

# HOLMES COUNTY Times Advertiser



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Wednesday, FEBRUARY 20, 2013

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50¢

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## IN BRIEF

### Fourth Friday Mission Supper

**BONIFAY** — Red Hill Methodist Church will hold its Fourth Friday Mission Supper at 5 p.m. Feb. 22. The meal includes catfish filets, smoked chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, cheese grits, hushpuppies, dessert and tea. For directions, call Linda Yarbrough after 5:30 p.m. at 334-684-3106.

### Blessed Trinity plans Fish Fry

**BONIFAY** — Blessed Trinity Catholic Church in Bonifay will hold a Fish Fry from 4:30-7 p.m. each Friday through March 22. The donation is \$7 adults, \$4 children ages 5-10, and family prices are available. Take-out is available by calling ahead to 547-3735. The menu includes mild white fish baked or fried, French fries, coleslaw, baked beans, cheese grits, corn chowder, beverage and dessert. The church is at 2331 Bonifay Highway (177-A) west of the elementary school.

### Dixie Youth Sign-Ups

**BONIFAY** — Holmes County Dixie Youth baseball, T-ball and softball sign ups are available through Saturday, Feb. 23, from 9 a.m. to noon at Bonifay Middle School

See **BRIEF A2**

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## BOCC talks policy in special session

By **CECILIA SPEARS**  
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**BONIFAY** — Holmes County Board of County Commissioners held a special session on Monday, Feb. 18, to discuss personnel policies and to appoint a new member of the Holmes County Development Commission after the recent resignation of Benny Little.

The Board approved of Commissioner Bill Parish's nomination of Diane Little

to replace Benny Little.

"The real purpose for this special session was to establish a new member as quickly as possible," Parish said.

HCDC Chairman Bud Riviere came before the board with a request.

"We would appreciate it if you would review our criteria when you consider appointing new members," said Riviere.

His requested criteria included progressive leadership qualities, an ambitious entrepreneurial spirit, have

a commitment to at least 10 meetings, understanding of economic development, support local businesses on a regional perspective, excellent public relations, a mind to advertise Holmes County as a unique entity, be a team player, a long term commitment and a general knowledge of Regional/State/Federal funding opportunities.

"How many more resignations do you anticipate in the near future?" asked Board Chairman Monty Merchant.

Riviere said that he got

word of at least three more upcoming resignations.

The board then discusses their Paid Time Off Policy and possible universal disciplinary actions.

"Once again I stress that consistency is the key," said County Attorney Jeff Goodman. "To stay within the guidelines of our union contract it will have to be progressive."

After much discussion, the board concluded that the universal disciplinary action would be that the first

offense would be a written warning, the second would be the equivalent of a week off without pay and if there is a third violation within a 12-month span then the last disciplinary action would be termination.

After much more discussion Goodman said he would be able to adjust it so that after that 12 month period it doesn't simply reset itself and that the written warning would be good

See **POLICY A2**

## COMING ALIVE



CECILIA SPEARS | Times-Advertiser

Artists, businesses and residents alike gathered together for Ponce de Leon's Coming Alive Festival held in Ponce de Leon on Saturday, Feb. 16 and featured artwork from local artists, crafts, food, face painting and games galore. See the Feb. 27 edition of the Holmes County Times-Advertiser for more pictures from Ponce de Leon's Coming Alive Festival.

## Burglary suspect leads Graceville police on a high-speed pursuit

From Staff Reports

**GRACEVILLE** — Police arrested a man on drug and burglary charges Friday after a high-speed pursuit, according to a Graceville Police Department report.

Graceville police arrested Barry James Parrish Jr. of Blountstown on multiple felony charges, including aggravated fleeing/attempting to elude, possession of a weapon during a criminal offense, possession of controlled substance and drug paraphernalia, possession

*Police said Barry James Parrish Jr. has been linked with multiple burglaries in Graceville on Feb. 14-15.*

of burglary tools and aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer.

Police said Parrish has been linked with multiple burglaries

in Graceville on Feb. 14-15.

Graceville police said on Friday, they tried to initiate a traffic stop at the intersection of Forrest Drive and Eighth Avenue after the driver of a maroon Chevrolet Impala threw a large metal object out of the driver's side window toward the driver's side of the patrol car.

Upon stopping the Chevrolet, police said the occupants began acting erratically. Backup was requested from Jackson County Sheriff's Office before

See **PURSUIT A2**

## Vernon marks bridge opening with ceremony

By **RANDAL SEYLER**  
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**CHIPLEY** — A chilly, cloudy day didn't dampen the mood Thursday when Vernon and the Florida Department of Transportation marked the official completion of the new Vernon Bridge on State Road 79 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Vernon City Square.

DOT District 3 Secretary Tommy Barfield was on hand for the ceremony, which celebrated the culmination of more than three years of construction, during which the antiquated two-lane structure was replaced with two two-lane bridges crossing Holmes Creek.

The \$21.2 million project began July 20, 2009, and officially opened to traffic in January.

"You can tell from the attendance here today what is important to Washington County and to the city of Vernon," Barfield said. About 300 people turned out for the Thursday morning ceremony, including members of the Vernon Marching Band, Vernon High School Cheerleaders and FFA. The high school's JROTC chapter was on hand to present the flag.

The DOT's District 3 stretches from Jefferson County to Pensacola, Barfield said, so it was "nice to be able to do something at home."

In addition to the new bridge, FDOT realigned State 277 and County 279, installed a new traffic signal at the State 277 and State 79 intersection and added various pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements.

See **BRIDGE A2**



RANDAL SEYLER | Times-Advertiser

The city of Vernon and the Florida Department of Transportation marked the official completion of the new Vernon Bridge on State Road 79 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Vernon City Square on Thursday.

## HOLMES COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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## BRIDGE from page A1

The bridge is part of a continuing effort by FDOT to widen State 79 from U.S. 98 in Bay County to Interstate 10 in Holmes County to ease corridor congestion, encourage economic development opportunities and improve safety, according to a DOT news release.

"The contractor, Anderson Columbia, did a great job with the project," Barfield said. The contractor not only built the bridge, but also took great care to minimize the effects of the construction on the environment.

"We found a family of bats living in the old bridge, and that was a factor that had to be mitigated,"

Barfield said. "You can't just say, 'shoo, bats — go find a new home.'"

Protecting the ecosystem of Holmes Creek was a priority with both the DOT and the contractor, he said.

Vernon Mayor Michelle Cook opened the ceremony with welcoming remarks, and Washington County Sheriff Bobby Haddock provided the invocation.

Vernon Historical Society President Angia Morris provided some background on the history of Vernon.

"I want to say thank you to the city of Vernon and its leadership," Barfield said. "Without our partnership with the city, this could not be accomplished."

"Everyone knows that Vernon just got its first stop light," Cook said. "It will take us a while to get used to it, but it will really help improve the safety of what was a very dangerous intersection."

The original Vernon Bridge, dedicated in 1939, was a popular spot for youngsters wanting to enjoy Holmes Creek, Barfield said.

"I have memories of the old Vernon Bridge and how children, including him, would jump off of the bridge and into Holmes Creek," he said. "Of course, I would never do that now, and we don't want anyone jumping off our new bridge, either."

## POLICY from page A1

for up to two years and if someone should violate the PTO Policy shortly within that two-year period then it would be an automatic second warning of a week off without pay.

"Due to the fact that many departments have different hours in which they work a week I'll be sure to write it up so that no matter the department the amount of hours off without pay will equal a week," Goodman said.

The board approved of Goodman drafting a policy to be approved at the next meeting.

The board also approved of a new and more detailed overtime request form.

"This isn't for disciplinary purposes," said Merchant. "This is just for a more detailed account for our records."

County Commissioner David Whitaker asked if it was within the policy that employees could take their two mandatory 15-minute breaks and combine them with their mandatory 30-minute lunch to create an hour lunch break.

"They've got the right to the periods but you've also got the right to restrict the times," Goodman said.

Parish agreed that every district should be in compliance with the contract for the

strict 15-minute break in the morning, 30-minute lunch and 15-minute break in the afternoon.

Whitaker also asked if employees should be using county vehicles to get breakfast and lunch.

"Personally I don't think they should be using county equipment for personal use," Parish said.

Goodman advised that if their employees were "on your clock and on your equipment then you're liable for a lawsuit."

The board agreed that county equipment should never be used for personal use and that they should get with their foremen about cracking down on company policies and set strict guidelines, especially in the area of disciplinary action, breaks and use of county equipment.

"We'll have to up our transponder tracking surveillance to make sure we've got it documented on where they're going with our county equipment and for how long," Commissioner Bobby Sasnett said.

Goodman said that, at the board's request, he was setting up a time to have a meeting with representatives from Walton, Jackson, Santa Rosa and Bay Counties in March.

Parish had suggested this at a previous meeting, stating

it might be beneficial to the county to "bounce around" ideas with other counties and "see how they run things" to widen their possibilities.

Merchant asked that the board consider if they want to renew their contract with C.W. Roberts or if they want to start putting projects out for bid.

"We still need striping from Highway 81 to the Walton County line," Merchant said.

The board agreed to think on the matter.

County Engineer Cliff Knauer informed the board that the Department of Environmental Protection was offering money to Water Management for Restore Act money for the outside coastal counties.

"We need a list of roads for a storm water project or a road paving improvement to sediment, also known as a top of hill to top of hill project," Knauer said. "We need it by tomorrow."

After much discussion, the commissioners came up with Coach Road, North and South Ride, Lake Victor Road, Old Mt. Zion Road and the rest of Creek Road.

"We've got a grant already to pave Creek Road from County Road 181 to the top of the hill," said Knauer. "We'll just submit the rest of the road."

## BRIEF from page A1

gym. Registration is \$45 for ages 5 and older. For info contact Kristen Nelson at 850-373-3095.

### Muskogee History Seminar

VERNON — There will be a Muskogee

History Seminar from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 23 at Gilley's Place at 3351 Mallory Road in Vernon. The seminar will cover several topics of the Muskogee. For more information, call The Lower Muskogee Creek Tribe at 229-762-3355.

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## PURSUIT from page A1

the officer tried to exit his patrol car. When the driver's door of the patrol car opened, the occupants of the Chevrolet tried to elude the officer by fleeing the traffic stop, according to police.

The driver of the Chevrolet then fled toward Campbellton on Highway 2. A high-speed pursuit ensued to Highway 231 and continued southbound to Highway 73, north of Marianna.

JCSO deputies laid a spike strip upon Highway 73 to intercept the Chevrolet. Upon crossing the spike strip, the Chevrolet received damage to the driver's-side tires and

came to a stop on the side of the highway.

Parrish fled the scene on foot, once the Chevrolet was stopped, police said. The passenger exited the vehicle and surrendered to deputies on scene.

K-9 Units with Apalachee Correctional Institute and Jackson Correctional Institute were called to assist in locating Parrish. He was tracked to a nearby residence and found in the yard. Police said Parrish resisted arrest with violence but was subdued and taken into custody by JCSO deputies.

Additional charges against Parrish are pending from JCSO.

## FREE TO HOLMES COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY

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**February 23, 2013**

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## Relay for Life BRIEFS

### HC RELAY LOOKING FOR CANCER SURVIVORS TO HONOR AT HOLMES COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE 2013

**BONIFAY** — The Holmes County Relay for Life is looking for survivors to honor at this year's Relay for Life 2013 event. If you are a cancer survivor submit your name, address and shirt size to the following locations for Relay updates, reservation at the Survivors Banquet and free survivor T-shirt: Holmes County Chamber of Commerce, Burger King and the Holmes County Times-Advertiser. Or mail it to the Holmes County Times-Advertiser C/O Cecilia Spears; 112 East Virginia Ave., Bonifay, FL 32425.

### HC RELAY LOOKING FOR LOCAL TALENT

**BONIFAY** — Holmes County Relay for Life is looking for local talent to

star at this year's Relay for Life event. If you've got a talent of any kind and would like to perform at this year's Relay for Life, which is scheduled for April 19 at Memorial Park in Bonifay, contact DeAnna Oldham at 768-2675 or deej71004@yahoo.com.

### HOLMES COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE EVENTS UPDATE

**Feb. 26:** Bonifay Relay for Life will hold a Team Meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call DeAnna Oldham at 768-2675.

**March 26:** Bonifay Relay for Life will hold a team meeting at 6 p.m. on March 26 at the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call DeAnna Oldham at 768-2675.

## NEW BUSINESS OPENS



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES-ADVERTISER

A grand opening was held Feb. 11 for Phyllis's Flowers in Bonifay. The ribbon cutting was attended by City Council Member Roger Brooks, from left, Mayor Lawrence Cloud, business owner Phyllis Carroll, Richard Woodham and Jerri Gibson.

## Marriages and DIVORCES

**Feb. 4-8**

### MARRIAGES

Charles Ed Caulk, 9/2/1968 of Bonifay and Debbie Lee Muldoon, 5/8/1962 of Bonifay  
Mark Jackson Leavins, 3/12/1961 of Westville and Jennifer Beatrice Helms, 2/14/1969 of Samson, Ala.

Valentin Balderas Salinas, 5/23/1979 of Samson, Ala., and Jennifer LaShea Knutson, 10/31/1975 of Samson, Ala.

*There were no divorces filed for the week of Feb. 4-8.*



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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### School bullying needs to stop

Dear Editor,

I am sad to see all the young lives being lost today. Because I am a father of eight children and have a seventh grandchild on the way, I feel that I have a big stake in all of this.

I think there are areas in society that can be improved on. Parents have to teach their children tolerance and not hate. If there were more tolerance there would be less bullying in school and out. When I was in grade school, if we had a disagreement, we would go way out away from the school and settle our differences. But of course we didn't have handheld communication devices where you could talk behind each other's back with either: I'm thinking that it might help to take a time out and think about what a person is saying before they respond to a could-be-hateful comment and be a friend. If people could only practice this along with more tolerance then it might be a happier place to live.

I'm sure God wouldn't want us to pick and choose who we are going to be nice to. If children are being bullies in school and they tell a parent, maybe the parent can go sit in the child's class and observe what's going on there. I did that once and all I had to do is look at the little boy that was bothering my daughter, and he didn't do it anymore. Maybe a little more communication between parents and children and a little more involvement with what's going on in their lives would help.

Also, health care people have to be careful what they name some of these new illnesses. Some of the names I've heard sound like they could cause some problem with children at school being teased.

There is so much that needs to be done that it just bewilders me as to what the answer is — praying is good but I think there has to be more action taken too.

Ronald William Bussell  
Ponce De Leon

## Vernon's bridge opening: The history continues

Sitting on the square at Vernon this week for the dedication of the new four-lane Vernon Bridge on Highway 79 that spans beautiful Holmes Creek, I felt very much a part of history. As we sat, I remembered the spot as the site of the old Washington County Courthouse, which was at Vernon, the county seat of government. The old jail was adjacent at the site of the present day fire department. The county was established in 1848 from parts of Jackson County with Vernon designated as its county seat in 1851. However, it was almost 50 years before the brick courthouse and jail were built.

Mayor Michelle Cook welcomed the crowd of about 300 and acknowledged those who helped stage the event. Sheriff Bobby Haddock gave the invocation and Vernon High School Jr. ROTC posted the colors. The pledge of allegiance was led by the Vernon High School FFA. Then, the National Anthem was played by the VHS band under the direction of Mr. John Harcus.

In her opening remarks, Angie Hinson Morris gave a brief survey of Vernon's history, much of which was taken from Vernon native Mary Cathrin May's "Vernon, The Heart of Old Washington." It was known as Roche's Bluff for early resident Steve Roche, who had a stage coach stop/ trading post and steamboat dock along the creek. Steve Roche an educated man who settled in the area about 1820 was selected by the residents as a representative to the Territorial Assembly, which met at St. Joseph in 1829.

When statehood was granted to Florida in the 1840s, an election was held in 1845 to join the union and Roche's home was the site of a designated voting precinct. The voter roll contained 37 names. Questions about the name "Vernon" still exist. I like the story that said it was originally called Mt. Vernon to

*"No high school kids will be jumping into the creek from the side of the new bridge in the future, but you still have the creek banks with the strong cables attached to the ancient oaks to provide recreation for your youth."*

complement the county of Washington, but because Jackson County from which Washington County was carved already had a Mt. Vernon, the name was shortened to just Vernon. Another story says that Vernon, France, was the birthplace of Steve Roche.

Mrs. Morris mentioned the pleasure at seeing the FFA in uniform leading the pledge and explained the appropriateness of their presence. The site on which the Vernon city marker is located in front of the Sam Mitchell Library was donated by the Irving Roche family in memory of their son, Happy, who was the vocational agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Vernon when he was killed in a plane crash.

I sat there trying to reconstruct in my memory what Vernon looked like in 1943 when, as a sixth grader, I crossed the bridge into Vernon on the big yellow school bus driven by Tolbert Porter. The old mostly abandoned courthouse and jail dominated the east side of Highway 79. I thought of the bats that occupied the buildings. On the south side was a small watch "tower" where some high school students, my oldest brother, Jim, and a cousin, Connie Bush, included, got paid a small sum to spot and report all aircraft that flew over the town. Henry Brock's service station and McFatter's store was south of that. Across the street from the jail was a huge wooden structure, the old Vernon Hotel then mostly used for apartments. Owens store and Parish's general store were also on the west side along with several other business.

When FDOT District Secretary spoke he mentioned several of the challenges that were met in the construction of the bridge that replaced a two-lane structure

in place since 1939. A major consideration was to protect the ecosystem represented by the crystal clear Holmes Creek and the Choctawhatchee River to which it flows. Another hurdle was relocating the large bat population that inhabited the underside of the old bridge. I remembered the bats from the old jail. They hadn't traveled far to find a new home when the old buildings were demolished in the late 1940s. The reason I remember the bats is because the town boys in my class, Mack Simmons, Johnny Fuller and others sometimes would bring back from lunch those creepy critters to frighten us girls with.

It is always good to attend this type gathering and reconnect with many from my earlier days. I am proud of Vernon, Fla., and the people who make up this small village. I am proud of the beautiful new bridge, which I will only pass over on my way to somewhere else. I am proud of the way the people whose lives have been forever changed by its presence have embraced the changes with grace. I am especially proud of the Vernon Garden Club under the leadership of Pam Shores Cates and their award of a \$100,000.00 grant for the beautification of their fair town following the completion of the \$21 million-plus bridge through the heart of Vernon. It will be a show place for locals and tourists

The dedication service was well planned and well executed and well attended. Congratulations, people of Vernon! No high school kids will be jumping into the creek from the side of the new bridge in the future, but you still have the creek banks with the strong cables attached to the ancient oaks to provide recreation for your youth.

bonifaynow.com 

### HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

Letters to the editor and comments on Web versions of news stories are welcomed.

Letters are edited only for grammar, spelling, clarity, space and consistency, but we ask that they be limited to 300 words where possible. Letter writers are asked to provide a home address and daytime telephone number (neither is printed) for verification purposes.

Letters may be sent to 1364 N. Railroad Ave., Chipley, FL 32428 or emailed to news@chipleypaper.com. Please specify if the letter should be printed in the Washington County News or Holmes County Times-Advertiser. Questions? Call 638-0212.



My friend and faithful reader, Earl Ray Kolmetz, read the J. C. Griffin article of last week even before I had



**PERRY'S PRATTLE**  
Perry Wells

opportunity to see it. He gave his approval and told me how much he enjoys all the writings. At the dedication of the new Vernon Bridge on Feb. 14, Dorothy Bush White complimented the article, explaining she did not know Mr. Griffin personally but did know many of the people mentioned as she is a native of the Orange Hill area.

The Prattler will use the "Setting It Straight" feature of the newspaper and report the long established Griffin Reunion is the first Saturday in May, not in July as reported last week.

Since becoming more involved in history and genealogy in recent years, it has come to my attention that the tourist industry in the state of Florida recognizes both services to be a source of state revenue. Traveling results in spending money for motels, eating in restaurants, visiting state parks and museums and contributes significantly to the economics of an area.

This was brought home to me on Jan. 3 of this year when a telephone call was received from a man who identified himself as James Murphy. He told me that he and his wife, Beth, were in Chipley, having traveled from their home in Monroe, La., expressly to do research in the Washington County Historical Museum. I met them at the local facility and spent a full hour or more with them before they proceeded on their journey. They planned to visit the courthouse and ultimately travel to New Hope, as they were interested in the Vallombrosa Mansion written on extensively by historian and journalist, E. W. (Judge) Carswell. The owner of that historic property was James Bright, who served as postmaster for the short duration the area had its own post office. James Murphy said he is a direct descendant of Mr. Bright and is presently engaged in researching the life and travels of his ancestors.

They saw the writings of E. W. Carswell and learned that he was a graduate of Louisiana Tech in Ruston, which is near their Monroe home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are

graduates of that institution. All the experiences at the historical museum made it easy for them to purchase "Washington, Florida's Twelfth County," plus the entire set of the smaller books by Mr. Carswell.

Before departing Chipley, the visitors enjoyed a noon meal at Colonial Restaurant. I had referred them there after they inquired of a restaurant where fresh home cooked meals are served. I know they found the eatery because the next visit I made to the café, the proprietor delivered a Gift Certificate, which the Louisiana visitors had graciously left for Hester and me.

I have not heard anything further from the couple but have sent them a "Thank You" note for the gift, plus an aged geological map of the area where Vallombrosa was located. An excerpt from another writing listed James Bright as postmaster. Also included was a copy of information which J. D. (Doris) Owens of Wausau has recently discovered concerning another Washington County native who migrated to Lincoln Parish, La., and was elected sheriff there in 1887.

The man was Robert Edwin Russ, who was born in Holmes Valley, Washington County, Fla., on Aug. 27, 1830, and died Jan. 9, 1902. His parents were Robert Russ and Sarah Gillam Hodges Russ.

He migrated with his mother and stepfather, Sion D. Smith, first to Henry County, Ala., then to Maury County, Tenn., and on to Hinds County, Miss., before finally settling in Jackson Parish (Jonesboro), south of Ruston, La.

He married Mary Elizabeth Randle in 1855, and the couple had thirteen children.

In 1873, Russ purchased land in Lincoln Parish, which was established after the Civil War. With the news that the Vicksburg, Shreveport & Pacific Railroad would be built in the vicinity, Russ was persuaded to donate more than 600 acres of his land for a town to be built around the depot. "Russ Town" opened in 1883, with lots selling for \$375 each. So many people flocked to the new town that a year later, in 1884, it became the site for the Lincoln Parish seat of government.

Russ was active in the Democratic Party when he served as sheriff. He was a trustee of Ruston College, which in 1894 became the future Louisiana Tech University. He was a



SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Pictured is the Ebenezer Baptist Church Cemetery in Holmes Valley, near where Robert Edwin Russ was born.

lay organizer of First Baptist Church in downtown Ruston. He is interred at the historic Greenwood Cemetery in Ruston. The outstanding Robert E. Russ Award is given in Ruston to individuals cited for outstanding civic service.

Mr. Carswell's book, "Washington, Florida's Twelfth County," page 91, relates some history of Russ's migration to Louisiana. Thanks to Doris Owens for further delving into this story and for referring me to the Wikipedia webpage.

No inquiry was made as to the expenditures the Murphy's made on their travels to Florida from their home in Louisiana, but information gleaned, residents here may be ahead of the game in the knowledge indirectly obtained from their visit, especially regarding Robert Edwin Russ. I hope they were able to add to the information already confirmed on James Bright.

Other researchers on the descendants of James Archibald Yates and Melinda Real Yates have recently visited our town. One of the offspring of the Yates couple is Nancy Jane Yates Brock, the great-grandmother of your writer and the wife of Thomas Jefferson Brock for whom the Brock Reunion, begun in 1906, is still being celebrated the Saturday before Father's Day. I expect to write on the findings of these inquires later. An economic boost to our area could result from additional history seeker coming to our county.

See you next week.

## HOLMES COUNTY Times Advertiser

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# Holmes County students promote 'Through With Chew Week'

Special to Times-Advertiser

**HOLMES COUNTY** — Tobacco products like chew, dip and snuff are not harmless. But because they're smokeless, youth and adults may underestimate the serious health risks associated with these products. In fact, while cigarette use continues to decline, smokeless tobacco use has remained steady among Holmes County's youth for more than a decade.

To help raise awareness about the dangers of smokeless tobacco, Holmes County Health Department and the Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Tobacco Free Florida will observe "Through With Chew Week" Feb. 17-23.

Schools within Holmes County will be participating in a variety of activities to increase awareness about the dangers of tobacco use.

"One of our favorite parts of the week is seeing the anti-tobacco posters created by our youth for the poster contest," said Christopher Lauen, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator with the Holmes County Health Department. "We always look forward to seeing the creativity of our local students. It is a wonderful opportunity for the students to increase awareness about the dangers of tobacco, while displaying their impressive works of art."



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO TIMES-ADVERTISER

Bethlehem High School S.W.A.T. members Adrian Alred, Austin Stroud and Hunter Gautney.

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**VOTING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Charter for the City of Bonifay, Florida provides for an annual election of officers to be held on the fourth (4th) Tuesday in March of every year.

City Clerk of Bonifay announces that the City of Bonifay election will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 with the polls opening from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Two Council Members in seats one (1) and three (3) will be elected for two (2) years.

Qualifying of Candidates will be accepted from 8:00 a.m. Monday, March 4, 2013 until 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 8, 2013. Office hours at City Hall are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30p.m.

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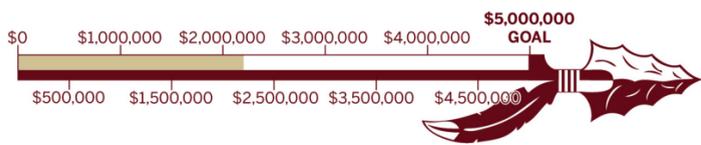
**WE SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIVERSITY**



HealthSouth Emerald Coast Rehabilitation Hospital is committed to serving Bay County and thus we are proud to support our community's university. FSU Panama City needs continued support to build its programs within the new College of Applied Studies and help our students get the education they deserve and our community needs.

— Tony Bennett, CEO  
HealthSouth Emerald Coast Rehabilitation Hospital

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To learn how you can support our community's university, contact Mary Beth Lovingood at (850) 770-2108 or mblovingood@pc.fsu.edu.

The new College of Applied Studies at FSU Panama City was approved by the FSU Board of Trustees in June 2010 and allows the campus to more easily respond to workforce needs in our area. We invite you to support *The Campaign for Our Community's University* by helping us build an endowment for tomorrow's jobs. Our goal is to establish a \$5 million endowment for the College of Applied Studies by 2017, which will allow FSU Panama City to establish student scholarships, implement new degree programs and provide new equipment and technology.

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## FREE FISHING DAYS

### Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Florida's license-free fishing days are the perfect venue to try your hand or introduce a friend to some of the finest fishing in the world.

During its Feb. 13 meeting, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission selected June 1 and Sept. 1 as the 2013 saltwater license-free fishing days. On these days, the requirement to have a recreational fishing license is waived for Florida's residents and visitors while they are saltwater fishing.

The FWC offers four license-free fishing days a year: two saltwater and two freshwater. Although the Commission selects new saltwater license-free fishing days on an annual basis,

freshwater license-free fishing days are set to the first Saturday in April and the second Saturday in June.

This year's freshwater license-free fishing days are April 6 and June 8. Use these days to catch the big one and get rewarded for it. Sign up for an FWC freshwater angler recognition program in advance at [www.TrophyCatchFlorida.com](http://www.TrophyCatchFlorida.com) to be entered into a drawing for a Phoenix bass boat powered by Mercury. If you catch, photograph and release a largemouth bass heavier than 8 pounds, you will be eligible for great rewards or certificates for catching qualifying freshwater fish from among 33 exciting species in the program. The FWC will honor license-free freshwater fishing days as a legal exemption for fish caught on these dates.

To make these events accessible to as many people as possible, the FWC plans these dates around holiday weekends and national events.

This year's freshwater license-free days are during National Fishing and Boating Week. Highlighted by significant national media coverage and public events, this week promotes boating and fishing across the country as fun and healthy outdoor activities. In 2012, 37 states had at least one license-free fishing day during this annual event.

The Sept. 1 saltwater license-free day falls on Labor Day weekend, when many families will be out on the water, enjoying one of the last big fishing weekends of summer. The ever-popular bay scallop season is also open to harvest on this date.

License-free days not only introduce new anglers to the lifetime sport of fishing, they also benefit the state economically as those 3 million anglers cited by the American Sportfishing Association's "Sportfishing in America" report, shop at tackle stores, purchase boat fuel and bait and travel to their favorite fishing hole. Some of this money even finds its way back to the FWC via the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration Program specifically to create more fishing and boating opportunities.

All other regulations such as seasons, size limits and bag limits still apply on these days.

Visit [MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://MyFWC.com/Fishing) to learn more about saltwater and freshwater fishing in Florida.

## Changes to boost Gulf gray triggerfish numbers

### Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission approved two changes to how gray triggerfish are managed in Gulf of Mexico state waters in an effort to help rebuild this overfished species.

More than 60 percent of gray triggerfish caught in the Gulf of Mexico come from state and federal waters off Florida, which makes the state's management of the species integral to the success of the federal rebuilding plan.

The changes, approved at the Feb. 13 Commission meeting in Orlando, will make state regulations consistent with pending federal regulations

and will include implementing a June 1 through July 31 closed recreational season and a two-fish daily recreational bag limit.

Federal fishery managers also approved changes to the commercial harvest of Gulf gray triggerfish. These changes include a 12-fish trip limit and a June 1 through July 31 harvest closure. The FWC requires fishers harvesting gray triggerfish commercially in Gulf state waters to have a federal reef fish permit. One condition of the federal reef fish permit is that harvesters must follow federal reef fish rules, even when they are fishing in state waters. This means that when the new federal commercial trip limit and closed season take effect sometime in April or May, harvesters in state wa-

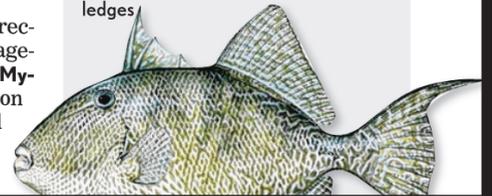
ters must abide by these rules.

Gray triggerfish have a unique spawning behavior that makes them vulnerable during the peak spawning season, usually between June 1 and July 31. Male triggerfish coax females to nesting areas, where they all care for and guard their eggs after spawning. Closing gray triggerfish during their peak spawning time, implementing the two-fish-per-day recreational bag limit and the 12-fish commercial trip limit should help rebuild the species.

Learn more about Florida's recreational gray triggerfish management in state waters by visiting [MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://MyFWC.com/Fishing) and clicking on "Saltwater" and "Recreational Regulations."

### GRAY TRIGGERFISH: BALISTES CAPRISCUS

- Entirely olive-gray
- Dorsal and anal fins marbled
- Caudal fin lobes elongate in large adults
- One or more enlarged scales behind gill opening
- 26 to 29 dorsal fin rays
- 23 to 26 anal fin rays
- Blue spots and short blue lines in dorsal fin and on upper half of body, becoming white below anal fin
- Upper rim of eye blue
- Habitat: Hardbottom, reefs, ledges



### RED SNAPPER: LUTJANUS CAMPECHANUS

- Color pinkish red over entire body, whitish below
- Long triangular snout
- Anal fin is sharply pointed
- No dark lateral spot
- Red eye
- Juvenile red snapper occur over sandy or mud bottoms. Sexual maturity is attained at age 2.
- Red snapper feed on crustaceans and fish.
- Adult red snapper may live more than 20 years and attain 35 pounds or more.



## FWC 'adds to drama' in red snapper season saga

By TINA HARBUCK

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tharbruck@thedestinlog.com

The controversy surrounding the red snapper continues.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) proposed a 44-day recreational red snapper season for Gulf of Mexico state waters at its meeting Feb. 13 in Orlando.

"All they've done is add to the drama," said Destin Capt. Mike Eller. "It's just a mess."

The season FWC is proposing would start June 1 and end July 14. However, the proposed season is inconsistent with the current proposed federal season, which is slated to be just 27 days.

The Commission will make a final decision on this season at the April Commission meeting in Tallahassee, according to a news release from the FWC.

"We hope it was a knee jerk reaction and made out of frustration," Eller said.

He said, it sounds like they are trying to send a "message of disgust" as to the way the National Marine Fisheries has handled the red snapper fishery.

For years, Texas has bucked the system, and has gone non-compliant in state waters for red snapper. However at last week's Gulf Council Meeting in Mobile, National Marine Fisheries was given the authority to cut days

in federal waters for those states that don't mirror the federal dates for red snapper.

"The system is so broken," Eller said.

Charter boats could be the big loser in any fight between the state and feds because captains have to abide by federal laws no matter where they catch the fish, and if red snapper is closed in federal waters, then boats that hold a federal permit can't land one in state waters, even if the state decides to go non-compliance with the federal.

If the state decides to go non-compliant with the federal guidelines for red snapper, "it's just creating an environment for people to break the law," Eller said.

## PDL POSTSEASON



CECILIA SPEARS | The News

The Lady Pirates kept firing all cannons as they fought their way to victory with a final score of 62-20 against the Port St. Joe Lady Tiger Sharks on Feb. 12.

## PDL captures victory over PSJ

By CECILIA SPEARS  
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**PONCE de LEON** — Not even the rain could dampen spirits as the Ponce de Leon Lady Pirates won the victory against the Port St. Joe Lady Tiger Sharks in the Region 2-1A tournament Feb. 12 with a score of 62-20.

There was never a silent or dull moment as the Lady Pirates started and finished aggressively against the Lady Tiger Sharks, with the first period ending 23-3.

The Lady Tiger Sharks took the defensive more toward the middle of the second period, continually taking back the ball, but they found it difficult to make the needed shots to catch up with the Lady Pirates' lead, ending the half 37-10.

Breaking through the Lady Tiger Sharks' defenses, the Lady Pirates picked

up the pace and afforded PSJ very little maneuvering room as the third period ended 54-15.

The Lady Pirates kept firing all cannons as they fought their way to victory with a final score of 62-20.

"I thought we played very well tonight," said coach Tim Alford. "I am very happy with our efforts. Hopefully we can sustain this momentum and the girls continue to have a lot of fun while doing it."

The Lady Pirates faced the South Walton Lady Seahawks at 7 p.m. Saturday in South Walton to play for the chance to go to State.

"It's going to be a close game," said South Walton coach Kevin Craig. "They've got the best players in 1A on their team, and Coach Alford does a great job. We've played them before and lost, and we're looking forward to playing them again."

## South Walton stops PDL girls in regional final

Special to The News

**SANTA ROSA BEACH** — South Walton High School is going to the Final Four for the first time in the history of the girls basketball program.

The Seahawks turned back defending Class 1A state champion Ponce de Leon 54-44 on Saturday night to win the Region 2-1A title.

"Just for this school, this community, I can't explain how much this means," said head coach Kevin Craig, who took over a program in 2004 that had finished 0-25 the year before. "I'm just so proud to be a Seahawk right now."

The outcome avenged a loss to PDL in last year's regional final. South Walton took a 23-6 record into its state semifinal against Villages on Tuesday. Ponce de Leon finished 23-6.

Senior Eve Heffron scored a team-high 15 points for South Walton to go along with seven rebounds and seven assists as the Seahawks finished a perfect 14-0 at home.

South Walton forced 26 turnovers and held the Pirates to 34 percent shooting. Leading scorer Ashley Harper had 13 points, with just two coming in the second half.

Early on, South Walton looked overmatched in every facet of the game

as it opened with five turnovers and 2-for-7 shooting. Meanwhile, Harper scored seven points in the first five minutes to put the Pirates ahead 16-7.

The Seahawks stormed back. Heffron knocked down three free throws, and Katie Trejo and Casey Perot delivered baskets in the post during a 9-0 run. Perot had a double-double with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

With the Pirates countering foul trouble, South Walton built a 34-25 halftime lead. PDL coach Tim Alford said his team slumped when two post players were collared with three fouls by the second quarter.

South Walton was 11-15 at the free-throw line in the second quarter alone.

"It was going our way early, and that took it away from us," Alford said.

South Walton led 41-34 after three quarters, but PDL clawed as close as 46-44.

"We fouled, had a turnover here and there. We were in foul trouble the whole time," Alford said.

The Seahawks rebuilt their lead with clutch free-throw shooting.

"It was a struggle. We had a good chance (in the fourth quarter) but didn't handle ourselves well," Alford said. "We just lost our composure."

# TIGERS EYE TITLE

## Chipley girls secure 55-50 win in Final Four

By PAT McCANN  
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**LAKELAND** — Senior forward Ebony Williams scored a career-high 18 points, but if there was one constant for Chipley in its 55-50 Class 1A semifinal win Tuesday over Hilliard it was team.

The Tigers, 23-4, advanced to this afternoon's state championship game against the winner of South Walton-Villages with contributions from a number of players.

Devan Blair elevated the Tigers with eight first-half points when her teammates were struggling. Jasmine Belser overcame an off-day shooting with a rare four-point play.

Sophomore point guard Amanda Paschal took over the game for a key stretch in the third quarter when she scored nine of her 13 points and offset center Aaliyah Coleman's foul trouble with critical rebounding.

But it always came back to team.

"It was a team win; our bench played strong," said head coach Heather Hingson, who guided Chipley to its first Final Four victory in girls basketball. "We trusted whoever was in there."

Hingson credited Blair for "jump-starting" the Tigers' confidence after a lackluster first quarter when they trailed 8-6. Chipley led only 24-22 at halftime, with Bria Saunders and Kasha Austin combining to score all but one point for Hilliard.

That called for a changed in strategy.

"We went to a man to man and left one of our girls guarding two players," Hingson said. "We were double-teaming (Saunders) and letting someone else take over for them."

"They weren't able to step up and do it."

The Tigers also were able to stay competitive on the boards despite the 6-foot Coleman sitting for long stretches because of early foul



CATHRINE LAMB | The News

The Lady Tigers defeated the Lady Blue Devils on Saturday to secure their spot in the final four.

trouble. Paschal led them with nine rebounds, Hilliard with just a 39-37 edge for the game.

"That was amazing; I know we got outrebounded if you look at the stats, but to continue without Aaliyah," Hingson said. "She's just a huge presence for us offensively and defensively in the paint."

Chipley controlled bench scoring 22-2 led by Williams' effort. She scored 12 points in the second half, with Paschal adding all but two of her 13 after halftime.

The Tigers also got two key baskets by Braylee Pooser midway through the fourth quarter that opened a 47-38 lead. The margin expanded to 53-41 on a basket by Williams with 2:23 remaining, and Chipley was able to withstand a Hilliard rally by making 10 of 11 free throws.

Saunders, a 5-5 senior guard, paced Hilliard with a game-high 26 points. Austin, a freshman forward, added 14 points and 10 rebounds, but the rest of the Flashes combined for only 10 points.

## CHS tops Malone, Holmes to reach finals

From Staff Reports

### Chipley girls stop Malone 57-47 in regional semifinals

**CHIPLEY** — The Chipley Lady Tigers took the lead just three minutes into the Class 1A Regional Semifinal game and never looked back, pelting the Malone Lady Tigers 57-47 Feb. 12 at Chipley High School.

By the end of the first quarter, Chipley was ahead 19-11. That margin increased to a 13-point lead in the second period, but the Malone girls whittled that gap down to 9 by halftime.

In the third quarter, Chipley's Aaliyah Coleman and Jasmine Belser came out strong, stretching the Lady Tigers' edge to 37-26, but the Malone squad came back and closed the gap to 5 points in the final period.

A layup by Belser followed by a three-pointer by Sorey put Chipley up 50-39 with just over 5 minutes left in the game, and Malone was unable to get closer than 6 the rest of the evening.

Belser led four Chipley players in double-digit scoring with 18 points, while Coleman added 15, and Rakeia Sorey and Amanda Paschal each scored 11.

For Malone, Curteona Brelove tallied 16 points to lead, with Angelica Livingston adding 11 and Briana Dallas netting 10.

With the win, Chipley advanced to Saturday

night's regional final matchup with Holmes County.

### Lady Tigers pounce on Lady Blue Devils 63-49

**BONIFAY** — The Chipley Lady Tigers brought home the victory against the Holmes County Lady Blue Devils on Saturday with a 63-49 win, earping the Lady Tigers a trip to the Class 1A Final Four.

Chipley, 21-4, was meeting Holmes County for the fourth time this season. The Tigers lost both times during the regular season but edged the Blue Devils by a point to win the district title, and the Region 1-1A championship proved to be no contest.

The battle began quickly enough as the bitter rivals made frantic efforts to capture and keep the ball, both proving difficult as the rivals stayed neck and neck, ending the first period with a score of 6-6.

"We couldn't put the ball in the basket for nothing tonight, absolutely nothing," Holmes County coach Devon Miles said. "But they are good. They improved every single time we played them."

The Tigers' backcourt of Jasmine Belser, Rakeia Sorey and Amanda Paschal was more than the Blue Devils could handle. They combined for 37 points, Chipley outscoring Holmes County by 12 points in the second quarter to lead 29-17

at halftime.

Both sides fought a constant tug of war match for points. This continued until the Lady Tigers found their stride and pounced on the Lady Blue Devils, ending the first half 29-17.

The Lady Tigers didn't lose any of their vigor during halftime as the second half started.

The Lady Blue Devils finally started to turn up the heat, but the Lady Tigers quickly recovered, ending the third period with a score of 47-28.

The Lady Blue Devils made a heated effort to make a comeback, but the Lady Tigers proved to be too wild to tame as they fought their way to victory, defeating the Lady Blue Devils 63-49.

Belser led the Tigers

with 17 points, and Sorey and Pascal each had 10. Ebony Williams added 13 points to help offset a low-scoring effort from Chipley's 6-foot-2 center Aaliyah Coleman.

Selena Long led Holmes County, 19-10, with 10 points. Point guard McKayla Moore had all nine of her points in the second half, and Hannah Prescott had eight. Holmes County shot only 3 of 18 on 3-point attempts.

"Their guards are really, really good," Miles said of Chipley. "And their role players played well for them tonight."

"I'm super excited about our victory," said Chipley coach Heather Hingson. "They really came to play tonight. This is a great opportunity for the girls."

**Holmes County Chamber of Commerce**

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# Ponce de Leon settles over fire truck for \$9,995

By CECILIA SPEARS  
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cspears@chipleypaper.com

**PONCE DE LEON** — After a long battle with Oshkosh over how much they owe on their newest fire truck, the town of Ponce de Leon settled matters with the company by agreeing on Feb. 7 to pay \$9,995 for equipment on the truck, according to Town Council Administrator Beth Peterson.

Ponce de Leon received a new fire truck using grant money,

however the town has recently receiving letters stating that the town owes money on the truck.

Peterson explained that the money was in reference to equipment on the truck and that the town attorney, Lyndia Spears, was able to talk the company into lower the requested amount by \$5,000.

"We're getting the equipment for what it's worth," said Peterson. "This was after we made sure to have the inventory checked to make sure that all the equipment that they were telling us to pay for

was actually on the truck."

She said she called Holmes County Recycling to see about putting recycling bins out near the town hall and that they declined because of negative experiences they've had with recycling bins in Ponce de Leon in the past.

The Town Council approved of putting up a few 25-mile-per-hour signs on Government Street.

"The mayor is also trying to get a USDA grant to update the room on the old shirt factory so that we can ask for a higher price when

renting it out," Peterson said.

The Ponce de Leon Volunteer Fire Department is looking for volunteers, she said.

Basketball has three weeks left and Ponce de Leon Dixie Youth sign-ups are coming up.

T-ball is \$25, 7 to 8-year-old division is \$30 and the 9-year-old division is \$40 to sign up.

According to the information provided a birth certificate is required and "parents are responsible for pants, socks, shoes and gloves."

Practice and tryouts start as follows: For girls ages 9 and up, 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 11; for boys 9 and up, 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12; for 7 and 8-year-olds, 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 14; and for 5 and 6-year-olds, 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 15.

For more information contact Teresa Miller at 532-5966.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town of Ponce de Leon Council is set for 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, at the Ponce de Leon Town Hall.

# Holmes County BOCC approves purchase of grader

By CECILIA SPEARS  
547-9414 | @WCN\_HCT  
cspears@chipleypaper.com

**BONIFAY** — Holmes County Board of County Commissioners approved on Feb. 12 the purchase of a road grader for \$64,883, which is at a reduced price after trading in one of their old ones.

While decisions were still trying to be made about graders, the board discussed purchasing a grader

they had been renting in an effort to save money during a workshop they had on Jan. 8.

"We're paying \$4,500 a month to lease a grader," said Chair Monty Merchant. "We should do something."

According to the minutes of a special session held on Tuesday, Jan. 22, this was decided at this meeting when "Chairman Merchant advised that all vendors had agreed to the board's request to extend their bids. Commissioner Parish offered

a motion to purchase the Volvo 930B grader that is currently being rented and to purchase two Caterpillar 12M graders."

Then after further debate the board approved of the motion with a vote of 4 to 2, with Commissioner Kenneth Williams voting "no," according to the minutes.

Williams then motioned "to pay for the Volvo grader from excess FEMA contingencies," and the board approved.

"The board agreed to accept the zero percent financing from Caterpillar since this was factored into the purchase price of the graders," according to the

minutes. "Tommy Walker, Caterpillar representative, clarified that the financing would be for five years with annual payments in arrears, which will give the board opportunity to budget the payment during the next budget preparation process. The board also agreed to decide which graders to trade in at the meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 29."

Resident Daniel Collette came before the board with an issue that had been brought before by resident Jeffery Johnson at the board's Jan. 16 meeting, requesting to properly vacate a street that dead-ends next to a piece of property

he purchased recently from Collette.

"It's 8.5 acres of usable land, but if that piece of street was properly vacated it would be 10.6," Johnson said.

Collette said their old resolution didn't include the lower half to be properly vacated, but that he was ready to sign the required paper work and pay the \$500 to place up the sign.

"We've got to run an ad and hold a public hearing at the next meeting in March," said County Attorney Jeff Goodman.

Resident Carolyn Goss came before the Board saying she was having

drainage issues and after much discussion they came to a conclusion that there might be a ditch that needs cleaning out.

Resident Teresa Johnson, a Westville bus driver, reported that she was having trouble getting through to get her issue in.

"I've been calling several times a week to get work done," said Johnson. "Whoever is answering the phone is rude and the last time I called he didn't even take my name."

Commissioner Bill Parish advised the next time she needs to call that she use the board's direct line, 547-1119.

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Sat., March 9 – **Paint a side plate**  
Kids 8-16, 10-11:30 am – \$18 incl. pottery

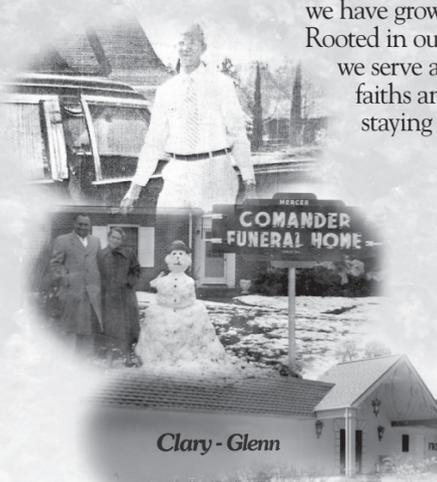
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## Washington, Holmes at a glance

### Vernon High School Black History Week

**VERNON** — Vernon High School will celebrate Black History Week from Feb. 19-22.

This year's theme is "At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation and the March on Washington."

School activities began with the showing of the historical film "Red Tails" in the library on Tuesday, and include an Open-Mic Freedom of Expression Day during both lunches today, Feb. 20, a viewing of "A Raisin in the Sun" honoring Lorraine Hansberry on Thursday, Feb. 21, and Soul Food Day, on Friday, Feb. 22.

There will be a program open to the public at 9:45 a.m. Friday in the high school auditorium. Students will perform theatrical expression skits during the ceremony.

### Alzheimer's Support Group

**DEFUNAIK SPRINGS** — Chautauqua Rehab and Nursing in conjunction with Emerald Coast Hospice will be offering an Alzheimer's support group for caregivers and families of persons suffering with Alzheimer's dementia, at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21, in the activities room at Chautauqua Rehab and Nursing Center.

Light refreshments will be provided. This group is open to the public.

For more information call Rachel Poore at 892-2176, ext. 324 or Ann O'Connor at 689-0300.

### Gospel Benefit Sing

**CARYVILLE** — There will be a Gospel Benefit Sing at the Caryville Community Center at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 23.

The benefit will assist Melvin Harris and family for medical cost and lost income do to multiple surgeries and rehab. The family has no insurance or other income. Donations will be accepted.

All proceeds will go to the family. Lunch and dinner will be available throughout the day.

For more information call 768-1362.

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**OUT & ABOUT**

Things to do in Washington, Holmes and Surrounding Counties

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PHOTOS SPECIAL TO EXTRA

**Top:** Students in Chipley Agriculture class put up the new Agriculture Land Lab sign, donated by Three river RC&D, Orange Hill Soil and Water Conservation, and Bay County Soil and water. **Left:** Poplar Springs FFA students winning in the Sub Division competitions in Chipley were, from left, Agriculture Advisor Lowell Hudson, Lacey Shehee, Jake Wangle, Alexis Williams. **Right:** Poplar Springs Middle School FFA students with ribbons from district competition.

# Growing pride

## Area students celebrate National FFA Week

By RANDAL SEYLER  
638-0212 | @WCN\_HCT  
rseyler@chipleypaper.com

**CHIPLEY** — Students throughout Holmes and Washington Counties will be celebrating National FFA Week this week, Feb. 16-23.

National FFA Week gives members a chance to educate the public about agriculture. During the week, chapters host teacher appreciation breakfasts, conduct "Ag Olympics" competitions, speak to the public about agriculture, volunteer for community service projects and more.

The week of George Washington's birthday was designated as National FFA Week in 1947 at a National FFA Board of Directors meeting. FFA Week always runs from Saturday to Saturday and encompasses Feb. 22, Washington's birthday.

At Chipley High School, FFA sponsor Michele Curtis reports a variety of activities are planned. "On Tuesday, we are having a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, and Wednesday is a cookout for the FFA members," Curtis said.

Thursday is Barn Yard Day at Roulhac Middle School to teach the middle schoolers about agriculture and FFA.

"We are asking all former FFA members that still have their FFA jackets to display them around the community to promote awareness of National FFA week," Curtis said.

"This is a great FFA program with the focus of continually improving," she said. "The community and school support is absolutely wonderful. We have started an alumni chapter of adults whose primary focus is to support the students in the program."

"We have goals to continue to grow the Chipley FFA chapter and to

hopefully start a middle school program at Roulhac in the future," Curtis said. "I am extremely excited by the students, their dedication, enthusiasm and belief in this FFA chapter and that is the key to our success."

Vernon FFA Sponsor Donna Keith said their program also is looking to start an alumni chapter like the one Chipley has in place.

"They are a very active organization, and we would like to get our parents and alumni involved here in the same way," Keith said.

In Holmes County, the Poplar Springs FFA program has been very busy.

The Poplar Springs Middle School students won several ribbons at District Forestry and went on to State. District competition was held Oct. 11 and the State competition was held Nov. 15 and 16.

High school student Easton Hinson won third highest out of the district in forestry equipment identification. The district is from Chipley to Pensacola, and from Panama to Alabama.

At state the middle school won third place out of all of the state of Florida in timber cruising. FFA Advisor Lowell Hudson said, "I am very proud of the accomplishments they made in these career development events."

On Dec. 13, Poplar Springs students won in three different career development events at the Sub District FFA Competitions held in Chipley. Lacey Shehee won second place in creed speaking. Jake Wangle won first place in tractor safety/driving. Alexis Williams won second place in extemporaneous public speaking.

"All of these students did great at the career development events they entered," Hudson said.

### ABOUT FFA

FFA membership today is comprised of 557,318 student members in grades seven through 12 who belong to one of 7,498 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, according to the organization's website.

FFA operates on local, state and national levels. Student members belong to chapters organized at the local school level. Agriculture educators serve as chapter advisors. Chapters are organized under state associations headed by an advisor and executive secretary, often employees of the state department of education.

States conduct programs and host annual conventions. The National FFA Organization is governed by a board of directors, charters state associations and provides direction, program materials and support for local chapters and state FFA associations.

FFA was organized nationally in 1928 in Kansas City, Mo. In 1950, Congress granted FFA a federal charter, making it an integral part of public agricultural instruction under the National Vocational Education Acts. FFA receives no federal funding. The U.S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs.

The National FFA Organization is an integral part of agricultural education by helping make classroom instruction come to life through realistic, hands-on applications. FFA members embrace concepts taught in agricultural science classrooms nationwide, build valuable skills through hands-on experiential learning and each year demonstrate their proficiency in competitions based on real-world agricultural skills. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.



### JROTC posts colors at Vernon Bridge Dedication

Special to the News

**VERNON** —Vernon High School's JROTC Color Guard posted the colors at the Vernon Bridge Ribbon Cutting and Sign Dedication Celebration last Thursday.

The ceremony started at 11 a.m., with a welcome from Mayor Michelle Cook. She introduced Sheriff Bobby Haddock, who gave the invocation. After his moving prayer, the VHS's JROTC Color Guard posted the colors. The VHS's FFA led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the VHS Marching Band performing the national anthem.

The president of

the Vernon Historical Society, Angie Morris, talked about the changes Vernon has gone through since it's founding. After her remarks, Secretary Tommy Barfield, from FDOT District 3, said a few words about the changes to come with the new bridge.

Mayor Cook asked the Vernon Historical Society and other distinguished guests to come stand at the front for a few pictures and the unveiling of the bridge sign. She then welcomed everybody to the new bridge for the ribbon cutting. The ceremony ended with Sheriff Bobby Haddock giving a blessing for the lunch meal that followed.

# Garden Club designs with 4th graders

By GWENETH COLLINS  
Special to Extra

**CHIPLEY** — Chipley Garden Club visited the fourth graders at Kate Smith Elementary Feb. 13. They began the morning in Karen Mashburn's classroom where club members Vonceil Coggin and Charlotte Sapp gave floral design instruction to forty students. Vonceil explained floral design components — line, focal point and filler — and demonstrated how to make a dried arrangement. Charlotte reinforced new words and identified the materials used in the designs.

Club member Beth Watford shared how floral design components apply

to photography and other art projects. Club members also stressed reusing, repurposing and recycling materials when you can.

During the design class, other garden club members were busy setting up the design area at the PE Pavilion. Dried materials such as grasses, okra, hydrangea, roses, cotton, daylily stalks, curly dock, cattails, agapanthus seedpods and others were packed into boxes and buckets and ready for the students as they arrived at the pavilion.

The students were very excited for the opportunity to create their own floral designs, which will be entered into Washington County's 4-H Youth Fair later this month. The



SPECIAL TO EXTRA

Club member Mary Carswell assists students with their designs.

designs they created proved the students were engaged in the classroom and very artistic.

Next week Chipley Garden Club members will be returning to KES to

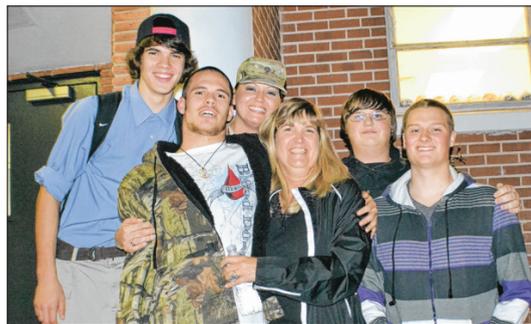
teach the art of making live floral design for the Youth Fair. If you would like more information about garden club projects and activities, contact Karen Roland, club president, at 638-9968.

### WHTC RECEIVES CHECK



RANDAL SEYLER | Extra

Mark Hagerman, at right, vice president of sales with ABM Building Services, presented a check for \$1,000 to Washington-Holmes Technical Center students and officials on Feb. 11 for producing the winning video in a contest sponsored by the company.



### Cobb surprises sons at basketball game

Special to Extra

**COTTONDALE** — Returning home on Jan. 18, Specialist Brenda Cobb surprised her sons, Nick and Tristan Porter and stepsons, Devin Cobb and Logan Jenkins, at the Vernon vs. Cottondale Junior Varsity Basketball game in Cottondale.

Brenda had been gone from her home in Graceville for a total of 11 months, two months of training prior to a nine-month deployment in Afghanistan.

Brenda has been with the Alabama National Guard for almost six years. She is a member of Support of Soldier Readiness Program and Medical Support of Pre Deployment

Training. She was also called to duty with the Gulf Oil Spill.

The surprise was arranged by her mother, Teresa Simpson; her cousin, Jeff Owens; Amy Cobb; her husband, David Cobb; Vernon High School Principal Marshall Porter; Brian Riviere; and Vernon's JV coach, Allan Ellis. Also on hand to welcome Brenda home were school board members Terry Ellis and Milton Brown.

Brenda's family and friends are glad to have her home safe and would like to thank all soldiers and their families who sacrifice their family time for our freedom.



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### Judge Register speaks to NJHS

Special to Extra

**CHIPLEY** — Judge Allen Register, a judge of the 14th Judicial Circuit Court in Florida, was the Roulhac Middle School's National Junior Honor Society's (NJHS) guest speaker at its January meeting.

Judge Register spoke with members about the importance of being a good citizen. He explained the role of the judicial system and the roles of our federal and local governments, and he emphasized that good citizenship begins with each individual.

He said students will have the opportunity one day to become a good citizen by voting, working and paying taxes and becoming informed about local political issues. Afterward, students were given the opportunity to ask questions.

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60				61					62			

#### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Afraid feeling
- 5. Cause to be embarrassed
- 10. A group of hunting animals
- 14. At some prior time
- 15. Papier-\_\_, art material
- 16. Disney's "\_\_\_ and Stitch"
- 17. College army
- 18. Essential oil from flowers
- 19. Solo vocal piece
- 20. "Bodyguard's" female star
- 23. Liz's 3rd husband Mike
- 24. A weapons emplacement
- 25. Vast desert in N Africa
- 28. Fasten by sewing
- 32. Organic compound
- 33. Cooper's Hawk (abbr.)
- 34. Immerse in a liquid
- 35. A beatnik's abode
- 36. Utter sounds
- 38. Used esp. of dry vegetation
- 39. Live in
- 42. Metric linear units
- 44. Indian frock
- 46. Stand for a coffin
- 47. The Great Emancipator
- 53. Brown coat mixed with gray or white
- 54. Lightly fry
- 55. New Yorker film critic Pauline
- 57. European sea eagle
- 58. Lasiocampidae
- 59. Another name for Irish Gaelic
- 60. Droops
- 61. Clairvoyants
- 62. Phonograph record

#### CLUES DOWN

- 1. On behalf of
- 2. Enough (archaic)
- 3. Adrenocorticotropin
- 4. Public recitation
- 5. "Gunsmoke" actress Blake
- 6. Waited with \_\_\_ breath
- 7. \_\_\_-Breaky Heart
- 8. Sacco and Vanzetti artist Ben
- 9. Those who inspire others
- 10. Capable of being shaped
- 11. Cardinal compass point (Scott.)
- 12. TV advertising award
- 13. Zen Buddhist riddle
- 21. Hill (Celtic)
- 22. Universal standard time
- 25. Passover feast and ceremony
- 26. Zanzibar copal
- 27. NE Arizona pueblo people
- 29. Pith helmet
- 30. Small trout-like fish
- 31. Greek hell
- 37. Herbal teas
- 38. Struck a golf ball
- 40. Dash
- 41. Removes writing
- 42. Coal laborers
- 43. Old world, new
- 45. Mental representation
- 46. Someone who bites
- 47. Greek god of war
- 48. Albanian word for snow
- 49. Resounded
- 50. Solo racing sled
- 51. Gull suborder
- 52. Crimefighter Elliot
- 56. Albanian monetary unit

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# Obituaries

## Stephen C. Beard

Stephen (Steve) Criss Beard Longtime resident of the Santa Rosa Beach area, Steve Beard, 70, died Friday, Feb. 15, after an extended illness. Born Feb. 8, 1943, Steve was adopted as an infant by Fred Beard and Mar Criss Beard. He grew up in Detroit, Mich., attended the University of Michigan and obtained an MBA in Business from Wayne State University. Steve retired from AT&T, but held many other positions. He liked working with the public and enjoyed taking jobs in sales even after his retirement. While in the Santa Rosa Beach area, he worked as a cashier at Publix in Watercolor Crossing. While still living in Michigan, Steve loved scuba diving and was a rescue diver for the hydroplane races. He enjoyed exploring shipwrecks in the Great Lakes area of Michigan and Canada. In addition to diving and his boat, Steve also loved traveling on his motorcycle and made many friends at biker rallies. Described as fun, funny, handsome, and most of all charming. It is the hope that those qualities will survive in

his wife Jeane Beard, children from a previous marriage, Patricia Whipple and Cassandra Esselink, and grandchildren, Conor, Maddison, Shayla, and Nolan.

Steve is also survived by his brother, David Beard and nephews, Donald and Christopher. He will be missed by the children and grandchildren, of Jeane Beard; daughters, Ellen Marion, Ann Barker, Gena Barrett; grandchildren, Laura, Denise, Ryan, and Russell, and great grandson Zavier.

The family asks that no flowers be sent, but a donation in his name to Heart Fund or The National Greyhound Association. Friends are invited to meet with his family for a memorial service at 3 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 23, 2013 at 458 Blue Mountain Road. It was Steve's wish to be cremated and leave a few of his ashes on the beach. You may go online to view obituaries, offer condolences and sign guest book at [www.clary-glenn.com](http://www.clary-glenn.com). Clary-Glenn Freeport Chapel Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

## Etta M. Hudson

Mrs Etta Mae White Hudson was born on Nov. 5, 1947 in Bonifay to the late Jistine White and Robert Horne. On Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013 at her home surrounded by her family, God dispatched an Angel to escort His servant home to live eternally with Him. Mrs. Etta received her formal education at Bayview School in Bonifay in 1965. She attended Washington Holmes Vocational Technical Center and received her LPN licenses in 1976. She continued her education pursuits and received her RN degree from Pensacola College in 1987 and BSN degree in Nursing from Florida State University in 202 and Masters degree in Nursing from Phoenix University in 2005. She was a Nurse for 36 years. She began her career with Dr. John T Grace and worked at Doctors Memorial Hospital in Bonifay. She later transferred to Holmes Correctional Facility, then to Jackson C.I., as a RN Supervisor. She was then promoted to the office of RN Consultant at the Regional Office. She later achieved the position of Assistant DON in the Central Office of the Department of Corrections for the entire State of Florida. One of her happiest memories of her life was meeting and marrying the Rev. Robert E. Hudson in 1977 and to this union a son was born and reared in love along with, Poe, Judy, Barbara, Joseph and Zoey. Along with her parents, a sister, Diane Flood

preceded her o the great beyond.

She leaves to cherish her lovely memories her husband of 36 years, the Rev. Robert E. Hudson; three beloved sons, Poiterist White, Raymond Hudson of Bonifay and Joseph Sanders of Pensacola; three devoted daughters, Judy Love, Barbara Sanders and Zoey Hudson of Bonifay; step-daughter, Elaine Smith of Pensacola; god-daughters, Shenika Richardson (Stephen) of Raleigh, N.C. and Annie Staten of Bonifay; four brothers, Charles White (Nina) of Middletown, Conn.; half-brother, John Horne of Fort Myers; sisters, Icey Horne of Lake Wales, Freda Clark Middletown, Conn.; half-sister, Ether Bell of Fort Myers; a host of in-laws; 16 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren; one god son, Tavarus Moore and a host of devoted friends and coworkers.

A homecoming celebration services for Mrs. Etta Mae White Hudson, was conducted at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013 at the First Baptist Church in Bonifay with the Rev. Shelly Chandler, Pastor Min. Stephen Andrews (grandson), Pastor Claretta Smith, Pastor of New Bethel A.M.E Church, where she held Membership, the Rev. Phillip Russ IV, Elder Kelvin Johnson and the Rev. Charles Flowers, Officiated. Interment follows in the Bonifay Cemetery with Cooper Funeral Home, directing.

## Judy T. Smith

Judy Terrell Smith, 54 of Bonifay, passed away Monday, Feb. 11, 2013, at Bay Medical Center. Judy was born in Bradenton, on May 11, 1958 to the late Harold and Martha Miller Terrell. Judy was an angel who lived life to the fullest enjoying every minute with her family.

Proceeded in death by her parents, brother Jim Terrell and stepson, L.D. Smith.

Survived by her husband, Donnie Smith, Bonifay; two daughters, Judi Mattox Perkins, Bonifay, and Marcey Long, Graceville; two sisters,

Delores Ward, Dothan, Ala., Pam Evans, Graceville; five grandchildren, Joshua, Austin, Jacob, Christina, and Michael; one stepdaughter; Kasey Smith; three stepsons, Billy Smith (Tracey), Donald Smith, Ronald Smith all of Bonifay.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013 at the Chapel of James & Lipford Funeral Home with Sister Gretchen Tindell officiating. Family received friends at the funeral home Saturday, from 10 a.m. until time of service. Expressions of sympathy can be made at [www.jamesandlipford.com](http://www.jamesandlipford.com).

## Edna S. McCormick



EDNA S. MCCORMICK

Mrs. Edna Smith McCormick, age 86, of Darlington passed away Feb. 13, 2013. She was born May 5, 1926 in Darlington, to Columbus and Ella Spears Smith. Mrs. McCormick was a lifelong resident of Darlington. She was Baptist by faith. She was a devoted mother; grandmother; great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother. She was known as always having a hot meal and a place to stay for those in need. She enjoyed gardening, and was a very talented cook. She was known for her famous collard greens.

Mrs. McCormick is preceded in death by her parents; her daughters, Mary Sue "Honey" McCormick and Minnie Sue McCormick; her son, James Edward "Gopher" McCormick and her siblings, Minnie Carroll, Sam Smith, Barney Smith, Dee Smith, Laney Adkinson, Fannie Bell Carroll and Nathan Smith.

Mrs. McCormick is survived by her three sons, Walter Clayton McCormick and wife Sonjia of Darlington, Willard McCormick of Darlington and Michael

Dion McCormick and wife Jeanie of Black, Ala.; three daughters, Edna Ruth Verjinski and husband Gordon of DeFuniak Springs, Johnnie Mae "Dolly" McCormick of DeFuniak Springs and

Sandra Jean McCormick of Dothan, Ala.; one brother, Walter Smith and wife Carletta of Darlington; 18 grandchildren; 36 great grandchildren and six great-great grandchildren.

A time of visitation was held from 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 14, 2013 at Clary-Glenn Funeral Home Chapel; 230 Park Avenue, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Friday, Feb. 15, 2013 at Clary-Glenn Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Terry Smith and the Rev. Frank McIntosh officiating. Pallbearers were Heath McElveen, Clint McCormick, James Eric McCormick, Greg Parham, Troy Dupree and Michael McCormick. Floral arrangements are being accepted. Burial followed in the Limestone Cemetery. You may go online to view obituaries, offer condolences and sign guest book at [www.clary-glenn.com](http://www.clary-glenn.com). Clary-Glenn Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

## Nancy P. Kelley



NANCY P. KELLEY

Nancy Powell Kelley passed away peacefully at her home in Miramar Beach. Born in Memphis Tenn., on Aug. 2, 1947, she graduated from Central High School and attended the University of Tennessee. She was president of the Pi Mu Music Society of St. Louis and a member of the Beethoven Club of Memphis. She was a partner with her mother in the Doctors Exchange Answering Service for many years. Pursuing her interest in child health issues, Nancy joined the LeBonheur club of Memphis in 1989 serving in many capacities until she became its president in 1999. After moving to their new home in Sandestin Resort, she volunteered for various duties at Sacred Heart Hospital Emerald Coast and Sacred Heart Foundation where she served as the inaugural chair of the Foundation's Development Board. She also served on the hospital's Operating Board. She was a significant part of the planning for the new Family Birthing Center at Sacred Heart.

She is survived by husband, John C. Kelley of Miramar Beach; her daughter, Amy E Kelley of Miramar Beach; son, John Bradley Kelley;

daughter-in-law, Margaret Kelley; granddaughter, Eliza L. Kelley of Memphis Tenn., and her mother-in-law, Louise W. Kelley of Spring, Texas.

She is predeceased by her father, Marian P. Powell; mother, Lena O. Powell of Memphis Tenn., and her father-in-law John C. Kelley Senior of Tupelo Mississippi.

Funeral Services were held at Community Church of Santa Rosa Beach FL, 3424 W. Hwy. 98 on Saturday, Feb. 16. A public viewing was at 1 p.m., with the funeral program beginning at 2 p.m. Burial was immediately after the funeral program at historic Gulf Cemetery located on County Road 393 Santa Rosa Beach. While flowers are welcome, the family requests that donations be made to the Sacred Heart foundation Emerald Coast 7700 US Highway 98 W. Suite 300 Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459 and/or to LeBonheur Club Inc. 1047 Cresthaven Rd., Memphis, TN 38139. You may go online to view obituaries, offer condolences and sign guest book at [www.clary-glenn.com](http://www.clary-glenn.com). Clary-Glenn Freeport Chapel Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

## Tammy M. Gooldrup

Mrs. Tammy Melissa Gooldrup, age 41, of Westville, passed away Feb. 9, 2013. She was born Nov. 23, 1971, at Eglin AFB.

Mrs. Gooldrup is survived by her parents, James Kenneth and Linda Diane White Slaughter of Westville; one daughter, Jordan Ashley Butler of Amory, Miss.; one sister, Leslie Diana Morgan and husband Heith of Amory, Miss.; maternal grandparents, James and Peggy White of Westville; paternal grandmother,

Louie Slaughter of Westville; two nephews, Austin and Caden Harper, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 14, 2013, at Mt. Pleasant Assembly of God Church with the Rev. Mike White officiating. Interment followed in the Camp Ground Church Cemetery with Peel Funeral Home directing. Family received friends one hour prior to funeral service at church.

## Louis A. Dickinson

Louis Alton Dickinson, 78, of Vernon, Fla., was called to Heaven by his Lord, on Feb. 9, 2013. He loved and was loved by all and will be deeply missed. Let us celebrate his life, as this is what he would want. Lou, born in Boothbay, Maine, on March 30, 1934, attended the Boothbay schools, and Maine Vocational Technical School in Portland. He was a veteran of the US Army serving in the US and Germany during the Korean War. After his service, he became a member of the space program and helped install the film cameras for the Gemini and Apollo space missions and received commendation for the Surveyor program. For 16 years he was a field engineer for Hughes Aircraft Company and spent 10 years with RCA as a program manager for rockets, drones and radar testing. He was a range communications program manager at Patrick Air Force Base for 17 years leading the teams who gave the United States cable and fiber optics capability throughout the world. He has moonlighted as a charter boat captain,

real estate agent, and entrepreneur with J&L Marine Supply, in Panama City. He was known as a consummate tinkerer in his shop where he could be found in any spare moment. Lou found great enjoyment in the outdoors – hunting, fishing, golfing, camping, gardening, woodworking, baseball and football. He travelled through all 50 states, Canada, Mexico and Europe. However, Florida's climate and white beaches called him to settle here by Holmes Creek for a well-earned retirement.

Lou was preceded in death by his parents, Alton H. and Lotta Hill Dickinson, and sister, Janice Parmenter.

He is survived by wife Rhonda; daughters, Luanne, Sandra, and Geri; his brother, Fred; sister, Christine. His grandchildren by Geri and son-in-law, Steven DiGeorgio are Nicholas, Jessica, Matthew, Joshua and Benjamin. He has many nieces and nephews.

There will be a family celebration at a later date. In lieu of flowers or donations, please add to your garden a favorite plant in his memory and honor.

## Dessie Bell

Dessie Bell, 87, of Port St. Joe, died Feb. 12, 2013.

Funeral Services were held on Feb. 15, 2013, at the First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe. Interment followed at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery.

## Donald L. Pegg

Donald Leroy Pegg, 80, of Dothan, Ala., died Feb. 9, 2013.

Funeral services were held Feb. 12, 2013. Interment followed at Mt. Olive Cemetery with Sims Funeral Home directing.

## Wander Off the Trail

We are creatures of habit, and this is just as true in our day-to-day travels as it is in our everyday activities and rituals. The problem with always taking the usual route is that we rarely see anything new. The pleasure of the unexpected

is much more likely when we try a new route. Most of us try hard to not go astray, but every once in a while

it's worth seeing what happens when we get lost. Besides finding something new, we might also find that getting out of our comfort zone exercises new skills, such as navigational skills or the willingness to ask for help and directions. In the end, we just don't know what we will find when we get off the beaten track. Serendipity, the finding of unexpected good things by accident, is perhaps the best reason to wander off the trail. It makes sense to take a look every now and then to keep track of where you are, but we should not be afraid to wander off a bit. We can always get home from wherever we are.

*The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forthand for evermore.*  
R.S.V. Psalm 121:8

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See OBITUARIES B4



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# OBITUARIES from page B3

## Carlie J. Helms

Mr. Carlie "Red" Junior Helms of Flowing Well Road, Bonifay, passed away Friday, Feb. 15, 2013. He was 75. Mr. Helms was born on July 22, 1937 in Holmes County, to the late Carlie G. and Vermer Ree Merritt Helms. After several years of service he retired from Coca-Cola.



CARLIE J. HELMS

Raines, Jennifer R. Bamman, Shelley E. Raines, Jeffery E. Raines, Michael C. Raines, Aleasha G. Green, Joedee A. Green and Patrick J. Green Jr.; 10 great-grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews and other extended family and friends.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2013 at Smith Chapel Assembly of God Church with the Rev. John Pettis officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery with Sorrells Funeral Home of Geneva directing. The family received friends at the church beginning at 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 18. Mr. Helms will remain in the church until service time on Tuesday. Stevie, Dusty, Terri, Danny, Patrick and Donnie will serve as pallbearers. Sorrells Funeral Home of Geneva, 334-684-9999, is in charge of arrangements. Express your condolences in our guest book at [www.sorrellsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sorrellsfuneralhomes.com).

In addition to his parents, three brothers, Clarence Frank Helms, Robert Wayne Helms and Jerry Helms all preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Sandra Gail Cheatom Helms of Bonifay; three daughters, Laura "Cricket" L. Tolley (Dean) of Hampton, Tenn., Mildred "Mickey" E. Raines (Gerald) of Bonifay and Clara "Candy" L. Green (Patrick) of Crawfordville; two brothers, Donald G. Helms and Billie Helms (Chris); two sisters, Juanita Anderson (Harold) and Ouida Ree McIntyre (Hank); eight grandchildren, Jeremy R.

## Guy Johnson

Mr. Guy Johnson, age 88, a resident of Bonifay, died Thursday, Feb. 14, 2013 at his residence after an extended illness. Mr. Johnson was born on March 22, 1924 the son of the late Jim and Nettie Pate Johnson. He graduated from Bethlehem High School in 1942. He worked for Supreme Ice Cream for 15 1/2 years and taught air condition/refrigeration at Washington Holmes Vocational Center, Chipley. He retired after teaching many years.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his son, Terry Johnson; his sister, Elva Armstrong and his two brothers Fred J. and Arch Johnson.

Survivors include his loving wife of 67 years, Vermol Johnson, Bonifay; grandson, Mark Johnson (Tammy), Dothan, Ala.; granddaughter, Terri Spittler (Mick), Dothan, Ala.; one sister, Frances Ellis, Bonifay; one brother-in-law, W. T. Retherford, Bonifay; five great grandchildren; one niece

and several nephews.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Monday, Feb. 18, 2013, at Live Oak Assembly of God, Highway 177A, Bonifay, FL 32425-7276. Bro. Kenneth Martin and Bro. Danny Carnley officiated with Kendall Glover of Glover Funeral Home directing. Burial followed in the Shady Grove Baptist Church Cemetery, 1955 Hwy 177A, Bonifay, FL 32425. The family received friends Monday from 1 to 2 p.m., at Live Oak Assembly of God. Flowers were accepted or memorial contributions to Live Oak Assembly of God or Covenant Hospice, 4215 Kelson Avenue E, Marianna, FL 32446. Mr. Johnson's pallbearers were, Don Robinson, Millard Retherford, Albert Johnson, Wayne Retherford, Joe Armstrong, Guy Retherford and Frank Armstrong. Glover Funeral Home of Dothan is in charge of the arrangements, (334) 699-3888. Please sign the guestbook on line at [www.gloverfuneral.com](http://www.gloverfuneral.com).

## Mildred L. Roberts

Mildred Louise Roberts, 77, of Sneads, died Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2013, at her residence.

Mrs. Roberts was born in Jackson County where she lived most of her life, and was a homemaker.

She is survived by two daughters, Kathy Cook and husband, Herman of Valrico, and Ernestine Marie Haynes and husband, Dennis of Mulberry; three brothers, Jay Davis Jr., Bobby Davis and James Simmons; six sisters, Carrie Spears, Irene Riddles, Lois Dudley, Elizabeth Sligh, Mary Bailey and Rosalie Pitts and two grandchildren, Beth Cook and Shawn Haynes

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013 at James & Sikes Funeral Home Maddox Chapel. Burial followed in Pope Cemetery with James & Sikes Funeral Home Maddox Chapel directing. The family received friends one hour prior to services at James & Sikes Maddox Chapel. Expressions of Sympathy may be made online at [www.jamesandsikesfuneralhomes.com](http://www.jamesandsikesfuneralhomes.com).

## Effie M. Williams

Effie Mae Payne Williams, 91 of Lynn Haven, died on Feb. 8, 2013

Funeral services were held Feb. 16, 2013 at Forrest Lawn Memorial Cemetery. Interment Followed.

## Bernice C. Owens

Bernice Clyde Owens, 88, a resident of Graceville, died Wednesday Feb. 13, 2013.

Mrs. Owens is survived by her daughters, Linda (Rex) Wilson, Graceville, Peggy (Felter) Alderman, Graceville, Sherry (Larry) Butler, Slocomb, Ala., Kay (Glen) Tate, Hartford, Ala., Kim (Buddy) Berry, Graceville, and sons, Danny (Brenda) Snell, Graceville, Joel (Retha) Snell, Greenville, Ala.; brother, David (Oma) Bass, Dothan,

Ala.; 17 grandchildren; 31 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013 at 2 p.m., at Faith Assembly of God, Graceville, with the Rev. Charles Carlton, the Rev. Glenn Tate and the Rev. Joel Snell officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery with Harrison Funeral Home of Greenville, Ala., directing. A visitation will be from 1 to 2 p.m., Saturday at the church.

## Ruby E. Davidson

Mrs. Ruby Elizabeth Davidson, age 93, of Vernon, passed away Feb. 13, 2013, at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Panama City. She was born Dec. 25, 1919, in Vernon, to the late James H. and Josie Russ Tharp.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Davidson was preceded in death by a brother, James Howard Tharp; a brother and sister-in-law, Hilton and Barbara Tharp; a sister, Orene Turnage; a stepson, Wayne Davidson; father-in-law and mother-in-law, D.W. and Erma Davidson.

Mrs. Davidson is survived by her husband, Robert L. Davidson of Vernon; one

step-son, Gene Davidson of Chipley; one sister, Lottie Brown of Tullahoma, Tenn.; one sister-in-law, Nellie Tharp of Santa Rosa Beach; one brother-in-law, Milton Turnage of Dry Prong, La., and several extended family members.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013, at Peel Funeral Home Chapel Vernon with the Rev. Dennis Boyett officiating. Interment followed in New Hope Methodist Church Cemetery with Peel Funeral Home directing. Family received friends one hour prior to funeral.

## Gerald W. Wilkerson



GERALD W. WILKERSON

Mr. Gerald Williams Wilkerson, age 74, of DeFuniak Springs, passed away Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013. He was born Sept. 12, 1938, in Liberty, to Morton and Edith McDaniel Wilkerson. Mr. Wilkerson was a lifelong resident of Walton County. He was Baptist by faith and a member of First Baptist Church of DeFuniak Springs. He worked as a school teacher having taught wood shop for over 35 years before retiring. He was a devoted school teacher, taking great pride in his student's education. He was also over the Vica Club. He was appointed by the Governor to serve as a Walton County Commissioner. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and was very active in supporting all Walton County sporting events.

Mr. Wilkerson was preceded in death by his parents and one son, Ron Wilkerson.

Mr. Wilkerson is survived by his loving wife, Mary Wilkerson of DeFuniak Springs; three step-daughters, Sheila Williams of DeFuniak Springs, Tonya

Vanzile and husband Rick of Milton, and Angie Salmon and husband Bruce of San Antonio, Texas; two brothers, Roland Wilkerson and wife Rita and Kenneth Wilkerson all of Liberty; two sisters, Janice Yoder of California and JoAnn Wilkerson of LaGrange, Ga.; five step granddaughters; three step great granddaughters; one step great grandson, and other extended family members.

A time of visitation was from 2 to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2013, at Clary-Glenn Funeral Home Chapel; 230 Park Avenue, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435. Graveside services were at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2013, at Cluster Springs Cemetery, with the Rev. Joel Glenn officiating. Active pallbearers will be Brad Drake, Jason Nowling, Shelby Truett, Danny Willcox, Jerry Slay and James McDaniel. Floral arrangements are being accepted. Go online to condolences and sign guest book at [www.clary-glenn.com](http://www.clary-glenn.com). Clary-Glenn Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

## Purley L. Mitchell

Purley Lucille Mitchell, 78, of Chipley died Feb. 12, 2013,

A memorial service was held on Feb. 15, 2013 at Kent Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

## Troy L. Ham

Troy L. "Skeeter" Ham, 76, of Malone, died Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2013, at Marianna Health and Rehab. Mr. Ham was born in Malone on July 3, 1936 and spent most of his life in Jackson County. He worked for Ham Peanut Co. for more than 25 years, and was a member of Friendship Baptist Church.

He was predeceased by his parents, Bessie Howard Ham and William Edward Ham; two step-mothers, Gertrude Bradberry and Joyce Ham and one son, Michael Wayne Ham.

Survivors include three sons, Steve Ham and wife, Darlene of Gordon Ala., Robert Ham of Greenwood, and Lamar Ham and wife, Marie of Bascom; three daughters, Elaine Bevis and husband, Lewis of Simsboro La., Cathy Hutchinson and husband, Roger of Georgia, and Vicki Riddle and husband, Wade of Georgia; two brothers, Ed Ham and wife, Becky of Malone, and Eddie Chaney of Malone;

three sisters, Sue Watford of Quincy, Brenda Lewis and husband, Wayne of Columbia Ala., and Pat Williams and husband, David of Blakely Ga.; 18 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013 at First Baptist Church of Malone with the Rev. John Smith officiating. Burial followed in Ham Family Cemetery with James & Sikes Funeral Home Maddox Chapel directing. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15, 2013 at James & Sikes Maddox Chapel.

The family would like to thank the staff of Marianna Health and Rehab, and Covenant Hospice. Flowers will be accepted or donations may be made to Covenant Hospice 4215 Kelson Ave. Suite E. Marianna FL, 32446. Expressions of Sympathy may be made online at [www.jamesandsikesfuneralhomes.com](http://www.jamesandsikesfuneralhomes.com).

## Daniel C. Arrant Jr.

Mr. Daniel C. Arrant Jr. of Leonia, passed away at his home on Feb. 8, 2013.

He was 82. Mr. Arrant was born in Leonia, on May 18, 1930 to the late Daniel C. and Nancy Harrell Arrant, Sr. Mr. Arrant served in the United States Army from 1948 - 1952. After his service in the military he worked as an electrician and farmer for more than 30 years.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by three sisters, Janette Read, Mary Gilbreath and Ida Mae Murph.

He is survived by his loving wife 58 years, Mildred Redmon Arrant of Leonia; two sons, Charles Arrant (Nancy) and Matthew Arrant (Linda) all of Leonia; three grandchildren, Daniel Arrant, Joseph Arrant (Nikole), and Lori Arrant all of Leonia; one great

grandson, Caleb Arrant of Bonifay; three brothers, David Arrant of Tampa, Bill and Boyd Arrant both of Leonia; one sister, Iviene Ellenberg of Chancellor, Ala.; many special cousins especially, Kerensa Landers and the Landers Family, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, 2012 at Reedy Assembly of God Church with the Rev. Kenneth Bradley officiating. Burial followed with military honors in the church cemetery with Pittman Funeral Home of Geneva directing. The Family received friends at the church Sunday, beginning at 1 p.m. Serving, as pallbearers will be, Daniel Arrant, Joseph Arrant, Steven Phillips, Danny Ellenberg, Ricky Redmon, and Micah Redmon.

## Clinton L. Crow

Clinton Lawrence Crow is now rejoicing with his king after living a life full of love for his God, the scriptures, and his family. He passed away on Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013 at his home in Ponce De Leon, at the age of 75. He was born in Macon, Ga., on Feb. 23, 1937.

Mr. Crow was preceded in death by his father, Clinton Moses Crow and his mother, Mattie Louis Wiggins.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Rebecca Hollis Crow; daughters, Joy, Rachel, Sarah, and Victoria; sons Peter, Caleb and Joseph; sister, Linda Staab; his nephew, Greg Staab; several cousins, and numerous in-laws.

He will be remembered for his commitment to his family, his excitement whenever he studied scripture, his many strong opinions, and his never-ending quest to know his Lord and savior.

A memorial Service was held for Mr. Crow at 11 a.m., on Thursday morning, Feb. 14 at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church. The family requests that friends and family make donations to The Gideons International or Turkish World Outreach in lieu of flowers. You may go online to view obituaries, offer condolences and sign guest book at [www.clary-glenn.com](http://www.clary-glenn.com). Clary-Glenn Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

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**Receptionist** Desk/House Keeping at Holiday Inn Express in Bonifay. Apply in person at Chipley Days Inn or Holiday Inn Express in Bonifay. No phone calls.

**HELP WANTED**  
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**Family Support Worker**. Seeking caring individual to provide intensive in-home parent support services. Candidates should possess knowledge of child growth/development and parent-child relationships, and have the ability to relate to families from a strength-based perspective. This position will work out of Chipley, but will serve families residing in Jackson, Washington, and Holmes Counties. Qualifications require a high school diploma and at least 1 year professional experience in a human services field serving children and their families. Position description and application available at Habilitative Services, 4440 Putnam St., Marianna. This position sponsored by Habilitative Services of N. Florida, Office of Prevention State of Florida, and State of Florida Dept. of Children & Families. Closing 5:00 PM 2/22/2013. EEO.

**Healthcare/Medical**  
**Medical office** currently looking for an **ARNP/PA** to join our Medical team. Our office specializes in Cardiology, Internal Medicine & Family Practice. In Bonifay. Please fax resume & references to 850-547-5415, attn Kim Sasser.

**Part Time/Full Time Inmate Work Crew Supervisor**. One position is 25 hours per week and one is 40 hours per week, \$10 per hour. Both positions are temporary for 6 months only. You must be able to pass the DOC background check. Submit applications to the Holmes County Commissioners Office, 107 E Virginia Ave, Bonifay, FL 32425. Applications and a complete job description can be downloaded at www.holmescountyfl.org or may be picked up at the County Commissioner's office. Deadline to submit applications will be March 6, 2013 at 3:00 pm. For more information contact Sherry Snell at 850-547-1119. Holmes County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Workplace.

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**EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION**  
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**Driver** - Qualify for any portion of \$.03/mile quarterly bonus: \$.01 Safety, \$.01 Production, \$.01 MPG. Two raises in first year. 3 months recent experience. 800-414-9569 www.driveknight.com

**Drivers** - Class A Flatbed HOME EVERY WEEKEND! Pay 37¢/mi. Both ways, FULL BENEFITS, Requires 1 year OTR Flatbed experience. 800-572-5489 x227, SunBelt Transport, Jacksonville, FL

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**HOUSE RENTALS**  
**6140**  
1 BD Cottage- clean, smoke-free, partly furnished, washer and dryer hook up, water and lawn care. No pets. Near Graceville 263-2748

**HOUSE RENTALS**  
**6140**  
Brick house with 3 Bdrm/1 1/2 bath just northeast of Bonifay. No Pets. \$700/per month. 1st & last month plus security deposit required. (850)547-3129.

**Home For Rent** 3BR/ 1.5BA A/C Wausau. \$650.00 Rent \$650.00 Deposit. No Pets. 638-7601

**House for rent, lease or sell.** 3 Bedroom. 3BR/1BA, AC Bonifay, FL. \$550.00 rent/ \$550.00 Deposit. No pets. 638-7601

**Houses For Sale/Owner Financing.** 3bd houses & apartments for rent. Furnished affluency apartments for rent. Call Martha 850-547-2531

**REduced rent or sale.** 3BD/2BA, handicapped equip. 3BD/1.5BA in Chipley. CH&A, large lots. Conveniently located. 850-481-5352 or 850-441-8181 or 850-547-2091.

**ROOMS FOR RENT**  
**6160**

2 BD apartment for Rent, or 2 single rooms. Rooms include water, sewer, garbage, electric. \$450/month. Call. (850)547-5244.

**HOUSE RENTALS**  
**6140**

**HOUSE RENTALS**  
**6140**  
2BR/1BA House in country. East of Chipley. Solve, DW, fridge, water, lawn care included. App Required \$675/month plus deposit. 850-658-4299.

**3BR/2BA Doublewide.** Large patio back porch. Front porch w/roof on .7 acre, 179A, near Geneva line. \$650.00/mth, avail Dec. 1st. 547-3746.

**5BR/3BA 2 Story Home for Rent or Sale** On 15 acres, half way between Chipley & Graceville. Call 850-638-2363 or 850-415-3430. Leave Message

**Call To Place An Ad In Classifieds.** Washington County News (850) 638-0212 Holmes County Times-Advertiser (850) 547-9414

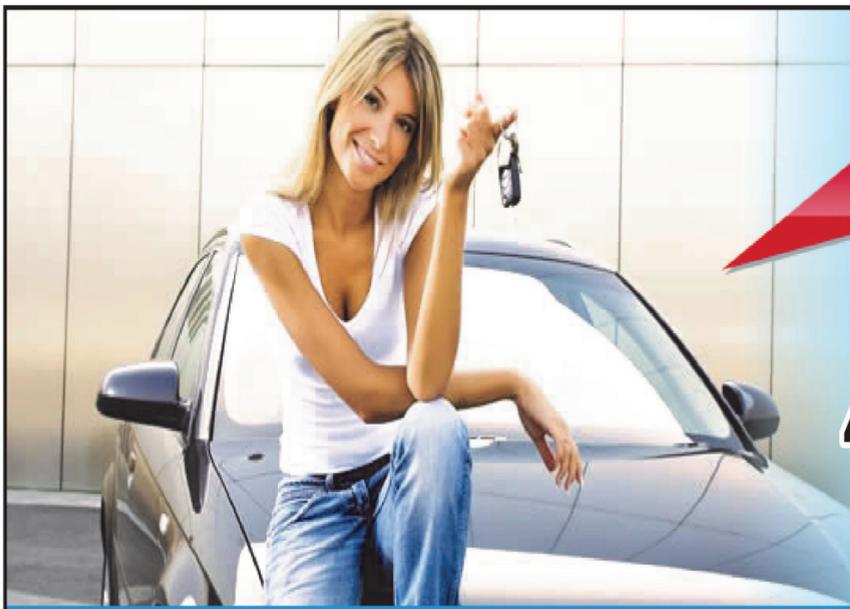
**HOUSE RENTALS**  
**6140**

**MOBILE HOME/ LOT RENTALS**  
**6170**  
2BR/2BA, MH for rent. on Pioneer Rd. Call 8 5 0 - 8 4 9 - 6 8 4 2 , 8 5 0 3 2 6 - 0 5 8 2 , 850-638-7315.

**FOR RENT** 3 BR DW. Near Chipley, water & sewage included. \$650/mth. ALSO 2BD 2BA single wide in Bonifay. Water & sewage included. \$465/mth. 638-2999

**FOR RENT** Nice mobile home excellent location in Chipley. No Pets. 850-638-4640

**HOME FOR SALE**  
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