

Washington County News WEEKEND



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VERNON CITY COUNCIL

Parent: Peewee coach acted violently

By Cecilia Spears
Staff Writer
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VERNON — Vernon City Council members will discuss what action to take against Vernon Peewee Football Coach Walter McDonald after a concerned parent, Dominique Lott, said the coach had acted violently toward parents and players.

Lott and one other parent were at the Monday, Sept. 26, meeting to testify that McDonald had taken violent action and used foul language toward both children and parents of the peewee football team. The council agreed that at the next council workshop, they would discuss what possible action to take against McDonald

and assured the parents the team would continue to play for the remainder of the season.

In other business, council member Trey Hawkins requested that the Holmes County Correctional Institute be given recognition at the next regularly scheduled meeting for all of the work they have provided for the City of Vernon.

“People don’t seem to realize how vital they are to this city,” Hawkins said.

Vernon High School student Bobbie Pinkston was present to discuss routes and to request a parade permit for the Vernon Homecoming Parade on Oct. 7. The route will be discussed with the school sponsors and will be announced before Oct. 7.

Also approved was to waive the fees to use the Vernon Community Center for Vernon High School football’s 60th anniversary on Oct. 21.

The council approved to advertise the city’s garbage contract, and council member Gwen March suggested a garbage service that supports the American Cancer Society.

“Their garbage cans are pink and black, and a dollar from every payment goes to the American Cancer Society,” March said.

“They even have a place for family members’ pictures who are survivors or are currently fighting cancer or in memory of on the garbage truck; and nonprofit organizations such as churches need only to buy a garbage can and

they get free service.”

The council approved March as the city’s representative at the Washington County Tourist Development Council.

The council also approved Vernon’s Halloween Treat Street times as 5:30-7:30 p.m. Oct. 31.

Vernon City Council held a public hearing for the final reading of Resolution 11-100 to set the millage rate at last year’s approved rate of 2.4141; and Resolution 11-101 to approve of the city’s final budget.

The council also approved of minutes; payment of bills; approve city clerk contract with Pete Herbert; to move the regularly scheduled meeting from Oct. 10 to Oct. 11 and for streetlights for 3171 and 3135B Main St.

For the latest breaking news, visit
CHIPLEYPAPER.COM
IN BRIEF

West Bay reunion today

West Bay will have its community reunion from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today, Oct. 1, at the West Bay School.

Victory Tabernacle peanut boil and sing

Victory Tabernacle Church will have a peanut boiling and Bluegrass Gospel Sing at 5 p.m. today. The host band will Straight and Narrow, with special guests Cleo and the Cholesterol Cowboys of Cornbread County. Everyone is invited. Bring a lawn chair; the event will be outside. The church is at 10005 E. State Road 52 in Hartford, Ala. For more information, call 334-588-2838.

Fire Safety Fun day & 5K Run

You are invited to Chipley Fire – Rescue’s, Fire Safety Fun Day & 5K Run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at the Chipley Fire Department, 1430 Jackson Ave., behind City Hall. There will be station tours, fire truck tours, clowns, games, fire prevention materials,

See **BRIEFS A2**

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WASHINGTON REHABILITATION & NURSING CENTER



STEVE LINER | The News

Leslie Chance, an employee at the Washington Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, writes in her journal as part of the center’s landmark efforts to enhance patient care through understanding. She volunteered to live as a center client.

‘Home sweet home’

WRNC staff volunteer for life as residents

CHIPLEY — In the small town of Chipley, a rather large lesson is being learned at the Washington Rehabilitation & Nursing Center.

Five employees accepted a unique challenge to move in and walk in their residents’ shoes to see what life is like for a week.

“This is home sweet home,” said Heather Brock, the director of nursing. The employees aren’t just moving in; they are participating in the full admission process to the home and living with a mock diagnosis. One simulates vision loss associated with macular degeneration by having the staff member wear glasses coated in super glue, causing their vision to be blurry. They will see you, but participating in activities or eating meals will be a challenge.

The employees will receive challenges each day ranging from diabetic blood checks twice daily to not being able to use the entire right side of their body because

of right-side paralysis from a stroke. There are many more daily challenges for the staff, although these things are rather common for residents. Within a few days, they will find that living as a resident isn’t easy. Organizers said they hope the experience will help bring the staff even closer to residents.

“It will definitely be challenging and very frustrating,” said Bret Brown, administrator and participant. “We hope it will change the way they approach and feel about their job. It is an out-of-the-box way to provide empathy training.”

Employees can voluntarily leave the home at any time, though this forfeits their chance at the final prize. The contest will end when there is one employee standing. The winner will receive \$500, but in all honesty, the real winners will be the residents at Washington Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

WRNC is a Signature HealthCare community.

County approves final budget

By Cecilia Spears
Staff Writer
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CHIPLEY — The final budget for the Washington County Board of County Commissioners was approved during the commission’s last budget meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

“For the first time in over 23 years, the Washington County BOCC has been able to balance their budget without having to resort to taking out loans or raising the citizens taxes,” said Commissioner Todd Abbott. “To top it off, we reduced the budget by \$1.18 million; I think that’s something to be proud of.”

Washington County Budget

Notes from Sept. 6

1. When budgets submitted, revenues were \$1,180,211 less than expenditures in the general fund. The major reason for this was due to a decrease in ad valorem assessments, which resulted in an \$805,144 decrease in ad valorem taxes. Also, there were increases in some budgets requests. Due to estimate received from state, there were reductions in proposed general fund revenues \$22,603. There was a transfer from transportation to general fund to cover salary and benefits; employee terminated – decrease in revenue of \$29,631. Transfer from new EOC fund – additional revenue of \$147,522. General fund revenues no total \$11,407,856.

2. The following items helped decrease the deficit of the proposed budget for FY 2011-2012 due to the action of county manager and board:

A. Five employees laid off — only three affected general fund-savings of \$103,191.

B. 50% contribution to dependent health care-\$142,827.12 (This can fluctuate due to election of plan during open enrollment) BCC approved.

C. Change in transfer to library due to Linda Norton’s request for change in hours and insurance-savings of \$16,720; also, decrease in other current charges of \$1,800.

3. The following changes were made due to co-operation of Sheriff Haddock, Clerk Cook and Supervisor of Elections in making additional cuts to their original budget request:

1. Haddock cut his original budget request-savings of \$206,000

2. Clerk Cook cut her original budget request-savings of \$17,685

3. Supervisor of Elections cut her original budget request-savings of \$12,912. (Budget not submitted at time deficit was provided and was funded at current year level.)

See **BUDGET A2**

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Stewart wins two in a row

By Cathrine Lamb
Editorial Assistant
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After the second race of the Race for the Championship, Tony Stewart has become only the second driver in NASCAR history to win the first two races of the chase. He has put himself at an eight-point advantage in first place in the point standings. Jimmie Johnson, who has won the championship the last five years in a row, is in the 10th position in the points, 29 points behind the leader.

Point standings after the Sylvania 300 are:

- 1) Tony Stewart
- 2) Kevin Harvick: -7
- 3) Brad Keselowski: -11
- 4) Carl Edwards: -14
- 5) Jeff Gordon: -23
- 6) Mat Kenseth: -26
- 6) Dale Earnhardt Jr.: -26
- 6) Kyle Busch: -26
- 9) Kurt Busch: -28
- 10) Jimmie Johnson: -29
- 11) Ryan Newman: -34
- 12) Denny Hamlin: -66

The next race will be the AAA 400 at Dover International Speedway on Sunday, Oct. 2. Check your local listings for times.

Still collecting

Local girl becomes national face for Shriners Children's Hospital

By Cecilia Spears
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VERNON — You might remember Hannah Finch as the 5-year-old who in 2008 set a goal for her kindergarten class to collect tabs, then sent the Shriners Hospital for Children 1 million of them.

Or how in 2009 she sent more than 4 million tabs to the Shriners Hospital for Children in Tampa.

Now 9-year-old Hannah, who has been a Shriners patient for six years, is the face of this year's Shriners Hospitals for Children Tabs for Kids program, with her face and story inserted into the program's pamphlet and distributed all over the globe.

Hannah said she has decided to continue collecting tabs for the hospital and asks that the community continue its support.

If you're interested in donating tabs for Hannah, the

drop-off points in Chipley are the Supervisor of Elections' office, A&B Auto Sales, Uncle Billy's Restaurant, Gary's Flamin' Grill, Sunny Hills Country Store, Ronnie B Goods, Randy Morris Inc., Northwest Florida Community Hospital, Orange Hill Express, Capital City Bank, Salvation Army and the Washington County Probation and Parole office.

In Panama City, drop-off locations are Culligan Water, Cook Whitehead Ford, WJHG, Gulf Beach Baptist Church and Legendary Marine in Lynn Haven.

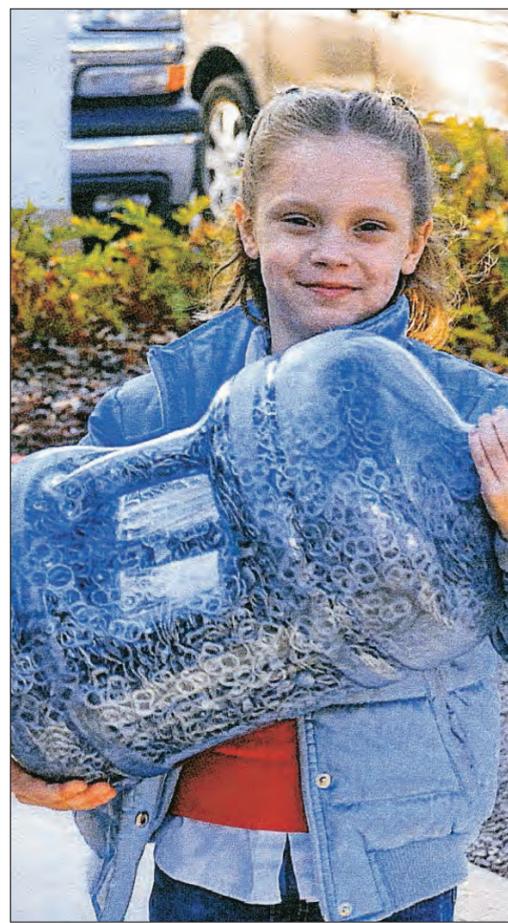
The Shriners buildings in both Chipley and Panama City are also drop-off points.

For more information about how you can get a 5-gallon jug to start collecting tabs or where to send them, call Dede Finch, Hannah's mother, at 726-0458.

"I wanted to thank everyone for all of the tabs," Hannah said. "And keep on collecting them."

CECILIA SPEARS | The News

Hannah Finch shows off her Shriners' Children Tabs for Kids jug. Hannah will be featured by the Shriners' Hospital in upcoming promotional materials.



BUDGET from page A1

4. If the following changes were made, the general fund would be balanced with "0" contingency:

1. EMS cut original budget request-savings of \$76,907.

2. Under human resource, decrease of salary and benefits, which is included in 2A above.

3. Under computer, decrease salary and benefits, which is included in 2A above.

4. Under executive budget, decrease salary and benefits, which is included in 2A above.

5. Under financial and administrative, decrease of tax collector's budget of \$26,270

6. Under legislative budget-professional services decreased by \$10,000, travel reduced to \$15,000 due to commissioners in county travel not funded; communications decreased by \$5,000, code enforcement reduced to \$5,000 under legislative budget, transfers to library changes (referenced 2C above), animal control increased by \$77 due to decrease in insurance and increase in contractual services, AG center increased by \$12,664 due to replacement of horticulture at higher salary, employee insurance change after budget adopted for current year, transfer to transportation originally budgeted at \$325,722 for insurances and actual transfer would have been \$278,805. However, there is a savings of \$278,805 due to Mr. Barfield absorbing this expense in the transportation budget. Transfer to recycling reduced due to Carol Park being funded under parks and recreation and no clerical funded under recycling which is a savings of \$44,544. Transfer to EMPA reduced by \$10,000. Transfer grants reduced by \$28,000 due to SHIP program funding administrative cost and cost for TIMECIA which is included in 2A above. Transfer to recreational facilities decreased by \$4,000 due to utilities being funded under library and \$2,000 maintenance and for Shipes/Holley house at Daniels Lake. Transfer to fire services reduced by \$76,907. Transfer to Ag Center reduced by \$2,000 in equipment line item due to computer department providing them with computer. Transfer to recycling decreased by \$7,500 due to decrease of \$5,000 in utilities line item and \$2,500 in operating supplies.

7. Legal counsel increased due to change in attorney agreement and

other legal services cost; increased by \$183,925

8. Comprehensive planning-decrease in other current charges line item-\$2,500 savings.

9. Insurance services decreased due to 50% contribution rate for dependent health coverage as referenced in 2B and transportation paying for its own insurance as referenced in 4-6.

10. GASB is funded at \$2,100 and is being administered by computer department.

11. General building services funded same as current year.

12. Law enforcement, sheriff correction budget reduced by \$206,000 as referenced in 3-1.

13. Under detention and correction budget, inmate medical increased by \$50,000 due to charges incurred in current year.

14. EMS ambulance decreased by \$76,907 as referenced in 4-1.

15. Medical examiners budget increased by \$4,897 due to interlocal agreement with Bay County for autopsy services. This increase shown on July 18 proposed budget.

16. Solid waste control budget-utilities decreased by \$10,000

17. Pollution control decreased by \$15,000

18. Industry development-no budget submitted when deficit originally projects; requested funding of \$40,000. Currently funded at \$25,000. CRA funding increased by \$981.

19. Veterans service-travel decreased by \$2,000

20. Health department funded at \$80,000

21. Welfare-RSVP budget request of \$2,000 decreased by \$1,250; decreased by \$250 from current year. Council on aging budget request of \$20,000 decreased by \$10,000; decreased by \$2,500 from current year. Tri-County Community Council budget request of \$23,000 decreased by \$10,250; decreased by \$2,500 from current year. Bay Care not funded has no budget request was received.

22. Mental health budget increased by \$50,000 due to changed incurred in current year for Baker Act services.

23. Cultural services-literacy funding decreased by \$1,500 and Vernon Historical Society funding request of \$600 not funded due to not having been funded in the past, Historical Society did not submit budget request so

it wasn't funded.

24. Park and recreation salary and benefit line items decreased due to Carol Park being out of recycling and placed under park and recreation and Deidra being placed under 911 budget; savings of \$8,180.

25. City recreation-no funding budgeted.

26. Inmate crew supervisors-funding decreased for salaries and benefits sue to two inmate supervisor positions not being funded; savings of \$46,850

27. Inmate cleaning crew-funding same as current year

28. Sod farm-gas line item decreased-savings of \$1,000

29. Guardian Ad Litem funded at \$1,337; was funded under legislative but separated in own department due to reporting requirements.

30. State Attorney Circuit Judge and County Judge funded same as current level; Public Defender increases its budget request by \$609; Article V funds totaling \$26,618 assist with these budgets

31. Transportation fund-balanced at \$2,865,700

32. Building department budget reduced to balance budget; salary and insurance reduced. Balanced at \$140,100

33. Clayton road SCOP project is funded at \$1,094,000

34. The transportation budget of \$2,865,700 is balanced without using any cash carry forward

35. The total budget for FY 2011-2012 is \$28,486,485

Recommended changes made Sept. 8

1. Take \$36,000 from the fuel line item in the transportation budget and put in travel line item to give the commissioners a set amount of \$600 per month for in county travel.

2. A transportation fund II has been submitted by Mr. Barfield at Public Works which is cash carry forward to be used for equipment; it is funded at \$2,200,00.

3. A FEMA flood budget totaling \$2,508,264 has been submitted by Mr. Barfield for completion of FEMA projects in the 2011-2012 budget year.

4. A revision to the transportation budget showing \$278,845 cash carry forward with budget being balanced at \$2,865,700.

BRIEFS from page A1

finger printing for kids, a bounce house, blood pressure checks, fire safety smoke house and a special appearance by Smokey the Bear.

United Holiness to honor seniors

United Holiness Church, 776 Peach St. in Chipley, will honor senior citizens during Sunday worship. Services begin at 11:15 a.m. with the theme "In The Seasons Of Your Life." Speaker

will be Evangelist B. Snipes, co-pastor of Fifth United Church. Dinner will be served.

Red Hill to honor pastors

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and Red Hill UMC has set aside time to recognize and honor their pastors. Pastor Matthew Rich was appointed by the Alabama-West Florida Conference in June to serve as Red Hill UMC's pastor. Brother Danny Wilkins began serving as

Red Hill's Youth Pastor in April. The congregation will hold a reception in their honor from 4-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2.

Mt. Olive Assembly homecoming set

Mt. Olive Assembly of God will have homecoming services Sunday with the Rev. Roger Dale Hagan. There will be singing after lunch with the Watsons. Everyone is invited. For more information call 547-0708.

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JROTC BRIEFS

Chipley High School Car Wash and Bake Sale

Chipley High School JROTC will be having a car wash and bake sale today, Saturday, Oct. 1, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Advance Auto in Chipley. For a donation of \$5 we will wash your vehicle. Funds will help reduce the cost to attend state competition. Every year, we have qualified to go to the Florida State Drill Competition, an extensive competition with over 50 participating schools. Please help us raise money so that we may represent Chipley High School, JROTC and this great

community!
— C/SFC Stephen Kauffman

Vernon JROTC in first 2011 competition

On Thursday, Sept. 15, the Vernon High School JROTC raider team competed in the first Raider Competition of the year. They did extremely well in this, placing in 18 of the 30 possible places. In map reading, Christopher Vathis placed first, Nathan Dunn placed second, and Eric Clark placed third for the males. For the females, Maegen Sheehan placed first, Jessica Grigsby placed second, and Brianna Loveless placed third. For the knot tying,

Nathan Dunn got first in the male portion for this category and Maegen Sheehan placed first, Julie Sheehan placed second, and Brianna Loveless placed third in the female portion. Brianna Loveless got first place in the female obstacle course.

In First Aid, the places for males were — Christopher Vathis, first; Todd Jenkins, second; and Eric Clark, third. The females were — Maegen Sheehan, first; Jessica Grigsby, second; and Julie Sheehan, third. Julie Sheehan also got third in the PT Test. Everyone worked very hard and did their best, while having fun in the process. Way to go Raiders! — Lane Evans

RMS DEFEATS BONIFAY MIDDLE SCHOOL



SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

The Roulhac Middle School football team traveled to Bonifay on Tuesday to take on the highly rivaled, Bonifay Middle School. RMS came out victorious in the bitterly fought match up, 14-12. RMS will play at home the next three weeks at Phillip Rountree Stadium on Tuesday evenings.

CHS JROTC COMPETES IN ACADEMIC BOWL



SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

On Sept. 21, Chipley JROTC competed in Academic Bowl. The Academic Bowl was hosted by Holmes County. The JROTC programs that competed were Holmes County, Vernon, and Chipley High School. The cadets from Chipley that competed are Devan Daniels, Zachary Chase, Justin Taylor, Nikki Stoker, Brianna Owens, and Sean McDonald. Congratulations to these six cadets who went and did their best.

VHS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Vernon High School would like to thank Community South Credit Union for sponsoring the 2011-2012 Student of the Month Program. Each month we will recognize one student from each grade (9-12) to represent our school. Students who demonstrate leadership, display a positive attitude, are dedicated workers, and are punctual in their daily routines may be nominated to receive this recognition. In appreciation for their dedication and hard work, recipients will receive backpacks filled with prizes from our sponsor. Winning students will also participate in a reward trip at the end of the semester. Congratulations to our September recipients: Leana Andrews, Kevin Ingram, Alana Hearn, and Anthony Siples. We are very proud of your outstanding work!

Washington County Scholarship Trust Hosts the Tenth Annual Show

PULLING FOR EDUCATION

Saturday, October 8, 2011

Antique Tractor Show/Pull • Antique Stationary Engines • Garden Tractor Pull

9:00 a.m. Barrel Push Race
9:30 a.m. Slow Tractor Contest
10:00 a.m. Tractor Pull Reg. Ends
10:00 a.m. Antique Tractor & Garden Tractor Pulls
11:30 a.m. Children's Pedal Tractor Pull
Noon Parade of Tractors
12:30 p.m. Ladies' Skillet Throwing contest
Afternoon Tractor Pulling Continues

Pull Fees:
Antique (\$5 per pull – 2 pulls per div.)
Garden (\$10 per pull – 2 pulls per div.)

Admission

Adults - \$5, Children 12 & Under Free

Bring Your Lawn Chairs • Various Demonstrations
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Further Info: Sandra Cook (850) 535-2426

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Gates open 8am Saturday



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NOTICE OF QUALIFYING FOR THE TOWN OF CARYVILLE GENERAL ELECTION AND REGISTRATION BOOK CLOSING

On Tuesday, November 1, 2011, a General Election will be held for the Town of Caryville at Caryville Town Hall, 4436 Old Spanish Trail, Caryville, Florida. Term of office expires for the following positions: Council Member Seat 2, Council Member Seat 3 and Council Member Seat 5. These offices will be opened to qualified candidates. Qualifying for these offices will begin at 8:00 a.m., Monday, October 3, 2011, and end at 12:00 p.m., Thursday, October 6, 2011. The qualifying fee for each office is \$100.00 Those wishing to qualify may do so with the Town Clerk at Caryville Town Hall during the above stated time period.

The Voter Registration books will close on October 3, 2011. All town residents within the town limits of Caryville, who are registered to vote by October 3, 2011, are eligible to vote in this election regardless of where you live in the town.

Town elections are non-partisan and political party affiliation does not apply.

Please contact Jewette Tadlock, Town Clerk at (850) 548-5571 should you have any questions or need other information regarding the upcoming town elections.

THE BANK OF BONIFAY IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO



THURSDAY OCTOBER 6TH

Children's Night - The first 100 kids to register will be able to compete in the Stick Pony Race.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7TH

Join us Friday for our Super Savers Rodeo Celebration Day at our Bonifay office. We'll have a bouncy house, slide, face painting, free hot dogs and all the trimmings. Open a Student Savers Account and receive a complimentary gift!

STOP BY OUR BOOTH

Thursday night is kid's night. Friday night is ladies' night, and Saturday night is men's night.



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Member FDIC

Washington County hosts Youth Ranch golf tourney

Special to The News

Recently, the Washington County Sheriff's Office hosted its Annual Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch Butch Leonard Classic Golf Tournament at Sunny Hills Golf Course.

Because of the tremendous outpouring of support from our community, more than \$9,000 was raised for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch.

Founded by the Florida Sheriffs Association as a nonprofit, residential child-care agency in 1957, the Youth Ranches statewide network of care has served thousands of Florida's needy and deserving children. Dedicated to the prevention of juvenile delinquency and the development of lawful, productive citizens, the Youth Ranches includes four residential child-care campuses and two camps helping to restore hope, fulfill dreams and prepare boys and girls

for the future. Additionally, community-based services provide intensive family counseling, family life education, foster care and other services to as many of Florida's troubled and at-risk children as possible.

"The Youth Ranch takes children from troubled homes and difficult situations and gives them a safe, nurturing home and an education. It gives young men and women new hope, new dreams and a new start to help them grow into productive citizens in our community," said Washington County Sheriff Bobby Hadlock. "Myself and our office staff believe strongly in this organization, and each and every one of us are proud to be part of ensuring the Youth Ranch will continue to help the children of Florida in the years to come."

For more information on the services Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches provide, visit www.youth-ranches.org.



SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Community BRIEFS

Pet adoption set in Marianna

The AT&T Store, in Marianna will be hosting Partners For Pets for a special Community Sharing Day on October 1, starting at 10 a.m. Partners For Pets will be there for off-site adoptions with some puppies from the shelter. AT&T employees will be selling hot dogs, snow cones and sodas with the profits going to the shelter.

Come to AT&T this day to adopt a pet, and get a new Pantech Crossover on a new 2-year agreement for free! Also everyone that purchases accessories that day gets 30% off any accessories they purchase. This offer is good only at the AT&T in Marianna.

Kent Collins reunion Sunday

Relatives and friends of the late W.A. and Laura Lee Kent Collins are invited to attend the 85th Annual Kent Collins Reunion on Sunday at the Black Community Center in Black, Ala. Please bring a covered dish to share at lunch and any photos or other mementos. Come and enjoy a day of fellowship beginning at 10 a.m. For more information call Betty Collins Paulding at 334-692-3375.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

Letters to the editor and comments on Web versions of news stories are welcomed.

Letters are edited only for grammar, spelling, clarity, space and consistency, but we ask that they be limited to 300 words where possible. Letter writers are asked to provide a home address and daytime telephone number (neither is printed) for verification purposes.

Letters may be sent to 1364 N. Railroad Ave., Chipley, FL 32428 or emailed to news@chipleypaper.com. Please specify if the letter should be printed in the Washington County News or Holmes County Times-Advertiser.

Questions may be addressed to Managing Editor Steve Liner by calling 638-0212 or via email at sliner@chipleypaper.com.



New gun law has officials scrambling

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — Local officials across Florida are scrambling to repeal gun control ordinances, including bans on firearms in parks, buildings and other public places, before a new state law takes effect.

It adds penalties to an existing statute that requires governments at the local level to follow state gun laws, which are generally less restrictive. The pre-emption law often has been ignored until now.

The gun legislation is one of 29 new laws that become effective Saturday.

Some of the others will make it more difficult for girls seeking abortions to get waivers from the state's parental notification requirement, limit medical malpractice lawsuits, outlaw sex with animals and reduce "sexting" penalties for minors.

The gun law has caused consternation in city halls and county boardrooms.

"We can restrict having clubs, flame throwers and hand grenades, but when it comes to firearms, we can't restrict them," said Kraig Conn, legislative counsel for the Florida League of Cities.

The law imposes what Conn called "Draconian penalties" for violating the 1987 pre-emption statute that covers ammunition as well as firearms.

"It merely says you have to follow the law and

if you don't follow the law there are consequences," said the law's sponsor, Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fort Walton Beach.

The National Rifle Association pushed for the new legislation, saying cities and counties were ignoring the pre-emption law because it had no penalties.

City and county officials could be fined up to \$5,000 if they failed to repeal a pre-empted gun ordinance or try to enforce it. They also won't be able to use taxpayer funds to defend themselves or pay the fines. Violators also could be fired or removed from office by the governor.

Individuals and groups such as NRA could sue to challenge local laws. If they win, they could collect attorney fees and damages up to \$100,000 from cities and counties.

Openly carrying firearms already is banned by state law, so pre-empted ordinances in most cases affected guns carried by more than a million Floridians who have concealed weapons permits.

State law also already bans concealed weapons from schools, courthouses, and the Florida Capitol and local government buildings when the bodies are meeting.

Conn said there still are some questions about exactly what is pre-empted but most jurisdictions are

repealing ordinances if there's any doubt.

West Palm Beach Mayor Jeri Muoio had been poised to test the law through an executive order banning guns in city hall, but changed her mind. Instead, she has ordered police to escort armed visitors in the building.

The most restrictive local laws tend to be in the more urban areas.

"One size doesn't fit all when it comes to our counties," said Cragin Mosteller, spokeswoman for the Florida Association of Counties.

Gaetz said the pre-emption law was designed to prevent gun owners from becoming criminals simply by crossing a city or county line.

Local officials have discussed possible legal action against the new law.

Conn acknowledged the Legislature can pre-empt local laws, but he said the idea of personally fining or removing public officials is another matter.

He said the new law marks the first time he knows of that the common law principle of "legislative immunity" has been pierced. It ordinarily protects officials from being penalized for their votes as members of a legislative body such as a city council.

The new abortion law will require judges to consider a minor's maturity in deciding whether she can be excused from the state's parental notification requirement.

It also limits girls to filing requests for waivers in the court circuits in which she lives. Previously, minors could seek waivers in any circuit within her appellate court district, which is a larger area.

The medical malpractice law will require out-of-state doctors to get a state certificate before they can testify as expert witnesses. They then could face

discipline, including the loss of their certificate, if they offer what's found to be "deceptive or fraudulent" testimony.

The new law also offers immunity from lawsuits to doctors who volunteer to help high school and college sports teams.

It took years, but lawmakers this spring finally passed a law against bestiality. Anyone convicted of sexual contact with an animal now can face up to a year in jail.

The new sexting law decriminalizes the act of minors electronically sending explicit photos of themselves for a first offense. Under existing law, they could be convicted of child pornography and labeled as a sex offender.

A second offense, though, would be a misdemeanor and a third, a felony.

"When our child pornography laws were written, they failed to take into account advances in technology, such as cell phones," said Rep. Joseph Abruzzo, a Wellington Democrat who sponsored the law. "This reform will let our youth know that such behavior is wrong without labeling them as sex offenders for the rest of their lives."

Another new law will make it a crime to knowingly possess a stolen credit card.

"Credit card fraud hurts Florida consumers who pay for it through higher finance charges, annual fees and increased costs for investigations," said the sponsor, Rep. Steve Perman, D-Boca Raton.

One of the new laws was passed last year with a delayed implementation. It will increase the liability verdicts state and local governments can pay without the Legislature's approval from \$100,000 to \$200,000 per person and from \$200,000 to \$300,000 per incident.

Washington County NEWS

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IF YOU OWN OR LEASE A FORD SUPER DUTY TRUCK OR AN EXCURSION VEHICLE FOR MODEL YEARS 2003 - 2007 EQUIPPED WITH FORD'S 6.0L DIESEL ENGINE, COMMONLY KNOWN AS FORD'S POWER STROKE DIESEL ENGINE,

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www.lovelacelaw.com

VHS wins Quiz Bowl

By Lane Evans
 Special to The News

County High School until the end.

On Sept. 21, Vernon High School, Holmes County High School and Chipley High School met at Holmes County High School for the first Quiz Bowl of the year.

All three teams tried their best, and the finish was great. Chipley High School placed third, putting Holmes County at second while Vernon triumphantly took home first place, going neck to neck with Holmes

The questions were based on categories from Character and Leadership Development, Leadership Theory and Application, Foundations for Success, Wellness, Fitness and First Aid, and more. The victorious participants of this event were Julie Sheehan, Courtney Poppell, Erick Clark, Josh Becker, and Brandon Williams. Congratulations to the Quiz Bowl team on your victory.



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1100-1170 ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

CASE NO.: 67-2010-CA-000009

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,

vs. DOUGLAS ELWELL, et al,

Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated September 14, 2011 and entered in Case No. 67-2010-CA-000009 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for WASHINGTON County, Florida wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, NA is the Plaintiff and DOUGLAS ELWELL; PARTICIA L. ELWELL; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at FRONT STEPS OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE at 11:00AM, on the 7 day of November, 2011, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH WEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES EAST 446.5 FEET; THENCE NORTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 376.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 186.8 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES EAST, 137.3 FEET TO THE WATERS EDGE OF JOINER LAKE; THENCE SOUTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES WEST ALONG THE WATERS EDGE OF SAID LAKE 186.8 FEET; THENCE NORTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES WEST 137.3 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH WEST QUARTER OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES EAST 446.5 FEET; THENCE NORTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 449.40 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE FOR 113.40 FEET; THENCE NORTH 67 DEGREES

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

25 MINUTES EAST 262.2 FEET TO THE WEST RIGHT OF WAY OF STATE ROAD 279; THENCE NORTH ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY FOR 20 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 67 DEGREES 25 MINUTES WEST 262.2 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES WEST 113.40 FEET; THENCE SOUTHERLY TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, ALL IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA. A/K/A 4282 DIAMOND HEAD CIRCLE, CHIPLEY, FL 32428

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 Sept 19, 2011

Linda H. Cook Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: K McDaniel Deputy Clerk

As published in the Washington County News September 24 October 1, 2011

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

Blankenship Contracting, Inc. gives notice of completion of Clifford Street Life Station Rehabilitation for the City of Bonifay, Florida. All persons and firms having claims against this project should file same with the project Engineer before October 1, 2011. Hatch Mott MacDonald, 120 Richard Jackson Blvd., Suite 180, Panama City Beach, FL 32407, 850-236-5831.

As published in the Washington County News September 10, 17, 24, Oct 1, 2011

PUBLIC AUCTION The following vehicle(s) will be sold at auction on Oct 18, 2011 8:00AM & Brock Auto Body & Towing, 1135 Main Street, Chipley, FL 32428. 1989 Ford 1ftd115n4knb48197, 1 9 9 7 F o r d 1FTCR10A9BTA5929

As published in the Washington County News October 1, 2011.

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH WEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES EAST 446.5 FEET; THENCE NORTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 376.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 186.8 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES EAST, 137.3 FEET TO THE WATERS EDGE OF JOINER LAKE; THENCE SOUTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES WEST ALONG THE WATERS EDGE OF SAID LAKE 186.8 FEET; THENCE NORTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES WEST 137.3 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH WEST QUARTER OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES EAST 446.5 FEET; THENCE NORTH 50 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 449.40 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE FOR 113.40 FEET; THENCE NORTH 67 DEGREES

2100 - Pets

2110 - Pets: Free to Good Home

2120 - Pet Supplies

2130 - Farm Animals/Supplies

2140 - Pets/Livestock Wanted

2150 - Pet Memorials

PETS: FREE TO GOOD HOME 2110

FREE To Good Home 6 month old Chocolate Lab - male, friendly, good with kids. (850)548-9991

FARM ANIMALS & SUPPLIES 2130

Small horse, Bay filly approx. 58". Rides. \$200.00 after 5:30. (850)547-4068

3100-3350 MERCHANDISE

3100 - Antiques

3110 - Appliances

3120 - Arts & Crafts

3130 - Auctions

3140 - Baby Items

3150 - Building Supplies

3160 - Business Equipment

3170 - Collectibles

3180 - Computers

3190 - Electronics

3200 - Firewood

3210 - Free Pass It On

3220 - Furniture

3230 - Garage/Yard Sales

3240 - Guns

3250 - Good Things to Eat

3260 - Health & Fitness

3270 - Jewelry/Clothing

3280 - Machinery/Equipment

3290 - Medical Equipment

3300 - Miscellaneous

3310 - Musical Instruments

3320 - Plants & Shrubs/Supplies

3330 - Restaurant/Hotel

3340 - Sporting Goods

3350 - Tickets (Buy & Sell)

AUCTIONS 3130

Michelle & HC's Auctions, 4100 Pate Pond Rd Vernon, FL. Every Saturday, 6PM. Miscellaneous auction 3rd Saturday Big Truckload Auction. Multi-Sellers, selection varies, cash, debit/credit cards 5% buyers premium. Building has Air Conditioning. Sellers welcome. Michelle Roof FI AU 3014 AB 2224 850-547-9140 850-326-1606 850-415-0183

AUCTIONS 3130

A 2006 Honda Shadow VTX was left at St. Johns Road Lot #16 in Bonifay and will be sold within 18 days if not removed. Vin #HONMZ80600

FIREWOOD 3200

Firewood! Seasoned or green. Cut to length. 373-8012 or 547-9291

FURNITURE 3220

B&B Furniture 1342 North RR Avenue, Chipley. We pay cash for clean, quality furniture. 850-557-0211 or 850-415-6866. Ask for Pasco or Carolyn

We do not guarantee position of ANY ad under any classification.

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2100-2150 PETS & ANIMALS

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We do not guarantee position of ANY ad under any classification.

GARAGE/YARD SALES 3230

3 Family Yard Sale. Saturday, Oct. 1 from 7:30-4:00 p.m. 1515 S. Hwy. 79, Bonifay, FL. 2.5 miles south of I-10. Vintage dolls, vintage & costume jewelry, children's books, 1930's Mahogany art deco, dental/medical cabinet, household items & miscellaneous.

10 MILE Yard Sale Saturday Oct 1st 7Am Until. Go west on Douglass Ferry Rd to Hinson Crossroads, turn left on River Rd to New Hope. Boat, washing machine, bedstead, cloths, shoes, lots of misc.

4-5 Family Yard Sale Saturday October 1st, 8:00a.m. until. 4333 Douglas Ferry Rd., 1 block west of 5 pts Fire Dept. Wooden foosball table. Call (850)547-2030 for a list of items.

Back Yard Sale 1530 Orange Hill Rd Sat Oct 1 8am-1pm Lots of stuff, CHEAP!

Estate Sale Sept 30 and Oct 1 from 7:00-2:00. Antiques, glassware, quilts, piano, books, furniture, tools, Ect. 1225 Tharp Rd Chipley

Huge Multi Family Yard Sale. Falling Waters Rd behind NAPA Sat Oct 1 8:00am-2pm

Huge multi-family yard sale. Lots of tools, childrens clothes, misc. new items. Sat Oct. 1. 2405 Brooks Dr, Bonifay.

Huge Yard Sale Kids clothes, toys, beds, much more. 1398 Hwy 177-A, 2 miles after Dogwood Lakes. Sat. Oct. 1.

Yard Sale Friday 8am -12pm & Saturday 8am -12pm. 1364 Leander LN Chipley

Yard Sale Saturday October 1, 2011. 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 2216 Clifford St. Bonifay.

Yard Sale. 742 Sunday Rd, off Orange Hill Hwy. Riding mower, Huskee, 18 1/2 HP, 42" cut, lawn tractor. Pd \$1100.00, used twice. Asking \$700.00 cash. Refrigerator, works like new. \$200.00. Bissell bagless vac, like new, \$100.00. Cemetery plot. \$600. Call 638-7727, 850-260-2295.

GOOD THINGS TO EAT 3250

Fresh from the Farm Straight neck squash, okra, eggplant. Call for availability. (850)956-4556.

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You Pick Field Peas Open Friday Sept 23. S of Washington County near Orange Hill off Hwy 276 near county line follow signs or call 260-1368

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS 3310 WANTED: Musical Instruments of any kind in any condition. Piano, banjos, drums, guitars, amps. LESSONS. Covington Music, Chipley. 850-638-5050.



4100-4130 EMPLOYMENT

4100 - Help Wanted

4130 - Employment Information

HELP WANTED 4100

EDUCATIONAL

TEACHER WANTED. Great Benefits. Tri-County Community Council, Inc. is accepting applications for the Head Start Program in DeFuniak Springs. Great Benefits. RESPONSIBILITY: Teacher - Plan and initiate classroom activities per the Head Start Standards. QUALIFICATIONS: Teacher - B.A. degree in Early Childhood or equivalent education in related field. Current driver's license and proper vehicle insurance coverage. Must comply with health and background screening. Applications may be obtained from any Tri-County Community Council, Inc., office and submitted by Monday October 10, 2011, at 4:30 p.m. For information and an application call LeaAnn, Personnel Tech (850) 547-3689, or online at www.tricountycommunitycouncil.com Successful applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug test. Only qualified applicants will be considered. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND DRUG AND SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE.

HELP WANTED 4100

Tri-County Community Council, Inc., is accepting applications for a Caregiver for the Early Head Start Program in Walton County. Great benefits. Responsibility: Plan and initiate classroom activities according to Early Head Start Standards. Qualifications: Must have a Child Development Associate (CDA) Infant/ Toddler or have a degree in Early Development; minimum of 1 year work related experience with infants and toddlers. Must have current driver's license and proper vehicle insurance coverage. Must comply with health and background screening. Applications may be obtained from any Tri-County Community Council office and submitted by October 10, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. For information and an application call LeaAnn, Personnel Tech (850)547-3689 or online www.tricountycommunitycouncil.com. Successful applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug test. Only qualified applicants will be considered. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND DRUG AND SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE.

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Independent Contractors

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*A reliable vehicle

*Proof of Auto Insurance

*A valid driver's license

*Be 18 yrs or Older

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5100 - Business Opportunities

5110 - Money to Lend

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*Be 18 yrs or Older

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Ridgewood Apts. of Bonifay
2 bedroom unit \$470 with city utilities and pest control (850)557-7732.

Townhouse Apt For Rent. 2BD/ 1 1/2 BA 638-1918

HOUSE RENTALS
6140

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Cottage style house 3 Bdrm/1 bath, screened porch. No smoking. Need references. Bonifay area. (850)547-3494

MOBILE HOME/ LOT RENTALS
6170

LOOK
2 & 3 BR \$590 - \$675 Greenhead Washer & Dryer Incl Some pets welcome 248-0048

2 and 3 Bd Mobile Homes for rent in Bonifay. No Pets. (850)547-3462.

2 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT 3BD/1.5 BA \$425 + deposit 2BD/1BA \$400/ mth +deposit Water & garbage furnished. Quiet park between Chipley & Bonifay 527-4911 or 547-4232

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6170

2 Mobile Homes For Rent 3BR/2BA & 2BR/2BA call 850-326-2053 or 638-4669

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3BR/2 BA MH 3/4 mile from Bonifay Elementary School. On Hwy 177A. Family oriented park. Call (850)547-3746.

MOBILE HOME/ LOT RENTALS
6170

2BR MH for rent with utility building, window air. 535-2657.

3BR/2 BA MH 3/4 mile from Bonifay Elementary School. On Hwy 177A. Family oriented park. Call (850)547-3746.

BONIFAY
3 Br, 2 Ba \$475/Mo 850-699-3599

For Rent 2BD 1BA \$375/mth 2BD 2BA \$450/ mth Bonifay water & sewage included. 638-2999

Mobile Homes in Cottdale on Sapp Rd, 8 miles E. of Chipley. 3br/2ba Doublewide & 2br/2ba singlewide avail. Total elec. (850)-258-4868 or 8 5 0 - 2 0 9 - 8 8 4 7 w w w . c h a r l o s c o u n t r y l i v i n g . c o m

MOBILE HOME/ LOT RENTALS
6170

For Rent 3 BR/ 2 BA Doublewide in Bonifay. Sorry No Pets Please call 850-373-8938



7100 - Homes
7105 - Open House
7110 - Beach Home/Property

7120 - Commercial
7130 - Condo/Townhouse
7140 - Farms & Ranches
7150 - Lots and Acreage
7160 - Mobile Homes/Lots
7170 - Waterfront
7180 - Investment Property
7190 - Out-of-Town Real Estate
7200 - Timeshare

HOME FOR SALE
7100

Your land or family land is all you need to buy a new home. Call 850-682-3344

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LOTS AND ACREAGE
7150

10.3 Acres for sale in Canopy Crossing, off Hwy 79, 179-A Westville, Reedy Creek Property. \$24,900 FIRM. Call Chester (813)655-9870

FOR SALE 28 acres with small house on developed acre, \$90,000. Approximately 4 miles south of Graceville with 1000+ footage on Hwy 77. Sign in front. 251-948-3620 or 850-638-8526

Reduced Price! Two 8 acres on Bedie Rd. Two 9 acres on Buddy Rd. Two 5 acres & One 10 acres on Gainer Rd. One 10 acres on Hwy 77. Owner financing. For more info call Milton Peel @ 850-638-1858.

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE
7160

Land and Home For Sale 4248 Bever Rd 3BD/1BA single family fixer upper. Owner finances or cash discount \$1250 down \$561/ mth or 803-929-1117 803-403-9555

OUT-OF-TOWN REAL ESTATE
7190

Abandoned Lakeside Farm! 4 acres - Lake access - \$16,900; 10 acres - Huge view - \$29,900; 8 acres - Lakefront - \$69,900. Foreclosure priced land in Update NY's So. Tier!! Survey, clear title! (877)352-2844. www.newyorklandandlakes.com

TRUCKS
8130



TRUCKS
8130

For Sale 1997 F Super Duty 1 ton 5 speed 227,000 original miles, 7.3 diesel. \$ 5000 850-625-5629

For Sale 2002 Ford Ranger Edge V-6 auto trans. AC,PS,PB, CD player, cruise control, 90,000 miles. Sharp. \$4800.00 Call 596-4174 or 326-3431



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INSTRUCTION

1-10 south growth impacted by lack of water, sewer

In the last edition of the Advocate, I talked about the former Chuck Wagon Restaurant and traffic counts as it relates to businesses deciding to come into an area or not. I had many people ask me questions about the article and say they were surprised to learn that traffic counts were so important to the decision-making process.

In this Advocate, I would like to talk about the south side of I-10, and, in particular, why there are no businesses on that side of the Interstate.



Ted Everett
Executive
Director

Remember this when it comes to business: they all require water and sewage. With that said, visualize the south side of I-10 at the Chipley exit. There is the one, lone, former gas station and that is all.

When it was open, the station utilized well water and septic tank for its water and sewage. This was good until the State issued news rules for water coming out of wells for public consumption or public use.

The State says that all wells used for this type of consumption must be tested regularly and also chlorinated. This regulation is



State Road 77, south of the Chipley exit of I-10.

a detriment to many businesses because of the cost associated with the testing.

So, why are there no utilities on the south side of I-10? First know the State requires a business to want to locate on land south of I-10 in order for the city to obtain State grant funds to run water and sewage infrastructure to that part of the city. To get the facilities built, municipalities depend on State grant funds to aid in infrastructure improvements and expansions. The problem is not so much that

the businesses do not want to be on the south side, it's that there is no water and sewage available. It's the chicken and egg scenario.

Plainly stated, there are no landowners who are willing to be the first to sell at a reduced price caused by the lack of available water and sewer. If a landowner did sell, and water and sewer were brought in for that business prospect, then the surrounding properties would acquire a much higher value due to the infrastructure put in place.

That is essentially why there is still

no business developments on the south side of I-10.

In order for the "unfair sacrificial landowner" scenario to change, substantive changes to the State and Municipal Infrastructure grant requirements will need to change. These changes would take time for review, legislation to be passed, guidelines created and then implemented. Until that time, or when there is a landowner willing to sell for "less than what could be," the south side of I-10 may be dormant for awhile.

A Message From The Past President

It's incredible how suddenly Fall arrived this year. Maybe it's a sign of getting older, because time was certainly slow when I was a kid. Changing from Summer to Winter is a marvelous transition to witness; better yet, to relish. It's invigorating. Just as new growth comes in Spring, Fall has a unique freshness of its own.



Darrin Wall

Change is continuing at the Chamber, too. We'll be welcoming new leadership in October as September was my final month as president.

It's been a wonderful year despite the economic climate. I've been fortunate to be surrounded by good friends at the Chamber, and have been blessed by their influence.

The Chamber continues to evolve and grow. Growth isn't just about membership numbers and investment dollars, but it can be seen through the contribution of volunteers.

The Chamber Ambassadors have been very active with ribbon cuttings and have participated in numerous events. They represent the Chamber very well, and have our gratitude.

Several board members have given their talents to organize the Outdoor Expo the past few years;

an event that will now be held every other year. We engage our elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels and voice issues affecting Washington County businesses.

We support existing industries, and seek to attract new investors to the area. As time continues, the economy will turn around. We're working to ensure that Washington County will be poised for positive growth.

None of this could be possible without a wonderful staff. They support our members, and continue to strive for great results. We are already working towards another notable year in 2012, and you can help through your involvement. Always remember . . . YOU can make a difference!

A Message From The Executive Director

October sees much activity each year: football, hunting, festivals – there's no doubt it's Fall! The Chamber has also been very busy. We're a business just like yours and we continually search for ways to make our business relevant to you, the membership.

I have put a good deal of thought into ways to do just that. For starters, we have changed how we communicate with our members. We have reduced our mail notifications and switched to mostly email communications.



Ted Everett

If we do not have a current email address for you, please let us know; contact Chris or myself at: chris@washcomall.com or ted@washcomall.com, or call 850-638-4157. Please provide an updated website URL also. If you do not have email service, let us know that too, so we can find the best way to communicate to you what we're doing.

We are also in the initial stages of planning workshops of interest to our members. If you have an idea on a topic, again, let us know. If you have a specific problem which needs some attention, let us know. Obvious subjects, such as marketing and financial management, will be on the menu, but there may be

other issues or topics you wish to see covered.

You may have noticed the last few cover stories in the Advocate have focused on Economic Development in Washington County. Your Chamber is heavily involved in economic development to bring good paying jobs to our County. We have had successes in the past and are proactively reaching for success for the future. All we need is you! We really want to hear from our members about workshop topics, what is most important to your business and how you think the Chamber can help your business grow. We're just an email or phone call away

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October 20 Third Thursday

PROGRAM: Hear updates about what's happening in County government from these local representatives: Washington County – County Manager Steve Joiner; City of Chipley, City Administrator Dan Miner; Chipley Redevelop-

ment Agency, CRA President Amy Wiwi; and Washington County Tourist Development Council, Secretary/Treasurer Jim Town.

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November 17 Third Thursday

PROGRAM: Community Update **SPONSOR:** Hard Labor Creek Plantation

Enjoy hunting Bobwhite Quail in one of the State's most natural and least spoiled areas of Northwest Florida. Step onto Hard Labor Creek Plantation and you'll think you were hunting in the piney woods and quail coverts of a hundred years ago. Back then, this same property was home to one Florida's busiest turpentine plantations. HLCP is located six miles from Interstate 10 and about 10 miles south of Chipley. Call 850-527-6063 to book your hunt.

Hard Labor Creek is also home to an off-road park, with over 20-miles of trails for dirt bikes and ATVs. For more information go to HardLaborCreekOffRoadPark.com



The Board of Directors and Staff wish one and all a very Happy Thanksgiving 2011!

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2012 Board President: Philip Pippin, Pippin Appraisal Services

Philip Pippin was born in 1960 to Tillman and Madeline Pippin of Chipley, grew up in Chipley and attended Washington County schools until graduating in 1978. He then attended Chipola Junior College and worked for a local furniture company until moving to Port St. Joe in 1981. Pippin was employed with St. Joe Paper Company at the St. Joe paper mill until 1985.

After moving back to Chipley in 1985, Pippin took over his father's real estate sales and appraisal business. Pippin received a real estate salesman license in 1985 and a broker's



license in 1986. He continued his education in specialized real estate appraisal and operated a sales office until 1990, when he earned a State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser's license.

Pippin has been engaged in the real estate appraisal business since then, as well as operating a real estate development company

known as Brickyard Investments. This company was responsible for several residential developments around Chipley, most noted, the Pine Bluff at Falling Waters residential development adjacent to Falling Waters State Park.

Pippin also served on the Chipley Volunteer Fire Department from 1985-1992, and as Fire Chief in 1991. He served the County Planning Commission from 1985-1992.

Pippin married Tonya Johnson in 2001, with Tonya joining the appraisal firm in 2002. Philip has two children, Daniel and Jordan Pippin.

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TDC: Northwest Florida big draw for in-state summer visitors

Every fall, Visit Florida releases its Florida Tourism Study to industry partners to show visitor trends for the previous year. The 2010 report had surprising results for the Northwest Florida region.

According to the study, Northwest Florida had the highest percentage of vacationers in the state for the summer season, coming in at 40 percent. Northwest Florida also had the highest percentage of non-air travel at 92 percent, the highest percentage of vacation/getaway weekends at 66 percent and the highest percentage of travel parties consisting of couples at 47 percent of any other Florida region. The average length of stay was 1-3 nights at 54 percent, with 38 percent staying 4-7 nights.

This shows that more than a third of vacationers to the region stay longer and have more mobility while they are here since they prefer driving to flying. The



Heather Lopez
Administrative Assistant

average daily expenditure for a traveler to our region is also \$110 per day.

Washington County can benefit from this mobility, length of stay and disposable income by promoting the regional day trip program to people who already have plans to vacation in Northwest Florida.

In looking at other demographics of visitors to Northwest Florida, we find that 90 percent traveled to the region for the purpose of leisure. Of the top activities while vacationing, beach/waterfront came in at number one with 41 percent followed by shopping - 35 percent, touring/sightseeing - 14 percent, night life - 11 percent, park: national/state - eight percent, and festival/craft fair - six percent.

With couples making up the largest percentage of travel parties to the region, families came in second at 24 percent followed by single travelers at 16 percent. The largest age group traveling to Northwest Florida is between 35-54 years old at 45 percent, followed by 18-34 years old at 31 percent and 55 plus at 24 percent.

Other than our region's impressive summer percentage,

the spring (March-May) season came in at 26 percent followed by Fall (September-November) at 24 percent.

The Washington County Tourist Development Council (TDC) will incorporate the results of this study in its marketing campaign for fiscal year 2011-2012. To learn more about the TDC visit us at www.VisitWashingtonCountyFL.com.

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Ribbon Cuttings



August 4 - Vernion Clinic, 3250 Main Street, Vernon.



August 14 - Sunbelt Credit, 1414 Main Street, Chipley.



September 1 - New Life Fellowship Church Hall, 696 5th Street, Chipley.



September 13 - Pink Speckled Frog, 844 Main Street, Chipley.

Wilson Building Dedication



Chipley City Councilman, the Rev. Price Wilson was recently honored for his contributions to education, the community, city government and, for two decades, the barbershop he and his brother co-owned in Panama City. Photos, top, from left: Rev. Wilson, flanked by his wife Fannie and daughter Kathy, is recognized by Chamber Director Ted Everett, center, and local businessman Eon Menckeborg, who organized the building dedication at 837 Main Street. Several local dignitaries, including School Supt. Sandra Cook, bottom photo left, were also on hand to honor the Rev. Wilson. Wilson was honored at another ceremony in August for his participation in the liberation of Holland during World War II, and his service as a pastor for over 33 years.

Third Thursday Highlights



August-September Third Thursday Highlights...

Clockwise, from top left: August's program is presented by Denny Axman of Advanced Market Resources; Chipley Garden Club member Denise Noonan presents the Yard of the Month Award for 1271 Old Bonifay Road; Economic Development Council Chair Gary Clark recognizes contributors from the Bank of Bonifay and Commercial Property Investments; Roger Laney talks to members about financial security at the September meeting; Cindy Brown, Washington County Rehabilitation and Nursing encourages participation at a fish fry; and School Supt. Sandra Cook gives an overview of new school requirements.

County seeks public/private partnership

The comprehensive plan for Washington County always brings up both positive and negative images for citizens: developers see it as a hindrance and conservationists see it as a blessing. For the balanced mind and those of us in the middle we can all find some good and some bad in the plan.

The most beneficial element that has emerged recently is the economic development element. As adopted, this element of the plan lays out the parameters for how the County will encourage and promote job creation, expanding business and commercial and industrial development.

This guiding element matches perfectly with the mission of the Economic Development Council of the Chamber of Commerce. About six months ago the County



Gary Clark
EDC Chair

Planning Department put together an advisory group called the EDG or Economic Development Group. This group was assigned the task of developing a formal agreement by which the County could contract its responsibility for economic development to a public/private entity.

After many months of work, I am proud to say that a formal agreement was adopted by the group and has been sent to the County for adoption and execution. This agreement specifies the role that both the County and the Economic Development Council will have in development process. A few of the highlights from the

agreement are as follows:

County Role

- Provide an adequate supply of land for commercial, industrial, and residential uses through the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) and the Land Development Code.
- Develop an infrastructure plan that will support economic development in designated areas of the County.
- Protect existing industrial or commerce parks from potentially incompatible adjacent land uses.
- Actively seek additional large acreage tracts throughout the County that possess the appropriate criteria for diverse economic development opportunities.
- Establish more formal relationships with public/private partnerships for economic development using as models those concepts and entities proven successful in other

economically emerging counties.

- Commit at the earliest opportunity to a sustainable funding program that provides for annual budget allocations in support of all economic development initiatives.

Service Provider Role

- Make recommendations regarding strategic land use planning in a timely manner to be included in the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) process.]
- Actively seek grants that will lead to the development of a plan to construct infrastructure in areas of the County designated for commercial, industrial, or residential uses.
- Establish working relationships with existing third-party economic development entities such as Enter-

See County on page 10



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Spotlight On Our Chamber Ambassadors



CINDY BROWN

Washington Rehabilitation and Nursing Center



Chipley native Cindy Johnson Brown is the wife of Gary Brown and the proud mother of one beautiful girl, Olivia Grace Brown.

Cindy is a 1992 graduate of Chipley High School. Even in her youth, Cindy was heavily involved and volunteered much of her time to local organizations. She lived in south Florida – Orlando and Miami – for 17 years before returning home to Chipley in November 2008. She is now a permanent resident of Washington County.

Cindy earned her bachelor's degree in Communicative Disorders at University of Central Florida.

She earned her master's degree in Speech Language Pathology at Nova Southeastern University.

Cindy also attended the University of Florida for computer science coursework. Currently, she is working on her doctorate in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Speech Language Pathology and a minor in autism and gerontology from Nova Southeastern University.

As a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP), Cindy enjoys working with children and adults with varying disabilities in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practice, schools, and home health.



spending time as a Chamber of Commerce Ambassador. She is also a member of Chipley Kiwanis, Take Stock in Children, Relay For Life, American Speech Language Association, Florida Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists, Autism Society of America, and Center for Rare Diseases.

In Cindy's free time,

Currently, she is the SLP at Washington Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Chipley.

As a volunteer, Cindy enjoys

she enjoys riding her four horses and her Harley-Davidson. She also enjoys kayaking, snow skiing, and of course, being a new mom.

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County from page 8

prise Florida, Opportunity Florida, Florida's Great Northwest, other economic development councils and alliances, the emerging Department of Economic Opportunity, as well as Regional Planning Councils, to insure that all parties are informed about Washington County and the opportunities for economic development with a view to receiving referrals to parties looking to expand or relocate into northwest Florida.

- Be the single point of contact and primary coordinator for County agencies with regard to eco-

nomic development activities.

- Establish a working relationship with municipalities that coordinates economic development opportunities for a "fast track" approval process in conjunction with the FLUM (future land use map), Land Development Code, and municipal requirements, as well as maximizing the economic incentives offered to prospective investors in the County regardless of proposed physical location. Coordinate with adjacent counties/municipalities to support larger economic development

opportunities that may cross jurisdictional boundaries.

- Participate in such marketing efforts deemed appropriate to **present the opportunities in the County to prospective investors.**

- Work with large developers who are proposing developments of regional impact, sector plans, or other large-scale mixed use projects that will, or could, include commercial and industrial components.

- Service Provider shall submit to County by July 1st of each year the annual economic develop-

ment report. The report shall contain the following information for industry located in Washington County's various Industrial Parks (both County and municipal control) of industry currently receiving an ad valorem or sales tax economic develop-

ment tax exemption:

(1) current employment levels and average wage rate + two past years (2) amount of capital investment in Washington County

As our County and our communities continue to grow and develop, these

alliances and guiding elements will make our jobs easier and our successes greater than ever before. It is our goal to leverage all of the assets at our disposal to insure that the mission of strong positive economic growth for our County can continue.

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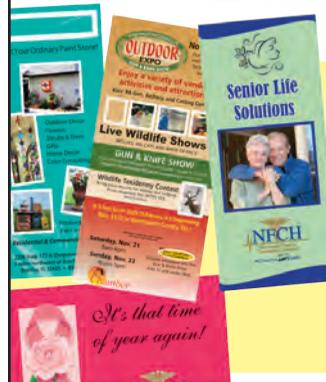
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One South Bank
PLWconsulting Group, LLC
Professional Real Estate Mgmt, LLC
Professional Satellites
Southern Trails RV Park
The Bank of Bonifay - Chipley Office
Thomas Gerald Holley, Attorney
Ward Propane
Wellness Environments

EDC INVESTMENTS

Business Evaluation & Appraisal Inc.
One South Bank
The Bank of Bonifay - Chipley Office

INDIVIDUAL RENEWALS

Josephine Robinson Floyd
Dot Pierce
Alma Vann
George Vann

Total Members: 356

Washington County Chamber Outdoor Expo: Rescheduled for 2012!

While we like to think that your Chamber is the "Can Do" Chamber, we must admit we did not have the appropriate amount of time to devote to an Outdoor Expo this year. An unplanned workload injected itself into our offices and we felt we could not do justice to this fine event.

We had -- and will have -- some really exciting animal exhibits and shows lined up, as well as some great returning and new Outdoor Vendors and great activities for the entire family. But all that will have to wait until next year in the Fall of 2012!

We hope to see you all at the Expo next year!

• Racing Rain or Shine • Poker Room & Simulcasting 7 Days A Week
 • Jackpots, Tournaments & Cash Games • Bring The Whole Family (18 to Play)
 • Trackside Dining Overlooking The Action • Call For Current Racing Schedule

Elbro
 Greyhound Park

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 or Call: (850) 234-3943

OCTOBER 2011**Every Tuesday**

Noon - Kiwanis Luncheon

Every Thursday & Friday & 1st Saturday (9-12)

10am-2pm -WC Historical Society Museum Open

Every Tuesday / Thursday / Saturday (7-12)

12-5pm-Farmers Market Open

685 7th St. Chipley

Every Wednesday

9-2pm-Vernon Hist. Historical Society Museum Open

- 3 4 pm – WCTDC Wrkshp & Mtg (Rescheduled from Sept.)
7 p.m - Vernon City Council Workshop
- 3 - 7 Homecoming Week at Vernon High School
- 4 11 am – Chipley Garden Club – Vernon Comm. Ctr.
- 5 5 pm Chipley City Council Workshop
- 6 6:30 pm – Sunny Hills Civic Assoc. Meeting
- 7 8:30-11:30 pm -Vernon Homecoming Dance/ City Gym
- 10 5:30 p.m. – Wash Co School Board Meeting
7 pm – Vernon Council Meeting
- 11 6 pm – Ebro Town Council Mtg
6pm - Caryville Town Council Mtg
6 p.m. - Chipley City Council Mtg
Full Hunter Moon
- 13 6 pm – Wausau Council Meeting
- 13-16 STP – Annie @ Playhouse 7 pm-Sun. @2 pm
- 15-16 Sat-9-3 & Sun-11-1 Fall Into History at WC Hist. Soc. Mus.
- 17 9 am WC Board of Co. Commission Workshop @ Annex
Noon – Chamber Ambassadors Meeting @ Chamber
7 p.m. – Vernon City Council Workshop
- 18 6 pm-Family Game Nite&College/ Career Nite
Vernon HS
- 19 10:30 am-Wausau Garden Club @ Wausua Town Hall
- 20 7:30 am - WC Chamber 3rd Thursday @ Pattillo's
- 21 Chipley High School Homecoming - Parade 12:30 pm
- 21-22 WC Friends of the Library Book Sale @ Little Library 5thSt
- 24 4 p.m. – TDC Workshop & Mtg @ Chamber
7 p.m. – Vernon Council Meeting
- 27 9 am - WC Board of Co. Commission Mtg @ Annex
- 29 4-6 pm - Annual Trunk Or Treat @ Old Chipley HS Track
- 31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN!
- 31 4-6 pm - WH Tech Ctr Candy & Careers

NOVEMBER 2011**Every Tuesday**

Noon - Kiwanis Luncheon

Every Tuesday / Thursday / Saturday (7-12)

12-5pm-Farmers Market Open

685 7th St. Chipley

Every Thursday & Friday & 1st Saturday (9-12)

10am-2pm -WC Historical Society Museum Open

Every Wednesday

9-2pm-Vernon Hist. Historical Society Museum Open

- 2 10:30 am – Chipley Garden Club @ Shivers Park
Chipley
- 3 Noon - WC Friends of the Library @ Blue Pond
Comm. Ctr
5 pm - Chipley City Council Workshop
6:30 pm - Sunny Hills Civic Assoc. Meeting
- 7 6 pm - Vernon City Council Workshop
- 7-11 WC Schools Tribute to Veterans
- 8 6 pm - Chipley City Council Mtg.
6 p.m. – Ebro Town Council Mtg
6 pm – Caryville Town Council Mtg
Noon – Chipley Woman's Club @ Clubhouse
- 9 6 p.m. - Wausau Council Meeting
- 10 Full Beaver Moon
- 11 VETERAN'S DAY!
- 14 9 am WC Board of Co. Commission Workshop @ Annex
Noon – Chamber Ambassadors Meeting @ Chamber
5:30 p.m. - Wash Co. School Board Meeting
7 p.m. - Vernon City Council Meeting
- 16 10:30 am – Wausau Garden Club @ Wausau Town Hall
- 17 7:30 a.m. – WC Chamber 3rd Thursday @ Pattillo's
- 21 6 pm – Farm City Banquet – WC Ag Ctr
9 a.m. – WC Board of Co. Commission Meeting @ Annex
6 p.m. Vernon City Council Workshop
- 21-25 WC Schools Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday
- 24 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
- 25 Chamber Office Closed
- 28 4 pm - WC TDC Workshop & Mtg @ Chamber
7 pm - Vernon City Council Meeting

The Pink Speckled Frog


844 Main street
Chipley FL 32428
850-638-0003

After hours 850-768-2671
thepinkspeckledfrog@yahoo.com

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP
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**Presbytery of Florida**

Melissa Morgan
Administrative Assistant

PO Box 7
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