

Taylor wrapping up recount

Along with election officials all across Florida, Taylor County Supervisor of Elections Dana Southerland and the local canvassing board have been conducting a machine recount of three

statewide races – U.S. Senate, Florida Governor and Florida Commissioner of Agriculture – after results from last week’s general election fell within the state-mandated 0.5% threshold.

Once the machine recount is complete (expected to be after presstime Tuesday), Southerland and the three-member canvassing board were expected to begin a “manual” or hand recount of some 160-200 ballots, which include provisional ballots, as well as ballots that featured “under” votes (no oval filled in) or “over” votes (more than one oval filled in).

While many see Election Day as the end of the election cycle, Southerland explained that work in her office has continued, with the first unofficial results due to the Florida Department of State by last Saturday, Nov. 10, at 12 noon.

“Over the course of an election cycle many people will say, ‘Won’t you be glad the day after the election?’ I always smile and say ‘I sure will,’ knowing that the day after the election doesn’t end the election cycle for us,” Southerland said.

“This recount is a very good example. We spent the days after the election preparing our first unofficial

results to be uploaded to the Division of Election, which were completed Friday morning. We anticipated there would be a recount, and there was buzz everywhere you looked and with everything you read.

“However, a recount can’t begin until one is actually ordered,” Southerland said.

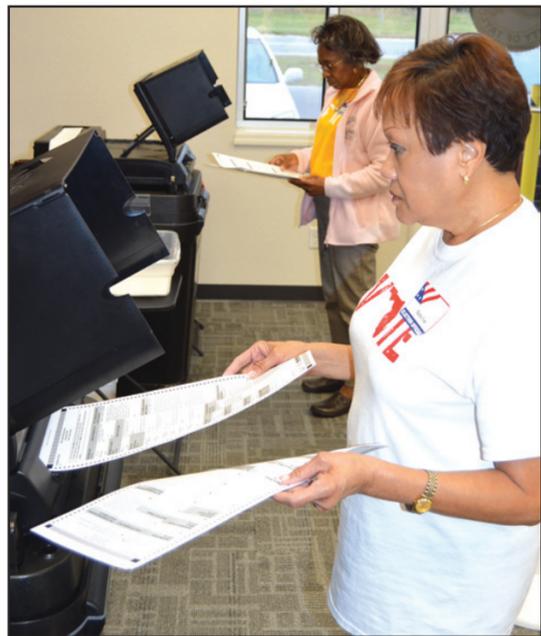
Those orders calling for a machine recount arrived on Saturday, and work began on Sunday with the testing of the tabulating equipment to be used in the recount.

They began tabulating ballots on Monday and continued into Tuesday. The results of the second unofficial returns are due to the Department of State by Thursday, Nov. 15, at 3 p.m.

However, that will likely not be the end of the recounts, because both the U.S. Senate race and the Florida Commissioner of Agriculture race are expected to fall within the 0.25% threshold, which would trigger a manual recount if the number of overvotes and undervotes is more than needed to change



Once a ballot was processed by the machine, a “Valid Ballot” message flashed on the screen.



Election workers Hinano Yon (front) and Lillie Mae Greene feed ballots through tabulators Monday as part of a statewide recount.

the outcome.

While it appeared on election night that the Republican candidates in all three statewide races would win their respective seats, returns from several counties continued to be reported throughout last

week, and by Thursday, the margins had shrunk considerably. In the case of the commissioner of agriculture race, the lead switched directions.

In that race, Democrat

→ Please see page 3

Where will next boat ramp be?

Taylor County is expected to receive a total of \$16.7 million as its portion of administrative fines and civil penalties levied against BP and others after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010.

The allocations, separated into different “pots,” are based on the federal RESTORE Act, passed by the U.S. Congress to create a framework through which the funds would be distributed to federal, state

and local agencies.

The Taylor County Commission has earmarked the county’s \$4.1 million direct allocation, also known as its “Pot 1” funds, for canal dredging along the coast.

The first dredging project, at Keaton Beach, is expected to get underway in early 2019, followed by dredging the Steinhatchee public boat ramp basin later in 2019. Projects in Dark Island, Cedar Island and

Dekle Beach will follow on a timeframe expected to run through 2033 due to the 15-year window in which payments will be made to the U.S. Department of Treasury by BP and others. The county’s second

allocation, known as “Pot 3” funds, will total \$12.6 million, and the current plan is to use that money to purchase coastal property and construct new boat

→ Please see page 2

Open house set Thursday for new TCSO substation

Taylor County Sheriff Wayne Padgett invites the community to come “take a look inside” the new Taylor County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO) substation in Steinhatchee during an “open house” on Thursday at 4 p.m.

In what he called a “win-win” for Steinhatchee residents, his department and the Steinhatchee School, Padgett has worked over the past year to fulfill one of his campaign promises, receiving approval from the county commission and school board to relocate an unused school portable building on one corner of the Steinhatchee School property near the Citizen’s State Bank office to serve as a sheriff’s office sub-station.

“This is a project that the sheriff has been working on since he took office,” TCSO Chief Deputy Chuck Mincy said. “The school district graciously donated an unused portable building and leased us a piece of land on campus.”

The substation is located on the west side of the school property near the baseball fields and across the street from Citizens Bank.

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City Council to meet Thursday

Due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday and a scheduling issue, the Perry City Council will meet only one time this month, Thursday, Nov. 15, at 5:30 p.m.

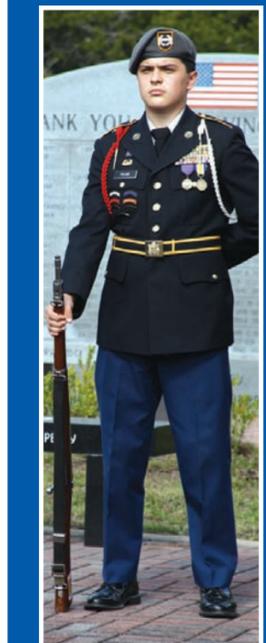
Council members approved the amended schedule at their last meeting in October.

Traditionally, the council meets only one time in November and December to accommodate Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Agenda items include:

- Approval of Perry Police Department Det. Dwight Norris’ request to retire with his service weapon.
- Final public hearing and approval of an land use change for property at 716 West Willow Street from residential to commercial.

→ Please see page 3



WE HONOR YOU...Taylor County honored veterans with a trio of events Friday, Nov. 9. (Top) C/PVT Naomi Stading performed “Taps” during a flag-raising ceremony while (bottom, left) C/SGM Victor Pease stood in the Honor Guard. (Bottom, right) Veterans from all branches of service came together as one for the annual JROTC Veterans Day Ceremony and the luncheon that followed. For more on the events, please see page A-10.

Taylor County set to receive \$12.6 million in Pot 3 funds earmarked for land acquisition, boat ramps

BOAT RAMP

Continued from page 1

ramps in order to expand coastal access and reduce congestion at current ramps.

Unlike the Pot 1 funds, which will be paid directly to the county by the U.S. Department of Treasury -- upon the completion of successful grant applications -- the Pot 3 funds in Florida are overseen and administered by the Gulf Consortium, made up of representatives from the state's 23 Gulf counties, including Taylor. (The county's representative is Commissioner Jim Moody, with County Administrator Ted Lakey serving as alternate.)

At a workshop held Thursday, Oct. 8, Taylor County commissioners had a lengthy discussion with Craig Diamond, representing the consulting firm hired by the consortium to administer the program. Present at the workshop were several local property owners whose parcels are among those under consideration for county acquisition.

According to Diamond, the various pots of money coming to states and counties are from Clean Water Act fines, with 80% of those funds collected into the Gulf Coast Recreation Trust Fund for distribution.

"The RESTORE Act is the law by which the moneys in that fund are distributed," Diamond said.

In addition to Pots 1 and 3, Pot 2 funds are controlled by the states and the interstate RESTORE Council, while Pots 4 and 5 are dedicated to research and educational projects.

Returning his attention to Pot 3, Diamond said, "In 2012, the 23 Gulf coast counties in concert with guidance and advice from the Florida Association of Counties, collaborated and constructed an interlocal agency. They successfully interjected themselves politically into the process and were named under the RESTORE Act as the body to create a plan. All of the states were required to come up with a plan for certain

portions of the money, and the consortium is the body in Florida to go ahead and do that."

In total, Florida is set to receive \$293 million in Pot 3 funds, spread out over 15 years, like the Pot 1 funds.

"(The consortium) decided before we came on board that those moneys would be distributed evenly among the 23 counties," Diamond said. "There was enough political wrangling over all of the other pieces, getting things out to six decimal points, they said, let's just split things evenly, it would be a lot simpler."

So far, there is about \$74 million in the Gulf Consortium's control, or about \$3.2 million for each county, although the order in which the projects will be completed has not yet been determined.

Federal officials just approved Florida's 511-page State Expenditure Plan (SEP) in late September, and the Gulf Consortium is meeting later this month (Nov. 29) to consider approval of a grant manual outlining how counties can apply for grants to fulfill the projects outlined in the SEP.

According to the SEP's \$12.6 million budget of Pot 3 funds allocated for Taylor County, \$300,000 is allocated for a feasibility study, \$200,000 for property appraisals, \$11 million for property acquisition, \$300,000 for final design and permitting and \$760,000 for construction, with an additional \$100,000 for monitoring.

Diamond said the counties' various projects are at different stages of development and could be grouped together should the consortium agree to do so. Specifically, for Taylor County, he said they are looking at the possibility of a combined grant application for all of the projects requiring a feasibility study to help streamline the process and speed up the projects. However, he could not confirm that this would be the case since the consortium still has to vote on the grant procedures at its Nov. 29 meeting.



The State Expenditure Plan (SEP) includes a summary of Taylor County's RESTORE Act Pot 3 proposal, which includes purchasing properties along the coast to increase Gulf access and reduce congestion at existing boat ramps. The map above, included in the SEP, shows the approximate locations of the properties currently under consideration.

In recent months, Dr. Kenneth Hutchins, who owns one of the properties under consideration for purchase, has criticized Taylor County officials for not doing enough to ensure they receive the grant funds in a timely manner, including narrowing down the list of possibilities and conducting appraisals on the properties.

Hutchins, who owns 25 acres zoned "Mixed Use Urban Development" located at 2645 Fish Creek Highway, says his property is the largest undeveloped parcel of privately-owned uplands located on the coast for over 200 miles -- from the Pasco/Hernando county line northward -- because much of the Big Bend coast is in state ownership.

Hutchins has consistently complained about the county not being further along in the process, stating that any delays jeopardize when the county will receive grant funds, because funding will occur only after specific grant submissions are approved.

Hutchins' property is listed for sale online for \$2.85 million. According to the Taylor County Property Appraiser's Office, the 25-acre parcel is listed on the county's tax rolls for \$887,050.

Hutchins' complaints became a point of discussion at last week's workshop, with Commissioner Malcolm Page directly asking Diamond if the county has "missed any deadlines."

"No," Diamond said, noting that the grant window has not yet opened.

"At what point do we appraise properties?" Page asked.

Diamond recommended conducting a feasibility study first, which would help the county rank the projects as to their suitability for the stated purpose of constructing new boat ramps.

Several commissioners expressed concerns over the county's fiscal constraints when Diamond noted that the grants would be on a reimbursement basis. He

added that reimbursements should occur in a matter of weeks to "a couple of months on the outside."

When the commission opened the meeting to those in attendance to ask questions of Diamond, Hutchins was the first to the podium.

First, he noted that the county could use the RESTORE Act funds to leverage other grant funds, and vice versa, and asked Diamond to confirm that the county could indeed do that.

Diamond said as long as the other grant projects aligned with the county's stated project in the SEP, they could combine the funds.

Hutchins then questioned commissioners how they narrowed the list of potential properties from the original 21 to the eight that were submitted for the SEP, a question he has asked several times in recent months.

Hutchins pointed to the minutes from a June 20, 2017 meeting, stating that the commission actually made the decision at a workshop held earlier in the day. (The board cannot take formal action at a workshop.)

The board did discuss the list at a two-hour workshop held that day, during which they were presented a list of pros and cons for each parcel that had been submitted to the county for consideration. Although no formal action was taken at the time, the commission returned to the issue at the regular meeting held that evening, voting unanimously to submit the eight projects, consisting of a list of 13 properties (previously narrowed down from 21).

The 13 properties on the list include:

- Hutchins Property, 2645 Fish Creek Highway;
- Keaton Beach Marina, 20650 Keaton Beach;
- Dr. Hamdan Property

- 20470 Marina Road;
- Spring Warrior;
- Yates Creek (Clark);
- Yates Creek (Ezell);
- H. Lundy Property, 1750 JL Gipson Rd.;
- Bird Island (07188-000), 45 Bird Island Grade;
- Palm Grove Marina, First Ave. SW, Steinhatchee;
- Old Fish Market (09965-050) 104 First Ave. SW, Steinhatchee;
- Lindsey Island;
- Dallas Creek (FWC Property);
- Hagen's Cove (FWC Property).

Several of the properties on the list have become unavailable since the June 2017 meeting, including the Old Fish Market, which sold, as well as the Dallas Creek and Hagen's Cove properties (under FWC control).

None of those projects are listed specifically in the SEP -- other than two map insets that include eight dots noting the approximate location of the eight sites. Both captions refer to the information contained as "potential sites."

There does appear to be some confusion among county officials over exactly which projects were included in the final SEP approved in September, and the county commission is expected to take up the issue at its next meeting to clarify the list of properties under consideration.

"This version of the SEP identifies eight sites for boat ramps," Diamond said at last week's workshop.

"Are we limited to those eight sites?" Lakey asked. "When we do the feasibility study, could more be added, maybe some taken off, as long as it was within the concept of our project?"

"Correct," Diamond said. "There's a map with dots, and I would argue on behalf of the county that this is conceptual. The description says, 'Taylor County wants to increase public access through boat ramps along coastal properties.' The specific dots are not identified with parcel numbers. They're intended to be indicative of the locations."

"I think when the grant application is prepared by the county, at that point in time you will want to begin to boil that down, or use the grant application under the feasibility study."

"Based on the feasibility study, say two of these parcels don't work ... and you're looking for other properties that do the same job, I think that's fully consistent with the intent of the SEP, and therefore, fully includable in a grant application. You shouldn't feel constrained."

As the discussion continued, Hutchins urged the commission to "never say never" regarding getting a channel constructed to serve some of the properties under consideration. He also suggested that the county did not need a formal feasibility

study, and instead suggested they use "common sense" to reduce the list of projects.

Many of the others who spoke or asked questions during the workshop, including Bish Clark, Roger Ezell and Catherine Redding, urged the commission to move forward as quickly as possible, noting that prices continue to increase, and some properties could be sold, reducing the options available for future Gulf access.

"At some point in time, the county commission is going to have to rate the different parcels," Hutchins said after several of the other property owners spoke.

"I would recommend highly that some type of inspection be done by those voting on the parcels, because any decision you make is going to effect Taylor County long after we're gone -- 50 to 100 years," he said. "Make sure you look at these properties before you vote on them."

"I think I'm familiar with all of the properties," Page said. "I could not in good conscience rate which is the best, which is the second best until I see the results of the feasibility study. For me, that's the next step in this process."

Diamond warned that until a grant application -- such as one for the feasibility study -- was submitted and approved, any money the county spent would be "at your own risk" as far as whether the county might later be reimbursed. He added that it may be possible to apply for pre-grant award costs, but that would have to be approved by the consortium.

Assistant County Administrator LaWanda Pemberton asked about the bundling option, and Diamond said there are about six projects (out of the 69 included in the SEP) that require feasibility studies.

Diamond said they would recommend to the consortium that feasibility studies should be "front-loaded" in the grant application process since they must be completed before the various projects can move forward.

When asked later in the discussion, Diamond said he was not sure when the grant window would open, but noted that the consortium could agree to begin accepting applications after the grant procedures are approved, which he expected to happen at the Nov. 29 meeting.

The next step for the commission will be to decide whether or not to pursue a grant for the feasibility study or attempt to do the work in-house.

If the commission chooses to go with a feasibility study, it will most likely need to either apply for a Pot 3 grant to cover the cost or to join in a multi-county grant application such as the one mentioned by Diamond.

Padgett willing to make building available to other county officials

TCSO SUBSTATION

Continued from page 1

At Padgett's request, the Taylor County School Board approved a three-year lease agreement -- for \$1 per year -- for the portable building and small corner of Steinhatchee School property.

The lease is automatically renewable for the same terms unless either party terminates within a 90-day notice period prior to expiration of the lease term.

At a Dec. 12, 2017 meeting, county commissioners agreed to dip into reserves to cover the estimated \$10,000 cost of extending water and sewer service to the building, after Padgett appeared requested funding assistance.

Padgett told

commissioners the TCSO would cover survey, site preparation and other renovation costs associated with moving the former school portable building.

The substation will not be staffed full-time, as the TCSO does not currently have the funds to assign an administrative staff person or full-time deputy there, Mincy said.

"This will provide deputies working on the south end of the county with a safe and secure restroom facility and small kitchen, as well as a place to meet with victims or witnesses to take statements and fill out reports," Mincy said.

According to Mincy, volunteers who want to help staff the substation can apply to become a member of the County Emergency

Response Team (CERT) team by calling Emergency Management Deputy Director Kristy Anderson at 838-3575.

Sheriff Padgett has expressed his willingness to make the building available to all other constitutional officers.

"This is something I think has been needed doing for a long time," Padgett said when addressing the school board last year.

"The long-term plan for this building is to be able to have Steinhatchee citizens go there and do anything they can more or less do in a courthouse: check their taxes, pay their taxes. I'd like to see it where they can even get a driver's license and buy a tag down there one day," Padgett added.

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City addresses retirement, sidewalks and more

The Perry City Council moved swiftly through its agenda at its last October meeting, touching on such topics as early retirement for police officers, the cost of installing new sidewalks, taking another look at re-joining the Florida League of Cities and considering how to fill an upcoming vacancy on its Planning & Zoning Board.

The council unanimously approved an ordinance amending the city's policy for its police retirement fund that will allow officers to retire with 65 percent benefits after 20 years of service.

Alan Hall and Councilman Mike Deming also voting in favor. Councilwoman Shirlee Hampton was not present due to ongoing health issues.

There was no discussion. Hall then addressed an item he asked to be placed on the agenda regarding the installation of new sidewalks in the neighborhood located off Miller Street (behind Doctors' Memorial Physicians Plaza).

"A new sidewalk would connect those residents not only to the doctors' offices but also to the convenience store on the corner and the sidewalk that goes to the sports complex," Hall said.

He also asked about putting in sidewalks along Veterans Drive, off Center Street.

"This would go from the schools, to the Boys & Girls

Club and town. It would funnel kids on sidewalks instead of walking along the road," Hall said.

The cost for both projects is \$31,000.

"We only have \$14,000 in the budget for sidewalks," Public Works Director Chester McAfee said.

Finance Director Penny Staffney said there was \$25,000 in the budget for a new splash pad and pavilion at Jerkins (Gerald Walker Park), as well as \$75,000 earmarked for lights at Loughridge Park in the capital outlay budgets.

"We'll be renting the lights, so that would be something to look at," Staffney said.

Council members, by consensus, said they agreed with the idea of installing new sidewalks in both areas Hall suggested, but

expressed concerns over how the projects would be funded. They left the topic without taking any action.

Talk then shifted to joining the Florida League of Cities.

City Manager Taylor

Brown said Perry is one of only three cities in the entire state that is not a member of the league.

"I have been associated with the league for a number of years and its sister organization for city

managers. It's like any other organization - you have to participate in order to get the benefits out of it. The league doesn't win every battle, but they sure fight hard," Brown

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Council changes meeting date to ensure there would be a quorum

CITY COUNCIL Continued from page 1

Continued discussion regarding construction of sidewalks from Veterans Drive to Lafayette Street (along Center Street) and from Miller Road to U.S. Highway 19 North (along West Ash Street).

Continued discussion

regarding upcoming vacancy on the city's Planning & Zoning Board.

Appointment of a council member to serve on the Tourism Development Council.

However, Mayor Alan Hall raised concerns about having a quorum at the first meeting in November, stating he would not be

able to attend and was uncertain if Councilmember Shirlee Hampton would be recovered from planned surgery by then.

His fellow council members expressed their willingness to amend the schedule and everyone consulted their calendars before settling on the Thursday date.

Florida Recount Races

| U.S. Senate | Taylor County | Florida (Statewide) |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Rick Scott (Rep) | 5,642 (71.37%) | 4,098,107 (50.07%) |
| Bill Nelson (Dem) | 2,263 (28.63%) | 4,085,545 (49.92%) |
| Total (Difference) | 7,905 (3,379) | 8,184,631 (12,562) |
| Florida Governor | Taylor County | Florida (Statewide) |
| DeSantis/Nunez | 5,942 (74.83%) | 4,075,879 (49.59%) |
| Gillum/King | 1,877 (23.64%) | 4,042,195 (49.18%) |
| Other Candidates | 122 (1.54%) | 100,608 (1.23%) |
| Total (Difference) | 7,941 (4,065) | 8,218,682 (33,684) |
| Fla. Ag. Comm. | Taylor County | Florida (Statewide) |
| Matt Caldwell | 5,782 (73.72%) | 4,025,011 (49.97%) |
| Nicole Nikki Fried | 2,061 (26.28%) | 4,030,337 (50.03%) |
| Total (Difference) | 7,843 (3,721) | 8,055,348 (5,326) |

Manual recounts likely in senate, agriculture races

RECOUNT Continued from page 1

Nicole "Nikki" Fried currently leads Republican Matt Caldwell by 5,326 votes, or just 0.06%, based on the first unofficial results (prior to the recount). A total of 8,055,348 votes were cast in the race.

The U.S. Senate race is also expected to eventually go to a manual recount, with Republican Rick Scott leading incumbent Democrat Bill Nelson by 12,562 votes or 0.15%. A total of 8,184,631 votes were cast in the Senate race.

In the Florida governor's race, Republican Ron DeSantis leads Democrat Andrew Gillum by 33,684 votes, or 0.41%. If that

margin holds after the machine recount, there would not be a manual recount in the governor's race. A total of 8,218,682 ballots were cast, including those for four third-party or no-party candidates and two write-in candidates.

Southerland had to oversee a recount following the 2016 primary election, only that time she and her staff had to do it in the dark with tabulators running on a generator, as the Taylor County Courthouse (where her office was located at the time) still did not have power due to Hurricane Hermine, which struck the county just days prior to the mandated recount.

The race at issue then was the Democrat primary for the Second Congressional

District between Walter Dartland and Steve Crapps. Locally, Dartland gained one vote in the recount, which Southerland said was likely due to a jammed ballot on Election Day.

Across the 19 counties involved in that recount, Dartland's lead fell from 137 to 133. He would eventually fall to Neal Dunn in the 2016 general election.

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Election should be a 'wake-up call'

Dear Editor:
I do not mean to offend anyone, yet I am sure I will. Last Tuesday night (Election night) should have been a wake-up call. I am speaking just on a local office level. We had a candidate that won apparently simply because of party affiliation – coupled with

the fact there were three “no party affiliation” (NPA) candidates, including the incumbent. I get the frustration. Apparently no one knows this guy. My hope is he will do a super job the next two years. We will see. But, here is what we all need to take a step back and look at.

I know one of the other candidates, and what I know is he is a good person. One of the other candidates I don't know personally, but I had a lot of friends I respect supporting him. So, that tells me he must be not half bad either. Now to the point of this letter. What those candidates and supporters should be asking themselves is: “Why align yourself with a party you don't support on a state or national level?” Why? There is no real reason to align yourself with a group who you do not believe in, nor support. Saying, “It is the way we

always did it,” or “Because my parents or grandparents were” are no longer valid reasons. If at least two of the candidates had registered with the conservative party, they would have been the commissioner-elect today. I am betting they voted for a governor that was a Republican. So, the question is: “Why stay in a party that does not represent the majority of your beliefs?” Local politics matter. They feed into the larger picture and help shape the state and national tone and debate. Local matters. How you align yourself matters.

Should you vote straight ticket? Not always. You should always vote for the person. But the person should also stand up for what they truly believe in. So, the next two years should be interesting. This should be a wake up call for everyone. It is our community, and we should all be involved. When is the last time you reached out to an elected official to say “You are not doing the best job?” When is the last time you reached out and said “You are doing a good job?” When is the last city,

county or school board meeting you have attended? Regardless of party or who is elected, this is still OUR community. We make the difference. With that, we all really need to learn, study and teach civics to a new generation. We also need to spend more time getting to know our neighbors. That alone will go farther to making our community even better. The best part of being in elected office is visiting and talking with the people. With that, lets go watch our kids play ball.

Daryll Gunter

TCMS thanks Wal-Mart

Dear Editor:
The staff and students of Taylor County Middle School would like to send a special thank-you to our local Wal-Mart Supercenter. Thanks to their generous donation of bottled water, our athletes, band

members and other school-sponsored organizations were able to stay hydrated in this hot Florida weather. Again, thank you to this organization for supporting our students.

Kiki Puhl
TCMS Principal

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Cobbler and socks

By PENNY WHITFIELD DIXON
Just thinking of blackberry cobbler makes my mouth water. Served warm over a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Blackberries grow wild in the North Florida woods. We would pick them in season, and Mama would make cobbler. Picking blackberries wasn't for the faint of heart. Their bushes had protective thorns that needed to be avoided. Also, rattlesnakes were often found in their vicinity, so caution was necessary. However, the mouthwatering sweetness of those ripe berries outweighed the negatives. I could put away some blackberries! A yearly tradition was to take a quart of the “black gold” across the street to a lady who was from “The North.” Over my Mama's protest, the lady would pay me \$1 for them, assuring us that otherwise she would never get any to eat. Back then \$1 was untold wealth. I was thinking back to the 1950's tonight and remembered our yearly trip down country roads in search of blackberries. Yikes! Now I'm thinking about swamp cabbage, but that's another story. One addendum to this memory – and how could I forget them – is the blackberry vs. red bug (or chigger) war. I was reminded that people picked berries in 95-degree weather wearing long sleeves with their pant legs tucked into their socks to prevent the onslaught of red bugs who loved a fresh source of nutrients --

namely human blood! If you weren't protective of yourself, you'd get covered with those devilish little mites and be itching for weeks! Speaking of socks, I was once walking through a parking lot -- minding my own business -- when a lady spotted my neon orange socks. I don't normally try to draw any extra attention to my feet because I do not need any help due to wearing a men's size 11 for goodness sake! But, these socks matched a color in my shirt and felt comfortable, so I was sporting them for the first time. She almost yelled, “WHERE did you get those SOCKS?!” “The Webster Farmer's Market,” I answered. She went into a tirade about neon orange being her most favorite color in the world. For verification, she pulled out an intricate picture she was coloring. Neon orange was indeed the predominate color. I offered to give them to her. She protested. The conversation went on about where Webster is and how she might find some of the socks. Over her protests, I finally steadied myself by placing one hand on her shoulder, slid one shoe off at a time and pulled off each neon orange sock before presenting the pair to her. A pot of gold from the end of the rainbow could not have been more appreciated. My \$1 investment in sporty apparel was gone, but in return I was filled with joy having been able to make a stranger in a parking lot happy!



The Muddle

Susan Lincoln

No Happy Meal

I try not to ask too many stupid questions during our weekly gatherings to watch football and eat too much food – although my family may not have noticed. With no hesitation last weekend, I blurted out, “Why in the world does that football player have on a ridiculous cape like a boxing champion?” What I learned was more baffling than my original question. As family members explained the reasoning behind the cape, I'm sure my face resembled a prune. “It's a reward, for doing something right?” I asked, just to be sure I was understanding. “Is this a birthday party for six-year-olds or a college football game?” I had to ask. I think rewarding good behavior has its benefits, but usually for small children. By the time you've been awarded a scholarship for a college education at an institution of higher learning (easily worth \$75,000), and then provided room and board, do you really need a cape, too? And if you do, what does that say? Perhaps the wrong person got the scholarship. Apparently the cape is one of a myriad of good performance awards. Just for kicks, let's look at a few:
· In the 2017 season-opener against Georgia Tech, the University of Tennessee had a well-decorated trash can on the sidelines so players could dunk the ball when they got a turnover during gridiron action. So performing well on the field is not enough? You've got to get a dunk on the sidelines?
· At Virginia Tech, the defensive player of the week gets to carry a lunch pail, which is inscribed with “WIN” and holds the team's goals for that game (which surely include winning). I bet the mothers of these football players couldn't get them to carry a lunch pail for their entire high school career. But now that they're “all grown up,” they compete for the opportunity.
· The Georgia Bulldogs have some seriously spiked shoulder pads that say

“savage” on them. No alcohol is involved; they are spiked like a dog collar and propel the Dawgs to accomplish great feats on the field, with their great feets.
· P.J. Fleck's “Row the Boat” slogan traveled with him to Minnesota, where players now emerge on the field with oars in tow. Again, I wonder how many times these players' parents begged them to carry the oars, the tackle box or the life preservers and they refused?
· Miami ushered in a new sideline prop wave with a gold Cuban Links chain in 2017. A player who gets a takeaway gets to wear it. I would expect nothing less of Miami.
· Tulane turned things up a notch with turnover Mardi Gras beads. Isn't life colorful when you get near New Orleans?
· SMU also has a turnover crown and chalice! Before long, the less important college students will have to bow and grovel. Oh wait, we already do that.
· Boise State upped the ante and provided an actual throne for its players who get takeaways. Yes, your majesty.
· Since 2015, Alabama's had the “Ball Out Belt” (which is WWE wrestler-worthy) given to the defender who caused the last takeaway. The wide receiver corps at Ole Miss has a bad-guy version of it, and Colorado State joined the belt club, too. I remember a wise, and longtime principal in this community who once told the teachers on her staff, “If you want to be treated like a professional, dress like one.” In a parallel universe, some coach who isn't being held hostage by his players should suggest that they are not the center of the universe. It's a radical theory, I admit, and there will be backlash. But an adult on campus should remind these stellar athletes that they are simply revolving planets, compelled to do their part in the universe. Just like the rest of us. So take that silly cape off and play football. Or no Happy Meal.

Taco Times

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

123 S. Jefferson Street
Perry, Florida

P.O. Box 888
(850) 584-5513

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The Taylor County extension service staff gathered to wish director Clay Olson a "happy retirement." Shown are: (left to right) Victor Blanco, Corrie Willis, Lori Wiggins, Carrel Robinson, Clay Olson, Rachel Higgs, Melanie McAfee and Abbey Tharpe. Not pictured is Susie Summerlin.



Clay Olson with twin sister, Chris, at his retirement luncheon held Thursday, Nov. 8, at Forest Capital Hall.

Olson closes the book on 36-year career as county extension agent

During his nearly four-decade tenure as Taylor County's extension agent, Clay Olson was the "go to" man.

Have a question about a tree? Ask Clay. Need help with an agricultural program? Ask Clay. Want to become a citrus farmer? Ask Clay.

Last week, Olson's colleagues, family and friends honored his 36 years of service to the Taylor County community with a retirement luncheon held at Forest Capital Hall.

Displays showcasing Olson's accomplishments and awards were prominently featured throughout the reception area, and co-workers shared the following highlights of his career and education:

"After graduating in 1976 from the University of Florida (UF) with a bachelor's in forestry (range ecosystem management), Clay began work with UF for six years in the Soil Science Department and the Agricultural Engineering department (three years in each) while completing

a master's degree in agricultural extension and education. In 1982, he began work as the county extension director and the agricultural and natural resource extension faculty in Taylor County.

"Clay's initial educational programming included timber management, specialty products from the timber resource, cattle and forage production, artificial reef construction and deployment, youth and community development.

"While serving as county extension director for 36 years, county support for extension grew dramatically in budgets and personnel. The extension faculty grew from two IFAS lines to four. Support staff (program assistants, clerical) grew from two to five. Budgets more than tripled. In addition, facilities for extension department operations expanded from 1,600 square feet to more than 25,000 square feet and 15 acres of land for youth and adult program development.

"Clay continued to

develop programs that addressed local issues, as well as IFAS priorities issues like renewable energy and small farm profitability."

During his tenure with county extension, Olson established the following notable programs with broad-reaching educational impacts:

- Developed a grant-funded, local county-owned shiitake mushroom demonstration farm site in 1988 that resulted in numerous field days and a commercial production facility in the county that produced 1,000 pounds a week for 10 years.

- Established a 15 and one-half acre perennial peanut demonstration plantings around the county and region (1985-90) for livestock and hay production demonstrations. Set up initial demonstration planting at the Sunbelt Exposition in Moultrie, Ga. As interest increased a growers association was formed to disseminate educational information for crop establishment and management. Producers

began to experience improved livestock performance and a demand for legume hay that enhanced farm profitability and sustainability.

- The county established an 80-acre perennial peanut hayfield at the local airport to support FAA grant match funding for infrastructure development at the airport. Field was brought into production in 2002 and continues to be in production today.

- Received a Tobacco Education Project Grant (\$50,000) to establish three 40-acre fields of perennial peanuts in Taylor and Madison counties in 2001 to transition tobacco farmers to new crops.

- Executed a five-county, \$200,000 artificial reef construction and deployment contract (Wakulla, Taylor, Dixie, Levy and Citrus counties in 1988) and several additional county contracts with NOAA and FWC between marine agent hirings.

- In 1997, the Florida voters passed a constitutional amendment banning gill nets, which hit the local fishing community hard. One result was the formation of enterprise zones by the Florida legislature in affected communities.

Taylor County extension began an educational program teaching businesses and residents how to apply for tax incentives under the new zone criteria. The extension educational program returned in excess of \$3 million to the local community for the 20-year life of the enterprise zone, as documented by the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development (OTTED).

- Local horticultural interests kept requesting the Master Gardener course be offered in the county, so with the help of regional faculty, the 50-hour course



Olson (left) with longtime friend and county extension supporter, Helen Houck.

was offered locally. Clay taught 35 hours of the 50-hour course offered in Taylor County in 1999, 2002 and 2008.

- Worked collaboratively with 4-H, teaching hands-on vegetable production in the local school system. The projects were recognized nationally.

- Helped apply for a \$450,000 renewable energy grant from the State of Florida in 2010 to demonstrate the use of a WWII technology (wood gasification) to generate electricity for broiler production in Taylor County. The grant was received, and a truck powered by gasification technology was used to teach the technology to faculty and interested public around the state at

various workshops and field days.

- Taught basic plant and soil science to incarcerated individuals in the local state corrections facility in Taylor County for several years.

- Did international work in Haiti developing winter vegetable production systems using drip irrigation in 2006 and 2007.

- Worked the past three years developing education programs and trialing cold tolerant citrus for the North Florida/South Georgia area. Local producers in Taylor County have invested \$2 million in the enterprise in the past two years. Several field days and demonstrations have been held from Pensacola to Valdosta, Ga., for new growers.



Newspaper clippings and plaques chronicled Clay Olson's 36-year career as county extension agent here.

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'Fields of Faith' tonight at Dorsett Stadium, 7 p.m.

Taylor County's Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) will host its eighth annual Fields of Faith event tonight (Wednesday) at Dorsett Stadium, starting at 7 p.m.

Local students will share their favorite Bible verses and testimonies during the program.

Admission is free and the community is invited to attend.

Perry Church of God offering sweet treats for the holidays

Perry Church of God's annual fruitcake drive is underway.

Residents are invited to place their orders

now for the holidays. Nut cakes, pecan pies and chocolate pecan pies are also available.

To order, please call (850) 584-2010.

Obituaries



Patricia Elaine Wiles Brickey

Patricia Elaine Wiles Brickey

Patricia Elaine Wiles Brickey, 53, went home to be with the Lord Nov. 10, 2018, in Tallahassee. Elaine was born April 17, 1965, in Perry to Earl Wiles and Virginia Brown Wiles.

Elaine enjoyed fishing, cooking, attending mud bogs and being a momma and meme.

Elaine was preceded in death by her mother, Virginia Wiles.

She is survived by: her son, Heath Wiles (Kendra), and daughter, Keely Collins (Josh); her father, Earl (Linda); and her beautiful grandchildren, Emilee, Trenton and Paisley; along with a host of family and friends.

A graveside service was held Monday, Nov. 12, at 1 p.m. at Carlton Cemetery with the Rev. Mary Browning officiating.

All arrangements are under the direction of Burns Funeral Home of Perry. Friends may sign the online guest book at www.joepburnsfuneralhomes.com.



Matthew David Eddings

Matthew David Eddings, 45, died Nov. 7, 2018,

in Mayo. Matthew was born July 6, 1973, in St. Petersburg, to Bobby Cumbie and Joyce Ann Eddings Cumbie.

Matthew was preceded in death by: his biological parents, Bobby and Joyce Ann Cumbie; and his father, Jesse D. Eddings Sr.

He is survived by: his twin brother, Mark Eddings; his sister, Susan Cumbie; and his mother, Jessie Mae Eddings; as well as a host of sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, Nov. 17, at 2 p.m. at Blue Creek Baptist Church with Brother David Beigle officiating. Interment services will follow immediately afterward in the Eddings Family Plot. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service, from 1-2 p.m. at the church.

All arrangements are under the direction of Burns Funeral Home of Perry. Friends may sign the online guest book at www.joepburnsfuneralhomes.com.



Jerry Dean Parker

Jerry Dean Parker, 74, of Perry, passed from this life Nov. 9, 2018, at his home. Jerry was born Sept. 26, 1944, in Perry to Kansas Clayton Parker and Evalou Fraser Parker.

He was a graduate of Taylor County High School and honorably served his country in the United States Air Force. He was of the Baptist faith and worked as a production operator for Procter and Gamble for 31 years. In his spare time he enjoyed hunting, watching and attending Classic Car Auctions, races

and shows, studying history and spending time with his family and friends.

Jerry was preceded in death by: his parents, Kansas and Evalou Parker; and two sisters, Joyce Reed and Virginia Childers.

He is survived by: his wife of 34 years, Evelee Driggers Parker; one son, Douglas K. Tuten, and wife Sherri, of Madison; one brother, Jim Parker, and wife, Paula, of Steinhatchee; and a grandson, Craig Parker; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. today (Wednesday) in the Burns Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Wallace Holmes officiating.

Interment will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

All arrangements are under the care of Burns Funeral Home of Perry. Friends may sign the online guest book at www.joepburnsfuneralhomes.com.



Michael R. Powell

Michael R. Powell, 53, of Taylor County, died Saturday, Nov. 11, 2018.

The family will receive friends today (Wednesday) from 3-6 p.m. at Walker-Evans Funeral Home, located on West Homer J. Smith Avenue.

Graveside services will be held Thursday, Nov. 15, at 1 p.m., at Springhill Cemetery.

EVANS/WALKER FUNERAL HOME

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GLAD TIDINGS

In the Bible, "glad tidings" is frequently translated to mean "to tell good news" and "to preach the gospel." This space -- made available to all local pastors -- is dedicated to messages of good news to fill readers with uplifting thoughts to carry with them throughout the week.

My letter of thanksgiving to God

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for this minute. By the time I've finished writing this letter, many more minutes will have passed. Each minute that ticks by reflects your patience, your sovereignty and your work in my life.

I'll never know (unless you choose to reveal it to me when I meet you face-to-face) what tragedies you've withheld for my sake in the minutes I've already lived. Likewise, I have no idea what the next minutes will hold.

But, right now, I want to thank you for every minute, including the minutes you still have planned for me -- minutes that will allow me another chance to learn from my mistakes. And (with your help), to do better the next minute by correcting and making right a poor choice, an unkind word or a sloppily-done project.

Thank you, also, for each minute in which I wait for you to send

another creative thought and opportunity my way. Another minute to live the life you have customized just for me.

And, Lord, I'm tremendously thankful each time your mercy, love and wisdom gets me through difficult and disappointing moments. Without you watching over me minute-by-minute, I'd be hopelessly lost. And hopelessly hopeless.

You are a powerful and sovereign God, yet you remain a devoted Father. You are more than wonderful.

Thank you for all You are to me, every minute of every day.

Your grateful daughter, Sheryl

Have you ever written a letter of thanksgiving to your heavenly Father? If so, what did you say?

If you haven't, would you like to thank God for a specific need He's met or a memory of a time you felt His nearness?



Sheryl H. Boldt

1 Peter 5:7 reminds us of God's constant involvement in our lives.

"Casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully." (1 Peter 5:7 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition)

Sheryl H. Boldt is the author of the blog, www.TodayCanBeDifferent.net. You can reach her at SherylHBoldt@gmail.com.

Card of Thanks

Horton

The family of Gary Horton would like to thank you for the loving support in our time of grief.

The food, flowers and visits to honor Gary were deeply and truly appreciated.

Jewel Horton, Faye Jackson and Brenda Carlton

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In memory

J. Gordon Davis

J. Gordon Davis, 84, born in 1933 in Perry, passed away peacefully March 6, 2018.

Gordon was the oldest son of John Hancock Davis and Mary Myrtle Griffin Davis. He had many happy memories of growing up in Perry among a large extended family.

He is also survived by two sisters, whom he loved dearly, Mary Karen Davis of Tampa, and Elouise Davis Gomez of Safety Harbor.

Gordon was a Bulldog, graduating from Taylor County High School and later served honorably in the United States Army, from 1955 to 1958. Gordon attended the University of Florida and graduated with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering in 1960. He continued his studies at the University of Florida and received a M.S. in Industrial Engineering in 1961. After noting his inquisitive mind, academic success and affable nature, one of his professors encouraged Gordon to continue his education. Gordon took his advice and went on to attend the Georgia Institute of Technology where he earned his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering.

Gordon served for 10 years on the faculty of the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Georgia Tech. He remained an ardent fan of both the Florida Gators and the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets his entire life. Gordon stayed in Atlanta and was a resident and active member of the community until his death.

Gordon was a Founder of the Project Management Institute (PMI) and was proud to be PMI member number 4. PMI is the world's leading project management organization with over 500,000 global members and over 280 local chapters across the world. PMI is the certifying organization for the Project

Management Professional (PMP), an important industry recognition for project managers.

Gordon brought his intellect, dry wit and gift for bringing people together to a successful project management consulting career that spanned 45 years. He worked on major construction projects including the Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, the Opryland Hotel renovation and the BellSouth Service Headquarters in Birmingham. His career took him around the world providing training and consulting services in Taiwan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Gordon enjoyed his professional life thoroughly, whether he was doing hands-on job meetings at a construction site or providing expert testimony in a courtroom.

Gordon met his future wife Billie J. Tillman on a blind date in Albany, Ga., where she was working for the Seaboard Air Line Railroad. They married in 1955 and recently celebrated their 62nd anniversary. The couple had three sons, Michael (wife Shirley, grandchildren Kevin and Lauren), Tad (grandchildren Jack and Ella) and Griffin (wife Heather). A memorial service was held at Northside Drive Baptist Church, 3100 Northside Drive, NW, Atlanta, Ga., 30305 on Saturday, March 10, 2018. Dr. James Lamkin officiated.

Gordon is greatly missed by his wife, sons, sisters, cousins and other members of his Taylor County family, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and many, many friends. His congenitally positive outlook, intelligence, gentle nature and good humor will be long remembered. Gordon was proud of the town where he came from and shared with his sons many happy and colorful stories of being raised in a special place like Perry.

Church Directory

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Bulldogs upset Baldwin, 24-17

The Taylor County Bulldogs football team pulled off a shocking 24-17 upset victory over the heavily-favored Baldwin Indians Friday night in Baldwin to advance to the second round of the Class 3A playoffs.

The #6-seeded Bulldogs (now 6-5) came into the game as the underdog with a 5-5 overall record and an 0-2 mark against teams Baldwin had defeated in the regular season on their way to a near-perfect 9-1 regular season record.

Baldwin came into the game averaging 42 points per game, but the Bulldog defense held the high-scoring Indians to only 17 points by forcing three turnovers (two fumbles and one interception).

Taylor County's defense scored seven points on their own when Max Kallschmidt turned the tide of the game in the third quarter by snatching the ball out of the air when a pass slipped backwards out of the Baldwin quarterback's hand.

Kallschmidt grabbed the backward pass (fumble) and returned it 82 yards for a touchdown to turn a 14-10 deficit into a 17-14 Bulldog lead late in the third quarter.

Taylor dealt Baldwin just their second loss in 11 games, crushing the Indians' playoff hopes after an almost flawless season.

"This was a huge win for us. I am sure we had our doubters, but we played a really tough schedule that helped prepare us for this game," Bulldogs' Head

Coach Tanner Jones said.

"We have played against some really big linemen all year, so we were not surprised when we had to go against their big guys. We have been down before, so we did not panic when we fell behind. Our defensive line played unbelievable, putting pressure on their quarterback, and our defensive backs ran stride for stride with their receivers," Jones added.

"The difference in this game was we did not commit any turnovers on offense, and when they made a mistake, we capitalized on it and punched it in for touchdowns," Jones said.

"You could feel the team come together after Max's return for a touchdown. Then, when we were up 21-17 and we lined up and kicked a field goal, you could feel the team come together as one as we grabbed the momentum. This is something we have practiced non-stop for a month, and it finally paid off during a playoff game," Jones stated.

The Bulldogs' special teams were nearly flawless, as Bulldog kicker Irvine Azerte was a perfect 3 for 3 on extra points and nailed his first and only field goal attempt of the season – a 28-yarder that helped secure the victory late in the fourth quarter, which couldn't have come at a better time.

Punter Dacorian Bellamy had an outstanding night punting – averaging 34 yards per kick on five

→ Please see page 8



(Above) QB Dacorian Bellamy stands tall in the pocket and looks for a receiver downfield as he gets blocking help from running back Buddy McGrew and offensive linemen Adam Sellers, Travis Day, Nathan Hendry, Drew McElveen and Gregory Warf. (Left) Joseph Morgan sacks the Baldwin QB during first half action Friday night in Baldwin. The Bulldogs pulled off a 24-17 upset victory over the heavily-favored Baldwin Indians Friday night to advance to the second round of the Class 3A playoffs.

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1. To qualify for this offer, you must have a new or existing Platinum Savings account and enroll the account in this offer between 10/15/2018 and 11/16/2018. This offer is subject to change at any time, without notice. This offer is available only to Platinum Savings customers in the following states: CT, FL and NY. In order to earn the Special Interest Rate of 1.69% (Special Rate), you must deposit \$25,000 in new money (from sources outside of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., or its affiliates) to the enrolled savings account and maintain a minimum daily account balance of \$25,000 throughout the term of this offer. The corresponding Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for this offer is 1.70%. The Special Rate will be applied to the enrolled savings account for a period of 12 months, starting on the date the account is enrolled in the offer. However, for any day during that 12-month period that the daily account balance is less than the \$25,000 minimum, the Special Rate will not apply and the interest rate will revert to the standard interest rate applicable to your Platinum Savings account. As of 09/18/2018, the standard interest rate and APY for a Platinum Savings account in CT, FL and NY with an account balance of \$0.01 to \$99,999.99 is 0.03% (0.03% APY) and with an account balance of \$100,000 and above is 0.05% (0.05% APY). Each tier shown reflects the current minimum daily collected balance required to obtain the applicable APY. Interest is compounded daily and paid monthly. The amount of interest earned is based on the daily collected balances in the account. Upon the expiration of the 12-month promotional period, standard interest rates apply. Minimum to open a Platinum Savings account is \$25. A monthly service fee of \$12 applies in any month the account falls below a \$3,500 minimum daily balance. Fees may reduce earnings. Interest rates are variable and subject to change without notice. Wells Fargo may limit the amount you deposit to a Platinum Savings account to an aggregate of \$1 million. Offer not available to Private Banking, Business Banking, Wholesale or Wealth customers. 2. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective for accounts opened between 10/15/2018 to 11/16/2018. The 11-month New Dollar CD special requires a minimum of \$25,000 brought to Wells Fargo from sources outside of Wells Fargo Bank N.A., or its affiliates to earn the advertised APY. Public Funds and Wholesale accounts are not eligible for this offer. APY assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity. Interest is compounded daily. Payment of interest on CDs is based on term: For terms less than 12 months (365 days), interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or at maturity (the end of the term). For terms of 12 months or more, interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. A fee for early withdrawal will be imposed and could reduce earnings on this account. Special Rates are applicable to the initial term of the CD only. At maturity, the special rate CD will automatically renew for a term of 6 months, at the interest rate and APY in effect for CDs on renewal date not subject to a Special Rate, unless the Bank has notified you otherwise. APY shown offered at Wells Fargo Bank locations in CT, FL, NY and WA. Due to the new money requirement, accounts may only be opened at your local branch. Wells Fargo reserves the right to modify or discontinue the offer at any time without notice. Offer cannot be: Combined with any other consumer deposit offer, or reproduced, purchased, sold, transferred or traded. Minimum new money deposit requirement of at least \$25,000 is for this offer **only** and cannot be transferred to another account to qualify for any other consumer deposit offer. If you wish to take advantage of another consumer deposit offer requiring a minimum new money deposit, you will be required to do so with another new money deposit as stated in the offer requirements and qualifications. 3. The Portfolio by Wells Fargo program has a \$30 monthly service fee, which can be avoided when you have one of the following qualifying balances: \$25,000 or more in qualifying linked bank deposit accounts (checking, savings, CDs, FDIC-insured IRAs) or \$50,000 or more in any combination of qualifying linked banking, brokerage (available through Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC) and credit balances (including 10% of mortgage balances, certain mortgages not eligible). If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the bonus interest rate on all eligible savings accounts, and discounts or fee waivers on other products and services, will discontinue and revert to the Bank's then-current applicable rate or fee. For bonus interest rates on time accounts, this change will occur upon renewal. If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the remaining unlinked Wells Fargo Portfolio Checking or Wells Fargo Prime Checking account will be converted to another checking product or closed.

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SAW COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

One of the most-watched events on festival day each year at Forest Capital Park is the Florida Forest Festival Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw competitions.

The exciting event is made possible thanks to the generous sponsorship of four local businesses and

the oversight of the Florida Forest Service personnel, including Forest Area Supervisor Jack Smith and Senior Forest Ranger Ray Boothe.

"I would like to thank Mim's Power Center and Badcock Home Furniture & More for each generously

donating a chainsaw that was presented to the two first-place chainsaw competitors, as well as Tractor Supply for the donation of two chainsaw kits, and Ring Power for the donation of jackets and hats and the use of their service truck, which was used to pick up log

cants," Smith said.

"We owe a special thanks to all who support this event and make it a success each year," Smith added.

The 2018 winners for each event included:

- Women's Crosscut:**
- 1st Jill Sanborn and Kimberly Safe (1:19)

- 2nd Mandy Blue and Jackie Bratcher (1:36)

Men's Crosscut:

- 1st Calvin Weeks and Thomas Lamb (34.6)
- 2nd Richard DuMoulin and Joshua Littlepage (89.0)

Jack and Jill Crosscut

- 1st Sabra Portwood and Joshua Littlepage (57.3)

- 2nd Julie Lamb and Thomas Lamb (69.0)

Women's Chainsaw

- 1st Sabra Portwood (7.12)
- 2nd Lisa Haygood (8.32)

Men's Chainsaw

- 1st Greg Strevel (6.57)
- 2nd Ricky Farmer (6.67)



Sawdust was flying during the 63rd annual Florida Forest Festival Chainsaw and Cross-Cut Saw competitions. Participants competed in five categories, men's, women's and Jack and Jill in crosscut saw and men's and women's chainsaw.

'Dogs head to St. Augustine Friday

BULLDOGS

Continued from page 7

punts – while the Bulldogs' kickoff and punt coverage teams were almost perfect.

"I was very proud of our offensive line. They knew we were running behind them all night and they kept driving and leaning in to help us get the extra yard. At the end, you can see on tape that they were getting out of the way of some of our guys – like Travis Day on that last touchdown run," Jones said.

"Nathan Hendry did a great job at center, Greg Warf was excellent, Adam Sellers played very well. We moved Drew McElveen and Travis Day around on the offensive line, and they both played well despite being in new positions. Then we had 150-pound Joseph Morgan

playing right guard and left tackle while also playing defensive line and he was in the game for punt and kick coverage – I don't think he came off the field," Jones said. "Cason Heartsfield lined up at fullback and blocked their linebacker on every play. He smoked the guy once, and we didn't see him the rest of the night."

"We didn't score as much as we wanted to, they may have been bigger, faster and more polished, but we were the more physical team," Jones concluded.

Taylor's leading tacklers all reached double digits in tackles, including: Max Kallschmidt, Cade Johnson, Kavan Thomas and Devante Glover. Other defenders instrumental in shutting down the Indians were: Joseph Morgan, Tony Hinkle, Nathen Heartsfield,

Zoe'Coydrick Roberts and Robert Glanton.

Taylor's offense was contained by a tough Baldwin defense for the most part, but did not turn the ball over and managed to score twice, which was enough to earn a win over the Indians.

The Bulldogs only threw the ball 13 times and averaged just under five yards per carry on 32 rushes.

Dacorian Bellamy completed just four of his 13 passes for only 33 yards, while carrying the ball 16 times for 101 yards and two touchdowns – including the only touchdowns scored by the Bulldogs' offense.

John "Buddy" McGrew rushed 10 times in the first half for 43 yards, but carried the ball just once in the second half for no gain, as Bellamy and the offensive line took control.

Four different receivers caught Bellamy's four completions, including Zoe'Coydrick Roberts, Robert Glanton, De'Mari Stephens and Kavan Thomas.

The Bulldogs received the opening kickoff and moved the ball across midfield, but were unable to cash in any points.

Bellamy completed one out of his two passes for 13 yards to Thomas while also carrying the ball once for 10 yards.

McGrew also picked up 17 yards on four rushes before the Bulldogs were forced to punt.

Baldwin began their drive from the six-yard line following a nice punt by Bellamy.

On the Indians' first play, Baldwin muffed the snap, allowing Devante Glover to pounce on the loose ball, which brought the Bulldog offense back onto the field to take over at Baldwin's 6-yard-line.

Bellamy called his own number on first down to pick up the remaining six yards for a touchdown, putting the Bulldogs ahead 7-0 following a successful point-after-attempt (PAT) by Azerte.

Glover and Thomas each made a big tackle on defense before a huge sack by Morgan forced Baldwin's punt team to take the field.

Taylor County and Baldwin each took turns shutting down each other for the remainder of the first quarter and throughout the second quarter until Baldwin cashed in with a field goal with just two minutes left in the first half to enter halftime trailing the Bulldogs, 7-3.

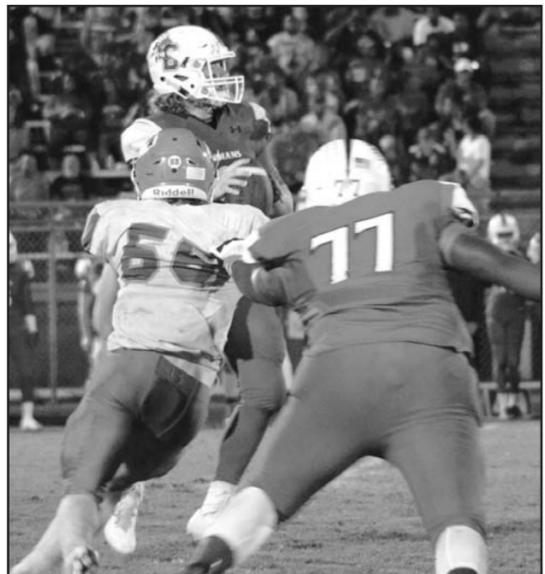
The Indians received the kick to start the second half and strung together an 11-play, 70-yard drive that ended in a touchdown, putting Baldwin ahead 10-7 with just over eight minutes left in the third quarter.

Baldwin then forced the Bulldogs' offense to go three and out, bringing the Indian's offense back onto the field.

The Indians moved the ball 54 yards in 11 plays and were inside the Bulldogs' red zone threatening to take a 17-7 lead when a wet ball slipped out of the Indian QB's hand, allowing Kallschmidt to come up with a game-changing 82-yard fumble/interception return for a touchdown that put Taylor back in the lead 14-10 with just under three minutes left in the third quarter.

Baldwin returned the ensuing kick 18 yards and scored on a 34-yard touchdown pass just two plays later to grab the momentum right back, as the Indians pulled back ahead 17-14 as the third quarter expired.

Taylor's offense was shut down to begin the



Despite being held, Joseph Morgan (#55) avoids a block and pressures the Baldwin quarterback.

fourth quarter, bringing the Bulldog defense back onto the field.

Cade Johnson and Joseph Morgan made two critical tackles that forced the Indians to punt the ball back to Taylor's offense after only three quick plays.

Bellamy hooked up with Roberts for a 12-yard completion, followed by a nine-yard touchdown scamper by Bellamy up the middle – following blocks by Travis Day, Sellers and Warf – to put the Bulldogs back in the lead 21-17 with just over six minutes left in the game.

Taylor's fired-up defense could see the light at the end of the tunnel and shut Baldwin down in three plays to force an Indian punt.

Nathen Heartsfield, Kallschmidt, Glover and Morgan formed a wall, forcing the Indians to throw the ball, which Robert Glanton intercepted and returned 31 yards before being dragged down just nine yards away from the endzone.

Taylor was flagged on three consecutive plays, which was just too much for the offense to overcome, bringing up a fourth down decision that could decide the game.

Azerte came onto the field and nailed a 28-yard field goal that put the game

almost out of reach, with the Bulldogs leading 24-17 with only three and a half minutes remaining in the game.

Fans on both sides of the field could not sit down during the final minutes of the game, as Baldwin marched 62 yards in 13 plays against the Bulldog defense before running into a brick wall of defenders – led by a crushing hit by Kavan Thomas -- just five yards away from the game-tying touchdown on fourth down, turning the ball over on downs with under 20 seconds left until the final buzzer.

Dangerously close to their own endzone, Taylor almost fumbled the ball away on first down before going into a victory formation and taking a knee to run out the clock.

With the 24-17 upset win over #3-seeded Baldwin, the #6-seeded Bulldogs will now advance to the Class 3A regional semi-finals to take on #2-seeded, undefeated (9-0) St. Joseph Academy in St. Augustine this Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Fifth-seeded Pensacola Catholic (6-5) upset #4-seeded Fort White 49-34 Friday night to advance to the other Class 3A Region 1 semifinal against #1-seeded Florida High (6-3) this Friday night.

| YARDSTICK | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Taylor Co. | Stats | Baldwin |
| 32/152/2 TD | Rushes/Yards/TD | 38/122/1 TD |
| 4/13/0 TD | Comp./Att./TD | 14/29/1 TD |
| 33 | Pass Yards | 135 |
| 0 | Interceptions | 2 |
| 185 | Total Offense | 257 |
| 20 | First Downs | 27 |
| 34 | Return Yards | 54 |
| 5/34 | Punts/Avg. | 4/33.5 |
| 1/1 | Field Goals | 1/1 |
| 1/0 | Fumbles/Lost | 3/1 |
| 14/-110 | Penalties/Yds | 6/-55 |

Upward Basketball sign-up continues through Thursday

It is once again that time of the year for the Upward Basketball program.

The local youth basketball program includes youth from kindergarten to eighth grade.

Player evaluations for all those who plan on

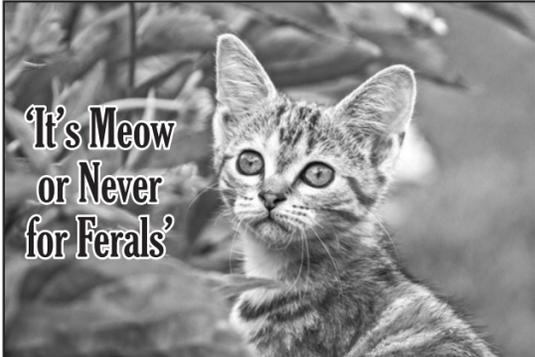
participating were held at the Forest Capital Park armory Monday and Tuesday and will continue Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m.

You can register online at <http://registration.upward.org/UPW67853> or stop by the First Baptist Church's

office between 9 a.m and 5 p.m Monday through Thursday.

Registration is \$50 per athlete with a deadline of Nov. 15 to sign up.

After Nov. 15, registration will be \$55 per child to participate.



'It's Meow or Never for Ferals'

Saturday bake sale will benefit lost kitties

"It's Meow or Never for Ferals" will host a Thanksgiving bake sale at Tractor Supply in Perry this Saturday, Nov. 17, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

"We will be selling homemade baked goods to raise money to spay, neuter and feed the lost kitties of Taylor County," organizer Gail Hartman said.

All proceeds will be spent directly on the cats of Taylor County.

"Please come and support our efforts to control the cat population in Taylor County," Hartman said.

Counting down to a 'MayPerry' Christmas

The Taylor County Historical Society's Countdown to Christmas continues with the annual Downtown Christmas Open House just weeks away - Friday, Dec. 7.

"Our theme this year will be a 'MayPerry Christmas,' highlighting Perry's small-town values in a tribute to the fictitious community that served as the setting for the popular 'Andy Griffith Show,'" volunteer J.T. Davis said.

Sheriff Wayne Padgett, aka "Sheriff Taylor" of Mayberry fame, and his gang will join volunteers in celebrating the season.

"Opie Look-a-Like" winner Brody Dean has also officially joined the gang and will lead the Santa's Little Helpers Christmas Parade.

Additional activities will include a Cake Walk, Live Nativity, Chili Supper, & Cookies with Santa, a downtown "passport" program where visitors will

be entered into a drawing for a grand prize, Milk Letters to Santa and much more.

Registration forms for arts and craft vendors are available at Perry Newspapers, 123 South Jefferson St.



Santa Claus told Taylor County Historical Society volunteers that he hopes everyone has a happy Thanksgiving, and he is looking forward to seeing everyone Friday, Dec. 7, at the Downtown Christmas Open House.

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VETERANS DAY

Honoring All Who Served



VETERANS DAY

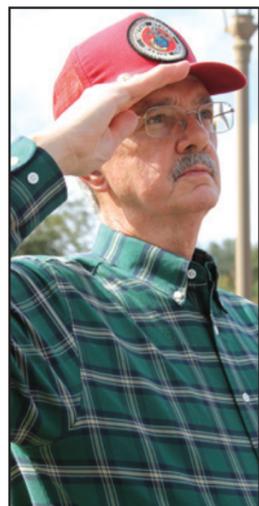
Honoring All Who Served



Local veterans, joined by friends and loved ones, gathered at Taylor County High School Friday morning to observe the 32nd annual JROTC Veterans Ceremony. (Above) Afterward, all veterans in attendance gathered for a photo. The cadet-driven program featured speeches from the winners of the "Why My Vote Matters" essay contest.



Members of the JROTC Bulldog Battalion saluted as the Colors were posted.



(Clockwise) Color Guard member C/SGT Joshua Langley at Friday's flag-raising ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. World War II veteran Henry Davis showed his respect for the flag. Hope Demps performed "America the Beautiful" during opening ceremonies at Friday's veterans luncheon.

Leanne Mixon Karstedt (left) presents her father's memorial flag to be raised over Veterans Memorial Park to C/CPT Alissa Lanier and C/MSG David Reischl. Harold Mixon was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

A veteran's salute, Ed Harvey.



C/SSG Madison Buzbee (left) and C/SGT Shyllynne Torres at Friday's flag-raising event.



Longtime JROTC instructor David Ammons (left) was the guest speaker for Friday's Veterans Day Luncheon held at Rosehead Park. He served 28 years of active duty with the U.S. Army and was the senior Army instructor for the TCHS JROTC here for 23 years.



VFW Post Commander Bill Crowder (right) presented cash prize awards to winners in the annual Veterans Day essay competition. AMVETS and the American Legion also donated cash prizes for the winners. Shown (left to right) are: Holly Wolferman, first place; Tailor Gillyard, second place; and Caleb Holmes, third place.



World War II veterans Henry Davis and Ralph Carlton (right) were among the dozens of guests who attended Friday's luncheon.

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PACEM DEFENSE/ALS is currently hiring for Operators. The operator will follow written and verbal instructions to perform hand assembly tasks, operate machinery, and perform material handling as required to manufacture munitions and related products. All open positions require candidates who are comfortable working with and around explosive material, firearms, machinery, and may require working in chemical suits. It also requires individuals who work well with others as a team. We offer an exceptional benefits package including; paid time off, a 401K program with company match and full health care benefits. Please visit www.employflorida.com for additional information on this position. Applications must be completed and submitted to AMTEC Less-Lethal Systems, Inc., 4700 Providence Road, Perry, FL 32347 no later than November 23rd, 2018. ALS is an Equal Opportunity Employer of Minorities, Females, Protected Veterans and Individuals. This position is subject to a background checks and drug screening. 11/9-11/21 (22*) PACEM

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION: Seeking an experienced and outgoing individual with excellent communication skills, interpersonal skills and sales experience to serve as administrative assistant in a high traffic office in Perry, FL. Must be familiar with social media marketing and be able to use Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Must be proactive, trustworthy and possess basic office skills, such as operating office equipment, answering phones, greeting guests, be organized and able to type. Duties include: coordination of calendar for office manager, scheduling meetings, managing multiple projects and providing general support. Must be a team player and able to work in a high stress environment. Requirements include: high school diploma or equivalent, at least three years of related experience, strong knowledge of MS Word, Excel, Publisher, Outlook, Power Point and data entry. Social media experience, exceptional customer service skills and the ability to lift at least 50 lbs are all a must. Send resume to: **ADMIN ASSISTANT POSITION PO BOX 350 PERRY, FL 32348.** TCCOC

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Advent Christian Village has immediate openings: LPNs & RNs at Good Samaritan Center skilled nursing facility.



Valid FL nursing license required.
To apply: Visit www.acvillage.net/jobs to download an application or visit the Personnel Office at 10680 Dowling Park Drive in Dowling Park to fill out an application. Call (386) 658-5592 to inquire about the application process.

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OPS Fish & Wildlife Technician

Agency: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
Location: Perry, FL
Job Category: Temporary OPS Position (average 35 - 40 hours per week). This is not a Career Service position and does not receive paid holidays or paid leave.
Salary: \$13.21/ hour
Last Date to Apply: November 21, 2018

Job Description: Assist with habitat management activities and the maintenance of facilities, equipment, and roads on 70,000+ acres of natural communities on the Big Bend Wildlife Management Area. Requires the safe and efficient operation of a variety of vehicles, heavy equipment, implements, and hand tools. Experience with prescribed burning, Class A CDL, and mechanical experience preferred.

How To Apply: Pick up an application packet at Big Bend Field Office, 663 Plantation Road, Perry, FL 32348

Shop Locally for Fall!

Steinhatchee



On Halloween night, the parking lot of the Steinhatchee Community Center was transformed into a spook-tacular wonderland.

According to Trunk or Treat event coordinator Anna King, 15 local volunteers dressed up in costumes and filled their car trunks with candy for the annual "Trunk or Treat" event.

From 6-8 p.m., 200 children and their families showed off their costumes in a parade before going trunk to trunk collecting candy.

"We were blessed to have a few businesses and county officials join us amongst the outstanding members of the Steinhatchee Community," King said.

"I started 'Trunk or Treat' three years ago on a whim, and it caught on like wildfire," King said. "Every year we have more participants and a wave of families that come parade through the community center."

"I think the event went great, and it's a great opportunity to support our local kids," King continued. "My goal for the event is to provide a safe, free and family-friendly environment. We look forward to next year and hope to have another great turn out."

Every volunteer went all-out decorating their trunks, competing to win the title of Scariest, Most Creative and People's Choice.

The Lytle family took home the title for "Most Creative" trunk with their "Mermaid Cove."

Libbi Patterson and Kristine Towers decorated their trunk after the famous movie "Beetlejuice" and won "Scariest" trunk.

Wendy Hunt representing the Steinhatchee Chamber of Commerce was chosen for the "People's Choice" award with a trunk decorated with traditional Halloween decorations, including jack-o-lanterns, ghosts and witches.



The Lytle family made a big splash with their trunk "Mermaid Cove" and won "Most Creative" trunk.



Libbi Patterson and Kristine Towers took home the title of "Scariest" trunk with their "Beetlejuice"-themed trunk.



Athena and Jason Hurtubise drew inspiration from the fall season with their trunk, "Fall in love with Jesus."



Rene Hoffman of Skullyz BBQ was ready to jump in the bath with her "Rub-a-dub" trunk.

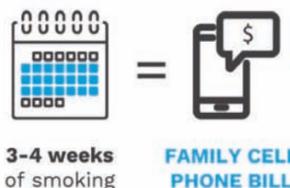
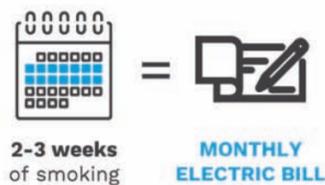


Jeremy and Anna King tamed two dinosaurs for their "Jurassic Park"-themed trunk.



Wendy Hunt and the Steinhatchee Chamber of Commerce kept it classic with their trunk, using traditional Halloween decorations like witches, jack-o-lanterns and spiders to win the "People's Choice" award.

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The annual loader competition was one of the fan-favorite events at the 63rd annual Florida Forest Festival.



The loader competition had 25 competitors this year. Lee Folsom placed first, followed by Wayne Hunt in second and Chad Schwab in third.

Folsom bested participants in loader contest

Lee Folsom bested a field of 25 participants to win the 2018 Florida Forest Festival Loader Competition held at Forest Capital Park on Saturday, Oct. 28.

Folsom stacked the five log segments in a winning time of 1:32.56 to unseat defending 2017 champion Wayne Hunt, who finished second this year with a time of 1:37.18.

Chad Schwab was a very close third place with a time of 1:38.20, followed by Jared Compton in fourth with a time of 1:47.03. Folsom took home the first-place prize of \$250, while Hunt cashed \$200, Schwab earned \$150 and Compton won \$100.

The companies who donated the use of their knuckleboom loaders

to be used in this year's competition included: Jason and Johnny Knight of Knight Equipment Co. in Whigham, Ga. (Barko loader), Harold Sellers of Tidewater Equipment in Thomasville, Ga. (Tigercat loader) and Jackie Winters of Beard Equipment Co. in Perry (John Deere loader).

According to Michele Curtis of The Forestry Company, Tater Padgett of Padgett Tree Service helped by cutting the blocks used in the competition. Ben and Will Tuten of HBT Logging organized getting the loaders and blocks donated, while Bill Bassett and Rachel Watts with Farm Credit (Monticello) and Al Alexander helped with scorekeeping.

Commission seeks master plan for future walking, bike trails throughout the county

More walking and bike trails could be in Taylor County's future, as the county commission is in the process of seeking proposals from firms to develop a "master mobility plan" for future pedestrian and bicycle trails.

The county recently received a \$36,000 planning grant from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to help develop the plan. The board agreed to apply for the grant in May.

"The master plan project has a great deal of support

from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Office of Greenways and Trails and Florida Trails Association," County Grants Director Melody Cox said at the board's Oct. 14 meeting.

"This project will assist in

the rerouting of the Florida National Scenic Trail along the Taylor County coastline and Steinhatchee becoming a designated "Trail Town," she said.

Bids for the technical assistance services will be opened at the commission's

Nov. 19 meeting.

According to the bid documents, part of the master plan will be addressing physical logistics of the pedestrian and bicycle facilities, including the impact on any environmentally sensitive areas, potential landscape management issues, the types of surfaces used (hard or soft surfaces), maintenance of the systems (both short and long-term) and any potential liability issues.

During discussion at this week's commission meeting, Cox said most of the proposed trails would be on state land.

The firm chosen to create the master plan will be tasked with identifying stakeholders, conducting a minimum of three public meetings or workshops, preparing maps, developing a list of existing facilities and proposed new ones and preparing a list of possible connections to other trail systems.

HELP WANTED

(Continued from page 11)

OPEN POSITIONS AT BIG TOP MANUFACTURING

VINYL FAB

Must be able to read a tape measure to 1/4th. This job requires heavy lifting, reading sketches, and working with machines. Perfect attendance. There are (2) positions available.

STEEL FAB

Must have high school diploma or equivalent, be able to read a tape measure to 1/16th, should be proficient in math. There is only one (1) position available.

Interested and qualified candidates must call at 850-584-7786 to make an appointment to apply for these positions.

Only applicants with scheduled appointments will be considered. Big Top Mfg. - 3255 North US 19 Perry, FL

Equal Opportunity Employer 11/9-12/5 BT

LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the Fictitious Name Act of Section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes, I hereby certify and acknowledge the following:

Fictitious Name to be registered: ALS Mailing address of the business:

LEGALS

2941 Fairview Park Dr., Suite 550 Falls Church, VA 22042

Name and address of owner: Pacem Defense, LLC FEIN No. if corp or LLC: 47-4546054

Florida Registration Number: M18000004912

It is the intention of the owner to register the above fictitious name which name is hereby advertised pursuant to the Fictitious Name Act and Chapter 865 of the Florida Statutes.

DATED this 7th day of November 2018.

Pacem Defense, LLC By: Richard E. Jesmonth Authorized Representative

LEGALS

Richard E. Jesmonth, Esquire P.O. Box 846 Pensacola, Florida 32591 850-912-9491 Attorney for Company

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING:

The District Board of Trustees of North Florida Community College will hold its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the NFCC Board Room, NFCC, 325 NW Turner Davis Dr., Madison, FL. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: NFCC, Office of the President, 325 NW Turner Davis Dr., Madison, FL 32340, 850-973-1618, or email gaylardc@nfcc.edu. For

LEGALS

disability-related accommodations, contact the NFCC Office of College Advancement, 850-973-1653 or news@nfcc.edu. NFCC is an equal access/equal opportunity employer.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that Wal-Mart Stores East, LP, 702 SW 8th St, Bentonville, AR 72716, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of Walmart #5172, with its principal place of business in the State of Florida in the County of Taylor, intends to file an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name with the Florida Department of State.

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Council seeking individuals for planning board

CITY Continued from page 3

said. "What is the cost?" Ketring asked.

"The dues are based on population, so for us it would be \$864 annually. From my experience, I would say you get a lot bang for that buck," Brown said. "If you participate, you get out of it what you put into it."

The league has offered to send a delegation to speak with the council, Brown added.

The council asked Brown to take the league up on its offer and arrange a

presentation.

Next on the agenda was discussion regarding an upcoming opening on the Planning & Zoning board with the retirement of member Ella Jane Freeman.

Council members were asked to return to the next meeting with a list of potential candidates to fill the volunteer position.

The agenda wrapped with the council being asked to appoint one of its own to serve on the Taylor County Development Authority (TCDA) board of directors.

Woodfaulk volunteered to serve, and was approved unanimously.

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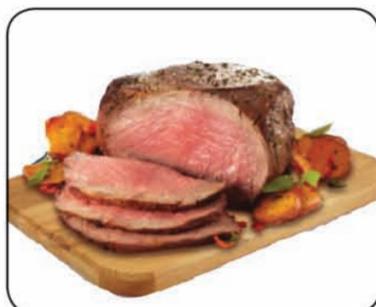
U.S.D.A. Inspected Fresh
Boneless Skinless Breast



U.S.D.A. Inspected Fresh
Pork Whole Boneless Loin
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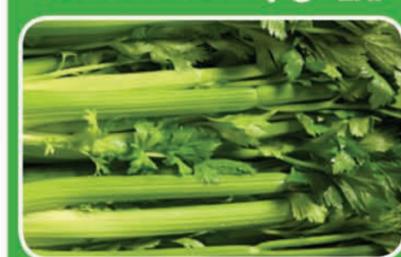
Heavy Western
Boneless Beef Ribeye Roast or Steaks
\$7.99 LB.



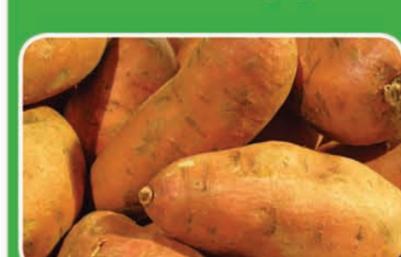
Heavy Western
Boneless Beef Bottom Round Roast
\$2.99 LB.



16 oz. pkg.
MINI CARROTS **49¢** EA.



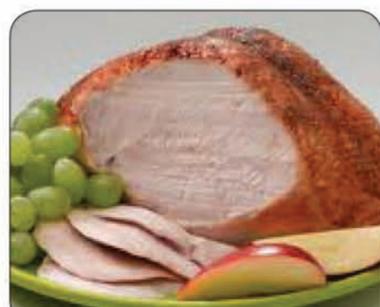
CELERY PKG **69¢** EA.



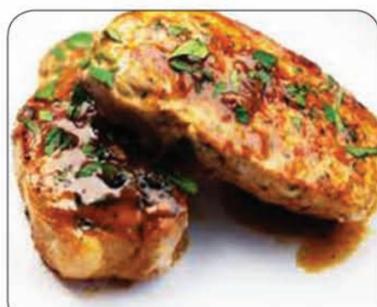
SWEET POTATOES **39¢** LB.



RED SEEDLESS GRAPES **89¢** LB.



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Boneless Pork Chops or Country Ribs
\$1.99 LB.



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Ginger Evan's 100% PUMPKIN
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29 oz. can



Ginger Evans CRESCENT ROLLS
\$1.19 ea.
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Coburn Farms CREAM CHEESE
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Mrs. Smith ASST. PIES
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37 oz. pkg.



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