

# The Jasper News

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**High 77° F**  
 Precip: 0%  
 Mainly sunny. High 77F. Winds light and variable. Chance of rain 0%.  
 UV Index: 9 - Very High  
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143rd YEAR, NUMBER 17 THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2014 1 SECTION 22 PAGES 50¢

## WHITE SPRINGS AND JENNINGS Resolutions passed opposing elementary school consolidation

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
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On April 1, the town council of Jennings passed a resolution opposing countywide elementary school consolidation, stating it is not in the best interests of their children, their families

or their town. On April 4, the White Springs town council followed suit with a similar resolution and both resolutions were forwarded to Hamilton County School Superintendent Thomas Moffses in preparation for an April 14 school board meeting where the matter will be dis-

cussed and voted on. **White Springs Town Council** The White Springs Town Council called an emergency meeting on Friday, April 4, to address an upcoming school district proposal to consolidate all

**SEE RESOLUTIONS, PAGE 2A**

## Hamilton's health ranked poor

Ranks 63 of 67 Florida counties in overall health status

By Bryant Thigpen  
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Hamilton County has been ranked 63 out of 67 counties in Florida regarding the overall health status of the county, according to recent data released by the University of Wisconsin and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Hamilton County's ranking did improve from last year when it was ranked at 64. Union County was ranked this year at 67. According to a press release by the Florida

HOW WE COMPARE	
Lafayette County	39
Suwannee	53
Columbia	55
Madison	56
Union	67

## 2 dead, 13 injured in I-75 crash in Hamilton County



Emergency personnel at the scene of a double fatal crash Friday night on Interstate 75 in Jasper. Photos courtesy of FHP.



Another scene from the crash.

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
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Two Florida men died in a head-on collision and 13 people on a Greyhound bus were sent to local hospitals with minor injuries in a five vehicle crash on Interstate 75 in Hamilton County late Friday night, April 4, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

Reports show that on Friday, April 4, at 11:44 p.m., a 1993 Buick Century, driven by Ernest Lee Holmes, 91, High Springs, was traveling the wrong way south on I-75 in the northbound inside lane at mile marker

**SEE 2 DEAD, PAGE 2A**

**SEE HAMILTON'S, PAGE 11A**



This 1948 Farmall tractor was one of many on display at the park. -Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

## Antique Tractor and Engine Show draws curious visitors

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
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The 26th Annual Antique Tractor and Engine Show at Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs drew a large crowd over the weekend of April 3-5. A wide variety of antique tractors and farming equipment reflecting 200 years of rural American history was on display. Show participants operated working equipment and competed in tractor

**SEE ANTIQUE, PAGE 11A**

## 25 candidates vie for town manager position in White Springs

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
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At a special called meeting of the White Springs Town Council on Friday, April 4, council members were given score sheets and instructions for scoring the 25 applicants who applied for the position of town manager. Current Town Manager Bob Farley is retiring June 1.

The 25 applicants for town manager and their current residences are:

- Aaron Mathews, Bristol, Fla.
- Anita Stalvey, Lake City, Fla.
- Carlos Hernandez, Hawthorne, Fla.
- Dennis Murphy, Punta Gorda, Fla.
- Geraldo Ortiz, Lake City, Fla.
- Herschel Kelly, Tallahassee, Fla.
- James Davis, Naples, Fla.
- Jennifer Vigil, Panama City, Fla.
- Joe Griffin, White Springs, Fla.
- Judith Jankosky, Lady Lake, Fla.
- Justyn Miller, Dekalb, Ill.
- Larry Strickland, Marietta, Ga.

**SEE 25 CANDIDATES, PAGE 11A**

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## Rhett Bullard gives update on economic development

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
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Rhett Bullard from the Hamilton County Economic Development Authority (HCDA) gave an update on current projects to the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners at their April 1 meeting.

**SEE RHETT, PAGE 18A**



## United Way holds annual meeting, banquet

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
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The United Way of Suwannee Valley (UWSV) held their Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet on

Thursday, April 3, inside the Howard Conference Center at Florida Gateway College in Lake City, which was sponsored by the

**SEE UNITED WAY, PAGE 18A**



PotashCorp-White Springs was recognized for their employees raising \$82,566, which the corporation matched for a total of \$165,132. - Photo: Rob Wolfe

# Resolutions passed opposing elementary school consolidation

Continued From Page 1A

three elementary schools in the county. A large crowd of White Springs community members were in attendance at the meeting to learn the specifics of the proposed consolidation and many, including town council members, vehemently objected to the idea.

A consolidation would mean closing South Hamilton Elementary School (South) in White Springs, North Hamilton Elementary School (North) in Jennings and Central Hamilton Elementary School (Central) in Jasper, and move forward with a plan, in conjunction with the Florida Department of Education, to build a new school that would accommodate all Hamilton County elementary students at a site in Jasper that is yet to be determined.

A school board meeting is scheduled for

Monday, April 14, at the Hamilton County High School auditorium at 6 p.m., where school board members will vote yes or no on the matter.

Mayor Helen Miller said, "This community went through a lot of emotion and a lot of work and activity about two years ago when we were informed that the school board decided to close South."

Miller said efforts to convert South into a charter school at that time were successful in keeping the school open, even though the charter school application was denied.

"I think the sentiments in this community are very strong and aren't going to change," said Miller. "We value our local elementary school, especially in view of the process that here, once again, we haven't been asked for any feedback or input into the process. The only meeting we

had in this community is one that dealt with safety concerns. From what we can tell from reading the information from the school district, safety and security issues aren't that big of a deal in White Springs at South."

## District 4 School Board member Johnny Bullard

Bullard was asked by Miller to give a synopsis in plain English as to what he thinks is going on, so that the town can come up with a plan to address the situation.

"In plain English," Bullard said. "There has been some concern from members of the school board and the superintendent about the age of the buildings at North, South and Central, and their conditions."

He explained there is still a long list of items on the Special Facilities Construction Checklist from the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) that need to be completed before any

new construction can begin. The school district is at a point, he said, where school board members must vote whether or not to close the three elementary schools and elect to have a new consolidated facility built.

"What timeframe that would take before closure would take place, I don't know, or even if it would, because the possibility for Special Facilities dollars is just that...it's a possibility," Bullard said.

He referenced Dixie County, who thought for certain they would have a new high school built last year.

"They were turned down at the last minute through the legislature by Special Facilities that they were waiting on for three or four years," he said. "In the state of Florida, Special Facilities dollars are not nearly as fluid as they once were."

Bullard said his basic understanding of the FDOE's philosophy is that consolidating schools that have from 500-700 students is more effective as far as curriculum is concerned, than small community schools.

"I, for one, don't agree with that," said Bullard.

The primary concern of the board of education, Bullard continued, is that the school board ensure the safety and welfare of its students. He said everyone is aware of the age of the building at South, but construction issues aren't nearly as bad as what's going on at North.

Bullard said most parents want to be as close to their child's school as possible in case of an emergency, illness or accident. If a new elementary school were built in Jasper, Bullard said the first place a student would be taken if they incurred an accident would be to Shands Live Oak Regional Medical Center, which is not equipped for trauma. In White Springs a child could be taken to Lake City, or in Jennings they would be taken to Valdosta, both of which are equipped to handle trauma cases, he added.

"If I were a parent, that would be a concern to me," Bullard said. "In plain terms, I will not now, unless my constituency overwhelmingly comes to me and says to me, nor will I ever vote for closure of this school, nor consolidation because I don't believe in it."

Bullard said he has heard varying figures as to how much it would cost to bring the three elementary schools up to code. The first figure he heard was \$6 million, however, he said he heard another figure later that was much higher.

Bullard suggested that the community be sure to attend the school board meeting on Monday, April 14, and that a representative from the FDOE, he thinks, will be there.

"In the superintendent's defense, I will say this," Bullard said. "All this that has occurred has come straight down the line, as far as the steps are concerned. What was a surprise to me, was that it would come this early in the school year, and the timing. It's probably not the best time because this is the time of year when teachers, children and

parents think about FCAT testing. If you have looming out there the possibility of consolidation or closure, there could be some kind of effect."

He said if FCAT scores were to come down, then it would just be another reason to justify closing the three schools and consolidating.

Miller again urged everyone to be at the April 14 school board meeting to oppose closure of South and consolidation of the elementary schools.

## Woody Woodard

Resident Woody Woodard said, "If you take that school out of this community, you have ripped the very heart out of the community. The same thing in Jennings."

## Vice Mayor Walter McKenzie

"Throughout this whole thing, they've been talking about the quality of the facility and the budget, but education is not just about the facility and the budget," said McKenzie. "This decision that we're making should be made about the community and about the pupils and the parents. The community, the parents and the pupils in White Springs are more involved than they are anywhere else. It's because they've got a local school with all the guidance that's important to a local school. It's also about the overall health of White Springs. When you shut that school down, it's going to be a big economic hit on our town."

## School District General Services Director

### Chuck Lambert

Lambert was in attendance at the meeting and he said his stance on the issue was neutral.

"I'm going to support the board 100 percent whichever way they decide to go," said Lambert.

He also said it was estimated that it would cost \$17 million to renovate all three schools and that it could be

done.

## Councilman Rhett Bullard

"This is something that affects you," Bullard told those in the audience.

He said building a new consolidated school will ultimately result in raised taxes.

"When they take your school out of your town, what's going to happen to your property value is, your property value is going to go down."

Closing South, he said, will not only hurt the residents, but the businesses, as well.

"All of those are the sources of revenue from which taxes come," he added.

Consolidation, he went on, does not work.

"It has not worked in other counties and it has not worked in this county," said Bullard. "Our school district grade isn't that great. The only thing propping that grade up are the non-consolidated elementary schools."

## Resolution

The White Springs Town Council unanimously approved a resolution that they are not in favor of closure of South and not in favor of elementary school consolidation.

Miller explained that White Springs is in the middle of an important process with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity through a Competitive Florida Partnership Pilot Program and that they are about to map all the town's assets. The school, she said, is an integral part of their asset map. Miller also said the focus needs to be on the education of students and not the building.

"Let's focus on working together and trying to find something that works, as opposed to always setting up unilateral actions to result in conflict," said Miller.

Town Manager Bob Farley said the town of Jennings has already passed a similar resolution. Miller asked that Farley also get with the city of Jasper to see if they will follow suit.

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## 2 dead, 13 injured in I-75 crash in Hamilton County

Continued From Page 1A

449 in Hamilton County,

while a 2013 Ford Expedition, driven by Peter J. Linek, 55, Ormond Beach, was traveling north on I-75 in the same inside lane when the two vehicles collided head-on.

A 2013 Ford Explorer, driven by Robert J. Bolt, 67, Niles, Mich. was traveling north in the inside lane behind the Ford Expedition, a Greyhound bus, driven by Alvis A. Gaston, 62, Locust Grove, Ga. was traveling north in the center lane, and a 2013 Honda Odyssey, driven by Laura Baumgart, 35, South Bend, Ind. was also traveling north in the inside lane, reports state.

After the head-on crash, the other three vehicles were involved in secondary collisions as

the first two vehicles were coming to final rest, FHP said.

The Greyhound bus, en route to Atlanta with 42 passengers onboard, began its route in Tampa and made stops in Lakeland, Orlando and Gainesville prior to the crash. Thirteen passengers on the bus were transported to local hospitals with minor injuries, FHP said.

It is unknown if alcohol was a contributing factor for drivers of the two vehicles involved in the head-on crash, who both died at the scene. Alcohol is not suspected to be a contributing factor for the other drivers involved in the crash, however, all three consented to a voluntary blood draw at the scene. All of the passengers in the other two vehicles had no injuries.

## TPOA Meeting

Timberlake Property Owners Association will have its next board meeting on April 22 (Tuesday), 2014 at 6 p.m. at 3392 NW 60th Ave. Jennings. All members are invited to attend. We need everyones voice to be heard.



# Life in WHITE SPRINGS

By Walter McKenzie

lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

There were four inches of rain in my rain gauge and it was still raining as I put the finishing touches on this column on Tuesday morning. I decided to drive down to the boat launch on US 41 to take a look at the Suwannee and there I saw five canoe loads of very wet kids taking their canoes and considerable gear out of the river. Conversation with their leader revealed that they were a group of seventh graders traveling under the guidance of Kroka Expeditions, based out of New Hampshire and they had started their trip on the Suwannee seven days ago in the headwaters at the Okefenokee Swamp. Each day they paddled between five and 12 miles, camping each night in the forest or on bluffs or sand bars, which was challenging because the river was high. They learned to navigate with map and compass, and they learned how to safely paddle on the river and work together as a team. Other than some strong winds and being thoroughly soaked on the last day and night of their trip, it was a beautiful trip and I'm sure it's an adventure that they will never forget. Once again, the world has come to White Springs and they loved it!

Speaking of the river and the weather, I'm going to go out on a limb and say that now is not a good time to use the phrase "If God's willing and the creek don't rise" because the creek is sure enough going to rise and I wouldn't be surprised to see the river hit flood stage in a couple of days. It is an awesome spectacle to see what the often lazy, meandering, low and slow Suwannee can do when it gets riled up. My advice is to be smart and don't mess with Mother Nature. Stay off the river at times like this and stay safe.

This column is usually about good news, but here is some bad news and I hope that you will take it

very seriously. South Hamilton Elementary is once again being threatened with closure. I just don't get it. Year after year our school has performed way above average, the parents and community have been active and involved way above average and we have all consistently shown the School Board that we are ready and willing to do what it takes to keep our neighborhood school. Neighborhood schools are what the people, the teachers and the students want. Looking at the big picture, neighborhood schools are what's best, not only for the students but also for the White Springs community. The school board needs to understand the total negative impact of closing our school. Busing our students to Jasper will be a waste of time and money, will drastically cut community involvement in the school and will have a big negative impact on our local economy and local businesses. Educationally it makes more sense to have our local school but the school board says moving makes more economic sense. No it doesn't! Consider the economic side of closing our school and sending students and staff to Jasper. Jasper will get more water and sewer revenue, White Springs will get less, substantially less. Jasper's restaurants and stores and gas stations will realize more revenue, increasing Jaspers tax base while White Springs businesses take a hit and our tax revenue goes down. The same thing will happen in Jennings. Educationally, it's bad policy to consolidate. Responsibly run local schools work better, always have and always will. Economically it is irresponsible for the school board to even consider a move that would be an economic disaster for White Springs. It's obvious that keeping our school open is the right thing to do. The school board needs to have the common sense and the courage to say no to consolidation and to say yes to keeping local schools open; it's what the students need and it's what the people want. I have spoken on this issue many times and I hope you will join me at the next school board meeting, Monday, April 14th, 6PM at the Hamilton County High School Au-

ditorium to support the effort to keep White Springs' local school open!

I like to shine the local spotlight on local businesses now and then and this week I'll mention two that might be of interest to you if you own anything with a small engine, or if you get hungry now and then and don't feel like cooking.

Poorboys Power Equipment is located at 12141 Hwy. 41 (the old NAPA store) and they offer parts, service and repairs on all types of small engines and power equipment. Now that spring is here, your lawn mower, ATV or golf cart might need some tender loving care. There's no need to go to Live Oak or Lake City for good service, just stop by Poorboys and let Chris Lee and his crew take good care of you and your equipment.

Sharon's Eatery, located next to the Old Adams Country Store and Suwannee Bicycle Association, has some mighty fine food. Rich Dungan, the owner, smokes his own beef brisket and ham and offers a variety of sandwiches, salads and side dishes. Rich and his crew also offer takeout and catering and there is some beautiful artwork by folk artist Janet Moses featured in the restaurant. It is well worth a visit and Rich and his crew will make you feel welcome.

Happy belated birthday to: Sammy Bryant, April 5, and Robert Thomas of Tampa, also April 5. Happy birthday to Mrs. Lovely Mae Williams who will be turning 81 on Saturday, April 12. Please keep in your prayers Sister Julia B. Byrd who is sick. Her family and friends are praying that she gets better as each day passes. Patricia Carter, who resides in North Carolina will be here on Easter weekend and will be sponsoring a program at Beulah Baptist church on Saturday, April 19 at 5 p.m. along with dynamic speaker, Deacon Carlton Jones of Lake City. There will be great food to follow and the folks at Beulah Baptist say, "Come one, come all!"

They are here to serve you and they want to earn your business. I hope that you will show them your support. I look forward to hearing from you and I hope to see you out and about, experiencing nature, supporting local commerce and education, and enjoying culture, health and life in White Springs!

Walter McKenzie

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lifeinwhitesprings@gmail.com

## Obituaries

**Willie James Ingram**  
April 4, 2014

Willie James Ingram passed away April 4, 2014 in St. Petersburg, Fla. Mr. Willie James Ingram is survived by his children, sisters, brothers, nieces, nephews and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral service for Mr. Willie James Ingram will be held in the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church Saturday, April 12 at 1 p.m.

Visitation for family and friends will be held Friday, April 11 in the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Jasper, Fla. from 5 - 7 p.m. Burial in the Friendship Cemetery in Jasper, Fla.

D.M. Udell and Sons of D.M. Udell Funeral Home are in charge of all arrangements.

Call D.M. Udell and Sons at 386-362-4189 or cell 386-209-0223 Douglas M. Udell L.F. D. and Douglas M. Udell II L.F.D.

**Mary Katharine Armstrong Ruffing**  
June 20, 1923  
March 28, 2014

Mary Katharine Armstrong Ruffing, 90 of White Spring, Fla., formerly of Richwood, WV, passed away on Friday, March 28, 2014 in Haven Hospice Suwannee Valley Care Center, Lake City Fla.

She was born June 20, 1923, in Richwood, WV to the late Otis and Anna Hanna Armstrong.

She was a Navy Vet. and was a Methodist.

Survivors include nieces and nephews.

Services were Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 11 a.m. Officiating Pastor Ben Stone

Visitation: was Wednesday, April 2, 2014 from 10 a.m. until noon, in Simons-Coleman Funeral Home, Richwood, WV.

All arrangements were made by Simons-Coleman Funeral Home, Richwood, WV.

**Ethel M. Oxendine**  
Nov. 17, 1937  
March 31, 2014

Ethel M. Oxendine, 76, passed away Monday, March 31, 2014 at Page Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center. Born in Jennings, Fla. Nov. 17, 1937 to Otis and Doris Burnham, she has been a resident of Ft. Myers, Fla. since 1956. She was married to Joe Oxendine in 1954 for 47 years until his passing in July 2001.

Ethel had a degree in Elementary Ed and worked as a home health aide, substitute teacher and teacher's aide in Lee County for several years. She loved fishing, gardening, and reading. She is survived by four children; Michael (Sally) Oxendine, Ann (Chris) Flaim, Elizabeth (Mark) Allen, Greg Oxendine, eight grandchildren; Amy, Nicole, Laura, Kyle, Derek, Taylor, Sarah, and Adam plus one great granddaughter, Arianna. Ethel is also survived by her aunt Anne Bauer; sisters Anabelle Burnham and Linda Cason, plus many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service will be held at First Assembly of God, Colonial Chapel, Ft. Myers, Fla. on Friday, April 11, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

Notification of memorial services to be held in Jasper, Fla. will be published at a later date. Service and interment will be at Hebron Cemetery in Jasper, Fla.

**Pauline Smith Kennedy**  
Sept. 9, 1915  
April 7, 2014

Pauline Smith Kennedy of Jasper, Fla.

passed away on Monday, April 7, 2014 at Suwannee Valley Nursing Center in Jasper, Fla.

Funeral services will be Thursday, April 10, 2014 at Jasper First Baptist Church with Pastor Roger Hutto officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

Mrs. Kennedy was born in Comer, GA. on Sept. 9, 1915 to Benjamin and Anna Augusta Simmons Smith. Pauline had one brother, Robert Earl Smith, five half brothers and three half sisters (all deceased).

Pauline graduated Valedictorian of her class from Comer High School. She went on to attend the University of Georgia where she met and married Waldo Smith in 1935. He accepted a position with the Department of Forestry and after living in several small towns in Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina, they settled in Homerville. Just a few short years later in March of 1944, Mr. Smith passed away suddenly, leaving her with two small sons.

Through a mutual friend of the family, Pauline was introduced to Cecil Allen Kennedy and following a brief courtship she married Cecil who was willing to take on her small family as his own through adoption. In 1946 they moved from Homerville to Hamilton County where they made their home until his death in 1975. Upon moving to Jasper, Pauline returned to school and graduated with a teaching degree from Valdosta State University. Her teaching career spanned over thirty years.

Mrs. Kennedy was a good and faithful servant. She was a longtime member of Jasper First Baptist Church. She taught Sunday school and served on many committees over

the years. She did so because she took particular interest in watching her church family grow. Mrs. Kennedy hosted and co-hosted showers and teas for many of the young brides in the community. Her southern grace and hospitality was an inspiration to young women who aspired to be the Christian wife and mother they saw in her.

When her health declined and she moved to Suwannee Valley Nursing Center, her ministry continued. She was an encourager, always lifting others up in words and in prayer. She was content with her life and considered herself blessed to be able to live out her 98 years surrounded by people that loved her.

Mrs. Kennedy was predeceased by her husbands, Waldo Smith and Cecil A. Kennedy and a granddaughter, Elizabeth Ellis Kennedy.

She is survived by her two sons, Waldo Smith Kennedy and his wife Florence "Ricki" Ellis Kennedy of Jasper, Fla. and Dr. Benjamin Smith Kennedy and his wife Sally Ireland Kennedy of Boca Raton, Fla.; five grandchildren, Benjamin Smith Kennedy, Jr. and his wife Teri, Waldo Allen Kennedy and his wife Menieca, Peter Todd Kennedy and his wife Lisa Marie, Adrienne Pauline Kennedy Haag and her husband David, and Cecilia Ann Kennedy McMillan and her husband Timothy; thirteen great grandchildren, one great-great grandson.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Teachers Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund, 207 NE 2ND Street, Jasper, Fla. 32052.

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

## SRWMD Governing Board Meetings

On Tuesday, April 8, the Suwannee River Water Management District's Governing Board will meet at 9 a.m. at the Tommy Usher Community Center, 506 SW 4th Ave. Chiefland, FL 32626.

The meeting is to consider District business and conduct public hearings on regulatory, real estate, and other various matters. A workshop will follow after the Governing Board meeting. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by visiting the District's website at [www.mysuwanneeriver.com](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com).

All meetings, workshops, and hearings are open to the public.

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AUCTIONEER-MARKETPLACE

**The Family of Elizabeth (Auriett) (Burnham) Barrett would like to "Thank" each and everyone of you for your kind expression of sympathy, flowers, food, cards, visits & phone calls. A "Special Thanks" to the First Jasper United Methodist Church and Johnny and Amanda Bullard for their beautiful music. Again Thank You and May God Bless you all.**

**The Family of Elizabeth Barrett Bobby, Kitty, Morgan, Peggy Conner, Elaine Floyd & Larry Burnham**

# OPINION

## How to assist evil

"Engineering Evil" is a documentary recently shown on the Military History channel. It's a story of Nazi Germany's murder campaign before and during World War II. According to some estimates, 16 million Jews and other people died at the hands of Nazis (<http://tinyurl.com/6duny9>).

Though the Holocaust ranks high among the great human tragedies, most people never consider the most important question: How did Adolf Hitler and the Nazis gain the power that they needed to commit such horror? Focusing solely on the evil of the Holocaust won't get us very far toward the goal of the Jewish slogan "Never Again."

When Hitler came to power, he inherited decades of political consolidation by Otto von Bismarck and later the Weimar Republic that had weakened the political power of local jurisdictions. Through the Enabling Act (1933), whose formal name was "A Law to Remedy the Distress of People and Reich," Hitler gained the power to enact laws with neither the involvement nor the approval of the Reichstag, Germany's parliament. The Enabling Act destroyed any remaining local autonomy. The bottom line is



### A MINORITY VIEW

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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

that it was decent Germans who made Hitler's terror possible -- Germans who would have never supported his territorial designs and atrocities.

The 20th century turned out to be mankind's most barbaric. Roughly 50 million to 60 million people died in international and civil wars. As tragic as that number is, it pales in comparison with the number of people who were killed at the hands of their own government. Recently deceased Rudolph J. Rummel, professor of political science at the University of Hawaii and author of "Death by Government," estimated that since the beginning of the 20th century, governments have killed 170 million of their own citizens. Top government killers were the Soviet Union, which, between 1917 and 1987, killed 62 million of its own citizens, and the People's Republic of China, which, between 1949 and 1987, was responsible for the deaths of 35 million to 40 million of its citizens. In a distant third place were the Nazis, who murdered about 16 million Jews, Slavs, Serbs, Czechs, Poles, Ukrainians and others deemed misfits, such as homosexuals and the mentally ill.

We might ask why the 20th century was so barbaric. Surely, there were barbarians during earlier ages. Part of the answer is that during earlier times, there wasn't the

kind of concentration of power that emerged during the 20th century. Had Josef Stalin, Mao Zedong and Hitler been around in earlier times, they could not have engineered the slaughter of tens of millions of people. They wouldn't have had the authority. There was considerable dispersion of jealously guarded political power in the forms of heads of provincial governments and principalities and nobility and church leaders whose political power within their spheres was often just as strong as the monarch's.

Professor Rummel explained in the very first sentence of "Death by Government" that "Power kills; absolute Power kills absolutely. ... The more power a government has, the more it can act arbitrarily according to the whims and desires of the elite, and the more it will make war on others and murder its foreign and domestic subjects." That's the long, tragic, ugly story of government: the elite's use of government to dupe and forcibly impose its will on the masses. The masses are always duped by well-intentioned phrases. After all, what German could have been against "A Law to Remedy the Distress of People and Reich"? It's not just Germans who have fallen prey to well-intentioned phrases. After all, who can be against the "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act"?

We Americans ought to keep the fact in mind that Hitler, Stalin and Mao would have had more success in their reign of terror if they had the kind of control and information about their citizens that agencies such as the NSA, the IRS and the ATF have about us. You might ask, "What are you saying, Williams?" Just put it this way: No German who died before 1930 would have believed the Holocaust possible.

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](http://www.creators.com).

## The Jasper News

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### Letter to the editor and Article Policy

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

Letters to the editor should be typed, brief and to the point, approximately 150 to 200 words or less. Not all letters are published. To be considered for publication, letters to the editor must be signed, include the writer's address and phone number, and in the news office by noon on Friday.

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

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

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

## OPINION

### Fine line between exotic and weird

Remember that line from "Romeo and Juliet" where Juliet asks, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

That might have been Shakespeare's most famous line.

Well, ever since then some people have pondered the power of names. Some studies have suggested that one's name can impact his attitude, prowess, success, tem-

perament, etc. That might also be applied in some regards to the names of places and things. For instance, what if "rump roast" had been called "cow butt." And what if "brisket" had been commonly referred to as "cow neck." Would they still have been as popular?

Similarly, what if churches still baptized in the creek? Would there be more Methodists than Baptists?

Many years ago, when I was in college, a friend told me he was going to treat me to some "real soul food." So we went to a little restaurant down on Alabama Street in Atlanta and had black-eyed peas and collards. About halfway through our meal, I asked him when would we get to the "soul food" part, assuming it must have been a side dish. He was caught really off guard when he learned that this was regular fare for me. And so a "turnip by any other name ....."

So I've been eating "soul food" all my life. But I never really considered that I might also have eaten "exotic foods." Then just a few days ago on the food channel I was

watching the short, fat, bald-headed guy who goes around all over the world eating really weird stuff and calling it "exotic." I think in this instance the word "exotic" might have too broad of a definition. I'm talking about a guy who smacks his lips after eating lizard lips and fish intestines. These are forms of protein I might expect to see "Survivor Man" eating when the only other option would be to lie down and die.

But on this night, the chrome-domed connoisseur of strange foods hit close to home. He was in the Ozark Mountains eating fried squirrel and red horse sucker fish. Suddenly I realized that I had eaten "exotic" foods. Go figure.

A red horse sucker is a very bony fresh water fish. It's been years since I've eaten any, but in my boyhood we ate redhorse sucker a lot. As well, I've eaten a lot of fried squirrel. I never knew I was eating exotic foods that would some day be featured on reality television. Heck, we only had three TV channels back then, and the only thing close to a "reality" show was the



Dwain Walden

weather.

Now I realize that in other countries, particularly Third World countries, people eat foods that would turn my stomach. Much of that has to do with poverty and what's available. Culture plays into this also.

I've never eaten bear meat because I've never lived where bears are that prolific, and I've never had a desire to go where they live and attempt to have one for lunch. The same goes for mountain goat. I have eaten rattlesnake purely as a novelty, and I put that in the "Survivor Man" category.

I'm not really sure if there's any socially redeeming value to watching a TV personality eating bat wing soup and horse tongue, although it certainly makes me appreciate cheese burgers and pork chops. And I'm not sure if I'm supposed to feel sorry for those people eating that stuff if in fact it's part of their culture and they like it. They might have strong opinions about what I eat.

And it's not all about people in impoverished countries. For instance, I don't care for sushi. I tried some. I didn't like it. I prefer my fish cooked, preferably fried.

All that said, I'm about to have a chili dog. Yeah I know, a wiener is a microcosm of the slaughterhouse. Maybe it could be classified as "exotic once removed."

Dwain Walden is editor/publisher of *The Moultrie Observer*, 229-985-4545. Email: [dwalen@gaflnews.com](mailto:dwalen@gaflnews.com)

#### AGENDA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA Room 112 - Courthouse 207 Northeast First Street Jasper, Florida MEETING DATE: APRIL 15, 2014

THE AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BY NUMBER WILL BE TAKEN IN ORDER FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING REGARDLESS OF TIME. HOWEVER, THE TIME CERTAIN ITEMS LISTED WITH SPECIFIC TIMES WILL COMMENCE AT THE SPECIFIED TIME.

#### LISTED ITEMS

- 1) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - UNAGENDAED APPEARANCES (\*)
- 2) CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL
- 3) VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK-STATUS REPORT
- 4) COUNTY COORDINATOR EVALUATION
- 5) OFFER OF DONATION OF PROPERTY TO COUNTY
- 6) DISCUSSION OF CROSSROADS FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING REPAIRS
- 7) COURTHOUSE WHEELCHAIR LIFT
- 8) APPROVE BILLS
- 9) CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 10) ADJOURN

#### TIME CERTAIN ITEMS

- 6:00 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER - INVOCATION - PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG  
6:10 P.M. - COUNTY ROAD PROJECTS - STATUS REPORT  
6:15 P.M. - SHIP/CDBG PROGRAM - STATUS REPORT  
6:20 P.M. - CARE ORGANIZATION - REV. BILLY SIMON  
6:25 P.M. - DISCUSSION OF COUNTY INSURANCE ASSET SURVEY  
6:30 P.M. - JOE STALLINGS - IMPROVEMENT OF NW 34<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE

DUE TO PUBLICATION DEADLINE, THIS AGENDA MAY NOT CONTAIN ALL MATTERS BEFORE THE BOARD. A COMPLETE COPY OF THE AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED AFTER 1:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2014 FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, COURTHOUSE, JASPER, FLORIDA.

An Agenda review meeting will be held, beginning at 12:00 noon, on Monday preceding the above Agenda meeting date, and will be held in Room 106, Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 NE First Street, Jasper, Florida 32052. In the event that Monday meeting date should be on the same date as a County Adopted holiday, then the Agenda review meeting will be on Friday, beginning at 12:00 noon, preceding the above Agenda meeting date at the same office as aforesaid.

Persons appearing before the Board are requested, if possible, to submit in writing the subject matter of their appearance before the Board not later than Tuesday prior to the Board Meeting the following Tuesday.

(\*) NOTICE: Persons appearing before the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners, not having given notice in time to be included and shown on the Agenda, and desiring to make a presentation, will be limited to five (5) minutes, in the interest of meeting time. The Board of County Commissioners will hear and listen to persons appearing whose subject has not been shown on the agenda; however, action by the Board on any such matter can only be taken upon determination of an emergency situation. Any identifiable group of three (3) persons or more shall be limited to a total of ten (10) minutes per topic.

In accordance with Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, notice is given that if any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board, agency or commission, with respect to proceedings and that, for such purpose, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

NOTIFICATION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, ROOM 106, 207 NORTHEAST FIRST STREET, JASPER, FLORIDA, TELEPHONE (386) 792-1288, NOT LATER THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE PROCEEDINGS. IF HEARING IMPAIRED, TDD (386) 792-0857.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M.

#### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA CONSENT AGENDA

April 15, 2014

- 1) MINUTES - APPROVE:
  - A) April 1, 2014 - Regular Meeting
- 2) APPROVE THE FOLLOWING INVOICE FROM DARABI AND ASSOCIATES INC.:
  - A) Invoice No. 14-500-01-03 - February 2014 Monthly Lump Retainer - Landfill Monitoring - \$9,034.00



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

# Healthy Habits

## Feed the family fast, flavorful foods they'll love

### Healthy Eating = Healthy Weight Loss

Convenient, nutritious, delicious! Seattle Sutton's Healthy Eating can help you lose weight, or simply provide a way to enjoy healthy foods without planning and cooking. Each week you get 21 freshly-prepared, portion- and calorie-controlled meals delivered to your door, such as spiced apple pancakes, southwest chopped salad and Florentine-stuffed pasta shells. Unlike other prepared food plans, meals include fresh fruits and vegetables. Plus, foods are provided on a five-week menu rotation to spice up mealtime with new, delicious choices. To learn more, visit [www.seattlesutton.com](http://www.seattlesutton.com) or call (800-442-3438).



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A versatile and nutritious addition to any meal, Minute® Multi-Grain Medley is a delicious blend of four gluten-free 100 percent whole grains: brown rice, Thai red rice, wild rice and quinoa. Packed in four pre-portioned bags and ready in just 10 minutes, this blend can be served during any meal of the day. For an easy breakfast, try cooking the medley in apple juice or other fruit juices then add your favorite fresh/dried fruit and nuts. Want a complete dinnertime idea? Stir fry Minute® Multi-Grain Medley cooked in vegetable broth, with sesame oil, rotisserie chicken, frozen vegetables, onion, garlic and eggs for a simple Asian twist. Visit [www.minuterice.com](http://www.minuterice.com) for a variety of recipe ideas.



### FAMILY FEATURES

**N**utrition, exercise and good health is more than just a trend. It's a new way of life for more and more families. Here are some ideas to encourage healthy eating habits for your whole family.



### Antioxidant-Rich Blueberries

Blueberries are grown mostly in inland Florida counties. The blueberry is available from March until May, with peak-production in April. Blueberries, like all dark purple and blue fruits, are high in antioxidants, which help with the aging process. When buying, they should be firm and brightly colored. Store blueberries with a damp paper towel in the package to keep them moist. They can also be stored frozen for up to six months. Visit <http://bit.ly/flblueberries> for more information.

### Wholesome Mealtime Swaps

Need a better-for-you ingredient to swap out calorie-laden mayonnaise, dressings and other spreads? Go with the deliciously creamy option of Wholly Guacamole instead. Made from the freshest avocados and other all-natural ingredients, this tasty spread is low-calorie, with the basic recipe containing only 120 calories per quarter cup. Wholly Guacamole is nutrient-dense too, boasting about 20 vitamins, minerals and phytonutrients. Plus, it's naturally sodium and cholesterol free. Visit [www.eatwholly.com](http://www.eatwholly.com) for more recipes and information.



# Around the Banks of the Suwannee

By Correspondent Johnny Bullard



**W**ell folks 'Tis the Season" when folks begin humming all kinds of little ditties. "Here comes Peter Cottontail. Hopping down the Bunny Trail." Or, "I could write a sonnet "Upon Your Easter Bonnet". You'll be the grandest lady in the Easter parade.

I always, always love watching the classic movie "Easter Parade" with the late Judy Garland and Fred Astaire. The dancing, the fashions, the style were all marvelous. In those days Hollywood's stars were, "well", stars. The studios manufactured them and planned their every move and what do we have today? Johnny Depp's tortoise shelled horn rimmed glasses, Tom Cruise jumping on a couch on the Oprah Show and God help us, the Kardashians.

Well, I won't travel down that lane. I will tell you one thing I do love about this season, other than the mild weather, the beautiful flowers and all the grandiosity of the flora and fauna of the Suwannee River Valley and that is Peeps. Yes, indeed folks, since I took the first bite of one as a young boy, I have been a "Peepaholic". Don't confuse that with a Peeping Tom, as they are entirely different things. Stumbling around in the dark with dogs around to catch a glimpse of something or someone, not my "cup of tea" I am afraid. Never has been, never will be, but Peeps, oh how I love that sugary, marshmallow, heaven. I did a little research on Peeps, and I will share it with you. Interested or not, here it is.

Peeps are a marshmallow candy sold in the United States and Canada that are shaped into chicks, bunnies and other animals. There are also different shaped for other holidays, but I don't think this has always been true. When I was a child, the only time one could purchase Peeps was around Easter, and they were shaped like baby chicks, what we call biddies in North Florida, well sort of shaped like them anyhow and, back then, in the dark ages, yellow was the only color available for the marshmallow chicks. Now you can purchase them in a rainbow of colors.

Of course back then, you could buy live chicks at the feed and seed stores that had been "dyed". Yes, you could have a hot pink chick, a purple one, and bright green. Then the government decided that was inhumane for chicks so they put a stop to it, but it still goes on in Latin America. Once when I was visiting El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua around the Easter season and the only mission I was on was to have a good time and I succeeded. I saw in the central markets on San Salvador, El Salvador, those colored Easter chicks, and it "took me back".

But, back to the Peeps. Peeps are produced by

Just Born, a candy manufacturer founded in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, by Russian immigrant, Sam Born. In 1953, Just Born acquired the Rodda Candy Company and its marshmallow chick line, and replaced the painstaking process of hand-forming the chicks with mass production. When founder Sam Born would display a sign for his freshly made candy, he would title it Just Born, playing off his last name and the fact that he made his candy fresh daily. According to Mary Bellis, the newly purchased company Just Born was soon the largest marshmallow candy manufacturer in the world. New shapes other than chicks were produced following a theme according to the season starting in the 1960s. Twenty years later, the marshmallow Peep bunny was released as a popular year round shape of the candy. The yellow chicks were the original form of the candy - hence their name— but then the company introduced other colors and, eventually, the myriad of shapes in which they are now produced. Peeps were manufactured in different colors such as lavender and blue starting in 1995. Prior to that they were only being produced in the traditional colors of pink, white and yellow. New flavors such as vanilla, strawberry and chocolate were introduced between the years of 1999 and 2002.

Well, there is a lot more that could be written about one of my very favorite "sweet treats", but I did like this. An annual Peep Off competition is held in Maryland on the first Saturday after Easter, when Peeps are greatly discounted, to see who can eat the most in 30 minutes. The first such event was arranged by Shawn Sparks in 1994 and had only six participants. Dave Smith started Sacramento, California's record holding (102 eaten) annual Peep Off after contacting a participant in the first Peep Off with a question about it through the man's (Jack Eidsness') website. Another contest in Maryland asks that participants to create a diorama of a culturally important scene from the modern era. Peeps must be somehow included of course. The winner gets two free inflatable life jackets. (I am sorry that wouldn't compel me to enter).

I think James Cornett, CEO of Spirit of the Suwannee, should align himself with Walmart or someone and sponsor a Peep Off out at the park, and the top two winners would win tickets to one of his concerts or, if they came up with a diorama of a culturally important scene of the modern era (a la, Wane, Springfest, or Suwannee River Jam), a winning ticket. He might even get the Rodda Candy Company to be a co-sponsor. Well, it's a thought.

Just so you know, not too long ago, I found the traditional yellow Peeps shaped like Easter chicks that had been lightly dipped in chocolate on the bottom. Oh, my, Oh, my. Pure addiction in a box

for me. I am thankful I only found them once.

Well, there are many wonderful seasonal holiday events that are coming very soon. Mark your calendars and don't forget the 47th annual Easter Sunrise Service at Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park, White Springs, on Easter Sunday, April 20. Gates for the park open at 6:15 a.m., carillon concert commences at 6:45 a.m. and the service begins at 7 a.m. Admission is free. Limited seating is available; however, audience is encouraged to bring a folding chair. The event is held on the east law of the historic Stephen Foster carillon tower. Refreshments are served following the service. A contribution basket is on the refreshment table for anyone who wishes to contribute, as we must have funds to keep this tradition going.

I will share this about Peeps. And a great Easter memory, Easter 1964, "Yours truly" laid up with a bad case of German measles. In those days, the doctors encouraged that you keep the room as dark as pitch and no watching TV either and I was sick, sick. My Daddy and Uncle Warren had to go to Jacksonville for some reason. I think it was to see a member of the family in the hospital. I was about half asleep when Daddy and Uncle Warren came in my bedroom bringing me an Easter basket, HUGE, covered with colored cellophane, tied with a big purple and blue ribbon and "stuffed" with candy of every description including Peeps. I remember I was so sick that all I could do for a long time was look at that beautiful basket. Truly something that was well, to me, in the eyes of a child, beyond belief. I had never seen such an Easter basket. I had some made in later years for Laura Leigh that were fabulous, but that one was wonderful. I thought I had never seen anything that beautiful. It was many years later I found out from Daddy's sister, what he and Uncle Warren went through that day to get that basket made for me over at May Cohen's and waited until it was completed. Of course, when I opened it, the first thing I went for, and you guessed it Peeps.

Each Easter when I see the Peeps appear, I think of that time. I think of my Daddy and Uncle Warren, gone now, but forever in my memory and my love for them. Sometimes I bite into a Peep and think of them with love and, once in a while, and this is the "bad" side of Johnny, I take one out, conjure up a face or personality and bite the Peep's head off and smile. Oh, the silent, wonderful satisfaction. Pure therapy. No nasty note, no ugly comments. Just my precious, wonderful, sugary Peeps and me.

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

## VISION CARE WORD SEARCH

### WORDS

A I D I R I N A S C F L O A T E R S V I  
 O I M H J H V H D J I A A L U C A M G C  
 Y P O D G O K V V P H T S B O G Y C G G  
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- ABERROMETER
- ACETATE
- ANIRIDIA
- ANTIREFLECTIVE
- AQUEOUS HUMOR
- ASTIGMATISM
- BENIGN
- BIFOCAL
- BLEPHARITIS
- BRIDGE
- CATARACT
- CHALAZION
- CHEMOSIS
- CONE
- CONJUNCTIVITIS
- CONTACTS
- DACRYOSTENOSIS
- DIPLOPIA
- ENZYMATIC
- FLOATERS
- GLAUCOMA
- IRIS
- JAUNDICE
- LASIK
- LENS
- MACULA
- MYOPIA
- OPHTHALOMOLOGY
- OPTICIAN
- OPTOMETRIST
- PUPIL
- RETINA
- SCLERA
- SINUS
- STRABISMUS

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

REGIONAL

# Local residents speak out against Sabal Trail gas line

By Bryant Thigpen  
bryant.thigpen@  
gaflnews.com

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) held a meeting recently at Live Oak City Hall with a large crowd that gathered to voice their concerns regarding the Sabal Trail natural gas pipeline which is proposed to be constructed through Suwannee County.

**The purpose**

The purpose of FERC is to evaluate whether interstate natural gas pipeline projects proposed by private companies should be approved.

According to FERC, "The Federal government does not propose, construct, operate, or own such projects."

The purpose of the meeting was to inform local residents about FERC and their role in this project, as well as to give the public a time to voice their concerns.

**The plan**

If the proposed map remains unchanged, the pipeline is about 470 miles long and will make its way through four Alabama counties, nine Georgia counties and 12 Florida counties, including Suwannee and surrounding Madison and Hamilton counties.

The pipeline will extend for approximately 40 miles in Suwannee County and approximately 500 landowners will be affected by this project. About 100 landowners in Hamilton County will be affected by this project as well.

**The process**

According to FERC, in order for a private company to receive a certificate to construct a natural gas pipeline, there are several steps that are taken to investigate the project before approval.

The proposed company can voluntarily enter into a pre-filing environmental review with FERC.

FERC then conducts scoping to determine environmental issues and attempt to resolve them. The company can then file an application with FERC and a notice of application is given. (FERC will then conduct scoping, if the pre-filing process is not used.) FERC will then issue an environmental impact statement (EIS). A response to environmental comments will then be issued and a final EIS. The final EIS will then be submitted to the commission for final approval.

**Projects for consideration**

FERC stated they are currently studying the Southeast Market Project, which consists of three separate, but connected, natural gas transmission pipelines: Sabal Trail Transmission LLC in Alabama, Florida and Georgia; Florida Southeast Connection, LLC in Florida; and Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Hillabee Expansion Project) in Alabama. However, Suwannee County residents expressed their concerns for the Sabal Trail gas line which is proposed to run through Suwannee County.

**Public comments**

David Brown, a certified professional geologist for over 30 years, said he opposes the Sabal Trail project. Brown said he spent most of his early childhood years near the site where the company proposes to cross the Santa Fe River. Brown said his childhood investment in this particular area played a major role in his desire to thoroughly inspect it. "This particular crossing site is a unique and dynamic interaction between surface and ground water, causing the karst features that we see today," Brown said.



A large crowd gathered Monday night to voice their concerns to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding a natural gas pipeline which is projected to run through Suwannee County. - Photo: Bryant Thigpen

"I would say that it is the most sensitive area for this type of crossing and (I would ask) that this crossing not happen at this location."

Brown said this area is prone for sinkholes which could be devastating with a natural gas pipeline.

"I truly predict that a sinkhole or something catastrophic could occur due to the fragile nature and some of the limestone in that area, in some of the work that I performed," he said. "I implore you as researchers and as evaluators of this project, that the primary concern should be the crossings of these rivers and the interaction with karst first before other areas of the pipeline are even considered."

Local resident Chris Mericle spoke out against the natural gas line project.

"My wife and I are opposed to the Sabal Trail gas pipeline crossing the

Withlacoochee River in Hamilton and Madison counties," he said. "If the proposed route crossing the Withlacoochee River is accepted as a permanent route, at least seven of 12 environmental issues (previously reported by FERC) will be impacted."

Mericle continued, "There are eight springs in the general area, two of which are just a few feet away from the proposed pipeline route. We don't know the effect boring under the river will have on the springs and wells in the area. The fresh water resource in Florida is being used faster than nature can replenish it.

Why would we even consider risking this natural resource that is necessary for life?"

Mary Ellen Tatum, a local resident who lives near the Withlacoochee River, said she is strongly opposed to the project.

"According to the map published on the Sabal Trail Transmission website, the proposed pipeline will go down a power line in Florida and under the Withlacoochee River in Hamilton and Madison counties. I strongly oppose this action," Tatum said. "Neither over, under, or through the river."

Tatum said her home is less than one mile from the proposed site where the pipeline is projected to run under the river.

"We know this area very well, and the river and the surrounding land area is very environmentally sensitive. It's definitely a karst area with many sinkholes, springs and limestone formations. In fact, Hamilton County is part of a three-year study on sinkholes," she said. "The river in this area has 7-8 known springs, and they're all within 1,200 feet from the site of this proposed pipeline."

## Florida's plan to ditch old standardized tests draws heat from educators

By Mariana Toledo  
Florida Watchdog

MIAMI — The Florida Legislature's idea to ditch the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for Colleges and Careers standardized test and develop its own is flunking out among school personnel.

Starting next year, Florida — and not the PARCC coalition — will pick the new Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, the standardized test that has been used for about a decade, and will begin administering it to students in grades 3-11 by next spring, according to the Florida Department of Education.

The new tests will be aligned to the Common Core, a U.S. education initiative that details what K-12 students should know in English language, arts and mathematics at the end of each grade. It was adopted in Florida in 2010.

Gov. Rick Scott ordered the state to withdraw from the PARCC coalition, a group of states that developed standard test and classroom content to prepare students for colleges and careers. Florida lawmakers made that request because of unanswered questions about the coalition's administration, timeliness and costs.

American Institutes for Research in Washington, D.C., won the contract to develop the new test and will receive \$220 million over six years.

Many school staff working in the trenches aren't enthusiastic about the change. Raquel Regalado, a member of the Miami-Dade County School Board, said in a letter published by the Miami Herald that the decision is typical of the

Legislature's ever-changing educational philosophy and that indecision and endless changes "frustrates teachers, students and parents."

"In the last year alone, the State has made more than 36 changes in school standards, testing and grade configuration," she wrote.

Kurt Browning, the superintendent of Pasco County School System, agrees.

"It looks like we are developing our own assessment and I kind of railed against that before," he told the Tampa Tribune. "We do not want to be in the same position as before with a home-grown assessment. Why would you not use a nationally normed assessment? I don't get it."

Broward School Board spokesperson Cathleen Brennan told Florida Watchdog by email that "district staff will review the information provided by the Florida Department of Education regarding the selection of a new state assessment to replace the FCAT 2.0."

Florida Department of Education Commissioner Pam Stewart said new and more rigorous standards of the standardized test will cause student progress and achievement to take a back seat.

Hillsborough County Schools Superintendent MaryEllen Elia told the Tampa Tribune that cross-state comparisons were one of the major appeals of the previous tests and the new tests won't take that into account.

"The biggest issue for us is we're going to be comparing Florida to Florida," she said.

Contact Mariana Toledo at Mariana.Toledo@FloridaWatchdog.org or on Twitter @mtoledoreporter

**SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2014**

## Suwannee River Race

Presented By The Kiwanis Club of Live Oak & The Rotary Club of Live Oak



Registration for Rafts, Canoes and Kayaks begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 17 at Camp 'O The Suwannee Subdivision boat ramp. Camp 'O The Suwannee Subdivision - From Hwy 129, go west on CR 248 toward Little River Spring. Turn right onto 246<sup>th</sup> Trace. The road dead-ends into the boat ramp.

### Rafts, canoes & kayaks

#### Race From Little River Spring to Ivey Park, Branford



Branford Outfitters will have canoes and kayaks for rent for \$25 at the registration site.

All participants must register for each event. Pre-registration is preferred. For entry forms see addresses shown below.

- Rafts - \$45 per vessel
- No size requirements, but must have 6 team members wholly on the raft with no parts of the members in the water at the start and at the finish.
- 2-Man Canoes or Kayaks - \$25 per boat
- 1-Man Kayaks - \$15 per boat
- No vessel requirements/no crew requirements.

For complete rules see addresses below or mail request to: Great Suwannee River Race, P.O. Box 568, Live Oak, FL 32064

**Info Call: 386-362-3300**

Entry forms and complete rules available at The Suwannee Democrat 211 Howard St. E., Live Oak and JW Hill and Associates 1105 Howard St. W., Live Oak, FL 32064.

**\$250**

**Most Fun Raft**

Sponsored By The Brown Lantern

**\$100**

**Most Inventive Raft**

**\$50**

**First Place Winner in Each Category**

Sponsored in part by the Suwannee County Tourist Development Council

# SRWMD declares April 2014 as Springs Protection Awareness Month



Fanning Springs.

For the second year in a row, the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) has joined with the Florida Legislature in recognizing April as Springs Protection Awareness Month. The proclamation encourages all local governments to support

springs protection, restoration, and preservation awareness. Additionally, designating April as Springs Protection Awareness Month provides an opportunity to promote awareness of the importance of springs and the need to preserve them.

With more than 300 documented springs, the District has one of the highest concentrations of freshwater springs in the United States. Of the state's 32 first magnitude springs (ones flowing at least 100 cubic feet per second, or 64 million gallons a day), 18 are in the

District.

Springs support tourism and provide recreational opportunities that are essential to our state and local economy. They also provide an important habitat for wildlife and listed species. During low flow periods, springs support

the flows of many of our rivers including the Suwannee, Santa Fe, and Withlacoochee. Other rivers such as the Ichetucknee and Wacissa are primarily springfed. Springs also reflect groundwater conditions.

"Here in the springs heartland we consider ourselves blessed with the many springs located within our District," said District Executive Director Ann Shortelle. "The health of our springs is essential to our economy and environment, and the District will continue its momentum forward to preserve the flow and water quality of these natural features now and into the future."

The District is committed to protecting these natural treasures. Through the District's Heartland Springs Initiative, the District's goal is to ensure springs have adequate flow and good water quality to sustain healthy biological communities.

As part of that initiative, the District has designated significant funding for springs projects over the last two years to implement a number of springs protection and restoration projects in key locations throughout the District.

Residents within the District can join our efforts to help preserve these natural resources. For example, farmers can implement best management practices (BMPs) on their operations to manage wastes and fertilizers and conserve water. Homeowners can implement Florida Friendly Landscaping practices that reduce fertilizer and pesticide use and save water.

To learn how the District's Agricultural Team can provide assistance with BMPs, call 386.362.1001 or toll free at 1.800.226.1066 (FL only). To learn more about Florida Friendly Landscaping, visit [www.floridayards.org](http://www.floridayards.org).



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

Professional service with an  
**Old Fashioned Touch!**

**EMAIL: [info@poolerealty.com](mailto:info@poolerealty.com)**



 <p><b>BANK OWNED 1999 TWMM</b> - with 2,400 sq.ft. Sits on 1.17 acres nestled in trees. 16x16 workshop, fenced in yard and back porch has vinyl wood deck that is 16x24. \$85,000. MLS# 86349</p>	 <p><b>REDUCED! CITY LIMITS</b> - 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. MLS# 83958 <a href="http://www.RealEstateShows.com/696171">www.RealEstateShows.com/696171</a></p>	 <p><b>SUPERBLY</b> maintained 2006 TWMM 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><b>BEAUTIFUL 4/2</b>, 1,900+ sq.ft. cedar home with great location. Convenient to schools and shopping. Large walk-in closet in master bedroom, oversized windows, screened in back porch. 32x40 shelter. \$145,000. MLS# 85327 <a href="http://www.RealEstateShows.com/696013">www.RealEstateShows.com/696013</a></p>	 <p><b>FOXBORO S/D</b> 1,700+ sq.ft. 3/2 home is in tip top shape. The grounds are serene with country living atmosphere. Great home with a great with a great price. \$159,000. Sherrel McCall, 386-688-7563. MLS# 83604</p>	 <p><b>LOCATED</b> 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>

**JUST LISTED 4 BED 3 BATH BRICK HOME** with fireplace, attached carport, screened porch and chain-link fenced back yard. \$79,900. Call Donna Dawson 386-288-5679. MLS# 86223

**TURN OF THE CENTURE** Victorian restored to show the beauty and elegance. 3/2. Natural hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances. This home as had a TON of TLC and it shows. \$129,900. Call Enola Golightly, 386-590-6684. MLS# 83524

**RIVERFRONT:** 114ft., 2/2 1,156 sq.ft. completely furnished, shop/storage, large covered porch, deck at river w/steps leading to sandy shoreline, \$150,000. Glenda McCall, 386-208-5244. MLS# 83114

**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

**PERFECT LOCATION** - 5+ acres edge of Live Oak, no restrictions, 3/2 2,538 sq.ft., 16'x34' family room, FP, everything has been replaced/upgraded, custom rock waterfall/fish pond, 24'x35' workshop/garage. \$205,000. MOTIVATED SELLER! Call Glenda McCall, 386-208-5244. MLS# 84258

**CUSTOM** 2 story log home on 8 acres. Features High ceilings, French doors, Bay windows. 3/3. Master bedroom downstairs and upstairs. \$214,900. William Golightly, 386-590-6681. MLS# 84258

**COUNTRY LIVING** at its best- 2,700+ sq.ft., 3/2.5 with 3 car garage, 4,640 sq.ft. barn on 38 acres. \$550,000. Nelda Hatcher, 386-688-8067. MLS# 78336

**[www.poolerealty.com](http://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

## Victory for America Conference in Lake City

The North Central Florida Tea Party will be hosting the Tea Party Network's upcoming conference at the Jackie Taylor Building on Friday, April 11 and Saturday, April 12. The conference is scheduled for 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturday. Topics to be discussed include: Common Core, property rights, minority outreach, Concerned Veterans for America and the Article V Convention of States movement. Our keynote speaker will be Michael Farris, chancellor of Patrick Henry College and chairman of the Home School Legal Defense Association. He will lead a discussion on Article V - Can It Save Our Republic?

The Tea Party Network is an organization of tea party, 9-12 and other conservative groups within the state of Florida. It currently

has a membership of approximately 85 groups. This conference is focused on the November election and key legislative issues in both the federal and state governments. The goal is to share information on tools, organizations and individuals in order to maximize our impact during this election and legislative cycle.

This is a great way to meet other like-minded people in this area and around the state. Find out more about the North Central Florida Tea Party. Get involved and make a difference!

We meet at the Taylor Building, 128 SW Birley Ave. Lake City. This is on the corner of Birley and U.S. 90; approx. 3 miles west of the I-75 interchange in Lake City. For more information, call Sharon 386-935-0821 or go to: [www.ncfptparty.org](http://www.ncfptparty.org).

# Purple Hatters' Ball adds its first ever pre-party for the 2014 music festival May 9 - 11

*It's the first official onsite pre-party in the 7-year history of PHB taking place May 8. Other firsts will be two campground stages and a new yoga and workshops program.*

Purple Hatter's Ball announces its first official onsite pre-party in its seven-year history. Kicking things off Thursday, May 8, fans are invited to get settled in at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) a night early and enjoy music from The Fritz, Monozygotic, Moon Hooch and more. Pre-party tickets are available for \$20 and include camping, music and all fees.

Purple Hatter's Ball 2014 Artist line-up includes Beats Antique, Emancipator Ensemble, The New Mastersounds, The Motet, The Heavy Pets, The Floozies, The Nth Power, DubConscious, Space Capone, Rising Appalachia, Greenhouse Lounge, The Fritz, Avis Berry Band & Scott Campbell, Catfish Alliance, Locos Por Juana, Grandpa's Cough Medicine, Applebutter Express, Trial By Stone, Ketchy Shuby, Stillwood, Cherry Royale, Shoes and Laces, SPORE, Herd of Watts, Parker Urban Band, Squeedlepus, Jason Lamar & the Rig, Jacksonvegas, Love Chunk, Morning Fatty, Stereo Vudu, Flat Land, Hail Cassius Neptune, Bells and Robes, DJ Ruby, MSNRA, Parker Robinson, Universal Green, Yankee Slickers, Famato, The Silent Disco, Vlad the Inhaler, Sir Charles, Zak tha Blak, Trillucination, LeGinge, Ellofunk, Combustible, SethEdemik, Bit Deff, Mason

Masters and Matthew Connor.

The festival, taking place May 9 - 11, honors the memory of music festival lover Rachel Morningstar Hoffman.

The schedule unveils the addition of two campground stages playfully pitting bands embedded in the Jacksonville music scene versus those from Gainesville. Fans can watch them go head-to-head from noon to 8 p.m. Purple Hatter's is also directing energy toward a new yoga and workshops program including Acro Yoga, Partner Thai Yoga Massage, Permaculture, a Natural Medicine Panel; Reiki, Juicing 101, a drum workshop with Luke Quaranta and Weddie Braimah of Toubab Krewe and more. Festival goers will be treated to live art from 20 painters and have the opportunity to get down late at night in the Silent Disco.

The most touching moment of the weekend comes from Rachel's loving mother, Margie Weiss (aka Mama Margie), who leads an emotional Mother's Day Ceremony, celebrating her daughter's memory.

Taking place in the spring, the SOSMP venue is a virtual playground with endless fun and activities such as swimming, canoeing, kayaking, disc golf, hiking, biking and much more. The park also offers

guest cabins, a general store, a full-service restaurant and bar, showers and water stations.

Tickets include three days of music, primitive camping and all taxes and fees. The SOSMP is also generously offering a deeply discounted cabin and golf cart rental package to Purple Hatter guests. Cabins are limited, so call quickly to 386-364-1683. Advance tickets available for \$100 at [www.PurpleHattersBall.com](http://www.PurpleHattersBall.com).

For more about The SOSMP or to find out more about the many other exciting upcoming events at the SOSMP, call 386-364-1683, email [spirit@musicliveshere.com](mailto:spirit@musicliveshere.com) or go to [www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com).

The SOSMP is located at 3076 95th Drive 4.5 miles north of Live Oak.

Purple Hatter's Ball Information:  
[www.PurpleHattersBall.com](http://www.PurpleHattersBall.com) | [www.Rachel-MorningstarFoundation.org](http://www.Rachel-MorningstarFoundation.org)

[www.facebook.com/PurpleHattersBall](http://www.facebook.com/PurpleHattersBall)  
Twitter + Instagram: @PurpleHatters (#PHB2014 #PurpAllDay #RachelHoffman)

Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park Information:  
[www.MusicLivesHere.com](http://www.MusicLivesHere.com)  
[www.facebook.com/musicliveshere](http://www.facebook.com/musicliveshere)  
Twitter: @SOSMP (#Suwannee #SOSMP)

## Water Conservation Month: Week one - Ways to save water indoors

There are many, easy ways to save water in your home just by following a few simple tips. Saving water also reduces electrical and water and sewer expenses.

### In the bathroom:

- Flush less, the toilet is not a wastebasket; older toilets can use up to 4 gallons per flush

- Shorten your shower time; a minute or two less in the shower can save up to 200 gallons per month

- Replace old showerheads and faucets aerators with new low-flow versions

### In the laundry room:

- Wait until you have a full load before using the washing machine; older machines can use up to 43 gallons per load

- Select the appropriate water level for the size of your load of laundry

- Wash dark clothes with cold water; you will save water and energy

**In the kitchen,** instead of leaving the water running:

- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the fridge

- Defrost food in the refrigerator

- Scrape, don't rinse, your dishes before loading the dishwasher

- Use two dishpans for washing dishes by hand, one with soapy water for washing and one with clean water for rinsing

Make saving water fun for the family. You can start by calculating your family's water usage. An interactive water use calculator is available at [www.mysuwanneeriver.com/waterconservation](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com/waterconservation).

You can also check your water meter or use your water bill to determine how many total gallons are being used.

Set a water savings goal for the family and make it a fun challenge to decrease your home water use. You can even post your results on the District's Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/SR-WMD](http://www.facebook.com/SR-WMD).

How many gallons can you save?



Reusable tableware is one eco-friendly component of Easter celebrations.

## Have a green Easter celebration

Easter calls to mind colored eggs and baskets full of candy and toys. Many of the things used for Easter celebrations are not necessarily eco-friendly. But there are ways to embrace greener options to ensure Easter is a happy time for celebrants and the environment. Here's how to get started.

### Easter Baskets

Easter baskets overflowing with fake grass and plenty of treats are an eagerly anticipated component of Easter celebrations. However, many of the items found in a typical Easter basket -- or even the basket itself -- may be made of items that are damaging to the environment. Plastic easter eggs are made from plastics that may not be biodegradable. Furthermore, they may be made using chemicals that are damaging to the environment. Plastic grass carries the same dangers. Once discarded, plastic grass also may pose risks to wildlife that can become tangled in the substance or inadvertently eat it and choke or experience intestinal blockage.

Instead of pre-packaged Easter baskets, individuals can construct their own. Look for baskets made from reusable materials,

such as wicker or other wood-based materials, steering away from plastic. Instead of plastic grass, shred paper that is headed for the recycling bin.

Look for treats without excessive packaging. You can gather healthy treats and toys individually and put together in the basket. This way you can cater more to what your child enjoys and rely less on the cheap stuff that will end up in the garbage.

### Easter Eggs

Coloring Easter eggs is a tradition. So are the coloring kits that may be made from chemical food dyes. Instead, look to natural foods to add a festive hue to the eggs. Cranberry juice or beet juice can turn eggs pink. Red cabbage leaves or mashed blueberries can dye eggs blue. And turmeric can give eggs a yellow tint. These all-natural dyes are safe for little fingers.

### All-Natural Decorations

Rather than silk flowers and plastic eggs, use the real thing in your decorating. Bring a little of the outside indoors with fresh flowers in a vase. Use twigs and ribbon to create inexpensive and

green centerpieces for the holiday table. Wrap cloth napkins in a thick blade of grass for a little festivity. Construct wreaths from pruned garden clippings and florist wire to dress up doorways.

### Table Settings

Avoid disposable products whenever possible to prevent extra items from ending up in the trash. It is easy to wash ceramic or even fine china with ease in a dishwasher. Think about purchasing decorative spring-themed glasses that can be reused year after year. Resist the urge to use disposable bakeware and serving platters as well. While they may take a little longer to wash, you'll be doing your part to help the planet.

### Easter Dinner

Many families dine on ham and potatoes or a roast for Easter dinner. Shop locally at your nearest butcher for the meat instead of purchasing something mass-produced in a can. A local farm stand may yield plenty of fresh vegetables to accompany the main course. Instead of store-bought desserts, think about fresh berries in a homemade pie for the perfect ending to this festive day.

# A Run for the Roses—The Haven Hospice Derby Dash 5K and Festival

**WHAT:** Derby Dash 5k and Festival

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 3/ Race start at 8 a.m.

**WHERE:** Wilson Park, 778 NE Lake Desoto Circle, Lake City, FL 32055

**DETAILS:** Residents from the Suwannee Valley and surrounding communities are invited to spend the morning with Haven Hospice and enjoy the Kentucky-Derby themed Derby Dash 5k and Festival! The festival will include family friendly activities plus a car and truck show hosted by Suwannee River Region/AACA Car Club, Southern Knights Car Club, Moonlight Cruisers, Lake City Cruisers and the National Association of Mustangs. The Lake Desoto Farmers Market will also be open during the event. Male and female race winners will receive a bouquet of roses. The \$25 race registration includes profes-

sional chip-timing by Start 2 Finish Race Management, a post-run meal, a chance to win overall awards and much more!

Proceeds from this event will benefit the unreimbursed programs and services provided by Haven Hospice to the patients and families in the Suwannee Valley area. To pre-register for the 5k run/walk visit [www.havenhospice.org/derbydash](http://www.havenhospice.org/derbydash). Online registration will be open until Tuesday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. Attendees will run/walk for free if they can raise \$100 or more. Registration will be \$30 the day of the event.

For more information about this family friendly festival or to become a sponsor, please contact Stephanie Brod at 352.271.4665 or [smbrod@havenhospice.org](mailto:smbrod@havenhospice.org).

**About Haven Hospice**

*Haven Hospice is your not-for-prof-*

*it community hospice organization providing services since 1979 and licensed in Florida since 1980. Haven is North Florida's expert in end-of-life and palliative care, receiving national recognition as a Circle of Life Award Recipient from the American Hospital Association for its excellence and innovation. Haven has also been recog-*

*nized as a Florida Pacesetter for its leadership in promoting advance directives. For more than 30 years Haven has had the honor and privilege to serve more than 60,000 patients and families in North Florida. For more information, visit [www.havenhospice.org](http://www.havenhospice.org) or call 800-727-1889.*

## Feed-A-Family Mobile Outreach was in Jasper March 26

The team had early shift that morning at a brisk 33 degrees at 7 a.m. Nine freezers were unloaded and vehicles were loaded. Intakes, USDA paperwork and tables were all loaded.

Epiphany Student Government of 13 students, five parents, one teacher, one guidance counselor and Principal, Mrs. Klenk, participated in Feed-A-Family Mobile Outreach. We had one board member, six team members and six volunteers to lead the operation today.

A total of 2,151 meals were provided for 239 people, which represented 95 families in Hamilton County, which is the most northern county in our service area. We had just over 3,750 pounds of food.

Thank you to the town of Jasper for allowing us to use Jasper Civic Center. This location offers an ease of maneuvering for our large refrigerated truck and keeps the flow of traffic at a safe setting.

Our office remained opened today, as well, as we had staff and volunteers

continuing to proceed with normal operations, in addition to Feed-A-Family Mobile Outreach. Fourteen families (27 people) were assisted today in the office with food and financial assistance.

We continue to see that Mobile Out-reaches are very productive in a short amount of time, especially since all five of our counties do not have public transportation. Jasper is 130 miles round trip; a very long distance for families seeking the basics of all, food.

In addition to their wonderful helping hands and cheerful spirit, Epiphany Catholic School raised \$800 for Catholic Charities Lake City. Thank you, Epiphany Eagles! More to come with words from the students about their experience today.

I would clearly say that Catholic Charities Lake City Regional Office served our mission well today—"Putting Compassion Into Action".

*Serving Together,  
Suzanne M. Edwards*

### Dowling Park Days

# Spring Fling

LET'S GO TO THE KENTUCKY DERBY

**April 12 • 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**

**DUNK TANK**  
\$1 toss at  
*First Federal Manager Pam Cochran,  
Live Oak Police Chief Buddy Williams,  
and others*

**BAKING CONTEST & AUCTION**  
**KENTUCKY DERBY HAT CONTEST**  
**FOOD • ENTERTAINMENT**  
**CHILDREN'S GAMES • VENDORS**  
**ANTIQUE/CLASSIC CAR DISPLAY**

**YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!**

**Location:**  
**Buck Rogers Dr.  
Dowling Park, FL**

**ADVENT CHRISTIAN VILLAGE**  
AT DOWLING PARK

860951

## Find us on Facebook

## Commissioner Putnam urges caution during Wildfire Awareness Week

*More than 500 wildfires have burned 9,000 acres since January*

Tallahassee, FL – Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam and the Florida Forest Service shared tips today urging Floridians to be extremely careful with fires outdoors. This week is Wildfire Awareness Week, which recognizes wildfires that raged across Florida in 1998, burning more than 500,000 acres and damaging or destroying 337 homes and structures.

"This year, we have

been very fortunate with increased rainfall in some parts of the state, but other areas are still very dry," said Commissioner Putnam. "Our firefighters are working to minimize risk of wildfire and help keep homes, businesses and residents of Florida safe, but there are also simple steps Floridians can take to help prevent wildfire."

Wildfires generally occur in the spring and early summer months due to a lack of rainfall, low humidity and strong winds combined with increased spring-time yard burns. Since Jan. 1, the Florida Forest Service's firefighters have responded to more than 500 wildfires on 9,183 acres, most from human carelessness.

"We all have the responsibility to help prevent wildfires," said James Karels, Florida Forest Service state forester. "By preventing just one wildfire, we can reduce the risk to life, homes and property, while also reducing the cost to Florida taxpayers."

The following tips can help prevent wildfires:

- Check with your local city or county officials to see if there are any burn restrictions in the area.
- Keep fires contained to an 8-foot diameter pile or non-combustible barrel. Fires must be at least 25 feet from forests, 25 feet from homes, 50 feet from paved public roads and

150 feet from other occupied buildings.

- Obtain a burning authorization from the Florida Forest Service for piles larger than 8 feet in diameter. Call your local Florida Forest Service field office (<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service>).

- Check the weather daily and don't burn on windy days or when the humidity is below 30 percent.

- Never leave a fire unattended, and make sure it is completely out before leaving.

- Keep a shovel and water hose handy in case a small fire starts to escape containment.

- Report suspicious activity to the Arson Alert Hotline at 1-800-342-5869. Callers may remain anonymous, and information about an arson-caused fire could be worth up to a \$5,000 reward.

The Florida Forest Service manages more than 1 million acres of public forest land while protecting 26 million acres of homes, forestland and natural resources from the devastating effects of wildfire. For statewide wildfire updates and additional wildfire information, visit [www.floridaforestservice.com](http://www.floridaforestservice.com). For more information about the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, visit [www.FreshFromFlorida.com](http://www.FreshFromFlorida.com).

## Church & Family Go Together

<p><b>ADVENT CHRISTIAN</b> <b>FIRST ADVENT CHRISTIAN</b> N.W. 15th Avenue Jasper Rev. Wayne Sullivan Sunday Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. 784022</p> <p><b>CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> <b>ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Three miles north of Jasper U.S. 41 P.O. Box 890, Jasper, FL 32052 Rectory U.S. 90 E., Live Oak, FL (386) 364-1108 Saturday MASS 4:00 p.m. 784014</p> <p><b>BAPTIST (Southern)</b> <b>NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> SR 6 West, 6592 NW 48th St., Jennings, FL 32053 784013 938-5611 Pastor: Jeff Cordero Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m. Youth Happening, Mission Friends, R&amp;A &amp; GA.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting, Teen Youth.....6:00 p.m. Van pick-up upon request 835547</p>	<p><b>BAPTIST (Southern)</b> <b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH</b> "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 &amp; Adult Programs 6:30 p.m. 784012</p> <p><b>CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 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 Worship.....6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>METHODIST</b> <b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 405 Central Ave., Jasper, FL Pastor - Dale Ames Phone - 386-792-1122 Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m. Wednesday Family Night Dinner 3rd Wednesday Clothes Closet 4th Saturday 1-5pm 783995</p> <p><b>NON-DENOMINATIONAL</b> <b>BURNHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 4520 NW CR 146, Jennings, FL 32053 938-1265 Pastor: Johnny Brown Sunday Sunday School.....9:45 a.m. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....6:00 p.m. Wednesday Youth Program.....5:30 p.m. 784003</p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b> <b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> 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</p>
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**To list your church on our church directory, please call Brenda at 386-362-1734**

# Gov. Scott signs lower vehicle fees into law

Submitted

Governor Rick Scott was joined by Senate President Don Gaetz, Speaker of the House Will Weatherford and other members of the Florida Legislature Wednesday, April 2, as well as county tax collectors and business community leaders, to sign Senate Bill 156 that cuts

\$400 million in annual vehicle registration fees for Florida families. Governor Scott also sent a letter to the tax collectors encouraging Floridians who require a registration renewal before Sept. 1 to only register for one year.

Governor Scott said, "Last winter, we announced our intent to re-

turn \$500 million to Floridians by cutting taxes. Today, we are rolling back many of the 2009 tax increases on annual motor vehicle registrations. This will result in an annual savings of \$25 per typical motor vehicle and will let families keep nearly \$400 million of their hard-earned money in their own

pockets—because it's their money!"

Senate President Don Gaetz said, "From day one of the 2014 Legislative Session, Governor Scott and the Florida Legislature committed to making a reduction in vehicle fees the centerpiece of meaningful tax relief for Florida's families. I am pleased to see Senator Negrón's bill become the centerpiece of the Governor's \$500 million 'It's Your Money' tax cut, and honored to witness this recurring reduction in vehicle registration fees become law here today."

"The Florida House was proud to make lowering fees for Florida drivers a priority this session," said House Speaker Will Weatherford (R-Wesley Chapel). "Governor Scott has been a leader on keeping taxes low for Florida's families and I thank him for signing one of our top priorities into law today."

President and CEO of the Florida Chamber of Commerce Mark Wilson said, "No new taxes or fees mean more freedom for Floridians and small businesses, and more



Governor Rick Scott

economic growth for Florida. Governor Scott's tax relief efforts will put money back into the pockets of Floridians and small businesses and further help Florida to become more competitive. The Florida Chamber applauds the Florida Legislature and Governor Scott for working to cut taxes on Florida's families and job creators."

"I am very happy to see SB 156 passed by the

legislature and signed by Gov. Scott," said Hamilton County Tax Collector Mary Sue Adams. "I feel this will be a great savings for Florida residents when purchasing their vehicle registrations starting Sept. 1. I do encourage one year registration renewals for registrations expiring prior to Sept. 1."

Reporter Joyce Marie Taylor contributed to this article.

## Rain soaks area, rivers rise

As of Wednesday, the Suwannee River at White Springs has been rising five to six inches per hour. The NWS expected the river to rise 10 feet and crest near the flood stage of 77 Wednesday evening.

The National Weather Service in Jacksonville reported an average of about four inches of rain fell on our area between Monday evening and Tuesday morning. That was enough for some yards and low-lying areas to flood. According to the Suwannee River Water Management District, isolated areas received up to 6 inches.

As of Wednesday, the Suwannee River at White Springs has been rising five to six inches per hour. The NWS expected the river to rise 10 feet and crest near the flood stage of 77 Wednesday evening. This crest would be near minor flood stage, eight feet lower than the June 2012 crest. Suwannee Springs is expected to crest two feet below flood stage by Friday, a 12-foot rise from current levels. There are no flood warnings for the

Suwannee, Alapaha, or Withlacoochee rivers.

The flood warning remains for the Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates. Further flooding is expected due to the rising Suwannee, with a potential rise of two feet by Sunday to three feet above flood stage (22 feet at the gauge). The Santa Fe at Fort White is expected to remain at the current level (about an inch below flood stage) then was expected to fall beginning Wednesday evening. Rainfall totals in the upper Santa Fe basin were generally less than two inches.

Idle Speed/No Wake restrictions are being enforced by the FWC on the Suwannee River from the CR340/Rock Bluff bridge to one mile below the Fowler's Bluff boat ramp (Zone 4), and on the Santa Fe River from O'Leno to the Suwannee confluence (Zone 5). Based on the NWS forecast, Zone 3 between Little River Springs and Rock Bluff will re-activate by the weekend. Report boating violations to FWC dispatch at 1-888-404-3922.

## 25 candidates vie for town manager position in White Springs

Continued From Page 1A

Lee Chastain, Marietta, Ga.  
Philip Paul, Marietta, Ga.  
Raphael Brown, Baltimore, Md.  
Richard Hoon, Umatilla, Fla.  
Robert Touchton, Jacksonville, Fla.  
Ron Natale, Glendale, Ariz.  
Sue Beaudet, Tampa, Fla.  
Thomas Gavin, Titusville, Fla.  
Timothy Day, Cape Coral, Fla.  
Vickie Bosse, Madison, Fla.  
William Lawrence, Lincoln, ME  
Spencer C. Lofton Sr., White Springs, Fla.  
Vince Akhimie, Lakeland, Fla.

Minimum qualifications specified for the position, which pays \$32,500-\$55,000 depending on qualifications, are a bachelor's degree in business or

public administration, master's degree preferred, and five years experience in public administration; or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience.

Council members will score each applicant on 14 different criteria and then give their completed score sheets to Farley by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 11.

"I will then compute the summary over the weekend," said Farley. "My suggestion to council is that on April 15, at the town council meeting, I will give you the top five scored candidates based on your scoring."

The top five candidates will be notified by Farley on Wednesday, April 16, and will be advised when they need to come to town hall for a personal interview.

## Hamilton's health ranked poor

Continued From Page 1A

Department of Health, this study highlights the many community factors that influence health. These rankings are a snapshot of the health of counties across the country and they emphasize that health is not a singular but a combined work in progress across all community partners.

The overall ranking considers many categories under sections "health outcomes" and "health factors", such as length of life, quality of life, health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors and physical environment.

The following data is based on the county's rank out of 67 counties in Florida, with one being the best rating achievable.

Hamilton County is ranked 63 overall in health outcomes. This includes length of life (premature death), ranked at 54, and quality of life (poor or fair health, poor physical health days, among others), ranked at 67 of 67.

Hamilton County ranked 62 overall in

health factors. This category takes many factors into consideration such as health behaviors, with a ranking of 63, (adult obesity, adult smoking, physical inactivity, excessive drinking, teen births, among others), clinical care, ranking of 37, (uninsured, primary care physicians, dentists, others), social and economic factors, ranking of 60, (education, employment, inadequate social support, others), and physical environment, ranking of 43, (drinking water violations, severe housing problems, others).

"These rankings highlight the obstacles our community faces with regards to maintaining a healthy lifestyle and affirm the work our department is doing in partnership with organizations vested in positive health outcomes for Hamilton County," said Mark Lander, administrator for the Florida Department of Health in Hamilton County. "As part of the Hamilton County Healthcare Strategic Planning Committee, the Health Department recognizes that action through collabo-

ration will be the driving force that shapes the future of our county."

Lander said in Hamilton County, the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is designed to address specific opportunities for improved health that have been identified by the community. The department has partnered with many stakeholders to implement the CHIP and collaborates regularly to track progress.

Lander said in 2013, the Hamilton County School District was recognized as a Florida Healthy School District.

"The Hamilton County School District is pleased to partner with our county's Department of Health in providing resources to help improve the lives of our students and their families," said Hamilton County Superintendent Tom Moffses. "We are excited to see the impact of our efforts and we look forward to a continued positive working relationship with our local agencies."

For more information, visit [www.county-healthrankings.org](http://www.county-healthrankings.org).

## Antique Tractor and Engine Show draws curious visitors

Continued From Page 1A

racers.

Visitors got to watch demonstrations of wheat threshing, shingle milling, corn grinding and unusual engines for everyday purposes. Exhibits included collections of flywheels, hit and miss engines, water pumps, vintage pedal tractors, antique cars and farm equipment.

Competitions for adults included tractor pulls, barrel races and a blind race. Children participated in pedal-powered tractor races, needle-in-a-haystack and a rooster-crowing contest. The kids also got to take a kiddie train ride through the park.

Food concessions offered root beer floats, hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecue, catfish, three different kinds of French fries, corndogs, chicken tenders, Philly cheesesteak, fried Snickers, milkshakes, malts, cotton candy, kettle corn, boiled peanuts and the ever delicious funnel cakes.

The three-day event concluded on Saturday with an antique tractor parade that featured everything from customized lawn tractors to restored farm machinery.

### Tractors

Some folks are passionate about antique tractors and engines, including Phil Waldo from the town of Bell. It only took him one month to restore a 1960, 140 Farmall tractor and he proudly showed "before" photos, while pointing to the shiny, red restored tractor sitting on a trailer behind another of his restorations, a 1970, 140 Farmall tractor.

Waldo said after stripping the older tractor down, repairing the fuel tank, the radiator, and replacing the battery, it still wouldn't run, but he didn't get discouraged.

"It was getting gas to the carburetor, but it wasn't getting to the en-

gine," he said.

So, after replacing the carburetor, he tried cranking the engine again.

When asked if it worked, Waldo said, "Oh, yeah! It purrs like a kitten."

### Boats

Tugboat aficionado Steve Hall of Live Oak is a regular fixture at the tractor and engine show each year and this year he brought along yet another restored boat that he bought four years ago from a museum in Welaka, which is near Palatka.

"It was built in 1995, so it's not an old boat," said Hall. "In 1997 it was sold to a wealthy gentleman who never put it in the water."

The boat, he said, was left outside and it filled up with water like a bathtub from the rain.

"It all but ruined the boat," Hall said.

The boat builder's son brought it back to the shop and cleaned it up, Hall explained, and a deal was made with the museum where it sat until Hall purchased it.

Things got expensive when Hall learned the entire bottom of the boat was infected with termites.

"Billions of them," he said. "We had to take it up to Jacksonville to have it tented."

Hall said luckily the termites were only in the lower section of the boat because it was a different type of wood than the upper portion, which is quite unique.

"It's hand-built out of little blocks of wood," Hall said. "It's put together like bricks and they're all the way through. They're solid through and through. There's no boards or anything."

Slowly, but surely Hall began the extensive restoration process, which included rebuilding the engine and installing new plumbing. He said it has been a "work of art in progress for the last four years."

"It's a fancy boat, but I

like running around in my tugboat better," said Hall. "So, I'm gonna sell it. It's for sale."

Hall was featured in the *Suwannee Democrat* in April of 2012 in an article about his 1920 steam-powered tugboat named Ajax. That story also told of his "burning wallets", a novelty item he sells. Since that story ran, Hall said he has sold over 500 of the wallets.

### Washing machines

A 100-year-old washing machine - the kind that rocks back and forth rather than spins - was on display, sitting in the back of a pickup truck. The owner, Herb Zabel from Wellborn, said he also has an antique Maytag washing machine at home.

"I know it's over 100 years old," he said. "I'm 84 and my grandmother had it."

### Music

Marg Chauvin with her banjo and Bill Messer on guitar offered some light-hearted old time folk music as they sat in a shady area in the center of the park. The couple are from Citra and were at the park volunteering their time by playing music.

"She was actually here for the very first Folk Festival," said Messer.

Chauvin said she retired from teaching last year and since then she and Messer have been doing extensive traveling and visiting a lot of Florida State Parks.

"Billy closed the shop and we sold our house," said Chauvin.

Messer interjected, "We volunteer for a living."

"It's fun," Chauvin said. "We get to meet so many great people and on top of that, we get to live in the parks for a couple of months and then move on to another one."

There are more photos online and photos are available for purchase. Go to [nflaonline.com](http://nflaonline.com) and click the photo gallery link on the left navigation bar.

# Increased protections against sex offenders signed into law

Tallahassee — Florida Governor Rick Scott signed Senate Bills 522, 524, 526 and 528, which substantially strengthen protections against sex offenders. They were signed into law Tuesday, April 1. Protecting Florida's most vulnerable from sexual offenders is a joint priority during the 2014 Legislative Session for Florida Senate President Don Gaetz and House Speaker Will Weatherford (R-Wesley Chapel), who both attended the bill signing ceremony.

"With the stroke of Governor Scott's pen, our state today sent a strong message — Florida is scorched earth for all those seeking to harm our children," said President Gaetz. "This bill takes historic steps to better protect the most vulnerable among us. Now prosecutors, police, parents and communities will have the tools to effectively investigate and prosecute sexual offenders, making it less likely these vicious criminals have the opportunity to slip through the side door and reoffend.

"Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Senators Bradley, Evers, Grimsley and Sobel, as well as our counterparts in the House and Governor's office, Florida will be a safer, more secure place for families to call

home."

To date three of the five Work Plan 2014 agenda items have passed the Senate and House. Governor Scott signed the Florida GI Bill into law on Monday and is expected to sign a nearly \$400 million recurring reduction in vehicle registration fees later this week.

## Increasing Protections Against Sex Offenders

**Senate Bill 522 by Senator Denise Grimsley (R-Sebring)** creates an "arrest notification program" to notify DCF when an offender, previously held at the Florida Civil Commitment Center, is arrested and convicted of either a misdemeanor or felony. The bill further requires the state attorney to refer the rearrested offender for civil commitment. The legislation also allows members of the multidisciplinary team that currently evaluate offenders considered for civil commitment to consult with a state attorney, a law enforcement officer, and victim's advocate. Additionally, SB 522 expands requirements for DCF release notifications to include the sheriff of the county in which the offender intends to reside as well as the Florida Department of

Law Enforcement.

Senate Bill 524 by Senator Eleanor Sobel(D-Hollywood) requires a person be defined as a sexually violent predator and be subject to civil confinement after a finding by two or more members of a multidisciplinary team, and requires higher education institutions to tell students about a sexual predator's presence on campus.

**Senate Bill 526 by Senator Rob Bradley (R-Fleming Island)** increases the length of sentences for certain adult-on-minor sex offenses and also prohibits incentive gain-time for offenders convicted of certain sex offenses. The legislation suspends (tolls) post-release supervision of offenders while in Department of Children and Families (DCF) custody as part of the civil commitment process and requires the court to order community supervision (split sentences) after release from prison for certain sex offenses.

**Senate Bill 528 by Senator Greg Evers (R-Baker)** makes a number of changes to the sex offender registry requirements. The bill creates a process for relevant agencies to be

notified of an order granting a registrant's name change petition and for informing FDLE and law enforcement agencies when a registrant whose name was legally changed fails to meet requirements for obtaining a replacement driver license or identification card. The bill also requires a registrant to report specified information on vehicles the registrant owns and vehicles owned by a person who resides at the registrant's permanent residence, Internet identifiers (prior to their use), palm prints, passports, professional license information, immigration status information, and volunteer status at a Florida institution of higher education. SB 528 also requires registrants who are unable to secure or update a driver license or identification card with DHSMV to report any change of residence or change of name within 48 hours after the change. Further, the bill requires registrants to report information regarding their intention to establish a residence in another country.

Detailed bill analyses prepared by committee staff as well as the full text of the bills listed above are available via the Senate's website, [www.FLSenate.gov](http://www.FLSenate.gov).

## Jasper Legals

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING**  
The Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Florida Regional Housing Authority will hold its Annual Meeting on **April 17, 2014**, at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 2725 Graves Road, Tallahassee, Florida. Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. E.S.T. The meeting will be open to the public.  
04/03, 10

### PUBLIC AUCTION

Location: Dennis Garage  
8109 CR 146 NW  
Jennings, FL 32053

Date: 04-23-2014

Time: 8:00 A.M.

1992 HOND  
VIN #1HGCB7678NA109460  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Date: 04-29-2014  
Time: 8:00 A.M.

2004 CHRY  
VIN #3CAFY58B54T258805  
04/10

### LEGAL NOTICE

The Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Board of Directors will hold a meeting for the Executive Committee Members on **Wednesday, April 23, 2014, 10:00 A.M.** at Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Administration Office located at 1171 Nobles Ferry Road NW Live Oak, Florida, 04/10

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

**CASE NO.: 24-2013-CA-000224**

**WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A.,**  
Plaintiff,

vs.

**DAVID ROBERT SMITH A/K/A DAVID R. SMITH, et al.**  
Defendant(s).

### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated March 24, 2014 and entered in Case No. 24-2013-CA-000224 of the Circuit Court of the THIRD Judicial Circuit in and for HAMILTON County, Florida wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A. is the Plaintiff and DAVID ROBERT SMITH A/K/A DAVID R. SMITH; TENANT #1 N/K/A CAROL ANN SMITH are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at SOUTH FRONT LOBBY OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE at 11:00 A.M. on the 30th day of April, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

**COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 1 SOUTH, RANGE 16 EAST, THENCE RUN NORTH 88 DEGREES 03 MINUTES EAST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 33 TO THE SOUTHEASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF COUNTY ROAD 135 (WOODPECKER ROUTE) FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 88 DEGREES 03 MINUTES EAST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 1066.29 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF A PARCEL DESCRIBED IN THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF HAMILTON COUNTY IN OFFICIAL RECORD BOOK 481, PAGE 131; THENCE RUN NORTH 01 DEGREE 57 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 721.56 FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SAID COUNTY ROAD 135 (WOODPECKER ROUTE); THENCE RUN IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 1,292.48 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.**

**TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 2002 GENERAL MOBILE HOME LOCATED THERON AS A FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO: VIN: G M H G A 4 3 6 0 1 2 8 5 3 7 A A N D G M H G A 4 3 6 0 1 2 8 5 3 7 B.**

**A/K/A 10850 SE COUNTY ROAD 135, WHITE SPRINGS, FL 32096**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on March 25, 2014.

(Court Seal) Greg Godwin  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: */s/ Cynthia Johnson*  
Deputy Clerk

Ronald R. Wolfe & Associates, P.L.  
P.O. Box 25018  
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018  
F12011558

\*\*See Americans with Disabilities Act

## Jasper Legals

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Carrina Cooper, Court Administration, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, Florida 32055, Phone: 386-758-2163. Contact Court Administration at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing impaired call 711.  
04/03, 10

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

**CASE NO.: 24-2012-CA-000313**

**DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR HSI ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION TRUST 2007-WF1,**  
Plaintiff,

vs.

**DORA I. JACKSON, et al,**  
Defendant(s).

### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated and entered in Case No. 24-2012-CA-000313 of the Circuit Court of the THIRD Judicial Circuit in and for HAMILTON County, Florida wherein DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR HSI ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION TRUST 2007-WF1 is the Plaintiff and DORA I. JACKSON; GARY E. JACKSON; CITIFINANCIAL EQUITY SERVICES, INC.; are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at SOUTH FRONT LOBBY OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE at 11:00 A.M. on the 30th day of April, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

**LOT 20, BLOCK B, CHAN-BRIDGE ESTATES, UNIT 1, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 18, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

**A/K/A 1106 PARK LANE, JASPER, FL 32052-6208**

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on March 14, 2014.

(Court Seal) Greg Godwin  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: */s/ Cynthia Johnson*  
Deputy Clerk

Ronald R. Wolfe & Associates, P.L.  
P.O. Box 25018  
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018  
F12011824

\*\*See Americans with Disabilities Act  
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Carrina Cooper, Court Administration, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, Florida 32055, Phone: 386-758-2163. Contact Court Administration at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing impaired call 711.  
04/03, 10

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**CASE NO. 2014-16-CA**

**JERRY DALE FLANAGAN**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**ALLIED INVESTMENT GROUP, INC., AND FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF HAMMONTON, NEW JERSEY,**

Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

**TO: ALLIED INVESTMENT GROUP, INC., AND FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF HAMMONTON, NEW JERSEY, AND THEIR UNKNOWN ASSIGNS, SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST, TRUSTEES, OR ANY OTHER PERSONS OR ENTITIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST THE CORPORATIONS OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITIES NAMED AS A DEFENDANT; AND ALL CLAIMANTS,**

## Jasper Legals

**PERSONS OR PARTIES, NATURAL OR CORPORATE, OR WHOSE EXACT LEGAL STATUS IS UNKNOWN, CLAIMING UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE NAMED OR DESCRIBED DEFENDANTS OR PARTIES OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE LANDS HEREAFTER DESCRIBED AND TO ALL OTHERS TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** of the institution of this action by the Plaintiff against you, seeking to quiet title to the following described property in Hamilton County, Florida:

Lot Fifteen (15) of ON THE SUWANNEE, a subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, page 58, public records of Hamilton County, Florida.

This action was instituted on the 6th day of February, 2014, and the estate or interest in the property that Plaintiff seeks to acquire is fee simple interest.

Each Defendant and any other persons or entities claiming by, through, under, or against the corporations or other legal entities named as a defendant; and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, or whose exact legal status is unknown, claiming under any of the above named or described defendants or parties or claiming to have any right, title, interest or lien in and to the lands above described is hereby required to serve a copy of the written answer and defenses to said petition on plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address is:

**James W. Prevatt, Jr.**  
Prevatt Law Firm, P.L.  
23 East Howard Street  
Live Oak, Florida 32064

and to file the original of said written defenses with the clerk of said court by **May 2, 2014** showing what right, title, or interest defendant has in or to the property described in the petition and to show why the relief should be not be granted as set forth in the petition. If a defendant fails to do so, a default will be entered against that defendant for the relief demanded in the petition.

DATED this 27th day of March, 2014.

(Court Seal) GREG GODWIN  
CLERK OF COURT  
Hamilton County, Florida

By: */s/ Cynthia Johnson*  
As Deputy Clerk

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

**CASE NO. 24-2012-CA-000417**

**DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE OF INDYMAC RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED TRUST, SERIES 2005-L3, RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-L3**  
Plaintiff,

vs.

**FRANTZ ANGRAND, et al,**  
Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated September 18, 2013, and entered in Case No. 24-2012-CA-000417 of the Circuit Court of the THIRD Judicial Circuit in and for Hamilton County, Florida, wherein DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE OF INDYMAC RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED TRUST, SERIES 2005-L3, RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-L3 is the Plaintiff and Frantz Angrand, Pierre Richard Yacinthe, Petrus Etienne, Joel Oliver, Rene H-R Yacinthe, the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on the front steps of the Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 First Street N.E., Jasper, FL 32052 at 11:00 A.M. on 30th day of April, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Order of Final Judgment, to wit:

PARCEL 9-1 PART OF SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST, HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: FOR POINT OF REFERENCE COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 33 THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 09'01" EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 33 A DISTANCE OF 2426.14 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 19'51" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 30.00 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SOUTHWEST 55TH LANE; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 00 DEGREES 19'51" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 1900.50 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 29'51" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 1292.82 FEET TO A POINT LYING 30.00 FEET FROM THE NEAREST POINT OF THE CENTERLINE OF SOUTHWEST 59TH BOULEVARD; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 29'51" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 32.54 FEET TO SAID

## Jasper Legals

CENTERLINE; THENCE RUN SOUTHERLY ALONG SAID CENTERLINE THE FOLLOWING COURSES: SOUTH 23 DEGREES 17'47" WEST, 354.87 FEET; SOUTH 19 DEGREES 39'19" WEST, 1463.33 FEET; SOUTH 37 DEGREES 41'14" WEST, 131.03 FEET; SOUTH 67 DEGREES 53'16" WEST, 281.88 FEET TO SAID SOUTH LINE OF SECTION 33 AND THE TERMINUS OF SAID COURSES; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 09'01" WEST ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 340.40 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING A NET OF 40.02 ACRES MORE OR LESS, EXCLUSIVE OF ANY LAND LYING IN ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAYS OF SOUTHWEST 59TH BOULEVARD AND SOUTHWEST 55TH LANE. SUBJECT TO RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EASEMENTS HEREBY RESERVED OVER AND ACROSS ANY PORTION THEREOF SITUATED WITHIN 30.00 FEET OF SOUTHWEST 59TH BOULEVARD ROAD CENTERLINE OR WITHIN 30.00 FEET OF THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 33 FOR THE PURPOSES OF PUBLIC ROADWAY AND UTILITIES. ALSO SUBJECT TO RIGHT-OF-WAY AND EASEMENT HEREBY RESERVED OVER AND ACROSS THE FOLLOWING PARCEL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PUBLIC ROADWAY AND UTILITIES. FOR POINT OF REFERENCE COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 09'01" EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 33, A DISTANCE OF 2426.14 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 19'51" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 30.00 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 09'01" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 334.50 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 87 DEGREES 53'16" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 268.13 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 37 DEGREES 41'14" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 118.37 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN NORTH 16 DEGREES 47'34" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 600.75 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 22 DEGREES 31'04" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 600.75 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 19 DEGREES 39'19" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 1200.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3599- 334 JENNINGS, FL 32053

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK OF COURT NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER 60 DAYS, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.

DATED at Hamilton County, Florida, this 25th day of March, 2014.

(Court Seal) Greg Godwin, Clerk  
Hamilton County, Florida

By: */s/ Cynthia Johnson*  
Deputy Clerk

04/03, 10

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

**CASE NO.: 24-2013-CA-000031**

**JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**NANCY HOLLINGSWORTH, et al,**

Defendant(s).

**NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 14, 2014, and entered in Case No. 24-2013-CA-000031 of the Circuit Court of the Third Judicial Circuit in and for Hamilton County, Florida in which JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, is the Plaintiff and Nancy Hollingsworth, Roy C. Hollingsworth, Tenant# 1, Tenant# 2, The Unknown Spouse of Nancy Hollingsworth, The Unknown Spouse of Roy C. Hollingsworth, are defendants, the Hamilton County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the lobby of the Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 NE 1st Street, Jasper, FL 32052, Hamilton County, Florida at 11:00 A.M. on the 30th day of April, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

**ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST, HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: AS A POINT OF REFERENCE COMMENCE AT THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE WEST SECTION LINE OF SAID SECTION 34 AND THE NORTH MARGIN OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD 146 THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST FOR A**

## Jasper Legals

**DISTANCE OF 2145.15 FEET ALONG THE SAID WEST LINE OF SECTION 34 TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 80 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 1154.50 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ON THE SOUTH MARGIN OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF NORTHWEST 37TH DRIVE, SAID IRON PIN BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THENCE SOUTH 80 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 110.00 FEET ALONG SAID MARGIN OF SAID DRIVE TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 402.14 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 80 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 110.00 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 402.14 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THE ABOVE DESCRIBED TRACT OR PARCEL BEING THE EAST 1/2 OF LOT 37 OF AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION PLAT TITLED THE ROLLING HILLS OF TIMBER LAKE, SAID PLAT HAVING BEEN DRAWN BY ROBERT S. FOLSOM, SURVEYOR REGISTRATION NO. 3499, AND TITLED THE ROLLING HILLS OF TIMBER LAKE, SAID PLAT BEING DATED MARCH 31, 1987. TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THERON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS A 1998 MOBILE HOME BEARING IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS G M H G A 1 0 1 9 8 1 9 0 4 2 A A N D G M H G A 1 0 1 9 8 1 9 0 4 2 B A N D G M H G A 1 0 1 9 8 1 0 9 4 2 C TITLED NUMBERS 0075313535 AND 0075313534 AND 0075313532**  
**A/K/A 6083 NW 37TH DR JENNINGS FL 32053-2550**

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

Dated in Hamilton County, Florida this 14th day of March, 2014.

(Court Seal) GREG GODWIN  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Hamilton County, Florida

By: */s/ Cynthia Johnson*  
Deputy Clerk

04/03, 10

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

**CASE NO. 24-2012-CA-000449-CAAX-MX**

**JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**ELAINE JEFFERS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ELAINE JEFFERS; DAVID A. JEFFERS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF DAVID A. JEFFERS; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVICES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); OAK WOODLANDS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; WHETHER DISSOLVED OR PRESENTLY EXISTING, TOGETHER WITH ANY GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, OR TRUSTEES OF SAID DEFENDANT(S) AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST DEFENDANT(S); UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2;**

Defendant(s)

**NOTICE OF SALE**

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Hamilton County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Hamilton County, Florida, described as:

**LOT 13 AND 14, OAK BROOK AT OAK WOODLANDS SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 121, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

To include a:

## Jasper Legals

**1993 CLAY VIN CLFL35299A 0064173607**  
**1993 CLAY VIN CLFL35299B 0064173610**  
**A/K/A 3627 NW 21ST CIR JENNINGS, FL 32053, Jennings, FL 32053**

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the South Front Door of the Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 NE First Street, Jasper, FL 32052 at 11:00 A.M., on April 30, 2014.

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

Witness, my hand and seal of this court on the 14th day of March, 2014.

(Court Seal) GREG GODWIN  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: */s/ Cynthia Johnson*  
Deputy Clerk

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:**  
If you are a person with a disability who requires accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, the provision of certain assistance. Individuals with a disability who require special accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding should contact the ADA Coordinator, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, FL 32055, (386) 719-7428, within two (2) business days of receipt of notice to appear.

Individuals who are hearing impaired should call (800) 955-8771.

Individuals who are voice impaired should call (800) 955-8770.

04/03, 10

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



# HEART MATTERS

I seriously overslept this morning! Is it just me or is anyone else having a tough time adapting to Daylight Saving Time? I do love the extra daylight hours in the evening, but I can't seem to get enough sleep to make up for the hour we lost a few weeks ago. So, I flew out of bed and was out the door in 20 minutes, even managing to get my daughter to school on time, but then spent the rest of the morning trying to get my brain in gear. Since I obviously didn't have time to get any wise counsel from my Bible this morning, I grabbed it and my devotional book on my way out the door.

One of my absolute favorite things about Jesus is that He is always right on time—even when I'm not. As I spent the morning being frustrated about being behind on my to-do list, I convinced myself that this day was doomed to be unproductive. By noon, I had barely crossed anything off my list. So I grabbed my Bible and book to at least get that done while I ate lunch. Through my devotion book, "Jesus Calling" by Sarah Young, this is what Jesus had to say to me: "A successful day is one in which you have stayed in touch with Me (Jesus), even if many things remain undone at the end of the day. Do not let your to-do list become an idol directing your life." I am not even kidding.

To be honest, I didn't really appreciate these words at first. I mean, surely God wants us to be productive, right? Then the Holy Spirit reminded me of Jesus' friends Mary and Martha. Their story is found in Luke 10:38-42. To make a short story even shorter, Jesus and his disciples were

visiting and Martha was serving them. Her younger sister Mary sat listening to Him teach, which put Martha behind schedule. I couldn't help but wonder if she overslept. Martha then complained to Jesus, to which He replied, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken from her." So maybe spending time with Him should be our priority over the to-do list. Even when we get behind schedule!

The awesome thing about how His timing works is that if I had not overslept, I would have read this about 6 a.m. this morning over a great cup of coffee, nodded in agreement, and closed the book. Then I would have gone about my day, probably being very productive, checking things off my list and perhaps even a few things from tomorrow's list as well. I would have totally missed the truth of that to-do list being an idol directing my life. Being frustrated over the events of the morning and my own limitations revealed that I was doing exactly this very thing. I think Jesus' timing in Martha's life taught her a very similar lesson. Let's try to accept each day, HOWEVER it comes, and find Him in the midst of it.

*Because Every Heart Matters,*  
Angie

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



# Facts about Easter

The word "Easter" is used only one time in the King James Version of the Bible. Acts 12:4 "And when he had apprehended him (Peter), he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people." I know of no other translation of the Bible that uses the word Easter. All others that I know use the word Passover, and that is what it should be. The Greek word used is the word for Passover. The Passover Sabbath was and is the Holliest of all the Sabbaths in the Jewish faith.

How the Greek word was mistakenly translated Easter, only God knows. Easter was a pagan festival observed long before Christ. Here is what Finis Jennings Dake said about Acts 12:4 in The Dakes Annotated Reference Bible: "This is an unfortunate and absurd trans., as Easter was a pagan festival observed long before

Christ. It is not a Christian name, but is derived from Ishtar, one of the Babylonian titles of an idol goddess, the Queen of Heaven. The Saxon goddess Eastre is the same as the Astarte, the Syrian Venus, called Ashtoreth in the O.T. It was the worship of this woman by Israel that was such an abomination to God (1st Sam. 7:3; 1st Ki. 11:5, 33; 2nd Ki. 23:13; Jer. 7:18;44:18). Round cakes, imprinted with the sign of the cross were made at this festival, the sign being, in the Babylonian mysteries, a sign of life. Easter eggs which play a great part in this day's celebration were common in all heathen nations. The fable of the egg declares that 'an egg of wondrous size fell from heaven into the river Euphrates; the fish rolled it to the bank, where doves settles upon it and hatched it; and out came Astarte, or Ishtar, the goddess of Easter.' Easter, Christmas, Lady Day, Lent, and other Babylonian festivals were all borrowed from this religion and were all observed centuries before Christ. None of them have any relationship to Christ or Christianity."

The Pictorial Bible Dictionary records this: "Easter (Gr. Pascha, passover), rendered Easter in Acts 12:4 KJV, but correctly translated Passover in ASV. The day on which the Church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. There is no celebration of the Resurrection in the NT. The Jewish Christians linked it with the Passover,

and so observed it on the 14th day of Nisan regardless of the day of the week. But Gentile believers celebrated the Resurrection on the Lord's day, Sunday. This difference was settled by the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. which ruled that Easter should be celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon following the vernal equinox. This is the system followed today, the day of Easter varying between March 22 and April 25."

C. I. Scofield, J. Vernon McGee, Oliver B. Green, M. R. DeHaan, Jack Van Impe, Ellicotts Bible Commentary, The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia, Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary; just to mention a few all agree with the above. Dr. David Jeremiah in his book "Escape The Coming Night" explains in detail the origin of Easter and how it was brought forth from paganism.

There is no celebration of the Resurrection in the New Testament. We are told only to remember the death. There is so much commercialism and paganism around this event that most totally forget the death of our Savior. Praise God for the Resurrection but His death paid the penalty for our sins!

Trust Him today!

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

## Scholarship money available from the Florida Peanut Producers Association

The Florida Peanut Producers Association is pleased to announce the opening of their 2014 Scholarship Award Program, effective April 1.

Two \$1,200 scholarships will be awarded to deserving high school seniors and/or college students. The applicant or someone in the applicant's family must be an actively producing peanut grower, not necessarily a member of the FPPA. It is the intent of the Scholarship Award Committee, however, that the award recipients attend a Florida junior college or four-year university.

Each winner will receive \$600 when the scholarship winners are announced. The remaining \$600 will be award-

ed after the completion of one semester and documentation of passing grades is submitted to the FPPA Office.

"The Florida Peanut Producers Association is committed to helping further the education of young people in Florida and the scholarship program is evidence of

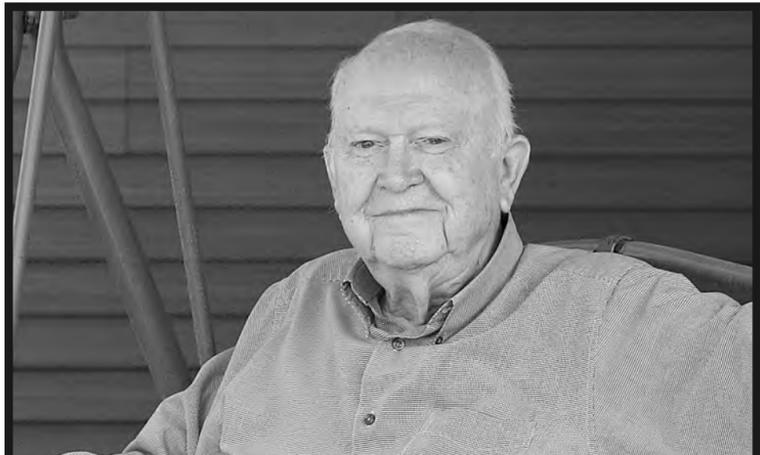
our commitment," said Ken Barton, executive director of the FPPA.

"The FPPA welcomes all applicants. The final selection will be made by the committee and all applicants will be notified by mail, as will the scholarship winners," said Barton.

For an application

contact the FPPA office at 2741 Penn Avenue, Suite 1, Marianna, FL 32448, call (850) 526-2590 or you can print the application off the FPPA website [www.fl-peanuts.com](http://www.fl-peanuts.com).

The Scholarship applications must be post-marked no later than July 1.



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

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### TPOA meeting

Timberlake Property Owners Association will have its next board meeting on April 22 (Tuesday), 2014 at 6 p.m. at 3392 NW 60th Ave. Jennings.

All members are invited to attend. We need everyones voice to be heard.

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# Melanie Saxon talks American Red Cross

By Andrew McGee  
andrew.mcgee@gaffnews.com

Melanie Saxon, American Red Cross (ARC) executive director of North Central Florida, recently shared how she became involved with the organization, what they do and her desire to recruit volunteers from this area.

Saxon has been with the ARC about three years. Prior to the ARC, Saxon worked for Kids Count which is a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a national and state-by-state effort to track the well-being of children in the United States. She also worked in the arts which includes Florida Arts Celebration, Florida Film Festival/Enzian Theater and UF Performing Arts.

**Life-altering experience**  
Saxon, based out of Gainesville, began by telling of her life-altering journey that led her to work for the ARC.

"About eight years ago, I had a fire at my apartment and I lost everything I owned," said Saxon.

That particular night, something woke her which she referred to as "The finger of God". She jolted and ran out of her bedroom and saw a fire coming through her living room. She grabbed her cell phone and on her way out of the apart-

ment building, pulled the fire alarms that were in the hallway and dialed 911.

"I remember standing with bare feet on that cold winter night in the grass watching the firemen putting the fire out," said Saxon. "Standing there watching and realizing that everything I owned, other than the phone and my automobile, which I couldn't drive because my keys had burned up, was gone."

Saxon said fortunately her Gainesville-area sister gave her a place to stay until she could get her life back in order. The next day, her sister drove her to the local ARC.

"She said to me, 'Melanie, you need to go and get some assistance from the Red Cross,'" said Saxon.

Saxon said the ARC gave her a card that had a certain amount of money on it and she was able to go to Walmart and buy only the essential things to get her started again. She remembered buying a \$12 pocketbook and thinking that all of her possessions she now owned could fit in it.

She said the experience gave her great empathy for those who have had similar experiences and have been served by the ARC.

"I know what it feels like," said Saxon. "I was fortunate because I had family and a decent job, and was able to get back on my feet a lot quicker than some."

#### About the organization

The ARC is the largest and oldest humanitarian organization in the United States. Saxon said they have a charter with the federal government and the government holds them to it. It states that wherever there is a disaster, whether man-made or by nature, the ARC will go there and provide assistance to those in need. However, they must raise all their own money.

"We're not funded by the federal government," said Saxon. "We're completely independent."

She said with a huge organization such as theirs, they're also targets of criticism. She wanted to clarify some negative things she's heard in general conversation. She said people discourage others from contributing money to the ARC supposedly because their overhead is so high.

"The truth is 91 percent of every dollar we raise goes to our mission to provide services to people," said Saxon.

She said another criticism was that ARC CEO in Washington, D.C. has

a salary of about \$500,000 a year. Saxon agreed that ARC CEO Gail McGovern is indeed paid about \$500,000 a year, but there's a fact most aren't aware of or omit. Prior to her position, McGovern was executive vice president for the Consumer Markets Division at AT&T, the \$26 billion residential long-distance organization and largest business unit.

"She was at AT&T making many times that (\$500,000 annually) for that big for-profit corporation," said Saxon. "For what we pay her is in keeping with all the other large, complex non-profits that are national organizations."

She added that McGovern insisted her own salary be frozen and Saxon said for the last five years, McGovern's salary has remained the same.

Saxon said it's also been argued that other CEOs from large non-profits were paid only a dollar a year. She said not to take away from the other organizations because the ARC works closely with them, but she wants those who believe the "one dollar a year" salary to know there's a great deal of compensation that goes often unmentioned.

"What you don't hear is they don't have a



Melanie Saxon, American Red Cross Executive Director of North Central Florida. - Photo: Andrew McGee

salary on the books, but their housing, their food, their insurance has all been provided," said Saxon. "It sounds real good in a PR statement, but the reality is that if you're running a really large organization, you need to be compensated at some level for it."

She said although she makes a fraction of what McGovern makes currently, she wouldn't want that level of responsibility.

Another misconception is that donor money goes towards McGovern's salary which Saxon said is not true.

"They've figured out

how to get her salary paid without using donor dollars," said Saxon. "When I go out and raise money, I feel really comfortable to say, 'For every dollar you give me, 91 cents of it is going to go to our mission and help people in North Central Florida and not anyone's salary, but it's going to be right here in this community.'"

An organization of volunteers

She said one of the reasons they're able to provide the higher percent of money towards service is 96 percent of all of

SEE MELANIE, PAGE 15A

## Prevent mouth injuries during summer sports fun

The warm weather beckons children outside to play. Whether they participate in organized sports or enjoy pick-up games with friends, sports are a way to remain physically active and pass the days of summer in a fun way. A variety of leading oral health organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and the American Dental Association, have teamed up to remind parents, coaches and athletes to play safely when they're playing sports.

A child or young adult's mouth and face can be easily injured if the proper precautions are not used while participating in sports or recreational activities. In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than half of the seven million sports- and recreation-related injuries that occur each year are sustained by children as young as five years old.

In 2012, the National Youth Sports Safety Foundation forecasted that more than three million teeth would be knocked out in youth sporting events. They also reported that athletes who don't wear mouth guards are 60 times more likely to damage their teeth. Yet, in a survey commissioned by the American Association of Orthodontists, 67 percent of parents admitted that their children do not wear a mouth guard during organized sports.

At a time when a good football helmet or hockey stick may cost a few hundred dollars, mouth guards remain inexpensive pieces of protective equipment. Mouth guards save teeth and protect the jaw. When a mouth guard is working properly, it will hold teeth in place, resist tearing and allow for normal speech and breathing. Rely on a dental professional to



Mouth injuries during sports play can be prevented when athletes wear custom-fitted mouth guards.

recommend a properly fitted mouth guard for a vast array of sporting activities.

Here are some additional sports safety tips to consider to reduce young athletes' risk of injury.

- \* Wear a mouth guard when playing contact sports. Mouth guards can help prevent injury to a person's jaw, mouth and teeth, and they are significantly less expensive than the cost to repair an injury. Dentists and dental specialists can make customized mouth guards to provide the best fit. Other less-expensive options are the boil and bite mouth guards, which are softened in boiling water to fit the mouth, and stock mouth guards, which are ready-to-wear but may not fit as well as their customized counterparts.

- \* Wear a helmet. Helmets absorb the energy of an impact and help prevent damage to the head.

- \* Wear protective eyewear. Eyes are extremely vulnerable to damage, especially when playing sports.

- \* Wear a face shield. Rely on a face shield to avoid damage to the delicate bones around the eyes, nose and jaw. Hockey pucks, basketballs and racquetballs can cause severe facial damage to athletes of any age.

Summertime is an opportunity to engage in recreational sporting activities. Athletes of all ages should wear the appropriate safety gear while competing to greatly reduce their risk of injury.

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# Five win at final Suwannee River Jam Audition in Jacksonville

Six final winners will be chosen from among 20 preliminary winners April 18 at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park to perform at the SRJ

Five up and coming country music artists have won a chance to seek a spot on stage at the 2014 Suwannee River Jam (SRJ) at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park in Live Oak. These five were chosen Saturday, March 22, at The Jacksonville Landing. Suwannee River Jam Audition judges found the talent to be so awesome, they decided to choose five instead of the standard three.

Winners chosen are George Aspinall who played guitar and sang (along with John Shilby who played the harmonica), Abigail Carpenter, Alyssa Billings, Neshia Moore and Jolie Crapo. These winners will join 15 other winners April 18 at for the final audition at The SOSMP where the final winners will be chosen to perform at the SRJ held at The SOSMP April 30-May 3.

The winning band at Jacksonville Landing is The Steven Flowers Band of Gainesville. Winning bands go straight to the SRJ without further competition. The Steven Flowers Band will join other winning bands Crews Nyles Band of Lake Butler and 309C of Palatka to make their dreams come true - performing at The SRJ in just five weeks.

"We discovered so much polished talent in the Jacksonville market, making it very difficult to narrow down to just three," said SRJ Auditions producer Steve Briscoe of 1st Street Music & Sound Company in Lake City. "Therefore, a decision was made to invite the top five to the final audition."

"Our preliminary auditions are now complete," Briscoe said. "We have 20 amazing artists competing for their op-

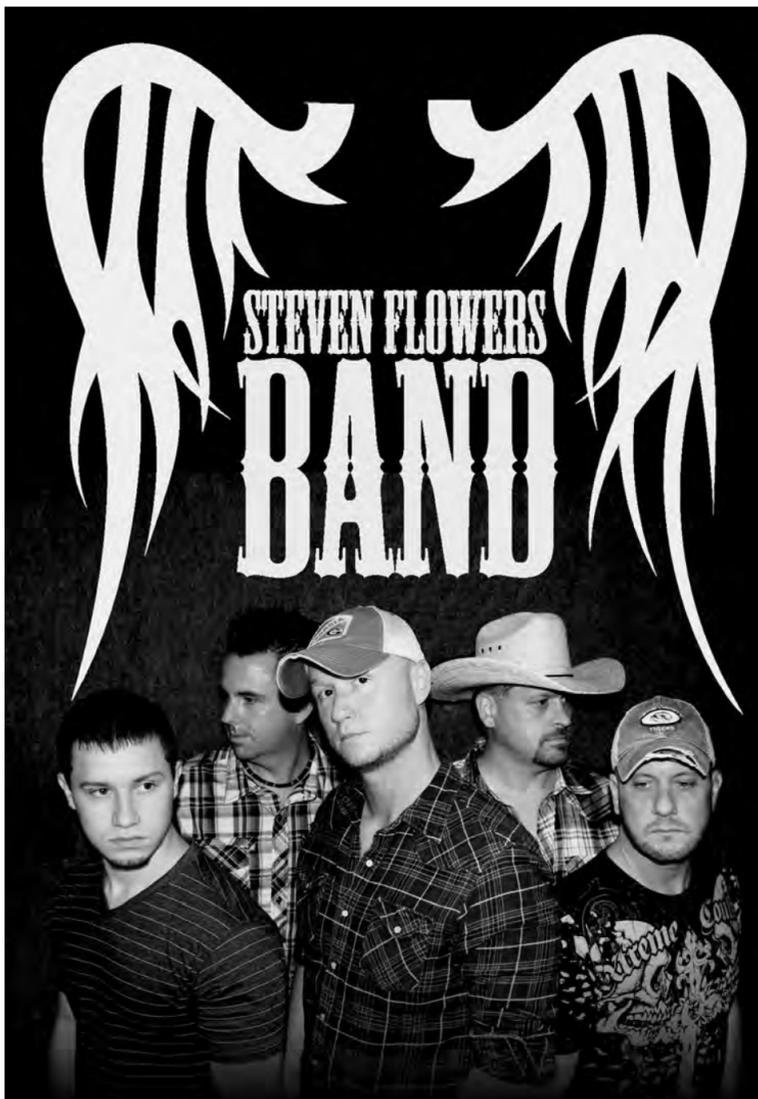
portunity to share the stage with some of the top names in country music such as Brantley Gilbert, Montgomery Gentry, Justin Moore, Charlie Daniels & band, Chris Cagle, Colt Ford, David Nail, LoCash Cowboys, The Mavericks, JJ Lawhorn and The Lacs."

SRJ Audition finals April 18 will be held at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park's (SOSMP) Music Hall. Thanks to the efforts and production of 1st Street Music & Sound Company, it will be a tremendous night at The SOSMP. The top six of 20 artists in the finals will be chosen and invited to perform on the 1st Street Music stage at the SRJ April 30 - May 3.

Go online to [suwanneeriverjam.com](http://suwanneeriverjam.com) to order tickets for the SRJ before prices go up. You may also email [spirit@musicliveshere.com](mailto:spirit@musicliveshere.com), go to [musicliveshere.com](http://musicliveshere.com) or call the SOSMP at 386-364-1683 with credit card in hand for Easy Pay. Buy today, you'll have it paid for before the Jam, sponsored by Budweiser, S & S Food Stores and other fine co-sponsors. S & S Food Stores in North Florida has the lowest price on 2014 SRJ tickets anywhere.

For more information about The SOSMP or 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](mailto:spirit@musicliveshere.com) or go to [www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com). Accommodations will fill up quickly for this Suwannee River Jam so make your reservations now.

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



The Steven Flowers Band of Gainesville won the band audition at the Suwannee River Jam (SRJ) Audition held at The Jacksonville Landing March 22. This band will move straight to the SRJ April 30-May 3 without further competition. Steven Flowers is pictured center with his band members. Photo: Submitted



The Landing 2014 SRJ winners were, l to r, John Shilby & George Aspinall, Abigail Carpenter, Jolie Crapo, Neshia Moore and Alyssa Billing. Photo: Submitted

## Melanie Saxon talks American Red Cross

Continued From Page 14A

their workforce are volunteers.

Saxon said many of the volunteers one may see at a disaster or on television are often professionals in their fields which in turn allows them to provide the very best care for those in need.

Saxon said there are often people who wish to serve in the ARC, but have never been properly trained and don't possess the necessary skills. Those individuals need

to be supervised by qualified personnel to ensure they're prepared in whatever area they can best serve.

She said nationally there are 500 ARC chapters and her chapter serves Alachua, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy and Suwannee counties.

She said they have a new office in Lake City that is currently serving as a sort of training ground for volunteers.

"In the past, when we

would recruit volunteers, we would have to frequently come to Gainesville to get trained," said Saxon.

She said now since they are able to train in Lake City, it has become more appealing to those interested in volunteering who live north of the Gainesville area. She said anything to make training easier or more accessible plays a huge part in their recruitment program.

She asked anyone to seriously consider being a

volunteer and she brought up an incident that recently happened where a local volunteer would have been more effective.

Saxon said having more volunteers in all of the communities allows the ARC to respond quicker and makes it easier on the volunteer as well as the people they serve.

Another service the ARC provides is their agreements with hotels in the areas they serve, so in the event a person or

family needs a place to stay after a disaster and have no money, they're able to go immediately to the hotel and have a room.

She said in bigger disaster situations, volunteers are usually deployed for two weeks at a time. If additional time is needed to get families back on their feet, other volunteers are deployed to replace the original responders. Saxon said part of her fund raising efforts includes getting the money to support the volun-

teers to be deployed sometimes out of state. The money goes toward travel to the disaster area and to ensure the volunteer at the end of the day has a safe place to stay.

"Our goal is to make ourselves as easy to work with as possible in terms of logistics and training to minimize all the factors that may be a deterrent to volunteering," said Saxon.

For more information about the American Red Cross, go to [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)



# Effortless EASTER HAM

## FAMILY FEATURES

This year, make your Easter ham effortless by ditching the oven and using your slow cooker instead. While most people think about slow cooking for staples like chili and stew, it's also perfect for center-of-the-plate feasts — like an Easter ham.

Using the slow cooker, you can minimize both prep time and cleanup time, leaving plenty of room in the day for church, hunting eggs and enjoying time with your loved ones.

Ham is a tradition for many families this time of year, and because it pairs well with a multitude of ingredients, you can create a unique dish every time.

For a fresh spin on the classic ham, try this Sweet Southern Slow-Cooker Ham recipe from the National Pork Board. Apple cider and bourbon (or vanilla extract, if you prefer) combine to create a rich flavor complemented by the sweetness of brown sugar.

Round out your Easter menu by pairing your ham with classic sides such as oven-roasted carrots, asparagus wrapped in bacon and mashed sweet potatoes.

You can also use leftover ham for flavor-packed recipes like Ham, Apple and Cheddar Crepes, which are ideal for a family-style brunch.

To get inspired by more ham and Easter meal ideas, visit [PorkBeInspired.com](http://PorkBeInspired.com) or [Facebook.com/PorkBeInspired](https://www.facebook.com/PorkBeInspired).

## Easter Ham Pin-spiration Sweepstakes

Enter the National Pork Board's Easter Ham Pin-spiration Sweepstakes at [PorkBeInspired.com/EasterHam](http://PorkBeInspired.com/EasterHam) for the chance to win an Easter gift basket with everything you need for this year's celebration.

## Sweet Southern Slow-Cooker Ham

Yield: 12 servings  
Prep time: 10 minutes  
Cook time: 4 to 8 hours

- 1 bone-in fully cooked ham, about 5 1/2 pounds
- 1 cup apple cider
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/3 cup Kentucky bourbon
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup Dijon mustard
- 4 fresh thyme sprigs

Place ham in large slow cooker. Whisk cider with brown sugar, bourbon, honey and mustard. Slowly pour over ham. Scatter thyme sprigs into slow cooker.

Cook on high for 4 hours or on low for 8 hours, or until very tender. Remove ham to rest on cutting board. Pass remaining cooking liquid through fine mesh sieve into saucepan. Simmer for 10 minutes or until slightly reduced. Carve ham into serving pieces. Brush ham pieces with cooking liquid before arranging on platter. Serve warm or at room temperature.

**Note:** For a non-alcoholic alternative, replace the bourbon with 1/4 cup water and 1 tablespoon vanilla extract.

**Cooking Tip:** Use leftover ham to make Ham, Apple and Cheddar Crepes.

## Ham, Apple and Cheddar Crepes

Yield: 6 servings  
Prep time: 20 minutes  
Cook time: 30 minutes

- 3 cups ham, shredded and warmed
- 1 3/4 cups 2% milk
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 4 large eggs
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 Granny Smith apple, halved, cored and thinly sliced

### Cheese Sauce

- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 cup 2% milk
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup white cheddar cheese, shredded
- 2 tablespoons fresh chives, finely chopped

Pour milk, butter, eggs and salt in blender. Mix until well combined. Add flour. Mix for 15 to 20 seconds or until smooth. Let stand for 10 minutes.

Heat an 8-inch crepe pan or non-stick skillet over medium heat. Coat well with nonstick cooking spray. Pour 1/4 cup batter into pan, swirl to fully cover bottom of pan. Cook for 1 minute or until crepe begins to curl

around edges. Carefully flip and cook for an additional 30 seconds or until set. Transfer to plate. Repeat with additional cooking spray and remaining batter. Layer cooked crepes between pieces of wax paper to prevent sticking.

Lay a crepe on clean work surface. Arrange few slices of apple on quarter of crepe; top with shredded ham. Fold crepe in half to cover filling and fold in half again to create triangular shape. Repeat with remaining crepes, apple and ham. Place on parchment-lined baking sheet and hold in warm oven until ready to serve, or up to 30 minutes.

For cheese sauce, melt butter in saucepan set over medium heat. Stir in flour until well coated. Cook, stirring constantly, for 2 minutes or until pale and smooth. Whisk in milk, a splash at a time, until smooth; stir in mustard, salt and pepper. Cook, stirring constantly, for 5 minutes or until thick enough to coat back of spoon. Remove from heat. Whisk in cheese, a small handful at a time, until melted and smooth.

Place filled crepes on each plate. Spoon cheese sauce over each crepe and sprinkle with chives.

**Serving Suggestion:** All the elements of the recipe can be prepared a day in advance and gently warmed before assembling.



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# United Way holds annual meeting, banquet



PotashCorp's Public Affairs Manager Mike Williams addresses the crowd.

Continued From Page 1A

Wheeler Insurance Agency.

Communications Committee Chairman Rob Wolfe, who is responsible for planning UWSV events, got the evening started by welcoming all the guests, and was followed by Mike McKee from Florida Gateway College who gave a short speech.

UWSV President John Martz took the podium to introduce a local Girl Scout troop who led the flag ceremony. Martz then recognized all Executive Committee members in the audience.

The 2014 Presidential Volunteer Service Award - a national recognition of outstanding community volunteers who have given a lifetime of volunteer service to local charities and many other community needs - went to Dave and Renee Cobb.

Dave Cobb's volunteerism began in college in 1969 when he was Vice Noble Ruler of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. In 1974-75 he was youth leader at Indian River Presbyterian Church. He served as an elder and taught Sunday school at Community Presbyterian Church in Live Oak, and served as an elder at Covenant Life Presbyterian Church in Sarasota, where he was also president of the Optimist Club.

He went on to serve two years as Columbia High School Band Booster president and as president of the Columbia High School Soccer Boosters.

For five years he

helped with the Callahan Christmas Parade, as well as prepared food for the Teacher of the Year breakfasts, and served as president of the Chamber for two years.

He has been active with the Lake City-Columbia County Chamber of Commerce, along with the Nassau County West, Putnam, Bradford, St. Johns and Baker County Chambers of Commerce.

In 2013, he served as March of Dimes Walk Chairman in St. Johns County. He's been a member of Lake City Rotary, and is a board member for the Downtown Rotary of Lake City.

He also serves on the Economic Development Committee, is the 2014 President of Columbia County Senior Services, and has worked extensively with UWSV. He and his wife are also members of the UWSV Challengers' Club.

Renee Cobb has volunteered with the March of Dimes Signature Chef's event, she is a past board member for Columbia County Senior Services, and is a long-time member of Altrusa International of Lake City. Like her husband, she served as an elder at First Presbyterian Church.

When their children were in school, she was active with Band Boosters, Soccer Boosters, the gifted program and various other school activities. She is active with Lady of the Lake Quilt Guild and the American Sewing Guild, as well as a member of Beta Sigma Phi.

Her service with UWSV includes years of participation on the Communications Committee from 2001 to the present. She served on the United Way Board of Directors in 2001-02 and came off the board to assume a grant-funded position in the office as the very first 2-1-1 coordinator after the FCC ruled in favor of this nationwide service.

She is one of the most experienced United Way volunteers working in the Columbia County Citizens Information Center during emergency activations, and assists in fulfilling United Way's Emergency Support Function role coordinating volunteers and donations in the Emergency Operations Center during activations.

She took over as BEST Neighborhoods Coordinator when a former employee was relocated.

Dave and Renee Cobb were thanked for their tireless service to the community.

Deacon Earl Perry from New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church gave the invocation before the meal was served.

The annual meeting of the UWSV provides the opportunity to recognize those who contribute to the success of the community impact initiatives and fundraising campaign. The contribution of each individual collectively results in the overall success achieved. Award certificates were placed at each of the tables of those being recognized.

UWSV operates several community impact

initiatives. Collectively, they resulted in a total of \$816,856 of resources beyond the community fundraising campaign to enhance the level of human services available.

"There is so much United Way accomplishments throughout the year," said Planning Committee Chair Nancy Roberts.

This year the Challengers' Committee set a goal to contribute \$150,046 toward the overall campaign goal with the \$46 signifying the 46th year of United Way of Suwannee Valley. This year there are 201 Challengers' Club members, 41 of which are new this year. These Challengers' Club members collectively contributed \$169,271, which is 113 percent of the Challengers' Club goal and 28 percent of the overall community fundraising goal.

"As the chair of the Challengers' Committee, I extend my personal appreciation for your leadership in caring for our community," said Mike Williams.

PotashCorp-White Springs employees raised \$82,566, which the corporation matched for a total of \$165,132.

UWSV wishes to thank Florida Gateway College for their support, as well as for use of the college's facilities for the kick-off and annual meeting and for the contribution of the talented staff members who provide the graphic composition for the United Way brochure, who create the campaign and annual meeting videos, and who serve on United Way committees.

Toward the end of the event, Mike McKee shared a fun video sponsored by Peoples State

Bank, which was enjoyed by all in attendance. It featured numerous individuals among UWSV supporters who were dancing and singing to the tune of Pharrell Williams' popular song "Happy".

## Business meeting

Martz announced that four UWSV board members were retiring and one was leaving to assume a new position out of the area. Retiring after fulfilling their three-year term on the board were Nancy Holliday-Fields and Wendell Johnson. Retiring after two three-year terms on the board were Michele Crummitt and Elizabeth Mitchell. Leaving due to her new position was Tresca Crusaw. Candidates for a second term included Terry Baker and John Martz.

The slate of nominees for new board members were Bill Donohue, Don Fenneman, who is returning after a term off of the board, Susie Hall, Jackie Kite, James Montgomery, Rhonda Sherrod and Janet White. Additionally, there was one individual for whom a vote was needed for an exception to the bylaws.

Shayne Morgan fulfilled two three-year terms as the Community Disaster Preparedness, Recovery and Response liaison, a position he fulfilled since it was instituted due to United Way's role relative to long-term recovery. The Nominations Committee was not able to identify an individual to replace Morgan on the Board of Directors. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the new and second-term board members, as well as acceptance of the exception

granted for Morgan's service.

"It is now my distinct pleasure to pass the gavel to the 2014-15 United Way of Suwannee Valley Board of Directors President, Eddy Hillhouse," said Martz.

Officers for 2014-15 are:

President Elect - Mike Williams

Secretary - Michelle Rosbury

Treasurer - Dr. Tracy Hickman

Assistant Treasurer - Kyle Keen

Past President - John Martz

General Campaign Chair - Stephanie McClendon

Columbia County Campaign Chair - Crista Thomas

Suwannee County Campaign Chair - Pam Cochran

Admissions and Allocations Chair - John Burley

Loaned Executive Chair - Ronnie Poole

Planning Committee Chair - Nancy Roberts

Homeless Coalition Liaison - Dana Huggins

Community Disaster Preparedness, Recovery and Response Liaison - Shayne Morgan

"Once again we must applaud those who served on the campaign team," said Martz. "They have been consistent in their efforts to continue to improve our campaign results, which have proved difficult in recent years. These determined volunteers worked with many community-minded corporate citizens to raise \$562,532. This amount constitutes 94 percent of the \$600,000 goal."

Together with grant funds of \$816,856, UWSV's community impact total was \$1,379,388.



The 2014 Presidential Volunteer Service Award went to Dave and Renee Cobb who are pictured with United Way emcee Mike McKee. - Photos: Rob Wolfe

# Rhett Bullard gives update on economic development

Continued From Page 1A

Prior to Bullard's statements, resident Bob Burton, during open comments from the public, stated he was working on bringing in a company that would offer about 200 "really good jobs."

"I have two more sitting right behind them," said Burton. "These companies aren't associated with Associated Industries of Florida, ICMA, FLCCMA...any of those companies, so we're getting a little bit of resistance, and it's starting to get a political tinge to it where I think some of the things are inappropriate," he added.

Burton urged the board and the public to start contacting their state representative and members of the HCDA and encourage them to bring in the jobs that he has been trying to recruit.

Bullard, speaking on behalf of Executive Director Susan Ramsey, who was unable to attend the meeting, passed out copies of an article that ran in Florida Trend Magazine that was submitted by the HCDA.

"It kind of gives a little highlight on the things that are being promoted in terms of getting information out to the public, to site consultants and the different corporate entities to let them know things that are available here in the county for them to use if they choose," said Bullard.

Aside from the picturesque rivers, outdoor recreational activities and fertile farmlands in the county, other items mentioned in the article tout the county as having a large and available workforce, plenty of shovel-ready industrial land, warehouse space, and two industrial parks that have water and sew-

er available.

Start-ups are receiving assistance, the article continued, and a firm called Florida PG Industries has developed a proprietary process to utilize phosphogypsum tailings, which have accumulated in Hamilton County over the years, to produce construction-related materials.

The article also stated that the HCDA continues to work with HERO, a solar power project, which was originally announced in 2010.

Commissioner Josh Smith asked Bullard who wrote the article and he said he didn't know and also that the HCDA board did not review it before it went to print.

"I believe staff was involved in that, as far as what was written," said Bullard.

"I think if I was on that board, I would certainly want to review something that's being printed

on my behalf," said Smith. "That's just my opinion."

Bullard, when asked by Smith, explained that Youth Services International, who was attempting to open a 40-bed residential program for low to moderate risk boys ages 14-18 through the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (FDJJ), was in attendance at their last meeting. That facility never opened due to failed negotiations between the FDJJ and the Hamilton County School District.

"The HCDA had been requested to allocate \$100,000 a year for a five-year period to cover any overages for a new facility that was proposed here in the county," said Bullard.

The matter, he said, was tabled because the day prior to the meeting, the HCDA received a letter from the FDJJ stating they were no longer pur-

suing the project. Bullard explained that it is not the policy of the HCDA to fund shortages from other governmental entities.

Commissioner Buster Oxendine said he thought that any time there is an opportunity to bring 43 jobs into the county, it should most definitely go before the HCDA to consider.

Bullard explained there were legalities involved and that there is a Florida Statute that does not allow the FDJJ to charge the school district for overages.

"Either way, it boils down to we lost an opportunity to have 43 paychecks put into the county, whichever way it goes," said Smith.

Other HCDA projects, Bullard said, he couldn't discuss due to confidentiality.

Commissioner Beth Burnam expressed her desire to attend a two-

day expo at North Florida Economic Development Academy in Palatka in May and invited the other commissioners to attend.

"I want to know what's out there," Burnam said. "I want to network with some of these other development authorities and see how they cooperate with all of their agencies. I just want to know what our options are."



Rhett Bullard from the Hamilton County Economic Development Authority. -Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

Announcements

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# Who do you follow? Walk/ride set for April 19



Pictured above are only a few representatives of the more than 70 churches that have signed up and/or have shown an interest in the Who Do You Follow Walk/Ride that will be held in Live Oak on April 19. The churches/groups represented in the photo are (out of order): Gary Poucher, Christian Motorcyclists Association; Cheryl Poucher, Pine Grove UMC; Tom Radford, Westwood Baptist; Tim Carver, First Advent Christian - Live Oak; Robert Murphy, First Baptist Church; Alfred Linton, Shady Grove; Alex Fountain, African Baptist; Harold Williams, Ebenezer AME; Tommie Jefferson, New National Grove MBC; Arnold Philmore, Triumph Church; Clyde Fleming, Mt. Sinai Baptist Church; and John Hayes, First United Methodist Church. The walk/ride will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning, April 19 at Langford Stadium.

## Arrest Record

*Editor's note: The Jasper News prints the entire arrest record. If your name appears here and you are later found not guilty or the charges are dropped, we will be happy to make note of this in the newspaper when judicial proof is presented to us by you or the authorities.*

- The following abbreviations are used below:
- DAC - Department of Agriculture Commission
  - DOA - Department of Agriculture
  - DOT - Department of Transportation
  - FDLE - Florida Department of Law Enforcement
  - FHP - Florida Highway Patrol
  - FWC - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

- HCSTF - Hamilton County Drug Task Force
  - HCSO - Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
  - ICE - Immigration and Custom Enforcement
  - JAPD - Jasper Police Department
  - JNPD - Jennings Police Department
  - OALE - Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement
  - P&P - Probation and Parole
  - SCSO - Suwannee County Sheriff's Office
  - WSPD - White Springs Police Department
- April 1, Clifford Lerory Thompkins, 26, 6609 Commonwealth Ave., Jax, Fla., warrant our of state Georgia warrant 133611: JSPD - R. Akins
- April 1, James Edward Ball, 42, 4071 NW 110th

- Drive, Jasper, Fla., non support: HCSO - Sgt. Hughes
- April 1, Javion Montreal Dye, 18, 10494 NW 36th Drive, Jasper, Fla., theft petit, RANOV: JAPD - McGauley
- April 2, Marquis Juan Glover, 19, 178 Horizon Circle, Live Oak, Fla., 13-0204CF VOP (burglary occ. struc/cv orat, grand theft): HCSO - McKire
- April 2, Cameron Lyndell Cohen, 26, 4219 SW 102nd Lane, Jasper, Fla., expired DL more than 4 months, DWLS/R habitual (2 cts), child neglect, R-WOV (3 cts), VOP, poss. synth narcotic W/I to sell, manufacture, deliver; poss. synthetic drug more than 4 grams; poss of cocaine w/i to sell within 1,000 feet of a

- church.
- April 2, Darrick Leon Moore, 35, 7117 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, Fla., failure to sop for inspection, no valid D.L.: DOA - Norris
- April 3, Calvin Lamar Jones, 44, 10793 NW 38th St., Jasper, Fla., R-WOV, hold CCSO - 1302264CTA: JAPD - Rickerson
- April 3, Charles Vann Jr., 39, 10280 SE 160th Place, White Springs, Fla., out of state warrant McIntosh COSO Ga 1495 A Echols COSO 1229030 HCSO - Thomas
- April 3, Norbert Sanchez-Corrillo, 22, 1226 Bee St., Jennings, Fla., NVDL: JNPD - Meeks
- April 3, Charles Augusta Crawford, 54, 3613 Coconut Road, Lake

- Worth, Fla., poss of marijuana less than 20 grams, poss. of narcotic equipment: DFT - Brownsfield
- April 5, Darius Kordel Williams, 27, 3526 NW CR 152, Jennings, Fla., RAWV, disorderly intoxic: JAPD - Harvey
- April 5, Brittany Latrece Williams, 26, 14140 Cheval Venue Way Apt. 105, Orlando, Fla., RAWOV: JAPD - Rickerson
- April 5, Laney George Reynolds, 47, 3892 NW 109th Ave., Jasper, Fla., disorderly intoxication: HCSO - Burnham
- April 5, Jasmine Shandrea Taylor, 18, 10506 SE CR 25A, White Springs, Fla., disorderly conduct: JAPD - Rickerson
- April 5, Nathaniel James Mallo, 23, 1206

- Rustic Drive, Orlando, Fla., VOP original charge marijuana less than 20 grams: HCSO - Jackson
- April 5, Travis Daniel Miller, 34, 1309 Stowe Ave., Mount Dora, Fla., FTA o/c DWLS: HCSO - Jackson
- April 6, William Hulk Vanderbilt, 43, 1128 2nd Street, Jasper, Fla., petit theft: JAPD - R. Akins
- April 7, Khoury Wesley Robertson, 28, 1210 Fieldcrest Road, Jasper, Fla., 1200191 VOP on HCSO on RAWOV 2 cts., out of county warrant SCSO: JAPD - McGauley
- April 7, Brenda Snyder, 50, 1210 Fieldcrest Road, Jasper, Fla., 20143004 Accessory after the fact, contributing, petit theft, RWOV: JAPD - McGauley

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