

7 qualify for 3 council seats in White Springs

ELECTION IS APRIL 22

By Joyce Marie Taylor

The town of White Springs will be holding an election on Tuesday, April 22, for three seats on the town council.

The three council seats up for election are currently held by Helen Miller, Walter McKenzie and Richard Marshall. Qualifying ended at noon on Tuesday, March 18, and there were seven people who successfully qualified; C.E. (Woody) Woodard,

Richard Marshall, Walter McKenzie, Willie Jefferson, Joe Griffin, Helen Miller and Spencer Lofton.

Books will close for this election on Monday, March 24, and the polls will open for voting on April 22.

Magic Clover Days Winner Avis Bratcher

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THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014

1 SECTION 20 PAGES

50¢

Record turnout for Wild Azalea Festival

Destiny Brown crowned Little Miss Azalea

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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On Saturday, March 15, thousands of visitors, including lots of four-legged critters, hit the streets of historic downtown White Springs for

the 14th Annual Wild Azalea Festival, sponsored by the White Springs Special Events Committee and Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park, and funded in part by a

SEE RECORD, PAGE 6A



The town of White Springs was hopping during the 14th Annual Wild Azalea Festival. See more photos, Page 18A. -Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor



"I was born and raised in (Columbia County), and most of my and my husband's immediate family also reside here. I have a personal interest in the future of the county and its citizens since I plan to live here for the duration of my life."

■ Representative Elizabeth Porter

Porter seeks economic develop. job in Columbia County

By Bryant Thigpen
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Representative Elizabeth Porter has applied for the economic development director position in Columbia County, according to Columbia County Manager Dale Williams. Porter represents District 10, which includes Suwannee, Hamilton, Baker, Columbia and part of Alachua counties.

Williams confirmed that six individuals have applied for the economic director position, and that no

applications have been eliminated at this time.

"Elizabeth is an applicant and is still being considered for the position," Williams said.

Porter, who was born and raised in Columbia County, expressed she has deep roots in Columbia County and has a personal interest to see Columbia County prosper.

"I was born and raised in this county, and most of my and my husband's immediate family also reside

SEE PORTER, PAGE 6A



Returning White Springs Fire Chief Steve Stith gets a warm welcome.

-Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

Former White Springs Fire Chief takes job back

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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White Springs Fire Administrator Chris Greene, who has only been on the job for five months, has resigned from his position effective March 10, and has been replaced with former fire chief Steve Stith, who was welcomed back at the March 11 meeting of the White Springs town council.

In his resignation letter Greene wrote, "Unfortunately, professional commitments do not allow me to be available full time to meet the needs of White

SEE FORMER, PAGE 6A



Event liability insurance discussed at White Springs council meeting

By Joyce Marie Taylor
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Permits and liability insurance for events in the town of White Springs was the subject of much discussion at the March 11 meeting of the town council.

Town Manager Bob Farley noted that town staff and both the old and new police chief have been working together to come up with the

best course of action so that the town can appropriately prepare for town events.

Farley used the annual May Day event as an example, stating that there are anywhere from four to five police officers on duty at that particular event, which draws hundreds of people to the town.

"Those police officers are not receiving pay for that,"

SEE EVENT, PAGE 6A

Suwannee SpringFest kicks off today



Singer, songwriter, multi-talented musician Jim Lauderdale entertains Music Hall audience at 2010 SpringFest.

The Suwannee SpringFest returns in its 18th year to The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park in Live Oak today, (March 20). The fun lasts until Sunday, March 23 and includes a stellar lineup including The Avett Brothers, Del McCoury Band, Jim Lauderdale, Punch Brothers, Sam Bush Band, Southern Soul Assembly (JJ Grey, Anders Osborne,

SEE SUWANNEE, PAGE 6A

The Avett Brothers, Sam Bush Band, Del McCoury Band and many more at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

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The area around the flagpole is where the memorial bricks will be placed. -Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

Veterans Memorial Park bricks to be laid Saturday

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Hamilton County Veterans Service Officer Clay Lambert invites family members who have bought memorial bricks to come out to Veterans Memorial Park on Saturday, March 22, from 9-11 a.m., to lay their bricks.

There will be no formal

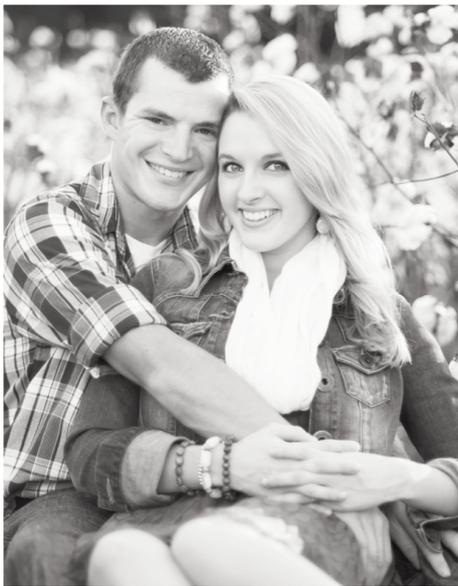
ceremony, just a time for friends and family members to choose a spot around the flagpole in the center of the park, remove a blank brick and insert the one they purchased. ROTC cadets, Lambert said, will most likely be assisting at the event.

Should there be inclement weather on Saturday,

SEE VETERANS, PAGE 6A

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*Creech - N- Davis
Wedding
Announcement*



Mr. & Mrs. Brian S. Creech of Jennings, FL are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter; Brit-tany Victoria Creech to Joshua Earl Davis; son of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Earl Davis, Jr. of Jacksonville, FL. The private ceremony will be held on April 12, 2014. FORMAL INVITATIONS TO FOLLOW!

**16TH ANNUAL
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March 29, 2014,
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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Support The Arc North Florida and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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For details and online registration, visit www.arc-nf.com/LMR or call 386-362-7143.

Proceeds go to support individuals in The Arc North Florida programs to receive the necessary training to function as independently as possible and each client is provided opportunities to participate fully in the community.



New Hope Church members prepare items for the annual Share Saturday. (L-R) Patricia Tyree, Barbara Williams, Barbara Klepper, and Diane Smith.

New Hope to host Share Saturday, March 29

New Hope Baptist Church in Jennings will host its annual "Share Saturday" on Saturday, March 29 at the church. The hours will be 8

a.m. until noon. Household goods, toys, and clothes sized from children to adults will be available free of charge. Any donations

received, however, will be put in the benevolence fund to help needy families in the area.

New Hope is located

off State Road 6 west of the interstate. The address of the church is 6592 NW 48th Street, Jennings. The public is invited to attend.

Alachua Main Street Spring Festival

Vendor All Call
Sunday, March 30
www.alachuabusiness.com

Public Announcement

Timberlake Property Owners Association will have its next board meeting on March 24, 2014 at 7 p.m.. at 3392 NW 60th Ave. Jennings, FL. all members are invited.

Church of Deliverance Through the Blood of Jesus #2



Pastor Dr. Gina I. Tuff

Bishop Freddy L. Tuff Sr. and Pastor Dr. Gina I. Tuff of Miami, invite the community to The 1st Annual CAMP meeting 2014, a weekend of Old Fashioned Holy Ghost Fire in Jasper.

7437 SW County Road 143 Jasper

Scheduled Dates - Fri. March 21 thru Sun.

March 23

- Friday Morning Glory Service at 10 a.m. with Pastor Dr. G.I. Tuff - COD #1, Miami

- Power Night Friday Service at 7:30 p.m. featuring guest speaker Dr. Larry Phillip Brown, Apostle and Founder of Judah of Praise, Thomasville, Ga.

- Saturday Night Service at 7:30 p.m. featuring guest speaker Pastor Pamela Johnson of Alpha and Omega Ministries, Jasper

- Sunday Climax Service at 11 a.m. with Pastor Dr. G.I. Tuff, featuring COD Praise Team and COD Yielded Ves-

sels Dancers

Come CELEBRATE with US. You don't want to miss this!

For Further information contact Pastor G.I. Tuff at 386-938-3651 - email gituff@aol.com or Evangelist Isha Flores at 754-281-8894 - email ishaflores@yahoo.com.



Bishop Freddy L. Tuff Sr.

Applications to fill vacancy at Advisory Council

Elder Options is a private, non-profit agency designated by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs to administer state and federal grant programs for seniors and caregivers in 16 counties. We serve as the Area Agency on Aging, 1-800 Elder Helpline, and Aging and Disability Resource Center.

Currently, we are accepting applications to fill a vacancy on our Advisory Council

in Suwannee County. Applicants must be a resident of the County and should have an active interest in social and nutrition programs for older persons.

Members of the Advisory Council serve on a voluntary basis without pay. For an application or more information, visit our website at www.agingresources.org. You can also contact Cindy Roberts at (352) 692-5260 or robertsc@agingresources.org.

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Life in WHITE SPRINGS

By Walter McKenzie

lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

Gandhi has left town. I first met him last week when he wandered into the Telford Hotel restaurant, tired and hungry. I introduced myself to him and he told me that he was just in town for the day, passing through White Springs as one small part of a long journey that he was undertaking. Although it was "between meals" time at the Telford and the buffet was closed, they fixed him up a sampler plate and he enjoyed plenty to eat and really appreciated their hospitality. The next day I was pleasantly surprised to see him sitting on the porch of the White Springs B&B so I invited him to come down the street to sit a spell with Merri and me on our front porch. Now, I know what you are thinking, "Walter has lost his marbles and made up a new imaginary friend because Gandhi lived in India and has been dead and gone for many of years!" Well, this is not entirely true, although I do have a hard time finding all my marbles on occasion.

You see Gandhi was not his real name, just his "trail name". Hikers often adopt trail names as they hike the Florida Trail. Gandhi's real name was Allen and he was passing his three hundredth mile hiking the Florida Trail as he came through White Springs. We had a pleasant visit with him and it soon came to light that his passing through might have some wonderful consequences for our town. Our conversation with "Gandhi" revealed that he was affiliated with a company called Peak

Adventure Travel, the world's largest adventure travel company, a global collection of specialist tour operators and destination management companies. All businesses within PEAK are committed to ensuring that their travelers enjoy the best experiential holiday available and that they travel in a responsible way that is kind to the communities they visit and the environment. One of the companies under the PEAK corporate umbrella is Grand American Adventures. All of their tours are designed to be flexible with a variety of included and optional activities, helping their clients to tailor their tour to their own interests, budget and level of adventure. They have plenty of built in free time to give each tourist the opportunity to explore at their own pace. Most of their tours include a mix of adventure, culture, nature and sightseeing so that, from hiking the scenic trails to horse-back riding, each day will be packed full of different highlights and experiences. Doesn't this sound like it would be a great fit for White Springs?

Another PEAK company is Intrepid Travel, whose website states, "Our group size has an average of just ten travelers, which allows us to get off the beaten track, use local accommodation and transport, and really get to know the culture. It also ensures we are contributing to the local economy."

And then, to make it even more enticing, another PEAK company, TrekAmerica, says "We have always taken pride in our level of concern and commitment to the natural surroundings and local people we encounter on our travels. By training both our tour leaders and travelers on the philosophy of 'leave no trace', constantly reviewing operational processes, and working with locals to give some-

thing back to the communities we come into contact with; we endeavor to operate tours that create a positive impact on the places we visit.

To make a long story short, Gandhi, who only meant to stop for lunch, stayed in town for four days and included the Stephen Foster Park, the historic district, several restaurants, the Nature and Heritage tourist information center and the Wild Azalea Festival in his adventures. He fell in love with White Springs and vowed to return someday. I'm sure that his positive experience in our town might have planted the seed of an idea that we might be a good fit for one of his company's tour packages. We will do all that we can to keep in touch, in the hopes that he and some of his tour groups will come back soon.

This did not happen entirely by chance. It happened because of a plan and a vision. The Town of White Springs partnered with the Florida Trail in an initiative to have the trail rerouted through our downtown to increase tourism by hikers. Gandhi was just the first of many more to come. I think that this partnership will have a very positive social and economic impact and I hope that each of you will be kind and friendly to any hikers that you encounter in the future. You never know what may come of a chance encounter like the one we had with Gandhi.

The Wild Azalea Festival was a huge success with record attendance. Many thanks to the Town of White Springs staff, police and fire departments, the Stephen Foster staff, the Adams Country Store, the Tourist and Information center volunteers, the food and craft vendors. And last but definitely not least, a huge special thanks to all the members of the White Springs Special Events committee and all their helpers. This was White Springs' signature event's 14th year and it wouldn't have happened without the hard work of these dedicated citizens and volunteers! You are far too many to name, but you know we love you all! Thank You!

So it was another week chock full of adventures, entertainment and opportunities! I hope you were there and that you enjoyed it. I look forward to hearing from you and I hope to see you out and about, experiencing nature, supporting commerce, and enjoying culture, health and life in White Springs!

Walter McKenzie
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NFCC's new bridge program offers accelerated track for LPNs to complete Associate Degree in Nursing

Summer Term 2014 Deadline to apply is April 1 | Classes begin May 12

MADISON, FL - North Florida Community College's Allied Health Department is accepting student applications for its new LPN to RN Bridge program. The program is a one-year/three-term accelerated bridge program leading to an Associate Degree in Nursing (A.D.N.) for individuals holding a current certificate and licensure as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

"We are very excited to offer area LPNs a new avenue for career advancement," said Julie Townsend, Director of Allied Health Programs at NFCC.

Classes are set to begin May 12 (Summer Term 2014); deadline to apply is Tuesday, April

1. According to NFCC Allied Health Advisor Debbie Bass, potential students should contact NFCC now to begin the application process for summer classes or to prepare to enter the program at a later date. Those interested in applying or seeking more information should contact Debbie Bass in the NFCC Career and Technical Education Center (Bldg. 13) at (850) 973-1662 or bassd@nfcc.edu.

Potential students looking to begin Summer 2014 must already hold a current degree and licensure as an LPN and have completed prerequisite coursework by the end of NFCC's Spring Term 2014. Prerequisites courses in-

clude Freshman English I, Anatomy & Physiology I, Anatomy & Physiology II, Statistics, Microbiology, General Psychology, a Humanities Philosophy or Religion course and approved IV Therapy Course; a total of 24 credit hours.

Successful completion of the LPN to RN Bridge program prepares graduates to take the National Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Achievement of a passing score on this exam and licensure by the Florida State Board of Nursing enables the graduate to seek employment as a Registered Nurse in the state of Florida.

Student applications will be accepted through

Tuesday, April 1 for classes beginning May 12 (Summer Term 2014). For more information, contact NFCC Allied Health Advisor Debbie Bass in the NFCC Career and Technical Education Center (Bldg. 13) at (850) 973-1662 or bassd@nfcc.edu.

Yoho: Farmers to get relief from burdensome regulations

Congressman Ted Yoho (R-FL-03) was pleased with the passage of the Farmers Undertake Environmental Land Stewardship Act (FUELS). The FUELS Act - which Congressman Yoho co-sponsored - modifies the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) burdensome farm fuel storage regulation. The rule has negatively impacted farmers throughout Florida. Congressman Yoho gave the following statement:

"Unnecessary regulations like these are choking our economy. I have said that some regulations are necessary, but rules that stand in the way of farmers and all hard working Americans - trying to make a living - are wrong and should be deleted from the registry. Government needs to help not

hinder business and encourage growth. The FUELS Act will do just that."

The FUELS Act will ease the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) program rules for small farmers and ranchers by modifying the exemption level to be more reflective of a producer's spill risk and financial resources. The exemption level for a single aboveground container would be adjusted upward to 10,000 gallons while the aggregate level on a production facility would move to 42,000 gallons. In addition it places a greater degree of responsibility on the farmer or rancher to self-certify compliance, instead of having to procure the services of certified Professional Engineers (PEs).

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION

NOTICE, is hereby given that the City of Jennings, Florida, will hold a City Election to fill two (2) City Council seats for full four (4) year term. The Qualifying Period will commence at noon, April 7, 2014 and will end at noon on April 11, 2014. Oaths may be secured at Jennings City Hall. The City Election will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014, between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM. All voting will take place at Jennings Council Chambers. The books for registration to vote in this election will close on May 5, 2014.

Christy Smith
City Clerk

857678

Is there wage stagnation?

Many economists, politicians and pundits assert that median wages have stagnated since the 1970s. That's a call for government to do something about it. But before we look at the error in their assertion, let's work through an example that might shed a bit of light on the issue.

Suppose that you paid me a straight \$20 an hour in 2004. Ten years later, I'm still earning \$20 an hour, but in addition, now I'm receiving job perks such as health insurance, an employer-matched 401(k) plan, paid holidays and vacation, etc. Would it be correct to say that my wages have stagnated and I'm no better off a decade later? I'm guessing that the average person would say, "No, Williams, your wages haven't stagnated. You forgot to include your non-monetary wages." My colleagues Donald Boudreaux and Liya Palagashvili discuss some of this in their recent Wall Street Journal op-ed, "The Myth of the Great Wages 'Decoupling'" (<http://tinyurl.com/oq7z4a3>).

They start out saying: "Many pundits, politicians and economists claim that wages have fallen behind productivity gains over the last generation. ... This story, though, is built on an illusion. There is no great decoupling of worker pay from productivity. Nor have workers' incomes stagnated over the past four decades." There are two routinely made mistakes when wages are compared over time. "First, the value of fringe benefits -- such as health insurance and pension contributions -- is often excluded from calculations of worker pay. Because fringe benefits today make up a larger share of the typical employee's pay than they did 40 years ago (about 19 percent today compared with 10 percent back then), excluding them fosters the illusion that the workers' slice of the (bigger) pie is shrinking."

The second comparison problem is a bit technical, when the consumer price index is used to adjust workers' pay for inflation while a different measure (the gross domestic product deflator) is used to adjust the value of the nation's economic output for inflation. Harvard University's Martin



A MINORITY VIEW

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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

Feldstein noted in a National Bureau of Economic Research paper in 2008 that it is misleading to use different deflators. Boudreaux and Palagashvili point out that when more careful measurements have compared worker pay (including the value of fringe benefits) with productivity using a consistent adjustment for inflation, they move in tandem. The authors say: "The claim that ordinary Americans are stagnating economically while only 'the rich' are gaining is also incorrect. True enough, membership in the middle class seems to be declining -- but this is because more American households are moving up."

Many economists and other social scientists determine well-being by looking at income brackets instead of people. When one looks at people, he finds considerable income mobility. According to a report by the Department of the Treasury titled "In-

come Mobility in the U.S. from 1996 to 2005," there was considerable income mobility of individuals in the U.S. economy during that period (<http://tinyurl.com/5sv8799>). Using Internal Revenue Service tax return data, the report says that more than half of taxpayers moved to a different income quintile over this period. More than half of those in the bottom income quintile in 1996 had moved to a higher income group by 2005. The mobility also goes in the opposite direction. Of the highest income earners in 1996 -- the top one-hundredth of 1 percent -- only 25 percent remained in this group in 2005. The percentage increase in the median incomes of those in the lower income groups, between 1996 and 2005, increased more than the median incomes of those initially in the higher income groups.

Boudreaux and Palagashvili conclude that "middle-class stagnation and the 'decoupling' of pay and productivity are illusions. Yes, the U.S. economy is in the doldrums, thanks to a variety of factors, most significantly the effect of growth-deadening government policies like ObamaCare and the Dodd-Frank Act. But by any sensible measure, most Americans are today better paid and more prosperous than in the past."

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.

GUEST COLUMN

But do we really 'save' anything?



Dwain Walden
The Moultrie Observer

So I asked everyone at the breakfast club if they reset their clocks at 2 a.m. to accommodate the recent switch to Daylight Saving Time. No one got up at 2 a.m. for that purpose. Some said they just changed their clocks when they went to bed, and others said they waited until the next morning. I've never met anyone who says that he changed his clock at 2 a.m. By comparison, one can find more people who have seen Bigfoot than have specifically gotten up at 2 a.m. to set their clocks for this purpose. I'm almost willing to bet that more people will tell you they've been abducted by aliens than have reset their clocks at 2 a.m.

No one seemed to know why 2 a.m. was the critical number.

You see our conversations at the breakfast club can get really deep. Sometimes they get so deep you can hear people speaking in Chinese. Of course that's just a figure of speech. There's no location in the continental United States that you could bore through and come out in China, a rhetorical comment not uncommon to our discourses. Besides, your drill would melt before you got there.

That being said, have you ever wondered how deep your property goes? Deeds don't address that. Deeds are not three-dimensional. I think you might find some rules for that area above your property (in the sky) but I've never seen any kind of boundaries for depth.

Now back to Daylight Saving Time, lest I wander too far. I set my clock before I went to bed that night. My telephone reset itself. I'm guessing it did that at 2 a.m. It's like magic. I Googled "Daylight Saving Time", and it's incredible the amount of discussion on this subject. One entry was: "8 things you may not

know about Daylight Saving Time." Another was "6 tips to deal with Daylight Saving Time." And one I agreed with, "Why the hell don't they just leave it alone."

Back when Daylight Saving Time came into being, some people would refer to "old time" and "new time." And I knew some people who refused to change their clocks, at first. One day they realized that you can't stop the world and get off.

There was a joke going around early on in this change that Daylight Saving Time came about so that politicians could get in another round of golf before dark. Given observations of our Congress today, I no longer discount that reasoning as the pursuit of levity.

Having grown up on a farm, I noticed that chickens and cows were not affected by time changing. Their activities were based more on biology than alchemy.

Despite its simplicity, people still get confused about Daylight Saving Time. So the phrase "spring forward and fall back" was implemented for those who would debate whether it was Bullwinkle's real voice. And one may still hear

someone say something like, "This time last week it was only five o'clock."

I'm not convinced that anything was ever "saved" by this time change. The earth still rotates on its axis at the same speed. As well, it orbits around the sun at the same speed. We have headlights on cars, trucks and tractors. Sporting events can be played in daytime or at night. Congress can screw up at anytime of day. And a kidney stone is certainly no respecter of the clock or the calendar.

C.S. Lewis once noted, "The future is something which everyone reaches at the rate of sixty minutes an hour, whatever he does, whatever he is."

And Hector Berlioz said, "Time is a great teacher, but unfortunately it kills all its pupils."

Having begun all of this discussion over some really good sausage and eggs, I now quote the late Jerry Clower who once asked, "What's time to a hog?"

Dwain Walden is editor/publisher of The Moultrie Observer, 229-985-4545. Email: dwain.walden@gafnews.com.

Hamilton County Events

Ribbon Cutting
Jasper Auto Supply NAPA
Thursday, March 20, 12:30 p.m.

Chamber Mixer
Jennings Outdoor Resort
Thursday, March 20, 4-6 p.m.

The Arc 16th Annual Lawn Mower Race
March 29, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
John's Lawn Equipment Hwy. 129 N, Live Oak

Antique Tractor Show
April 3-5, White Springs

Rodeo Queen Contest and FFA BBQ Dinner
Hamilton County Arena
Saturday, April 19, 6 p.m.

HC Alcohol & Other Drug Prevention Coalition

7th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament
April 25, 8:30 a.m.

At Florida Gateway Golf & Country Club
Hwy. 129 N, Jasper

42nd Championship Rodeo
Hamilton County Arena
Friday and Saturday, April 25-26

5th Annual Wild Blackberry Festival
Downtown Jasper
Saturday, June 14

*Chamber membership forms in lobby

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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.

MUSICAL WORD SEARCH

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WORDS

ACCORDION MARIMBA
BAGPIPE MUSICAL
BASS OBOE
BONGO ORGAN
BRASS PIANO
BUGLE PICCOLO
CELLO RECORDER
CLARINET SAXOPHONE
CLAVICHORD SNARE
FIDDLE TAMBORINE
FIFE TRIANGLE
FLUTE TROMBONE
FRENCH HORN TRUMPET
GUITAR TUBA
HARMONICA VIOLA
HARP VIOLIN
INSTRUMENT WHISTLE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

Obituaries

Elizabeth Caroline Avriett Burnham Barrett
March 6, 1913
March 10, 2014

Elizabeth Caroline Avriett Burnham Barrett, age 101, of Jasper, FL, passed away on Monday, March 10, 2014 at Shands at Live Oak Hospital in Live Oak, FL, just four days past her birthday. Elizabeth was born on March 6, 1913 in Moultrie, Georgia to the late Clayton A. and Carrie Mae Lundy Avriett. She was educated in the Hamilton County School System and with that education went on to work in both the Florida and Georgia State Legislature. Elizabeth was extremely dedicated to the work of the Democratic Party in Florida. She was not only politically inclined but was also a successful owner/operator of Southern Foam Products. She was known to put a hook in the water on a regular basis. Elizabeth was a faithful member of Jasper First United Methodist Church. She was predeceased by her parents, two husbands, Lawrence Burnham and James "Jack" Barrett, a sister whom she adored, Juanita A. Small, her daughter, Barbara "Babs" Auman and a granddaughter, Patti Neely.

Survivors include one son, Lawrence "Larry" Clayton Burnham (Annette), of Lake City, FL.; three daughters, Margaret "Peggy" Burnham Conner (Frank), Sanderson, FL., Nora Elizabeth "Kitty" Morgan (Bobby), Jasper, FL. and Elaine Floyd (Robert), Bluffton, S.C.; a son-in-law, William "Bill" Auman, Jasper, FL.; 14 grandchildren, numerous great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday, March 14, 2014 in the chapel of Harry T. Reid Funeral Home with Pastor Dale Ames officiating, assisted by Mr. Greg Godwin. Personal reflections were given by her grandson Scott. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

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

Tammy Hall Stephens
May 28, 1960 -
March 13, 2014

Tammy Hall Stephens, age 53, of Jasper, FL, passed away suddenly on Thursday, March 13, 2014 at Lake City Medical Center in Lake City, FL.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 17, 2014 in the chapel of Harry T. Reid Funeral Home in Jasper, FL. with Dr. Larry Strickland officiating.

Interment followed at Crosby Lake Cemetery near Starke, FL.

Tammy was born May

Florida Telecommunications Relay

A representative from Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc will be at Beltone Hearing Aid Center, located at 109 East Howard Street in Live Oak on the first Monday of every month to distribute FREE Hard of Hearing telephones. Also, free hearing screening are available, if there are any questions or to schedule an appointment call Candi at 386-362-5452.

28, 1960 in Colleen, Texas to the late Charles Edward and Ernestine Thompson Hall. She moved to the Jasper area in 1987 from Starke, FL. and was an assistant manager at CVS in Jasper before retiring. Tammy loved spending time with her grandchildren and she loved to fish. Finding the time to do either of those things was never a chore. She was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, Kim Leigh Hall and Sharon Garmon, a brother, Harold Garmon, her father-in-law, Freddie Stephens, Sr. and a brother-in-law, Paul Darren Stephens.

Survivors include her husband of 31 years, Kenneth "Kenny" Stephens, of Jasper; three sons, Michael Sean Hall and Anthony Kyle Stephens both of Jasper and Kenneth Stephens, Jr., Castleberry, FL.; two brothers, Charles Stephen Hall, Sanford, FL. and Ernest Talmadge Hall of Alabama; one sister, Helen Louise Alcorn, Sanford, FL.;

four grandchildren, Carter Kyle Stephens and Brenden and Sera Richard and Ashden Stephens; her mother-in-law, Vonda Stephens and a brother-in-law, Freddie Stephens, Jr., both of Starke, FL.

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

Florence Selph Gornto
Nov. 2, 1924 -
March 17, 2014

Florence Selph Gornto, known to all who loved her as Flo, passed away at Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville, Georgia on March 17, 2014. Flo is predeceased by her husband of 48 years, Cecil Gornto.

Flo is lovingly remembered by son, Steve Gornto (Carol), of Watkinsville, Georgia and daughter Pam Brand (Buddy) of Braselton, Georgia. She is also survived by her beloved grandchildren Will Brand (Dori), James Brand (Maggie), Sara Brand, and Nathan

Gornto and her great-grandchildren Beau and Paige Brand. She leaves behind siblings Mildred Murphy, Durwood Selph, Etheridge Selph, and Shirley Roberson and numerous nieces and nephews.

Flo was born in Nocatee, FL November 2, 1924. A long-time resident of Hamilton County, she married Cecil Gornto on April 15, 1950. Together they raised their two children, moving from Jacksonville, FL to Columbus, GA., Oklahoma City, OK, Baltimore, MD, and back to Columbus. Flo took these moves in stride and made friends wherever she went. Cecil and Flo retired to Jasper.

In retirement, Flo enjoyed her work as cashier for the Hamilton County School System and was an officer of the Regional Food Service Association. She was a wonderful cook and talented seamstress and enjoyed being around family and friends. She never met a stranger and

had a big heart. She will be greatly missed by all who love her.

The visitation will be held at Harry T. Reid Funeral Home, 901 4th St. NW, Jasper, FL 32052 on Friday March 21, 2014 at 10 AM. The funeral service will follow at 11 AM. Burial will be at Live Oak City Cemetery. Harry T. Reid Funeral Home, Jasper, FL. is in charge of arrangements.

John Henry "Billy" Hurst
March 23, 1931 -
March 17, 2014

John Henry "Bill" Hurst, age 82, of Live Oak, FL, passed away Monday, March 17, 2014 at Suwannee Health Care Center in Live Oak. Mr. Hurst was a native and former resident of Jasper, FL. born on March 23, 1931 to the late Wiley and Geneva Allen Hurst. He was a retired school teacher at Hamilton County High School where he taught mechanics. Bill loved listening to and playing

gospel and bluegrass music. He was preceded in death by his parents and most recently a sister, Pauline Hogan.

Survivors include nine children, Daniel Hurst (Emily), Carroll Hurst, John Hurst (Nita), Edward Hurst, Billy Joe Hurst, Caroline Murrah, Patricia Vinson (Walt), Diane Langford and Donna Sue Tharp (Waylon Smart); one sister, Dorothy Vanosdol; 19 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Bill is also survived by the mother of his children Margurette Hurst.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 P.M. Thursday, March 20, 2014 in the chapel of Harry T. Reid Funeral Home with Pastor Ray Shaw officiating. Interment will follow at Union Baptist Church Cemetery near O'Brien.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Thursday beginning at noon.

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

HCHS Key Club distributes dictionaries to third graders

Over the past three years, the Hamilton County High School Key Club has distributed over 400 dictionaries to 3rd graders in Hamilton County. The dictionaries have a special encyclopedic edition and they include not only word definitions but world geography, the metric system, events in American History, and facts and documents about the United States federal government, including the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

The goal of the program is assist students in becoming good writers, active readers, creative thinkers and resourceful learners. The dictionaries are given to increase

the students' ability to read, improve their vocabulary and give the students their own reference material.

The elementary schools that benefited from the dictionary distribution are North Hamilton Elementary School, South Hamilton Elementary School and Central Hamilton Elementary School. This project was a joint-venture with Kiwanis of Jasper. It involved a number of members from the club helping to distribute dictionaries to the children and then giving a short presentation on looking up words and other functionalities of the dictionary.

The presentation of

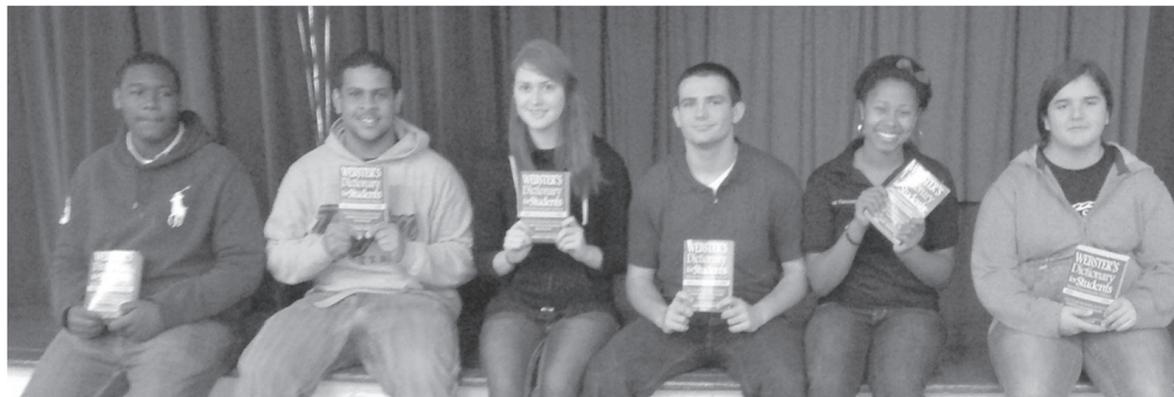
the dictionaries not only benefits students and teachers, but it exposes them to the Key Club and Kiwanis, and the importance of community service. The interactions and engagement from the children indicated that this project was well worth it.

Key Club International, a service leadership program of Kiwanis International, is the oldest and largest service program for high school students. It gives its members opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership skills. Key Club attributes its success to the fact that it is a student-led organization that teaches leadership through serving



The kids show off their dictionaries.

others. Club Advisor at cathy.bradshaw@hamiltonfl.com, Kiwanis President/Advisor at cailwl@aol.com or visit www.keyclub.org.



HCHS Key Club members.



Third graders learn how to use a dictionary.



Key Club members explain the basics of a dictionary



HEART MATTERS

Too often we make up to the news that another celebrity has died due to drug overdose, or their involvement in illegal activity is exposed, or the leader of a successful ministry has been caught having an affair, using pornography, or embezzling money. As prevalent as this seems in this generation, sadly, it is not a new phenomenon. A look back to recent history reveals more of the same: Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe, and Michael Jackson, as well as the Reverend Jim Baker are now household words for these behaviors. These happenings cause us to shake our heads and ask the question "Why?" Why would people with so much going for them choose to self-destruct?

Clearly, all of these highly successful people were intelligent and had great talents and abilities that allowed them to climb to the pedestal they fell from, so what went wrong? It seems that even the richest, most talented, and best intentioned of all men (and women) have clay feet. "Feet of clay" is an idiom (a saying that means something other than its literal definition). Obviously, no one really has feet made out of clay, but rather this represents a weakness exposed in someone held in high regard. This is not a judgment against anyone in particular, but a fact affecting the entirety of human nature.

In the Old Testament book of Daniel, the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar had a troublesome dream that God allowed the prophet Daniel to interpret. In the dream, Nebuchadnezzar saw the huge statue of a man that was made with different metals. The head was gold, the chest and arms made of silver, the belly and thighs made of bronze, the legs made of iron, and the feet were a combination of iron and clay. These different body parts made of different metals represented kingdoms that would begin with Nebuchadnezzar's and end with the fall of the Roman Empire. Yet we can draw a deeper meaning for our own lives from this story. In his interpretation, Daniel explained the mighty statue was not as strong as it appeared. In fact, the weakness of the clay feet would result in the statue eventually not being able to stand. Ironically, the next chapter reveals King Nebuchadnezzar calling for the worship of his own image that was made of pure gold. This statue could not erase the reality of his humanity, or his feet of clay. Within a short time he developed a mental disorder called lycanthropy, causing him to act and think like a wild animal.

So, can we agree and accept that "clay feet" is a

common thread of humanity? It occurs to me that during the creation process, God knew we would have the propensity to exalt our self. Perhaps even more dangerous is exalting others or being exalted by others. God help anyone of us who begins to believe the pedestal is where we belong. We were not created to be worshipped, but to worship our Creator. In his wisdom, perhaps God gave us clay feet, so that our strongest hours would be when we are before Him-on our knees.

Because Every Heart Matters,

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

IN GOD WE OUGHT TO TRUST Is Russia on the move?



As I pen this article Russia has moved soldiers into Ukraine. As this news is broadcast stocks drop, oil prices go up. Is this the beginning of Russia's march on Israel? If you look at a map and draw a line from Jerusalem straight north to Moscow, it will go almost through the center of Ukraine.

There is no question that the Bible speaks of a time when Russia, called Magog in the Bible, and her end time leader referred to as Gog will move on Israel. A study of Ezekiel 38 and 39 will reveal these facts. We even have an indication of the time when it will happen. Ezekiel chapter 37 contains the prophecy of the Valley of Dry Bones. Of course we know this is the time when Israel will come back to her homeland and become a nation once again. This happened May 14, 1948. (See Luke 21:29-33.) Ezekiel 40 de-

scribes Israel at rest after the second coming of Jesus in the Kingdom age (Revelation 20:1-6). Chapters 38 and 39 speak of Russia's (Magog) fatal attack upon Israel and her defeat.

Chapter 38:2-3: "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the Prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal and prophesy against him, and say, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the Prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal." Verses 5 & 6 tells us that "Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, ...; Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the far north and all its troops - many people are with you".

Russia's Vladimir Putin, even with the threat of sanctions against Russia by President Obama, may move deeper into Ukraine. Russia already has a navy base in the Black Sea at Crimea. If Russia decides now to move on Israel only Turkey is the only real land mass between them. God has already said through Ezekiel and others that this will happen after the Rapture of the church. Of course we know that when they do march on Israel, they will suffer utter defeat. Hear what Ezekiel has to say: "Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, 'Thus says the Lord God: "On that day when My peo-

ple Israel dwell safely, will you not know it? Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army. You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes." (Ezk. 38:14-16 NKJ.)

As we stated earlier, Russia's defeat will not take place til after the Rapture of the Church. A careful study of Ezekiel 38:18-22 will enlighten us immensely on the subject. Let me also encourage you to compare this Scripture with Revelation 6:12-17. So in light of all this what should we do? We should pay closer attention to our conduct. We should spend more time in prayer, in God's Word, and fellowshipping with His people. We should prepare our temples and warn others about the possible soon return of our Lord for His church. I'm not predicting that the time is here, but I believe it is at hand. Be ready!

Hugh G. Sherrill
Pastor Philippi Baptist Church
1444 County Road 18,
Lake City, FL
ems-hugh43@comcast.net

Florida legislators announce two new bills to protect the right to vote

The Florida Voting Rights Act and the Florida Right to Vote Act comprehensively uphold democracy from different angles of Florida law

Pushing back against repeated state actions to restrict voting, a group of Florida legislators announced Wednesday, March 12, two new bills to comprehensively protect the right to vote:

The Florida Voting Rights Act (SB 1246 and HB 1079), co-sponsored by Senator Geraldine Thompson (D-Orlando) and Representative Reggie Fullwood (D-Jacksonville), would prohibit any voting procedures that discriminate on the basis of race, gender, age, income level, sexual orientation, language, religion or disability. It would also allow the Florida Attorney General to petition the Florida Supreme Court to review changes in voting procedure (including but not limited to changes in redistricting plans, early voting, absentee voting, language access, list maintenance and voter registration) before they

go into effect, to determine if they have a discriminatory impact.

The Florida Right to Vote Act (SB 1132 and HB 1073), co-sponsored by Senator Oscar Braynon (D-Miami Gardens) and Representative Victor M. Torres (D-Orlando), would make voting a fundamental right in Florida - requiring voting policies to fall under strict scrutiny, the highest standard of judicial review. This would require lawmakers and election officials, including Supervisors of Elections, to demonstrate a compelling reason before they can enact policies that make it harder to vote, show that the measure is narrowly tailored, and prove that it will advance its stated goal.

"As lawmakers in the world's greatest democracy, we should make voting easier for our citizens, not harder," said

Sen. Thompson. "Yet over the past few years, Florida politicians have passed and pursued a veritable kitchen sink of measures to restrict access to the ballot, including onerous constraints on registration drives, cuts to the early voting period, and repeated attempts to kick off eligible citizens from the voter rolls. I am proud to join my colleagues in introducing comprehensive, multifaceted legislation that will firmly protect the right to vote in Florida."

In light of the Supreme Court decision last year to strike down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act (VRA), Florida voters are increasingly vulnerable. This ruling ended federal pre-approval of voting changes in jurisdictions with a history of discriminatory voting practices, including five Florida counties. In January, Congress in-

roduced a bill to update the VRA, with a new formula for determining which states require pre-approval of voting changes, but this formula leaves Florida out entirely.

"The Florida Voting Rights Act will restore the kind of protection that many Florida voters formerly had under the federal Voting Rights Act, and goes even further by applying that protection to the entire state," said Rep. Fullwood. "Florida can't wait on Washington to fix our state's election problems. It's up to us. The Florida Voting Rights Act and the Florida Right to Vote Act are what we need to ensure that the most enduring promise of our democracy - our right to vote - is protected."

The Florida Right to Vote Act would enshrine a fundamental right to vote into state law, requiring changes in voting procedure to undergo a higher standard of legal review. With this standard in place, many

onerous barriers to the ballot would be defeated.

"In the absence of a fundamental right to vote in Florida law, state officials may currently enact new voting policies with no requirement to prove a compelling state interest, or to prove that they are not discriminatory," said Sen. Braynon. "We would never tolerate this kind of deference to politicians with other rights, like the right of free speech or freedom of religion. We need to protect voting in the same way."

"For too long, Florida has been the poster child for election disasters," said Rep. Torres. "Some politicians would argue that voting should be hard and involve some epic journey to the front of the line. But voting is not a privilege; it is a fundamental right of U.S. citizenship. These two bills would finally protect that right, once and for all, to ensure that our voting system is free, fair and accessible to all Floridians."

Public Announcement

The Hamilton County Memorial Hospital Trustee board meetings will be held at the school board office beginning at 5 p.m. on March 25, June 24, Sept. 23 and Dec. 2.

Feed a family outreach in Jasper March 26

By Joyce Marie Taylor
joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Catholic Charities Lake City will be at the Jasper Civic Center on Wednesday, March 26, at 9 a.m. as part of their "Feed a Family" mobile outreach program.

The program is for Hamilton County residents only who are eligible to receive food from TEFAP, if their house-

hold meets income guidelines, or if they participate in any of the following programs: Income Eligibility, SNAP (Food Stamps), TANF, SSI and Medicaid.

The civic center is located at 1129 NW 4 Street in Jasper, and it will be first come-first served.

For more information please contact Catholic Charities at 386-754-9180.



Church & Family Go Together

ADVENT CHRISTIAN	BAPTIST (Southern)	METHODIST	PRESBYTERIAN
FIRST ADVENT CHRISTIAN N.W. 15th Avenue Jasper Rev. Wayne Sullivan Sunday Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. 784022	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH "Where Friends become Family" 207 N.E. 2nd Street, Jasper. 792-2658 Pastor: Roger Hutto Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Supper.....6:00 p.m. Children, Youth & Adult Programs 6:30 p.m. 784012	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 405 Central Ave., Jasper, FL Pastor - Dale Ames Phone - 386-792-1122 Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 204 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Jasper 792-2258 Pastor: Shelton Steen SUNDAY Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Worship Service.....11:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY Choir Practice.....7:00 p.m. 834981
CATHOLIC CHURCH ST. THERESA 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	CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 11320 C.R. 6 East Jasper FL 32052 Pastor: Rev. Ronald Prueter Home: 386-938-5912 Church: 386-792-3267 Morning Service: Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Children's Church.....11:00 a.m. Evening Training Union.....6:00 p.m. Worship.....7:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting, Teen Kids, Youth.....6:00 p.m. Van pick-up upon request 835547	NON-DENOMINATIONAL BURNHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH 4520 NW CR 146, Jennings, FL 32053 938-1265 Pastor: Johnny Brown Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Youth Program.....5:30 p.m. 784003	Building On FAITH 

To list your church in our church directory, please call Brenda at 386-362-1734

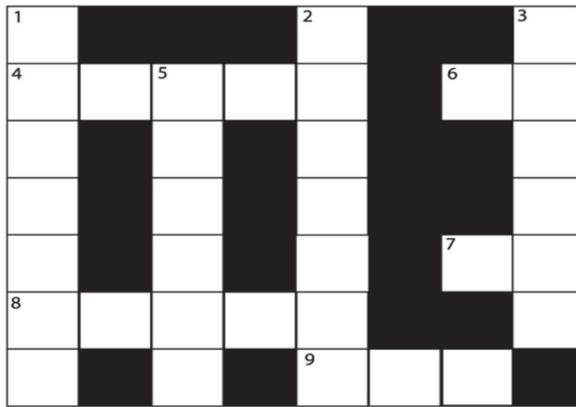


WORLD FACT!

THIS IS THE IRISH NAME FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND.

ANSWER: EIRE

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 4. Not before
- 6. Comparison adverb
- 7. In physical contact with
- 8. Secondary color
- 9. Break up soil

DOWN

- 1. Tube-shaped meat
- 2. European island
- 3. Surrounded by water
- 5. At which an attack is aimed

Answers:
 Across
 4. After 6. As 7. On 8. Green 9. Dig
 Down
 1. Sausage 2. Ireland 3. Island 5. Target

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1804:** A FRENCH CIVIL CODE, CALLED THE CODE NAPOLEON, IS ADOPTED.
- **1963:** ALCATRAZ, THE FAMED MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON ON AN ISLAND IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY, CLOSES.
- **1965:** MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. STARTS A CIVIL RIGHTS MARCH FROM SELMA TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.

New Word

PORRIDGE
 food made of oats or another grain boiled in milk

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Mountain
- SPANISH:** Montaña
- ITALIAN:** Montagna
- FRENCH:** Montagne
- GERMAN:** Berg

Did you know?

LEPRECHAUNS ARE A TYPE OF FAIRY IN IRISH FOLKLORE, IN WHICH THEY SPEND THEIR TIME MAKING SHOES AND STORING THEIR MONEY IN HIDDEN POTS OF GOLD.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: HORSESHOES

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Eco-friendly lawn care can be easy



Lawns should be mowed at an appropriate height so they can develop a deep root system.

Homeowners know that a healthy lawn can add considerable curb appeal to a property while giving residents of the home a place to relax and enjoy the great outdoors. But few might know that a healthy lawn can also benefit the environment, especially when homeowners take a proactive approach to lawn care that emphasizes eco-friendly techniques.

A proactive approach to lawn care can prevent certain problems, including disease, insect infestation and weed growth. When such problems arise, many homeowners opt to combat them with pesticides, which can harm the environment. But a proactive approach to lawn care can reduce the likelihood of developing such problems and protect the planet at the same time.

* **Emphasize healthy soil.** Healthy soil promotes strong roots, which leads to a more robust, lush and aesthetically appealing lawn. While a lawn needs to be fertilized in the spring and at various points throughout the summer, it's important that homeowners avoid overfertilization, which can create thatch that, when allowed to thicken, will prevent nutrients from penetrating the soil. Lawns need more nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium than soil can typically provide, so

fertilizing throughout the warm weather seasons and into early fall can promote a healthy lawn. But choose a slow-release fertilizer so it gradually feeds the lawn. Compost and grass clippings can also be spread around the lawn to promote healthy soil. The pH level of the soil should also be checked to ensure the lawn can fully absorb nutrients. Speak with a local lawn care professional to determine what a healthy pH level is for soil in your area.

* **Choose a grass that can thrive in your climate.** Though you might prefer the look of a certain grass, choosing a grass based entirely on appearance is a mistake that could cost you money and prove harmful to the environment. When installing a new lawn, opt for one that's suitable to the local climate. Installing a lawn that needs substantial amounts of water in a region known for drought can rob the lawn of its aesthetic appeal and will cost homeowners a substantial amount of money to maintain. If an existing lawn struggles to stay green regardless of your best efforts, then consider replacing it with a new type of grass that might be more suited to the local climate.

* **Don't cut too low when mowing.** Homeowners who don't enjoy mowing their lawn might be

tempted to simply cut the grass as low as possible to extend the intervals between cuts. But the United States Environmental Protection Agency recommends that grass never be cut more than one-third of the height of the grass blades. Longer grass can take in more sunlight, allowing it to grow in thicker and develop a deeper root system. That deep root system can help a lawn survive drought and prevent disease, two potentially costly problems that often force homeowners to embrace solutions that are not eco-friendly. Ideal lawn height depends on the type of grass, so consult a lawn care professional to ensure you are cutting your grass to a healthy length.

* **Avoid overwatering.** Excessive watering not only wastes water, which is not very eco-friendly, but also hurts the lawn when dry periods inevitably arrive. That's because shallow and frequent watering encourages roots to stay near the surface, so when dry periods arrive, the roots struggle to find water. The EPA notes that an established lawn should not need daily watering. Instead, watering responsibly when the lawn needs water and when evaporation can be kept to a minimum, can strengthen a lawn and do so in an eco-friendly way.

How to guarantee your garden starts off on the right foot

As winter slowly winds down, many gardeners cannot wait to soak up the springtime sun and get their hands dirty in the garden. Such excitement is not just good for gardeners, but can benefit the garden in the months to come as well.

Late winter or early spring is a great time to get a head start on the gardening season. Even if gardening season is still around the corner, completing the following projects can ensure your garden gets off on the right foot.

Clear debris

One of the best things you can do for your garden as winter winds down is to clear it of debris. Winter can be especially harsh on a landscape, and gardens left to the elements are often filled with debris once spring arrives. Dead leaves, fallen branches, rocks that surfaced during the winter frost, and even garbage that might have blown about in winter winds can all pile up in a garden over a typical winter. Clearing such debris likely won't take long, but it's a great first step toward restoring the garden before the time comes to plant and grow the garden once again.

Examine the soil

Soil plays a significant role in whether a garden

thrives or struggles. Examining the soil before the season starts can help gardeners address any issues before they plant. Ignoring the soil until a problem arises can turn the upcoming gardening season into a lost opportunity, so test the soil to determine if it has any nutrient or mineral deficiencies. This may require the help of a professional, but if a problem arises, you might be able to adjust the acidity or alkalinity of the soil and still enjoy a successful gardening season.

Another way to examine the soil is less complex but can shed light on when would be a good time to get back to work. Reach into the soil and dig out a handful. If the soil quickly crumbles, you can start preparing for gardening seasoning. But if the soil is still clumped together, it needs more time to dry out before you can begin your prep work.

Initiate edging

Edging is another task gardeners can begin as they get ready for the season. Edge plant and flower beds, but be sure to use a spade with a flat blade or an edger designed to edge flower beds. Such tools will cut deep enough so grass roots that may eventually grow into the flower bed are severed. Depending on how large a garden is, edging can be a time-con-

suming task, so getting a head start allows homeowners to spend more time planting and tending to their gardens once the season hits full swing.

Fight weeds

Though weeds likely have not survived the winter, that does not mean they won't return once the weather starts to heat up. But as inevitable as weeds may seem, homeowners can take steps to prevent them from turning beautiful gardens into battlegrounds where plants, flowers and vegetables are pitted against unsightly and potentially harmful weeds. Spring is a good time to apply a pre-emergent weed preventer, which can stop weeds before they grow. Though such solutions are not always foolproof, they can drastically reduce the likelihood of weed growth.

Though gardeners might not be able to start planting their gardens in late winter or early spring, they can still get outside and take steps to ensure their gardens thrive once planting season begins.



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Tackle spring cleaning with the environment in mind

Spring is a time of year when many people resolve to give their homes or apartments a thorough cleaning. Spring cleaning projects help people revitalize their homes for the warm months ahead, when windows are once again opened, fresh air pervades homes and items that might have accumulated over a dark and dreary winter have become a distant memory.

Many families have spring cleaning rituals that allow them to efficiently clean their homes in a single weekend. But it's just as important for spring cleaners to place as great an emphasis on the environment as they do on efficiency when cleaning a home. Eco-friendly spring cleaning practices produce less waste and rely on less chemicals to rejuvenate a home and get it ready for those seasons when huddling inside under the covers takes a backseat to lounging around the house as fresh air washes into the home. The following are a handful of ways to efficiently clean a home while also protecting the environment.

* **Clear out the clutter.** Clutter is an enemy to homeowners and the environment alike. That's because addressing clutter is often an inefficient process in which homeowners methodically go through items that have accumulated over the years, individually choosing which items to keep and which items to discard. Clutter can also prove harmful to the environment because rooms filled with clutter tend to collect dust, reducing air quality and leading to more indoor air pollution that can prove harmful to human health.

When sifting through clutter in a home, discard those items that have gone ignored for years, as they likely have little or no financial value and it's safe to assume they serve no practical purpose as well. Once clutter has been cleared out, prevent more of it from

accumulating by making a conscious effort to discard items once they no longer serve any practical purpose. This includes old newspapers and magazines, as well as any other items that are likely to sit in a pile or on a shelf for months on end. Preventing the buildup of clutter reduces the amount of time you need to spend spring cleaning next year while also improving indoor air quality.

* **Use cleaners only when windows are open.** Many people get a head start on spring cleaning in late winter, when the weather might have started to warm up but has not yet warmed to the point when windows throughout the home can be opened. Though there's nothing wrong with starting early, avoid using cleaning products on days when you can't open the windows. Many cleaning products contain ample or even just trace amounts of chemicals that can compromise indoor air quality and may exacerbate existing medical conditions like respiratory ailments. When using cleaning products, try to do so only when the windows are open and fresh air can enter the home.

* **Ensure appliances are working at peak efficiency.** Spring cleaning is a great time to inspect appliances to make sure they are operating efficiently. Clean or replace filters on window air conditioning units. Dusty or dirty filters will force the air conditioner to work harder and use more energy to cool a room. In addition, dirty or dusty filters make units less efficient, which means rooms won't cool as quickly on those scorching summer afternoons. Appliances forced to work harder also cost more money, and those costs can be considerable.

When checking appliances, be sure to check the refrigerator as well. Refrigerators are plugged in all day long, and those that are not operating at peak efficiency can cost you a lot of

money in the long run. Periodically clean the coils on the back of your refrigerator so it can operate more efficiently, saving energy and money.

Vacuum cleaners should also be inspected before each use to make sure reels are not covered in hair, which can make it nearly impossible for the machine to collect dirt and dust from the floors.

* **Use reusable cloths.** Another way to turn spring cleaning into a more eco-friendly affair is to forgo using paper towels in favor of reusable cloths. Reusable wash cloths can be just as effective at wiping down counters as paper towels, which require more and more trees to be cut down and eventually end up in landfills. If you are feeling especially eco-friendly, you can go the extra mile and create your own reusable cleaning cloths out of old clothes or linens, saving you money and making use of items that might otherwise have been headed straight for a landfill.

Spring cleaning can rejuvenate a home after a long winter. Emphasizing eco-friendly techniques when cleaning can ensure your home's revival is as beneficial to the environment as it is to the home's inhabitants.



Homeowners should periodically inspect their appliances, including vacuum cleaners, to ensure they are working at peak efficiency and not expending excess energy.

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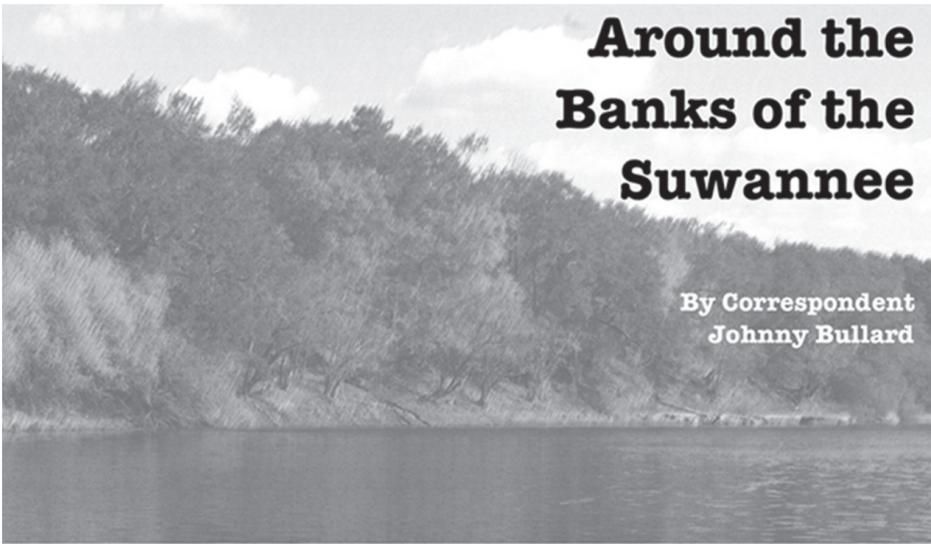
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Spring is in the air...

Yes, indeed, spring is in the air "Around the Banks of the Suwannee". Our beloved homeland, while always resplendent in its own unique beauty, becomes a veritable "bower of beauty" this time of year.

The trees, long gray and dormant during the winter's sleep, come to life with green buds, and the "woods of home" are a palette of different shades of green. Wildflowers burst into bloom, the snowy white of plum and pear trees, and the lovely dogwood trees. Pastels of azaleas from light pink to the deep fuchsia of the old traditional Formosa varieties. Wisteria runs wildly up trees and along trellises with its lavender to deep purple blooms and bees become "drunk" from all the nectar that is available.

I reveled in the beauty of pre-spring time this past Saturday at the 14th Annual Wild Azalea Festival in White Springs which, by the way, was a tremendous success. If you missed it, you missed an outstanding event. As I looked over at the Telford Hotel, I was so pleased to see it in operation again. Business was booming and I thought about some questions several folks have asked me over the past few weeks.

By the time of my childhood, much of the glamour that had once been White Springs in its heyday was past, but I do remember very well the springs being in operation - the mineral springs for which the town was named - and enjoying visits to swim in the springs at the spring house. I had some good times there.

I also remember the

stately Colonial Hotel that was situated on the north side of the south entrance of the present Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park, just behind the old historic Delegal Station that most recently served as our White Springs Public Library before its move to the new building.

The Colonial opened on New Year's Eve of 1912, almost a year after a great fire destroyed most of White Springs. It was built by the late Dr. and Mrs. J.L. (Mollie Cone) Skipworth. Mrs. Skipworth's father was the late "Captain" Charles Cone, who owned what is now the historic W.L. Anderson home at the One Mile Still, as well as most of the Big Shoals Tract, several thousand acres of land in what was known and still is known to some old timers as Cone Pasture.

The Colonial Hotel was a huge three storied wood structure and was famous for its dining room with snowy white linen covered tables, heavy silver and tantalizing Southern cuisine. You "lunched" or you "dined" at the Colonial. It was not a fast food nor an "in and out" restaurant.

If you were fortunate enough to be taken there, and I was a few times in my childhood, you put your glad rags on to go there; blazer, tie, dress pants, the whole nine yards. Of course, that was a day and an age when people dressed up to go out and to go to church. It was a day, thank God, before denim and flip flops and walking shoes became the national uniform.

Today, and to me, sadly, anything goes, but there are still a few places it doesn't, but most are not around

here. You still couldn't get away with wearing jeans and a T-shirt with a cap that seems glued to your head to wear inside buildings or out.

The Colonial would have been one of those places. It wouldn't have mattered if you had a purse that drug the floor with enough money to burn a wet mule. They would have met you at the door, looked you over well, and directed you on down to whatever Burger Villa of your choice, but you would not have entered that dining room looking like several miles of rough north Florida road. Well, enough of that.

As stated, the dining room was beautiful, and I can well remember the late Mr. John Scippio, who served as the maitre'd (head waiter) there for many, many years. Always resplendent in a white coat, black bow tie, black pants, polished shoes and who would ask you after you were seated if you would care for soup or juice as a starter for your meal.

The Telford was built before the great fire of 1911, around the turn of the Twentieth Century. At one time the Telford's kitchen, and this was many years ago, was detached from the main building, as were many kitchens of older structures. This was so if the kitchen caught fire, it wouldn't burn down the rest of the house.

There was a walkway, a covered one at the Telford, from the kitchen to the main dining room. The proprietors ordered all the waiters to whistle from the kitchen to the dining room to make sure they were not eating while they worked. The Telford has certainly enjoyed a varied and color-

ful past.

The late Mrs. Virginia J. Daniel, longtime second grade teacher in White Springs and a pillar of White Springs United Methodist Church, was born in late October of 1915. She told the story of her family home burning, her father's death and her birth, all closely coinciding to the same date. The night her family home burned her mother went to the Telford to procure rooms for the family. The hotel was so full of folks who had come to take the waters at the springs that the family had to sleep on cots that were made up out in the hallways.

I can remember some wonderful times and colorful proprietors of the Telford. I don't ever remember when all the verandas were intact from the third story down. I do remember in the late 80s when Bill and Major Sigman ran the Telford. The dining was "off the chain". Some of the best seafood and prime rib ever, and I can recall giving a couple of dinner parties there during that era.

I also remember when the late Bill and Ann Riggs lived in the Telford with their sons Dennis and Jeff. That was during the mid to late sixties and seventies. Dennis and Jeff both attended school at South Hamilton Elementary and were good friends, and I liked Ann Riggs. She was a pretty lady with her platinum blonde hair, always dressed up and she enjoyed fishing in the river. Good memories.

This time of year seems to bring back old memories. The phlox, which will bloom later in the springs and cover old lots in and around White Springs, serve as silent memorials to what was once there.

A friend saw a photo of the Edgewood Hotel on the wall at Wendy's outside of

Jasper on 129 and asked me about it. The Edgewood was a huge hotel, comparable to the Colonial in size, and probably even larger. It was built around 1912 by the late Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Roberts Sr. The late J.B. Roberts III married my paternal aunt, the late Henry Eva Bullard Roberts.

The Edgewood was situated on the lot across from the Delegal Station about where the houses are now owned by Ricky Glover, across Bridge Street from the historic Jay Smith house. The Edgewood had its own dairy, a huge lobby, dining area and ballroom, and during the season from the first of April until Labor Day, when spring was busiest, it employed a full time orchestra on the weekends for dancing. It is reported that the carpets were so thick in the lobby of the Edgewood that one guest, upon stepping on them, said, "I thought I was sinking."

For its day and age, it was, as the late Diana Vreeland, longtime editor of Vogue Magazine said, "luxury in depth." It burned in the early 1930s, but I have heard many stories about it, the grand parties held there, and memories of those who lived there.

The late Mrs. Jettie Scarborough Roberts (Mrs. J.B. Roberts Jr.), who lived across the street from my Grandma Bullard on Mill Street, told many stories of her life in the Edgewood. I could close my eyes at times and see parties there...flapper dresses, folks doing the Charleston...high times in White Springs at that time, and wonderful times still in White Springs, as with the Wild Azalea Festival this past weekend.

I want to say something to those who organized the festival. Don't give up. There are always just a few people who organize and execute so much of the work for any endeavor. It becomes work when you are doing it over and over, but it wouldn't matter if you were in White Springs or New York City. It would be the same. You will find a small number of folks who organize and execute major events.

This year's festival was "THE BEST" ever and kudos to each of you who had a part. You are to be commended for a job well done. A lot of people get their behinds over getting their shoulders over getting their feelings hurt over this or that, and fall out and refuse to continue on with their work, volunteerism etc. In

truth, most of them are looking for an excuse to quit.

My Grandma Bullard, the late Mary Joyner Bullard, told me years ago about people who make excuses as to why they don't do certain things. She said, "Honey, it's not because of so and so. People do or don't do, for the most part, exactly what they want to do. If they really want to do something they find a way, and if they don't want to do it, they don't, but most don't tell the truth about it."

She was right. During my years of laboring with the Stephen Foster, with the Sunrise Service and with other events, I was tempted to give up, but if I had, what would have happened? In some cases, things would go by the wayside. So, just keep moving forward and doing the best you can, and know that it is appreciated and you are appreciated.

Wishing everyone a wonderful spring and I have enjoyed this trek down memory lane.

We have more spring-time events coming. The Annual Antique Tractor and Engine Show the first weekend in April at Stephen Foster and don't forget to mark your calendars for the 47th Annual Easter Sunrise Service at Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park on Sunday, April 20, in front of the carillon tower, beginning at 7 a.m. Gates of the park will open at 6:15 a.m., carillon concert at 6:45 a.m. and service at 7 a.m. Admission is free. A love offering will be taken up after the service. Refreshments will be served in the carillon auditorium following the service. Another wonderful spring time tradition here in our beloved White Springs.

Congratulations to James Cornett, CEO of Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, for the nice article about him in Currents Magazine. Very, very nice and well deserved. Genius of the Suwannee River Jam, James has done so much for our area. We appreciate him and his continued effort and accomplishments and for doing a great job of bringing quality entertainment events to our area. He, along with the staff at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park are to be commended for a job well done.

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

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Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Easter Gifts THAT INSPIRE

Children's gifts that encourage creative play

FAMILY FEATURES

From the brimming basket itself to the goodies within, Easter has become a true gift-giving occasion. With sugar-coated marshmallow chicks and giant chocolate bunnies, there are endless ways to give your little ones gifts that fit this beloved holiday's traditionally sweet offerings. But with the health of children top of mind, some parents are using this special springtime occasion as a way to give better-for-you gifts that stimulate the brain and inspire creativity.

Gifts that promote creativity

This Easter, instead of giving unhealthy candy that only lasts a few bites, consider long-lasting gifts that inspire the imagination and provide endless hours of enjoyment. Here are some creative gift-giving ideas for your little recipient.

Explore artistic worlds

Foster some artistic spirit with a basket filled with paint brushes, pastels, papers, molding clay and other imaginative tools. Just be sure to buy supplies that are age appropriate and safe for the recipient.

Encourage pretend play

Give kids toys that allow them to express themselves, such as the Hopscotch Rabbit Family from Calico Critters. It is one of many cute and lovable critter families your child can collect this Easter. These award-winning miniature animals promote wholesome family values and inspire the imagination.

Making Easter memories

Many families use this special holiday as an opportunity to create new traditions and teachable moments for their youngsters. Here are some ways your family can do the same:

- Make discovering the basket part of the fun with a treasure hunt using a series of hidden clues or a hand-crafted map.
- Ask your children to join you in preparing and delivering baskets to a senior living residence in your community.
- Theme your baskets for a family activity, with each child receiving a critical piece of the overall project. For example, one child receives a garden spade, another gets packets full of seeds, and so on.

Begin a love for books

Let their adventures begin with stories your little ones will want you to read them over and over again. Look for seasonal books that share the stories of the Easter holiday or those with a springtime theme.

Dress up for fun

Let their inner princess, super hero and ballerina shine through by lining their basket with a variety of colorful, fun outfits and accessories. Dress up play encourages hours of imaginative play and can even allow the parents to join in on the role playing excitement.

Build the mind

From oversized pieces suitable for tiny tikes to complete, intricate sets for older kids, there are many great building toys for children of all ages. Since they're loved by all, building block sets are a great choice for families with boys and girls.

Create beautiful music

From mini xylophones to tambourines and recorders, add some booming beats and expressive harmonies to their day with musical instruments. Include a lesson book with songs and they'll be playing a tune in no time.

Discover outdoor play

Unglue them from their tablets, smartphones and televisions, and encourage

outdoor play for stimulating physical activity. Tuck a basketball, kite or even a jump rope inside those baskets and it's game on.

Plant the seed

For the budding gardener, fill those plastic eggs with seeds and give them gloves, shovels and terra cotta pots to begin their own garden. They will learn a valuable lesson about how plants are grown and some pointers on responsibility, too.

Get crafty

Beads, baubles, yarn and other craft goods allow children to create anything they put their mind to. Visit the clearance section at your local craft store to find a variety of materials young hands will love to work with.

Inspire theatrical performances

From birds to humans to dinosaurs, puppets allow kids to put on a show wherever they are. Look for those that engage in learning, such as puppets in the shape of farm animals or even fruits and vegetables.

From exploring new worlds in a picture book to learning to play a musical instrument, your little ones will adore receiving these thoughtful and brain-boosting gifts this Easter.

For other great gift ideas, visit www.calicocritters.com and www.earlyyears.com.



Fill your child's Easter basket with fun toys, such as Calico Critters, which encourage imaginative and creative play.

Baby wants a basket, too

Although the littlest members of the family certainly won't be sinking their teeth into gooey chocolate bunnies, these ideas for creating a small basket of age-appropriate items will let baby join older siblings in the fun.

- Rather than a traditional woven basket, choose a snugly plush container reflecting a favorite character or an Easter-themed animal such as a bunny, chick or lamb.
- You're never too young for an Easter present. Include your infant in the holiday festivities by introducing them to a world of wonderment with Earlyyears toys, such as their award-winning Soft Baby Blocks or Baby Farm Friends Bowling. These products are not only fun and colorful, but they help your baby learn and develop every step of the way.
- Look for gifts that celebrate the season that can be used every day. This can include a hooded bath towel in the character of a duck or bunny.
- Avoid using plastic grass as a filler, which can pose a choking hazard. Instead opt for shredded paper or tissue paper. Or get creative and line the basket with useful items such as new washcloths or burp rags.
- To round out baby's basket, consider the developmental stage and incorporate relevant items. For example, if you'll soon be saying farewell to bottles, use Easter as an opportunity to get your baby excited about using a brand new sippy cup.

Bradford Fest Talent Show/Suwannee River Jam Audition winners announced

Bradford Fest Talent Show has chosen three winners who will compete in the Suwannee River Jam (SRJ) Audition finals April 18 at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak. The winner(s) of the SRJ finals will perform at The Suwannee River Jam April 30-May 3 at the SOSMP.

Winners are Steffanie Renae (first place), Sylvia Howard (second place) and Jessica Thornton and Lindsey Murphy (third place). These winners join Joe Martino of Lake City, Jasmine Horton of Lake City and Jessica Bassett of Jacksonville who will perform at the SRJ finals. Martino, Horton and Bassett won the SRJ audition at the Smokin' Pig BBQ Festival Sept. 21, 2013 in Lake City. Savannah Ward of Branford also won a wildcard slot for that event which means she could be chosen to perform at the finals.

Steffanie Renae - Steffanie, 17, Orange Park, has performed in Las Vegas, Hollywood and Nashville, at numerous county and state fairs, fraternal organizations including the Loyal Order of Moose, VFW, American Legion and the 2011 - 2012 Suwannee River Jam. She has opened for many country celebrities including Travis Tritt and The Bellamy Brothers. In 2011, Steffanie won a golden ticket to Hollywood on

American Idol before being cut in the final round. She and her new band, Wreckless, recently opened for Casey James and Josh Gracin and have played more than 50 shows.

Sylvia Griner Howard - The sixth of 10 children, Sylvia was born and raised in Green Cove Springs. At age 6, Sylvia began singing at The Glorious Church of Jesus Christ, Penny Farms. God is still blessing Sylvia as she walks with Him and uses her gift from God. She has traveled to Houston, TX; North Rochester, NY; Norfolk, VA; the Carolinas and throughout Florida to sing. Sylvia has opened for many gospel singers, including Smokie Norful, the Williams Brothers & Vicki Winans. Most recently, Sylvia received an invitation to open for Jessica Reddy, the runner-up of season 2 of BET's Sunday's Best.

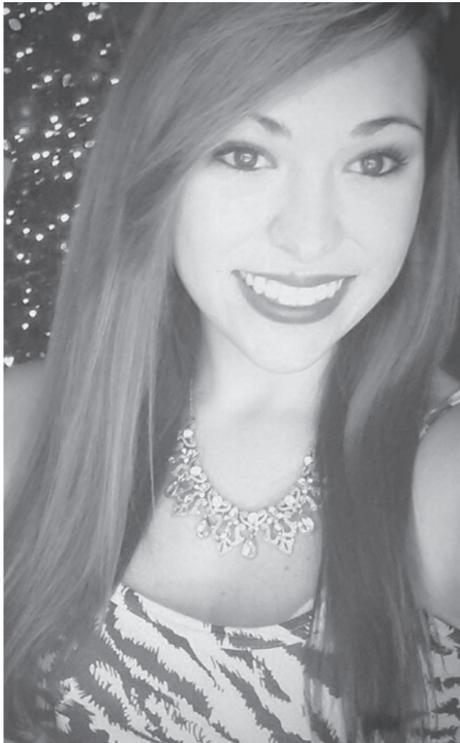
Jessica Thornton and Lindsey Murphy - Jessica Thornton, 19, is a sophomore at Santa Fe College. She plays and teaches guitar. She's also played at several churches and is a regular member of a church praise band. Influences include the talents of John McMillan, Ricky Thompson and Tory Dardar of Broken Vessels. "Music is a way to express yourself," Jessica says. Her personal goals include traveling and making a difference in the world. She plans

to pursue a degree in occupational therapy. Lindsey, 16, grew up in the Keystone Heights area the oldest of three children and has two younger brothers. She's a junior at Hope Christian Academy and is dual enrolled at Santa Fe College. The development of her musical talent consumes most of her time. Lindsey began singing in church at age 4. She is a member of the praise team at First Baptist Church, Starke and Hope Christian Academy and the lead singer of the Murphy Family Band. She plays guitar, keyboard and piano.

The next SRJ Auditions are Feb. 8 at the SOSMP in Live Oak at 7 p.m., no admission; Steinhatchee Fiddler Crab Festival Feb. 15 in Steinhatchee beginning at 11 a.m. and The Landing SRJ Audition in Jacksonville March 22 from 2 - 6 p.m. All SRJ Auditions are under the auspices of 1st Street Music and Sound Company of Lake City. Go to their website for more on 1st Street Music.

If you would like to make reservations for RV parking, cabins, primitive camping or camper parking at the SOSMP, call 386-364-1683, email spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musicliveshere.com.

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



Steffanie Renae



Sylvia Howard



Jessica Thornton and Lindsey Murphy



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Florida Fish Busters' Bulletin

By Bob Wattendorf

Bream destinations great for kids; license-free fishing weekend, photo contest coming soon

Virtually all of Florida's fresh waters are brimming with bream, which include bluegill, redear sunfish, redbreast sunfish and spotted sunfish.

These sporty little fish are many a kid's first catch, introducing them to a lifetime of fishing fun. They provide great opportunities for shoreline fishing using simple cane poles or spinning rods. License-free freshwater fishing weekends are a great time for adults to introduce kids to fishing and see if they and you would like to take up the sport.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) schedules the first of four license-free recreational freshwater fishing days on the first full weekend in April each year (April 5-6 this year), because it is such a productive fishing time, and the weather is usually pleasant. Many of Florida's recreational sport fishes, such as black bass, bluegill and redear sunfish, move into the shallows to spawn during spring, making them more available for anglers to catch.

During license-free freshwater fishing weekends (the first weekend in April and the second weekend in June) no recreational fishing license is required; however, all other bag limit, season, gear and size restrictions apply on these dates for recreational fishing. The FWC invites you to take this opportunity to take your family, friends and colleagues fishing.

Children don't need a fishing license

until they are 16, but parents may buy them one at any time and they won't expire until they are 17. This helps the FWC attain additional revenue from the Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration program to improve their fishing and gives the child pride in belonging to the angling community.

Fishing is a low-cost, wholesome form of entertainment that often pays for itself with healthy food for the table. An annual license (MyFWC.com/License; 888-347-4356) is only \$17.50 for residents.

To further encourage recreational fishing, the FWC will conduct a special contest during April to collect photos of anglers. All you have to do is post a photo of your family fishing in Florida's fresh waters on Twitter or Instagram with #FWC-FamilyFishing. In return for your efforts, the FWC will enter your name into a drawing for one of six surprise packages, each including a \$50 gift card, compliments of Bass Pro Shops and TrophyCatch, and another \$50 worth of assorted fishing lures, hooks, line and goodies to make your next trip even more productive.

Submitted photos must be your own, unedited pictures, and the photo must not include inappropriate content. Photos should be taken during April while freshwater fishing in Florida and include multiple anglers enjoying their day together on the water. The FWC may subsequently use the photos for outreach purposes.

In addition, freshwater anglers are encouraged to participate in the Big Catch angler-recognition program. All you need to do is catch one of 33 species of freshwater fish that exceed a

specific length or weight, go to Big-CatchFlorida.com, fill out some information and post a photo. Besides getting to share the excitement of your catch on the Internet, you'll receive via email a custom certificate to print, and a discount

forSportsmanOnCanvas.com. Big Catch encourages anglers to try different species and locations, by recognizing different levels of achievement: Master Angler (five different qualifying Big Catch species), Elite Angler (10 different qualifying Big Catch species) or Specialist (five qualifying fish of the same species). It is fun and challenging for the entire family.

Here are some tips to make your bream fishing more successful. During spring, sunfish congregate to spawn in water depths from 3 to 10 feet. Bluegill continue to spawn periodically throughout summer. Bluegill opt for slightly shallower areas than redear sunfish, but it's not unusual to see them use the same bedding areas simultaneously. Crickets, grubs, sand maggots or grass shrimp will all catch bedding bluegill. Use a small hook, #6 or #8, with a split-shot sinker about 6 inches up the line, and concentrate on water less than 6 feet deep. A small float helps identify strikes. For artificial baits, a 1/8-ounce "beetle spin" with a white or chartreuse body on ultralight tackle is an excellent choice. Your local bait and tackle shop can quickly help you find what you need.

The redear sunfish, or shellcracker, is another popular panfish. Although they prefer snails and clams, redear sunfish are caught most often on earthworms around the full moon in

March and April, when spawning peaks. Redear prefer hard-bottom habitat and typically begin spawning about one month before bluegill. In south Florida, shellcracker spawn as early as late February and will likely begin bedding in the Panhandle around the end of May, depending on water temperatures. Shellcracker continue spawning into August.

Redbreast sunfish, also known as river bream and redbellies, are the flowing water cousins of bluegill. Redbellies are more common in rivers than bluegill, and often can be found in backwater areas with less flow. The same baits that work for bluegill will catch redbreast sunfish.

The spotted sunfish, or stump-knocker, is an often overlooked stream panfish. Aply named, stumpknockers can be found in the tangle of roots at the water's edge. Although spotted sunfish rarely exceed 8 inches, these feisty species provide great sport on light tackle. Tiny (1/16-ounce) beetle spins pitched close to shore can be deadly, particularly tipped with freshwater clam meat.

With a fishing hole within 30-45 minutes of almost everyone in Florida, the hardest part might be picking your destination. Although your neighborhood pond or a local park may be your best bet, FWC biologists created a list of some major public water bodies they think should be great bream fisheries this year. For full descriptions of the sites, access to them and specific fishing tips for these locations, see MyFWC.com/Fishing and under "Freshwater Fishing" select "Sites/Forecasts."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March Gardening Madness Workshop

When: March 25, 9:00 - 3:30.

Where: Camp Weed Conference Center (Rt. 90, between Lake City and Live Oak).
What: full day of gardening topics including Raised beds, Containers, Small space design, Butterfly gardens, insects, weeds, irrigation.
Fee of \$15 covers lunch, materials, insect lens.
Must pre-register by March 21 to attend.
Call the Extension office at 386 752-5384.

UF/IFAS is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

State park to host Chili Cook-Off and Springs Celebration

Seventh annual sanctioned chili-cook off

Alachua County, Fla. - Alachua County, The Friends of O'Leno, and the Santa Fe River Springs Basin Working Group invite citizens to the O'Leno Ole' Chili Cook-Off (from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and Springs Celebration (from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.), on Saturday March 29, 2014, at O'Leno State Park (410 SE O'Leno Park Road). Admission to the park is free with the donation of one can of food per person to benefit a local food bank.

The events include: a chili cook-off, live music, model train exhibits, children's activities, and environmental exhibits. Participate in an Exhibit Scavenger Hunt and win a prize. Chili tasting kits will be on sale for \$5 and all proceeds assist the Friends of O'Leno, Inc. a non-profit organization with their mission of supporting the park.

"The Springs Celebration is a great event for everyone to learn how their actions are connected to the health of our springs, even when they live tens of miles away from them," said Stacie Greco with the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. She continued, "When we use a lot of water, fertilize inappropriately, or neglect our septic systems we may be harming the springs of the Santa Fe River where we all enjoy recreation."

For more information visit the Alachua County Springs Protection website, or call Stacie Greco at 352-264-6829, or go to www.friendsofolenos.org.

Wellborn Blueberry Pancake Breakfast

1st Saturday monthly

7am-11am

Wellborn Community Center

Event to benefit Annual Wellborn Blueberry Festival

UF Weight Management Program

Have you heard? Do you qualify? The UF Weight Management Program is funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. This study will examine ways to promote long-term weight management for men and women in rural counties of North Florida. This is a free program and you can even receive compensation for travel. Sessions will be in the UF/IFAS Extension Office in Suwannee County, 11th Street, Live Oak. Our goal is to help you lose weight, increase fitness, improve nutrition and manage stress. To learn more and to see if you qualify, call 1-877-273-5235.

Lafayette Adult and Family Education Center

Providing help with:

GED Preparation, GED Testing, TABE Preparation, Career Planning, FAFSA Application, College/Vo-Tech Entrance

There is a fee charged per semester for all students that enroll in the program: \$45 for Florida residents and \$180 for out-of-state residents.

Join us Monday and Tuesday 5-9 p.m.

Call (386) 294-2446 for more information

Let us help YOU see a BRIGHTER future!

Camera Club meets

The Branford Camera Club meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month, with an occasional exception, for the purpose of sharing, learning, and enjoying all things photographic. We are an eclectic group with experiences ranging from complete novice to consummate professional.

Please join us.

For more information, please contact:

Carolyn Hogue, Program Chair, 386-935-2044

Skip Weigel, Technical Consultant, 386-9382

Live Oak Elks Lodge #1165

We are sponsoring a golf tournament at the Florida Gateway Golf & Country Club in Hamilton County,

March 15 to benefit Elks charities for information call the lodge at 362-1165 or 792-1900.

4 - man scramble \$50 per player - hole sponsor \$100.

Volunteers needed

Learn how to be a SHINE volunteer in your communi-

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 14A



Professional service with an Old Fashioned Touch!

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127 Howard Street E., Live Oak, FL
Phone: 386-362-4539
Toll Free: 1-800-557-7478
Se Habla Espanol



 <p>CUTE brick home, 2/2 on almost an acre close to Advent Christian Village. Completely furnished. \$79,000. Call Sylvia Newell at 386-590-2498. MLS#86670</p>	 <p>VERY NICE - Well Built Block 2/1 Home in Town and Very Close to Shopping, Schools and Recreation. Built in 1996 and Includes some appliances. Large Carport. Needs Nothing. Ready to be Moved Into! \$89,000 Call Vern Roberts 386-688-1940 MLS#85365</p>	 <p>REDUCED! CITY LIMITS - This 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with 1,400+ sq.ft. is located in the city limits of Live Oak and priced at just \$97,500. Call for more information. 386-362-4539. M L S # 8 3 9 5 8 www.RealEstateShows.com/696171</p>	 <p>SUPERBLY maintained 2006 TWMMH on 5 acres in Northern Suwannee County. 3/2 with a spacious and open floor plan, FP, crown molding. This one is very classy and turn-key! \$138,000. Call William Golightly, 386-590-6681 MLS#85666</p>
 <p>REDUCED - TWO HOMES for just \$149,900! Located on 16+ acres w/ Immaculate 3/1, looks new inside & out, 5 outbuildings, also a 1993 totally renovated DWMH, fenced & cross fenced. Sylvia Newell, 386-590-2498 MLS#82405</p>	 <p>JUST LISTED - 2001, 3/2 home close to Charles Springs. Quiet, privacy, deer & turkey. Concrete boat ramp just down from the house. Trails for hiking/horse riding. Additional acreage available. \$165,000. Call David Mincey, 386-590-0157 MLS#86534</p>	 <p>BEAUTIFUL HOME privately situated on 10 acres of wooded land featuring Custom Kitchen Cabinets and Cozy Stone Fireplace. Home was built in 2003 w/1,800+ sq.ft. Within 5 miles of the River. \$209,900. Call Vern Roberts, 386-688-1940 MLS#85891</p>	 <p>LOCATED on the banks of the Suwannee River just downstream from the Santa Fe. Approx 1 mile from the Santa Fe River boat ramp. Complete with almost 2,000 Sq.ft. walkway to the river, deck, and a floating boat slip. Completely furnished. \$338,000. MLS#86409</p>

1 ACRE in Creekside Subdivision. 2 lots to choose from. Homes only. \$5,900 each Live Oak. MLS#78859

JUST \$9,900 - Several lots to choose from in the Azalea Park Subdivision. Located inside the city limits. close to schools, doctors, and other amenities. MLS#85801

CORNER LOT - 4 acres with well and septic tank. Very wooded and private. There is a 1984 DWMH that has no value. \$29,500. Call Irvin Dees, 386-208-4276 MLS#82228

ON THE SUWANNEE RIVER - 114ft, 2 ac, near Luraville. Close to public boat ram & springs, wooded w/some clearing near river. \$35,000. Glenda McCall, 386-208-5244 MLS#83125

BANK OWNED - CLOSE TO TOWN with Wall to ceiling tongue and groove pine board. 3/1.5 brick home sitting on 1+ Acres. Sizable detached work shop, beautiful yard. \$57,500. MLS#86483

JUST LISTED - 3/2.5 brick home on one acre with big granddaddy oaks. Just outside the city limits. Large FP, family room with built in entertainment center, as well as a large screened in back porch and lanai. Priced right. \$155,000. Call Irvin Dees, 386-208-4276 MLS#84778

ONE OF A KIND: Beautiful 40 acres bordering State Forest on two sides. Horse riding trails, fishing in the River, EXCELLENT deer and turkey hunting. Nice barns and SVMH like new condition. PRIVATE, SECLUDED. \$249,900. David Mincey, 386-590-0157

www.poolerealty.com

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued From Page 13A

ty. SHINE volunteers offer free counseling and assistance to Florida Seniors and those with disabilities, on topics related to Medicare, Medicaid, long term care planning, prescription drug assistance, supplemental insurance and more. Volunteers are needed in Suwannee County. Comprehensive three day training will take place in Lake City on **March 25-27**. Costs for transportation are reimbursed and meals provided. Call 1-800-262-2243 for information and application.

Suwannee Amateur Radio Club

First Tuesday, social at 6:30 p. m., followed by regular meeting at 7, at its club house, located north of I10 & US129, Live Oak. Call for exact location and directions. Visitors are always welcome! The club offers periodic testing for your ham license. The club's web site is www.suwanneearc.org. Amateur radio operators (HAMS) provide emergency radio communications for those organizations involved in emergencies like law enforcement, hospitals, shelters and the American Red Cross. Contact the club's president, Ron, 688-4057, for more information.

Artisans and Growers Market

Opens in the Wirick-Simmons Garden

At the corner of Pearl and Cherry Streets This market will be open the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you Make it -- Bake it -- Grow it -- or Sew it, you can sell it here

\$5.00 for your table -- We furnish three canopy tents

\$10.00 for 12x12 space on lawn for your tent or pick-up

All proceeds benefit the Monticello Old Jail Museum

For more information Contact:

Anne H. Holt
Phone: 850-576-0721
E-Mail: ahholt@ahholt.com

Boy Scout Troop 693 has new sponsor, meeting location

Boy scout troop 693, Harry Reeve scoutmaster, troop693@windstream.net, (386) 590-6121, have begun meeting at the Live Oak Shrine Club, 11557 100th Street, on Thursdays, 6:30 - 8 p. m.

The Shrine Club has recently become its charter organization!

Membership is open to 11-17 year-old boys.

Attention bridge players

A group of bridge players meet every Monday at 6 p.m. at Sakura Restaurant, 1548 S. Ohio Ave., Live Oak to play Chicago bridge. We have openings for players. Please contact Lucille Heinrich at 362-5995 for more information.

Want to learn bridge or brush up on your skills? Meet at Sakura Restaurant on Monday at 5 p.m. for an hour of FREE tutoring. Contact Lucille Heinrich at 362-5995 to register.

Florida Telecommunications Relay

A representative from Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc will be at Beltone Hearing Aid Center, located at 109 East Howard Street in Live Oak on the first

Monday of every month to distribute FREE Hard of Hearing telephones. Also, free hearing screening are available, if there are any questions or to schedule an appointment call Candi at 386-362-5452.

Florida Trail Association Suwannee Chapter meetings

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, except in July and Aug., at the Suwannee River Water Management District Office, from 7-9 p.m. The SRWMD office is located on US 90 and CR 49, two miles east of Live Oak. The public is cordially invited to attend.

The mission of the FTA is to develop, maintain, promote and protect a continuous public hiking trail the length of the state of Florida, called the Florida National Scenic Trail, and other side and loop trails, together called the Florida Trail System. Further, they are dedicated to educating the public by teaching appreciation for and conservation of the natural beauty of Florida, and to provide opportunities for hiking, camping and other outdoor experiences.

For further information, you may go to the Florida Trail Suwannee Chapter website at: suwannee.floridatrail.org, or Suwannee MeetUp Group at: www.meetup.com/suwannee-FTA. You may also contact the Chapter Chair, Irvin Chance, at andachance@msn.com or by phone at 386-330-2424.

American Legion Post 107

Monthly meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 12 p.m. All active duty military members & veterans are invited to attend. Contact Don Urwiller at 386-362-5987. Post 107 location is 129 S., turn left at the American Flag and POW/MIA flag on to 142nd St. Post is 1 mile on the right.

American Legion Post 107

Turkey Shoot is held every other Saturday behind the Legion Post starting at 12:30 p.m. We have 8 rounds of fun and excitement and the winner of each round will receive either beef, pork, turkey or \$\$\$\$ Turkey Shoot is OPEN to the public. Call 386-362-5987 for more information. Post 107 location is 129 S., turn left at the American Flag and POW/MIA flag on to 142nd St. Post is 1 mile on the right.

The Live Oak Art Guild

Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month (except July and December), at the Suwannee River Regional Library. Each meeting has a business agenda followed by refreshments and a program. We welcome all who are interested to attend.

Applications to fill vacancy at Advisory Council

Elder Options is a private, non-profit agency designated by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs to administer state and federal grant programs for seniors and caregivers in 16 counties. We serve as the Area Agency on Aging, 1-800 Elder Helpline, and Aging and Disability Resource Center.

Currently, we are accepting applications to fill a vacancy on our Advisory Council in Suwannee County. Applicants must be

a resident of the County and should have an active interest in social and nutrition programs for older persons.

Members of the Advisory Council serve on a voluntary basis without pay. For an application or more information, visit our website at www.agingresources.org. You can also contact Cindy Roberts at (352) 692-5260 or robertsc@agingresources.org.

The First Baptist clothes closet

Invites you to their clothes closet. We are located at 515 SW 5th St. (the old red barn that was Cheryl's Buffet). It is open the first and third Thursday of every month from 8 a.m. until noon.

The clothing is free and ranges in sizes from newborn to plus sizes for men, women and children.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program

Freedom from your hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Something doesn't feel quite right? Are hurts from the past haunting you? Do you feel like your life is out of control? Are you tired of making the same mistakes over and over again? Does it seem like certain habits have taken control of your life? Join us at Melody Church every Friday night! Fellowship/dinner at 6 p.m., group discussion at 7 p.m. Visit Melody Church at 10046 US HW 129 in Live Oak, call 386-364-4800, or call Greg Player at 386-688-1454 for more information.

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

Free breakfast & lunch for ages 60 and older
When: Monday - Friday
Where: Senior Center
1171 Nobles Ferry Road
Live Oak, Fla. 32064

Time: Breakfast 8:30 - 10 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m.

Make reservations for lunch by 9:30 a.m. 386-362-1164

Suwannee County Branch NAACP - Unit #5137

President: Mr. Lesley White
Mailing address: P.O. Box 6105, Live Oak, FL 32064

Telephone: 386-647-7360
Email: al101st@comcast.net

Meetings: First Monday in each month at 6 p.m. Ex. Bd., 7 p.m. membership meeting.

The Sparkleberry Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Sparkleberry Chapter meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month, except June, July, and August, at Hatch Park in Branford. Please contact Chapter President Mae Brandt, maebrandt@bellsouth.net, 386-466-0915, for more information.

Boy Scout Troop 408

Meets on Thursdays from 7-8:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 107, 10726 142nd St., between Live Oak and McAlpin. Membership is open to boys ages 6-10. Join us for camping, archery, BB shooting, and many other fun activities. Parents encouraged to participate. 386-209-3480.

Cub Scout Pack 408

Meets on Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 107, 10726 142nd St., between Live Oak and McAlpin. Membership is open to boys ages 6-10. Join us for camping, archery, BB shooting, and many other fun activities. Parents encouraged to participate. 386-209-3480.

Elks Lodge Bingo

Bingo is every Monday night from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the lodge featuring a progressive jackpot. Non Smoking. Drinks and snacks available.

The Arc North Florida Recycle with us

We recycle: Name brand ink cartridges and laser cartridges, working cell phones

w/electric cord, digital cameras - GPS - MP3, laptops.

For more info on how you can help The Arc recycle products please call 386-362-7143 Ext. 5.

Supporting adults with intellectual & developmental disabilities in Suwannee, Hamilton, Lafayette, Columbia & Baker Counties.

Suwannee County Bassmasters

Do you enjoy bass fishing?
Are you the competitive type?
Do you enjoy associating with other fishermen?

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thurs. of each month.

The club fishes on the Sat. following the Thurs. meeting at various N. Fla. locations.

Come to our next meeting or call for details Mike Johnson 386-688-4780 or Robert Dees 386-688-0978.

Antioch Baptist Church "Stars Widow Group"

Every 4th Thurs. of each month at 10:30 a.m. 5203 CR 795 Live Oak, Fla. 32060 386-362-3101

Recovery By The Numbers group of Narcotics Anonymous

Meets Wed and Friday at 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1391 11th St. S.W. Live Oak 386-249-3505 or Help Line # 866-352-5323, <http://uncoastna.org> Recovery by the numbers is not affiliated with St. Lukes.

Travel baseball team

North Florida River Rats 10u and 11u Travel baseball team is looking for players. If interested, please contact

Jamie Allbritton @ 386-209-0166

Suwannee Democratic Executive Committee meeting

Suwannee DEC will meet on the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at Live Oak City

Hall, 101 White Ave., Live Oak, FL 32064.

Save the Cats of Live Oak Aluminum Can Drive

Please help us help them. Save your aluminum for recycling. Recycle trailer located in vacant lot next to Dairy Queen. Donations of kitty food, wet food, litter and money to help with expenses can be taken to the Thrift Store behind Big Wheel Market Place at 217 W. Howard St. We need your help to help them. Spay, neuter, medications, food, litter and money contributions. We are a non-profit group 501C3 being applied for. For more information, call Barney at 386-364-1006.

Volunteers and building materials needed

For Save the Cats of Live Oak to build a cat/kitten condo to hold kittens while waiting to be adopted and or spay/neutered. We need lumber, 2x4, 2x6, 4x4, concrete, floor tile, electrical wire, etc., and people to help build. We are a non-profit and can give deductible receipts. Please call if you can help at 386-364-1006.

Save the Cats of Live Oak Donations needed

Food barrels for donations of wet and dry food as well as litter are located at Tractor Supply in Live Oak, Fred's, Downtown Cafe and Big Wheel Market Place. Other items needed include money for spay and neuter, blankets, totes, towels, building supplies, services of a carpenter. Please call for additional info at 386-364-1006. Non-profit 501C3. Receipts available.

Save the Cats of Live Oak Adoptions available

We have several beautiful, cuddly kittens, male & female, all have been spayed & neutered, checked for FIV, leukemia and rabies shots. Special donation rate \$30. To

have these things done at a vet clinic would cost over \$100. We are a 501-C3 non-profit reserve. Also need donations of kitten food, dry food and tidy cats litter. Bring donations to Big Wheel Market Place, 217 W. Howard St or Downtown Cafe, Tractor Supply or Freds. Call for additional information Barney 386-364-1006.

TOPS FI #0662

We would like to invite everyone that has a little or a lot of weight to lose, to come visit us. TOPS is a weight loss support group. We strive to help each other through out our meetings. We have different programs such as stress eating, the buffet, portion control, exercise, medications that can cause weight gain, and more. Take Off Pounds Sensibly is an organization that supports you



NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA BRIDE 2014 WEDDING fair

"Wedding fashion has never looked this good!"

Not your ordinary wedding expo...

Join us for the chance to meet the region's most outstanding wedding professionals, from photographers and coordinators, to caterers and florists - and everything in between. Prize Give-A-Ways! Brides be sure to register to win the highly coveted NCF Bride Grand Prize worth over \$5,000! Be sure not to miss our one-of-a-kind Runway Show... featuring gowns and wedding styles from

The Golden Needle and The Wedding Loft!

SUNDAY, MARCH 23RD
1 PM - 4 PM

The Banquet Hall

at Columbia County Fairgrounds
438 SW SR 247, Lake City, FL 32055
\$5 General Admission

For more information contact (386)792-4050 or visit www.ncfbride.com

Brides-to-Be!
Call early and reserve your seat and get an exclusive SWAG Bag, including a NCF Bride Wedding Fair Tee Shirt!



EARNHARDT & SONS UPHOLSTERY

March Specials

NO TRICKS
Chair \$229⁰⁰ each
or
Sofa & Chair \$489⁰⁰



Price includes fabric & labor.

More than 300 fabrics to select from!

Price also includes spring & frame repairs, new padding added to entire piece.

New cushion foam is extra if needed.

NO Seconds • NO Close-Outs ALL First Quality Material.

"I personally guarantee all work to suit you"

Toby Earnhardt
EARNHARDT & SONS UPHOLSTERY
MADISON, FLORIDA

1-850-973-6006 OR 1-850-973-4667



SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 15A

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued From Page 14A

while striving to meet your goal weight, as well as after meeting your goal, and you are working to maintaining our goal. TOPS 0662 meets on Thursday mornings at the First Advent Christian Church, 699 Pinewood Dr., Live Oak, Fla. We start our weight in at 8 - 8:50 a.m. The meeting starts at 9 -10 a.m. your first visit is free, so come and let us support you in your challenge to Take Off Pounds Sensibly. For more information contact Elaine at 386-364-5537.

Volunteer advocates needed

Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its corps of dedicated advocates who protect the rights of elders who live in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and adult family care homes. The program's local councils are seeking additional volunteers to identify, investigate and resolve residents' concerns. Special training and certification is provided.

All interested individuals who care about protecting the health, safety, welfare and rights of long-term care facility residents -- who often have no one else to advocate for them -- are encouraged to call toll-free 1-888-831-0404 or visit the program's website at <http://ombudsman.myflorida.com>.

Bryan Morgan
Recruitment Manager
Department of Elder Affairs
Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
988 Woodcock Rd, Suite 198
Orlando, FL 32803
850-510-3920 (cellular)
407-228-7752 (office)
407-228-7754 (fax)
morganb@elderaffairs.org

Alcoholics Anonymous

Meetings are held on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m. The meetings are at Nobles Ferry Road next to Meridian Behavioral Health Center. For more information, please call 386-362-4221 or 386-688-3133.

TOPS FL 798

We know everyone has different hopes and dreams, different health conditions and weight loss goals. TOPS helps people meet their individual needs through group support.

However you measure success and whatever you have to lose, TOPS is here for you. Change take time. Take Off Pounds Sensibly supports you, no matter how long, even after you've reached your goal. There is no quick fixes at TOPS and no phony guarantees about weight loss. It's up to you and it's a total commitment on your part, but if you bring the desire, we can help. We meet every Wed. morning at 10 a.m. at the Community Church of God, 10639 Hwy 129 S, Live Oak, Fla. For more information contact Dorie at 386-658-2767

Alzheimer's Support Group

Fourth Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. at Surrey Place Care Center.

The Center is located at 110 Lee Ave. SE in Live Oak.

For any questions or suggestions call Shanna Kirby @ 386-364-5961 ext 16 or my cell 386-209-2327

Live Oak Garden Club

Meets on the 3rd Friday of each month, for a luncheon and a program for "all gardeners". The Live Oak Garden Club is also an ideal location and facility for a wedding reception, baby shower, family reunion, suitable for any event up to 100 people. Visit our website at www.liveoak-floridagardenclub.com or phone Sara at 386-364-4189 for additional information.

Suwannee River Jeep Club & 4X4

SRJC 4X4 is a new off-road club dedicated to Jeeps but open to other makes of 4X4's. We are looking for members that enjoy off-roading activity. We are a family oriented club that have monthly meetings and organize other activities such as trail rides, camping, mud events and fundraising events. Please contact Sarah or Cat at srjc4x4@gmail.com for more info. 386-688-3750 (Sarah).

Volunteers Needed!

Surrey Place Care Center in Live Oak is looking for interested volunteers who would like to share their time and talents with our senior adults. Volunteers enrich the lives of our residents and staff by brightening their days in so many ways!

If you are interested in helping others; if you would like to experience the gratification and sense of purpose that comes from working with senior adults with special needs, then we hope you will accept our invitation to learn more about the volunteer opportunities we have available. Surrey Place Care Center welcomes volunteer involvement in a variety of areas and capacities.

Please join us.

Surrey Place Care Center
Christa Saunders,
Quality of Life Director
386-364-5961
act.surrey@signaturehealthcarellc.com

The Arc North Florida

Adults with Disabilities Program. Open to Branford and surrounding adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

For more information please contact the AWD supervisor Lisa Perry at 386-208-1404

The McAlpin Community Club

The Club is located at 9981 170th Terrace in McAlpin, directly across from the Post Office. Membership fees are \$10.00 per family per year.

For info call Barbara Parks @ 362-3044 or Debbie Phillips @ 364-7028

Navy and Marine Corps

Shipmates who served on the USS Columbus CA-74/cG-12 from 1944 through 1976 and the USS COLUMBUS (SSN-762) past and present, if you would like to share memories and camaraderie with old friends and make new ones, please contact Allen R. Hope, President, 3828 Hobson Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815-4505. Home: (260) 486-2221 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Fax: 260-492-9771, email: Hope439@frontier.com.

Love Forever

Live Oak Church of Christ, 1497 SR 51 (Irvin Ave) will be open every third Saturday morning of each month for a clothes closet and food pantry, 10:30 - 12 noon.

The Columbia Federated Republican Women

Meet the 2nd Monday of each month, 7 p.m., brown bag dinner & social time at 6:30 p.m. Currently we meet in Lake City at the old Guardian ad Litem yellow house on Duval Street just east of the First Baptist Church and across from Advanced Auto. We are committed to advancing the participation of women in all areas of the political system and are dedicated to encouraging and empowering women of all ages and backgrounds. Visit the Florida Association's web page at <http://www.firw.net/home.html>. Covering North Central Florida - all women are encouraged to attend and be involved in the political process! For more

info contact President Gayle Cannon: 386-303-2616, gcannon@atlantic.net

Free meals for seniors

First Baptist Church of Dowling Park. We are a meal site for the Suwannee River Economic Council. Free meals are served for seniors over the age of 60 in the church fellowship hall Monday through Friday from 12 noon to 1 p.m. For more information or to sign up, please contact us at 386-658-2360.

Boy Scout Troop 693

Weekly meetings, Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:00 p. m., at the Church of the Nazarene, 915 Church St., SW. The troop goes camping monthly as well as attends winter and/or summer week-long camps. The program is for boys who have completed the 5th grade, or is 11-years old, and until their 18 birthdays. Adults are welcome to participate as leaders, committee members and/or merit badge counselors - after passing mandatory background checks. For additional information on the Boy Scouting program in Live Oak, contact the troop's scoutmaster, Harry Reeve, 386 590-6121, troop693@windstream.net.

Freckles are a common skin condition

Whether it's a light smattering of spots over the bridge of a person's nose or tiny spots covering his or her arms and legs, freckles are a reality for thousands of people. Despite their prevalence, many people are unsure just why freckles form or who is most likely to have them on their bodies.

Freckles are spots on the skin that are produced from concentrations of melanin, which is the pigment in the skin that gives it its color. Freckles generally show up on people who have fair skin. Melanin is derived from the amino acid tyrosine, which helps with protein production in the body. Melanin is usually a black-brown shade and is produced as a defense against the harmful UV rays of the sun.

In the body, the melanocortin 1 receptor on the MC1R gene helps produce melanin that tans the body. Variants of the MC1R gene will lead to freckles. Melanin is produced in two types: pheomelanin and eumelanin. Individuals who primarily produce pheomelanin tend to have freckles. Freckles also are largely genetic, and some identical twins may have similar freckle patterns.

There are two basic forms of freckles. These include simple freckles and sunburn freckles. Both are made more prominent by exposure to the sun. Simple freckles are usually small, tan and round. Sunburn freckles are larger, darker and more irregular in shape. You'll find them usually on the upper back and shoulders. Lentigines is the medical term for darker sunburn freckles that do not tend to fade in the winter.

Freckles, although most common on the face, can occur anywhere on the body that is repeatedly exposed to sun. While freckles are not harmful and rarely lead to skin cancer, people who have freckles are at a higher risk for other skin conditions, which in turn may increase their risk of skin cancer. That's because a person with the pheomelanin type of melanin

has a lower concentration of photoprotective melanin that guards against the harmful effects of UV radiation. People with freckles tend to burn more easily and need to rely on sunscreen and covering their skin to prevent damage. When freckles are present, they may fade when the skin gets less exposure to the sun. But some freckles will remain. Those who are embarrassed by freckles can be diligent about covering up in the sun. There are various topical creams that can bleach freckles and lighten them over time. There also are dermatological laser treatments to lighten or eliminate freckles.

Freckles are a skin condition primarily for those of light skin who are exposed to sunlight. They are largely hereditary and rarely harmful. Those who have concerns about the appearance of freckles can visit a dermatologist to discuss their options.



Freckles are very common on light-skinned people. They form from exposure to the sun.

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Suwannee River Jam

Country music fans get ready for the spectacular 2014 Suwannee River Jam April 30 through May 3 at the beautiful The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park in Live Oak.

Go online to suwanneeriverjam.com to order tickets now. You may also email spirit@musicliveshere.com, go to musicliveshere.com or call the SOSMP at 386-364-1683 with credit card in hand for Easy Pay!

Biographies for 2014 Suwannee River Jam artists



BRANTLEY GILBERT - ACM New Male Artist, Brantley Gilbert, has already earned a striking set of "notches" on his industry belt, including five #1 singles - newest is "Bottoms Up" which went to #1 on Billboard's Country and Country Digital Charts March 15, impressive album sales of over 1 million and multiple nominations from the CMA, ACM, ACA & CMT Music Awards. He recently was part of the Country Radio Seminar New Faces (CRS) Show. Last year he was on the road with Tim McGraw's Two Lanes of Freedom 2013 Tour and is currently performing dates of his own. Brantley's sophomore project, the gold-certified Halfway To Heaven Deluxe, debuted at #2 on the Billboard Country Albums Chart and has since produced two gold-certified, #1 hits - "Country Must Be Country Wide" and "You Don't Know Her Like I Do" - as well as his Top 10 "More Than Miles." As a celebrated songwriter, he has also penned #1 songs - "My Kinda Party," "Dirt Road Anthem," "Country Must Be Country Wide" and "You Don't Know Her Like I Do." In 2011, Brantley garnered the prestigious honor of being the only new artist to have a #1 hit at Country radio.



MONTGOMERY GENTRY - With a new album, a new label and a renewed sense of musical purpose, Eddie Montgomery and Troy Gentry as Montgomery Gentry are poised to stake their claim as one of country music's all-time greatest duos. These two Kentucky boys first busted onto the national scene in 1999 with the defiant "Hillbilly Shoes." Notice was served—country music had never seen a hard driving duo like this. The duo's new collection, the aptly titled *Rebels On The Run*, brings Montgomery Gentry fans back to the beginning, but with a fresh attitude. Montgomery Gentry remains in touch with its working class roots in spite of millions of sold albums, scores of awards and accolades. "We are blue collar workers, and we lived the songs that we sing," says Troy. The duo has 14 Top 10 singles, #1 singles - "Something To Be Proud Of," "If You Ever Stop Loving Me," "Lucky Man," "Back When I Knew It All" and "Roll With Me" and the list goes on and on. When Montgomery Gentry comes to The Suwannee River Jam, it will be a party you'll remember for years to come!



CHRIS CAGLE - After trying college a while, Chris Cagle set off for Nashville to write and play music. After several years of scraping up enough cash to record four original songs for a demo tape, Chris' first number one smash, "I Breathe In, I Breathe Out," remains a fan favorite. After two gold albums, two #1 albums and 12 charted songs, Chris felt burned out and retreated to Oklahoma for a while, built his own home, married and has a daughter now. Chris' 2012, "Back In The Saddle" was his homecoming - a rekindling of his creative flame and a roaring reminder of his rock-infused country roots. Chris Cagle still has the fire, but his passion now is driven not only by music, but family, horses and a place he calls home.



CHARLIE DANIELS - Fiddle-playing country music icon, Grand Ole Opry member, Emmy winner, songwriter and staunch supporter of American freedom, Charlie Daniels has performed for more than 50 years. In 1958, Charlie began his professional music career performing with The Rockets, and 50 years later in January of 2008 he was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry. His style is an exhilarating mixture of rock, country, bluegrass, blues and gospel. Formed in 1972, a new CDB release pays tribute to its musical heritage with Southern Rock favorites "Freebird," "Long Haired Country Boy" and "Can't You See." Charlie is a vocal advocate of preserving American freedoms, authored "Ain't No Rag: Freedom, Family and the Flag," and is an awarding winning songwriter for country, Christian and children's music. As diverse as his live shows have always been, his discography has also reflected Charlie's love of multiple genres. In 1994 he released his first Christian album, *The Door*, on Sparrow Records. The album won the Gospel Music Association's Dove Award for Best Country Album and "Two Out of Three" was named video of the year by the Christian Country Music Association. In 1997, Sony Wonder released Charlie's first children's album, *By The Light of The Moon*™ Campfire Songs and Cowboy Tunes.



COLT FORD - Cathead biscuits, hunting dogs in the back of dusty pickup trucks, life in mobile homes, hunting and fishing, mud-bogging, beautiful Southern women, bull-riding anthems, firing up the outdoor grill, beer drinking, good times....you name it, and it's in the language of Southern rednecks. That's the language Colt Ford speaks to his thousands of fans when he writes country rap songs that speak to rednecks everywhere! This Athens, Georgia husband and father of two who believes in God, country, the South and freedom of expression, packed out a concert at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, home of The Suwannee River Jam, early in his music career as he began his rise to fame. Colt's now a world-wide celebrity, nominated for many awards and makes albums left and right. His latest video is "Back" with Jake Owen. He just released "Ride Through the Country Revisited" to go with his "Driving Around" video and more.



JUSTIN MOORE - "It's a dirt road, a fishing pole, a cold beer sittin' on a tailgate, an old church, a kind word, it's where I was born and raised, Heaven ain't that far away." These lyrics from Justin's self-penned song, "If Heaven Wasn't That Far Away," typifies his philosophy on life. Justin embodies the soul and character of a kid from a small town where he was born. One set of grandparents farmed, and that's where Justin learned about helping with chores and hard work. Justin Moore's recent hit, "Point At You," went #1, as did "If Heaven Wasn't So Far Away." Other hits include "Bait A Hook," "Point At You" and "Small Town USA." Justin's "Letting The Night Roll" off his *Off The Beaten Path* album is moving up on the Billboard Airplay Charts and was at #20 the week of March 15.

Suwannee River Jam



JJ LAWHORN - JJ Lawhorn is the epitome of a good ol' Southern boy. With hunting, fishing and working on his truck as just a few of his hobbies, this rural Virginian lives a life most country artists only sing about. "I grew up working with my hands—you know—doing good hard physical labor," says Lawhorn. "I'm proud of my heritage. I'm proud of where I come from," JJ says. That sentiment rings true throughout his new single, "Stomping Grounds." The single, co-written with Nashville writers Brian Maher and Jamie Pullen, is the follow-up to JJ's hit video, "Sittin' on a Tailgate," which surpassed 350,000 views on YouTube. JJ's first single, "Sitting on a Tailgate," was featured on Average Joes' Mud Digger Vol. 2 album, alongside label-mates Colt Ford and JB and the Moonshine Band. JJ recently completed his first national tour, opening for Colt Ford. In 2011, he officially signed with Average Joes Entertainment. Just say the name JJ Lawhorn in a crowd of music lovers, and you'll quickly find out how many fans this country boy has!



THE LACS - The LACS, the famous short abbreviation for Loud Ass Crackers, are from the sandy, dirt roads of Baxley, Georgia, a South Georgia town more famous for its sawmills and turpentine stills than for having a successful southern rap group. The LACS' third studio album, *Keep It Redneck*, hit shelves in last fall, not a day too soon for legions of loyal fans who can't seem to get enough of "them LACS' boys." Key songs include the title track, "Keep It Redneck," a play-it-loud and proud new song which proclaims the importance of staying true to your roots. If you're looking for a polished, city boy CD, this is not your cup of tea! The LACS will entertain you at The Suwannee River Jam, so get ready, it's going to be country comes to town with entertainment like you haven't seen! This will be the second appearance of The LACS at The SOSMP. The LACS consist of hip hop artist Clay "Uncle Snap" Sharpe and lead vocalist/guitarist Brian "Rooster" King. With a blue collar background, they have worked shutdowns with the union and framed many a house to earn enough money to keep their music dreams alive. The LACS' latest album is still in the works but already has created a buzz with its contributions from Average Joe recording artist Colt Ford on the song "Shindig" and allowing the LACS the privilege of performing some of his tour dates



LOCASH COWBOYS - The LoCash Cowboys - Chris Lucas and Preston Brust - will be at the 2014 Suwannee River Jam to satisfy their eager fans! The guys have their first powerhouse indie album, *LoCash Cowboys!* What else would you expect from the duo that co-wrote Keith Urban's number one "You Gonna Fly," and "Truck Yeah," a smash for Tim McGraw? LoCash also has a new label, Average Joes Entertainment, the right fit at the right time, according to Chris. The high energy, roof-raising spirit of LoCash's live shows (and over 10 million YouTube views) is what their fans love. Yet, in the new album, LoCash showcases their light-hearted, fun-loving edge ("Little Miss Razy Hot," the redneck anthems "Hey, Hey, Hey" and "C.O.U.N.T.R.Y."), as well as their emotional "I Hope," "Best Seat in the House," Chris' tribute to his late father, and "Keep in Mind." They also offer a tip of the hat to the helmsman of the highways in "Independent Trucker," featuring the legendary George Jones. The duo, which formerly wrote and recorded the theme song for from Tanya Tucker's reality show "Tuckerville," is in negotiation for a television show of their own. "We're very serious musicians. This is our career. There is no Plan B. This is our life."



THE MAVERICKS - The Mavericks, a Miami country-steeped garage band with a Cuban/American lead singer, are back. The band emerged in 1989 with its sultry debut but left the music world for a while. Band members reunited in 2012 after an 8-year hiatus. The Mavericks, with its sultry debut that was equal parts innocence, intensity and vintage influences, grabbed huge amounts of attention. Two decades have passed since their brand of post-modern country gave the world "All You Ever Do Is Bring Me Down," "Here Comes The Rain" and "Dance The Night Away." With the new album, time melts once again, and the band that defied definitions, blurred genres and made everybody feel good, is back. The "most interesting band in the world" has captured the infectious energy and robust sound from its live shows on the new Valory Music release, *In Time*. Songs like "Dance In The Moonlight," the Orbison-esque "Born To Be Blue," the horn-punctuated retro "Back In Your Arms Again," and the Tejano-esque "All Over Again" show the Mavericks have once again found the way to make genre-defying soul music. Born to entertain, The Mavericks will draw a crowd and keep you wanting to move and sing along!



DAVID NAIL - Since his debut in 2009, David Nail has made a career of singing sad songs. David's had hits with singles about cheating - "Let It Rain", breakups - "Red Light" and failed dreams - "Turning Home", and has owned every one, singing as if from personal experience. David's ability to make such tales of heartbreak and loss his own is what defines him as an artist—one capable of finding and recording songs that are deeply relatable to him and to listeners. To some, he is country music's Adele, and even covered the British singer's "Someone Like You" on his 1979 EP to mainstream praise. After scoring his first No. 1 single with "Let It Rain" from 2011's critically lauded *The Sound of a Million Dreams*, David nearly burned himself out in the process of touring. But, David prevailed, and he credits his revitalization to his wife Catherine. "I have this newfound happiness, energy and enthusiasm about life," he says. "And the sole inspiration for why I wanted to get better, to change and to be different was because of her." David's albums include the just released *Album Title TBD*, *I'm About to Come Alive* and *The Sound of a Million Dreams*.



Scenes from the 14th Annual Wild Azalea Festival in White Springs



Visitors watched in awe as Florida Highwayman R.L. Lewis put paint to canvas.



The kids really enjoyed the face painting.

Young and old alike enjoyed the day's festivities.



Bullard Brothers and friends delighted the crowd with their musical renditions.

-Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor



In the children's area, these young girls tried their hands at painting.

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Renee Poole with her mom, Eleanor Preston

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**TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014
6:30 P.M.**

Stephen Foster Memorial Auditorium

(Dinner will be provided)

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White Springs City Hall

Presented by the Hamilton County Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Coalition

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**- RSVP by:
Thursday, March 20, 2014**

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a/T: WU: f(Dd R VN'

DI F 68F: G
D 7F: CJB 6AE C6F: 6
8Rnb8YHRP6CRQ9 b af HRd
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DI F 68F: G
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DI F 68F: G
D 7F: CJB 6AE C6F: 6
8Rnb8YHRP6CRQ9 b af HRd
a/T: WU: f(Dd R VN'

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Martin Marietta Materials advertisement for Dragline Operator position. Includes company logo, photos of workers, and contact information for Allen Owen at 3505 Lee Road 159 Auburn, AL.

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ANF (Advertising Networks of Florida) advertisement. Includes Florida map, contact information, and a box for 'Statewide Classified Ad for Week of 03-18-14 - 03-24-14'.



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<p>2014 RAM 2500 4 DOOR 4X4 HEAVY DUTY</p>  <p>V140284 \$33,997</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #333; color: white;"> <p>2014 AWARD SEASON EVENT</p> <p>HURRY IN FOR GREAT DEALS DURING THE AWARD SEASON EVENT*</p> </div>		<p>2014 RAM 3500 DUALY 4 DOOR HEAVY DUTY</p>  <p>Q140127 6.7L CUMMIN DIESEL, REAR BACK-UP CAMERA, TRAILER BRAKE CONTROL 5TH WHEEL/GOOSENECK TOW GROUP, CHROME GROUP MSRP \$48,205 DISC. -\$7,212 \$40,993</p>
<p>2014 DODGE AVENGER</p>  <p>Q140111 \$17,794</p>	<p>2013 DODGE DART</p>  <p>V130392 \$17,993</p>	<p>2014 CHRYSLER 200</p>  <p>V140293 \$18,997</p>	<p>2013 200 CONVERTIBLE</p>  <p>V130432 SPRING IS HERE...RIDE IN STYLE!!! MSRP \$30,615 DISCOUNT -\$5,121 \$25,494</p>
<p>2013 DODGE CHARGER</p>  <p>Q130333 3.6L V6, SPORT APPEARANCE GRP, 18" CHROME WHEELS, SPOILER MSRP \$28,185 DISC -\$5,197 \$22,988</p>	<p>2013 DODGE CHALLENGER</p>  <p>V130182 3.6L V6, LEATHER HEATED SEATS, BOSTON ACOUSTICS, REMOTE START MSRP \$30,535 DISC -\$4,637 \$25,898</p>	<p>2014 DODGE JOURNEY</p>  <p>V140068 \$19,774</p>	<p>2014 JEEP COMPASS</p>  <p>Q140038 \$19,993</p>
			<p>2014 JEEP CHEROKEE</p>  <p>Q140369 \$23,774</p>

All prices plus tax, title & Lemon Law fee of \$3 and reflect all applicable factory rebates. Vehicles may be located at either of our Quitman or Valdosta dealerships. All prices good through March 22, 2014 or until vehicle is sold, whichever comes first. Truck prices include \$1000 rebate when financed with Chrysler Capital. Must present ad at time of purchase to receive all/any advertised price.

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