

# Mayo Free Press

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Lafayette County, Florida

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PHOTOS: ALEXIS SPOEHR

The Easter Bunny with the Lafayette Activities Group.

## Mayo celebrates Easter Under the Oaks

BY ALEXIS SPOEHR

alexis.spoehr@gafnews.com

MAYO — The Lafayette Activities Group and the Town of Mayo held its third annual Easter Under the Oaks on Saturday at the Veteran's Memorial Park.

"We had a good turnout of about 40 children who came and met the Easter Bunny," Kelli Joyner said. "We love doing this for the community and it gives the kids something

to look forward to before Easter."

Easter music was played for the children to dance and sing along with. The Easter Bunny danced along with the children and LAG members.

Along with all the candy and music, there was hamburgers and hot dogs with chips and a drink available for purchase.

There were a few children who did not want to meet the Easter Bunny and even the promise of a

bag of goodies did not help.

There were two Easter Baskets with treats inside as raffle prizes for people to win. The group had pieces of paper with the names of the children and their parents. The first winner was Thomas Wood and the second was Michelle Williams.



Two children with the Easter Bunny.



The Easter Bunny handing out candy to a child.



Thomas Wood was the winner of the first Easter Basket.



Michelle Williams was the winner of the second Easter Basket.

## BOCC approves new equipment for elections office

BY ALEXIS SPOEHR

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MAYO — The Lafayette County Board of County Commissioners approved some technological improvements for the Supervisor of Elections office Monday night.

Supervisor of Elections Travis Hart asked the board for a new server and two new computers for about \$6,000 at the board's meeting.

Hart said the new equipment was needed to upgrade the system and keep everything safer than on the old system.

"I had a meltdown of the whole network in 2014 and I pieced together some of the equipment and got some help from other offices to make it work," Hart said. "They are hitting us pretty hard with all this cyber security, with all the threats that are out there. It is one good step in that direction."

"This will bring our office up to speed with everything and on elections night help run things better."

Jana Hart, the Lafayette County Extension

SEE BOCC, PAGE 2A

## Middle School FFA team places at state

MAYO — The Lafayette FFA Middle School Livestock Evaluation team once again placed at the state meet.

The team competed in the 2018 Florida FFA Middle School Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event on March 9 at the Florida Strawberry Festival in Plant City.

The CDE included 55 teams, with the La-

fayette team placing third. It marks the sixth straight top 10 finish.

The livestock evaluation CDE included a written exam covering breeds, body parts, wholesale cuts, six evaluation classes and two sets of questions from the selected evaluation classes.

The team members

SEE MIDDLE, PAGE 2A

## Free Press to offer more Suwannee Valley news

MAYO — For 130 years, the Mayo Free Press has served the residents of Lafayette County.

That is not changing. The Free Press will continue to be the news source for Lafayette County, including Mayo, Day and Hatch Bend.

Starting next week, though, Free Press readers will also notice more regional coverage from North Florida in the paper in order to better serve and inform those subscribers.

News doesn't stop at the county line and with staff also covering news and events in Suwannee

and Hamilton counties, it makes sense to provide more of that content to the readers in Lafayette County.

"The focus will remain on Mayo and Lafayette County," editor Jamie Wachter said. "But now there will be more from around the Suwannee Valley as well."

As part of the expanded regional coverage, the Free Press will also feature a combined regional North Florida sports section with news and notes from Lafayette High as well as Suwannee, Branford and Hamilton County.

## ★ ★ ELECTION 2018 ★ ★

### Barrington to run for BOCC

MAYO — I, Kevin Barrington, would like to announce my intent to run for Lafayette County Commissioner District 2.

I will qualify at the appropriate time.



Kevin Barrington

Look for special Easter pages, 15-16A



Sunday, April 1

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# United Way, community organizations seek to spread CPR knowledge

MAYO — Learn CPR and save lives.

United Way of Suwannee Valley is partnering with various organizations throughout Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette and Suwannee counties to provide CPR classes to local residents. The program is one of several initiatives the United Way Planning Committee elected to undertake using funds received through an anonymous grant. The Planning Committee determined to direct grant funding to support initiatives designed to address goals in the County Health Improvement Plans.

CPR Anytime is a self-directed, self-paced training program that provides participants with the core skills of adult hands-only CPR in 22 minutes. United Way purchased 113 CPR Anytime kits to be distributed among 20 different organizations within the four counties. Participating community organizations include senior service centers, county extension office 4-H programs, the Pregnancy Care Center, Suwannee Valley 4Cs Head Start Program and churches in each of the four

counties.

Each kit comes with a bilingual “watch-and-do” DVD, a personal inflatable CPR manikin, a skills reminder card, a replacement lung and manikin wipes. The kits are being used to educate members of the organizations who, in turn, will teach other organization participants, family members and friends in their communities.

According to the Florida Department of Health Health, “Billions of dollars are spent every year in the U.S. on medications that reduce the risk of heart disease — the No.1 killer in Florida. Heart disease accounts for three out of 10 deaths in Florida, and in 2014 there were 42,835 heart attack hospitalizations, or an average of 117 heart attack hospitalizations each day.”

The CPR Anytime initiative supports the American Heart Association goal to increase the number of individuals in the U.S. with skills needed to perform CPR. CPR Anytime is flexible in that it can be used by individuals at home or multiple people in a small group setting. It is innovative; the proven-effective, self-di-

rected “watch-and-do” format keeps people engaged in learning. It is effective, because kits are easy to share with family members and friends to increase the number of people who can perform CPR in an emergency.

CPR Anytime is for anyone who wants to learn basic CPR skills, choking relief and AED awareness and does not need a course completion card to meet a job requirement. A listing of those community partners which have already initiated their CPR Anytime program through their receipt of training and the training kits is available on the United Way of Suwannee Valley website at [www.unitedwsv.org](http://www.unitedwsv.org).

United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person through community impact and fundraising efforts utilizing volunteers on all levels to advance the common good by identifying unmet community needs and seeking to alleviate those needs through United Way of Suwannee Valley initiatives and the funding of local, affiliated health and human service agencies.



PHOTO: SUBMITTED

**Michelle Maddox, from the Suwannee Valley 4Cs; Rita Dopp, the executive director of the United Way of Suwannee Valley; and Trish Kline, an intern serving as the United Way health projects coordinator, look at one of the CPR Anytime kits. Suwannee Valley 4Cs will utilize the program in its facilities throughout the service area. Not pictured is Janie Richardson, the chair of United Way of Suwannee Valley Planning Committee.**

## NEW SIGN INSTALLED

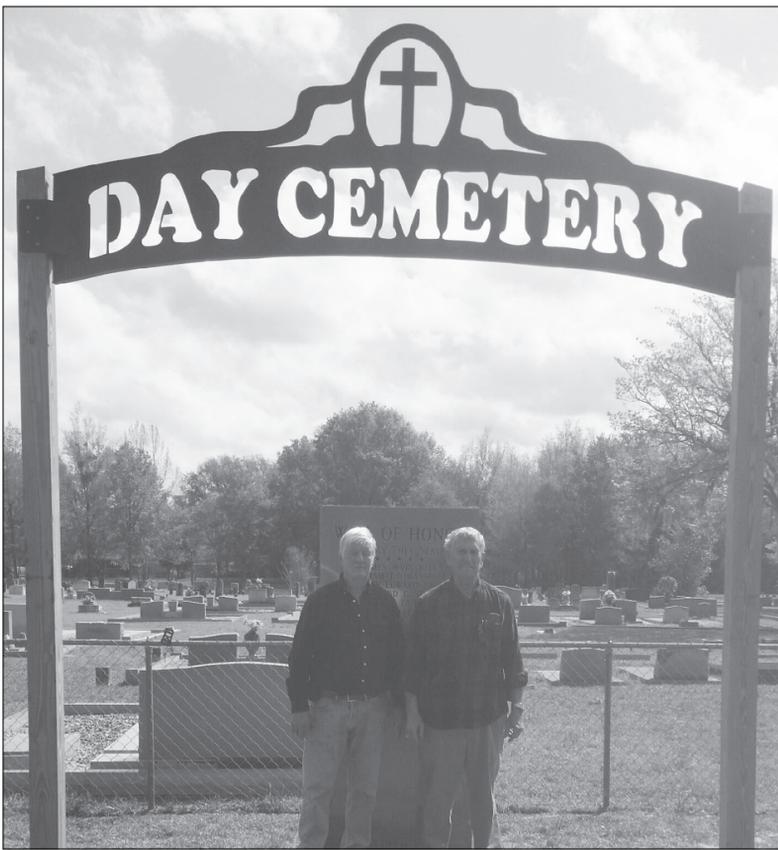


PHOTO: SUBMITTED

**A new sign was installed at the Day Cemetery in time for Easter sunrise service this Sunday. Brewer Lake Baptist Church will hold its sunrise service at 7 a.m. Marvin Buchanan and Charles Driver installed the sign.**

## Maze Runner trivia hour coming to Lafayette library

MAYO — The Lafayette County Public Library has released its events for April.

The Teen Blackout Poetry Workshop will be held April 17 at 3 p.m.

Teen Maze Runner Trivia Hour will be held Monday, April 23, at 3:30 p.m.

The library invites all the “gladers and cranks” to test their knowledge on the “Maze Runner” book series.

Zumba will be held every Monday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Story Time will be held every Wednesday at 9:30

a.m. Participants are asked to register.

Kids Craft Friday will be held every Friday at 3:30 p.m.

The library is located at 120 NE Crawford St., Mayo.

For more information, call 386-294-1021.

## BOCC

Continued From Page 1A

Office director, provided the board information about Elder Options and the 16 counties it helps by providing programs and help for the community. Elder Options has provided 367,661 home delivered meals, served 579,465 elders, 60 years and older, and SHINE Counselors provided 11,320 hours of volunteer service worth \$273,265.

Prior to the regular board meeting, the Board of Adjustments denied a Special Exception petition SE 18-01 by Julian and Carol Pearce to set up an animal shelter. The board

tabled the petition at its February meeting in order to get more information and provide a chance for the Pearce’s to attend.

The Pearce’s currently have a non-profit shelter in California, The Sanctuary at Soledad Goats, and are looking to expand to Florida, the board was told at the February meeting.

They have been rescuing abused, abandoned and neglected animals for years and have decided to create a location in North Florida, choosing Lafayette County.

The shelter was proposed to be located halfway between Branford and Mayo.

Commissioner Anthony Adams motioned to deny the petition due to the Pearce’s not providing additional information and

not being able to attend the meeting.

The adjustment board did approve a Variance petition V 18-02 for Jeffery Phillips to reduce side yard setbacks. The Variance petition was for Phillips to place electricity to his property by making a setback from 50 feet to 35 feet. He had originally bought the property for hunting and has now decided to retire on it with his wife. It will be just for the house to have electricity and not the whole 60 acres.

Following a public hearing, the board passed a road name change from SE C A Howell Drive to SE Howell Drive. The sign will be changed within 30 to 60 days.

## Middle

Continued From Page 1A

were Cooper Nemcovic, Savannah King, Seth Greaves and Jack Peterson. The top five teams were Trenton, Fort White, Lafayette, Marianna and Okeechobee.

**McCray advances to Ornamental Horticultural Demonstration finals**  
Hannah McCray compet-

ed in the 2018 Florida FFA District III Ornamental Horticultural Demonstrations in Branford on March 12, advancing to the state finals.

The purpose of the OH Demonstrations Career Development Event is to stimulate careful planning, thorough knowledge and the ability to explain, by work and action, the “how and why” of various horticulture practices.

McCray competed in the area of Artistic Arrange-

ment of Horticulture Crops and this is her second District OH Demonstration Championship. The demonstrations are limited to a maximum of 10 minutes and a minimum of seven minutes and at the conclusion of the demonstration judges may ask questions.

McCray will compete against the remaining 11 district champions at the 2018 Florida FFA OH Demonstrations Finals at the University of Florida on April 27.



**Savannah King, Cooper Nemcovic, Jack Peterson and Seth Greaves from the third place middle school Livestock Team.**

## Mayo Free Press

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**Editorial Policy:** The Mayo Free Press encourages readers to write letters to the editor expressing their opinion. All letters should be brief and to the point and those selected for publication (we reserved the right to accept or reject all letters) may be edited for space reasons. Letters must be signed and include the writer's address and phone number to be considered for publication. All letters become the property of **The Mayo Free Press**.



## School Lunch Menu

DATE	LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY	LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL
	BREAKFAST LUNCH	BREAKFAST LUNCH
4/2 Mon.	Entree #1 Honey Bun Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Honey Maid Cakes Diced Peas Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk	Entree #1 Hot Dog on a Bun served with Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Honey Maid Cakes Diced Peas Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk
4/3 Tues.	Entree #1 Breakfast Burrito Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Honey Maid Graham Crackers Applesauce Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk	Entree #1 Breakfast Burrito Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Honey Maid Graham Crackers Grape Juice Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk
4/4 Wed.	Entree #1 Cherry Fritter Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Bear Cinnamon Crackers Fruit Cocktail Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk	Entree #1 Chicken Strips served with Honey Barbecue Sauce Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Honey Maid Low Sodium Green Beans Homemade Rolls Diced Peas Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk
4/5 Thurs.	Entree #1 Egg & Cheese Sandwich Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Zoo Animal Crackers Diced Peas Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk	Entree #1 Rib-B-Q Sandwich Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Zoo Animal Crackers Apple Juice Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk
4/6 Fri.	Entree #1 Blueberry Pancake served with Syrup Entree #2 Assorted Cereal served with Scooby-Doo Crackers Pineapple Tabbouleh Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk	Entree #1 Popover Pizza Entree #2 Cheeseburger on a Bun served with Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickles, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup Carrots Fruit Cocktail Assorted Fresh Fruit Assorted Milk

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Lunch and Breakfast are served at Lafayette Elementary and High School each day. Varieties of Milk choices are available at both schools each day. Alternate High School menus are in parentheses. Menus are subject to change due to availability of goods.



**Hannah McCray, middle, won the District OH Demonstrations. Joining her are Tori Lyons and Chad Lyons.**



PHOTOS: SUBMITTED

Lafayette FBLA Members attended Florida State FBLA-PBL Leadership Conference.

# Lafayette FBLA has three win state

**BY GRAHAM JACKSON**  
LHS FBLA Reporter

MAYO — Lafayette High School's Future Business Leaders of America sent 18 members along with their advisor Toni Sherrell to the Florida FBLA-PBL State Leadership Conference and Convention in Orlando on March 16-19.

The theme "Dare to Dream" was echoed by guest speakers like Ben Glenn (The Chalkguy) and Patrick T. Grady. More than 4,500 students attended the conference and all were vying for placement spots to advance to the National FBLA Leadership

Conference in June. Representing the LHS FBLA chapter as State Voting Delegates were Davis Jackson as Middle Level Chapter President Delegate, along with Flor Santiago and Lydia Laguna for the High School Delegates.

District winners advancing to state competition finals were LHS FBLA members Blance Vences and Jackie Rameriz in Sports and Entertainment, Yomeida Hernandez in Business Calculations, Dawson Jackson in Client Services Help Desk and Graham Jackson and Leesa Price in Broadcast Journalism.

Advancing in the state



Florida FBLA-PBL state winners from Lafayette High School were Dawson Jackson in Client Service Help Desk, Graham Jackson and Leesa Price in Broadcast Journalism and Toni Sherrell, the LHS FBLA Advisor.



LHS FBLA Chapter State FBLA Voting Delegates were Davis Jackson, the Middle Level President of the Middle School Delegate; Flor Santiago and Lydia Laguna, the High School Delegates.

finals from 20 competitors in Round 1 and then eight competitors in Round 2 were Dawson Jackson placing first in the State FBLA Client Services Help Desk competition. Also advancing in the state finals were Graham Jackson and Leesa Price, who made it to the finals competition in the top five and were named first place champions in the State FBLA Broadcast Journalism competition. All three

LHS FBLA members competed live before judges and/or audiences.

Lafayette High School FBLA would like to thank all the community business leaders, school staff, community leaders, parents and students who have supported them throughout the year. The help provided by attending activities and fundraisers in which helped the students achieve their goal of attending the Florida FBLA State Lead-

ership Conference this year.

State winners Dawson, Graham and Price will represent Lafayette High School again at the National FBLA Leadership Conference in Baltimore at the end of June, where they will compete for national titles in their competitive events.

On April 16, Lafayette FBLA will hold its annual member banquet at 6 p.m.

# Chris Tyler Band, Terry Cole Band to perform in Music Hall

LIVE OAK — To close out March, the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park has a weekend planned of outdoors and country music.

Filling the music portion Friday and Saturday on stage in the Music Hall will be the Chris Tyler Band and the Terry Cole Band.

The Chris Tyler Band of Jacksonville will kick off the weekend Friday with great dancing and listening country music with a little bit of other musical genres thrown in. Longtime musician/band leader/singer Chris Tyler knows what the audience likes, and his band will bring it Friday.

On Saturday night, the Terry Cole Band of Central Florida will be in the house rocking the rafters with country, Southern rock and more great music genres. A longtime guest band at the SOSMP, Terry Cole is all about music and loves to rock the house.

Doors to the Music Hall open at 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday for dinner with music from 8 p.m. – midnight. Admission is free.

In addition to the music, people are invited to tour the 800-acre SOSMP located on the banks of the famous Suwannee River and can rent a golf cart, rent a cabin, bring their own RV or primitive camp. There is also a disc golf course, hiking, canoeing and homemade ice cream available.

To rent a cabin, a spot to park an RV/camper, primitive camp or just need additional info, please call the SOSMP at 386-364-1683, email spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musicliveshere.com. The SOSMP is located 4.5 miles south of Interstate 75 and 4.5 miles north of Interstate 10 at the beautiful Suwannee River off U.S. Highway 129 at 3076 95th Drive.



Terry Cole Band with Terry Cole, left, Dave Aronow and Scott Turner.

PHOTO: SOSMP

**THE FIRST AMENDMENT:**

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



# Opinion

## Bolton's beliefs are a recipe for diplomatic delusions

WASHINGTON — Because John Bolton is five things President Trump is not — intelligent, educated, principled, articulate and experienced — and because of Bolton's West Wing proximity to a president responsive to the most recent thought he has heard emanating from cable television or an employee, Bolton will soon be the second-most dangerous American. On April 9, he will be the first national security adviser who, upon taking up residence down the hall from the Oval Office, will be suggesting that the United States should seriously consider embarking on war crimes.

The first two charges against the major Nazi war criminals in the 1946 Nuremberg trials concerned waging aggressive war. Emboldened by the success, as he still sees it, of America's Iraq adventure that began 15 years ago this month, Bolton, for whom a trade war with many friends and foes is insufficiently stimulating, favors real wars against North Korea and Iran. Both have odious regimes, but neither can credibly be said to be threatening an imminent attack against America. Nevertheless, Bolton thinks bombing both might make the world safer. What could go wrong?

Much is made of the fact that Bolton is implacably hostile to strongman Vladimir Putin, whom the U.S. president, a weak person's idea of a strong person, admires. And of the fact that the president has re-

**GEORGE WILL**

peatedly execrated the invasion of Iraq that Bolton advocated. So, today among the uneducated, furrowed brows express puzzlement: How can the president square his convictions with Bolton's? Let's say this one more time: Trump. Has. No. Convictions.

Even this scatterbrain's Swiss cheese-style tariffs are too sloppy to reflect forethought. He has sentiments, and visceral reactions to which he is attentive. But to speak of, say, a sincere sofa is to commit what philosophers call a "category mistake" — sofas are incapable of sincerity — and to speak of this president's convictions (or plans, or policies) about this or that is a category mistake.

It is frequently said that the decision to invade Iraq was the worst U.S. foreign policy decision since Vietnam. Actually, it was worse than Vietnam, and the worst in American history, for two reasons. One is that so far we probably have paid no more than 20 percent of the eventual costs of that decision that enhanced Iran's ascendancy. The other reason is that America gradually waded waist deep into Vietnam without a crossing-the-Rubicon moment — a single clear, dispositive decision. In contrast, the protracted preparation for invading Iraq was deliberative and methodical. It is not true that, as the current president and the virulent left insist, President George W. Bush and his senior advisers "lied" about Iraq possessing weapons of mass destruction. They simply got things wrong, which conservatives, especially, understand was an event not without precedent in the annals of

**SEE BOLTON'S, PAGE 5A**

JIM DAMASKE | TAMPA BAY TIMES

**Paul Tash, chairman and CEO of Times Publishing Company, stands next to rolls of newsprint at the Tampa Bay Times printing plant. Each roll weighs about a ton, and the Times uses 17,000 tons a year.**

## Tariffs on paper will hurt us, and our readers

You have read about the new tariffs on imported aluminum and steel, and on products from China. Now it seems our own business — newspaper printing and publishing — will take some casualties in a trade war over paper.

This month, the U.S. government piled huge tariffs onto the imports of newsprint from Canada, including those from our biggest supplier. As a result, the price will jump from \$600 to \$800 for every ton, and we use about 17,000 tons every year.

That increase is more than 30 percent, and would add more than \$3 million to the Tampa Bay Times' annual newsprint bill.

You can multiply our example across the American newspaper industry, which is already facing strong headwinds. Historically, advertising provided the lion's share of newspaper revenue, but in just 10 years, the recession and other market forces have cut those ad revenues by more than half.

Newspapers remain vital civic assets — nobody else will report on your community with the depth and breadth of a newspaper — but publishing them is not an easy business, and these tariffs will make it even harder. This is a kick in the teeth.

These tariffs will hurt our readers, because they create pressure to raise our prices, and they will force publishers to re-examine every other expense. Maybe we will drop some puzzles and comics — no big deal, unless we cut one that is your favorite.

These tariffs will also hurt our employees, because payroll is the only expense that is bigger than newsprint. To help offset the extra expense of paper, publishers will eliminate jobs. Make no mistake: These tariffs will cause layoffs across American newspapers, including this one.

These tariffs started with a single American newsprint manufacturer who complained that Canadian companies were "dumping" their product in the U.S. at below-market prices. In the current political climate, that complaint found a friendly ear in Washington.

Other American manufacturers opposed these tariffs because they know they will damage newspapers and reduce the demand for newsprint. But now that the tariffs are taking effect, the American companies are hiking their own prices, so we have little room to shop around.

Just about every American newspaper and all our trade associations are joining the fight to challenge these tariffs, but even if we succeed, it will take months to reverse this terrible decision. Meanwhile, prices will go up. Jobs will be lost. Important stories will go uncovered.

If you believe that newspapers do essential work, we would be grateful for your support. Please let your members of Congress and senators know that these reckless tariffs must be repealed — not just because they hurt newspapers, but because they will damage the customers and communities we serve.

Thank you for hearing us out.

*Paul C. Tash is the chairman and CEO of the Times Publishing Company.*

**EASTER BLESSINGS**

## You never know whom you might meet in Suwannee County

There were so many exciting things going on in our area this past weekend. The county fair was finishing up, there was a beer and wine festival in Columbia County, and the Spring Reunion festival was taking place at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park. One of my favorite things about going to a festival at the Spirit of the Suwannee is the interesting people you meet from all around the state and the country. This week I will be telling you about some of the interesting people I met. I will only be using first names in case some of these people told their boss or their spouse they were somewhere else this weekend.

I met many people from other areas who were coming to an event in Suwannee for the first time. Stan and Katie, from Jacksonville, were first timers at the SOS Park. Their friend Adam has been inviting them to come join him for years, and they finally decided to try it. They were in a very festive mood because it was Katie's birthday. Adam said he loved the laid-back atmosphere, and Katie enjoyed seeing so many families with kids in attendance. I got the feeling they would be coming back for other events.

On the other end of the experience spectrum, was Bean from Tampa. He has been coming to the SOS Park since 1999. He loved the venue so much he got married at the Magnolia Festival in 2000. I asked Bean what he likes so much about the Spirit of the Suwannee he said, "everything." He said he has enjoyed sharing his passion for art with others at the many

**ERIC ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ**

kids' art camps he has attended over the years.

Jim and Linda, from West Virginia, had an amazing plan for this weekend. They trailered their Harleys down and planned to ride all day and listen to music all night. The couple was blessed with a perfect day for riding on Saturday. I drove down to the south end of the county to jump in the river, and the sky was blue, the air was warm, and everything looked so green from our recent rains. Near Luraville, I talked to Mike from the Jacksonville area. He is in the process of having a house built on the Suwannee River. He is looking forward to the slower pace of life in our county compared to the east coast of Florida.

I met Eric who is originally from New Hampshire, but now lives in Perry. He loves coming to the SOS Park because he gets to be surrounded by people from diverse backgrounds. He feels that many of these people would never meet if it were not for the Spirit of the Suwannee. It is hard to disagree with him. I had not met a banjo player until this past Saturday night. George from the band Grandpa's Cough Medicine said he loves it here because of the people who love all types of music. George had his banjo with him and he played us all a few songs before saying goodbye.

One of the greatest things about our country is that you are free to live, work, and play wherever you would like. I am so glad that so many people are choosing Suwannee County as their weekend destination. Be kind to our weekend visitors; some of them will end up being our neighbors.

*Eric lives in Suwannee County and is a public school educator. He is an independent contractor. You can reach him at miamistyle8@gmail.com.*

## Mayo Free Press

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### To Submit Letters

The *Mayo Free Press* welcomes letters from readers on matters of public interest, with the following guidelines:

- Letters must contain your full name, address, daytime phone number and city of residence. Only your full name and city of residence will be published with the letter.
- Letters must reflect issues of current interest to the general public and be concise.
- Management has the right to refuse any material it believes does not meet standards of publication.

You can email letters to  
[nf.editorial@gaffnews.com](mailto:nf.editorial@gaffnews.com)  
fax them to 386-364-5578

or mail them to:  
**Letters to the Editor**  
**The Mayo Free Press**

P.O. Box 370, Live Oak, FL 32064

# Healthy Living

## The MOST important healthy eating tip to follow

Clean Eating. Zone. Paleo. South Beach Diet. Should you eat potatoes? What about bread? Is it OK to eat fruit?

There is one thing though that all of these programs have in common and probably the most important healthy eating tip you need to know.

Healthy or clean eating can be confusing for many of us. Our doctors tell us to eat healthy. Magazines tell us clean eating is the way to go. But what exactly do those terms mean? Before you decide to give up, let's clear up some of the confusion with one simple but important tip. Ready? Eat less sugar.

You expect to find sugar in candy or cookies but sugar, especially processed sugar such as white sugar, fructose, glucose, is in foods you would never expect. The first time I looked at the ingredients in salad dressing and read sugar, I was speechless. It's in ketchup, cereals, and bread which makes sugar public enemy No. 1. Did you know there is a chocolate chip energy bar marketed as organic that actually has 2 grams more sugar than a Snickers candy bar?

Sugar is not all bad though. In it's natural state in fruit or vegetables, it help our bodies function. It is the added sugar you have to watch out for. Not only can sugar lead to major weight gain, it shoots your insulin levels up which can lead to other serious diseases. Do I have your attention now?

It's time to get control of that sweet tooth once and for all. These two simple tips will help you cut back on sugar:

- Cook for yourself. When you cook

your own meals, you know EXACTLY what ingredients you are using. If you don't cook from scratch, take your time and read the labels of everything you put into your shopping cart.

- Start small. Make one small change before making another. For example, instead of cutting out your weekly dessert, eat half. Love soda and sweet tea? Have some but only drink half a glass instead of a full glass. As you do this your body will become accustomed to less sugar. Take it nice and slow. The best thing for me when I cut out sugar was my energy level increased. I no longer experience that mid-afternoon slump that used to have me making a bee line for the candy machine. Now I stay on track by simply asking myself this one question: Do I really need this?

Remember you CAN do it! Have a wonderful week.

*To your health,  
Denise*

*Denise Sanger is a certified fitness instructor, Silver Sneakers Instructor, AMPD Kettlebell Instructor, licensed Zumba, STRONG by Zumba instructor, gentle flow yoga, teaches morning classes at Country Strong Health & Fitness. Denise may be reached at DeniseSanger.com, 386-292-6105 or denisesanger@gmail.com.*



**DENISE SANGER**

# Religion

## Heart Matters

### Empty tomb signifies God's full love

**"He is not here; he has risen!"**  
(John 24:6)

This week we celebrate Good Friday and Easter Sunday! I hope you take time to be reminded of all the events leading up to the empty tomb found on that first Easter morning! Go back to the Gospels and read the accounts carefully. It is remarkable for an empty tomb to signify the potential for fullness, but it does exactly that!

In John 10:10, Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." Jesus conveys to us the necessity of being filled by His overwhelming love and forgiveness, so that we can overcome the natural desire to live to please only ourselves. While it promises great results, living for ourselves will leave us searching, dry, and empty every single time.

We live in a culture that champions the paradox of being empty to the point of excess! We can't eat enough, drink enough, spend enough, sleep enough, exercise enough, work enough, take enough medicine, or do enough drugs. All excess is rooted in emptiness. Emptiness screams to be filled, and there is never enough! Enough is enough!

Emptiness also impacts our relationships by draining the people around us! Living on empty turns us into emotional beggars holding out our cup for the people in our lives to make daily deposits to make us feel good about ourselves. The problem is that even those who love us

the most can't keep our never-ending cup filled. Because they are human, they will let us down, and we will fall hard if our self-worth is tied to their opinions and care for us.

The 'fullness' that Jesus offers consists of His forgiveness for our mistakes, His grace for our lack and His purpose for our lives. Bring your cup before Him and He promises to fill it with a never-ending spring of living water! We have worth in Christ that is not measured by what we own, who we know, what we look like or what we can accomplish. We can rest in His fullness knowing that the price has been paid, His life for ours. And to receive it, all we have to do is ask...because your Heart Matters!

*Happy Easter!  
Angie*

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



**ANGIE LAND**

Doctrinal views expressed on our Religion pages are those of the individual authors and not necessarily of *The Mayo Free Press*.

## Bolton's

Continued From Page 4A

government.  
For the first time since World War II, when the mobilization of U.S. industrial might propelled this nation to the top rank among world powers, the American president is no longer the world's most powerful person. The president of China is, partly because of the U.S. president's abandonment of the Trans-Pacific Partnership without an alternative trade policy. Power is the ability to achieve intended effects. Randomly smashing crockery does not count. The current president resembles Winston Churchill's description of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles — "the only bull I know who carries his china closet with him."

Like the Obama administration, whose Iran policy he robustly ridicules, Bolton seems to believe that America has the power to determine who can and cannot acquire nuclear weapons. Pakistan, which had a per capita income of \$470 when it acquired nuclear weapons 20 years ago (China's per capita

income was \$85.50 when it acquired them in 1964), demonstrated that almost any nation determined to become a nuclear power can do so.

Bolton's belief in the U.S. power to make the world behave and eat its broccoli reflects what has been called "narcissistic policy disorder" — the belief that whatever happens in the world happens because of something the United States did or did not do. This is a recipe for diplomatic delusions and military overreaching.

Speaking of delusions, one died last week — the

belief that this president could be safely cocooned within layers of adult supervision. Bolton's predecessor, H.R. McMaster, wrote a brilliant book ("Dereliction of Duty") on the failure of officials, particularly military leaders, who knew better but did not resist the stumble into the Vietnam disaster. McMaster is being replaced because he would have done his duty regarding the impulses of the most dangerous American.

*George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com.*

## WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

"For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time."

— 1 Timothy 2:5-6 NIV

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Your Guide To Local Houses Of Worship

**AIRLINE BAPTIST CHURCH** "Helping Families Follow Jesus"  
 Pastor.....Preston Gainey  
 Youth Pastor.....Derek Garland  
 Children's Pastor.....Chad Little  
 Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Fellowship Supper.....6:00 p.m.  
 AWANA & Bible Study..... 6:30 p.m.  
 Located Four Miles East of Mayo on Highway 27  
[www.airlinechurch.com](http://www.airlinechurch.com) 44887-1

**MAYO BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 (386)294-1020 • 916 N. Fletcher Ave.  
 Rick James, Pastor  
 Music Director Dale Croft  
 Sunday.....  
 Sunday School..... 9:45am  
 Worship Service..... 11:00am  
 Evening Service..... 6:00pm  
 Wednesday.....  
 Supper.....6:00pm  
 Children/Youth Program.....6:30pm  
 Prayer Meeting.....7:00pm  
[www.mayobaptistchurch.com](http://www.mayobaptistchurch.com) 44891-1

**LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTER**  
 "Freedom is Here"  
 Mayo, Fl. 32066 • 386-294-3089  
[www.lccmayo.org](http://www.lccmayo.org)  
 Morning Worship.....Sun. 10:30 a.m.  
 Kids of the King.....Sun. 10:30 a.m.  
 Prayer Meeting.....Mon. 7:00 p.m.  
 Bible Study.....Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
 Army of Fire Youth.....Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
 Pastor: **Ronnie Sadler** 44893-1

**ALTON CHURCH OF GOD**..... 294-3133  
 Pastor.....Rev. Tim Hamm  
 Youth Pastor.....Jeremy Davis  
 Music Director.....Holly Braswell  
 Children's Pastor.....Ryan & Tiffany Perry  
 Sunday School..... 9:30 - 10:30am  
 Worship Service/K.I.D.S. Church... 10:30am - 12:00pm  
 Evening Worship..... 6:00pm  
 Family Night Youth club Church ....7:00pm Wednesday  
 State Road 27 44888-1

**MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH...** 294-2365  
 Pastor: **Bruce Branche**  
 Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.  
 Worship Service..... 11:00 a.m.  
 Discipleship Training..... 5:00 p.m.  
 Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.  
 Prayer Meeting - Wednesday..... 7:00 p.m.  
 Team Kids..... 7:00 p.m.  
 Located on County Road 405  
 "For If Ye Forgive Men Their Tresspasses Your Heavenly Father Will Also Forgive You" Matt. 6:14 44892-1

**NEW HARMONY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 160th St. (Go south on 51 to 160th, turn right)  
 Pastor: Dalas Monismith  
 Phone (386) 776-1806  
 SUNDAY  
 Sunday Worship..... 9:30 am  
 Bible Study..... 10:30 am  
 WEDNESDAY  
 Women's Bible Study..... 10:00 am 44895-1

**HATCHBEND APOSTOLIC CHURCH**  
 935-2806  
 Pastor.....Rev. Steve Boyd  
 Sunday School..... 10:00 a.m.  
 Wednesday Service..... 7:30 p.m.  
 Located 4 miles South on Hwy. 349,  
 then left on CR 138, follow signs. 44889-1

**FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD**.....294-1811  
 Sunday School..... 10:00 a.m.  
 Worship Service..... 10:45 a.m.  
 Kid's Church..... 11:00 a.m.  
 Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.  
 Youth Impact.....:00 p.m.  
 Adult Bible Study..... 7:00 p.m.  
 Pastor: **Rev. Kenny Sullivan**  
 Youth Pastor: **Daryl Fletcher**  
 Located at 294 SE Mill Street, Mayo "Renewing Hope and Building Lives" 44890-1

**PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH (SBC)**  
 294-1306  
 Pastor.....Jimmy Corbin  
 Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.  
 Worship Service..... 11:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Service..... 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Prayer Meeting..... 7:00 p.m.  
 Seven miles West of Mayo,  
 left on CR 534 then right on 350A  
 ---Jesus Saves--- 44886-1

**TO ALL TRADESMEN & SERVICE PROVIDERS:**  
 Haven't you always heard the old saying, "Big things come in small packages?"  
 Well, this is the idea behind the new Tri-County Service Directory coming soon to the Suwannee Democrat, The Jasper News & the Mayo Free Press!  
 Call 386-362-1734 Extension 102 for more information on how to place a small ad (that's the "small package") to appear in all 3 of our publications which means the opportunity for your ad to be seen by approximately 4,600 potential customers (and that's the "big things"). 57194-1

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
**COME AS YOU ARE!**

# Lafayette 4-H, FFA members win big at Livestock Show

MAYO — Forty-seven Lafayette 4-H and FFA members participated in the 2018 Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale last week at the Suwannee County Fairgrounds in Live Oak.

The swine and steer projects are designed to allow 4-H and FFA members to learn real-life skills in the area of husbandry skills, animal care, responsibility, record-keeping, feed management, communication, professionalism, animal-health, competition and character. The youth program has been a traditional staple of our community for more than 50 years.

The market hogs are evaluated based on certain criteria such as muscle, leanness, structure and overall design. Fat steers are evaluated on muscle, finish (fat), structure and overall design. Showmanship competition includes the partnership between the exhibitor and the animal, in how well they present their steer/pig to the judge.

The swine judge was Will Taylor of Illinois and the steer judge was Darren Rehberg of Grady County, Georgia.

### Swine Showmanships

Members from the Lafayette 4-H and FFA placed in Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship on March 19. The Junior Showmanship winner was Noah Lamb with Kelbey Grac Lyons placing second and Carra Clark finishing third in Junior Showmanship.

Emily Lyons was the winner of the Intermediate Showmanship.

Mark Crum was the winner of the Senior Showmanship and third place in Senior Showmanship went to Krista Lyons.

### Swine Show

The Swine Show took place March 20 with several Lafayette County 4-H and FFA members placing first.

Crum placed as Reserve Grand Champion and the Division 1 Champion was Jaxson Beach.

Crum, Beach, Breelan Ferrell, Molly Hamlin and Emily Lyons won first place as well as Lafayette FFA Chapter Pig, exhibited by Hayden Hingson.

### Steer Show

The Steer Show took place on March 21 with Cooper Nemcovic winning Grand Champion. Reserve Grand Champion was won by Luke Adams. The Senior Steer Showmanship winner was Blake Adams and second place was Chase Buchanan.

The Intermediate Steer Showmanship winner was Nemcovic. First-place steer winners were Nemcovic, Brian Keen, Buchanan and Luke Adams.

### Sale/Awards Ceremony

The Sale/Award Ceremony was March 22 with Miley McCray taking second place in Junior Swine Record-book and Clark taking third place in Junior Swine Recordbook.

The Lafayette 4-H and Lafayette FFA members appreciate the continued support of the countless businesses and individuals who either bid, purchase or added-on toward their livestock projects.

The Lafayette FFA Chapter appreciates the following families and businesses for contributing to the chapter animals at the Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale. The chapter also appreciates Sarah Hart and Sheriff Brian Lamb for leading both groups. In addition, the chapter appreciates Singletary Trucking for buying the Lafayette FFA Chapter Pig at the 2018 North Florida Livestock Show and Sale in Madison.

Contributors of the Chapter pig include: Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Bass, C&C Insurance of North Florida, Darabi & Associates, Mr. and Mrs. Darren Driver, Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Koon, Starling Farms, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ward, Hamilton Auto Supply, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Shaw, J&J Gas Services, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Witt, Land Dairy, Lyons Family Farm, Ms. Marion McCray, Mayo Auto Parts, Mr. and Mrs. Micah Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Mikie Hart, Putnal's Premium Pine Straw, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Celedon, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Harris, Roundtree Moore Ford and Chevrolet, S&K Barrington Farms, Sheriff and Mrs. Brian Lamb, Suwannee Sky Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Travis Walker and Triple L Cattle.

Contributors of the Chapter steer includes: Anderson Columbia, Rutherford and Associates, Darabi & Associates, Commissioner Ernest Jones, Commissioner Lisa Walker, Commissioner Thomas Pridgeon, Commissioner Lance Lamb, Commissioner Anthony Adams, Tax Collector Chuck Hewett, Property Appraiser Tim Walker, Supervisor of Elections Travis Hart, Judge Darren Jackson, Sheriff Brian Lamb, Clerk of Court Steve Land, Superintendent Robbie Edwards, McMillan Law Office, Triple L Cattle and Deberry.



PHOTOS: SUBMITTED

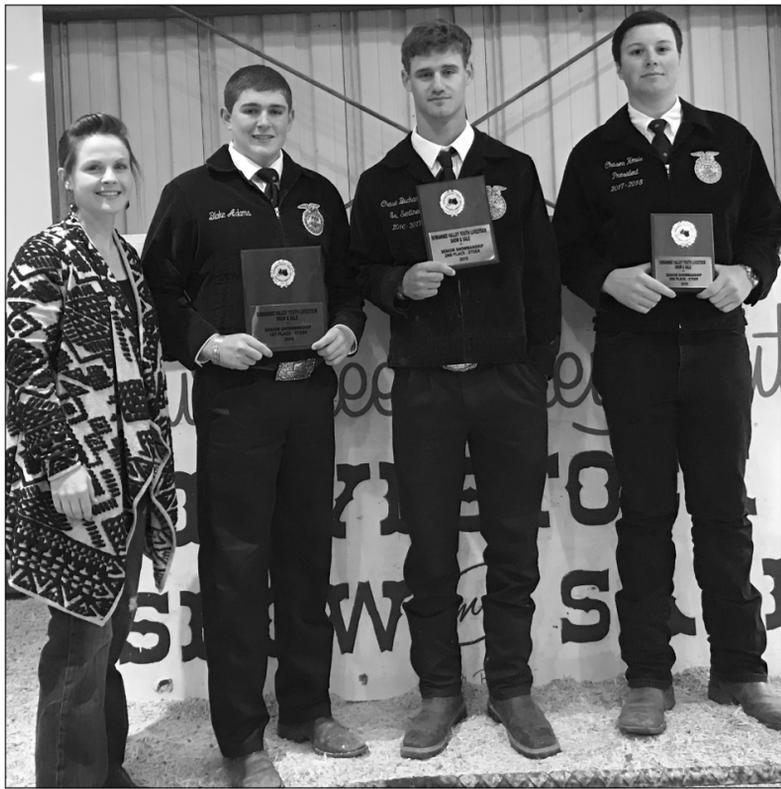
Chapter Steer exhibited by Jaxson Beach with FFA members on sale day.



Luke Adams with Judge Darren Rehberg.



Cooper Nemcovic and family with Judge Darren Rehberg.



Tori Lyons, Blake Adams, Chase Buchanan and Chason Howle.



Judge Will Taylor, Emily Lyons, Brayden Elliott, Brock Daniel.



Judge Will Taylor, Noah Lamb, Kelbey Grace Lyons and Carra Clark.



Chad Lyons, Mark Crum, Judge Will Taylor and Tori Lyons.



Judge Will Taylor, Mark Crum, Chaney and Krista Lyons.



Lafayette Elementary School fifth graders learned about archery during a 'Overcoming Adversity' program.



PHOTOS: SUBMITTED  
Joylyn Mora was the top girl archer in the fifth grade at LES, while Landon Dunn was the top boy archer.

## LES fifth graders learn archery

MAYO — Lafayette Elementary School fifth-graders have spent this spring learning about "Overcoming Adversity."

The past few weeks, the fifth-grade students have learned about archery during physical education class in a program called "Overcoming Adversity." The program is based on the concepts of the 4-H archery program.

Deputy Jacquelyn Knight and Sergeant Geoff Condy with the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office facilitated the program along with

PE instructor Jerod Brock. Cody and Knight are both certified 4-H archery instructors. Brock is an experienced archery hunter and adds extensive knowledge of that aspect to the program.

The program emphasizes sportsmanship, ethics and proper archery etiquette.

Each student that participates begins with safety rules and training. They also learn a little bit of the history of archery as well as Olympic archery.

Learning more about archery, the

students also practiced shooting in small groups for a week at a time. At the end of each week, the students were scored and the top boy and girl archer from each class as well as a "wild card" boy and girl (the next highest overall score) advanced to a final round.

During that final, the students competed for the fifth grade's top archer.

Joylyn Mora was the top girl archer in the fifth grade at LES, while Landon Dunn was the top boy archer.

## Perks of moving to North Florida

**DOWLING PARK** — Florida has long been known as one of the best retirement destinations in the United States. Studies reveal that Florida is actually the No. 1 state in the country for retirement living, with around 55,000 Americans age 55 and older moving to Florida every year. In fact, 19 percent of the population in Florida is above age 65. For those who seek a warm climate, affordable housing and a lower cost of living — plus plenty of social opportunities and fun area attractions — retirement in Florida is the perfect choice.

North Florida: The perfect choice for seniors

North Florida in particular is a great region for seniors. It is comprised of

the top half of the state, including the Panhandle. Cities like Live Oak in Suwannee County offer small-town charm in a quiet atmosphere with plenty of things to do and see. What are the main reasons seniors chose Florida for retirement living? Here are just a few:

Lower cost of living and taxes. A lower cost of living entices many seniors to the state of Florida, where there's also no state income tax. Retirement income and Social Security benefits are not taxed, either, nor are there estate or inheritance taxes.

An escape from cold winters. The year-round warmth makes moving to Florida highly appealing to seniors who have grown tired of frigid winters. This

means that most outdoor activities and social opportunities can continue throughout the year, and you can leave your puffy winter coat buried deep in the closet — or donate it to your friends in the northern states! A light jacket is enough for most winter days.

A variety of activities for everyone. The temperate climate makes it easy to enjoy a variety of activities, both outdoors and indoors. Get some enjoyable exercise by playing golf or tennis, go hiking or canoeing along any of the many beautiful rivers, visit a local museum or theater, or enjoy a night of music, dance or drama (perhaps as part of Advent Christian Village's Live! at Dowling Park artist se-

ries). There's truly something for every lifestyle in North Florida.

Plenty of quality health care. You'll find plenty of area hospitals and medical facilities to support your health care needs. In fact, Copeland Clinic, located at Advent Christian Village, is a public health clinic open to men and women of all ages living in North Florida. Not only does the staff at Copeland Clinic provide quality medical care, but they also team up with specialized care centers, doctors and specialists in various fields to provide the highest level of care possible.

Community living for a carefree lifestyle. Downsizing offers definite benefits to older adults, and moving to a North Florida



retirement community provides a true way to successfully age in place. Retirees will be relieved of many of the burdens of home maintenance, enjoy a higher level of independence, and delight in plenty of options to stay engaged physically, mentally and socially.

Advent Christian Village: Senior living in

North Florida

Those thinking about moving to Florida should consider the lifestyle offered at Advent Christian Village. The North Florida senior living community offers a compassionate continuum of care with a hometown feel.

Contact the ACV to schedule a tour or to request more information.

**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](http://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.



**ADVENT CHRISTIAN VILLAGE**  
AT DOWLING PARK



Full-time employment includes paid time off, competitive compensation package, access to on-site day care and fitness facility, and the opportunity to join a service-oriented Christian organization. Great working environment! EOE/DFW. Criminal background verification required.

**"I love working at Good Samaritan Center because I love making a difference in the residents' lives." — Reba, CNA, who brings her dog to work to visit Mrs. M., who misses her old Bichon Frise.**

**ACV is currently hiring CNAs**

like Reba. We are looking for CNAs who are compassionate, honest, hard working, respectful, helpful and trustworthy.

If those qualities describe you, come work at Advent Christian Village, and you can make a difference, too.

Full- and part-time schedules available. Valid FL CNA certification required.

To apply: Visit [www.acvillage.net/jobs](http://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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# Sports

## Hamlin commits to Santa Fe volleyball

MAYO — Lafayette High School's Sarah Hamlin has committed to play volleyball at Santa Fe College.

Hamlin, a junior, has been a standout player for LHS the past three years. She has one more season left with the Hornets.



LHS junior Sarah Hamlin committed to play volleyball at Santa Fe.



PHOTO: MIKE JONES

Alex Scarborough celebrates alongside his parents at Wednesday's signing.

## Scarborough signs with Illinois College

BY MIKE JONES  
michael.jones@gafnews.com

LIVE OAK — Former Lafayette High quarterback Alex Scarborough is continuing his education and football career at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois. He signed with the Blueboys on March 21 at Suwannee Middle School.

"I took a visit there about a month ago. It was a really good vibe from there. I loved the people, the place, coaches," Scarborough said. "It's a blessing. Without my family and everyone I'm around, I couldn't do this."

In two varsity seasons — first at Lafayette in 2016 and then at Hamilton County in 2017 — Scarborough completed 128 of 233 passes (57

percent) for 1,821 yards. He threw 14 touchdown passes to eight interceptions.

Scarborough helped the Hornets achieve an 8-3 record in his junior year, which included a memorable last-second win against Jefferson County. Down by five points with less than two minutes remaining in the game, he took Lafayette down the field in a no-huddle offense and threw the game-winning touchdown with less than a second left.

"I've been coaching for 26 years, and we had one of the single greatest moments ever at a time when we really needed it," Lafayette coach Joey Pearson said of the win. "Jefferson County game — 93 yards in a minute and a half and we score on the last

play. That was a great night."

Also at the signing was Seth Stebbins, who coached Scarborough at HCHS.

"Alex and I have a pretty long history," said Stebbins, who also coached Scarborough while they were at Suwannee. "I always have a good time with Alex. We talk about living the dream. That's the good thing about today — he's going to get to continue to play football, get an education, grow more as a young man by getting away from home a little bit and being on his own."

Illinois College has an enrollment of around 1,000 students and competes at the Division III level. The football team had a 5-5 record in 2017.

## Swafford named Patriot League Player of the Week

Lafayette High graduate Lacey Swafford was named the Patriot League Player of the Week for the week of March 12-18.

Swafford, a sophomore infielder at Army West Point, hit .524 in six games for the Black Knights, with a .619

slugging percentage and a .565 on-base percentage.

She tallied five straight multi-hit performances against Manhattan, Quinipiac, Butler, Buffalo and Chattanooga. Swafford scored five runs and hit two doubles.



PHOTO: JACK HOWDESHELL

LHS grad Lacey Swafford was recently named Patriot League Player of the Week after an outstanding six-game stretch where she tallied 11 hits.

## Purcell lifts Lafayette to win against Madison County

BY MIKE JONES  
michael.jones@gafnews.com

MAYO — The last time Lafayette and Madison County met on the baseball diamond was 10 months ago when the Cowboys ended the Hornets' season in a regional final that was decided by one run.

LHS hosted Madison County on Thursday, March 22 with revenge on its mind. The Hornets got some redemption, edging the Cowboys 3-2 behind a solid pitching performance from Chi Chi Purcell.

Purcell got the win, giving up two runs in six innings while striking out six. He also led Lafayette on offense, extending his hitting streak to five games with two doubles while scoring one run.

"Since last year, that loss killed us," Purcell said

of the regional final. "We were all hungry for this game.

"I know all those guys from travel ball. I faced that whole lineup two years ago in JV. We wanted it so bad."

A clutch two-out hit from Austin Severance gave Lafayette the lead, and momentum, in the bottom of the second inning. Severance drove in Purcell and Caleb Land (2-3, double, RBI) with a bloop that found grass in right-center field to put the

Hornets ahead 2-1.

Purcell took over from there, keeping a potent Madison County (3-7) offense at bay. His biggest moment on the mound came in the fifth inning. With LHS clinging to a 3-2 lead, Madison County had a runner on third with one out. Purcell struck out Dustin Bass, walked Dilan Lawson and then struck out Logan Lepper to get out of the jam.

After throwing 94 pitches in six innings, Purcell gave way to Dylan Mock,

who came in to pitch the final inning. Mock retired three straight hitters to get the save.

For LHS (4-4) coach Tim Hanson, it was a good way to start district play.

"This was a good win for us," Hanson said. "To me, that's (Madison County) the team to beat. Hamilton is always right there, but Madison is pretty dog-gone good."

**UP NEXT:** Lafayette hosts Hamilton County today at 7 p.m.

								R	H	E
Madison County	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	5	1
Lafayette	0	2	1	0	0	0	-	3	7	1

Richardson — 1-3, 1 run  
Mock — 1-2, BB  
Land — 2-3, double, RBI, 1 run  
Purcell — 2-3, two doubles, run

Severance — 1-3, 2 RBIs  
Pitching  
Purcell — 6 IP, 5 hits, 2 runs, 6 k's  
Mock — 1 IP, 0 hits, 1 k



PHOTO: MIKE JONES

Chi Chi Purcell threw six strong innings to get the win against Madison County.

# Sports

## LHS hosts four-team track meet

The LHS boys placed third out of four teams while the girls were fourth.

Individual winners for Lafayette were:  
 1600m boys - Dakota Hilton, 5:04  
 Triple Jump girls - Jasmine Lewis, 32' .5"  
 Long Jump girls - Lewis, 14' 10"



Eighth-grader Garrison Beach took third in the 110 hurdles.



James Gay competes in the long jump. He finished third in the triple jump and sixth in long jump.



Kelley Howell takes the baton from Blanca Vences in the 4x800 relay. The LHS girls finished second in that a event.

## HOW TO PROMOTE HEALTHY KIDNEYS

Staying hydrated while avoiding over-hydration is one way for men and women to protect their kidneys.

Kidney disease is a widespread issue made all the more disconcerting by the fact that many people are unaware they have it. According to the National Kidney Foundation, 26 million American adults have kidney disease, and most don't know it.

Healthy kidneys are something many people take for granted. But those who want to do everything they can to keep their kidneys healthy can consider the following tips, courtesy of the Cleveland Clinic.

- Stay hydrated, but avoid over-hydration. Many people are familiar with the benefits of drinking water each day, and adequate hydration definitely promotes healthy kidneys. But over-hydrating has not been proven to enhance kidney function. The Cleveland Clinic recommends adults drink between four and six glasses of water per day.
- Exercise. Regular exercise benefits various parts of the human body, including the kidneys. High blood pressure and diabetes are two of the biggest risk factors for kidney disease, and regular exercise can reduce a person's risk of both conditions. However, overexertion can strain the kidneys, so adults who exercise, especially novices who need to improve



Staying hydrated while avoiding overhydration is one way for men and women to protect their kidneys.

their conditioning, should avoid going too hard at the gym.

• Speak with a physician before taking vitamin supplements or herbal remedies. Vitamin supplements and herbal remedies have become very popular in the 21st century, but excessive supplementation can harm the kidneys. Discuss any supplements or herbals remedies with a physician before taking them.

- Quit smoking. Just as exercise benefits the body in myriad ways, smoking harms the body in myriad ways. Smoking decreases the blood flow in the kidneys, decreasing their ability to function at optimal capacity. Smoking also increases a person's risk of high blood pressure and cancer of the kidneys.
- Eat healthy. A healthy diet decreases a person's risk for high blood pressure and diabetes. Adhering to a healthy diet and controlling portion sizes can help control weight and blood pressure and contribute to healthy kidneys as well.
- Get screened. Adults who have been diagnosed with high blood pressure or diabetes should make sure their physicians screen for kidney dysfunction during routine appointments.

Learn more about kidney disease at [www.kidney.org](http://www.kidney.org).

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# Community Calendar

## Community Calendar

# MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 <small>Daylight Saving Time Begins</small>	12	13	14	15	16	17 <small>St. Patrick's Day</small>
18	19	20 <small>Spring Begins</small>	21	22	23	24
25 <small>Palm Sunday</small>	26	27	28	29	30 <small>Passover Begins at Sundown</small>	31

### Share Your Blanche Stories

We are looking for people to share their or their family stories and pictures about the Blanche Hotel. We hope to include former employees, guests, event attendees and businesses that were located in the Blanche Building. The interviews will be videotaped and the photos scanned. All participants will receive a free eBook version of the book, "The Blanche A History" when it is published in the fall. Check out our website: <http://TheBlancheAHistory.websandblogsforwriters.com> scheduled a time at the Columbia Co. Public Library on Mon. or Tues. from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in March or April.

### March 30, 31 & April 1 Revival Services

Peace Baptist Church will be hosting its revival services on March 30, 31 and April 1. The Evangelist will be Bro. Jack Yarbrough. The church is located at 7794 S. U.S. Hwy. 27 in Branford. Services on March 30 and 31 begin at 6:30 p.m., on April 1, services begin at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call 386-935-4681.

### March 31 Walk For Christ

The annual Walk For Christ will be held on March 31 beginning at 10 a.m. The walk will start and end at Paul Langford Stadium. The walk will be a brief 30 minute walk. Surrounding counties may participate by walking, driving a golf cart or even pulling children in wagons. Families are encouraged to join the event. No donations of any kind will be accepted or asked for. For more information, contact Bud Smith at 386-208-5182.

### March 31 Easter for Kids

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church will be hosting an Easter for Kids celebration that includes bible stories, singing, crafts and more on March 31. The celebration will last from 10-11:30 a.m. Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at 9989 CR 136 in Live Oak.

### April 1 Easter Celebration

Christ Central in Suwannee County announces the start of two Sunday morning services on April 1. Their two Sunday morning services are a permanent addition, with the times being at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. They invite the community to join them for their Easter celebration. The church is located at 15445 U.S. Hwy 129 in McAlpin. For more information, call 396-208-1345, [ccml.org](http://ccml.org) or on Facebook.

### April 1 Easter Sunrise Service

Branford Area Inter Church Ministries will be hosting a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at Hatch Park in the community building, following the Sunrise Service. The community is invited to attend, however guests are asked to dine in.

### April 1 Easter Breakfast

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church will be hosting an Easter breakfast on April 1, beginning at 8:30 a.m. In addition to the breakfast, bible study and Sunday school will be held at 9:30 a.m., and Sunday worship will be held at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 9989 CR 136 in Live Oak.

### April 4 Francis Gary Powers, Jr. Presentation and Book Signing

6 p.m.  
Francis Gary Power, Jr., international lecturer on the Cold War and son of Francis Gary Powers, the U2 pilot shot down over Russia in 1960, will speak on the spy plane incident. He recently published a book Letters from a Soviet Prison: the personal journal and correspondence of CIA U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers. Copies of this book will be available for purchase and signing. Suwannee River Regional Library 386-362-2317

### April 7 Yard Sale/Car Wash

Mt. Olive Baptist Church youth will be hosting their annual yard sale and car wash on Saturday, April 7 from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge building in downtown Wellborn on CR 137. A chicken and rice dinner will also be available starting at 11 a.m. This is a fundraiser to help the youth go to summer camp. Guests are welcome to get their car washed for a donation, shop the yard sale and stay for lunch. Mt. Olive Baptist Church thanks the community for their support. For pricing information, contact Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

### April 7 Spring Fling, yard and bake sale

The Live Oak Garden Club will be hosting a spring fling on April 7 from 8 a.m. until noon. The spring fling will be held at their clubhouse between Shands Hospital and the Coliseum. In addition to the plant sale, there will be a yard and bake sale with plant and craft vendors. A "Hibachi Highway" food truck will be present so guests may buy a snack or stay for lunch.

### April 10 "Iron Sharpens Iron" event

The all-men's event, "Iron Sharpens Iron," Proverbs 27:17 will be held on April 10, with former FSU coach Bobby Bowden sharing a word to the men and boys of how God can change your life in many ways. Doors open at 6 p.m. A love offering will be received. The event is free to attend. For more information, contact the Live Oak Church of God.

### April 14 Alligator Lake Spring Festival

The Alligator Lake Spring Festival will be held Saturday, April 14 at Alligator Lake Park in Lake City from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Enjoy a free community festival celebrating nature. Bird walks led by experts start at 8 a.m. on the Florida Birding Trail. Walking workshops highlight butterflies, native plants and bird habitats. Featuring a Full Flight Raptor Program, with live owls, falcons and hawks by Accipiter Enterprises™. Vendors and exhibitors offer nature and garden related items, and native plants. Many free activities will be offered for children, music, food and drinks will be available. [www.fouriversaudubon.org](http://www.fouriversaudubon.org)

### April 14 60th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee Gala

The North Florida Community College Foundation has an elegant night of dinner, dancing, entertainment and reminiscing planned for its 60th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee Gala (student scholarship fundraiser) on Saturday, April 14. For more information on sponsorship opportunities, contact the NFCC Foundation at 850-973-9414 or [foundation@nfcc.edu](mailto:foundation@nfcc.edu).

[edu<mailto:foundation@nfcc.edu>](mailto:foundation@nfcc.edu). To make seating and table reservations: (850) 973-9414 or [www.ticketsource.us/nfcc](http://www.ticketsource.us/nfcc).

### April 20 John McEuen and The String Wizards to Perform

The NFCC Artist Series presents John McEuen and The String Wizards on Friday, April 20 at 7 p.m. at Van H. Priest Auditorium. Join Grammy-award winning host John McEuen (founding member of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band), with his banjo, guitar, fiddle and mandolin, and The String Wizards on an incredible journey interwoven with music, stories and memories of the iconic 'Circle' album including Dirt Band favorites and hot bluegrass. Tickets: (850) 973-1653 or [www.ticketsource.us/nfcc](http://www.ticketsource.us/nfcc).

### April 21 Annual Fitness Run

NFCC's annual Fitness Run is set for April 21 in conjunction with the Madison County Florida Down Home Days festival. 5-K Run/Walk begins at 8 a.m. One-mile Fun Run/Walk begins at 9 a.m. Proceeds from this event will support Relay for Life. Register at [www.nfcc.edu/fitness-run](http://www.nfcc.edu/fitness-run) <<https://www.nfcc.edu/fitness-run/index>> or contact Tyler Coody at (850) 973-1639.

### April 26 Hamilton County Brotherhood meeting

The Hamilton County Brotherhood will meet at First Baptist Church in Jasper on April 26 at 7 p.m. Bring a covered dish and enjoy a meal and message. First Baptist Church is located at 207 2nd St NE in Jasper.

### April 27 & 28 The Curious Savage Performance at NFCC

The NFCC Sentinel Upstage Players (Community Theatre) presents The Curious Savage on Friday & Saturday, April 27 & 28 at 7 p.m. at Van H. Priest Auditorium. In this comedic production, the eccentric Mrs. Savage is left 10 million dollars by her late husband and wants to make the best use of it. Her wish is to use the money to help others realize their dreams, but her grown stepchildren will do anything to keep her from squandering away "their" money. With the help of Mrs. Savage's new friends, she leads the stepchildren on a merry chase, and learns the true meaning of family in the process. Tickets: (850) 973-1653 or [www.ticketsource.us/nfcc](http://www.ticketsource.us/nfcc).

### July 4 Talent and vendors needed

The Fourth of July committee in Branford is in need of volunteers and vendors for the Fourth of July celebration this year. Those interested may call Peggy at 386-365-3700, or search the Facebook page at Branford Florida River Reunion.

## Monthly Meetings

### Men's Community-wide Church Fellowship and Supper

The Live Oak Church of God invites the community to join them for their dinner on the third Monday night of each month for their Men's Community Wide Church Fellowship and Supper at 7 p.m. Each month, there will be a guest speaker. For more information, call Johnnie Philman Men's Ministry at 386-842-5494 or Pastor Wes Tanksley at 386-362-2483.

### History of Suwannee County

Presented by County Historian Eric Musgrove  
Jo Kennon Public Library  
10655 Dowling Park Dr.  
Live Oak, FL 32064  
1st Thursday of the month, 12-1 p.m.  
386-658-2670

### McAlpin Community Club meeting

The McAlpin Community Club meetings are held on the second Monday every month at 9981 170th Terrace in McAlpin. A covered dish dinner is served at 6 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7 p.m. Find them on Facebook by searching 'McAlpin Community Club.' For more information, contact Susan Fennell at 386-688-1267 or [s.fennell@windstream.net](mailto:s.fennell@windstream.net).

### Seed Library and Gardening Workshop

Presented by Master Gardener Rhonda Lepper  
Jo Kennon Public Library  
10655 Dowling Park Dr.  
Live Oak, FL 32064  
1st Thursday of the month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.  
386-658-2670

### Recipe Swap

Jo Kennon Public Library  
10655 Dowling Park Dr.  
Live Oak, FL 32064  
2nd Thursday of the month, 1-2 p.m.  
Bring in a favorite recipe or dish, meet other foodies and exchange ideas. Call

386-658-2670 for featured recipe of the month.

### Florida Native Plant Society

The Sparkleberry Chapter meets on the second Tuesday of the month at Hatch Park Community Center, 403 S.E. Craven Street in Branford, presenting a variety of educational programs concerning our Florida native plants, the birds, bees and other wildlife that visit our plants, their place in our landscapes, and the contributions they make to our Florida environment. Meetings are always open to the public. More at [www.sparkleberry.fnpschapters.org](http://www.sparkleberry.fnpschapters.org), or call 407-319-2488 or 386-364-9309.

### Rock Painting

Jo Kennon Public Library  
10655 Dowling Park Dr.  
Live Oak, FL 32064  
3rd Tuesday of the month, 6-7 p.m.  
Paint rocks and visit with other rock star artists. All supplies are provided.  
386-658-2670

### EAA monthly pancake breakfast

The EAA Chapter 797 hosts a pancake breakfast every third Saturday of the month from 8:30-10 a.m. in the EAA building at Suwannee County Airport. The EAA building is located at 13302 80th Terr. in Live Oak. For more information, contact 817-308-9752.

### Armchair Travels

Presented by Don and Joanne Mott  
Jo Kennon Public Library  
10655 Dowling Park Dr.  
Live Oak, FL 32064  
3rd Friday of the month, 10-11 a.m.  
Travel around the country and learn about exciting new places to visit.

### Dementia Support Group

Location: Good Samaritan Center - Private Dining Room  
10676 Marvin Jones Blvd.  
Dowling Park, Florida  
When: the fourth Tuesday of each month  
Time: 10 a.m.  
This is for anyone who is a caregiver for someone who is suffering with Dementia or Alzheimers. There is no charge for this support group.  
You do not have to have a loved one residing in the Good Samaritan Center to attend this meeting.  
For more information please feel free to contact Ginger Calhoun at 386-658-5594.

### Book Club for Adults

Jo Kennon Public Library  
10655 Dowling Park Dr.  
Live Oak, FL 32064  
Last Friday of the month, 10-11 a.m.  
Join us to discuss our latest read.  
386-658-2670

### Suwannee Valley Branch of the NAACP meeting

The Suwannee Valley Branch of the NAACP's regular monthly meeting will be at New Bethel Baptist Church located at 205 4th St in Jasper from 7 p.m. every third Monday. Meetings will begin after May 22, 2017.

### SREC, Inc. Senior Center monthly events

The SREC, Inc. Senior Center, located at 1509 Martin Luther King Dr. SW in Jasper has monthly birthday parties the third Friday of every month at noon, as well as monthly karaoke the fourth Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Barbara Daniels at 386-792-1136. Events are subject to change.

### Mom 2 Mom

The community is invited to Mom 2 Mom on the fourth Thursday of the month from 1-2 p.m. at the Lafayette Three Rivers Library. Get together with other parents. Door prizes and goodies will be provided. Call Healthy Start at 386-294-1321.  
Estas invitada a Mom 2 Mom, un evento que se celebró el cuarto Jueves de cada mes la 1 p.m. hasta la cas 2 p.m. en la Biblioteca de Lafayette. Reunirse con otras mamás. Se propocionarán premios y regalos. Llame a Healthy Start al 386-294-1321.

### All-You-Can-Eat Wellborn Blueberry Pancake Breakfast

The All-You-Can-Eat Wellborn Blueberry Pancake Breakfast will be held the first Saturday of each month from 7:30-10 a.m. All new menu items including blueberry pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, grits, bacon, orange juice and coffee.  
Located at the Wellborn Community Association Building 1340 8th Ave. Wellborn, FL. For pricing and other information, call 386-867-1761 or visit us online on Facebook or [www.wellborncommunityassociation.com](http://www.wellborncommunityassociation.com). Come join us for great food and help benefit the Wellborn community.

# Community Calendar

Continued From Page 11A

## Taylor County Beekeeping Club meeting

Taylor County Beekeeping Club meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Taylor County IFAS center: 203 Forest Park Dr, Perry, Fla. 32348 [www.facebook.com/tcbeeclub](http://www.facebook.com/tcbeeclub) [tacobeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:tacobeekeepers@gmail.com)

## WoodmenLife monthly member meeting, bring a dish

WoodmenLife monthly member meeting is held on the first of every month. Located at 1339 SR 47 in Lake City. RSVP with your local WoodmanLife representative Kristen Hunt at 386-688-7942.

## "Singspiration" at Suwannee Church of the Nazarene

Every 5th Sunday, the church will host a "Singspiration"—a night where members of the congregation sing, read poems, share testimonies, etc. Want to participate? Visit the church, or call at 386-397-2309, to be added to the list. The more participation, the longer it goes. Afterwards, there will be snacks and refreshments in the fellowship hall. The church is located at 18763 SE CR 137 in White Springs, FL 32096

## The Florida Gateway Bee Club meeting

The Florida Gateway Bee Club meets at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the Suwannee Valley Agriculture Center located at 8202 CR 417, Live Oak. Professional and hobby beekeepers are welcome, as well as anyone with an interest in learning about honeybees.

## San Juan Mission Catholic Church public Rosary

The community is invited to join San Juan Mission Catholic Church, 304 SE Plant Ave, Branford, for the public Rosary on the first Saturday of every month at 9 a.m. The community will pray for religious freedom, traditional moral standards and freedom of conscience.

## The Suwannee Chapter, Florida Trail Association meetings

The Suwannee Chapter, Florida Trail Association holds its monthly meetings on the second Monday, 7-9 p.m. at the Suwannee River Water Management District, 9225 CR 49, Live Oak, corner of US 90 and CR 49, 2 miles east of Live Oak. Programs and activities available, and public is welcome. For more information, call 386-776-1920 or visit [Suwannee.FloridaTrail.org](http://Suwannee.FloridaTrail.org).

## Disabled American Veterans Chapter 126, Suwannee Memorial

Meets the first Tuesday of each month at the hall in John Hale Park, 215 East Duval St., Live Oak. Disabled veterans and their spouses are encouraged to attend and join.

## Suwannee Republican Executive Committee

Meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., Live Oak City Hall 101 White Ave SE Contact Sherri Ortega 386-330-2736 for more information. [www.suwanneegop.com](http://www.suwanneegop.com)

## Suwannee County Republican Executive Committee

Live Oak City Hall, 101 White Ave SE, Live Oak Meets first Thursday, 7 p.m. [www.suwanneegop.com](http://www.suwanneegop.com)

## Suwannee Valley 500 Club

Third Saturday of each month, Suwannee Valley 500 Club will meet at 1 p.m. at Thunder Alley, located at 1605 S. Ohio Ave., Live Oak. 386-364-7778.

## Clothes Closet open donations

The Jasper First Methodist Church is accepting donations of clean and gently used items of clothing for children, women and men to be offered in the monthly Clothes Closet. The Clothes Closet is open to everyone on the fourth Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Christmas and Thanksgiving months the schedule is subject to change). All items are offered free of charge. For more information call 386-397-2316.

\*The Clothes Closet will be closed due to the Christmas holiday on December 16.

## Suwannee County Historical Commission

The Suwannee County Historical Commission meets on the third Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m. at the Suwannee County Historical Museum (old Freight Depot) on Ohio Avenue in Live Oak. Meetings are open to the public.

## Public rosary - first Friday

Join St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church for the public rosary every first Friday

of the month at 3 p.m. The church is located at 928 Howard St West. Contact Sheri Ortega at 386-364-1108 or Paul Schmitz at 386-362-5710 for more information.

## MOAA-Military Officers Association of America

The Suwannee River Valley Chapter of MOAA meets monthly (September through June) in Lake City. All active duty, retired, and former military officers of all services, including Reserve and National Guard, and spouses/guests are welcome. For information and reservations call Mo Becnel (386)755-0756 or Steve Casto at (386)497-2986. The Suwannee River Valley Chapter, founded in 1990, is one of over 400 MOAA chapters around the world.

## Suwannee County Riding Club Bob Holmes Arena, Live Oak

We have roping events on the second and fourth Fridays of the month. Sign ups at 7 p.m. and rides begin at 8 p.m. Speed events are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. Sign ups begin at 6 p.m. and rides begin at 7 p.m. We ride from the fourth weekend of January until November with the exception of March where we have no rides. If you have any questions contact Brittney Smith at 386-688-1482.

## Recipe Swap

Suwannee River Regional Library 1848 Ohio Ave. S, Live Oak 1st Tuesday of the month, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Bring in a favorite recipe or dish, meet other foodies, and exchange ideas. Call 386-362-2317 for Featured Recipe of the Month

## Christian Singles

Meet every other Saturday at 5 p.m. Call for more information: 386-623-5810, 386-288-0961, 386-438-3394.

## Branford Camera Club

Hatch Park Community Center 403 SE Craven St. Branford Meets 3rd Thursday with an occasional exception 386-935-2044 or 386-590-6339

## Critter Corner

Suwannee County Animal Shelter 11150 144th St., McAlpin, Fla. (approx. 8 miles South off Hwy 129). If you are missing a pet or would love to adopt a pet, please come see us. Animals can be viewed Monday-Friday 9-1 and Saturday 9-12. Volunteers and transporters are desperately needed; Tues.-Sat., 9-9:30 a.m., see Ms. Norma. Spay/Neuter 386-208-0072

## Suwannee County Seniors Free Breakfast and Lunch

Suwannee River Economic Council's Senior Center 1171 Nobles Ferry Road NW, Live Oak. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Breakfast- 8:30 a.m./Lunch- 11:30 a.m. (make reservation for lunch by 9:30 a.m.) Bingo: (Wednesdays) 10 a.m. Meeting/Service: (Fridays) 10a.m. 386-362-1164

## First Baptist Church of Live Oak Clothes Closet

515 SW 5th Street, 1st and 3rd Thursday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (The Old Red Barn)

## Suwannee Valley Branch NAACP-Unit #5137

PO Box 6105, Live Oak, FL 32064 President: Alonzo Philmore Triumph The Church & Kingdom of God in Christ, 410 Taylor Ave. SW off of 7th St. 1st Monday each month, 7 p.m. Email: [a1101st@comcast.net](mailto:a1101st@comcast.net) 386-205-9132

## American Legion Post 107

10726 142nd St., Live Oak Off of Hwy 129 S, post is 1 mile on the right. Meets 1st Thursday at 12 p.m. 386-362-5987

## Social Sewing Club

Center Ave., off of 7th St. 2nd and 4th Tuesday For more information: 386-362-4062

## Live Oak Garden Club

1300 11th St. SW, Live Oak 3rd Friday of each month, 11 a.m. [liveoakfloridagardenclub.com](http://liveoakfloridagardenclub.com) 386-364-4189

## 'Stars Widow Group'

Antioch Baptist Church 5203 CR 795, Live Oak, FL 4th Monday, 10:30 a.m. 386-362-3101

## Suwannee Amateur Radio Club

1st Tuesday, social at 6:30 p.m., regular meeting at 7 p.m. North of I10 & US Hwy 129, Live Oak. Call for exact location and directions. [www.suwanneearc.org](http://www.suwanneearc.org) 386-249-3616

## Live Oak Art Guild

Suwannee River Regional Library 1848 Ohio Ave. S, Live Oak Meets 1st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Judith Adams-386-776-2675

## Suwannee Democratic Executive Committee

Live Oak City Hall 101 White Ave. SE, Live Oak Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m.

## Suwannee County Bassmasters

Poole Realty Inc 127 E. Howard St., Live Oak Meets 1st Tuesday, 7 p.m. 386-688-0978 or 386-590-2885

## Save the Cats of Live Oak

Help needed at the shelter with feeding and cleaning Monday through Sundays. Help is also needed within the city limits with feeding several cat colonies Monday through Sundays. Items always needed are food, litter and resalable items for the thrift store located at 217 W. Howard St. downtown. For more information, contact 386-364-1006 or 407-748-0396.

## The Arc North Florida

Recycle with us We recycle cardboard, name brand ink cartridges, laser toners, working cell phones w/charger, digital cameras, GPS, MP3, and laptops. 386-362-7143 ext. 0

## Book Club for Adults

Suwannee River Regional Library 1848 Ohio Ave. S, Live Oak Meets 4th Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. Join us to discuss our latest read! 386-362-2317

## Lunch & Learn – History of Suwannee County

Presented by County Historian, Eric Musgrove Suwannee River Regional Library 1848 Ohio Ave. S, Live Oak Meets 2nd Thursday of each month from 12-1 p.m. Bring your lunch & learn about our historic county! 386-362-2317

## Weekly Meetings

### Savvy Caregiver Training at Suwannee Regional Library

Savvy Caregiver is a free, seven-session training program designed for caregivers who serve family members and friends with any form of dementia (i.e. Alzheimer's). Training begins Wednesday, March 7. It will be held at the Suwannee River Regional Library, 1848 S. Ohio Ave., in Live Oak. Sessions are from 10 a.m. until noon. Space is limited to the first 15 who register. For information, or to register contact Johnnie Jones III at 352-692-5277 or by email at [jonesj@agingresources.org](mailto:jonesj@agingresources.org). Pre-registration is required.

### Bridge Club seeking players

Monday Bridge Club meets every Monday at 5:30 p.m. at a local restaurant in Live Oak. Club needs players. Contact Diana at 904-254-8923 for details.

### Grace Lutheran Church hosting educational prayer classes

Would you like to learn more of Jesus? Do you have questions about the Christian faith? Are you going through a difficult time and seek God's council? Classes starting soon, those who attend can do so to fit their schedules best. Different class times will be available. Please contact Pastor Doug Priestap at Grace Lutheran Church Live Oak, 386-364-1851 or [gracelutheranliveoak@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranliveoak@gmail.com)

### Children's Table Food Distribution

The Children's Table Food Distribution will be at Peace Baptist Church, 7794 S. Hwy. 27, Branford, FL each Wednesday between 2:00-2:30. Bring a large laundry basket or other container to put food in. Donations will be accepted. For further information, 386-935-4681

### Beginners AA meeting

Beginners AA at Dowling Park meets Monday-Wednesday-Saturday, 7 p.m. at "The Lighthouse" 23595 CR 250, Live Oak, 32060 For more information call 305-407-0895. [www.LiveOakAA.com](http://www.LiveOakAA.com)

### Live Oak Seed Library

Every Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. Presented by the Suwannee County Master Gardeners. Check out seed packets and get all your gardening questions answered at the Suwannee River Regional Library. 386-362-2317

## GriefShare Support

GriefShare is a pastor-supervised, lay-led, Biblically based, Christ-centered, video assisted support group for persons who have lost loved ones or friends by death.

The group will meet each Thursday at 10 a.m. beginning May 18 and run through August 10. This 13 week support program will be scheduled throughout the year on different days and time to give those on varying personal schedules an opportunity to participate. All who have experienced the death of a loved one are cordially invited to become a participant in GriefShare. For more information call 383-792-1122.

## Finding Your Roots?

The Suwannee Valley Genealogy Society is the place to start! The library, located at 215 Wilbur Street SW near the football field in Live Oak, is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. to help you find your ancestors. You do not have to be a member to use the library. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the library. For further information, including membership prices, call Jinnie Hancock at 386-330-0110 or email [JinnieSVGS@windstream.net](mailto:JinnieSVGS@windstream.net)

## SREC, Inc. Senior Center weekly events

The SREC, Inc. Senior Center, located at 1509 Martin Luther King Dr. SW in Jasper hosts weekly support counseling every Wednesday beginning at 10 a.m. and Bible study every Friday at 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Barbara Daniels at 386-792-1136. Events are subject to change.

## Quilting Friends

Each Tuesday from 9 a.m.-noon Jasper Public Library, 311 Hatley St. in Jasper. 386-792-2285

## "He Speaks to Me" bible study for women

"He Speaks to Me," a Priscilla Shirer Bible study for women, will be held on Tuesdays from 9:30-11 a.m. beginning Jan. 17 at Pinemount Baptist Church on Hwy 129 in McAlpin led by Chaplain Judy. For more information, contact her at 364-5558. We hope to see you there!

## Suwannee River Church of the Nazarene schedule

The Suwannee River Church of the Nazarene is located at 18763 SE CR 137 in White Springs. For more information, call 386-397-2309. Sunday School- 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Service- 11 a.m. – noon Afternoon Potluck- Noon Sunday Evening Service- 6 – 7 p.m. Wednesday Evening Service- 6–7 p.m.

## TOPS #662

(Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meets every Thursday. (8 a.m. for weigh-in, meeting at 9 a.m.) at Advent Christian Church, 911 Pinewood Ave., Live Oak, Fla. For more information, call Mary at 386-330-2535.

## Branford Seed Library

Every second and fourth Tuesday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Presented by the Suwannee County Master Gardeners. Check out seed packets and get all your gardening questions answered at the Branford Public Library. 386-935-1556

## TOPS #9798

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) TOPS #9798 is a support group that offers weekly weigh-ins and programs. The programs provide participants with health and weight loss information. Those ready to achieve weight loss and wish for more information may call Barbara at 386-362-5933 or Dori at 386-658-2767.

## Mayo AA Group

Located at the First United Methodist Church, meet every Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. For more information, contact 386-294-2423 or 386-647-6424

## AWANA Club

New Hope Baptist Church, Mayo on Hwy. 51. From 6-8 p.m. and runs throughout the school year. Open to children ages two through sixth grades. For more information, call 386-294-2742.

## Grief Share

GriefShare, a special support group for people experiencing grief and loss, will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Live Oak. The church is located at 401 W. Howard St. Childcare is provided. Please call the church at 386-362-1583 if you would like to attend.

# PUBLIC NOTICES

Protecting Your Right to Know

Lafayette County Courthouse

## Legals

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

CASE NO.: 18-48DR

BRITTANY TOWNSEND, Petitioner,

and

FRANCISCO GARCIA-BIZA, Respondent.

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

TO: Francisco Garcia-Biza  
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: Mexico Neveo Balza gro

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Dissolution of Marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Brittany Townsend whose address is 4929 NE CR 354, Mayo, FL 32066 on or before April 27, 2018 and file the original with the clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 88, Mayo, FL 32066 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.

Dated: March 21, 2018

(Court Seal) Steve Land  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: /s/ Hannah Owens  
Deputy Clerk  
03/29, 04/05, 04/12, 04/19/2018

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521 Demorest Street SE  
Live Oak, FL 32064  
**386.362.1734**  
www.suwanneedemocrat.com

# UF to host hydroponic workshop for homeowners

LIVE OAK — The UF/IFAS North Florida Research & Education Center — Suwannee Valley is hosting a hydroponic workshop next month.

The workshop will last from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Saturday, April 7. The NFREC-SV is located at 8202 County Road

417 near Live Oak.

Among the topics to be covered are:

- Hydroponic systems,
- Growing one's own transplants,
- Water and fertilization for hydroponics,
- Integrated Pest Manage-

ment.

The workshop is being offered by the Small Farms Academy as a result of an increased demand for information on hydroponic use in a backyard setting. The workshop is designed for homeowners who want to learn how to grow their

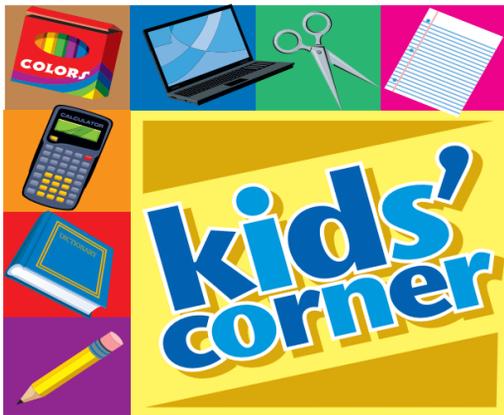
own vegetables, herbs or flowers with various hydroponic systems.

The NFREC-SV facility is one of the best in the southeast for teaching hydroponic growing systems in an actual operating greenhouse setting.

The registration fee for the

workshop is \$20, which covers educational materials and refreshments. To register online, visit <http://www.Homeowner-Hydro.eventbrite.com>.

For more information, contact Dilcia Toro at 386-362-1725, ext. 102, or at [dtoro@ufl.edu](mailto:dtoro@ufl.edu).



## Automotive Word Find

Find the hidden words in the puzzle.

BRAKE	IGNITION	STEERING
DRIVE	MECHANIC	TIRES
GAS	OIL	TUNE-UP
HEADLIGHTS	ROADS	VEHICLE

E L C I H E V Z I Q T M  
S H E A D L I G H T S E  
Q T C P S C N Y E K V C  
R C E E U I U O K N S H  
E O R E T E I T A M S A  
S I A I R L N R R L Y N  
T W O D E I H U B L P I  
J N R P S G N K T W K C  
D R I V E Z U G E J V P  
F F R G B A I U L S B M  
B C L A V Q U G Y X L C  
I K H S W N O V N A A Y

## Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

L O I N C A H E G

ANSWER: Oil Change

## THIS DAY IN...



## HISTORY

• **1293:** ROBERT WINCHELSEY LEAVES ENGLAND FOR ROME TO BE CONSECRATED AS ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

• **1891:** THE WRIGLEY COMPANY IS FOUNDED IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

• **1976:** STEVE JOBS, STEVE WOZNIAC AND RONALD WAYNE FORM APPLE INC.



## TRAFFIC

vehicles moving on a roadway



THESE SAFETY DEVICES ARE NOW WORN BY MORE THAN 84% OF PEOPLE WHO TRAVEL IN CARS, COMPARED TO 14% JUST 30 YEARS AGO.

ANSWER: SEAT BELTS

## How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Fuel
- SPANISH:** Combustible
- ITALIAN:** Carburante
- FRENCH:** Carburant
- GERMAN:** Kraftstoff



THERE ARE AROUND 1 BILLION CARS CURRENTLY IN USE ON EARTH, AND ABOUT 165,000 NEW CARS ARE PRODUCED EVERY DAY.



## GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: HEADLIGHT

# The Mayo Free Press

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FOR FRIDAY SUWANNEE DEMOCRAT-9:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY PRIOR

FOR THURSDAY JASPER NEWS-NOON FRIDAY PRIOR

FOR THURSDAY MAYO FREE PRESS-NOON FRIDAY PRIOR



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**TO ALL TRADESMEN & SERVICE PROVIDERS:**

Haven't you always heard the old saying "Big things come in small packages"?

Well, this is the idea behind the new Tri-County Service Directory coming soon to the classified pages of the Suwannee Democrat, The Jasper News & the Mayo Free Press!

Call 386-362-1734 X102 for more info on how to place a small ad (that's the "small packages part") to appear in all 3 of our publications which means the opportunity for your ad to be seen by approx. 4600 potential customers (and that's the "big things" part).

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Work includes residential and commercial building general maintenance; must have experience in all aspects of building maintenance and upkeep, including general renovation carpentry or good working knowledge of building electrical wiring (1 to 2 vacancies). Valid FL DL required.

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 Position helps maintain clean working areas plus pressure wash and perform minor maintenance on outdoor building / paved surfaces, move materials to and from work areas, remove debris, and other similar tasks in indoor and outdoor settings.

Competitive pay and benefits, great work environment, Christ-centered mission. Visit [www.acvillage.net](http://www.acvillage.net) for a downloadable application, or visit our office to apply in person, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. EOE / Drug-Free Workplace / Criminal background checks required.

**Professional**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CITY OF LIVE OAK POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER**

**Duties:** Provides law enforcement services and police duties associated with the protection, safety and welfare of the citizens within our community.

**Minimum Requirements:** Must be at least 19 years of age, possess State of Florida Law Enforcement Certification, U.S. Citizen, High School Diploma or GED, no felony or misdemeanor convictions for perjury or false statement, never have received a dishonorable discharge from any of the Armed Forces, successfully pass a background investigation as required by Florida Department of Law Enforcement, successful completion of pre-employment testing requirements (drug screen, psychological examination and physical examination). Possess valid Florida driver's license.

**Entry Level Salary:** \$ 32,352.57  
**Holiday Pay:** \$1,728.10  
**Total Package (excluding overtime)** \$34,021.25

**Benefits:** All equipment including uniforms and other required equipment are provided. Florida State Retirement System. Ten paid holidays and one personal paid holiday. Those employees required to work on a holiday are paid at time and one half for the hours they work. Paid PTO and employee Health Insurance Package (includes life and disability insurance). Take home car program based on position, seniority and providing you live in Suwannee County.

**Application Deadline:** Application must be submitted to the Office of the City Manager, 101 S.E. White Avenue, Live Oak, Florida 32064. Open until filled. First review of applications will begin on 04/9/2018.

**FIREFIGHTER/EMT**

**Duties:** Performs firefighting and EMT rescue activities; operates and maintains fire equipment; performs inspections and recommends fire prevention measures; and administers first aid.

**Minimum Requirements:** Graduate from a standard high school and must possess a fire fighter certification as required by Florida Statutes and State of Florida or National EMT certification. Applicant must meet required health and physical standards and possess a valid Florida Driver License. The applicant must possess a certificate of compliance by the Fire Fighters Standards and Training Council in accordance with Chapter 633.34 and 633.35 Florida Statutes.

**Salary Range:** \$ 32,293.15 to \$48,776.00 annually, plus \$1,500.00 EMT stipend.

**Application Deadline:** Application must be submitted to the office of the City Manager, 101 White Avenue SE, Live Oak, Florida 32064. Applications will be accepted until April 20, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. Physical Agility/Written Testing for this position will be held on April 28, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. at the City of Live Oak Fire Department. For further information please contact the LOFD at (386) 362-1313.

The City of Live Oak is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Drug-Free Workplace employer and does not discriminate in hiring. Minorities, Women and Disabled are encouraged to apply. If you have a disability and require special accommodations during the selection process, please notify the City Manager's Office at (386) 362-2276.

**North Florida COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Madison, FL: Director of Curriculum and Instruction. See [www.nfcc.edu](http://www.nfcc.edu) for details.

**Educational**

**CNA CLASSES**  
 Nursing Assistants are in GREAT demand! Quest Training offers nurse taught classes. No GED required if age 18 yr. Day and Evening classes available. (386)362-1065

**Yard/Estate Sales**

3289 101st Ln, Live Oak, FL, at Suwannee Station Baptist Church. Sat, 3/24, 7a-2p. Church-wide Yard Sale. Over 20 families' items. Lots of great stuff!!!

**Yard/Estate Sales**

**FREE GARAGE SALE KIT WITH AD**

STOP BY THE SUWANNEE DEMOCRAT OFFICE 521 Demorest Street, SE Live Oak, FL AND PLACE YOUR GARAGE (YARD, ESTATE, OR MOVING) SALE AD IN TWO EDITIONS OF THE SUWANNEE DEMOCRAT TO RECEIVE A FREE GARAGE SALE KIT\*

\*Kit contains:  
 3-11"X13" Signs  
 1- Pre-Sale Checklist  
 1- Tipsheet for a Successful Sale  
 1- Sheet of Price Stickers

**Hay for Sale**

FOR SALE: VERY GOOD PERENNIAL PEANUT HAY Approx. 500-lb rolls. \$85 per roll-cash at the farm. Hank Sheddin, Live Oak, FL 386-590-1827 hws332@yahoo.com

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**Misc Merchandise**

FOR SALE: 8' Standard pool table w/sticks & all accessories \$400.00. "Up-standing" walker \$250.00 OBO. (386)688-0679.

**HAVE YOU BEEN MEANING TO CLEAR OUT SOME OF THE CLUTTER? RECYCLE, REDUCE, REUSE? MAYBE GET RID OF THAT UGLY (YOU THINK) VASE AUNT EDNA LEFT YOU IN HER WILL?**

**WE CAN HELP! IF YOU CAN PART WITH ANY SINGLE UNWANTED ITEM FOR LESS THAN \$500.00, YOU CAN RUN A 5-LINE AD WITH US FOR ONE WEEK AT NO CHARGE!** (Offer restricted to one ad for one item within a 4-week period)

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 Call (386)364-1247

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**Land/Acreage**

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**Homes For Rent**

**ATTENTION RENTERS**  
 The Northwest Florida Regional Housing Authority is now accepting applications for its Public Housing units in Jasper, FL. Applications are being accepted for 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom apartments. For additional information, call 1-800-365-9527 ext 5302 or 5307. Equal Housing Opportunity.

**FOR RENT: 3bd/2ba home.** Newly reno'd, all new appl, in city of Live Oak, FL. quiet nrhood. Credit check req'd. \$1000/mo. 1st last, & \$500 sec. 386-208-8545.

**Manufactured Homes**

On 5 beautiful ac near Dowling Park, FL: 3/2 MH. Fully furn & equip'd. Avail 5/15 for 6mos-1yr. \$1200/mo + 1 mo sec dep. Call 863-843-5469 for more info & appt to see.

**Autos**

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**Tradesmen & Service Providers: Call now to place your ads 386-362-1734 x 102**

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**Reel In The Good Deals**



**Find It In The Classifieds TODAY!!**

**FIND IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**



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Statewide Classified Ads for Week of 3/28-4/3

# State & Region

# Festivals of the South



BY TERRY RICHARDS

terry.richards@gafnews.com

MAYO — The smell of hot dogs, the sound of bands and the sight of children jumping in the bouncy house: these are the signs that a town's big festival is underway.

The SunLight Project coverage area, which includes Live Oak, Jasper and Mayo, Fla., and Valdosta, Moultrie, Tifton, Thomasville, Milledgeville and Dalton, Ga., and the surrounding communities, are taking a look at where to go across North Florida and South Georgia for festival fun.



FILE PHOTO

**Chuck and Medora Spradling served as Granny and Pappy for Pioneer Day in Mayo last year.**

## Lafayette County, Fla.

• Mayo holds its Pioneer Day on the second Saturday of October. This year will mark the 38th Annual Pioneer Day. The event takes place throughout the town starting with a parade the morning of and continuing at the park.

During the festival, there are local vendors and entertainment by a local band and D.J. as well as an art show, crafts, toys, food vendors and games to win prizes.



FILE PHOTO

**Bill Childress, a member of the festival's board of trustees, breads catfish to be fried and served at last year's Suwannee River Catfish Festival in Branford.**

## Suwannee County, Fla.

• The Fourth Annual Catfish Festival will be held Saturday, April 14, at Greenway Park in Branford.

There will be a kid's catfish tournament and an adult bass tournament. The children's groups are separated into 7-year-olds and younger, and 8- to 15-year-olds. It will cost \$5 for each child to fish from the bank, or \$25 for a child to fish from a boat. The youth tournament will start 8 a.m.

The festival is scheduled to start 9 a.m. with vendors, music performances, a 5K run and food.

Catfish meals will be served all day at the festival.

For more information, visit [suwanneerivercatfishfestival.com](http://suwanneerivercatfishfestival.com).

• This year will also see the 34th year for the City of Live Oak's Christmas on the Square in the city's historic downtown.

This year's event is planned to span across three days with the tree lighting ceremony, ribbon cutting and Jingle Bell Fun Run to be held Thursday, Nov. 29.

The Snow on the Square, which debuted last year, with snow and snow slides will be held Friday, Nov. 30.

Vendors for Christmas on the Square will also open Friday evening. After setting up Friday morning, booths will open at 4 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30, and remain open until 10 p.m.

The vendors will then also be open all day Saturday, Dec. 1.

• The 25th Annual Wellborn Blueberry Festival is a great opportunity to stock up

on everything blueberry, from blueberry jelly, jams, pies, muffins, cookies to candies, syrup and plants.

The festival will be June 2 with approximately 100 arts-and-crafts and food vendors, the country store, a car show, parade, children's amusements and the blueberry pancake breakfast.

• The Branford River Reunion has been organizing a local Fourth of July celebration for more than 35 years.

The annual event will begin with the Suwannee River Kayak/Canoe Race; the Branford Rotary Duck Race will take place at Ivey Memorial Park and the opening ceremony takes place at Hatch Park.

The parade will be in the evening followed by a fireworks show.

• The Suwannee River Jam will be observing its 27th year. The festival will be from May 2 to 5 at the Spirit of Suwannee Music Park. Among the headliners are Alan Jackson, Josh Turner, Easton Corbin, Rodney Atkins and Pam Tillis as well as LOCASH, Tyler Farr, Kentucky Headhunters, The Lacs, Cody Johnson and comedians Williams and Ree.



FILE PHOTO

**Karen Bell and Robin Eurich, of the Sarasota's Circus Arts Conservatory, demonstrated circus arts and clowning at the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs last year.**

## Hamilton County, Fla.

• Jasper holds its Wild Blackberry Festival on the second Saturday in June. This year will be the Eighth Annual Wild Blackberry Festival and will be June 9 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The festival takes place at the Heritage Village, 502 First Ave. NE.

• The Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs will hold the 66th Annual Florida Folk Festival from May 25-27.

The event is held along the Suwannee River at the Stephen Foster State Park with music, art and culture. The first Folk Festival was in 1952 when Ada Holding Miller attended a Florida Federation of Music Clubs Spring Convention as a guest speaker. When taking a tour of Stephen Foster Memorial, she told Lillian Saunders of White Springs that it would be the ideal place for a folk festival.

• The lineup for the second Party in the Pines has not been announced but among the artists last year were Miranda Lambert and Keith Urban as well as Florida natives Easton Corbin, Jake Owens and Adam Sanders as well as Brothers Osborne, Maren Morris, Ryan Hurd and Raleigh Keegan. The Party in the Pines music festival is held at Bienville Plantation in White Springs.

## Lowndes County, Ga.

• Held each March, the Azalea Festival celebrates the abundant azaleas as well as the culture of Valdosta and Lowndes County.

The festival started in 2000 and has settled into a Saturday and Sunday event in mid-March at Drexel Park. The festival features dozens of arts & crafts vendors, food vendors, a Kids Zone, classic car show, various attractions, concerts by local bands, etc., all open to the public.

More than 220 arts, entertainment and food vendors were expected at this year's event, held March 10-11, said H. Aaron Strickland, festival executive director. About 25,000 people were expected to attend, he said.

In 2000, Joanne Griner proposed a festival to celebrate Valdosta and its status as the Azalea City. She founded the Valdosta-Lowndes County Azalea Festival and served as its director for several years. She remained deeply involved in the festival until her passing in 2016.

Among other festivals around the Valdosta area are:

• 100 Black Men of Valdosta Barbecue Cookoff, a barbecue contest held in August on the Lowndes County Courthouse Square;

• Brooks County Skillet Toss, held in Quitman in October. Includes arts, crafts,

vendor and the skillet toss competition;

• The Morven Peach Festival, held in May, celebrating one of Brooks County's leading crops.

• The Hahira Honey Bee Festival, held in October. Vendors, arts, crafts and a large parade are offered. The honey bee theme celebrates the city's past as one of the nation's leading providers of queen bees for beekeepers.

## Thomas County, Ga.

• 97th Annual Rose Show and Festival, April 26-28, at various times and locations

The 97th Annual Rose Show and Festival features a children's parade, Rose Parade, street dance, fireworks show, car and truck show, Rose Show, Orchids on Parade, standard flower show, Civic Garden Club Show, Art in the Park, Bark in the Park, annual Thomasville Police Department inspection, Rose City Run, etc. Most events are free. More information is at [thomasvillega.com](http://thomasvillega.com).



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF THOMASVILLE  
**Victorian Christmas visitors don Victorian attire for the event.**

• Victorian Christmas: December 13-14, 6-9 p.m. each night, downtown Thomasville/Park and Amphitheater. Turn-of-the-century downtown ushers event participants into the spirit of Christmas long ago. The event has been redesigned to better highlight Thomasville's Victorian history and heritage. Stroll through downtown and enjoy food vendors, authentic to the period performances, musicians and more. Free admission.

• Downtown Holiday Open House, downtown Thomasville, 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8. Welcome the holiday shopping season at the Holiday Open House. Featuring shopping and dining at participating downtown shops and restaurants, plus a chance to win Downtown Dollars. Free trolley rides to and from the Plantation Wildlife Arts Festival.

• Small Business Saturday, downtown Thomasville, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24. Shop Small this holiday season. Supporting local businesses keeps dollars local, employs hundreds of people each year and supports the dreams of friends and neighbors.

• Boston Mini-Marathon and Festival is the last Saturday in October. The event originated in 1979 as an opportunity for local runners to have a friendly competition. A 5K walk and one-mile fun run are for non-runners. Festival events begin in downtown Boston the night before the runs and walks.

• Calvary Mule Day is the first Saturday in November in Calvary, a small town in south Grady County. Calvary's population swells to between 30,000 and 60,000 on Mule Day. More than 350 arts and crafts exhibitions, concessions, cane-grinding and syrup-making take place during the Calvary Lions Club-sponsored event.

## Colquitt County, Ga.

• The Spring Fling and Backyard BBQ Festival will return with an outdoor concert featuring the Swingin' Medallions Friday, April 20, and will follow with activities on the courthouse lawn and on the streets and sidewalks of the square the following day.



THE MOULTRIE OBSERVER

**A brightly colored train circles the Colquitt County Courthouse Square during Spring Fling 2017. The train is a fixture at festivals in Moultrie.**

A downtown festival to celebrate the arts has been circled on Colquitt County's to-do calendar for more than 30 years.

The annual barbecue contest was started a number of years ago by the late

Rocky Jones, his wife, Joy, and Greg Hersey.

• Doerun Mayday Festival, May 4-5, Peachtree Park, Doerun.

• Lights! Lights! 6 p.m., Nov. 22, Moultrie Square

• Community Day, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., July 7, William Bryant Park, 735 5th Ave. NW, Moultrie.

## Tift County, Ga.

• The Arts in Black festival, on the last weekend in April in Fulwood Park, allows the local black community to showcase talented artists and musicians.

• The La Fiesta Del Pueblo event, on the last Saturday in September, spotlights the unique culture and heritage of the local Latino population.

• The small town of Omega hosts the Pepper Festival every September to mark the town's spicy past.

• The Folklife Festival has been going on for several decades and brings to life the region's rural history and heritage. It takes place the first weekend in April at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. At the festival people can learn how to shear sheep, make pine-needle baskets and sew quilt squares. Antique tractors are on display and bluegrass music fills the air as people are transported back in time with fun events and intriguing exhibits.

## Whitfield County, Ga.

• The Prater's Mill Country Fair in October raises money to help preserve a historic mill built in 1855.

"We organized the first Prater's Mill Country Fair to raise money to repair the mill," said Judy Alderman, former long-time head of the Prater's Mill Foundation. "The first fair was Mother's Day weekend 1971. That first year, we had one every month from May through December. That was awfully ambitious."

The fair continued as a twice-yearly event for almost 30 years before being scaled back to once a year.

This year's fair will run from Oct. 13-14, at 5845 Highway 2, Dalton. The fair focuses on Appalachian history, culture, music and food. There are also demonstrations of blacksmithing, spinning, quilting, rug hooking, woodcarving and hand tufting as well as tours of the mill, pony rides and canoe rides. Admission is \$7. Children younger than 12 are admitted free.

• Creative Arts Guild Festival of Arts and Crafts, Sept. 15-16, 520 W. Waugh St. Dalton. The festival is free and opens at 10 a.m., Saturday and 11 a.m., Sunday. There will be live music and other performances and tours of the Guild's sculpture garden. Artists from around the nation will be displaying and selling their art.

• Black Bear Festival, Oct. 21-22, 400 N. Third Ave., Chatsworth. There will be food, music and plenty of arts and crafts on sale.

## Baldwin County, Ga.

• The biggest of Milledgeville's yearly festivals is the Deep Roots Festival, a daylong event combining food and craft vendors, a car show, a Georgia Barbecue Association-sanctioned barbecue contest and touring musicians from across the country. The event normally takes place in late October in downtown Milledgeville.

• Since 2014 the Milledgeville Main Street Downtown Development Authority has put on a yearly "Hometown Celebration," which brings music, activities, and tables from local organizations to downtown. Held in celebration of Milledgeville's inclusion on the National Main Street Center's "Great American Main Street Cities" list, the daylong event has been held in April for the past two years after August heat significantly diminished turnout in 2016.

• The Kitchens Road Old Time Family Festival annually draws huge crowds to west Baldwin for a weekend of food, country and bluegrass music and a car show. Started by local residents Randy Newton and Bobby Kitchens on Kitchens' grandfather's land, the festival is slated this year for Nov. 3 and 4 and is expected to draw several local musical guests.

*The SunLight Project team of journalists who contributed to this report includes Alexis Spoehr, Will Woolever, Wayne Grandy, Jessie R. Box, Pat Donahue, Eve Guevara and Terry Richards. To contact the team, email [sunlightproject@gafnews.com](mailto:sunlightproject@gafnews.com).*



# EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

## 3:16

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.*

*Christ has risen!  
Christ has truly risen!*

Father Anthony Basso

**May the risen Lord  
bless you and yours this  
Easter Season.**

Easter Vigil - Saturday, March 31st - 8:00 pm  
Easter Sunday Mass - Sunday, April 1st  
9:00 am (English)/11:30 am (Spanish)

**928 East Howard St  
(386) 364-1108**

*St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church*

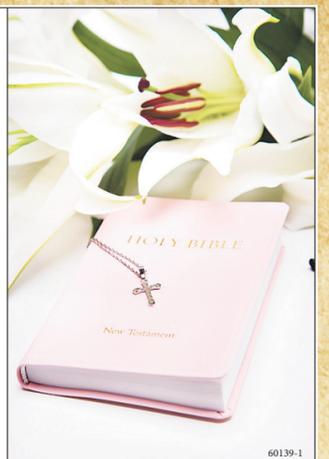


**ST. LUKE'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
1391 SW 11th Street • Live Oak

**WEDNESDAY**  
*Eucharist & Unction*  
10:30 am & 6:00 pm

**SUNDAY**  
*Eucharist* - 9:00 am & 11:00 am  
*Sunday School* - 9:45 am

Nursery Provided For Both Services.  
Parish Hall Available For Community Activities.  
**For More Information Call 386.362.1837.**  
Rev. George L. Hinchliffe - Rector



## First Baptist Church

401 West Howard Street Live Oak, FL  
Ph. 386-362-1583

Come Worship with us

**March 26 - 29th 6:30pm**  
*Life Action Summit  
Revival Conference*

**April 1st Easter Sunday**  
9:00 am & 11:00 am Worship  
6:00 pm Worship



## Lighthouse

**Hwy 51 N. Mayo, FL  
Sunday 10:30 am**

**Pastor Ronnie Sadler**

**CHRIST CENTRAL MINISTRIES/  
SUWANNEE COUNTY**

15445 US Highway 129 S.  
(7 miles South of Town)  
(386) 208-1345  
www.CCMLO.org  
email: ccmlo@windstream.net

**Starting Sunday April 1st**  
NEW Sunday Morning Service Times..... 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Service..... 7:00 p.m.

**Pastor Wayne Godsmark, Lead Pastor**

## Community Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday April 1st • 7:15 a.m.  
at  
**Community Presbyterian Church**  
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**Everyone Welcome**



## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**Easter For Kids!**  
Saturday March 31st  
10:00 am - 11:30 am  
Singing • Crafts • Bible Stories

**Easter Sunday**  
Easter Breakfast at 8:30 am  
Easter Bible Study & Sunday School at 9:30 am  
Easter Worship Service 10:30 am

**Everyone Welcome**

*Melody Church invites you to join us  
Easter Sunday @10AM for*

# IT IS FINISHED

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# Easter BLESSINGS



## Easter – A Special Season for Christians

Spring is eagerly anticipated, as many people look forward to enjoying the great outdoors once more. Spring is also a special time of year for practicing Christians.

### Palm Sunday

On what is now called "Palm Sunday" Jesus Christ rode a donkey into Jerusalem while villagers welcomed him and waved palm branches. This is mentioned in each of the Biblical Gospels and occurs a week before His subsequent resurrection. Jesus possibly rode a donkey rather than a horse as a sign of peace, as a war-waging king might ride a horse. The "Passion of the Christ" is typically read during Palm Sunday services.

### Good Friday

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Jesus was condemned by the assembled crowd as King Herod and Pontius Pilate had found him not guilty of any crimes. But crowds were enraged, and Pilate reluctantly ordered his crucifixion rather than face a mass riot.

### Easter Sunday

A festive and celebratory day for Christians, Easter Sunday is a time for sharing the good news of Jesus' resurrection. His body is discovered missing from the tomb, and Jesus appears to his followers again showing proof that He is alive. Typically Easter Sunday is one of the most well-attended Sunday services of the year for Christians.

## Symbols of Easter

### The Cross

The cross is a symbol of Christ's crucifixion and sacrifice for the Christian's sin. The cross highlights the ability of God to give new life to people after death.

### The Empty Tomb

The empty tomb shows that Christ is no longer dead but resurrected and that He is now alive.

### The Lamb

The lamb is another symbol of Easter. Lambs were originally associated with the Jewish holiday of Passover; to remember when the lambs were sacrificed and their blood used to mark the houses that "death of the first born" was to pass over in the book of Exodus. As a result of his crucifixion, Christ became the symbolic lamb for all - the ultimate sacrifice. In fact, Christ is often referred to as "The Lamb of God."

Easter is replete with many recognized symbols. Unearthing their meanings can be a learning experience and a way to further immerse oneself in this holy holiday.

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*Christ Is Risen!*  
  
**HAPPY EASTER**  
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*Jesus Is Risen*  
**Sheriff Brian N. Lamb**  
 Lafayette County Sheriff's Office,  
 wishes everyone a Happy Easter

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 A TIME TO REJOICE!  
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