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Finishes 15 out of 43 cars at ARCA Series Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200



- Photo: Ronnie Hart

By Jeffrey Boatright
jeffry.boatright@gafnews.com

Local racing sensation Fain Skinner added a successful finish at the Daytona International Speedway to his list of accomplishments Saturday afternoon.

SEE SKINNER, PAGE 8A

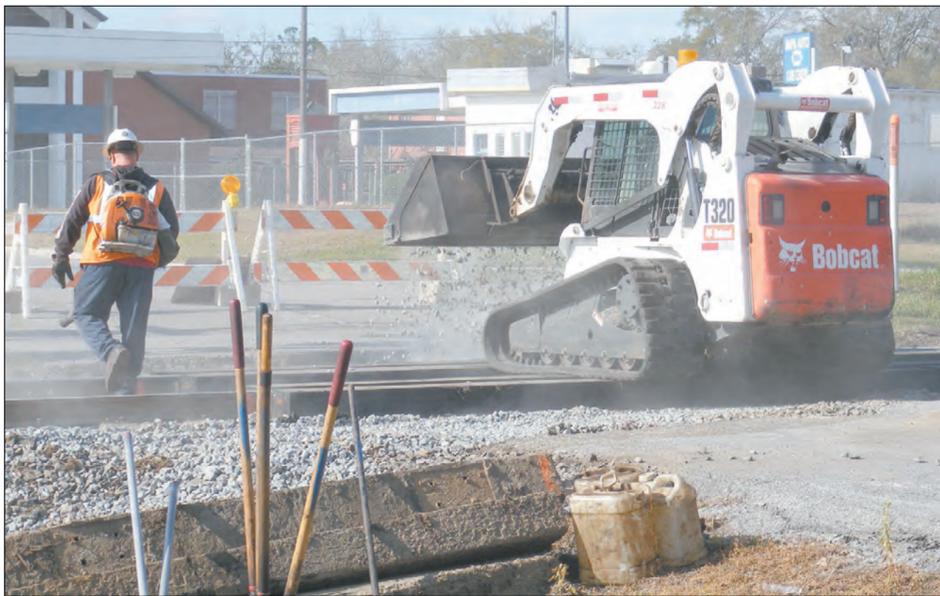
Skinner enjoys solid Daytona debut



Live Oak's own Greg Scott dropped by the number 39 hauler to visit with hometown racing sensation Fain Skinner and collect an autograph before the race. (Far left) Fain holds his sons, twins Cale and Cole prior to the starting of the 2012 ARCA Series Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200 at the Daytona International Speedway. See more photos in sports, page 5B. - Photo: Jeffrey Boatright

I'VE BEEN WORKIN' ON THE RAILROAD

Utilco Railroad Services of Georgia worked through the weekend and part of the beginning of this week to perform maintenance on several railroad crossings throughout the county.



Here, crews work on the crossing at Church Avenue Monday by replacing the asphalt and crossing ties which should prove a smoother crossing. - Photo: Misty A. Ward

Water working group goes with FLOW, elects leadership

By Misty A. Ward
misty.ward@gafnews.com

The water working group comprised of representatives from 29 counties and four towns met in Lake City on Feb. 13 to continue discussing the organization of the group.

It was decided at the meeting the members would be directors. They elected Commissioner Ronald Williams, Colum-

bia County, as chairman of the board and Dr. Helen Miller, mayor of White Springs, as co-chair.

The directors also officially voted to stick with

the name Florida Leaders Organized for Water, or FLOW.

Although the group is in preliminary stages for the interlocal agreement in creating FLOW, their

first action item was to adopt a resolution requesting a review of the impacts on the Floridan Aquifer based on the wa-

SEE WATER, PAGE 8A

Miami woman busted for carrying pot into prison

By Jeffrey Boatright
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A Miami woman has been arrested for introducing marijuana and other contraband items into Suwannee Correctional Institution, according to records from the Suwannee County Jail.

Records show Jacqueline L. Tintorero, 49, Miami, had a discussion by telephone on Dec. 15 with a co-defendant, about

purchasing, concealing and transporting marijuana, tobacco and cellular telephones into the state prison.

On Dec. 27, Tintorero was found to be in possession of .8 ounces of marijuana and Top tobacco, that was hidden inside Chinese rice and two cellular telephones

SEE MIAMI, PAGE 8A



Tintorero

Court sides with flock growers

Pilgrim's Pride breached contracts, judge ruled

By Jeffrey Boatright
jeffry.boatright@gafnews.com

A United States bankruptcy judge has ruled that Pilgrim's Pride Corporation owes claims to local poultry flock growers who had their contracts canceled by the company in 2009.

Judge Dennis Michael Lynn ruled recently in Fort Worth, Texas, that the "summary judgment will be granted to the growers to the extent that their claims are allowable in such amount as they might have been enti-

led to as damages had PPC breached their contracts immediately prior to commencement of these cases."

PPC filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection in 2008 and ultimately canceled several local poultry grower contracts. The poultry giant stated it was losing \$1 million each week at the Suwannee County plant, near Ellaville.

According to the court documents, PPC contends that growers are not entitled to assert damage claims by

SEE COURT, PAGE 8A

Florida House passes Sales Tax Holiday

Three day holiday to return Aug. 3-5

Tallahassee, Fla. — The Florida House passed CS/HB 737 Tax on Sales, Use, and Other Transactions by State Rep. Elizabeth Porter, R-Lake City recently. The bill establishes a three day non-recurring Sales Tax Holiday for the weekend of Aug. 3-5, exempting from the state

sales tax certain clothing priced at \$75 or less (employee uniforms, school clothes) and school supplies with a sales price of \$15 or less.

"In the present Florida economy, our families need every opportunity to save and to

SEE FLORIDA, PAGE 8A

Fred Martin seeks office of sheriff

By Jeffrey Boatright
jeffry.boatright@gafnews.com

Lifelong Suwannee County resident Fred Martin is seeking the office of sheriff of Suwannee County. He has already made his intention to run publicly known and actively seeks enough petition signatures to qualify for the ballot.

According to Martin, he is only about 100 signatures away from qualifying.

Martin readily acknowledges his support for legalized marijuana and quickly refers to a quote of Abraham Lincoln that is very important to him.

"Prohibition goes beyond the bounds of reason in that it attempts to control a man's appetites by legislation and make a crime out of things that are not



Fred Martin

SEE FRED, PAGE 8A

The African American Development Council's Annual Black History Program Page 10A



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Arrest Record

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■ **Circulation**
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.

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 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 emailed 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 email your comments to jeff.waters@gafnews.com. Your name is not required, but you must adhere to no more than 200 words.

Suwannee County Part of "The Original Florida"

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

The following abbreviations are used below:

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

DOC-Department of Corrections

February 16, Adrian Mendoza-Navarro, 25, 19620 N. Cr 349 Apt #2, O'Brien, FL, no valid dl (2nd offense): FHP - A. Hughes

February 16, Anthony Michael Pettrey, 19, 22223 135th Lane, O'Brien, FL, lafayette co-fta o/c poss, control substance w/o prescription: SCSO-Z. Clark

February 16, Kimberly Lynn Radford, 26, 4039 W Hwy 90 Lot #103, Lake City, FL, vop o/c felony battery, 1st app--pd app per fina: SCSO-A. Loston

February 16, Tammy Kay Bloodsaw, 34, 6 Walnut Lane, Camphill, PA, burg of conveyance, grand theft iii, burg of conveyance, grand theft iii, 1st app pd apt per Fina: SCSO-A. Loston

February 16, Richard Lee Jones, 27, 1616 Ruby St NE, Live Oak, FL, deal in stolen property: SCSO-T. Lee

February 16, Barney Du-

ane Hingson, 66, 17795 CR 252, McApIn, FL, dwlsr (knowingly): LOPD-J. Rountree

February 17, Venita Faye Pugh, 33, 1418 Ruby Street, Live Oak, FL, vop-poss of cont subst: SCSO-K. Osborn

February 17, Jacqueline L Tintorero, 49, 14514 S W 161st Ct, Miami, FL, intro contraband into corr/inst, attempt contra into prison/intro rem, contra in prison possessi, attempt contra/in prison introduction, 1st app n/a pd per fina: SCSO-T. Smith

February 18, Cruz Emilio Palacios-Dela, 24, 218 Horne Ave, Live Oak, FL, no valid d.l: SCSO Steven-son

February 19, Tony E Clayton, 42, 670 SW Tamarack Lp, Lake City, FL, Suw co wrt vop o/c unlaw, poss alcohol; poss -20: SCSO C. Smith

February 19, Barney Duane Hingson, 66, 17795 Cr 252, McAlpin, FL, dwlsr attach tag not assigned:

SCSO-H.Harris
 February 19, Joshua Radtke, 30, 1314 Bramlett Pl, Lawrenceville, GA, Suw co wrt vop o/c carjacking:

SCSO C Smith
 February 20, Mikal Luis Rodriguez, 18, 193 Ne Rowland Blvd, Trenton, FL, sent 1yr cj: SCSO - L. Land

SCFR calls for service from 2/12/2012 @ midnight to 2/19/2012 @midnight

Total calls for service: 121	Structure:1
Medical Calls: 99	Brush fire: 7
Cardiac: 11	Vehicle fire: 0
Trauma: 15	Motor vehicle crash: 7
Motor vehicle crash: 8	Med assist: 1
Miscellaneous medical call: 17	Hazmat: 1
Altered mental status: 4	Tree on road: 0
Respiratory: 8	Tree Fire: 1
Diabetic: 4	Power line: 2
Weakness: 10	Fire Alarm: 2
Abdominal pain: 4	
Seizure: 4	Volunteer Fire Responses: 16
Overdose: 2	
CVA: 1	E-1 as R-5: 3
Standby: 1	
Med Alarm: 3	
N/V: 3	
Allergic Reaction: 1	
OB: 1	
Death: 2	
Fire Calls: 22	

LOTTERY RESULTS
Florida
CASH 3 2/20/12...1,8,8
PLAY 4 2/20/12...2,4,3,5
FANTASY 5 2/20/12...10,18,27,30,35
MEGA MONEY 19,22,26,29,MB13
LOTTO 7,18,37,41,45,51,x5
POWERBALL 23,28,50,56,59
 PB5

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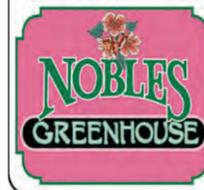
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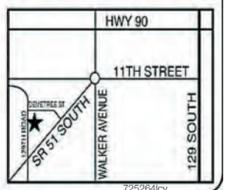
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Suwannee-Hamilton Technical Center is now offering Adult Basic Education and GED Prep Classes at Wellborn Community Center on Monday evenings and at African Baptist Church on Thursday evenings.

Classes begin along with registration on Monday, February 27th at 6:00 pm at the Wellborn Community Center and African American Baptist Church on Thursday, February 23rd at 6:00 pm.

Classroom space is limited; please call Suwannee-Hamilton Technical Center for information about these classes.
386-647-4200

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Live Oak's Team Pro Arms scores big at Triple Crown

Frostproof, Fla.- The first leg of the Florida Triple Crown, held recently in Frostproof, saw many Live Oakians in the winner's circle. The Triple Crown is a series of three major pistol matches under the auspices of the International Defensive Pistol Association, and draws top shooters from all over the US and several foreign countries.

Team captain John Strayer, owner of the ProArms Gun Shop and also John's Lawn Equipment, both on North Ohio Avenue in Live Oak, was the overall winner in the En-

hanced Service Revolver division. He was also High Press, by virtue of his role in the ProArms Podcasts. His wife Terri Strayer was overall top shooter in the Stock Service Pistol Marksman competition, beating all the men in that part of the tournament. Norm Ambrozy of Live Oak won top Marksman honors in the Stock Service Revolver division.

Allen Davis won first place among Enhanced Service Pistol Marksmen, and Col. David Blazek, USAF retired, was a double winner with both High Military honors and

the Stock Service Pistol Expert division.

In team events, Team Live Oak came in a strong second, beaten by only four points by the elite team from Italy, Squadra Italiana. The Live Oak team honors were shared by Kevin Williams in Custom Defense Pistol, Chris Christian in Enhanced Service Pistol, Terri Strayer in Stock Service Pistol, Norm Ambrozy in Stock Service Revolver, and John Strayer in Enhanced Service Revolver.



Live Oak's Team Pro Arms. Courtesy photo

Registered Nursing students share information on heart-health at NFCC



MADISON, FL – North Florida Community College Registered Nursing students (l-r) Tanya Terry of Madison County and Dana Anderson of Suwannee County set up a display in the NFCC Student Center in February to help share heart-healthy tips and information with fellow students, College employees and campus visitors. The information table offered valuable information on heart health and heart attack warning signs and allowed NFCC second-year RN students to share their knowledge with the NFCC community. Courtesy photo

SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION

The Gulf of Mexico Initiative (GoMI), recently announced by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS), is providing \$50 million for conservation plan development and financial assistance for the five Gulf Coast states over the next three years. GoMI will direct additional technical and financial assistance to landowners within two watersheds in parts of three counties in Florida - Suwannee, Lafayette and Escambia. These funds will be available to eligible producers to voluntarily implement conservation plans and practices that will help enhance water quality along rivers, tributaries and bays that flow into the Gulf of Mexico. A majority of the agricultural land within Lafayette County is eligible. You can refer to the GoMI map for more detailed location. (Most of the eligible area in Suwannee County is located Southwest of the U.S. 129/CR252 intersection, and a small area Northeast of the intersection. You can refer to the GoMI map for more detailed location).



Under GoMI, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) offers financial assistance to help you carry out conservation work on your property. Some of the conservation practices that might interest you under these programs are irrigation, residue management, brush management, pasture and hayland planting, interior cross fences for rotational grazing, water development for livestock, prescribed grazing and management type practices like nutrient (fertilization) and pest (weed control). The application cutoff date for GoMI 2012 funds is March 1, 2012.

If you would like more information on the GoMI program, or to see if you are within the boundary of the project area, there will be a public meeting held at the Lafayette County Commission Meeting Room, located at the Courthouse in Mayo on February 23, 2012 at 6 pm. If you would like to learn more you can contact us at (386) 294-1851 Ext.3; or Suwannee County at (386) 362-2622.

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OBITUARIES



William Brant Mills
Aug. 16, 1943
Feb. 18, 2012

William Brant Mills, 68, passed away peacefully Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012. "Bill" was born in Live Oak, Florida on Aug 16, 1943. He was predeceased by his parents, Brantley Rees Mills and Myrtle Land Mills, and his twin brother, Robert Drew Mills. Bill was an organist, pianist, and choral director. He will be remembered for his outstanding musicianship and his incredible sense of humor. There are many "Bill Mills Stories," which were always funnier when he told them himself. He was a graduate of Florida State University with a Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance, and the University of South Carolina with a Master of Music in organ performance. His post-graduate work included study at Indiana University, Southern Methodist University, Stanford University, and Columbia College. He appeared locally and regionally in solo organ recitals, organ concerti with orchestra, and chamber music programs. A well-known pianist, he accompanied various choral groups, solo voice recitals,

and theater and opera performances. He was a past winner in competitions sponsored by the National Association of Music Clubs. Bill is perhaps best known as the founder and director of The Masterworks Choir in Florence, S.C. He founded the Masterworks Choir in 1979 to satisfy the desire of musicians throughout the Pee Dee region to present programs of serious choral music. The choir was soon incorporated and board members elected. In the summer of 1995, the choir toured Austria and Germany giving concerts in Vienna, Melk, and Salzburg. The choir participated twice in the Festival of Churches programs in Charleston as part of Piccolo Spoleto and sang in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. In addition, since 2000 the choir participated several years in local events including Arts Alive and The South Carolina Pecan Festival. In 2005, the Masterworks Choir was selected to be the choir to perform the works of Robert Powell. A Diaconal Minister in the United Methodist Church, Mr. Mills served as Director of Music and Organist at Central United Methodist Church for over forty-two years. He was dedicated to the church and the organ, even leaving a list of additional stops to add! He is survived by two children, Brantley Rees Mills (Carla) of Florence, S.C. and Susan Mills Rana (Salem) of Asheville, N.C., and three grandchildren whom he adored, Elliana Rees Mills, William Brant Mills, and Liam Alexander Rana, his sister, Mary

Maude Mills, several nieces and cousins, and his ex-wife and friend Sue Butler Orr and her husband Lawrence Orr. Services were Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2012, at 1 p.m. in Central United Methodist Church in Florence, S.C., with inurnment in the church columbarium. A reception will be held at the church following the service. Memorials may be made to the Organ Fund of Central United Methodist Church, P. O. Box 87, Florence, SC 29503. Waters-Powell Funeral Home is assisting the family of Mr. Mills.

Cathy A. Collins (Jagoe)
Jan. 27, 1954
Feb. 14, 2012

Cathy Collins, 58, of Live Oak, Fla., passed away peacefully on Feb. 14, 2012 at Haven Hospice after a brief but hard fought battle with cancer. Cathy was born on Jan. 27, 1954. Almost from birth, Cathy had a passion for horse. She and her husband, Jim, realized their dream in 1991 when they moved from their native Connecticut to Suwannee County, Fla. It was here that Cathy and Jim began to breed, raise and train Arabian horses. She was an active broker in the Suwannee and Columbia County area real estate market. Cathy became a good friend to everyone she met. Survivors include her parents, William and Claire Jagoe and her loving husband of 35 years, Jim Collins, all of Live Oak, Fla. Her son Brian Anderson and two grandchildren, Savannah and Koury An-

derson of Clearwater, Fla. Her brother William Jagoe Jr. of Lake City, Fla. Aunt Arlene of O'Brien and several cousins. Respects were paid at Haven Hospice, 6037 W US Highway 90 in Lake City, Fla. on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. with a brief service at 3:30 p.m. ICS Cremation & Funeral Home.

June Swain Weeks
Aug. 4, 1937
Feb. 14, 2012

June Swain Weeks, age 74, formally of Live Oak, Florida, passed away Tuesday morning Feb. 14, 2012 at her home in Dunnellon, Fla. following a lengthy illness. She was born in Jasper, Fla. living most of her life in Live Oak. June worked for the Surrey Place Nursing Center as a Certified Nursing Assistant. She loved to read, work puzzles, grow vegetables and had a green thumb when it came to hanging baskets. Fishing was one of her passions, along with trekking through garage and yard sales, June loved living life in general. She was predeceased by her husband Carl Weeks, a son, Robert Swain, and a grandson, Jamie Temple. Survivors include two sons, Martin Lowe and Jeff Lowe, both of Live Oak, Fla.; two daughters, Wanda Long of Dunnellon, Fla. and Robin Swain of Live Oak, Fla. Four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren also survive. Visitation was held Friday morning from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Funeral services were

held 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, 2012 at the Graveside in the Live Oak Cemetery with Brother Wilbur Wood officiating. Please sign the guestbook at www.harrisfuneral-homeinc.net. Harris Funeral Home & Cremations, Inc., 932 N. Ohio Ave., Live Oak, FL 386-364-5115 is in charge of all arrangements.

Vernelle B. Allen
July 31, 1937
Feb. 20, 2012

Vernelle B. Allen of Dowling Park, Florida, passed away on Monday, Feb. 20, 2012, at Haven Hospice in Lake City, after a two month struggle with melanoma. She was born in Sanford, Florida, on July 31, 1937 to Ira and Charity Brewer. Mrs. Allen was married to the late Louie C. Allen. She was a public school teacher in the Suwannee County School System for 30 years. She was very active in her church, the Midway Church of God, where she served as pastor's assistant and coordinated many outreach programs for the church. After her retirement, she was a certified volunteer prison chaplain for prisons in Madison and Live Oak. Mrs. Allen is survived by two sisters, LaVerne Lewis and LaJuan Bouly, as well as two children, Jeanette Allen and Timothy Allen, four grandchildren and four great grandchildren. The funeral service will be held at graveside at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 25, 2012, at the Dowling Park Historic Cemetery, Dowling Park, Florida. With Rev. Retis Flowers officiating. The service will be followed by

a public reception at the Dowling Park Church of God Fellowship Hall. Daniels Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc., of Live Oak and Branford, FL in charge of arrangements.

DEATH NOTICE

John "Wesley" Henley
April 29, 1945
Feb. 19, 2012

John "Wesley" Henley, age 66 of Live Oak, Fla., passed away Sunday, Feb. 19, 2012 at his home. Graveside services will be held 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 23 in the Live Oak Cemetery. Harris Funeral Home & Cremations, Inc. of Live Oak, FL is in charge of all arrangements.

Do you have questions about Medicare?

Do you have questions about your options for Medicare, Medicare/Medicaid, disability, supplemental insurance, Part D Prescription Drug Plans, or Medicare billings? If you do, come see SHINE, a volunteer program with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, for one-on-one counseling. SHINE provides free, unbiased and confidential assistance. If you cannot come to a site call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-262-2243 to be referred to a SHINE Volunteer near you. SHINE will be at: Thursday, March 1 10 a.m.-Noon Jasper Public Library Thursday, March 8 1:30-3:30 p.m. Live Oak City Hall Friday, March 16 10 a.m.-Noon Branford Public Library

Lover's lane



Cupid's presence was evident all across Live Oak during Valentine's Day. The ladies and gentlemen of Winn-Dixie even made his job a little easier. Shannon Wood (from left), Joey Acosta, Katy Cundiff, Paola Decrescendo, Phillip Williams, Ann Harris and Rodney Mattos. Photo: Jeffery Boatright

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When Would I Choose A Flat Paint Or A Satin Paint?

Flat paints are good for a muted, dull finish where dirt is not likely to get onto the paint. (Flat paints can absorb dirt, and be more difficult to clean). This could be for living room or bedroom walls, or a ceiling. Satin paints are better for walls of "high traffic" areas like hallways, playrooms, and kitchens; but a satin finish will show up unevenness of wall area more than a flat finish.

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J.W. Hill & Associates Florida Commercial Brokers Network Firm of the Year

ORLANDO, Fla. - Florida Commercial Brokers Network (FCBN), a commercial real estate network comprised of 20 member firms statewide, presented its Firm of the Year award to John Hill, president of member firm J.W. Hill & Associates of Live Oak at the group's annual meeting held at the Hilton Sandestin resort on Feb. 3, 2012.

Firm of the Year winner J. W. Hill & Associates, a real estate and auction company based in Live Oak, Fla. was recognized for excellence in the exchange of business practices, promoting transactions with other members and overall leadership.

"I am so pleased John Hill was selected by a popular vote of his peers to receive the prestigious FCBN award for 'Firm of the Year'. As a member of the elite Florida Commercial Brokers Net-

work, covering the state of Florida he is an invaluable Partner and leader statewide."

"John is not only an exceptional Commercial Realtor but has built a legacy of service to his country and his community over many years. I say, well done John and congratulations!" said Chuck Grey, 2011 chairman of FCBN and VP of F.I. Grey & Son in New Port Richey.

About J. W. Hill & Associates
Located in Live Oak, John Hill a native of Suwannee County founded J.W. Hill & Associates in 2001. The firm specializes in auctions, commercial properties, large-acre tracts, timber, farms and ranches. John is an active

member of the National Auctioneers Association, the Lake City Board of Realtors and is past Lt. Governor of District 4 of the Florida Kiwanis. John and his wife Karen, a teacher at Five Points Elementary School are active members of the First Baptist Church of Live Oak.

About FCBN
A network of top real estate brokerage firms across Florida, representing the best from their regions. FCBN was formed in 1994 to facilitate inter-company transactions, provide services for multi-location banks and portfolio managers and provide a forum for its members to share information and resources.

FCBN information and members may be found online at www.FlaBrokers.com.



John Hill

Suwannee County Fair dates have changed Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale dates remain the same

Brian Estevez
4-H/Youth Development

Due to unforeseen events, the Suwannee County Fair has been moved up to March 30-April 7, 2012. However, the Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale (SVYLSS) will stay on its original date of April 11-14. Unfortunately, that means the steer and hog events will be separate from the Fair this year. Below you will find important dates so you can be prepared for the SVYLSS. 4-H and FFA exhibitors are responsible for complying with all dates.

SVYLSS Dates

- Record Books for Hogs and Steers are due on Monday April 2 by 5pm.
- Hog Weigh-in is Wednesday April 11 between 8am-noon. ***Note-Weight requirements have changed; hogs must weigh between 230-290 lbs at official weigh-in. See rules for details.***
- Hog Showmanship is Wednesday, April 11 at 6pm.
- Steer Weigh-in is Thursday, April 12 between 8am-12 noon.
- Hog Show is Thursday, April 12 at 6pm.
- Steer Show is Friday, April 13 at 6pm.
- Sale is Saturday, April 14 at 1:30pm.

Please be advised that the Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale will NOT be during the Suwannee County Fair. SVYLSS board members thank you in advance for a great show and sale on April 11-14. For more information and/or a copy of the rules about the Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale please contact one of the Suwannee Valley Extension Offices: Hamilton-386-792-1276, Lafayette-386-294-1279, or Suwannee-386-362-2771.

Extension programs are open to all people regardless of race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in any activity should contact the Suwannee County Cooperative Extension Service at 1302 Eleventh Street, SW, Live Oak, Florida 32060 or telephone (386) 362 - 2771 at least five working days prior to the event. Hearing impaired can access the foregoing telephone by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1 - 800 - 955 - 8770 or 800 - 955 - 8772 (TDD).

Do you have questions about Medicare?

Do you have questions about your options for Medicare, Medicare/Medicaid, disability, supplemental insurance, Part D Prescription Drug Plans, or Medicare billings? If you do, come see SHINE, a volunteer program with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, for one-on-one counseling. SHINE provides free, unbiased and confidential assistance. If you cannot come to a site call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-262-2243 to be referred to a SHINE Volunteer near you. SHINE will be at:
Thursday, March 1, 10 a.m.-Noon, Jasper Public Library
Thursday, March 8, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Live Oak City Hall
Friday, March 16, 10 a.m.-Noon, Branford Public Library

The following couples applied for a marriage license the week of Feb. 13 - 17, 2012:

- Tony Lee Braymiller to Kimberly Anne Jacobs
- Clay William Pederson to Colleen Ann Lee

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

T.N.R. campaign to save Live Oaks ferrel cats has been started. Ferrel and stray cats will be trapped, neutered and returned to where they were trapped. All kittens & friendly cats will be adopted out. Donations needed: Cat food, wet & dry, money for neutering, traps, carriers, cages, food & water containers etc. Anyone interested in helping contact Barney or Sherry at 386-364-1006. Donated items may be taken to the Big Wheel Market Place at 127 W Howard St.

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who honored our mother's passing with your prayers, cards, visits, flowers and food. Also, a special thank you to the staff of Suwannee Health Care and Daniels Funeral Home for your acts of care and comfort, we are deeply grateful.

The Family of Eva Hewiett
J.C. Hewiett
Willard Hewiett
Clarice Kelley
Delories O'Steen
Larry Hewiett
Linda Nichols
Lois Hewiett

ROAD TO OLUTSTEE

Civil War re-enactors set up camp at the Suwannee Museum recently

Local Civil War re-enactor Tyler daSilva (far right) is joined by friends James Johansen (left) and Tyler Brantley. daSilva and friends braved the cold temperatures of Feb. 11 at the Suwannee Museum in Live Oak to demonstrate a day in the life of a civil war soldier during the museum's Road to Olustee event.



Strawberries anyone? These ladies offered a Civil War era display of what life might have been like for the women and children.
- Photos: Jeffry Boatright

Suwannee County Public Housing

The Housing Authority of the City of Live Oak is welcoming everyone to apply for Public Housing. If you fall below the maximum dollar amounts listed below you may be eligible for 1-4 bedroom HUD subsidized housing. If you would like to apply, please stop by our office at 406 Webb Drive, Live Oak, and fill out a pre-application to see if you are eligible. We are under new management and looking for tenants to join our waiting list. All individuals are welcome to apply. If you have any questions feel free to call our office @ 386-362-2123. We look forward to seeing you. We are an Equal Housing Provider.

2012 Income Limits

2 Person	2 Persons	3 Persons	4 Persons	5 Persons	6 Persons	7 Persons	8 Persons
\$25,900	\$29,600	\$33,300	\$36,950	\$39,950	\$42,900	\$45,850	\$48,800

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AUTO, 4 CYL, CRUISE, A/C 2,600
- 1997 FORD AEROSTAR XLT SPORT
AUTO, V6, A/C 3,500
- 1995 NISSAN PATHFINDER
2 WHEEL DRIVE, AUTO, CRUISE, A/C 3,500
- 1991 CHEVY S-10 BLAZER
AUTO, 4.3L, V6, A/C 3,600
- 1996 FORD RANGER PICKUP
5 SPEED, 2.3L, A/C 3,000
- 1993 NISSAN KING CAB PICKUP
5 SPEED, 4 CYL, A/C 2,250

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Viewpoints/Opinions

Suwannee Democrat



MYRA C. REGAN
Publisher



JEFF WATERS
Editor

Members of the Suwannee Democrat editorial board are Myra C. Regan, publisher, and Jeff Waters, editor. Our View is formed by that board.

Editorial objectives for 2012

1. Install a county manager
2. Update our LDRs and comp. plan to better protect resources and plan for growth
3. Multidisciplinary study to look at our diminishing water supply
4. Continue progress on Perimeter Road
5. Reduce duplication of effort by city/county offices and agencies

THE SUWANNEE SCRIBBLER

A very brave man

By Jim Holmes

In doing some research recently for a column relating to Black History Month, I came across a website that contained a lengthy list of "Noted Civil Rights Leaders." The problem with making such lists is that someone will almost always point out that at least one name is missing. In this case, the person doing the "pointing" is me and the missing name is that of Suwannee County native Harry T. Moore.

Now if Moore's name doesn't jump out at you, don't be surprised. During a recent meeting I attended of a dozen or so like-minded history buffs, none knew it...although one did say she thought it rang a bell. So let me start by saying that Harry Moore, born just outside Live Oak, was a very brave man. You see, in a time when African Americans "knew their place," Harry stood up - often nearly alone - to challenge the status quo of Jim Crowism in Florida. But I am getting ahead of myself.

It was 1905 when Harry was born to Johnny and Rosalea Moore. His father worked for the railroad in Live Oak, while his mother helped run a tiny store for "coloreds" out of the family home. Harry proved to be an academic star and upon graduation earned admittance to a Negro college where he was awarded a degree in education. A teaching job then took him to the Titusville area, where he would meet his future wife, Harriet, and eventually become a school principal.

For a black man living in Florida in the 1930s, Harry seemingly had it all; a white collar job that paid well, was secure, and was highly respected. Then there was his loving spouse and his three daughters. But that wasn't enough for Harry, for he understood that, despite all his personal and professional accomplishments, he and his family were still second class citizens in a nation that promised its people so much more.

Harry must have also known that to challenge his lot in life could be dangerous. Still, he would not be silenced. He joined and quickly became a Florida leader in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He spoke out publicly or demanded investigations when there were lynchings or other suspected racial miscarriages of justice. Then in 1944, he took the helm of a group called the Progressive Voters League and within six years had succeeded in registering nearly a third of the state's black population to vote. Small wonder he was admired by so many black national leaders, including future US Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and poet Langston Hughes.

Of course, his successes also earned him the hatred of others, most notably members of Florida's Ku Klux Klan. Bravery often comes with a steep price. Harry Moore was forced to pay it on Christmas Night, 1951, when he and his wife, only in their 40s, were killed after a bomb exploded under their home in the little town of Mims. Harry died almost instantly; Harriet, nine days later. No one was ever convicted of the murders, but the evidence suggests Harry had been targeted by members of the KKK.

Today, those who remember Moore's sacrifice often call him, "The first martyr of the modern civil rights movement."

Harry T. Moore. A brave man from Live Oak. A man whose name seems worth remembering.

Jim lives in Live Oak.

BIBLE VERSE

"Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends."

Proverbs 17:9 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

Math matters

A MINORITY VIEW



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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

If one manages to graduate from high school without the rudiments of algebra, geometry and trigonometry, there are certain relatively high-paying careers probably off-limits for life -- such as careers in architecture, chemistry, computer programming, engineering, medicine and certain technical fields. For example, one might meet

all of the physical requirements to be a fighter pilot, but he's grounded if he doesn't have enough math to understand physics, aerodynamics and navigation. Mathematical ability helps provide the disciplined structure that helps people to think, speak and write more clearly. In general, mathematics is an excellent foundation and prerequisite for study in all areas of science and engineering. So where do U.S. youngsters stand in math?

Drs. Eric Hanushek and Paul Peterson, senior fellows at the Hoover Institution, looked at the performance of our youngsters compared with their counterparts in other nations, in their Newsweek article, "Why Can't American Students Compete?" (Aug. 28, 2011), reprinted under the title "Math Matters" in the Hoover Digest (2012). In the latest international tests administered by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, only 32 percent of U.S. students ranked proficient in math -- coming in between Portugal and Italy but far behind South Korea, Finland, Canada and the Netherlands. U.S. students couldn't hold a finger to the 75 percent of Shanghai students who tested proficient.

What about our brightest? It turns out that only 7 percent of U.S. students perform at the advanced level in math. Forty-five percent of the students in Shanghai are advanced in math, compared with 20 percent in South Korea and Switzerland and 15 percent of students in Japan, Belgium, Finland, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Canada.

Hanushek and Peterson find one bright spot among our young people. That's Asian-American students, 52 percent of whom perform at the proficient level or higher. Among white students, only 42 percent perform math at a proficient level. The math performance of black and Hispanic students is a disaster, with only 11 and 15 percent, respectively, performing math at the proficient level or higher.

The National Center for Education Statistics re-

vealed some of the results of American innumeracy. Among advanced degrees in engineering awarded at U.S. universities during the 2007-08 academic year, 28 percent went to whites; 2 percent went to blacks; 2 percent went to Hispanics; and 61 percent went to foreigners. Of the advanced degrees in mathematics, 40 percent

went to whites; 2 percent went to blacks; 5 percent went to Hispanics; and 50 percent went to foreigners. For advanced degrees in education, 65 percent went to whites; 17 percent went to blacks; 5 percent went to Hispanics; and 8 percent went to foreigners. The pattern is apparent. The more rigorous a subject area the higher the percentage of foreigners -- and the lower the percentage of Americans -- earning advanced degrees. In subject areas such as education, which have little or no rigor, Americans are likelier -- and foreigners are less likely -- to earn advanced degrees.

In a New York Times article -- "Do We Need Foreign Technology Workers?" (April 8, 2009) -- Dr. Vivek Wadhwa of the Pratt School of Engineering at Duke University said "that 47 percent of all U.S. science and engineering workers with doctorates are immigrants as were 67 percent of the additions to the U.S. science and engineering work force between 1995 to 2006. And roughly 60 percent of engineering Ph.D. students and 40 percent of master's students are foreign nationals."

American mathematic proficiency levels leave a lot to be desired if we're to maintain competitiveness. For blacks and Hispanics, it's a tragedy with little prospect for change, but the solution is not rocket science. During my tenure as a member of Temple University's faculty in the 1970s, I tutored black students in math. When they complained that math was too difficult, I told them that if they spent as much time practicing math as they did practicing jump shots, they'd be just as good at math as they were at basketball. The same message of hard work and discipline applies to all students, but someone must demand it.

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,

Citizens of Live Oak, being an animal lover and owner of several animals, I am asking the citizens of our city and county to support the Florida Animal Rescue Act, it is currently being tied up in the Florida Senate. In order for this bill to be moved forward, we need the support of the Senate President and the Agriculture Committee. A statewide survey of rescue groups across Florida found that 63 percent of non-profit animal rescue groups have had at least one Florida state shelter refuse to work collaboratively with them and then turn around and kill the very animals they were willing to save. The most common reason given was shelters either having a policy or not working with rescue groups or being openly hostile to doing so. The Florida Animal Rescue Act would make this illegal.

Please let your Senators know that they would be fully supported if they moved this bill forward and would have the gratitude of all Floridians who care about the animals. Below is a list of Senators, please ask them to support and pass SB 818, the Florida Animal Rescue Act.

Larcenia J. Bullard
Alan Hays
David Simmons
Paula Dockery
Mike Haridopolos
Gary Siplin

Also, look up your Upper and Lower Chamber Representatives and email them asking them to support this bill. We have more dogs in our shelters than one might think and more than we care to think about being killed. I know of several rescue groups around our country that are trying to rescue many from these shelters. As a result, these animals are being killed even though they have a place to go, and they are being killed at taxpayer expense. I humbly ask the people of Live Oak and Suwannee County to help these animals by writing the above. These could be someone's pets in the future. May God Bless everyone.

Sheila Weaver

Dear Editor,

Say NO!!! to Feral Cat Colonies.

I am responding to the article I read in the Suwannee Democrat on February 15, 2012 about a proposal to start a feral cat colony in Downtown Live Oak.

As a licensed wildlife educator I always mention how the average housecat living free-range as a pet or as an un-owned feral is a really bad idea. Cats are an introduced species in this continent. They are lovely animals, but need to not be allowed to roam free. Studies have shown that outside cats and especially ferals are highly destructive to our native wildlife. Cats kill over four BILLION birds a year in the United States alone. Our bird populations are down by 40 % in the past decade. Outside cats around human habitation and ferals are a major factor in this decline. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission supports the 'Cats Indoors' grass roots pro-

gram started by the American Bird Conservancy (www.abcbirds.org/cats). Several special concern and endangered species in Florida are adversely affected by outside free-ranging cats or feral cat colonies. The cute and charming burrowing owl is one of several species that cats are a major factor in their decline.

Does Live Oak really want a bunch of stray cats running around downtown? Would YOU as a business owner want cats hanging around your door, begging for food? Raiding your dumpsters and trashcans? Defecating, leaving feces around your business, fighting, spraying and stinking up the area? The food left out for the ferals also attracts other un-wanted vermin: pigeons, gulls, crows, rats, rodents, raccoons, skunks, opossums, etc. I think not. It is a poor image for our downtown and a bad plan. Also, well - fed cats still hunt. This is a fact of nature. The feeding will not stop the hunting and killing of our native songbirds and wildlife by the feral cat. Also, research has shown that feral colonies have the trend to become a dumping ground for un-wanted cats. Cat scratch fever is a real condition. Cat bites and scratches are highly septic. Even a minor injury to you can be serious. Even the smallest bite or scratch injuries to a wild bird by a cat will result in the death from infection of the bird within a day or two. These same well-fed cats climb trees and raid bird nests.. Not to mention that cats are a 4:1 ratio in the spread of rabies compared to dogs.

Just do some research and see how bad an idea that feral cat colonies really are. The American Bird Conservancy, (abcbirds.org) National Wildlife Federation, National Audubon Society, National Geographic Society, Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission Florida, Florida Wildlife Federation, Florida Audubon, Florida Wildlife Rehabilitators, and many other well-respected wildlife groups are against feral cat colonies.

There are also laws being enacted across the US to stop the spread of this ill conceived idea.

Do some research, then I think you will also say NO to Feral Cat Colonies.

Kitty Tolson Carroll



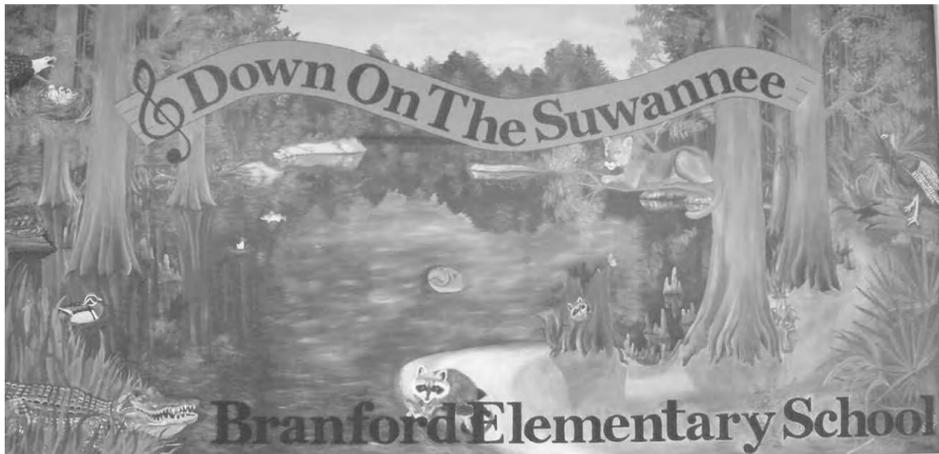


2012 spring sports scoreboard - SPORTS 5B

Branford News

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

Mural dedication, performance tomorrow night



The mural on the wall at Branford Elementary School was commissioned by artist and parent, Brandi Linton. There is a dedication ceremony for the song and the mural at BES, at 7 p.m., on Thursday in the cafeteria. It is open to the public. The mural is approximately 18 feet wide and nine feet tall. It features all of the animals that are mentioned in the song, except the babies, which space and time did not allow. - Photo by Misty A. Ward

By Misty A. Ward
misty.ward@gafnews.com

The Branford Elementary School halls are alive with a mural painting of animals of the Suwannee River and a song "Down on the Suwannee" written by BES music teacher Juettie Kelley.

Kelley was inspired by the Suwannee River to write her own song "Down on the Suwannee" to the melody of "Over in the meadow" a traditional folk song she has been teaching in her classes. She wrote the song about seven years

ago. Along with her love for music, Kelley also felt the school needed a little color. With her persistence to get the funding and looking to find a local artist, seven years later, BES finally has the mural which was inspired by the lyrics in Kelley's song.

Local artist and parent of three children that attend or have attended BES, Brandi Linton, commissioned the work over the 2011 Christmas break.

Branford Elementary is hosting a dedication ceremony for the song and the mural at BES, at 7 p.m., on

Thursday in the cafeteria. It is open to the public. The mural is approximately 18 feet wide and nine feet tall. It features all of the animals that are mentioned in the song, except the babies, which space and time did not allow.

"We need to celebrate our river while we still have one flowing; it's frightening to see how stagnant the river looks every day when I drive home, and how almost non-existent the crystal clear springs that feed the river are, a result of drought and drainage at the worst possible time in the river's history," Kelley said.

Tomorrow - Feb. 23 4th of July committee meeting

The Branford River Reunion Committee will be having their first meeting on Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Branford Library. They will be discussing the activities for the Fourth of July this year. The committee is in need of volunteers, not just for that day but before. If you are interested and have questions, please come to the meeting or give Peggy Terry a call at 935-0021. We are looking for more suggestions and ideas for the celebration.

Peggy Terry
boopeg@windstream.net

Branford student receives national honor

Branford High School's Logan Boss recognized for superior academic achievement by the National Society of High School Scholars

The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) announced that Branford High School student Logan Boss from O'Brien, has been selected for membership. The Society recognizes top scholars and invites only those students who have achieved superior academic excellence. The announcement was made by NSHSS Founder and Chairman Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

"On behalf of NSHSS, I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice and commitment that Logan has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence," said Mr. Nobel. "Logan is now a member of a unique community of scholars - a community that represents our very best hope for the future."

"Our vision is to build a dynamic international organization that connects members with meaningful content, resources and opportunities," stated NSHSS President James Lewis. "We aim to help students like Logan, build on their academic successes and enhance the skills and desires to have a positive impact on the global community."

Membership in NSHSS entitles qualified students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, member-only resources, publications, participation in programs offered by educational partners, online forums, personalized recognition items and publicity honors.

Formed in 2002, The National Society of High School Scholars recognizes academic excellence at the high school level and encourages members of the organization to apply their unique talents, vision and potential for the betterment of themselves and the world. Currently, there are more than 700,000 Society members in over 150 countries. NSHSS provides scholarship opportunities for deserving young people.

For more information about NSHSS visit www.nshss.org.

Branford FFA



Branford FFA member Madison Lloyd gets a kiss from her hog at the State Fair in Tampa. She and other FFA members participated at the Agribusiness competition at the State Fair. See Friday's Democrat for the full story. - Courtesy Photo

3rd Annual Branford/O'Brien Reunion

March 30 - April 1, 2012
Please bring water and drinks
Fish fry and side dishes on March 30
Barbecue and side dishes on March 31
Fun and games
Jenkins Park, Branford, Fla.

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Skinner enjoys solid Daytona debut

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When the green flag dropped for the starting of Saturday's 2012 ARCA Series Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200 at Daytona, Skinner began moving the number 39 CarportEmpire.com Ford Fusion forward, cutting his way through traffic in the 43 car field.

Skinner qualified to begin the race in 22nd place, which is rather impressive for a first time starter at DIS. The car was fielded by DGM Racing.

According to Carport Empire President Kevin Keen, who is also a primary sponsor of Skinner's number 39 Ford, the race car was set up for racing more so than for qualifying.

Fellow racer and racing enthusiast Billy Barstow said that DGM Racing Owner and Crew Chief Mario Grosselin is a perfectionist and makes things to fly.

By the time the race reached lap 24, Skinner had piloted the race car into the 11th position. The 26-year-old Live Oak native found himself in 10th place on lap 53. By lap 61, he had comfortably eased into 8th place.

For over half of the race, Skinner maintained a position in the top 12. Over 20 percent of the race he ran with ease and precision in the top 10.

On lap 68, the number 48 Ford of James Hylton crashed, bringing out a caution, prompting the 39 team to call Skinner onto pit road for fuel. As a result, Skinner was shuffled back into 19th place. By lap 78, he was in familiar territory, riding in his starting position of 22nd. With only a few laps to go before the checkered flag, Skinner began slicing his way back up through the field and completed the race with an impressive 15th place finish.

"We had a top 10 car or

better all night," Keen said of the number 39 Ford. "It's just Daytona."

Keen, who is very excited and impressed with Skinner's abilities recognized that the Live Oak native, who happens to race cars, possesses the skill level to have finished first in the Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200. However, he realizes that anything is possible at the World Center of Racing in Daytona and a top car can just as easily finish in the back of the pack.

The race, which was mostly led by Brandon McReynolds, son of famed NASCAR Crew Chief Larry McReynolds, in the number four Turner Motorsports Chevrolet. However, it was a familiar face in victory lane after the checkered flag waved. Bobby Gerhart of Lebanon, Pa. claimed his 9th victory at DIS.

At the end of the race, three or four cars ran out of gas triggering a multi-car melee that collected Skin-

ner after he crossed the finish line. Fortunately, he was not injured.

"He was very calm and very comfortable," Barstow commented. "He really impressed me out there."

While Skinner is impressive to watch on the track, he is equally impressive off the track. During the hours leading up to the Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200, dozens of fans enjoyed the opportunity to drop by the hauler of

the 39 Ford for an autograph, have their photos taken with Skinner and wish him well before the race.

As some of the other up and coming drivers canvassed the garage area appearing to seek photo opportunities, Skinner casually focused on the race near his hauler, spending time with his family, friends and fans.

"It was exciting to have the opportunity to race at

Daytona," Skinner said.

According to Skinner, the experience will prove invaluable and while DIS doesn't place the physical demands on drivers that some tracks do, it is a mentally demanding track.

With Daytona under his belt, Skinner now looks to build on that success while competing in the Talladega ARCA 250 in May, along with several truck races in the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series.

Court sides with flock growers

Continued From Page 1A

reason of rejection of their contracts.

However, the court stated that rejection of a contract by a trustee or debtor in possession pursuant to section 365(a) is treated as a breach of the contract.

PPC argues that contracts with growers, according to their terms, could have been terminated by reason of economic necessity. The court stated that two of the contracts at issue do not even include a term allowing PPC to terminate on the basis of economic necessity.

In addition, PPC argued that contracts were on a flock-to-flock basis and each contract allows either party to freely terminate a contract between flocks.

Ultimately, the court did not read the provision allowing termination between flocks as giving PPC the freedom to terminate contracts between those flocks as it states it

has.

In the conclusion of the court document, it is stated that PPC chose to breach those contracts, rather than looking to the contracts and non-bankruptcy law for relief and that PPC must accept the consequences of their breach.

At this point, the courts have directed both parties to obtain a setting for a status conference with the court to determine how to proceed in the future with disposition of the growers' claims.

At this point, some of the growers aren't even sure how much PPC owes them, Russell A. Wade III, P.A., who represents some of the former growers, said.

"Some time this year, we're going to end up in trial to see what they owe," Wade said. "We're going to continue to try to get the growers something back through the judge."

According to Wade many of the farms are gone.

"They will not be operat-

ed anymore," Wade explained.

Some of the growers returned to Pilgrim's Pride, Wade said. However, the contracts paid less to the grower than they should have, he claims.

Different growers were placed on some of the farms, Wade said, while some chose to get out of the poultry business altogether.

One local grower, Ken Bartilotti, chose to get out after 30 years. According to Bartilotti, he didn't feel that fighting it was a sound investment. However, the way the contracts were terminated did seem unreasonable to him.

Bartilotti explained that some of the growers were less fortunate than he was, facing considerable mortgages when their contracts were suddenly canceled.

The growers who did not return to Pilgrim's Pride are holding out for hope that they will be paid for the damages incurred after losing their contracts.

Fred Martin seeks office of sheriff

Continued From Page 1A

crimes. A prohibition law strikes a blow at the very principles which our government was founded upon."

Martin said that if he is elected, marijuana would automatically become legal in the county because of a reversed referendum.

"If I'm elected sheriff, that means the people want marijuana legalized," Martin claimed.

Martin, a disabled political activist, acknowledges that all drugs are not good and vows to enforce the laws on dangerous drugs.

"I am opposed to any chemical drug that you can die from," Martin explained.

According to Martin's wife, Wendy Martin, God knew that we were going to use the drugs that he made, such as marijuana, so he

put inhibitors in them to keep us from killing ourselves.

Conversely, Martin is concerned with manmade drugs and vows to work to keep them off the streets.

"Pot heads aren't violent," Martin stated. "The only thing they'll leave home for is a Ding Dong and a soda."

As for violent crimes, trespassing and driving while under the influence, Martin vows to enforce the laws.

When asked about the current organization of the Suwannee County Sheriff's Office, Martin said that he would maintain the same setup and not ask anyone to do anything that he wouldn't do.

Martin voiced concern over the amount of theft in the community and cited the limited jobs available. However, he visualizes the

legalization of marijuana as alleviating that problem.

With the legalization of marijuana, Martin says that it can be grown and sold locally and nonviolent users will come here to buy and use it. He argues that marijuana is not a gateway drug, but it does have additional purposes, including paper, fabric and renewable energy.

Martin said that he is qualified to hold the office of sheriff because he was born and raised in Suwannee County, and knows politics.

"I love the state of Florida and America and think that everybody should be able to make a living without selling their soul for a hand of government gold," Martin stated.

He asks anyone to call him at 386-330-6863 to discuss his views.

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Water working group goes with FLOW, elects leadership

Continued From Page 1A

ter withdraw permits that were granted in 2011. Representatives from Hamilton, Lafayette and Suwannee counties were present at the meeting as well as the Town of Branford and the Town of White Springs.

The resolution urges legislators to fund the study. It

permits that excessive water permits granted in 2011 may have severely reduced water levels in groundwater, lakes, rivers, streams and springs in the Suwannee Valley area. Also, the loss of water will be a detriment to industries such as recreation, farming, mining and regional economic development and "ultimately

the ability for parts of North Florida to continue as viable communities" as reasons for the impact study.

Within the resolution they are asking for a "re-design of the decision making process used to base permits for withdrawals from the Floridan Aquifer that includes all stakeholders affected by the proposed withdrawals; and modification of excessive water management district permits granted in 2011, from 'approved' to 'probationary' status until an unbiased scientific study of the Floridan Aquifer has been completed."

FLOW will be meeting the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m., at varying locations. The next meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m., on March 12 at the Columbia County School Board Administrative Complex.

Miami woman busted for carrying pot into prison

Continued From Page 1A

that were hidden inside of candy bars, records show.

Tintorero was charged with introduction of contraband into a correctional institution, possession of contraband while upon the grounds of a state institution and attempted introduction of contraband into a state prison facility.

She was arrested and booked into the Suwannee County Jail on Feb. 17, according to jail records.

SUWANNEE RIVER READINGS Branford 2012



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.

February 15, 2012	6.78	February 19, 2012	6.86
February 16, 2012	6.79	February 20, 2012	6.83
February 17, 2012	6.86	February 21, 2012	6.87
February 18, 2012	6.83		

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Without MVP Card \$2.69 Each

3/\$5

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Prego Pasta Sauce
Without MVP Card 2/\$5.00 Each

4/\$5

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CELEBRATING
BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Clyde Fleming "If you have something you have set out to do in life be honest and just in your dealings."



Merle Owens "They don't have to be an 'A' student per say but an 'A' student at their level."



Jessie Philpot Sr. "(You) must be prepared and determined to follow through. Continue to go forward."

**The African American Development Council
 pays tribute to Suwannee County's black elected officials**



James Cooper "Whatever you're doing, strive to make it fun and have a passion for what you're striving to achieve."

- Past and present
 Samuel Beasley Sr.
 Charles F. Blalock Jr.
 James Cooper
 Clyde Fleming
 Muriel Owens
 Jessie Philpot Sr.
 Bennie L. Thomas
 Douglas M. Udell
 John W. Yulee Sr.



Bennie L. Thomas "Believe that one day we will move from the bottom to the top."



Charles F. Blalock Jr. "I would tell young people to build a solid foundatin in academics. In this way, they are prepared for whatever the future holds and the opporunities that come their way."

During the month of February, AADC board members conducted interviews with these officials. The interviews were conducted to highlight the achievements and the influence positive role models can have on aspiring young minds. The officials were asked to answer three questions. Included in those questions were words of advice. "We have a responsibility to provide both guidance and leadership for our young people."



Douglas M. Udell "Learn where we come from and how we came. Then we will know where we're going and how to get there."



Samuel Beasley Sr. "Follow that dream regardless of how difficult it is to follow that dream."

The AADC's annual Black History Program will be held Friday, Feb. 24 at Gethsemane Church of God in Christ at 7 p.m. at 1014 Duval Street Northeast. The speaker will be Miss Dominique Reed, a Suwannee High School graduate and Florida State University graduate. This year's theme is "Positive Role Models Inspiring Positive Dreams!" Everyone is invited.



John W. Yulee Sr. "Believe in yourself and whatever you desire in life work towards achieving it."

Submitted by:
Casandra Yulee and Gloria Gresham, program committee.

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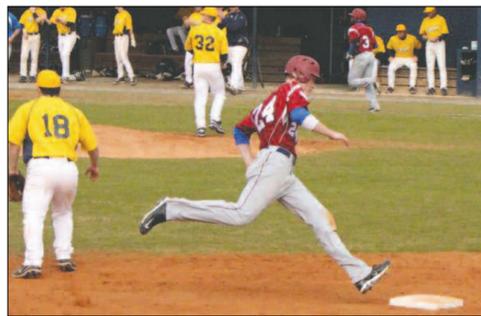
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SPORTS



daSilva doin well at Cumberland, page 3

'Dogs shut out Fort White



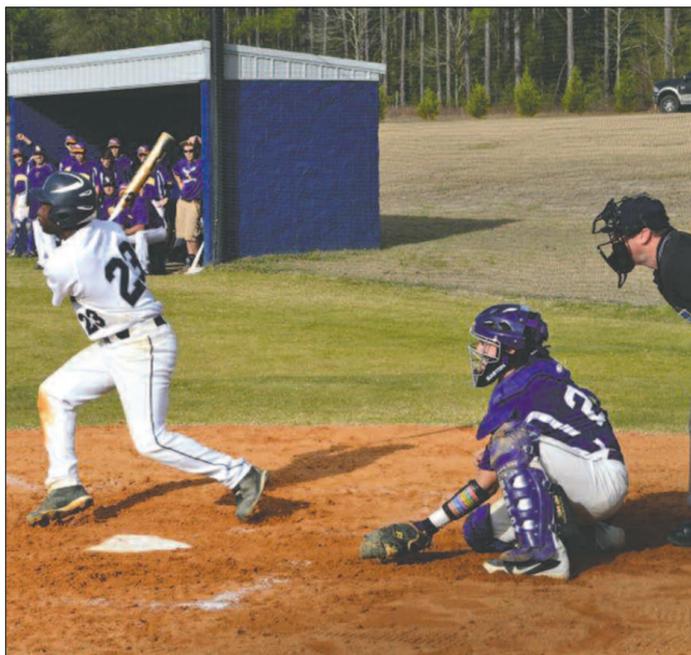
Suwannee played Taylor County in Perry Tuesday. See Friday's Democrat for the results. - Photo: Paul Buchanan (SuwanneeSports.com)

Staff

The Suwannee High School boys varsity baseball team shut out Fort White Friday night, Feb. 17 by a score of 2-0. The Suwannee Bulldogs posted their first run in the first inning. The Fort White Indians held the Bulldogs at bay until the sixth inning where Suwannee posted their final run. Senior left-handed pitcher Michael Cronan threw a complete game one hit shutout.

"This was our second shutout of the season," said head coach Ronnie Gray. Early in the year, Cronan, Cody Gamble and Dallas Ogburn combined on a complete game no-hit shutout. "Offensively, we did not have a good night, but we pitched and played defense and this is something this team is going to have to do each time they line up," said Gray. "We had four hits against Fort White, and they were timely as Dallas Ogburn and Makari Hines drove in the two runs." Suwannee's next game was on Tuesday, Feb. 21 against Taylor County in Perry.

Wildcats fall to Union County in first home game



Melody's Derek Johnson at bat.



Bryan Raines makes it to home plate.

Staff

The Melody Christian Academy Wildcats baseball team lost their first home game of the season Thursday, Feb. 16 to Union County High School. The final score was 4-3.

The Union County Fightin' Tigers came into the match off a 7-5 non-league win over Trenton. The Tigers record now stands at 2-0. The Wildcats record is at 0-2 after losing their first game of the season to Eagle's View Academy at Thomas Jefferson Park.

Melody will take on Newberry High School Tuesday, Feb. 21 in Newberry. Their next home game will be on Saturday, Feb. 25 against Branford High School for the Wildcats first district game. The Wildcats close out February on Tuesday, Feb. 28 with an away game against Fort White High School.



Jordan Williams runs for the plate.



AJ Smith slides into home. - Photos: Melody Christian Academy

SPORTS

SMS baseball opens with win on road

Submitted

The Suwannee Bullpups baseball team opened its season with a 10 to 0 victory against the Richardson Wolves on Tuesday, Feb. 14 in Lake City.

The win was also the opener in the Florida Star Conference for both teams.

Josh Boyette and Kyle Gamble combined to toss a no-hitter in the seven inning game, allowing only three base runners to reach base on a base-on-balls and two errors. Boyette picked up the win in his first career start on the mound for the Bullpups, striking out five Wolves batters. Gamble tossed the final two innings, striking out three batters.

Outfielders Chase Hatfield and Bryson Fletcher led the team at the plate, as each player recorded four hits in five at-bats. Hatfield

also crossed home plate three times, and Fletcher had a run scored, a run-batted-in, and a double for the only extra base hit of the game. Sam McMillan had a single and run scored, Gavin Beine and Braxton Furry each had a single and run-batted-in, Kyle Gamble had a single and two runs-batted-in, and Evan Johnson added a single in the 13 hit attack. Also scoring runs for the Bullpups were Chris Beasley, Josh Roberson, and Michael Gregory.

The Bullpups will travel to Madison on Thursday, March 23 to take on the Broncos at 4 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 25, the team will play its home opener with a doubleheader against Lakeside Jr. High out of Orange Park with game one beginning at 12 p.m.

Boys tennis looking for some wins

The Suwannee High School boys tennis team has started the season rocky with a record that now stands at 1-3.

On Tuesday, Feb. 7, the boys traveled to Columbia County where the Tigers defeated the Bulldogs 6-1. On Thursday, Feb. 9, the Bulldogs defeated Amos P. Godby High School in the boys first home and first district game of the season.

On Feb. 13 the boys fell to Rickards High School 6-1 and on Wednesday, Feb. 15, the Bulldogs were defeated by Lincoln High School 6-1.

Suwannee next plays Florida High School in a district match on Tuesday, Feb. 21 followed by Madison County in Madison on Feb. 22 and then Wakulla High School on Feb. 23.



Suwannee's Rhett Barker. - Photo: Paul Buchanan (SuwanneeSports.com)



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Suwannee Parks & Recreation is starting a new small-sided co-ed soccer program for players ages 14 to 16. Practices and games will be held at the **NEW** Soccer Complex located at the corner of 72nd Trace and CR-795

Registration Dates:
Monday, February 6th - Friday, March 9th

Players must be 14 to 16 years of age as of January 1, 2012

Participants can register at the Suwannee Parks & Recreation Office, located at the First Federal Sportsplex in Live Oak, 1201 Silas Drive.
Or register online at www.suwanneeparksandrecreation.org.

Practices will begin March 19th at the **NEW** Soccer Complex



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Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 2/22	Thu 2/23	Fri 2/24
 73/61 Showers possible. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 60s.	 77/66 Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 60s.	 79/46 Windy, a few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 40s.
Sunrise: 7:05 AM Sunset: 6:25 PM	Sunrise: 7:05 AM Sunset: 6:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:04 AM Sunset: 6:27 PM

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Florida At A Glance



An Ash Wednesday Service

Will be held at 7 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 22, at Jennings United Methodist Church, in Jennings, Florida. All are invited to mark the beginning of the Lenten Season with this very special and moving service. For more information, please call 386-938-4303 or 386-752-8752.

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SPORTS

daSilva doing well at Cumberlandands



Ryan daSilva, a 2011 SHS graduate, completed his first three game series with the University of the Cumberlandands against Reinhart University. The Cumberlandands Patriots defeated Reinhart 2 – 1 on Feb. 3 and 4 in Waleska, Ga. north of Atlanta. daSilva signed with the University of the Cumberlandands in Williamsburg, Ky. in August 2011.



CrossHeir Outfitters Men's and Boys Event

Crossheir Outfitters Team, bringing there Trophy Displays, etc. with Speaker Robert Bradow will be at North Hamilton Elementary School on March 17, 2012 at 4 p.m. with Great Door prizes many Hunt give aways, Free BBQ Supper! More Information you may call Pastor Edgar Wood 386-590-6267 or Johnnie Philman at 386-842-5494 P.O. Box 521 Jasper,Florida 32052 Provided by Pentecostal Deliverance Center

men's Ministry Jennings, Florida This is a Tri-County Event Drawing all Men and Boys to have a better walk with the Lord!!

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Advertisement for Suwannee graphics. Text includes: 'Suwannee graphics', 'PRINTING COPY SERVICE', 'Color Copies Blueprints', '621 Ohio Ave. North Live Oak, FL 32064', '(386) 362-1848', 'Fax (386) 364-4661'.

Advertisement for Touchton's Heating & Air Conditioning. Text includes: 'Touchton's Heating & Air Conditioning', 'Sales - Service - Installation', '10156 U.S. Hwy. 90 East Live Oak, FL', 'www.touchtons.com', '(386) 362-4509 Live Oak', '1-800-407-7269', 'Commitment to Excellence', 'CAC058747', 'Owners Jan & Sarah Touchton', '721120lv'.

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Advertisement for AGW GARDENS, LLC Nursery & Landscape. Text includes: 'AGW GARDENS, LLC Nursery & Landscape', 'FRUIT TREES • CITRUS • BLUEBERRIES • GRAPE VINES', 'GARDEN PREPARATION SUPPLIES', 'Mushroom Compost', 'Landscape Mix', 'Fruit Tree Fertilizer', 'Excellent Selection of Fruit Trees!', 'Located at Lee's Nursery 386-688-1023', '8316 US Hwy. 27 S. • Branford, FL M-F 9-6; Sat. 9-5', '72537swv'.

Advertisement for THE LIVE OAK CRAB SHACK. Text includes: 'THE LIVE OAK CRAB SHACK', '(386) 364-1444', 'CLOSED MONDAYS', 'TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY 4P.M.-9P.M.', 'THURSDAY-SATURDAY 4P.M.-10P.M.', 'SUNDAY 12P.M.-9P.M.', '50c WINGS', 'OYSTERS', 'CALL AHEAD FOR CARRY-OUT 1040 DUVAL STREET NE • LIVE OAK, FL 32064', '721107arv'.

Advertisement for Paw Paw's House Kennel. Text includes: 'Paw Paw's House Kennel', 'We will love and care for your pet while you are away', '3641 153rd Road Live Oak, FL', '386-842-CARE (2273)', 'www.pawpawhousekennel.com', '722805lv'.

Ryan daSilva is a 2011 SHS graduate. Courtesy photos

Healthy, Hearty Comfort Food

FAMILY FEATURES

During the short days and cold nights of winter, many of us crave comfort foods. Unfortunately, the rich dishes we usually think of tend to be low in nutrition and packed with fat and calories. Well, take heart. It's possible to enjoy satisfying dishes that are tasty, hearty and nutritious.

Dry peas, lentils and chickpeas (garbanzo beans), all part of the legume family, are one way to make comfort foods more healthful. These ingredients pack a nutritional punch while adding flavor to recipes: just one cup of dry peas, lentils or chickpeas gives you more than half the recommended daily dosage of fiber and up to 18 grams of protein. They also contain little to no fat, making them a healthy meat alternative.

Chef Tracy O'Grady, from Willow Restaurant in Arlington, Va., knows how to make the most of these versatile ingredients. "You may already love lentil soup," she says. "But lentils have a wide range of uses, and are a great addition to hearty fare like enchiladas, veggie burgers — even chocolate cake."

And while chickpeas are best known as the key ingredient in hummus, they also appear in rich-tasting foods like Willow's Chickpea Fries (see O'Grady's recipe).

For more recipes and information from the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council, visit www.pea-lentil.com.

Willow's Chickpea Fries

Serves: 8 (6 per person)

- 2 1/2 cups water
- 1 garlic clove, minced fine
- 2 cups whole milk
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 3 cups chickpea flour; reserve 1 cup for dusting
- 1 cup cooked chickpeas, roughly chopped
- 2 cups Parmesan cheese, finely grated
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 gallon canola oil

Place water, garlic, milk, salt, cayenne and paprika in a non-reactive sauce pot and heat until it boils.

Lower heat to gentle simmer and whisk in chickpea flour. Whisk just until smooth and then use a high heat spatula to finish the process. Cook mixture for about 5 minutes, constantly stirring to make sure there is no scorching.

Once flour is nearly cooked, fold in chopped chickpeas, Parmesan cheese and extra virgin olive oil. Stir until well incorporated and hot. This should take about 3 additional minutes.

Place in a plastic wrap lined 10 x 12-inch tray. Cover with plastic wrap and push down so it is even. Chill for at least 2 hours in the refrigerator or until completely chilled.

After well chilled, turn the chickpea mold onto a cutting board. Cut fries 12 times in 1-inch pieces and then cut each strip into 4 pieces, forming 48 pieces.

Heat canola oil in a large stainless steel fry pot to 350°F. Dust fries with remaining chickpea flour and fry in 4 batches until hot and golden brown.

Drain in paper towels to remove excess oil. Serve immediately with Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce.

Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce

Makes: About 1 cup

- 2 oranges, juiced and zested with a microplane zester
- 2 preserved lemons juiced, the peel minced fine*
- 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt to taste

*If preserved lemons are unavailable, can be substituted with 2 fresh lemons, juiced and zested.



Tips for cooking dry peas, lentils and chickpeas

- Dry peas and lentils don't require soaking. Soak dried chickpeas in cold water for 12 hours before cooking (or you can buy pre-cooked, canned chickpeas).
- Spread dry peas and lentils in a single layer on a baking sheet. Check for and discard any debris. Rinse under cold water.
- To cook lentils, use 1 1/2 cups of water to 1 cup of lentils. Bring water to boil and add lentils. Boil for 2 or 3 minutes and reduce heat to a simmer. Cook until tender. Green or brown lentils take approximately 30 minutes and red lentils about 8 to 10 minutes.

Savory Chickpea Pancakes

Makes: 36 2 1/2-inch pancakes

- 8 ounces chickpea flour (about 2 cups)
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 egg yolks, beaten
- 3 egg whites, whipped to soft peaks
- Zest of one lemon; use a microplane zester
- Additional butter to cook the pancakes

Mix all dry ingredients together in one bowl.

In a separate bowl, combine buttermilk, melted butter, olive oil and egg yolks.

In third bowl, whip egg whites until soft peaks form.

Fold dry ingredients into buttermilk mixture gently (do not over mix or pancakes will be tough).

Let batter stand for 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, gently fold half of the egg whites into batter, then fold remaining egg whites in.

Heat a non-stick skillet over medium heat until moderately hot. Add in a pinch of butter and spoon a heaping tablespoon batter into pan. Cook each pancake until golden brown; flip; cook for another minute or two and keep warm.

To serve, place two chickpea pancakes on individual plates and spoon ragu (recipe follows) on top.

Chickpea, Shrimp and Caper Ragu

Serves: 6

- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves fresh garlic, finely sliced
- 1 cup cooked chickpeas
- 2 tablespoons capers
- Peel of 1/2 a preserved lemon
- 1 teaspoon esepette or smoked paprika
- 1/2 cup water, plus more if needed
- 18 peeled and deveined shrimp
- Kosher salt, to taste
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter

Heat large stainless steel pan until moderately hot. Add olive oil and sliced garlic. Once garlic starts to soften and just brown, add chickpeas and cook for about 2 minutes.

Add capers, lemon peel, esepette/smoked paprika and water. Bring to a boil, then add butter.

Reduce heat and add shrimp; stew gently until just cooked, about 4 minutes. If water evaporates too quickly, add a little more. Season with salt to taste.



Red Lentil Crusted Goat Cheese with Three Lentil Salad and Ruby Red Grapefruit Vinaigrette

Serves: 6

- 1 cup cooked red lentils, al dente
- 1 cup brown lentils, cooked
- 1 cup green lentils, cooked
- 5 spears Broccoli, cooked and roughly chopped
- 1 head endive, sliced
- 1/8 cup, plus 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Cracked black pepper, to taste
- 9 ounces goat cheese, sliced into 6 2-inch slices
- 1/2 ruby red grapefruit, peeled and seeded and remaining juice squeezed into a bowl
- 1 lime, juiced

Combine the three varieties of lentils in a glass or Pyrex bowl, reserving 1/4 cup of red lentils to crust the goat cheese. Add Broccoli, endive, 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, red wine vinegar, salt and pepper and mix well. Set aside for 1/2 hour to 1 hour to allow flavors to meld.

Place remaining red lentils on a shallow tray and roll goat cheese slices in lentils until coated. Place lentil slices into a baking pan.

For vinaigrette, combine, grapefruit juice, lime juice, and 1/8 cup extra virgin olive oil and whisk until emulsified. Add grapefruit segments; season with salt to taste.

Just before serving, heat goat cheese slices for 3 to 5 minutes in a 350°F oven until warm, but not melting apart. Distribute lentils onto six plates, place goat cheese slices on lentils and drizzle with vinaigrette.

2012 spring sports scoreboard

Suwannee High School varsity baseball

Feb. 14 @ Hamilton County High School 12-2
 Feb. 17 vs Fort White High School 2-0
 Feb. 21 @ Taylor County High School
 Feb. 23 vs Eagle's View Academy
 Feb. 28 vs Bradford High School

Suwannee High School varsity softball

Feb. 7 vs Chiefland High School 10-4
 Feb. 10 @ Bell High School 10-0
 Feb. 13 @ Madison County High School 7-0
 Feb. 21 @ Santa Fe High School
 Feb. 24 vs Wakulla High School

Suwannee High School boys tennis

Feb. 7 @ Columbia High School 1-6
 Feb. 9 vs Amos P. Godby High School 7-0
 Feb. 13 @ Rickards High School 1-6
 Feb. 15 vs Lincoln High School 1-6
 Feb. 21 vs Florida High School
 Feb. 22 @ Madison County High School
 Feb. 23 vs Wakulla High School
 Feb. 28 vs Taylor County High School

Suwannee High School girls tennis

Feb. 7 @ Columbia High School 4-3
 Feb. 9 vs Amos P. Godby High School 7-0
 Feb. 13 @ Rickards High School 6-1
 Feb. 15 vs Lincoln High School 1-6
 Feb. 21 vs Florida High School
 Feb. 22 @ Madison County High School
 Feb. 23 vs Wakulla
 Feb. 28 vs Taylor County High School

Branford High School varsity baseball

Feb. 18 vs Fort White High School 1-11
 Feb. 21 vs Dixie County High School
 Feb. 25 @ Melody Christian Academy

Branford High School varsity softball

Feb. 9 @ Melody Christian Academy 15-4
 Feb. 16 @ Hamilton County High School
 Feb. 17 vs Trenton Middle/High School canceled due to rain
 Feb. 21 @ Lafayette High School
 Feb. 23 @ Jefferson County Middle/High School
 Feb. 24 @ Dixie County High School
 Feb. 28 vs Aucilla Christian Academy

Melody Christian Academy varsity baseball

Feb. 14 @ Eagle's View Academy 2-6
 Feb. 16 vs Union County High School 3-4
 Feb. 21 @ Newberry High School
 Feb. 25 vs Branford High School
 Feb. 28 @ Fort White High School

Melody Christian Academy varsity softball

Feb. 7 @ Cedar Creek Christian School 11-5
 Feb. 9 vs Branford High School 4-15
 Feb. 10 @ Trenton Middle/High School 1-16
 Feb. 14 vs Lafayette High School 0-22
 Feb. 21 @ Saint Francis Catholic High School
 Feb. 23 @ Hamilton County High School
 Feb. 28 @ Lafayette High School

Suwannee Legals

SUWANNEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AUCTION

There will be a Sheriff's Office auction at 9:00 A.M., Saturday, February 25, 2012. The auction will be located in the field across from the Suwannee County Jail at 305 Pine Avenue SW, Live Oak, FL. An assortment of vehicles will be available to view beginning at 8:00 A.M., followed by the auction at 9:00 A.M. For more information, please contact John Mills at 386-362-2222. 02/10, 17, 22, 24

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

FILE NO.: 12-18-CP

IN RE: ESTATE OF ELOISE S. PARKER

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of ELOISE S. PARKER, deceased, whose date of death was December 15, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Suwannee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 200 S. Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, Florida 32064. The names and addresses of the Co-Personal Representatives and the Co-Personal Representatives' attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this notice is February 15, 2012.

Attorney for Personal Representatives: /s/ Matthew C. Mitchell
 Matthew C. Mitchell
 Attorney for Personal Representative
 Florida Bar Number: 0028155
 Brannon, Brown, Haley & Bullock, P.A.
 P.O. Box 1029
 Lake City, FL 32056
 Telephone: (386) 752-3213
 Fax: (386) 755-4524
 E-Mail: mcm@bbattorneys.com

Personal Representatives: /s/ James C. Parker, Jr.
 James C. Parker, Jr.
 2535 Jakin Way
 Suwanee, GA 30024

/s/ Patsy Borie
 Patsy Borie
 119 Chestatee Point
 Dawsonville, GA 30534
 02/15, 22

ROD & ROBIN STORAGE SOLUTIONS
 12776 RAILROAD STREET
 LIVE OAK, FL 32060
 386-688-2165

Unit # 12 Cynthia Robinson

This unit is extremely behind on their rent. Attempt to contact this individual, even with registered mail has been unsuccessful.

The contents will be sold at the discretion of the storage facility on February 25, 2012.

For information contact Rod at 386-688-2165. 02/15, 17, 22

Skinner enjoys a solid Daytona debut See story on 1A



Fain Skinner exited the hauler prior to the race.



Just another day at the office? Fain Skinner made his way to the racetrack with his wife, Hannah, and twin sons Cale and Cole.



The ARCA cars rocketed around the track at speeds reaching 180 mph.



DGM Racing owner and Crew Chief Mario Grosselin discusses the race with Kevin Keen of Keens Portable Buildings and CarportEmpire.com. - Photos: Jeffry Boatright



Fain Skinner signs autographs for fans of all ages before Sunday's running of the the Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200 in Daytona.

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February 22 & 23, 2012

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Gainesville musicians headline Chocolate Festival



R. Mutt Blues Band.



Cathy DeWitt on piano.

The Live Oak Chocolate Festival will feature two superb musical groups from Gainesville Florida the evening of March 3. The Festival, held in downtown Live Oak, begins the day at 9 a.m. with a Celebration of Chocolate, with chocolatiers, confectioners, artists, authors, crafters...a great variety of some 40 different vendors.

The evening offers a free Jazz and Blues concert. From 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., the main stage hosts the R. Mutt Blues Band, a multi-talented quartet that plays the whole gamut of what is called "the Blues." The band plays what they call "American standard" electric blues featuring driving updated reinterpretations of traditional blues classics. The band includes the multi-talented lead singer, guitarist,

keyboardist, art teacher and painter, Dan Stepp. Playing bass is Richard Heipp, a well known, award winning visual artist, and UF Art professor. Lead guitarist features the superb musicianship of Paul Goble, and rounding out the rhythm section is drummer Vince Megale.

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. well known Gainesville musician Cathy DeWitt and her Jazz band MoonDancer takes the stage. A jazz vocalist and pianist, bluegrass guitarist and folksinger/ songwriter, she serves on the Boards of the Gainesville Friends of Jazz and the Friends of Florida Folk. Cathy has been compared vocally with Anita O'Day and Diana Krall, and has won acclaim for her improvisational singing. Her song "Everybody's Some-

body's Child" won Honorable Mention in Unisong's 2006 International Song Contest in both the Jazz and Overall Performance category, out of 4,000 entrants. Her band, MoonDancer, has been actively playing since 1984.

The Second Annual Live Oak Chocolate Festival is well summed up as, "A Celebration of Chocolate with a Touch of Jazz and Blues." For more information visit www.historicliveoak.com. The Live Oak Chocolate Festival is a presentation of Shands Live Oak Regional Medical Center and is hosted by the Live Oak Partnership. [The Live Oak Partnership is a non-profit citizens group working for the revitalization of downtown Live Oak Florida]

Enjoy The Wayne Minor Band and Jukebox Oldies Band Feb. 24-25 at the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

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REDUCED! This home doesn't look its age. 3/2, 1,412 sq.ft. has had some updating and has a fenced backyard. \$53,300. Call Anita Handy, 386-208-5877. MLS#79800 326 NE Lee Ave, Live Oak

LANDSCAPED BY NATURE... Enjoy the wildlife and sound of the shoals in this 2/2 home on the Suwannee outside of Mayo. \$119,000. Call Kellie Shirah, 386-208-3847 MLS#78862

JUST REDUCED! Great 3/2, 2003 DWMH on 5 acres. Large open floor plan, screened patio and carport attached. The owner is also leaving a shed. What a great family home not far from Live Oak. \$69,900. Call Neida Hatcher, 386-688-8067 MLS#79146

80 ACRES open land in South Suwannee County. \$3,500 per acre. Call William Golightly, 386-590-6681 MLS#76100

UNDER \$50,000! This 3/1.5 bath has a large living room with a fireplace, a sun room that could be an office with a great view, and detached shed to store all your stuff in too! Asking \$44,900. Call Anita Handy, 386-208-5877 MLS#80003 314 NW Hillsboro St

COUNTRY LIVING the way it's meant to be with this custom built dream home on 78 acres. Beautifully designed 3/ 2.5 home with 3 car garage and huge barn. Cathedral ceiling & oak engineered wood floor in sunken living room, wood burning fireplace w/cast iron insert, 2 HVAC, gas heat, security system, and much, much more. \$679,000. Call Nelda Hatcher, 386-688-8067 MLS#78332

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BANK OWNED - 2 acre lake lot on Timber Lake of Hamilton County. Great area for country living. \$47,000. Call William Golightly, 386-590-6681. MLS#79608

SUWANNEE RIVER LOT... Well, septic, electric, dock and even fencing in place. Owner Financing available \$59,000. Call Kellie Shirah, 386-208-3847 MLS#75950

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Enjoy food, dancing and a little Swampadelic and 50s thru 80s music

SPRIT OF THE SUWANNEE MUSIC PARK, LIVE OAK, FLA - An old favorite and a new band will be playing this weekend, Feb. 24-25, at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak, Fla. The Jukebox Oldies Band will take the stage Saturday night, Feb. 25, with 50s thru 80s music while The Wayne Minor Band will bring Swampadelic music Friday, Feb. 24.

Wayne Minor is not only a creative writer, but a multi-talented instrumentalist as well. Wayne's original music, combined with his somewhat abstract lyrics, makes for a very bluesy, sultry and soulful funk he affectionately calls "Swampadelic." His music has been influenced by many artists such as Little Feat, The Allman Brothers, Chuck Leavell, Randall Bramblett and The Crusaders to name a few. His CD, "No Apologies No Excuses," was produced by Gerry Hansen (drummer for The Randall Bramblett Band).

"A truly creative and energetic fusion between New Orleans style grit, rhythm and blues, funk and rock. Recommended if you like Little Feat and Sea Level," CD Baby said. While Wayne is an unsigned artist, you can look for that to change in the



The Wayne Minor Band.

near future. "One of the most creative and prolific songwriters I have ever worked with" (GAR Productions). "Being influenced by many different artists, it's hard for me to categorize my music," Wayne says. "To me there's only two kinds of music; good and bad. Who cares what genre it happens to fall into, as long as it's good."

The Wayne Minor Band is based in Macon, Georgia with Wayne Minor (keys, guitar, vocals, Sax), George Miles (guitar, back-up vocals, harmonica), John Larry Graham (bass), Mike Harrell (Keys) and Marcus Reddick (drums, percussion) rounding out this popular band. If you would like a big dose of originality and "swampyness" that covers a wide range of genres, this is a MUST SEE band and on

Feb. 24 you can do just that at the SOSMP!

The Jukebox Oldies Band, made up of Bo Martin, Mike Dame, CF Sirmans, Stacy Sirmans, Billy Folsom and Larry Dean, loves to play AM radio hits, primarily from the 60s for its fans. A few from the 50s, 70s and 80s are also on the play list. This veteran band's motto and mission statement is good times, great oldies...songs you can sing along to 'cause you know the words!!! The Jukebox Oldies Band loves to entertain old and new friends and most certainly this band has made many friends at the SOSMP over the past several years! The band's influences are the Beatles, BB King, Buddy Holly, Rolling Stones, Roy Orbison and The Tams. It definitely will be a 50s - 80s good time party where you can give those dancing shoes a real workout!

The SOSMP's SOS Café and Restaurant is always open during events and

brings wonderful culinary creations to delight you and your guests. The SOS Café and Restaurant in the Music Hall opens at 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening for dinner and events, closed Tuesday. Karaoke begins at 7 p.m. Monday and Thursday, Wednesday night is ladies' night with a DJ while Friday and Saturday's live shows begin at 8 p.m. Music Hall admission is \$5 per person with the \$5 deducted from your evening's tab except for special events when prices will be posted. Check out the beautiful new improvements in the Music Hall where there is now a full service bar.

For more information about the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, call 386-364-1683, email spirit@musicliveshere.com or go to www.musicliveshere.com. You may also contact the SOSMP to purchase your Suwannee River Jam 2012 tickets or to inquire about any of the many exciting events coming up such as SpringFest, Waneec and 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 famous 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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Making more room for manatees: FWC, Nature Conservancy, DEP remove sediment at Fanning Springs



Making room for the manatees. Courtesy photo

If you restore Fanning Springs to its historic depths by removing sediment, more manatees will be able to use this shimmering spot on the Suwannee River. That was the idea behind the project to clear the bottom of Fanning Springs, and it quickly came true.

"As the project was going on, more and more manatees were showing up at Fanning Springs. We went from two to four manatees to eight or 12," said Ron Mezich, who

works on manatees and aquatic habitat at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). "Fanning Springs may feel cold to us, but it is 70 to 72 degrees, and for manatees in wintertime, it is a warm-water refuge. Manatees can't survive for long in water below 68 degrees."

The recently completed project to remove sediment from the springs was a cooperative effort among the FWC, The Nature Conservancy and the

Florida Department of Environmental Protection, which manages Fanning Springs State Park.

From early November 2011 through early January 2012, underwater cleaning of the springs was done by a scuba diver using a hand-held device resembling a giant vacuum cleaner. Hand cleaning was the preferred method to minimize disturbance to the springs' waters and preserve any artifacts found in the removed sediment. Park staff and vol-

unteers sifted through more than 500 cubic yards of removed sediment and found boards and an ash rake from a former sawmill on the site, as well as coins like a liberty half-dollar and buffalo nickel.

With the project completed, Fanning Springs is 2 to 3 feet deeper in some areas and able to provide additional habitat for manatees to escape winter's cold. Recently, Florida manatees have been hit hard by cold weather, with documented manatee

deaths due to cold stress at their highest levels, including 112 cold-related manatee deaths in 2011, 282 in 2010, and 56 in 2009. Previously, manatee deaths due to cold stress averaged 30 per year.

"Conservation of warm-water habitats like Fanning Springs is critical to the long-term conservation of the manatee, and a priority for the FWC and our partners," Mezich said. "Florida's springs provide warm-water habitat for about 20 percent of

the manatee population." Mezich said the recent observation of more manatees migrating into Fanning Springs was probably attributable to the weather getting chillier, limited access of boats to the springs during construction, and improved access to the springs for manatees.

Fanning Springs is a major attraction in a small rural community. Fanning Springs State Park is a hub of the Suwannee River Wilderness Trail, and local residents and visitors come here for swimming, snorkeling and boating. The FWC encourages visitors to come to the park to see if manatees are using this warm-water refuge. While you are there, the FWC recommends doing your manatee observations from the park's dock and boardwalk. Boats of all types entering the springs during winter months can disturb and discourage manatees from using this warm-water site when it is most important to their survival. The springs also are prime habitat for mudfish, freshwater flounder and turtles.

Fanning Springs is a second-magnitude spring, producing less than 65 million gallons of water daily. Historically, though, it was a first-magnitude spring, the largest class of springs, with a flow of up to 100 cubic feet of water per second, as recently as the 1990s. The spring's sediment problems were caused by erosion from its banks, when they were used by people coming there to swim and recreate. The park staff restored vegetation to stabilize those banks, preventing further erosion.

"We're taking the spring run at Fanning Springs back to a more historic depth contour. Sedimentation caused it to become too shallow," Mezich said.

To support manatee conservation and research, Floridians can purchase the "Save the Manatee" license plate. Information is available at www.buyaplate.com. To learn more about manatees, go to MyFWC.com/Manatee.

To plan a visit to Fanning Springs State Park, see www.floridastateparks.org.

To find out more about the Fanning Springs restoration, go to The Nature Conservancy's website at www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/florida/howework/saving-manatees-through-springs-restoration.xml.

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Have a Heart Service Project NFCC Student Government Association helps create hand-made cards for local nursing homes



MADISON, FL – (l-r) Selena Phillips of Madison County, Kayla Griffin and Latrelle Monk of Taylor County, and Edie Hotchkiss of Hamilton County create Valentine's Day cards in the North Florida Community College Student Center. The "Have a Heart" service project was hosted by NFCC's Student Government Association. More than 200 hand-made cards were distributed to nursing home facilities in Mayo and Madison as part of the service project.

The Pink Floyd Experience returns to Phillips Center, Feb. 29



The Pink Floyd Experience. Courtesy photo

The Pink Floyd Experience will make its second appearance at the Phillips Center at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 29.

With its record-breaking hits and sellout tours, Pink Floyd remains one of the most influential rock bands of all time. The Pink Floyd Experience – complete with 200,000 watts of light, full quadrasonic sound and six brilliant musicians – will perform *Wish You Were Here* live, in its entirety and other Pink Floyd classics including *Money*, *Comfortably Numb*, *Run Like Hell* and many rarities not often heard live.

Wish You Were Here explores the idea of absence, takes a cynical view of the music business and waxes poetic on the personal state of former band mate Syd Barrett. The album was produced by Alan Parsons and included musical guests Roy Harper and Stephane Grappelli. Richard Wright and David Gilmour have both stated that *Wish You Were Here* was their favorite Pink Floyd album.

Tickets are on sale and available for this performance. Call 352-392-ARTS (2787) or 800-905-ARTS (toll free within Florida), or visit www.performingarts.ufl.edu for more information.



Protect skin from the worst weather has to offer

Regardless of what season it is, skin seems to bear the brunt of weather's wrath. Whether it's the sun beating down in the dog days of summer or the wind whipping around and causing skin to crack when the weather starts to turn cold, skin is never fully safe from the elements.

Each season poses its own unique challenges to skin, and this year figures to be no different. With fall and winter on the horizon, it's important for men and women to practice proper skin care in an effort to protect themselves from dry skin, which can be irritating and unsightly. Though an extra layer of clothing might hide dry, flakey skin from view, it won't do much to relieve the irritation and damage that result from severely dry skin. This fall and winter, consider the following tips to help the skin survive the woes of winter.

* Take quick, temperate showers. It might feel good to get in from the cold and take a hot bath or shower, but this actually breaks down lipid barriers in the skin, potentially robbing the skin of moisture. In lieu of a long, steamy bath or shower, take a quick shower in warm water.

* Moisturize every day. Moisturizers like O'Keeffe's Working Hands and O'Keeffe's for Healthy Feet are designed to relieve dry skin irritation, particularly on those areas of the body that are troublesome during the winter months. Look for creams that contain water and glycerin that will help to draw moisture into the skin and stimulate the body's natural repair process. Moisturizers that are non-greasy, non-oil based and fragrance free tend to work the best to repair dry skin. Oil-based creams will actually repel water that would otherwise hydrate the skin causing further damage.

Men and women should also make moisturizing a part of their nightly routine before going to bed. Skin

temperatures rise during sleep, resulting in increased circulation and healing, so be sure to moisturize each night before going to bed.

* Continue to protect skin from the sun. The sun is just as strong in winter as it is during the summer, and winter sun can do significant damage to unprotected skin, especially when winter sun combines with snow glare. Use a moisturizer with SPF throughout the winter, and apply it to both hands and face roughly 30 minutes before going outside.

* Wear a winter wardrobe. Protective clothing like gloves, scarves and thick socks not only keep us warm through the winter, they also keep skin safe as well. Strong winter winds and below freezing temperatures can damage the skin significantly, so bundle up when going outdoors. And be sure to avoid wet socks and gloves, which can irritate the skin and cause itching and cracking, and might even result in the formation of sores.

* Stay hydrated. Staying hydrated is another skin care pointer people primarily, and incorrectly, associate with summer. But staying hydrated is just as important in the winter as it is during the summer. Staying hydrated is important for overall health. Men and women who enjoy caffeinated beverages like coffee and soda should know that caffeine is a diuretic that draws water out of the skin. So be sure to counter caffeine consumption by drinking plenty of water.

More information is available at www.okeeffescompany.com.



Harsh weather can take its toll on the skin, especially for those who work with their hands. But a solution like O'Keeffe's Working Hands can restore even the most damaged skin in a matter of days.

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(Out of Suwannee County)

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

Calendar of Events

Suwannee River Jeep Club & 4X4

SRJC 4X4 is a new off-road club dedicated to Jeeps but open to other makes of 4X4's. We are looking for members that enjoy off-loading activity. We are a family oriented club that have monthly meetings and organize other activities such as trail rides, camping, mud events and fundraising events. Please contact Sarah or Cat at srjc4X4@gmail.com for more info. 386-688-3750 (Sarah).

Wellborn Spring Yard Sale - March 3rd

The Wellborn Community Association will host a Community Yard Sale on Saturday, March 3rd, from 7:00am to 2pm at 1340 - 8th Avenue, Andrews Square, Wellborn. Come to buy or come to sell. 12 X 12 spaces are only \$5; bring your own tent or tables. The Bloodmobile will be there; make it a part of your day to save lives. Join us for the Blueberry Pancake Breakfast served from 7:00am to 10am, which is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Hamburgers, hot dogs and soft drinks will be available for lunch. For more info call 386-963-1157, visit www.wellborn-communityassociation.com, or find us on facebook.

New York Day

New York Day, for all who have lived anywhere in New York State, will be in the afternoon of March 17 at the Lake City Shrine Club on Brown Road. There will be a social hour with appetizers, a St. Patrick's Day dinner prepared by the Shrine Club, entertainment by "2 Peace"(50's - 80's music), raffles, door prizes, etc. Cost is \$13 per person. Food and beer, including NY brands, will be available, or BYOB. Casual dress-wear Green for St. Pats! Call the Lloyds at 752-4885 or Bob Peloni at 984-5982 for info and reservations (DEADLINE March 10)

Save the Cats Live Oak

Volunteers needed!

T.N.R. campaign to save Live Oaks ferrel cats has been started. Ferrel and stray cats will be trapped, neutered and returned to where they were trapped. All kittens & friendly cats will be adopted out.

Donations needed: Cat food, wet & dry, money for neutering, traps, carriers, cages, food & water containers etc. Anyone interested in helping in any way please contact Barney or Sherry at 386-364-1006. Donated items may be taken to the Big Wheel Market Place at 127 W Howard St.

The Arc North Florida Trail of Hearts

Annual Benefit Ride

Feb. 25. Location is Mc-

Culley Farm in Jasper. Join horse lovers from all over the Southeast to ride along the Withlacoochee River. Participate in our Poker Run Game along the trail. Demonstration on therapeutic riding for individuals with disabilities.

Join us for a wonderful day supporting a great cause.

www.arcnfl.com/ride
386-362-7143 #5 or
jsampson@arcnfl.com

The McAlpin Community Club

The McAlpin Community Club welcomes everyone to their monthly meetings, which are held on the second Monday of each month.

The McAlpin Community Club asks everyone to mark their calendars and join us on Saturday, May 5, 2012, for our first annual yard sale and fundraising event. The proceeds will help benefit the club's building fund, which hosts a variety of civic groups including two local 4-H Clubs, a Home and Community Education (HCE) Club and volunteer firefighters. If you would like to donate any items for this event, please call Debbie Phillips at 364-7028.

The Club is located at 9981 170th Terrace in McAlpin, directly across from the Post Office on US Hwy 129. Membership fees are \$10 per family per year.

For info call Barbara Parks @ 362-3044 or Debbie Phillips @ 364-7028

CrossHeir Outfitters Men's and Boys Event

Crossheir Outfitters Team, bringing there Trophy Displays, etc. with Speaker Robert Bradow will be at North Hamilton Elementary School on March 17, 2012 at 4:00 pm with Great Door prizes many Hunt give aways, Free BBQ Supper! More information you may call Pastor Edgar Wood 386-590-6267 or Johnnie Philman at 386-842-5494 P.O. Box 521 Jasper, Florida 32052 Provided by Pentecostal Deliverance Center men's Ministry Jennings, Florida This is a Tri-County Event Drawing all Men and Boys to have a better walk with the Lord!!

An Ash Wednesday Service

Will be held at 7:00 PM, on Wednesday, February 22, at Jennings United Methodist Church, in Jennings, Florida. All are invited to mark the beginning of the Lenten Season with this very special and moving service. For more information, please call 386-938-4303 or 386-752-8752.

Volunteer Opportunity & Meeting Notice

Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its corps of dedicated advo-

cates who protect the rights of elders residing in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and adult family care homes. The program's local councils are seeking additional volunteers to identify, investigate and resolve residents' concerns. Special training and certification is provided.

All interested individuals

Who care about protecting the health, safety, welfare and rights of long-term care facility residents -- who often have no one else to advocate for them -- are encouraged to call toll-free (888) 831-0404 or visit the program's Web site at http://ombudsman.myflorida.com.

The Sparkleberry Chapter

Of the Florida Native Plant Society - meets the second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m., Hatch Park Community Center, 403 SE Craven St., Branford. All are welcome. For information call 386-364-9309.

Grief recovery is a painful process.

GriefShare is a weekly video seminar featuring some of the nation's foremost experts on grief recovery topics. Each Wednesday evening seminar is combined with a grief support group discussion time. GriefShare is held at FBC Live Oak each Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m.

Volunteers Needed!

Surrey Place Care Center in Live Oak is looking for interested volunteers who would like to share their time and talents with our senior adults. Volunteers enrich the lives of our residents and staff by brightening their days in so many ways!

If you are interested in helping others; if you would like to experience the gratification and sense of purpose that comes from working with senior adults with special needs, then we hope you will accept our invitation to learn more about the volunteer opportunities we have available. Surrey Place Care Center welcomes volunteer involvement in a variety of areas and capacities.

Please join us.

Surrey Place Care Center
Teri Christian,
Quality of Life Director
386-364-5961
act.surrey@signature-healthcarellc.com

The Arc North Florida

Adults with Disabilities Program. Open to Branford and surrounding adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities. We meet every Friday from 9 AM to 1 PM at the health department building in Branford, FL

For more information please contact the AWD supervisor Lisa Perry at 386-

208-1404

The McAlpin Community Club

The Club is located at 9981 170th Terrace in McAlpin, directly across from the Post Office. Membership fees are \$10.00 per family per year.

For info call Barbara Parks @ 362-3044 or Debbie Phillips @ 364-7028

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.

Bingo

Hosted by the American Legion Post 107. Every Tuesday. Early games are at 3 p.m. and evening games are at 7 p.m. Take Hwy. 129, six miles south of Live Oak, turn left at the BINGO sign, then one mile.

American Legion Post Meeting

First Thursday of each month at noon. All military veterans are invited to join us. Contact Randall White for information at 386-984-6245.

Senior citizens

Senior citizens meet the first Monday of each month in the west annex of the Suwannee Co. Coliseum. If you are fifty years old or older or disabled. The dues are \$5 per year. Each member is to bring a covered dish to each meeting. We will be having drawings for gifts which include complimentary visits for two different restaurants. Door prizes will be given. There will be bingo after the meal. Also, there are trips planned for this group. Please call 330-6319 if you have any questions. Please put Senior Citizens meetings on the first Monday of each month on your calendar. Come join us and enjoy great friends and wonderful fellowship.

REVISION for Feb., March, April, May

The Senior Citizens will meet at the regular time (the first Monday) in Feb. & March. There will be NO meeting in April because of the fair. Also, the meeting for May will be changed to Mon., May 14th, because of elections. All meetings are at 10:30 a.m. in the W. Annex at the Suwannee County Coliseum. Don't forget the changes for April and May. All other meetings will be on the first Mon. of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Coliseum

unless notified. Please call 386-330-6319 if any questions.

Artist Guild

The meetings are held at Suwannee High School at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month.

The ARC of North Florida Event dates:

2/25/12 Annual Benefit Trail Ride

3/24/12 14th Annual Lawn Mower Race

5/11/12 The Arc North Florida Golf Tournament

www.arcnfl.com

Addiction Support Group:

Greater Visions faith-based addictions support group meets weekly in two locations. Meetings are held on Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM in Lake City at the Christ Central Church building on Sister's Welcome Road. The group also meets Thursday mornings at 9:30 AM in Live Oak at the Suwannee Coalition office located at 208 North Ohio Avenue. This group provides spiritual and emotional support in a non-judgmental setting. Come experience the freedom from addictions that is found in Christ. Greater Visions is an outreach of Christ Central but open to anyone. For more information contact 208-1345.

Grief Support group offered at Antioch Baptist Church

GriefShare recovery and support group

Will begin meeting at Antioch Baptist Church in Live Oak each Tuesday at 10 a.m. The church is located at 5203 CR 795 (Boys Ranch Road). GriefShare is 13 weeks starting March 6th ending May 29th, non-denominational group that features Biblical teaching on grief and recovery topics. You can begin the GriefShare sessions at any time. Please call Antioch Church (386) 362-3101 or Kathy Bauman (386) 362-3823 for more information.

Elks Monday Bingo

At Live Oak Elks Lodge 1165, 415 East Howard St. Live Oak. Early sessions 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. and the payout will be on a percentage basis. Late sessions: 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. There will be 29 games each paying \$50. One progressive jackpot either \$50 or \$250. One Bonanza paying \$50. One extra large jackpot starting at \$300 if won on the last number called from the Bonanza game - \$100 consolation prize. Kitchen will be open from 4-8 p.m.

Wellborn

neighborhood watch

We meet the last Thursday of each month at the Blake Lowe Building on 4th. Avenue in Wellborn. We start with a social get together at 7:00 PM with a covered dish dinner and have a relaxed general discussion on the events in the community. Immediately following dinner we have an invited speaker to broaden our knowledge of what is happening in our county. Each month we have a speaker that will be interesting and informative. Call Ruth Ford @ 386-963-5334 if you have any questions.

Are you a time traveler?

Wish you could travel back in time? Explore Suwannee County's past with historian Eric Musgrove as he tells of the area's unique history and legends featuring photos, maps and memorabilia. The free presentations are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Suwannee County His-

torical Museum located just north of the railroad tracks in Live Oak in the old train depot. For more information call Randy Torrence (362-1776) or Eric Musgrove (842-2174).

The Suwannee Coalition

Has changed our annual meeting schedule. We will no longer be meeting monthly. We will meet quarterly - four times per year. Here are the remaining dates we will meet in the upcoming fiscal year: April 5, 2012

The Lake DeSoto farmers market

Lake City, FL, The Lake DeSoto Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 8am to 1 p.m. in Wilson Park, located along Lake DeSoto between the Columbia County Courthouse and Shands Lakeshore Hospital. For more information about the Lake DeSoto Farmer Market call 386-697-2176 or 386-719-5766.

Alcohol Anonymous

Live Oak Group

Voting precinct building, Nobles Ferry Road, Live Oak, FL. Tuesday, Thursday (BBS) and Friday 8 p.m. Contact Rosemary 386-362-6338 or Carl at 386-362-4221.

Bingo, Bingo, Bingo!

Hosted by American Legion Post 107 Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. Early games, 7 p.m. evening games. Take Hwy 129, 6 miles south of Live Oak, turn left at the BINGO sign, then 1 mile.

Grief support group

Meeting weekly at First Baptist Church in Live Oak at 6 pm on Wednesdays. Call 362-1583 for more information. Non-denominational - everyone welcome. This is an on-going support group and I would appreciate you placing it in your publication through the fall.

Baptist Men's Meeting at Wellborn Baptist Church

The 2nd Thursday night of every month beginning at 6:30 pm the men of Wellborn Baptist Church and their friends join together to eat and worship together with a special speaker and music. You are invited to come and bring a dessert. The church is located on Highway 90 West between Live Oak and Lake City at the intersection with Lowe Lake Road in Wellborn, FL. Call 386-963-2231 with any questions or visit our website at www.wellborn-baptist.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.

The Lafayette

Republican Executive Committee

Meets the second Monday of each month at the Lafayette Public Library, 120 NE Crawford Street, Mayo, at 7:00 pm. Everyone interested in promoting conservative principles are invited to attend. For more information, please call Carolyn Land at 935-0174.

The Columbia Federated Republican Women

Meet the 2nd Monday of each month, 7p.m., brown bag dinner & social time at 6:30 p.m. 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 Auto. We are

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9



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Learning how to fly fish. Courtesy photos

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00 Toyota Solara SLE	\$5,999
05 Kia Sedona	\$6,999
02 Chevy Trailblazer	\$7,988
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03 GMC Sierra 1500	\$15,988
08 Nissa Sentra SE-R	\$15,988
07 Pontiac G6 GT	\$15,988
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10 Dodge Avenger	\$15,999
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08 Suzuki XL-7	\$15,999
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06 Toyota 4Runner	\$16,988
10 Dodge Grand Caravan	\$16,999
11 Nissan Altima	\$16,999
08 Chevy Silverado	\$17,988
08 Chevy Avalanche	\$17,999
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09 GMC Sierra 1500	\$24,988
10 Toyota Tundra	\$24,999

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07 GMC Yukon	\$25,988
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08 GMC Sierra	\$26,988
11 Buick Lacrosse	\$26,999
09 GMC Sierra 1500	\$29,988
11 GMC Yukon	\$29,988

Women are invited to explore the finest of fishing at the next "Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!" seminar, hosted March 16-18 at the Naples Harbour Yacht Club in Naples.

Held in conjunction with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) through the Sport Fish Restoration Program, "Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!" is a national organization dedicated to attracting more women to sport fishing and to promoting conservation and responsible angling.

During the three-day, hands-on event, FWC educators will demonstrate ethical angler habits, such as safe hook removal, release techniques, fish venting and more. Local fishing guides will provide instruction on fishing techniques and methods.

Past participants found the event worthwhile.

"Being able to pick, choose and move between skill stations was terrific," said Mary Hackney of Naples. "I loved the flexibility."

"I learned more about fishing in two days than from my dad in 20 years," said Georgia Allen of Bonita Springs.

On the final day of the seminar, women may embark on an optional fishing adventure.

To learn more, visit ladiesletsgofishing.com, call 954-475-9068 or email info@ladiesletsgofishing.com.

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2012 RAM 1500 4 DR 4x4



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Yes, it's half time in America and it takes just one person to start our 2nd half, will it be you?

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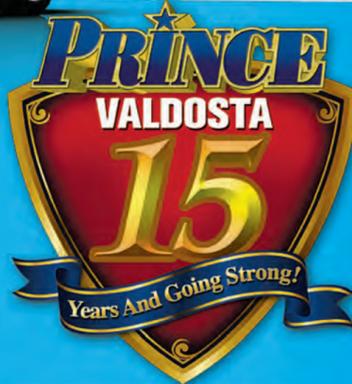
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2006 FORD 500 #8659A.....	\$179	2010 FORD TAURUS WRANGLER #12018A.....	\$339
2006 JEEP COMMANDER #5619B.....	\$195	2009 JEEP UNLIMITED #5774A.....	\$364
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Calendar of Events

Continued From Page 4

committed to advancing the participation of women in all areas of the political system and are dedicated to encouraging and empowering women of all ages and backgrounds. Visit the Florida Association's web page at <http://www.fwrw.net/home.html>. Covering North Central Florida - all women are encouraged to attend and be involved in the political process! For more

info contact President Gayle Cannon: 386-303-2616, gcannon@atlantic.net

First Baptist Church of Dowling Park

Free Meals for Seniors. We are a meal site for the Suwannee River Economic Council. Free meals are served for seniors over the age of 60 in the church fellowship hall Monday through Friday from 12 noon to 1 p.m. For more information or to sign up, please contact us at 386-658-2360.

Volunteer Opportunity & Meeting Notice

Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its corps of dedicated advocates who protect the rights of elders residing in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and adult family care homes. The program's local councils are seeking additional volunteers to identify, investigate and resolve residents' concerns. Special training and certification is provided. All interested individuals who care about protecting the health, safety, welfare and rights of long-term care facility residents -- who often have no one else to advocate for them -- are encouraged to call toll-free (888) 831-0404 or visit the program's Web site at [HYPERLINK "http://ombudsman.myflorida.com/"](http://ombudsman.myflorida.com/) <http://ombudsman.myflorida.com>.

Christian Mission In Action Ministry

Will serve dinners from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. second Saturday of every month at Hale Park Recreation Center at 105 East Duval St., Live Oak, FL. For information call Audrey Howell @ 386-364-4560.

Ricardo Diaz, CEO Shands Live Oak, donated food for the Feb. 11 event.

Boy Scout Troop 693

Meets at the Live Oak Shrine Club, 11595 100th Street, Mondays, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. This building is just east of US 129 south, on the same road as the Suwannee Valley Elec. Co-op. Membership is open to all boys 11-17 years old. Come join us for having fun with monthly camping, as well as week-long winter and summer camps! Parents are encouraged to participate as adult leaders, committee members and merit badge counselors.

Wellborn Community Association (WCA)

Meets second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., at the Wellborn Community Center, 1340 - 8th Avenue, Wellborn. For info contact Wendell Snowden, 386-963-1157, follow us on Facebook, or see www.wellborncommunityassociation.com. A Blueberry Pancake Breakfast is held the first Saturday of each month serving blueberry pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee. The Annual Blueberry Festival is held on the first Friday & Saturday of June.

Auxiliary of the

American Legion Post 107

Hosting Wall of Honor The Auxiliary of the American Legion Post 107 is hosting a Wall of Honor. If you have a friend or relative that is currently in active duty of any of the military branches, we would like to honor him/her by posting a picture and name on our Wall of Honor. It will be located in the American Legion main hall on post 107, the same building bingo is currently held. Please send name, rank and branch of service, along with current photograph, to Teri Hamilton, Americanism Committee Chairman, Legion Auxiliary, 12364 146th Terrace, Live Oak, Florida 32060. 386-362-7978.

Addiction Support Group

Greater Visions faith-based addictions support group meets weekly in two locations. Meetings are held on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. in Lake City at the Christ Central Church building on Sister's Welcome Road. The group also meets Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Live Oak at the Suwannee Coalition office located at 208 North Ohio Ave. This group provides spiritual and emotional support in a non-judgmental setting. Come experience the freedom from addictions that is found in Christ. Greater Visions is an outreach of Christ Central but open to anyone. For more information contact 386-208-1345.

Senior Luncheon at Wellborn Baptist Church

The 2nd Tuesday of every month beginning at 11, there is a senior luncheon with a special speaker and music. Everyone is invited to come and bring a covered dish. The church is located on Highway 90 West between Live Oak and Lake City at the intersection with Lowe Lake Road in Wellborn, FL. Call 386-963-2231 with any questions or visit our website at www.wellbornbaptist.com.

Lake Park Line Dancers

Offer beginner lessons Tuesdays 1:00 - 2:15 pm. at Lake Park United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall on Hwy 41 S. at S. Essa Street. For info call (229)455-2267.

Line dance

Lessons at Uncle Freddy's, Lake Park next to KOA Office Across from Outlet Mall I-75 at Twin Lakes Blvd. (Hwy. 376) 5274 Jewell Futch Rd. 2nd Friday/mo. 7 - 8 pm., 4th Saturday/mo. 7 - 8 pm. For more information contact: talbot483@gmail.com or call: 229/455-2267

Beginner line dance lessons

Tuesdays 1:00 - 2:15 pm. Lake Park United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall, Hwy 41 S. at S. Essa Street. For info call (229)455-2267.

Greater Visions Support Group

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experience the freedom from addictions that is found in Christ. Greater Visions is an outreach of Christ Central but open to anyone. For more information contact 208-1345.

Pickin' & Grinnin'

Every Saturday 6 p.m. Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

If you play an acoustic instrument or just like to sit and listen to good Country, Gospel or Blue Grass music, come on out to the Pickin' shed in the loop camping area. Pot luck dinners the third Saturday of each month. Join us --- its fun --- its free! Sponsored by Suwannee River Bluegrass Association.

GFWC Woman's Club of Live Oak

Is available for rentals until 11 p.m. Is there a baby shower, wedding reception, holiday party or other event coming up? Please call Julie at 362-7303 to reserve your date and time. Make a wonderful memory.

Narcotics Anonymous

Road to Recovery Group. Meets Tuesday at 7 p.m. and Friday at 7:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 311 South Ohio Ave. Live Oak, FL, Help Line 352-376-8008 or 866-352-5323, <http://uncoastna.org> The Road to Recovery Group is not affiliated with First United Methodist Church.

Weatherization funding available

Funding is available for Home Repairs in Suwannee County. Families must meet income eligibility requirements for services. Examples of weatherizing repairs that could be available are installation of doors, windows, insulation, hot water heaters and window air conditioners. For

more information, please call the local Suwannee River Economic, Inc. at (386) 362-6079.

Free English Classes

Clases de Ingles - Gratis, aprenden, Pronunciacion, Conversacion -Clases empiezan el 8 de Agosto, 2011, cada lunes y jueves, 7 -9 p.m. Maestra Felicia Doty y el equipo, 386-249-0096. Las clases van estar en la Iglesia Episcopal, San Lukas, 1391 SW 11th St., (Se encuentra la Iglesia en frente del hospital en Live Oak).

Cub Scout Pack No. 408

Tiger, Wolf, Bears and Webelos dens (grades one - five) - every Thursday, Aug.-May only; 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Live Oak Church of the Nazarene.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Meeting

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of every month (August-May) at First Baptist Church of Live Oak @ 9:30 am. MOPS International exists to encourage, equip and develop every mother of preschoolers to realize her potential as a woman, mother and leader. Breakfast and childcare are provided. www.mops.org.

I am putting together a family history book

On the descendants of Stephen, William & Sarah Ann Grant. Surnames include Grant, Hewitt, Adams, Land, McCray, McClamma & any other related. If you would like to submit information or photos or are interested, please contact Cher Newell at 386-209-1559 or 386-364-1608.

Stop, drop and Recycle for Adults with Disabilities.

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nity Services Inc. Invites you to participate in our recycling project campaign. CCS Clients are recycling - Printer Ink Cartridges, Laser 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 Live Oak

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. We need volunteers to help set up and serve the meals. If you are interested in volunteering you may contact Pat and Jo Ann Lynch at (386) 935-1076 or Roger Burnside at (386) 935-3343.

Free Sunday lunch Hamilton County

A group headed up by Pat and JoAnn Lynch will be serving a free lunch at the Civic Center in Jasper, on the 2nd Sunday of the month. We need volunteers to help set up and serve the meals. If you are interested in volunteering 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 or 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, 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.

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.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

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Calendar of Events

Continued From Page 9

New Commander Post #107

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

Donate your old cars

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 an instrument? Do you act or dance? Do you like to read or spend time with a friend in wonderful conversation? WE WANT YOU! Suwannee Health Care & Rehab Center is looking for your talent for our residents. Dinner for two - \$45; One night at the Beach - \$125; One hour volunteering to make memories that last forever - PRICELESS! Call: Lynn Brannon, Activities Director 386-362-7860 or 386-590-2961.

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.

Suwannee County Republican Executive Committee Meeting.

First Thursday, 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the council chambers of Live Oak City Hall at 7 p.m. City Hall is located on the corner of White St. and US 90 in Live Oak. For more information please visit our website: www.suwanneegop.com or call Mary Lou Sharp at 386-963-5213

Hunter safety Internet-completion course offered in Columbia County

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is offering a free hunter safety Internet-completion course in Columbia County.

The class is March 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. and March 10 from 8 a.m. until completed. To complete the course, students must attend both days. Students who have taken

the online course and wish to complete this classroom portion must bring the online-completion report with them.

The location for this class will be given to those who register in advance by calling the regional office at 386-758-0525 or going to MyFWC.com/HunterSafety.

All firearms, ammunition and materials

are provided free of charge. Students should bring a pen or pencil and paper. An adult must accompany children younger than 16 at all times.

People born on or after June 1, 1975, must complete a hunter safety course before purchasing a Florida hunting license. The FWC course satisfies hunter-safety

training requirements for all other states and Canadian provinces.

Those interested in attending a course can register online and obtain information about future hunter safety classes at MyFWC.com/HunterSafety or by calling the FWC's regional office in Lake City at 386-758-0525.

Bowhunter education course scheduled for Columbia County

Now you can take the Florida Bowhunter Education Course by completing an online, distance-learning component and then attending a field class in Columbia County.

According to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) hunter safety personnel, the field day will be March 31 from 8 a.m. until completed. The location for the field day will be given to those who register in advance by calling the regional office at 386-758-0525.

This field day is designed to be a hands-on, constructive learning experience that will include bow setup

and shooting, field walks, blood-trail exercises, erecting and safely ascending and descending from tree stands, as well as equipment preparation and survival techniques.

The fee to take the distance-learning course is payable to the National Bowhunter Education Foundation on its website: www.bowhunter-ed.com/fl. You can also access the online distance-learning course from MyFWC.com/Bowhunt.

Participants can expect to learn all aspects of bowhunting, including:

- History of bowhunting;

- Safe and responsible bowhunting;
- Preparing for the hunt;
- Shot placement and game recovery;
- Use of elevated stands and other techniques; and
- Outdoor preparedness.

Students of all ages may participate; however, an adult must accompany those younger than 16.

Participants should bring all equipment, including bow and arrows.

Students should register for the course in advance by calling the FWC's regional office in Lake City at 386-758-0525.

Black children tend to be diagnosed with autism later than white children, FSU study finds

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The rate of diagnosis for autism spectrum disorders (ASD) is the same among all racial groups — one in 110, according to current estimates. However, a study by a Florida State University researcher has found that African-American children tend to be diagnosed later than white children, which results in a longer and more intensive intervention.

The reasons for later diagnoses include a lack of access to quality, affordable, culturally competent health care, according to Martell Teasley, an associate professor in Florida State's College of Social Work who has conducted a comprehensive review of research literature on autism and African-American children. In addition, the stigma attached to mental health conditions within the black community contribute to misdiagnoses

of autism, and underuse of available treatment services.

"There are no subjective criteria for diagnosing autism. Only brain scans can truly provide appropriate diagnoses, because we are dealing with biological and chemical imbalances in the brain," Teasley said. "Not every child is going to have access to this kind of medical evaluation, particularly those who are indigent and don't have health care funding."

Teasley examined ASD diagnosis and treatment strategies, and their effect on African-American families, in "Autism and the African-American Community," a paper published in a special issue of the journal Social Work in Public Health (Vol. 26, Issue 4, 2011) that dealt with health-care policy issues in the black community related to the human genome. Teasley co-

wrote the paper with Ruby Gour-dine, a professor of social work at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and Tiffany Baffour, an associate professor of social work at Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina.

Because of the social stigma, Teasley says that some African-American families might be resistant to accept a diagnosis and treatment.

"Less discussion about autism among African-Americans or between African-Americans and health care providers leads to misdiagnoses, a lack of treatment and a lack of services," Teasley said. "This will lead to greater challenges for families — more stress and anxiety, and poorer developmental outcomes."

African-Americans also might resist a diagnosis and treatment because of a mistrust of main-

stream health care providers over past discrimination.

"African-Americans are well versed in going to a doctor who might have biases or discriminatory practices, so they may not readily accept what a doctor says," Teasley said.

In addition, a cultural divide between African-Americans and mainstream health care providers can hinder a timely and correct diagnosis.

"There are not enough health care professionals who understand the cultural norms and attributes of the African-American community," Teasley said.

African-Americans live in all types of settings, but the majority live in urban areas, which have seen a decline in the number of mental-health care agencies since the 1980s.

"This lack of accessibility causes a problem for some

African-Americans," Teasley said.

Once a child is diagnosed with ASD, Teasley says both the child and the members of his or her family needs to receive appropriate training and counseling.

"The children need behavioral counseling so they can develop the skills to live as independently as possible," he said. "The families need to learn how to work with children who are autistic."

"Intervention for any autistic child needs to start around age 3, so we can get the child to begin to learn how to eat right and develop normal, healthy routines, which will result in a better developmental outcome," Teasley said. "Later intervention will result in a poorer developmental outcome that can have a lasting impact on the child's and family's quality of life."

Veterinary pathologist named to administrative post

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Pamela E. Ginn, D.V.M., a veterinary pathologist, has been named associate dean for students and instruction at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine following a national search.

Ginn has served as a member of the college's faculty since 1992. She will begin her new duties immediately and will assume full responsibilities in March, following the retirement of Paul Gibbs, B.V.Sc., Ph.D. from the position.

"Dr. Ginn has received numerous awards for teaching excellence and has a long-standing interest in students," said the college's dean, Glen Hoffsis, D.V.M. "She is a great addition to the college administration and will provide strong leadership to the Office for Students and Instruction."

Ginn has most recently served as a consulting pathol-

ogist for Specialty VETPATH in Seattle, Wash., and as an adjunct professor of pathology in the college's department of infectious diseases and pathology. She was an associate professor in that department from 1998-2007.

Ginn received her D.V.M. degree from Colorado State University in 1983 and worked in small animal practice prior to entering UF's pathology residency program, which she completed in 1992.

In 2011, Ginn was honored for her teaching by the American College of Veterinary Dermatologists, which presented her with its Excellence in Teaching Award. She was named Teacher of the Year by junior UF veterinary students in 2003 and again in 2006.

In 1998, she received the UF veterinary college's prestigious Norden Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award.

Ginn's goals include becoming informed about students' learning styles and using this information to pro-

vide a better educational experience to veterinary students and the faculty who teach them. She also has a keen interest in addressing student debt load, streamlining the time frame of the educational process and expanding career options for veterinarians.

As a mother of three children, Ginn also plans to help students gain skills that enable them to balance their professional and personal lives. She loves to teach and plans to continue to contribute to the education of students and future veterinary pathologists. On a university and community level, she would like to participate in projects that promote inclusion of individuals with disabilities in the educational process.

"Technology and the ease of access of information in today's digital world present new opportunities for improving methods of information delivery and assessing student learning," Ginn said.

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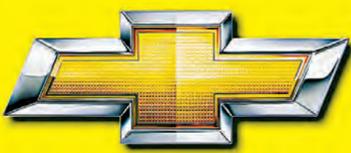
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