

**CHANGING COURSE**  
**TOP TEACHER**  
 ▶ Nanette "Sam" Bunce of Branford High  
 See feature, Page 3A

PAGES 5-8B  
**LEAD OUT LOUD**  
 National FFA Week  
 February 20-27, 2010

# Suwannee Democrat

125th YEAR, NO. 38 3 SECTIONS, 42 PAGES **Wednesday Edition — February 24, 2010** 50 CENTS

Serving Suwannee County since 1884, including Live Oak, Wellborn, Branford, McAlpin and O'Brien

**COACH SPEARS:  
HOW HE GOT HERE**

**2009-Present**  
 Jefferson County High School  
 Head football coach  
 2009 District 1-1B champs  
 6-6 record including playoffs

**2007-08-Camden County High School, Kingsland, Ga.**  
 Defensive back coach  
 (All-state selection)  
 12-2 record  
 Division 3-5A

**2006-07-Thomasville High School**  
 Co-offensive coordinator, wide receivers coach and passing game coordinator  
 5-6 record  
 Division 1-2A

**2006 - Spring and summer Arnold High School, Panama City Beach**  
 Assistant varsity football coach of wide receivers and defensive backs  
 5-5 record  
 District 2-3A

**2003 - Rutherford High School, Panama City**  
 Head JV football coach

**2002 - Assistant varsity football coach of wide receivers**  
 11-2 record

## High hopes for new head coach

### Jefferson High's top man now a Bulldog

By Jeff Waters  
 jeff.waters@gafnews.com

Jefferson County High School head football coach Willie Spears will take over as the Bulldogs' new top man, Superintendent of Schools Jerry Scarborough said Tuesday. Spears, 32, accepted the post Saturday and begins work Monday. He will be paid \$56,000 a year, Scarborough said.

"To be a part of a winning tradition including four state champions (would) indeed (be) an honor," Spears said in a letter to Scarborough included with his resumé.

Spears coached the Jefferson County Tigers to a district title in 2009, his first season there.

Scarborough said he is pleased to introduce Spears to the community.

"We're excited about coach Spears joining our



Willie Spears

community and school," he said. "We're going to lay a foundation that's going to be great for future ath-

SEE HIGH, PAGE 13A

## School-Related Employee of the Year

Ta-Trease Sapp of Suwannee Hamilton Technical Center

See feature, Page 12A



## RECYCLING IN SUWANNEE

### Recycling bins being removed, reports Sikes

Research said to be underway on possible county program

By Jeff Waters  
 jeff.waters@gafnews.com

Suwannee's Public Works Director told the Democrat Monday that the recycling bins, or igloos, at county refuse collection sites are in the process of being removed.

"They're being removed until we can find another solution," to deal with recycling in the county, Jerry Sikes said.

Sikes said he has been in contact with other counties as well as locals, including Bob Snyder, a former Department of Environmental Protection employee who spoke to students at Suwannee High's Environmental Club recently. Sikes said he now plans to study the possi-

SEE RECYCLING, PAGE 13A

## \$30 million grant will mean better broadband access

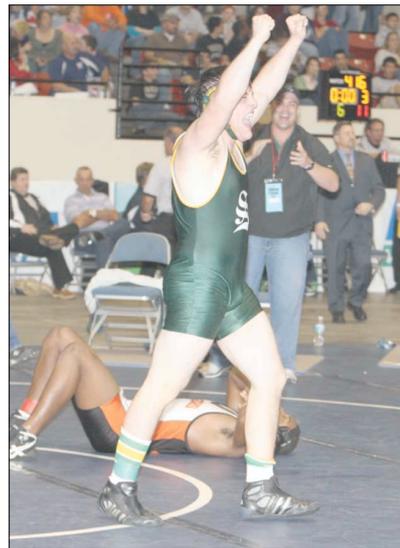
Staff

The North Florida Broadband Authority, a 14-county group including Suwannee, has been awarded more than \$30 million to create better access to broadband and high-speed connectivity for the region.

The North Florida Broadband Authority will use this funding to bring high-speed broadband services to underserved areas in North Florida through the deployment of a 1,200-mile fixed wireless broadband network.

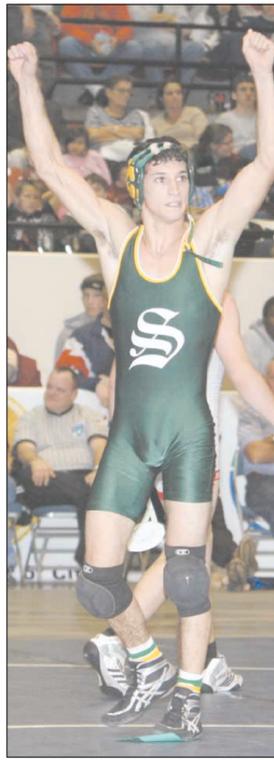
SEE \$30 MILLION, PAGE 13A

## State champs



Suwannee's Travis Laxton (right) and Joe McMillan won state wrestling titles Saturday in Lakeland. As a team, Suwannee finished second in Class 1A to New Port Richey Gulf. See details in Friday's Democrat.

- Photos: Paul Buchanan - SuwanneeSports.com



## Parents gather for cyber safety meeting

By Carnell Hawthorne Jr.  
 carnell.hawthorne@gafnews.com

A state leader in the fight against cyber crimes against



'Stranger danger' secondary to Internet predators, locals learn

children met Thursday evening with a small group parents and leaders at First United Methodist Church to address the dangers children face when using the Internet.

Clarence Parker, law enforcement captain of the child predator cyber-crimes unit with the Attorney General's office, gave insightful tips and danger signs parents should watch for when allowing their children to use the net.



Clarence Parker, law enforcement captain of the child predator cybercrimes unit with the Attorney General's office, addresses Suwannee County parents on Internet safety Thursday at First United Methodist Church in Live Oak.

- Photo: Carnell Hawthorne Jr.

In a newly designed presentation, Parker presented a simple question to those in attendance: "Would you let a stranger into your

child's bedroom?" Parents in the crowd shook their heads no, of

SEE PARENTS, PAGE 13A

## TIMELINE

► **Feb. 5:** The Democrat reports that recyclables, collected by SHS students and properly deposited in bins at county refuse collection sites, were disposed of at the landfill instead. A public outcry follows.

► **Feb. 16:** Public Works Director Jerry Sikes tells county commissioners there was no intent to deceive the public, but admits the presence of recycling bins at collection sites was misleading at best.

► **Feb. 17:** Members of the Suwannee High Environmental Club, aided by local resident and former DEP employee Bob Snyder, make plans to promote efforts at creating a county recycling program. It is learned that Hamilton County, with little more than a third of the population of Suwannee, successfully recycles.

► **Feb. 22:** Sikes tells the Democrat the recycling igloos are being removed from county sites until a suitable alternative program can be devised.

## INSIDE NORTH FLORIDA FOCUS

### 'Good Lessons from Bad Women'

Actress, playwright Dorothy Leeds brings an 'instructive' show to LCCC. **Page 1**

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- Legals 10B
- Obituaries 5A
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## WEATHER

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For more weather, visit our Web site at www.suwanneedemocrat.com

## Cattle Barons' Ball coming to Live Oak

Staff

One of North Florida's



6 97113 07520 1

most high-profile charitable events, the American Cancer Society's Eighth Annual Cattle Barons' Ball, will be back at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park Saturday. The largest hoedown this side of

Texas will be filled with gourmet grub, gaming, dancing and live entertainment by Roadhouse Live.

The highlight of the evening will be the live

SEE CATTLE, PAGE 13A

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 Service Hours, M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Subscription Rates,  
 In-county, \$33 Out-of-county, \$48

## Suwannee Democrat



Serving Suwannee County Since 1884

The Suwannee Democrat, published Wednesday and Friday.  
 Periodicals postage paid at Live Oak, FL 32064. Business located at 211 Howard Street East, Live Oak, FL. Publication number 530180.

### "POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to Suwannee Democrat, PO Box 370, Live Oak, FL 32064. Annual subscription rate is \$33 in county, \$48 out of county and \$48 out of state. Subscribe online at [www.suwanneedemocrat.com](http://www.suwanneedemocrat.com).

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to our office. All letters are read. Not all letters are published. Letters may be edited to fit available space. The editor should not alter the writer's point of view. Well written letters require less editing. Keep it to the point, an ideal range is 150 to 200 words. Please include your name, address and day and evening phone numbers for verification. Letters MUST be signed. Letters to the editor can be limited to one letter per quarter per individual.

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## Suwannee County Fire/Rescue calls for service for Feb. 14 to Feb. 20

Total calls for service:	79	Motor vehicle crash:	1
Medical calls:	61	Smoke investigation:	1
Weakness:	4	Power line transformer fire:	1
Cardiac:	10	Volunteer Fire	
Trauma:	14	Responses:	34
Motor vehicle crash:	2	Falmouth Volunteer	
Miscellaneous medical call:	8	Rescue Response:	2
Altered mental status:	3	Mutual Aid from Century	
Respiratory:	9	Ambulance:	1
CVA:	3		
Nausea/vomiting:	5		
Abdominal pain:	2		
Mutual aid to Hamilton Co.:	1		
Fire Calls:	18		
Structure fire:	3		
Brush fire:	10		
Vehicle fire:	2		

### LOTTERY RESULTS

**Florida**  
**CASH 3** 2/22/10 . 2,8,2 2/22/10 . 4,0,9,1  
**PLAY 4**  
**FANTASY 5** 2/19/10 . . . . . 8,24,28,30,31  
**MEGA MONEY** 2,17,23,39, MB20  
**LOTTO** . . . . . 5,8,20,25,29,43,x2  
**POWERBALL** . . . . . 13,27,37,41,54 PB32, x2

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## Arrest Record

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

The following abbreviations are used below:  
 SCSO-Suwannee County Sheriff's Office  
 LOPD-Live Oak Police Department  
 FDLE-Florida Department of Law Enforcement  
 FHP-Florida Highway Patrol  
 FWC-Florida Wildlife Commission  
 DOT-Department of Transportation  
 OALE-Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement  
 P & P-Probation and Parole  
 USMS-US Marshals Service  
 ATF-Department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
 DOC-Department of Corrections

February 19, NE Davis St, Live Oak Fl, vop o/c sale/manu cocaine, SCSO-T. Lee  
 February 19, Brian D Westaby, 20, 2402 Bongey Dr, Menomine Wi, failure stop inspection, exp tag, OALE J Fletcher  
 February 19, Martin Lowe Jr, 55, 20300 68 St, Live Oak Fl, Sent 60 Days, SCSO C Smith  
 February 19, John Eric Jacobs, 26, 94 Drover Drive, Keller Tx, dwls w/knowledge, OALE J Dewey  
 February 19, Glenna Dee Yeagle, 43, 361 N W Madison Road, Mayo Fl, vocc /uttering a forgery, 1st app pd appt per wrs, SCSO-M.Clark  
 February 19, Benny J Hicks, 30, 10151 SW SR 247, Lake City Fl, grand theft of camper, 1st app pd appt per wrs, SCSO-T. Mullins  
 February 19, Donna Elizabeth Westberry, 37, 19900 68th Street, Live Oak Fl, disorderly intoxication, SCSO - S. Senea  
 February 19, Ashley Elizabeth Webb, 25, 5648 Drake Loop Middleburg Fl, vop (poss -20/poss para), 1st app pd appt per wrs, SCSO - T. Donaldson  
 February 18, Rosalind Denise Ketchum, 52, 1028  
 February 19, Helen Tracy Cribbs, 38, P.O. Box 323, High Springs Fl, poss cntl subs w/o prescr, 1st app pd appt per wrs, SCSO - C. McIntyre  
 February 19, Newton Mark Gordie, 30, 521 S.E. Trading Post Loo, Lee Fl, vop (poss -20 grams cann), 1st app pd appt per wrs, SCSO - A. Cundiff  
 February 20, Samuel Gibbons, 55, 8355 SE 123rd Ave, Jasper Fl, dui 2nd offense, tag attach not assign, 1st app n/pd appt per wrs, FHP B Stuart  
 February 21, Birl Ed-dings, 52, 6683 CR 349, Live Oak Fl, battery dom. viol, SCSO-B. Barrs  
 February 22, Tyrone Ivy Jr, 33, 197 Johnson Ave, Live Oak Fl, poss controlled sub w/intto sell/deliver w/i 1000 ft of place of worship, poss controlled sub w/int, to sell/deliver w/i 1000 ft of place of worship LOPD-J. Bates  
 February 22, Penelope Clark Fortescue, 24, 11748 102nd Trace, Live Oak Fl, child abuse-intention act, SCSO-W. Musgrove  
 February 22, Linda Wainwright, 44, 3488 145th Road, Live Oak Fl, battery domestic violence, SCSO B Barrs

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# Changing course

## Sam Bunce sparkles as Teacher of the Year

By Carnell Hawthorne Jr.  
carnell.hawthorne@gafnews.com

Peering from behind a star-shaped stick mask, Suwannee's Teacher of the Year Nannette "Sam" Bunce carried a smile, literally, despite the unfriendly weather outside her classroom Monday at Branford High School. After 38 years of teaching, it takes a lot more than rain to kill her spirit.

As students in her 9th grade English I class made their final markings before handing in classroom assignments, Bunce made her way around the room giving several students praise, while those not working received "the look."

"She's pretty good," said student Kaitlin Clark. "She's very funny, but can be tough."

Bunce began teaching in Suwannee County in 1998, but had accumulated a long list of teaching accolades prior to walking in the door.

She began her career in 1972 in a self-contained 2nd grade classroom in Pinellas County. Within two decades she taught 3rd through 6th grade language arts, with a bit of math and science thrown in the mix. Followed by 7th and 8th grade language arts under "specialized teaching methods," where Bunce said, "I eventually became a teacher trainer, and worked with the DROP program in Clearwater dealing with at-risk students."

All the while, the need for change was brewing.

"My husband, Daryl, who is handicapped, and I needed a different lifestyle," Bunce said. "We had property up here in Gilchrist County."

So, change brought her to Suwannee, Bunce said.

She recalled speaking with then Superintendent Wyman Harvard, who spoke with the right people at Suwannee High School, and "within a couple of days he called me on the phone and told me he was placing me on staff," Bunce said. It was just weeks before the start of the school year, she said.

"The rural life just made it easier to live here," said Bunce, who resides in Bell. "In my personal life, I'm private," she admitted.

At the end of each school day, she drives just 15 miles and 15 minutes home "to a pastoral life out in the country," where she spends time with Casper, her grey Arabian



Sam Bunce smiles upon one of her students Monday afternoon at Branford High School. Bunce says, it's her students that make her job and the honor of being named District Teacher of the Year worthwhile. - Photo: Carnell Hawthorne Jr.

longtail, a horse she said, "that every princess would want to ride" and her many rabbits, cats and dogs.

But, for her, the classroom is where she belongs.

"I'm going to teach until my certificate is out in 2013, which will make it 41 years," she said.

She cringed at the thought of retiring sooner.

"I enjoy working with children," she said. "As long as I feel I'm making a difference, this is where I want to be. It keeps me young and sharp."

She reiterated that change is a major part of why she loves teaching so much.

"As long as you're around, you have to stay on top of things," she quipped. "Here we are in education in 2010 and my biggest concern is whether my students' vocational areas will be there when they're ready to go into those fields," she said. "Technology doesn't scare me, but it's progressing in such a way that you barely get your feet wet, before it's time to move on to the next big change."

The one thing she's got a good grasp on is change, however.

"It's not frightening, it's dazzling," she said. "I ask myself often, 'Are we preparing them to be ready?'"

The move to teach 8th grade language arts and 9th grade English at Branford High School came in 2007.

"It placed me even closer to home," Bunce said. "It allowed a change within my workday, so that I could

continue teaching. It gave me a boost."

Principal Ted Roush said he is glad to have Bunce on staff.

"She teaches with the humor and enthusiasm of a first-year teacher," he said. "She has the rigor and the relevance that students appreciate and flock toward. She just does a phenomenal job."

Bunce said it's her students that matter the most. Reaching her male students is especially important.

"I've found that boys that come from a broken home, need a positive female role model — someone to teach them etiquette, professionalism and proper grooming and who's not afraid to tell them to pull those pants up when they start sagging," she smiled.

After all, Bunce is herself the mother of a 40-year-old son named Richard, and grandmother to granddaughters Jadyn, 6, and Gabbie, 10, who she says, "are both just like popcorn."

The honor of being chosen Teacher of the Year is a first in Bunce's career, she said, and it places her in the running statewide at an upcoming Orlando convention.

She said she takes after her 92-year-old mother, Evelyn Shates, who still works as a seamstress in Pinellas County, and fosters the sentiments of Forrest Gump by saying, "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get."

## POLICE BEAT

# Theft of camper lands man in jail

By Jeff Waters  
jeff.waters@gafnews.com

A Suwannee County man was arrested Friday for allegedly taking a camper trailer off another person's property without the owner's permission.

According to a Suwannee County Sheriff's report,

Benny Joseph Hicks, 29, of 10151 SW SR 247, Lake City, was charged with grand theft of a camper/trailer, jail records show. Hicks' has a Lake City address but resides in Suwannee County.

Hicks drove to a residence at 3491 280th Street in Live Oak on Feb. 15 around 9 p.m. and stole a 1989 Coachman 18 foot camper trailer, according to a report by SCSO Deputy Tom Mullins.

"The defendant drove to the residence and after noticing that no one was home, back(ed) his vehicle up (to) the camper, connected it, and took the camper without the owner's knowledge or permission," Mullins reported. "The defendant was interviewed and admitted ... to stealing the camper."

The camper was valued at \$1,500.

Mullins was arrested and transported to the Suwannee County Jail on the stated charges.



Benny Joseph Hicks

## Report from Haiti

The Rev. Ray Kelly of Live Oak Christian Church traveled to Haiti to assist in earthquake relief. Here's a brief dispatch from Kelly received upon his arrival.

Hi. We are at the Living Water Mission using their email.

Things are going well with the trip. Yesterday we took about 100 bags of personal items to two different hospitals, we were told that about half the people were from the earthquake in Port au Prince.

The trip from Cap Haitian was about 65 miles and took about 3 to 4 hours.

Bad roads and over 3 or 4 mountains.

Last night at the hotel we met two doctors who were here to help with earthquake victims. They were having a hard time

finding supplies and the help they needed. The only doctor in the hospital was killed in the earthquake. Now the people are just waiting for a doctor to come and help them. We also met the leaders of two teams of US Army teams. Both are doing assessments of the needs in the area — one the medical needs the other the socio-economic needs. The goal is to bring

different groups together with the Haitian government and other private (faith-based) groups so that the needs of the people can be met.

The US Army said they estimate that about 40,000 to 70,000 people have come from Port au Prince to Gonaives.

There are no camps for these people. They have moved in with family and friends.

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# HCE? I didn't know that!

## 'Ag Extension group' has come a long way

By Bill Smedley  
*HCE Publicity Chair*  
Many times I am asked, "What is this HCE you are talking about?" My usual response is to just mention the old Ag Extension group, and usually they get the connection, but it's really more that that now. The Ag extension of the 50s and 60s has been modernized and reworked to the present HCE.

The Suwannee County Association for Home and Community Education, also known as HCE, is all about getting together to learn about strengthening families and community and having a good time through education, leadership and action. We meet under the umbrella of the Suwannee County Cooperative Extension and the University of Florida/IFAS.

Our group has two "clubs" that meet monthly. The Happy Homemakers club meets at the Extension offices each second Wednesday of the month 9:30 a.m., and the Pleasant Hill club meets each second Monday at 10 a.m. at the McAlpin Community Center on south US 129. Both clubs have continuing service, learn and share new crafts and study projects. They also meet together each year for a "tour," where they visit nearby places of interest and share in a meal. We actively encourage visitation and new members are always welcome. Even though HCE has had a "women only" connotation, that is no longer true. We do have men in the group working actively in the organization. Call the Agricultural Extension Office at 362-2771 for more information.

The clubs combine once

a month on the first Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. to form the county "Council." It is this organization that conducts the specific theme studies geared towards action in the community. We work closely with the 4H organization in helping to further their goals; we attempt to educate the community in areas that we either have or have learned subjects of expertise; we work in the community on a volunteer basis, either personally or as a group; we strive and encourage personal growth through participation in local, regional, and state group activities.

Perhaps a rundown on our activities during the past year might help to get you to understand how we go about doing things.

We had a busy year starting with hosting our District II annual meeting on Jan. 3. We had 98 members from Jefferson, Levy, Duval, Clay and Suwannee counties in attendance and met at the Live Oak First United Methodist Church fellowship hall. The Pleasant Hill 4H Club catered and served the meal.

We honored our County Commissioners last February at the annual Commissioner's Luncheon, serving grilled hamburgers and salads and desserts.

We host an annual cooking school held each year in April. Members demonstrated recipes showing how to save money by using less expensive grocery items, or double usage of the dish. We had 59 people in attendance. Each attendee left with a door prize and a recipe booklet.

We held two yard sale fundraisers and members made a quilt that was raffled in December with An-

nette Schulster, of A&A Grooming of Live Oak, winning it.

Our organization works carefully with the local 4H groups and each year present the Merry Taylor 4-H Scholarship to a deserving 4H senior. Last year, TJ Burke was the recipient of the \$300 scholarship.

Our members participated with the Live Oak Garden Club in its annual Fall Festival where we had each local club present crafts and games for children to enjoy.

Our members participated in holding a bread making camp for Wednesday after school 4-H students. They were taught proper measuring, combining items, and made a loaf of non-yeast bread, which they took home. Several of these students then made the bread again at home and presented them for their judging at the County judging for 4H.

Our community service projects for the year included the following activities: colorful pillowcases were made for children cancer patients at Shands Hospital; members judged at the Clay County fair; made lap robes; wheel chair bags for VA hospital patients; Christmas gifts for children; baskets of food and clothing for needy families; made bibs and receiving baskets made for new babies; bags of clothing were given to a nursing home; items delivered to pregnancy crisis center; and food given to for homeless students of Suwannee County Schools; we furnished school supplies to local schools for use by children in need; saved pop tabs and aluminum cans in support of the Ronald McDonald House in Gainesville; col-

lected box tops for education; and collected and contributed to the Pennies for Friendship program.

Two members and our County Agent attended the annual FAHCE Conference held in Altamonte Springs last October.

The County Commissioners presented a proclamation to the Suwannee County Association for Home and Community Education for 75 years of service in the County.

The main study for the year was "Going Green." Our programs were directed in that area, with a visit to Magnolia Farms - a local CSA farm; we learned about growing plants and the making and use of compost; and toured a newly established vineyard of one of our members. These studies are in preparation of acting on what we learn to make a better community.

We had 36 members, losing one due to death during the last year. One member serves as President of District II; another member serves as District II volunteer hours chairman and also as District Treasurer.

Two members received certificates for hours of Home and Community Leadership training; 11 members received certificates for 500 or more CVU or volunteer hours for a total of 11,000 hours and 116,000 people contacted.

During the year we got together at least 6 times for luncheons, either for special occasion, such as entertaining our Commissioners, or just for fun after a council or club meeting.

So as you can see, we eat together a lot, we play together a lot, we work hard together, and together we try to build a better community for ourselves and others.

### Marriage licenses issued

Marriage licenses issued in Suwannee County the week of Feb. 15-19:

- Roger Lee Jarrell, Jr. to Kayla Nicole Young
- William Curtis Wolbert to Peggy Jo Rankin
- Derek Ned Jenkins to Alison Faith Feustel

## Kelly Stigliano to speak at Tangles



Kelly Stigliano

Noted Christian women's speaker Kelly Stigliano will speak at Tangles - A Community Out-

reach for Women, Saturday at 6 p.m. The event is free and open to all women.

Tangles is located at 12986 U.S. Highway 90 West in Live Oak, 1/4 mile past Wayne Frier Mobile Homes on the left.

Kelly will speak on "God's Incomparable, Unequivocal, Unconditional Love." Complimentary coffee, desserts and appetizers will be served. There is no charge, however a love offering will be taken for Kelly.

For additional information, please call 386-590-1543.

## The Lady of the Lake Quilting Guild meeting

The Lady of the Lake Quilting Guild will hold its monthly meeting today at 9:30 a.m. at the Teen Town 533 NW Desoto St, Lake City (2 blocks north of Duval (US 90) on Lake Jeffery Rd.).

The program this month will feature guild member Lee Starr who will share with us information about the upcoming March Quilt Walk.

Time is set aside for members to display their latest quilt creation.

This Guild is an organization for anyone interested in quilts and the art of quilt-

ing. The Guild makes and distributes over 200 quilts a year to various charities and non-profit organizations in the Suwannee Valley Region and for our Armed Forces.

For more details contact President Ramona Dewees, 386-496-3876.

## The Hebrew roots of Christianity

A seminar will be held on "Hebrew Roots of Christianity and The Feasts of The Lord," On Thursday, March 4, at Fairfield Inn, 538 SW Corporate Drive (off FL Gateway Blvd by I-75), Lake City, from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

The organizers say they hope this teaching seminar will play a beneficial role in your endeavor to better understand the Hebraic roots of your faith as well as other subjects of interest to the believer.

## Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner

The annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner of Corned Beef & Cabbage, will be held Sat. Mar. 13, at San Juan Catholic Church in Branford.

## Greater New Bethel AME Church Family and Friends Day

Great New Bethel AME Church Annual Family and Friends Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 6 p.m.

The speaker for the occasion will be Bro. James Cooper. Dinner will follow.

Everyone is cordially invited to come and worship with us. Rev. Charles Burke, Pastor, 386-362-4194. Contact person: Eva Polite, 386-362-6707.

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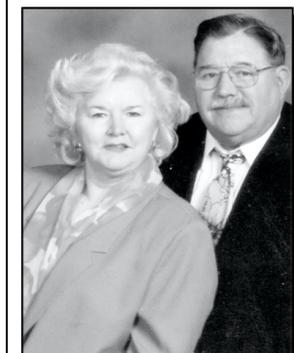
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576011-F

## Happy Anniversary



Fred & Susan Pohland are celebrating their Wedding Anniversary & also being sweethearts this 2010 Valentine's Day. Susan Taylor of Lake City, FL & Fred Pohland of Latrobe, PA were united in Arlington Christian Church, Jacksonville, FL. Their children are Lamar and the late,

Paula. They have one grandchild.

Susan is retired from Duval County Public Schools and is a Notary. Fred is retired from Earl Industries and is a Veteran.

Susan & Fred look forward to many more happy years sharing their love in friendship & fun with their family and friends, also enjoying their homes in Old Arlington-University Park, Duval County and Taylorville, Columbia/Suwannee County, FL. Congratulations, Love from your Son & Family.

579100-F



Obituaries



Charles Henry (Chuck) Kowitz March 31, 1965-February 13, 2010

Charles Henry (Chuck) Kowitz, Lt. Col, USAF (ret.) 44, of Chipley, Florida, died unexpectedly Saturday, February 13, 2010 from injuries sustained in an auto accident. He was born in Chipley, Florida on March 31, 1965 to Ellner Jane Grady Kowitz and the late Edgar Joseph Kowitz. At age 14 he flew his first solo flight and received his pilot license. In the 10th to 12th grade, he served as an auxiliary member of the Civil Air Patrol as a radio and rescue pilot at the National Guard Armory. He graduated Chipley High School in 1983 with high honors, then attended Marion Military Institute and the Air Force Academy, graduating in 1988 as Second Lieutenant with a masters degree in Engineering. He served two tours in Desert Storm as a forward advisor, directing air strikes. After an esteemed military career, he retired in 2008 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was of the Catholic faith and was preceded in death by his Grandparents; Henry and Adeline Kowitz of Chipley and Charles William and Wray E. Withrow Grady of Live Oak, Fla. and his Father; Edgar Joseph Kowitz. Survivors include his Mother; Ellner Jane Grady Kowitz, of Chipley, one Brother; Dale Joseph

Kowitz of Kuwait, his cat; Lacey, his four Aunts, many nieces, nephews and cousins. Charles loved flying airplanes and model planes. Funeral services will be held Monday, February 22, 2010 at 11:00 A.M. at the Saint Joseph The Worker Catholic Church in Chipley, interment will follow in Glenwood Cemetery in Chipley. The family received friends Sunday evening, February 21, from 4 to 6 P.M. at the St. Joseph The Worker Catholic Church. The family suggests contributions to the Science Department of Roulhac and Chipley High School or ROTC of Chipley High School. Brown Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Friends and family may sign the online register at www.brownfh.net.

Theadora "Teddy" Steinhardt March 7, 1946-February 18, 2010

Theadora "Teddy" Steinhardt, 63, Live Oak, FL passed away Thursday, February 18, 2010 after a short illness. The Miami, FL native moved to Live Oak 5 years ago from Davie, FL. She worked as a Florist for the Publix Corporation Supermarket in Davie, FL and Live Oak, FL for thirty-five years. She was of Greek Orthodox faith.

She is survived by her husband: Charles Richard Steinhardt, Live Oak, FL; one daughter: Christine Hodge, Ocala, FL; one son: Richard Steinhardt, Hypoleux, FL; one sister: Anette Poulos, Miami, FL; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 pm Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at Daniels Memorial Chapel with Father Richard Perko officiating.

Daniels Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc. Live Oak is in Charge of All Arrangements.

Dennis "Howard" Thomas July 22, 1953-February 22, 2010

Dennis "Howard" Thomas, 56, of O'Brien, FL passed away of a long illness on Monday, February 22, 2010. The lifelong resident of Suwannee County farmed for many years and also retired as a Sergeant with Mayo Correctional Institute. Howard was a member of Philadelphia Baptist Church, Live Oak, FL.

He is survived by his son: Blake Thomas, O'Brien, FL; one sister: Laura Vaszari, Buford, GA; one brother: Donald Thomas, O'Brien, FL.

Services for Mr. Thomas will be 11:00 am, Thursday, February 25, 2010 at Philadelphia Baptist Church, Live Oak, FL with Rev. Leroy Dobbs officiating.

Daniels Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc. in charge of all arrangements.

Death notices

Ruby Stokes October 11, 1926-February 20, 2010

Ruby Stokes, 83, Live Oak, FL passed away Saturday, February 20, 2010.

Daniels Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc., Live Oak, FL.

Please sign the online guestbook. Go to www.suwanneedemocrat.com and click on obituaries

ASK DR. MANTOOTH FOODS GOOD FOR ORAL HEALTH

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# Viewpoints/Opinions

## Suwannee Democrat



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Members of the Suwannee Democrat editorial board are Myra C. Regan, publisher, and Robert Bridges, editor. Our View, which appears in Friday editions of the Democrat, is formed by that board.

### THE SUWANNEE SCRIBBLER

## Belated Valentine's musings

By Jim Holmes

Well, another Valentine's Day has come and gone. By now, that special card you received has been placed in your keepsake box; the chocolates have all been devoured and the now-wilted flowers have been tossed in the trash.

Of course, there are much more lasting gifts, such as jewelry or perhaps a memorable night on the town, complete with dinner, dancing and romantic caresses.

For 40 years, my wife and I celebrated Valentine's Day — one way or another — with similar gifts and acts ... all designed to show our continued love for each other. This year, however, has been different, for she has given me a gift so special, that I don't think I will ever be able to repay it. In fact, I hope I never have to try.

You see, for the past several weeks, Lynda has been forced to become my absolute caregiver.

Those of you who are kind enough to read this weekly newspaper scribbling may remember an earlier column in which I told you I had taken a bad fall and in the process broken my right leg just above the ankle. Repair involved a 90-minute surgery, complete with screws and a metal plate to pull everything back together, followed by two months of having my leg and foot encased in a special boot.

Mind you, this is just a broken leg, with a recuperative process that hasn't been all that painful. But being confined to a chair for hours on end or hobbling along on crutches is something I loathe. It has been a real adjustment for me and a first hand education in what the permanently disabled are forced to cope with every day of their lives. No wonder they take offense, when they are called "cripples," as if their affliction somehow makes them weak. Experience their lives for a week or a month and I suspect you will view their non-ending struggles as nearly heroic.

Fortunately for me, I have not been alone on my odyssey of recovery. My wife has been at my side every moment; driving me to doctor's appointments in Gainesville, assisting me in getting in and out of the car, helping me dress and bathe, insisting that my diet is healthy and that I don't sit and vegetate in front of the television all day long. Even taking over a lengthy list of household chores, which until my injury were my daily tasks. And perhaps most importantly helping me find ways to laugh at my current predicament.

Her Valentine's gift to me was — and is — being my rock.

How can I ever really repay such a woman? Perhaps a wealthy man could do it with diamonds or a trip around the world. I, however, must find another way. My pledge to provide her like care, should the need ever arise, seems completely inadequate. Yet, at least for the moment, it is all that I have to give.

Hollywood often portrays lust as love. Life teaches most of us a much different lesson, one in which the word "love" is often interchangeable with words like trust, respect, commitment and dedication.

Those are the gifts my wife has showered on me over the past few weeks, making this bygone Valentine's Day the best of my life and leaving me forever in her debt.

Jim Holmes lives in Live Oak.

### BIBLE VERSE

"Do not those who plot evil go astray? But those who plan what is good find love and faithfulness." - Proverbs 14:22

Please address letters to: Letters To The Editor, Suwannee Democrat, PO Box 370, Live Oak, FL 32064. Please include your full name, address and daytime phone number. We ask this so we can verify your letter and discuss any questions about it with you.

## OPINION

# Global warming update



### A MINORITY VIEW

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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

Private industry and governments around the world have spent trillions of dollars in the name of saving our planet from manmade global warming. Academic institutions, think tanks and schools have altered their curricula and agenda to accommodate what was seen as the global warming "consensus."

Mounting evidence suggests that claims of manmade global warming might turn out to be the greatest hoax in mankind's history. Immune and hostile to the evidence, President Barack Obama's administration and most of the U.S. Congress sides with Climate Czar Carol Browner, who says, "I'm sticking with the 2,500 scientists. These people have been studying this issue for a very long time and agree this problem is real."

The scientists whom Browner references are associated with the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Let's look some of what they told us. The 2007 IPCC report, which won them a Nobel Peace Prize, said that the probability of Himalayan glaciers "disappearing by the year 2035 and perhaps sooner is very high" as a result of manmade global warming. Recently, IPCC was forced to retract their glacier disappearance claim, which was made on the basis of a non-scientific magazine article. When critics initially questioned the prediction, Rajendra Pachauri, IPCC's chairman, dismissed them as "voodoo scientists."

The IPCC also had to retract its claim that up to 40 percent of the Amazonian forests were at risk from global warming and would likely be replaced by "tropical savannas" if temperatures continued to rise. The IPCC claim was based on a paper co-authored by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), two environmental activist groups.

England's now-disgraced University of East Anglia's Climatic Research Unit (CRU) has been a leader in climate research data. Their data, collected and analyzed by them, have been used for years to bolster IPCC efforts to press governments to cut carbon dioxide emissions. Climatologists, including CRU's disgraced former director Professor Phil Jones, have been accused of manipulating data and criminally withholding scientific information to prevent its disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Professor Jones, considered to be the high priest of the manmade global warming movement, has been in the spotlight since he was forced to step down as CRU's director after the leaking of e-mails that skeptics claim show scientists were manipulating data. In a recent interview with the BBC, he admitted that he did not believe that "the debate on climate change is over" and that he didn't "believe the vast majority of climate scientists think this."

Long denied by the warmers, Professor Jones admitted that the Medieval Warm Period (800 A.D. to 1300 A.D.) might well had been as warm as the Current Warm Period (1975-present), or warmer, and that if it was, "then obviously the late-20th century warmth would not be unprecedented." That suggests global warming may not be a man-made phenomenon. In any case, Professor Jones said that for the past 15 years, there has been no "statistically significant" global warming.

During the BBC interview, Professor Jones dodged several questions: why he had asked a colleague to delete e-mails relating to the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report and ask others to do likewise; whether some of his handling of data had crossed the line of acceptable scientific practice; and what about his letter saying that he had used a "trick" to "hide the decline" in tree-ring temperature data?

Given all the false claims and evidence pointing to scientific fraud, I don't think it wise to continue spending billions of dollars and enacting economically crippling regulations in the name of fighting global warming. At the minimum, we should stop the Environmental Protection Agency from going on with their plans to regulate carbon emissions. Companies should resign from the United States Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), a lobbying group of businesses and radical environmentalists. Dr. Tom Borelli, who is director of the National Center for Public Policy Research's Free Enterprise Project, says that BP, Caterpillar, Conoco Phillips, Marsh, Inc. and Xerox have the common sense to so already.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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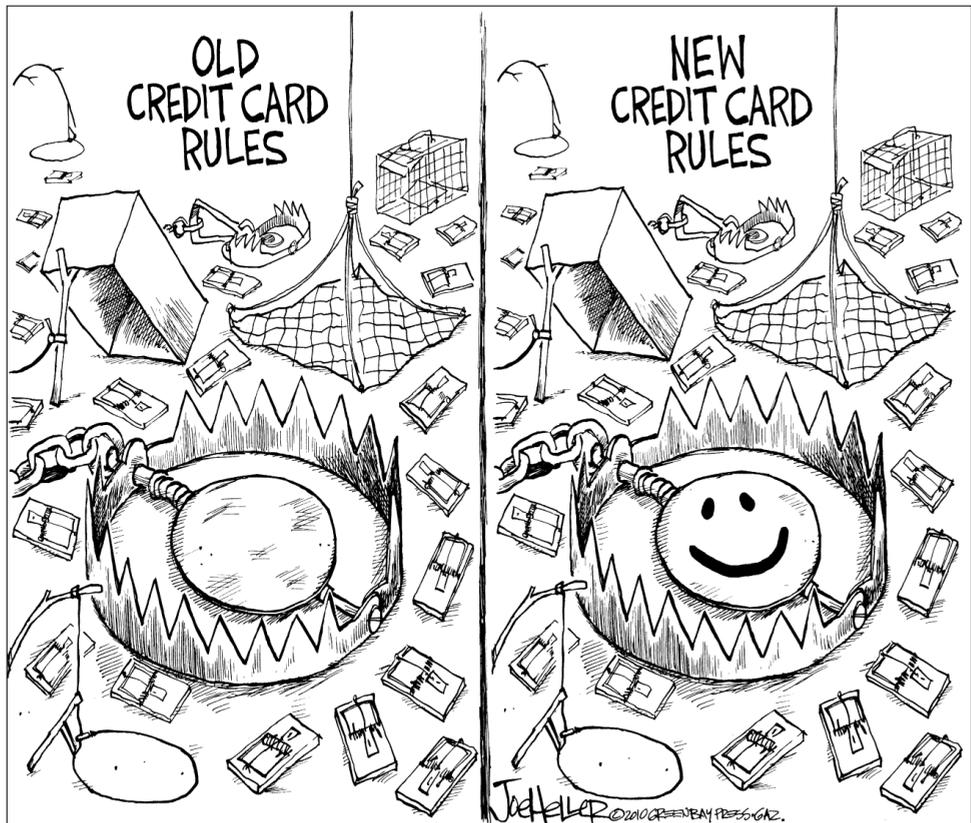
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# Branford News

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## Rising river keeps south county on alert

By Joyce Marie Taylor  
Correspondent

Back on Jan. 23, the north boat ramp at Ivey Memorial Park in Branford was still visible and still being utilized by boating and fishing enthusiasts. Two weeks later on Feb. 7, after countless days of rain across the southern region of the country, the Okefenokee Swamp filled up and the overflow of water began its trek down the intricate maze of rivers in northern Florida. The Suwannee River was soon bulging with massive amounts of water, as it rushed southward toward Branford, picking up tree limbs and brush along the way.

Suddenly, the cement boat ramp at the north end of Ivey Memorial Park was submerged. Branford Springs was littered with debris and the wooden steps leading down to the base of the natural spring were partially under water, as well.

Still, it's nothing compared to last April, when floodwaters rose to a level that hadn't been seen since 1948. The river had risen so high that it cascaded over the banks and the seawalls, and it filled up the lower levels of land within the park. After a while, it was so bad that only the top roof canopies of the picnic tables were all that were visible.

Considering the park's location so close to the riverbank, it makes perfect sense that the picnic tables are made of concrete and bolted down onto cement pads, rather than being made of wood. Otherwise they might float away, or at the very least, become

SEE RISING, PAGE 8A



Ivey Park in a recent photo. As you can see, flooding is minor in relation to the deluge of last April.



It was feared that flooding last April would reach record levels. However, the worst didn't materialize, and the river in Branford crested at 32.7 feet, well below the 1948 mark of 38.88 feet.

- Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor, Correspondent

### O'BRIEN AND OUR NEIGHBORS

### 'Bits & Pieces' from south Suwannee Co.

By Ana Smith

Last Sunday was such a gorgeous day it lifted my hopes for an early spring and some more warm days. Yes, I know we'll have a few more cold snaps in the next month, but Sunday really made me appreciate the fact that we have so many beautiful days to enjoy coming up very soon.

Our annual "Sweetheart Banquet" celebrating Valentine's Day was a lot of fun, and the overflow of food, as always, made for a great evening of fellowship. I had a few photos to share with this article, for which I want to thank our Pastor's wife, Vaster Fryar, for sharing hers with me, but for some reason I'm not able to get my computer to send them in, so I'll have to work on that problem for next week. This event was also sort of a "send off" to Emily and Paul Bell, nephew of Pastor and Mrs. Fryar, as they prepared for a 4-year missionary trip to Bosnia. They will leave sometime this coming week.

I want to commend our youth at OBC for their continuing growth in our music ministry, and for the pleasure they give to all of us when they stand up and sing for us. Now they are becoming involved in a drama group headed by Roberta Richmond, and performed two Christian skits for us in the church sanctuary after our Sweetheart Banquet. I don't have all their names, but will have some photos to share next week. To each one, I say a hearty "Well done!"

The first "Friday Night Game Night" at O'Brien Baptist Church was held last Friday, and was a big success for the varied age groups. And remarkably, there were no electronic games at all. This will be a monthly event at OBC, held the 3rd Friday of the month at the church fellowship hall beginning at 7 until 9 p.m. If you live in the area and want a place for your children to spend a fun, Christian evening, mark your calendar. All children are welcome.

February marked the second month for the O'Brien Baptist Church food pantry. Nine families were served, and hopes are to serve more. The food pantry is open every 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at OBC. You can call Ron Bullinger at 935-4439, or the church office at 935-1503, for more information.

If you have a young girl in your family who would like to join a Girl Scout Troop here in O'Brien, remember a local group meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall of OBC.

I want to thank Jackie Andrews for her visit last Sunday. We haven't seen each other in a while, but

SEE O'BRIEN, PAGE 9A

## New Master Mason in town



Pictured (left to right) is Dennis Starling, Worshipful Master, John C. Carpenter, new Master Mason and Brother William Stinson, Senior Deacon, all of Branford Masonic Lodge No. 130. Brother Starling led the Master Mason Degree Team, while Brother Stinson conducted the candidate. Brother Carpenter is Branford's newest Master Mason. He is a resident of O'Brien and owns Pennyworth Plumbing.

- Photo: Charlie Daniels

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HI 62 LO 34

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### Branford News

## Rising river keeps south county on alert

Continued From Page 7A

so waterlogged that rotting would become an issue.

Consequently, during the time of this flood, the town of Branford had no choice but to close the park to the public until the waters receded. After a massive clean-up effort, the park was reopened in May.

All in all, the overflowing Suwannee in the Branford area has been kind so far this winter season, with only a few dirt roads being washed out in low-lying areas of the city. For residents living along the banks of the river, it was only a minor scare. Let's hope Mother Nature continues watching out for the residents in Branford and southern Suwannee County and that she keeps the river waters safely contained in the riverbed.

On Tuesday, the river stood at 20.15 feet in Three Rivers Estates, slightly above flood stage (19 feet) and appeared to be falling. The river has been falling in Branford in recent days and as of Tuesday stood at 24.5 feet, well below flood stage (29 feet).



Steps submerged by the rising river. - Photos: Joyce Marie Taylor, Correspondent

### SUWANNEE RIVER READINGS Branford 2010

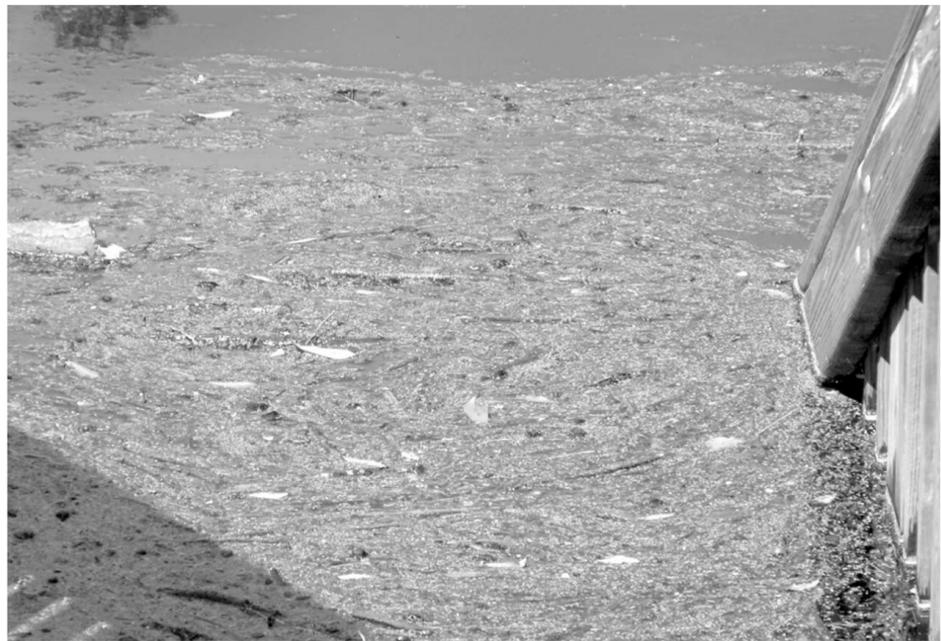


The water levels provided here refer to the height at the US Hwy. 27 bridge in Branford in feet above mean sea level (ft-msl) at the gauging station. In the past the levels were read as gauge height not mean sea level.

Feb. 17, 2010	24.26	Feb. 20, 2010	24.16
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Branford News

Racing at Branford R/C Speedway



NASCAR 21.5 LIPO

A-MAIN

1-Preston Carroll-Live Oak-92 Laps; 2-Jason Carroll-Live Oak-91 Laps-Top Qualifier; 3-Mike Conley-Homosassa-89 Laps; 4-Willis Lancaster-Quitman, Ga.-86 Laps; 5-Patrick Carlo-Valdosta-83 Laps; 6-Richard Carroll-Live Oak-83 Laps

**SOARING BEYOND EXPECTATIONS**

Branford High School  
Branford, FL 32008  
935-5615  
February, 2010  
Volume 1, Issue 1

**21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Afterschool Newsletter**

**Parent Night**  
March 4<sup>th</sup> – 6 p.m.  
Food, Fun, Prizes  
Please plan to attend  
Important information will be shared.

Progress Reports will go out the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Be looking for these to see how your child is doing.

**New Parent Fitness Program**  
Mrs. Mary Ward from the Dept. of Health visited us on the 26<sup>th</sup> of this month. She spoke about nutrition and the importance of daily exercise. Your child was given a pedometer. Mrs. Law plans to have you and your child walk to Tallahassee [okay, maybe not literally but the distance equal] and plot their course on the way. Ask about walking with your child. You never know what conversation might come up. ☺

**Dates for February**  
**Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>** will be a field trip to Suwannee Museum to meet some really neat folks.

FCAT - Reading and Math March 9-12  
Science March 16<sup>th</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>)

February is the month of the Big Read. BHS is partnering with the public library for this event. The book is *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London. We will have copies

**Dates to think about -**  
April 10<sup>th</sup> - UF for the Orange and Blue game  
Students will have had to attend at least five (5) Saturdays to be eligible to go to UF Game.

Please sign and return for your child to be placed in a drawing. Thank you for your continued support of the 21 CCLC afterschool program at Branford High School

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent: \_\_\_\_\_



2-WHEEL DRIVE OFF ROAD TRUCKS

A-MAIN

1-Preston Carroll-Live Oak-13 Laps-Top Qualifier; 2-Jason Carroll-Live Oak-13 Laps; 3-Patrick Carlo-Valdosta-Did not start (broken steering)

**O'BRIEN AND OUR NEIGHBORS**

**'Bits & Pieces' from south Suwannee Co.**

Continued From Page 7A

she looks great, and I enjoy talking with her whenever we do get together. Hopefully we'll keep in touch more often.

From "Life's Little Instruction Book":  
"When you feel terrific, notify your face."  
"Never apologize for being early for an appointment."  
"Volunteer. Sometimes the jobs no one wants conceal big opportunities." (And lessons!)  
"Don't judge people by their relatives."  
"Remember that everyone you meet is afraid of something, loves something, and has lost something."  
"Remember that just the moment you say 'I give up!', someone else seeing the same situation is saying 'My, what a great opportunity!'"  
Have a wonderful week, no matter what the weather may be.  
God bless!

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Taking a break from dancing. - Photos: Submitted

# The Big Read



'The Call of the Wild' - display materials.

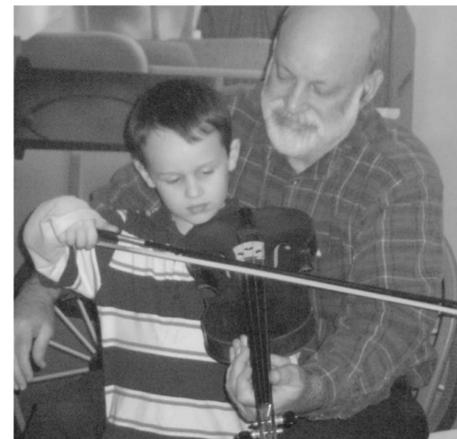
Here are some photos from the Big Read kick-off event at the Suwannee River Regional Library recently. This year's festivities centered on Jack London's Call of the Wild. Throughout February, discussions, movies and demonstrations have focused on the classic novel.



Ready for an adventure.



Patrons file in the library to receive their copy of the book Call of the Wild from author Jack London, portrayed by Library Director Danny Hales.



Instructor Lloyd Baldwin teaches a youngster to play the fiddle.



The kids show the grownups how it's done.

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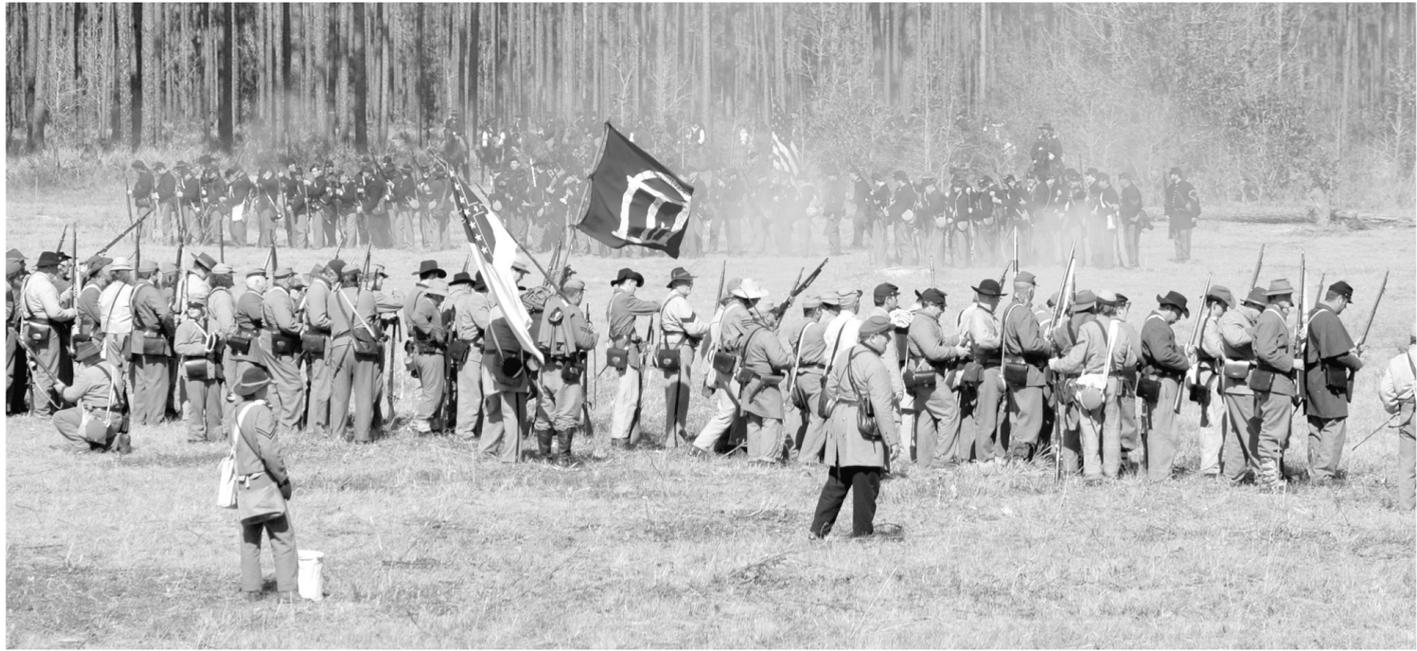
by Kathy Fletcher, PharmD Drive-up window

### Treatment for This Facial Paralysis

*Bell's palsy* is a type of facial paralysis. Typically, only one side of the face is temporarily paralyzed, although in rare cases the whole face may be affected. Although the cause is not fully known, a virus may cause damage to the facial nerve, causing it to swell and stop working properly. Signs and symptoms of the condition include twitching, difficulty speaking, and loss of taste. Symptoms typically occur suddenly, and peak in several days. Pregnant women and persons between the ages of 15 and 60 years are more likely to be affected by Bell's palsy. Also, those who have diabetes or Lyme disease may be more likely to be affected. Having a cold or the flu may also increase the risk of experiencing Bell's palsy, as may an infection, such as from herpes simplex virus.

Although Bell's palsy resolves in about 1 to 2 months without treatment, treatments are available to shorten the duration of symptoms. Glucocorticoids taken by mouth, such as *prednisone*, may be prescribed to be taken for about a week. Prednisone works to decrease inflammation, however also suppresses the immune system. This medication should be taken within a few days of symptoms. Antiviral medications, such as *valacyclovir (Valtrex)*, may be prescribed to be taken along with prednisone for more severe symptoms.

575408-F



The battle rages at Olustee, much as it did in 1864. - Courtesy photo

# Local 8th-graders help re-create history

## 14-year-olds participate in annual Civil War re-enactment

Submitted

Two Suwannee Middle School eighth-graders, Zach Pennington and Tyler daSilva, both 14, spent their weekend learning how the Confederate and Union soldiers of the Civil War lived and fought during this period of American history. The two boys are Civil War buffs and also members of a reenactment group that attend several reenactments each year across the state of Florida. Zach and Tyler are members of Company "C," 2nd battalion, Hardy's Brigade, Confederate States of America Reenactment Group. Their headquarters are located in Wellborn and their Company Commander is Captain Cody Gray.

Pennington and daSilva spent the weekend of Feb. 12-14 at the Battle of Olustee reenactment in Columbia County. During this time they lived the same way as the soldiers and fought this battle on February 20, 1864.

When they reported for duty at the battleground they lived just as the soldiers did in 1864. They lived in tents, cooked their meals over a campfire, wore period uniforms and carried weapons of the type used in that battle. They also endured the cold and rain just as the soldiers of the 1864

campaign.

All equipment and uniforms that the re-enactor wears and uses is furnished by the individual re-enactor. Both of these young men work and earn the money for their uniforms and equipment by doing odd jobs during their afternoons and weekends.

The weather was freezing and wet. Both Pennington and daSilva say they have learned a lot about the Civil War and have experienced, if briefly, the hardships that the soldiers of that time period suffered. They also said they have a new respect for what the

soldiers of both the Confederacy and the Union went through.

The next reenactment for the two will be in Crystal River in March. Zach Pennington is also a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. In order to be a member of this organization you are required to prove a direct relationship to someone who served in the Confederate Army. Zach is the great (4) grandson of Pvt. Thomas Langford, Company "H," 17th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Harris County, Georgia, "Harris Bartows," Army of Northern Virginia, C.S.A.



Suwannee Middle School eighth-graders Zach Pennington (left) and Tyler daSilva at the annual re-enactment of the Battle of Olustee in Columbia County earlier this month. - Courtesy photo

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# School-Related Employee of the Year

Ta-Trease Onika Sapp is this year's pick for Suwannee

By Susan K. Lamb

Ta-Trease Onika Sapp has been selected as the 2010 School Related Employee of the Year for the Suwannee County School District.

Ta-Trease is employed at Suwannee-Hamilton Technical Center, where she has worked for the past four years as a paraprofessional. Having had several opportunities to move up and take other jobs, Ta-Trease has turned down those opportunities because she loves providing classroom management, giving TABE tests, helping maintain test security, assisting students with daily assignments, encouraging and counseling high school and adults students on future education endeavors, and always showing an upbeat and positive attitude with all students during her work day. Ta-Trease truly enjoys working with students and helping them to help themselves by achieving their education

goals. She maintains contact with her students and feels personally rewarded by their successes. It was because of these attributes that she was chosen to represent Suwannee-Hamilton Technical Center as School-Related Employee of the Year.

Not only does she help students during the workday, Ta-Trease volunteers to help with many projects at Suwannee-Hamilton Technical Center. She's been a part of the "Healthy Hearts" drive where faculty and students alike were encouraged to wear red to show support. She's also taken part in the breast cancer awareness program by wearing pink on a specific day. She came up with the idea of the faculty and students forming the breast cancer ribbon symbol. Ta-Trease worked with faculty and students to make sure the event was a huge success. She's also active with Suwannee High School alumni projects and St.

Leo University in Lake City.

"She is always willing to go the extra mile for a student or school project," her principal, Diane Westcott, said.

Always wearing a smile and giving encouraging words, this young woman has not only held down a full-time job during her entire employment of four years with the school district, she's continued her dream of obtaining her

college degree. In 2009 Ta-Trease attained that goal when she completed her BA in human services through St. Leo University. And, she did it while making the Dean's List during her last semester.

When preparing her paperwork for the selection committee recently, Ta-Trease went the second mile. She produced her own four-page newsletter, in color

This young woman has not only held down a full-time job during her entire employment of four years with the school district, she's continued her dream of obtaining her college degree. In 2009 Ta-Trease attained that goal when she completed her BA in human services through St. Leo University. And, she did it while making the Dean's List during her last semester.



From left: Adult education instructor Vicki Clayton; School-Related Employee of the Year Ta-Trease Sapp; SHTC Principal Diane Westcott. - Photo: Carnell Hawthorne Jr.

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and with many photographs and artwork, telling about her activities at SHTC. In this beautiful work of art, she explained that she puts God first, is a team player and positive role model, active in her church and community, family oriented and grateful to be nominated for the district award.

This was the most unique presentation the committee had seen in more than five years by a school district employee, committee members said.

Ta-Trease Sapp was chosen by the selection committee as 2010 Suwannee County School-

Related Employee of the Year partially upon the recommendations of not only her principal, Diane Westcott, but also the recommendation of two teachers and a letter by Charles Albritton, a former student who obtained his GED late in his life due to her encouragement.

SHTC teacher Cassandra Yulee was Ta-Trease's second-grade teacher and has watched proudly since that time as this former student has become a fellow faculty member mentor to other students.

SHTC teacher Virginia

C. Johnston said Ta-Trease is committed to her profession, helpful in every way, has gained state certification to administer and interpret TABE test results and works hard to make sure the appropriate materials are available to her students. "She saves me countless hours of work by her attention to attendance requirements," Johnson said. She added that "not only does Ta-Trease take pride in her appearance and manner, she is always pleasant and willing to do whatever needs to be done to accomplish our goals."

## Hike along the Suwannee River March 13

The North Florida Trail Blazers are once again hosting the IDID A HIKE on Saturday, March 13 along the beautiful Suwannee River to benefit the Florida Trail Association and our chapter. The trail hugs the river much of the way crossing the Walking Man Bridge, Falling Creek and Little Shoals. We will be meeting in White Springs at the Heritage and Nature Tourism Center, a shuttle will carry you to the trailhead. Shuttle service

begins at 8 am until noon. There will be Sag wagons at several locations along the way.

There will be a \$20 charge to get on the shuttle.

Bring comfortable shoes, water and pack a lunch if you like. Refreshments will be available at some of the sag points.

For more information, contact Alton Snellgrove, <alton2bellsouth.net> or dunnams@windstream.net.

## Find us on Facebook

## Web challenge could benefit animal shelter

The Suwannee County Animal Control Shelter is entered into a shelter challenge sponsored by Petfinders and the animal rescue site. In order to win we need everyone to log onto [www.theanimalrescuesite.com](http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com) and vote for Suwannee County Animal Control

Shelter. You can do this once a day. The contest runs through mid-April. Please, we need your help and it only takes a few minutes a day. Not only can we possibly win the grand prize of \$100,000 but there are weekly prizes also.



# Parents gather for cyber safety meeting

Continued From Page 1A  
course.  
But, Parker explained, "anytime you allow unsupervised use of a computer by your children, it opens up the possibility for strangers to come into your home."

Tamara Jones, a children's ministry leader and parent of a 15-year-old daughter, said, "It's not so much stranger danger, but protecting children against Internet predators nowadays."

Increased Internet access by children has made them more susceptible to on-line advances by predators, Parker said.

"The risk of children being contacted and deceived by on-line predators has increased whether it's through chat rooms, on-line video games (with chat capabilities), peer-to-peer networks, social networking sites or cell phones; all of these are danger areas," he said. Some of the most common sites where children have been targeted include: MySpace, Facebook, Yahoo and others.

According to data presented, "69 percent of teens regularly receive personal messages on-line from people they don't know, and 39 percent usually respond," Parker said.

He showed testimonials of teenagers who had been lured into conversations with predators posing as someone else — several who were eventually convinced to meet those strangers face-to-face. Oftentimes, those strangers turned out to be convicted sex offenders.

"The bad guys have more motivation to get to their end than most parents do to get to their end," Parker said. In other words, predators usually follow through with their bad intentions, whereas parents oftentimes don't do all they can to protect their children against on-line predators, Parker explained.

Jack Allred, of Well-

born, along with several members of Wellborn United Methodist Church attended the Thursday meeting to get incite on how to better protect and warn children in their youth ministry.

"We know that some of this is going on, this way we can deal with it," Allred said.

Parker discussed in detail the warning signs parents should watch for and steps they should take to protect their children against on-line predators. Some signs included: excessive Internet use by kids, unsupervised chat conversations, drastic behavior and attitude changes, large unknown downloaded files, gifts from unknown persons, and face-to-face meetings. Parents were encouraged to talk with their children about safe Internet use, to keep computers in a common area, to use parental controls and keep track of children's screen names, monitoring their children's profiles and insuring access to computer logs in features. Parents were also encouraged to learn Internet acronyms such as ASL (age, sex, location) or POS (parents over my shoulder), which are often used by children to maintain secrecy in Internet conversations. Parker suggested the Web site [www.netlingo.com](http://www.netlingo.com) to help in that endeavor.

Joy Sedgley, a mother of two and APT leader at Suwannee Elementary School, said Thursday's meeting was extremely helpful.

"It's scary how much more my children know than I do," she said. "I'm happy to know that I can share some of the things from the meeting with my 8-year-old."

After the meeting, Live Oak Police Chief Buddy Williams who was in attendance, said, "In an age when everything is going on-line, we must be prepared for it."

He added, "I would really like (Parker) to do a train-the-trainer type meeting with our force, so that we as law enforcement can know how to better address these types of crimes and strengthen our techniques. That way, we can continue to help parents with what they should know and what they can do."

Turnout for the meeting was modest, but Lisa McKinley Garrison, Suwannee schools' parent/homeless liaison, wasn't discouraged.

"It is unfortunate that there were other events going on in the community at the same time, which kept a lot of people from attending," she said. "We would like to bring this program back to Suwannee County soon, so that we can inform more people about the dangers of being online. It's not about keeping our kids off the internet. It's about being proactive, talking to

# Cattle Barons' Ball coming to Live Oak

Continued From Page 1A

and silent auctions. Specialty items such as private concerts, trips and jewels will be the focus of the live auction, while the silent auction will consist of more than 50 items, including Suwannee River Jam tickets and various sports memorabilia.

Sponsorship packages are still available at various levels. However, seating is limited. For more information about sponsorship packages or to donate tax-deductible auction items, call the American Cancer Society at 352-386-6866 or email [Courtne.Douglas@cancer.org](mailto:Courtne.Douglas@cancer.org).

them about the dangers and keeping them safe."

The meeting was a joint effort between the Suwannee County School District, First United Methodist Church of Live Oak, and the Office of Attorney General. To find out more about the cyber safety and programs, visit [www.safeflorida.net/safesurf](http://www.safeflorida.net/safesurf).

# Recycling bins being removed

Continued From Page 1A

bility of launching a county recycling program.

The problem first came to light several weeks ago after the SHS club learned that recyclables they had collected as part of a campus-wide project were being sent to the landfill instead. Sikes said that Suwannee had a limited recycling program that is based on the economy, meaning, if the county can sell the recyclables, they will. If there was no market for the materials, they simply went to the landfill, including all the materials in the igloos, marked "newspapers," "clear glass," and "aluminum cans."

# \$30 million grant will mean better broadband access

Continued From Page 1A

Known as the Ubiquitous Middle Mile project, the new network will directly connect more than 300 community anchor institutions, including public schools, universities, libraries, health-care facilities, public safety organizations, and government agencies. The new network is expected to reach more than 154,000 households, and 27,000 businesses in our area and will be the

first-ever and only network to provide open access to broadband Internet services for both private entities and public institutions in the underserved areas of North Florida. The network will serve Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor and Union counties.

Funding for the project is through the Economic Stimulus Package. For more information visit [www.nfba-fl.org/](http://www.nfba-fl.org/).

# High hopes for new head coach

Continued From Page 1A

letes."

Spears said in a letter to Suwannee selection committee members that he "will be committed to stay here and build a program," and would "not use this job as a mere stepping stone."

Spears' résumé shows he has held coaching jobs at five different schools since 2002. His longest tenure was four years. The others were for about a year. The Suwannee job, though, will only be his second as a varsity head football coach.

When contacted Tuesday morning, Spears said he had "moved around a lot," but said he and his family "are sick of moving." He added, "I don't know why we can't stay in one place, but that's what's been happening."

Others have raised the

same question. Spears discussed the issue recently on [coachspears.com](http://coachspears.com), a page on the Jefferson County Athletic Department Web site, under the heading "Spears apologizes for resignation."

Spears told the *Democrat* that if his stay here does prove brief, "I can guarantee (the program) will be better than before I got there."

Spears replaces Jerry Odom, who left Suwannee after one season to take a job as an assistant coach at Jacksonville University.

Spears began his coaching career in 2002 shortly after playing for the Boise Idaho Stallions in the Indoor Professional Football League and on the Rochester Brigade in the Arena Football League 2. As assistant varsity football coach at Rutherford High School in Panama

City, Spears helped lead the Rams to an 11-2 record and sent two players to second team all-state. In 2003 he landed the head coaching job for the JV Rams football team. At Arnold High School in Panama City Beach, Spears wore three coaching hats during a brief stint in 2006: assistant varsity football coach of wide receivers and defensive backs, head girls basketball and head girls track coach.

"For me Suwannee is the job," Spears. "Suwannee is probably one of the top jobs in the state because of its history."

Spears said he will meet with students at Suwannee High School today. Scarborough said Spears will meet with the Quarterback Club Monday night at 7 p.m.

Spears is married and has two children.

2010

Suwannee County  
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Live Oak, FL

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**Friday, April 9th**  
7:30 p.m.  
**Lawn Mower, Mini Van & Pickup Derby**  
Entry Fee: Lawn Mower \$10,  
Mini Van & Truck \$20

---

**Saturday, April 10th**  
1:00 p.m.  
**Flat Drags**  
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12:30 p.m., Racing 1:00 p.m.  
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---

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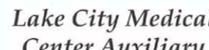
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### Luther places second at state fair



Sarah Luther placed second in the champion of champions round for her dairy cow recently at the Florida State Fair. She is pictured here with her award. - Photo: Staff

## Attorney General McCollum coming to Live Oak

Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum is scheduled to speak Friday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Live Oak Church of God. McCollum served as a U.S. Congressman from 1981-2001. In 1989 he founded the U.S. House Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare and was recognized as an expert on terrorism. He is now seeking the Republican nomination for governor of Florida.

"Given the current economic and political climate in our nation, and here in

Florida, it has become clear to me that I can best put my years of service and experience to use by running for governor of the state of Florida," McCollum said.

Dinner tickets are \$30 with special seating for VIP sponsorships. The talk is sponsored by the Suwannee County Republican Executive Committee.

For more information contact Barbara Gill, 386-364-7784, or go to www.suwanneegop.com.

## Seasonal flu vaccine still available at health department

Seasonal influenza vaccine for adults is still available at the Suwannee County Health Department for adults and children age 36 months and older. This vaccine is recommended in addition to any H1N1 (Swine Flu) vaccine that may become available later this fall.

ders that can lead to breathing or swallowing problems residents of nursing homes and other long term care facilities

- Healthcare providers
- Caregivers of children from birth up to 5 years of age
- Household contacts and caregivers of people 50 years and older
- Anyone with chronic medical problems

### Seasonal flu vaccine is recommended for those who are:

- All children age 6 months and older
- 50 years of age and older
- Persons at risk for complications from influenza, including:
  - women who will be pregnant during flu season
  - persons with chronic health problems
  - persons with a weakened immune system
  - persons with muscle or nerve disorder

The vaccine will be given by appointment. Call 386-362-2708 for an appointment at the Live Oak clinic or 386-935-1133 for an appointment at the Branford clinic. There is no charge for the children's seasonal flu vaccine. Adult seasonal flu vaccine is \$30 and is covered by Medicare.

## 'Gold Rush at the Gallery'

The Live Oak Artist's Guild along with the Suwannee River Regional Library presents a Readers Theater entitled "Gold Rush at the Gallery" on Saturday. Tickets are \$7 per person and coffee and desserts will be served. John Bell from Liveonstage Theatre Group has written a skit that should be fun for folks of all ages. John has written and performed many programs for the Live Oak Artist's Guild and the Woman's Club and I know that this will be a wonderful presentation. And, if there is anything (besides art) that the members of the LOAG does well it's cook and bake. So, come and enjoy a delightful program and wonderful desserts and coffee at the LOAG Gallery and Cultural Arts center at 213 2nd St. NW. Live Oak. Tickets are available at the Gallery or at the Frame Shop and Gallery, 109 W. Howard St., Live Oak.

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## Wellborn Neighborhood Watch to meet

Each month on the last Thursday the Wellborn Neighborhood Watch has its regular meeting and at that time we have scheduled speakers.

This month our guest speaker will be Michael Ingram, Manager of Retail Operations for the Hospice Attic in Lake City and Gainesville. He will explain to us exactly how the Attic helps with funds for Haven Hospice and the families that come there in

need. He will also explain how the Attic helps families after Medicare and other sources of help are no longer available to them.

Please come and join us at the Blake Lowe building next to Wellborn Playground at 7 p.m. We have refreshments before the meeting and hope many of you can join us.

For information call Jane Campbell at 208-8818.

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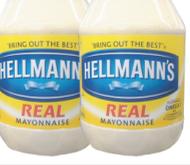
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<p>USDA Inspected Pork <b>SIRLOIN ROAST</b> <b>\$1.19</b> Lb.</p> 	<p>USDA Inspected Pork <b>FINGER STYLE RIBS</b> <b>\$1.99</b> Lb.</p> 	<p>Heavy Western Beef <b>CUBED STEAKS</b> <b>\$3.29</b> Lb. FAMILY PACK</p> 	
<p>USDA Inspected Pork <b>SIRLOIN CHOPS</b> <b>\$1.39</b> Lb. FAMILY PACK</p> 	<p>Heavy Western Boneless Bottom <b>ROUND STEAK</b> <b>\$2.79</b> Lb. FAMILY PACK</p> 	<p>Lykes <b>SLICED BACON</b> <b>\$1.99</b> 12 OZ. PKG.</p> 	
<p>Lykes Plumper <b>HOT DOGS</b> <b>\$1.39</b> 12 OZ. PKG.</p> 			

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<p>O'DAY'S Farms <b>STEAK FRIES</b> <b>\$1.79</b> 24 OZ.</p> 	<p>HELLMANN'S <b>REAL MAYONNAISE</b> <b>\$2.99</b> 30 OZ.</p> 	<p>Rosalinda's <b>TORTILLA STRIPS</b> <b>\$2.99</b> 24 OZ.</p> 
<p>Hormel <b>COMPLEATS</b> <b>\$1.99</b> 10 OZ.</p> 	<p>Hungry Jack <b>MASHED POTATOES</b> <b>\$4.99</b> 40 OZ.</p> 	<p>Knorr's <b>PASTA SIDES</b> <b>\$1.00</b></p> 
<p>O'DAY'S <b>MAC &amp; CHEESE DINNER</b> <b>35¢</b> 7.25 OZ.</p> 	<p>HAWAIIAN PUNCH <b>\$1.99</b> 128 OZ.</p> 	<p>SARDINES <b>ASSORTED PORTSIDE SARDINES</b> <b>89¢</b> 3.75 OZ.</p> 
<p>Bell's <b>CRISP SALTINES</b> <b>94¢</b> 16 OZ.</p> 	<p>CASKEY'S <b>NEW ENGLAND CLAM CHOWDER</b> <b>\$1.59</b> 18.8 OZ.</p> 	<p>KURTZ <b>WHOLE DILL PICKLES</b> <b>\$1.69</b> 32 OZ.</p> 
<p>JIFFY <b>CORN MUFFIN MIX</b> <b>39¢</b> 8.5 OZ.</p> 		

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Suwannee Democrat

Section B

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

SPORTS

SHS and BHS recognize

Pages 5-8B



LEAD

OUT LOUD

National FFA Week February 20-27, 2010

Ladies fall to Wildwood in semi-regionals

By Jeff Waters jeff.waters@gafnews.com

The Suwannee High School ladies basketball team lost a hard fought game to Wildwood Feb. 17, 56-45 in semi-regional finals.

"We gave it our all, but came up a little short in the end," said coach Jimmy Jackson. "It was a great ride while it lasted. We had a great season, one that will be remembered for a long time."

Suwannee won two championships this season, the Madison Christmas Invitational and the district championship.

"I would like to thank our seniors, Rictoria Merrick, Tara Oliver, Jawanza Pipkin, Kemberlee Beaty and Tiyrenee Riley for their commitment to this program and their desire to get better every day," said Jackson.

Tatiyana Thomas led in scoring with 18 points. She also had four assists. Merrick followed with 11 points and five rebounds. Hope Chambers had six points, five rebounds and three blocks.

SEE LADIES FALL, PAGE 2B

Suwannee falls by one point in last game of season

By Jeff Waters jeff.waters@gafnews.com

Coach James Perry said his goal for next season's SHS boys basketball team is to go to the state playoffs.

Suwannee (14-13) finished their season Thursday night, falling to Ocala's Trinity Catholic by just one point. The final score was 65-64.

"All the elements were there for us to win that game," said Perry. "It was right there for us to take that game."

Suwannee scored more points in the first quarter than Trinity Catholic by 14-12. In the second quarter Suwannee only managed seven points, to Trinity's 21. The third quarter Suwannee sank 15 points to Trinity's 14. Suwannee had 26 points in the fourth quarter to Trinity's 18.

Suwannee scoring summary Marcus Lane 19 Jimmie Taylor 17 Keith Cherry 11 Andre Zanders 8 Brandon Soler 4 Rashad Gardenhire 3 Josh Randolph 2

Bulldogs lose first district game

After nine innings, the SHS lady softball team fell to Williston Feb. 16, 4-3 in the first district game of the season.

"Jamie summers and Destiny Perrin led the team with two hits each with Summers collecting two RBI's," said coach Tommy Chambers.

Suwannee collected nine hits to Williston's 10. Suwannee's Tinsley Smith struck out eight batters, while Williston managed to strike out 10. Suwannee played Ft. White Friday and Madison Tuesday. See a future edition for results.

SPORTS COMMENTARY

This and that

Sportabout By Tom Daniels



The SHS girls basketball team fell short of regionals but had a great season. Their last game was one of the more exciting games I've seen in a long while. The girls should take pride in the fact they got people excited about basketball again. Andra Davis, Kelly Jennings, and Bruce Johnson, Suwannee County's NFL contingent, were all in attendance.

The Winter Olympics continues and it was only 30 years ago we saw the Miracle on Ice. The U.S. hockey team won the gold. They are doing pretty well this year as well. They won

SEE SPORTABOUT, PAGE 10B



Tatiyana Thomas dominates the court. - Photo: Paul Buchanan - SuwanneeSports.com



Live Oak's NFL contingent comes together for local kids

Three Suwannee County natives, all players in the NFL, join Live Oak's Tom Daniels for a look at a photo of "the old days" before discussing plans for a kid's football camp coming shortly. The "Dream it, Do it" camp will be a joint venture by the players and Daniels. The four met at Daniels' local sporting goods shop, The Sports Connection. Pictured from left: Andra Davis (Denver Broncos), Daniels, Bruce Johnson (New York Giants) and Kelly Jennings (Seattle Seahawks). - Photo: Jeff Waters



The Suwannee Democrat ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Tiyrenee Riley

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SPORTS

# Ladies fall to Wildwood in semi-regionals



Rictoria Merrick looks for an open shot. - Photos: Paul Buchanan - SuwanneeSports.com

Continued From Page 1B

**Kristiana Evans** had six points and six rebounds. **Beaty** had two points, four rebounds, four assists and two blocks and **Riley** had two points and two rebounds. "I would also like to thank our administration staff, support staff, boosters and our community for rallying around us this

season," said Jackson. "Last, but not least, my coaching staff, Brent Chambers, an excellent teacher of the game, J.V. Coach Cynthia Ford and Cheretta Ross, who are all former Bulldog basketball players, for helping to instill Bulldog pride in our program. To our up coming seniors, the bar has been set. What will be your legacy? How do you want to be remembered?."



Hope Chambers dribbles the ball past a pair of Wildcats.

**Today's Weather**

**Local 3-Day Forecast**

Wed 2/24	Thu 2/25	Fri 2/26
<b>62/34</b>	<b>57/30</b>	<b>62/37</b>
Chance of showers. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise 7:03 AM Sunset 6:27 PM	Sunrise 7:02 AM Sunset 6:28 PM	Sunrise 7:01 AM Sunset 6:29 PM

**Florida At A Glance**

**Moon Phases**

- First: Feb 22
- Full: Feb 28
- Last: Mar 7
- New: Mar 15

**UV Index**

Wed 2/24	4	Moderate
Thu 2/25	6	High
Fri 2/26	6	High

The UV Index is measured on a 0-11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 11

**Area Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Clearwater	66	45	rain	Lake City	63	34	rain	Pompano Beach	77	53	rain
Crestview	50	28	rain	Madison	59	34	rain	Port Charlotte	71	47	rain
Daytona Beach	70	40	rain	Melbourne	74	45	rain	Saint Augustine	64	36	rain
Fort Lauderdale	76	54	rain	Miami	74	55	rain	Saint Petersburg	62	49	rain
Fort Myers	71	51	rain	N Smyrna Beach	70	42	rain	Sarasota	68	47	rain
Gainesville	67	36	rain	Ocala	71	38	rain	Tallahassee	55	30	rain
Hollywood	76	52	rain	Orlando	72	44	rain	Tampa	68	45	rain
Jacksonville	63	37	rain	Panama City	53	34	rain	Titusville	72	43	rain
Key West	72	60	rain	Pensacola	50	32	rain	Venice	67	48	rain
Lady Lake	72	39	rain	Plant City	72	43	rain	W Palm Beach	75	51	rain

**National Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	47	25	rain	Houston	55	33	pt sunny	Phoenix	68	43	pt sunny
Boston	40	33	rain	Los Angeles	62	49	rain	San Francisco	68	46	rain
Chicago	24	18	flurries	Miami	74	55	rain	Seattle	50	42	rain
Dallas	48	31	sunny	Minneapolis	17	1	pt sunny	St. Louis	25	17	pt sunny
Denver	46	27	mst sunny	New York	43	34	rain	Washington, DC	47	33	rain



Kemberlee Beaty in action.





# SPORTS



Hope Chambers secures the ball. - Photos: Paul Buchanan - SuwanneeSports.com

## Ladies fall to Wildwood in semi-regionals



Kristiana Evans looks downcourt.

### Now THAT'S Something To Smile About!



Kelly spending time with her Grandpa (Robert Allen)

Thank you for submitting this week's SMILE photograph!  
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SPORTS

# Ladies fall to Wildwood in semi-regionals



Kristiana Evans in action.



TOP: Coach Jimmy Jackson.

ABOVE: Tatiyana Thomas under pressure.

- Photos: Paul Buchanan - SuwanneeSports.com



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**LEAD**

**OUT  
LOUD**

National FFA Week  
**February 20-27, 2010**

**Suwannee High FFA**

The FFA is a youth organization designed to develop leadership and agriscience skills. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing premiere leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. In our local FFA chapter we are fulfill-

ing this mission daily by providing a wide variety of career development events and leadership activities. Our current program of activities includes preparing teams for dairy judging, meat judging, poultry judging, land judging, horse judging, livestock judging, veggie judging, ornamental

horticulture, and ag. issues competitions. The 82nd State Convention will be held in Orlando, June 14 – 18.

February 20 – 27 is National FFA Week. During that week, there will an Alumni/Chapter meeting and softball game, the Annual Teacher Ap-

preciation Luncheon, land judging contest and much more. Also, the FFA will be hosting a golf tournament at the Suwannee Country Club on March 6 to raise money for scholarships for seniors, and state convention, and other FFA related events and activities.



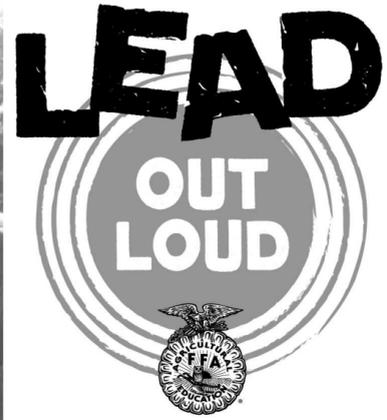
**Junior Officers:**

Sentinel - Jason Howdysshell, President - Taylor Randall, Vice President - Taylor Henderson, Reporter- Braxton Hicks, Secretary - Wesley Thomas, not pictured are: Treasurer - Jesse Dean





Participants at a district contest.



National FFA Week  
February 20-27, 2010



Grinding cane.



In the classroom.



Learning from an expert. - Courtesy photos



The gang's all here at the winter social.

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Members of the Branford FFA clean up Ruth Springs during the group's annual River Cleanup Day. - Courtesy photos

This year, so far, has proved to be another busy year for members of the Branford FFA. Perhaps one of the largest achievements has been the chartering of a Branford Middle School Chapter. For the first year ever, Branford now has two FFA chapters, a middle school chapter for students in grades 6-8, and our long-standing high school chapter for students in grades 9-12. With the new chapter, Branford has been able to send students to compete in many various Career Development Events (competitions) at both the middle school level, and high school level. It has also provided an opportunity for many younger students to get involved in FFA and agriculture and begin to train for future FFA events, when previously, Branford students were not eligible until ninth grade.

We have participated in forestry, farm judging, parliamentary procedure, creed speaking, prepared speaking, extemporaneous speaking, tractor driving, dairy judging, and ag business management to date, and plan to compete in land judging and poultry judging in the future. Of these competitions 70-80% of team members were new, first-time competitors in these events, providing an encouraging outlook for the Branford future of our FFA competitions. Also, the dairy judging team and ag business management teams scored high enough at the district level to qualify for state competitions, which have not yet taken place. Dewayne Aderholt, the Branford FFA tractor operations representative, won first place at sub-district and district competition, and will compete at the state level during the FFA convention in June.

We have also had the opportunity to give back to our community with service in many areas, and still have some planned during the rest of the year. We have been able to park cars for the Suwannee River Riding Club's annual rodeo. We have been able to clean up our area's rivers, by

participating in our annual "River Cleanup" event and focusing on three of our areas river "parks". In the late fall, our classes grew several acres of peas, that we picked and gave away to as many Branford citizens as we could find. We also participated in a new event this year, having chapter members and officers "adopt" two teenagers from the Christmas Dream machine and buy gifts for them.

We are also planning to clean up our 2-3 mile stretch of highway on 129, during our spring "Adopt a Highway" event.

We have also had many learning opportunities available for students that are members of FFA, or our town of Branford. We have had officer leadership retreats at the home of our advisor, a steer "clinic", for members showing steers at

the county fair, proficiency award workshops, and resume writing "classes". We are currently in the process of trying to plan for some officers, members and alumni to attend "Ag on the Hill" in Tallahassee in March, educating our public officials on the importance of agriculture in our state and encouraging them to continue supporting the Florida FFA chapters.

As always, we are planning a HUGE FFA week celebration, with daily events, including "Ag Olympics", "decorate your Door", "Breakfast for our teachers", "Blue and Gold day", and much more! And as we do every year, we will recognize the members who have stepped forward in leadership positions, and the community members who have helped our chapter, at our end of the year dinner-banquet.

Chapter officers for this year (2009-2010) are: Trevor Harrison, President; Dewayne Aderholt, Vice President; Amy Smith, Secretary; Jordan Gaylard, Treasurer; Ariel Harrison, Reporter; Kirk Davis, Historian; Kaleb Kelley, Sentinel; Stevie Harris, Chaplain; Mackenzie Akers, Parliamentarian; and Jimmy Wilkerson ("Doc"), Advisor.

Our chapter is so lucky to live in such a caring, agricultural town that really does try to help students better themselves. In a time when education is troubled, Branford and Live Oak businesses and citizens have really been "stepping up to the plate" to help our chapter out, both with opportunities and help. Also, at a time when our economy has been so short for so many things, we have been blessed with supporters that always come through and find some way to help! Words could not say how thankful we are for all of the support we receive, nor the faith that you put in our members to become a better generation. The leadership skills, friendships and knowledge that we receive from being active FFA members will carry us through a lifetime of "giving back" to those who will come after us! We truly are "Learning to do, Doing to learn, Learning to live, Living to serve." (FFA Motto)

### Branford FFA chapter



# LEAD OUT LOUD

National FFA Week  
February 20-27, 2010



Girls that competed in FFA sub-district competitions smile for the camera after a job well-done!

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Dewayne Aderholt demonstrates how to operate a tractor, winning first place in sub-district and district competition.



Members of the Branford FFA clean up Little River Springs during the group's annual River Cleanup Day. - Courtesy photos



Branford elementary and VPK students participate in "Ag in the Classroom" activities, and learn more about the role agriculture plays in American life.



Students in Branford agriculture classes learn about the soil and its properties from a guest speaker.



National FFA Week  
February 20-27, 2010  
**Branford FFA chapter**



Branford FFA junior sweethearts, Jessica Lewis and Mackenzie Akers, ride in the BHS 2009 homecoming parade.



Members of the Branford FFA take a break from parking cars at the Suwannee River rodeo to pose for a picture.



Branford FFA senior sweethearts, Malynn Moses and Kaleb Kelley, ride in the 2009 BHS homecoming parade.



A group of high school FFA members take a break before the fireworks, during the group's annual Fourth of July cookout at the Ag shop.

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SPORTS

# Ladies fall to Wildwood in semi-regionals



Kristiana Evans holds her ground. - Photo: Paul Buchanan - SuwanneeSports.com

SPORTS  
COMMENTARY

## This and that

Sportabout  
By Tom Daniels

Continued From Page 1B

the other night and the goalie made an incredible 42 saves. The U.S. is the leading medal winner as I write.

Spring training is about start. It must be difficult when you have to take a 6 million dollar pay cut to just make 6 million. I am referring to Johnny Damon's situation. It is amazing how fast you can lose track of reality.

Salaries used to reflect the fact that your career was a short one. I would venture to say 6 million is more than most of us will make over many, many lifetimes.

The search for Suwannee's new head football coach continues. When details become available we will be quick to get on line and in the paper. Hopefully there will be a determination before March Madness begins. In the meantime catch the action at the Rick Norris field for softball and Booster field for baseball.

The dedication of the Tommy Abercrombie field at the middle school was held Saturday and beautifully and respectfully done. It wouldn't hurt to catch a game there as well. Make sure to check it out on your way to the rec center.

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The City of Live Oak City Council herein referred to as the Owner, will receive sealed bids marked "SEALED BID FOR CITY OF LIVE OAK - ALBRITTON - HOUSTON DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT". Bid packages will be received by the Live Oak City Administrator, Live Oak, Florida for the construction of the Project, which shall include under one contract the construction and installation of the following major items:

- Storm Sewer conveyance system (24 to 42" pipe)
- Concrete sidewalk and curb removal and replacement
- Concrete pavement removal
- Asphalt removal and replacement
- Earthwork and Pond grading
- Miscellaneous site work and grading modifications.

Proposals shall be addressed to the Live Oak City Administrator and delivered to the City Offices, located at 101 White Avenue, SE, Live Oak, Florida, 32064 no later than 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2010. Proposals shall be designated as "SEALED BID FOR CITY OF LIVE OAK - ALBRITTON - HOUSTON DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT". All bids must be submitted in triplicate. Any bids received after the specified time and date will not be considered. The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:00 pm on March 3, 2010 at City Hall, Council Chambers at the above address.

Interested parties should contact Eutaw Utilities, Inc. at 415 Saint Francis Street, Unit #114, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, phone (850) 383-0400, fax (888) 878-2939 for a complete set of bid documents. A payment in cash or check payable to Eutaw Utilities, Inc. will be required for each complete set of the bid documents. This payment represents reproduction and shipping costs and is non-refundable. Complete sets of Bidding Documents are \$100.00 for the Drawings and Specifications including standard overnight delivery.

The owner reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids. Live Oak is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Each Bidder must deposit with his/her bid security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the information for Bidders. Sureties used for obtaining bonds must appear as acceptable according to the Department of Treasury Circular 570 or by the City of Live Oak.

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SPiRiT OF THE SUWANNEE MUSIC PARK: Mike Mullis to perform, host open mic night at music park, Page 2

News • Entertainment • Classifieds

# North Florida Focus

February 24 & 25, 2010

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## 'Good Lessons from Bad Women'

Actress, playwright Dorothy Leeds brings an 'instructive' show to LCCC

**Staff**

What can we learn from bad women?

The answer to that age-old question will be answered on Tuesday, March 2 when "Good Lessons from Bad Women" is presented at Lake City Community College. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. in the college's Levy Performing Arts Center and the fifth show of LCCC's 2009-10 Lyceum Series.

Presented by LCCC in honor of Women's History Month, "Women" is a virtuoso one-woman play performed by nationally known actress, playwright, motivational speaker, and best-selling author, Dorothy Leeds. The show is a spirited theatrical romp through history, with Leeds enacting the roles of various women including Eve, Mae West, legendary pirate Anne Bonny, and Chinese empress Wu Chao. Each woman proves that deep in the recesses of some very wicked women are important good lessons.

Mark Kirby, coordinator of the Levy Performing Arts Center, is enthusiastic about the show.

"After the success of 'Lewis Grizzard: In His Own Words' last season I was looking for another one-person performance piece, and Dorothy's show came to my attention," Kirby says. "I saw excerpts and knew this was perfect for the PAC. Dorothy is just phenomenal—funny, insightful, and extremely talented."

"Men as well as women will enjoy this show and I'm looking forward to a big turnout. 'Good Lessons from Bad Women' will be a great night of theater. I guarantee it."

Tickets for "Good Lessons from Bad Women" are \$15 for adults, \$14 for seniors age 55 and over, and \$13 for LCCC staff and students and students from other schools. To reserve or buy tickets or for more show information call the Levy Performing Arts Center box office at (386) 754-4340.

Prior to the performance dinner will be served in the college's Lobo Café. To make dinner reservations call (888) 845-0925 or (386) 438-5440.



Dorothy Leeds in 'Good Lessons from Bad Women.' - Courtesy photo

David Church, RFDTV's most requested artist, coming to Live Oak



Page 2

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**WOW**- What a great starter home on 5+ acres some clearing and lots of woods very private & secluded. Very large single wide with two more rooms added on. Tax roll says 1579 sqft. not included the 2 additional rooms. \$54,900. Call Ric Donovan, 590-1298. MLS#73633

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Tigers Nina (left) and Bhutan (right) relax in front of guests before a Tigers of India performance. The award winning show, featuring seven majestic tigers, premieres at Wild Adventures Water and Theme Park in April as one of the new limited engagement performances scheduled for the 2010 park season. - Courtesy photo

## Wild Adventures new season opens March 6

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## Park features new rides, entertainment, landscape

VALDOSTA - Wild Adventures Water and Theme Park opens for the 2010 season Saturday, March 6 at 10 a.m. The area's number one tourist attraction offers season passholders an exclusive sneak peek to the park's new offerings, including a trio of family rides and new live entertainment, on Friday, March 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. Season passholders will also be among the first to ride the park's flagship wooden roller coaster, The Cheetah, which just completed a million dollar renovation. In addition, the park will reveal its new look, having planted more than 400 trees and added new spots to "beat the heat" in the last several months.

"Wild Adventures has a tradition of providing families all the excitement of a big theme park at a family affordable scale. It offers all in one for less—a theme park, water park and animal park rolled into one. This year, with 20 concerts, and nearly a dozen limited engagement shows, guests will find something new to see and do every month," said Bob Montgomery, vice presi-

SEE WILD ADVENTURES, PAGE 3

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# David Church, RFDTV's most requested artist, coming to Live Oak

RFDTV's most requested artist, David Church, will perform in the "Road to Branson Tour" Sunday evening, March 7, at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park in Live Oak. Also on the program will be David's wife, Terri Lisa Church, a talented singer/songwriter. "We are honored to be performing at the Spirit of Suwannee Music Park on our Road to Branson Tour," David Church said.

David is a featured artist on RFDTV's popular show, "Midwest Country." The show is broadcast to more than 130 million via satellite and cable networks both nationally and regionally. RFDTV is broadcast from Nashville, TN to Dishnet, DirecTV, Comcast and Mediacom Cable customers. The show features major artists such as Bill Anderson, Jean Shepard and numerous others. The producer of Midwest Country, Joe Jensen states, "David has something special, that same charisma that Hank

(Williams Sr.) had. When he walks on stage, the audience is spellbound! He is our most popular act!"

David will be singing some of the music from his latest CD, There You Are, along with a tribute to Hank Williams Sr.

Church has been featured in major country magazines like Country Weekly, Front Row News, Country Music Report, Nashville Music Guide, The Tub Magazine and recently, DREAMWEST, the Premiere Country Music Magazine in Europe. The two page article was included among major artists from Taylor Swift to Dierks Bentley. As a result, Church recently performed to a sold out show in Le Mans, France.

Terri Lisa Church will be debuting songs from her new CD, I Find Myself In You, which includes some Patsy Cline and Tammy Wynette music and a duet with David Church. Terri Lisa originally performed with the popular gospel group, "The King's

Heirs" throughout Northern Indiana. She started a variety group in the mid 90s called, "Joyful Noise," featuring gospel, country, 50/60s and pop music. In 1998 the group performed at a huge RV rally in Central Indiana where she met and eventually married singer/songwriter David Church.

Bob Everhart, president of the National Traditional Country Music Association, states, "It is indeed my pleasure to inform anyone who likes traditional country music that the David & Lisa Church musical presentations are a double whammy of the best traditional country music available today."

Admission is \$15 advance and \$18 at the door. Doors to the Music Hall open at 5 p.m. and show begins at 7 p.m.

For more information or to buy advance tickets, call the SOSMP at 386-364-1683, go to the Web site at [www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com) or email the SOSMP at [spirit@musicliveshere.com](mailto:spirit@musicliveshere.com).



David Church will perform at the Spirit of the Suwannee in Live Oak March 7. - Courtesy photo

SUWANNEE VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY  
**CRITTER CORNER**  
Page 9

**Dolphins could be ideal model to study human cervical cancer, say UF vets**

Page 10

# Mike Mullis to perform, host open mic night at music park

Mike Mullis, known as the Gator Chomp Guy, puts on a fantastic musical show. Mike will be at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park Friday night to hold open mic and also perform some great music for listening and dancing.

Mike co-wrote words and music for the song, "GatorChomp," a rollicking song about the University of Florida football program.

Mike and his band, WhooWhee, recently won first place in the Battle of the Bands at the Annual Ham Jam in Green Cove Springs! They took the prize over 10 great bands, taking home \$2,000 in prize money and a guaranteed slot to play at the 2010 Suwannee River Jam at the SOSMP!

Mike's fans also love to



Mike Mullis, known as the Gator Chomp Guy, will be at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park Friday night to hold open mic and also perform some great music. - Courtesy photo

visit with him at the SOSMP where they can hear him sing and play his awesome music. He'll be doing just that this Friday night in the Music Hall.

There will also be time for talented audience members to take the mic. If you're a polished performer and would like to try the open mic, come on out. You could be the next big star!

Admission Friday night is \$5 per person. However, Friday night only, the \$5 can be applied to your

food and beverage tab. Doors to the Music Hall open at 5 p.m., show begins at 7 p.m.

For more information about this exciting event or the upcoming Springfest, Wanee, 8th Annual Rock-N-Wheels or the biggest country music jam in the South, the Suwannee River Jam, call the SOSMP at 386-364-1683, go to the SOSMP website at [www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com) or email the SOSMP at [spirit@musicliveshere.com](mailto:spirit@musicliveshere.com).

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(1) Horse Farm: 55 acres with a 5 bedroom, 3 bath CH&AC home with fireplace cont. approx. 5000 sq. feet under roof with an 18 stall horse barn with office and bath cont. approx. 5000 sq. ft. under roof. The property has 4 fenced paddocks with room for expansion. Approx. 3 miles from I-75. Call for more information. Just listed \$599,999.

(2) Off CR 49 5 acres in grass with scattered trees, fenced on 3 sides with survey. Only \$4,900 per acre.

(3) 161st Rd: 9.82 acres partially wooded with a 4BR/3-1/2 bath CH&AC home with fireplace cont. approx 2400 sq. ft. heated area, 10'x30' storage. **REDUCED TO \$260,000.**

(4) Off CR136: 5 acre partially wooded some grass. Will work for land home package. Reduced to \$39,900.

(5) CR 51 & Pinewood St.: 2.29 Acres, city water and sewer, zoned office. Good location \$192,500.

(6) Off CR 349: 10 acre wooded tract with a two bedroom CH/AC log home in excellent condition cont. approx. 1200 sq. ft. under roof, 30'x40' pole barn. **REDUCED TO \$145,900.**

(7) 410 Dexter: Corner lot with CH/AC brick home in good condition. Approx. 2,000 sq. ft. under roof with 2 car garage, kitchen furnished, large pool with privacy fence. Good location. Good Buy @ \$135,000.

(8) Industrial Park: 1.13 acre corner tract good exposure. Reduced to \$34,500.

(9) 40 acres with 835 ft. on paved road in 13 year old planted pines. Priced to sell at **REDUCED TO \$179,600.**

(10) Near City: 2 ac. with 3/2 home cont. approx. 1280 sq. ft. under roof, kitchen furnished, carport. **REDUCED TO \$49,000.**

(11) Luraville Area: Fly-in Community 15 acre wooded large trees, good county road. Priced to sell reduced to \$74,900.

(12) Suwannee River: Two acres wooded river lot off CR 349 near Royal Springs and Boat Ramp. 100 sq. ft. on the water. (Buildable) good buy @ \$55,000.

(13) Off Mitchell Rd.: 20 acres wooded with survey on 199th Rd. \$89,900.

(14) Hamilton Co.: 10 acres on CR751 and the river approx. 1300 ft. on the water and approx. 1300 ft. on paved road. Priced to sell at **REDUCED TO \$72,000.**

(15) Madison Co.: 40 acres in 16 year old slash planted pines off CR 255 good elevation. Good buy at \$175,000.

(16) Suwannee River home: nice two bedroom two story CH&AC home South of Branford, kitchen furnished, beautiful view of river from rear, screen porch. Good area. **REDUCED TO \$168,000.**

(17) Farms of 10 Mill Hollow: 4 acres in grass/cropland with scattered trees. \$32,500.

(18) Near City: Off US 90 East 5 acres wooded near golf course. Good buy @ \$44,900.

(19) 190th St.: 10 acres in planted pines approx. 15 years old, with a 3/1 CH/AC SWMH, 2 car carport/shop. Priced to sell @ \$49,000.

(20) 208 Houston: 3/5 BR, 1-1/2 BA frame home cont. approx. 2,000 sq. ft. under roof. Zoned R/O, has potential. Priced to sell @ \$59,500.

(21) Keaton Beach: Deep Water Canal lot near public boat ramp, sewer & water. Good buy @ \$125,000.

(22) 169th Rd.: 5 ac. in grass with a 3/2 CH/AC DVMH cont. approx. 1,850 sq. ft. under roof in excellent cond. 2 car detached garage. Good area. \$124,900.

(23) Off 16th St.: 2 100x530 river lots with MH (needs some R&R), well, septic and storage building. Lot has large hickory white oak magnolia. Well above the flood elevation. \$79,900 for the pair.

(24) 193rd Rd.: 6.59 acres wooded on paved road. Good area. Good buy @ \$37,500.

(25) Hamilton County: 40 acre wooded on county road. Good hunting area that adjoins SRWMD. \$149,500.

(26) New 3 bedroom, 2 bath CH/AC home. City sewer & water, privacy fence. Good Buy @ \$95,000.

(27) Off CR 249: 3 wooded lots, will work for mobile homes, on county road. Good buy @ \$12,600 for all three.



# Wild Adventures new season opens March 6

Continued From Page 1

dent and general manager. "Plus, to help keep guests feeling refreshed, the park has removed more than 350 tons of concrete to make way for more shade trees and a new, interactive water fountain."

**Three new rides join park favorite**

The new season promises more thrills with three new family rides. Guests will twist and turn on Whirling Wildcats, a spinning scrambler that propels thrill seekers of all ages in a circular motion. They will test their fear of heights on Viking Voyage, a five story family roller coaster that takes guests on a 40 mph ride with surprising dips and turns. Finally, they will find themselves in the driver's seat on Falcon Flyers, a flying scooter ride, overlooking WA's famed central lake.

After an extensive renovation, WA's popular wooden roller coaster, The Cheetah, will also feel like a new ride to park guests. A million dollar refurbishment was designed to provide a smoother ride without sacrificing the wild excitement wooden coaster lovers have come to expect.

**Fresh entertainment debuts monthly**

WA surprises guests all year long with exclusive, limited engagement shows including a special guest appearance by Captain Robbie Knieval on July 3, who will be attempting a leap over WA's iconic lake.

The park opens with world famous magician Aaron Radatz, who mesmerizes guests with his Vegas-style magic show. In April, WA maintains its tradition of offering breathtaking animal performances with the premiere of Tigers of India. The award winning show features seven majestic tigers. The live act highlights the incredible bond of man and tiger while showcasing the animals' natural behavior.

May brings the opening of Country Rocks Live! to WA. With a variety of gifted singers, this new show brings music to life with country hits from yesterday and today.

The summer heats up with high energy performances guests cannot find anywhere else. The Anastasinis are eighth generation performers who join the park's show lineup in June with unbelievable juggling, high wire, and acrobatic performances under a big top tent. Also in June, popular hypnotist Tammy Barton takes guests on a journey of the mind.

Starting in July, the antics of the Dana Kunze High Dive Show entertain with a mix of high diving tricks and comedy. Man's best friend takes center stage in July with Doggies of the Wild West. Marshall Rowdy Yo along with his sidekick, Calamity Jo, amaze and amuse audiences with a cast of "Pooches from the Prairie."

**Concert line-up offers variety of musical styles**

Featuring the region's largest outdoor

amphitheater, WA promises families a variety of musical experiences from spring through fall. The park line-up includes 20 concert performances in the rock, pop, country, Christian and gospel genres. Already scheduled to perform are:

- March 13 Lynyrd Skynyrd
- March 20 George Thorogood & Los Lonely Boys
- April 10 Jeremy Camp
- April 17 REO Speedwagon & Styx
- April 24 Josh Turner
- May 8 Wynonna
- May 15 Chicago
- May 29 David Crowder Band
- June 12 Steven Curtis Chapman
- June 19 Tye Tribbett & Kirk Franklin
- June 26 Rodney Atkins
- Sept. 25 Third Day
- Oct. 2 Vince Neil
- TBA Backstreet Boys

More concerts will be announced soon to complete the 2010 concert season. All concerts are free with general park admission or a 2010 Season Pass. Reserved seats are available for an additional \$10.

**New spots to refresh and recharge**

In March, WA marks the debut of a new, greener landscape plus spots for guests to cool off. The goal is to create shadier spots for the warmer spring and summer months. To create the parkwide changes, more than 400 new trees have been planted along new pathways, creating an overall guest-friendlier environment. A new interactive, jumping water fountain will delight kids and parents alike with 22 jets that spray in all directions.

"Last season, WA unveiled our multi-million dollar Splash Island Water Park renovation including the opening of the popular Wahee Cyclone. This year, we wanted to add even more spots to help families cool off in the warmer temperatures," said Montgomery.

In addition, WA offers new sweet and savory food options to tempt taste buds. Guests can cool off with real fruit smoothies, and frozen treats at Fresh N' Fruity or they can journey to Voyager's Treats for a freshly made, sweet puff. Guests can also watch their food as it cooks at BBQ Smokehouse, with smoked delights such as turkey legs, sausage, and roasted corn.

**Season passholder sneak peek**

Passholders can check out WA's new rides and shows before everyone else on Friday, March 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. Season passes are on-sale now at [www.WildAdventures.com](http://www.WildAdventures.com). Regular passes are \$59.99 and Gold Passes including free parking are \$79.99. General admission tickets for the official park opening on Saturday, March 6 are also on-sale. General park admission includes the second day FREE. Adults tickets are \$45.99, kids (ages 3-9) and seniors (55 and older) are \$40.99. Prices do not include tax.



World famous daredevil, Captain Robbie Knieval, will attempt a dangerous leap over Wild Adventures' iconic lake as part of the Fourth of July weekend events. - Courtesy photo

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# Calendar of Events

## Pink Ladies Needed!

Are you looking for a place to share your talents? Do you enjoy meaningful conversation with a good friend? How 'bout a good book?

Then We Want You!! Suwannee Health Care and Rehab Center is looking for volunteers to start a Ladies Auxiliary.

Call Lynn Brannon, Activities Director at 386-362-7860 or 386-590-2961.

## Talent Search

Do you sing or play an instrument? Do you act or dance? Do you like to read or spend time with a friend in wonderful conversation?

WE WANT YOU! Suwannee Health Care & Rehab Center is looking for your talent for our residents. Dinner for two - \$45; One night at the Beach - \$125; One hour volunteering to make memories that last forever - PRICELESS!

Call: Lynn Brannon, Activities Director 386-362-7860 or 386-590-2961.

## Head Start/Early Head Start early enrollment

Suwannee Valley 4Cs Head Start/Early Head Start is accepting applications for children from birth to age 5. Head Start/Early Head Start is a FREE comprehensive early childhood education program that includes health, dental, nutrition and VPK services to eligible children/families.

Centers are located in Suwannee, Hamilton, Lafayette and Columbia counties. Parents bring proof of income and child's age to register.

For more information call 386-754-2222.

## Customers needed!

Dairy Queen of Live Oak will host Dairy Queen Benefit Night the second Tuesday of every month from 6-8 p.m. to help buy books for Suwannee Middle School.

## Donations needed!

Suwannee County Environmental Watchdogs, a non-profit organization, seeks donations for yard sale merchandise. Info: Sandy, 386-364-8020.

## Register now!

Descendants of Calhoun family plan

## reunion in 2009

Descendants of the late Sarah Calhoun, Eva Calhoun and Thomas Calhoun are invited to a family reunion to be held in 2009. Info: misstheresamartin@yahoo.com or predop@aol.com.

## Coffee with your councilman

City Councilman for District 4 Mark Stewart invites his constituents to "Coffee with your Councilman" at JAVA JAX located in the Publix shopping center.

Come and meet with him on the second Tuesday of each month from 7 a.m. till 8:30 a.m. This will be a time to get to know each other and discuss current issues and citizen concerns.

## CJBAT tests

Monday - Thursday

Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m. (by appointment): CJBAT (Criminal Justice Basic Abilities Test) at NFCC Testing Center (Bldg. #16), Madison. CJBAT is required for acceptance into Corrections & Law Enforcement programs. Photo ID required. Pre-registration & scheduling time and date are required. To register please call 850-973-9451.

## College Placement Tests

Monday - Thursday

Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m. (by appointment): College Placement Test (CPT), NFCC Testing Center (Bldg. #16), 5 p.m., Madison. Register in NFCC Student Services 24 hours before test. For information please call 850-973-9451.

## TABE tests

Monday - Thursday

Monday - Thursday at 5 p.m. (by appointment): TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education) at NFCC Testing Center (Bldg. #16), Madison. TABE is required for acceptance into vocational/technical programs. Photo ID required. Pre-registration & scheduling time & date are required. To register please call 850-973-9451.

## Greater Visions Support Group

Addiction Support Group: Greater Visions faith-based addictions support group meets at the Grace Manor Restaurant. Meetings are held on Thursday mornings at

9:30 a.m. This group provides spiritual and emotional support in a non-judgmental setting. Come experience the freedom from addictions that is found in Christ.

Greater Visions is an outreach of Christ Central-Live Oak. For more information contact 208-1345.

## Suwannee County Republican Executive Committee to meet

The Suwannee County Republican Executive Committee meets in the council chambers of Live Oak City Hall at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. If the first Thursday is the first day of the month, the meeting will be held on the following Thursday.

Each meeting has a guest speaker or current issues will be discussed. All are welcome to attend. For more information call Chairman Carl Meece at 386-776-1444.

## Legislative candidate to speak at Republican meeting

The Suwannee County Republican Executive Committee meets at Live Oak City Hall, in the Council Chambers, at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. If the first Thursday is the first day of the month, then the meeting will be on the following Thursday. Each meeting has a guest speaker or there will be current issues brought up for discussion. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, call Chairman Carl Meece, 386-776-1444.

## Branford TOPS meeting changes locations

We now meet every Tuesday at L & M Scrapbooking located at 105 SW Suwannee Ave. in Branford.

Weigh-in begins at 4:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 5.

For more information please contact Donna Hardin at 386-590-2333.

"Take Off Pounds Sensibly."

## SREC seeking

### location in Branford

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., a non-profit organization is seeking a location in the Branford area

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

**LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR HEALTH**

## Sound Advice: How to Put an End to Noisy Snoring

Snoring is a pain for all involved. Anyone within earshot -- even the snorer himself -- can be negatively impacted by this intrusive problem.

Although women do snore, research indicates men are more likely to be snorers. In fact, four out of every 10 men will snore. For partners sleeping (or trying to sleep) next to these individuals, rest may be disturbed and relationships could be affected.

Snoring is also dangerous for the snorer. It could be a sign of airway obstruction or a condition called apnea, where one briefly stops breathing. Snorers may not be getting the rest they need due to their snoring -- especially if a bed partner is waking the snorer up to cease his snoring.

Snoring is basically noisy breathing that occurs as a result of partial obstruction of the air passages. This is usually due to the soft tissues of the palate, uvula, tongue, and tonsils relaxing during sleep. There are a number of factors that can contribute to snoring and remedies to try. Here are some of the ways to get a little peace and quiet pillow time.

1. Sleep on your side. Back sleeping can make snoring worse. If you tend to roll over during the night, placing a ball or something uncomfortable on your pajamas to prevent you from staying on your back.

2. Lose weight. Excess weight can contribute to airway constriction.

3. Avoid dairy before bed. Milk products can contribute to excess mucus formation, which can block air passages.

4. Avoid alcohol and sleeping pills. Both of these items can relax muscles and make snoring worse.

5. Don't take antihistamines before bed. Antihistamines, too, will relax muscles, potentially contributing to snoring.

6. Use a cool-mist humidifier. Adding moisture to the air may help alleviate dry air passages and snoring.

7. Elevate your head. Use several pillows or thicker ones to lift your head.

8. Quit smoking. If you are a smoker, try to quit smoking. If you can't, avoid smoking right before bed. Smoking inflames the air passages and can cause air obstruction.

9. Don't gorge before bed. If your stomach is full, it will push up on your diaphragm and limit breathing passageways.

If snoring is adversely affecting your life, consult with a doctor for other options.

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**DATE ENTRY CLERK PART TIME**

The Lafayette County Sheriff's Office will be accepting applications for a part-time data entry clerk. Minimum qualifications are a high school diploma or equivalent. Basic computer skills are preferred. You may pick up an application at the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office during normal business hours. Deadline for accepting applications will be by 5:00pm on Friday, March 12, 2010. A Job description will be available upon request at the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office. The Lafayette County Sheriff's Office is an equal opportunity employer.

**Ministry Assistant Full-time**  
Ministry Assistant needed for local church. Duties include receptionist, data entry, spreadsheet preparation, creating church publications and assistant to ministry staff. Requirements of positions: HS diploma, working knowledge of Microsoft Publishing, Excel and Word as well as general secretarial skills. Please call 386-362-1583

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**Network Administrator (Full-time hourly position)** wanted at North Florida Community College, Madison FL. See [www.nfcc.edu](http://www.nfcc.edu) for details.

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## FSU playwright Dan Dietz wins 'National Ten-Minute Play Contest' — again

TALLAHASSEE - For "Lobster Boy," his haunting 10-minute play about a little boy who literally feels no pain and the brother who seeks to cure him, Assistant Professor of playwriting Dan Dietz of The Florida State University has won the 2010 Heideman Award.

The prestigious prize goes to the winner of the annual "National Ten-Minute Play Contest," which is sponsored by the distinguished Actors Theatre of Louisville and draws thousands of entries

— all 10 pages and 10 minutes long, or less — from across the United States. Each year, Actors Theatre serves as host for the Humana Festival of New American Plays, the nation's premiere showcase of new work.

At the upcoming Humana Festival, "Lobster Boy" by Dietz is among four new short plays that will debut at Actors Theatre of Louisville on March 27 and 28. Festival audiences typically include theatergoers from around the world.

The 2010 Heideman Award is a remarkable encore performance by Dietz, who directs the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) program "Writing for the Stage and Screen" that is offered jointly by the School of Theatre, his faculty home, and The Film School at Florida

SEE FSU, PAGE 6

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Send state application to:  
Guardian ad Litem Program 213 Howard St., Live Oak, Florida 32064  
Deadline for submission - March 1, 2010 at 5pm

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# Classifieds

## FirstDay Temporary Part - Time Library Aide II

White Springs Public Library

We are seeking applicants for the position of temporary part-time Library Aide II at the White Springs Public Library. The applicant will work approximately 2 days per week beginning as soon as possible for the minimum of 10 weeks or until no longer required. Minimum qualifications include graduation from a standard high school, ability to type and experience with Internet and computer software. Library experience is desired. Salary is \$7.25 to \$10.24 per hour depending on qualifications and experience. Interested applicants may obtain an application at the White Springs, Jennings or Jasper Public Libraries, or the Suwannee County Administrative Services Department, 224 Pine Avenue, Live Oak, FL 32064, telephone (386)362-6869.

Applicants are encouraged to submit resumes, letters of reference and other biographical information with their applications. All applications must be returned to the Administrative Services Department in Live Oak. Position will remain open until filled. The Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners is an equal employment opportunity employer that does not discriminate against any qualified employee or applicant because of race, color, national origin, sex, including pregnancy, age, disability, or marital status. Spanish speaking individuals are encouraged to apply. All applicants subject to a pre-employment physical. "Successful completion of a drug test is a condition of employment."

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**DO YOU NEED YOUR HOME CLEANED** or Pressure Washed, or your yard cleaned up? Done at a very reasonable rate. Call Christine or Gary 386-792-1655

**HANDYMAN:** Roofing, decks, small additions, flooring, painting, yard work, odd jobs. Please contact Eddie 386-364-5664 for mor information.

## Lost & Found

**LOST 4 MONTH OLD KITTEN:** Lost around 163rd Dr Live Oak. She's White w/Grey ears, Grey on right hip & tail. Green & White Flea collar on. 386-364-4528

## Special Notices

### ATTENTION READERS

You should be cautious of calls from interested buyers of your advertised merchandise. If the caller is offering you **MORE** money than what you are asking or suggest sending you a check for more than the amount and requesting you to cash it and just send them back the remaining amount **DON'T! THIS IS A SCAM! BE CAUTIOUS, IF IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT USUALLY IS.**

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**Want to be a CNA? Don't want to wait?** Express Training is now offering our quality Exam Prep Classes in Lake City, FL. Class sizes limited. Next Class Feb. 1st - 5th, 8am to 4pm Call 386-755-4401 [expresstrainingclasses.com](http://expresstrainingclasses.com)

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**FirstDay**  
**YORKIE PUPPIES, AKC.,** 8 wks old, 3 small females and one tiny male, all beautiful, health certificate, parents on site, 50 miles to Perry, FL. \$775/ea. Call 850-584-9882 or 850-295-1823.

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## Garage/Yard Sales

**SPRING COMMUNITY YARD SALE**  
**Saturday, April 10th 7 am - 1 pm**  
**Lowndes Co. Civic Center (Fairgrounds, Hwy. 84 E.)**

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or come by **THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES** 201 N. Troup St. Valdosta, GA

**FSU alum picked as Blue Angel**  
Page 14

## Apartments for Rent

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**  
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

## Houses for Rent

**FirstDay**  
**Cement Block Home 3Bd/1Ba,** on 2 acres, in the country, Pecan Trees, W/D Hook-up, Fenced area for Horses. \$600/mo. 386-362-6647 or 386-965-9238

**HOUSE 2Bd/1Ba** CHA, Fridge, Stove, Separate storage bldg, new paint & hardwood floors \$600 + Utilities \$500 Sec Dep. Ref's, No Smokers, No Pets downtown Live Oak. Call for app 362-1837 days or after 6pm 362-6156 Cell 590-0204 Ask for Ellen

**FirstDay**  
**HOUSE 2Bd/1Ba** CHA, Washer/Dryer Hook-up, Extra Lg. Yard. Rental Ref Req \$600 mo, \$600 Security. 386-688-0841

**HOUSE 2Bd/2Ba** Lots of closets 1 mile from Live Oak. NO PETS \$650/mo, 1st. Last & \$300 Dep. Includes Water/Sewerage 386-362-3002 or 318-840-4802

**HOUSE 3Bd/1.5Ba** in City of Live Oak. Large Kitchen Washer/Dryer. Large Yard 6 mo lease required. \$750 1st & Security 954-253-7294

## Mobile Homes for Rent

**HORSES, COWS, GOATS?** Over 3 acres near the Suwannee River. Singlewide Mobile home, 3/2, completely renovated! New flooring! \$650/month, \$1000 deposit. **Contact: 386-935 2256**

**NICE DWMH** for rent near the spirit of suwannee. \$650.00 per month. First month rent plus a \$650.00 security deposit. Call Dan at 386-590-1976

**RENT WITH OPTION TO BUY** 2005 Double wide mobile home 24X60. 1440sf, 3bd/2ba, on 10 acres. Large 3 car garage. Horse stalls, RV carport. Fenced in pastures. Washer & Dryer included. Large back porch. Gated entrance. \$1,000mo. 772-318-8831

**SWMH Large, 2Bd/2Ba,** 2 private acres, N. of Live Oak, \$590/mo + small down pay 386-867-1833

## Office Space for Rent

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT:** Space available for your requirement. Call Annette 386-362-4629

## Mobile Homes for Sale

**OWNER FINANCING** Available on 3Bd/2Ba only \$400/mo. Call Nathan for details 386-623-7495 **NO CREDIT, Got Land, No Problem.** Call the Credit Manager to get Pre-qualified. Call Nathan 386-719-5560

**STARTER LAND HOME PACKAGES** available, easy qualifying. Call Nathan to apply 386-719-5560  
**\$74,995 NEW JACOBSON 32x68 4Bd/2Ba** Lot Model clearance w/textured and painted walls, Hand layed Flooring, 2x6 construction w/5 yr Halo warranty. Call Nathan for Details 386-719-5560

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## Acreage

**FirstDay**  
**FOR SALE BY OWNER:** Paved Rd Frontage, near Orange Baptist Church. 25+ Acre parcel, 24+ acre parcel, 5+ acre parcel. Owner Finance Avail. 386-362-5259 or 386-984-9532 Before 9:00 PM

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## Motorcycles

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**ARCTIC CAT 2005 ATV: 650cc** V-2 Extra Mud Tires, Cabin, Storage Bag, & Ramps. \$4500 OBO 386-792-3106

# FSU playwright Dan Dietz wins 'National Ten-Minute Play Contest' — again

Continued From Page 5

State. A four-time finalist, Dietz earned his first Heideman in 2003 for the 10-minute play "Trash Anthem." With this year's win, he is one of just two playwrights nationwide to have claimed the prize more than once.

"I feel both honored and lucky to be the Heideman winner for a second time, since Actors Theatre has so rarely bestowed it twice on the same playwright," Dietz said.

He calls "Lobster Boy" a "kind of unusual theatrical experience."

"It's a story told by a man in his 30s about two young brothers, the younger of whom was born without the ability to feel pain. The older brother hatches a plan to help his sibling learn how to experience pain — with tragic and ironic consequences. The story is assisted by a series of slides that describe elements of the story being told. So the experience feels like part suspenseful story, part lecture. And, then the question arises, is the older man who is telling the story really the older brother within the story? It all makes for an experience that I hope will be creepy, poignant and, at times, even funny."

After earning an MFA in Playwriting from the University of Texas-Austin in 1999 and teaching nearby at Southwestern University, Dietz joined the School of Theatre faculty at Florida State in 2007.

"I think my favorite thing about Florida State University and its School of Theatre is the energy, enthusiasm and dedication of the students," he said.

"Nowhere have I seen a more motivated group of kids. They are absolutely determined to make theatre, even if it means doing everything themselves, from finding a theatre space to acquiring props and costumes to writing the script to getting people in the seats. It is no wonder FSU students are so successful after leaving the university. This scrappy, do-or-die attitude is what it takes to make it in the theatre, and they've got it in spades."

In addition to his Heideman Award-winning 10-minute works, plays penned by Dietz include "Dirigible," "Blind Horses," "Tilt Angel," "Americamisfit," "The Sandreckoner," and "tempOdyssey," which was performed on stages from New York City to Los Angeles and named a finalist for the 2007 PEN USA Literary Award in Drama.

Dietz has been honored with a James A. Michener Fellowship, a Josephine Bay Paul Fellowship, and the Austin Critics Table Award for Best New Play. His work has been presented at the Kennedy Center, the Public Theater, CenterStage, the Playwrights' Center, and the Summer Play Festival, among other venues. He has twice been named a finalist for the Princess Grace Award, and was a nominee for the Oppenheimer/Newsday Award.

Starting in 2011, the National Ten-Minute Play Contest and its Heideman Award will be jointly sponsored by City Theatre of Miami, Fla., and Actors Theatre of Louisville.

To learn more about the 2010 Humana Festival of New American Plays, slated for Feb. 21-March 28, visit the [Actors Theatre Web site](http://actors-theatre.com) at [www.actors-theatre.org/humana.htm](http://www.actors-theatre.org/humana.htm). For additional information on the School of Theatre, part of the College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance at The Florida State University, go to <http://theatre.fsu.edu/>.

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# Calendar of Events

Continued From Page 4

that could be used to serve meals to persons 60 years of age or older.

Any business, organization or church that has space available and would be interested in assisting in this much needed service to the elderly population of Branford, should contact Bruce Evans, Senior Center Director, at 362-1164 or Janis Owen, Director of Client Services, at 362-4115, ext. 240.

### Love a mystery?

Try locating your ancestors by working on your family tree. The Suwannee Valley Genealogy Society invites you to join and learn how to find your ancestors. Membership is \$30 for a single member or \$35 for a family. Corporate membership is also available for donations of \$100 or more (tax deductible). Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Genealogy Center at 215 Wilbur Street SW in Live Oak. The library is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and the talented folks there will be glad to help. For more information call Jinnie or Alice at 386-330-0110.

### Take Off Pounds Sensibly

We know everyone has different hopes and dreams, different health conditions and weight loss goals. TOPS helps people meet their individual needs through group support.

However you measure success and whatever you have to lose, TOPS is here for you.

Change take time. Take Off Pounds Sensibly supports you, no matter how long, even after you've reached your goal.

There is no quick fixes at TOPS and no phony guarantees about weight loss. It's up to you and it's a total commitment on your part, but if you bring the desire, we can help.

We meet every Wednesday morning at 9 at the Community Church of God, 10639 US 129 South, Live Oak.

For more information contact Barbara at 362-5933.

### AARP tax filing service suspended

Due to volunteer leadership staffing difficulties, AARP Tax-Aide has found it necessary to temporarily suspend its free volunteer tax preparation service in Suwannee, Hamilton and Columbia counties this tax filing season that would have begun Feb. 1. AARP Tax-Aide wants all citizens to know that they are deeply committed to assisting the taxpayers in these areas, and they are working to rectify this situation for next year.

In the interim, to locate an alternate site near them, taxpayers may visit the AARP Tax-Aide Web site at [www.aarp.org/taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide), or call toll-free 1-888-227-7669. AARP Tax-Aide is a program of the AARP Foundation, offered in conjunction with the IRS.

### Caladium bulbs

Live Oak Garden Club  
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Price still 10 bulbs for \$6.  
To place your order, call:  
Ella Carter - 386-362-1326  
Andrea Miller - 386-963-3172.

### Rocky Sink Baptist

Rocky Sink Baptist would like to invite all to come meet their Pastor Robert Carter.  
8422 169th RD. Live Oak, FL.

### Live Oak Partnership meeting schedule changes

The Live Oak Partnership Revitalization Board will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 3:30 p.m. The meetings will be held at the Live Oak City Hall complex. Unless otherwise noted, these meetings will be

held in the City Hall Annex building, east of the main City Hall office.

5:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

Activities for children will be provided. Please contact 386-755-8190 for additional information.

### New master gardener

#### volunteer training

Suwannee County UF/IFAS Extension will be offering training for new Master Gardener Volunteers.

CLASSES: Wednesdays, February 17-June 2, 2010 from 8:30 am-4:00 pm

COST: \$100 which includes manuals, lawn handbook and field trips

The classes will be held at the Suwannee County Extension Office which is located at 1302 11th Street SW, Live Oak (next to the coliseum).

The training is for individuals who can donate 75 hours of their time to help Extension Agents improve landscape and gardening practices.

For more information, contact Carolyn Saft or Pamela Burke at the Suwannee County Extension Office at 386/362-2771 or [csaft318@ufl.edu](mailto:csaft318@ufl.edu).

### Educational program for adults with Type 2 diabetes

Through March 25

Suwannee County Extension is now offering an educational program to help adults with type 2 diabetes control their blood sugar to feel better and reduce risk of health complications. The program will include nine classes taught by a team of qualified educators and health professionals, and a personal consultation with a registered dietitian. Health assessments (height, weight, and blood pressure measurements) are included. Classes will run from Jan. 28 to March 25 and will be held on Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

We are now recruiting participants for this program. If you have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, are at least 21 years old, and are interested in being a part of this program, please call the Extension office at 386-362-2771 by Jan. 25. The \$75 program fee includes the educational classes, nutrition consultation, program materials and health assessments.

Class size is limited!

### Spring-Friendly Landscaping & Gardening series

March 17

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

### MOAA meets fourth Tuesdays

MOAA (Military Officers Association of America, Suwannee River Valley Chapter) meets fourth Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Elks Club, Lake City for dinner and program. Info: Steve Casto 386-497-2986.

### Seasonal flu vaccine still available at health department

Seasonal influenza vaccine for adults is still available at the Suwannee County Health Department for adults and children age 36 months and older. This vaccine is recommended in addition to any H1N1 (Swine Flu) vaccine that may become available later this fall.

Seasonal flu vaccine is recommended for those who are:

- All children age 6 months and older
- 50 years of age and older
- Persons at risk for complications from influenza, including:
  - women who will be pregnant during flu season
  - persons with chronic health problems
  - persons with a weakened immune system
  - persons with muscle or nerve disorders that can lead to breathing or swallowing problems
  - residents of nursing homes and other long term care facilities
- Healthcare providers
- Caregivers of children from birth up to 5 years of age
- Household contacts and caregivers of people 50 years and older
- Anyone with chronic medical problems

The vaccine will be given by appointment. Call 386-362-2708 for an appointment at the Live Oak clinic or 386-935-1133 for an appointment at the Branford clinic. There is no charge for the children's seasonal flu vaccine. Adult seasonal flu vaccine is \$30 and is covered by Medicare.

### Free English-speaking and literacy classes

Provided by Columbia County School District's Career and Adult Education Program

Where: Wellborn, Florida  
Unity of God Ministries, Inc.  
12270 County Road 137

When: Every Thursday

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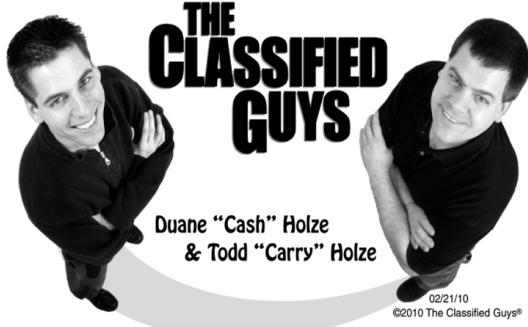
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DEADLINE IS FRIDAY AT 2:00 P.M.



Ask the Guys

Dear Classified Guys, I've owned a number of dogs over my lifetime. Most have been "mutts" that I gave a good home to. The other day I was reading the classifieds and came across someone advertising Labradoodle puppies. I thought it was a joke. Labradoodles? Who ever heard of such a thing? I was even going to mail you the ad until someone told me that they are a real breed. Are they pulling my leg? Do Labradoodles really exist and what are they?



THE CLASSIFIED GUYS

Duane "Cash" Holze & Todd "Carry" Holze

**Cash:** As much as it sounds like a tall tail, Labradoodles are a real breed. And as one might suspect, they are a cross between a Labrador Retriever and a Poodle.

**Carry:** It looks kind of like a hunting dog with a bad perm.

**Cash:** Actually, like most puppies, they are adorable. And often they are referred to as simply "doodles".

**Carry:** The breed is said to have been created in Australia through the efforts of *The Guide Dog Association*. It seems a vision-impaired woman needed a guide dog, but her husband suffered from dog allergies. The association's research led them to cross the Poodle with a Labrador

to create a non-shedding, allergy-friendly dog. And it worked.

**Cash:** As with any breed, the dogs can vary in looks. While some resemble their Labrador ancestors, others look like oversized Poodles. Their hair is usually wavy or curly and several inches long, but typically the breed does not shed. That's enough to make any dog owner interested.

**Carry:** The dogs also tend to be easily trainable. Although as most of us know, it's still more of a challenge to train the owners than the dogs.

**Cash:** Labradoodles typically have the warm and loving personality of the Labrador with the genetic allergy-relief

characteristics of a poodle. It's become a popular breed among people who suffer from asthma and animal allergies. They are not yet recognized by clubs or organizations so there are no formal standards like there are for other breeds of dogs.

**Carry:** It's important to note that not all Labradoodles are non-shedding or allergy friendly. It's a common misconception. Like any crossbreeds, the genetics can vary. Some may still aggravate allergies or shed their coats. So that can result in a lot of hair around the house.

**Cash:** And like any puppy, given the chance, they'll try to outfox the owner whenever possible. So if you get one, be sure to hide your socks.

Fast Facts

Outnumbered

Caring for a dog can be hard work, but for Americans it is apparently a job they love. The United States has more pet dogs than any other country in the world. It ranks first with over 66 million nationwide. And despite not being the largest country in size or population, the U.S. still dramatically surpasses the runners up. In second place with about 30 million pet dogs is Brazil. They are followed by China with 23 million and Russia who has about 10 million of the canine pets.

Pet Lovers

Are you the kind of person who loves to be greeted at the door by an adoring pet? Most likely the answer is "yes", and you're not alone. In fact, over 60% of all households in the U.S. have a pet that owners come home to everyday. That's a lot of cats and dogs. Fortunately, most pet owners are responsible people. About three-quarters of all these household pets are spayed or neutered to control the animal population.

Do you have a question or funny story about the classifieds? Want to just give us your opinion? We want to hear all about it! Email us at: [comments@classifiedguys.com](mailto:comments@classifiedguys.com).

Reader Humor

Tasty Treats

I grew up with puppies around the house, so I know how mischievous they can be.

When my son wanted one, I told him that he would have to train the dog every day. As much as he tried, our new puppy ran around the house stealing and chewing my shoes.

"You have to discourage the dog from chewing," I explained to my son. "Sprinkle one of the shoes with hot sauce or something that tastes bad."

The next day, I came home to see the puppy gnawing on the newly seasoned shoes. "What did you coat it with?" I asked.

"The hickory-smoked steak sauce I don't like," he replied.

(Thanks to Thomas D.)

Laughs For Sale

These Hush Puppies are not for walking.



www.ClassifiedGuys.com

Calendar of Events

Continued From Page 7

Suwannee County UF/IFAS Master Gardener volunteers are continuing their Spring-Friendly Landscaping & Gardening series. January's topic was "Alternative Vegetable Gardening With an Organic Twist" at the Suwannee River Regional Library-Live Oak. This topic was offered again on February 17 at the Suwannee River Regional Library-Branford and also on March 17 at the Wellborn Community Center. This series is offered

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on the third Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m.

Discussion will include raised beds, vertical growing and other containers, plant selection and insect management.

Other topics to be discussed throughout the series include: "Native and Drought Tolerant Plants", "So What's Bugging You?", and "How and When to Prune".

The classes will be held at three different locations throughout the year.

- Suwannee River Regional Library-Live Oak, 1848 South Ohio Avenue
  - Suwannee River Regional Library-Branford, 703 NW Suwannee Avenue
  - Wellborn Community Center, 1340 8th Avenue
- For more information contact Carolyn Saft at [csaft318@ufl.edu](mailto:csaft318@ufl.edu) or Pam Burke at [peburke@ufl.edu](mailto:peburke@ufl.edu) or 386-362-2771.

Greater New Bethel AME Church

Family and Friends Day

Feb. 27  
Great New Bethel AME Church Annual Family and Friends Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 6 p.m.  
The speaker for the occasion will be Bro. James Coop-

er. Dinner will follow.

Everyone is cordially invited to come and worship with us. Rev. Charles Burke, Pastor, 386-362-4194. Contact person: Eva Polite, 386-362-6707.

Web challenge could benefit animal shelter

Through mid-April

The Suwannee County Animal Control Shelter is entered into a shelter challenge sponsored by Petfinders and the animal rescue site. In order to win we need everyone to log onto [www.theanimalrescuesite.com](http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com) and vote for Suwannee County Animal Control Shelter. You can do this once a day. The contest runs through mid-April. Please, we need your help and it only takes a few minutes a day. Not only can we possibly win the grand prize of \$100,000 but there are weekly prizes also.

Suwannee High Class of 1980

The Suwannee High Class of 1980 is planning their 30 year class reunion. If you were a member, had a child, sibling or relative as part of the graduating class, please email your name (maiden and married), address, phone number and email address to [shsclass1980@yahoo.com](mailto:shsclass1980@yahoo.com). Or call 386-362-6309 to leave a message.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the reunion.

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Week of Feb. 22, 2010



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#3665 - Tori - is a Lab Mix, she is all black. She is 9 months old and a little shy.

#3625 - Little Bit - is 2 years 7 months old. She is a Black and white and is a Corgi Mix.

#3612 - Vicki - is a brown, Blood-hound Mix. She is 1 year 8 months old. She is a real sweet heart.

#3511 - Snickers - is a Mixed Breed, she is brindle color. She is 3 years 3

months old. She weighs 48.8 lbs.

#### CATS:

#3779 - Akony - is a female Calico cat. She is 2 years old and weighs 7.5 lbs.

#3778 - Connor - is a 6 month old, male kitty. He is orange and weighs 3.14 lbs.

#3777 - Meko - is a light color Calico, She is 10 months old. And weighs 5 lbs.

#3775 - Gator - is a 10 months old kitty. He is orange and white, and weighs 6.11 1/2 lbs.

#3754 - Snowball - is a Cream colored, shorthaired kitty. He is 4 1/2 months old and weighs 4.3 1/2 lbs.

Our Web site has changed to [www.suwanneevalleyhumanesociety.org](http://www.suwanneevalleyhumanesociety.org) you can view the animals through [www.petango.com](http://www.petango.com) or you can find us on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

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# Dolphins could be ideal model to study human cervical cancer, say UF vets

By Sarah Carey

After testing dozens of samples from marine mammals, University of Florida aquatic animal health experts say they have found the ideal model for the study of cervical cancer in people.

"We discovered that dolphins get multiple infections of papillomaviruses, which are known to be linked with cervical cancer in women," said Hendrik Nollens, D.V.M., Ph.D., a marine mammal biologist and clinical assistant pro-

fessor at UF's College of Veterinary Medicine recently at the annual meeting of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science. "Dolphins are the only species besides humans that we know of that can harbor coinfections, or infections of multiple papillomavirus types, in the genital mucosa."

There are approximately 100 types of human papillomaviruses, and multiple infections of up to eight HPV types have been reported in humans, he said.

"Even more surprisingly, some virus groups have shown the ability to cross the marine-terrestrial ecosystem boundary - from sea to land," Nollens said. "We have demonstrated at least one case of genetic recombination between viruses of human and marine mammals. So while it's exciting that dolphins can provide a unique window into the role of coinfection in human cervical cancer, we can't rule out that the next high-risk virus, such as SARS, or

West Nile, might actually come from the marine environment."

The presence of coinfections is believed to be one of the biggest risk factors for the development of cervical cancer in humans, Nollens said, although he added that there is no evidence that dolphins develop the disease.

"Why do people develop the disease, but dolphins don't? If we can figure out why, the human medical community might be very interested in how that in-

formation might be applied to human strategies for preventing the disease," he said.

Of all creatures that inhabit the ocean, dolphins and other marine mammals are the closest relatives of humans, but researchers say scientific knowledge of infectious diseases, particularly viral diseases, affecting these animals is limited.

In hopes of shedding more light on the nature, prevalence and potential of such diseases to be passed

Of all creatures that inhabit the ocean, dolphins and other marine mammals are the closest relatives of humans, but researchers say scientific knowledge of infectious diseases, particularly viral diseases, affecting these animals is limited.

animals that have died of natural causes in the wild. "Some 90 percent of what we do in the laboratory is molecular analyses," Nollens said. "Because of advances in molecular medicine since January 2006, we've found more than 40 new viruses in dolphins alone. When the last textbook came out in 2003, only 19 were noted."

All viruses found in the laboratory and suspected of having pathogenic potential are further evaluated to assess the impact each could have on the health of individual dolphins, he added. The information is then used to generate guidelines for disease outbreak management and prevention strategies.

"This process helps us understand disease and disease prevention," Nollens said, adding that for more than a decade, scientists have been looking for cures to human diseases, including cancer, among marine invertebrates.

"Maybe there will be a similar story with dolphin papilloma viruses and prevention of cervical cancer in humans," he said. "It wouldn't be the first time we've come up with useful information from looking at marine animals."

The discovery of new infectious diseases and viruses in marine mammals is important for conservation as well as for a better scientific understanding of the connections between oceans and people, according to Teri Rowles, D.V.M., Ph.D., director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program.

"This work highlights the importance of partnerships in this type of interdisciplinary 'One Health' science to allow us to be better stewards of healthy oceans and coasts, healthy marine mammal populations and healthy people," Rowles said.



Hendrik Nollens, D.V.M., Ph.D., a marine mammal biologist and clinical assistant professor at UF's College of Veterinary Medicine. - Courtesy photo

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to humans, Nollens and his colleagues at UF's Marine Animal Disease Laboratory have embarked on a large-scale collaborative research project to catalogue previously unrecognized and emerging viruses of marine mammals, both in collections and in the wild.

Over a four-year period, some 1,500 blood, tissue and fecal samples taken from dolphins have been analyzed at different laboratories across the United States, Nollens said. No animals were harmed during collection of cell and tissue samples, although some were obtained from

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# UF researchers: Alcohol, energy drinks add up to higher intoxication levels, increased driving risk

By Jill Pease

Energy drinks, favored among young people for the beverages' caffeine jolt, also play a lead role in several popular alcoholic drinks, such as Red Bull and vodka. But combining alcohol and energy drinks may create a dangerous mix, according to University of Florida research.

In a study of college-aged adults exiting bars, patrons who consumed energy drinks mixed with alcohol had a threefold increased risk of leaving a bar highly intoxicated and were four times more likely to intend to drive after drinking than bar patrons who drank alcohol only.

The study appears in the April issue of the journal Addictive Behaviors.

"Previous laboratory research suggests that when caffeine is mixed with alcohol it overcomes the sedating effects of alcohol and people may perceive that they are less intoxicated than they really are," said the study's lead researcher Dennis Thombs, Ph.D., an associate professor in the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions' department of behavioral science and community health. "This may lead people to drink more or make uninformed judgments about whether they are safe to drive."

Experts believe that among college drinkers, as many as 28 percent consume alcohol mixed with energy drinks in a typical month.

The UF study is the first of its kind to evaluate the effects of alcohol mixed with energy drinks in an actual drinking environment, that is, at night outside bars. Research on college student alcohol use in campus communities has traditionally relied on self-report questionnaires administered to sober students in daytime settings, Thombs said.

Data for the UF study were collected in 2008 from more than 800 randomly selected patrons exiting establishments in a college bar district between the hours of 10 p.m. and 3 a.m. Researchers conducted face-to-face interviews with participants to gather demographic information and details on participants' energy drink consumption and drinking behavior. Participants also completed self-administered questionnaires that asked about their drinking history and intention to drive that night. Next, researchers tested participants' breath alcohol concentration levels. Participants received feedback on their intoxication levels and advice about driving risk.

Bar patrons who reported drinking alcohol mixed with energy drinks - 6.5 percent of study participants - were three times more likely to be intoxicated than drinkers who consumed alcohol only. The average breath-alcohol concentration reading for those who mixed alcohol and energy drinks was 0.109, well above the legal driving limit of 0.08. Consumers of energy drink cocktails also left bars later at night, drank for longer periods of time, ingested more grams of ethanol and were four times more likely to express an intention to drive within the hour than patrons who drank alcohol only.

Consumers of alcohol mixed with energy drinks may drink more and misjudge their capabilities because caffeine diminishes the sleepy feeling most people experience as they become intoxicated. It's a condition commonly described as "wide awake and drunk," said study co-author Bruce Goldberger, Ph.D., a professor and director of toxicology in the UF College of Medicine.



Dennis Thombs, Ph.D., an associate professor in the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions' department of behavioral science and community health. - Photo: Sarah Kiewel/University of Florida

"There's a very common misconception that if you drink caffeine with an alcoholic beverage the stimulant effect of the caffeine counteracts the depressant effect of the alcohol and that is not true," Goldberger said. "We know that caffeine aggravates the degree of intoxication, which can lead to risky behaviors."

The study, funded by the University of Florida Office of the President, raises a lot of questions and suggests topics for future research, Thombs said.

"This study demonstrates that there definitely is reason for concern and more research is needed," he said. "We don't know what self-administered caffeine levels bar patrons are reaching, what are safe and unsafe levels of caffeine and what regulations or policies should be implemented to better protect bar patrons or consumers in general."

Thombs' study is a very valuable addition to the existing body of research on the association of energy drink consumption and alcohol-related consequences, said Mary Claire O'Brien, M.D., an associate professor of emergency medicine and public health sciences at Wake Forest University who has studied the relationship between energy drink cocktails and high-risk behavior.

"His approach is unique because it was conducted in a natural drinking environment - college bars," O'Brien said. "His results clearly support the serious concern raised by previous research, that subjective drunkenness

may be reduced by the concurrent ingestion of caffeinated energy drinks, increasing both the likelihood of further alcohol consumption, and of driving when intoxicated."

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# THE COUPON QUEEN

*Jill Cataldo saves hundreds on groceries by making the most of the common coupon. You can, too. Here's how.*

## How to Organize Your Stockpiled Riches



By Jill Cataldo

Last week we talked about the importance of stockpiling, a topic that certainly shouldn't be lost amongst all the coupon talk. Simply put, stockpiling involves purchasing more of a product than a household immediately needs when the price of the item hits its lowest point.

Most products at the supermarket go through a price cycle. Buying when prices are lowest and using coupons for additional savings ensures we pay the lowest possible prices for the items we need.

In any discussion on stockpiling, two questions inevitably crop up: Where do I put all this stuff I'm buying in larger quantities? And how do I know when the price is at its lowest point? Let's tackle both topics.

Once you shift your perspective and begin to shop based on price versus your household's immediate needs, you will find yourself dealing with larger quantities of your most frequently purchased items. I've found it most convenient to set up a small area in our basement to devote to my "store," where shelves hold items I most often purchase in multiples. Organizing my stockpile on shelves reduces the footprint of the storage area. I arrange my stockpile much like a traditional store, with cereals and breakfast items shelved together and designated spots for snack foods, pastas and sauces and drugstore-type items. However, when a good sale strikes, my stockpile has been known to creep out of its designated area. Past great sales on paper products have led to toilet paper and paper towels stored on shelves in our garage!

If you don't have a special room or area where you can set up shop, storage options abound throughout the house. Many crunched-for-space Super-Couponers use under-bed boxes or drawers to stockpile all sort of items, from canned goods to cereal boxes. Other coupon shoppers clear space in closets for stockpiling items. One couple I know decided they needed a pantry more than they needed a linen closet. Now they keep sheets and towels in the master bedroom closet and the linen

closet is filled with food! Still others appropriate old armoires, china cabinets or buffets to conceal their stockpiles.

Don't necessarily limit yourself to inside the house. In moderate climates, consider storing cans, jars and paper products on garage shelves. I've heard from many apartment dwellers who use outdoor-accessible storage containers to store more than bicycles and lawn chairs.

With stockpiling, the key is to strike a balance between the bargains you bring home. Any time my stockpile begins to grow too far beyond its designated home, it's usually time for me to do a "sweep" for any products we are not likely to use in the near future. We donate our extras to a local food bank or pantry. I like to think my stockpile benefits my family and others, too.

Now, how do we know when the price of an item hits its lowest point and becomes a "buy?" Typically, anytime a sale price is at least 50 percent off the regular, non-sale price, it's a buy. Last week, I discussed a sale in which crackers went from \$3.29 to 99 cents a box. This would be an excellent example of a cycle low, since 99 cents is about 70 percent off the regular, non-sale price. But, if the crackers had been on sale for \$1.65, they still would have been an excellent buy - that's half off. When shoppers are Super-Couponing, part of the strategy is to learn the best prices for the items we commonly buy.

The Internet offers many useful tools for coupon shoppers. Many Web sites offer detailed lists of all items that will hit their lowest prices for the current week at your store of choice. These grocery list sites also help shoppers match current sales to the coupons they need in order to reduce prices even more, listing exactly where the coupons appeared and when to use them. Find a list of these on my Web site, [www.supercouponing.com](http://www.supercouponing.com) site, under the heading, "Getting Started."

Jill Cataldo Jill Cataldo, a coupon workshop instructor, writer and mother of three, never passes up a good deal. Learn more about couponing at her Web site, [www.supercouponing.com](http://www.supercouponing.com). E-mail your own couponing victories and questions to [jill@ctwfeatures.com](mailto:jill@ctwfeatures.com).

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# FSU alum picked as Blue Angel

By Jay Wirth

A Blue Angel pilot is one of the most coveted positions in the flying world. Roaring through the air at 700 mph (twice as fast as a commercial airliner) while a mere 3 feet apart from each other is just another day at the office for a Blue Angel. And, now, Navy Lt. James Tomaszeski, of Coronado, California, a 2000 Florida State Alumnus, will join the Blue Angel team.

On July 10, 2009 the Blue Angels announced their 2010 team members. There are numerous highly qualified officers who apply for these positions each year and only seven pilots are chosen. "The competition was extremely tough," said Lt. Cmdr. Paul Brantuas, the Blue Angel squadron's applications officer. "Over the course of four months, we invite them to attend our shows so the team can get to know each of them personally before we select the finalists. Once selected, we bring the finalists down to Pensacola during the Pensacola Beach show to interview them and make a final selection. It's a very thorough and fair process designed to select only the best officers to represent the Navy and Marine Corps." Lt. Tomaszeski was selected to be an F/A-18 Hornet pilot.

Lt. James Tomaszeski grew up in Orange Park, Florida where his father was in the Navy. His family then moved to San Diego where he attended High School, but Lt. Tomaszeski returned to the sunshine state to attend The Florida State University. Lt. Tomaszeski's dedication and discipline was apparent even during his days at Florida State. He was able to graduate in just three years and one summer with his bachelor's degree in creative writing. Upon graduation, Lt. Tomaszeski followed in his father's footsteps by joining the U.S. Navy, and began flying jets in 2001.

The word "destiny" comes to mind when discussing Lt. James Tomaszeski's journey to the Blue Angels. He explains, "I was assigned to fly jets one week prior to 9-11. At this point in time, everyone started joining the military; people with more qualifications to fly than I had at the time. Had I stayed at Florida State and done my fourth year, I would have been part of this wave and most likely not been given the opportunity to fly jets." Fortunately, fate took charge and Lt. James Tomaszeski was able to reach his full potential as a jet pilot.

### 2010 Blue Angels Team

In order to be considered for the Blue Angel team, a pilot is required to have 1,250 hours of tactical jet flight prior to consideration. Lt. Tomaszeski has accumulated more than 1,600 flight hours and has 271 carrier arrested landings. His decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and vari-

ous unit awards.

The training involved for the Blue Angel pilots is grueling; this is because of the precision and speed of their maneuvers. According to Lt. Tomaszeski, becoming a Blue Angel was not something he envisioned himself doing. He explains, "In this business, the Blue Angels are the end all be all. But now that I'm on the other side you see these guys are just regular squadron pilots."

On average, 15 million spectators watch the Blue Angels each year. The sheer amazement of the 90 degree vertical climbs, the roar of the four-plane Diamond Formation, and the moment every spectator waits for: the astonishing six-jet Delta Formation is something every American should experience.

To be a Blue Angel is to be among the most elite pilots on earth. Their mission is to serve as positive role



The Blue Angels flying in formation. - Courtesy photo

models and goodwill ambassadors for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. They are truly the representation of American pride. The Florida State Alumni Association is proud to have Lt. James Tomaszeski displaying the strength, skill and character of a true Seminole.

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