

# Suwannee Democrat

129th YEAR, NO. 35 | 2 SECTIONS, 26 PAGES

Wednesday Edition — February 5, 2014

50 CENTS

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

## CRA embraces vision for farmers market

By Bryant Thigpen  
bryant.thigpen@gafnews.com

The Live Oak Community Redevelopment Agency directed CRA Director Tim Williams to work with farmers market expert Sharon Yeago in establishing a plan to bring a

farmers market to downtown Live Oak.

"I'm very excited about the idea of a new farmers market in Live Oak," Yeago said. "I think the intention to invigorate downtown is a good one. I think the farmers market will certainly help you with

that."

Yeago's approach to establishing a successful farmers market is for the CRA board to express what they would like the farmers market to be, then to hold community meetings

SEE CRA, PAGE 2A

"Maybe you only see that vibrancy at Christmas time during the big event. Because of that, we know that you can draw people to downtown. It's just a matter of being able to do it."  
- Sharon Yeago, farmers market expert



## Teen hit by vehicle, recovering well

"He said, 'coach, I'm not going to be able to wrestle for awhile, but I know you need an assistant coach. I'll make you a good assistant coach.'" - SHS Wrestling Coach David Laxton, who said that would be just fine. "Good help is hard to come by."



Dean Shingola

By Andrew McGee  
andrew.mcgee@gafnews.com

A Suwannee High School wrestler who was struck by a vehicle on Friday, Jan. 31 as he was jogging east on CR 252 is recovering from his injuries and "doing fine", SHS Wrestling Coach David Laxton has reported.

According to Laxton, Dean Shingola is doing remarkably well for a young

man who's suffered a punctured lung, a broken leg, a cracked kidney and had his spleen removed.

"They put a rod in his left leg yesterday (Feb. 2)," said Laxton. "It broke in two places."

Dean, 16, was jogging in the eastbound travel lane of CR 252 at 99th Lane around 7 p.m. Friday when a vehicle, also trav-

SEE TEEN, PAGE 2A

## CRA ROUND-UP

A look at the recent Live Oak CRA meeting

By Bryant Thigpen  
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The Live Oak Community Redevelopment Agency had their regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at Live Oak City Hall. Several items were on the agenda for the evening meeting. Here is a brief rundown from the meeting. Board member Bennie Thomas was not present.

**CRA appoints Kim Smiley as purchasing agent**

The CRA voted unanimously 6-0 to name Live Oak City employee Kim Smiley as the purchasing

agent for the CRA board. The Live Oak City Council will have to approve the decision before it is official. Smiley currently serves in that capacity for the city and has performed the tasks of a purchasing agent for the CRA.

**CRA now insured by Florida League of Cities**

The CRA board voted unanimously 6-0 Tuesday night to become insured through the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust - Florida League of Cities which will have an annual premium of \$6,629. The

SEE CRA, PAGE 3A

## Man pleads guilty to second degree murder

By Bryant Thigpen  
bryant.thigpen@gafnews.com

A Live Oak man accused of stabbing his mother to death pleaded guilty to second degree murder in a Suwannee County courtroom on Monday, according to the Suwannee County Clerk of the Circuit Court's Office.

Kenneth Hooker, 44, 14439 201st Rd., Live Oak, reportedly stabbed his mother, Rose Lawson, to death on March 25, 2013. Hooker said that they had been fighting and the



Hooker

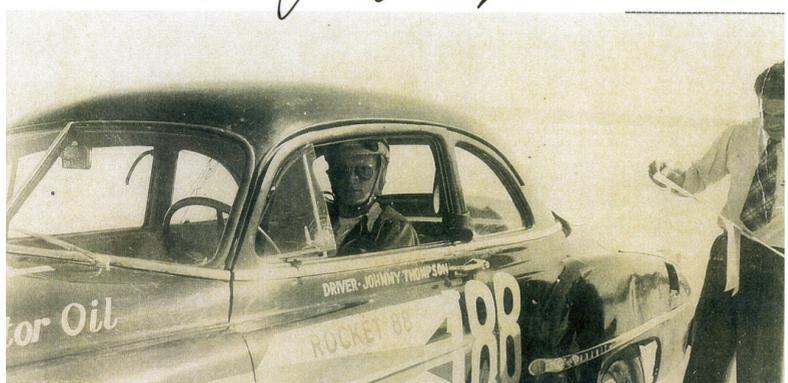
SEE MAN, PAGE 3A

Editor's note: This is the final installment of a two-part series on NASCAR racing legend, Suwannee County resident, Johnny "Speedy" Thompson.

## Living legend raced with the best

FEB 1951 DAYTONA BEACH, FL GRAND NATIONAL RACE

*Johnny Thompson* 1950 OLDSMOBILE

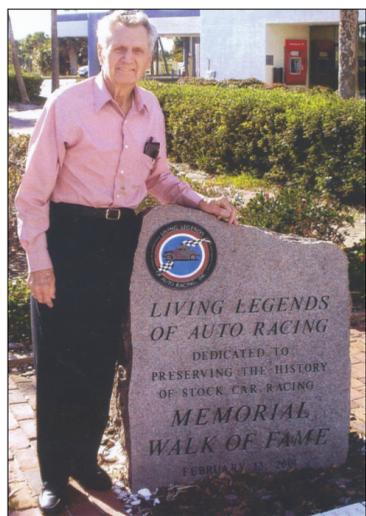


Johnny Thompson prior to his time trial run at the 1951 Grand National Beach Course race. A NASCAR official beside car is making sure it met race qualifications. Cars had to be stock right off the dealer showroom floor. Courtesy photos

*Staff*  
As the 56th Daytona 500 heralds the coming of spring, race fans everywhere will be celebrating the great race that was born on 3.2 miles of sand and asphalt at the old beach course directly facing the Atlantic Ocean.

Johnny Tompson learned that course and each curve in it as he grew to become a legend of

SEE LIVING, PAGE 3A



Johnny Thompson standing at the Living Legends Of Auto Racing Walk of Fame in Daytona.

'Speedy' Thompson started on the beach sands at Daytona

## Mills retires from SCSO

Captain served for 21 years

By Bryant Thigpen  
bryant.thigpen@gafnews.com

Suwannee County Sheriff's Office Captain John Mills has retired after 21 years of service to the county. Friends, family and co-workers gathered on Friday for a cookout to show appreciation for his many years of service and dedication to the people. Guests enjoyed a delicious steak and baked potato and a big slice of cake for dessert.

"I was very humbled to see how many family and friends came out and to see what all they went through to do that for me. I really

appreciate it," Mills said. "It was a great career and I enjoyed my whole career," he said.

Mills was born in Hollywood

and came from a family of seven sisters.

SEE MILLS, PAGE 3A



SCSO Captain John Mills (center) is pictured with Jay Law, left, and Glenn Jernigan, who both took over from Mills- Photo: Bryant Thigpen

## FFA lends a hand for Arbor Day

BRANFORD NEWS, PAGE 7A





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# CRA embraces vision for farmers market

Continued From Page 1A

and see what the people want.

“The other thing this farmers market would be able to do is, on a long-term

basis, it will help you build some jobs and entrepreneurs through the farmers market,” Yeago said. “A farmers market is an incubator of small businesses and whether you make the

best jelly or jam in town, regardless of what it might be, the farmers market will be a way to help you get started on a very low income.”  
Yeago, of High Springs,

said the farmers market would be a place where all people could come and take advantage of shopping locally. She explained by vendors accepting Supplemental Nutri-

tion Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, and the farmers market nutrition program, which provides coupons to consumers, those living on a low income could benefit from the farmers market. Yeago also said she would encourage vendors to accept debit and credit cards to better serve the people.

long-term results in downtown. Yeago also said incubation is key in making the farmers market thrive.

“Starbucks started in a farmers market,” Yeago told the audience. “There’s a little bakery in Gainesville that started in a farmers market. It’s a great way to get (a business) started.”

If the board decides to move forward with bringing the farmers market to Live Oak, Yeago recommended hosting the event on Sunday afternoons to accommodate vendors or during a weekday, such as Wednesday or Thursday.

Live Oak Development Manager George Curtis said they are currently reviewing a couple of locations as the potential site for the farmers market.

Yeago will analyze the local area and will bring back a recommendation to the board on how to move forward with establishing a farmers market. The plan will be delivered back by the end of February. The concept planning process will cost up to \$2,000 to get started.

According to Yeago’s biography, she is a founding board member of Farmers Market Coalition, continuously serving on the executive committee as president and treasurer since its inception in 2006.

The board will then take action and decide if the CRA should move forward with the project.

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# Suwannee Democrat



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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

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## Arrest Record

*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

Jan 30, James Leon Crosby, 26, FSP, Raiford, FL, Battery on LEO-2 Cts: SCSO- A. Sutton  
Jan 30, Ashlee Nicole Daniels, 25, 19541 96th Street, Live Oak, FL, DWLS Knowingly, Cash Bond, 1st Appear/WFW/PD/ APPT: SCSO- W. Kelly  
Jan 30, Jessica Renee Henderson, 22, 424 Walker Avenue SW, Live Oak, FL, Poss -20 Grams Cannabis: SCSO- W. Kelly  
Jan 30, Stephen Dwight Sanders, 33, 11747 110th Street, Live Oak, FL, Battery (Dom Violence): SCSO- W. Kelly  
Jan 30, Everaldo Alethia Vincent, 39, 4314 224th

Street, Lake City, FL, Poss -20 Grams Cannabis: SCSO- W. Kelly

Jan 30, LaFondra Markeisha Woods, 39, 1394 S. Marion Ave #106, Lake City, FL, Poss -20 Grams Cannabis: SCSO- W. Kelly

Jan 31, Shameka Denise Ferguson, 23, 10451 NW 36th Dr Apt 6B, Jasper, FL, DWLS Knowingly, False Info to LEO: SCSO- W. Kelly

Jan 31, Oswaldo Efran Fernandez, 64, Homeless, Live Oak, FL, Disorderly Intox: SCSO- J. Zimmerman

Jan 31, Mildred Horton, 31, 18339 CR 136, Live Oak, FL, Parole Commission Warrant, O/C Poss Cocaine: SCSO- S. St John

Jan 31, Kevin Wayne Severance, 31, 701 NE Green St, Branford, FL, Petit Theft: SCSO- J. VanZile

Feb 1, Michael Lewis Butler, 52, 7743 US 90 E, Live Oak, FL, Trespass of Structure: SCSO- H. Harris

Feb 1, Howard Christie III, 22, 419 Shelby Ave, Live Oak, FL, Resist W/O Violence: LOPD- M. Mouton/T. Williams

Feb 1, Jeffery Allen Neal, 32, 505A Ave NE, Live Oak, FL, Battery (Dom Viol), 1st App PD Appt Per Fina: LOPD- B. Harrison

Feb 1, Jerman Cortez Norton, 29, 1102 Pine Ave, Live Oak, FL, Poss Firearm by Conv Fel: LOPD- M. Mouton/T. Williams

Feb 1, Charles Barry Shaw, 25, 10058 105th Dr, Live Oak, FL, DWLS/R: LOPD- C. Kinsey

Feb 1, James Claudious Smith, 66, 511 Walker St, Live Oak, FL, Agg Battery (Dom Viol): SCSO- J. Woloszyn

Feb 1, Jeremy Scott Stephens, 32, 614 Webb Dr,

Live Oak, FL, Discharge Firearm: LOPD- M. Mouton/T. Williams

Feb 2, Nicholas Wayne Hewett, 31, Wayne Frier Park, Live Oak, FL, Assault (Dom Viol), Disorderly Conduct, 1st App PD App WFW: SCSO- J. Woloszyn

Feb 2, Pedro Vasquez Juarez, 43, 703 Hamilton Ave, Live Oak, FL, No DL: SCSO- M. Henry

Feb 3, Alicia Nicole Bryant, 34, 10629 155th Lance, Live Oak, FL, VOP (Sale of Cntl Subs), VOP (Sale of Cntl Subs): SCSO- T. Donaldson

Feb 3, Glenn Earl Granville, 51, 801 Ada St, Live Oak, FL, Sentenced 15 Months DOC: SCSO- T. Lee

Feb 3, James Larry Corbin, 66, 18109 168th Street, Live Oak, FL, VOP (Pass Worth Bnk Chk), VOP (Pass Worth Bnk Chk), VOP (Pass Worth Bnk Chk), VOP (Fraud), Lafayette County Wrt, VOP (Exploit Elderly): P&P- L. Frazier

Feb 3, Eric Richard Seaver, 27, 21307 Lancaster Road, Live Oak, FL, Battery X 2: SCSO- Cundiff

Feb 3, Robert Leon Sharpe, 45, 891 NW Rock St, Atlanta, GA, Uttering a Forgery: SCSO- D. Lee

Feb 3, Qais Hasson Griffin, 18, 904 N Davis, Albany, GA, Credit Card Fraud X2, Burg-Vehicle, Grand Theft, Theft X4, Fraud: SCSO- D. Lee

Feb 3, Penny Ratliff, 34, 5722 Pincrest Rd, Live Oak, FL, Suw Co Wrt VOP O/C Poss Methamphetamine: SCSO- C. Smith

Feb 3, Ann Marie Taylor Rowe, 20, 6396 US Hwy 129S, Jasper, FL, DUI, Leave Scene W/Prop Damage: FHP- E. Williams

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“I made a call and the Department of Agriculture has agreed to allow this market to accept the coupons, the WIC and the senior coupons. All we have to do is talk to the state about when we’re going to open it up,” she said.

“With those kinds of added values, everyone can come to the market and shop,” she said.

“I guess what’s most important about the farmers market is, it’s equal. It provides access to healthy foods. It give the vendors cash income, and it really brings people together,” she stated.

Yeago told the board the farmers market may be the missing ingredient that brings people to downtown Live Oak.

“Maybe you only see that vibrancy at Christmas time during the big event. Because of that, we know that you can draw people to downtown. It’s just a matter of being able to do it,” Yeago said.

Consistency is key to making the farmers market a success and to establish

## Teen hit by vehicle, recovering well

Continued From Page 1A

eling eastbound, struck him. Dean was airlifted to Shands Gainesville in critical condition. No charges have yet been filed against the driver.

Laxton said surgeons were going to put a soft cast on Dean’s right ankle. He said they were going to put pins in the ankle, but determined it wouldn’t be necessary. Laxton said Dean had a breathing tube to help in place of the punctured lung.

“The tube lets out all the excess air between the lung cavity and the lungs, so it can inflate back up,” said Laxton. “They put the tube in there so the outside pressure will be less than the inside pressure of the lung which causes it to inflate again.”

Laxton said he wasn’t sure what the term “cracked kidney” actually meant, but said Dean’s kidney seems to be fine and functioning properly.

Laxton said it might be about six weeks before Dean would be able to get back on his feet and this would be after undergoing therapy.

“Like I said, he’s doing fine,” said Laxton. “I was just talking to him.”

Laxton has visited Dean several times and he and many SHS and Columbia

High School wrestlers visited Dean on Saturday following a district wrestling tournament where Suwannee placed as district runner-up.

“I’m thankful he’s alive, of course he’s just a kid and all he’s thinking about is wrestling,” Laxton said. “He said, ‘coach, I’m not going to be able to wrestle for awhile, but I know you need an assistant coach. I’ll make you a good assistant coach.’”

Laxton told him that would be fine because, “Good help is hard to come by.”

Dean was named SHS wrestler of the week last week. He is a sophomore who started wrestling in the seventh grade and held a record of 23-7. Dean placed second at the North Florida Conference this year and during his eighth grade year his record was 41-1 with 39 pins. In the eighth grade conference finals match, Dean pinned his opponent in 16 seconds, earning him the conference champion.

Dean has won several other titles including district champion, placing third at regions and even becoming a state qualifier. He recently placed first in the 126 pound weight class at the Seminole Invitational at Florida High School.

## Live Oak Heritage Trail brochures available

The Suwannee County Historical Commission has released a new brochure: A Self-Guided Downtown Heritage Trail of Live Oak. A free copy is available at the Live Oak Public Library, Branford Public Library, Suwannee County Chamber of Commerce and Suwannee County Historical Museum at 208 N. Ohio Ave.

The brochure describes 30 buildings in the Live Oak Historic Business District. These businesses and homes were built prior to 1925 and have historical significance because of the

people associated with them, architectural features or historical events relating to them. Many of the buildings are listed on the state or national Register of Historic Places. A photo of each building accompanies the descriptive information.

In 1900, the lumber industry and railroads put Live Oak on the map. Early downtown businesses were along the railroad tracks and Ohio Street. Today, most of the buildings within three blocks of the intersection of Howard and Ohio Streets were built prior to 1925.

# Living legend raced with the best

Continued From Page 1A  
NASCAR.

Johnny Thompson, who had driven short tracks in the Southeast, was about to undertake the premier challenge for race car drivers.



Johnny Thompson receives the prestigious "Glenn 'Fireball' Roberts Hard Charger Award in 2009.

Courtesy photos

He had left what he called in his book the "cotton patch" and was now at "the race track". Drivers from across the United States made the trip to Daytona Beach for the event. In 1951, Thompson was one of 54 competitors vying for the \$1,000 purse.

"That was a lot of money then," he said.

Thompson drove a modified in his first appearance on the beach, anything goes as far as setting the car's suspension and engine components. This was a new experience for Thompson; he had never driven on sand and on a track the size of the beach course.

"I had the knowledge to drive," he said, "but not at that speed."

He qualified at 96 mph on a measured mile distance that set qualifying order.

"There was no practice," Thompson said. "Some years there would be 132 cars there."

According to Thompson, the length of the race depended on the tide.

"We raced each other and the tide," explained Thompson.

There were 145 cars in the race and Thompson finished 45th.

"To finish there you had to outrun 40 to 50 cars," he stated.

In 1952, Thompson came in 54th, having transmission problems. Out of 136 cars in 1954, Thompson finished 55th.

He was running against the top drivers of his day: Cotton Owens, Tim Flock, Fireball Roberts, Banjo Mathews and Marshall Teague. The year 1954 was Thompson's final trip to the beach. He qualified at

102.5, finished 26th out of 144 cars.

Beach racing was a different animal, according to Thompson.

"It was a wide beach. You could run 12 to 14 cars side-by-side down the straightaway, but when you got to the north turn, you had better be two-wide. That turn was the trouble spot. Drivers would try and force the issue by going more than two wide and end up in the sand dunes."

He went on to say that the A1A part of the track was only big enough for two cars.

"There was a red line painted across the track before the south turn," said Thompson. "It was a warning for the driver to put on the brakes to give them enough slow down time."

"One year, 17 of them piled up at the north turn. I missed it, but it looked like a junk yard," said Thompson.

There was also the issue of soft sand.

"If the sun was out, the sand got very mushy," said Thompson. "But, if it was

overcast, the course didn't lose its grip as badly."

Beach racing was not a good venue for spectators, maintained Thompson.

"You could only see the cars when they went by," he said.

Sand was also problematic for a competitor.

"When you get that many cars running on sand, it was hard to see the north turn coming at you," explained Thompson. "You had to look out the side window of the car to get a clear view of the turn. The sand hitting your face felt like needles."

Thompson raced five years on the beach.

In 2009 Thompson was awarded the prestigious Fireball Roberts Hard Charger.

"The award was given to me by Fireball's daughter," he explained.

The award is given for a driver's service and outstanding performance in racing. Thompson also has a memorial brick at the Living Legends of Auto Racing in Daytona. Drivers who raced the old beach course take precedence

over all others for induction.

Thompson's racing career lasted from 1947 to 1958 and he holds seven track records at the old Jacksonville Speedway. In 2013, Thompson received honors and was elected to the Racing's Hero's Historical Group for drivers who made their mark in racing history.

He received his certificate in recognition of the pioneering and the contribution he made to the sport of stock car racing in the early years.

His certificate reads "Memories Never Die As Long As There Are People That Remember and Keep History Alive".

Besides writing a book, Thompson also has written a poem, "The Last Race".

In one of the verses it reads:

"When I ride by that race track that stands on a hill; And I look at the oak trees that are standing there still; My mind will go back to the days of my past; And a smile will be formed on my lips at last."

## CRA ROUND-UP

Continued From Page 1A

insurance policy will cover general liability and public officials' errors and omissions/employment practices liability.

"We have a distinctly separate set of responsibilities and liabilities," CRA Director Tim Williams said. "While our funds are processed through and by the City of Live Oak, our insurance should insure us individually and separately."

Insurance representative Lee Harvard said having Florida League of Cities represent the CRA, whether an incident occurs on CRA or city property, the defense remains the same.

"I don't think the CRA has ever been insured," said board member Adam Prins.

The board took action and voted to accept the insurance policy.

### CRA enters into agreement with Do Good Media

The board unanimously voted and agreed to enter into a three-month contract with Do Good Media in the amount of \$600. Do Good Media will be responsible for creating an entity Facebook page, create Facebook ads and provide analytical reports of promotion reports.

According to the contract, the scope of work includes: provide an opportunity for conversations by community members; creation of Facebook ads to reach out to specific local demographic segments; implement strategies to collect desired information from engaged "fans"; consultation for future growth and goal setting; purchase targeted ads and "promoted" posts; custom graphic design for periodic posts highlighting CRA work; and a proposal for continued management and training for organizational management of page.

CRA will pay \$300 in advance at the time the contract is executed, and the remaining \$300 at the end of the three month period.

## Mills retires from SCSO

Continued From Page 1A

"I was the only boy," Mills said, laughing.

In 1972, the family decided to pack their bags and moved to Suwannee County, where they would establish their roots.

In 1977, Mills graduated from Suwannee High School and went on to attend Lake City Community College.

Mills married the love of his life, Cindy, in 1978 and they had two children, JD and Derek, who are both married and reside in Columbia County.

Mills got his start with the Suwannee County Sheriff's Office in 1993 and was hired by former Sheriff Robert Leonard as a deputy.

"While Leonard was sheriff, we didn't have rankings until near the end of his career," Mills said. "He promoted eight people to sergeant, and I was one of the eight."

## Man pleads guilty to second degree murder

Continued From Page 1A

reason he stabbed her was because he just wanted her to listen to him.

Following the incident that occurred around 8 p.m. March 25, Hooker did not call 911 for any medical help. Lawson died as a result of the injury to her chest.

Hooker admitted to stabbing his mother and revealed the weapon he used to law enforcement officers.

Sentencing is scheduled for Monday, April 7, 2014.

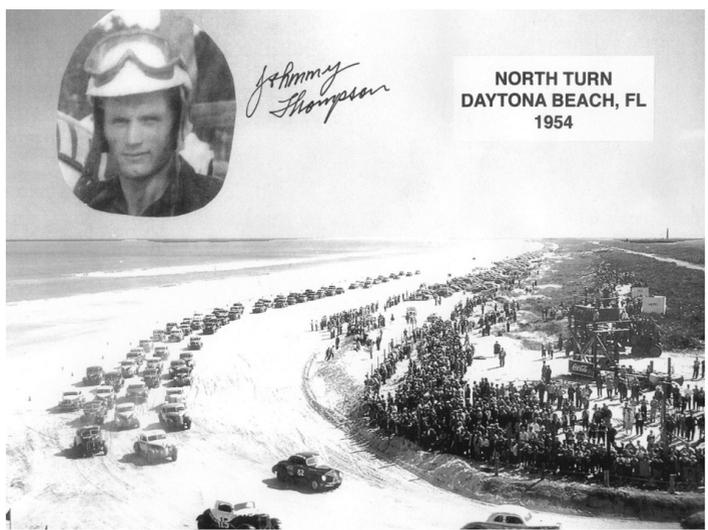
Under the leadership of former Sheriff Al Williams, Mills was promoted to lieutenant and later promoted again to captain. He remained captain with the sheriff's office under the current administration of Sheriff Tony Cameron.

Mills walked into the office on Friday for the last time as captain with the SCSO. Jay Law and Glenn Jernigan, both long-time employees of the SCSO,

will be responsible for the duties and responsibilities Mills maintained prior to retirement.

Cameron said Mills will truly be missed.

"John cannot be replaced. He's one of those guys that went above and beyond the call of duty each and every day," Cameron said. "While someone may take his place, no one will ever fill his shoes."



Cars race through the infamous North Turn on Daytona Beach in 1954.

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# Lions district governor



The Live Oak Lions Club recently was host to Lion District 35L Governors Zone Meeting. Pictured from left to right are Wyman Clark, president, Live Oak Lions; Bob Melnick, first vice district governor; Jeffrey Heisler, Ph.D, governor, Dist. 35L; Larry Hopkins, second vice district governor; Marge Holton, regional chairperson; David Mullis, treasurer, Live Oak Lions, chairperson Zone 7; Shirley Shuler, cabinet administrator, Dist. 35L and Tony Stefanowicz, global leadership team coordinator, Dist. 35L.



District 35L Governor Jeffrey Heisler, presented a service pin and a letter of acknowledgement to Lion membership for 45 plus years service to John Wiggins, left, and a pin and letter of acknowledgement of Lion membership for 40 plus years service to Ed Howell, right.



- Photos: Homer Scroggin

# Corinth Baptist Church Revival

7042 SW 41st Ave., Jasper, FL  
Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014

Homecoming Services will begin @ 10:30AM with "Local Talent" sharing in song and testimony. Rev. Shawn Johnson of First Baptist Church Dowling Park will be bringing the Homecoming Message. Immediately following the Worship Service there will be a covered dish dinner, so bring your favorite dish and join us. There will be no afternoon or evening Services.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 – Friday, Feb. 21, 2014

Revival Services starting @ 7 p.m. We invite you to come & worship with us and be blessed as Rev. Shawn Johnson will be sharing God's Word each evening. We are looking forward to a wonderful time in the LORD. Come join us!

# Teen Police Academy enrolling now

Live Oak Police Chief Buddy Williams announced that the Live Oak Police Department will be conducting their annual Teen Police Academy beginning Thursday, March 13.

The academy will be held at the police headquarters at 205 SE White Ave., Live Oak, and other selected locations each Thursday evening for 10 weeks.

The academy offers an opportunity for teens, aged 13-18, to learn more about local, state and federal law enforcement and

the criminal justice system.

There's lots of hands on experiences, which is intended to keep sessions educational and fun.

Pick up an application from school resource officers at the Suwannee High School and middle school, or at the LOPD located at 205 SE White Ave.

For further information, contact Erica Moreno at 386-362-7466.

Submit your application soon. Space is limited.

# Jam auditions are Saturday at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park

Big weekend coming up this weekend at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak. Crews Myles entertains Friday, Feb. 7 and the SOSMP's Suwannee River Jam audition with terrific talent takes place Saturday.

Saturday night is the only Suwannee River Jam audition held at the SOSMP in 2014. With two auditions already held in Lake City and Starke and more to come at other locations, the competition is stiff as some of the best of the best country artists in North Florida are set to try to make it to the finals April 18 at the SOSMP. Among those competing on the small stages will be Adam Brock, Cassidy Lee, Heather Dockery, Lauren Ogburn, Maddie Norris, Alexis Branscome, Abigail Carpenter, Willow Veda, Sara Benjamin and on the large stage bands County Line Road, Sabin Sharpe, Maple Road, Ciara Rae Band, 309C, Shotgun Harbour and Drew Kelly & Southland who will all give their performances everything they have for a chance to perform at the largest country music jam in the South, the Suwannee River Jam April 30 - May 3. That spells wonderful country music, great entertainment

and the need for YOU to be in the audience cheering on these artists who need your support as the judges chose the winners. Winners will move to the finals April 18. Come on out, plan to set a spell, these artists are going to battle it out for sure. Dancing is encouraged during the auditions so bring your dance partner and show off some moves.

Crews Myles, an original and cover duo playing rockin' country music, began with just two country boys from Lake Butler playing big music. Members now include founders James Crews and Myles Sapp, Kyle Mattox, Jarred (wolfman) and Todd Hanlon. The band has only been playing a short time but in that time the guys have developed fans across North Florida. The band's second trip to the SOSMP's Music Hall is sure to be a hit. Pure country music will have you on the dance floor so bring your sweetie and your dancing shoes for this special Friday night, Feb. 7 event as they kick off the weekend.

Doors open at 5 p.m. for dinner, auditions begin at 7 p.m. Be early. The SOS Café and Restaurant will be open and have delicious food available at regular prices along with a full-ser-

vice bar. Plan now to be part of this wonderful evening of talent.

For more information about the Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, call 386-364-1683, email spir-

it@musicliveshere.com or go to [www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com). The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park is located at 3076 95th Drive 4.5 miles north of Live Oak.

## 2014 Trail of Hearts 4th Annual Benefit Ride Feb. 22, 2014, McCulley Farms, Jasper

Benefit ride, poker run and therapeutic riding Join us and support a wonderful program Advocacy and services provided for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

[www.arcnfl.com/ride](http://www.arcnfl.com/ride)  
jsampson@arcnfl.com  
386-362-7143.

Register early by Feb. 11 for a chance to win a \$25 Walmart gift card.

Special thanks to our sponsors for their support and donations.

## 16th Annual Lawn Mower Race

March 29, 2014 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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US 129 North, Live Oak

Support The Arc North Florida and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Challenge your community competition and race for the lead position. Prizes for the top individual and team money raiser. Trophies for the top individual rider and top team.

For details and online registration, visit [www.arcnfl.com/LMR](http://www.arcnfl.com/LMR) or call 386-362-7143.

Proceeds go to support individuals in The Arc North Florida programs to receive the necessary training to function as independently as possible and each client is provided opportunities to participate fully in the community.

# Douglas alumni reunion meeting

There will be a Douglass High alumni meeting on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. at Greater New Bethel AME Church fellowship hall.

All Douglass High

School alumni are cordially invited to attend in order to make plans for a 2014 Douglass alumni reunion.

For more information, contact Robert Ford at 386-208-1061.

# Homeless Coalition Meeting February 11

The monthly meeting of the Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley will be conducted at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at the Columbia County Public Library West Branch.

The Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley serves the counties of Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette and Suwannee Counties. The network includes agencies and individuals interested in the services available to those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. United Way of Suwannee

Valley serves as the lead agency for the homeless coalition. The local United Way is a community impact and fundraising organization which, utilizing volunteers on all levels, identifies unmet community needs and seeks to alleviate those needs through United Way of Suwannee Valley initiatives and the funding of 21 affiliated health and human service agencies.

For further information contact Jennifer Lee, Homeless Coordinator, United Way of Suwannee Valley, 386-752-5604 x 107.

# Installation celebration for Pastor Keith Canady

At Sweet Hope Baptist Church, 1301 SW 7th St., Live Oak. Opening worship service is Saturday, Feb. 8 at 6 p.m. with Rev. Darryl Canady. Pre-installation worship services are Wednesday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m.

with Rev. Lantz Mills, and on Thursday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m., with Rev. Levi White.

The installation worship and celebration service will be Sunday, Feb. 16 at 4 p.m. with Rev. Eugene Diamond.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Benita Lynn Royals Robertson**  
Nov. 4, 1963  
Jan. 30, 2014

Benita Lynn Royals Robertson, 50, of Lake City, passed away on Thursday evening Jan. 30, 2014 at the Lake City Medical Center after a sudden illness.

Benita was born in Suwannee County on Nov. 4, 1963 to Gloria Roberts Royals and the late Delmar Royals. Benita was a graduate of Suwannee High School class of 1983 and was a Clinical Nutritionist with RMC until ill health forced her to retire. Benita loved to go hunting, fishing, being outdoors and boating; she especially enjoyed going on picnics. Benita was a life-long resident of Suwannee and Columbia County and was of the Christian faith.

Mrs. Benita is survived by her loving husband of 22 years: Robert Ray Robertson, Jr. of Lake City; daughter: Rae-Ann Robertson of Lake City; mother: Gloria Royals of Wellborn; brother: Delmar Royals, Jr. of Wellborn and mother and father-in-law: Robert Ray & Sue Robertson of Lake City. Numerous other nieces; nephews; and other family members and friends also survive.

Graveside funeral services for Benita was conducted on Tuesday Feb. 4, 2014 at 10 a.m. in Scott Cemetery with Rev. Howard Thomas officiating. Interment followed. The family received friends on Monday evening Feb. 3, 2014 from 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home. Arrangements were under the direction and care of the Dees-Parrish Family Funeral Home, 458 S. Marion Ave, Lake City, Fla., 32025. Please sign the online guestbook at [www.parrish-familyfuneralhome.com](http://www.parrish-familyfuneralhome.com).

[familyfuneralhome.com](http://familyfuneralhome.com).

**Jimmy Tucker**  
Oct. 19, 1933  
Jan. 31, 2014

Jimmy Tucker, age 80 of Live Oak, Fla. passed away Friday, Jan. 31, 2014 at Haven Hospice in Lake City, Fla. following a lengthy illness.

Jimmy was a native and life long resident of Suwannee County. Jim served in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Tarawa and U.S.S. Coral Sea. He had nine years of safe driving and he received 2, One Million Mile safe driving awards during his truck driving years. In his spare time he loved to farm. He was a member of the Beulah Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Susan Tucker, Live Oak; two sons, Mike Tucker, Live Oak and Steve Tucker, Jacksonville, Fla.; three daughters, Cathy Coward Auburn, AL; Becky Bonds, Branford, Fla.; Pam Platt, Luraville, Fla.; two step daughters, Chrissy Howard, Mayo, Fla.; Kathy Zedalis, Gainesville, Fla.; six grandchildren, eight great grandchildren, four step grandchildren.

Visitation was held one hour prior to the services

beginning at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Graveside services were held at 11 a.m., Monday, Feb. 3, 2013 in the Live Oak Cemetery with Rev. Larry Simmons officiating.

Please sign the guestbook at [www.harrisfuneralhome-inc.net](http://www.harrisfuneralhome-inc.net).

Harris Funeral Home & Cremations, Inc., Live Oak, Fla. 386-364-5115 was in charge of all arrangements.

**DEATH NOTICES**

**Toney Jordan**  
Jan. 31, 2014

Toney Jordan a resident of Live Oak, Fla. passed away Jan. 31, 2014 in Shands at Gainesville, Fla.

D.M. Udell and Son of D.M. Udell funeral Home are in charge of all arrangements.

**Lola M. Sommers**  
Jan. 30, 2014

Lola M. Sommers, 92, Live Oak, Fla. passed away on Thursday, Jan. 30, 2014.

Daniels Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc., Live Oak & Branford, Fla.

**McAlpin Community Club welcomes The Lemleys**

The McAlpin Community Club will have its regular meeting on Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. with our usual potluck supper. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

Don and Sylvia Lemley, Gospel Singers, will be with us this month. They have been our guest for several years, and always such a Blessing to have them share their special songs and music.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come to our monthly meeting held

every month on the second Monday at 7 p.m. It is a great way to enjoy visiting friends and staying in touch with what's happening in your community. The Club is located at 9981 - 170th Terrace in McAlpin, directly across from the Post Office. Membership fees per family are Ten Dollars (\$10) a year.

For more information call Barbara Parks at (386)-362-3044 or Donna Wade at (386)-963-3516.

**AURA Music & Arts Festival is Feb. 14-16 at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park**

**Grab your tickets now for AURA Music & Arts Festival 5, The Southeast's Premier Live Electronic Music Festival**

It's time once again for AURA Music & Arts Festival Feb. 14-16 at the beautiful Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak, Fla. Celebrating its fifth anniversary, AURA's 2014 lineup features a variety of music genres but always stays true to its live electronic roots with headliners Lotus, Papadosio and Conspirator. Also taking the stage at AURA is Zoogma, The Werks, The Re-ivalists, Particle, The Heavy Pets, Future Rock, Marco Benevento, Mike Dillon Band, Kung Fu, Dopapod, Stokeswood (including a Tribute Set to Hall & Oates), Superhuman Happiness, Start Making Sense: A Tribute to the Talking Heads, Earphunk, Twiddle, Jimkata and more, many of which will play two sets throughout the weekend.

Since its humble beginnings in Brooksville, AURA has become one of the premiere multi-day boutique music events in the Southeast US, attracting fans from around the country. Now comfortably at home at the famed Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park, AURA comes to life in the midst of 800 acres of Spanish moss draped oak and cypress trees along the Suwannee River and utilizes one of the most beautiful natural amphitheaters in the country only made more awe-inspiring by AURA's attention to sound and lighting production.

This year AURA has added The Vibe Tent hosted by Brotherly Love Productions, which will be home to the festival's extra-musical activities including the expanded Yoga & Healing Arts Program offering more than 20 classes and workshops including: AYFit, AcroYoga, BoomYoga, Four Elements Yoga Chakra Flow, Siesta Savasana, Yoga, Meditation, Ecstatic Dance, Mantra Workshop and many others. At night, the Vibe Tent transforms into TheUNTZ.com Silent Disco featuring Luke Miller from Lotus, aka Luke the Knife, Vlad the Inhaler, brothers Sir Charles and Zak the Blak and more, as well as hosting additional music sets including Heavy Pet side-projects Fat Mannequin, Spontaneous Underground and Lather Up. and a touch of comedy.

AURA will also host its first official onsite pre-party in its five-year history. Kicking things off Thursday, Feb. 13, fans are invited to settled in at SOSMP a night early and enjoy music from three of Florida's finest bands in the scene - The Heavy

Pets, Greenhouse Lounge and The Funky Nuggets. As always, AURA will feature top-tier live painters, an interactive arts village, canned food drive, and the second annual Charity Disc Golf Tournament hosted by Vibram® Disc Golf. To join the wait list for cabins, golf cart rentals and RV hook-ups, please contact SOSMP at 386-364-1683. For GA and VIP tickets visit [www.AURAMusicFestival.com](http://www.AURAMusicFestival.com).

**WHEN:**  
Festival dates: Fri., Feb. 14 – Sun., Feb. 16

Pre-Party: Thurs., Feb. 13

**WHERE:**  
Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park  
1076 95th Dr. Live Oak, FL 32060  
386-364-1683  
[www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com)

**TICKETS:**

Advance - \$155 (includes taxes, fees, camping, music & activities Fri. – Sun.)  
Gate - \$165 (includes taxes, fees, camping, music & activities Fri. – Sun.)

Thursday Pre-Party - \$30 adv/gate  
**AURA 5 FINAL LINEUP:** Lotus (two nights), Papadosio (two nights), Conspirator, Zoogma, The Werks x2, The Re-ivalists, Particle, The Heavy Pets, Marco Benevento, Mike Dillon Band, Kung Fu x2, Dopapod x2, Stokeswood x2 (including A Tribute to Hall & Oates), Superhuman Happiness, Start Making Sense: A Tribute to the Talking Heads, Earphunk, COPE, Twiddle, Jimkata, Lucky Costello, The Resolvers, Pigeons Playing Ping Pong, Polyester Pimpstrap, Catfish Alliance, Fat Mannequin, Lather Up., Spontaneous Underground, Displace, The-Untz.com Silent Disco, Luke the Knife (Luke Miller of Lotus), ZwangBang (Scotty Zwang of Dopapod), Double D, Vlad the Inhaler, Sir Charles, Zak the Blak (Zach Weinert of Greenhouse Lounge), Semantiks, Don McCon, Elliot Mess, UDNTPRTY, Beat Thief Inc. and Scotty Solomon

If you would like to make reservations for RV parking, cabins, primitive camping or camper parking at the SOSMP, call 386-364-1683, email [spirit@musicliveshere.com](mailto:spirit@musicliveshere.com) or go to [www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com).

The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park is located at 3076 95th Drive, Live Oak, Fla, 32060, 4.5 miles south of Interstate 75 and 4.5 miles north of Interstate 10 off US 129.

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Renee Poole with her mom, Eleanor Preston

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# Viewpoints/Opinions

## BIBLE VERSE

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33 NIV

## 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 2014

1. Revitalize downtown Live Oak.
2. Continue work on Perimeter Road.
3. Continue developing catalyst site.
4. Update our LDRs and comp. plan to better protect resources and plan for growth.
5. Wise use of tax dollars.

## GUEST COLUMN Rescind by right language

By Donna Ellis

Suwannee County Resident

Dear Suwannee Board of County Commissioners:

I am writing to request that you "step up to the plate" and facilitate the rescinding of LDR 13-06 amendment, known as the "by right" amendment. This has been, and will continue to be an item of contention between the general public and the Board, until this thing is resolved! I am sure you must be aware of the rising concern of your constituents on this matter, and understandably so with all that has transpired at the catalyst site with multiple sink holes having presented in that area, according to Randy Harris, county administrator.

The idea of having any industry that is dealing with toxic materials in an area that has already been identified as an area of high sink hole probability, is not only senseless, but irresponsible as well! By the clear cutting, grubbing, excising mountains of clay, digging retention ponds, hauling in tons of dirt to this site, you have created the "perfect storm" as it were, to result in sink hole activity.

I know you are intelligent men, and I need not explain to you the possibilities that could result in allowing industries dealing in toxic or noxious materials to locate in that area. It is asking for a disaster! It has been proven over and over again that industries responsible for these toxic problems often declare they are bankrupt once disaster strikes, and the locals are left to do the costly clean-up at their own expense. This can be in the millions of dollars.

We have all the things that make Suwannee County a special place at risk. First, our drinking water, the many first magnitude springs, the Suwannee River, and the welfare of our residents. I have no idea whose idea it was to devise this amendment, but that is now beside the point. The point is that it removed your responsibility and judgment from the decision making process of what is best for our county, the very job you were elected to do.

We need to put this thing to rest and restore some reason to the Board's actions. This was not reasonable, and I am still pondering what or who, was to gain by its passage. You can do what needs to be done by just saying this was not in the best interest of the county and its residents, and rescind it. It would do much to calm the hostility toward the Board and restore confidence in your intent.

I implore you to thoughtfully consider how this could be done. For private citizens to undertake such a petition would cost \$1,600, and the final vote of its being accepted would be up to the Board of County Commissioners! As you can see, this is a dead end for citizens to undertake such an endeavor. Use your vote, your voice and your commitment to our county to do the right thing. Much is at stake here, and I honestly believe you do care!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Send submissions to: nf.editorial@gafnews.com or Suwannee Democrat, PO Box 370, Live Oak, FL 32064.

## OPINION

# Schoolteacher cheating



A  
MINORITY  
VIEW

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BY WALTER WILLIAMS

Philadelphia's public school system has joined several other big-city school systems, such as those in Atlanta, Detroit and Washington, D.C., in widespread teacher-led cheating on standardized academic achievement tests. So far, the city has fired three school principals, and The Wall Street Journal reports, "Nearly 140 teachers and administrators in Philadelphia public schools have been implicated in one of the nation's largest cheating scandals." (1/23/14) (<http://tinyurl.com/q5makm3>). Investigators found that teachers got together after tests to erase the students' incorrect answers and replace them with correct answers. In some cases, they went as far as to give or show students answers during the test.

Jerry Jordan, president of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, identifies the problem as district officials focusing too heavily on test scores to judge teacher performance, and they've converted low-performing schools to charters run by independent groups that typically hire nonunion teachers. But William Hite, superintendent of the School District of Philadelphia, said cheating by adults harms students because schools use test scores to determine which students need remedial help, saying, "There is no circumstance, no matter how pressured the cooker, that adults should be cheating students."

While there's widespread teacher test cheating to conceal education failure, most notably among black children, it's just the tip of the iceberg. The National Assessment of Educational Progress, published by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics and sometimes referred to as the Nation's Report Card, measures student performance in the fourth and eighth grades. In 2013, 46 percent of Philadelphia eighth-graders scored below basic, and 35 percent scored basic. Below basic is a score meaning that a student is unable to demonstrate even partial mastery of knowledge and skills fundamental for proficient work at his grade level. Basic indicates only partial mastery. It's a similar story in reading, with 42 percent below basic and 41 percent basic. With this kind of performance, no one should be surprised that of the state of Pennsylvania's 27 most poor-

ly performing schools on the SAT, 25 are in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia's four-year high-school graduation rate in 2012 was 64 percent, well below the national rate of 78 percent. Even if a student graduates from high school, what does it mean? What a high-school diploma means for white students is nothing to write home about, as suggested by the fact that every year, nearly 60 percent of first-year college students must take remedial courses in English or mathematics. What a high-school diploma means for black students is nothing less than a disaster, as pointed out by Drs. Abigail and Stephan Thernstrom in their 2009 book, "No Excuses: Closing the Racial Gap in Learning." They state that "blacks nearing the end of their high school education perform a little worse than white eighth-graders in both reading and U.S. history, and a lot worse in math and geography." Little has changed since the book's publication.

Hite rightfully said that test cheating by adults harms students, but that harm pales in comparison with the harm done by teachers awarding fraudulent grades and conferring fraudulent high-school diplomas, particularly to black students. You say, "Williams, what do you mean by fraudulent diplomas?" When a student is given a high-school diploma, that attests that he can read, write and compute at a 12th-grade level, and when he can't do so at the eighth-grade level, that diploma is fraudulent. What makes it so tragic is that neither the student nor his parents are aware that he has a fraudulent diploma. When a black person is not admitted to college, flunks out of college, can't pass a civil service test or doesn't get job promotions, he is likelier to blame racial discrimination than his poor education.

Politicians, civil rights organizations and the education establishment will do nothing about the fraud. In fact, they give their full allegiance to the perpetrators.

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

## GUEST COLUMN

# On assessing one's survival skills

Dwain Walden

The Moultrie Observer



Recently, I was invited to sign up for a Wilderness Skills Institute in North Carolina. I'm not really sure why they invited me. My guess is they got my email address from those occasions when I actually did some Internet research on survival skills.

Right up front I will say that I am interested in such skills because I've always been fascinated about how our primitive ancestors survived. But let me make it clear, I'm not one of those "Doomsday Preppers" who store up foods, dig fallout shelters and mount machine guns on the roof of their houses. If our society should ever break down to the point, then just take me out in the first wave of whatever invades us.

That said, routinely we read about people getting lost in the wilderness. Some actually have skills to minimize the pain, and some are just lucky and are found before they freeze to death.

I know it's very unlikely that more than a very few of us would ever be subjected to such a challenge, but it's like playing the lottery and the chances of winning. If you're the winner, the statistics don't matter.

Ever since I was a kid, I've studied survival skills. Growing up on a farm and spending a lot of time on the creek banks gave me some insight into what I should know in this regard.

Among the skills that I have acquired along the way is the ability to build shelter from what the forest offers. I can structure a hut from palmetto that will turn rain. I can build a fish trap from vines. I've done this on more than one occasion and actually caught fish in them. I can build a fire by rubbing sticks together.

Again, I don't expect to ever be in a situation that would require these skills in a venue of life and death. But I also never expected to have a kidney stone that would cause me to remodel an emergency room and speak in tongues. Just

knowing that I have acquired some of these skills helps promote confidence.

I received a lot of ragging from my friends after I learned to build a fire by rubbing sticks together. There came the expected retorts like, "Hey, I can rub two matches together and do that." Or the standard, "Why don't you just buy a Bic?"

My response was, "Why learn to play a guitar? Just turn on the radio."

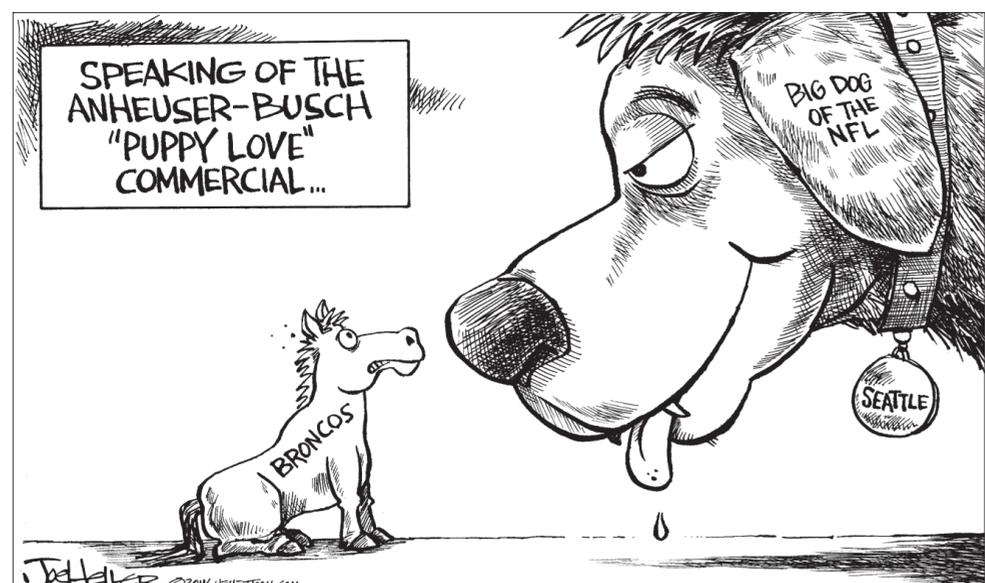
One thing learning some of these skills did for me was to give me a greater appreciation for those who came along long before us. Fire was probably the greatest discovery of mankind. It set the stage for so much more in the course of human progress. It allowed us to cook our food. As well, it allowed us to forge metal into weapons so that we could kill each other.

I also saw much irony in the fact that way back then a human who didn't even know the earth was round could build a fire without matches or a lighter. Meanwhile, there's a trainload of Ph.D.'s today who can't rub sticks together and build a fire. They may comprehend the physics, but they don't know the mechanics.

I once read about a big corporation that took some of its management people and put them out in the wilderness. The idea was for them to assess their abilities and resources and survive, feeling that the confidence that would result could manifest itself in business operations. Of course they had the assurance that if they could not meet the challenge, someone would come rescue them.

I've often wondered how that might work with Congress. Maybe we could take a sampling from both parties and put them on an island, forcing them to work together to survive ... and maybe without the assurance that someone would come get them if they failed. They might not even need to rub two sticks together to get a fire, given the perpetual friction between the two groups.

Dwain Walden is editor/publisher of The Moultrie Observer, 229-985-4545. Email: [dwain.walden@gafnews.com](mailto:dwain.walden@gafnews.com).



Branford baseball welcomes back O'Quinn see Sports page 1B



# Branford News

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

## FFA lends a hand for Arbor Day



Sparkleberry Chapter members helping folks pick out a plant to take home.

Submitted

Florida celebrates Arbor Day every year on the third Friday of January which was Jan. 23, 2014. Arbor Day is a day to remind individuals of the importance of planting and caring for trees. To celebrate Arbor Day, Branford FFA presented a lesson to Branford Elementary School pre-k, kindergarten and first grade as well as passing out trees with the Sparkleberry Chapter, the local Florida Native Plant Society. Over 300 seedlings were distributed to people in our community.

Branford FFA advisor, Andrew Rains, took over 40 FFA members to read to BES students. The high school students selected a book about trees to read to each class from the Branford Public Library. BHS librarian, Karen Koon, taught the students how to read picture books to other people. After reading the book, an-

other student taught the elementary students how to plant and care for the pine seedlings such as making certain the hole is deep enough for the entire length of the root.

"A special thanks goes to Mr. Bobby Feeny for his assistance with this project. We are also thankful to Mr. Dwight Stansel for donating all of the pine seedlings for this project. The Branford Public Library gathered the books read to the BES students," said FFA advisor Stacy Young. "Without the support of the community, this wouldn't have been possible."

The Branford FFA chapter also teamed up with the Sparkleberry Chapter to distribute trees to the community. More than 200 trees were given to the community. This allowed students to work with an outside community organization to promote protecting our natural resources.



Branford FFA students read to the children.



Branford FFA students encouraging people passing by to stop and get their free plant.



Story time was super-fun that day. Courtesy photos

### INDEX

Arrests .....2A  
Legal Notices .....3B  
Obituaries .....5A

Sports .....1B  
Suwannee Living .....4A  
Viewpoint .....6A



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## First Federal donates food, clothing, gifts to area residents

This Christmas First Federal Bank of Florida sponsored 41 foster children, several clients at CARC and The Arc North Florida, and provided items to Vivid Visions, the Christian Service Center, the Robert H. Jenkins, Jr. Veterans' Domiciliary Home and local nursing homes in Columbia, Suwannee, Lafayette and Hamilton counties.

The foster children received various gifts ranging from new bikes and remote control cars to Babies and art supplies, as well as necessities like winter coats, pjs and shoes. These local foster children, families, and individuals were recipients of Christmas gifts thanks to money raised from First Federal employees. Employees raise money internally throughout the year and by donating money through First Federal Way, the bank's internal payroll deduction program.

Employees donated money to also help sponsor resident of some local agencies. CARC received storage containers and new decorations for the group home. Thirteen CARC residents were sponsored and received winter clothing and personal items like makeup, jewelry, magazines, perfume and cologne. Seven residents were sponsored at The Arc North Florida and those residents received clothing and personal items. Vivid Visions, Christian Service Center, the Robert H. Jenkins, Jr. Veterans' Domiciliary Home and local nursing homes received robes, blankets and personal items.

"Every year I am proud and appreciative of all of the effort that our employees and customers put forth in helping others in our communities during the holiday season," says Keith Leibfried, President and CEO of First Federal Bank.

First Federal Bank of Florida offers a comprehensive portfolio of products and services for personal and business customers, and is committed to helping local communities flourish. Founded in 1962, First Federal has 20 branches located in Amelia Island, Bonifay, Bradenton, Chipley, Dowling Park, Graceville, Jasper, Lake City, Live Oak, Macclenny, Marianna, Mayo, Sarasota and Yulee, Florida.

## UF/IFAS to host 'Starting a Successful Hydroponic Business' short course

LIVE OAK - The UF/IFAS Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center near Live Oak will offer a two-day hydroponic short course twice in March.

The short course, called "Starting a Successful Hydroponic Business," will be offered March 17-18 and March 21-22, and will feature hands-on activities inside three greenhouses, a shade house, and an outdoor production area at the agricultural extension center facility.

An optional grower tour will be offered March 18 and March 22. The topics to be covered include: planning the business and developing a marketing strategy, growing transplants, selecting hydroponic systems, soilless media choices, irrigation and fertilizer, managing pests, and the production of several crops,

including microgreens, herbs, flowers, and tomatoes.

The short course is being offered in response to the tremendous increase in demand for information on hydroponics and controlled growing systems to provide high quality locally grown products. The short course is aimed at those considering the venture or who have recently started a hydroponic business. This course was offered from 2009 to 2013, and was well received, with nearly 70 attendees each year.

The facility is one of the best in the Southeast for teaching hydroponic growing in an actual operating greenhouse setting. Attendees will learn with hands-on teaching techniques. The optional tour will be an exclusive visit inside one of the most

**Who:** University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

**What:** Short Course "Starting a Successful Hydroponic Business"

**When:** March 17-18 or March 21-22, 2014

**Where:** Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center, Live Oak

successful and modern greenhouse hydroponic operations in Florida.

Visit <http://smallfarmsacademy.eventbrite.com> to register online. For more information, call Sarah White or Karen Hancock at (386) 362-1725.

## SRWMD prescribed fire program benefits environment

Submitted

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) uses prescribed fire as a key strategy to maintain the health and reduce the risk of wildfires on roughly 50,000 acres of conservation lands.

Prescribed fire simulates a natural process that helps

facilitate overall ecological restoration by enhancing native upland and wetland vegetation and improving habitat for native wildlife.

Prescribed fire is also used to reduce fuel levels in forests to help lower the intensity and to reduce the risk of wildfire. Other benefits of prescribed fire include plant disease control,

soil nutrient restoration, and aesthetic improvement.

On average the District burns 7,000-12,000 acres annually. The District has approximately 8,800 acres on about 30 tracts planned for Fiscal Year 2014. The District intends on burning approximately 1,800 acres in the dormant season from

November - February, and 7,000 acres in the growing season from March - August.

Burn areas will be closed to the public during prescribed burning, and signage will be posted to notify the public that these activities are in progress. Notices of each prescribed burn will be posted on the District's website at [www.mysuwanneeriver.com](http://www.mysuwanneeriver.com) and Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/srwmd](http://www.facebook.com/srwmd).

Jan. 26- Feb. 1 has been recognized as Prescribed Fire Awareness Week. To learn more about the benefits of prescribed fire, visit [www.goodfires.org](http://www.goodfires.org). For more information about the District's prescribed fire program, contact Scott Gregor, District prescribed burn project manager, at 386.362.1001, 800.226.1066 (FL only), or [sbg@srwmd.org](mailto:sbg@srwmd.org)



A prescribed fire at the District's Steinhatchee Springs Tract.

## Fla. Museum to host 10th North American Paleontological Convention Feb. 15-18

Submitted

Gainesville - The Florida Museum of Natural History will host a meeting of nearly 500 scientists from 28 coun-

tries for the 10th North American Paleontological Convention Feb. 15-18 at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center.

Established 45 years ago and held every five years, the conference brings together scholars and students from all fields of paleontology.

Attendees from every continent but Antarctica are expected for this year's meeting.

"This event offers paleontologists from all over the world an opportunity to exchange research ideas and highlight recent scientific discoveries unearthed from the fossil record," said Florida Museum Thompson Chair of Invertebrate Paleontology Michal Kowalewski, who heads the NAPC organizing committee. "We are thrilled to have been selected as a host for this major event. It is a sign of recognition for our museum as an internationally known center of paleontology. It is also an opportunity to showcase the university to prominent scientists and talented students from leading academic centers worldwide."

The conference is intended for paleontology enthusiasts of any level. In celebration of the active participation of avo-

luntary paleontologists, the 2014 meeting agenda includes special activities and symposia for amateurs and fossil clubs. Additional lectures will feature themes focused on a wide range of topics geared toward professionals. The overall objective is to showcase new research applications and increase communication among different disciplines.

"While we all have our specific areas of interest, it's important to see how people outside your research area are addressing similar types of scientific questions," said Troy Dexter, associate chair of the meeting organizing committee and a post-doctoral researcher in the Florida Museum's invertebrate paleontology program.

Conference presentations are given as oral or poster sessions. Oral presentations are scheduled in 15-minute time slots with 305 talks slat-

ed. The poster presentations take place in an exposition-style layout with 74 presenters stationed at their display booths. The exposition format allows attendees and presenters to discuss individual research projects. Nearly 800 researchers contributed to projects that will be presented at the conference.

"This is the best paleontological gathering in the world," said Jack Horner, curator of paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies and an oral presenter at this year's meeting. "It provides the perfect platform for all paleontology disciplines to come together in one place and present new ideas or studies. I am looking forward to attending and presenting."

Full- and single-day registrations will be accepted before and during the conference. Full-conference registration is \$475 for professionals and \$400 for students. Single-day registration is \$200, or \$125 for students. A special rate for avocational/amateurs and K-12 educators also is available.

Conference check-in begins Friday, Feb. 14 at 3 p.m. with the opening reception and ice breaker starting at 6 p.m. at the Florida Museum. Sessions will continue from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. daily until the closing banquet on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at the UF Touchdown Terrace at 5:30 p.m. Pre- and post-conference trips also are available. For late registration, visit <http://reg.conferences.d>

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### SUWANNEE RIVER READINGS Branford 2013

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1/27/14.....15.32	1/31/14.....15.05
1/28/14.....15.29	2/1/14.....15.05
1/29/14.....15.16	2/2/14.....15.02
1/30/14.....15.06	2/3/14.....15.01

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Fla. Museum to host 10th North American Paleontological Convention Feb. 15-18

Continued From Page 8A  
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ter. For questions or more information, visit <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/napc/> or email [napc@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:napc@flmnh.ufl.edu).

logical location for studying fossils and represents one of the most

active regions for data gathering and scientific research, creating an

ideal venue for the conference," Kowalewski said.

"Florida is a great geo-

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L to R: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council officials Rick Davis, Executive Committee Member, Garth Nobles Jr., Chair, Carolyn Spooner, Vice-Chair, Lorene Thomas, Immediate Past Chair, Daniel Riddick, Secretary-Treasurer and Scott Koons, Executive Director of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

## Feb. 16-22, 2014 proclaimed Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

Submitted

Gainesville, FL – The week of February 16-22, 2014 was proclaimed as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council at their meeting on January 23, 2014. The Council, through the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, has the responsibility of increasing the safety of our communities from chemical releases. Public outreach and education are important to increasing chemical safety in our communities. One goal of Hazardous Materials Awareness Week is to notify the pub-

lic that facilities, first responders and emergency management are working together to ensure that our communities are as prepared as possible for both accidental and deliberate releases of hazardous materials. A second goal is to encourage local governments to take advantage of free hazardous materials training classes offered by the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee.

The Council, in partnership with economic development organizations and local governments, promotes regional strategies, partnerships and solutions to strengthen the economic competitiveness and quality of life of

the 11 counties and 33 incorporated municipalities in the north central portion of Florida. The Council, whose members are local elected officials and gubernatorial appointees, administers a variety of state and federal programs for north central Florida including Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties. Programs include development of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, technical assistance to local governments in development of comprehensive plans, land development regulations and grant manage-

ment, and administration of developments of regional impact, local mitigation strategies, hazardous materials, homeland security and economic development programs. In addition, the Council staffs the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee, the North Central Florida Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team and The Original Florida Tourism Task Force.

The Council's offices are located in Gainesville. More information about the Council can be found at [ncfrpc.org](http://ncfrpc.org).

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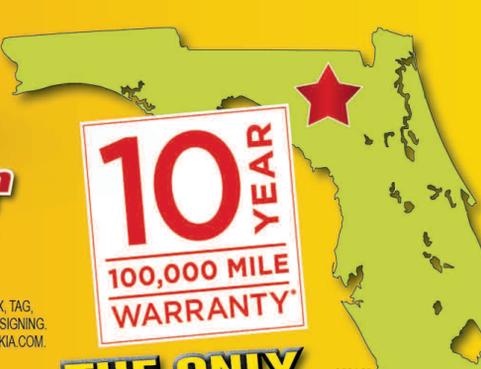
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# 203 SHS students receive CPR certification

**By Bryant Thigpen**

bryant.thigpen@gafnews.com

Over 200 students at Suwannee High School are now certified to perform CPR in the event of a medical emergency following their participation in several courses at SHS. The courses were offered to students as a result of a joint effort with Suwannee County Fire Rescue and HOPE, Health Opportunities through Physical Education, a program at SHS designed to provide CPR training for students.

According to SCFR, the purpose of this

course was to enable students to develop and enhance healthy behaviors that influence lifestyle choices.

"I have always felt providing life-saving medical skills to high school students was important, giving them knowledge of what to do in an emergency (situation)," said Public Safety Director James Sommers.

Damon Wooley, a health teacher at SHS, was seeking an opportunity to teach his students lifesaving CPR and provide them with certification. As a result, 203 students participated in three courses: the American heart Association's Heartsaver First Aid,

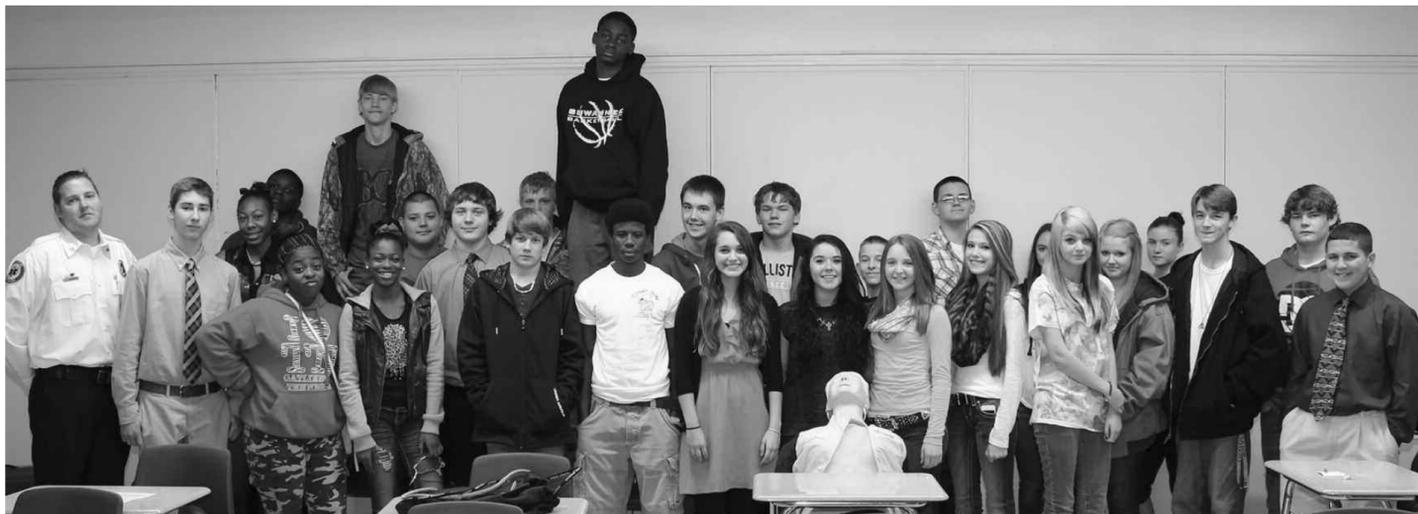
CPR and AED. Each student went through the course that included lecture and skills stations, and were certified following completion by the American Heart Association.

"This was an incredible opportunity to introduce students to the medical profession during a time when they begin thinking about their career path," Sommers said. "Students learn the value of working in teams to save a life."

SCFR said they have begun teaching CPR courses to the community and county employees and have already seen positive results from their effort.

According to the American Heart Association, time is muscle and muscle begins to die within four to six minutes from when your heart stops beating. On average it takes approximately 10 minutes to get an advanced life-support transport unit to a victim. A bystander providing CPR while waiting on the arrival of a transport unit significantly increases the survival rate and prevents precious muscles from dying.

For more information about taking a CPR course, you may contact the Suwannee County Fire Rescue Training Division at 386-364-3406



Over 200 SHS students are certified to perform CPR in emergency medical situations.



Suwannee County Fire Rescue teamed up with HOPE to bring CPR courses to Suwannee High School.



Each SHS student who completed the courses were awarded CPR certification.



Public Safety Director James Sommers (far right) is pictured with a group of SHS students who completed the safety courses and received CPR certification.



SHS students participated in American heart Association's Heartsaver First Aid, CPR and AED courses.



SHS students are pictured with their CPR certifications.

# Walters thanked for service



The UF/IFAS Extension office in Suwannee County would like to thank Wanda Walters for 28 years of service. The office held a beach themed farewell party in her honor in which many of her family members including her three grandchildren were able to attend and help her celebrate. Her Extension friends wish her the best in her retirement and hopes she will come back and volunteer.



Follow us on Twitter  
<https://twitter.com/suwanneedemocr>

# Using trees in landscape design

UF/IFAS Suwannee County Master Gardeners will be offering a "Using Trees in Landscape Design" workshop on Friday, Feb. 7, at Heritage Park and Gardens.

Trees are the framework for your landscape. You will see various native plants and their function. There will also be a demonstration and hands-on activity of proper planting techniques.

Participants will take home a tree seedling to add to their landscape and educational materials.

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

*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 accommoda-*

*tion to participate in any activity should contact the Suwannee County Cooperative Extension Service at 1302 Eleventh Street, SW, Live Oak, Florida 32064 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).*

## Florida Trail Association Suwannee Chapter meetings

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, except in July and Aug., at the Suwannee River Water Management District Office, from 7-9 p.m. The SRWMD office is located on US 90 and CR 49, two miles east of Live Oak. The public is cordially invited to attend.

The mission of the FTA is to develop, maintain, promote and protect a continuous public hiking trail the length of the state of Florida, called the Florida National Scenic Trail, and other side and loop trails, together called the Florida Trail System. Further, they are dedicated to educating the public by teaching appreciation for and conservation of the natural beauty of Florida, and to provide opportunities for hiking, camping and other outdoor experiences.

For further information, you may go to the Florida Trail Suwannee Chapter website at: [suwannee.floridatrail.org](http://suwannee.floridatrail.org), or Suwannee MeetUp Group at: [www.meetup.com/suwannee-FTA](http://www.meetup.com/suwannee-FTA). You may also contact the Chapter Chair, Irvin Chance, at [andachance@msn.com](mailto:andachance@msn.com) or by phone at 386-330-2424.

# Suwannee River Stock Dog Trials coming soon to Dixie County

Submitted

The Suwannee River Stock Dog Trials will be held at the Culleymont in Dixie County at 15414 NE Highway 349 between Old

Town and Branford Feb. 12-14.

"For hundreds of years, stock dog trials have been held in Scotland and England where sheepdogs, pri-

marily Border Collies and their handlers exhibit their skills in handling sheep through an assigned obstacle course. A trial is designed to test all of the

skills a good ranch or farm dog needs to perform its daily work. To reach the level of training and skill required to successfully compete in a trial, takes years of work on the part of the dog and the handler.

The team effort is demonstrated as the partners (handlers and dogs) not only understand each other perfectly but outguess and outwit unfamiliar sheep as they entice them through the obstacle course.

Spectators always enjoy watching these fascinating dogs compete while under total control at distances of 260 to 500 yards through obstacle after obstacle. The idea is for the dog, with the assistance of the handler controlling it by voice or

whistle, to flank right, left, stop, walk up or make whatever move needed to move these three sheep through the course.

The handler stays at the post to command the dog through the 10 minutes allotted until he reaches the pen when he can leave the post to help the dog. The ultimate result is to put the sheep through the course in a quiet and controlled manner causing the sheep very little anxiety.

These trials are qualifying trials for the United States Border Collie Handlers Association National Finals. The Open or highest level of classes is held on Wednesday and Thursday. Younger dogs will compete in the lower level classes

on Friday. A United States Border Collie Assoc. Nursery class will also be held on each of the three days of competition. The judge for these will be Michael Gallagher from Ireland. Gallagher is an international champion stock dog handler and trainer. He will also be providing a clinic and lessons on Feb. 18 and 19 at the farm.

Competitors are expected from several states with many of the competitors coming from Florida and Georgia. Some of the dogs competing were imported from Scotland, Wales, Ireland and/or England.

Among the competitors are our own Richard and Cheryl Jagger Williams from Culleymont at Dixie farm where they raise and train their own border collies. Cheryl and Richard are presently nationally ranked in the top ten in the U.S. Border Collie Handlers Association. One of the dogs Cheryl will be running in the open competition is named Fleet. Fleet was imported from Ireland. Sheepdog trialing and herding in general is one of the fastest growing sports in the dog world today. Trials are springing up all over the country with more and more people competing. The sport can be equally enjoyed by the old or young, man or woman, from any walk of life whatever their profession.

The border collie is the thoroughbred of the herding dogs and the dog most often seen competing at the large herding trials though the trials are open to any breed of dog. The border collie is entirely bred for its intelligence and their herding ability. The fact that many of these dogs are also pretty is purely incidental. They truly are a marvel to watch and will be enjoyed by the whole family.

Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the day. Call 352-542-0347 or 570-499-0318 for more information.



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## Red Cross announces Disaster Program Specialist, John Hampton

Submitted

The American Red Cross welcomes John Hampton as the North Central Florida Chapter's Disaster Program Specialist. A Jacksonville native, John has spent the past 25 years working in the nonprofit sector.

"I look forward to expanding and building on the good work that has already been done in the North Central Florida Chapter," Hampton said.

For the past two years, Hampton worked as the Disaster Action Team Leader for the Red Cross in Clay County. Prior to that, he lived in St. Louis, Mo., as a union iron worker. Hampton has also held many volunteer positions and was deployed to New Orleans in 2005 to help with Hurricane



Hampton

Katrina.

Hampton said he is looking forward to serving the North Central Florida community as part of the Red Cross team. He joins Executive Director Melanie Saxon, Health & Safety Educator Terri Keith, AmeriCorps staff members Sara Paradis and Bianca Esprit, 16 interns from the University of Florida and University of South Florida and nearly 200 volunteers.

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# Two more Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park artists make it to a nationwide talent show



**Not only did these two compete and move on Jan. 23 on American Idol, a third SOSMP artist made it to X-Factor last year and left in fifth place. At least one other SOSMP artist is trying out for America's Got Talent and The Voice.**

for America's Got Talent and The Voice. Submitted  
The good news never stops coming at The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park (SOSMP) in Live Oak. The SOSMP is proud to announce the Jan. 23 American Idol show featured two SOSMP artists who have performed at the SOSMP over the years as they developed their country music careers and won many contests.  
Nalani Quintello of Orange Park, who won the 2013 WQHL North Florida Texaco Country Showdown (her fourth Texaco win) and the Florida statewide Texaco Country Showdown (her third trip to state), both at the SOSMP, was among the contestants selected in Atlanta by American Idol to move on to Hollywood.  
Also in the very same show, Lauren Ashlea Ogburn of Lake City was selected to move on to Hollywood. What are the chances that two people who know each other, live less than 80 miles apart and have competed in the

same country music contests for several years would wind up in the same American Idol competition in Atlanta.

Rion Paige, 13, now famous for her performances on X Factor 2013, is another one of the SOSMP's artists who has done well in national talent competition. She left X Factor at #5 and continues to perform at many venues as she furthers her singing career. Another former SOSMP artist is trying out for America's Got Talent and The Voice.

Nalani, 18, has opened for country artists such as Craig Morgan, Jerrod Niemann, The Diamonds, The Gatlin Brothers and in 2013 performed at the Suwannee River Jam, the South's largest country music festival, held at the SOSMP each year. She also won the vocal solo and favorite categories at the Rotary Club of Orange Park's Future Stars competition in 2013. Nalani was the 2013 Southside Idol of Lake City, Clay County Fair 2013 Talent winner, sang the National Anthem for the 2013 Touchdown for a Cure Arthritis Walk at Everbank Stadium, home of the Jacksonville Jaguars, in Jacksonville and has performed at multiple charitable events and benefit concerts including the Special Olympics. Nalani also performs out of state and won the Spirit Idol singing competition in Decatur, Alabama. Since she began singing publicly six years ago, Nalani has performed at a number of Jacksonville area restaurants and volunteers to sing at more than 14 nursing homes each month in her hometown. Nalani is the reigning winner of Jacksonville's Got Talent, is an accomplished guitarist and songwriter and is working towards recording her own country music album. Nalani is completing her last year of community college after graduating from Orange Park High School in June. While in high school she sang with the jazz band. Nalani joins 162 other aspiring singers in this year's American Idol competition.



Nalani Quintello, who won the Florida Texaco Country Showdown in 2013 has now been chosen to compete on American Idol.

the highlights of her life. Her favorite is when her family would all go over to her nana and papa's for Sunday dinner or holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas. After they ate and waited for the NASCAR race to start, her uncle Joel, dad, nana and papa would all sit in front of the piano and sing songs out of the hymnal. It wasn't until

she was about 15 or 16 that she started performing on stage in earnest. As she performed, she fell more in love with entertaining. She's performed for large crowds, won competitions such as the Bradford Showdown, Suwannee County Fair Talent Show and Southside Idol and was in the WQHL North Florida Texaco Country Showdown finals in 2013. She auditioned for American Idol 13 on the televised Jan. 23 Atlanta auditions and got a golden ticket to Hollywood. Lauren plans to move to Nashville soon. Her favorite bible verse, Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end" is what she believes with her full heart will get her where she should be.

Fans may watch American Idol beginning each Wednesday and Thursday night this season on Fox at 8 p.m. Auditions were held last year and began showing on TV Jan. 14. This week, Jan. 29-30, Salt Lake City audition will be shown. Omaha auditions will be shown Feb. 5 with the first round of Hollywood Feb. 6, continuing Feb. 12-13. Semi-finalists will be revealed Feb. 18, top 15 female singers revealed Feb. 19 and top 15 male singers revealed Feb. 20. The first live results show is Feb. 26 with the top 13 performing live Feb. 27. The last two shows will be March 5-6. Plan now to check out American Idol 13 at <http://www.americanidol.com/> to see how to vote and make preparations so you'll be ready if these two aspiring country singers make it to the finals. Meanwhile, we'll keep you updated on their progress.

If you would like more information about the SOSMP, call 386-364-1683, email [spirit@musicliveshere.com](mailto:spirit@musicliveshere.com) or go to [www.musicliveshere.com](http://www.musicliveshere.com)

The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park is located at 3076 95th Drive, Live Oak.



Lake City's Lauren Ogburn wins golden ticket to Hollywood on American Idol.

## UF Weight Management Program

Have you heard? Do you qualify? The UF Weight Management Program is funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. This study will examine ways to promote long-term weight management for men and women in rural counties of North

Florida. This is a free program and you can even receive compensation for travel. Sessions will be in the UF/IFAS Extension Office in Suwannee County, 11th Street, Live Oak. Our goal is to help you lose weight, increase fitness, improve nutrition

and manage stress. To learn more and to see if you qualify, call 1-877-273-5235.

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## Navigators available to help uninsured enroll in Health Insurance Marketplace



Uninsured Floridians can avoid penalties by enrolling in the Health Insurance Marketplace by March 31. To assist with the enrollment process, Health Insurance Marketplace Navigators are participating in events throughout North Central Florida and are available through a number of community agencies.

Generally, individuals can only enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace during the annual open enrollment period. The next open enrollment period begins Nov. 15, 2014. It is possible to buy insurance through the Marketplace outside of open enrollment due to a quali-

fying life event such as marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, or loss of job. There is no limited enrollment period for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program. Small business owners can start offering coverage to employees at any time.

The Health Insurance Marketplace gathers all health coverage options by geographic area. With one application, enrollees can compare plans and explore available free or low-cost programs. Most people who apply will qualify for some kind of savings.

All insurance plans through the Health Insurance Marketplace must cover doctor visits, hospi-

talizations, maternity care, ER care and prescriptions. All plans have to state the costs and what is covered in simple language with no fine print. People with pre-existing conditions cannot be denied coverage.

Learn more about the Marketplace and how to enroll at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). Consider enlisting the help of a Health Insurance Marketplace Navigator to help walk you through the steps of filling out forms, clarifying confusing terms and comparing various insurance plans. Navigators are available at many community events and in locations throughout North Central Florida. Visit [www.ncfnavigators.org](http://www.ncfnavigators.org) for a complete listing of upcoming Navigator events and participating agencies.

### Listed is an upcoming Navigator event:

Sunday, March 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Live Oak Library, 1848 South Ohio Ave., Live Oak, FL 32064

## Local HCEs attend meeting



Pat Pell holds up one of the goodie bags that the local Home and Community Educators (HCEs) donated for the District Home and Community Educators meeting held in Duval County. Approximately 13 members from the Suwannee County's Happy Homemakers' and Pleasant Hill Clubs attended the event and heard speakers on the RiverKeeper and de-cluttering your home. If you are interested in becoming a member call the UF/IFAS Extension office in Suwannee County at 386-362-2771.

## Yoho votes in favor of farm stability legislation

WASHINGTON, DC — Congressman Ted Yoho voted Wednesday, Jan. 29, in favor of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

After the vote Congressman Yoho said, "This reform bill eliminates expensive direct payments, saves \$23 billion dollars in automatic spending, repeals over 100 programs, and reins in the EPA. It also reforms the SNAP program to ensure recipients aren't double-dipping and receiving benefits in multiple states, ensures illegal immigrants and lottery winners do not receive these tax-payer benefits, and establishes a program to ensure that able-bodied adults work to receive benefits. It also includes my amendments that stop benefits from going to

violent criminals and stops tax-dollars from being used to recruit and advertise SNAP enrollment. It achieves all of these reforms while also providing food stability for our country. We tried being reliant on foreign countries for our oil and look how that turned out. We need to remain a nation that can feed itself. This bill achieves that while reforming the system--like ending direct payments."

Congressman Yoho continued, "North Central Florida understands the importance of farming. I was in Trenton and there were a bunch of teenagers who put up a sign that said 'we farm, you eat.' It was refreshing to see young people understand what it takes for food to get to the grocery store."

## Spring planting is near

## Join the Arbor Day Foundation and receive 10 free redbud trees

### Submitted

Joining the Arbor Day Foundation is an ideal way to get in the mood for spring planting. Anyone from Florida who joins the Foundation this month will receive 10 free Eastern redbud trees to plant when the weather turns warm.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"Redbuds will help beautify Florida for many years to come," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "They will also add to the proud heritage of Florida's existing Tree City USA communities."

The Tree City USA program has supported community forestry throughout the country for more than 35 years.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between March 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, *Arbor Day*, and *The Tree Book*, which contains information about planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE EAST-

ERN REDBUD TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by February 28, 2014, or visit [arborday.org/february](http://arborday.org/february).



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*For questions or to RSVP for this event, please call*  
*Kim Law at 386.362.0808 or email [kimberly.law@hma.com](mailto:kimberly.law@hma.com)*

## Olympians of Social Security

By Michael W. Grochowski  
Social Security Regional  
Commissioner in Atlanta



Grochowski

While the eyes of the world focus on the XXII Winter Olympics in the resort town of Sochi, Russia this month, we'd like to bring your attention to another worthy focal point: Internet safety.

February 11 is Safer Internet Day. If there were an Olympic event for safe Internet transactions, we believe the Social Security Administration would be in the running for a gold medal. We take Internet security seriously. After all, Security is our middle name.

What are some of the convenient, safe, and secure things you can do online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)?

You can get a personalized estimate of your future benefits using our Retirement Estimator. Apply for retirement or disability benefits. If you don't plan to retire but you want to apply only for Medicare at age 65, you can do it online. You can even establish and maintain a my Social Security account at any age to access all your personal Social Security information at any time convenient for you. All of these things can be done in minutes, and you don't have to worry about security issues. On Safer Internet Day and every day, your information is secure with us.

If you've experienced a safe, convenient service at our website, why not share the experience at our social media hub? Of course, you'll want to be careful not to post any personal identifying information, such as your Social Security number. But whether you want to spread the word about Safer Internet Day or share an experience you've had dealing with Social Security, we encourage you to join us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Pinterest. You'll find these connections, along with the ability to get email updates, view the photo blog, join webinars and more at our social media hub. Just visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/socialmedia](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/socialmedia).

The next Olympic event is about to begin in Sochi. But remember that the Social Security Administration gets a gold medal when it comes to safe transactions on the Internet. Security is our middle name.

# Area high schools raised \$26,020 in 2013 through events



**Columbia High School Drive** Left to right: Keith Hudson Columbia County School Chairman, Terry Huddleston, Superintendent of Schools, Stephen Jones, Rountree-Moore Ford-Lincoln Kia General Sales Manager, George H. Hudson Jr., Rountree-Moore Drive for your School Coordinator, Jill Hunter, CHS Student Activities Director, Todd Widergern, CHS Principal, Steven Osborne, Rountree-Moore Ford-Lincoln Kia Fixed Operations Manager, Ben Scott, Rountree-Moore Automotive Group Comptroller, Dan Shelley, Rountree-Moore Automotive Group General Manager.

## Rountree Moore Ford Lincoln sponsors 'Ford Drive 4 UR School' & 'Lincoln Driven to Give' events to raise school funds

Rountree Moore Ford Lincoln, a member of the Rountree Moore Auto Group, is the proud sponsor of the local Ford Drive 4 UR School and Lincoln Driven to Give events. This month Columbia High School and Ft. White High School were presented with funds raised from fall events. Columbia High School received a check for \$6,000 and Ft. White High School received a check for \$6,940.

"We are delighted to work with both Columbia and Ft. White High School," said

Communications Officer, Susie Hall. "Partnering with Ford and Lincoln and being able to give this monetary donation to our local schools is a thrill for all of us."

Each year, school organizations and teams from both high schools are invited to participate and sign up for test drives to raise money for their cause. The cause may be funding a basketball team, an art class or a trip to a museum. Both the Ford Drive 4 UR School and Lincoln Driven to Give programs were launched to help students



**Ft. White High School Drive** Keith Hudson Columbia County School Chairman, Terry Huddleston, Superintendent of Schools, Stephen Jones, Rountree-Moore Ford-Lincoln Kia General Sales Manager, Cindy Clark FWHS Assistant Principal, George H. Hudson Jr., Rountree-Moore Drive One Coordinator, Deidre Houk FWHS Student Activities Director, Steven Osborne, Rountree-

around the country have an impact within their schools.

"These events give our local high schools an opportunity to help with funding in their schools," said Hall. "It is a great way to get involved in the community, raise funds and have fun!"

The goal of each event is to secure at least 300 test drives and Ford will donate \$20 for each approved test drive for a total of \$6,000. Since 2011, through the efforts of Rountree-Moore Ford Lincoln, Ford and Lincoln Motor Companies have donated a total of \$66,230 to the two high schools.

Ford Motor Company kicked off its first Drive 4 UR School event in 2007. The campaign proved to be successful, leading to 1

million test drives and over \$20 million raised nationwide from 2007 to 2010. Due to the national popularity of the event, in 2011 the event was made available in the spring and fall. Lincoln's Driven to Give campaign was also launched in 2011.

In 2013, Columbia High School drew a total of 576 approved test drives for a total of \$11,520. Ft. White High School drew a total of 525 approved test drives, plus 200 bonus test drives for a total of \$14,500.

This year, Columbia High School will be hosting its Ford Drive 4 UR School event April 19 and Ft. White High School will be holding its Lincoln Driven to Give event May 10. Please contact George Hudson, [george.hudson@rountreemoore.com](mailto:george.hudson@rountreemoore.com) for more information.

# Florida students surpass 2014 reading goal

## Students read more than three million more minutes than anticipated

Submitted

Tallahassee – Schools across the state are celebrating student reading success. Students and teachers committed to reading more than 33 million minutes combined on Jan. 13 as part of the 6th annual Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida's Million Minute Marathon. With a final total of reading more than 35 million minutes, students shattered the 2013 record of nearly 30.1 mil-

lion minutes – a number allowing them to surpass the original goal for this year.

"This achievement proves students and teachers in Florida can get excited about literacy," said Florida First Lady Ann Scott. "I hope teachers and parents use this momentum to instill a lifelong love of reading in children across the Sunshine State."

"Children who learn to enjoy reading are proven to be more

successful in the classroom, making them more likely to graduate high school, college and career ready," said Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart. "I want to thank our teachers for taking the time to participate in the Million Minute Marathon and Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! in an effort to foster the love of reading in our students."

An estimated 1.2 million students from 59 school districts and

three early learning coalitions participated in the competition. Students were encouraged to read an extra 20 minutes during the day beyond their regular schoolwork in celebration of literacy. The program is used as a tool to motivate students to find enjoyment in reading. They are allowed to choose a book, magazine, blog site or newspaper article that interests them to rack up their minutes.

"The results from this year's Million Minute Marathon prove that our Florida students can rise to a challenge," said Just Read, Florida! Executive Director Wendy Stevens. "The overwhelming participation confirms the Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida's theme, 'Reading Accelerates Success!'"

For more information on Just Read, Florida!, visit <http://www.justreadflorida.com/>.

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# SPORTS

## Teen Police Academy

enrolling now  
see page 4A

SHS wrestling

### Suwannee wrestling is 1A District runners-up



The Suwannee High School wrestling team took runners-up at a tournament at Godby High School on Saturday. - Photo: Paul Buchanan (SuwanneeSports.com)

The Suwannee High School wrestling team took the 1A District runners-up title Saturday at Godby High School. The team performed well with heavy hearts as their fellow wrestler Dean Shingola was recovering in a Gainesville hospital after being

struck by a vehicle while walking on CR 252 Friday night (see related story, 1A).

District champions for SHS were Joey Borrell, Billy Jenkins, Tyler Foster, Shawn Brown and Sasha Key. District runners-up are Brandon Hucko, Robert Rodriguez and

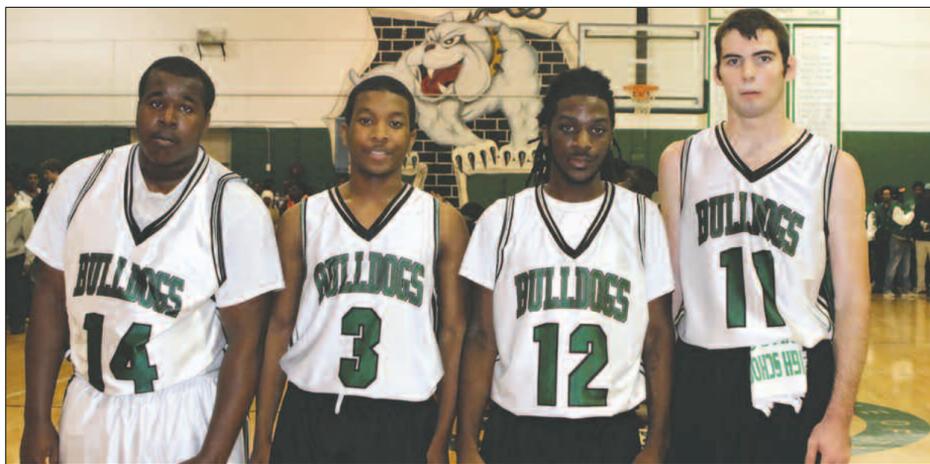
third place was Michael Santangelo, Kenneth Foster and Rossie Williams. Fourth place was Brandon Trask.

The Region 1A tournament will be at Bishop Snyder High in Jacksonville Friday. Weigh-in begins at 10 a.m. with pre-

liminaries, wrestle backs (first and second round) at noon. Saturday, weigh-in is at 8 a.m., semifinals at 10 a.m., wrestle backs (third and fourth rounds) at 12:30 p.m. Consolation, championship finals is at 6 p.m.

SHS basketball

### SHS basketball wins 3



The seniors of Suwannee High School boys basketball were honored Jan. 25, along with team manager, Carl "CJ" McCray Jr. From left: McCray, Terrance Humphries, Quez Strickland and DJ Little.

The Suwannee High School boys basketball team won three games in a row and lost one recently. The team played Hamilton County at home Saturday night, Jan. 25 for senior night and won 76-60. On Tuesday, Jan. 28, SHS defeated Santa Fe in Gainesville 77-59 and on Thursday, Jan. 30 they beat Baker at home 77-59. On Friday, Jan. 31, the team fell to Columbia High School, 49-46.

The district tournament is Friday in Wakulla at 7 p.m.



The cheerleaders keep the crowd in high spirits at a recent SHS boys basketball game.

- Photos: Paul Buchanan (SuwanneeSports.com)

SHS girls basketball

### Season ends as district runners-up

The Suwannee High School girls basketball team defeated Wakulla Jan. 31 in the first round of district play-offs 56-35. The win advanced the Lady 'Dogs a spot Saturday night in the playoffs where they hosted Rickards. They fell to Rickards 71-44, making Suwannee, district runners-up.

#### Point getters against Wakulla

Daycia Bandy	18
Kyra McClendon	15
Khadajah Watson	6
Ariana Wheeler	6
Chiquandra Bryant	5
Genesis Leggit	4
Shana Kilby	2

SEE SEASON ENDS, PAGE 2B

BHS softball

### Players, coaches ready for season

By Andrew McGee  
andrew.mcgee@gafnews.com

The Branford High School Lady Buccaneer softball team has two teachers sharing the coaching duties, ESE teacher Cynthia Frye and science teacher Pam Casube.

"The team is made up of mostly sixth to

eighth graders and a couple of ninth graders," said Frye. "We got a late start this year, but we have an amazing group of girls with a lot of talent."

She said if these young ladies play as hard as they do in practice, she has no doubt they'll have a winning season.

SEE PLAYERS, PAGE 2B

BHS baseball

### Branford baseball welcomes back O'Quinn

By Andrew McGee  
andrew.mcgee@gafnews.com

The Branford High School baseball team will begin their season by welcoming back former coach, Fred O'Quinn.

"The position opened and I applied for it," said O'Quinn. "I enjoyed coaching softball, but baseball is what I played in college. I think it was a

good move for me." O'Quinn wished the BHS softball team all the best this season and hoped they will do well.

O'Quinn said as new baseball coach he has a lot of young players that aren't accustomed to his coaching and it may take some time until they know the routine.

"We got a young team, a

SEE O'QUINN, PAGE 2B



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**BANK OWNED** - 2/2 Condo with view of the Gulf. Well known for excellent year-round fishing. If you like to fish on the Gulf this unit is the one. Good shape. \$90,000. Call Ronnie Poole, 386-208-3175. MLS#86306



**REDUCED! CITY LIMITS** - This 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with 1,400+ sq.ft. is located in the city limits of Live Oak and priced at just \$97,500. Call for more information. 386-362-4539. MLS#83958  
[www.RealEstateShows.com/696171](http://www.RealEstateShows.com/696171)



**BANK OWNED - REDUCED** - 1,800+ sq.ft., 3/2. Convenient location to shopping, hospital, and interstate. Great home with screen porch, side entrance garage, fireplace, paved circular drive. \$108,500. MLS#85947 Columbia County



**BEAUTIFUL 4/2**, 1,900+sq.ft. cedar home with great location. Convenient to schools and shopping. Large walk-in-closet in master bdrm, oversized windows, screened in back porch, 32x40 shelter. \$149,500. MLS#85327  
[www.RealEstateShows.com/696013](http://www.RealEstateShows.com/696013)



**FOXBORO S/D** 1,700+ sq.ft. 3/2 home is in tip top shape. The grounds are serene with country living atmosphere. Great home with a great with a great price. \$159,000. Sherrel McCall, 386-688-7563. MLS#83604



**REDUCED - TWO HOMES** On 16+ acres w/ Immaculate 3/1, looks new inside & out. 5 outbuildings, also a 1993 totally renovated DWMH, fenced & cross fenced, \$159,500 Sylvia Newell, 386-590-2498. MLS#82405



**BANK OWNED** Custom built 2 story home on 2 acres. 2,500+ sq.ft., 3 bedroom 2 1/2 baths. Balcony, 2 fireplaces, covered front porch, attached 2 car garage. \$193,500. MLS#85601

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Sunday by appointment

## Branford baseball welcomes back O'Quinn

Continued From Page 1B

lot of good kids especially the young kids," said O'Quinn. "They're coming along. They just have to get used to my new ideas and get onboard with what I'm teaching."

He said they're talented and he hopes to get them polished over time and through each year of high school. This season he has two seniors, two juniors and the bulk of the team are eighth graders.

"For Branford, that's a lot of kids," said O'Quinn.

He said hopefully over the next couple of years, the kids will "buy" into what he's teaching to enable him to build a top notch ball club.

The Branford Buccaneer baseball team will be kicking off their season on Monday, Feb. 10 as they play the Dixie County High School Bears in Dixie County. The junior varsity game begins at 4 p.m. and the varsity at 7 p.m.

## Players, coaches ready for season

Continued From Page 1B

The Branford Lady Bucs season begins Monday, Feb. 11 at home against Bell High School; JV at 5 p.m. and varsity at 7 p.m.

## Season ends as district runners-up

Continued From Page 1B

### Point getters against Rickards

Daycia Bandy	12
Kyra McClendon	9
Ariana Wheeler	7
Chiquandra Bryant	6
Khadijah Watson	5
Shana Kilby	4
Genesis Leggit	1

## McAlpin Community Club welcomes The Lemleys

The McAlpin Community Club will have its regular meeting on Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. with our usual potluck supper. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

Don and Sylvia Lembley, Gospel Singers, will be with us this month. They have been our guest for several years, and always such a Blessing to have them share their special songs and music.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come to our

monthly meeting held every month on the second Monday at 7 p.m. It is a great way to enjoy visiting friends and staying in touch with what's happening in your community. The Club is located at 9981 - 170th Terrace in McAlpin, directly across from the Post Office. Membership fees per family are Ten Dollars (\$10) a year.

For more information call Barbara Parks at (386)-362-3044 or Donna Wade at (386)-963-3516.

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**Suwannee Legals**

**A&A MINI STORAGE**  
**10158 90TH TRAIL**  
**LIVE OAK, FL 32060**  
**386-208-1062**

**NOTICE OF SALE**

A & A MINI STORAGE LOCATED AT 10158 90th TRAIL, LIVE OAK, FL. WILL ACCEPT BIDS ON THE CONTENTS OF THE FOLLOWING UNITS:

- (1). RANDY MANTAY - UNIT # B-39 CONTENTS: MISCELLANEOUS PERSONAL ITEMS
- (2). CATHERINE SCOTT - UNIT # A-32 CONTENTS: MISCELLANEOUS PERSONAL ITEMS

CONTENTS MAY BE PURCHASED IN PART OR WHOLE. PAYMENT WILL BE IN CASH ONLY. AUCTION DATE IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014 AT 10:00 A.M. A & A MINI STORAGE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO BID.

02/05, 12

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 3RD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION**

**CASE NO.: 13-013-CA**

**BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,**  
**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**

**ALLAN WILLIAMS,**  
**Defendants.**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 14th day of January, 2014, and entered in Case No. 13-013-CA, of the Circuit Court of the 3RD Judicial Circuit in and for Suwannee County, Florida, wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., is the Plaintiff and ALLAN WILLIAMS, are defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the FRONT STEPS OF THE SUWANNEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 200 S. OHIO AVENUE, LIVE OAK, FL 3204, 11:00 A.M. on the 13th day of February, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

**THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NE 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 11 EAST, SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

**TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO A 60.00 FOOT EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS AND UTILITIES, SITUATED IN SECTION 22 AND 27, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 11 EAST, SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

**FOR POINT OF BEGINNING COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 22, THENCE RUN SOUTH 01 DEGREES 50'59" E. ALONG THE EAST LINE OF NW 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 22, A DISTANCE OF 30.01 FEET; THENCE RUN 2 89 DEGREES 21'11" W. A DISTANCE OF 2626.00 FEET; THENCE RUN S 01 DEGREES 40'05" E. A DISTANCE OF 1945.75 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 22; THENCE RUN S 00 DEGREES 58'28" E. A DISTANCE OF 624.52 FEET TO THE POINT OF A CURVE OF A CUL-DE-SAC CONCAVED NORTHERLY HAVING A RADIUS OF 50.00 FEET; THENCE RUN ALONG AND AROUND SAID CUL-DE-SAC A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF S 47 DEGREES 27'36" W. A DISTANCE OF 94.87 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF THE NE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 27; THENCE CONTINUE ALONG AND AROUND SAID CUL-DE-SAC A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N 19 DEGREES 24'33" W. A DISTANCE OF 94.87 FEET TO THE POINT OF TANGENCY OF SAID CUL-DE-SAC; THENCE RUN N 00 DEGREES 52'28" W. A DISTANCE OF 624.51 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 22; THENCE RUN N 01 DEGREES 40'05" W. A DISTANCE OF 2005.71 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 21'11" E. A DISTANCE OF 2685.81 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 22; THENCE RUN SOUTH 01 DEGREES 50'59" E. ALONG SAID EAST LINE A DISTANCE OF 30.01 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.**

**ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.**

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Individuals with a disability who require special accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding should contact the ADA Coordinator, 173 N.E. Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, FL 32055, (386) 719-7428, within two (2) business days of receipt of this notice to appear. Individuals who are hearing impaired should call (800) 955-8771. Individuals who are voice impaired should call (800) 955-8770.

Dated this 16th day of January, 2014.

(Court Seal) Barry A. Baker  
 Clerk Of The Circuit Court

By: /s/ Jillian Herron  
 Deputy Clerk

01/29, 02/05

**NOTICE OF FISCAL YEAR 2013 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION FIRST PUBLIC HEARING**

The City of Live Oak is considering applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant of up to \$700,000. These funds must be used for one of the following purposes:

1. To benefit low- and moderate-income persons; or
2. To aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
3. To meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

The category of activities for which these funds may be used are in the areas of

**Suwannee Legals**

housing, neighborhood revitalization, commercial revitalization, or economic development and include such improvement activities as acquisition of real property, rehabilitation of houses and commercial buildings, code improvement activities, and construction of infrastructure, including water and sewer improvements, street improvements, and drainage and neighborhood facilities. Additional information concerning the range of activities that may be undertaken will be provided at the public hearing.

At least 70% of the funds must be proposed to be spent on activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons. In developing an application for submission to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, the applying local government must plan to minimize displacement of persons as a result of planned Community Development Block Grant activities. In addition, the applying local government is required to develop a plan to assist displaced persons.

The public hearing to receive citizen views concerning housing and community development needs will be held in the City Council Meeting Room, City Hall located at 101 Southeast White Avenue, Live Oak, Florida on **February 11, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.** or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. To obtain additional information concerning the public hearing contact Kim Smiley at City Hall at 101 Southeast White Avenue, Live Oak, Florida, telephone number (386) 362-2276.

The public hearing is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any handicapped person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or the visually impaired should contact Kim Smiley at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing and an interpreter will be provided. Any nonEnglish speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Kim Smiley at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing and a language interpreter will be provided. Any handicapped person requiring special accommodation at this meeting should contact Kim Smiley at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing. To access a Telecommunication Device for Deaf (TDD) please call (800) 955-8771.

A FAIR HOUSING/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE JURISDICTION 02/05

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**CASE NO. 61-2012-CA-0325**

**JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,**

**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**

**ROBERT DAVIS; VIOLET DAVIS; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT II, and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through, and under any of the above-named Defendants,**

**Defendants.**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned Clerk of the Circuit Court of Suwannee County, Florida, will on the 15th day of May, 2014, at 11:00 A.M. at the Front Steps, 200 S Ohio Avenue, Suwannee County Courthouse in Live Oak, Florida 32064, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following-described property situate in Suwannee County, Florida:

**PART OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 11 EAST, SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: FOR POINT OF BEGINNING, COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4; THENCE RUN S 00 DEGREES 19'39" E. ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NW 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4, A DISTANCE 664.15 FEET; THENCE RUN S 89 DEGREES 54'12" W. ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID NORTH 1/2 OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4, A DISTANCE OF 527.02 FEET; THENCE RUN N 01 DEGREES 43'54" E. A DISTANCE OF 249.15 FEET; THENCE RUN S 89 DEGREES 54'12" W. A DISTANCE OF 249.15 FEET; THENCE RUN N 01 DEGREES 43'54" E. A DISTANCE OF 415.69 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 35; THENCE RUN N 89 DEGREES 55'49" E, ALONG SAID NORTH LINE, A DISTANCE OF 752.28 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION IN COUNTY ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY.**

pursuant to the Final Judgment entered in a case pending in said Court, the style of which is indicated above.

Any person or entity claiming an interest in the surplus, if any, resulting from the foreclosure sale, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim on same with the Clerk of Court within 60 days after the foreclosure sale.

WITNESS my hand and official seal of said Court this 15th day of January, 2014.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** If you are a person with a disability who requires accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Individuals with a disability who require special accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding should contact the ADA Coordinator, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, FL 32055, (386) 719-7428, within two (2) business days of receipt of notice to appear. Individuals who are hearing impaired should call (800) 955-8771. Individuals who are voice impaired should call (800) 955-8770.

(Court Seal) CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: /s/ Jillian Herron  
 Deputy Clerk

01/29, 02/05

**CITY OF LIVE OAK CITIZENS ADVISORY TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MEETING**

The City of Live Oak Citizens Advisory Task Force on Community Development will hold a public meeting in the City Council Meeting Room in City Hall located at 101 Southeast White Avenue, Live Oak, Florida on **February 11, 2014**

**Suwannee Legals**

at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the Fiscal Year 2013 Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant application.

The meeting is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any handicapped person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or the visually impaired should contact Kim Smiley at 386.362.2276 at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing and an interpreter will be provided. Any nonEnglish speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Kim Smiley at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing and a language interpreter will be provided. Any handicapped person requiring special accommodation at this meeting should contact Kim Smiley at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing. To access a Telecommunication Device for Deaf (TDD) please call (800) 955-8771.

A FAIR HOUSING/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE JURISDICTION 02/05

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA JUVENILE DIVISION**

**CASE NUMBER: 2012-21-DP**

**IN THE INTEREST OF:**  
**D.P.J. DOB: 05/28/2004**

**MINOR CHILD.**

**SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ADVISORY HEARING FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND GUARDIANSHIP**

**STATE OF FLORIDA**

**TO: David Cruz**  
**(address unknown)**

**WHEREAS,** a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights under oath has been filed in this court regarding the above-referenced child, a copy of which is on file with the Clerk of the Circuit Court,

**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO APPEAR** before the Honorable William F. Williams, III, Acting Circuit Judge, at the Suwannee County Courthouse, Live Oak, Florida, on **February 17, 2014, at 9 A.M.**, for a **TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ADVISORY HEARING.** You must appear on the date and the time specified.

**FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD (OR CHILDREN). IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD (OR CHILDREN) NAMED IN THE PETITION ON FILE WITH THE CLERK OF COURT**

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court at Live Oak, Suwannee County, Florida, on this 16th day of January, 2014.

(Court Seal) BARRY BAKER  
 Clerk of Circuit Court

By: /s/ Sallie Pert  
 Deputy Clerk

Gregory Edwards, Esq.  
 Florida Bar No.22509  
 Children's Legal Services  
 1389 West US Highway 90, Suite 110  
 Lake City, FL 32055  
 (386) 243-6037

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT,** persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administrator, no later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding, at 386-758-2163.

01/22, 29, 02/05, 12

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA JUVENILE DIVISION**

**CASE NUMBER: 2012-21-DP**

**IN THE INTEREST OF:**  
**D.R.J. DOB: 12/06/2005**

**MINOR CHILD.**

**SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ADVISORY HEARING FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND GUARDIANSHIP**

**STATE OF FLORIDA**

**TO: Rene Perez-Cueto**  
**(address unknown)**

**WHEREAS,** a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights under oath has been filed in this court regarding the above-referenced child, a copy of which is on file with the Clerk of the Circuit Court,

**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO APPEAR** before the Honorable William F. Williams, III, Acting Circuit Judge, at the Suwannee County Courthouse, Live Oak, Florida, on **February 17, 2014, at 9 A.M.**, for a **TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ADVISORY HEARING.** You must appear on the date and the time specified.

**FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THIS CHILD (OR CHILDREN). IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD (OR CHILDREN) NAMED IN THE PETITION ON FILE WITH THE CLERK OF COURT**

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court at Live Oak, Suwannee County, Florida, on this 16th day of January, 2014.

(Court Seal) BARRY BAKER  
 Clerk of Circuit Court

By: /s/ Sallie Pert  
 Deputy Clerk

Gregory Edwards, Esq.  
 Florida Bar No.22509  
 Children's Legal Services  
 1389 West US Highway 90, Suite 110  
 Lake City, FL 32055  
 (386) 243-6037

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT,** persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administrator, no later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding, at 386-758-2163.

01/22, 29, 02/05, 12

**Suwannee Legals**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA FAMILY DIVISION**

**CASE NO.: 2013-397-DR**

**IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:**

**SANDRA LIZBETH URIBE,**  
**Wife,**

**and**

**JUAN JESUS CORTES TREJO,**  
**Husband.**

**NOTICE OF ACTION FOR PUBLICATION**

**TO: JUAN JESUS CORTES TREJO**  
 Address Unknown

**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** that an action for Dissolution of Marriage, including claims for dissolution of marriage, payment of debts, division of real and personal property, and for payments of support, has been filed against you. You are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action on Angela M. Cancio, of CANCIO & ROMAGNOLO PA, Petitioner's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 6051, Live Oak, FL 32064, on or before March 18, 2014, and file the originals with the clerk of this court at SUWANNEE County Courthouse, 200 South Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, Florida 32064, either before service on Petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

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

DATED this 22nd day of January, 2014.

**CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT**  
 (Court Seal)

By: /s/ Felicia Flowers  
 Deputy Clerk

01/29, 02/05, 12, 19

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**

**FILE NUMBER: 2013-CP-000135**

**IN RE: THE ESTATE OF**

**JAMES FLOYD POTETE, SR.**

**Deceased.**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of James Floyd Potete, Sr., deceased, whose date of death was November 14, 2013, is pending in the Circuit Court for Suwannee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 200 South Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, Florida 32064. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's 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 THE 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 January 29, 2014.

**BRITTON LAW, LLC**  
/s/ Richard K. Britton  
 Richard K. Britton  
 Florida Bar Number: 480339  
 Matthew H Hinson  
 Florida Bar Number: 94017  
 2124 Park Street  
 Jacksonville, Florida 32204  
 Telephone: (904) 389-1994  
 Fax: (904) 389-7990  
 E-Mail: Service@BrittonLawLLC.com

Personal Representative:  
/s/ Matthew Potete  
 Matthew Potete  
 5550 Fox Squirrel Drive  
 Calhoun, FL 32011  
 01/29, 02/05

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION**

**CASE NO.: 61-2013-CA-000356**

**JAMES B. NUTTER & COMPANY,**

**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**

**WILLIAM R STALVEY, et al,**  
**Defendant(s).**

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

**TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST WILLIAM ROUDY STALVEY A/K/A WILLIAM R. STALVEY DECEASED**

**LAST KNOWN ADDRESS:**  
**UNKNOWN**  
**CURRENT ADDRESS:**  
**UNKNOWN**

**ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS**

**Suwannee Legals**

**LAST KNOWN ADDRESS:**  
**UNKNOWN**  
**CURRENT ADDRESS:**  
**UNKNOWN**

**YOU ARE NOTIFIED** that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in SUWANNEE County, Florida:

**TRACT FOUR**

**PART OF THE SOUTH ONE-HALF OF THE SOUTH ONE-HALF OF SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 3, SOUTH, RANGE 11 EAST, SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

**FOR POINT OF REFERENCE COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 22, THEREON RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 37 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION, A DISTANCE OF 25 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 0 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 25 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 37 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF COUNTY GRADED ROAD, A DISTANCE OF 1,981.63 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 37 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 668.83 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 0 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 1,304.75 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SOUTH ONE-HALF OF THE SOUTH ONE-HALF; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 02 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 669.06 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 0 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 50 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 1306.39 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.**

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.L., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 4919 Memorial Highway, Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33634, and file the original with this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

This notice shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the *The Suwannee Democrat*.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court on this 27th day of January, 2014.

(Court Seal) Baker A. Barry  
 Clerk of the Court

By: /s/ Jillian Herron  
 As Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.L.  
 P.O. Box 25018  
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018  
 F13016487

**\*\*See Americans with Disabilities Act In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact (TDD) 904-758-1438.**

**FAIR HOUSING WORKSHOP**

All bankers, insurance agents and realtors are invited to a Fair Housing Workshop sponsored by the City of Live Oak and Suwannee County on **February 11, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.** in the City Council Meeting Room, located at 101 SE White Avenue, Live Oak, Florida.

The meeting is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any handicapped person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or the visually impaired should contact Kim Smiley at 386.362.2276 at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing and an interpreter will be provided. Any nonEnglish speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Kim Smiley at least five calendar days prior to the public hearing. To access a Telecommunication Device for Deaf (TDD) please call (800) 955-8771.

# Dating scene with colleges, recruits can have harsh results

Tom Lindley  
CNHI News Service

Today, the madness known as college football recruiting will cease - for next year's freshmen anyway. The best players will be handed a National Letter of Intent, sign it, and in some cases end a courtship that has lasted for more than four years.

It's a great moment for those with desired athletic skills. They are envied by major universities who offer free educations just for a pledge to play football on Saturdays. But signing day can also be terrible for those kids who aren't equipped to handle the adulation, let alone make one of the biggest decisions of their lives.

College football recruiting has been compared to dating. Some matches seem perfect and work out. Others get off to a good start until one partner gets a wandering eye.

Before National Signing Day, student athletes may commit to a university. Their declarations sound permanent, even though we have learned they don't carry the force of law or even the stamp of one's integrity. Social media is inundated with stories of "flippers and switchers," ones who commit to one school, then jump to another.

One website that follows college football, Saturday Down South, reports there

have been 60 de-commitments among prospects involving Southeastern Conference teams this fall - with more to follow. It's no different for other conferences in other parts of the country.

Tom Lemming, a nationwide recruiting analyst, said the practice of de-committing has become epidemic. There's no single explanation as to why.

Can you blame the high school phenom who just can't get enough all-expense-paid trips to college campuses? Or do you blame recruiters whose teams' success - and their own livelihoods - depend on getting the right players? The answer is both.

Highly touted players are easily swayed by coaches with winning personalities and strong sales pitches. Absent the guidance of a parent or high school coach, a young player can quickly succumb to the pressure to commit.

But just because a player gives that pledge - and sticks to it - there's no guarantee of a scholarship on National Signing Day. Coaches have been known to withdraw offers if they've kept recruiting and landed a better player.

Other scenarios complicate the recruiting campaign, as well.

If a coach is fired or moves to another school, recruits will reassess their compatibility with the new



Lindley

coaching staff. When James Franklin stepped down as head coach at Vanderbilt, for example, the Commodores were hit with 10 de-commitments. Three came from players who switched to Penn State with Franklin.

Sometimes players commit to a school, but the offer is predicated upon a player meeting academic standards. Failing that, a player may end up at a junior college, where the recruiting process will be replayed in a couple of years.

Once in a while, a school intentionally signs more players than it has scholarships to give, perhaps believing not all will prove eligible. Or maybe a coach falsely expects some recruits to change their minds. Over-signing may leave some recruits to be brought in as "gray shirts," meaning they'll be placed on scholarship when one

becomes available.

Recruiting is a big, expensive business. The pursuit of gifted athletes - once a closely guarded secret - is no longer. Internet sites focused on recruiting rank, study, compare and assess players as never before.

Some players may hold onto old ideas and honor their word. For others recruitment is a process where rules - except those imposed by the NCAA - are murky.

The chase for athletic talent, in the meantime, plays out in its own strange way, and future collegians are making their commitments - whatever that means.

Tom Lindley is a CNHI

sports columnist. Reach him at [tlindley@cnhi.com](mailto:tlindley@cnhi.com).

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## 2014 Suwannee High Track and Field Schedule

Date:	Day:	Opponent:	Location:	Time:
2/15	Sat.	Eastside Inv.	Eastside ((Fred Cone Park)	TBA
2/22	Sat.	Panhandle Open	Bay HS- (P.City)	9:30 am
3/1	Sat.	Suwannee Inv.	Home	9:00 am
3/4	Tue.	Keystone, Palatka	Palatka	3:30 pm
3/11	Tue.	Union, Hamilton	Home	3:30 pm
3/15	Sat.	Hamilton Inv.	Hamilton	TBA
3/22	Sat.	Santa Fe Inv.	Santa Fe	TBA
3/25	Tue.	Hamilton	Hamilton	3:00 pm
4/8	Tue.	District Pole Vault	Home	3:30 pm
4/10	Thur.	District Meet	Eastside (Fred Cone Park)	9:30 am
4/14-4/18	TBA	Regionals	TBA	TBA
5/2	Fri.	State	UNF	TBA

Head Boys Coach - Seth Stebbins  
Head Girls Coach - Eric Rodriguez

# Amazing facts about the human heart

Every Valentine's Day homes and businesses dress up the decor with cupids and hearts to celebrate a day all about love and affection. The heart shape has been used to symbolically represent the human heart as the center of emotion and romantic love. Hearts symbolizing love can be traced back to the Middle Ages.

Those familiar with human anatomy realize that an actual heart bares very little resemblance to the ideographic heart shape used in art and imagery. Similarly, the human heart really has nothing to do with human emotions. Despite this, there are many interesting components of the heart, and a man or woman truly cannot love or live without one.

The heart as an organ is relatively small in size. It is roughly the size of a fist and weighs only 11 ounces on average. Although diminutive, the heart is responsible for pumping 2,000 gallons of blood through 60,000 miles of blood vessels each day. It accomplishes this by beating 72 times a minute in a healthy adult. All of the cells in the body receive blood except for the corneas in the eye.

The heart works harder than any other muscle in the body. In a fetus, it begins beating at four weeks after conception and will not stop until a person's time of death. Even then, sometimes the heart can be revived. A heart can also continue to beat outside of the body provided it has an adequate oxygen supply.

Although many people refer to all of the blood vessels in their body as "veins," they're actually a combination of veins and arteries. Veins carry fresh, oxygenated blood to the body through arteries. The main artery leaving the left heart ventricle is called the aorta, while the main artery leaving the right ventricle is known as the pulmonary artery. Blood traveling back to the heart flows through veins after it has passed the lungs to pick up oxygen. The thumping noise that is heard while the heart is beating is actually the chambers of the heart closing and opening as blood flows through.

While the heart may not be the cornerstone of emotions, it can be affected by feelings. Studies have shown that a "broken heart" is a real occurrence, according to Live Science. Bad news or a breakup with a loved one can put a person at increased risk for heart attack.

This type of trauma releases stress hormones into the body that can stun the heart. Chest pain and shortness of breath ensue but can be remedied after some rest.

Conversely, laughter and positive feelings can be beneficial for the heart. Research has shown that a good laughing fit can cause the lining of the blood vessel walls -- called the endothelium -- to relax. This helps increase blood flow for up to 45 minutes afterward.

Although having a big heart colloquially means that a person is loving and goes out of their way for others, physically speaking, a big heart is unhealthy. An enlarged heart can be a sign of heart disease and compromise the heart's ability to pump blood effectively. Left untreated, it can lead to heart failure.

The heart is an amazing organ responsible for sustaining life. Although it is not directly tied to love and emotions, without the heart such feelings wouldn't be possible.



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**kids' corner**

**HEALTH FACT:**

THIS TYPE OF AIR POLLUTION CAN EMANATE FROM OLD APPLIANCES INSIDE A HOME.

ANSWER: INDOOR AIR POLLUTION

**Air Quality Word Find**  
Find the hidden words in the puzzle.

AIR	DANDER	LUNGS
BREATHE	DANGEROUS	MOLD
CLEAN	DUST	POLLEN
COOLING	HEATING	RADON

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

**Get Scrambled**  
Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

N A C L E R A I

ANSWER: Clean air

**THIS DAY IN...**

FEB 4

**HISTORY**

- 1789: THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE ELECTS GEORGE WASHINGTON AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
- 1945: FDR, WINSTON CHURCHILL AND JOSEF STALIN MEET AT THE YALTA CONFERENCE.
- 2003: THE REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA IS OFFICIALLY RENAMED SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO.

**New Word**

**FILTER**

device for removing impurities

**How they SAY that in...**

- ENGLISH:** Breathe
- SPANISH:** Respirar
- ITALIAN:** Respirare
- FRENCH:** Respirer
- GERMAN:** Atmen

**Did you know?**

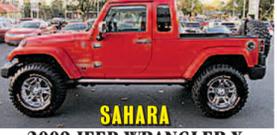
COMMON INDOOR AIR POLLUTANTS INCLUDE DUST MITES, POLLEN, MOLD, RADON, AND CHEMICAL FUMES.

**GET THE PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: HEATING VENT

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 2010 CHEVY CAMARO RS	 2011 CHEVY CAMARO	 1995 CHEVY CAMARO \$3287	 2001 CHEVY MONTE CARLO	 2013 CHEVY CORVETTE GRAND SPORT
 2008 CHEVY MALIBU LTZ	 2010 DODGE CHARGER SXT	 2012 DODGE CHARGER SRT-8 SUPERBEE	 2010 DODGE CHARGER R/T	 2008 DODGE CHARGER R/T
 2009 DODGE CHALLENGER SRT8	 2007 CHRYSLER 300C	 2011 BUICK REGAL	 2012 BUICK 328i	 2010 JAGUAR XF PREMIUM
 2007 INFINITI M35	 2011 LEXUS ES 350	 2012 LINCOLN MKS	 2009 HYUNDAI GENESIS	 2008 HONDA CIVIC EX
 1999 HONDA ACCORD \$5871	 2007 HONDA ACCORD	 2010 TOYOTA CAMRY	 2012 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL	 2007 LINCOLN MKX
 2010 HONDA CR-V	 2012 JEEP WRANGLER JK-8 SAHARA	 2010 JEEP WRANGLER RUBICON	 2013 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA	 2011 JEEP WRANGLER MOJAVE
 2006 JEEP WRANGLER X	 2009 JEEP WRANGLER X	 2010 JEEP COMMANDER LIMITED	 2011 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED	 2013 JEEP PATRIOT
 2012 JEEP LIBERTY LIMITED	 2011 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SUPERCHARGED	 2004 NISSAN XTERRA	 2009 NISSAN ARMADA	 2009 HYUNDAI SANTA FE LTD
 2009 HYUNDAI SANTA FE LTD	 2011 TOYOTA 4RUNNER 4X4 LIMITED	 2010 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LIMITED	 2009 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER	 2011 TOYOTA 4RUNNER SR5
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 2010 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LX	 2010 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN	 2011 CADILLAC ESCALADE ESV	 2007 CHEVY TAHOE LT	 2011 CHEVY SUBURBAN LTZ
 2011 GMC YUKON DENALI XL	 2004 GMC YUKON SLE	 2005 GMC ENVOY SLE	 2013 GMC SIERRA 1500 CREW 4X4	 2011 CHEVY AVALANCHE LTZ
 2008 CHEVY 1500 CREW LTZ 4X4	 2012 CHEVY CREW LTZ 4X4	 2011 CHEVY 1500 CREW 4X4	 2011 RAM 2500 4X4 6.7 CUMMINS TURBO DIESEL	 2012 RAM 1500 SLT CREW
 2004 CHEVY 2500 LT	 2003 RAM 1500 QUAD SLT	 2011 RAM 2500 CREW SLT 4X4 6.7 CUMMINS TURBO DIESEL	 2012 RAM 2500 LONGHORN 4X4 6.7 CUMMINS TURBO DIESEL	 2011 RAM 1500 CREW CAB LONGHORN
 2010 RAM 1500 CREW CAB LARAMIE	 2004 DODGE RAM 2500 SLT	 2010 RAM 1500 QUAD SLT	 2009 RAM 1500 CREW SLT 4X4	 2013 FORD F-150 STX

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