Money laundering arrest

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (FDJJ) approved several agreements totaling $765,000 to implement cooperative springs protection and restoration projects in key locations. According to FDJJ Director Dwight Pollock, "The FDJJ has been in negotiations with the school district to try to open the JYTC, a 40-bed residential facility for low to moderate risk boys ages 14-18, which is at the same location as the former Panther facility in Jasper. The problem is there is no signed agreement between the FDJJ and the school district because of back and forth arguments about funding for the project. The school district would be responsible for providing immediate and reprint billing software and usage. Additionally, customers can compare their bills. They're forgotten a lot of positive information showing." Pollock said the town has also received customer complaints about higher water bills. The new bills, Farley said, include a graph showing water usage so that customers can compare current and previous usage. Additionally, town staff can now make corrections immediately and report leakages.

SEE SRWMD, PAGE 2A

SEE MONEY, PAGE 2A

See up to the minute weather go to www.nflaonline.com.

President: Ida Daniels rises in school career, Page 17A

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

Tracy Rodriguez appointed as new White Springs Police Chief

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

OFFICIAL REPORTS: Tom Pence Jr., 47, Jennings, and Johnnie Young, 54, White Springs, while employed at Hamilton CI, knowingly and willfully diverted monies, financial transactions, wire transfers and other exchanges of currency to introduce contraband such as cigarettes, tobacco, narcotics and cell phones into the prison, which they passed along to inmates in exchange for monetary rewards. Pence and Young, while employed at Hamilton CI, knowingly and willfully diverted monies, financial transactions, wire transfers and other exchanges of currency to introduce contraband such as cigarettes, tobacco, narcotics and cell phones into the prison, which they passed along to inmates in exchange for monetary rewards.

Jasper city elections coming March 4

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

The city of Jasper is gearing up for a March 4 election on one council member, as well as proposed citywide charter amendments. City Council District 5 Seat will be the only one on the ballot this year. Three people qualified: incumbent Kathy Avril, Gordon D. Rodgers and Granton Smith. Incumbent Lashford Bryant was the only one to qualify for Seat 1 by the Jan. 5 closing date, so he is running unopposed and won't be on the ballot.

Four charter amendments will also be on the ballot. 1) Amending language, as well as duties of the mayor. 2) Changes concerning 3) Amending council salaries. 4) Amending city land boundaries.

3 council seats up for election in White Springs

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

The town of White Springs is gearing up for an Apr. 22 election on three council seats. Candidates must pick up packets, which will be available beginning Thursday, Feb. 27, in person from town hall. All candidates must open a campaign bank account. Additionally, candidates must file an application to run.

SEE 3 COUNCIL, PAGE 3A

SEE MUNICIPAL, PAGE 5A

Former Hamilton corrections officers arrested for money laundering, bribery and introducing contraband into prison

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

Two former Hamilton Correctional Institution corrections officers were arrested for money laundering, bribery and introducing contraband into Hamilton CI, according to arrest reports from the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office.

Reports show that on Wednesday, Feb. 13, Tom Pence Jr., 47, 1003 Mary St., Jennings, and Johnnie Ruth Young, 54, 10905 Mill St., White Springs, were both booked into the Hamilton County Jail on $10,000 bond each on a host of charges after internal investigations revealed the two were involved in a money laundering operation within Hamilton CI. Pence and Young, while employed at Hamilton CI, knowingly and willfully diverted monies, financial transactions, wire transfers and other exchanges of currency into to introduce contraband such as cigarettes, tobacco, narcotics and cell phones into the prison, which they passed along to inmates in exchange for monetary rewards.

Jasper Youth Treatment Center may be scraped by FDJJ

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (FDJJ) after announcing on Thursday, Feb. 13, that they were officially scrapping the Jasper Youth Treatment Center (JYTC), due to failed negotiations with the Hamilton County School District, decided on Saturday, Feb. 15, to give it one more shot, according to JYTC Program Director Dwight Pollock.

“The FDJJ has agreed to try once more into enter into an agreement with the school board as last ditch effort to save the facility,” Pollock said. “We’re praying the school board makes the right decision.”

Pollock also said his employer, Youth Services International (YSI) has agreed to place all of the JYTC staff on unpaid administrative leave until Friday, Feb. 21.

The FDJJ has been in negotiations with the school district to try to open the JYTC, a 40-bed residential facility for low to moderate risk boys ages 14-18, which is at the same location as the former Panther facility in Jasper. The problem is there is no signed agreement between the FDJJ and the school district because of back and forth arguments about funding for the project. The school district would be responsible for providing immediately and reprint billing software and usage. Additionally, customers can compare their bills. They’re forgotten a lot of positive information showing.”

Pollock said the town has also received customer complaints about higher water bills. The new bills, Farley said, include a graph showing water usage so that customers can compare current and previous usage. Additionally, town staff can now make corrections immediately and report leakages.

SEE JASPER, PAGE 8A

SEE MONEY, PAGE 2A

SEE SRWMD, PAGE 2A

SEE MUNICIPAL, PAGE 5A

SEE TRACY, PAGE 2A

SEE TRACY, PAGE 2A

SEE TRACY, PAGE 2A

SEE TRACY, PAGE 2A

SEE TRACY, PAGE 2A
continued from page 1A

HamCo schools celebrate Black History Month

By Joyce Marie Taylor joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

In honor of Black History Month, Hamilton County Schools have planned to honor famous African Americans who have made im- mense contributions to American society.

“The purpose of the activity is to increase students’ awareness of African American authors and their contributions to American History,” said Clarke.

At the high school, teacher Christopher Combs said, “We have an exciting project that we are working on in my high school Social Science class.”

“Mandell said the kids have really taken off with the project and have been asking to work on it in their free time.”

continued from page 1A

Money laundering arrest

By Joyce Marie Taylor joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

A second inmate testified that he was involved with Young, Young and a third correctional officer in helping to intro- duce cell phones to the prison. The in- vi- tation from the inmate to the inmate to send the cell phone to Young’s post office box in White Springs, along with other items, allowed Young and Pierce to secure proceeds from the inmate to the cell phone and other items, and report to the prison. A second inmate testified that he was involved with Young, Young and Pierce.

Money laundering.

Tracy Rodriguez appointed as new White Springs Police Chief

By Joyce Marie Taylor joycemarie.taylor@gaflnews.com

T hroughout the District. These agree- ments are put in place to protect springs for projects, for springs protection and restoration.

“One of many projects that will take place in our area is the shared monitoring and the recovery of groundwater levels within the Upper Santa Fe River Basin while assisting with the implementa- tion of the Florida Department of Environ- mental Protection (DEP) Basin Management Action Plan to improve water quality within the Santa Fe Riv- er Basin,” said District Executive Direc- tor Ann Shottelle. “These projects are only made possible by state appro- priations to the District and by cooper- ative funding through our project partners.”

“The Board and action will reduce nutrient loadings and river flows necessary to revitalize the Santa Fe River,” said Tom Frick, Director of DEP’s Division of Environ- mental Assessment and Restoration. “The projects are critical to achieving the nutrient reduction targets the DEP set in 2012, and is an integral part of the overall restoration plan for the Santa Fe River and its many springs.”

Aquifer Recharge and Groundwater Withdrawal Reduction

The District is partnering with an aquaculture operation in Alachua County to implement a water reuse project. The project will collect aesternation water and dispose of it within the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and DEP to reduce nutrient load- ing within the Ginnie and Gilchrist Blue springshed of the Lower Santa Fe River Basin. The project involves developing aquaculture technologies that have been shown to remove more than 95 percent of nitrate, with an estimated annual nutrient removal of 7,500 pounds—or four pickup truck loads. The District is also partnering with a plant nursery in Alachua County to expand a current denitrification system to reduce nutrient loading within the Upper Santa Fe River Basin and to improve contributions to improved water quality within the springs of the Lower Santa Fe River Basin. The first phase of the project reduced nitrogen loading by 84 percent annually or 6,105 pounds, which is nearly three and one-half pickup truck loads.

 gratefully acknowledged.

The students will present their projects on Friday, Feb. 21,” Combass said.

The students, he said, have been working on in my high school Social Science class...
Going to say much more until it is a “done deal” that it will be a perfect fit for White Springs, I’m not where, on the surface, little seems to change over White Springs hotel. I’m also aware of another business that is relocating to “Downtown White Springs” in the very near future. Other than to say that I think it will be a perfect fit for White Springs, I’m not going to say much more until it is a “done deal” and then I will tell you in on the changes. The good news is that you will be more aware of changes when you live in a town like White Springs where, on the surface, little seems to change over the years. That can be a good or bad thing, depending on the circumstances. There are some things I want to point out that I believe you will estimate the changes that are taking place. I want to point out that I believe you will estimate the changes that are taking place.

Task Force

If not guilty or the charges are dropped, presented to us by you or the authorities.

In 2007, we mailed the process is correct in

a new bill. Old meter users

are happening! You tend to be more aware of

in the new administrative assis-
tance Annis Rivers is be-
ing a while on the computer and can easily respond from customers about their bills. Farley said he is 100%

that the town can take the next step and convert to digital billing via e-

white waters

that comes with a one-way

tected, too. The process is much faster and also

springs hotel. We’re also aware of another business

and a postage machine and a postage me-

the customers who were not be-

are excited about the plans and changes that are be-

be captured.

information, rather than inside with important

the town can stuff flyers outside in the old postcard style, mailing, thus saving the

happenings, businesses and opportunities. If you

we all look forward to

arrest records

Editor’s note: The Jasper News prints the entire arrest record. If you receive an anonymous letter, you are

ARREST RECORDS

Outside town rates

times

Continued From Page 1A

laundering, unlawful compensation or

At the Suwannee River Yoga Studio, on the

for rural properties and renters, attached li-

ARREST RECORDS

mother or other adult responsible for the child. The

mid-cycle, we lost what

meters previously

Your chance to increase your

knowledge about the wise feathered

architectural design

owner or Bolton’s Strike

White Springs gets new billing utility software

change your knowledge about our wine feathers?

getting put into action there too. More emphasis on our

regions activities, businesses and opportunities,

house this opportunity to explore your

options. I want to see you there.

Learning the history of White Springs and the

buried feather. It is as wise as legend has it, he knows “who” we are but what do we know about ourselves?

we lost to live in White Springs where I occasional-

aly and a posture me-

which can be a good or bad thing, depend-}

there for the good of our region and their

is one of those rare “Only in White Springs” opportunities that you should really take advantage of. Enjoy the

blessings of Mother Nature that we sometimes take for

You are a Chamber member or prospective member, I hope that you will take this opportunity to explore your

options. I want to see you there. To learn the history of White Springs and the

White Springs and the

that the town of White

outside town rates

were not being billed

or Helen Miller. The

new administrative assis-
tance Annis Rivers is be-
ing a while on the computer and can easily respond from customers about their bills. Farley said he is 100%

that the town can take the next step and convert to digital billing via e-

White Springs gets new billing utility software

legal notice

LEGAL NOTICE

March 1, 2014.

The deadline for filing application for 1st time Homestead Exemption and Agricultural Classification is March 1, 2014; if you have not yet filed your new application with the Hamilton County Property Appraiser’s Office, you must do so between now and March 1, 2014 to qualify for your Homestead Exemption and/or Agricultural Classification.

...What is needed to apply for Homestead Exemption?

- (B) Deed’s License
- (C) Vehicle Registration report (or tax number)
- (D) Social Security number
- (E) Hamilton County Voter Card (if registered)
- Mobile Home registration report (if applicable)
- (F) Copy of Deed (mobile home only) and D. at $5 per page.

We encourage all new homeowners to file their 1st time homestead declaration on your property. Failure to file your social security number will result in loss of your homestead. Other exemptions, including Military, Widow, Disabled, Vet, Disability Veteran and Senior Citizen Exemption, must be filed and must be approved by our office.

If you are unable to come into our office because of circumstances preventing, please contact and make an appointment with you.

For further information contact: Hamilton County Property Appraiser’s Office Don Lindsey, 1 Hamilton County Court House, office hours are 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. (863) 755-2229.
Evil acts are given an aura of moral legitimacy by noble-sounding socialistic expressions, such as spreading the wealth, income redistribution, cutting for the less fortunate, and the will of the majority. Let’s have a thought experiment to consider just how much Americans sanction evil. Imagine there are several elderly widows in your neighborhood. They have neither the strength to mow their lawns and perform other household tasks nor the financial means to hire someone to help them. Here’s a question that I’m almost afraid to ask: Would you support a government mandate that forces you or one of your neighbors to mow these elderly widows’ lawns, clean their windows and perform other household tasks? Moreover, if the person so ordered by the majority of the neighborhood votes not to perform the labor, would you approve of some sort of sanction, such as fines, property confiscation or intimidation? I’m hoping, and I believe, that most of my fellow Americans would condemn such a mandate. They’d agree that it would be a form of slavery — namely, the forcible use of one person to serve the purposes of another. Would there be the same condemnation if, instead of forcing you or your neighbor to actually perform weekly household tasks for the elderly widows, the government forced you or your neighbor to give one of the widows $50 of your weekly earnings? That way, she could hire someone to mow her lawn or clean her windows. Would such a mandate differ from one under which you are forced to actually perform the household task? I’d answer that there is little difference between the two mandates except the mechanism for the servitude. In either case, one person is being forcibly used to serve the purposes of another. I’m guessing that most Americans would want to help these elderly ladies in need but they find anything that openly smacks of servitude or slavery deeply offensive. They might have a clearer conscience if all the neighbors were forced (taxed) to put money into a government pot. A government agency would then send the widows $50 to hire someone to perform their lawns and perform other household tasks. This collective mechanism for the servitude conceals evil acts that would otherwise be deemed immoral. In other words, if the neighbors got a majority vote to force one of their neighbors — under pain of punishment — to perform household tasks for the elderly widows, would that make it moral? The bottom line is that we’ve betrayed much of the moral vision of our Founding Fathers. In 1794, when Congress appropriated $15,000 for relief of French refugees who had fled from insurrection in San Domingo to Baltimore and Philadelphia, James Madison made noise on the floor of the House of Representatives to object, saying, “I cannot undertake to lay my finger on that article of the Constitution which permits a right to Congress of expending, on objects of benevolence, the money of their constituents.” Tragically, today’s Americans — Democrats or Republicans, liberal or conservative — would hold such a position in contempt and run a politician like Madison out of town on a rail.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by this columnist, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.
IN GOD WE OUGHT TO TRUST

In God we ought to trust, for He is love. If you can** ever teach or learn anything, it is that love is more impor-
tant than life itself. Love is the most powerful force in this universe, and it is the foundation upon which all things else are built.

Beloved, let us love one an-
other in deed and in truth. If one who loves God, and lo-
es others, is not love? If God so loved us, we ought to love one another. The Love of God is not simply an abstract concept; it is a reality that affects every aspect of our lives.

The apostle John wrote, “This is love, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.” (1 John 5:3) This means that love is not only an emotion, but it is also a way of life. By choosing to love others as God loves us, we are fulfilling the greatest commandment of all: “You shall have no other gods before me.”

Let us let God love through us and receive it is believe that He gave it. And if we love him, we will feel better; you will have a happier family and a closer church family. Think if God’s people that the way they are supposed to our society could be changed, our countries would be changed, our states would be changed, and it all the above changed our country would sure-

Heart Matters

Heart matters are a very important aspect of life. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart matters are a very important aspect of life. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive. The heart is the center of our being, and it is the organ that keeps our body alive.
Mrs. Janice Dobeck
Janice Dobeck, 79 of Live Oak Fla., passed away Friday, Feb. 7, 2014 at her daughter’s home in Jasper Fla.

She was born in Chica
go, Ill. on Dec. 16, 1937 to Earl and Grace Haner. She mar-
rried Walter Dobeck on January 9, 1955 in Chica
go, Ill. 

Mrs. Janice Dobeck loved to travel in her 

and her love of his word,

began in death by her 
grace. She was ing bingo, and spending

and her love of his word,

the Holy Bible. Ethel 

was born on Nov. 3, 1932 in Pembroke Pines, 

J.R. “Buck” Tuten, her 

and her love of his word, 

the late Ralph and Annie 

of Florida with a Mas-

Teacher's Memorial 

may be made to: 

Machale Powder, 79, 

her partner, Jack Soder- 

child; children, Cindi Fer-

blurred vision, hearing, and 

with her partner, Jack Soder-

child; children, Cindi Fer-

and her husband,

at Florida, she moved to 

and her love of his word,

was preceded in death 

grandchildren. She mar-

married. She mar-

and her love of his word,

the late Ralph and Annie 

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and her love of his word,
Around the Banks of the Suwannee

By Correspondent Johnny Mallard

“You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you can’t fool all the people all the time.” (Abraham Lincoln)

Abraham Lincoln, 16th president of the United States of America, was born on February 12, 1809. His birthday is April 13, 1865, at the hands of an assassin, John Wilkes Booth. He served as president from 1861-65 during a very dark time in our nation’s history. During our nation’s War Between the States. He was the tallest U.S. president at 6 feet, 4 inches tall, who had deep depression, although he would frequently tell jokes and stories to his family.

One week before his death, Lincoln had dreamed of someone crying in the White House. When he found the room he looked in and asked who had passed away. The man in the room said the president. When he looked in the coffin it was his own face he saw.

He was an unfulfilled Christian as he never offici- ally acquired church membership. His wife, who was called Mary Todd Lincoln, was brought up in a Christian family. She married Lincoln in 1842. They had four children; Robert Todd Lincoln, Edward Lincoln, William Lincoln, and Tad Lincoln. Only Robert Todd Lincoln survived into adulthood. Lincoln is probably best known for his famous “Gettysburg Address” that, once, many of us had to recite in school. “Four score and seven years ago,” he began. And for the drafting and enacting this legisla- tion, the Emancipation Proclamation which freed the men and women in this nation who were slaves. However, for the sake of this article, I want to con- tinue on some of Lincoln’s quotes, as I believe they transcend time. I will let you judge for yourself as you read this article.

“America will never be destroyed from the out- side. It is false, and I believe it is true, because we destroy ourselves.”

“Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be.”

“Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt.”

“We, the people, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquil- ity, provide for the common Defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of Government for the United States of America.”

“The United States of America, by the Grace of God, a mighty, and a terrible nation, born in a century of war, and grown into a century of peace, which century, and the one to come, are to be lived and to be handed down to our posterity.”

“No one is more a replica of a genuine mother.”

“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power.”

“Give me six hours to chop down a tree, and I will spend the first hour sharpening the axe.”

“Give me 24 hours to answer and I will have the facts at hand.”

“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power.”

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“The man who works to make something of nothing becomes a hero.”

“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power.”

“When a man makes a mistake, it is because he is not wise enough to do better; but when he makes a good one, he is not wise enough to do better.”

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“A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

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“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to...
Jasper Youth Treatment Center could be scrapped by FDJJ

Continued From Page 1A

vicing certain instructional and edu-

cal services out of their FTE dol-

lar that Superintendent Thomas

Pollock said at the Feb. 10 meeting, “If we had started getting kids on

work at the JYTC and many of them

day, you would have 25 youth in the program

and so much negotiation go-

that they questioned it. One of his concerns was that the school district ran the program for all of the citizens of Hamilton County.

“If we had started getting kids on Jan. 15, as we were supposed to, we'd have 25 in right now, and it you requested an alternate FTE count, we'd...”

said Moffses. “We've done every-thing we could to try to get the fa-

in our favor, a loss of $118,880.93 to operate the Pan-

The former Panther facility at that time was

our school employees, but he

is not true and that is not fac-

taled,” said Pollock.

Pollock said he knew that where this issue came from, which he said goes back when Harry Panther was superintendent. Pol lock asked the former Panther facility at that time was

s应该 never have been awarded

atial leave until Friday, Feb. 21. “I'm sorry it's not

tional concern for some of our folks to have an

was facing.

Butler said he hadn't been notified, but that he was aware of

by phone that he had not yet

Chancellor (HB), a substitute for

-110 at JYTC, a trade that so many have

72 times a minute in a

the heart. Research has shown that a good laughing fit can cause

Although having a big heart colloquially means that a person

We've done every-thing we could to try to get the fa-

are about to board that to happen again.

by funding this, in retro-

spective, is allowing them to stay

as an employee and a member of the Panther community,

“just want to urge you guys to sign it

said the board. “The important issue that the FDJJ system has put on Florida's kids. Many of them, they just need a place to stay.

Left untreated, it can lead to heart failure.

The heart is an amazing organ responsible for

on the heart. Research has shown that a good laughing fit can cause

Although the heart may not be the cornerstone of emotions, it can be affected by feelings. Studies have shown that a "broken heart" is a real occurrence, according to Live Science. Bad news or a breakup can

The heart works harder than any other muscle in the body. In a fetus, it begins beating at four

I just want to urge you guys to sign the contract,” the board said. “We need to know what we're going to be doing...”

The heart is an amazing organ responsible for

As a solution to the issue, Moffses said since the FDJJ has the ability to

Regarding Moffses' comments that the FDJJ has system has put on Florida's kids. Many of them, they just need a place to stay. “We just want parents to love and attend to

by paying for what the state has paid

Moffses says the school district can't

while they wondered if there

with all the JYTC employees, but he

tried one last time to come to an

our school employees, but he

has sympathized with the school district and

itself. The heart is=an amazing organ responsible for the

Each of us has its own unique rhythm.

While the heart may not be the cornerstone of emotions, it can be affected by feelings. Studies have shown that a "broken heart" is a real occurrence, according to Live Science. Bad news or a breakup can cause the heart to feel pain and shortness of breath but can be remedied after some rest. Conversely, lack of positive feelings can be beneficial for the heart. Research has shown that a good laughing fit can cause the lining of the blood vessels to become relaxed - to relax. This helps increase blood flow for up to 45 minutes afterward. Although having a big heart colloquially means that a person is loving and goes out of their way for others, physically speaking, a big heart is unhealthy. An enlarged heart can be a sign of heart disease and compromise the heart's ability to pump blood effectively. Left untreated, it can lead to heart failure. The heart is an amazing organ responsible for sustaining life. Although it is not directly tied to love and emotions, without the heart such feelings would be impossible. 

Every Valentine's Day homes and businesses dress up the decor with cupids and hearts to celebrate a day all about love and affection. The heart shape has been symbolically represented as the human heart as the center of emotion and romantic expression. Heart symbols can be traced back to the Middle Ages.

Those familiar with human anatomy realize that an actual heart bears very little resemblance to the

the heart. Research has shown that a good laughing fit can cause

This type of trauma releases stress hormones into the body that can stun the heart. Chest pain and shortness of breath ensue but

The heart is an amazing organ responsible for

I just want to urge you guys to sign it afterward. “I just want to urge you guys to sign the contract,” the board said.

It is not directly tied to love and emotions, without the heart such feelings would be impossible.

Every Valentine's Day homes and businesses dress up the decor with cupids and hearts to celebrate a day all about love

The heart is an amazing organ responsible for

Amazing facts about the human heart

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D.D.S, P.A.
Drug Coalition meeting highlights

By Joyce Marie Taylor

The Hamilton County Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Coalition met on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at Hamilton County High School. Following are highlights of that meeting.

Traveling math lab
Executive Director Grace McDonald shared information on the dangers of methamphetamine that she recently learned about in a video presentation, called “The Faces of Meth.” McDonald said that there has been a recent rash of meth lab busts in Madison County, their next door neighbor.

“That’s too close for comfort,” she said. “It’s very dangerous and volatile and people can be killed.”

Law enforcement personnel who have to go into a structure where a meth lab has been set up, McDonald explained, must wear protective gear to prevent them from being exposed to all the dangerous chemicals used in the production of the drug. Even during routine traffic stops, she said, if there is a cooled meth in the vehicle, officers risk being exposed to these dangerous chemicals. If they happen to be exposed, they must undergo blood tests every six months to determine if there are any ill effects from that exposure.

“They showed us those shaker bottles where people were making meth, and they’re driving down the road with the bottles between their legs,” McDonald said.

“Think about it. You’re driving along and you don’t know what they’re doing in the car next to you. They could be making stuff that could blow up and you could be blown up, too,” she added.

It was noted that another recent incident:

CIBAT tests
Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m. (by appointment) CIBAT (Criminal Justice Behavioral Justice Testing) at NFCC Testing Center (Bldg. #16). Madison. CIBAT is required for acceptance into Corrections & Law Enforcement programs. Photo ID required. Pre-registration & scheduling time and date are required. To register please call 850-973-9451.

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

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

Lake City involved a meth lab inside an RV that was parked at Walmart. It was also noted that any building or structure where a meth lab has been set up must be completely decontaminated.

2014 Golf Tournament
Laura Dees addressed the group that the 7th Annual Signature Golf Tournament will be Friday, April 25, at Florida Gateway Resort and Country Club in Jasper. This is the coalition’s biggest fundraiser of the year.

Member sponsors are needed, so if interested, please contact any member of the coalition or call Dees at the Supervisor of Elections office.

Community Coalition Alliance
McDonald and Sergeant Emily Lumpkin worked together gathering data, assessing needs and identifying resources for Hamilton County. The information they gathered was compiled into a single report for all of the Northeast Florida Coalition.

“We on our Circuit Three, the counties included are Hamilton, Suwannee, Columbia, Lafayette and Dixie counties. But at this time we only have coalitions involved with CCA in Lake and Jasper County.” McDonald said. “It gives you general information about stats for our region.”

McDonald plans to make bound copies of the report and distribute it to all the members of the coalition, as well as to all the partners and leaders in the community.

“We’re proud to be a part of this, as it is our means to keep moving forward with our coalition efforts,” McDonald explained.

Resource Directory
A new resource directory for the coalition has been completed that offers invaluable information, including names, phone numbers and addresses of different services available, such as counseling, child services, domestic violence, food sources, emergency housing, legal services, and the list goes on. McDonald said there are plenty of copies to distribute to any and all who sold to have used.

Love INC
Love INC is the closest of Love INC’s, a national ministry that has a chapter operating in Suwannee County for at least 10 years, is expanding into Hamilton County. Love INC acts as a clearing house for people with needs by offering counseling, food banks, clothing closets and baby needs in conjunction with local churches.

They hope to be up and running in Hamilton County in March. For the first two years it will be operated as a satellite office and calls will go to the Love Oak chapter who will refer people to churches in Hamilton County to pick up their items.

Child & Families
CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services Counselor and Case Manager Dee Smith, from CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services in Lake City has been assigned to Hamilton County and she offered an overview of services.

She will be working with children ages 6-7 who are living with a parent, ordinary or extraordinary problems. She will be working with children ages 6-7 who are living with a parent and have issues.

“We work off of behavior and try to fix those behaviors,” said Smith. “What I do is I work with the family action counselor and I work off of referrals.”

The objective is to prevent future behavioral issues before the child winds up in the juvenile justice system.

Another program offered is called InterFace, a short-term, respite shelter for children ages 10-12 who are at risk.

For more information on these programs, contact Smith at 386-487-9062 or log on to www.cdsfl.org.
According to research by Bruce MacFadden, distinguished vertebrate paleontology curator at the Florida Museum of Natural History, the Smithsonian Institution and distinguished lecturer for the Paleontological Society, professional paleontologists in North America can benefit from new relationships with amateur enthusiasts have been invited, and the grant is paying for them to attend,” said MacFadden, who is partnering with Florida Museum invertebrate paleontologist Austin Hendy and UF education professionals Betty Dunckel and Shari Ellis on the UF campus. The FOSSIL Project-Fostering Opportunities for Synergistic STEM in Informal Learners—will cultivate a network for fossil enthusiasts to collaborate in blended learning, the practice of science and educational outreach.

To facilitate relationship building, amateur paleontologists have been invited to participate in the North American Paleontology Convention to be held in Gainesville beginning Saturday. “This is the first time that fossil enthusiasts have been invited, and the grant is paying for them to attend,” said MacFadden, who is partnering with Florida Museum invertebrate paleontologist Austin Hendy and UF education professionals to develop the project. “There are a lot of wonderful amateur paleontologists in North America and this is a very exciting opportunity.” More than 40 members from 26 fossil groups in 18 states are expected to attend this year’s convention. While in Gainesville, amateur and professional paleontologists will attend the project’s kickoff meeting, including a live webinar from Nick Pyenson, curator of fossil marine mammals with the Smithsonian Institution and distinguished lecturer for the Paleontological Society. By building connections with fossil clubs and societies through these types of interactions, scientists and professional educators can help amateur paleontologists with their outreach, said project coordinator Katherine Hendy. “In the short-term, it’s less about benefiting the museum and more about benefiting the community,” she said. “But professional paleontologists and museums will see long-term benefits from new relationships with amateurs.”

The project’s long-term goals include sustaining the community model and supporting its outreach, said Crippen, who is working with Florida Museum education professionals Betty Dunckel and Shari Ellis on the project. “To understand how design influences practice in a learner driven environment, our strategy will be to model the evolution of the community by looking at user characteristics.”

Groups and individuals interested in fossils are encouraged to learn about the project by visiting www.fossilproject.org. “Anyone who likes collecting fossils and is interested in what’s going on nationally will be able to participate and learn,” MacFadden said. “Once the project gets going, I’m hoping that folks find this to be so important that we can sustain this activity.”

UF receives $1.97 million NSF grant to develop paleontology network GAINESVILLE, Fla. — With the goal of promoting life-long learning, University of Florida researchers will use a four-year, $1.97 million National Science Foundation grant to create a nationwide network of amateur and professional paleontologists.

Fossil clubs across the country function independently and do not communicate with each other or professionals as most sciences hobbies groups do, according to research by Bruce MacFadden, vertebrate paleontology curator at the Florida Museum of Natural History on the UF campus. The FOSSIL Project—Fostering Opportunities for Synergistic STEM in Informal Learners—will cultivate a network for fossil enthusiasts to collaborate in blended learning, the practice of science and educational outreach.

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The project’s long-term goals include an interactive website where users can search data, submit requests for information and connect with other paleontologists. The website will also provide links to social media and information about opportunities for training and development, workshops and K-12 outreach to underserved audiences, MacFadden said.

“I had this idea of a web-based education community that connects people with a shared interest in paleontology,” he said. “Few members of fossil clubs are students, so this is also a way that people who share an interest and love of fossils can continue to learn outside of the classroom throughout their lives.”

Project leaders are hopeful the project will further ongoing national “big data” initiatives making millions of digitized fossil specimens available to the public in the next decade, Katherine Hendy said. As part of this initiative, museum professionals will train amateurs to digitize museum specimens, including fossils at the Florida Museum, she said. Independent enthusiasts and fossil groups will also learn how to create and share digitized personal collections.

Researchers will use knowledge gained from the project to inform STEM education about effectively engaging the public with scientific data. The goal is to create a set of best practices for a web-based learning program that uses a community model and supports experiences with digital scientific artifacts, said Kent Crippen, UF associate professor of STEM education.

“We will assess the impact of FOSSIL by evaluating the structure of the community over time as well as the participating groups and members, said Crippen, who is working with Florida Museum education professionals Betty Dunckel and Shari Ellis on the project. “To understand how design influences practice in a learner driven environment, our strategy will be to model the evolution of the community by looking at user characteristics.”

Groups and individuals interested in fossils are encouraged to learn about the project by visiting www.fossilproject.org. “Anyone who likes collecting fossils and is interested in what’s going on nationally will be able to participate and learn,” MacFadden said. “Once the project gets going, I’m hoping that folks find this to be so important that we can sustain this activity.”

Dacier Paule with her mom, Eleanor Preston

Dacier Manor Assisted Living at Advent Christian Village

I know Mom is being taken care of by a professional, caring staff 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. She’s not sitting alone in her home — she’s with her peers, and she’s still doing. Mom is much happier now, and so am I.

Call (386) 658-5291 or visit www.acvillage.net/assistedliving
Hamilton County FFA makes good use of PotashCorp donation

A generous grant of $10,000 from PotashCorp has allowed the Hamilton County FFA/Ag Department to engage in some cutting edge research in the area of plant nutrition. Once again, PotashCorp has reiterated its commitment to the education of our citizens young and old. and we are thankful to be a part of this worthy endeavor.

Over the past calendar year, the first phase of our project has been implemented, data collected and findings shared.

The premise of our research was to evaluate the effect of the primary nutrients - N-P-K - as they are applied in different forms and amounts. In an attempt to incorporate the concept of sustainable farming into our research project, we included an organic fertilizer component and analyzed growth rates and relative cost when compared to commercial fertilizers. We chose to grow a variety of crops that included Cole crops (turnips, mustard, collards and cabbage), Irish potatoes, sugar cane and onions. Four test plots were used: commercial fertilizer only, organic fertilizer only, blended commercial and organic and control (no fertilizer). Vegetables produced in the test plots were weighed, counted and visually evaluated for comparison, and then they were donated to needy families through the program in our district, as well as private donations.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Mike Williams of PotashCorp. A former teacher himself, Williams shared with us his excitement over the opportunity to be a part of the education process on this critical issue. The Hamilton County FFA Chapter's education outreach has included Ag Day, our Annual Awards Banquet, our inaugural Alumni meeting, and at a monthly meeting of the Kiwanis Club. Future presentations will include the school board and a meeting of the Farm Bureau. The educational process also continues in our Ag classroom and will expand to other science classrooms, as well.

Education-real education, not the sensationalized, propaganda-riddled version of the “truth” peddled by the enemies of real sustainable agriculture, is the only way that we can help our community members make informed choices about this most critical of topics.

Findings and observations

Plants respond to both sources of nutrients. The increased time of collection and application of organic-based fertilizers increased the cost to a level that can exceed the cost of commercial fertilizer. Organic fertilizer can vary greatly in concentration of nutrients. When applied properly, commercially formulated fertilizer is the most cost-effective choice.

Considering the necessary volume of food required to feed the world’s increasing population, commercially formulated fertilizers will provide the bulk of the nutrient input on our modern farms. Organic nutrient inventories must be included as supplemental sources to ensure that farm nutrient inputs/outputs approach zero. Nutrient residues must be managed and used even if handling and processing increase cost.
National tour coming to North Florida Community College

NFCC Artist Series presents California Dreaming

Dreaming Feb. 28 presents California NFCC Artist Series and introduced the world to the good nney through the time when folk music Nash. The show is a tribute to and mission, The Byrds and Crosby, Stills & monies and dreamy lyrics. radio began to sizzle with tight har- their Fenders and Rickenbackers, the grew out their hair and plugged in When well-groomed folk musicians brief magical moment in the mid-'60s atre in Columbus, Ga. old National Historic Landmark the Springer Opera House, a 143-year- Theatricals, the national touring arm of college Advancement Office. Call ( 850) Tickets are on sale now at the NFCC District con- tracts feel to water available for recharge as part of the Dis- trict’s Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge project.

Dreamin’.

"Good Vibrations" and "California D reaming celebrates that at http://www.nfcc.edu/community- more information is also available 973-1653 for tickets or more informa- tion. More information is also available at http://www.nfcco.edu/community- programs/artists-series.

Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge project advances

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) is under- taking hydrologic restoration activities in Lafayette and Dixie counties that will have regional benefits to spring flows and groundwater sup- plies. The District is in the data collec- tion and evaluation phase of the pro- ject. To date, the District has con- sulted 16 test wells to assess geo- logic and hydrogeologic conditions of the area. Site reconnaissance has been completed to determine when flows need to be reinstated along the dredged canals. Also, three sur- face water gages have been installed to estimate the volume and timing of water available for recharging the aquifer. Presently, the District is conduct- ing surveys along the canals, hydro- logic features, test wells and surface water gages. These surveying efforts will aid in the assessment of aquifer- level data, and to collect elevation data for existing hydrologic struc- tures and surface water gages. Early estimates indicate that under normal rainfall conditions, 10 mil- lion gallons per day (mgd) may be available for recharge. Referred to as the Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge project, the project will re- hydrate ponds and wetlands within the vicinity of Malory Swamp. It will also enhance surface water stor- age and recharge the aquifer to ben- efit spring flows along the Middle Suwannee River region including: Troy, Truly, Little River, and Put Hole springs. Additionally, these efforts will augment domestic and agricul- tural groundwater supplies in Lafay- ette and Dixie counties. The next phase of the project will be permitting and design. Construc- tion of the project is scheduled for later this year and will begin with the restoration of surface water- flows to natural systems, primarily in Dixie County. The Middle Suwannee River and Springs Restoration and Aquifer Recharge project is a cooperative partnership between the District, the Florida Department of Environment- al Protection (DEP), and Dixie County. So far, DEP has provided $277,000 toward the project. "This project will rehydrate natural- systems, recharge the aquifer, and provide far reaching benefits to our springs and groundwater supplies," said District Executive Director Ann Shortelle. "This project serves as a key example of the District’s focus on springs protection and restor- ation, and it is only possible because of landmark funding provided by the governor and Legislature to DEP and the District for protecting and restoring springs in Florida."

Spay-ghetti FUNdraiser to benefit Humane Society

By Joyce Marie Taylor

The Hamilton Humane Society is holding a Spay-ghetti Dinner and Silent Auction FUNdraiser on Satur- day, Feb. 22, at the Jasper Civic Cen- ter from 6-7 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Katie Rooney announced the fundraiser at the county commission meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 4, and in- vited everyone to come out and help support the Humane Society. "We’re still plugging along," Rooney told the board. “I think you know that last year we had a fund- raising event, but we’re not giving up.” "He and his wife are great sup- porters of the Humane Society," said Rooney. The Spay-ghetti dinner will con- sist of spaghetti and meatballs, bread, salad, dessert and drinks. There will also be door prizes, raf- fles, music and surprises. Advance tickets are $10, or $12 at the door with a reservation. Children under 12 are half price. For more information, please call 386-938-4092 or send an e-mail to HamiltonHumaneSociety@yahoo.com.

"No, we do have a location tem- porarily, until we get a permanent one, which will take a while but we’re not giving up," she said. "We’re persevering." Third Judicial Circuit State Attor- ney Jeff Bronsinger will be the guest speaker at the dinner. "He and his wife are great sup- porters of the Humane Society," said Rooney.
Jamie Davis and band, Crosstyz Band to perform this weekend at SOS Music Park

Nashville recording artist Jamie Davis and his band will be in the house at the Spirit of Suwannee Music Park (SOx) on Saturday, Feb. 22, for a night of true country music. The weekend will get underway Friday, Feb. 21 as Crosstyz Band of Lake City rocks the house.

Jamie Davis literally began his life sleeping in a guitar case and has not stopped since. Coming from a family of professional musicians, Davis is a natural performer. The grandson of a well-known guitar player, Davis was destined to be a musician. It didn’t take long for him to get his first guitar, a present for being good at school.

His mom and dad’s family was large and included residents from North Florida, Georgia and as far away as Texas. His mom and dad’s family included a large network of North Florida musicians, rounded out by music from his mom and dad’s family. Jamie learned at an early age he was blessed with the gift of music. One of his most memorable moments is performing for former president George W. Bush. At that time, Jamie’s life also took a new turn as he was moving into his family. So in 2009, Jamie Davis moved to North Central Florida. Today, he’s booked solid touring all over Florida, including the SOxMP.

Crosstyz Band

Crosstyz Band continues to grow in popularity as it crosses North Florida playing the band’s brand of country, Southern rock and more. Crosstyz Band shares the stage with acts such as Neal McCoy, Diamond Rio, Daryl Singletary, George Jones and Eddy Keith to name a few. This band has a great sound and energy that makes it a favorite with fans. The band has also created an interesting side dynamic as four of the members share careers in EMS. That was a great time in Jamie’s life but also time on the dance floor and your sweetie and get out the party mode. This band is one of the most memorable moments in his career.

The dates for all the evening events coming up, such as the RV show, Springfest, Wayman foramore. The Spirit of Suwannee Music Park is located at 38599 NE Dixie Street North or go to www.musiclesinhere.com and see the dates for all the evening events coming up.

The date of the event at the Spirit of Suwannee Music Park, call (386)364-1683, email spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musiclesinhere.com and see the dates for all the evening events coming up, such as the RV show, Springfest, Wayman and more. The Spirit of Suwannee Music Park is located at 38599 NE Dixie Street North or go to www.musiclesinhere.com and see the dates for all the evening events coming up.

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First Lady Ann Scott visits North Hamilton Elementary during Literacy Week

On Friday, Jan. 17, First Lady Ann Scott concluded her Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! tour with a visit to North Hamilton Elementary School (NHE) in Jennings.

NHE was the final stop on her statewide tour to promote the importance of reading. This year’s theme, “Reading Accelerates Success,” encouraged students to connect the value of literacy with careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Principal Lee Zamora, along with students and staff, Superintendent Thomas Moffses and school board members Damon Deas, Jeanie Daniels and Sammy McCoy, welcomed the First Lady to NHE’s campus.

Mrs. Scott visited the school to read to the second and third grade students. She read the book “Otis and the Tornado” by Loren Long, then asked questions about the book and the students eagerly responded. She also allowed the students to ask numerous questions, which she graciously answered.

The First Lady traveled almost 800 miles in five days to speak to more than 1,000 students throughout the week. She wanted to promote the importance of reading and to encourage students and their families to set aside time to read together. Mrs. Scott shared her enthusiasm for reading to the students at NHE.

“It was an honor to have First Lady Ann Scott visit North Hamilton Elementary,” said Zamora. “She was wonderful with our students, and the students really enjoyed having the First Lady read to them.”

Assistant Principal Peggy Harzy remarked, “Meeting the First Lady was an awesome experience! She is a very gracious lady, and it was exciting to have her visit with our faculty, staff, and students.”

Second-grade student Harley Driggers added, “The experience of having First Lady Scott come to our school and read to us was amazing and was once-in-a-lifetime! She is very friendly and I am so glad she chose our school because it is a special place. It was an honor.”

“Our students had a wonderful opportunity to meet First Lady Ann Scott on her reading tour of Florida,” said Moffses. “It was a great experience for our students as the First Lady read to them as part of Florida’s Literacy Week.”

Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! is an annual event to commemorate the accomplishments of students and to inspire them to keep reading. As part of the week’s festivities, thousands of volunteers visited the schools throughout the state and read to the students.
Elected as only third African American president of Florida School Nutrition Association

By Joyce Marie Taylor

Jasper resident Ida Lue Daniels has seen her share of racial inequality growing up in the Deep South, but has gone on to great heights of success in her career. Daniels is currently Food and Nutrition Service Coordinator for Hamilton County Schools. Daniels was born and raised in Albany, Ga. and grew up during the height of the Civil Rights movement. This was the same city where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others marched for civil rights and were jailed for their efforts. Daniels explained.

She is the youngest daughter of six children; four boys and two girls. She graduated from high school in the early ’70s, got married a year after graduation, and moved to Hamilton County in 1981 with her husband, who is a native of Hamilton County. They have four children who all attended Hamilton County schools.

“When our youngest two children were approaching school age I returned to school and earned a diploma in Data Processing and Accounting from [at that time] Valdosta Technical School,” said Daniels. After graduating from Valdosta Tech in the fall of 1987, she began her employment with the Hamilton County School District as a clerk/typist for the food service coordinator (director),” said Daniels. “I continued my education and earned a master’s degree in instructional technology.” Her career continued to soar when she was elected president-elect of the Florida School Nutrition Association (FSNA) for the 2012-13 school year.

“I am currently serving as president for the 2013-14 school year,” said she. “I am only the third African American to hold the position of president for FSNA.”

Daniels has also served as a region director-elect and region director for FSNA Region II. There are 13 districts in Region II stretching from Gadsden County to Alachua County.

“The opportunity to serve on the board of FSNA has been very rewarding and a most memorable milestone in my life,” Daniels said.

When asked who gave her the most inspiration to succeed in life, Daniels gave the credit to her mother. “She was a great wife, mother, Christian and community leader,” said Daniels. “She showed me the importance of getting involved in your child’s education and community. She was also my calibrator manager working alongside a nine-year-old and her best friend. She never came home complaining about neither her job nor her workers.”

Daniels said she is certain her mother, who passed away at age 62, less than a year after retiring from the same industry, would be proud of all the things she has accomplished.

She commented, “The things I do as a food nutrition specialist must meet the standards of the one I think was the best; my mom!”

Daniels said she also holds great admiration for Shirley Sherrod, a prominent African American woman who hails from her hometown of Albany.

“Shirley was abruptly asked to resign after someone took a speech out of context, which led to her dismissal from her position as Georgia state director of development for the United States Department of Agriculture,” said Daniels.

Sherrod’s book, “The Courage To Hope” – How I Stood Up to the Politics of Fear,” is one that Daniels said she had the opportunity to read.

“Ida Daniels rises in school career

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As I see it, there still remains inequality all around us in race, gender and age in all areas of society. People of color are most often judged by the color of their skin, not the content of their character. It would be wonderful if the first consideration is that we are all of the “human race” and then Americans.”

-- Ida Daniels
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