

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VENDORS - PAGE 13A

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Glamalicious

A day to shop shamelessly for all things fabulous and remember why you love being a girl!

Details Page 14A

Mark Your Calendars

Caribbean Carnivale

Suwannee Democrat

126th YEAR, NO. 71 | 3 SECTIONS, 32 PAGES

Wednesday Edition — June 22, 2011

50 CENTS

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

High speed chase ends in arrest



Bradley Dale Smith

McAlpin man nabbed on dead end road

By **Stephanie Livingston**
stephanie.livingston@gafnews.com

A routine call to police resulted in a high speed chase through Live Oak in the early morning hours Monday, Live Oak Police reports

show. Officers responded to a call at the S&S at US 129 and I-10 asking for assistance with a drunk motorist. Bradley Dale Smith, 22, McAlpin, was intoxicated when Sergeant Jason Rountree and Offi-

cer Derek Slaughter arrived on scene, reports show.

Since Smith wasn't driving at the time of contact, the officers called a ride for him.

"After a ride was called for Smith the officers were standing in the parking lot with Smith waiting," reports state. "At this point Smith suddenly jumped into his

vehicle and sped away from the store, southbound on US 129."

Slaughter was able to catch up with Smith later on as he made his way to a residential area near Houston Avenue, at speeds in excess of 70 miles per hour. The officer turned on his emergency

SEE HIGH, PAGE 12A

Man gets 25 years on molestation charge

By **Jeff Waters**
jeff.waters@gafnews.com



Jonathon Crary

A Live Oak man was sentenced to 25 years to the Department of Corrections Thursday on a molestation charge from 2008, according to officials.

Jonathon Leigh Crary, 28, of 517 6th Avenue, was arrested by the Suwannee County Sheriff's Office in August 2008 on four counts, three of which he was found not guilty in a previous trial. Thursday's sentencing stemmed from a charge of lewd and lascivious molestation of a child under 12, according to officials.

SEE MAN, PAGE 12A



Mercantile Bank at the corner of Ohio Avenue and Helvenston Street in Live Oak is now TD Bank. Staff photo

Mercantile is now TD Bank

By **Jeff Waters**
jeff.waters@gafnews.com

TD Bank signs replaced all the Mercantile Bank ones at the Ohio Avenue and Helvenston Street location Friday.

The Toronto, Canada banking group is completed its conversion of Mercantile Bank offices into TD Bank offices over the weekend. Friday morning, Mercantile Bank signs

SEE MERCANTILE, PAGE 12A

Servin' up a feast at June Bug



Barbecue could be smelled throughout the June Bug Festival thanks to UCICF Bar-B-Que Pit Doghouse in Live Oak. See more photos, Pages 10 and 11A and online in our photo gallery at www.suwanneedemocrat.com. - Photo: Stephanie Livingston



Graffiti on the side of Downtown Cafe in Live Oak. Police are investigating this and other graffiti around the city. Courtesy photo

Graffitied businesses an eyesore to owners

By **Stephanie Livingston**
stephanie.livingston@gafnews.com

New, not-so-pleasant additions to the Live Oak scenery in the form of graffitied murals has appeared at businesses and on stop signs around Live Oak for the past month.

Police say they have not yet discovered the person(s) responsible for the "art"

SEE GRAFFITIED, PAGE 12A

Serious injuries follow dump truck crash

By **Jeff Waters**
jeff.waters@gafnews.com

A Live Oak man was seriously injured after the dump truck he was driving overturned in Columbia County Friday, the Florida Highway Patrol re-

ported.

Randy David Norris, 48, Live Oak, was traveling south on NW Brown Road around 2:30 p.m. when he attempted to make a left turn onto Hwy 90.

SEE SERIOUS, PAGE 12A



Waters named new Democrat editor

By **Stephanie Livingston**
stephanie.livingston@gafnews.com

The *Suwannee Democrat* is proud to announce Jeff Waters as its new editor. Waters will provide editorial leadership for the news, as well as opinion content. He will guide the *Democrat* as it strives to further build the company's multi-media pres-

SEE WATERS, PAGE 12A

Today' Weather

Low 75°F High 99°F

FOR MORE LOCAL WEATHER, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SUWANNEEDEMOCRAT.COM



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North Florida Focus

INSIDE:

Branford pair arrested for stealing farm implements **12A**

2nd annual
Camels Campout

set for June 24-26 at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park
NORTH FLORIDA FOCUS

2011 Chevrolet Equinox UP TO 32 M P G

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Switchboard, 386-362-1734
 Fax, 386-364-5578
 Email, nf.editorial@gafnews.com
 Mail, P.O. Box 370
 Live Oak, FL 32064
 Office, 211 Howard Street East
 ■ Publisher,
 Myra Regan, ext. 122

CONTACT US WITH YOUR COMMENTS

If you have any questions or concerns, call us at 386-362-1734 or visit our Web site at www.suwanneedemocrat.com

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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.

OFFICE HOURS
 Open Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Letters, comments and opinions on the Viewpoint & Opinions page are not necessarily those of the management/ownership of the Suwannee Democrat.

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.

RANT & RAVE HOTLINE

Here's your chance to tell everyone what you think! Callers may dial 208-8314 and leave a message to express their thoughts, good or bad, 24/7 about issues and politics, but not about private individuals or businesses. If you prefer, you may e-mail your comments to robert.bridges@gafnews.com. Your name is not necessary, but please, take 30 seconds or less for your message.

Suwannee County Part of "The Original Florida"

Corinth Baptist Church of Jasper will be hosting Annual Fourth of July Celebration

Corinth Baptist Church of Jasper, FL will be hosting our Annual Fourth of July Celebration on July 3rd at 4:00 p.m. We will be smoking a Whole Hog, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, with all the trimmings. Will also have home-made ice cream, boiled peanuts, watermelons, and a huge waterslide. Weather permitting we will be having a large fireworks display. Make plans to join us.

Tree and shrub sale

Comprehensive Community Services will be having a Tree and shrub sale July 7th and 8th. ~ 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. each day, at the Live Oak ADT center, 511 Goldksit Blvd.

Annual Family and Friends Day Celebration

We the members of Allen Chapel AME Church, Houston, Fla. are pleased to invite you to our Annual Family and Friends Day Celebration on Sunday, July 10, 2011 at 11 a.m. Our speaker for this joyous occasion will be Doctor Robert Herring of Jacksonville. Please come and help lift up the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Allen Chapel is located on CR 417 (Railroad St.) for info. call 386-364-4882.

Messiah's Mansion

A full scale model of the Mosaic Sanctuary. The size you would have seen if you were alive in the days of Moses. On Display Sat. July 2 - Sunday, July 10. 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. July 2-9, and 1p.m. - 5

p.m. July 10. Tours begin every 15 minutes and lasts 75 minutes. Location: 9206 West Hwy 90, Lake City, FL. Call (386) 984-9704 or email livesanctuary11@yahoo.com.

Love Forever

Live Oak Church of Christ, 1497 SR 51 (Irvin Ave) will be open every third Saturday morning of each month for a clothes closet and food pantry, 10:30 - 12 noon.

Jennings United Methodist Church will host Vacation Bible School

Jennings United Methodist Church, in Jennings, Florida, will host Vacation Bible School, July 11-15, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The theme is "Saddle Ridge Ranch" and participants will get to ride a real horse, cook out around a real campfire and learn more about God's plan for them and how they can be more like Jesus. All children are invited to attend. For more information please call 386-938-5745 or 229-559-5916.

School Physical Exam Clinics

The Suwannee County Health Department will be holding special School Physical Exam Clinics on July 21st and August 11th. Appointments are required. The cost of the school physicals will be \$25.00. These physicals are for school entry ONLY. Sports physicals will not be completed on these dates. A copy of your child's immunization record is required if all vaccines were not received at the Health Department. The Suwannee County

Health Department is located at 915 Nobles Ferry Road in Live Oak. The number to call for an appointment is (386) 362-2708.

Live Oak Elks Lodge #1165 B.P.O.E.

The Live Oak Elks Lodge will be having a charity fund raiser BBQ chicken dinner on Friday, June 24, 2011 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Lodge Parking lot. Menu: Chicken Leg Quarter, cole slaw, baked beans, roll. Price: \$6 per plate. Delivery available for 10 or more meals. All proceeds go to benefit our local charities. For more information please call the lodge at 362-1165 Mon. - Sat. after 4 p.m.

Homecoming - Reunion at Beulah Baptist Church HAS BEEN CANCELED!!

Suwannee County Fire/Rescue calls for service for June 13 to June 18

Total calls for service: 96 Fire Calls 40

Medical Calls 56

Cardiac: 4
 Trauma: 10
 Motor vehicle crash: 3
 Miscellaneous medical call: 13
 Altered mental status: 2
 Respiratory: 10
 Diabetic: 3
 Weakness: 1
 Abdominal pain: 5
 Seizure: 3
 Death: 1
 Allergic Reaction: 1

Structure Fire: 1

Brush fire: 7
 Motor vehicle crash: 3
 Medical assist: 2
 Down power line: 10
 Tree on Road: 6
 Tree on house: 1
 Smoke Inv: 4
 Vehicle Fire: 1
 Fire Alarm: 2
 Tree Fire: 3

Volunteer Fire Responses: 52

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674071dV

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

June 16, Kenneth Deas Jr, 40, 705 SW Wall Terr. Lake City, FL, assault (dom viol), battery (dom viol) SCSO-C.Tompkins
 June 16, Phillip Nelson, 51, 2212 University Lake Dr. A trafficking oxycodone, sale of cont. sub oxyco, poss oxy w/intent sell SCSODTF-R. Sammons
 June 16, Staples Dorothy Ann, 53, 2212 University Lake Dr Tampa, FL, traff oxycodone, sale of oxycodone, poss oxy w/int sell SCSODTF R Sammons
 June 16, Timothy William Osteen, 28, 103rd St O'Brien, FL, vop-felony criminal misch SCSO-A. Loston
 June 16, Keith Lavann Lowery, 25, 5720 Vernon Rd Jax, FL, vop-pass worthless checks, vop-grand theft iii SCSO-A. Loston
 June 16, Charity Stewart, 31, 626 Scriven Ave Live Oak, FL, taylor co wrt vop dwls, payable \$728.00 cash only LOPD-L. Rogers
 June 16, Taiwan Denzel Williams, 18, 1849 S. Ohio Ave Live Oak, FL, sent to 60 days cj SCSO-M Jelks
 June 16, Jennifer Lynn Wilson, 25, 1671 96th Lane Live Oak, FL, reckless driving, dwls/r, poss drug para, poss drug para FHP-R. Roux
 June 17, Lorenzo Philmore, 40, 516 2nd St. Live Oak, FL, dui FHP- A.

Hughes
 June 17, Humberto Machuca, 45, 9468 105th Road Live Oak, FL, exp d/l + 6 mths, resist ofc w/o violence LOPD - D. Slaughter
 June 17, Chuck Daniels Deas, 37, 2075 151st Pass Live Oak, FL, vop o/c dwls/r SCSO-W.Kelly
 June 17, Joseph Michael Gray, 42, 460 Bonito Avenue Imperial Beach, Ca, fta (poss psilocyn/poss-20 cannabis/poss paraph) SCSO - H. Tucker
 June 18, William Tyler Green, 21, 19758 68Th St Live Oak, FL, poss of control sub 3 cts, poss of drug para. SCSO - M. Landis
 June 19, Todd Anthony Mitchell, 31, 13420 225th qd Live Oak, FL, battery by strangulation, domestic violence SCSO - C McIntyre
 June 19, Randell Scott Falero, 50, 2080 CR 340 Bell, FL, fta o/c battery dv SCSO - CPL. J. Stout
 June 19, Kimberly May Tidwell, 46, 9112 CR 136-A Live Oak, FL, dwlsr, dui LOPD - J. Roundtree
 June 20, Alonzo Randall, 47, 223 1st Ave Wellborn, FL, disorderly intoxic
 June 20, Albert Ali Gibson III, 38, 10751 142st Street McAlpin, FL, burglary, grand theft SCSO-C Fry
 June 20, Raegen Dees, 36, 4146 288th Terrace Branford, FL, columbia co wrt, vop o/c poss of control substance SCSO-R. Rodriguez
 June 20, Phillip Alex Lanier, 30 Columbia County Jail, return for court Lake City, FL SCSO-A Loston
 June 20, Cynthia Rusinovich, 52, 20349 Lancaster Road Live Oak, FL, vop battery on leo P & P.H. Pearson
 June 20, Bradley Dale Smith, 22, 9184 184th Terrace McAlpin, FL, aggravated fleeing/eludin agg assault on leo-3 ct, resist ofcr w/o violence, dui, 1st app pd apt pr wfw LOPD - D. Slaughter

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

LOTTERY RESULTS

Florida

CASH 3	PLAY 4
Day	Day
6/20/11 . 6,8,1	6/20/11 . 0,8,9,7
Night	Night
6/20/11 . 4,1,2	6/20/11 . 0,0,1,8
FANTASY 5	
6/20/11	3,6,17,21,34
MEGA MONEY	
6/20/11	8,9,25,39,18
LOTTO	
6/20/11	4,14,17,37,42,50,2

4th of JULY

PRIZES: HAND MADE QUILT / SHOTGUN

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: CALL 386-935-6927

67755108V



The Live Oak Police Department released helium balloons in memory of Caylee Anthony Thursday. - Photo: Live Oak Police Department

Balloons for Caylee

The Live Oak Police Department released helium balloons on the afternoon of Thursday, June 16 in memory of Caylee Marie Anthony who was reported missing on July

15, 2008 in Orlando. Caylee's body was found later, and her mother, Casey Anthony is presently on trial for first degree murder. The National Center for Missing and Ex-

ploited Children reports that about 800,000 children younger than 18 are reported missing each year, or about 2,000 each day. In Florida, there were 39,000 children reported

as missing in 2010 according to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. There are about 1,900 children listed as missing by FDLE as of June 16, 2011.



ABOVE: Altrusa of Live Oak collected books for the children who visit the Suwannee County Health Department. Nurse Mindy is seen accepting books from Glenda Williams, Altrusa president. - Courtesy photos

Altrusa stays busy with book, food collection

BELOW: Altrusa of Live Oak collected food and other items for the Suwannee Valley Humane Society. Seen here is Glenda Williams, Altrusa president delivering the items.



Reporter sought

General assignment reporter wanted for weekly newspaper group in North Florida. Must have excellent writing, reporting, photography, word processing and Internet skills. Experience preferred. Coverage area: Suwannee, Lafayette and Hamilton counties. Night and weekend assignments will be required. Send résumé, references and clippings to: jeff.waters@gafnews.com.

Postal submissions also welcome: Jeff Waters Group editor PO Box 370 Live Oak, FL 32064

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SPECIALS FROM 6/22-6/29

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suwannee living

Weddings/Anniversaries

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Weaver Sr. Celebrate 70th wedding anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Weaver Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Weaver Sr. will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on Tuesday, June 28, 2011. The former Elizabeth Thomas from Melbourne and Bernard Weaver from Live Oak were married on June 28, 1941 in Macclenny, Fla.

Bernard, a World War II veteran, served in the US Army stationed in the Pacific Theater. He is retired from the US Postal Service and the Florida National Guard. Elizabeth is retired from the Western Union Telegraph Company. She was a volunteer with the Shands Auxiliary at Live Oak with 31 years of service as a "Pink Lady" at the hospital.

The couple has two children, Sharon D. Herber of Monticello, Fla. and Bernie Weaver (wife, Paulette) of Glennville, Ga. They have one granddaughter, Kristen Elisabeth Weaver of Atlanta, Ga.

A reception honoring the Weavers will be given at their home in Live Oak, for family and friends.

Check out the *Suwannee Democrat's* page on FACEBOOK.

Live Oak native earns masters degree in teaching



George (Gem) McKnight II

Born and raised Live Oak native, George (Gem) McKnight II, graduated this spring from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC, with a Masters Degree in teaching with a 3.75 grade point average. Gem plans on teaching early elementary education with an initial certification in kindergarten through third grade.

"I don't think anyone who know me as a child ever thought that I'd end up teaching, but I owe it all to my amazing childhood here and the teachers who pushed me to do better," says Gem.

Son of former teachers, George McKnight and Penny McCall, and brother to current teacher, Kim Hudson, Gem says that teaching is in his blood. "I fought it initially, but I realize that I have been called to teach."

Gem earned his bachelor's degree in business from Flagler College and started out in the banking industry. He later got into retail branch management and moved from St. Petersburg, Fla. to Rock Hill, SC where he attended Winthrop University's Graduate School. Winthrop has been educating teachers for 125 years and earned a reputation as the flagship teacher education program in South Carolina.

"A special thanks to my wife, Misty, and to my family and friends who helped me achieve this goal," says Gem. "Also I would like to thank Mrs. Wilene LaFevre, Mr. Terry Brinson and Mr. Bob Cannon for being creative teachers and demanding the best from their students."

Suwannee High School athletic news

Free physicals will be given to Suwannee High School athletes on Thursday, June 30, at 6 p.m. in the SHS gym. Physical and consent forms will be given out upon arrival. Please remember, both physicals and parental consent forms are required before an athlete can practice or play at Suwannee High. It is highly encouraged that all potential student-athletes attend this event.

Please call Hunter Abercrombie, SHS athletic director, at 647-4046 with any questions.

Suwannee High School will begin selling All-Sport Passes for the 2011-12 school year on Tuesday, July 5. The All-Sport Pass allows admission to every regular season sporting event at SHS for the entire year! Passes are \$60 and may be purchased upon appointment. Again, these passes only allow for general admission at regular season games, and will not be honored for pre or postseason FH-SAA sanctioned events. Please call Hunter Abercrombie, SHS athletic director, at 386-647-4046 to purchase your pass. You may also stop by Suwannee High School after July 5 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. to purchase your pass.

Suwannee High volleyball clinic fundraiser

The Suwannee High School varsity volleyball coach Deanna Law announces a volleyball clinic for local boys and girls who are in grades 4 through 7. The clinic will teach basic volleyball skills and is part of a fundraiser to help eight girls go to volleyball camp at Valdosta State University. The clinic will be held on June 27 and 28 at the Suwannee High School. Registration is at the door, meet at the SHS gym. The fee for the two days is \$50, which includes lunch and a T-shirt. Each student who like to register must be first accompanied by a guardian so proper forms can be signed. The clinic will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Marriage license applications

The following couples applied for a marriage license the week of June 13 - 17, 2011:

- Skyler Chauncey Phillips to Stephanie Roylyn Skipper
- Allen Clayton McMillan to Ashley Elaine Latreille
- Thomas Clayton Dale to Tiffany Brooke Ragan
- Billy Joe Groover to Deanna Lynn Goff

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PAINT & RICHARD'S FLOORING

ASK THE EXPERT BY: BRAD WATSON

Clean Your Hardware Floors

1. Sweep wood floors often with a soft, fine bristle broom. Throw rugs can help to protect wood or tile floors.
2. Vacuum once or twice a week to remove dirt and sand. Use a soft brush attachment to minimize scratching.
3. Since water is one of a wood floors worst enemies, get rid of water right away! Remove wet spills ASAP with soft towel or a wet/dry vacuum, then dry thoroughly.
4. Use a very dry damp mop when mopping polyurethaned wood floors, since excess water can seep into seams and ruin a wood floor.
5. Consider using carpet runners (with non-skid pads) over wood floors in high traffic areas.
6. Vacuum area rugs and runners often so dirt doesn't filter down through the weave and scratch the wood underneath.
7. If possible, do not wear heavy shoes or high heels on hardwood floors, as some heels can cause dents.
8. Never drag furniture or other objects across a wood floor. Instead, clean the floor thoroughly to remove dust and grit, then use "gliding" furniture pads underneath the piece to aid sliding it across the floor.
9. Install floor mats at each entrance so you don't track in dirt from the bottoms of shoes.
10. Be sure to follow manufacturer recommendations to treat flooring scratches and dents. If an area of the finish is damaged by water, it may be difficult to fix it.
11. Use furniture pads to place under table and chair legs and on the feet of dressers and armoires. They can be purchased at a local hardware store or home center.
12. Some floors may require periodic waxing and buffing. Get recommendations from the manufacturer for the specific procedures for your floor.

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Plus FREE set-up FREE removal

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Queen Set...\$489	Queen Set...\$599	Queen Set...\$699	Queen Set...\$1699
King Set...\$589	King Set...\$899	King Set...\$999	King Set...\$1999

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25th Wedding Anniversary

Alan & Angie Lott

Please join us for a Reception honoring Angie and Alan Lott as they celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

The First Baptist Church family, friends and their family invite you to share in this special occasion, Saturday, June 25th, 2:00-4:00 P.M., Fellowship Hall, First Baptist Church of Live Oak.

Obituaries

Harold Drew Landen, Jr. "Hal" June 14, 2011



Hal Landen, 60, passed away Tuesday, June 14, 2011, after a lengthy illness of lung cancer. He resided in Peachtree City, GA, with his sister, Lori Peters and family. He is a native of Suwannee County and had an appliance business, "Landen's Appliance Service" for several years. He is predeceased by his father Harold D. Landen, Sr and mother Iora Hingson Landen.

He is survived by his mother Winona Landen of Live Oak and three children: April Landen, Lake City, Harold Landen III of Lake City, and Travis Stapleton of White Springs. He had five grandchildren: Skylar, Parker, Reyhan, Bailee Landen, and Landen Stapleton.

He is also survived by his brother Ted Landen of Wellborn, Janet Robinson of Knoxville, TN, Lori Peters of Peachtree City, GA and a host of nieces and nephews.

Hal went to be with the Lord but left some wonderful moments of love and laughter behind to be cherished by his family forever. He will be greatly missed, but his testimony of his love for the Lord will make it easier as time goes on.

There was a graveside service and burial on Friday, June 17th at Orange Baptist Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

The family request in lieu of flowers that donations be made to "Open Door Christian Ministry" P.O. Box 925 Clinton, SC 29325.

Mary Belle Matthews April 14, 1927 - June 19, 2011



Mary Belle Matthews was born in Owensboro, Kentucky to Mrs. Connie Mae Phillips and Mr. James O. Cook. She was 84 years old when she

passed over into the loving arms of Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior. She had been ill for a long time.

Mary Belle is survived by her husband Marshall Clay. She was blessed with 7 children. Rita Ferree of High Springs, FL; Nita Still of Sarasota, FL; Mary Ann Layson of Lizella, GA; Henry Wahl of Orlando, FL; Melody Oaker-son of Gulfport, MS; and John Charles Matthews of Live Oak, FL. She had one other daughter who predeceased her, Connie Sue Murat, who died on November 13, 2010. Connie and her family also lived in Live Oak, FL.

The family moved to Co-coa, Florida in 1958 when her husband was transferred from Baltimore, Maryland to work on the beginning of the space program at Cape Kennedy with the Glen L. Martin Company. Mary Belle relocated to Live Oak in 1968 upon her marriage to William (Bill) H. Matthews who predeceased her on May 2, 2007. Bill was a long-time resident of Live Oak and a successful farmer.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Matthews operated several businesses which included a collection agency and an antique store in Live Oak. She was also deeply involved in the Suwannee County Garden Club and the Women's Club of Live Oak. Both organizations held a special place in her heart.

Mary Belle leaves 18 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Services will be held at the Live Oak Church of Christ on Hwy 51 with the visitation beginning at 11:00 AM and the funeral service beginning at 1:00 PM on Thursday, June 23, 2011.

Helen Louise Bixler September 19, 1925 - June 20, 2011



Helen Louise Bixler, age 85, died peacefully on June 20, 2011 surrounded by family, in her home. Mrs. Bixler was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She loved playing bridge, solving crossword

puzzles, and traveling. She graduated from Michigan State University and taught elementary school in Howell, Mich. for 15 years before retiring to the Advent Christian Village in Dowling Park, Fla. in 1986, where she was an active volunteer and benefactor.

Mrs. Bixler was born on September 19, 1925 to Mary and Marvin Burch in Page County, Iowa. She was married for 56 years to her husband, Max Bixler. She was preceded in death by her husband, two brothers, Murray and Marvin, her sister Mary Belle Zillman, and a grandson, Robert James Schicker. She is survived by four children, Susan Schicker (Richard) and Kathie Craig of Dowling

Park, Steve Bixler (Joy) of Virginia Beach, Va., and Louise Hagen (John) of Longview, Texas; seven grandchildren, Mardy and Robert Schicker, Peggy Craig, Travis (Jessica) and Lucas (Rebekah) Terry, Kelsey and Reid Bixler; and seven great-grandchildren, Karleigh, Kenze, and Cale Hagen, Alexis Perdue, Corbin and Abby Terry and Caden Schicker.

Memorial Services will be held 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 22, 2011 in the Bixler Memorial Chapel, Dowling Park with Rev. Steve Setzer officiating.

Daniels Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc. Live Oak and Branford, Fla. is in charge of all local arrangements.

Death notices

Emma L. Smith October 5, 1919 - June 16, 2011

Mrs. Emma L. Smith, age 91, a resident of White Springs, FL passed away Thursday, June 16, 2011 in Shands Hospital, Gainesville, FL. D.M. Udell and Sons Funeral Home of Live Oak, FL, 386-362-4189 in charge of all arrangements.

Grace Mary Scheidler February 16, 1927 - June 18, 2011

Grace Mary Scheidler, age 84 of Live Oak, Fla. passed away Saturday, June 18,

2011 at Haven Hospice in Lake City, Fla.

Please sign the guest-book at www.harrisfuneralhomeinc.net.

Harris Funeral Home & Cremations, Inc., 932 N. Ohio Ave., Live Oak, 386-364-5115 is in charge of all arrangements.

Jonathan L. Jones March 6, 1971 - June 17, 2011

Mr. Jonathan L. Jones, age 40, a resident of Lake City, FL passed away Friday, June 17, 2011 in Lake Butler, FL. D.M. Udell and Sons Funeral Home of Live Oak, FL, 386-362-4189 in charge of all arrangements.

Moore wins cooking school raffle grand prize



Barbara Moore receives the raffle grand prize, a basket of kitchen items worth over \$150, from Claudia Smedley, Suwannee County HCE President, during the annual HCE Cooking School on Tuesday evening, June 7. This year's theme was "Fresh From The Garden". This was Barbara's first time at the school, and said that the prize a really a great surprise. She also said that she enjoyed it a lot and would certainly come again. - Courtesy photo

ATTENTION

In our effort to better serve you, our office has installed an after hours drop box on the North wing of the Suwannee County Courthouse. Payments are to be in the form of a check or money order. Case number or citation number along with contact information must be included. Payments placed in the drop box after 3:30 p.m. will be credited on the next business day.

Barry Baker Suwannee County Clerk of Court

Advertisement for First Federal Bank of Florida featuring a newspaper headline: 'BIG BANK BUYS OUT SMALLER COMPETITOR' and the text 'IS YOUR BANK CHANGING?'.

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Kyna Smith 1102 N. Ohio Ave. Heather Thompson 804 S. Ohio Ave.

Viewpoints/Opinions

Suwannee Democrat



MYRAC C. REGAN
Publisher



JEFF WATERS
Editor

Editorial objectives for 2011

1. End prohibition on liquor in Suwannee
2. Install a County Manager
3. Take public control of Dowling House
4. Reduce duplication of effort by city/county offices and agencies
5. Continue progress on Perimeter Road

THE SUWANNEE SCRIBBLER

Live Oak friendly

By Jim Holmes

I'm not sure it's a trait unique to Live Oak, but it's one I really enjoy, particularly having moved here from a South Florida community where it once existed, but has now virtually disappeared.

I'm talking about the willingness of strangers in small towns to share information about themselves in public places...like in the line at the grocery or while browsing in the hardware for tools.

Let me cite an example. My wife and I were at a local cell phone office to replace her telephone. The process took the better part of an hour, but for me it was time well spent.

I learned that while Lynda and I had known each other for only six-months before getting married some 41-years ago, the young lady waiting on us had known the man who became her husband for only 90-days. I also discovered that the other young lady behind the counter had just earned her bachelor's degree and was looking forward to an eventual career in human services. (That's the fancy new name for doing social work. I wonder if the new name means it pays any better?)

Then there was the guy who told me he knew from first-hand experience you could bend the battery in your cell phone two-different directions at once, if you dropped it just the right way while riding your motorcycle.

Did I mention the young lady from the chicken plant who works everyday in a room where the temperature is never higher than 18-degrees? Or the one-time school teacher, whose two daughters, she proudly told me, had both followed in her footsteps.

Now none of these conversations contained anything that was earth-shaking and yet I enjoyed each one. Here were folks who had no idea who I was or where I was from and yet they were willing to share some of their life experiences with me.

I've noticed these visits seem to occur all the time in and around Live Oak. Please believe me however, when I tell you that's not the case everywhere.

If I had been in a cell phone office in any big US city, I'm willing to bet a shiny new quarter that these simple---yet enjoyable conversations---would never have taken place. Oh, the waiting customers might have talked ON THEIR PHONES to friends and family miles away, but sharing anything with the stranger standing next them? Never!

I learned that first hand during one visit to my son, who lived at the time in West Palm Beach. We were in a bike shop when I made an attempt at small talk with a couple of other waiting customers...and they looked at me like I had sprouted horns and would start breathing fire at any moment. My son later informed me that proper Palm Beach etiquette dictated that folks not even make eye contact, if it could be avoided.

What a shame.

We all enter this world alone and leave it the same way. In the short interim we call "life"; doesn't it make sense to learn as much as possible about our fellow travelers?

Jim Holmes lives in Live Oak

BIBLE VERSE

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

Psalm 91:1 NIV

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

America's new racists

The late South African economist William Hutt, in his 1964 book, "The Economics of the Colour Bar," said that one of the supreme tragedies of the human condition is that those who have been the victims of injustices and oppression "can often be observed to be inflicting not dissimilar injustices upon other races."

Born in 1936, I've lived through some of our openly racist history, which has included racist insults, beatings and lynchings. Tuskegee Institute records show that between the years 1880 and 1951, 3,437 blacks and 1,293 whites were lynched. I recall my cousin's and my being chased out of Fishtown and Grays Ferry, two predominantly Irish Philadelphia neighborhoods, in the 1940s, not stopping until we reached a predominantly black North or South Philly neighborhood.

Today all that has changed. Most racist assaults are committed by blacks. What's worse is there're blacks, still alive, who lived through the times of lynching, Jim Crow laws and open racism who remain silent in the face of it.

Last year, four black Skidmore College students yelled racial slurs while they beat up a white man because he was dining with a black man. Skidmore College's first response was to offer counseling to one of the black students charged with the crime. In 2009, a black Columbia University professor assaulted a white woman during a heated argument about race relations. According to interviews and court records obtained and reported by Denver's ABC affiliate (12/4/2009), black gangs roamed downtown Denver verbally venting their hatred for white victims before assaulting and robbing them during a four-month crime wave. Earlier this year, four black girls beat a white girl at a McDonald's, and the victim suffered a seizure. Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel ordered an emergency shutdown of the beaches in Chicago because mobs of blacks were terrorizing families. According to the NBC affiliate there (6/8/2011), a gang of black teens stormed a city bus, attacked white victims and ran off with their belongings.

Racist black attacks are not only against whites but also against Asians. In San Francisco, five blacks beat an 83-year-old Chinese man to death. They threw a 57-year-old woman off a train platform. Two black Oakland teenagers



A MINORITY VIEW

© 2011 Creators Syndicate

BY WALTER WILLIAMS

assaulted a 59-year-old Chinese man; the punching knocked him to the ground, killing him. At Philly's South Philadelphia High School, Asian students report that black students routinely pelt them with food and beat, punch and kick them in school hallways and bathrooms as they hurl racial epithets such as "Hey, Chinese!" and "Yo, Dragon Ball!" The Asian

American Legal Defense and Education Fund charged the School District of Philadelphia with "deliberate indifference" toward black victimization of Asian students.

In many of these brutal attacks, the news media make no mention of the race of the perpetrators. If it were white racist gangs randomly attacking blacks, the mainstream media would have no hesitation reporting the race of the perps. Editors for the Los Angeles Times, The New York Times and the Chicago Tribune admitted to deliberately censoring information about black crime for political reasons. Chicago Tribune Editor Gerould Kern recently said that the paper's reason for censorship was to "guard against subjecting an entire group of people to suspicion."

These racist attacks can, at least in part, be attributed to the black elite, who have a vested interest in racial paranoia. And that includes a president who has spent years aligned with people who have promoted racial grievance and polarization and appointed an attorney general who's accused us of being "a nation of cowards" on matters of race and has refused to prosecute black thugs who gathered at a Philadelphia voting site in blatant violation of federal voter intimidation laws. Tragically, black youngsters -- who are seething with resentments, refusing to accept educational and other opportunities unknown to blacks yesterday -- will turn out to be the larger victims in the long run.

Black silence in the face of black racism has to be one of the biggest betrayals of the civil rights struggle that included black and white Americans.

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

FROM OUR READERS

Dear Editor:

With the recent Suwannee high school graduation occurring on the football field in the extremely hot, humid weather for everyone to endure it made me again wonder why there is not a facility large enough for this special occasion.

It seems to me the old Pic N' Save Building on Hwy129 would be a perfect place for Live Oak to hold special events such as the high school graduation. In fact, it would be an ideal mini civic center for the area. Many events could be booked there for entertainment for the citizens of Live Oak/Suwannee County and surrounding counties as well. It

once had a kitchen which could be utilized to sell drinks and light foods or snacks.

I do not know who owns that building. If it is a local person maybe they would be willing to donate it to the city for the enormous benefit of its citizens of all ages. Live Oak certainly needs a large place for social and cultural functions which could be protected from the weather fluctuations.

Or maybe a grant could be written to purchase the building. What do you think about this idea? Tell your commissioner if you like this idea.

Jill McMullen Elmore

OPINION

Forever more, he's 'Weiner Boy'

By Dwain Walden

I once sat through a double-header where the Montreal Expos soundly defeated the Atlanta Braves in both games. One of the Brave's pitchers at that time was Bob Walk. And I thought to myself, if "Walk" is your last name, then you had better be good when you step on that mound.

Let's face it, a name can be powerful and it can prove delicate.

So when someone asks, "What's in a name?" well, you could hold an entire seminar on that topic.

So comes Congressman Anthony Weiner.

Unless you are comatose, you know that Weiner alleged-



Dwain Walden

ly tweeted or messaged photos of his private parts to five or six women. And editorial cartoonists haven't had as much fun as when Dan Quayle was brushing up on his Latin before visiting Latin America, which prompted late night comedians to suggest that the vice president thought that gene therapy meant rubbing and talking softly to his Wranglers.

So like many politicians are prone to do, Weiner jumped out of bed one morning and landed with both feet on that big "stupid button." Or one might say, he stepped on his ...

Apparently he could think only one-layer deep. If your last name is Weiner, then every move you make during the day should be factored against implications and connotations of that word.

And it doesn't matter how much good a person has done once he's pulled a dumb stunt like this. He could have

SEE FOREVER, PAGE 12A





Showtime for all-stars - Sports 1B

Branford News

Serving southern Suwannee County, including Branford, O'Brien and McAlpin

Branford Rotary roundup



Kevin Kelley, staff aid for Steve Southerland enjoys a luncheon meeting with the Rotary Club of Branford.

Joyce Marie Taylor joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Kevin Kelley, staff aid for Representative Steve Southerland (R-Fla.),

sat in on a meeting of the Rotary Club of Branford on Tuesday, June 14. Kelley lives in Branford and currently works from his home. "Tell Steve thank you for doing a

good job," Rotarian John Lacquey told Kelley. Rotarian Braxton Koon advised

SEE BRANFORD, PAGE 8A

Local libraries kick off summer program

Joyce Marie Taylor joycemarie.taylor@gafnews.com

Stories, movies, teen activities and more can be found for all age groups at Branford Public Library during their summer program: One World, Many

Stories. The 2011 Suwannee River Regional Library Summer Program is in full swing at all its libraries, including the main branch in Live Oak. The goal of the

SEE LOCAL, PAGE 8A



SUWANNEE RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY 2011 SUMMER PROGRAM

Suwannee River Regional Library 1848 Ohio Avenue S., Live Oak, FL 32064 (386) 362-2317 Youth Services (386) 364-3479

Branford Library 703 N.W. Suwannee Ave., Branford, FL 32008 (386) 935-1556

Madison Library 378 N.W. College Loop, Madison, FL 32340 (850) 973-6814

Greenville Library 312 SW Church Ave., Greenville, FL 32331 (850) 948-2529

Lee Library 7751 East US Highway 90, Lee, FL 32059 (850) 971-5665

Jasper Library 311 Hatley St. N.E., Jasper, FL 32052 (386) 792-2285

Jennings Library 1322 Plum St., Jennings, FL 32053 (386) 938-1143

White Springs Library 12797 Roberts St., White Springs, FL 32096 (386) 397-1389



Come join the fun. Library cards and programs are free!

The goal of the Florida Library Youth Program is to encourage children and teens to read and use library resources. The ability to read is one of the most important factors leading to success in life. We endeavor to help youth develop a love of reading through fun literature experiences that expand children's knowledge of the world as well as enhancing literacy.

You Are Invited FRIEND WEEKEND

Sat. & Sun., June 25 & 26 7794 SE Hwy. 27, Branford, FL 386-935-4681

Sat. 7 pm Gospel Sing - The Reflectons Finger foods and fellowship to follow

Sun. 10 am New Members Class New Youth Small Group Women's Sunday School Something for all ages! 11 am Morning Worship - Nursery Available Kid's Choir Introduction Noah's Park Kid's Ministry 12:15 pm FREE Dinner in the Fellowship Hall 6 pm Evening Worship - Nursery Available Kid's Choir Presentation 7 pm Youth Bonfire, Dawgs & Ice Cream!

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HONOR ROLL

BRANFORD ELEMENTARY 4th Nine-Week Grading Period

Adams-Blow - 2nd Grade All A's Katie Timberlake Taylor Zipper

A-B's Kacie Fernandez Colton Hampton Jason Kelley

Cannon - 2nd Grade All A's Hannah Howard Vincent Wiggins Madison Young

A-B's Alyssa Boiteaux Patrick Brooks Kyla Desmartin Wyatt Gainey Layton Lanier Emma Sims Matthew Thompson

DeMoss - 2nd Grade All A's Sydney Holder Laura Walbridge

A-B's Jeremy Byrd Brooke Driver Khalid Hassan Kayly Lancaster Claire Lloyd Emily Varga

SEE HONOR ROLL, PAGE 8A

Harmony in the Streets

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, the Suwannee County Sheriff's Office and the Suwannee County Police Athletic League will be holding a five-day Harmony in the Streets camp at the Branford High School gym.

The camp is open to the first 60 kids, ages 6-12 who register and will run from Monday June 27 through Friday July 1. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

It will be an action-packed, fun-filled camp with water activities, work-

shops, arts and crafts, team sports, environmental education, group building, games and law enforcement demonstrations.

You will need a T-shirt and shorts, closed-toe shoes, a swimsuit, towel, sunscreen and a hat.

Stop by Town Hall to pick up your registration form, which will need to be returned to Corporal Mary Maxwell at the Suwannee County Sheriff's Office by June 24. For more information please call 386-364-3422.

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Branford News



BRANFORD ELEMENTARY
4th Nine-Week Grading Period

Hatch – 2nd Grade All A's Barrett Young	All A's NONE	Kyle Young	V.Knighton – 4th Grade All A's Jevin Johnson	Bailey Thompson Tara Vaught	Trinity Thomas
A-B's Martina Corbin Evan Dowdy Moises Espinoza Dallas Frierson Kaylee Medina David Mixon Rusti Phillips Zoie Schroader Isaac Touchet	A-B's Tiffany Alfau Cooper Brasfield Hanna Massey Colton McElreath Davyn Simpson Lexi Weaver Allan Willis	Sapp – 3rd Grade All A's Lachelle Sikes	A-B's Trevor Collins Tristan Liu	A-B's Kayla Smith	A-B's Michael Baldeon Brittany Hendricks Joshua Hurley Kiara Janosh Natalie Manna Cameron Noling Mary Varga
Thoreson – 2nd Grade All A's Trenton Batts Brandon Dicks Cera McElreath	Johnson – 3rd Grade All A's NONE	A-B's Kinleigh Collins Carly Moore Luke Ramsey Jordyn Thoreson	Mackin – 4th Grade All A's Haley Langley	Aderholt – 5th Grade All A's Taya Engle Dylan Kelley Chris Nash	Sumner – 5th Grade All A's Ben Bowman Aimee Clesi Erika Clesi Chloe Linton Rylee McKenzie Gimel Portillo Kendall Stines
A-B's Kaylee Beckler Dara Cannon Clayton Hampton Jocelyn Lopez Jade Smith	A-B's Hailey Anderson Emily Breyton Jillian Cassube Janyse Styles	Winnett – 3rd Grade All A's NONE	A-B's Isaiah Adams Austin Beauboeuf Angel Cerrito Rianna Dielt Megan Ferguson Ritchie Glass Amber Hitt Alaina Lebrun Allison Shea Alyssa Sodders	Delay – 5th Grade All A's Madison Lloyd	A-B's Arley Bryant Makyah Burnett Chase Clark Ian Garipey Kaylah Johnson Devon Johnson Kylie Ogden Trey Sapp
Autumn Stancel Clay Williams	Kelly – 3rd Grade All A's Cody Holtzclaw Craig Lamb Brock Lewis Kiana Thompson	A-B's Tamrah Tyre	Ramsey – 4th Grade All A's None	A-B's Rebekka Christy Heather Curtis Uriel Maya Dylan White Courtney Dees Ginger King	Weaver – 5th Grade All A's Kayla Alford Sarah Dolan
Ulmer – 2nd Grade All A's Kati Adams Jonathan Hernandez Billy Klecka Madison Olson	A-B's Serena Adams Cherish Boston Wyatt Miller Heaven Morrison Adrianna Saavedra Savana Shattuck	S.Campbell – 4th Grade All A's NONE	Thomas – 4th Grade All A's Chancy Deadwyler	Dempsey – 5th Grade All A's Riley Boss Dakota Hollingsworth	A-B's Alyssa Alfau Connor Chance Michael Guzman
A-B's Jenna King Gracie Dukes Raven Boswell Makenzie Eakins Abby Frampton	S. Knighton – 3rd Grade All A's Mikayla Donath Lalia Pate	H. Clark – 4th Grade All A's Casey Dees Dawson Hall Amber Hatch			A-B's Brandy Alvarez Sophia Dowdy Seth Reaves Leah Trice
Conger – 3rd Grade	A-B's Rhianna Christy Elijah Rife Jacqueline Sandoval	A-B's Danny Rogers Tawney Sipple Abbey Barnes Shelby Blankenship JD Corbin Taylor Craig Maura Hill Morgan Howe			

Branford Rotary roundup

Continued From Page 7A

the Rotary Club of Lake City is trying to get him to speak to the local teachers. Teach America is a program where you volunteer to teach for two years, Rotarian Trannie Lacquey told everyone. Koon said the normal speaking engagement rate for Barqawi is \$1,500 plus expenses. "He lowered his rate to \$500 plus expenses to come and speak to the teachers over in Columbia County," Koon said. The Rotary Club of Lake City is looking to raise \$1,500 to \$2,000 from the other clubs in the area like Live Oak and Branford for this event and all teachers from those areas would be able to go. Business owners are also invited to donate funds and they can bring along friends and colleagues. The Rotary Club of Branford committed to a tentative \$400 dollar donation to the cause. In other business, the Rotary Club of Branford updated everyone on the July 4th Duck Race, which is in conjunction with the Branford River Reunion that is coming up soon.

Local libraries kick off summer program

Continued From Page 7A

library resources. Movies start at 2 p.m. on June 21 and 28, and July 5, 12 and 26 with features like Yogi Bear, Legend of the Guardians, Toy Story 3, Nanny McPhee Returns, Megamind and Beverly Hills Chihuahua 2. The "You Are Here" teen program starts at 10 a.m. on June 22 with Money Matters, June 29 with Portion Control, July 6 with Game Warden, July 13 with Computer Safety and on July 20 with Food Safety. Fun Days start at 2 p.m. on June 23 and 30, and July 7, 14 and 21 with activities like Mancala, The Impossible Puzzle Day, Xbox games and a book scavenger hunt. The Branford Library is located at 703 NW Suwannee Avenue and if you'd like more information about the summer program, please call 386-935-1556. Library cards and programs are free, so come join in the fun.

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SUWANNEE RIVER READINGS Branford 2011

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.

June 15, 2011	7.12	June 19, 2011	7.07
June 16, 2011	7.14	June 20, 2011	7.06
June 17, 2011	7.12	June 21, 2011	7.05
June 18, 2011	7.12		

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GARDENING TIPS FROM THE LIVE OAK GARDEN CLUB

Pot bound plants



Zinnias planted in a large pot.



A mixture of plants thriving in a pot. - Courtesy photos

Gardening tips for June/July:

It is hurricane season, and it is important that you remove dead or diseased limbs or trees from your property so that they don't become missiles during a storm. This month, and all through summer, continue to fertilize since Florida's sandy soils do not hold nutrients well and your plants may begin to show signs of nutritional deficiencies. These are difficult months for gardeners: too hot to plant, too soon to transplant, and just plain too hot! These are the months when your garden rewards your efforts by producing an array of blooms for you to enjoy. Remember to keep your plants and lawns watered if Mother Nature doesn't do her job. Other than mowing and trimming the lawn, pulling weeds, and deadheading roses and other flowering plants, it's best to keep gardening tasks to a minimum. Some annuals that can still be planted during the hot summer months are periwinkle, zinnia, portulacas, and some coleus. Consider putting in some North Florida tolerant palms such as the Broad-leaf Lady Palm, Cabbage Palm, European Fan Palm, or Windmill Palm. Vegetables to put in now are okra, squash, southern peas, lima beans, and sweet potatoes. Basil, Mexican tarragon, ginger, and rosemary are heat-loving herbs and can still be planted.

By Lucille Heinrich

Pot or root bound plants are a common problem among gardeners. Sometimes plants purchased from a nursery suffer from this condition and need to be treated accordingly. How do you know if your plant is pot bound? Your plant will start to give you some obvious signs such as roots sticking out of the drainage holes, roots massing on top of the soil, impenetrable top soil, water pouring through the plant too quickly, lack of growth, or stunted and sickly looking leaves. If

you notice any of these conditions in your plant, it is time to remove the plant from its pot and examine its root system. If the root system is formed into a tight ball and the roots are circling around the inside of the pot, you guessed it! You've got a pot bound plant. The remedy: repot immediately.

When the root system forms into a tight ball, it is so thick that water and nutrients absolutely cannot penetrate it. A root bound plant will eventually suffocate itself regardless of how often one may water or fertilize. If this plant is-

n't repotted soon, it will get sick and die. Select a pot no more than twice the size of the present pot; don't try to go too large, as too much soil means the roots will be sitting in damp conditions and the roots will begin to rot. Use a good high-quality, commercial sterilized soil mix to fill your pot. Taking soil from your garden will only result in your introducing pests and diseases to this plant as well as to other nearby plants.

As you prepare your plant for repotting, knock out the old soil from within the roots. If you are

having trouble removing the plant from its pot, soak the pot in water for awhile. The water will help lubricate the plant and allow the root ball to slide out more easily. Remove dead looking roots and shake out old soil so that the roots extend downward. When examining the roots of a plant, the roots should be firm and white. If the roots are brown and spongy, this is

a sign of over-watering which is a common cause of plant death by kindness. If you cannot loosen the roots, then with a sharp knife make several cuts on each side of the plant about a third of an inch deep from the top of the ball to the bottom. This will allow new roots to grow out instead of continuing to circle and smother the plant. You can safely remove about a

third of the roots from the bottom.

When potting make sure the drainage holes are kept open by placing broken pieces of pottery or small stones in the bottom. You can also line the bottom of the pot with a coffee filter to keep the soil from leaking out of the bottom when you water. Once you see the plant putting out new shoots, it can then be fertilized.

**"The Need is Big
The Time is Now!"**

- David Humphreys
President - CEO of Tamko

The Joplin Schools have suffered a major loss. We need your donations! We need to be sure the schools are open on August 17th. We must start the work on opening our schools now.

Consider these facts:

- 7 Students and One Teacher Died
- Joplin High School Destroyed
- Franklin Technology Center Destroyed
- Irving Elementary School Destroyed
- Five other elementary and middle schools damaged
- Damages over \$150 million dollars
- Over 4,000 Kids affected

**"The future of our community
depends on the education of our children!"**

- Deborah Humphreys

If you want to help the kids who need it the most please send your donation to:

Joplin Schools Tornado Relief Fund
Attn: Joplin Globe
US Bank
Joplin School Tornado Relief
PO Box 8
Joplin, Mo 64802



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- Bake Sale •
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**Prepared Food Vendors Fee:
12% of proceeds**

**If You're Interested In A Vendors Booth
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Reserve Your Spot!**

386-466-8055

Saturday, July 2nd, 2011

8:00 AM - 11:00 PM

**Florida Gateway Resort
7516 SE 113th Blvd, Jasper
(Off County Road 129, Next to Jai Alai)**



The Suwannee High School drummers in action. - Photo: Stephanie Livingston



Hundreds gathered Saturday for the

June Bug Festival

in downtown Live Oak.



The Barbershop Harmonizers wow the crowd. - Photo: Stephanie Livingston



Face painting for the kids was available at June Bug. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor



The car show at June Bug was a big hit. - Photo: Stephanie Livingston



The 3rd annual June Bug Festival drew hundreds of people. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor



The Herold White Band was the festival headliner. - Photo: Stephanie Livingston



The Starlight Grand Overall Beauty went to Kailah. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor



People enjoyed the live entertainment at Millennium Park. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

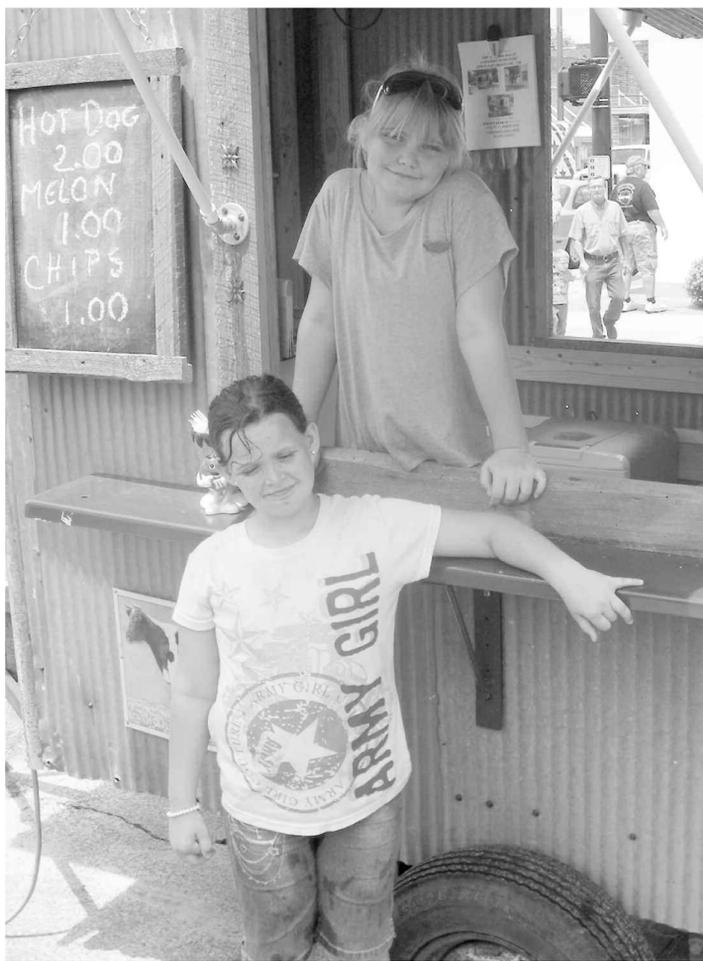
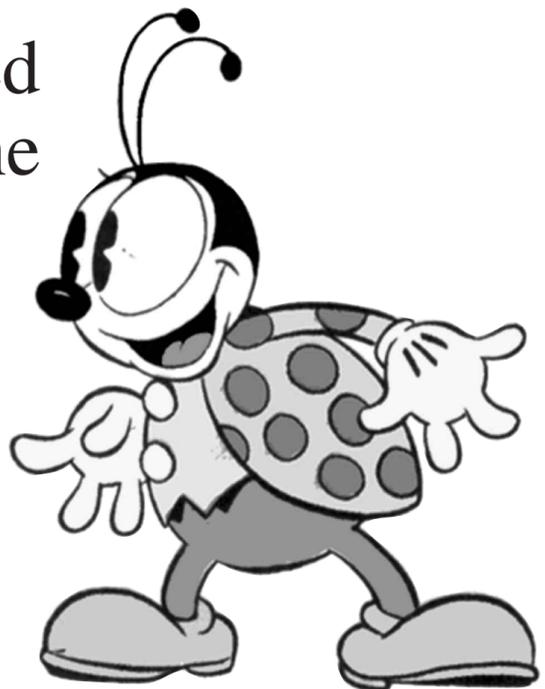


Mallory Fernald was the June Bug parade marshall. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

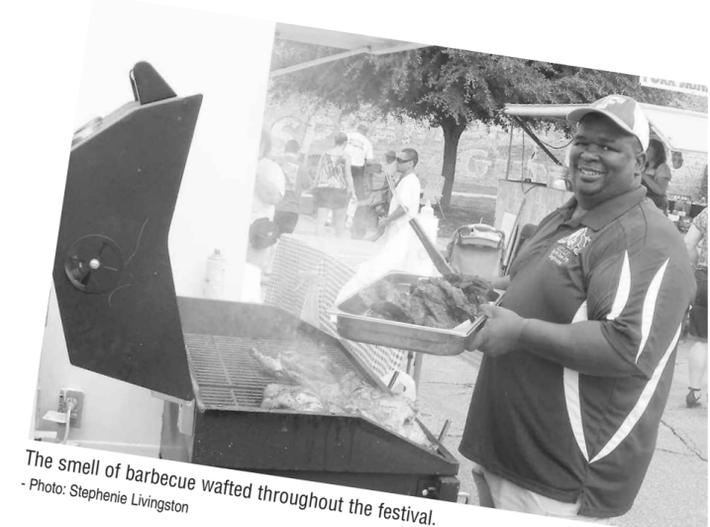
Hundreds gathered Saturday for the

June Bug Festival

in downtown Live Oak.



A couple of local girls set up shop to make money for college. - Photo: Stephenie Livingston



The smell of barbecue wafted throughout the festival. - Photo: Stephenie Livingston



Enjoying a little shade from the heat. - Photo: Stephenie Livingston



Some of the many vendors that were on hand at June Bug. - Photo: Joyce Marie Taylor

Forever more, he's 'Weiner Boy'

Continued From Page 6A

found a cure for cancer and cellulite and developed an engine that runs off cigar spit, but now he's going to be known forever as "Weiner boy."

Weiner allegedly had said that he didn't know why he did such a dumb thing. But, therapists all over the country have the answers.

One therapist said it's a power thing. "Adults, particularly those in positions of power like politicians, sext because they want even more power," said Bethany Marshall, a marriage and family therapist in Beverly Hills, Calif.

"Sext" by the way is a term applied to sexually explicit information and photos transmitted via cell phones or other such devices. So if you hear some kid saying he has just "sexed" someone, don't think that he has a lisp or that he flunked the third grade.

Anyway, this therapist says that these power players want the sexual stimulation and reassurance that come from these activities. She says these people really don't think they will get caught.

So they think they won't get caught? That's like sitting on a keg of dynamite, lighting up a cigar and asking, "What possibly could go wrong?"

And even though such displays have been around for a while, technology has just offered the venue a new dimension. I would have said "greater" dimension, but I would be implying something about Weiner that I in fact don't know. Not only that,

there is a thing called "trick photography."

Quarterback Bret Favre had already gone down this road last year and was fined \$50,000 by the league. Of course he's not a congressman. I'm not sure if there's any kind of fine that can be put on Weiner. I guess if there was, then there would now be a baseline set for weiner penalties.

So the question now is, will Weiner resign? He is being encouraged to do. Technically, I guess you would pose conduct unbecoming a congressman. But in reality, it will all go down in history as "doing the Weiner," not unlike in President Bill Clinton's escapades which gave rise to "doing the Lewinsky."

If I was the CEO of Oscar Mayer, I'd find a way to cash in on all of this.

(Dwain Walden is editor/publisher of *The Moultrie Observer*, 985-4545. Email: dwain.walden@gafnews.com)

Man gets 25 years on molestation charge

Continued From Page 1A

Crary was also designated a sexual predator and will be placed on lifetime probation following his DOC sentence, officials said.

Reports indicate there is no minimum amount of time Crary must spend in prison before he can be eligible for release.

Waters named new *Democrat* editor

Continued From Page 1A

ence in the Suwannee County area.

In addition to the *Suwannee Democrat*, Waters will be editor of the other newspapers in under the Live Oak Publications group - Mayo Free Press and Jasper News as well as Scene magazine.

"As a reporter Jeff made many contributions to the *Suwannee Democrat* - and to its readers with hours of dedicated work. That service to the newspaper, its readers and community brought him to his new position as editor. I look forward to working with Jeff as we move our award winning newspaper toward a future of superb service to our readers and advertisers," said Myra Regan, *Suwannee Democrat* publisher.

Waters has been a reporter with the *Democrat* since December 2006, covering all areas including school board, courts and

most recently, city and county government and police beats. As a reporter, Waters amassed a vast array of sources and contacts throughout the region.

"Community journalism is really what the *Suwannee Democrat* is all about," said Waters. "I will strive to bring readers the news that they have come to expect in the past few years from the *Suwannee Democrat*, with fresh new approaches as well."

A native of Suwannee County, Waters, 29, is a 2000 graduate of Suwannee High School.

Waters will earn his bachelors degree this fall from Midway College, where he is studying organizational administration and leadership.

Waters' wife Amber works for the Suwannee River Regional Library system. They have two young children and live in downtown Live Oak.

Graffiti businesses an eyesore

Continued From Page 1A

work.

Graffiti has been spotted in several places around town in the form of phrases or pictures.

"Many of us that have been vandalized work hard in and for our community. We volunteer our time to make our community a better place and this is what is given back to us in return," said Barbie Scott of McCrimon's Office Supply. "Per-

sonally, I wouldn't mind the art work if it were truly art. My one piece of advice to the so-called 'artist': take some art lessons."

Live Oak Police Chief Buddy Williams said there are currently no leads in the case.

"I'd love to find out who it is, because it's all over town," Williams said in reference to the graffiti that has been spotted outside Downtown Cafe, Hardee's, McCrimon's Office Supply

and various other locations in the area, as well as on stop signs.

Tina Saleh, owner of Downtown Cafe, said the building on West Howard Street where her eatery is located was targeted by vandals on the night of Suwannee High's prom.

"They're making their mark," she said.

"If they want to do it, then get over here, bring the supplies and do it right," Saleh joked.

Mercantile is now TD Bank

Continued From Page 1A

were already coming down with TD Bank signs going up at the local branch.

The conversion comes after TD Bank Group bought out Mercantile's parent

company, The South Financial Group, in September.

TD Bank is known for its motto "America's most convenient bank," and boasts that most of its branches are open seven days a week.

High speed chase ends in arrest

Continued From Page 1A

lights and sirens, though Smith refused to stop.

Smith then turned onto a secondary street where he tried to ram Rountree's patrol car, who was attempting to assist. Smith fled into a residential area where he again tried to ram an assisting officer's car, still at speeds four times over the area's speed limit, police say.

At one point during the chase, reports indicate

that Smith reach speeds in excess of 105 miles per hour.

Officers continued their pursuit of Smith as he traveled onto 137th Road where he had to stop due to the road dead ending.

Police approached Smith's stopped car and ordered him to step out. Smith, still intoxicated, refused to get out of the vehicle, according to reports. He was subdued with a taser and then taken into custody.

Smith was transported to the Suwannee County Jail. He faces charges of aggravated fleeing and eluding, three counts of aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest without violence and driving under the influence.

Smith was booked on a \$57,000 bond.

"Smith's driving actions showed an obvious disregard for the safety of police and public," Slaughter wrote in a report.

Suwannee Youth Volunteer on Global Youth Service Day

Volunteer Suwannee and the Global Youth Service Day volunteers would like to thank the following groups and elected officials for supporting our recent efforts to help with the Japan rebuilding effort, provide weekend survival kits for local students and collect clothing for needy students.

Judge Lin Williams
Ms. Sharon Jordan
Mayor Garth Nobles
Mr. Jerry Scarborough
Mt. Olive Baptist Church
Subway (Ohio Ave)
Sweet Repeats

Also thank you to the many individuals who donated items and their time to help with this effort.



Suwannee Middle School Volunteers



Suwannee High School Volunteers



Boys & Girls Club Volunteers

Branford pair arrested for stealing farm implements

By Stephenie Livingston
stephenie.livingston@gafnews.com

Police say two Branford residents stole \$1,210 worth of farm implements and sold it to a local recycling company.

William H. Hunt, 22, and Kim M. Guaneiri, 36, both of Branford, stole farm implements from a residence located at 26887

CR 137 in Suwannee County on June 14, according to police reports. The stolen items were valued at \$1,210. The pair then sold the items as scrap metal to a recycling business in Branford for \$43, reports say.

Authorities arrested both Guaneiri and Hunt within 48 hours of the incident, reports indicate. They were booked into the Suwannee County Jail.

Serious injuries follow dump truck crash

Continued From Page 1A

"As the vehicle was turning, the vehicle overturned onto its passenger side," FHP trooper M.L. Oglesby wrote.

Norris, who is the husband to Suwannee County Sheriff's Victim/Witness Coordinator Missy Norris, was flown to Shands UF. A passenger in the 1996 dump truck, Glen A. Hobbs, 20, Fayetteville, W.V. suffered no injuries. Both were wearing a seatbelt, the FHP reported.

Suwannee County Sheriff Tony Cameron said Norris received a large lump on his head from the wreck, and was released from Shands UF around 12 a.m. Saturday. Cameron said he made it home around 1 a.m.

Now THAT'S Something To Smile About!

The Paarlberg brothers, enjoying the sunshine out in the peanut hay field. L-R Connor and big brother Casey.

Thank you for submitting this week's SMILE photograph!

Submit your photo for publication to:

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

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Presents All-American Baton Twirling Camp for ages 3 and up! All Skill & Ability Level!

Lunch provided by instructor!
June 27th-30th • 9am-2pm
Two Day Camp Available.

Located at Bush Dance
118 N. Ohio Ave. • Live Oak, FL 32064
For more information contact: Brandi Bethea @ 386-249-1198 or Beka Touchton @ 386-590-6261

Details 14A
Mark Your Calendars

Caribbean Carnivale

Lee 4th of July Celebration

Friday, July 1st 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Saturday, July 2nd 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

- Bounce House
- Chicken Wing Contest
- Ball Park Dance
- Boiled Peanuts
- Sno Cones
- Face Painting
- Chicken Sandwiches
- Fire Fighter Challenge
- FIREWORKS
- Music
- Train Ride
- Slushies

Live Auction - Gift Baskets, Cakes, Pies & MORE!
For more information please visit our website
www.leafire.us
Vendors Welcome
Sponsored by Lee Volunteer Fire Department
Funded in part by the Madison County Tourist Development Council



This little piggy ...

This little pig just wanted to be left alone. Sheriff's officials make sure the little porker, who was running loose near US 129, beside Walmart Friday morning, is safe. - Staff photo

Tropicana Speech winners from Westwood Christian School



Abby Mickler—2nd place, 6th grade
 Kara Rogers—3rd place, 4th grade
 Cara Seaman—4th place, 5th grade

Suwannee County Health Department CHILD SAFETY DAY

WHEN: June 29 from 9:00am until Noon
WHERE: Suwannee County Health Department
 915 Nobles Ferry Road, Live Oak

FREE Car Seat Safety Checks by appointment only. Please call Yvonne Rodriguez at 386-362-2708 x227 or Debora Fulton at 352-231-4636 for more information about child safety seats and to make a safety check appointment.

FREE youth bike helmets will be available, first come, first serve.

No appointment necessary

Other Exhibitors:

The Live Oak Fire Department and Sparky the Fire Dog, Suwannee County Sheriff's Office will be providing Child ID Kits, Suwannee County Extension Office, SCHD Environmental Health, Florida Kid Care Information

look.what.we.have.here

Glamalicious

A day to shop shamelessly for all things fabulous and remember why you love being a girl!



Event to be held at
 Camp Weed
 Youth Pavilion
 Saturday, Sept. 10
 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

We are looking for vendors

Space is limited

If you have a product or craft to sell and are interested in a booth call Monja Slater at 386-362-1734 or email: monja.slater@gafnews.com

Booth and 3x3 ad in *Glamalicious* special section ONLY

\$100

(\$90 if paid by 8-12-2011)

Advertising and booth rental deadline is Aug. 26

Sponsored by:

Suwannee Democrat

PO BOX 370 • 211 HOWARD STREET EAST
 LIVE OAK, FL 32064 • 386-362-1734
 WWW.SUWANNEEDEMOCRAT.COM

677481bv



Grab a cab and head to "The Big Apple Adventure!" Amid the exciting sights and sounds of the city, kids will learn that they can connect faith and life through a relationship with Jesus. During their day in the city, kids will visit Worship at Times Square and Bible Study at Battery Park. While touring the city they will also visit:

- Midtown Snacks
- Mission Central
- Music Backstage
- Playground 1017
- and the Crafts District.

It's Vacation Bible School at Westwood Baptist Church like you've never experienced before! Children age 4 through grade 6 are admitted free from June 27-July 1 from 8:45 am - Noon. Call 362-1120 or visit our web site www.westwoodbaptistchurch.org for registration and more information. "The Big Apple Adventure" will be an event to remember! Come join us!

670129agv

Check out the *Suwannee Democrat's* page on FACEBOOK.

REGIONAL

Lake City and White Springs men killed battling wildfire

Blue Ribbon fire takes lives of two Florida firefighters

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services mourns the loss of Two Forest Rangers Who Had Served More than Ten Years Each

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services released the names of two firefighters of the Division of Forestry who were killed yesterday. Josh Burch and Brett Fulton lost their lives while fighting the Blue Ribbon Fire in Hamilton County.

"The wildfires have ravaged our state, burning more than 200,000 acres, and now, they have taken the lives of two of our very own men," said Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam. "My thoughts and prayers go out to the families and loved ones of Josh Burch and Brett Fulton, two courageous heroes who sacrificed their lives for the safety of others."

Burch, 31, was a Forest Ranger who lived in Lake City with his wife and two children. He worked with the Division of Forestry for more than ten years. Fulton, 52, began as a professional welder with the Division 12 years ago. He has been a Forest Ranger with the Department for more than nine years. Fulton leaves behind a wife and two grown children in White Springs.

Two other Division of Forestry firefighters – Robert Marvin and Stephen Carpenter – were injured yesterday, while attempting to assist their fellow firefighters. Both were treated for smoke-related injuries and released last night.

The Blue Ribbon Fire started on June 16, 2011. The fire had previously been declared contained, but recent extreme fire weather caused the fire to flare up again on Monday, June 20. The local field unit has been actively working the fire since early Monday afternoon.

Florida's dry weather since the beginning of May has caused extreme fire activity. Since May 1, the Department's Division of Forestry has battled more than 1,500 wildfires that have burned nearly 200,000 acres across the state, making it one of the busiest wildfire years in recent history. Florida firefighters face an average of more than 31 new wildfires every day.

Caribbean Carnivale
Mark Your Calendars
 4th Annual
 Live Oak Police Department
Police Officers' Charity Ball
 Benefiting:
 Gary Edwards Memorial Fund
 LOPD Community Outreach Programs
 Guardian Ad Litem/Voices for Children
 The Suwannee Foundation for Excellence in Education
Saturday, Aug. 27 • 7:00 pm
Camp Weed Youth Pavilion
 Get Your Tickets Now • Supply Limited
\$40 per Person - Jackets Required
 For Tickets and Additional Information
 Contact the Live Oak Police Department
386-362-7463

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HEAVY WESTERN BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN STEAK \$3.49 Lb.	USDA INSPECTED ASSORTED PORK CHOPS \$2.29 Lb. Fam. Pack.	HEAVY WESTERN BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER ROAST \$2.79 Lb.
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USDA INSPECTED THIN OR CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS \$2.99 Lb. Fam. Pack.	D.L. LEE SMOKED PORK NECKBONES \$1.99 LB	ASST D VARIETIES SUGARDALE BRATWURST \$1.99 14 OZ PKG
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DONE THE OLD FASHIONED WAY



SPORTS

Closer to home

Showtime for all-stars

By Corey Davis

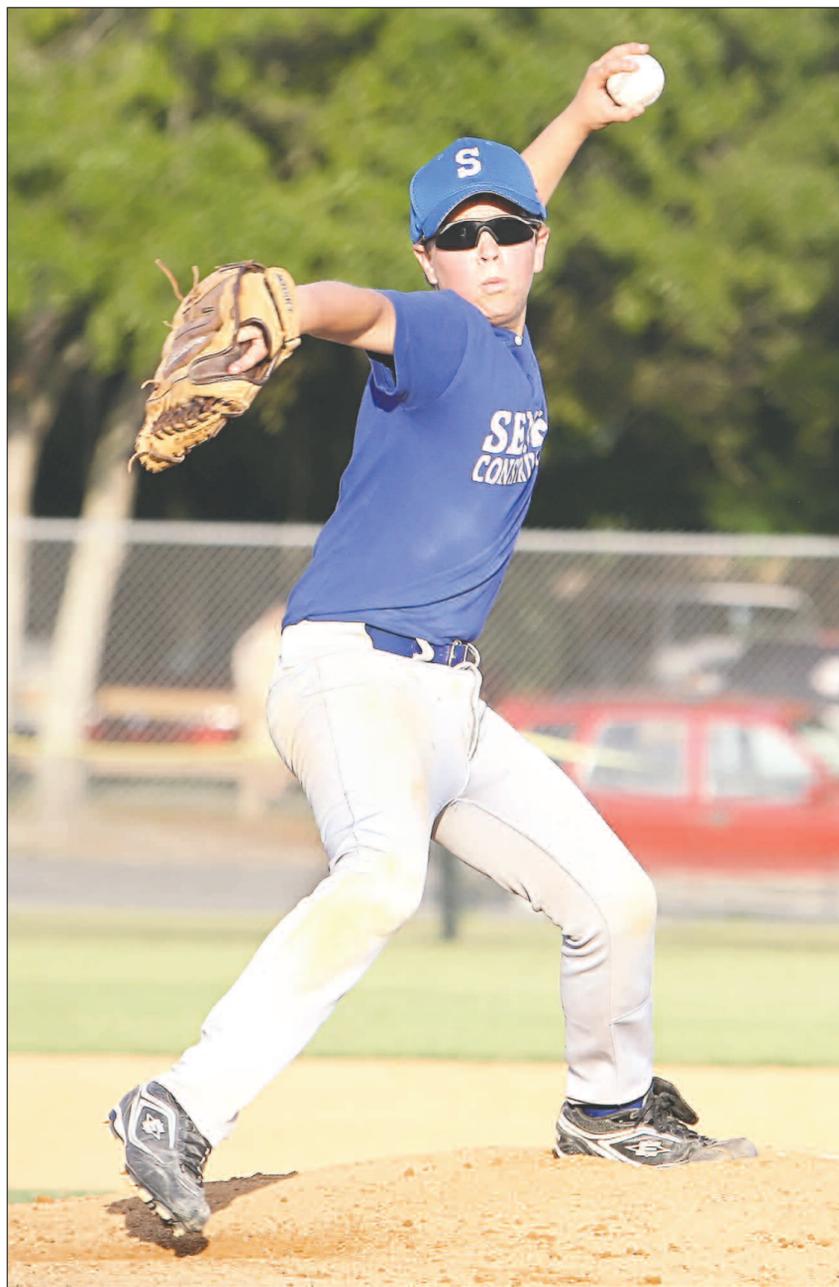
corey.davis@gafnews.com

LIVE OAK-Twenty-nine teams will begin their road to the state tournament this weekend, competing in the Florida Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken District 6 All-Star baseball tournaments June 23-26 at the First Federal Sportsplex.

The double elimination tournaments will feature teams from Fort White, Hamilton County, Jefferson County, Lafayette, Lake City, Madison County, Taylor County, Suwannee County, Suwannee Valley League (Trenton), Union County and Wakulla County.

Teams representing the ages

SEE SHOWTIME, PAGE 4B



- Photos: Paul Buchanan (SuwanneeSports.com)

ABOVE, LEFT: Regular season play is over and now teams will focus their attention to this weekends Babe Ruth District 6 All-Star tournament at the First Federal Sportsplex.

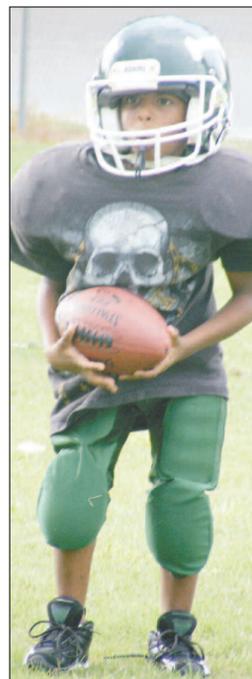
Sports Briefs

corey.davis@gafnews.com

Dog Pound signups set

The Suwannee Dog Pound is holding registration for its upcoming 2011 season from now until July 29 at the Douglass Center for its tiny mites (5-7), mitey mites (7-9), jr. pee wee (8-11) and pee wee (9-12) teams. Packets can be picked up at 1215 SW 7th Street or the Douglass Center gym between 3:30-7 p.m. The cost is \$60 for returners and \$75 for new players, which includes the price of helmet, pads and uniforms. For more information contact Dewayne Charlton at 1-386-590-7065 or Arnold Philmore 466-5138.

Free physicals given
Free physicals will be given to Suwannee high athletes June 30 at 6 p.m. in the gym. Physical and consent forms will be given out upon arrival. Please remember, both physicals and parental consent forms are required before an athlete can practice or play. It is highly encouraged that all potential



The Suwannee Dog Pound is beginning registration for the the upcoming 2011 season from now till July 29 at the Douglass Center. - Photo: Corey Davis

District 6 All-Star tournaments

9-year olds

Site: First Federal Sportsplex (Field 2)

When: June 25-June 26

Participating teams: Wakulla, Suwannee Valley

At stake: Top team moves on to state

Format: Best-of-three series

Schedule

Game 1: Wakulla vs. Suwannee Valley, Saturday, 12:30 p.m.

Game 2: Wakulla vs. Suwannee Valley, Sunday, 10 a.m.

Game 3: Wakulla vs. Suwannee Valley, Sunday, 3 p.m.

Outlook: Wakulla is the defending 9-year old

champions having swept host Suwannee last season in two games and should defend its crown.

10-year olds

Site: First Federal Sportsplex

When: June 23-26

Participating teams: Union, Suwannee, Hamilton, Taylor, Lake City, Fort White, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee Valley

At stake: Top two teams move on to state

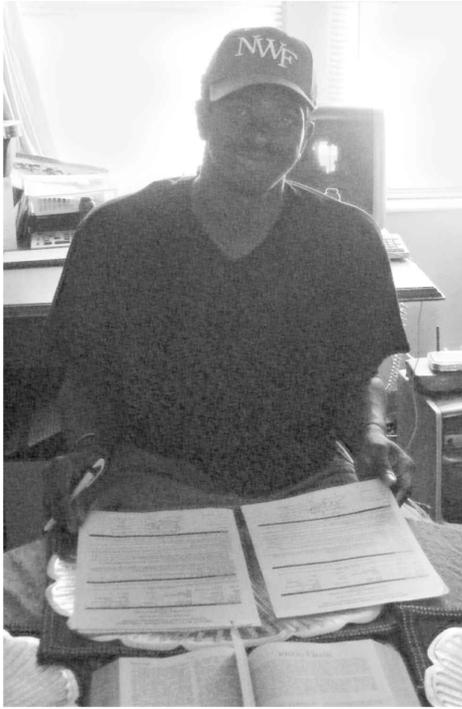
Format: Double elimination

Schedule

SEE DISTRICT, PAGE 3B

SEE SPORTS, PAGE 3B

SPORTS



Shawn Jackson signs his letter of intent with Northwest Florida State College. - Photos: Corey Davis



Aunt Tiffannie Jackson, girlfriend Arreante' Mitchell, mother Adrienne Winton, Melody basketball coach Mike Raines, high school teammate and best friend Brandon Raines, Northwest Florida basketball coach Steven Forbes and god sister Nevah Clayton watch Shawn Jackson sign with Northwest Florida State College.

Closer to home

By Corey Davis
corey.davis@gafnews.com

LIVE OAK—Spending a year away from family and friends was tough on Shawn Jackson.

Having spent his entire life in Live Oak, Jackson made the tough decision to leave home and attend Murray State University last fall.

Nine months later, Jackson made the decision to pack up his things, withdraw from school and make the 640 mile trip back home.

Saying he wanted to be closer to home, Jackson signed a letter of intent at his house recently with Northwest Florida State College (formerly Okaloosa-Walton), a junior college in Niceville.

"Murray State didn't feel right, it wasn't a good fit for me," Jackson said. "They wanted me to play the four position and I'm more of a post player."

Jackson played in 26 of the 33 games, accumulating 102 points and 28 rebounds, while averaging 9.3 minutes per game, 3.9

points per game, 1.1 rebounds per game, shooting 54% from the field and 65% from the free throw line.

After Jackson left the team and school, weeks later two teammates also announced they were leaving the program as well as two assistant coaches and the head coach.

Jackson says despite his short time at Murray State playing Division I-A basketball, he was still able to learn a few things.

"I became stronger and a better player," Jackson

said. "The game was a lot faster at first but now it feels like high school again."

With word getting around the basketball community that Jackson was leaving Murray, several Florida junior college offered him opportunities to play there including: Chipola, Brevard, Central Florida, Tallahassee, Pensacola, Santa Fe, Indian River and Gulf Coast.

An assistant coach at Murray State contacted newly hired Northwest Florida State coach Steven Forbes (a former 2011

Tennessee assistant coach under Bruce Pearl) about Jackson. Forbes says the entire coaching staff had nothing but nice things to say about Shawn and he ways a little familiar with him having seen Murray play twice.

"He seems like a great coach and great person," Jackson said. "The way he has it set up its good for me and other guys, I'm all on board."

The Northwest Florida State Raiders compete in the Panhandle Conference against Tallahassee, Pensacola, Gulf Coast and

Chipola, home of the state junior college tournament.

Forbes said the schedule includes games all over the state but fans can see Jackson play in Gainesville at the Santa Fe tournament.

According to Forbes, summer school started June 19 and workouts and conditioning eight hours a week also started.

Forbes also hooked Shawn up with a prestigious summer invite only camp in St. Louis in July, where he will go up against the top 100 players in the country.

He also was placed in a data base which Division I-A coaches can see and call him by Forbes. According to Shawn and his former Melody Christian basketball coach Mike Raines, Shawn already has offers from Memphis and Stetson and is receiving interests from Auburn, FSU, Miami, Wichita State and JU.

If things go well, Jackson could see himself playing one season at Northwest Florida and then transfer back to a Division I-A school.

Jackson, who is 6-9 and 250 pounds, accumulated 1688 points, 123 assists, 917 rebounds, 108 steals and 519 blocks during his three-year career from 2007-2010 at Melody Christian. He still holds school records for career points, rebounds and blocks, while leading his team to a 73-17 record.

WILD ADVENTURES
THEME PARK

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2nd annual
Camels Campout
set for June 24-26 at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park
NORTH FLORIDA FOCUS

Today's Weather
Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 6/21	Wed 6/22	Thu 6/23
101/74 Becoming partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms developing during the afternoon.	99/75 Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the mid 70s.	93/74 A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the mid 70s.
Sunrise: 6:31 AM Sunset: 8:37 PM	Sunrise: 6:31 AM Sunset: 8:37 PM	Sunrise: 6:31 AM Sunset: 8:37 PM

Florida At A Glance

Tallahassee 100/74
Live Oak 101/74
Jacksonville 99/78
Orlando 97/77
Tampa 96/77
Miami 92/79
Pensacola 91/78

Lester's Grill
6737 US Hwy. 129 South Jasper, FL 32052

99¢ Sausage Biscuit

1 Egg, 2 strips of Bacon and 2 Pancakes
\$1.99

Free cup of coffee with every Country Breakfast

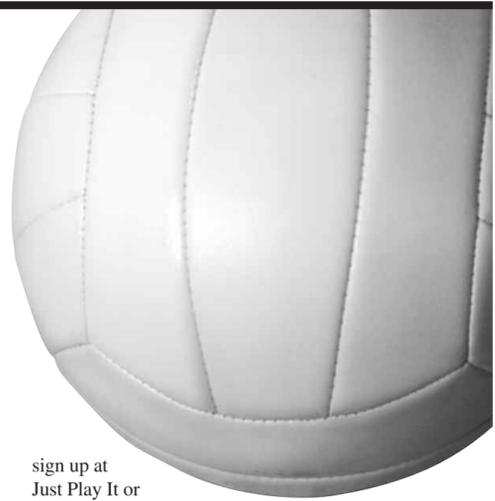
3 piece **CHICKEN BASKET**
\$3.49

Includes wing, leg and thigh

SPORTS

Sports Briefs

- Photo: Metro



Continued From Page 1B
 student-athletes attend this event. Please call Suwannee AD Hunter Abercrombie at 386-647-4046 with any questions. All-Sports passes for sale Suwannee High will begin selling All-Sports passes for the 2011-2012 school year beginning July 5. The All-Sports pass allows admission to every regular season sporting event at Suwannee for the entire year. Passes are \$60 and may be purchased upon appointment. Again, these passes only allow general admission at regular season games and will not be honored for pre or post season FHSA sanctioned events. Please call Suwannee AD Hunter Abercrombie at 386-647-

4046 to purchase your pass. You may also stop by Suwannee High after July 5 from 9 a.m till 3 p.m. to purchase your pass.
Suwannee volleyball camp
 Suwannee High varsity volleyball coach Deanna Law announces a volleyball clinic for local boys and girls who are in grades four through seventh. The clinic will teach basic volleyball skills and is part of a fundraiser to help eight girls go to volleyball camp at Valdosta State University. The clinic will be held June 27-28 28 from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. at Suwannee High gym, with registration being held at the door. The fee for the two days is \$50, which includes lunch and a T-shirt. Each student who

would like to register must be first accompanied by a guardian so proper forms can be signed.
Baseball, Softball camps coming
 Prospect Baseball Training Facility along with players from the Florida State softball team will be offering a girls softball camp June 24-26 for girls ages 8-up. The camp will be held at the Training Facility and Richard Norris softball complex at Suwannee High. The cost is \$100 per child for members of Prospect Baseball and \$125 for non-members. Sign up now to reserve your spot. Call Bubba Harris at 386-590-4014.
Lineman camp coming soon
 Suwannee High coaches

will put on a free lineman camp Monday June 20 from 8-1 p.m. for all boys entering fifth grade and up in Suwannee County. Participants are asked to meet in the cafeteria and bring cleats and black shorts.
Just Play it Sports expanding
 Just Play it Sports has expanded its facility and added a new golf and trophy room, as well as a gym with indoor batting cage and volleyball Classes. The cage is now open with instructional sessions or for just for hitting. The instructional volleyball classes are for ages 4-6, 7-9, and 10-15 starting May 17 and classes range from \$7.50 to \$10 per class. Space is limited so please

sign up at Just Play It or call us at 386-208-0713. We also have the gym and our new courtyard available for party rentals.
Adult baseball team needed
 The Men's Adult Baseball League is looking to place a team in the Suwannee Valley area and is looking for potential interested players ages 18-55 to join the team. The league features teams from all over North Florida and South Georgia and is getting ready to start the 2011 season. Games will start in April and run through August and will feature teams in Madison County, Tallahassee, Lake City, Valdosta, and Gainesville. Spokesman Greg Baker said the league is seriously interested in putting a team in the area and would like prospective players or managers to check out www.leaguelineup.com/northfloridamab. The cost is \$80 per player which covers insurance, uniforms, umpires and other expenses.
Football players wanted
 The Gulf Coast Atlantic Football league is looking to put a team in the Suwannee Valley area for the upcoming season. The Suwannee County Wranglers will be located in Live Oak and is open to any players from surrounding areas including Suwannee, Lafayette and Hamilton counties. The league will feature the Tampa Renegades, Highland County Rush, Lake County Stars, Lakeland Thunder and also

potentially teams in Clearwater, Tallahassee, Venice and Orlando. For more information log onto www.htsports.com/scwran glers.
Sports briefs wanted
 Are you hosting any kind of sports tournament, having rec league signups, having a car wash event for a sporting team or looking for baseball and softball players to fill out your travel teams. Get your information out to everyone free each week in the Sports Briefs. Send me your information, the time, the place, when, how much it cost, etc.. Send me our information at corey.davis@gafnews.com or call me at 362-1734, ext. 132.
Sports news wanted
 Attention area coaches, want your athletic team to get more coverage send me your results each week or after each game. Covering Suwannee, Branford, Lafayette and Hamilton County High sports programs, we can't be everywhere and need your help with coverage. Send us a few short paragraphs, stats and pictures on last nights game to corey.davis@gafnews.com or call your results in to 362-1734, ext. 132.
Freelancers wanted
 Have an urge to get out and cover a game in your own community. We need volunteers to help cover and photograph sports in Branford, Jasper and Mayo. If interested, send me an email or call me 362-1734, ext. 132 if you're interested.

District 6 All-Star tournaments

Continued From Page 1B

Game 1: Union vs. Suwannee, Thursday, 5:30 (Field 2)
 Game 2: Hamilton vs. Taylor, Thursday, 10 a.m. (Field 2)
 Game 3: Lake City vs. Fort White, Thursday, 12:30 (Field 2)
 Game 4: Madison vs. Suwannee Valley, Friday, 3 (Field 2)
 Game 5: Lafayette vs. Winner GM 1, Thursday, 3 (Field 2)
 Game 6: Loser GM 2 vs. Loser GM 1, Friday, 10 (Field 4)
 Game 7: Loser GM 5 vs. Loser GM 4, Friday, 3 (Field 4)
 Game 8: Winner GM 6 vs. Loser GM 3, Friday, 12:30 (Field 4)
 Game 9: Winner GM 2 vs. Winner GM 3, Friday, 12:30 (Field 2)
 Game 10: Winner GM 12 vs. Winner GM 4, Friday, 3 (Field 2)
 Game 11: Winner GM 7 vs. Loser GM 9, Saturday, 12:30 (Field 4)
 Game 12: Loser GM 10 vs. Winner GM 8, Saturday, 10 (Field 4)
 Game 13: Winner GM 9 vs. Winner GM 10, Saturday, 10 (Field 2)
 Game 14: Winner GM 12 vs. Winner GM 11, Saturday, 3 (Field 2)
 Game 15: Loser GM 13 vs. Winner GM 14, Sunday, 10 (Field 4)
 Game 16: Winner GM 13 vs. Winner GM 15, Sunday, 12:30 (Field 2)
 Game 17: If necessary, Sunday/Monday, TBA (Field 2)
 Outlook: Lake City held off Madison in the title game as both teams advanced to state, both will likely be the favorites again

11-year olds
 Site: First Federal Sportsplex (Field 3)
 When: June 25-26
 Participating teams: Lake City, Wakulla
 At stake: Top team moves on to state
 Format: Best-of-three series
 Schedule

Game 1: Lake City vs. Wakulla, Saturday, 12:30
 Game 2: Lake City vs. Wakulla, Sunday, 10 a.m.
 Game 3: Lake City vs. Wakulla, Sunday, 3 p.m.
 Outlook: There was no 11-year old division last year, so we will have a new district champion crowned.

12-year olds
 Site: First Federal Sportsplex
 When: June 23-26
 Participating teams: Madison, Taylor, Lake City, Union, Hamilton, Suwannee, Fort White, Jefferson, Wakulla, Suwannee Valley, Lafayette
 At stake: Top two teams move on to state
 Format: Double elimination
 Schedule
 Game 1: Madison vs. Taylor, Thursday, 10, (Field 3)
 Game 2: Lake City vs. Union, Thursday, 12:30 (Field 5)
 Game 3: Suwannee vs. Hamilton, Thursday, 12:30 (Field 3)
 Game 4: Fort White vs. Jefferson, Thursday, 3 (Field 5)
 Game 5: Wakulla vs. Winner GM 1, Thursday, 3 (Field 3)
 Game 6: Suwannee Valley vs. Winner GM 2, Thursday, 5:30 (Field 5)
 Game 7: Lafayette vs. Winner GM 3, Thursday, 5:30 (Field 3)
 Game 8: Loser GM 2 vs. Loser GM 4, Friday, 12:30 (Field 5)
 Game 9: Loser GM 5 vs. Loser GM 3, Friday, 12:30 (Field 3)
 Game 10: Loser GM 1 vs. Loser GM 7, Friday, 10 (Field 3)
 Game 11: Winner GM 8 vs. Winner GM 9, Friday, 5:30 (Field 5)
 Game 12: Winner GM 10 vs. Loser GM 6, Friday, 3 (Field 5)
 Game 13: Winner GM 4 vs. Winner GM 5, Friday, 3 (Field 3)
 Game 14: Winner GM 6 vs. Winner GM 7, Friday, 5:30 (Field 3)

Game 15: Loser GM 14 vs. Winner GM 11, Saturday, 10 (Field 5)
 Game 16: Loser GM 13 vs. Winner GM 12, Saturday, 12:30 (Field 5)
 Game 17: Winner GM 13 vs. Winner GM 14, Saturday, 10 (Field 3)
 Game 18: Winner GM 15 vs. Winner GM 16, Saturday, 3 (Field 3)
 Game 19: Winner GM 18 vs. Loser GM 17, Sunday, 10 (Field 5)
 Game 20: Winner GM 17 vs. Winner GM 19, Sunday, 12:30 (Field 3)
 Game 21: If necessary, Monday, TBA (Field 3)
 Outlook: Hamilton, Lafayette and host Suwannee all advanced to the state tournament in the 12-under division last year after Hamilton held off Lafayette in the final.

15-year olds
 Site: First Federal Sportsplex (Field 1)
 When: June 23-26
 Participating teams: Jefferson, Suwannee, Lafayette, Hamilton, Fort White
 At stake: Top team moves on to state
 Format: Double elimination
 Schedule
 Game 1: Jefferson vs. Suwannee, Thursday, 12:30
 Game 2: Lafayette vs. Hamilton, Friday, 10 a.m.
 Game 3: Fort White vs. Winner of GM 1, Friday, 1
 Game 4: Loser of GM1 vs. Loser of GM2, Friday 4
 Game 5: Winner of GM2 vs. Winner GM3, Saturday, 10 a.m.
 Game 6: Winner of GM 4 vs. Loser of GM 3, Saturday, 1 p.m.
 Game 7: Loser of GM 5 vs. Winner of GM 6, Saturday, 4 p.m.
 Game 8: Winner of GM 5 vs. Winner of GM 7, Sunday, 10 a.m.
 Game 9: If necessary, Sunday, 1 p.m.
 Outlook: Fort White is the defending 15-under division champion and the favorite to claim the title again.

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SPORTS

Showtime for all-stars

Continued From Page 1B

of 9, 10-under, 11, 12-under and 15-under will compete with the top teams from each age group advancing to their respective state tournaments.

State tournaments will be held in Lake City for 9-year olds, Jasper for 10-year-olds, Lake City for 11-year olds, Live Oak for 12-year olds (60 and 70 foot bases) and 15-year olds.

The tournament kicks off Thursday at 10 a.m. in the 12-under group with Madi-

son County taking on Taylor County on field three, followed by Lake City meeting Union County at 12:30 on field five and Hamilton County facing Suwannee County at 12:30 on field three.

Fort White and Jefferson County square off at 3 on field five, Wakulla taking on the winner of Madison/Taylor at 3 on field three, Suwannee Valley facing the winner of the Lake City/Union County game at 5:30 on field five and Lafayette meeting the Hamilton/Suwannee winner at 5:30 on field three.

In 15-under group, Jefferson County will face Suwannee at 5 on field one and in the 10-under group, Union County will face Suwannee at 5:30 on field two.

Wakulla and Suwannee Valley will meet in a best of three series beginning Saturday at 12:30 to determine the 9 year old district champion, after several teams withdrew as will Lake City and Wakulla in the 11-year old division. Only the winner of the 9 and 11 year old division moves on to the state tournament.

In the 12-under tournament, three

teams will advance to state including the winner and runner-up along with the host Suwannee team. In the event, Suwannee qualifies for the title game, the third place team will also move on.

In the 15-under tournament, the winner of the tournament along with the host team advances to state. If Suwannee advances to the title game, the other team in the final will also qualify for state.

For a complete list of all the tournament schedules, see the attached story.

2010 All-Stars photos



Suwannee 12-year old all-stars are Jarrod Beegle, Gavin Beine, Carter Chancey, Jesse Carver, Brandon Furry, Michael Gregory, Chase Hatfield, Johnny LeDew, CJ Ratliff, Kolby Sprague, Ryan Warner and coaches Brad Gregory, Jay Hatfield and John LeDew.



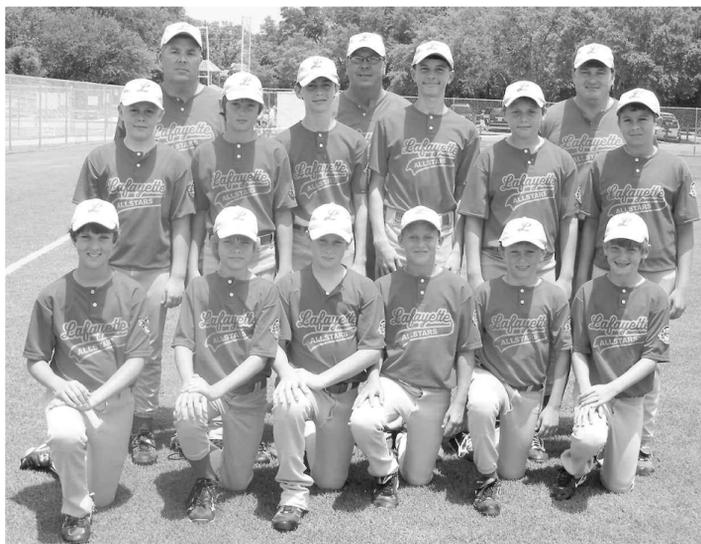
Suwannee 10-year old all-stars are Bo Bonds, Blake Tedder, Timmy Choe, Toby Reliford, Justin Dalton, Josh Wharton, John Fry, Dalton Croft, Hunter Merola, Parker Stevens, Frederick Williams, Jacob Parson and coaches Donny Maulden, Da Choe and Marty Tedder.



Branford 10-year old all-stars are Richie Glass, Cameron Nowling, Rylee McKenzie, Tyler Whitfield, Tyler Sapp, Trey Sapp, Chase Clark, Hunter Hill, Jerod Evert, Blake Lamb, Kyle Randleston, Ricky Ringer, Levi White, Alex Pierce, Chi Chi Purcell and coaches Tommy Ransom, Chris Clark, Rodney Glass.



Lafayette 10-year old all-stars are Caleb Land, Drew Perry, Preston Edwards, Grant Fletcher, Bubba Bird, Jeremiah Giddons, Jarrett Pearson, Joseph Perry, Adam Perry, Josh Singletary, Tommy Gardner, Holden Richardson, Coley Hingson and coaches Chan Perry, Steve Land and Herbert Perry.



Lafayette 12 year old all-stars are Micah Byrd, Shane Harris, Adam Land, Christian Moody, Ira Sutton, Bryson Bracewell, Lang Guyton, Kane Hurst, Kerby Hanson, Clay Jackson, Devon Morris, Benton Walker and coaches Timothy Hanson, Maury Byrd and Brock Jackson.



Hamilton County 12-year old all-stars are Douglas Barker, Tyler Crowder, James Gandy, Ben Godwin, Javiel Jones, Cody Marcano, Thomas Marcano, Clay Moore, Zach Morgan, Hunter Smith, Michael Whetstone, Austin Windham and coaches Greg Godwin, Richard Herndon, Tommy Smith and Vince Windham.



Hamilton County 15-year old all-stars are Trevor Barker, Dylan Brantley, Wesley Brantley, Conner Carter, Aaron Cooks, Joseph Cooks, Keith Cribbs, Jeremiah Lee, Zack Medearis, Rodolfo Roque, Trevor Sistrunk, Anterfernee Smith, Darian Speights and coaches Josh Smith, David Gause and Henry Bemby.



Hamilton County 10-year old all-stars are Javy Zamora, Garien Franklin, John Luke Davis, Bailey Jones, Peyton Newsome, Emmanuel Aldama, Preston Parks, Duke Roberson, Glori-da Gandy, Logan Hughes, Drew Stone and coaches Pablo Garcia, Javier Zamora, Hector Zamora and Ignacio Zamora. - Photos: Corey Davis

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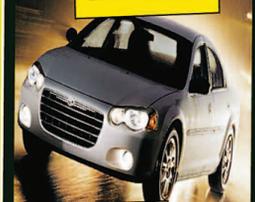
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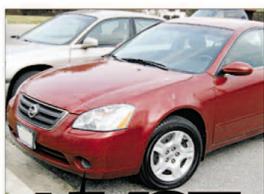
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2nd annual Camels Campout

set for June 24-26 at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

Music, music, music!

The 2nd annual Camels Campout Weekend will be held June 24-26 at the beautiful Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park in Live Oak, Fla. This is a family event where you may bring the children, the dog and enjoy a wonderful weekend of music, fellowship, sun, fun and water without breaking the family budget!

Promoters have put together a great weekend after an overwhelming response last year where folks said they wanted a full weekend of music with activities for the kids. This event is designed for those people who don't want to pay a huge price at the gate, but want to experience all the great things The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park has

to offer. The weekend will feature the Glass Camels, Nate Holley, Amy Hendrickson & The Prime Directive, Tony Smotherman, Charlie Walker, Love Chunk, Pigman's Radio Service, Klob, The Wobbly Toms, Groovy Dog, Old City Dub, Roll Out the Guns, Brown Bag Special, Funk Butter, Colton McKenna & Drew Dixon, Bradley Evans & Dew, Dirty & Friends, Todd & Molly Jones, Louie LeClaire, Feral Swine Experiment, Damn Dirty Shame and Canary and the Coalmine. Main stage music will be in the Music Hall with a porch stage at the front of the SOS Café and Restaurant.

Open mike will be available Saturday



Old City Dub Band

afternoon only, first come first serve by signing up online. Go to www.musicliveshere.com, click on events, then Glass Camels Campout.

Tickets are \$35 per person which includes primitive camping Friday and Saturday. You may purchase your tickets online at www.musicliveshere.com or at the gate. Children 12 and under are free. Pets on a lease and under the control of its owner will be permitted but not in the music areas.

The SOS Café and Restaurant will be open during this event and will have available the regular menu of delicious food and beverages at regular prices as well as weekend specials. There's also a country store and ice cream shop!

For more information about the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, call us at 386-364-1683, email us at spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musicliveshere.com. You may also contact the SOSMP to inquire about any of the

SEE CAMELS, PAGE 2

SCHEDULE

Friday - Music Hall

6 p.m. - Funk Butter

8 p.m. - Love Chunk

10 p.m. - Pigman's Radio Service

12 a.m. - The Glass Camels

Saturday - Porch Stage

Noon - 12:45 p.m. -

Canary & The Coalmine

1 - 1:45 p.m. - Louie LeClaire Trio

2 - 3 p.m. - Damn Dirty Shame

3:15 - 4:15 p.m. -

Evans, Bradley & Dew

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. - Todd & Molly Jones

5:45 - 6:45 p.m. - Groovy Dog

7 - 8 p.m. - Dirty & Friends

8:15 - 9:15 p.m. -

Colton McKenna & Drew Dixon

9:30 - 10:30 p.m. - Charlie Walker

Saturday - Music Hall

Noon - 1 p.m. -

Tony Smotherman Workshop

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. -

Feral Swine Experiment

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. - Roll Out The Guns

4 - 5 p.m. - Brown Bag Special

5:15 - 6:15 p.m. - The Wobbly Toms

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. - Old City Dub

7:45 - 8:45 p.m. - Klob

9 - 10 p.m. - Amy Hendrickson

& The Prime Directive

10:15 - 11:30 p.m. - Nate Holley

Midnight - 2 a.m. - The Glass Camels



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BEAUTIFUL natural wooded 2 acre lot with no deed restrictions. Great for land/home package \$14,900 Call Ric Donovan, 386-590-1298. MLS#77773

NICE wooded 10 acre lot close to CR 49, Bring offers. \$35,000. Call Sylvia Newell, 386-590-2498. MLS#78112

MOTIVATED SELLER! 2 lots, 75 ft. on the Suwannee River, gated entrances, small camping cabin, storage bldg., 1 ac., near boat ramp & shopping. \$39,900. Call Glenda McCall, 386-208-5244. MLS#74334

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REDUCED. GORGEOUS 2000, 4/2, 2338sq ft. DW on 2.44 acres close to town. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. \$71,000. Call David Mincey, 386-590-0157. MLS#77383

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JUST LISTED - 3/2 home on 11 acres. Home sits amongst the oak trees and has a gorgeous pasture for those animals. Asking \$139,900. Call Ric Donovan, 386-590-1298. MLS#78205

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Sunday by appointment





Amy Hendrickson

Lake City teen vying to break world record

Hopes to receive thousands of donated food items for local charities

My name is Jeremy Barwick and I am a Life Scout with the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 85 in Lake City, Florida. I am in the planning stages of my Eagle Scout Project right now. Because of the magnitude in size of my project, I had to start in January to be able to reach my goal and complete my task and also hold my current grade average at school.

I have chosen to do a food drive for the needy. I know what it is like to go hungry, so it takes on a personal note with me. When I was growing up, I loved Guinness and

had five Guinness Book of World Records. So I thought to myself, why not try to break a world record. The current world record is 559,885 pounds in one location in 24 hours. It does not matter to me if I do break the record, although it would be the icing on the cake. My main goal is to educate on hunger and to collect the food for the five counties that I will give it to. I do not want any child in my community to go to bed hungry like I did. I am teaming up with Catholic charities and the Food Bank of Suwannee Valley for transportation

and distribution of the donated food. The counties they support are Columbia, Suwannee, Hamilton, Union and Lafayette. I will be holding it from 8 a.m. September 24, 2011 until 8 a.m. September 25, 2011 in Lake City, Florida at the Fairgrounds (rodeo arena). If you would like to attend, participate in or help with my goal, I look forward to talking with you or emailing more about the event.

I would like to see this event go nationwide and others to say "if a 15 year old boy can do this, then so can I". I want people to know that one person can make a difference in their community and in America. It is easier to be nice and give

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SEE LAKE CITY, PAGE 3

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SRWMD Mission Support Director Melanie Roberts, left, and Governing Board Chairman Don Quincey, right, present an award to Linda Welch for 10 years of service.

SRWMD employee recognized for 10 years of service

Linda Welch, of the Suwannee River Water Management District (District), was recently honored for 10 years of outstanding service. District Mission Support Director Melanie Roberts and Governing Board Chairman Don Quincey congratulated Welch at a governing board meeting June 14.

Welch joined the District in June 2001, working in the

environmental resource permit program and later in the water use permit program within the department of resource management. She was also involved in rule development and assisted with the adoption of the water use rules that were updated in 2010.

She currently works within the department of mission support where she serves as the District's rules and con-

tracts coordinator, as well as the governing board coordinator.

Welch is certified as a paralegal through the National Association of Legal Assistants and holds an Advanced Paralegal Certification for Contracts Administration/Contracts Management.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Be vigilant everyday

Wednesday, June 15th, commemorated World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. By definition, elder abuse is "any knowing or negligent act that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult" National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) The abuse of those who are least able to defend themselves and

are less likely to physically or financially recover is a public concern that can no longer be ignored. Elder abuse crosses all socio-economic lines, and it is estimated that two thirds of financial and other forms of abuse are inflicted by family members. The following are signs of elder abuse and financial exploitation:

Unexplained, bilateral bruises on arms and legs
Older person appears frightened in the presence

of a care giver or family member
Elder is coerced into signing documents or withdrawing funds

Family members and others move in and seemingly take over
Care giver or family member has total control

over finances
Elder's power of attorney is being misused by the agent
Elder "quit claims" their house to a "person of trust" and is forced out of the home.

Often, where there is physical abuse, there is also financial exploitation!

Older victims are extremely reluctant to report for many reasons. Shame and embarrassment, unwillingness to report their children, fear of not being believed, and economic dependence on their abuser keeps elders from reporting or seeking help. It is estimated that for every one case of elder abuse, five cases go unreported. Prevention is critical and the following are steps older adults can take to protect themselves:

Never sign papers without first understanding why, regardless of who asks.

Treat home care workers like employees and keep financial information locked up.

Set ground rules with family regarding their access to personal and financial accounts.

Suspicious of abuse or exploitation should be reported to the Abuse Registry Hotline at 1 (800) 962- 2873 or you local law enforcement agency.

Recognizing elder abuse is uncomfortable, but it's OK to speak up.

2nd annual Camels Campout

set for June 24-26 at Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

Continued From Page 1
many exciting events coming up this year at the SOSMP such as the 311 Pow Wow, Blackwater Music Festival, July 4th Weekend Getaway, Bear

Creek Music and Art Festival and much, much more!

The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park is located at 3076 95th Drive 4.5 miles north of Live Oak, FL off US 129 at the fa-

mous Suwannee River. The park is 4.5 miles south of Interstate 75 and 4.5 miles north of Interstate 10 off US 129. Keep an eye out for the SOSMP sign and white painted board fence!

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17383 16th Street (paved road) 3 acres with a 3 bedroom 2 bath, central heat & air conditioning. Brick home in excellent condition with fireplace, approx. 2780 sq.ft. under roof. Kitchen furnished, 2 car garage. 12x12 storage. **Good Buy @ \$132,500.**

- (1) 161st Street: 9.82 acres in grass partially wooded with a 3/4, 3-1/2 bath CH/AC home with fireplace containing approx. 2400 sq. ft. under roof, 10'x30' storage, good area. **Terms \$225,000.**
- (2) Near Royal Springs: 2 AC restricted to homes only. **GOOD BUY \$14,900.**
- (3) 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.**
- (4) Dove Meadows.: 2 Acres with scattered trees, will work for land. Home package, **TERMS.**
- (5) 40 acres with 835 ft. on paved road in 13 year old planted pines. Priced to sell **REDUCED TO \$149,900.**
- (6) Hamilton County: 2 acres wooded on CR 150 (paved) will work for land home package **\$13,900.**
- (7) Near City on Paved Rd:

- 6 Acres with survey, 4" well, 2 H.P. Sub pump. 36' x 36' 4 stall horse barn with loft and tack/feed room. Fenced (horse type). **GOOD BUY @ \$84,900. terms. REDUCED TO \$84,900**
- (8) Hamilton County: 40 acre wooded on county road. Good hunting area that adjoins SRWMD. **REDUCED TO \$99,500.**
- (9) Tedder St.: Nice 100'x123' lot (homes only) **\$18,000.**
- (10) Suwannee River Charles Springs area: 1.88 ac. wooded with 137 ft. on the water elevation survey. Will support regular inground septic tank. **GOOD BUY @ \$39,900.**
- (11) Perry, Fla.: 100' x 148' lot in Perry with sewer and water. Paved street. **\$13,500.**
- (12) Saddle Club: Off 129 South 4 acres cleared with scattered trees. Will work for land home package. **MAKE OFFER.**
- (13) Suwannee River Park Estates: Three lots with survey. **\$7,500** (each lot) All buildable, 100% financing.

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Lake City teen vying to break world record



Continued From Page 1

back then to be mean. I want to inspire people to give back and bring back family values, morals and respect for their peers. One person CAN make a difference and INSPIRE thousands.

There is no losing with this project, because whether I beat the record or not, some children will not go hungry this Thanksgiving or Christmas! I hope I inspire others to try to make a difference in their community.

I will be the first in my family to make it to the rank of Eagle Scout and the first in my family to attend college.

Jeremy can be reached at barwick_jeremy@yahoo.com

Jeremy Barwick with District 11 Florida House Representative Elizabeth Porter (R-Lake City).



LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR HEALTH



Spring Not Fun for Allergy Sufferers

Many embrace the spring thanks to its warm weather and budding flowers and trees. Those with seasonal allergies, however, may not look so favorably on the new season.

According to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation, about 50 million Americans experience spring allergies. Some may have allergies each and every year. Others may find their allergies are newly discovered. The most common allergy triggers in spring include trees, grasses and weeds.

Allergies can evoke a number of symptoms:

- * itchy eyes
- * sneezing
- * congestion
- * headaches
- * coughing
- * runny nose
- * sore throat
- * shortness of breath
- * hives

Several of the symptoms of allergies mimic those of the common cold, and allergies are often mistaken for late winter colds. But as time spent outdoors with flowering plants triggers symptoms or inhalation of dust from spring cleaning induces an attack, the allergy culprit may become more apparent.

Pollen is one of the main contributors to allergies in the spring. For many people, pollen is seen as an outside invader to the body and its immune system. When pollen is inhaled or comes in contact with the eyes, the immune system triggers a response to get rid of the foreign substance. Excess mucous buildup and tears may be generated to wash out the

pollen. What all of this fluid can mean is sinus pressure, runny nose, watery eyes, and eventually cough or congestion from fluids running down the breathing passages and into the lungs.

As the body prepares to fend off pollen invaders, other symptoms may occur. Fatigue, aches and pains and other flu-like symptoms may be present. While battling pollen, the immune system is in full swing and may not be able to fully devote attention to other invaders, like bacteria and viruses. A person with allergies might be more susceptible to sickness.

There really are no cures for common allergies, only methods to manage the symptoms. Individuals with strong allergies to pollen should avoid spending a lot of time outside when pollen counts are especially high or the wind is blowing pollen around. Pollen predictions can be obtained through the local weather report or doing a little investigating online. Here are some other steps to limit troublesome springtime allergies.

- * Take a shower to wash off pollen from hair and skin after coming indoors.
- * Launder clothes regularly.
- * Keep windows and doors closed on high pollen days.
- * Use a HEPA air filter inside of the home.
- * Do not air-dry clothes, linens or other items outdoors on a clothesline.

* Consider using a saline irrigation spray to improve breathing and cleanse the nasal passages of pollen.

* Talk with a doctor about the best OTC products available for allergy symptoms. If those are ineffective, prescription medications may work.

* Some people find relief from alternative health treatments, such as acupuncture or ear candling.

Being proactive about seasonal allergies can mean getting relief earlier or even preventing serious complications in the spring.

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To place an ad on this page, please call Jennifer at 386-362-1734 Ext. 103

Calendar of Events

Navy and Marine Corps shipmates

Navy and Marine Corps shipmates who served on the USS Columbus CA-74/cG-12 from 1944 through 1976 and the USS COLUMBUS (SSN-762) past and present, if you would like to share memories and camaraderie with old friends and make new ones, please contact Allen R. Hope, President, 3828 Hobson Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815-4505. Home: (260) 486-2221 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Fax: 260-492-9771, email: Hope439@frontier.com.

Love Forever

Live Oak Church of Christ, 1497 SR 51 (Irvin Ave) will be open every third Saturday morning of each month for a clothes closet and food pantry, 10:30 - 12 noon.

Jennings United Methodist Church will host Vacation Bible School

Jennings United Methodist Church, in Jennings, Florida, will host Vacation Bible School, July 11-15, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. The theme is "Saddle Ridge Ranch" and participants will get to ride a real horse, cook out around a real campfire and learn more about God's plan for them and how they can be more like Jesus. All children are invited to attend. For more information please call 386-938-5745 or 229-559-5916.

School Physical Exam Clinics

The Suwannee County Health Department will be holding special School Physical Exam Clinics on July 21st and August 11th. Appointments are required. The cost of the school physicals will be \$25.00. These physicals are for school entry ONLY. Sports physicals will not be completed on these dates. A copy of your child's immunization record is required if all vaccines were not received at the Health Department. The Suwannee County Health Department is located at 915 Nobles Ferry Road in Live Oak. The number to call for an appointment is (386) 362-2708.

Millennium Nights

Friday nights beginning June 10 at Millennium Park in downtown Live Oak. Show starts at 7 p.m. and is held the second and fourth Friday of the month. Bring your lawn

chairs to listen to country, blue grass, gospel, country rock and karaoke.

NOTICE/Suwannee Health Dept./Branford closing

Effective July 1, 2011, the Suwannee County Health Department Branford clinic will be closing. All services will continue at 915 Nobles Ferry Road in Live Oak. Appointments can be made at the Live Oak office by calling 386-362-2708. Closure of the Branford clinic is due to state budget cuts and is necessary so that the Suwannee County Health Department can prioritize limited resources.

Putting on the The Whole Armor of God VBS

The Armor of God, Live Oak Church of God, 9828 US Hwy 129, invites you to be a part of our old-fashioned Vacation Bible School, singing the songs we used to sing, emphasizing Bible training like we used to do, along with fabulous crafts, food, and fun for age 3-12, Monday - Friday, June 20-24, 6:00 - 8:30, Closing Cookout & Program: June 26, 5:00 - 8:00, Call 386-362-2483 or 208-3027 for details.

MCALPIN COMMUNITY CLUB MEETINGS CANCELED FOR THE SUMMER

The McAlpin Community Club meetings for June, July and August have been canceled. The next regular meeting will be in September. We hope that you will have a cool and relaxing summer. For information about the club call Barbara Parks at 362-3044.

Live Oak Elks Lodge #1165 B.P.O.E.

The Live Oak Elks Lodge will be having a charity fund raiser BBQ chicken dinner on Friday, June 24, 2011 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Lodge Parking lot. Menu: Chicken Leg Quarter, cole slaw, baked beans, roll. Price: \$6 per plate. Delivery available for 10 or more meals. All proceeds go to benefit our local charities. For more information please call the lodge at 362-1165 Mon. - Sat. after 4 p.m.

SHS Class of 1961 reunion

The Suwannee High School Class of 1961 is planning a reunion for September 23 and 24th. Information has been sent out. Information including addresses is needed for the following class members: Charles Crosby, Evelyn Greene, Bonnie Klinger, Johnnie Rawlins, and Johnny Whaley. If you have information or desire more information about the reunion please call William (Bill) Slaughter at 386-362-1828 or Jean Johnson at 386-364-1693.

Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men

Westside Baptist Church, 13969 Railroad St. - Hwy 90 W, Live Oak, FL, 32060, Vacation Bible School for all ages, June 19, 2011 - June 23, 2011, 6-8:30 p.m. For more information, please call 364-2862.

Class of 1981 Reunion Plans Underway

Looking for members and we need your help. Please send your contact information to either of the following addresses: Email: shsclassof1981@hotmail.com or cynthiarobinson2002@yahoo.com or phone: Kay Capell Fulda at (864) 617-8598 or Susan Olson at (864) 376-8083. Facebook: Suwannee High School Class of 1981. Tell Everyone.

Booth Space Available for Branford River Reunion

The Branford River Reunion is looking for vendors for the 4th of July Celebration in Branford on July 4, Monday. We have room for crafts, food, and informational booths. Below is an application that you can send in to register your booth. The cost is \$30. For more information you can call Peggy Terry at 935-0021, if no answer leave a message with your phone number, she will call you back. The day will start out around noon and continue until dark when the fireworks begin.

Homecoming - Reunion at Beulah Baptist Church HAS BEEN CANCELED!!

NOTICE: CANCELED!

The "Trip to Recovery" Group of Narcotics Anonymous that met at St Luke's Episcopal Church in Live Oak, Florida on Saturdays at 7 p.m. has been cancelled.

T. J. Productions Presents Death & The Beautiful Woman

Director, Playwright and Producer, Ms. T. J. Harris. Date: Saturday, June 25, 2011, 7 p.m. Tickets \$15 and available at the door. 4 or more at group rate, \$10 each. Tickets also available at New Life Bible Book Store on Ohio Ave. Cash only. Contact: 904-405-0680 or 904-444-7184. Location: Social Sewing Center on Center Street, Live Oak, FL.

USS COLUMBUS CA-74/CG-12/SSN-762 Reunion

September 21 - September 24, 2011 at SHERATON NATIONAL HOTE - Arlington, VA. Please contact Allen R. Hope President, 3828 Hobson Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815-4505, Home: (260) 486-2221 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eastern time, Fax: 260-492-9771, email: Hope4391@frontier.com.

The Columbia Federated Republican Women

The Columbia Federated Republican Women meet the 2nd Monday of each month, 7pm, brown bag dinner & social time at 6:30 pm. Currently we meet in Lake City at the old Guardian ad Litem yellow house on Duval Street just east of the First Baptist Church and across from Advanced

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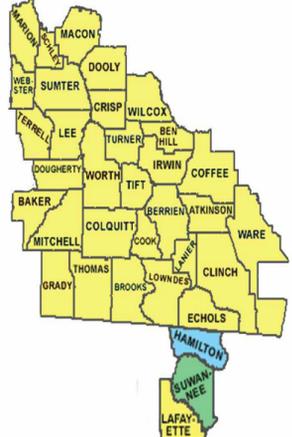
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You should be cautious of calls from interested buyers of your advertised merchandise. If the caller is offering you MORE money than what you are asking or suggest sending you a check for more than the amount and requesting you to cash it and just send them back the remaining amount
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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.

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Calendar of Events

Continued From Page 6

Cartridges, Cell Phones -Any Kind, MP3 Players Drop off at Lafayette Extension Office, Wes Haney Chevrolet, Suwannee Tax Collectors, Live Oak City Hall, or the CCS Office, larger quantities can be picked up. For more information on how your business can join the CCS recycling team call Janet Sampson, 386-362-7143 ext 5.

FREE SUNDAY LUNCH

For the past several months a group headed up by Pat and JoAnn Lynch have been serving a free lunch at the community center in Live Oak the last Sunday of the month. This past month we fed around 300 children and families. We support this project by selling donated items at the Flea Market in Lake City. We have cleaned out all of our closets, garages and are now in need of items to be donated to this cause. We also need volunteers to help set up and serve the meals. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to donate garage sale items you may contact Pat and Jo Ann Lynch at (386) 935-1076 or Roger Burnside at (386) 935-3343.

Did you earn your pin?

Reconnect with your shipmates and help preserve the memories

With more than 13,000 members and over 150 chapters throughout the United States, your rank or rate and status are active, retired or honorably discharged are secondary to the purposes of the organization. We are all brothers of "The Pin." We band together to honor the memories of the over 4,000 men who EARNED THE RIGHT to wear "Dolphins" to maintain the bonds of friendship and camaraderie. You are invited to contact us through the address below for more information: National Contact: United States Submarine Veterans, PO Box 3870 Silverdale, WA 98383 or 1-877-542-DIVE r www.ussvi.org. Local contact: W. Ray Rausch, 386-209-1473, uss483@windstream.net, 10035 105th Drive, Live Oak, FL 32060.

First Baptist Church of Live Oak to hold weekly grief recovery support group

First Baptist Church of Live Oak, FL will begin holding a weekly grief recovery support group. GriefShare is a non-denominational Biblically based 13 week program for people who are struggling with losing a loved one in death. People can enter at any point in the 13 weeks. It will be held at 6 pm on Wednesdays. First Baptist Church is located at 401 W. Howard in Live Oak. For more information, people may call 386-362-1583 or find us on the web at www.fbcliveoak.org.

Looking for classmates of Class of 1959

Would like to contact any classmates from the Class of 1959 (in the event of upcoming reunions, etc.) Contact Joyce Parker at 407-886-0601 or write to: Joyce Parker, 4039 Visa Lane, Apopka, FL 32703.

Haven Hospice hosts Helping Hands Volunteer Orientation

When: Every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m.
Where: Haven Hospice Suwannee Valley Care Center, 6037 W. U.S. Hwy 90, Lake City, FL. Call Carolyn Long at 386-752-9191 for more information.

New Commander Post #107

New Commander Post #107 American Legion is Randall E. White, 386-984-6245 or email at shore duty@windstream.net.

Donate your old cars

Now that spring has arrived, people may be thinking of donating their old cars as part of a clean up. The Boys and Girls Clubs would be happy to take their old cars. People donating to the Clubs will not only get rid of the unwanted car but will be contributing to the clubs. Boys and Girls Clubs really work with kids in most communities and offer a safe place for them. If you wish to donate a car, call 800-246-0493. Not only will donors be helping the kids, they will be able to take sale price as a contribution for income tax purposes.

Talent Search

Do you sing or play and 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.

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www.sunbeltchryslerjeepdodgeofliveoak.com

Donations needed!

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

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.

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 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.

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, 5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Activities for children will be provided. Please contact 386-755-8190 for additional information.

North Florida Community College high school dual enrollment program benefits Suwannee County

Over the past academic year high school students in Suwannee County received \$54,296 in free college education through North Florida Community College's high school dual enrollment program. Open to qualified high school and home school students in their sophomore, junior and senior year, the program waives tuition and fees on college level courses and gives students a jump start on their college career. Students enrolled in public high schools should contact their guidance counselors about receiving free textbooks for the program.

Fifty-two students from Suwannee County participated in NFCC's dual enrollment program in 2010-11 and over the past five years the program has benefitted 231 Suwannee County students providing \$180,152 in tuition waivers. The to-

tal savings to students and families across NFCC's six-county district from dual enrollment tuition waivers amounts to \$241,648 in 2010-11 and \$1,129,974 since 2006.

NFCC works in cooperation with the county school board and with the assistance of high school guidance counselors to identify academically qualified and responsible students. Students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average to participate and must maintain a 2.0 GPA to continue in the program. Dual enrolled students attend college classes either on the NFCC campus or online.

This summer, high school students can enroll in NFCC's Dual Enrollment Summer Institute and take courses in one of three different tracks. Track one offers Strate-

gies for Academic Success and Speech; track two offers American History I and Intermediate Algebra; track three offers College Algebra, Astronomy and Astronomy Lab. Classes begin July 5 and will be held Monday-Thursday through Aug. 10 on the NFCC campus in Madison. Dual enrollment students are not limited to these tracks or specific courses, but could benefit from the structured course plan set up by the Dual Enrollment Summer Institute.

Students interested in applying for NFCC's high school dual enrollment program in the fall or NFCC's Summer Institute this summer should contact their high school guidance counselor or NFCC Enrollment Services, 850-973-1612 or admissions@nfcc.edu for more information.

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Statewide Classified Ad for Week of June 20, 2011

NFCC Early Childhood Professional graduate named Assistant Childcare Teacher of the Year



Romie at Daisies and Doodlebugs Pre-School.

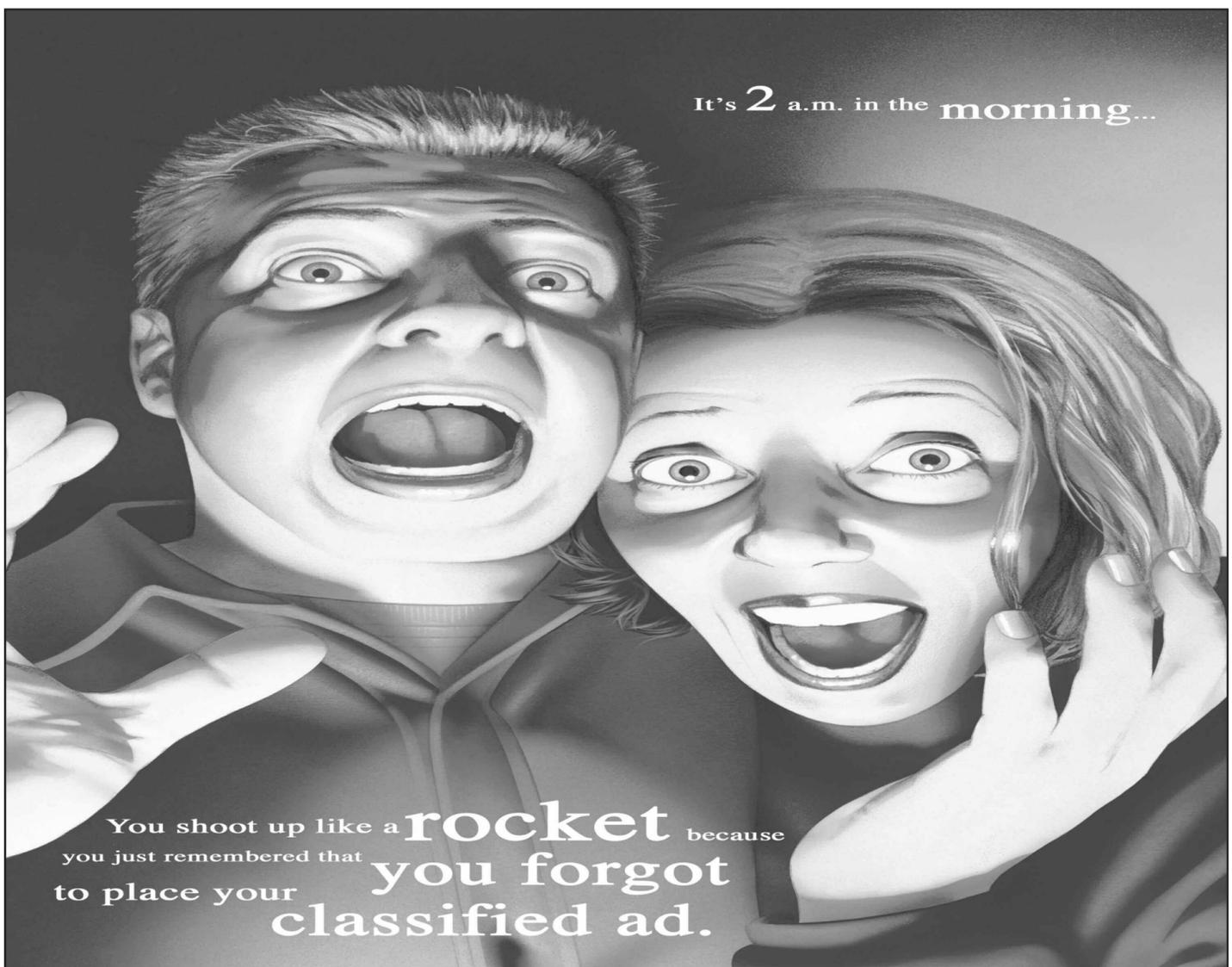
MADISON, FL – North Florida Community College Early Childhood Professional graduate Jo Jo Romie was recently named Assistant Childcare Teacher of the Year for the Florida Big Bend. The award, given by the Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend Region, is based on parent and community nominations that extend throughout the coalition's seven county service area.

Romie resides in Madison County with her daughter. She recently completed the Early Childhood Professional Certificate program with honors at NFCC and is employed at Daisies and Doodlebugs Pre-School in Madison Fla. She is currently enrolled in NFCC's Child Care Directors Certificate program where she will learn many broad transferable skills geared toward directors and managers in the early childhood industry.

"The classes that I enrolled in at NFCC were very beneficial and taught me how to be a successful teacher and an intelligent employee," Romie said. "Over the past year I have enjoyed working with the children, families and co-workers at Daisies and Doodlebugs Pre-School."

NFCC offers an Associate in Arts degree with an emphasis in education and certificate programs in Early Childhood Professional and Child Care Director. For program information contact Tara Orłowski at (850) 973-1789 or email Orłowski@nfcc.edu.

BELOW: Romie outside Daisies and Doodlebugs next to congratulatory sign.



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Governor Scott appoints three to SRWMD Governing Board



From left: Dr. George Cole, Kevin Brown, and Donald "Ray" Curtis III were sworn-in as new members of the Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board on June 14.

Dr. George Cole, of Monticello; Kevin Brown, of Alachua; and Donald "Ray" Curtis III, of Perry; were sworn-in as members of the Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board on June 14. Governor Rick Scott appointed Cole and Brown and reappointed Curtis to the board in early June.

Cole, who succeeds Dr. Linden C. Davidson will represent the Aucilla River Basin. His term began June 3, 2011 and ends March 1, 2015.

Cole holds a Doctorate in geography with an emphasis on wetland hydrology and is a registered professional engineer and a registered professional land surveyor. He has had a lengthy career in surveying and mapping and is currently a part-time adjunct professor at Florida State University.

Some of the posts he has held over the years include bureau chief for the Florida Department of Natural Resources, professional engineer administrator for the Florida Department of Transportation, and president of a private engineering and mapping firm.

Brown succeeds N. David Flagg and will represent the Santa Fe and Waccasassa river basins for a term that began June 3, 2011 and ends March 1, 2015.

Brown is a native Floridian and attended the University of Florida (UF) where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture. He is a graduate of UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Natural Resource Leadership Institute. He worked through college as an agricultural technician at UF and currently serves as an advisory board member for the Conservation

Trust for Florida.

Brown has a background in botany, agronomy, and soil science and has experience in real estate and finance. He is a state-certified general real estate appraiser and has served as chief appraiser for Farm Credit of Florida since 1990.

Curtis, who filled a vacant seat on the board in 2010, will represent the Coastal River Basin. His term expires March 1, 2015.

Curtis is an attorney whose law practice (Howard & Curtis, P.A.) is located in Perry.

Prior to establishing his own law firm, Curtis was an attorney with the Third Circuit Office of the Public Defender in Perry. He received his Juris Doctorate from Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration, with a minor in agricultural law, from UF.

Curtis serves as a member of the City of Perry Zoning and Planning Board and the City of Perry Board of Adjustment. Currently he is chair of the City of Perry Code Enforcement Board and is a member of the Perry Rotary Club.

The remaining governing board members are Donald J. Quincey, Jr., chairman; Alphonas Alexander, vice chairman; Heath M. Davis; James L. Fraleigh; Carl E. Meece; and Guy N. Williams. Curtis serves as the board secretary/treasurer.

FHP results from Memorial Day enforcement

FHP arrests more than 160 impaired drivers

Col. David Brierton, director of the Florida Highway Patrol, announced the preliminary enforcement results from the Patrol's Memorial Day holiday enforcement period recently. During the four-day heightened enforcement period, FHP increased the number of troopers patrolling Florida's roadways. Auxiliary troopers augmented FHP's force.

Troopers issued more than 14,400 traffic citations and made 163 arrests for Driving Under the Influence of alcohol or drugs. They cited more than 5,500 drivers for speeding and more than 2,700 for failure to buckle up.

"The Florida Highway Patrol is committed to safeguarding everyone

on our highways," said Colonel Brierton. "Through aggressive enforcement, we aim to prevent crashes and save lives, leading the way to a safer Florida."

The members of the Florida Highway Patrol would like to remind everyone that it is the law to move over when approaching any authorized emergency vehicle or wrecker displaying rotating or flashing lights stopped on the side of a roadway. Also, remember to dial *FHP (*347) from your cell phone to report an aggressive driver or to request roadside assistance.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, educa-

tion and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov or follow us on Twitter @FDHSMV. You can find us on Facebook, too.

Preliminary Enforcement Results:
 May 27 through May 30, 2011
 Total Citations = 14,482
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 Speeding Citations = 5,570
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Deadline for placing your yard sale is Friday at 11:00 a.m.

641416-F

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Run your Car For Sale classified in the Wednesday North Florida Focus & Friday Suwannee Democrat Classifieds and get the Car Kit for FREE.*

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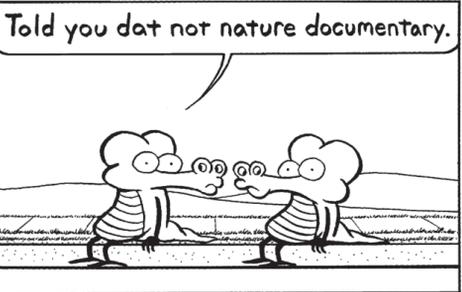
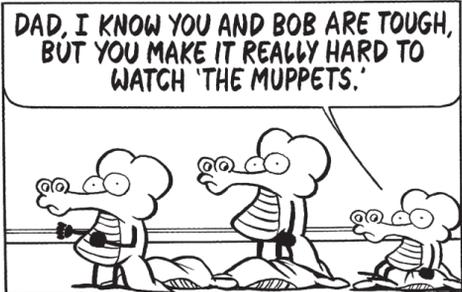
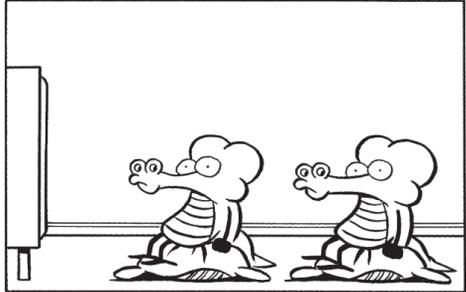
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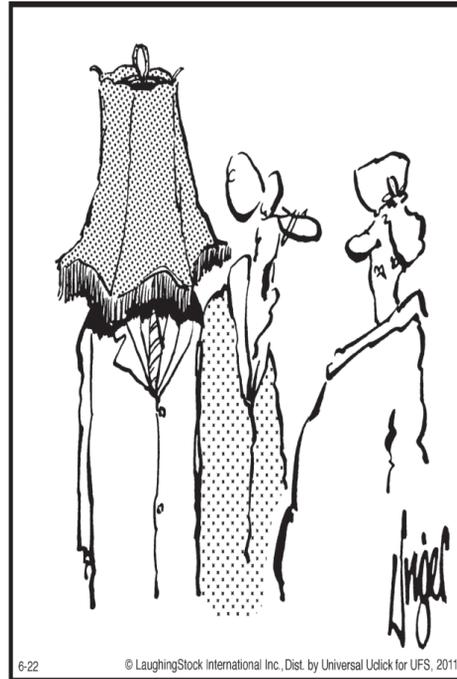
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Betty



Herman



"The dermatologist told him to stay in the shade."

Marmaduke



"This means war!"

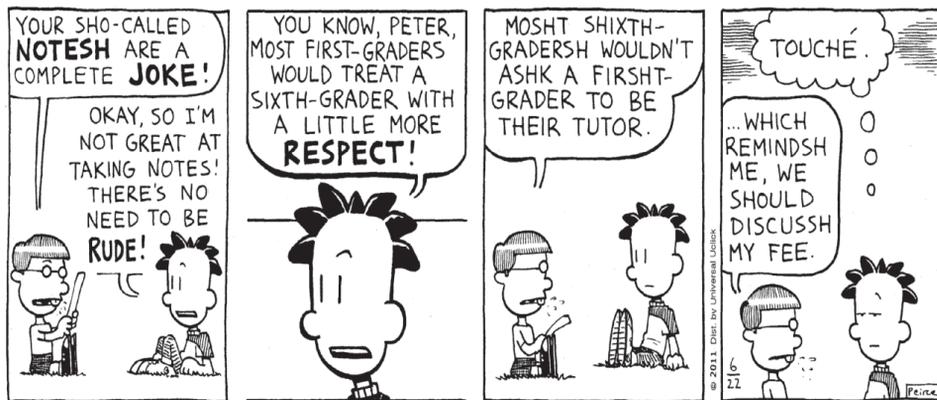
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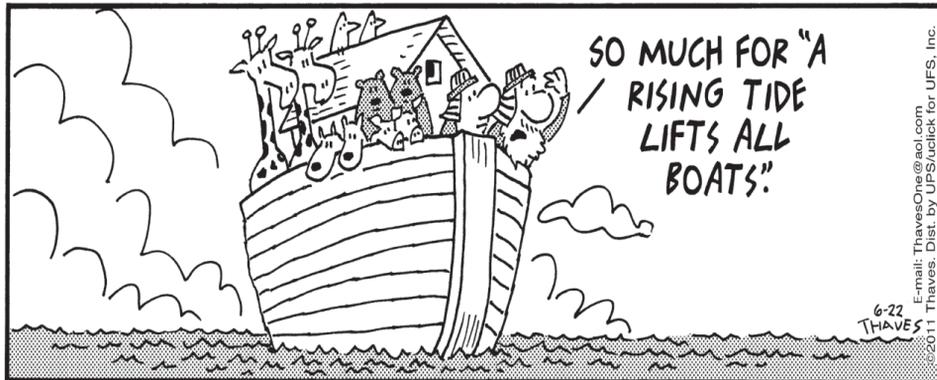
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Solo on the Suwannee

By Debbie Meeks

"Are you sure you don't want my gun?" Nothing brings out fear faster than the mention of a 50-ish woman going on a solo camping trip. My fear is not doing it.

Ok, I admit that I have a soapbox. It's about the Culture of Fear that we have insulated ourselves within just the last generation. Immobilizing fear has always been around but now it's the normal way to view the world. I don't think I'm imagining this. Children aren't allowed to walk to school or to have unsupervised play anymore. The world has always been dangerous, lightning has always struck, there have always been crimes. What has changed is that the news saturates us with fearful stories without mentioning that they are statistically very rare.

Sensationalism killed news and few noticed.

Our focus on danger also killed our curiosity to see what is over there or if we can do that. I'm not talking about 'hey ya'll, watch this' recklessness, but the good ol' American adventurous spirit. So let's see if I can take on the Suwannee River Wilderness Trail alone for 3 days and 2 nights. I should tell you that I love to camp and I don't think a shower and a flush toilet diminishes the experience so the River Camps seem tailor made for my adventure.

Day 1: Withlacoochee- Madison State Park to Suwannee River State Park- 12 miles

- I had heard there was a short portage around Melvin Shoals and I planned to take it but after scouting both shores unsuccessfully there was only one choice. I put away the camera, strapped everything securely, took a deep breath for courage, picked the deepest looking approach which was also the most turbulent, and committed to it. White water enthusiasts will laugh because although Melvin is rat-

ed, which is saying something in Florida, it's only a Class II. Baby stuff. But for Flatlanders any exposed rocks are thrilling.

- As I approached the shoals a 3 foot gator launched out of the water right in front of me adding to my heart racing terror. Later, I reason that it must have been a sturgeon, belly towards me and pectoral fins outstretched. Funny how your mind can add to your stress.

- The Suwannee River State Park park ranger encouraged my solo trip without hesitation, what a refreshing change. He had done a 100 mile solo kayak trip out of Flamingo and loved it.

- A local couple at the boat ramp tell me that hot showers are not in the spirit of a river trip- to live it you have to bathe it. They have a good point- with minimal, biodegradable soap, of course.

- My camp site at the state park is wedged in between RVs running their air conditioners.

The one beside me creaks like an old bed frame when they walk around inside. I feel like I'm riding a bike on a highway. It's killing my nature experience buzz.

There's a lot of time to think in between strokes on a solo trip. After hearing the fears of friends and family for days I started to ask myself what my personal fears and their weaker cousins, dreads, were about the trip. Once they had been met head on I wondered what I had gotten worked up about, some were even laughable.

- Dread: I'm going to feel unwelcome at Suwannee River State Park because I was made to feel like I was going to be a problem when I called to ask about kayak security at the park. What did a river traveler ever do to her, sheesh!

Fact: The ranger couldn't have been friendlier and he was thoughtful enough to let me leave my pass on the picnic table in the morning instead of walking back up to the office.

- Dread: Someone will steal my kayak.

Fact: This is one of the top fears of river travel. Everyone I talked to wanted to discuss strategies but I never heard any bad experiences and my boat remained unmolested too.

- Fear: I'll capsiz in the shoals and drown.

Fact: They were thrilling but hardly life threatening.

- Breakthrough: Camp breakfast creation. Food is a highlight and much time is spent thinking about different ways to combine the items in the larder. It's hard to express my delight in the following combination. Heat packaged polenta mixed with a little water to make a grits-like mixture, add chopped hard boiled eggs and salami pieces.

- Note to self: bring more analgesics

Day 2: Suwannee River State Park to Dowling Park River Camp- 14.5 miles

- Wave to the passing fishermen, fishing couples, and fishing buddies; different ways to love the same river. Sometimes I get close enough to talk to them. I'm curious about the fishing, I'm thinking I might bring a pole next time. They're curious how far I've come and why I'm not fishing.

- Advent Christian Village is a nice place for a stroll. It has a full grocery and prepared sandwiches but don't look for beer. The restaurant isn't open every day, today's one of the closed ones. I could have talked myself into a break from camp food but I better get excited about opening another can instead.

- I enjoy the sunset from the River Camp deck and watch the sturgeon doing belly flops.

- The raccoon cleanup crew shows up at camp at 3 am. Heavy footfalls. They set off the motion detector bathroom lights and bang the trash cans. I guess they fig-



A trip down the Suwannee.

ure if they're not asleep then no-one should be.

Day 3: Dowling Park River Camp to Lafayette Blue State Park- 10.2 miles

- It's a beautiful morning. A great blue heron works along the bank while I load my craft. I wish the trip would never end.

- Not a single fisherman- it's kind of eerie after seeing so many yesterday. This section looks just as fishy to me.

- Man, it's hot, I can't wait to get to the end.

- My car's here. Life is good.

I don't get on my soapbox to people who are in the grips of the Culture of Fear. Like the guy who always slept with his head to the tent door, even if it was sloping downhill, "in case". My first thought was that the vandal/thief/murderer probably wouldn't take the time to use the zipper. But everyone handles their fears differently and at least he was out there camping anyway.

It has always been a dangerous world, lightning has always struck. Be prepared but don't be immobilized. Don't give in to fear or you will miss the humorous reflections of hindsight in the wake of your kayak.

Debbie Meeks

Meeks.Debbie@gmail.com

For more information: <http://www.floridastateparks.org/wilderness/>

Savvy Senior

How to Find Affordable Dental Care

Dear Savvy Senior,

Where can seniors turn to find affordable dental care? I had dental insurance through my work for many years but lost it when I retired. What can you tell me?

Flossing Frank

Dear Frank,

Very few U.S. retirees have dental insurance today. Without coverage from traditional Medicare, and with private dental insurance typically costing too much to be feasible, most seniors are stuck paying full out-of-pocket prices every time they visit a dentist. While there's no one simple solution to affordable dental care there are a variety of options that can help cut your costs. Here's what you should know.

Dental Discounts

One way you may be able to trim your dental care cost is by simply asking your dentist for a senior discount, especially if you're paying up front. Out-of-pocket payers save the dentist office the cost and hassle of filing an insurance claim, so asking for a small 10 percent discount is not unreasonable.

Another cost-effective way to reduce your dental expenses is to join a dental discount network. How this works is you pay an annual membership fee – roughly \$80 to \$200 a year – in exchange for 15 to 50 percent discounts on service and treatments from participating dentists. To find a network, go to dentalplans.com (or call 888-632-5353) where you can search for plans and participating dentists by zip code, as well as get a breakdown of the discounts offered.

Brighter (brighter.com, 866-893-1694), which launched in May in all states except Florida, Montana and Vermont, is another discounted dental service you should check out. It gives subscribers access to a network of 25,000 dentists offering 20 to 60 percent discounts on cleanings, crowns, implants, root canals and other procedures. You can sign up for a free one-month plan or opt for the premium plan, which costs \$79 per year for individuals and families.

Low-Cost Care

Another way to get dental care at a lower price is at a dental school clinic. Almost every dental school in the U.S. offers affordable care provided by dental students who are overseen by experienced, qualified teachers. You can expect to pay as little as a third of what a traditional dentist would charge and still receive excellent, well-supervised care.

And for low-cost teeth cleanings, check with local colleges that offer dental hygiene programs. For training purposes, many programs provide teeth cleanings by their students for a fraction of what you'd pay at a dentist's office. To locate dental schools or dental hygiene programs in your area visit www.ada.org/267.aspx.

Low Income Care

If you're strapped for cash there are other resources that provide dental care to seniors at a reduced rate or for free. Here's where to look:

- Health centers: Federally-funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), there are thousands of health centers around the U.S., many of which provide discounted or free dental care to people based on financial need. To find a center near you visit findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov or call 877-464-4772.

- Local services: There are a few states, as well as some local programs or clinics that offer discounted dental care to those with limited means. To find out what may be available in your area, check with your state dental director (see astdd.org for contact information), or your state or local dental society (see ada.org/statelocalorg.aspx).

- Dental Life Network: Offers several programs that provide free dental care for elderly and disabled people who can't afford to pay. To learn more or to apply for care in your state, visit nfdh.org or call 888-471-6334.

Savvy Tip: The best way to keep your dental costs down is through prevention and good oral hygiene. So remember to brush your teeth at least twice a day using fluoride toothpaste, floss daily and get routine checkups every six months or at least once a year.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

Savvy Senior
Assistive Listening Devices Can Help Seniors Hear Better

Dear Savvy Senior

What can you tell me about assistive listening devices? My husband is hearing impaired but doesn't like wearing his hearing aids, so I'm wondering if some of these devices can help.

Loud Talking Spouse

Dear Loud,

Assistive listening devices (or ALDs) are very useful products that can help hearing-impaired people – with and without hearing aids – hear better! Here's what you should know.

Listening Helpers

ALDs are electronic amplifying devices that will let your husband adjust the volume and tone so that he can hear and understand the television, telephone or other people speaking. It's also important to know that these devices work best for people with mild to moderate hearing loss, you don't need a prescription to buy them, and they usually aren't covered by insurance or Medicare. Here's a breakdown of the different types of ALDs that can help.

Telephone Amplifiers: To improve hearing over the telephone there are a number of handset and in-line amplifiers you can add to your regular phone, or you can purchase an amplified telephone. Most amplified phones allow you to adjust the volume and tone for better clarity and they usually come with extra loud ringers and flashing ring indicators to alert you when a call is coming in. Clarity (clarityproducts.com, 800-426-3738) and

ClearSounds (clearsounds.com, 888-965-9043) make a nice variety of these products with prices ranging from \$30 up to around \$300. Harriscomm.com, teltex.com and soundbytes.com are also good sites to shop. Or, see if your state has a specialized telecommunications equipment program (see tedpa.org) which provides free amplified phones.

If the amplified products don't do the trick, another option is caption phones. These are telephones that have a built-in screen that will let your husband listen to the caller, as well as read written, word-for-word captions of everything the caller is saying. Go to captel.com (or 800-233-9130), and click on your state to learn more.

TV Listening Systems: If hearing the television is a problem, a TV listening device will let your husband increase the volume and adjust the tone to meet his needs, without blasting out you or the rest of the family. The best devices available today are wireless infrared systems that come with a headset. Many of these devices work with radios and stereos too. Or, if your husband would rather not wear a headset, some systems offer a small speaker that can be placed by his chair, and many work with T-coil enabled hearing aids. TV Ears (tvears.com, 888-883-3277) is one of the best products sold today with prices starting at \$100.

Personal Listening Devices: Depending on your husband's needs, there are many different types of listening devices on the market, in all price ranges, that can help. For one-on-one and small group conversations, a pocket-sized amplifier that comes with a small microphone and ear buds may do. Or, for a wider range of hearing capabilities consider FM listening devices. These are wireless products that can boost hearing in many difficult listening situations including auditoriums and lecture halls. FM devices come with a small microphone and transmitter placed on or by the person speaking, and the listener wears a receiver that may be used with ear buds, earphones, or with T-coil enabled hearing aids when worn with a neck loop. Harriscomm.com and independentliving.com are two good sites for locating these types of products.

Alerting Devices: There are also a variety of alerting devices that can help people who have trouble hearing the doorbell, alarm clock, telephone or smoke detector. These products use flashing lights, special multi-tone ringers or vibrating devices as a means to alert you. You can find these items at many of the websites previously listed, along with sonicalert.com and silentcall.com for around \$50 to \$150.

Savvy Tip: For more information and assistance with ALDs, contact an audiologist or hearing instrument specialists (see howsyourhearing.org or ihsinfo.org to find one near you). They're familiar with all these technologies and can help your husband choose the best products to meet his needs.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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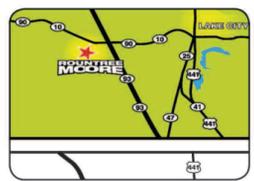
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