursday

Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m. (by appointment): CJBAT (Criminal Justice Basic Abilities Test) at

NFCC Testing Center (Bldg. #16), Madison. CJBAT is required for acceptance into Corrections & Law Enforcement programs. Photo ID required. Pre-registration & scheduling time and date are required.

To register please call 850-973-9451.

## Come out and support Relay for Life April 19-20

Continued From Page 1A

Jasper. The event starts off with opening ceremonies at 6 p.m. Friday evening.

Kaitlynn Floyd, community representative for the American Cancer Society, said, "We want the entire community to

come out. It's not just for

teams and survivors, but

everyone. They can walk

around, see the different

tents, buy some food

and participate in the

games."

All cancer survivors are invited to come to the Pickin' shed in the loop camping area. Pot luck dinners the

on Friday and it will be followed by a dinner at Central Hamilton Elementary cafeteria at 6:30 p.m.

Survivors are asked to arrive by 5:45 p.m. Friday to receive their T-shirt. Survivors are also encouraged to bring along their caregivers.

"We will be out there all night, starting Friday at 6 p.m. until Saturday at noon," said Floyd. "We are still accepting participants in the Mr. Relay competition. Basically, it is any male that wants to raise money and wear a crazy purple outfit on Relay night!"

To be a part of this event, survivors can register online at [www.relayforlife.com/HamiltonFl](http://www.relayforlife.com/HamiltonFl) or call Kaitlynn Floyd at 352-240-5063.



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**\$11870**

2010 TOYOTA PRIUS  
USED 50MPG SAVE\$\$

**\$14910**

2004 FORD EXPLORER  
USED 4X4 LEATHER

**\$7950**

1999 FORD RANGER  
USED ONE OWNER

**\$4980**



2010 CHEVY TRAVERSE  
USED NICE RIDE

**\$15820**

2009 VW ROUTAN  
USED PW PL CLEAN

**\$11860**

2012 FORD FOCUS  
USED LOCAL TRADE

**\$14980**

2003 FORD MUSTANG  
USED GT

**\$4980**

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\*Covers normal factory scheduled service for  
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participating dealer for complete plan details. Valid  
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Crew Cab Z71 4WD - All Star Pkg.



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2013 Chevrolet 2500 Reg Cab WT 4WD



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For Up to  
**72 mo.**  
Plus  
**\$1000 w/trade**

On New 2013 Chevy Silverado 2500 Series

New 2013 Chevy Silverado 2500 Reg Cab stock #6892 MSRP \$45,043, Selling Price \$42,368, \$544 per month @ 0% for 72 mo after all rebates plus tax and title. All financing with approved credit.

**YOUR CHOICE**

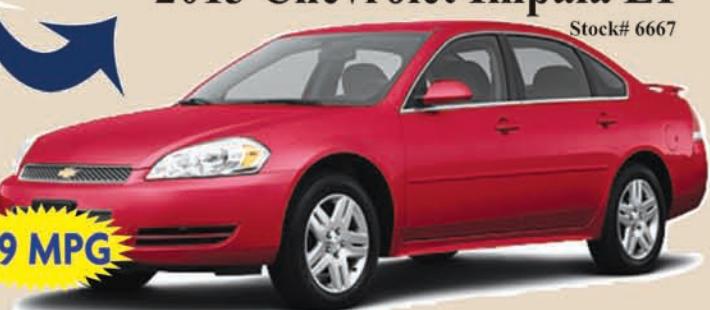
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**0% APR**  
For Up to  
**72 mo.**

2013 Chevrolet Equinox LT



2013 Chevrolet Impala LT



New 2013 Chevy Impala- Stk# 6667 MSRP \$28,420.00 Selling Price \$27,700.00. \$385.00 per month @ 0% for 72 mo after all rebates plus tax and title. All financing with approved credit.

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1997 Subaru Legacy	\$57 mo.	2003 Jeep Liberty	\$115 mo.	2007 GMC Canyon	\$127 mo.	2008 Chevy Uplander	\$128 mo.	2000 Chevy Silverado	\$135 mo.
2004 Ford Ranger Xtd.	\$173 mo.	2008 Chevy Malibu	\$189 mo.	2005 Chevy Suburban	\$193 mo.	2010 Mazda 3	\$199 mo.	2007 Buick Lucerne	\$225 mo.
2012 Chevy Impala	\$247 mo.	2011 Chevy Impala	\$249 mo.	2010 Hyundai Sonata	\$257 mo.	2011 Chevy Malibu	\$257 mo.	2012 Chevy Malibu	\$259 mo.
2012 Ford Fusion	\$289 mo.	2007 Chevy Silverado Crew	\$299 mo.	2008 Chevy Silverado Xtd.	\$299 mo.	2012 Ford Mustang	\$319 mo.	2008 Chevy 271 4x4	\$329 mo.
2008 Chevy Silverado	\$329 mo.	2011 Dodge Ram Quad	\$337 mo.						

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