

# Washington County News WEEKEND



CHS scores straight superiors  
**A3**

Saturday, OCTOBER 6, 2012

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## IN BRIEF

### Discover Florida Archaeology

**CHIPLEY** — Falling Waters State Park and FPAN Pensacola present Discover Florida Archaeology with Scott and Irina Sorset at 3:30 p.m. today, Oct. 6. The event will be held at Falling Waters State Park. This is a free event. For more information call 638-6130.

### Church hosts jam session

**CHIPLEY** — Christian Haven Church will have its their monthly Jam Session at 6 p.m. today, Oct. 6. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions call 638-0836 or 773-2602.

### USAF Academy Band to perform

**BONIFAY** — The Bonifay Kiwanis Club proudly welcomes the United States Air Force Academy Band, Wild Blue Country. The band will perform at 5 p.m. today, Oct. 6, at Veterans Park in Bonifay.

### NFCH hosts 'Girls Night Out'

**CHIPLEY** — In observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Northwest Florida Community Hospital in Chipley will host Girls Night Out at the Washington County

See **IN BRIEF A4**

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# Vernon must pay attorney fees

City ordered to disclose public record, found in violation of Sunshine Law

By RANDAL SEYLER  
638-0212 | @WCN\_HCT  
rseyler@chipleypaper.com

**CHIPLEY** — The city of Vernon will pay \$3,900 in attorney fees and costs after a judge ruled the city council violated the state Sunshine Law by failing to follow the requirements of conducting a closed session and violated the Public Records Law by failing to produce for inspection a transcript

of the closed session.

The decision came about after the Washington County News and its former parent company, Florida Freedom Newspapers, filed suit against the city of Vernon following an improperly held executive session of the city council on April 23.

"This order is a landmark case," said attorney John Bussian, who represented the newspaper,

its former owner and now Halifax Media Group. "No court in Florida had ruled that by not following the steps required by the Sunshine Law to hold an executive session meant the governmental body then had to disclose the contents of that session. Everybody had talked about that consequence, but it had never been mandated by a court."

The order authorizing

award of attorney fees and costs was issued on Sept. 28 and awards the Washington County News \$3,500 in attorney's fees and \$400 for costs. The city of Vernon has 30 days to pay the fees.

On April 23 at the city council meeting, the council's new mayor, Michelle Cook, and council member Oscar Ward were to be briefed on pending litigation the city faced, so City Attorney Kerry Adkison

called for an executive session after the regular council meeting.

Before to the council going into executive session, went Adkison said the panel would not come out following the session to reconvene and conclude the executive session, as required under Florida law.

On April 27, the Washington County News

See **VERNON A2**

## NORTHWEST FLORIDA CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO



PHOTO BY RANDAL SEYLER | The News

The Northwest Florida Championship Rodeo opened Thursday night with Kids Night, where children 10 and under received free admission. The 58th annual installment of this popular PRCA rodeo concludes today, with the rodeo parade being held at 1 p.m. and the last round of rodeo action beginning at 7:30 p.m. The rodeo is held on Memorial Field just off State Road 79 in Bonifay.

## Soybean rust 'wreaks havoc' for local farmers

By RANDAL SEYLER  
638-0212 | @WCN\_HCT  
rseyler@chipleypaper.com

**CHIPLEY** — Soybean rust has been a problem for Washington County soybean producers, but it is too early to tell how much crop has been lost to the disease, Washington County Extension Director Andy Andreasen said.

"It's really wreaked havoc over the past few months," Andreasen said. "We've had people who were spraying months ago, and some who were spraying weeks ago."

Asian soybean rust is a serious foliage disease that has the potential to cause significant soybean yield losses, according to extension.missouri.edu.

Although Asian soybean rust was identified on soybean plants in Hawaii in 1994, the

See **SOYBEAN A2**

# Chipley police make several arrests

From Staff Reports

**CHIPLEY** — The Chipley police recently made several narcotics-related arrests. Officers made arrests of suspects after traffic violations to citizen encounters, according to a police department news release.

"Our officers were able to make these arrests by conducting active enforcement efforts and paying particular attention and closed businesses," Police Chief Kevin Crews said.

On Sept. 21, Chipley police conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle for traffic violation, where the driver, Polly Thompson, 31, of Pen-

sacola, was found to have an active arrest warrant out of Wakulla County for narcotics-related charges, according to the report.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit was requested, and after an alert by the dog, a search of the vehicle was conducted.

Police say they found marijuana, methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

Thompson was arrested and charged along with her passenger, Melanie M. Hall, 57, of Graceville.

Thompson was arrested on charges of driving with license suspended (habitual traffic offender), possession of a controlled sub-



**POLLY THOMPSON**



**MELANIE HALL**



**ILENE GIBSON**



**MONIQUE BLACKMON**



**MICHELLE GAY**

stance without a prescription (methamphetamine), and possession of narcotics equipment.

Hall was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana not more than 20 grams, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription (methamphetamine) and possession of narcotics equipment.

On Sept. 22, Chipley police noticed an occupied vehicle at a closed business during the early morning hours. During the course of the investigation, the officer conducted a consensual search of the vehicle occupant, Ilene F. Gibson, 34, of Chipley, and the vehicle. Police say they discovered marijuana and drug

paraphernalia during the search. Gibson was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana not more than 20 grams and possession of narcotics equipment.

On Sept. 23, a Chipley police officer was approached by Monique F. Blackmon, 36,

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**VERNON** from page A1

sent a Sunshine Law request for a transcript of the executive session to the mayor and to the city attorney, and the request for the transcript went unanswered. Eventually, the Washington County News filed suit against the city over the issue, and a hearing was held on June 26 in the 14th Judicial Circuit Court.

The order by District Court Judge Christopher Patterson set a precedent in the 14th Judicial District, and it will be there for other districts and courts in the state to consider, Busian said. "If there are any other cases of this magnitude, there is a good chance this case has blazed a trail for openness and compliance with the open meeting law."

In the order to disclose, Judge Patterson ruled that "the council violated the Sunshine Law by failing to follow the requirements for conducting a closed session." It also states "the council violated the Public Records law by failing to produce for inspection by the plaintiff the transcript or tape of the April 23 closed session."

The city was ordered to produce a transcript or tape of the closed session. The tape produced by the city was inaudible, however, and no transcript of the executive session exists.

"This final judgment by Judge Patterson affirms public trust was violated through disregard of open meeting and public record laws meant to protect our citizens against government abuse," said Washington County News Publisher Nicole Barefield. "Let this serve as a notice to all public officials that these actions will not be tolerated, and remind them of their responsibility to the publics they serve."

"We look forward to an atmosphere where government meetings are conducted in 'sunshine' and citizens' access to public records are readily obtained," Barefield said.

# Goodwill Big Bend receives award

Special to the News

**TALLAHASSEE** — Goodwill Industries-Big Bend, Inc. was recognized as the best non-profit in Florida providing service-related employment opportunities for people with disabilities on Tuesday.

This prestigious award was presented by RESPECT of Florida Executive Director John McBride in conjunction with National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Through a partnership with RESPECT of Florida, Goodwill maintains seven contracts that employ and train people to do everything from litter clear-up and mowing to airport janitor services. Eighty percent of Goodwill Industries' workforce is made up of Floridians with a disability.

"Every success we achieve is thanks to our incredible team of employees. It is because of their commitment and hard work that they and Goodwill thrives," said Fred Shelfer, CEO of Goodwill Industries-Big Bend.

"Receiving this honor during National Disability Employment Awareness Month is particularly special because it underscores our important mission to provide job training, education and employment to people with disabilities and other barriers to employment."

Goodwill's Contract Services has a staff of 34, and 80 percent of the non-managerial workers have disabilities. Some of the employees have been



SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Goodwill Industries-Big Bend recently was recognized as the best nonprofit in Florida.

previously honored by RESPECT of Florida. In 2011, two of the employees received statewide individual awards while working on the janitorial contract at Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport in Panama City — one earning the RESPECT of Florida Rookie of the Year award and the other being honored as the Outstanding Employee of the Year.

"Goodwill Services of the Big Bend has launched a real 'trailblazing' contract service program that is building innovative partnerships and effectively serving a host of public agencies and private businesses," said John McBride, Executive Director of RESPECT of Florida.

"They are not just putting Floridians to work, they are also helping Floridians with disabilities in our community maintain their independence and self respect by working at jobs that make a difference."

RESPECT of Florida works to find employment for people with disabilities and helps Certified Employment Centers provide their products and services to government entities.

Each year the organization presents awards to deserving non-profit employment services, employees with disabilities and public and private partners that are making a positive impact on the lives of Floridians with disabilities.

**SOYBEAN** from page A2

disease was not reported in the continental United States until the fall of 2004, according to the website.

Soybean rust was first reported in the Eastern Hemisphere in the early 1900s. It is now accepted that there are two different fungal species that cause soybean rust.

Andreasen said the fungus spores live in kudzu, and the spores spread from the invasive vine into the soybeans.

"Some producers were on top of it, and were out there checking their fields every day, but some didn't get spraying until they found rust on their plants,"

Andreasen said. One grower sprayed for soybean rust, but didn't have enough fungicide to cover the full field. "He said you could tell to the drop where the spraying had stopped."

On Oct. 1, soybean rust was found in 12 counties in Louisiana. In September, soybean rust was found in 29 counties across six states: South Carolina, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Kentucky and Alabama, according to [sbr.ipmPIPE.org](http://sbr.ipmPIPE.org).

In 2012, soybean rust has been reported in 203 counties in the U.S., including those in Alabama (52), Arkansas (11), Florida (10), Georgia (22), Kentucky (1), Loui-

siana (20), Mississippi (75), North Carolina (1), South Carolina (7), Tennessee (1) and Texas (2); and there have been 13 reports from Mexico.

The number of increased reports in September indicate widespread occurrence of rust in the South that will likely result in more or less complete coverage of soybean rust throughout the South with expected increased reports in the mid-south and northern states over the next few weeks, according to the website.

"It's getting to the time of year where it gets dark earlier and the weather is cooler," Andreasen said. "With the rain we've had,

it's getting harder for the fields to dry out where producers can get in there and harvest."

Soybean prices are high now, the highest Andreasen says he has ever seen, so it is important for farmers to be able to harvest the highest possible yields.

"These are record prices, and this is the season that everyone really needs to do as good as possible. If they aren't careful, rust can really kick their butts."

Some of the newer producers in the area were caught unawares by the soybean rust, and they are paying a high cost for that business lesson, he added. "They are paying a high tuition this year."

Researchers at the University of Florida Research and Education Center in Quincy are working on test fields trying to learn more about soybean rust, and are operating plots to study the progress of the disease.

The work of Dr. David Wright and Dr. Jim Marois is gaining national attention, and herbicide companies also are working to discover more effective ways of treating the blight, Andreasen said.

"They are providing leadership in this research role, and everyone is wanting to keep soybean rust from moving on into the Midwest," he said.

# COMMUNITY SALE

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## ARRESTS from page A1

of Chipley. The officer detected a strong odor of alcohol coming from her person and observed that she was stumbling and belligerent, according to the release. Blackmon was afforded several opportunities to leave

the situation but continued to cause a scene.

Officers placed Blackmon under arrest and in a search, Blackmon was found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia and crack cocaine, according to

police. Blackmon was arrested on charges of possession of cocaine, possession of narcotics equipment, disorderly intoxication and resisting an officer without violence.

On Sept. 28, A Chipley

officer conducted a traffic stop for a traffic violation, pulling over Michelle Lynn Gay, 37, of Chipley. The officer conducted a consensual search of the vehicle and found Gay to be in possession of Hydrocodone, for

which she did not have a prescription, according to police. Gay was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription.

"The police department continues to make an active

fight against drugs in our community and to make our community safer for everyone," Crews said. "I encourage anyone with information relating to illegal activity to report it the Police Department."

## CHS Band scores straight superiors

Special to the News

**CHIPLEY** — The Chipley High School Marching Band traveled to Alabama Sept. 29 to participate in the 27th annual Daleville Invitational Band Classic.

They presented their marching show "The Sound of Music" and, despite having to perform in the pouring rain, managed to score straight Superior marks.

The band, drum major and guard all received superiors for their performances. Twenty-five bands from Florida and Alabama converged on Daleville to participate in the long-running classic.

Anyone who attends the

CHS football games has seen the "Spirit of the Tiger" marching band performing during halftime.

This year's show includes selections from the movie "The Sound of Music."

"The Sound of Music," "Edelweiss," "Maria" and "Do-Re-Mi" are a few of the songs with which the band regales the audience.

On another note, the band sells raffle tickets for a chance to win \$200, \$500 or \$1,000 during half time of the football games. The participant must throw a football through a hole at 20, 30 or 50 yards.

The contest is sponsored by One South Bank as a



FILE PHOTO | The News

The CHS Marching Band performs on Aug. 31.

way to help the band raise money. This past Friday, someone rang the hole and won \$200. The tickets are sold at \$2 each or three for

\$5, and those whose names are called will win at \$50 automatically just if their name is called, and they respond in time.

### NOTICE OF QUALIFYING

The Town of Ebro will have Qualifying for Seats 2, 4, and Mayor.

You must be at least 18 years of age, a registered voter, and a resident of the Town of Ebro for at least 6 months prior to the election.

Qualifying will be held October 22, 2012-October 25, 2012 at the Ebro Town Hall 8 A.M. until 1 P.M., qualifying packets may be obtained from the Town Clerk at 6629 Dogtack Road, Ebro Florida 32427, 850-535-2842 during regular office hours.

The book closing for the November 20, 2012 Town Election will be October 16, 2012.

Election will be held November 20, 2012, 7 A.M. until 7 P.M.



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# Girls Night Out!



**Thursday, October 11th • 5pm**

Hosted by

**Northwest Florida Community Hospital**

*Women's Imaging Services*

Held at the Washington County Ag Center

Special presentation by

**Dr. Vanessa King-Johnson**

Come on girls - join us for  
**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

Shop local vendors, mingle with the "girls",  
and learn about early detection.

Light dinner will be served.

Please RSVP by October 8 to 415-8318

NO COST TO ATTEND



# Faith

## Faith BRIEFS

### First United Methodist to Hold Domestic Violence Awareness Dinner

**CHIPLEY** — The First United Methodist Church of Chipley will be holding a Domestic Violence Awareness Dinner at 6 p.m. on Oct. 11. Please support your community by attending a free kick off dinner for the Domestic Violence Task

Force. Please RSVP to Missy Lee at 718-6575 or Jennifer May at 415-5999.

### First Baptist Church Homecoming

**PONCE DE LEON** — The First Baptist Church on Ponce de Leon will be holding Homecoming services on Oct. 14. Congregational signing will begin at 10:30 a.m. A fellowship meal will follow morning service.

## IN BRIEF from page A1

Agricultural Center at 5 p.m. on Oct. 11.

Dr. Vanessa King-Johnson will give a presentation related to women's health.

Women are invited to shop local vendors, learn about early detection and register for door prizes. A light dinner will be served. There is no cost to attend.

For more information, please call Aileen Koon at 415-8318.

### Bush reunion slated

**CHIPLEY** — The annual Bush family reunion will be held Oct. 13 at Orange Hill United Methodist Church on Sunday Road in Chipley. Descendants of Greenberry and Susan Reddick Bush who settled in Orange Hill in the 1800s are invited.

Dinner will be served at noon. Bring a well-filled basket. Meat will be provided.

### Chipley Farmers Market is now open

The Chipley Farmers Market opened up again for its fall season on Sept. 27, featuring fresh turnips, mustard greens and squash. More items will

be available as the season progresses.

The Chipley Farmers Market is a family-friendly market that sells locally grown fresh vegetables at reasonable prices. They provide the opportunity for each consumer to speak directly to the grower, therefore allowing specific questions about the produce to be asked and answered. The Farmers Market motto is: "Fresh Produce From Local Farmers" and is located at the "train depot" building, next to the Washington County Historical Society.

Hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The market is at 685 Seventh St. between U.S. 90 and the Amtrak Station, behind the Historical Society.

We are also looking for additional vendors. If interested please contact Wade Jackson, Market Manager at 638-4749.

For further information and to obtain a free growers permit please contact the Washington County Extension Service at 638-6180 and ask for Matthew or Nikki or you may email them at miorwat@ufl.edu or menacof@ufl.edu.

# It's official: I'm old



**SHANNON SEYLER**  
Faithfully Yours

I went to a rock concert recently. I've been a fan of a certain group since I was in my early teens. I never got a chance to see them perform live before but found out that they'd be playing nearby. So I went. The band's leader, who used to have long hair, is now nearly bald. So is his target audience. Many of us are now AARP members. Those of us lucky enough to have any hair left are sporting it in lovely shades of gray.

When I was a kid, I used to watch "The Lawrence Welk Show" with my grandparents. It was sponsored by Geritol, a dietary supplement for senior citizens. Somewhere along the line, I became part of the Geritol generation. When did that happen? When I was growing up, if you said that you had attended the Woodstock rock festival, it meant that you were young and hip. Today, if you attended Woodstock, you're probably somebody's granny. Somewhere, somehow, time passed. Yes, my generation gained experience during the passing decades, but along with expanding knowledge has come expanding waistlines and wrinkles. Nobody's hair is expanding, though. A passing breeze can blow away the formerly long hair that was once the crowning glory of boys and girls alike.

So I was sitting at this rock concert (yes, sitting politely instead of screaming at the foot of the stage) wondering who in blazes all these old people

were, not just the guys on the stage, but my fellow audience members. Who let all of these old geezers into the room? Isn't it past their bedtime?

But the geezers, of course, are us. As my generation aged, we didn't turn

our backs on the music of our youth. Just as my mother introduced me to Big Band music and my grandmother danced the Charleston, I found solace in the music and popular culture that served as the backdrop of my formative years. Most modern pop music doesn't appeal to me, but I'm not interested in cutting down another generation's music. Every generation is entitled to embrace the popular music that will bring back memories even when those teenagers find themselves in their golden years.

Shifting from music to religion, one thing that happened during my generation was that people became more at ease with embracing alternative spiritual paths. True, religious conversions happen in every generation. But during the '60s and '70s, people who might have once been content with whatever religion they were raised with became seekers who openly questioned the status quo. The single question "Why?" became a driving force. Why accept things the way they are? Why believe whatever you're told without asking questions? Why not change things? I'm still very much a "Why?" kind of person. The years haven't knocked that out of me. But today,

### CHARITY OF THE WEEK: MERCY SHIPS

Mercy Ships is a charitable organization that gives medical care to some of the world's most impoverished areas. They've been operating hospital ships since 1978. In addition to providing desperately needed health care, Mercy Ships also addresses issues such as impure water and malnutrition. They help fight against deaths from preventable diseases and send their ships to areas of the world that otherwise have little or no access to health care. Additionally, they provide dental services. Mercy Ships accepts volunteers, both on a long-term or short-term basis. Private individuals who can't serve on the ships can either sponsor crew members, or just send a donation to help keep these hospital ships afloat.

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one recurring question is often, "Why am I getting the senior discount?"

It's interesting to see how my generation's sense of questioning has played out over time. Some of us are still questioners, while others became part of the establishment they once protested against. Some became hostile to their own children's questioning, while others are actively helping young people become independent thinkers. One thing's for sure: we've all gotten older. I didn't think much about aging. It just happened. One day I looked into a mirror, and some wrinkled old bat looked back at me.

At the end of the concert, the band launched into a song that had been a big hit for them. The audience went wild. Gray-haired men were leaping in the air while middle-aged and elderly women screamed like schoolgirls.

Despite the gray hair,

loose shirts to hide the weight gain, comb-overs to conceal balding, and a veritable sea of wrinkles, something magical had happened. The music whisked our collective memory back to another time. I'm not even going to claim that it was a better time. But the music knocked down the years as if demolishing a brick wall. And yes, ladies and gentlemen, we rocked.

Each generation handles music, spirituality, work and life differently. But fortunately, all generations are capable of producing bright, charitable and compassionate people. Whether you're young or old, regardless of what generation you belong to, you can promote integrity, courage, hope and peace. Have you had a positive interaction with someone from another generation lately?

Give it a try. You might learn something new.

### 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](mailto:news@chipleypaper.com). Please specify if the letter should be printed in the Washington County News or Holmes County Times-Advertiser. Questions? Call 638-0212.



## Washington County NEWS

**Nicole P. Barefield**, Publisher  
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**Cameron Everett**, Production Supervisor

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The views expressed here are not necessarily those of this paper or Halifax Media Group.

### Library hours

**Wausau Library**  
Monday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Tuesday: 1-6 p.m.  
Wednesday: Closed  
Thursday: 1-6 p.m.  
Friday: Closed  
Saturday: Closed  
Sunday: Closed

**Holmes County Library (Bonifay)**  
Monday: Closed  
Tuesday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Wednesday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Thursday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 8 a.m. to noon  
Sunday: Closed

**Washington County Library (Chipley)**  
Monday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Thursday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Friday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Saturday: Closed  
Sunday: Closed

**Vernon Library**  
Monday: Closed  
Tuesday: 1-6 p.m.  
Wednesday: 1-6 p.m.  
Thursday: Closed  
Friday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Saturday: Closed  
Sunday: Closed

**Sunny Hills Library**  
Monday: 1-6 p.m.  
Tuesday: Closed  
Wednesday: 1-6 p.m.  
Thursday: Closed  
Friday: Closed  
Saturday: Closed  
Sunday: Closed

### MONDAY

10 a.m. to noon: Holmes Council on Aging provides bingo, exercise, games, activities, hot meals and socialization.

11 a.m.: Washington Council on Aging (Chipley)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

senior lunches; for reservations, call 638-6217. Donations accepted.  
6 p.m.: Writers Group meets the first Monday each month (unless a holiday) at 6:00 at the Chipley library.  
6-7:30 p.m.: Salvation Army Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Program (SADVP) hosts a domestic violence support group at the SADVP Rural Outreach office, 1461 S. Railroad Ave., Apartment 1, in Chipley. Call Emma or Jess at 415-5999.

### TUESDAY

8 to 9 a.m.: Tai Chi Class at the Washington County Public Library, Chipley Branch  
8 to 10 a.m.: Church Fellowship Breakfasts at Around the Corner Grill. Breakfast provided. All denominations welcome.  
10 a.m. to noon: Holmes Council on Aging provides hot meals and socialization.  
11 a.m.: Washington Council on Aging (Chipley) senior lunches; for reservations, call 638-6217. Donations accepted.  
Noon: Chipley Kiwanis Club meeting.  
Noon: Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, New Life Assembly Fellowship Hall, Chipley.  
5 p.m.: BINGO at St. Joseph Catholic Church games start at 6:25 p.m. Call Peg Russ at 638-451  
6 p.m.: Holmes County Commission meets second Tuesdays.  
7 p.m.: Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Blessed Trinity Catholic Church on County Road 177A

### WEDNESDAY

10 a.m. to noon: Holmes Council on Aging provides hot meals and socialization.  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: The

Vernon Historical Society Museum is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meetings are fourth Wednesdays at 2 p.m.  
11 a.m.: Washington Council on Aging (Chipley) senior lunches; for reservations, call 638-6217. Donations accepted.  
1 p.m.: Line dancing, Washington Council on Aging in Chipley.  
7 p.m.: Depression and Bipolar Support Group meets at First Baptist Church educational annex building in Bonifay. Call 547-4397.

### THURSDAY

7:30 a.m.: Washington County Chamber of Commerce breakfast every third Thursday  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Amazing Grace Church USDA Food Distribution every third Thursday. (Holmes County Residents Only)  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Money Sense at Goodwill Career Training Center; call 638-0093; every third Thursday  
10 a.m. to noon: Holmes Council on Aging provides hot meals and socialization.  
10:30 a.m.: Chipley Library preschool story time.  
11 a.m.: Washington Council on Aging (Chipley) senior lunches; for reservations, call 638-6217. Donations accepted.  
11 a.m.: Care Givers Support group meets third Thursdays at the First Presbyterian Church at 4437 Clinton St. in Marianna.  
Noon: Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting at New Life Assembly Fellowship Hall, Chipley.  
6 p.m.: TOPS meets at 7 p.m. with weigh in at 6 p.m. at Mt. Olive Baptist Church  
6 p.m.: The Holmes County Historical Society meets first Thursdays at 6

p.m. The public is invited to attend.

6:30 p.m.: T.O.P.S. Mt. Olive Baptist Church on State Road 79 North.

7 p.m.: Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Blessed Trinity Catholic Church on County Road 177A

### FRIDAY

6 a.m.: Men's Breakfast and Bible Study at Hickory Hill Baptist Church in Westville.

10 a.m. to noon: Homes Council on Aging provides bingo, exercise, games, activities, hot meals and socialization.

11 a.m.: Washington Council on Aging (Chipley) senior lunches; for reservations, call 638-6217. Donations accepted.

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: On third Fridays, Washington County Council on Aging (Chipley) will have a plate lunch available to anyone as a fundraiser for our local senior citizens. Plates are \$6. Must make reservation at 638-6216 or 638-6217.  
3:30: Bead Class every second Friday at Laurden-Davis Art Gallery call 703-0347

6-8 p.m.: Marianna's Gathering Place Foundation has a get-together for 50+ senior singles, widowed or divorced on last Fridays at Winn Dixie in Marianna. Come join the fun for games, prizes and snacks while you get your shopping done. For more information, call 526-4561.

8 p.m.: Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting at Chipley Presbyterian Church.

### SUNDAY

8 p.m.: Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in the board room at Graceville-Campbellton Hospital in Graceville.



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1100-1170 ANNOUNCEMENTS
1100 - Legal Advertising
1110 - Classified Notices
1120 - Public Notices/Announcements

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

05-653 Notice of Application for Tax Deed
Notice is hereby given that, Ruth E or Angela R Dockery, the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon.

2005 Parcel Number: 00-3390-0112
Description of Property: Lot No. 12 Sunset Pines Subdivision 4.51 acres more or less and further described as:

10-4000 IN THE CDIRCUI COURT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY: K McDaniel, Deputy Clerk
As published in the Washington County News Oct 6, 13, 2012

ANDRE KANDY, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ANDRE KANDY, RYAN BANKS, MEGAN BANKS, and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under any of the above-named Defendants, Defendants NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

WARNING: There are unpaid taxes on property which you own or you have legal interest. The property will be sold at public auction on October 31, 2012 unless the back taxes are paid in full.

10-4001 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No.: 2012-CA-000152
CHARTER BANK, a FEDERAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
Successor in interest to the FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA, PLAINTIFF, VS.

MARK A STEVENS ANGELA G. STEVENS, and The Leisure Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc., a Florida Non-Profit Corporation
DEFENDANTS
NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the undersigned, Linda Hayes

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

FILE NO.: 12-000061-CP LESLEY FAY DINGWALL, Deceased, DIVISION: TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE: You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of LESLEY FAY DINGWALL, deceased, File Number 12-000061-CP by the Circuit Court for Washington County, Florida, Probate Division; the address of which is 1293 Jackson Ave, Suite 100, Chipley, Florida 32428; that the decedent's date of death was January 28, 2012; that the total value of the estate is \$15,000.00 and that the names and address of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
FILE NO. 12-66-CP
IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES CLYDE CREEL, JR., Deceased
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of JAMES CLYDE CREEL, JR., deceased, whose date of death was November 6, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Washington County, Florida, Probate Division, File Number 12-66-CP, the address of which is 1293 Jackson Ave, Ste 100, Chipley, FL 32428. The names and addresses of the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM. All other creditors of the decedent and other persons who have claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 120000186CA
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. GUY R. HEAVER A/K/A GUY RANDOLPH HEAVER, ET AL Defendants.
NOTICE OF ACTION
To the following Defendant(s): GUY R. HEAVER A/K/A GUY HEAVER A/K/A GUY RANDOLPH HEAVER, 2858 DUTY ROAD VERNON, FLORIDA 32462 (LAST KNOWN ADDRESS) AS THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GUY R. HEAVER A/K/A GUY HEAVER A/K/A GUY RANDOLPH HEAVER, IF ANY 2858 DUTY ROAD VERNON, FLORIDA 32462 (LAST KNOWN ADDRESS) YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property ALL THAT PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 LYING NORTH OF STATE ROAD # 278 AND BEING IN SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST, WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, LESS AND EXCEPT ALL THAT PROPERTY LYING EAST OF DUTY ROAD. TOGETHER WITH A: 1998 WAYNE CORP MOBILE HOME VIN # WHC009177GA/TITLE # 75687626 a/k/a 2858 DUTY ROAD, VERNON, FLORIDA 32462 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Moskowitz, Mandell, Salim & Simowitz, P.A., Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 800 Corporate Drive, Suite 500, Fort Lauderdale, FLORIDA 33334 on or before Oct 19, 2012 a date which is within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in THE WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P.O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT By: K McDaniel Deputy Clerk As published in the Washington County News Oct 6, 13, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: ESTATE OF

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. THE DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE IS: OCTOBER 6, 2012
Attorney for Personal Representative: J. MARSHALL CONRAD Florida Bar No. 0015272
Aunsel & McMullen Post Office Box 391 Tallahassee, Florida 32302 (850) 224-9115
Personal Representative: KELLIE LYNN CREEL 4374 Flowers Chapel Road Dothan, AL 36305
As published in the Washington County News Oct 6, 13, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 120000186CA
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. GUY R. HEAVER A/K/A GUY RANDOLPH HEAVER, ET AL Defendants.
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WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, vs. GUY R. HEAVER A/K/A GUY RANDOLPH HEAVER, ET AL Defendants.
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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

seal of this Court this 6 day of Sept, 2012 LINDA HAYES COOK As Clerk of the Court By: K McDaniel As published in the Washington County News Oct 6, 13, 2012
Notice of Application for Tax Deed
Notice is hereby given that, Simon G. Price or E.W. Price, the holder of the following certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 743 Year of Issuance 2006 Parcel Number: 00-4141-0154 Description of Property Lot A-154 and Lot A-157 Leisure Lakes, a Subdivision Name in which Assessed: David W. Bell and Danny J. Summer Said property being in Washington Co., Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to the law, the property described shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on October 31, 2012 at 10:00 AM. Dated this 18th, day of September, 2012. Linda Hayes Cook, Clerk of Court, Washington Co. FL. By: Kayla Everett, Deputy Clerk
WARNING: There are unpaid taxes on property which you own or you have legal interest. The property will be sold at public auction on October 31, 2012 unless the back taxes are paid in full. To make arrangements for payment or to receive further information, contact the Clerk of Court immediately at PO Box 647, 1293 Jackson Ave, Chipley, FL 32428 or phone 850-638-6008 ext 221. Amount to Redeem for September \$9,100.53 Amount to Redeem for October \$9,231.62 IN US CURRENCY ONLY NO PERSONAL CHECKS ACCEPTED Cashier's checks, money orders, and Western Union are the only other alternative accepted. As published in the Washington Co News Sept 29, Oct 6, and Oct 13, Oct 20, 2012.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

seal of this Court this 6 day of Sept, 2012 LINDA HAYES COOK As Clerk of the Court By: K McDaniel As published in the Washington County News Oct 6, 13, 2012
Notice of Application for Tax Deed
Notice is hereby given that, Simon G. Price or E.W. Price, the holder of the following certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 743 Year of Issuance 2006 Parcel Number: 00-4141-0154 Description of Property Lot A-154 and Lot A-157 Leisure Lakes, a Subdivision Name in which Assessed: David W. Bell and Danny J. Summer Said property being in Washington Co., Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to the law, the property described shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on October 31, 2012 at 10:00 AM. Dated this 18th, day of September, 2012. Linda Hayes Cook, Clerk of Court, Washington Co. FL. By: Kayla Everett, Deputy Clerk
WARNING: There are unpaid taxes on property which you own or you have legal interest. The property will be sold at public auction on October 31, 2012 unless the back taxes are paid in full. To make arrangements for payment or to receive further information, contact the Clerk of Court immediately at PO Box 647, 1293 Jackson Ave, Chipley, FL 32428 or phone 850-638-6008 ext 221. Amount to Redeem for September \$9,100.53 Amount to Redeem for October \$9,231.62 IN US CURRENCY ONLY NO PERSONAL CHECKS ACCEPTED Cashier's checks, money orders, and Western Union are the only other alternative accepted. As published in the Washington Co News Sept 29, Oct 6, and Oct 13, Oct 20, 2012.

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**EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION**  
4130

**MEDICAL BILLING TRAINING!** Train for Medical Billing Careers at Sctrain.edu No Experience Needed! Job placement assistance after training! HS/GED/PC Needed (888)872-4677

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Do you suffer from Arthritis? Local doctors need volunteers for research study comparing FDA-approved Arthritis medications. Compensation up to \$50.00 per visit. Call: (866) 785-1251

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Space for rent downtown Chipley. All util. incl'd 638-1918

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**RIDGEWOOD APARTMENTS OF BONIFAY**  
Studio, 1 Bdrm, 2 Bdrm available. City Util. & Pest Control Includ. Ask about our Move in Special. (850)557-7732.

**Two Bdrm. Apartment.** Bonifay area. Stove, refrigerator. Includes all electricity & utilities. \$400/month. Info: (850)547-0956, (850)326-4548

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Vernon, Florida.  
2 Condos for rent  
2 Bedroom/2 bath, utilities included, electric, Dish TV, trash, water plus all Park amenities - ATV, Horse & hiking trails. Pets welcome (deposit required). \$1400/mo + depo (850)773-3992 (850)520-0496

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3 bedroom house for rent or sale. 714 Nebraska Ave., Bonifay. (850)956-2073, (850)428-6512.

**4 BD Fully Furnished** For rent \$800/mth ALSO Polaris Four Wheeler For Sale excellent condition. \$3000 Call 547-2096

**Charming 1 Bedroom** home on pond For Rent near Bonifay. Large yard, deck, storage building. Recently renovated \$650. per month. Call 802-496-7746

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**"Bonifay's Best" Mobile Home** Community has 2 or 3 bedrooms available ranging from \$435-\$625/month. Large lots, quiet, clean and on-site maintenance. Only responsible persons should apply. Great Bonifay Schools. No pets. One month deposit. HUD Assistance may be available. Contact Sue: (850)547-1386 or (512)751-2847.

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6170

2 Bdrm/1 bath MH, Hwy Graceville/Bonifay. \$375/mo, depo required (850)393-3094.

3 BR/2BA Mobile Home for rent. 9 miles from Chipley. Call 638-4689 or 326-2053

**2/3BR MH'S.** All on nice big lots. All electric, storage building. I furnish water, garbage, exterminate, change filters and mow grass in summer months. Sorry No Pets. For more info call Lou Corbin at 638-1911 or 326-0044.

**2BR/2BA MH** near Chipley. Water & garbage furnished. \$400/mth, plus deposit. 2BR/1BA MH, \$385/mth plus deposit. Call 547-4232, 527-4911.

**3BD/2BA MH** 3/4 mile from Elementary School. On Hwy 177A. Family oriented park. \$500/mth. Just renovated Call (850)547-3746.

**For Rent** 3BD/2 Full Ranch style house. Nice area. Nice view for morning coffee Just off Corbin Rd \$750/mth Sorry No Pets. Days (850)638-4630, Nights (850)638-1434.

**Mobile Homes For Rent in Bonifay** 2 BR/2BA \$ 435/mth.& 2BR/1BA \$365/mth. Water, sewer included Call 638-2999

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6170

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## Unemployment isn't best indicator of county's economic health

When determining the health of the local economy many people point to the unemployment rate. My own



**Richard Williams**  
Executive Director  
CRWD Board

organization is guilty of pushing this number as an indicator of economic health. We do so because people like percentages, it makes for easy comparisons across timelines, and it is a small number everyone can understand.

I suggest that if you want to look at the health of your local economy there are two other numbers you should pay attention to that are better indicators, and those indicators are the number of people employed in your county and the labor inflow-outflow of your county.

### Number of people employed

Unemployment percentages change based upon the number of people looking for a job. Sometimes the number looking for a job can be impacted significantly by something as simple as the end of the school year. The end of the school year causes a significant number of nine-month employees to "lose" their job and start looking for summer employment, and they join a large

number of high school graduates that also start to look for work.

Looking at the number of jobs in your county tells you how many people are actually employed within the county. Significant changes in this number can be a very strong indicator about the health of the businesses in the county. We've seen times when the number of jobs in a county has increased, but the unemployment rate has jumped as well. We want everyone that is looking for a job to find employment; however, when the number of local jobs increases that is a positive sign.

For example, according to The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity between January 2012 and July 2012 the number of people employed in Washington County increased by 179 positions and the unemployment rate decreased by 0.3% with just nineteen fewer people on unemployment. During this same period of time the county showed an additional 160 people in the Washington County labor force. If the labor force had remained the same the unemployment rate would have dropped 1.8% instead of just 0.3%.

### Labor inflow-outflow

The second number a county should track to help track their economic health is the labor inflow-



outflow from the county. Washington County exports 1,183 more workers out of the county than other counties send into Washington County to work.

A significant portion of the number exported can most likely be traced to workers that are actually in the county in jobs related to the Florida Department of Transportation office in Chipley but show as employees of companies based in other counties due to how their payroll is reported.

The Chipola Regional Workforce Development Board serves five counties: Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson,

Liberty and Washington. Of the five counties we serve, only Liberty shows a net in-flow of labor. Washington County shows the lowest labor outflow amount of the remainder of the counties we serve. I contend the better the local economy, the more jobs a local economy offers, and the better matched the local labor force is to the jobs being created the lower the outflow of labor from a county will move.

One of the goals of economic development is to create a healthier local economy and provide more opportunities for the residents of your area to live, work and play at home.

## A Message from the President

Recent days have brought some cooler temperatures, less humidity and fall is definitely in the air. This always brings a renewed sense of enthusiasm to do. The excitement of school starting back, Friday night and Saturday football, bird and deer hunting and oysters, all mean fall is here



**Philip Pippin**

This enthusiasm has also infected the Chamber and the board of directors. Things, they are a changing. During my year as president, we have added three new directors: Jan Page from Community South Credit Union, Garrett Martin from Atkins

Global, and Vann Brock of ABC Fence Systems. In a short time, these individuals have made a favorable impact on the board. Each has brought a new insight to a number of issues and their input has brought a new perspective to the board.

Speaking of new perspective, the new and improved Economic Development Council board is up and running. The board is an eclectic group of business owners and government representatives who have a common goal of bringing economic development to our county. It is amazing to see the vast expertise brought to the table by this group. It is very rewarding to work with such a passionate group and I am excited about the opportunities coming to our community. We have a long way to go and a lot work must be done, but make

no mistake, with the resources of this group, Washington County will be a leader in economic development for years to come.

Your Chamber board is also working hard to bring some new and exciting things to our communities. In the next few weeks we hope to be able to announce a new investment for the Chamber that will bring opportunities for financial stability and additional jobs for our community. Without the leadership of your board of directors, these opportunities could have gone to other communities.

I would personally like to thank each of the directors for their continued efforts in improving the climate of our business community. It is clear to me, all of our board members believe in Washington County.

## A Message from the Executive Director

We have experienced great weather lately as summer has given way to fall. Seasons aside, your Chamber has been very busy.

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce's number one resource is YOU. With that said, our goal is to help you in any way possible. That means if you need to find resources for your business, call us. We can help. If you have questions on permitting, licensing, or whatever, call us. If we do not have the answer, we can usually find it for you.

One of the other ways the Chamber is helping our community is through seminars we put on during the year. The



**Ted Everett**

Chamber partnered with the Washington County Emergency Operation Center, local utilities and others to host the Disaster Preparedness Expo in July.

The Chamber, joined by the Holmes County Chamber and Opportunity Florida, hosted a Small Business Assistance seminar in June. It focused on financial assistance resources and how to create a business plan. In September, the Chamber hosted Business Credit Seminar in conjunction with eight area banks. This seminar discussed the core components of a credit score and offered many tips for improving a credit score. This information is of such importance, the Chamber will host the seminar again in 2013.

The Chamber sponsored a Principals of Management Seminar in August. This course, presented by Bay Solutions, offered instruction on effective management, how

to communicate clearly, how to shine in difficult situations and much more. The interactive workshop proved a great resource for all attendees.

The Economic Development Council is also undergoing restructuring. We have been meeting with Richard Williams, the executive director for the Chipola Regional Workforce Board (see cover story) as well as Jim Brook, executive director of Opportunity Florida.

We are in the process of retooling the economic development policy for Washington County. We have also had discussions with the Knight Family Trust and how we can work together.

In summary, the Chamber is working very hard for you. We all want good things to come to Washington County. With your help and participation, it can happen.

### Washington County Business ADVOCATE

A Publication of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 457  
ChIPLEY, Florida 32428  
www.washcomall.com  
(850) 638-4157

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## Chamber Member Benefits

#### PROMOTES YOUR BUSINESS

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Free Business Directory Listing  
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Referrals  
Use of Chamber Brochure/Business Card Racks  
Bi-Monthly Newsletter w/Spotlights On Member Businesses  
Business Card Services to New Members  
Advertising Opportunities in Newsletter/County Maps/Visitors Guide/WB  
A discounted subscription to the *Washington County News* for new and renewing members

#### NETWORKING

Third Thursday Breakfast  
Annual Chamber Membership Banquet  
City and County Events  
Ambassadors Program

#### KEEPS YOU INFORMED

Our Newsletter, Membership Directory and Website, among other resources and publications, are outstanding information sources.

#### PROVIDES A BUSINESS INVESTMENT

Tax Deductible Chamber Investments EDC Investments and Opportunities to be involved in Economic Development Efforts in Washington County

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce and are in no way associated with the Washington County News. Anyone with questions or comments regarding the content of this publication should contact the Washington County Chamber of Commerce at (850) 638-4157.

## Third Thursday Programs

**October 18**

**PROGRAM: Retail do's and don't from Ann Langston,  
Florida State University**

A 20-year retail veteran, Ann Langston is now the director of the Retail Merchandising and Product Development Center in the College of Human Sciences at Florida State University. Previously, she was the Retail Sales Manager at the Tallahassee Democrat where she supervised a team responsible for planning advertising for small businesses. Her retail background includes District Sales Manager for Victoria's Secret and US Shoe Corporation.

**SPONSOR: Community South Credit Union**



Community South Credit Union believes in "good natured-banking." We've spent over half a century serving over 7,500 local members, with good manners and a big smile!

**November 15**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Program: Chipley High School  
FFA Parliamentary Procedure Team**

The Chipley High School FFA Parliamentary Procedure team is comprised of six individuals who compete against other FFA teams, demonstrating a mastery of Roberts Rules of Order and the art of effective debate. These six team members will perform a demonstration of a typical business meeting and will include an explanation of the different types of motions and how they are addressed as they arise in a business meeting.

**SPONSOR: West Florida Electric Cooperative**



West Florida Electric Cooperative (WFEC) is a non-profit Touchstone Energy® Cooperative owned by its members, and providing dependable electricity and other services in Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson and Washington Counties in Northwest Florida.

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# Northwest Florida Community Hospital

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- NFCH has had a 3-year growth of 74%
- NFCH has added 95 jobs in the past 3 years
- NFCH is an active participant in the community sponsoring programs such as the annual Back To School Fair.
- NFCH is a critical access hospital with air ambulance services
- NFCH has the shortest ER wait time when compared to 25 of the Top Performing Critical Access Hospitals Nationwide.



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# Brock joins Chamber Board

Vann Brock, owner and manager of ABC Fence Systems and Cypress Creek Wood Products, has joined the board of directors of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. Brock is a graduate of Chipley High School, Chipola College and Florida State University.

He has served on the Washington County School Board for 10 years, including chairman for four years, vice-chairman for two years, and as a legislative liaison for three years.

Brock was recently recognized as a Master Board Member, along with fellow board members, by the Florida School Board Association.

Brock works with youth organizations in sports activities, and enjoys fishing, boating



and traveling. He and wife Dee have three children: Brittany, Allie and Trenton.

ABC Fence systems, established in 1982, serves the southeast with wooden fence products. The company prides itself on high quality products and customers service. Cypress Creek

Wood Products builds speciality crates for the retail industry, and currently ships to all 48 states and Canada.

OCTOBER 17

**Support your local Chamber of Commerce Day.**

*Stop by our 5th Street office and ask us why!*

## KUDOS

**Northwest Florida Community Hospital** has been named one of America's top 5,000 businesses by Inc. Magazine. NFCH was listed as 2,969 in the top 5,000 businesses in the U.S., based on percentage revenue growth over a four-year period.

**One South Bank** has been listed among the "359 safest banks in America" according to *MSNMoney.com*. Among the more than 7,300 banks in America, only 359 made the safest banks' list, which measures quality and strength of a bank's loan portfolio based on the Texas ratio metric.

**West Florida Electric Cooperative (WFEC)**, is commemorating its 75th anniversary with a year-long celebration. The non-profit Touchstoner Energy Cooperative is owned by members and services about 28,000 meters in Washington, Holmes, Jackson and Calhoun counties.

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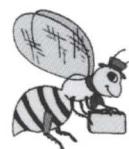
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## Ribbon Cuttings

August 24  
**Dove Palace  
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 1043 Hwy. 990  
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August 30  
**Talk O' the Town  
 Nutrition**  
 824 Main Street  
 Chipley, Fla.

September 12  
**Emerald Coast  
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 1330 South Blvd.  
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September 21  
**Movies with  
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*'... Investing Answers, a publisher of financial  
 news, based its "safest banks" ranking on those  
 institutions with a perfect score on the Texas  
 ratio'... courierpress.com*

*'... The math can get complicated, but here's  
 what you need to know- the closer the Texas  
 ratio gets to zero, the lower the bank's risk of  
 failure'... streetauthority.com*

*'... While the (Texas) ratio has been excellent at  
 predicting bank failures, it can also be used to  
 find the banks that are the furthest from  
 failure.'... investinganswers.com*

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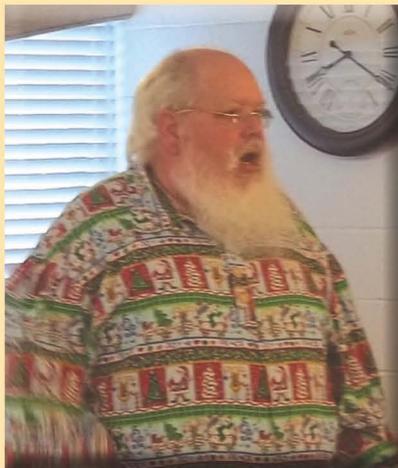
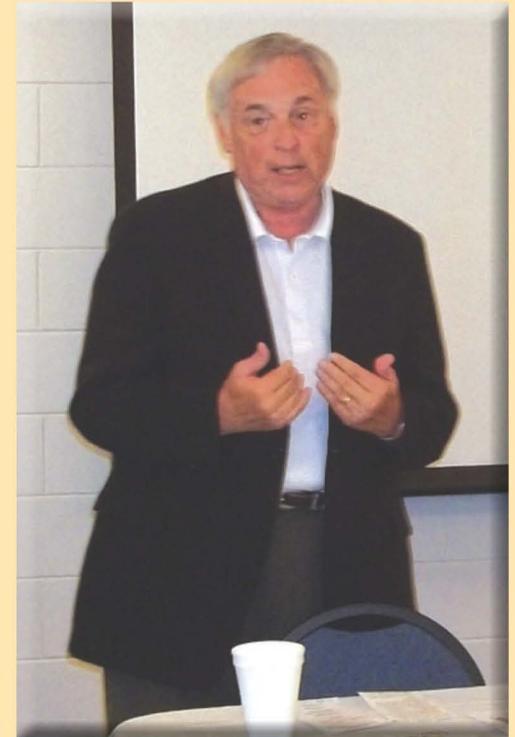
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# THIRD THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS



**Clockwise from top left:** Members network; Bay County EDA director Neal Wade talks about mega-sites; Brenda Crouch discusses the STEM program; attendees talk about their businesses: Bryan Taylor, director of United Way of Northwest Florida, Terry Ellis of WestPointHome, Cecily Smith from Emerald Coast Hospice and Sandhills Santa Rex Ray.

## TDC Update

### Chipley Dixie Majors to host Pre-Majors World Series in 2014

After almost a year of negotiations and planning between the Chipley Dixie Majors, Inc., and Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc., the Dixie Majors was unanimously chosen to host the 2014 Dixie-Pre-Majors World Series.

The Washington County Tourist Development Council (TDC) has entered into a separate agreement with Chipley Dixie Majors, a Florida not-for-profit corporation based in Chipley, to provide a promotional grant and other support necessary to host the event.

It is anticipated that persons traveling and requiring an overnight stay will easily fill all motel rooms in Washington County. Figures from previous years would also suggest that nearly 2,000 in paid attendance will be realized at the playing facilities throughout the week.

Eleven state champions along with the host Chipley team will compete in the tournament., held July 26-30, 2014.

The twelve teams, consisting of participants age 15-17, will vie for the World Series championship. Motel rooms for the visiting teams and visiting Dixie officials will also create an additional need of 65 rooms per day.

Chipley High School will provide the two adjacent playing

fields with ample parking for everyone. One of the many highlights of the week-long event will be the Opening Ceremonies.

A banquet is planned for Friday, July 25th to recognize the arrival of the participating teams. The local community will also be involved in planning events that serve to showcase

Chipley and Washington County.

J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO of Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc., said, "We are so excited about the opportunity to visit Chipley for our 2014 event. I am thoroughly convinced that the good people of Chipley, Florida and Washington County will make this an enjoyable visit for everyone."

"The entire community will embrace this event and the hospitality will be second to none," said Jones, adding, "I have personally visited Chipley High School and found the playing fields that will be used for the tournament to be outstanding."

Dixie Boys Baseball Inc. is the sanctioning organization in Alabama. As the 2014 Dixie Pre-Majors World Series event nears, details regarding the series may be obtained by visiting the Dixie Boys Baseball, Inc. website at [www.dixie.org/boys](http://www.dixie.org/boys) or the TDC website at [www.VisitWashingtonCountyFL.com](http://www.VisitWashingtonCountyFL.com).



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CREDIT UNION

## Spotlight on our Chamber Ambassadors



### LUIS VALENCIA Valencia Jewelers



The Washington County Ambassador spotlight shines on a man that has been doing business in Chipley since 1993. Many of you may have bought a wedding ring or band or had your watch repaired by him. He is Luis Valencia, owner of Valencia Jewelers.

Valencia has always been an advocate for Chipley as well as Washington County. If you have ever been driving through downtown Chipley and seen the large clock tower, it was provided by Valencia to improve downtown's appearance.

Valencia and his wife, Maryanne, have three children and three grandchildren. His son, Luis Valencia Jr., works with



him at the jewelry store upholding his father's tradition and also provides photography services.

Valencia has been a certified diamond dealer since 2001, and Rolex certified since 1987. The Rolex certification allows him to repair the high quality watches. According to Valencia, many people who take their watches to

Dothan or Panama City for repair usually end up here in Chipley at his shop.

Valencia has been a long-time member of our Chamber Ambassadors and has also served on the Chamber board of directors. He is steady and solid in his support of the Chamber.

## County FSA office closing

During the past year, it was announced that the Washington County Farm Service Agency was to be relocated in Holmes County. This action, the result of the federal government trying to save money, will not benefit the many farmers of Washington County who will have an additional burden to bear with their farming operations.

The Washington County Chamber contacted our federal representatives to ask for their help in having this action halted, but was not successful. The new location will be at 103 North Oklahoma St. in Bonifay on a date to be announced. Certainly we have no issues with Holmes County, but the reality is this move will be a less convenient location for many of our farmers.

The Chamber would like to give the employees of our Farm Service Agency many thanks for all of the work that they have done for Washington County and the professionalism they have shown throughout this difficult process. We will miss the FSA in Washington County.

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# Principles of Management



John Robbins, owner of Bay Solutions consulting firm, shares management best practices with a diverse group of Chamber business members. The Principles of Management seminar, held on Aug. 8 at the PAEC, was co-sponsored by the Washington County Chamber.



## Facebook Contest Winner

Brian Riviere, principal of Vernon High School, was the winner of the Chamber's "Why Can't We Be Friends" contest to boost likes to the Chamber's Facebook page. Riviere won a new I-pad, presented here by Chamber board member Nicole Barefield and executive director Ted Everett. Riviere isn't keeping the I-pad for himself, however. He is donating it for classroom use at Vernon High School.

Many thanks to the businesses who sponsored the I-pad prize: Atkins Global, Community South Credit Union, Gulf Power, Northwest Florida Community Hospital, One South Bank, Pippin Appraisals, Regions Bank, and Washington County News.

Photo courtesy of WCN

**Thank You to our Sponsors**  
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Tiger System Saver, LLC has installed a System Saver Unit at the Washington County Chamber of Commerce office in memory of James White, who passed away in May 2012. James and his company, James White Electric, were long-time supporters of the Chamber.

This installation dedication is a testament to the respect given him by his business colleagues and friends.

System Saver Unit Is an electromagnetic control system that reduces the amount of non-productive current in your existing electrical system. It helps to significantly reduce electrical costs and pollution from energy generated by the utility companies.

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### Renewals

A Safe Storage - 2004  
 Brighthouse Networks - 2011  
 Business Evaluation & Appraisal Inc. - 2005  
 Clark Insurance Services Inc. - 1999  
 Commercial Property Investments - 2008  
 Corbin Auto Sales - 2008  
 Dermatology Associates - 2011  
 Ecological Resource Consultants Inc. - 2008  
 First Federal Bank of Florida - Chipley - 2006  
 Goodwill Industries - Big Bend Inc. - 2008  
 Infrastructure Corp. of America - 2003  
 James A. Clemmons, M.D. - 2008  
 Les Jolie Dames Club - 1999  
 Main Street Market LLC - 2008

Med-Surance - 2011  
 NHC HomeCare - 1989  
 One South Bank - 2007  
 Persnickety's Consignment Boutique - 2009  
 PLWconsulting Group, LLC - 2008  
 Professional Real Estate Management, LLC - 2008  
 Southeastern Survey/Mapping Corp. - 1998  
 Southern Trails RV Park - 2006  
 Sunny Hills Civic & Improvement Assoc. - 1980  
 Washington County Historical Society - 2010  
 Washington County School Board - 1984  
 Wipfli LLP - 2010  
 Woodmen of the World Lodge 883 - 1984  
 Josephine R.Floyd

### New Members

Angel's Buffet Restaurant & Catering  
 Emerald Coast Hospice  
 Movies with a Scoop  
 Talk O' the Town Nutrition

Heather Wells

### EDC Investors

Business Evaluation & Appraisal Inc.  
 Commercial Property Investments  
 Emerald Coast Hospice  
 First Federal Bank of Florida - Chipley Branch  
 One South Bank

**TOTAL MEMBERS: 334**

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 MAY - SEPTEMBER

**OCTOBER****Every Tuesday**

Noon - Kiwanis Luncheon

**Every 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**

- 1 4:30 pm - Vernon City Council Workshop
- 2 5 pm - W.C. Planning Commission @ Co. Annex
- 3 10:30am - Chipley Garden Club, hivers Park/Chipley
- 4 Noon - Friends of Library @ Blue Pond  
5 pm Chipley City Council Workshop  
6:30 pm - Sunny Hills Civic Assoc. Meeting
- 5 Chipley High School Homecoming Game
- 6 3:30 pm - FWSP Discover FL Archaeology
- 8 5:30 p.m. - Wash Co School Board Meeting  
7 pm - Vernon Council Meeting
- 9 6 pm Chipley City Council Meeting  
6pm - Caryville Town Council Mtg  
6 pm - Ebro Town Council Mtg
- 10 Noon - Chipley Woman's Club @ Clubhouse
- 11 Noon - Chipley Lions Club @ Pattillo's  
6 pm - Wausau Council Meeting
- 12 Vernon High School Homecoming Dance @ Old Gym
- 13 Pulling for Ed. Tractor Pull - Vernon  
9 am - Fall Into History @ WC Hist. Soc. Museum & Scarecrow Contest
- 15 4:30 pm - Vernon City Council Workshop
- 16 National Boss Day  
5:30 pm - Chipley Downtown Merchants @ KC Pizza  
6pm - Womans Club Annual Holiday Decorating Showcase
- 17 10:30 am - Wausau Garden Club @ Wausua Town Hall
- 18 7:30 am - Chamber Third Thursday @ Pattillo's  
9 am - WC Commission Mtg @ Annex
- 19-21 STP - The Cemetery Club @ Playhouse  
Howl-O-Ween @ Seacrest Wolf Preserve
- 22 7 pm - Vernon City Council Meeting  
4 p.m. - TDC Workshop & Mtg @ Chamber
- 25 Noon - Chipley Lions Club @ Pattillo's
- 27 4-6pm - Chipley Trunk or Treat @ Old CHS Track
- 29 Full Hunter's Moon or Full Harvest Moon
- 31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN!  
4-6 pm - WH Tech Ctr Candy & Careers

**NOVEMBER****Every Tuesday**

Noon - Kiwanis Luncheon

**Every 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
- 1 5 pm - Chipley City Council Workshop  
Noon - WC Friends of the Library @ Blue Pond Comm.
- 3 6:30 pm - Sunny Hills Civic Assoc. Meeting  
3:30 pm - FWSP Snakes in the Grass @ Park  
9 am - Care with Flare 5K Run/Walk - Covenant Hospice
- 5 6 pm - Vernon City Council Workshop
- 6 6 pm - Chipley City Council Mtg.  
6 p.m. - Ebro Town Council Mtg  
6 pm - Caryville Town Council Mtg
- 7 10:30am - Chipley Garden Club - Shivers Park/Chipley
- 8 Chipley HS - WC Schools Tribute to Veterans  
6 p.m. - Wausau Council Meeting
- 9 Vernon HS - WC Schools Tribute to Veterans
- 11 VETERAN'S DAY!
- 12 5:30 p.m. - Wash Co. School Board Meeting  
7 p.m. - Vernon City Council Meeting
- 14 Noon - Chipley Woman's Club @ Clubhouse
- 15 7:30 a.m. - WC Chamber 3rd Thursday @ Pattillo's  
9 am WC Board of Co. Commission Workshop @ Annex  
6 pm - Farm City Banquet - WC Ag Ctr
- 16 10:30 am - Wausau Garden Club @ Wausau Town
- 19 6 p.m. Vernon City Council Workshop
- 19-23 WC Schools Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
- 22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
- 23 Chamber Office Closed
- 26 4 pm - WC TDC Workshop & Mtg @ Chamber  
7 pm - Vernon City Council Meeting
- 28 Full Beaver Moon



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