

Washington County
NEWS

&

Holmes County
ADVERTISER

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WASHINGTONCOUNTY.NEWS AND HOLMESCOUNTY.NEWS | Volume 001 - No. 30

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FPTC LPN program levels up
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Bonifay Council mulls police department budget numbers

DIANE MOORE
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Bonifay residents turned out en masse Thursday, August 17, to attend a workshop for the Bonifay City Council where the hot topic was the possibility of closing the recently reestablished Bonifay Police Department. At the regular session meeting of the council on August 14, Councilman Larry Cook approached the idea of asking the council to look into having the Holmes County Sheriff's Office take over law enforcement operations within the city limits.

Cook believed the measure would be more cost efficient for the City, should Sheriff

John Tate agree to take it on once again.

After meeting with Sheriff Tate, Mayor Dr. Emily McCann brought numbers back to the council as requested. Tate submitted an official proposal to do the job for \$635,000 annually with another \$65,000 for cemetery maintenance and an inmate work crew for mowing, as well



Bonifay Police Chief Jimmy Macon listens as the city council discusses his department's budget. [DIANE M. MOORE | Times and Advertiser]

as a cost increase each year of three percent, if needed. The proposed total amounts to \$700,000 annually. Currently, HCSO charges the City \$71,000 annually for dispatching

services conducted by the county. That cost breaks down to \$49,000 and \$22,000 for the police department and fire department. Sheriff Tate said if he took over the law enforcement

in the City, he would do away with the charge for the communications services, eliminating that \$71,000 cost.

The police department budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year was set at \$658,887.

The proposed budget submitted by the new Bonifay Police Chief Jimmy Macon for the upcoming 2023-2024 fiscal year totals \$1.1 million, which would include having 10 officers on staff. There are currently just six full-time officers on staff and no part-time officers.

Chief Macon addressed the council about what he calls "a personal vendetta."

"I absorbed the budget that was already set when I took this job," said Macon. "We had three officers leave, and I know that two of them were paid out for vacation and things, but I have done my best with what we have. I know that this is a personal vendetta against me, and I know it, but I'm just doing my job. We have had to purchase equipment that

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INSIDE THIS EDITION



Washington Co. Commissioners vote on public participation

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After much discussion over the course of two months, the Washington County Board of County Commissioners voted to approve a final draft of the public participation policy when they met in regular session on August 17.

While several different changes were discussed, the only change made to the policy involves any public comment concerning individual county employees, other than those hired directly by the board – the attorney and administrator – shall not be entertained: Any comment good or bad regarding a county employee should be directed to the Human Relations Department or the county administrator.

A three-minute time limit has been in the policy but has not previously been enforced. Commissioners made the decision to more strictly enforce the time limit.

The board denied two land use changes for separate requests. A request to change from agriculture/silviculture to residential low for property on Greenhead Road was denied. Another request to change from residential low to residential medium with part of the acreage to change to neighborhood commercial was also denied. Commissioners denied the requests due to

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ChIPLEY's downtown 'Sip 'N Shop' marks first year



ChIPLEY's downtown Sip 'n Shop event celebrated one year of setting one night aside each month for local businesses to stay open late for the public to enjoy after hours shopping, food, fun, and fellowship. The event featured a cornhole tournament and live music. The event will be held again Thursday, September 21, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. [PHOTOS COURTESY OF OFF MY FRAME PHOTOGRAPHY]

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BPD

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was needed, causing us to use 85 percent of this year's budget. If we turn this over to the sheriff's office, it is a waste of the taxpayers dollars. I did ask the City for 10 officers because that is what this City needs, but I told you all I will work within the budget we have now just to maintain my officers now. I will stay within the current budget and make it work for another year and we readdress it after that time frame, thank you."

Chief Macon did not expound on his statement about the personal vendetta.

BOCC

From Page 1A

road conditions and being unsure on what development would happen on the proposed site, respectively.

In other items, commissioners recognized Ted Everett for his many years of service to Washington County.

"Ted has been an incredible advocate for our county," said Chairman Tray Hawkins.

"He worked tirelessly for growth and economic development for this county and we will be forever grateful and appreciative of all of his hard work."

Commissioner David Corbin brought the recommendation to appoint Jarrett Pigott to fill the vacant District 5 seat on the Washington County Planning Commission. The board accepted the recommendation and voted to appoint Pigott to the position.

HCSO seeks suspect in armed robbery

STAFF REPORT

Investigators with the Holmes County Sheriff's Office are asking for the public's help identifying the subject in an armed robbery at the

Express Lane in Esto. The suspect, an unknown male, allegedly brandished a firearm and demanded the woman in the vehicle give him her purse. He then

fled on foot from the Express Lane located at the intersection of Highway 2 and Highway 79.

K9 teams were on scene attempting to track the suspect.

Investigators are also trying to identify a vehicle that was parked on the shoulder of the road just west of the store.

If you can identify the suspect or may

have seen the vehicle in question or have any other information regarding this incident, call HCSO by dialing 911 or 850-547-3681, option 1 as soon as possible.

Holmes Co. BOCC gives Rec. Center back to City of Bonifay

NAN THOMPSON

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At the regular meeting of the Holmes County Board of County Commissioners held August 14, Emily MaCann, Mayor of Bonifay requested the county enter into an interlocal agreement with the city regarding the Bonifay Recreational Center. MaCann stated at the City of Bonifay meeting last night August 13, Bonifay board members voted to take back the property. "There is a three million dollar appropriations grant from Dr. Dunn, and we wish to keep the money in this county," said McCann.

The center has been back and forth in ownership for years. The city owned it in 2021, and gave ownership to the county in 2022. It was at that time the county, sheriff Tate and locals cleaned and revamped the park, so locals could

enjoy it.

In an unanimous vote by the commissioners, the recreation center now belongs to the City of Bonifay, and the County will continue to do lawn care, and give \$30,000.00 a year towards the center each year. Which will be a savings of \$45,000.00 dollars per year on the budget.

Other items discussed were;

Kalyn Waters announced that Sidney Grantham of Ponce De Leon, was chosen to participate in the Leagues for America Fellowship. She will work for one year under UF IFAS Extension office (University of Florida/ Institute of Food and Agriculture) in Holmes county for one year.

David Corbin, Project Director, requested the county consider the purchase of a Graphic Design machine, at the cost of eight thousand, two hundred, and twenty nine dollars.

"We are always needing signs made, and this will pay for itself in the long run. " "We have spent approximately thirty-five hundred just a month on signs that we needed," Cobin said.

David Corbin introduced Mike Gordon as the new building inspector for the county.

Two parks were chosen for possibility of FRDAP (Florida Recreational Development Program)

Hurricane, and Wayside/Dog Wood Lake Parks.

These two parks were selected by all five commissioners, and will be submitted for the FRDAP grants.

Commissioners agreed to write a letter for Larry Basford, State Attorney in support of not redistricting the 14th Judicial Circuit, that was proposed by Speaker of the House, Paul Renner. This letter was to be completed by the end of the week and submitted to Basford.

Bonifay moves City Hall offices during construction

NAN THOMPSON

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City Hall employees were in for a surprise as they came to work Friday. They were moving their offices.

According to City Clerk Rickey Callahan, the move was supposed to happen at the end of the month, so no one was prepared. "We were told this morning that we had to be out today," said Callahan.

Renovations and moving has been discussed for about a year, to update and repair issues within the building, and update their technology. The City will be using the American Rescue

Act Fund as their funding source. Working closely with the Sheriff's Office, inmate crews will be doing the demolition work. Renovations should take nine months, but could be as long as twelve.

The new location is 401 McLaughlin Ave. (Old Middle School) first door on the right up the ramp. The building is wheelchair accessible.

All utility services will be done at this location till further notice.

Council meetings will be held in the conference room at Midtown Plaza.

For more information or questions call (850 547-4238.

WASHINGTON COUNTY FELONY COURT DOCKET

The following cases were set to be heard in Washington County felony court proceedings Monday, Aug. 21, 2023, before Judge Christopher N. Patterson.

Philip Dale Adkins

III- Burglary of unoccupied conveyance unarmed, grand theft of firearm, dealing in stolen property, possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, public order crime: use two-way communication device to facilitate felony.

David Alford, Jr.- Sex offender violation: failure to register as required X2, failure to report name or residence change.

Andrew Fitzgerald Barnes- Traffic amphetamine/methamphetamine 14 grams or over, possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, marijuana possession with intent to sell manufacture or distribute I.

Tevin Michael Belanger- Smuggle contraband into prison written record communication to inmate.

Wilson Bernard Bell- Aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill, possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, destroy or alter physical evidence.

Stacy Tyrone Blackmon- Possession of controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug

paraphernalia, possession of marijuana under 20 grams, possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, obstructing justice: tampering in first-degree felony proceeding, marijuana possession with intent to sell manufacture or distribute, possession of marijuana over 20 grams, resist officer: obstruct without violence.

Daryl Gary Boehlke- Pass forged or altered bank bill note check draft, forgery or alteration of public record certificate etc, fraud: obtain mortgage by false representation.

Livictor Shawn Brown Jr.- Use or possession of another's ID without consent, larceny: grand theft more than 300 dollars less than 5000 dollars.

Michael Darnell Brown- Possession of controlled substance without prescription X2, possession of marijuana over 20 grams.

Mary Elizabeth Buckhart- Grand theft more than 300 dollars less than 5000 dollars, possession of controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Jonny Kim Buckley- Aggravated battery with deadly weapon, missile into dwelling vehicle building or aircraft.

Richard Edmund Buswell- Battery on person 65 YOA or older. Crystal Nicole Cart-

er- Sexual assault by 24 YOA or older on victim 16/17 YOA X2.

Toni Lynn Cassidy- Aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill.

Timothy Lee Collins- Deal in stolen property.

Joshua Kyle Corbin- Methamphetamine within 1000 ft of specified area X2, marijuana sale within 1000 ft of specified area schedule I, trafficking in methamphetamine 14 grams or over, cocaine possession with intent to sell manufacture or deliver, marijuana possession with intent to sell manufacture or deliver schedule I, possession of controlled substance without prescription, sale of methamphetamine X2, sale of cocaine within 1000ft of specified area, marijuana possession with intent to sell within 1000ft of specified area college schedule II, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

James Michael Cox- DWLSR first-offense, possession of cocaine.

Glen Edward Davis- DUI vehicular manslaughter death human, DUI and serious bodily injury to another, DUI and damage to property X2.

Sha'ron Davis- Burglary of occupied conveyance unarmed, battery.

Steven Keith Davis- Commit felony battery.

Erin Nikkoli Desalvo- Sexual assault by 18 YOA or older victim under 12 YOA, deal in stolen property.

Annabel Digrado-

Possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Hayleydee Leiona Dykes- Traffic amphetamine/methamphetamines 14 grams or over, methamphetamine within 1000 ft of specified area, possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, marijuana possession with intent to sell manufacture or distribute X2, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Johnny Elmer Finch Jr.- DWLSR habitual offender.

Elizabeth Folds- Burglary: dwelling/structure cause damage over 1000 dollars.

Wayne Blake Gates- Battery: domestic battery by strangulation.

Michael Kelsey Glenn- Methamphetamine within 1000 ft of specified area, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Taylor Suzanne Hamilton- Flee/elude police with disregard to safety of persons, DUI drugs or alcohol.

Ja Tavious Deonte Hicks- Marijuana sell schedule I, possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Steven Bradley Hightower Jr.- Sale of methamphetamine.

Caleb Scott Hutchings- Possession of meth with intent to sell manufacture or deliver, opium or deriv- possess with intent to sell manufacture or distribute, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Mario Antez Keith- Sex offender fail to reg-

ister as required.

Kenneth Kevin Key- Possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, possession of controlled substance without prescription.

Tonia Lea Keyser- Possession of controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana under 20 grams.

Thomas Magnum Kimbrel- Battery second or subsequent offense.

Jerald Dean King- Battery: commit domestic battery by strangulation.

Larry Livingston- Aggravated battery on person 65 YOA or older.

Harol Ray Mangum Jr.- Possess controlled substance without prescription, resist officer obstruct without violence, fraud/impersonation: false ID given to LEO.

Jeremiah Charles Mankin- Possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, DWLSR habitual offender, failure to register motor vehicles, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Parisha Antwanette Massaline- Attempt murder felony commit act could cause death, missile into dwelling vehicle or aircraft, kidnap: false imprisonment of adult, commit aggravated battery, cruelty towards child abuse without great bodily harm.

Misty Nicole Merriell- Possession of controlled substance

without prescription, possession of cocaine.

Billy Mike Mingo- Possess controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Ian Jullian Newkirk- Traffic amphetamine/methamphetamine 14 grams or over, possess controlled substance without prescription, possess marijuana over 20 grams.

Caleb Patrick Nix- Commit felony battery.

Elizabeth Katrine Perkins- Possess controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Toni Lynn Phillips- Aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill.

Jerry Raphael Pitts- Obscene material: possess control view depiction child sex conduct X10.

Jackie Nicole Powell- Sell methamphetamine.

Anthony Pressley- Aggravated battery on officer firefighter EMS EMT etc.

Sylena Nicole Reece- Neglect child with great bodily harm, neglect child without great bodily harm X2.

Cherie Esther Reiss- Possess controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, DUI alcohol or drugs.

Brian Patrick Rich- Possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon.

Stephen Michael Roberts- Aggravated

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Resident confronts Washington County BOCC about alleged misconduct by Commissioner Wesley Griffin

DIANE MOORE
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In a heated display of emotion at the Washington County Board of County Commissioners meeting, Raymond and Beth Sheffield expressed their ire with Commissioner Wesley Griffin after an alleged August 6 incident between Griffin and their son at Cypress Springs. The Sheffields claim that Griffin and his wife, along with several friends and family, harassed their son and his friends during an outing at the springs to the point their son had to leave. Beth Sheffield began by

speaking about the growth of tourism on Holmes Creek, stating “tourists aren’t the problem; drinking is.” Sheffield went on to give her account of what happened at the springs, according to her son, who is identified in a Washington County Sheriff’s Office report about the incident as 19-year-old Raymond Nicholas Sheffield. Sheffield addressed commissioners and the audience, alleging her son and his friends were approached and harassed by Commissioner Griffin and his companions, including being told his sport of choice was an [expletive] sport. She

went on to say other unprofessional behavior has gone unchecked, referencing a viral TikTok video that depicted Griffin dancing to a sexually explicit song with the caption “Comish do as he wish.” “This is unacceptable behavior by our own county commissioner and his wife and friends,” said Sheffield. “I had many videos sent to me of Mr. Griffin cursing people to get the ‘F outta his way’ as he came into the springs, dancing inappropriately, and shot-gunning beers. This is unacceptable behavior for a county commissioner.” “You asked for this posi-

tion and was elected into it,” she continued. “You are supposed to represent this county to the best of your ability. From what I have seen over the last week and a half, you are not capable of that... who will hold Wesley Griffin accountable for his drunken rage that day? Is this who you really want representing our county, putting our very own at risk?” According to a nearly 20-page report, WCSO did respond to a disturbance call regarding an incident at the springs; however, no one is currently charged in the case. Neither Sheffield nor the

Griffins were listed as being directly involved in the only physical altercation suggested to have taken place by the report’s narrative; however, numerous verbal interactions were detailed by both sides throughout the report. Deputies interviewed 12 people about the incident, including Sheffield and the Griffins, noting at the end of the report, “After collecting all statements, both sides have conflicting stories and details.” The case was forwarded to the State Attorney’s office for review. The Griffins could not comment on the incident at the time of this story.

Governor appoints Howard ‘Rusty’ Williams as Holmes County Supervisor of Elections

STAFF REPORT

Governor Ron DeSantis announced the appointment of Howard “Rusty” Williams as Holmes County Supervisor of Elections on Monday, August 21. Williams, a Bonifay native, is a Permits Manager for the Florida Department of Transportation. He previously served as a Holmes County School Board Member and is the former President of the Bonifay Kiwanis Club. Williams attended Chipola College. The position became vacant when Therisa Meadows retired on June 30 after serving Holmes County in various positions for 32 years. Meadows herself was appointed to the position in 2019. Williams will hold the position until the 2024 election.



RUSTY WILLIAMS

WASHINGTON CO. COURT BRIEFS

The following cases have been previously reported on by the Washington County News and each were heard in pre-trial hearings on August 21.

- David Alford Jr.** - three counts of sexual offender failing to report residence change. Alford is scheduled for an evidentiary hearing on August 28.
- Crystal Nicole Carter** - two counts of sexual assault by 24 years of age or older, sexual battery victim 16-17 years of age. Carter is scheduled for a hearing to lower her bond on August 28.
- Glen Edward Davis** - DUI vehicular manslaughter, DUI with serious injury, two counts of DUI with property damage. An expert found Davis incompetent to proceed with trial; however, a pretrial has been scheduled for September 18, to allow the state to do more investigation into the competency.
- Erin Nikkoli Desalao** - dealing in stolen property and sexual assault by 18 years or older sexual battery victim under 12. Desalvo is scheduled for a pre-trial on September 18.
- Hayleedee Leiona Dykes** - trafficking methamphetamine more than 14 grams, possession of methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of specified location, possession of weapon by convicted felon, two counts posses-

- sion of marijuana with intent to distribute, and possession of paraphernalia. Dykes is scheduled for pre-trial on September 18.
- Parisha Antwanette Massaline** - attempted murder, firing missile into dwelling, vehicle or aircraft, kidnap/false imprisonment of adult, aggravated battery, and child cruelty without great bodily harm. Massaline is set for trial the week of October 9.
- Brian Patrick Rich** - attempted second-degree murder, aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill, and possession of weapon by convicted felon. Depositions in the case are scheduled for August 28 and a pre-trial hearing on October 16.



Welcome

Toby Murray, MSN, APRN, ACHPN Nurse Practitioner

Toby Murray Joins Jackson Hospital Hematology/Medical Oncology & Infusion Center

Toby Murray, MSN, APRN, ACHPN, received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Florida State University in Tallahassee and went on to complete her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

With 24 years of experience in nursing, Toby’s background includes experience in family medicine, hospice and palliative care. At Jackson Hospital Hematology/Medical Oncology & Infusion Center, she will provide patient care for specialized therapies including assessments and evaluations of patient conditions. She will also help patients better understand their treatments and care plans. Toby’s goal is to help patients better manage their health conditions and achieve good outcomes.

Accepting New Patients. For an appointment or more information, please call **850.526.6707.**



Jackson Hospital

Hematology/Medical Oncology & Infusion Center

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OPINION

Urgent calls from college



JASE GRAVES
Guest Columnist

Having two of my semi-grown daughters in college simultaneously has truly been an adventurous journey for our family – the kind where you enjoy amazing new experiences, but your expensive designer luggage gets stolen and you have to request an extra air-sickness bag.

For the first few months of their college lives, our daughters called us regularly to discuss their activities and to tell us how much they missed us (or at least our pets). Now, on the rare occasions when they call/text, we know it means one of two things: 1) they need more money or 2) something is wrong (and they probably need more money to fix it).

Our most recent crisis-text involved our “happy-go-lucky-and-blow-\$300-on-another-pair-of-limited-edition-Nikes” middle daughter. At around 1:00 AM on a Friday night, my wife received an urgent text from an unknown number informing us that it was our daughter using a friend’s phone because she had lost her phone (again) and, therefore, could no longer function as a viable human being.

We replied to the text by informing her that our Life360 parental-stalking app showed her phone to be at a restaurant where her mother and I can’t afford to eat. (We didn’t ask why she was awake and out in

the middle of the night because we naturally assumed she was attending a nocturnal Bible study.)

After not receiving any communication for next several hours and frantically imagining that she had been abducted by Russian Nike traffickers, we were relieved by a late-morning call from our daughter, who provided a rather vague and suspicious explanation of how she had found her phone and could now resume life as an actual person. (I’m pretty sure she also asked for more money.)

Other than a couple of the most expensive flat tires in the history of flat tires, a sophomore-college-student-proof pickle jar lid and a gymnastics accident in which she basically dislocated her entire body, our eldest and most expensive daughter has managed fairly well.

One of her more memorable requests for help was last semester when she called to inform us that she and her roommates had tried out her brand-new, state-of-the-art, top-of-the-line, high-end, gourmet air fryer, and it started smoking. I replied that she should tell the air fryer that smoking is addictive and bad for its health. (She didn’t laugh.)

She said they eventually discovered that the source of the smoke was a freshly-baked cardboard packaging insert they had failed to remove from within the device before trying to use it. (I think I broke a rib laughing.)

She then asked if we thought the air fryer would be ok. I replied that if it quit smoking immediately, it could probably avoid heart disease and cancer. (I’m pretty sure she hung up

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A government agency you’ve never heard of is destroying innovation



PETER ROFF
Guest Columnist

Recent and expected Supreme Court rulings regarding the authority of federal regulators have put the regulatory bureaucracy in the spotlight.

Too many of them have the power to make or break industries.

Some, like the U.S. International Trade Commission, are begging to have their wings clipped. Its mission is to protect American companies from unfair business practices by foreign companies, but in recent years it has inserted itself into patent infringement cases, a problematic and exceedingly complex area.

The agency needs to be put back in its lane. Judges and juries should resolve patent disputes, not regulatory bodies – which, like the International Trade Commission, often have the power to impose a ban (called an exclusion order) on imports

of all products a company alleges used their intellectual property without permission or compensation.

Exclusion orders can be devastating to U.S. innovators whose supply chains extend overseas. A single order can cause billions of dollars in damage to the U.S. economy. The International Trade Commission regularly grants them because it is its only enforcement mechanism.

Unlike the penalties that a judge can impose, these all-or-nothing orders are not scalable. Worse, the International Trade Commission has ignored its

own rules for decades by issuing orders that harm the public interest. Shockingly, it has refused to deny the request for an order on those grounds for more than 35 years.

Many of these requests come attached to suits filed by shady entities known as “Patent Trolls” who are not producers or manufacturers but pursue patent infringement claims to make quick cash.

In other infringement cases, suits involve a legitimate dispute between competing manufacturers in the U.S. who could readily solve their problems through nu-

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Paying attention pays off



TOM PURCELL
Guest Columnist

Declining attention spans have reached epidemic levels.

That’s what Adam Brown, co-director of the Center for Attention, Learning and Memory at St. Bonaventure University in New York, tells Time.

That’s certainly the case with me.

As I struggled to write the first three paragraphs of this column, I searched auto trader.com for a new car I don’t need or want; searched Facebook Marketplace for lakefront vacation homes I can’t afford; and visited Amazon.com to order more expensive treats for my Labrador, Thurber. Like millions of others these days, I’m an easy target for clever companies that use

the Internet and social media to lure me away from the tasks I should be focusing on.

The sophisticated algorithms that Facebook and others use are masterful at capturing my full attention by feeding me short video reels on car restorations, real estate investing and the dozens of other things they know I’m interested in.

What’s worse is that I’m a sucker for the dopamine hits I get every time my phone pings and I learn that somebody has “liked” or “subscribed” to one of the humorous “Thurber the Talking Lab” videos I’ve posted on youtube.com/@thurberstail.

The more I jump from focusing on one task to another, the shorter my attention span gets.

Brown tells Time that when you pause to check your phone, your brain has to shift gears to stop what it was doing and move to a new task.

He explains that the more we jump tasks, the more our brain wants to wander to find something new that captures its fancy.

Our declining ability to focus and concentrate not only makes it harder for us to get our daily work done, it is interrupting our ability to think critically about important issues.

Our duty as citizens is to participate in government policy by monitoring our elected officials and holding them to account. That requires us to sort out the spin that politicians and others feed us from an accurate and truthful understanding of what is actually taking place — which requires concentration and reason.

For too many of us, however, the political “spin” is truthful if it supports our side but a total lie if it criticizes our side.

With more easy access to boundless information than ever before, we have the ability to explore other points of view, but we’re too impatient and distracted to spend any time doing so.

And we become ever more polarized as our politicians become ever more reckless and corrupt.

But there is hope!

Some of the experts tell Time that with a little effort we can renew our attention spans and focus.

If you need to concentrate on a task and your phone keeps interrupting you, turn it off or put it in another room.

If you are trying to finish writing a 70,000-word love story, which I have been struggling to do for some time, move to a writing nook in a spare room in your house and turn off the Internet completely.

I do this for three hours every morning and it is a heavenly way to concentrate deeply — for me, the only way.

Modern life is only going to get more complex and more distracting, but we can overcome these challenges — and for the good of us all, it’s urgent that we do so.

As a bonus, as we restore our attention spans, we’ll hopefully become more patient, thoughtful and civil with each other.

Purcell is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

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850-638-0212

The Washington County News and Holmes County News are published on Wednesdays by Kent Smith Group, LLC at 1364 N. Railroad Ave., Chipley, FL 32428.

Periodicals postage paid by Chipley, Florida. Postmaster: Send address change to: Washington County News P.O. Box 627, Chipley, FL 32428

USPS 667-360

In county
1 Year - \$49.50

Out of county
1 Year - \$75.00

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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, daytime telephone number and a signature on your letter or comment for verification purposes (none of this information is printed).

Letters may be sent to 1364 N. Railroad Ave., Chipley, FL 32428 or emailed to kcent@kentsmith.biz.

Questions? Call 850-638-0212

anced court decisions.

A prime example of all this is playing out now as Masimo Corporation, a U.S. medical technology company whose products include noninvasive patient monitoring devices, has dragged Apple before the International Trade Commission.

Masino alleges the Apple Watch Series 6 infringes on its patent on light sensors that gauge blood oxygen levels. In January, an International Trade Commission administrative law judge ruled in Masimo's favor. Now the full commission must decide whether to issue an exclusion order.

If it did, Apple could no longer sell its Series 6 watch in the U.S. market. That would not only be financially damaging to one of America's best high-tech innovators, it would be a blow to consumers.

It is not a trivial matter. For some people, the Series 6 is essential to self-monitoring their health, and encouraging complainant patent holders to threaten a complete ban on entire product lines in the high-tech space discourages them from pursuing more innovation.

The drag a ban would create affects their operations and the entire economy. Masimo didn't just file with the International Trade Commission. It accused Apple in federal court of stealing trade secrets. Those pleas failed to persuade the judge, who declared a mistrial and gave Masimo no relief.

GRAVES

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at that point.)

Seriously, though, I realize that raising children to be independent adults should be one of a parent's primary goals, but it's still nice to be needed from time to time while they are on their college journey, even if it just involves a stubborn pickle jar lid – and more money.

Jase Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. His columns have been featured in Texas Escapes magazine, The Shreveport Times, The Longview News-Journal, and The Kilgore News Herald. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.

Masimo's approach is a perfect example of how not to deal with intellectual property disputes. Filing multiple cases that make various claims in different legal venues is wasteful. Not only that, it's particularly taxing on the system when the issues involve very complex high-tech patents and the devices they support.

The International Trade Commission's willingness to encourage these disputes while ignoring the public interest imperative leads to chaos and drag on U.S. innovation. The commission is venturing far beyond its intended role of protecting U.S. businesses from unfair foreign competition. It has the structure and the expertise to handle unfair import competition issues. Still, its lack of technical knowledge means it has no business interceding in patent disputes between competing American

companies.

Congress must step up. Reps. David Schweikert (R-Ariz.) and Don Beyer (D-Va.) recently introduced the Advancing America's Interests Act, bipartisan legislation to reorient the International Trade Commission back to its core mission of protecting American jobs and the U.S. economy.

The legislation is needed to help the American economy, its industry, and its innovators grow and prosper. Congress should prioritize these changes to protect U.S. innovators and consumers.

Peter Roff is former U.S. News and World Report contributing editor and UPI senior political writer now affiliated with several DC-based public policy organizations. He appears regularly on international television talking about U.S. politics. Reach him at RoffColumns@gmail.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

WASHINGTON COUNTY WILLIAMS ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Separate sealed BIDS for the WASHINGTON COUNTY WILLIAMS ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT will be received by the WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS at the Washington County Administrator's Office until September 25, 2023, at 11:00AM (CST) and will be read aloud immediately thereafter. All bidders on the project are required to be FDOT pre-qualified in all areas of minor bridge work. The bid will be awarded at the next regularly scheduled Washington County Commission Meeting.

All bidders will be required to be FDOT pre-qualified for Minor Bridge.

Plans and specifications are available electronically through Dewberry, 877 North County Highway 393, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459, (850) 571-1248 or by email at sborgen@dewberry.com

The bid will be awarded at the next scheduled Washington County Commission Meeting.

The point of contact will be Jonathan Sims, Dewberry, at 850.354.5188 or by email at jsims@dewberry.com.

The Board reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids on the whole or in part with just cause, and to accept the bid that in their judgment will be in the best interest of Washington County. Washington County encourages MBE/WBE businesses to participate.

Advertisement Dates: August 23, 2023 August 30, 2023 August 23, 30, 2023

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

WASHINGTON COUNTY JOHNS WAY TIMBER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Separate sealed BIDS for the WASHINGTON COUNTY JOHNS WAY TIMBER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT will be received by the WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS at the Washington County Administrator's Office until September 25, 2023, at 11:00AM (CST) and will be read aloud immediately thereafter. All bidders on the project are required to be FDOT pre-qualified in all areas of minor bridge work. The bid will be awarded at the next regularly scheduled Washington County Commission Meeting.

All bidders will be required to be FDOT pre-qualified for Minor Bridge.

Plans and specifications are available electronically through Dewberry, 877 North County Highway 393, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459, (850) 571-1248 or by email at sborgen@dewberry.com

The bid will be awarded at the next scheduled Washington County Commission Meeting.

The point of contact will be Jonathan Sims, Dewberry, at 850.354.5188 or by email at jsims@dewberry.com

The Board reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids on the whole or in part with just cause, and to accept the bid that in their judgment will be in the best interest of Washington County. Washington County encourages MBE/WBE businesses to participate.

Advertisement Dates: August 23, 2023 August 30, 2023 August 23, 30, 2023

Washington County Request for Proposals (RFP) for Old Spanish Trail Printed Guide

The Washington County Tourist Development Council (TDC) is seeking a qualified person or firm to contract for creation of an Old Spanish Trail printed guide. The printed guide will highlight the historic and cultural sites within Washington County. For a copy of the RFP, please send your request to Heather Lopez at director@visitwcfia.com or call (850) 638-6013.

This is a closed bid. Electronic submittals will not be considered. To be considered, the respondent must submit an original and three (3) hard copies in a sealed envelope or package, clearly marked with the respondent's name and address and the words "Washington County OST Printed Guide". All sealed bids must be mailed to:

Washington County Tourist Development Council
c/o Heather Lopez
P.O. Box 450
Chipley, FL 32428

Or dropped off at the Washington County TDC Office at:

672 5 th Street
Chipley, FL 32428

The deadline for submittals is 3:00 p.m. on September 8, 2023.

LATE SUBMITTALS RECEIVED AFTER THE FOREMENTIONED DEADLINE DATE, EITHER BY MAIL OR OTHERWISE, WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND WILL BE RETURNED UNOPENED. THE TIME OF RECEIPT WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE TIME RECEIVED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY TDC OFFICE STAFF. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FIRM OR PERSON SUBMITTING THE RFP FOR ASSURING THAT THE RFP IS RECEIVED AT THE POST OFFICE OR WASHINGTON COUNTY TDC OFFICE BY THE DESIGNATED DATE AND TIME. NO FAXED, ELECTRONIC OR ORAL RFP WILL BE ACCEPTED.

ADA – Special Accommodations: Any person requiring accommodations due to disability should call Heather Lopez, Director of the Washington County TDC at (850) 638-6013 at least five (5) days prior to the bid close date. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact Wendy White via the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).
August 23, 30, 2023

CONCURRENT NOTICE NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date: August 23, 2023
Name of Responsible Entity: City of Vernon
Address: 2808 Yellow Jacket Drive
Vernon, Florida 32462
Contact: Candice Hodges, City Clerk
Telephone Number: (850) 535-2444

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Vernon.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about September 11, 2023, the City of Vernon will submit a request to FloridaCommerce, formerly known as Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project to make the following improvements:

Activities:

Service Area (SA) #1 Sanitary Sewer Collection System Hardening:

03J Sanitary Sewer Line Replacement: The City of Vernon has been awarded \$1,674,622 of CDBG-DR funding to rehabilitate the City's Sanitary Sewer System. During the aftermath of Hurricane Michael, the City was without power for 9 consecutive days. The Sanitary Sewer System had to be manually operated using a limited number of portable generators. This not only caused the system to run at a limited capacity, but also posed a serious safety risk to City staff.

This project will rehabilitate multiple parts of the system. Permanent backup generators and bypass pumps will be installed at all 10 of the City's lift stations. In pursuance of the installations, land acquisitions will occur in compliance with URA and NEPA regulations. Additionally, a system wide SCADA communication will be installed. This will allow City staff to operate parts of the system remotely as well as keep staff informed of any system failures for the earliest intervention. Finally, the City will utilize relocate and install 1,500 LF of Sanitary Sewer Force-main Line to realign the flow from a shallow manhole near the intersection of Dawkins Street and Sapp Avenue farther south toward a deeper manhole adjacent to the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The project will be constructed at the ten sanitary sewer lift stations located as follows:

- Lift Station 1 (Spoolmill Rd) – Intersection of Spoolmill Road and Pinecrest Street.
- Lift Station 2 – (Shady Grove) – 3249 Shady Grove Road.
- Lift Station 3 (Spoolmill Dirt) – 3496 Spoolmill Road.
- Lift Station 4 (Cook Circle) – 3374 Cook Circle
- Lift Station 5 (Lazy Bone) – Lazy Bone Drive
- Lift Station 6 (Roche Avenue) – 3693 Roche Avenue
- Lift Station 7 (School) – 3193 Moss Hill Road
- Lift Station 8 (Moss Hill) – 2989 County Road 279 (Moss Hill Road)
- Lift Station 9 (Highway 79) – Main Street (Highway 79)
- Lift Station 10 (Spray Field) – 2993 Holmes Valley Road

Activity	CDBG Cost	Local Match	Total
03P Health Facility	\$ 1,375,621.90	\$0.00	\$ 1,375,621.90
03I Engineering	\$ 211,269.00	\$0.00	\$ 211,269.00
21A Administration & Project Delivery	\$ 87,731.10	\$0.00	\$87,731.10

Totals:	\$ 1,674,622.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,674,622.00
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These activities will have no significant impact on the environment for the following reason:

While some of the proposed construction is in close proximity to the 100-year flood plain, none of the lift stations or force mains are actually located in the 100-year floodplain. With the exception of Lift Station Number Four, no portions of the project are located in a wetland. Lift Station Number Four is located in a Palustrine, Forested, Broad Leaved Evergreen, Deciduous Seasonally Flooded (PFO3/6C) wetland with approximately .00295684 acres of land that may be included in the construction area. The City of Vernon has evaluated alternatives to making the improvements to Lift Station Number Four where it resides within a PFO3/6C wetland. The City considered the following alternatives to conducting the work inside a wetland. One option considered was to relocate Lift Station Number Four eastward closer to Dawkins Street, however, the City determined that this option is not a practicable alternative as it would move the lift station into a Zone A Floodplain, would require the acquisition of an easement from the property owner and would incur unnecessary additional costs for relocating the entire lift station. A second alternative option was considered that would relocate the lift station to a different site close by on the southwest portion of Cook Circle. While this option is not in a 100-year floodplain or wetland, relocating the lift station to this location would not be feasible as the City would be required to purchase a separate parcel of property in close proximity to the existing lift station that would work with the gravity flows of the existing system to properly operate and move the effluent the existing lift station is currently handling. This option was determined to be cost prohibitive and would likely cause delays in the project due to the Uniform Relocation steps required for the acquisition. Finally, the option of not addressing the work at Lift Station Four was considered and was found to minimize the intent of the project as all the other lift stations would be addressed, leaving Lift Station Four without emergency generator power during power outages and also excluding it from the SCADA telemetry network to work in concert with the other wastewater collection system components that will be addressed by this project. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988 and or 11990, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

Although a small portion of the project will be located in a wetland, the City believes that the current improvements cannot be relocated to any other location due to the scope of the project. There is, therefore, no practicable alternative than to continue with the project.

The proposed improvements conform to applicable floodplain and wetlands protection standards. The proposed action will not affect natural or beneficial floodplain and/or wetland values, and residents of the community will benefit from the project.

Failure to provide these improvements would result in the City of Vernon not being able to carry out the activities in the project.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Vernon has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at 2808 Yellow Jacket Drive, Vernon, Florida 32462, and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M CT Monday through Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Candice Hodges, City Clerk, at 2808 Yellow Jacket Drive, Vernon, Florida 32462. Comments may also be submitted via email at clerk@vernonfl.com. All comments must be received by September 8, 2023. Comments will be considered prior to the City of Vernon requesting a release of funds. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Vernon certifies to FloridaCommerce, formerly known as the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, and HUD that Gary Owens in his capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The State's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Vernon to use the CDBG funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

FloridaCommerce will accept objections to its release of funds and the City of Vernon certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Vernon; (b) the City of Vernon has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by the State; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures at 24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76 and shall be addressed to FloridaCommerce, CDBG Program, MSC-400, 107 East Madison Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-6508. Potential objectors should contact the City of Vernon to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Gary Owens, Mayor
Environmental Certifying Official
City of Vernon, Florida
2808 Yellow Jacket Drive
Vernon, FL 32462
Telephone Number: (850) 535-2444

SPORTS

Blue Devils, Blountstown show early promise in Preseason Kickoff Classic

COACH KEVIN WOMBLE

The Holmes County Blue Devils and the Blountstown Tigers opened their 2023 football season with a Kick-off Classic Friday night in what could certainly be the beginning of a good season for both Panhandle programs.

After practicing

against themselves for the past three weeks and fighting through storms and heat waves that have caused significant alterations to practice plans and preparation, both teams took to the field to test themselves against someone in a different colored uniform.

The format of this

classic had the varsity starters play the first half of the game while varsity backups and junior varsity players got into the action in the second half.

The final score was Tigers 18 and Blue Devils 6, but both teams walked away with things to build on as well as some things

to continue working to perfect.

While the Blue Devils were stingy with the ball and held on to it for the majority of the first half with starters, the Tigers took advantage of a couple of miscues that ultimately led to scores.

Both teams were able to score on long touch-

down throws on offense with the Tigers adding a score with a pick six. In the second half, both squads showed the future will be bright in both Bonifay and Blountstown by going back and forth with the Tigers scoring the only points of the second half on a quarterback sneak

that was set up by a long pass play.

These will be two teams to keep on your watch list for the remainder of the fall. Next week Blountstown will be hosting Walton County High School while Holmes County will be traveling to take on the Marianna Bulldogs.

Tigers hosted Maclay Marauders in Preseason victory

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS AND ADVERTISER

The Tigers played host to Maclay High school from Tallahassee, FL in their PreSeason Classic held August 18th at Philip Roundtree Stadium.

The Tigers came into the season sporting a 10-0 record last year. The format of the game saw the Varsity Team competing in the first half of the game and the Junior Varsity competing in the second half. The Tigers scored two touchdowns in the first half. Chipley 13 Maclay 12 was the final score for the Varsity outing.

The Junior Varsity half ended up scoreless for both teams as both teams fought hard to control the field.

The Tigers will be having Senior night this week and will host Hollis Christian Academy (Jacksonville) Friday.



Chipley High School hosted Maclay Friday night in a preseason faceoff. [PHOTOS COURTESY OF OFF MY FRAME PHOTOGRAPHY]

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2839 Hwy 231, Cottondale FL (Near to I-10 and US 90 on 231) 850-352-4449

Caden Hammock carries against Arnold. [Photo Courtesy of Vernon High School Athletics]

Washington County
Code Enforcement
NOTICE OF SPECIAL
MAGISTRATE HEARING

Thomas E Neese Parcel: 00000000-00-3100-0126 RE:
Case# 2022-012
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This is to advise that you have been scheduled for appearing before the Washington County Code Enforcement Special Magistrate to be held on September 8, 2023, beginning at 1:30 PM CST at the Washington County Annex Building located at 1331 South Blvd, Chipley, FL 32428 in the County Commission Room. Please arrive at 1:00 PM CST, bring a Valid ID, and sign-in on the sign-in sheet provided.

TOWN OF WAUSAU
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The Town of Wausau will hold a public meeting on Tuesday August 29, 2023, at 5:30p.m. or shortly thereafter. The sole purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the Town applying for a grant under the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) during the FY 2023-2024 funding cycle. The applications are due August 31, 2023. The grant application includes Phase VII improvements to "Possum Palace Park Phase VII". The Town of Wausau will hold the meeting at the Town of Wausau, in the Town Council Chambers located at 1607 2nd Avenue, Wausau, Florida. The public is invited to attend. Handicapped persons wishing to attend who will need special accommodations, should contact Ms. Margaret Riley, Town Clerk, Town of Wausau, at (850) 638-1781.

August 23, 2023

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When many people use electricity at the same time, the demand for that power rises. This is called a "peak" and typically occurs on hot summer afternoons from 3 to 7 p.m. Peaks increase the cost of wholesale power, which can, in turn, cause your electric bill to rise. For easy ways you can help keep rates as affordable as possible, visit www.gcec.com or www.westflorida.coop. It's another way your hometown electric cooperatives are always here for you.

Gulf Coast
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

West Florida Electric

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

www.gcec.com

www.westflorida.coop

Vernon buzzes in Classic

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS AND ADVERTISER

The Vernon Yellow Jackets traveled to Bozeman Thursday night, where the bucks hosted a Preseason Kickoff Classic with Arnold and Vernon.

Each team played two games with each game consisting of two ten-minute halves.

The first game of the night was between the host Bucks and the Marlins. Bozeman pulled off a 28-0 shut-out over Arnold.

See VHS, Page 8A

Escaped Holmes County inmate in custody

STAFF REPORT

Holmes County Sheriff’s Office has captured William Morris who escaped while on a work crew on the morning of August 17. Morris was captured in Jackson County.

Sheriff John Tate expressed his thanks Sheriff Donnie Edenfield



WILLIAM MORRIS

and the Jackson County Sheriff’s

Office, Sheriff Kevin Crews and the Washington County Sheriff’s Office, Sheriff Tommy Ford and the Bay County Sheriff’s Office, the Florida Highway Patrol, the US Marshall’s Task Force, and all K9 teams involved for their assistance in apprehending William Morris.

Former Bonifay police officer pleads to simple assault, completes PTI program

DIANE M. MOORE
Dmoore@kentsmith.biz

Former Bonifay Police Officer Jody Long pled guilty to simple assault, a second degree misdemeanor, as part of a plea deal on August 17.

Long was facing a misdemeanor battery charge from a March 2023 incident in which he was ac-

cused of using excessive force during a domestic disturbance call.

The incident was captured by body camera footage and later investigated by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

As part of the plea deal, Long was sentenced to six months

of probation with early termination after fines and court costs were paid.

Those fines have been paid off and adjudication is being withheld.

Once all documents have been processed, Long will have completed the terms of the plea agreement.

DOCKETS

From Page 2A

assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill, battery.

Marcus Tyrone Robinson- Possession of weapon or ammo by out of state convicted felon, possession of cocaine, possession of marijuana over 20 grams.

Richard Hamilton Rodgers- Grand theft of motor vehicle, burglary: unoccupied conveyance unarmed X2, grand theft of firearm.

Antonio Xavier Savery Jr.- Possession of weapon or ammo by out of state convicted felon, possession of cocaine,

possess marijuana over 20 grams.

Daisey Mae Louise Sherman- Possess controlled substance without prescription, resist officer: obstruct without violence, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, assault: domestic threat to do violence.

Kala Nicole Shiver- Possess controlled substance without prescription.

Billy Alan Smith- Sex offender violation fail to report vacating permanent residence.

Bryon William Smith- Traffic methamphetamine/amphetamine 14 grams or over, deliver methamphet-

amine, possession of controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia.

Joseph Aaron Smith- Commit domestic battery by strangulation.

Michael Alan Smith- Sale of methamphetamine, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana under 20 grams.

Jeffrey Lynn Stephenson- Lewd/Lascivious behavior molestation victim less than 12 YOA, sexual assault by custodian victim under 12 YOA offender 18 YOA or older, sex offender fail to report vacating permanent residence.

Mitchell Thomas

Sznura- Kidnap: false imprisonment adult, battery.

Devante Keon Thomas- Cocaine trafficking: 28 grams less than 150 kg cocaine or mixture, sell cocaine within 1000 ft of specified area schedule II, possession of marijuana under 20 grams.

Roger Lee Thomas- Resist officer with violence, battery.

Joshua Victor Totten- Sale of synthetic narcotics schedule I or II, possession of controlled substance without prescription, DWLSR first offense.

Nathan Scott Ward- Possession of controlled substance without prescription X2, possession

or use of drug paraphernalia, DWLSR third or subsequent offense.

Tavares Jerome Ward- Burglary: dwelling structure or conveyance armed, larceny: grand theft of firearm.

Johnny Lee Washington- Animals: cause cruel death pain and suffering X5, animals: torment deprive mutilate kill X5.

Kendren L. Washington- Robbery with a weapon, aggravated battery: cause bodily harm or disability, grand theft more than 300 dollars less than 5000 dollars, petit theft first offense.

Lawrence Eric Washington- Possession of cocaine, possession or

use of drug paraphernalia, lewd/lascivious behavior: conduct by person 18 YOA or older, lewd/lascivious behavior: exhibition offender 18 YOA or older victim less than 16 YOA, battery.

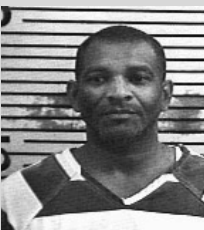
Dwight Lonzo Watford- Sell cocaine schedule II.

Stanley Fiorantino Williams- Burglary with assault or battery, aggravated battery with deadly weapon.

Ronald Eugene Winters- Commit aggravated battery, aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill, possession of weapon or ammo by out of state convicted felon.

Holmes County Arrest Reports

The following arrests were made in Holmes County between August 11 and August 18 as reported by the Holmes County Jail. All subjects are considered innocent until convicted.



Kyle E. Andrews, 43, Caryville- Child support. [HCSO]



Jimi Lee Carroll, 50, Ponce De Leon- Out of county warrant. [HCSO]



Melissa Lynn Carroll, 49, Bonifay- Larceny: petit-theft first-offense [HCSO]



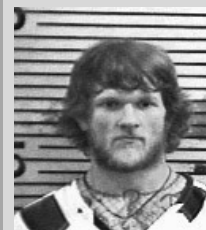
Victor Garcia, 40, AL- Nonmoving traffic violation: operate motor vehicle without valid license [FHP]



Butch J. Holt, 38, Sneads- Traffic offense: DUI drugs or alcohol first offense. [FHP]



Antonio Lee, 41, Bonifay- Out of county warrant, sex offender fail to comply PSIA. [HCSO]



Cecil Dale Mullins, 23, Bonifay- VOP alternative sanction sent 30 days [OTHER]



Brandi Price, 39, Homeless- Grand vehicle theft third-degree [HCSO]



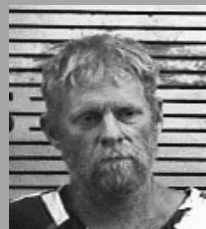
Dazia Shepard, 27, Westville- Battery. [HCSO]



Gerald Lee Soto, 33, Ponce De Leon- FTA: petit-theft. [HCSO]



Donald Lamar Stanley Jr., 34, No address available- smuggle contraband into detention facility, VOP. [HCSO]



Jonathan Steven Viers, 36, Bonifay- VOP: battery 90 days, VOP/VOCC: assault 60 days. [BPD]

Arrest Reports

The following arrests were made in Washington County between August 11 and August 18 as reported by the Washington County Jail. All subjects are considered innocent until convicted. PUBLISHER’S NOTE: For reasons unknown, please note the majority of booking photos were not available after Aug. 13. Washington County News is checking with WCSO to see what happened and when photos will become available again.



Keyshaun Dante Everett, 20, Chipley- Battery second or subsequent offense, battery second or subsequent offense VOP, aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill. [WCSO]



Antonio Alexander Harmon, 35, GA- Possession of marijuana over 20 grams. [WCSO]



Ethan Cole Justice 21, Chipley - Charges not listed [WCSO]



Rhonda Kaye Oglesby, 56, Chipley- Battery. [WCSO]



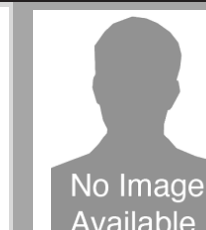
Anthony R. Orsi, 30, Out of county warrant [WCSO]



Taj Devon Smith, 21, Chipley- criminal property damage 1000 dollars or more, contributing to delinquency of a minor. [WCSO]



Megan Melissa Fischer, 32, Chipley- Possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, DWLSR. [WCSO]



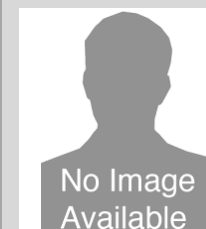
Christopher Wesley Norton, 41, Bonifay- Possession of methamphetamine with intent to sell, manufacture or deliver. [WCSO]



Christopher Michael Dozier 41, Chipley- Charges not listed [WCSO]



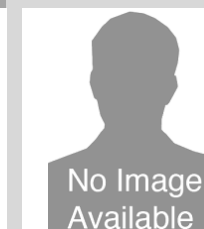
Mark A. Lucious, 44, Possession of controlled substance without prescription, possession or use of drug paraphernalia. [WCSO]



Phillip Lloyd Davis, 50, Westville- DWLSR. [WCSO]



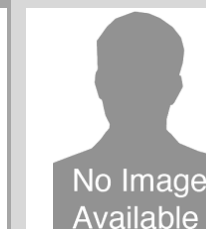
Justin Charles Craig, 46, Chipley- Simple assault: intent threat to do violence. [WCSO]



Jeremiah David Ewing, 32, Chipley- Battery. [WCSO]



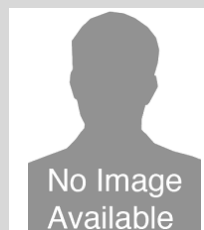
Michael William Kynard, 39, AL- Charges not listed [WCSO]



Jerry Armondo Joyner, 39, Bascom- Sending written threat to kill, stalking: following harass or cyberstalk. [WCSO]



Heath Benton Hutchcraft 40, Vernon- Contempt of court: child support. [WCSO]



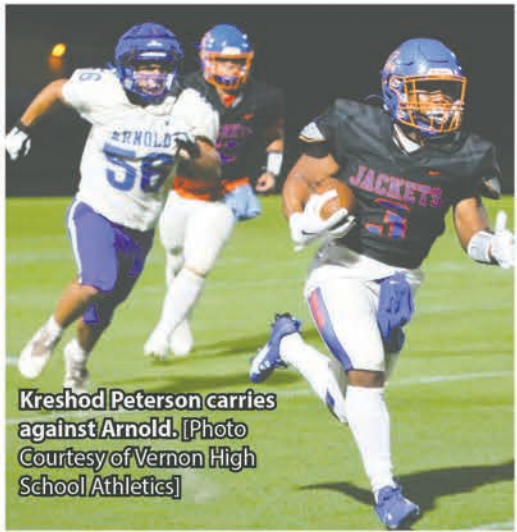
Aaron Christopher Smolen 26, Chipley- Possession of marijuana with intent to sell, manufacture or deliver schedule I. [WCSO]

VHS

From Page 6A

In game two, Vernon picked up the victory, beat-

ing Arnold 14-7. In the final game, Bozeman earned its second shutout of the night 26-0 over the Yellowjackets.



Kreshod Peterson carries against Arnold. [Photo Courtesy of Vernon High School Athletics]

Vernon hosts community football practice

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS AND ADVERTISER

Vernon High School football and the Vernon Recreation league held a two-hour joining practice at Memorial Stadium Saturday, Aug. 8.

VHS Head Coach Loren Tillman greeted each Rec League player for the second Vernon Community Football Practice with coaches from both squads running

drills and plays. The joint practice was aimed at fostering community spirit between the high school and recreation league players.

It allowed the younger players to learn from the more experienced high school players and also provide a chance for the high school players to serve as role models for



The City of Vernon and VHS held a community football practice on Aug. 8 [Photos courtesy of Vernon High School Athletics]



the younger generation.

Coach Tillman emphasized discipline, teamwork, and hard

work during the practice. The players ran various drills such as tackling, blocking, passing, and

running plays. The coaches provided feedback and instruction to help each player im-

prove their technique. VHS Football opens its season at Jay Friday, Aug. 25.

Washington County

Classifieds

LEGAL ADVERTISING

000250
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given **CHRISTOPHER S BUTLER**, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **16-00-04478**

Year of Issuance: **2016**

Parcel: **00000000-10-0613-0012**

Assessed To:

DARA SHOFF

Description:

SUNNY HILLS UNIT #10 LOT 12 ORB 780 P 487 BLK 0613

All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on **OCTOBER 03, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.**

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 2023

000255
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given **IDE TECHNOLOGIES INC.**, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **21-00-01127**

Year of Issuance: **2021**

Parcel: **00000000-00-5360-0193**

Assessed To:

CAROLYN LEDFORD AIELLO, DEBORAH LEDFORD DICERO, FAYE LEDFORD MCCALL, GLENDA LEDFORD EVANS, KATHY LEDFORD HENSON, KATHY LEDFORD HENSON & ETAL FAYE LEDORD MCCALL, KAY LEDFORD GUY, WILBUR CLAUDE LEDFORD, WILLIAM DAVIS LEDFORD

Description:

16 2 16 ORB 858 P 289 LOT 193 HOLMES RIVER CAMPSITES, UNRECORDED PLAT

All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE**

LEGAL ADVERTISING

AT WASHINGTON.
REALTAXDEED.COM
on OCTOBER 03, 2023
at 10:00 AM CT.

Lora C. Bell Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida
By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 2, 9, 16, 23, 2023

000258
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given **IDE TECHNOLOGIES INC.**, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **21-00-00452**

Year of Issuance: **2021**

Parcel: **00000000-00-2888-0000**

Assessed To:

CHARLES ANDREW FISH CO-TRUSTEE OF THE IRENE G FISH TRUST AGREEMENT, IRENE G FISH TRUST TABITHA A F WICHOWSKI, A F WICHOWSKI, TABITHA ANN FISH WICHOWSKI CO-TRUSTEE OF THE IRENE G FISH TRUST AGREEMENT

Description:

33 5 13 ORB 810 P 20 LOT 16 & N 25' OF LOT 17 1/4 BLK FA, ORB 900 P 506-508

All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on **OCTOBER 03, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.**

Lora C. Bell Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida
By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 2, 9, 16, 23, 2023

000261
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given **IDE TECHNOLOGIES INC.**, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **21-00-00282**

Year of Issuance: **2021**

Parcel: **00000000-00-1227-0000**

Assessed To:

GWAUN REED

Description:

4 4 13 BEG.166

LEGAL ADVERTISING

1/2',N. OF SEC OF LOT 7, RUN N. 56 1/2', W.120', S.56 1/2' E.120' TO BEG. N1/2 OF NE1/4 BLK 2, O RB 572 P 265

All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on **OCTOBER 03, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.**

Lora C. Bell Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida
By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 2, 9, 16, 23, 2023

000271
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given **KRISTIN QUISENBERRY**, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **16-00-03996**

Year of Issuance: **2016**

Parcel: **00000000-08-0500-0020**

Assessed To:

CARLO CIPOLLA ESTATE % PHYLLIS GOLDFARB, MOFOLDZ CIPOLLA ESTATE % PHYLLIS GOLDFARB

Description:

SUNNY HILLS UNIT #8 LOT 20 ORB 201 P 828 BLK 0500

All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on **OCTOBER 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.**

Lora C. Bell Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida
By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2023

000272
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given **FIG 20 LLC**, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate #: **21-00-00750**

Year of Issuance:

LEGAL ADVERTISING

2021
Parcel: **00000000-00-3548-0000**

Assessed To:

TOM L LEE TRUST-EE R & MT SIMMONS FAMILY TRUST

Description:

24 3 14 36 ORB 268 P 1014 SE1/4 OF NW1/4, LESS 4 A IN SEC1

All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on **OCTOBER 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.**

Lora C. Bell Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida
By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
Publication Dates: August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2023

000276
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED Notice Is Hereby Given

MIKON FINANCIAL SERV INC & OCE, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 21-00-00464

Year of Issuance 2021 Parcel 00000000-00-2973-0000 assessed to **MARCY REBECCA SHIPES**

Description 33 5 13 1.8 ORB 75 P 343 LOT 5, H/A, LESS E. 100', LESS W. 100', & BEG. 100' E. OF NWC OF LOT 5, RUN N. 441', E. 126', S. 441', W. 126' TO POB BLK O (ORB 502 P 294) "DIE", (ORB 792 P 162) "DIE". All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such

Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on

OCTOBER 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT. Lora C. Bell, Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida By:

Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2023

000278
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED Notice Is Hereby Given

MIKON FINANCIAL SERV INC & OCE, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of

the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 21-00-00463

Year of Issuance 2021 Parcel 00000000-00-2971-0000 assessed to **ALFORD D WORLEY ESTATE**

MARSHA ANN WORLEY Description 33 5 13 2.5 ORB 617 P 211 E1/2 OF LOT 3, BLK O. All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on **OCTOBER 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.** Lora C. Bell, Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2023

000283
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED Notice Is Hereby Given

MIKON FINANCIAL SERV INC & OCE, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 21-00-00443

Year of Issuance 2021 Parcel 00000000-00-2840-0000 assessed to **MARY C MYDOSH (ESTATE)**

Description 33 5 13 OR 251 P 179 LOTS 40, 41 R&L/A BLK B. All of said property being located in the County of Washington, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT**

WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM on **OCTOBER 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.** Lora C. Bell, Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2023

000289
NOTICE OF AP-
PLICATION FOR TAX
DEED Notice Is Hereby Given

FIG 20 LLC, the holder of the following Tax certificate, has filed said certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 21-00-00548 Year of Issuance 2021 Parcel 00000000-00-3158-0005 assessed to **MOSES L ROGERS** Description 1 2 14 20 ORB 39 P 248 W1/2 OF SW1/4 OF NW1/4. All of said property being located in the

County of Washington, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such Certificate will be sold to the highest bidder **ONLINE AT WASHINGTON. REALTAXDEED.COM** on **OCTOBER 24, 2023 at 10:00 AM CT.** Lora C. Bell, Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida By:

Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk
August 23, 30, September 6, 13, 2023

000321
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 22000127CAAXMX ENVOY MORTGAGE LTD, Plaintiff, vs. LUCINDA HILTY KERR A/K/A LUCINDA KERR, et al. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 24, 2023, and entered in 22000127CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the FOURTEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for Washington County, Florida, wherein **ENVOY MORTGAGE LTD** is the Plaintiff and **LUCINDA HILTY KERR A/K/A LUCINDA KERR** are the Defendant(s). Lora C. Bell as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at www.washington.realforeclose.com at 10:00 AM, on September 20, 2023, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF NORTH BOULEVARD, A DISTANCE OF 382.80 FEET WEST OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 00 MINUTES WEST ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE OF NORTH BOULEVARD, A DISTANCE OF 54.00 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 12 MINUTES WEST, A DISTANCE OF 150.00 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST, A DISTANCE OF 54.00 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 12 MINUTES EAST, A DISTANCE OF 150.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PARCEL OF LAND BEING IN THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Property Address: 1203 OLD BONIFAY RD, CHIPLEY, FL 32428 Any person

claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 45.031. Dated this 7 day of August, 2023. Lora C. Bell As Clerk of the Court
By: Angela Hunt As Deputy Clerk
IMPORTANT AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711 or email ADARquest@jud14.flcourts.org.

Publish In: THE WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS
Bill to: **WASHINGTON COUNTY CLERK OF COURT, LORA C. BELL**
Submitted by: Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff, on behalf of COC
6409 Congress Avenue, Suite 100, Boca Raton, FL 33487
Telephone: 561-241-6901 Fax: 561-997-6909
August 16, 23, 2023

000328
The following vehicle will be sold at public auction at Nichols Auto Repair and Towing, 1146 Jackson Avenue, Chipley, FL 32428 at 8:00 am on the following date: 2007 Mercury 2MEFM74V37X620400 September 1, 2023
August 23, 2023

000329
A Safe Storage, Storage Treasures: A Safe Storage, LLC First Lien Holder, will hold an **ONLINE PUBLIC AUCTION**. The auction will be held online at www.storagetreasures.com on September 6, 2023 or thereafter to satisfy past due rents. 9/06/2023. Auction units Sandra Byrd X122 4648 Falcon Way, Crestview, Florida 32539, Amanda Wills Unit X004 3570 Harcus Road, Caryville, Florida 32427, Kristina Hodges A001 111 Crescent Drive, Enterprise, Alabama 36248. Unless otherwise noted, the contents are: All household, personal, business goods, all boxes, loose clothes, electronics, any/all other items contained in the unit(s). Legal Notice
August 23, 30, 2023

LEGAL ADVERTISING

000330
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

In Re: Estate of: **PROBATE DIVISION DAVID LEWIS SHEA, File No: 23-SP-77 a/k/a DAVID SHEA,**

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the Estate of David Lewis Shea, a/k/a David Shea, whose date of death was February 15, 2023, File Number 2023-CP-77, is pending in the Circuit Court for Washington County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1293 Jackson Ave., Chipley, FL 32428. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court **WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.**

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is August 23, 2023.

Attorneys for Personal Representative: **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:**

FUQUA & MILTON, P.A.
By: /s/ A. Clay Milton
/s/ Patricia Brandt Shea
A. CLAY MILTON PATRICIA BRANDT SHEA
Florida Bar No. 013185
1944-A Horne Place
cmilton@fmc.legal
Chipley, Florida 32428
H. MATTHEW FUQUA
Florida Bar No. 0451101
mfuqua@fmc.legal
4450 Lafayette

Street (32446)
Post Office Box 1508 Marianna, Florida 32447
Telephone: (850) 526-2263
August 23, 30, 2023

000332
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

In Re: Estate of **FLOYD D. TUBB a/k/a DEXTILE TUBB**

PROBATE DIVISION File No. 23000088CP

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of **FLOYD D. TUBB**, deceased, whose date of death was May 17, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Bay County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1293 Jackson Ave., Chipley, FL 32428. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is August 23, 2023.

Attorney for Personal Representative:

Adam L. Hood
Florida Bar Number: 0052233
626 Magnolia Avenue Panama City, Florida 32401
Telephone: (850) 215-9147 Fax: (850) 481-0796 E-Mail: adam@adamhood-law.com Second-ary E-Mail: legal@adamhoodlaw.com
Personal Representative:
Andrea Lee Spears 1903 W. 14th St. #B Panama City, Florida 32401
August 23, 30, 2023

LAND/ACREAGE

1-Acre plot and 2-Acre plot in Jacob City Florida
(850) 849-9338

CELEBRATE



FPTC nursing program levels up with new 3D simulation technology

LPN students Fuqwon Griffin and Lashaina Harvey check out one of two new Anatomage tables at FPTC. [DIANE M. MOORE | The News and Advertiser]

DIANE MOORE

Dmoore@kentsmith.biz

Students in the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program at Florida Panhandle Technical College (FPTC) are getting a more realistic experience in their training, thanks to the school's recent use of grant funding to purchase new state-of-the-art equipment.

Information that was once largely only available through videos and textbooks now comes to life using new equipment such as Anatomage tables and a new patient simulator.

FPTC received \$675,000 from a PIPELINE (Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers and Learners Through Incentive for Nursing Education) grant in 2022 and an additional \$467,000 in 2023. The funds were made available in part to combat the mass exodus of nurses from the field following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Governor Ron DeSantis directed the extra funding to be funneled into nursing programs to entice students to enter the field.

The funding was used to purchase the advanced equipment.

The Anatomage tables are the most technologically advanced 3D anatomy visualization and virtual dissection tool for anatomy and physiology education, according to the Anatomage website. The table allow students to bring their text book information to life and view each layer and aspect of the human body.

SUSIE is an advanced, wireless and tetherless patient simulator with Bluetooth functions that allow instructors to plan scenarios to teach students how to handle real life situations. The mannequin is a full-body patient simulator that mimics human anatomy and physiology with instructors even able to remotely activate "symptoms."

Nursing Program Director Shirley Morris says she is excited to get started with the new equipment.

"Our students now are much more technologically-forward, and these

machines are more reality based learning," said Morris. "With that, our students will be able to make better assessments and apply their critical thinking skills. For many years we have had to say, 'Imagine this' when teaching various skills; now they can physically see what they are doing. I am excited to begin setting up scenarios for learning and to watch them be able to learn with reality-based tools."

New student Fuqwon Griffin says he is happy to have the opportunity to utilize the new equipment. "These new things are more advanced," he said. "I am excited to learn with the new technology available to us."

Fellow new student Yonna Bellamy agrees. "This new technology will definitely be beneficial to our education," she said.

FPTC Director Bryan Lee says the program is headed back in the right direction.

"We were able to purchase equipment that will appeal to different types of

learners," said Lee. "We also have the possibility of being able to use these tools

in other healthcare related programs to give our students a step ahead in their

careers. We have added tools to our toolbox that will benefit our students."

The college additionally purchased a pick machine, laptops, new computers for testing, and various other medical training tools for the program.

For more information on the LPN program call FPTC at 850-638-1180.

AT LEFT: Nursing Director Shirley Morris points out a portion of the human anatomy on the Anatomage table. **BELOW:** Lashaina Harvey takes a turn listening to the heart rate on a patient simulator.

[DIANE M. MOORE | The News and Advertiser]



FPTC hosted an open house August 15 to display their newly purchased medical learning technology. Pictured from left: FPTC Director Bryan Lee, School Board Member Cheryl Williams, School Board Secretary Cheryl Allen, Nursing Program Director Shirley Morris, Superintendent Joe Taylor, School Board Member Dr. Lou Cleveland, School Board Member Milton Brown, and District of Federal Grants Jiranda White. [DIANE M. MOORE | The News and Advertiser]

SCHOOLS & EDUCATION

VES holds ribbon cutting for playground equipment



Members of the Washington County School Board and School Superintendent Joe Taylor attended a ribbon cutting ceremony at Vernon Elementary School on August 21 to celebrate new playground equipment installed for the 2023-2024 school year. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]

Chipola Theatre announces 2023-2024 season

STAFF REPORT

The Chipola College Theatre Department recently announced its 2023-2024 season line-up.

Barefoot in the Park (Oct. 13-15, 2023). All ACT Fund memberships may be purchased and/or redeemed beginning Aug. 21. General tickets go on sale Sept. 11. “Up on the Roof” Opening Night Reception will be held Friday, Oct. 13 at 6 p.m. in the Experimental Theatre. Join the department for “bubbly” and hors d’oeuvres on our New York terrace before the show.

Admission is \$5.

Mary Poppins (Feb. 22-25, 2024) comes to Chipola’s stage. General tickets go on sale Jan. 22. “A Spoonful of Sugar” Opening Night Reception will be held Thursday, Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. in the Experimental Theatre. Join the department for a sweet treat and meet members of the cast before the show! Bring your camera. Admission is \$5.

Fancy Nancy the Musical (May 9-10, 2024) General tickets go on sale Apr. 15. The cast invites guests to strike a pose in their photobooth and “Get Fancy!”

How to help student-athletes balance academics and athletics

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS AND ADVERTISER

The rigors of academia demand every student’s utmost devotion. For some, the challenges in the classroom are accompanied by the thrill of competition on the playing fields.

Student-athletes typically have a lot on their plates. Managing multiple priorities at once can overwhelm anyone, especially young student-athletes without much experience handling such a juggling act. As a new school year begins, student-athletes can consider these strategies as they try to do their best in the classroom and on the competitive playing fields.

• **Take steps to avoid burnout.** Burnout can affect student-athletes in the classroom and on the field. Work with parents, coaches and school staff, including a nutritionist if one works for the school’s

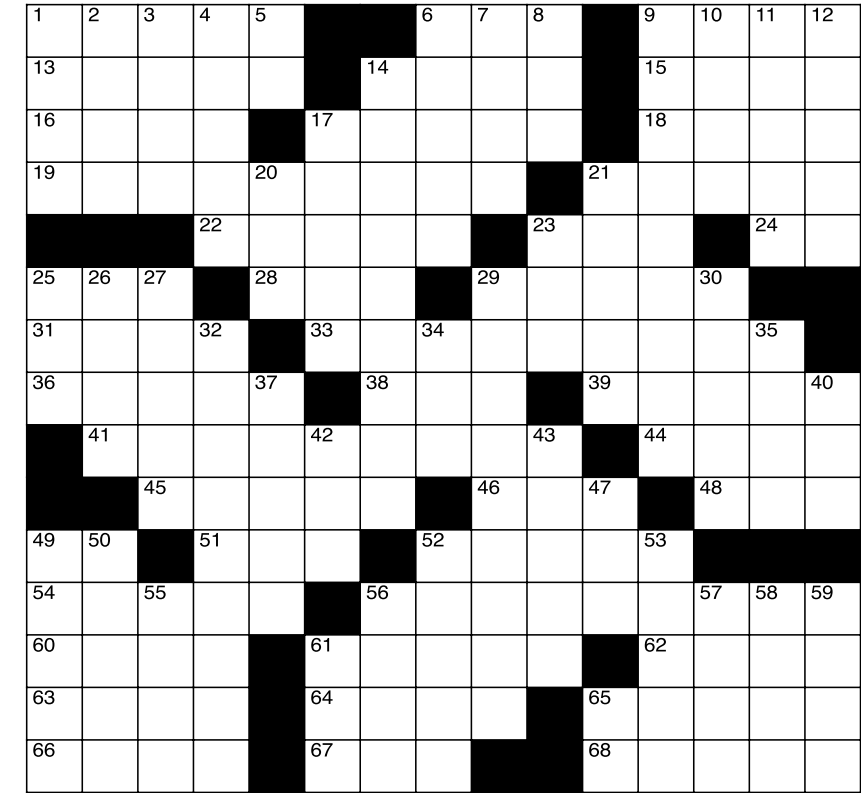
athletic department, to devise a meal plan that will help to energize the body and reduce injury risk. In addition, follow a consistent sleep schedule that helps to overcome mental and physical fatigue. According to guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, teenagers between the ages of 13 and 18 should sleep eight to 10 hours each night.

• **Avoid distractions.** Student-athletes who are finding it hard to get at least eight hours of sleep each night might be too distracted during the day to get everything done so they can go to bed at a reasonable hour. Smartphones ensure distractions are never too far away, but student-athletes can take a proactive approach and turn off app notifications once a new school year and season begins. In addition, pick a quiet homework/study room in the house

without distractions like a television or the hum of outside noise.

• **Set academic and athletic goals.** Coaches typically establish goals for players before the season and then again during end-of-season exit interviews. Such goals can help athletes maintain their motivation, and a similar strategy can be employed in the classroom. Parents and student-athletes can meet with teachers to establish study goals to keep them striving toward academic achievement. Clearly defined goals can improve student-athletes’ focus, and that can make it easier to balance their responsibilities.

Student-athletes face a balancing act once a new school year or season begins. Various strategies can help young people successfully juggle their academic and athletic obligations.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Russian painter

6. Very fast jet

9. Phillipine municipality

13. Intestinal

14. Small freshwater fish

15. Algerian coastal city

16. Vomit

17. Famed astronomer

18. Ghanaian currency

19. Improved the condition of

21. Int'l association of interpreters

22. Infections

23. Dish made with lentils

24. Thou

25. Former CIA

28. Unit used to compare power levels

29. Members of Pueblo people

31. Myanmar monetary units

33. Polished

36. Signed a contract

38. Nothing
39. Once-ubiquitous department store

41. Neural structures

44. Thick piece of something

45. Slang for trucks with trailers

46. Longing

48. Senior officer

49. Levels of frequency

51. Bird’s beak

52. Move rapidly downwards

54. Koran chapters

56. Stretches out

60. Top of the human body

61. A Chinese temple and Indian town are two

62. Fertility god

63. Sea eagle

64. Dry

65. Zodiac sign

66. “Horizon Call of the Mountain” character

67. Have the ability to

68. Take somewhere

CLUES DOWN

1. “Iron Man” actress Leslie

2. Wings

3. Adjust the spacing

4. They’re usually locked

5. Atomic #43

6. Wise individuals

7. Horse mackerel

8. Pearl Jam’s debut album

9. Confinement

10. Colorless crystalline compound

11. Unsatisfactorily

12. Plant of the parsley family

14. Determines time

17. Causes the birth of

20. Small ornament on a watch chain

21. Richly decorated cloth tapestry

23. Vito Corleone was one

25. Igbo musical instrument

26. Put in harmony

27. Japanese alcoholic drinks

29. Tinseltown
30. Closes tightly

32. Songs sung to one’s lover

34. One thousandth of an inch

35. Small drink of whiskey

37. Political divisions in ancient Greece

40. Helps little firms

42. Baby’s eating accessory

43. Very long periods of time

47. Small block of wood

49. Town in Surrey, England

50. Enquiry

52. Murdered

53. Bura-__: Chadic language

55. Crater on Mars

56. Mammal genus

57. Sock

58. Make

59. Stony waste matter

61. Partner to cheese

65. Pound

Application deadline for Chipola Nursing Program is August 28

STAFF REPORT

The application deadline for Chipola College’s Spring 2024 Associate Degree Nursing program is Monday, Aug. 28.

This application is to be used for both traditional ADN students and students wishing to enter under the agreement with FPTC. Applications will be considered after the deadline if there are available seats in the upcoming class. Applications received after September 25, 2023 will be placed on the Fall 2024 waiting list.

The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program is nationally-accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

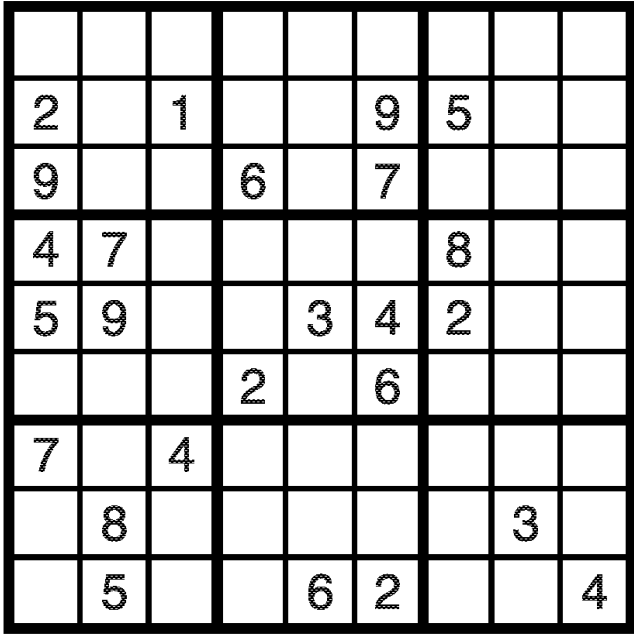


The deadline to apply for the Chipola Nursing Program is Monday. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]

Students interested in applying must first, watch the ADN Nursing Information Session, read the ADN Information Packet, and take the Information Session quiz (This must be turned in with the application) and complete the ADN Application and return it to Health Sciences,

Building Q, Office 211. Applications are available at chipola.edu/academics/academic-departments/health-sciences/nursing/adn/. For more information visit chipola.edu or contact Dr. Trilla Mays at mayst@chipola.edu or (850) 718-2278.

SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

COMMUNITY

Ponce de Leon to revive ‘Collard Festival’ traditions

NAN THOMPSON
Nthompson@kentsmith.biz

The long-dormant Collard Festival will soon return to Ponce de Leon. Created with the help of then-resident Mary Martin and Holmes County’s own E. W. “Judge” Carswell, the event was meant to help bring tourism to Ponce de Leon.

Martin saw how other small towns held festivals that attracted people from all areas during a family vacation and



brought the idea to the Homemakers’ Club of Ponce de Leon in 1980. The club would go on to host the festival on the Saturday after Thanksgiving until 1991.

The Holmes County Historical Society would hold a revival of the Collard Festival in November 2001, but the event never fully returned – until now.

The Town of Ponce de Leon is bringing the festival back Saturday, September 2.

It will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ponce de Leon High School, located at 1477 Ammons Road.

The event will offer a day of history, food, vendors, and activities, with live music by Walton Emer-



Vircey Bedsole, a retired teacher, is pictured after being named Ponce de Leon’s first Collard Festival Queen in 1980. [Photo courtesy of Florida Photographic Collection]]

ald Coast Community Band from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Activities for the day

will include horseshoes, corn hole, and children’s art competitions. There will also be sweet



A flyer advertises the first Heritage Day Collard Festival for November 22, 1980. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]

potato pie, cornbread, and – of course – collard cooking competitions. For more information,

or to sign up as a vendor, contact the Town at 850-836-4361 or email townpndl@gmail.com

HCPL earns ‘Safe Place’ designation

NAN THOMPSON
Nthompson@kentsmith.biz

The public library is no stranger to children, but the Holmes County Public Library (HCPL) recently decided to take that thought one step further to help local children.

The library has been designated a “Safe Place” after its staff completed training through Anchorage Children’s Home. Safe Place sites are businesses or public locations where children can seek help during a crisis.

Presented with a plaque commemorating the designation on

August 14, the library is just one of two such “Safe Places” in Holmes County that are considered a Safe Place, the other being the Bonifay Fire Department.

The library will offer 24-hour service for children in need by offering after-hours phone numbers to call.

“Hundreds of children come to the library, and we can now help those in crisis,” said HCPL Director Becky Marsh. “I am honored to be able to offer this service to the community.”

For more information, contact Marsh at 850-547-3573.



Pictured from left are HCPL Director Becky Marsh, Safe Place Counselor Christine Tolbert, Shanshawda Langford, and Rachel David. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]



Pictured are Council on Aging staff Patti Willis, Kristi Barnes, Katrina Carswell, Arlita Sellers, Director Michael Brown, Washington County School Board Member and community volunteer Milton Brown, FPL External Affairs Manager Tracey Andrews, and Geri Cox [CAROL KENT | The News and Advertiser]

FPL donates \$6K to expand senior meal program

CAROL KENT
Ckent@kentsmith.biz

Washington County Council On Aging (COA) received a much-needed boost to serve more senior citizens needing to enroll in its Home Delivered Meal Program on Thursday.

Thanks to a \$6,000

Florida Power & Light grant, the agency is expanding its program to service more home-bound senior citizens by more than 10 percent.

“I am so excited to call clients on the waitlist, and let them know they can now be added to the meal pro-

gram,” said Michael Brown, Executive Director of Washington County Council on Aging Inc. “This means we’ll be able to feed more seniors who are in need of support.”

The home-delivered meals are frozen and delivered directly to

See GRANT, Page 5B



AT LEFT: Seated from left are Dania Barnes, Club Vice-President Linda Pigott, Pam Morzos, and Glenda Wilson. Standing is Wade Collins. ABOVE: Pictured from left are Wade Collins, Club President Gweneth Collins, FFGC President Tina Tuttle, Glenda Wilson, and Dania Barnes. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS]

Local gardeners attend Florida Federation of Garden Club training

CHIPLEY GARDEN CLUB REPORT

Members from Chipley Garden Club and Washington County Master Gardeners attended Florida Federation of Garden Club (FFGC) District I 14th annual Short Course North titled “In the Beginning...” The course was held in Cantonment August 10 and 11 at the Escambia County 4-H office.

This annual training helps keep garden club members and Master Gardeners updated on a

variety of subjects. This year, the course titles included The Changing Florida Landscape; Escambia Bay, Native American Culture and Plants; The Dirt on Soil; Plants and Pollinators, Plants of the Holy Land; The Evolution of Lawns, and It All Begins with Water. In addition to the educational opportunities, crafts were offered, such as Kokedama (Japanese Moss Balls) and French Collage.

Garden-themed vendors were on-site, and a plant sale was just

“out the back door.” Guests were also able to visit the on-site UF/IFAS demonstration garden during breaks.

“We’ve offered this opportunity to garden club members, Florida Master Gardeners, and the public for 14 years and the reception has been wonderful,” said FFGC President/District I Club Member Tina Tuttle. “The presenters are different every year and are the best in their areas of expertise.”

“Chipley Garden Club was the only club attending from District II,” remarked Gweneth Collins, Chipley Garden Club President. “We’re learning some interesting tidbits, and we’re bringing that knowledge back to share with our members and the public.”

Chipley Garden Club welcomes new members at any time during the year. For more information about Chipley Garden Club or FFGC, call Gweneth Collins at 850-260-4049.

DMH CEO among group of doctors to revamp, reopen shuttered DeFuniak Springs hospital

CAROL KENT
Ckent@kentsmith.biz

Doctors Memorial Hospital CEO Dr. Huy Nguyen is among a group of area doctors who have been working to revitalize and reopen Healthmark Regional Medical Center on Highway 331 in DeFuniak Springs.

The facility closed in March 2022 citing renovations; however, it failed to reopen amid financial woes, including missed payrolls.

Walton County Sheriff Michael Adkinson told Washington County News and Holmes County Advertiser media partner WMBB in June that the shutdown put residents in a tough spot for more than a year.

“It put a tremendous strain on the fire rescue and EMS in North Walton, there’s no question about that,” said Sheriff Adkinson in an interview. “It impacted the surrounding hospitals, Bay Medical, North Okaloosa, Twin Cities, Doctors Memorial in Bonifay, all of them were impacted by this hospital closing.”

Today, the hospital is another step closer to re-opening because of

efforts by Dr. Nguyen and his partners, which comprise North Walton Healthcare Campus LLC.

The group announced Monday that it has officially closed on 35 acres of land and the two buildings which formerly housed the facility.

The group says the reopening of the hospital, which will be named North Walton Doctors Hospital, will be part of a much-needed rebranding of the facility that reflects a commitment to high quality healthcare led by physicians.

Dr. Nguyen has been named North Walton Doctors Hospital CEO, with the group pointing to what it called in a press release his “track record of success in reviving rural hospitals.”

“Since taking over as CEO of Doctors Memorial Hospital in Bonifay, Florida, that facility has more than doubled its revenues while increasing its Google review ratings from 2.3 to 4.0 stars, earning them the highest patient satisfaction of any hospital in the region,” the release stated.

“It really begins by changing the culture of

an organization,” said Dr. Nguyen. “In Bonifay, we made it clear to everyone that works at the hospital that our patients are our customers, and the goal is for everyone who walks through our doors to receive excellent customer service. We also made significant investments in technology.”

“We are one of the few rural hospitals in the

of a hospital’s size.

“During the COVID-19 pandemic, under the leadership of Dr. Nguyen and hospital pharmacist Warren Bailey, Doctors Memorial led the early treatment innovation by providing life-saving monoclonal antibody treatments subcutaneously as an adjunct to drive-by Covid testing,” the Monday press re-



The former Healthmark Regional Medical Center is set to reopen in 2024 as North Walton Doctors Hospital under the leadership of Doctors Memorial Hospital CEO Dr. Huy Nguyen. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]

state offering robotic surgery. I don’t let the fact that we are rural become an excuse for not keeping up with the newest trends in healthcare,” he continued. “This is a part of the larger plan to bring high quality health care to DeFuniak Springs.”

The group stresses that the focus on customer service and innovation can save lives, regardless

lease stated. Utilizing this technique, Doctors Memorial, a 20-bed rural hospital, gave more life-saving treatment for COVID-19 than any other hospital in the state. Patients from 49 different zip codes traveled to be tested and if positive, received monoclonal antibody therapy.

“This shows physician-led healthcare can re-

ally reshape healthcare for the better. Rather than following the CDC and NIH recommended protocols, which failed miserably and increased mortality, physicians on the front lines made a dramatic difference in our region by having the opportunity to see what was working and reacting accordingly,” says investor and local physician leader Dr. Jon Ward.

Ward also added, “The reopening of this facility is less about making money and more about saving lives. Fortunately, I think we have a great opportunity to do both.”

When Healthmark closed its doors in 2022, it left the majority of North Walton County without access to emergency medical services. Data from the Walton Economic Development Alliance tracks the drive times to emergency rooms, and it revealed that most of North Walton is not even within a 30-minute drive of any emergency room. “It’s been shown that with heart attacks and strokes, the number one factor in mortality is how close is your nearest emergency room,” explains Dr. Nguyen.

“By simply getting these

doors open and providing cardiac protocols and stroke protocols in time to make a difference, we start saving lives on day one. You really can’t place a price tag on that.”

The group states there is significant community support for the reopening.

Drs. Nguyen and Ward will be at the upcoming Walton County Board of County Commissioners meeting to ask for funding from the county to assist with the indigent care requirements of operating an emergency room. The group is working with Walton County Fire and Rescue to provide support services for their EMTs responding to 911 calls in the field as well as support the county’s community paramedic initiative. Partnerships with CHELCO and Northwest Florida State College are also in the early stages.

The group says that besides being critical to the health of the community, the hospital will also add to the overall economy in the area, adding about 110 “well-paying jobs” in the first year.

North Walton Doctors Hospital is expected to open in early 2024.

Lonely Paws Club

This lonely kitty needs a name - and a forever home.

[NAN THOMPSON | The News and Advertiser]



“One cat just leads to another” - Ernest Hemingway

Hi there. I don’t have a name yet, but I am a very sweet black and white short haired female kitty.

I am considered an adult, because I am at least one year old.

They call my markings “tuxedo,” so I’m dressed for almost any occasion - like maybe my adoption day?

I was a stray; now, I am lonely, waiting for a family to come take me home.

I was brought to the Northwest Florida Animal Shelter this

month, so I haven’t been here very long. My caretakers are great, and they play with me, but I have to stay there overnight. I don’t like that at all; I want to be with people all the time.

I can offer unconditional love and lots of purring.

My ways of showing love are head rubbing, and kneading. Some call this bread making, I call it saying, “I love you.”

I would love a lap to sit in, lots of good food, and a few toys, maybe even a scratching post. My needs aren’t huge, but the rewards for you

can be.

I do need a name, so think about a cute name for me on the way to take me home.

I will need to be spayed and vaccinated, but that will be arranged when you adopt me.

If you are interested in me or any other of my friends here, contact Stephanie at 850-326-6417.

Lonely Paws Club is a weekly feature to help shelter animals find a loving home, brought to you by Paw Barn Pet Resort and Kent Smith Group.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Jackson County Master Gardener Program to host Fall Vegetable Workshop

The Jackson County Master Gardener Program will be hosting a Fall Vegetable Workshop on Saturday, August 26 starting at 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. There will be an admission fee of \$10.00 per person, which will cover handouts, giveaways and refreshments. The class will include selection, planting, and care of seasonal fall vegetables for our area. The workshop will be held at the UF/IFAS Jackson County Extension office located at 2741 Penn Ave, Marianna, FL.

Pre-registration is required; please call 850-482-9620 or stop by the office.

Washington County Tobacco Free Partnership Meeting

The Washington County Tobacco Free Partnership will host a meeting to discuss protecting, promoting and improving the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, & community efforts with a goal to be the Healthiest State in the Nation. This meeting will be hosted August 29 at 3:30 p.m. at the Washington County Health Department.

Tiny Art Show and Fundraiser Auction

The Chipley Branch of the Washington County Library is hosting a Tiny Art Show and Fundraiser Auction. The library invites you to show off your creative talents in this event. Pick up a 4×4” canvas at the library for a \$1 donation and create a mini masterpiece at home in your choice of medium. Return your

completed canvas no later than Thursday, August 31. Tiny Art submissions will be displayed throughout the library September 4-14 and included in the library’s fundraiser auction on Thursday, September 14. Auction proceeds will be used to purchase Experience Kits and Memory Care Kits for adult patrons. Canvases are available now for pick up (1 per patron - while supplies last). Voting will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, September 14. Submissions should be family friendly. Ages 18+ and all skill levels are welcome to participate.

Holmes County Pee-wee Cheerleaders Hosts Father-Daughter Dance

On September 15, the Holmes County Pee-wee Cheerleaders will be hosting a father daughter dance, featuring music from a DJ with dancing, a photo booth, refreshments, and lots of giggles. Tickets are \$25 for dad and daughter, \$15 for each additional adult and \$10 for each additional child. The event will take place on September 15, 2023, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at The Majestic Oaks, 3351 Mallory Road, Vernon Fl. All proceeds go towards the Pewee Cheerleaders season.

Andrew Elton Williams Family Reunion

The 120th annual Andrew Elton Williams Family Reunion will be Saturday, October 7, at Galilee United Methodist Church, located on Galilee Road in Graceville. Registration is at 9 a.m., and the program begins at 10:30. For more information, contact:

Lamar Faircloth at 850-547-2275 or 850-326-3045.

Wausau Community Development Club Fall Festival and Trunk-or-Treat

The Wausau Community Development Club will be hosting a free Fall Festival and Trunk-or-Treat featuring food and drinks, a free haunted house by the Wausau Volunteer Fire Department, hay rides, cake walks, booths, face painting, s’mores, and a costume contest! The event includes free parking, free food, and free entry, and takes place on October 28 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Possum Palace in Wausau.

Golden Dayz Fall Festival

The Holmes Council on Aging is hosting the Golden Dayz Fall Festival on November 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event will feature kids activities, live music, arts and crafts, vendors and food trucks! The location for this event is 2490 Development Circle.

Third Annual Wausau Christmas Tree Lighting

The Wausau Community Development Club will be hosting their Third Annual Christmas Tree Lighting featuring hot chocolate, cookies and s’mores, live music, vendors, and a kids crafting activity area. The event takes place from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Wausau Town Square with the Tree Lighting taking place at dark. If you attend, make sure to bring a chair and enjoy the fun.

Submit community events to: news@washingtoncounty.news or news@holmescounty.news

BUSINESS

Kent Smith Group addresses Chambers



Adam Smith and Carol Kent address Washington County Chamber of Commerce members at the monthly chamber luncheon. [NAN THOMPSON | The News and Advertiser]

STAFF REPORT

Adam Smith and Carol Kent of Kent Smith Group addressed Washington County Chamber of Commerce members last Thursday to share their plans for the continued growth and improvements to the *Washington County News and Holmes County Advertiser*. Plans include the de-

velopment of two more companies - Kent Smith Consulting Solutions and Kent Smith Marketing and Branding. The duo will make the same presentation this Thursday at the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon, set to take place the Holmes County Development Conference Room at noon.

Tax projections get \$2.77B bump

JIM TURNER
News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Economists on Friday added \$2.77 billion to the state’s general-revenue tax projections for the current fiscal year and next fiscal year, giving lawmakers more money to play with when they start drawing up a budget. The economists, who serve as the state Revenue Estimating Conference, had included the prospect of a “mild” recession in a forecast earlier this year. But the panel now expects more stability in most economic areas as Florida moves beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. “Explained in part by the recession’s failure

to materialize, revenue collections have exceeded expectations since the last conference (meeting),” said Amy Baker, coordinator of the Legislature’s Office of Economic & Demographic Research. Lawmakers will use the new projections as they put together a fiscal year 2024-2025 budget during the legislative session that will start in January. State fiscal years begin in July. General revenue plays a critical role in funding programs such as education, health care and prisons. The new projections were driven by sales-tax collections and

documentary-stamp tax collections on real-estate sales, as “the housing slowdown is less than previously expected,” Baker said. Still, economists anticipate fewer federal dollars flowing into Florida than during the pandemic. Also, they pointed to a need to further review Medicaid spending. The panel meets periodically during the year to update projections. Baker said during a break from Friday’s

meeting that conditions have been “stabilizing” for the first time in three years. “They’re either back to normal or back to a level that they’re going to have normal growth rates going forward,” Baker said. “So, even though we have big discussions about all these forces coming into play, for the first time, we have a reasonable margin of what it’s going to look like going forward because everything is much more stable.”

GRANT

From Page 3B

the door by local volunteers, providing these seniors with good nutrition, Brown explained. The donation was made through the NextEra Energy Foundation, which invests in nonprofit organizations throughout Northwest Florida with programs directly related to the company’s mission of building strong and sustainable commu-

nities and improving the lives of Northwest Florida residents through promoting well-being. “We are humbled to be able to support Council on Aging’s mission by providing much-needed financial resources to assist with the expansion of their senior meal program, playing a small part in the vital mission they are doing,” said Tracy Andrews, FPL external affairs manager. The donation is one

of five second quarter FPL Foundation grants totaling \$40,000 awarded to nonprofit organizations in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Bay and Washington

counties intended to make a positive impact in their communities. FPL awarded \$35,000 in grants to six nonprofits in the first quarter of 2023.



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FAITH

One habit that will transform our life



SHERYL BOLDT
Guest Columnist

What would your future self tell you about the choices you're making today? Our lives reflect every choice we've made. A year from now, what will our choices reveal? How about in ten years? Are we allowing sin to steal our relationships? Damage our reputation?

Compromise our testimony? If our noses grew like Pinocchio's every time we lied, would we be more motivated to change our behavior? If we sprouted nasty warts every time we cheated on a test, stole from a colleague or betrayed a friend, wouldn't we do whatever it took

to prevent more warts from emerging? But it doesn't work this way. Our physical features don't usually change because of sin, but our soul certainly does. Sin causes our soul (our core, the essence of who we are) to become calloused to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

To prevent this from happening, we must take deliberate action. Stockpiling God's Word in our minds and hearts helps us remain tender to God's mind and heart. Then our desires will be the same as His, and so will our actions.

See BOLDT, Page 8B



FAITH
EVENTS

Night of Worship with
Grace and Glory Worship
Center

Grace and Glory Worship Center will host a night of worship on Aug. 26 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with no admission cost. The event welcomes anyone age 12 and up but will be mainly geared towards youth and young adults.

Yarborough Reunion
and Midway Church
Homecoming

The Yarborough Reunion and Midway Church Homecoming will be hosted Sunday, September 3, at Midway Church. The church is located at 1030 Rum Road in Westville.

Is your church hosting a special event? Let us help spread the word! Send faith events to: news@washington-county.news or news@holmescounty.news

I stand with James Dobson



MICHAEL BROOKS
Guest Columnist

I saw Carl in another city years later. He greeted me warmly. He was active in our former church, but left in a huff, or as the late, great Groucho Marx

would say, "in a minute and a huff." The young man who taught youth on Sunday night asked me about using James Dobson's "Preparing for Adolescence" as curriculum for a few months. He said the book described the sex act in one paragraph, and then Dobson proceeded to write about God's purpose and commands. I suggested we send a letter to parents telling them this and offering to discreetly provide an alternative if they wished.

A few weeks later Carl photocopied the paragraph in question, flashed it in the face of church leaders on Sunday morning and angrily said this is what our youth were studying. When I discovered this, I asked to come to his home and talk with him and his wife. I inquired about the letter he received, but he said he didn't read it or lost it or he wasn't sure what happened to it. I exhorted him that he misunderstood the church's intention and that it was unwise to agitate the congrega-

tion. I tried to be sweet and kind and told him I wanted to go forward in Christian love. Carl wasn't satisfied. "So, we're not going to do anything about this?" he asked. I surmised he wanted a scalp. I then offered to host a meeting with him, the teacher and our deacon chair. He agreed to the meeting, but never showed up for it nor returned to our church. This event was a failure because of two things. First, Paul explained

that Christians must be gentle and not given to quarrels (2 Timothy 3:24). And this quarrel was based on a half-truth. The captain wrote in his daily report that his "first mate was drunk today." His first mate retaliated and wrote in his report, "Captain sober today." Yes, the captain was sober, but the implication was that he wasn't so on other days. Innuendo like this is the fuel for destructive gossip. Yes, Dobson did ex-

See BROOKS, Page 8B

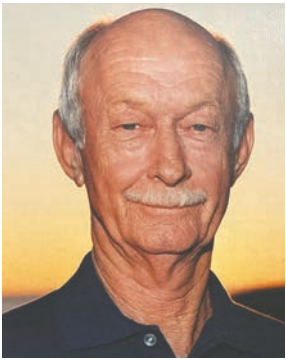
OBITUARY

"As long as there is love and memory, there is no true loss."
- Cassandra Clare

ROBERT EDWARD PALMER

Robert Edward Palmer, 86, of Bonifay, Florida, passed away Thursday, August 17, 2023 in Cantonment, Florida. Edward was born on July 13, 1937 in Holmes County Florida to the late Mr. Robert Ellie Palmer, and Mrs. Birle Palmer of Slocomb, Alabama. He grew up in Bonifay, Florida with his four sisters, and graduated from Holmes County High School in 1956. Soon after graduation, he married his high school sweetheart, Lounett Bowers, also of Bonifay. The young couple moved to Tallahassee in 1960 where he began a career as a telephone technician with Centel Telephone Company, which was later purchased by Sprint. Edward and Lounett had three children, Eddie Ray, Melanie Lynn, and Robert Gregory, all of which survive him. Edward moved to Fort Walton Beach in 1984 and retired from Sprint in 1997. His retirement was spent lounging at his beachside condo in Destin and spending time with his many friends and family. An avid outdoorsman, he

loved fishing, boating and gardening. Edward eventually moved to Cantonment to be near family, and as his health began to fail he moved into the Sodalis Cantonment Assisted Living Facility where he made many friends and received wonderful care from its professional and loving staff. Also, the family wishes to thank his long-term doctor, Mark Benton, D.O. of Baptist Medical Group in Navarre for his exceptional care and friendship. Edward is survived by three of his four sisters; Geraldine White, Catherine Jenkins and husband Wadell, and Margaret Chitty and husband, Darrell; six grandchildren; and one great grandchild. Funeral services were held at Bonifay First Assembly of God at 2:00 pm on August 20, 2023, and internment followed in St. John's Freewill Baptist Church Cemetery. Peel Funeral Home was entrusted with funeral arrangements. Condolences may be submitted or viewed at www.peelfh.com.



Faith and the football field



CALEB DUNCAN
Guest Columnist

This is Part 1 in a 6-part Series called "Faith and the Football Field."

Everyone who knows me knows that there are a few things that I love. First and foremost, I love Jesus Christ. Second, I love my family. I also love my church and my job. Then, there's football. Football, like many other life experiences, is just a small gift from God that we get to enjoy while we live on this earth. If you're reading this, your local football team is probably getting ready to get started either this Friday or next on their first game of the season. High school football is a thrilling and exhilarating experience that brings together students, parents, and the entire community. The excitement surrounding high school football games is palpable, with the atmosphere charged with anticipation and energy. The sound of the marching band, the cheers from the crowd, and the adrenaline-fueled plays on the field all contribute to the electric at-

mosphere that makes high school football so special. Since the south revolves around God, family, and football, I thought it would be fun and different to think "out loud" about my time as a football player in high school, and some lessons I learned along the way about life, faith, and friends. One of the first lessons I learned when I started in 7th grade, was the importance of training for a purpose. My 7th grade-wimpy body was unimpressive and needed badly to get into shape. I

was going over the rules and informed us that if we missed a certain number practices during the season, we would be suspended from playing in the game. At first, I thought this was an odd consequence, but then he explained. "If you don't make it to practice, how can I trust you to play in the game? In order to play on Thursday and Friday nights, you have to be the best you can be, and give it everything you have. If you're not disciplined enough to make it to practice, you'll put the entire

not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. If we want to live this life for the glory of God, it takes training. If we want to serve God, it takes training. If we want to be an encouragement to others, it takes training. In fact, everything in the Christian life requires some training. There is a goal in the prize we have at the end of this life. And no, it is not a football trophy, it is what the Bible calls the crown of life. When Paul says to run in such a way to get a prize, he is using



joined football because when I started at a new school, all my friends played football and encouraged me to play. When we started, weight room kicked my butt, and the practices were miserable. But there was something fun and challenging about getting out on a field with pads and cleats and knocking each other around. It gives a young man a small sense of community and purpose. I still remember one of the first speeches our coaches gave. He

team in jeopardy." I wanted to play, that was the whole purpose. So I made it to every practice that I possibly could. Even in this short and simple lesson, there is something we can learn about faith. Listen to what Paul says in 1 Cor. 9:24-25. "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will

it as a metaphor for the Christian life. While this Faith lesson is a simple one, let it be simply true, in your own life: live a life for Christ in a way that has purpose and meaning. We have a goal in the end. Caleb Duncan is the Director for the West Florida Baptist Association in Chipley and holds an M.A. in Ethics, Theology and Culture from South-eastern Seminary. Email him at Wfba-Dom@outlook.com or follow his twitter @calebtduncan.

Animal Lives Matter: Stop rehoming your pets



DESTRA MOSES
Guest Columnist

I cannot tell you the excuses I have heard from selfish owners trying to rehome their pets. Bottom line, humans are selfish and will try anything to get out of something they decide no longer benefits them. A pet is not a pair of shoes or an old dress you can take to a garage sale. They are a long-term commitment that needs to be thoroughly discussed before adopting. Notice, I said adopting not spending tons of money to buy a dog. Do not even get me started on breeding for profit! I understand that humans have babies, relocate, downsize, become sick, lose jobs, and job hours change, but these are not excuses to rehome/abandon your pet. Selfish pet owners do not responsibly rehome, they simply abandon their beloved dog because they decide their lives are not able to accommodate them any longer. This is a cruel and inhumane act. Rehoming a pet can cause a lot of emotional turmoil for pets. Placing a dog in someone else's care can be an extremely stressful and even traumatic experience for the pet involved. In the first few days of rehoming, the dog may show signs of depression, anxiety, or aggression. If a dog has formed a close attachment to his old owner, he will likely feel sad and confused when placed in someone else's care. He may develop anxiety and depression, which can manifest in ways like constant whining/barking, lack of interest in food, and hiding. Common physical changes in dogs after a rehoming occurs can include: digestive upsets, like diarrhea, constipation, vomiting, and weight

loss. Some dogs may also produce an excessive amount of drool, often accompanied by trembling, panting, and other signs of nervousness. These symptoms can last for a few hours or extend to a few days, in which case a medical intervention may be necessary. For rehomed dogs, anxiety is a common emotion. It is a normal, adaptive response to new stimuli. You would likely feel the same when suddenly placed in a completely new environment with new people. Though dogs mostly have short-term memories, they do not forget about their

previous owners when rehomed at least, not immediately. Dogs have the ability to remember people and places they haven't seen in years, especially when said person or place is associated with strong positive or negative feelings. The longer a dog is around their person, the more attached and loyal they become. And when they are rehomed and "taken away" from that person, they feel abandoned, scared, and confused. A sudden break in the bond can cause the dog to feel extreme sadness that can last for days. When a dog is sad, he is less attentive to his surroundings. He would sleep all the time, whine/bark

incessantly, and refuse to play. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is common in rehomed pets. Like humans, dogs that suffer from PTSD may show extreme timidity, aggression, or anxiety. Owners adopting dogs that come from less-than-ideal homes should ideally have no other dogs or children, as dogs with PTSD can be unexpected and sometimes dangerous. They can easily get triggered by other animals or children and may attack unprompted. Allow me to share this satire on the topic by an unknown author. It's a must read for dog owners who selfishly rehome

their dog:
It breaks my heart to write this but I am looking to rehome my children, ages 6 and 7. They just do not fit into mine; my dog's schedules anymore. The dogs and I are so busy. Also, the kids are starting to have behavioral issues, that they never had as newborns; we have tried everything to work through these issues but it is not improving; we just cannot have this much of a liability in our home anymore. They are ruining my marriage due to stress, waking me up early; tearing up my house, ruining my furniture, my walls, everything. Also, we are moving; have found a

home with a lot of room for the dogs but just could not find one with enough bedrooms for these kids. It's saddens me (please no judging or negative comments) and I am aware of how much emotional damage this will be on them; probably never fully recover from being abandoned but it's just the circumstance we're dealing with.
Please PM me if interested. There is a rehoming fee because I want to make sure that they get a good home!
Destra Moses is a Holmes County resident and animal advocate. Contact her at destramoses@yahoo.com

SUDOKU ANSWERS

From page 2B

8	6	7	5	2	3	1	4	9
2	3	1	4	8	9	5	7	6
9	4	5	6	1	7	3	2	8
4	7	2	9	5	1	8	6	3
5	9	6	8	3	4	2	1	7
3	1	8	2	7	6	4	9	5
7	2	4	3	9	8	6	5	1
6	8	9	1	4	5	7	3	2
1	5	3	7	6	2	9	8	4

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

From page 2B

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

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Bonifay, Florida, on August 28, 2023 at 6:05 P.M. or soon thereafter, at the City Council Chambers located at 301 N. Etheridge Street, Bonifay, Florida 32425, will hold a public hearing to consider adopting an ordinance, the title and substance of said proposed ordinance being:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-433

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA, REPEALING ORDINANCE 414 OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY RELATING TO UTILITY DEPOSITS AND CONNECT FEES; ADOPTING AN INCREASE IN (WATER AND SEWER) DEPOSITS & CONNECT FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Those wishing to inspect a full copy of the proposed Ordinance prior to the meeting may do so at the City Clerk's office at the City Hall, Bonifay, Florida. If any person decides to appeal the decision of the City Council, he/she will need a record of proceedings for such purpose and he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities needing a reasonable accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the office of the City Clerk at City Hall, Bonifay, FL 32425, (850) 547-4238.

CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA
By: Rickey Callahan, City Clerk

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Bonifay, Florida, on August 28, at 6:05 P.M. or soon thereafter, at the City Council Chambers located at 301 N. Etheridge Street, Bonifay, Florida 32425, will hold a public hearing to consider adopting an ordinance, the title and substance of said proposed ordinance being:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022 - 434

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA, REPEALING ORDINANCE 414 OF THE CITY OF BONIFAY RELATING TO WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RATES; ADOPTING AND ESTABLISHING MINIMUM UTILITY (WATER AND SEWER) RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Those wishing to inspect a full copy of the proposed Ordinance prior to the meeting may do so at the City Clerk's office at the City Hall, Bonifay, Florida. If any person decides to appeal the decision of the City Council, he/she will need a record of proceedings for such purpose and he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities needing a reasonable accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the office of the City Clerk at City Hall, Bonifay, FL 32425, (850) 547-4238.

CITY OF BONIFAY, FLORIDA
By: Rickey Callahan, City Clerk

Holmes
County

Classifieds



LEGAL ADVERTISING

000102
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT FOR HOLMES
COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: ESTATE OF

DANNY R. FISHER
PROBATE
DIVISION File No.
23-40PR
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDI-
TORS

The administra-
tion of the estate of
DANNY R. FISHER,
deceased, whose
date of death was
February 18, 2023,
is pending in the
Circuit Court for
Holmes County,
Florida, Probate
Division, the ad-
dress of which is
201 N Oklahoma St,
Bonifay, FL 32425.
The names and
addresses of the
personal repre-
sentative and the
personal represen-
tative's attorney are
set forth below.

All creditors
of the decedent
and other persons
having claims or de-

mands against de-
cedent's estate on
whom a copy of this
notice is required to
be served must file
their claims with
this court ON OR
BEFORE THE LATER
OF 3 MONTHS AFTER
THE TIME OF THE
FIRST PUBLICATION
OF THIS NOTICE OR
30 DAYS AFTER THE
DATE OF SERVICE
OF A COPY OF THIS
NOTICE ON THEM.
All other credi-
tors of the decedent
and other persons
having claims or
demands against
decedent's estate
must file their
claims with this
court WITHIN 3
MONTHS AFTER THE
DATE OF THE FIRST
PUBLICATION OF
THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT
FILED WITHIN THE
TIME PERIODS SET
FORTH IN FLORIDA
STATUTES SECTION
733.702 WILL BE
FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTAND-
ING THE TIME
PERIODS SET FORTH
ABOVE, ANY CLAIM
FILED TWO (2)

YEARS OR MORE
AFTER THE DECE-
DENT'S DATE OF
DEATH IS BARRED.
The date of first
publication of this
notice is August 16,
2023.

Attorney for
Personal Representa-
tive:
STEVEN E. QUIN-
NELL Attorney
Florida Bar Number:
586595 913 Gulf
Breeze Pkwy Suite 8
- Harbourtown Gulf
Breeze, FL 32562
Telephone: (850)
432-4368 Fax: (877)
829-6329 E-Mail:
EFILING@QLAW-
FLORIDA.COM

REGINA FISHER
150 Judah Ave Boni-
fay, FL 32425
August 16, 23,
2023

000103
NOTICE TO CREDI-
TORS

The administra-
tion of the Estate of
Jimmie Lane Helms,
deceased, whose

death date was
April 7, 2020, File
Number 2022-CP-
000124, is pending
in the Circuit Court
for Holmes County,
Florida, Probate
Division, the ad-
dress of which is
the Holmes County
Clerk, 201 N Okla-
homa, Bonifay FL
32425. The names
and addresses of
the Petitioner and
the Petitioner's at-
torney are set forth
below.

All creditors of
the decedent and
other persons who
have claims or
demands against
decedent's Estate,
including unma-
tured, contingent,
or unliquidated
claims and who
may have been
served a copy of
this notice must file
their claims with
this Court WITHIN
THREE MONTHS
AFTER THE DATE
OF PUBLICATION
OF THIS NOTICE
OR THIRTY DAYS
AFTER THE DATE OF
SERVICE OF A COPY
OF THIS NOTICE ON

THEM.
All other credi-
tors of the decedent
and other persons
who have claims or
demands against
the decedent's
Estate, including
unmatured, con-
tingent, or unliqui-
dated claims must
file their claims
with this Court
WITHIN THREE
MONTHS AFTER
THE DATE OF THE
FIRST PUBLICATION
OF THIS NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS NOT
SO FILED WILL BE
FOREVER BANNED.
The date of the
first Publication
of this notice is
August 16, 2023.
JACKIE L BURNS,
Petitioner/Execu-
tor 1795 Jenkins Rd,
Bonifay FL 32425
Fred Pearson, Florida
Bar No. 82406
130 Salem Court Tal-
lahassee FL 32301
Telephone (850)513-
3151 Attorney for
Petitioner fred@
pearsonlawyers.
com
August 16, 23,
2023

000104
NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN:
Allison R Bennett
Last Known Ad-
dress
4030 Kirkland Rd
Graceville, FL
32440
Terri G Waldron
Last Known Ad-
dress
1163 Early Ln
Graceville, FL
32440
You are hereby
notified that your
eligibility to vote is
in question. You are
required to contact
the Supervisor of
Elections, in Holmes
County, Florida, no
later than thirty (30)
days after the date of
this publishing. If you
deny the accuracy
of the information
underlying the po-
tential ineligibility,
you have a right to
request a hearing
for the purpose of
determining eligibil-
ity. If you attempt
to vote at an early
site or your normal
election day polling
place, you will be
required to vote a
provisional ballot. If

you vote by mail, your
ballot will be treated
as a provisional bal-
lot. In either case,
your ballot may not
be counted until a
final determination
of eligibility is made.
If you wish for your
ballot to be counted,
you must contact the
supervisor of elec-
tions office within 2
days after the elec-
tion and present
evidence that you
are eligible to vote.
Failure to respond
will result in a deter-
mination of ineligibil-
ity by the Supervisor

and your name will
be removed from
the statewide voter
registration system.
August 23, 2023

000105
Public Notice of
Special Meeting
The Town of Ponce
De Leon will hold a
public meeting on
August 24, 2023, be-
ginning at 5:00 p.m.
This meeting will in-
clude discussion and
voting on a proposed
increase for water
and sewer. The Mayor
and Town Council of
the Town of Ponce de
Leon will meet for the
reading of Resolution
2023-01, at Town Hall,
located at 1580 Hwy
90, Ponce de Leon,
FL at 5pm for the
purpose of discuss-
ing, and reviewing
information pertain-
ing to the proposed
increase of water
and sewer rates. Resi-
dents are encouraged
to attend this meet-
ing. For further infor-
mation, please con-
tact the Town Hall
and Town Council at
850-836-4361.
August 23, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Esto is looking for a self-motivated, busi-
ness-minded individual with good problem-solving
skills to take the position of Esto Town Clerk. Must
have good people skills and adaptability. Previous ex-
perience or education in business administration or
equivalent are desirable, but not required. Please visit
the Esto Town Hall at 3312 2nd Ave. South in Esto, Flori-
da to pick up an application and full job description.
Hours of operation are Monday- Thursday 8am-1pm.
You may also contact us at estotownclerk@gmail.
com. Interviews will be held on Wednesday August 23,
2023 from 4pm-6pm. No phone calls please.

OUTDOORS



What consumers can do to support local farmers

STAFF REPORT

Farming has never been a vocation for individuals looking for easy work. Farmers typically work long hours, braving the elements regardless of how unpleasant the weather may be. All that hard work ensures individuals who live in rural, urban and suburban communities have constant, readily available access to healthy foods. Such devotion merits support, and thankfully there are many things consumers can do to show their appreciation for local farmers.

• Buy fresh foods at your local farmers market. Farmers markets are many foodies’ favorite places, but they aren’t exclusive to individuals with a passion for food. Everyone needs to eat, so why not eat foods grown locally, which are generally more fresh and appetizing than imported fruits and vegetables sold at chain grocery stores?

Even individuals who don’t typically eat fresh fruit and vegetables can find something delectable at a local farmers market, where anything from homemade tomato sauces to locally

raised fresh beef and pork might be on sale.

• Order directly from local farms. Some farmers have embraced the e-commerce revolution and begun selling the foods they grow to consumers via their own websites. Research local farms and determine if it’s possible to buy directly from them. Farms may offer delivery or pick-up, and consumers can enjoy fresh foods even more knowing that they helped farmers earn higher profits by buying directly from them.

• Check labels before buying in local grocery

stores. Packaging labels will indicate where fruits and vegetables came from. When possible, choose items produced by local farmers.

This may include fruits, vegetables, meat, pork, or even desserts like pies. Locally produced foods often taste more fresh than items sent from overseas or distant farms, and consumers will feel better knowing they helped to support local farmers.

• Spread the word. Get the word out after a satisfying experience with local farms and farmers.

Whether it’s buying food from farms or taking advantage of family days that let kids enjoy a day on the farm, sharing positive experiences via social media or word-of-mouth can be a great way to inspire your neighbors to support local farmers as well.

Consumers can do much to support hardworking local farmers. In addition to feeling good about supporting their rural neighbors, consumers also might feel good when they sit down and enjoy a meal featuring locally grown, fresh foods.

Health benefits of being in nature

STAFF REPORT

Nature enthusiasts are known to say that spending time in the great outdoors has a positive effect on their mental and physical well-being.

Such an outlook is more than mere speculation, as it turns out spending time in nature provides a host of health benefits that might surprise even the most devoted outdoors enthusiasts.

Nature and cognitive health

A 2010 study published in the American Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease & Other Dementias found that engaged persons with

dementia in horticultural therapy-based (HT-based) programming solicited higher rates of participation than traditional activities (TA) programming.

In addition, a separate 2013 study in the journal Dementia found that exposure to a therapeutic garden had a positive impact on quality of life for people with dementia. And it’s not just dementia patients who can experience the cognitive benefits of time spent in nature, as the Hagley Museum and Library reports that numerous studies have found exposure to nature improves cognitive function.

Nature and vitamin D

The potential health benefits of vitamin D are increasingly drawing the attention of medical researchers, and for good reason.

According to the Harvard Medical School, recent research has suggested that vitamin D may offer added protection against conditions such as osteoporosis, cancer, heart attack, stroke, and depression.

Exposure to sunshine can help the body generate vitamin D, thus providing further reason to spend time in nature.

Nature and overall well-being

Given the aforementioned

health benefits related to spending time in nature, it’s easy for even non-scientists to conclude that being outdoors has a profound impact on overall well-being. But non-scientists can rest assured that recent research has confirmed such conclusions.

A 2019 study published in the journal Scientific Reports found that individuals who spent at least 120 minutes a week in nature were significantly more likely to report good health and psychological well-being than those who spent less time outdoors.

Though the authors



of the study cautioned that the exposure-response relationship was under-researched, and therefore likely needed to be studied more extensively, in the meantime individuals, after a consultation with their physicians and confirmation that it’s safe to get out more

often, can aspire to spend at least 120 minutes in nature each week.

The results may speak for themselves.

Nature has a lot to offer, and the benefits of spending more time outdoors may be even more significant than people recognize.

BROOKS

From Page 6B

plain in one paragraph was sex is. Of course, this was years ago before perversity was a click away. Today I’d ask, “Who do you want to explain sex to your teenagers—Dr. Dobson, or cable TV?”

I stand with Dr. Dobson.

The second failure was Carl and his wife weren’t given to “repentance and a return

to the truth” (2 Timothy 2:25). The purpose of admonition is restoration, and it never happened in this case.

God’s will is that his people avoid “foolish disputes” (v. 23).

The work of ministry is harmed when we don’t.

Michael J. Brooks is Pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church, Alabaster, Alabama. Contact him through the church’s website: siluriabaptist.com.

BOLDT

From Page 6B

Psalm 119:11 (ESV) says, “I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” Other translations use words like “treasured” or “hidden” for the word “stored.” (Don’t you love the mental picture “treasured” brings to mind?)

The more we read, meditate on and memorize the Bible, the less we’ll be deceived by temptation. Some of you can testify to this, which is why you remain faithful to

treasure God’s Word in your heart.

Perhaps you’ve done this in the past, but it’s been a while. Why not take steps to hide God’s Word in your heart again?

If we allow dust to grow on our Bibles, how healthy will our relationships be? How might our reputations look? What kind of testimony would we have? Not good, right? But if we dust off our Bibles and immersed ourselves in them, it will transform our lives.

The year is more than half over. At the start of the year, many of us resolved to live

differently.

Thankfully, if we put godly habits in place, we can still end this year strong.

But if we don’t spend time in God’s Word, we deprive the Holy Spirit of a powerful weapon to help us fight sin and temptation. And the consequences will be far worse than a Pinocchio nose or nasty warts.

If you don’t believe me, ask your future self.

Sheryl H. Boldt is the author of the blog, www.TodayCanBeDifferent.net. Connect with her at SherylHBoldt@gmail.com.



VORTEX
Spring
ADVENTURES

1517 Vortex Springs Lane
Ponce de Leon, FL
(850) 836-4979

Home of the Diver Down flag and the year-round 68-degree chill.

SWIMMING • DIVING • JEEP TRAILS • CAMPING • LIVE MUSIC

Find us on Facebook for all the latest events: The Original Vortex Spring