



Scattered clouds with possibility of an isolated thunderstorm developing during the afternoon. High 91F. Winds WNW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30%. For up to the minute weather go to www.nflaonline.com.

The Jasper News

nflaonline.com

142ST YEAR, NUMBER 24

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2013

3 SECTIONS 38PAGES

50¢

Memorial Day services HONOURING OUR NATION'S HEROES

WHITE SPRINGS

White Springs will observe Memorial Day on Monday, May 27, at 10 a.m. at the site of the Memorial Park (Historic Water Tower park) on US 41 in the middle of town. A wreath will be placed on the site to honor the memory of the nation's veterans.

Coffee and pastries will be available to veterans, their spouses, and the community after the brief program.

"We extend our heartfelt invitation to all to join us in observing Memorial Day in White Springs," stated Mayor Helen Miller.

JASPER

Memorial Day services will be held on Monday, May 27, at the veteran monument in front of the Hamilton County Courthouse at 10 a.m. It is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, Bryant-Phillips Unit 215, Jasper. Mrs. Sharon Oliver serves as president.

Guest speaker will be Rev. J.T. Simon, chaplain for American Legion Post 215. Junior auxiliary member Maisia Daniels will be singing and the Hamilton County High School AFJROTC will present the colors, followed by the dedication of the wreath and taps by Roger Hutto.

The ceremony should take about one hour and in case of inclement weather, services will be held at the old Hamilton County High School auditorium.

Please join us as we remember the tremendous service and sacrifice of America's veterans and pay tribute to our fallen heroes.

Blackberry Festival coming June 1

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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It's almost time for the annual Blackberry Festival in downtown Jasper, which is coming up Saturday, June 1, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Make plans now to come out and enjoy a fun-filled day chock full of excitement.

SEE BLACKBERRY, PAGE 2A

Fiery crash claims life of Valdosta man

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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A Valdosta man died in a fiery crash Friday night in Hamilton County, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

An initial press release from the FHP stated a single vehicle crash occurred Friday, May 17, resulting in the death of the driver, who was unknown at the time. The driver was later identified.

SEE FIERY, PAGE 8A



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61st Florida Folk Festival begins Friday



Performers on the main stage at the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs. Courtesy photo

The Florida Folk Festival celebrates music, traditions and culture in White Springs

Submitted by Florida Park Service

The 61st Florida Folk Festival will be held Memorial Day weekend Friday, May 24, through Sunday, May 26, at the Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs.

"Since 1953, folk artists have come together to celebrate Florida's rich arts, culture and history," said Florida Park Service

Director Donald Forgione. "This year's festival will feature the amazing talents of more than 300 musical acts. I'm excited to attend year after year with my family. There is always something new and different."

This year's entertainers include a variety of talented performers: Bellamy

SEE 61ST, PAGE 2A

ARE WE READY? Preparing for, responding to natural disasters

Natural disaster: Warning the public

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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Editor's note: This is the fourth installment of a series titled "Are we ready?", in which we delve into local storm preparedness. This part focuses on warning the public of natural disasters.

With increasing advances in technology, warnings of a natural disaster are more precise and more effective than ever before. Knowing what is on the way helps officials and homeowners prepare well beforehand, which includes securing properties and safeguarding personal belongings long before a tropical storm, hurricane or the potential for flooding arrives.

When asked how technology has

changed warnings and the way Hamilton County responds to emergencies, Emergency Management Director Henry Land said, "Technology changes every day. Hamilton County has a reverse 911 (Code Red). Code Red allows us to phone everyone in an affected area or the whole county at a moment's notice with warning notices and/or information relating to an event. However, it will only allow us to call residents in the county who have a (landline) home phone."

Land said many households have disconnected their home phones and instead use cell phones.

"Unless those residents go to our web-

SEE NATURAL, PAGE 8A

New park opens in White Springs

Name of park means 'My Home Town' in Seminole Indian language

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Monday, May 20, marked the grand opening of the Ahmoglee Okalee Park in the town of White Springs, as a host of local dignitaries, county officials and town residents gathered for a ceremonious ribbon cutting. The unusual name of the park means "My Home Town" in Seminole Indian language.

The new town park located across the street from the post office and just a short walk from the Adams Country Store has been in the making for a while, according to town clerk Shirley Heath, and was

Online extra

See a video from the event on our website at nflaonline.com



The new Ahmoglee Okalee Park in White Springs.

- Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

SEE NEW, PAGE 7A

Schools

Truancy officer relieved of duty



Barbara Daniels- Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

To be replaced by SRO

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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The recent removal of an employee from the Hamilton County School System drew the ire of that employee at the May 13 meeting of the Hamilton County School Board.

Barbara Daniels, a nine year truancy officer employee of the school district, was advised by letter she would no longer have a job when the new school year starts. Daniels is concerned, as well as confused as to

SEE TRUANCY, PAGE 2A

Crime rate down here

Report from FDLE shows county crime dropped 2.4% in 2012

By Andrew McGee
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Crime in Hamilton County dropped 2.4 percent in 2012 compared to 2011, according to the Annual Uniform Crime Report released May 16 by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Crime in the state dropped 6.5 percent, according to the report.

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office posted an increase in crime of 10.3 percent while other law enforcement agencies in the county posted a decrease in 2012 as compared to 2011.

Violent crimes went down 11 and a half per-

SEE CRIME, PAGE 8A

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61st Florida Folk Festival begins Friday

Continued From Page 1A
 Brothers, Jim Stafford, Ben Prestage, Moors & McCumber, Florida Hall of Fame winner Frank Thomas, Passerine, Jubal's Kin, The Currys, Ed Cotton, Mindy Simmons & the Hot Pockets, Bing Futch, Rachel Carri-

Humphries, Doug Gauss and many more. This event will continue the grand tradition of celebrating Florida's land, people and diverse cultural heritage. Folk artists and tradition-bearers presented each year in the Folklife Area reflect research and field documentation conduct-

ed by the Florida Department of State's Folklife Program. The Folklife Area celebrates the diverse cultures of the Lower St. Johns River Basin. Be sure to visit the Folklife Area to experience the compelling traditions and savor the flavors, sights and sounds of some of Flori-

da's oldest and newest cultural communities. The Florida Folk Festival is proud to be a part of the Florida Department of State's VIVA Florida 500 campaign, which celebrates 500 years of Florida rich culture and history in 2013. Advance tickets for the Florida Folk Festival

are \$25 per day or \$50 for the entire weekend for adults. Tickets bought at the festival gate are \$30 per day or \$60 for the entire weekend. Children under six years of age are admitted free of charge. Ticket prices for children between the ages of six and 16 for the entire

weekend are \$5. Tickets provided by Elevate Ticketing and can be purchased online or on the Facebook page. For more information, call 1-877-6FL-FOLK (1-877-635-3655) or visit Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park or the Florida Folk Festival.

Truancy officer relieved of duty

Continued From Page 1A
 why she was let go. Daniels was hand delivered a letter dated May 1, 2013, written by Superintendent of Schools Thomas Moffses, advising her that "due to the elimination of the truancy officer's position, this letter serves to inform you that I am not recommending you for reappointment for the 2013-14 school year."

pointment was approved by the Hamilton County School Board at the regular meeting on June 14, 2010." Daniels asked the board what the definition of permanent status contract meant and she was met with complete silence from all the board members. When asked to define permanent contract status employee by The Jasper News, days later, Director of Administrative Services Philip Pinello stated, "The term 'permanent' refers to language in the Non-Instructional Collective Bargaining Agreement which says; 'Permanent Employee - Upon the employee's successful completion of the probationary period, his employment status shall continue from year to year.'"

is planning on adding another school resource officer to assist with safety and security throughout the school district." The letter stated that the truancy officer's position was being eliminated. Daniels said she sees it differently. "My notice said I was (not recommended for reappointment) because they was doing away with the position, but you're really not doing away with it, you're converting it over to something," Daniels told the board. "Doing away and converting, to me, is two different things. I don't know what it means to you all."

Daniels said it hasn't been an easy job, but the school district is where it needs to be right now as far as a lack of truancy. "We came a long way in this district," said Daniels. "We don't need our kids on the streets. The parks are not full anymore. You can ride down Martin Luther

King during the middle of the day. There used to be loads of them down there. They're not there anymore."

King during the middle of the day. There used to be loads of them down there. They're not there anymore."

No specific termination date was noted in the letter. Daniels said she was just recently diagnosed with breast cancer and now, without a job or insurance, she isn't sure how things will play out with medical expenses.

Pinello went on to say, "Superintendent Moffses has recommended that the Truancy Officer position be eliminated. When the Superintendent recommends the elimination of a position, an employee occupying that position is laid off. Superintendent Moffses

Children at school, that means we get FTE money. When we do our counts every year, we are 98-100 FTE beating those streets like I do."

Hamilton County 4-H

Summer Schedule

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Registration deadlines for overnight camps vary and have no exceptions.



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Membership in 4-H is not required. Classes are open to all youth ages 8-18 unless otherwise specified.

North Florida Shooting Sports Camp

This camp is focused on shooting sports, sportfishing, and natural resources. Campers will be given an introduction to air rifles, archery, and fishing. Add in the traditional 4-H Camping activities—canoeing, kayaking, swimming, camp fire, and recreational games, and you'll have an exciting week filled with outdoor learning experiences.

Art Attack

We'll be doing lots of different arts and crafts this day! Something for everyone! Come Join us!

Canning Class

Let's go play with food...can you think of anything better to do??

Sleepless Slumber Party

Come sew yourself sleepless! Bring your pillow and sleeping bag but don't plan on sleeping!

Canoeing the River II

Hamilton County will come together with Union County to take a day trip down the river in canoes. There are very few slots and will be filled on a first come first served basis.

Senior Camp

For youth ages 14-18 years of age and full of learning and fun activities targets to teens in order to develop and enhance their leadership skills such as team building, off site canoeing trip, kayaking, swimming, recreational games, fishing, archery, a dance and much much more!

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Blackberry Festival coming June 1

Continued From Page 1A
 ing activities for folks of all ages. There will be arts and crafts, entertainment, amusements, children's games, carriage rides, and an antique car show and small engine exhibits. A blackberry festival

wouldn't be complete without lots and lots of blackberries, and this year, as in years past, you can enjoy the world famous blackberry pancake breakfast, which will be served at the Woman's Club from 7 a.m. until 10 a.m. There will also be food and bake-off's at the festival,

as well as blackberry jams, jellies and cobbler. Tickets for the pancake breakfast are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door. You can call Margie McDonald for tickets at 386-938-3076. Mark your calendar and come out to celebrate the joy of blackberries in downtown Jasper.

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Life in WHITE SPRINGS

By Walter McKenzie

lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

When you are asked to speak about something at "the last minute", without warning and with no time to prepare or organize your thoughts, it can actually be a good thing. Just take a deep breath, exercise some common sense

and a modicum of restraint, and the results can be quite pleasing because you will be speaking from the heart rather than from a prepared text. I am reminded of this because last Monday at the dedication of our new park next to the fire station, somebody was slated to speak about the history of White

Springs as a healing place. The speaker didn't show up, so at the last minute, I was asked to fill in for them. Prior to speaking, as I hastily formulated my thoughts I thought about closing with the remark that we were no longer a healing place because our "healing" spring no longer flows, but, as I spoke, another thought about healing occurred to me. White Springs can still be and should be, a healing place. Here is the essence of what I had to say.

The white sulphur spring that once flowed here was one of those parts of creation that, by any reasonable standard, would have to be considered a jewel. It spewed forth the precious, life-giving ingredient of water for any and all who wished to partake, and it was no ordinary water either. It was re-

puted by legend to have healing properties and modern day scientific analysis has revealed that it contained a richness of minerals that have been proven to be beneficial to one's health. Native Americans considered the spring and a large radius of land around it to be sacred. The spring gave much to those early human inhabitants and it was much appreciated, respected and revered in return. Later in time, after the Native American were displaced by the early Florida settlers, the spring continued to offer healing waters and also gave us the economic gift of tourism. Railroads bought it tourists, hotels were built, commerce thrived and over time White Springs became a major tourist attraction. The spring continued to heal us, physically and economically, but the reverence that man once had for the spring began to disappear, to run dry. The spring was looked upon more and more as a commodity to be marketed and profited from, and less and less as a jewel, a precious resource to be protected. It should come as no surprise that the results of such an indifferent attitude towards any of the "jewels" in our lives will always be negative and inevitable. The spring now seldom, if ever, flows and the healing it offered us is now but a distant memory. But I believe that White Springs can still be a healing place. The springs can no longer offer us healing, so now it's up to us to heal the springs. We can be a focal point of what is wrong with Florida's aquifer, springs, and water management practices. We can call upon people to stop ignoring our water problems and the degradation of our precious springs. We can call people to action, as we are already doing through the Suwannee Valley League of Cities, the Florida League of Cities and regional water management districts. Florida's springs are sick and White Springs owes them a debt. We can still be a healing place, only now we need to be their healing place. Perhaps it's not too late.

People from all over the state, all over the nation and indeed, from all over the world will be in town Friday through Sunday this Memorial Day weekend. They will be at the Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center's 61st Florida Folk Festival, singing, dancing, eating, sharing, creating, teaching, and having fun. Where will you be?

I hope to see you out and about, enjoying life in White Springs and if you have any news that is fit to print, I would love to hear from you.

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

Norris Notes

By Lillian Norris

Again I am reminded that Jasper, Hamilton County, can be a very busy place, when asked what one does in a small town or community. Having just attended a very special event at the conclusion of a year at the middle school, how wonderful to become aware of what is happening with our young people. We are impressed with the accomplishments of the students, of the professional manner in which the event was handled. We are very proud of Hamilton County students and their mentors and of the

families who have endeavored to give their best to the future - these young people are our future.

Following the program on a visit to Hard ee's, I met with a young lady graduate of Hamilton County High School who is on her way to making us proud. She is studying at FAMU, in pre-med in biology. She is planning a future as a gynecologist. Raven Weise who, after making a place in her home county, is now doing well at FAMU.

To the young people who are graduating, you can do it. We wish you success in your future. As I have mentioned to you before, please let me know where your (our) young people are, and how they are doing. It

suddenly dawned on me as I looked around the auditorium, I was probably the oldest one there, having been involved in the school system with my children and now my grandchildren since 1965, soon to be 48 years. All having done well in Hamilton County school system.

Make plans today to attend the Memorial Day service sponsored by the Veterans Association, on May 27, in front of the Hamilton County Courthouse in Jasper. As usual, this is always a very impressive service honoring all service personnel. Some ladies from the Jasper Woman's Club put flags on the graves at cemeteries in Hamilton County honoring veterans from Hamilton County who

are buried there. Drive through and pay tribute to those who served our country, the flags were picked up at the Veterans Service Office. Progress is really coming along at the Veterans Park, it will be a special tribute to all service persons and will be an asset to our community.

Again, we are reminded of how fortunate we are to live in Hamilton County. Our prayers go out to the people in Oklahoma who are suffering the effects of the tornadoes. We cannot even imagine the terror and distress they are suffering at this time.

We are working on news for next week and I do want and need your help. Let me hear from you by telephone as the computer is down again. I know you are tired of hearing that but I am working on it. Call me at 386-792-2151.

Lillian Norris

Florida Forest Service Forest Landowner Workshop Rescheduled for June 7, 2013

Submitted By Florida Forest Service Senior Forester, Greg Staten

Due to a scheduling conflict, the landowner workshop originally scheduled for June 13 has been moved to Friday, June 7. This landowner workshop from the Florida Forest Service in cooperation with the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Hamilton County Extension Office will be held to discuss "Habitat Management and Enhancement for Ground Nesting Birds" beginning at 9 a.m. on June 7. The workshop will be held at the Hamilton County Extension Office located at 1143 US Hwy. 41 NW, Jasper, FL 32053.

The presenter for this workshop will be Mr. Ricky Lackey of the Na-

tional Wild Turkey Federation. Ricky is a wildlife biologist with extensive knowledge on this subject. This workshop is scheduled to start promptly at 9 a.m. and last approximately one to two hours. It is geared toward the private forest landowner that is interested in learning more about how to manage their forest property to provide habitat for quail, wild turkey, and other

ground nesting birds.

There is no charge for attending, but due to limited seating pre-registration is required. Pre-registration will run from now until June 6, 2013 or until all spaces are filled. To pre-register you may contact Hamilton County Forester Greg Staten by phone at 386-792-1269 or by email at Greg.Staten@fresh-fromflorida.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

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OPINION

We are the idiots



A MINORITY VIEW

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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

Dr. Henry Miller, senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, and Gregory Conko, senior fellow at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, in their Forbes article "Rachel Carson's Deadly Fantasies" (9/5/2012), wrote that her 1962 book, "Silent Spring," led to a world ban on DDT use. The DDT ban was responsible for the loss of "tens of millions of human lives -- mostly children in poor, tropical countries -- have been traded for the possibility of slightly improved fertility in raptors (birds). This remains one of the monumental human tragedies of the last century." DDT presents no harm to humans and, when used properly, poses no environmental threat. In 1970, a committee of the National Academy of Sciences wrote: "To only a few chemicals does man owe as great a debt as to DDT. ... In a little more than two decades, DDT has pre-

vented 500 million human deaths, due to malaria, that otherwise would have been inevitable." Prior to the DDT ban, malaria was on the verge of extinction in some countries.

The World Health Organization estimates that malaria infects at least 200 million people, of which more than a half-million die, each year. Most malaria victims are African children. People who support the DDT ban are complicit in the deaths of tens of millions of Africans and Southeast Asians. Philanthropist Bill Gates is raising money for millions of mosquito nets, but to keep his environmentalist credentials, the last thing that he'd advocate is DDT use. Remarkably, black congressmen share his vision.

Wackoism didn't end with Carson's death. Dr. Paul Ehrlich, Stanford University biologist, in his 1968 best-selling book, "The Population Bomb," predicted major food shortages in the United States and that "in the 1970s ... hundreds

of millions of people are going to starve to death." Ehrlich saw England in more desperate straits, saying, "If I were a gambler, I would take even money that England will not exist in the

year 2000." On the first Earth Day, in 1970, Ehrlich warned: "In ten years all important animal life in the sea will be extinct. Large areas of coastline will have to be evacuated because of the stench of dead fish." Ehrlich continues to be a media and academic favorite.

Then there are governmental wacko teachings. In 1914, the U.S. Bureau of Mines predicted our oil reserves would last 10 years. In 1939, the U.S. Department of the Interior revised the estimate, saying that American oil would last 13 years. In 1972, the Club of Rome's report "Limits to Growth" said total world oil reserves totaled 550 billion barrels. With that report in hand, then-President Jimmy Carter said, "We could use up all proven reserves of oil in the entire world by the end of the next decade." He added, "The oil and natural gas we rely on for 75 percent of our energy are running out." As for Carter's running-out-of-oil prediction, a recent report by the U.S. Government Accountabili-

ty Office and private industry experts estimate that if even half of the oil bound up in the Green River formation in Utah, Wyoming and Colorado is recovered, it would be "equal to the entire world's proven oil reserves." That's an estimated 3 trillion barrels, more than what OPEC has in reserve. Fret not. Carter, like Ehrlich, is still brought before the media for his opinion.

Our continued acceptance of environmentalist manipulation, lies and fear-mongering has led Congress to establish deadly public policies in the name of saving energy -- such as Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards, which downsize autos and cause unnecessary highway fatalities. That's on top of the stupid 1970s 55 mph laws. The next time an environmentalist warns us of a pending disaster or that we are running out of something, we ought to ask: When was the last time a prediction of yours was right? Some people are inclined to call these people idiots. That's wrong. They have been successful in their agenda. It's we who are the idiots for listening to them and allowing Congress to let them have their way.

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.

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Letter to the editor and Article Policy

Letters to the editor and article submissions can be mailed or dropped off at the news office at 211 Howard St. E, Live Oak, FL 32064, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Letters to the editor should be typed, 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 news office by noon on Friday.

Submissions, 400 or less words, should be typed, brief and to the point. Not all submissions are published.

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

You may fax letters/submissions to 386-364-5578.

Opinion
Seizure of AP phone records insult to independent press

CNHI COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER HOLDINGS, INC.

Distrust of government secrecy has been elevated to an exceptional level with the disclosure the Justice Department covertly examined two months of Associated Press phone records to determine who leaked

details to the AP about a foiled terrorist plot.

This amounts to spying on an American news organization -- common practice in dictatorships but scary conduct in a democratic system that prizes the public value of an independent watchdog press.

What makes this case so egregious is the Justice Department went about securing an array of phone records from at least 20 AP phone lines, including reporters and editors personal cellphones, without allowing the news agency an opportunity to object.

Furthermore, it violates the department's 30-year-old subpoena guidelines requiring it to make "every reasonable effort to obtain through alternative means" information that might be included in the media's phone records.

The Justice Department's explanation that it complied with national security laws, and limited its review of last

year's April and May records to the phone numbers of the callers and not the content of the calls, is thin cover for this affront to the free press clause of the First Amendment.

The motive for wanting to know who talked to the AP is clear but it is also irresponsible. Justice Department sleuths were hell-bent on hunting down the confidential sources for the May 7, 2012, AP story about a CIA operation to stop an airliner bomb plot in Yemen.

Why this obsession with nailing the leakers? The story was an embarrassment to the president, who had assured the American people there was no credible terrorist threat last May, around the time of the anniversary of the killing of Osama bin Laden.

The AP held the story for several days when told by the White House it would interfere with intelligence gathering. But after assurances any

national security risk had passed, the news agency published the story. The Justice Department hound dogs were close behind.

You may be tempted to dismiss as gratuitous wailing the news media's concern over this serious breach of the constitutional wall between government and the press. But the chilling consequences of the Justice Department's overzealous intrusiveness could well impact your ability to know what your government is doing or not doing on your behalf.

Whistleblowers and confidential sources critical to keeping the government honest and transparent are sure to be discouraged from sharing what the public has a right to know if the government can cavalierly snoop into the work product of the press.

The Obama Administration owes Americans the public assurance that its pursuit of leakers will no longer extend to secretly culling through the news media's private records.

Blueberry Festival

20th Annual Wellborn Blueberry Festival
Wellborn's Weekend of Summer Fun
Andrews Square, downtown Wellborn

June 7 & 8, 2013
Rain Date June 9th

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Friday Open 2pm to 8pm
Saturday Open 7am to 5pm
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Ponies, Petting Zoo, Water Walkers and more
Country Store featuring blueberry pies, cobbler, jelly, syrup, and more
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Friday Special Events
Bake-Off Contest begins 4:00 pm
* Tasting Party (\$3.00) 6:30 pm *

Saturday Special Events
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Parade at 10:30 am
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Parade Theme: "All Fired Up"
Grand Marshalls: Chief James Summers & Commissioner Phil Oxendine
Talent Contest 1:30 pm (1st Place \$500; 2nd Place \$300; 3rd Place \$200)

Hosted by the Wellborn Community Association, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation

For information call: Parade 386-963-2908;
Talent Contest 386-590-6175 or 963-1562
Bake-Off 386-590-6175 or 963-1562
or see

<http://www.wellborncommunityassociation.com>

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See our program and website for complete list.

807837

'Class of 2013'

Let your Graduates know how proud you are of them!

May 30th, the Senior Graduation Tab will be placed in the Jasper News for all Seniors, Family and Friends to enjoy. Now's your chance to send them any heartfelt wishes. Also, there will be an overrun to pick up at Graduation.

Call Brenda (386)-362-1734 ext.109

Obituaries



Mertis Mizell Sheppard
May 17, 2013

Mertis Mizell Sheppard 84, of White Springs, FL was called home to glory on Friday, May 17, 2013 after a brief stay at Baya Pointe Nursing Center. She was a devoted Christian and member of Olivet Missionary Baptist Church. Her parents Jesse and Johnnie Mizell, of Jasper FL, preceded her in death. She was a graduate of J.R.E. Lee High School, Jasper, FL. She was a dedicated wife to Reverend Thomas Sheppard for over 50 years; who preceded her in death. Mertis was a devoted mother, sister, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Her brother Ralph Mizell and sister Marion Mizell Walls preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish her memories nine wonderful children: Thomas Sheppard III, Tampa, FL; Gail S. Brown, Tampa, FL; Kenneth (Vanessa) Sheppard, Tampa, FL; Glenn (Stacey) Sheppard, White Springs, FL; Jesse Mario (Wanda) Sheppard, Lake City, FL; Joseph Sheppard, Lake City, FL; Michael Sheppard, Lake City, FL; Myrtle Sharon (Charles) Davis, Upper Marlboro MD; Troy (Michelle) Sheppard, Tampa, FL.

Twenty-two grandchildren, who will miss her comforting words and wisdom; six precious great-grandchildren; bother Mack (Susie) Mizell, Lake City, FL; sister, Catherine (Edward) Ante, Houston, TX; and bother Rudolph (Rona) Mizell, Lake City, FL; bother-in-laws: David Walls Sr, Jasper FL, Ralph (Estelle)Sheppard, Zenia, OH, Taylor (Bettie)Sheppard, Fort Washington, MD; sister-in-law, Maize Mizell, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Friends and Family will be received on Friday May 24: 6-7pm at Olivet Missionary Baptist Church.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday May 25 at 1:00 pm at Olivet Missionary Baptist Church, 541 Davis Street, Lake City, FL; Rev. Ronald V. Walters, Pastor. Arrangements entrusted to Mizell Funeral Home, Lake City, FL.

Toni Joanne Boyd
May 16, 1957
May 11, 2013

Toni Joanne Boyd, age 55, of Jasper, Fla., passed away Saturday, May 11, 2013 at her home following a brief illness. Joanne was born in Jasper, Fla. on May 16, 1957 and worked in the restaurant industry for many years. She was preceded in death by her father, James Swilley and a sister, Brenda Hopkins.

Survivors include one daughter, Brandi Martin,

Midland, Texas; two sons, Bryan Boyd, Jasper, Fla. and Carlos Fortunato, Laverne, TN; her mother, Betty Tomlinson, Jasper, Fla.; six brothers, Gerald Swilley, Scooby Mercer James Mercer, Richard Mercer, Jeffrey Mercer and Kevin Mercer; four grandchildren, Tyler Bennett, Alex Bennett, Makayla Martin and Seth Martin.

Memorial services will be held at 4 p.m. on May 27, 2013 in the chapel of Harry T. Reid Funeral Home, Jasper, Fla.

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

Billy Roy Horne
July 11, 1936
May 21, 2013

Billy Roy Horne, 76, of Jasper, Fla., passed away on May 21, 2013 at Suwannee Valley Haven Hospice in Lake City, Fla., after battling cancer for seven years. He was born in Dothan, Ala. on July 11, 1936. He served our country for twelve years. He was a Vietnam Veteran and received numerous accommodations, including: Air Force Longevity Service Award with one bronze oak leaf cluster, Good Conduct Medal with two loops, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and two purple hearts. He was a member of Sunrise Baptist Church in Jasper, FL. His hobbies included shooting billiards, hunting and fishing. He was a family man with a large heart. He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Judy Fain Horne of Jasper, FL; two sons: RA Horne (Sharon Ferguson) of Sulphur Springs, TX and John Horne (Sherry) of Clarksville, TX; two daughters, Mary Lou Kubena (Dave) of San Antonio, TX and Gigi Isaac (Jesse) of San Antonio, TX; and two stepsons: Billy Harris of Jasper, FL and Tony Harris (Susie) of Tallahassee, FL; two brothers, Mike Horne (Kay) and Bruce Seay (Debbie) both of Atlanta, GA; twelve grandchildren: Ryan, Lindsey, Zack, Celene, Stacie, little Gigi, James, Jacob, Morgan, Tori, Brian, and Kayla; and six great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his mother Katy Nell Tyson Seay and stepfather, Ernest Seay of Clarksville, Texas, and father, William Warren Horne of Dothan, AL.

A Memorial Service will be held Friday, May 24, 2013, 1 p.m. at Sunrise Baptist Church in Jasper, Fla.

Cremation trusted to UCS Cremation & Funeral Home, (386) 752-3436, www.icsfuneralservices.com

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in honor of Billy Roy Horne to Sunrise Baptist Church, 3381 US Hwy 129 NW, Jasper, FL 32052.

Jarvin Jackson
May 14, 2013

Jarvin Jackson age 11, passed away May 14, 2013 in Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.

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

Heart Matters

Have you noticed how every student you know is enthusiastically counting down till the last day of school? Can you believe summer is just around the corner? Talking about this with my younger daughter a few days ago inspired a few thoughts about how we want to spend our summer. It occurred to me that we take great pains to prepare our children for heading back to school every August, but I wonder if we put much thought into how they will spend the summer. You may be thinking, "Isn't this supposed to be summer vacation?" Absolutely, and just think of the time spent planning family vacations! What I am suggesting is not a rigid schedule, but just a to-do list of sorts of some goals to accomplish during the break.

One of the best reasons behind this thought is the findings of a recent study that reported a 155% spike in children's TV viewing during the summer. This has become such a concern that the American Academy of Pediatrics published a report identifying our children's TV habits as "a

national health hazard, contributing to kids' obesity, and serving them an unhealthy portion of murder, consequence-free sex and commercial messages every year."

A quick flip through the channels confirms the findings of this report...not so many years ago American morality would not have stood for the things that are freely flowing on TV today: promiscuity, coarse jokes, blatant disrespect on every level: children to parents, teachers and the elderly, men to women and vice versa, the betrayal of friendships, not to mention the sex and violence...all bathed in crude humor. What in the world are we watching...and do we really think that these "unhealthy portions" will not affect our thoughts and actions, as well as those of our children?

The Bible records King David's words in Psalm 101:3, "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes." The word for wicked in the original Hebrew language actually means "worthless, good for nothing; unprofitable." In his com-

mentary on the Bible, Matthew Henry explains the verse like this: "...we must see that what we set our eyes upon be right and good and not any forbidden fruit, and that we never seek that which we cannot have without sin. It is the character of a good man that he shuts his eyes from seeing evil." David was living proof of the danger we place ourselves in looking at what can bring no good. He is infamous for looking at the forbidden fruit of another man's wife... that which he could not have without sin. (His story is found in 2 Samuel, chapter 11) We also find from his life that good intentions are not enough...there must be self-control and discipline.

The good news is that all TV is not bad...in fact, there is some fun, entertaining and even educational programs, but we have to be intentional in our choices for our children and for ourselves. That said, quality does not sanction quantity...make a plan this summer to get off the couch and invest in making some great memo-



ries.

A few suggestions: set a goal to read one book a week and then head to your local library; plan a day to head to the springs or beach with a few friends or family; bake some treats and visit an elderly person; visit a museum; join a Zumba class together (lots of fun!); plan a movie night; organize family photos into an album and relive some fun memories and check out the children's programs (VBS and other summer events) offered by many area churches. As you can tell, the opportunities are limitless! This kind of planning will help keep the TV viewing in balance for a healthier family...physically and spiritually...because their hearts matter. Have a great summer!

Blessings, Angie

The church and alcoholic drink

Hugh G. Sherrill
ems-hugh43@comcast.net

"Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed wine. Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around smoothly; At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart will utter perverse things. Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, saying: 'They have struck me, but I was not hurt; They have beaten me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake, that I may seek another drink?'" (Proverbs 23:29-35 NKJV).

Far too little is said in the church today about the use of alcoholic drink among Christians. The Bible is very clear in its teaching about the use of

it and those who serve it. Habakkuk 2:25 says: "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink". The use of alcohol in our country has become an epidemic. It is a tool used by Satan to destroy people and homes.

Jack Van Impe had a book published in 1980 entitled "Alcohol, The Beloved Enemy". I would strongly recommend that all who question whether the use of alcoholic drink is right or not to read it. He does a great job explaining that the use of the word wine in the Bible does not always mean that it was fermented.

Early in the last century churches spoke out against the use of alcohol. Today, very few speak against the use of it. The makers and sellers of alcoholic beverages have done a great job spreading false information that even some conservative Christians have become unsure of the message of God's word concerning the use of it.

We must remember, God has not changed. If it was a sin in the Old Testa-

ment, it is a sin in the New Testament. Someone said "The effect of alcohol drinking by the majority of this nation's population over the years has brought this nation down more surely than perhaps any other single factor".

If there has ever been a time when the church should speak out against sin, it is now. Too many in different local church groups today have been deceived and they see nothing wrong with it, even church leaders are openly users of it. The use of alcohol is never approved by God in any amount at any time. Jack

Van Impe said that "alcohol is perhaps the most dangerous drug in our culture because of its complete acceptance by society."

It has been said by some that the tax dollars are so important to us. Some years back I read that a state in the South did a survey on tax dollars from the sale of alcohol and they determined that for every one dollar taken in, it cost five dollars to repair the damages it caused. Dr. John R. Rice said that "all those who make it, sell it, or serve it will stand in judgment for it".

Memorial for Randall Theron Howard

The children and siblings of Randy Howard would like to invite all family and friends to a memorial gathering in his honor. It will be held on Sunday, May 26th from 2pm to 6pm at the home of Harmon and Camiela Howard, 3 miles N on Woodpecker Route. 10660 SE CR 135 White Springs, 32096. Finger foods will be served. Please bring chairs.

For directions or more information, call Harmon Howard @ 386-365-1536 or Leigh Howard Stover @ 386-209-8086.

Church & Family Go Together

<p>ADVENT CHRISTIAN</p> <p>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</p>	<p>BAPTIST (Southern)</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH "Where Friends become Family" 207 N.E. 2nd Street, Jasper 792-2658 Pastor: Roger Hutto Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Supper.....6:00 p.m. Children, Youth & Adult Programs 6:30 a.m. 784012</p>	<p>METHODIST</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 405 Central Ave., Jasper, FL Pastor - Dale Amies 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</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>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</p>
<p>CATHOLIC CHURCH</p> <p>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</p>	<p>NON-DENOMINATIONAL</p> <p>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</p>	<p><i>Building On</i> FAITH</p>	

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

Healthy Living

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

Your golden years

"Picture it. Sicily, 1925." Many of you may not know that's a quote from Golden Girls, from Sophia frequently reminiscing of her younger days in Italy. Funny Sophia, or Estelle Getty, was actually the same age as the rest of the ladies, made to look older with makeup and a cute little old lady trot. We giggled at these hilarious women's misadventures in Miami. Aside from Rose, or Betty White, all the ladies have passed away now. When I think of the Golden Girls, I think of reaching the Golden Age of our lives.

Unfortunately so many individuals are unable to enjoy this period of life because of chronic health issues and immobility. Perceptually, as we see our life decline many believe everything must decline with it; but that's not the case. We can all enjoy health well into the ripe age of our 'golden years'. In fact, decline begins well before; loss of up to five pounds of muscle per decade begin in women in their 30's and 40's. As I sat on St. Augustine Beach celebrating my 31st birthday I thought about why I continue to be so active. Not just to look good or to feel good. Not to win a competition. I strength train religiously because I care about my future. I care about my sustained independence.

Not only can strength training maintain precious Type II fibers needed for sitting, standing, and lifting, studies now reveal strength training can actually reduce inflammation! A study published in 2012 by the Journal of Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise revealed resistance training improved total overall body strength and reduced markers of inflammation in obese postmenopausal women in the absence of changes in body composition. Even though they experienced no change in their muscle mass versus fat mass - basically they did not see changes in their body - their strength increased and inflammation decreased. Despite no changes in body composition in a 12 week period, what was happening under the surface told a different story! How exciting!! Strength training helps even when you can't tell it's helping! In this study whole body strength improved 44 percent, plasma-reactive protein decreased 33 percent, tumor necrosis factor A was reduced by 29 percent, and lipopolysaccharide-stimulated interleukin-10 production increased by 20 percent.

This lesson is for everyone, not just the golden ages. If you find yourself at the beginning of a program and don't feel like anything has



changed...don't give up! Things are happenin' under the hood! We all need strength training to maintain our quality of life and health. If you're currently inactive, it's never too late - regardless if you're a 30 something, 40 something, or even a Golden Girl. In the words of sarcastic Sophia, "Picture it, life in your 60's, 70's, 80's, even 90's; healthy, mobile, active, and happy." Death is a part of life. When each of our times come we should welcome our death day just like our birthday. But until then, let's ride this baby till' the wheels fall off.

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This program is sponsored by the Florida AHEC Network and the Florida Department of Health

803466

Lily of the Valley M.B.C.
5869 NW 44th St., Jennings
Rev. Patrick S. Howell, pastor
Cordially invites you to
What: Vacation Bible School
When: June 11-13
Where: Lily of the Valley
M.B.C.
5869 NW 44th St., Jennings,
FL 32053
386-938-4322
Rev. Patrick S. Howell, pastor
Time: 6-8 p.m. nightly
Contact: Dec. Maceo Howell,
Sis. Gwen Howell
386-938-2728

Jehovah's Witnesses invite all to attend "God's Word Is Truth!" Convention

GAINESVILLE, FL— Jehovah's Witnesses are inviting all in the area to attend a program focusing on the Bible as the only infallible source of truth. The Bible is the most widely distributed book in the world, and will be the focus of the 2013 "God's Word Is Truth!" District Convention, to be held at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center Arena, at the University of Florida in Gainesville beginning today.

Continuing through the next week, the area's 52 congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses will be supporting the activity of distributing a colorful printed invitation to all households of the North-Central Florida and Southern Georgia area. The three-day event will begin today (Friday) at 9:20 a.m. The

daily themes are based on passages of Scripture including John 8:32, Psalm 86:11 and 2 Peter 1:12. The age-old questions, 'What is Truth?' and 'Where can you find it?' with particular regard for, 'How can it benefit you and your family?' will be answered. There is no admission fee. Conventions of Jehovah's Witnesses are supported entirely by voluntary donations.

An estimated 6,000 will come to the Stephen C. O'Connell Center Arena for the Bible-based program. Throughout the United States, there will be 425 conventions in 117 cities and 28 languages. Worldwide, there are over 7,500,000 Witnesses in more than 110,000 congregations and 239 lands.

Do you have questions about Medicare?

Do you have questions about your options for Medicare, Medicare/Medicaid, Disability, Supplemental Insurance, Part D Prescription Drug Plans, Low Income Programs or Medicare Billings?

If you do, come see SHINE, a volunteer program with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, for one-on-one counseling. SHINE provides free, unbiased and confidential assistance. If you cannot come to a site call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-262-2243 to be referred to a SHINE Volunteer near you. SHINE will be at:

Thursday, June 6, 10-Noon, Jasper Public Library
Wednesday, June 12, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Lake City Public Library (Columbia Ave)

Thursday, June 13, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Live Oak City Hall

Friday, June 21, 10-Noon, Branford Public Library
Wednesday, June 26, 1:30-3:30 p.m., LifeStyle Enrichment Ctr, Lake City (CCSS)



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GREAT STARTER HOME 3/1 on 2 acres at the edge of the city limits. Live Oak \$57,000. Call David Mincey, 386-590-0157 MLS#81748



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JUST A LITTLE TLC will make this house a home. 3/1 Brick on quarter acre with living room, dining area, and den. Close to Live Oak yet with that country feel. \$89,000 Nelda hatcher, 386-688-8067 MLS#83831



UNIQUE- 1,400+ sq.ft., 3/2. W/all the living quarters upstairs with nice view from the deck. Everything has been renovated. Laundry room downstairs, with additional storage. Owner will lease with option, to qualified buyer. \$99,900. Ric Donovan, 386-590-1298 MLS#83240



LANDSCAPED BY NATURE.. Enjoy the wildlife and sound of the shoals in this 2/2 home on the Suwannee outside of Mayo. \$104,900. Call Kellie Shirah, 386-208-3847 MLS#83743



REDUCED- 3/2, 2252 sqft w/10 acres that a country feel but minutes from town. Big kitchen, screened back patio, gas FP. Detached workshop/barn. \$199,999. Anita Handy, 386-208-5877 MLS#83430



ENTERTAIN Friends & Family alike...in this 3/2 w/vaulted ceilings, bright, open kitchen, and Florida room. Large master bdrm & bath with whirlpool. 2 car garage, sprinkler system, paved driveway and fenced back yard. \$213,000. Kellie Shirah, 386-208-3847. MLS#82825



JUST LISTED
READY TO MOVE IN to this awesome 4/2.5 brick house w/ 3,000 sqft, w/ a split floor plan, updated Kitchen, lots of cabinets, double car garage, 40x60 metal barn and pond. \$349,000. Anita Handy, 386-208-5877. MLS#83919



NEW IMPROVED PRICE: 45,000+ sq.ft. Commercial building in Live Oak. Just minutes from Wal-Mart and I-10 interchange. \$597,000. Call Ronnie Poole, 386-208-3175. MLS#36340



215 ACRES. Excellent tract has two 12" well casings that are located close to each other. 42 acres of 14 year old pines and 153 acres of 3 year old pines. \$2,950 per acre MLS#82124

REDUCED 9 acres priced at just \$19,900. Sylvia Newell, 386-590-2498. MLS#78713

GREAT COUNTRY LIVING- Cor. 144th St. & 209th Rd., 5 ac., mostly open pasture, several trees, no deed restrictions, homes or MH, \$22,900. Glenda McCall, 386-208-5244 MLS#83435

SUWANNEE RIVER- 114 ft., 2 ac., near Luraville, Peacocks Springs and Mayo, close to public boat ramp, wooded w/ some clearing near river, \$37,000. Glenda McCall, 386-208-5244 MLS#83125

\$42,900- for this 5 acres with a creek running thru the backside of property, a pole barn 13ft high approx 30/50, well power, & septic. Ric Donovan, 386-590-1298 MLS#82817

NICE little home with room for the horse. Some of the property pasture and some wooded. 3/2 DWMH & 4 ac. \$54,900. David Mincey, 386-590-0157 MLS#83455

22 ACRES close to Dowling Park, old 1961 SWMH and old well & septic, no value. \$67,000. Glenda McCall, 386-208-5244 MLS#81992

EXCELLENT PRODUCING 30 acre hay field. Argentine Bahia mixed with Pensacola. Gorgeous rolling pasture land. \$104,000. David Mincey 386-590-0157, MLS#83025

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Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.;
Sunday by appointment

804193

New park opens in White Springs

Continued From Page 1A

made possible by a downtown incubator grant from the Hamilton County Development Authority (HCDA).

"This has been a joint project with the Development Authority that has been in the works for over three years," said Susan Ramsey of the HCDA. "It began under a prior governor with prior policies, a prior economic development director and a prior town manager. We pulled together as a team and we were able to make this project a success."

Heath, who served as interim town manager for close to one year, was able to tackle the project and help bring it to fruition. Ramsey applauded Heath's hard work and efforts.

There are two entrances into the park, front and back. Brick paved sidewalks, lined on both sides with red mulch and landscape plants and flowers, will guide you to each of the three covered pavilions, which include lighting and ceiling fans. Each pavilion has its own name as tribute to the native American Indian tribes who originally settled in White Springs; the Timucuan, the Apalachee and the Calusa.

There are also several black wrought iron benches located throughout the park, along with other lawn ornaments, making it a serene and beautiful place to relax or meditate. Restroom facilities are also available.

The ribbon cutting ceremony recognized many people in the town and in the county who were instrumental in bringing the park to its completion.

White Springs Mayor Helen Miller presided over the ceremony and began with a reading of the 'Seminole Blessing' to acknowledge the native American heritage of the area.

"White Springs is small with limited resources, but we do have a vision and that is to restore and revitalize our community by focusing on our cultural heritage and eco tourism," said Miller. "Those are the two main assets we have in this community and we have to build on that. This park does that."

The open pavilions, Miller said, will help with the recreational tourists, such as the cyclists and kayakers who regularly visit the town.

Hamilton Correctional Institution Warden Anderson and Assistant War-

den Smith were on hand and accepted the town's appreciation for the use of inmate labor to help get the park completed.

"One thing that we strive for is re-entry for our offenders," said Anderson.

Local community projects such as the new park, Anderson explained, gives the inmates something to do.

"They can learn and then be more productive citizens when they make re-entry back into the community," Anderson said.

Mayor Miller praised the efforts of soon-to-be-retired correctional officer Steve Bell, whom she said has been a wonderful asset to the White Springs community for many years.

Local resident Robert "Teddy Bear" Marshall was also recognized for his help in the project, as he worked hand-in-hand with the inmate crew in the cement and bricklaying portion of the project.

Town historian and longtime resident Johnny Bullard sang a beautiful a cappella version of "Old Folks at Home" and Lucindagail Maynard sang a song she wrote called "White Sulphur" as she played along on her guitar.

Vice mayor Walter McKenzie offered a short story about White Sulphur Springs, the "Healing Place", that began when the Indians first settled in the area. Several Indian tribes, McKenzie said, believed the area around the healing waters of the spring was a sacred place.

Though the spring has dried up from neglect and is no longer considered a healing place, McKenzie said, the town of White Springs can still be a place of healing.

"Because as we have water troubles in Florida, we use our spring as the poster child, as an inspiration to people - in sort of a negative inspiration - not to make the same mistake. We can still be a healing place in terms of healing the environment and the ecology, and using it as an economic engine to grow business and heal the economically depressed county," said McKenzie.

After the ceremony everyone was treated to light refreshments and each person received a miniature Dreamcatcher key ring as a memento of the day's event.



Mayor Helen Miller speaks with Warden Anderson and Assistant Warden Smith before the ceremony. -Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor



Guests sit in the Timucuan pavilion to listen to the program.



A large crowd gathered for the grand opening ceremonies at the new town park.



Representing Hamilton CI are Officer Steve Bell, Warden Anderson and Assistant Warden Smith.



Mayor Miller cuts the red ribbon to make the park official.



Pam Tomlinson and Shirley Clark make sure everyone gets refreshments.



Jeanette and Lawrence (Jim) Udell came out for the ceremony.



Vice mayor Walter McKenzie.



Town legendary chef Teddy Bear Marshall with a unique hat.



Lucindagail Maynard sings one of her own songs called "White Sulphur".



Johnny Bullard sings "Old Folks at Home".

Natural disaster: Warning the public

Continued From Page 1A

site and enter their cell phone information, they will not receive the warning," said Land. "We also utilize a website and an information line. The website allows us to assist other agencies with distributing information such as road closures for the road department, school closings and links to river gauges for flooding information."

The information line for Hamilton County is 396-792-2911 and aids them with distributing critical information to residents who do not have internet or cell ser-

vice.

"By utilizing our means of technology, we are able to distribute information to our residents in a more timely manner," Land said.

Much of our current disaster preparedness, such as sirens and the Emergency Alert System were developed during the Cold War. We asked Land if these systems are still sufficient to alert the public.

"The Emergency Alert System can be utilized by radio and TV broadcasts," said Land. "Not having a local TV station can limit information being released that relates specifical-

ly to Hamilton County. It is still a viable tool for senior residents who are not of the technology age or rural residents who cannot receive internet."

Warnings and/or information relating to an event, no matter to whom it is distributed is a positive thing, Land said.

"We would rather residents have the ability to hear the warnings and/or information multiple times than none at all," said Land.

For related national stories visit the section "Are we ready?", on the homepage at nflaonline.com.

Fiery crash claims life of Valdosta man

Continued From Page 1A

fied as Miller Milo Grow, 32, Valdosta, Ga.

Reports state that on Friday, May 17, at 10:25 p.m., a 1988 Ford LGT was traveling south on US 41, less than a mile north of SR 6, when it traveled onto the west shoulder, striking a mailbox with its right front,

after which the vehicle veered to the left crossing both travel lanes of US 41.

Reports further state the vehicle continued onto the east shoulder where its left front struck a tree causing it to rotate counter-clockwise and come to final rest facing southeast on the east shoulder of US 41 with

its left front against the tree. The vehicle burst into flames with the driver still inside. The driver was pronounced deceased at the scene by Hamilton County Emergency Medical Services, FHP stated.

The Ford sustained \$7,000 in damages and no charges were filed, according to FHP.

Blackberry mixer is next Thursday

The Hamilton County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a free Blackberry Mixer on Thursday, May 30, from 5-7 p.m. at the Jasper Woman's Club.

The event is sponsored by First Federal Savings Bank of Florida and Suwannee Valley Electric. The public

is invited to come out and mingle, enjoy good food and good times.

For more information, contact the Chamber of Commerce or check with any chamber member.

Remember, the event is free and open to the public, so come out and have some fun.

Crime rate down here

Continued From Page 1A

cent.

The White Springs Police Department posted a decrease of 45.7 percent. Jennings Police Department saw a decrease of 43.8 percent and Jasper Police Department saw a decrease of 7.6 percent. With the small population sizes in each jurisdiction, any change in crime from

2011 to 2012 can greatly impact the crime rate percentage.

"I'm thankful the crime rate is down," said Sheriff Harrell Reid. "Our total arrests were up almost 100 more arrests than in 2011."

Of the total 386 crimes reported in the county in 2012, 23.6 percent were cleared.

In Hamilton County there was 178 larcenies

compared to 169 in 2011; 148 burglaries compared to 145 in 2011; 44 aggravated assaults compared to 45; five robberies compared to nine; 11 motor vehicle thefts compared to 24 and zero forcible rapes compared to one.

"I'm thankful for all of the hard work of our law enforcement officers in Hamilton County," said Reid.

Hamilton County 4-H Summer Dog Show

Categories:
Best Trick
Best Costume
Most Adorable
Oldest
Youngest

Registration Begins at 9:30AM.
Show Begins at 10:00AM.
Please email Leslie Carter lesliecarter@windstream.net for more information.

Saturday June 1, 2013 at the Jasper Blackberry Festival 10:00AM-11:30AM.
Open to ALL Hamilton County Youth ages 8-18.
Membership in 4-H is NOT required.

HAMILTON COUNTY 4-H SPONSORED BLACKBERRY BAKE-OFF

June 1, 2013

Contest is open to ALL youth and Adults.

Mixes, precooked, and non-cooked items may be used in the finished product. All entries must look festive for the summer and include blackberries, either in the recipe or in the display. PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Contest will be held at Jasper Women's Club on June 1st with Tasting Party following judging! Advance tickets for Tasting Party are available at Hamilton County Extension or Bass' Furniture. Please contact for details!

REGISTRATION - 9AM TO 10 PM
JUDGING STARTS AT 10 AM
TASTING PARTY TO FOLLOW (Noon)

Contest Categories

YOUTH CATEGORIES (Age 5-18)	ADULT CATEGORIES (Age 19+)
• Pies/Cobblers, Cakes, Muffins, & Bread	• Pies/Cobblers, Cakes, Muffins, & Bread
• All Others (Jams, Jellies, Syrup, Salad Dressings, etc.)	• All Others (Jams, Jellies, Syrup, Salad Dressings, etc.)

Please Contact Heather Futch at (386) 792-1276 or hfutch@ufl.edu OR Cindy Eatmon (386) 792-2725 bassfurniture@windstream.net to register for the event!!

ENTRANTS ARE TO BRING AND SHOW THEIR RECIPE TO HELP ASSURE ENTRY WAS MADE BY THEM. ENTRIES MAY BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE FESTIVAL COOKBOOKS WITH ENTRANTS PERMISSION

Please turn in below to register by MAY 30TH:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____ Cell _____
E-mail _____
Item Category _____

Extension programs are open to all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, handicap, or national origin. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in any activity, should contact the Hamilton County Cooperative Extension Service at 1143 US Hwy 41 NW, Jasper, FL 32052 or telephone (386) 792-1276 no later than seven (7) days prior to the event. Hearing impaired persons can access the foregoing telephone by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

Jasper Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO.: 2013-CA-0118

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION, DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT,

Petitioner,
v.
DONALD RAY MCALISTER,

IN RE: FORFEITURE OF 2008 18' ALUMINUM TRACKER VESSEL (FL 1749 PG), HIN # BU62781E708, WITH YAMAHA 70 HP OUTBOARD 4 STROKE, WITH 2008 TRAILSTAR TRAILER (AUJ28), VIN # 4TM19CF118B001328

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

TO: ANY AND ALL PERSONS WHO CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL PROPERTY:

2008 18' ALUMINUM TRACKER VESSEL (FL 1749 PG), HIN # BUJ62781E708, with YAMAHA 70 HP 4-STROKE OUTBOARD ENGINE, and 2008 TRAILSTAR TRAILER (AUJ28), VIN:4TM19CF118B001328

NOTICE is given pursuant to Sections 932.703 and 932.704, Florida Statutes (2012) that THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (COMMISSION), acting by and through the undersigned Assistant Attorney General, seized the above-described personal property on the 27th day of February, 2013, in Madison County, Florida, and is holding the personal property pending the outcome of forfeiture proceedings. All persons or entities who have a legal interest in the subject property may request a hearing concerning the seized property by contacting the undersigned. A complaint has been filed in the Circuit Court of the THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, in and for Hamilton County. On the 7th day of May, 2013, the trial court entered an order finding probable cause. If no claimants appear within 20 days, the COMMISSION will be seeking a final order of forfeiture.

Dated May 10, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

PAMELA JO BONDI
ATTORNEY GENERAL

/s/ Alex B. C. Ershock

ALEX BRANDON CLAUDE ERSHOCK
Assistant Attorney General
Florida Bar No. 100220
Office of the Attorney General
The Capitol, Suite PL-01
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050
Telephone: (850) 414-3691
Facsimile: (850) 488-4872
alex.ershock@myfloridalegal.com
Counsel for Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

05/23, 30

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

HAMILTON COUNTY WILL RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

CR 135 RESURFACING HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC. PROJECT NO.: L120820HAM

Date & Time for Receiving Bids: 2:00 PM LOCAL TIME JUNE 27, 2013

Place for Receiving Bids: Hamilton County Clerk of Courts 207 NE First Street Jasper, FL 32052 (386) 792-1288

Bid Documents Prepared By: NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC. P.O. Box 3823 Lake City, Florida 32056 (386) 752-4675, FAX (386) 755-4674

Bid Documents Available from: The Engineer's Office

Deposit for Bid Documents: Prime Contractors for payment of \$100.00 per set with a two (2) set maximum or \$50.00 for an electronic copy of bid package in pdf format. Payments of Contractors are non-refundable. Bidders using partial sets of Documents are fully responsible for any errors or omissions made due to not reviewing the entire set of Construction Documents.

Project Description: Work on this consists of, but is not limited to the resurfacing of the existing roadway from MP 3.5 to CR 6 and widening Bridge # 320015. This project also consists of extending existing culverts, constructing headwalls, grassing all disturbed areas, and replacement of all signs within project limits.

Date of Advertisement: MAY 23, 2013

FOR THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOCC, DANNY JOHNSON, COUNTY COORDINATOR

By: DANNY JOHNSON, COUNTY COORDINATOR 05/23

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE PERMIT

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of intent to issue a permit to the City of Jasper, Mr. Charles Williams, City Manager, 208 Hatley Street, Jasper, Florida 32052 for the City of Jasper to operate a biosolids land application site consisting of approximately 38 acres that will be used for biosolids application with buffers to meet setback requirements. The application site is divided into two zones. Zone B (14 acres) and Zone C (24 acres). The application area consists of land that is used for variety of agricultural activities. The facility is located at latitude 30 degrees 29' 20.4" N, longitude 82 degrees 56'47.04" W on SW 53rd Street located near the abandoned Hamilton County Landfill in Hamilton County.

The intent to issue an application file are 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 Northeast District Office, 8800 Baymeadows Way West, Suite 100, Jacksonville, Florida 32256, at phone number (904) 256-

Jasper Legals

1700.

The Department will issue the permit with the attached conditions unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, within fourteen days of receipt of notice. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Under Rule 62-110.106(4), Florida Administrative Code, a person may request an extension of the time for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. The request must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel before the end of the time period for filing a petition for an administrative hearing.

Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, must be filed within fourteen days of publication of the notice or within fourteen days of receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, however, also allows that any person who has asked the Department for notice of agency action may file a petition within fourteen days of receipt of such notice, regardless of the date of publication.

The 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 or request for an extension of time within fourteen days of receipt of notice shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information, as indicated in Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code:

- (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 interests will be affected by the determination;
- (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the Department's 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 specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action;
- (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action; and
- (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the Department to take with respect to the Department's proposed action.

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

In addition to requesting an administrative hearing, any petitioner may elect to pursue mediation. The election may be accomplished by filing with the Department a mediation agreement with all parties to the proceeding (i.e., the applicant, the Department, and any person who has filed a timely and sufficient petition for hearing). The agreement must contain all the information required by Rule 28-106.404, Florida Administrative Code. The agreement must be received by the Clerk in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, within ten days after the deadline for filing a petition, as set forth above. Choosing mediation will not adversely affect the right to a hearing if mediation does not result in a settlement.

As provided in Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, the timely agreement of all parties to mediate will toll the time limitations imposed by Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, for holding an administrative hearing and issuing a final order. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the mediation must be concluded within sixty days of the execution of the agreement. If mediation results in settlement of the administrative dispute, the Department must enter a final order incorporating the agreement of the parties. Persons seeking to protect their substantial interests that would be affected by such a modified final decision must file their petitions within fourteen days of a receipt of this notice, or they shall be deemed to have waived their right to a proceeding under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. If mediation terminates without settlement of the dispute, the Department shall notify all parties in writing that the administrative hearing processes under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, remain available for disposition of the dispute, and the notice will specify the deadlines that then will apply for challenging the agency action and electing remedies under those two statutes.

05/23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY CIVIL ACTION

CASE NO. 24-2012-CA-000258

FIRST FEDERAL BANK OF FLORIDA

Plaintiff,

Jasper Legals

vs.

PETER K. THOMPSON, LORI J. THOMPSON AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on May 3, 2013, in the Circuit Court of Hamilton County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Hamilton County, Florida described as:

THE WEST 1/2 OF LOT 2, OF BLOCK 1 ACCORDING TO CONE'S SURVEY OF THE TOWN OF WHITE SPRING, FLORIDA, IN SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 16 EAST; SAID LOT BEING BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: ON THE NORTH BY SPRING STREET, ON THE EAST BY PROPERTY FORMERLY OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE C. F. CONE, ON THE SOUTH BY PROPERTY FORMERLY OF L. V. MCLEOD AND W. G. GATE, AND ON THE WEST BY PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS AND USED AS WATER WORKS SITE AND ALSO BY PROPERTY FORMERLY BELONGING TO THE ESTATE C. F. CONE, THE FOREMENTIONED LANDS ARE ALSO DESCRIBED AS LOT 2B OF BLOCK 1, CONE'S SURVEY, ON THE LAND'S RETRACE MAP OF THE TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, IN SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 16 EAST, HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA.

and commonly known as 16613 SPRINGS STREET, WHITE SPRINGS, FL 32096; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash. Sales are held in lobby of the main courthouse, on June 6, 2013 at 11 a.m.

Any persons claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 3rd day of May, 2013.

(Court Seal) Clerk of the Circuit Court
Greg Godwin

By: /s/ Cynthia Johnson
Deputy Clerk

05/16, 23

NOTICE OF SALE

The Board of County Commissioners of Hamilton County, Florida, gives notice of intent to sell, at public auction, the certain real property in Hamilton County, Florida, described as follows.

The following lands in Suwannee River Campsites according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, page 9-A, public records of Hamilton County, Florida:

Campsite (Lot) - 82 Campsite (Lot) - 621
Campsite (Lot) - 92 Campsite (Lot) - 622
Campsite (Lot) - 637 Campsite (Lot) - 595
Campsite (Lot) - 638

The following lands in Withlacoochee River Campsites (also known as Florida Campsites), according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, page 10, public records of Hamilton County, Florida:

Campsite (Lot) - 181 Campsite (Lot) - 211
Campsite (Lot) - 182 Campsite (Lot) - 212
Campsite (Lot) - 183 Campsite (Lot) - 213
Campsite (Lot) - 184 Campsite (Lot) - 214
Campsite (Lot) - 185 Campsite (Lot) - 215

The Board will offer that said property for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, at a public auction at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 31, 2013, at the South front door of the Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida.

In addition to the bid offered, the highest bidder shall pay for the state stamp charges and all recording costs for recording the Deed in the public records of Hamilton County, Florida.

The form of the deed conveying said property shall be as provided in, and in conformity with, Section 125.411, Florida Statutes, providing "All deeds of conveyance by any county or its Board of County Commissioners shall convey only the interest of the county and such board in the property covered thereby, and shall not be deemed to warrant the title or to represent any state of facts concerning the same". A copy of the form of the Deed is available in the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court at said Courthouse.

The highest bid made at the auction aforesaid, will be considered for acceptance by the Board of County Commissioners at 9:05 a.m. during the Board meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2013, in the Board Room (Room 112) of said Courthouse. The Board reserves the right to reject all bids if determine to be too low. Payment of the full amount of the highest bid accepted by the Board, as aforesaid, shall be paid to the Clerk of said Board on June 4, 2013, and upon payment of the full amount of that bid, along with the amount of state stamps and recording costs, Deed from the County, through its Board of County Commissioners, will be delivered at time of such payment.

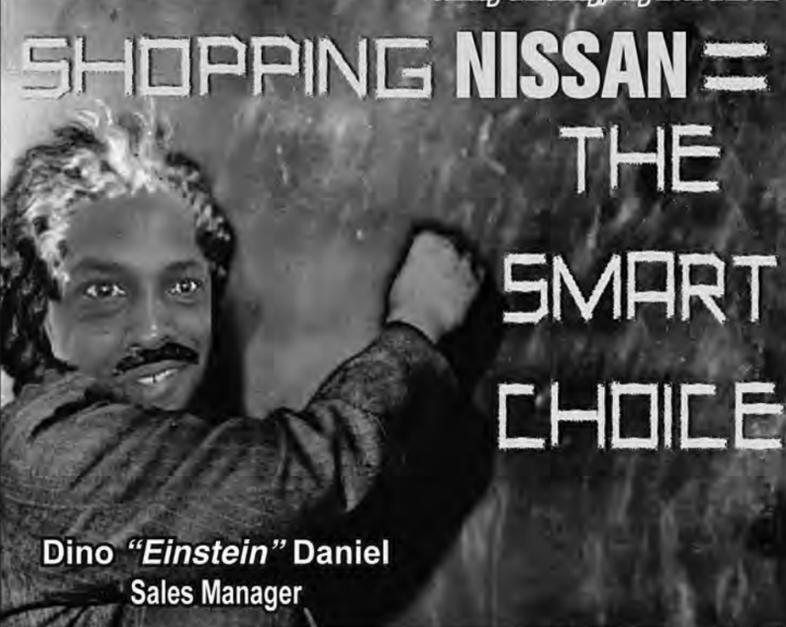
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA 05/16, 23

GRANT APPLICATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

The Hamilton County School Board is in the process of developing a grant application for Exceptional Student Education Federal Entitlement and Discretionary Supplemental Projects, IDEA Part B, for 2013-2014 school year. This grant is for students with disabilities, and who are in need of additional special services, ages 3-21. The grant will also address the needs of preschool children with disabilities, ages 3-5.

Comments will be accepted between May 1, and May 31, 2013. Comments may be submitted in writing to Regina Jordan, Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Coordinator, 4280 SW County Road 152, Jasper, Florida 32052, via email at regina.jordan@hamiltonfl.com; or via fax at (386) 792-6600. Copies will be available upon request. If you have questions about this document, please contact the ESE Office at 386-792-7837. 05/02, 09, 16, 23, 30

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Sunday & Monday, May 26th & 27th!



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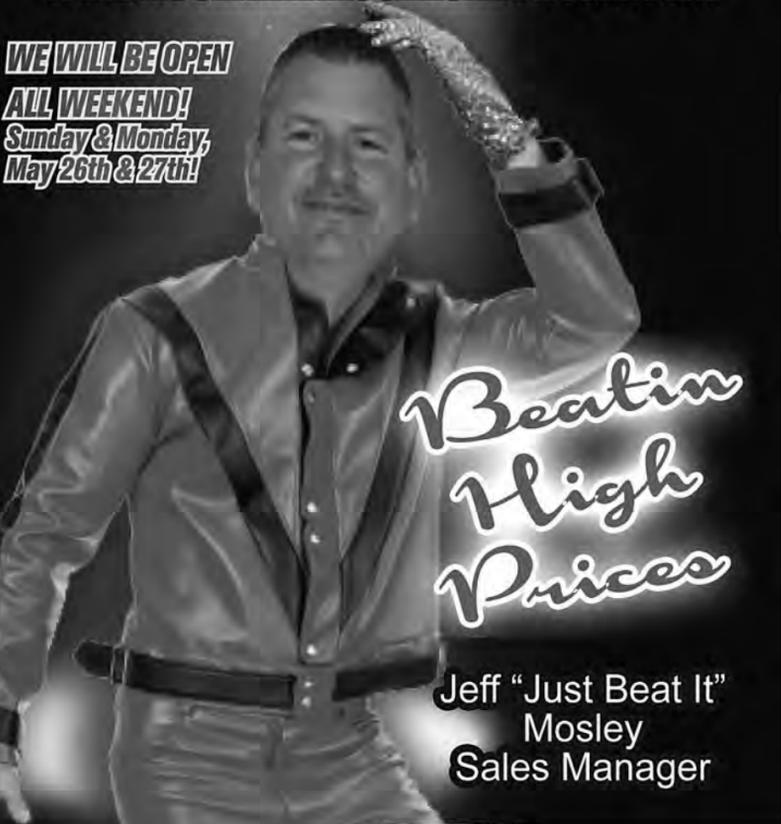
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 USED, EVERY OPTION, SAVE BIG
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2013 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cabs



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2013 GMC 1500 Ext Cabs



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2000 Honda Accord \$77 mo.	2007 Chevy Equinox \$154 mo.	2009 Pontiac G6 \$208 mo.	2011 Mazda 3 \$225 mo.	2007 Ford Edge \$208 mo.	
2008 GMC Acadia \$215 mo.	2011 Chevy Cruze \$253 mo.	2009 Honda Civic SI \$274 mo.	2010 Chevy Equinox \$305 mo.	2012 Mazda CX-7 \$324 mo.	
2009 Buick Enclave \$347 mo.	2011 GMC Terrain \$349 mo.	2012 Mazda CX9 \$386 mo.	2009 GMC Sierra \$399 mo.	2011 Chevy Silverado Crew \$434 mo.	
2007 Chevy 2500 Diesel Crew 4x4 \$447 mo.	2007 Chevy Crew Cab Vortec Max \$455 mo.	2008 GMC Yukon Denali \$529 mo.	2011 Chevy 271 Crew 4x4 \$546 mo.	2011 Chevy Crew Cab 271 4x4 \$573 mo.	2011 Chevy Silverado \$447 mo.
					2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee \$588 mo.

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Mommies helping mommies

A local woman seeks to help other moms affected by Oklahoma tornado

Coordinated by Lisa Gill

One of the most amazing, uplifting, generous and prideful things about our country is our ability to give back to our friends, neighbors and even strangers during their time of need. As I'm sure you have heard, a devastating tornado blasted through Oklahoma on Monday, May 20, taking the lives of several and the possessions of many. One such person affected is a mommy-to-be. She is due to have a baby boy any day now. Some things she is most in need of is: diapers, wipes, baby lotion/powder/wash, clothes, blankets, pacifiers, bottles, formula, small toys, etc. Please keep in mind, these items will be shipped, so smaller items are suggested. If you have any baby items that you no longer use and are willing to send her way, here are the donation drop off areas and times:

Live Oak:

First Advent Christian Church parking lot – Friday and Saturday from 12 p.m.-4 p.m.

Jasper:

Florida Cash Advance of Jasper (Please drop off between 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30-6 p.m., every day except Sunday.)

Lake City:

Shands LakeShore Hospital (Reception area) (Please drop off between 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily.)

Dowling Park area:

Please contact Beth Smith at 386-688-7327 (9 a.m.-5 p.m. only) to arrange a drop off/pick up.

If you would like to send care packages directly to the family, the address is:

Bryan Toney
15605 Cardinal Nest Dr.
Edmond, OK 73013

If you are not able to make it to the donation drop off areas at those specified times, please email me at maeleight@yahoo.com or call me at 386-688-0342 (between 9 a.m. and 8

p.m. only please) and we can arrange a time to meet or I can pick up and ship those items for you. I have already been given items to ship and I will be shipping the first batch very soon. I will send as many batches as I need as the donations come in. If you would like to help out monetarily to help with shipping costs, Walmart gift cards, etc., please email me and we will arrange that as well. Any doubles or things they don't need will be distributed to other mommies in the area in need.

As a new mommy, my heart immediately went out to this woman; I knew I had to do something. I figured if I could get our community involved in any way, we would be helping, even if it is one person. If each community helped one person, all of those affected would be helped in some way.

Other ways to donate:

American Red Cross: Donate online at redcross.org, by phone at 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767), or at your local chapter. Cell phone users can send a \$10 donation to the Disaster Relief fund by texting the word REDCROSS to 90999.

Salvation Army: Donate online at salvationarmyusa.org, by phone at 1-800-SAL-ARMY (1-800-725-2769), or by mail. Checks may be made out to: The Salvation Army Disaster Relief, P.O. BOX 2536, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. Please designate Oklahoma Tornado Relief on all checks. You can also text the word STORM to 80888 to make a \$10 donation via your mobile phone.

Samaritan's Purse: Donate online at samaritanspurse.org, by phone at 1-800-528-1980, or by mail. Send donations to: Samaritan's Purse, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607-3000.

United Way of Central Oklahoma: Donate online at unitedwayokc.org. Checks, with a notation of "May Tornado Relief" can also be sent to the United Way of Central Oklahoma, P.O. Box 837, Oklahoma City, OK, 73101.

Memorial Day get-away at SOS Music Park

Submitted

Enjoy five days of fun, relaxation and nature at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) this weekend for the Memorial Day Get-a-Way with live music three nights with Ted "Teddy Mac" McMullen (Thursday night), Terry Cole and the Honky Tonk Hitmen (Friday night) and Clemons Road Band (Saturday night).

RV and camper sites, cabins and primitive camping available for the holiday weekend. For pricing and to make reservations, call 386-364-1683, email spiritit@musicliveshere.com or check our website at www.musicliveshere.com.

If you prefer to come just for the day, admission will be \$10 per day per carload. Free hot-dogs at 11 a.m. Saturday for kids only. Canoeing, biking, hiking, bird watching, golf carting and more available during the weekend. The Store of the Village is open for all your needs during the weekend, "Dr." Don Miller will broadcast his Saturday afternoon bluegrass show live from the SOSMP radio studio over The Big 98 (98.1 FM) Saturday from 5 - 7 p.m. in the Crafts Village and there will be music, music, music and fun all weekend.

Begin your weekend Thursday, May 23 and enjoy Teddy Mac's karaoke in the Music Hall beginning at 7 p.m. Plan to show off your

musical talent.

Friday, May 24, Terry Cole and the Honky Tonk Hitmen will rock the Music Hall with their brand of country, Southern rock and more. This band will move your feet regardless of your taste in music. Don't forget those dancing shoes.

Saturday, May 25, one of Central Florida's best bands, Clemons Road, will be in the house. This group recently produced its first CD, "From Florida with Love." Blending Country music with an island feel, the band always starts a party as soon as first note ring. Clemons Road will keep the audience happy.

Doors to the Music

Hall open at 5 p.m. and show begins at 7 p.m. Thursday night; doors open at 6 p.m. and shows begins at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. 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. Dancing encouraged.

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.

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Understanding Allergy Treatments

Millions of people across the globe suffer from allergies, many of which rear their ugly heads during the spring season. Such a reality can quickly spoil the excitement of the nice weather. Although there is no cure for allergies, individuals who do suffer from allergies have a host of treatment options at their disposals. Some are over-the-counter medications while others require prescriptions. Each type of medication works differently, and allergy sufferers may find it interesting and beneficial to understand the different ways some of the more common allergy treatments work.

Antihistamines

Some of the more well-known over-the-counter antihistamines include Benadryl, Claritin and Zyrtec. Prescription antihistamines include Clarinex and Livostin. When an allergy sufferer is exposed to an allergen, cells within the body's immune system release a substance called histamine, which then attaches to receptors in the blood vessels as well as additional receptors. As a result, the blood vessels enlarge and histamine's attachment to other receptors causes swelling, itching, changes in secretions, and redness. However, when an allergy sufferer takes an antihistamine, the medication blocks the histamine receptors, preventing the symptoms in the process. Though antihistamines are effective, they can also cause drowsiness. Allergy sufferers should look for non-sedating antihistamines, which may require a prescription.

Decongestants

Some of the more recognizable decongestants are Visine eye drops, Sudafed tablets or liquid, and Zyrtec-D. Each of these is an over-the-counter decongestant. Prescription decongestants like Claritin-D are often combination medications, which means they contain both an antihistamine and a decongestant. When an individual is having an allergic reaction, the tissues in the nose swell as a result of contact with the allergen. This swelling results in fluid and mucous production, and swelling in

the blood vessels of the eyes also occurs, which causes the redness of the eyes many allergy sufferers experience during spring. Decongestants work by shrinking the swollen nasal tissues and blood vessels. This helps relieve the swelling, mucous secretion, redness, and congestion.

Many allergy sufferers prefer nasal sprays and eye drops to relieve symptoms. However, such medications, which often require a prescription, can only be used for a few days. Use beyond a few days can actually make allergy symptoms worse.

Not all men and women can use decongestants to relieve their allergy symptoms. That's because decongestants may raise blood pressure, essentially making them off limits to those who already have high blood pressure. Additional potential side effects of decongestants are insomnia, irritability and restricted urinary flow. When considering a decongestant to relieve allergy symptoms, men and women should consult their physician before buying any products.

Steroids

Thanks to professional sports, many people shudder at the mere mention of the word "steroids." However, steroids used to treat allergies are corticosteroids and not the anabolic steroids athletes use to build muscle. Steroids used to treat allergies can be nasal (Flonase, Nasonex), inhaled (Flovent, Alvesco), eye drops (Alrex and Dexamethasone), or oral (Prednisone).

Steroids work by reducing inflammation and swelling. Steroids can be highly effective in treating allergies, and work for seasonal and year-round allergies as well as skin allergies. When prescribed a steroid to treat an allergy, it's important for men and women to continue to take the medication daily as directed, even if the symptoms of the allergy have disappeared. This can be as long as two weeks.

Though highly effective, steroids do come with significant side effects. When taken orally, short-term steroid use can cause weight gain, high blood pressure and fluid retention, while long-term use can result in muscle weakness, bone-thinning osteoporosis and even diabetes. When taking inhaled steroids, men and women might suffer from coughing, hoarseness or even develop a yeast infection in their mouth.

Even though spring is commonly referred to as allergy season, men and women have a host of allergy treatment options to try. Before committing to any treatment, it's best for a person to examine each option to determine which is the best fit for him or her.



CAPTION: Despite their beauty, spring flowers often trigger allergy season.

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