

Washington County NEWS

A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1893



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023 | WASHINGTONCOUNTY.NEWS | VOLUME 001 No. 46

Chipley living costs lower than national average

STAFF REPORT

As the price of basic necessities and utilities continue to soar in the United States, one economic study suggests Chipley might fly under that radar to a degree.

The cost of living in Chipley is lower than the national average, according to a recent data study by the bill

pay service company doxo. The company compiled recently released data about Chipley and other cities throughout the United States. Specifically, the cost of living in Chipley is 24.4% lower than the national average of \$2,046 and 26.7% lower than the Florida state average of \$2,112.

Chipley bills come out

to a monthly average of \$1,548.

“Because the cost of living is 24.4% lower than the U.S. average, our data suggests Chipley is an attractive place to live or move,” said Liz Powell, senior director of INSIGHTS at doxo. “The low rent and mortgage costs (or housing) are what drive affordability in Chipley.”

The average monthly rent payment in Chipley is \$729, according to doxo’s data. Auto loans are \$491, utilities \$414, cable and internet \$78, and auto insurance \$238. The national average rent cost is currently \$1,191.

“doxoINSIGHTS analyzes aggregate, anonymized bill payment data for 97% of all US zip codes

by observing the actual payment activity of our user base of more than 8M people,” Powell said of the methodology used for the study. “For each city that is observed, we calculate monthly bills from the 10 most common household bills to come up with the average amount paid in

See LIVING, PAGE 6A

Family gets new Chipley home from Chipola Area Habitat for Humanity, Florida Power & Light



A ceremony celebrating the Meredith family getting a new home in Chipley was attended by representatives from Chipola Area Habitat for Humanity, Florida Power & Light, and the Washington County School Board. [COLLIN BREAUX | Washington County News and Holmes County Advertiser]

COLLIN BREAUX
Cbreaux@kentsmith.biz

The Meredith family now has a new home on East Boulevard in Chipley, courtesy of two community organizations working together.

A dedication ceremony celebrating the new homeowners getting to call the residence theirs was held Thursday, Nov. 9. The home was constructed by Chipola Area Habitat for Humanity,

in partnership with Florida Power & Light.

“This was property that has been, for over 50 years, a lot of grandkids, children, all born and raised here,” new homeowner Pamela Meredith said. “We’re just really happy we can get back here since Hurricane Michael.”

Chipola Area Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Carmen Smith said the house’s construction would not be possible without

“those who invest their time and talent into the Habitat for Humanity industry.”

“FPL sponsored to the tune of \$85,000—this home build for the Meredith family,” Smith said. “They have been instrumental in changing the lives and improving the lives of families, which directly aligns with the Habitat ministry.”

Chipley Mayor and Habitat Board President Tracy Andrews—also the regional external affairs manager

for FPL—said seeing a new home built for the Meredith family after Hurricane Michael made her happy.

“There were a lot of things that happened and it seemed like it would take some time for our community to get back to a normal status and for the lives of families to go back to being normal,” Andrews said. “Today just represents the hard work, ded-

See HOME, PAGE 6A

Chipley Council considers possibility of hiring CRA clerk

COLLIN BREAUX
Cbreaux@kentsmith.biz

Currently, Chipley Redevelopment Agency and Washington County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Michael Maxwell tends to be busy.

Some members of the Chipley City Council said they were open to the possibility of hiring a front-office clerk—possibly part-time—to greet people at the CRA and Chamber office at 672 5th Street and generally help out.

Discussions about potentially hiring a clerk took place during a City Council workshop on Thursday, Nov. 9. No official decision was made.

“Mike does a great job with CRA but Mike is one man. He’s having to do the paperwork, the typing of the minutes, getting all the packets together, going through and looking at all the different buildings,” Councilmember Kevin Russell said. “Is there not some way that we can work with the TDC, the Chamber, the CRA, and either get him a receptionist that can be down there to just answer small questions or hand packets out to people?”

People walking into the Chamber/TDC/CRA building may have to stand around and wait if they

See CRA, PAGE 6A

Wausau Quilters Club gives back to community

COLLIN BREAUX
Cbreaux@kentsmith.biz

The Arc of Washington-Holmes Counties and Wausau Library will have an extra \$500 each in funding, courtesy of the Wausau Quilting Club.

The donations are part of an annual tradition in which the Quilting Club auctions off a quilt for local donations during the town’s Possum Festival, generally held in August.

While the Quilting Club has donated to the library before, this marks the first time they have given to

The Arc, longtime Quilting Club member Shirley Walsingham said.

“That’s our little fundraiser,” Walsingham said. “It’s just an enjoyable day of fellowship. The Arc is a wonderful place. So is the library.”

The Arc assist disabled people through programs and advocacy.

The Quilting Club meets every Tuesday for stitching and fellowship.

“We’re just glad we could do this,” Walsingham said. “It’s returning what’s been given to us.”



The Wausau Quilting Club raised donation funds for The Arc of Washington-Holmes Counties and Wausau Library through a quilt auctioned off at the town’s Possum Festival. [CONTRIBUTED]

SPORTS

Chipley Tigers triumph over Blountstown Tigers

STAFF REPORT

In a riveting matchup at Phillip Roundtree Stadium on Nov. 3, the Chipley Tigers clawed their way to a hard-fought victory against the Blountstown Tigers, emerging victorious with a final score of 32-26.

The victory made it back-to-back wins for Chipley. The Chipley Tigers' offense featured a strong rushing and passing game. Khaiden Kennedy led the ground attack, rushing for 41 yards.

Keybo Decree contributed an additional 24 yards to the rushing game. Kyler Bryant was a standout performer with 85 receiving yards and two touchdowns.

Ta'Shaun Sims added 80 yards and one touchdown to his name. Cray Holley made a significant impact with 25 receiving yards and one touchdown.

Jakiem Holley contributed 17 yards and one touchdown. Keybo Decree gained nine yards through the air. Gavin O'Neill also supported the team by adding 37 yards to the passing game.

Quarterback Ethan Berry played a pivotal role in the team's victory, completing 13 passes for an impressive 253 yards and five touchdowns, spreading the ball to six different receivers. Amarion Hover led

the ground attack for the Blountstown Tigers and rushed for 168 yards and three touchdowns while Bryant Washington rushed for 210 yards and a touchdown.

The Chipley Tigers' defense was equally formidable, led by some standout performances. Malik Henderson stood out with eight tackles and covered Blountstown's Texas A&M commit Jordan Pride throughout the game.

Other notable Chipley defensive players included Carson Thornton, recording seven tackles. Jayden Davis with eight tackles. Jordan Washington contributed five tackles. Cray Holley added seven tackles and Brodie Price tallied four tackles for the night.

Jakiem Holley blocked a crucial kick keeping the opponent from scoring an extra point. Jaylin Washington and Ta'Shaun Sims each played crucial roles on defense, each making multiple successful tackles.

This strong defensive effort helped keep the Blountstown Tigers in check, ultimately securing the win for the Chipley Tigers. With a final score of 32-26, the Chipley Tigers celebrated a well-deserved victory over the Blountstown Tigers.



The Chipley Tigers' strong offense led to a 32-26 victory against Blountstown on Nov. 3. [CONTRIBUTED]



The Chipley Tigers' strong offense led to a 32-26 victory against Blountstown on Nov. 3. [CONTRIBUTED]

Chipley rolls past Vernon in region quarterfinals

WMBB

The Chipley football team crushed their Washington County rivals Vernon 42-0 at home Friday, Nov. 10, advancing to the Class 1R Region 1 Semifinals.

The No. 3 seed Tigers improved to 7-2 and will visit the No. 2 seed Holmes County on Friday, Nov. 17.



The Chipley High Tigers defeated the Vernon Yellow Jackets and will next take on the Holmes County Blue Devils. [OFF MY FRAME PHOTOGRAPHY]



Always here for you

Considering a tankless electric water heater? While these units quickly heat water, they can require 8 times more electricity at one time than a traditional water heater. This high demand increases your cooperative's cost of purchased power. That's a key factor in how much you pay for electricity. Before you buy, talk with our energy experts about options that keep rates as low as possible.

It's another way your hometown electric cooperatives are always here for you.



Gulf Coast
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

www.gcec.com



West Florida Electric

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

The power of human connections

www.westflorida.coop

Chipley's Culbreth signs to Tallahassee

WMBB

Chipley's Cade Culbreth signed his letter of intent to play baseball at Tallahassee Community College.

In his junior season, Culbreth helped make history with the Tigers baseball team, winning the program's first-ever state title.

As a junior, the first baseman had a .328 batting average, 23 runs, and 19 hits.

Cade Culbreth is heading off to Tallahassee Community College as a baseball player. [CONTRIBUTED]

STATE & LOCAL

Lawmakers lift voucher program cap

RYAN DAILEY
NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

Amid high demand for school vouchers for students with disabilities, the Florida Senate on Nov. 8 gave final approval to a bill that would temporarily lift a cap on participation in a voucher program. The Senate and House unanimously passed the measure (HB 3C) as part of a special legislative session that dealt with a range of issues. It is ready to go to Gov. Ron DeSantis, who this spring approved a bill that massively expanded state voucher programs to try to provide what supporters described as “universal school choice.” The newly passed measure focuses on the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities program, which has been limited to nearly 41,000 children this school year. The bill would eliminate the cap this year and allow the Florida Department

of Education and organizations that administer vouchers for the state to determine the maximum number of vouchers that will be available. After this school year, the program would go back to using a formula to determine maximum capacity. A House staff analysis said that, beginning next school year, the cap “shall annually increase by three percent of the state’s total ESE (exceptional student education) student membership, not including gifted students.” Senate bill sponsor Jay Collins, R-Tampa, pointed to a waiting list of roughly 8,900 students seeking vouchers in the program. “As a parent of a unique-abilities child, there are a cavalcade of different things that you deal with. And making sure that we provide those opportunities to those parents, to those families, is unequivocally and unquestionably

the right thing to do,” Collins said. Senate President Kathleen Passidomo, R-Naples, and Republican sponsors of the bills have said families would have until Dec. 15 to apply for the vouchers. House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast, told reporters after the House passed the bill Nov. 7, that the cap on the number of vouchers in the program was a “fiscal constraint,” and he cited a “sliding scale of severity” of needs of students. The broad population of Florida students can receive vouchers worth about \$8,000. But in the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities program, Renner said the amount may be more than \$20,000. “It’s harder for us to estimate that,” he said. Step Up for Students, a nonprofit organization that administers the Unique Abilities vouchers, said on

See CAP, PAGE 7A

Vernon High School honors military veterans

STAFF REPORT

Vernon High School hosted a Veterans Day ceremony on Friday, Nov. 10.



Those who have served in the military were honored during a Veterans Day ceremony at Vernon High School. [VERNON HIGH ATHLETICS]



Young children dressed as military service members for a Veterans Day ceremony at Vernon High School. [VERNON HIGH ATHLETICS]

Iran sanctions, school security bills pass

JIM SAUNDERS
NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

Wrapping up a special legislative session shadowed by the war between Israel and Hamas, the Florida Senate on Nov. 8 passed measures to expand sanctions against Iran and provide money to bolster security at Jewish day schools and preschools. The Senate unanimously approved the bills, which passed the House the day before. They are ready to go to Gov. Ron DeSantis. Legislative leaders called the special session after the Palestinian militant group Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, touching off a war that has killed thousands of people in Israel and Gaza. While the special session also addressed issues such as providing aid to areas hit by Hurricane Idalia, lawmakers focused heavily on showing support

for Israel and Jewish residents of Florida. That included passing bills to target Iran, a key backer of Hamas, and to counter a rise in anti-Semitism. One of the bills (HB 5C) would expand restrictions on state investments in businesses with ties to Iran. The measure would expand a 2007 law that requires the State Board of Administration to divest from what are known as “scrutinized” companies with links to Iran’s petroleum industry. Certain financial criteria are used in determining whether companies land on the scrutinized list. The State Board of Administration manages Florida’s massive pension fund and other investments. Under the bill, the investment restrictions would expand to other types of industries, such as the financial, construction, manufacturing, textile and manufacturing sectors.

House and Senate bill sponsors acknowledged they do not know how many companies could be affected by the expansion. But supporters said it is important for Florida to show that it does not want state money supporting Iran. “They don’t want America to survive,” Sen. Jay Collins, R-Tampa, said before the Senate passed the bill. “They stand in opposition to everything we stand for.” But some Democratic lawmakers questioned whether the bill would have much effect. Among other things, the federal government has imposed a wide range of economic sanctions against Iran in the decades since hostages were taken at the U.S. embassy in Tehran in 1979. “I just want to make sure we’re doing real things here, as opposed to puffery,” Sen. Jason Pizzo, D-Sunny Isles Beach, said.

DeSantis appears certain to sign the bill, as he began calling for increased sanctions against Iran shortly after the Hamas attack on Israel. Lawmakers during the special session also approved providing money to help increase security at Jewish day schools and preschools amid increasing incidents of anti-Semitism. The bill (HB 7C) would provide \$15

million for grants that could be used for such things as installing lighting, security cameras, fencing and shatter-resistant windows at Jewish day schools and preschools. Another \$10 million would go to the schools for “non-hardening security measures,” such as hiring security workers and training them on threat awareness, emergency procedures and first aid. The bill also in-

cludes \$20 million for what is known as the state’s Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which can be used for security improvements at other types of organizations. Senate bill sponsor Alexis Calatayud, R-Miami, called anti-Semitism a “global scourge.” Pizzo questioned whether the bill included enough mon-

See SECURITY, PAGE 7A

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED SUBDIVISION

Pursuant to Section 10.02.08 of the Washington County Land Development Code (LDC), notice is provided in regard to a minor subdivision which is proposed for the division of property to be located within the affected property/properties as hereby described:

Applicant: Linda Husted
Location: 1036 Highway 277, Chipley, FL 32428
Parcel Identification Number(s): 00-2052-0003 (+/- 2.20 acres)

The Public Meeting and Public Hearings listed below are scheduled. In the event of a cancellation, additional notification will be issued.

A Neighborhood Information Meeting will be held on November 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. CDT in the County Commission Board Room at 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, FL 32428.

The Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on December 4, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. CDT in the County Commission Board Room at 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, FL 32428.

Records for this application may be reviewed at the Washington County Planning Department, 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, FL 32428.

For additional information, contact the Planning Department at (850) 415-5093. November 15, 22, 2023

T. J. Roulhac Enrichment And Activity Center Request for qualifications for engineering services for Division Of Historical Resources Grant RFQ TJREAC 2024

The T. J. Roulhac Enrichment And Activity Center herein referred to as TREAC is seeking statements of qualifications from qualified Engineering firms. One firm is expected to be selected to enter into a service contract with the TREAC to perform services related to a Division of Historical Resources Grant through the State of Florida for inspection and creation of a plan for repairs, preservation, and restoration of the existing buildings that include the GYM, several classrooms, restrooms, a special service building and storage rooms that are located on the northern portion of the campus at 651 Pecan Street Chipley Florida 32428. The service contract from this RFQ will have all necessary clauses and language required by the State of Florida, Division of Historical Resources Office. All questions must be submitted in writing to Mr. Leonard Blount, project coordinator and board member at the TJREAC located at 651 Pecan Street Chipley FL. 32428 or email to lnb_believer@yahoo.com or regular mail to P. O. Box 436 Chipley FL. 32428. All statements and of qualifications and requests must be in writing (faxed electronic or oral statements will not be excepted.) and will be ranked on an individual and equal basis. RFP Deadline November 31, 2023 at 2:00pm local time. Award will be made to the best responsive firm, but the TJREAC reserves the right to reject any or all statements of qualifications. To schedule a site visit to get in detail, the scope of work we are seeking contact us in the above stated manner or call us at 850-260-5078 and ask for Leonard Blount. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT/HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY/ FAIR HOUSING JURSDICTION NOV. 9, 2023

November 15, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTION

Pursuant to Section 10.02.08 of the Washington County Land Development Code (LDC), notice is provided regarding a Special Exception. The Special Exception request is to add an RV Park to the Agriculture/Silviculture Future Land Use Map Category.

Applicant: Nathan Parrish
Location: Highway 79, Vernon, FL 32462
Parcel Identification Number: 00-4233-0005 (± 4.88 acres)

The Public Meeting and Public Hearings listed below are scheduled. In the event of a cancellation, additional notification will be issued.

A Neighborhood Information Meeting will be held on November 16, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. CDT in the County Commission Board Room at 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, FL 32428.

The Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on December 4, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. CDT in the County Commission Board Room at 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, FL 32428.

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on December 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. CDT in the County Commission Board Room at 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, FL 32428.

Records for this application may be reviewed at the Washington County Planning Department, 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, FL 32428.

For additional information, contact the Planning Department at (850) 415-5093.

November 8, 15, 2023

OPINION

Joe Biden continues to wreck our world



MICHAEL REAGAN
Guest Columnist

The world is nothing but murders, massacres, and the threat of war. It's gotten so bad, you wake up and ask, "Who died overnight?" Or "Whose rockets and bombs hit who this time?" I'll go out on a limb here and blame most of the world's turmoil and tragedy on President Biden and his handlers. Three years into his presidency, Biden has already got us mixed up in two bloody wars, blown our Southern border wide open, brought us 8% inflation, and too much other trouble and pain to list. President Obama's warning quip that Joe has a way of screwing up everything he touches came true a long time ago – at home and abroad. President Biden did nothing when he had the chance to stop the bloody and dangerous war between Russia and Ukraine – before it started. Now half of the Middle East is about to go to war following the attack on Israel by Hamas terrorists who invaded Israel and slaughtered 1,400 men, women and children on Oct. 7. And while Israel's missiles and ground forces are in Gaza paying back Hamas for their crimes against

humanity, what is Joe doing? Playing both sides at the same time. After the attack, Biden quickly pledged to fully support Israel and said it had the right to defend itself by crossing into Gaza and wiping out Hamas. But this week, as our college campuses and city streets went wild with demonstrators protesting Israel's bombing of Gaza, the White House announced it was speeding up the development of its national strategy to battle ... "Islamophobia." For decades the leading victims of religious hate crimes have been Jews, who make up 2.4 percent of our population but suffer 60 percent of hate crimes. Acts of antisemitism are up 300 percent since last year and have spiked since Oct. 7.

But what Biden was most worried about this week was protecting American Muslims from hatred and violence. His anti-Islamophobia announcement was designed to please pro-Palestinian protesters and the Democrat Party's left wing in Congress – the 10-member Squad of "progressives" led by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. The Squad is anti-Israel, pro-Palestine and, as far as I'm concerned, pro-Hamas and anti-American. But what worries me most about them is the Americans who voted them into office. Each member of Congress represents 600,000 people.

See REAGAN, PAGE 7A

Beekeeping in the Florida Panhandle: become a beekeeper now



DANNY BOST
Central Panhandle Beekeepers Association

Everyone's beekeeping journey begins a little differently. Some are born into it, some do it to relive childhood memories, and others want to help the bees keep a single hive tucked away safely on their property. Beekeeping is an exciting hobby with resources readily available. Are you ready? As the weather cools and nature prepares for winter, honey bees, *Apis mellifera*, are preparing, too. They are storing the last of their nectar and pollen, driving drones, male bees,

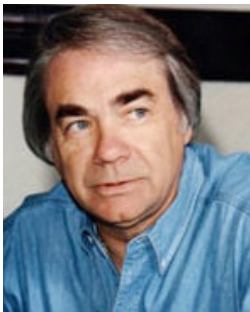
from the hive, and reducing their numbers to survive the winter. It allows the beekeeper to prepare equipment for a fast-paced spring growth of bees and beekeeper activities. It is also the best time for new beekeepers to start learning how to manage honey bees. The key word is start, as it is a never-ending learning process. The first step is to join your local beekeeping association containing commercial, hobbyist, and backyard beekeepers to assist in your journey. This mix of experience is crucial to your success as a new beekeeper. They will share a list of equipment needed, how to set it up, connect you with local equipment providers, share beekeeping techniques, and eventually assist you with receiving your first honey

bees in the spring. They can suggest what books to read and which websites to visit, as not all beekeeping information applies to our area. The Central Panhandle Beekeepers Association serves Washington and Holmes counties. We meet at 6 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at the Washington County UF/IFAS Extension office at 1424 US-90 in Chipley, by the library. Another key element of this Association is the assignment of a local mentor. This person will become your best friend along your journey. You will spend hours together in your bee yard conducting inspections. The information learned will help reinforce beekeeping techniques crucial to your success. Honey bees will be flying and the sweet scent of beeswax

and honey will float in the air, drawing you further into the bee world with each visit. Beekeeping is a fulfilling hobby you will quickly fall in love with. It will take over your thoughts and a large part of your heart. I love my honey bees and enjoy the journey they are still taking me on. Soon you, too, will be sharing your beekeeping knowledge with others, growing our future beekeepers. Visit us and see what all the buzz is about. *Danny Bost is the District 1 Representative for the Florida State Beekeepers Association and previous President of the Central Panhandle Beekeepers Association. He has been a beekeeper since 2019 and works in honey bee preservation and promoting beekeeping in this area.*



More Republican candidates need to follow Pence's lead



CARL GOLDEN
Guest Columnist

Former vice president Mike Pence was the first domino to fall, drawing increased focus and pressure on the remaining single-digit candidates for the Republican presidential nomination to confront the harsh reality that victory will not be theirs. In the Real Clear Politics polling average, Pence, at 3.4%, held fifth place but showed no movement. His campaign finances had

tightened and his frustrating lack of progress prompted the difficult decision to abandon his candidacy. While he did not endorse any of his competitors, his departure from the race shifted the focus to those directly behind in the polling averages – former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie at 2.3%, South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott at 1.7% and entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy at 4.6% – none of whom has gained ground and remain well out of the running. While rumors of a withdrawal have swirled around Scott, Christie appears intent on carrying through to the New Hampshire primary in January, hoping to finish strong in a state where he has gambled a great deal of

time and money. As former president Donald Trump, despite indictments and criminal trials, maintains a stout 30 to 40-point lead, the Republican establishment faces a more intense debate over the options available to it. For those seeking a Trump alternative, the path forward involves choosing from among at least three options: Convince Scott, Christie and Ramaswamy to end their quests and coalesce behind either Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis or former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley. Hope that Trump will be sucked down by the quicksand of legal issues he faces, including the possibility of guilty verdicts. Swallow hard and concede Trump's nom-

ination is inevitable. Time, however, is not on their side. The Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary are little more than two months off. Trump holds a 30-point lead over second place DeSantis in Iowa and a 32-point lead over second place Haley in New Hampshire. Even if those margins shrink in the coming weeks, decisive victories by Trump in those states and the continued inability of his competition to gain ground will seal the deal for him. Christie, the most strident critic of Trump in the field, has been unrelenting in his attacks on the former president's intellect, honesty and policies,

See GOLDEN, PAGE 9A

Holmes County ADVERTISER



OWNER & PUBLISHER
Carol Kent



EDITOR
Collin Breaux

CONTACT US

Advertising:

advertising@kentsmith.biz

News, sports, opinion:

news@kentsmith.biz

Legal Web Portal:

holmescountytimes.column.us/place

Obituary Web Portal:

obits@kentsmith.biz

Customer Service:

850-638-0212

The Holmes County Advertiser is published on Wednesdays by Kent Smith Group, LLC at 1367 B S. Railroad Ave., Chipley, FL 32428.

Periodicals postage paid by Chipley, Florida. Postmaster: Send address change to: Holmes County Advertiser at

1367 B S. Railroad Ave., Chipley, FL 32428.
USPS 004-341

In county	Out of county
1 Year - \$49.50	1 Year - \$75.00

Copyright Notice: The entire contents of Holmes County Advertiser are fully protected by copyright and cannot be reproduced in any form for any purpose without the expressed permission of Kent Smith Group, LLC. The views expressed here are not necessarily those of this paper or Kent Smith Group, LLC. Kent Smith Group, LLC. 2023. All Rights Reserved.

Have something to say?

Letters to the editor and comments on web versions of news stories are welcome. 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 1367 B. Railroad Ave., Chipley, FL 32428 or emailed to cbreaux@kentsmith.biz.

Questions? Call 850-638-0212

SCHOOLS & EDUCATION

Chipley Scout Troop 39 honors newest Eagle Scout

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

On Nov. 4th, family and friends of Scout Troop 39 gathered at Blue Lake Baptist Church to present D. Brayden Brooks with his award at an Eagle Court of Honor.

Brayden started as a Cub Scout in 2013 and has stayed with Scouting for his entire period of eligibility. Patrol Leader Noah Hester led the ceremony by calling the color guard to post the flag, then the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Next, recitation of the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and invocation were performed. Tyler Spangenburg spoke about the journey to Eagle and discussed what Brayden had learned as he advanced through the ranks of Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, then finally, Eagle.

A candle was lit on the journey display by Levi Smelser for each rank as it was discussed. Testimonials were given by his sister Brittany, on behalf of family friend Ms. Judy, and mentor Jared Schneider about Brayden's experience as a young boy and growth into a young man and leader.

Stories about him brought laughter,

pride, and a few tears of joy among the assembled group. Brayden next received the Eagle Scout Charge and Oath from adult Scout volunteer Bruce McLeod, to always be a leader and stay committed to his duty to God, Country, and family.

Finally, the next step was for Scoutmaster Ted to present the award. His mom, Dana, pinned on his Eagle medal. Brayden then pinned the Mother's Eagle pin on Dana, and also on his grandmother, Dorothy P. Brooks. Brayden pinned mentor pins on Jared Schneider and Scoutmaster Ted Spangenburg.

Ted took the opportunity to speak about Brayden's journey and then invited Pastor Richard Smelser to speak. Pastor Smelser recalled with admiration how Brayden had been a great friend and scouting buddy for his son Levi when he first joined. He then closed the ceremony with a prayer.

A reception was held in the fellowship hall. At the reception, Scoutmaster Ted beamed with pride as he discussed Brayden's achievement in The Order of the Arrow, the Scouting honor society. Brayden is

the first Chipley scout in 50 years to receive the Vigil Honor award from the Order.

Very few scouts ever reach this level of recognition. Brayden was preceded in receiving his Eagle this August by Alejandro Corbin. Tyler Spangenburg will also receive his award later this year, completing his Eagle board of review at the same time as Brayden. Alejandro is the fourth Corbin boy to follow in his father Michael's footsteps becoming an Eagle Scout in Chipley Troop 39.

Troop 39 has been in existence, although previous troop number is lost to history, for 109 years. If your child, age 10-13, is interested in becoming a Scout or if new to the area and already a Scout, Chipley Troop 39 would love to hear from you.

The Scout Oath: "On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty, to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law. To help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." The Scout Law: A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent."



D. Brayden Brooks was awarded an Eagle Court of Honor, a recognition few Scouts reach. [CONTRIBUTED]



D. Brayden Brooks was awarded an Eagle Court of Honor, a recognition few Scouts reach. [CONTRIBUTED]

Your Answer for Skin Cancer. Experienced Specialists. Exceptional Care.

- We're here to offer our patients the right options when it comes to treating all types of skin cancer, including:
- Mohs Micrographic Surgery with a 98%+ cure rate
 - Non-Surgical Superficial Radiotherapy (SRT-100)
 - Excisional Removal
 - Topical Medication

WHY IT MATTERS.

It's simple. Between 40 and 50 percent of Americans who live to age 65 will be diagnosed at least once with either basal cell carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma, and we want to make sure they have access to treatments.

For our team, it all comes down to identifying the most effective treatment methods to eliminate these cancers, while at the same time, preserving as much of each patient's healthy surrounding skin as possible.



LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT NORTHWEST FLORIDA
MEDICAL | SURGICAL | COSMETIC
850-233-DERM (3376)

 **DERMATOLOGY
SPECIALISTS**
of Florida

Call us for an appointment or to learn more visit www.MyDermSpecialists.com

*If insurance pre-approval is required, scheduling may be affected.

COURTS AND CRIME

Chipley man with long rap sheet sentenced to 30 years

STAFF REPORT

A Chipley man with several previous convictions has been sentenced to 30 years in prison after being found with a firearm in 2020. Stacy Tyrone Blackmon, 38, was found guilty of being a felon in possession of a firearm Oct. 12, State Attorney

Larry Basford with the 14th Judicial Circuit said. “Violent career criminals have no business having guns and the laws in Florida make the penalties stiff if they are caught possessing them,” Washington County Chief Prosecutor Megan Ford, who presented evidence against Blackmon, said

in a news release from Basford’s office. “Our office will seek these enhancements to enforce the law and protect the community.” Jurors reportedly took half an hour to render the guilty verdict. Being a felon in possession of a firearm is a second degree felony usually punishable by up to a 15-year sentence,

though Ford said Blackmon’s six prior convictions—including for felony battery and aggravated assault—made him a “violent career criminal,” according to the news release from the 14th Judicial Circuit. That designation meant a longer sentence was possible. Blackmon reportedly

had a gun when arrested by police in Chipley on October 1, 2020. “Ford proved police had the defendant under surveillance that day when he met with another man and gave him a bag containing a Smith & Wesson 9mm pistol in exchange for \$275,” the 14th Judicial Circuit news release said.



Stacy Tyrone Blackmon

LIVING

From page 1A

total, and across each bill category.” Powell, however, said Chipley residents do tend to spend “more significant percentage of income on household bills, at 46% compared to the national average of 35%.” “This is likely because the average household income is quite a bit lower than the national average,” Powell said. “So, even though the cost of living is nearly 25% lower than the national average, the bills to income ratio is bigger and this shouldn’t be overlooked.” The average annual household income for Chipley is \$40,084.

Household bills account for almost half of that income—46%, to be precise. Chipley ranks as the 184th most expensive city in Florida for household expenses. “This makes it one of the top 20 most affordable cities to live in Florida,” Powell said. Pembroke Pines in South Florida near Miami was rated as the most expensive Florida town, with an average \$3,035 monthly living cost—almost double that of Chipley. San Jose in California was ranked the highest U.S. large city in terms of living costs at \$3,504 per month, while Detroit is considered the lowest with a \$1,571 monthly living cost average.



CRA

From page 1A

visit the building and Maxwell is in a meeting, Russell said. “When we were doing interviews for the new CRA members, I don’t know how many people we had come and knock on the door because they had a question about something,” Russell said. “To me, that just doesn’t look professional when you’re in a meeting and you don’t have a receptionist sitting that can answer ‘Where can I find this place

in town?’” Talk has been underway in the last two months on “trying to budget” and “bringing additional resources in” for clerical tasks, Mayor Tracy Andrews said. “We’re hoping we have it resolved but everything takes money,” Andrews said. “Chamber’s doing well. CRA is very active and has its own separate board as well but we’re working on those pieces. Some of those things could easily be, I say, sourced out. For minutes, people do it every day.”



The Meredith family (left) listens to remarks by Chipola Area Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Carmen Smith as they prepare to settle into their new home on Nov. 9. [COLLIN BREAUX | Washington County News and Holmes County Advertiser]

HOME

From page 1A

ication, and faithfulness towards Chipola Area Habitat—but it also talks about our commitment to our communities.” FPL is “honored” to partner with Chipola Area Habitat to strengthen the com-

munity and permit the Meredith family to continue enjoying their time in the area, Andrews said. Washington County School Board members were also on hand to celebrate the occasion. Pamela Meredith was given a Bible by Habitat for her new home.

Washington County Arrest Reports

The following arrests were made in Holmes County between November 3 and November 9 as reported by the Holmes County Jail. All subjects are considered innocent until convicted.



Phillip Pippins



Daniel Dewayne Thompson



James Russell Marcum



Semmium Monroe Taunton



John Michael Porter



Andrew Jacob Culp



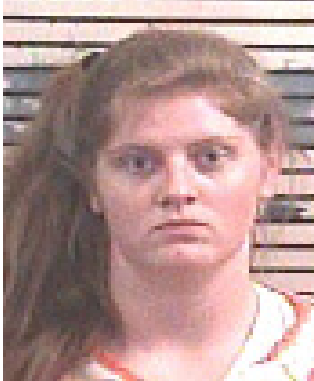
Devon Scott Keiser



Kimberly Nicole Burke



James Edward Lockstead



Anthony Michael Don Bonner



Charles Douglas Mitchell



James Nathaniel Smith



Phillip Pippins



Bryan Drakeford Gray, 38, Panama City- Contempt of court, sale of heroin, possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon [WCSO]
Phillip Pippins, 36, Chipley- License plate not assigned, possession of meth with intent to sell/mfg/deliver, possession of marijuana less than 20 grams, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, DWLSR third or subsequent violation [WCSO]
Daniel Dewayne Thompson, 24, Bonifay- Commit domestic battery by strangulation [WCSO]
James Russell Marcum, 36, Bonifay- Possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, DWLSR x2 [WCSO]
Semmium Monroe Taunton, 58, Chipley- Walton county VOP: possession of meth with intent to sell/mfg/deliver, Columbia county VOP: possession of a controlled substance [WCSO]
John Michael Porter, 69, Chipley- Violation of probation: possession of weapon or ammo by convicted felon, violation of probation: aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill [WCSO]
Andrew Jacob Culp, 24, Chipley- Violation of probation: resist officer obstruct without violence, Violation of probation: possession of meth with intent to sell/mfg/deliver, violation of probation: produce methamphetamine within 1000 feet of specified area [WCSO]
Devon Scott Keiser, 28, AL- Larceny petit theft: first degree more than 100 dollars less than 750 dollars [WCSO]
Kimberly Nicole Burke, 30, Panama City- Possession of marijuana less than 20 grams [WCSO]
James Edward Lockstead, 43, Fountain- Possession of marijuana less than 20 grams, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription [WCSO]
Anthony Michael Don Bonner, 27, homeless- Possession of meth with intent to sell/mfg/deliver [WCSO]
Charles Douglas Mitchell, 35, Chipley- Contempt of court [WCSO]
James Nathaniel Smith, 34, Cottondale- Possession of a controlled substance without a prescription [WCSO]

The Ticket Clinic

850-724-0009

Serving the Florida Panhandle, Offices in Chipley and Panama City

Traffic Ticket DUI, and all criminal cases

REAGAN

From page 4A

Let’s say about half of them turn out to vote.

That means to win a House seat, in a two-way race you have to get at least 150,001 of those 300,000 votes.

If you add up the votes for the eight original Squad members, that means at least 1.2 million Americans are OK with the radical politics of AOC and her crew.

Who are those voters and what are they thinking? We know many of them are anti-American and anti-Israel.

Are they ever going to do more than just march around waving Palestine flags or

tearing down posters of Israeli hostage pictures?

Are they potential terrorists? Most likely, no. But I’m still fearful of them.

I also fear for my country because Squad voters and so many politically naïve and indoctrinated college students are so radicalized – thanks to the leftwing professors we conservatives have been trying to warn the country about for half a century.

Meanwhile, I have an idea to get the hostages in Gaza freed and maybe bring a ceasefire to the Middle East before any more people die.

I’d like to trade Joe Biden to Hamas for all the hostages.

I don’t think the

thugs who run Hamas would give me anything just for Joe.

So to sweeten the deal I’d throw in \$10 billion in cash – but Hamas would also have to take Kamala.

I’ve never worked for the State Department, but I think my plan might work.

Dr. Jill might be upset by the swap, but Joe wouldn’t mind. He wouldn’t even know he was in Gaza. He’d just think he was in one of his summer homes.

Michael Reagan, the son of President Ronald Reagan, is an author, speaker and president of the Reagan Legacy Foundation. Send comments to reagan@caglecartoons.com and follow @reaganworld on Twitter.

CAP

From page 4A

its website that the average amount of the scholarships this school year is \$9,900.

Renner, a major backer of vouchers, indicated that lawmakers could look during

the 2024 legislative session at the way participation in the program and scholarship costs are estimated. The 2024 session will start in January.

“I think we need to look at, is there a better way to estimate this? I don’t really like the cap. I don’t believe we should have

a cap, necessarily. But it was a fiscal constraint because it’s harder to estimate those kids,” Renner said. “We just don’t know who’s coming and how severe their situation is and how much money would be attributed to the total amount of people in that program.”

SECURITY

From page 5A

ey to help protect Jewish schools, but Calatayud said lawmakers also can look at funding issues during the 2024 regular legislative session, which will start in January.

“We believe this is going to be the right investment at

this time,” Calatayud said.

Some Democratic lawmakers also called for funding for security at historically Black colleges and universities.

They cited incidents such as a racially motivated attack in August when a man killed three

Black people at a Dollar General store in Jacksonville. Authorities said the shooter a short time earlier had gone to the nearby, historically Black Edward Waters University but left after a campus safety officer responded.

How many books in our digital library?

Ebooks: 47,882

Audiobooks: 3,631

Check out FREE ebooks or audiobooks with your Washington County Public Library card and the Libby app!

Gutter Surgeon

Residential & Commercial

5&6 Inch K Style Seamless Gutters

Gutter Installation, Repair & Cleaning

Licensed & Insured

35 Colors

850-703-4105

FULLY INSURED FREE ESTIMATES

Easy Care

EXCAVATING & DOZER WORK

TREE SERVICE

850-527-6291

Legal Notices and Classifieds

LEGAL ADVERTISING

000394 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given CAPITAL ONE NA AS COLL TLGF, 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 #: 21-00-02015

Year of Issuance: 2021

Parcel: 000000000-05-0336-0009

Assessed To: PETRO FLOW INC

Description: SUNNY HILLS UNIT #5 LOT 9 ORB 1164 P 752 BLK 336

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 JANUARY 09, 2024 at 10:00 AM CT.

Lora C. Bell Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023

000395 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED Notice Is Hereby Given CAPITAL ONE NA AS COLL

TLGF, 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 21-00-00849 Year of Issuance 2021 Parcel 000000000-00-4155-0065 assessed to GCCS INVESTMENT GROUP LLC

Description 25 1 15 ORB 1175 P 405 LOT 66 BLK 2 SEMINOLE PLANT.. 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 JANUARY 09, 2024 at 10:00 AM CT. Lora C. Bell,

Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023

000396 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

Notice Is Hereby Given CAPITAL ONE NA AS COLL TLGF, 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 #: 21-00-001186

Year of Issuance: 2021

Parcel: 000000000-00-5487-0000

Assessed To: ROGER B TOOLE TRUSTEE OF ROGER B TOOLE TRUST, SARA L TOOLE TRUSTEE OF SARA LOU TOOLE TRUST

Description: 32 2 16 ORB 501 P 565 BEG AT INTER OF SHELL LANDING RD. & E. LINE OF LOT 1, RUN W. 75' N.450' E. 75' S.450' TO BEG. IN S1/2

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 JANUARY 09, 2024 at 10:00 AM CT.

Lora C. Bell Clerk of Court, Washington County Florida By: Kelsey Odom, Deputy Clerk November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023

000408 FLORIDA PACE FUNDING AGENCY NOTICE OF INTENT TO USE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS The Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Florida PACE Funding Agency, a public body corporate and politic, (the "Agency"), hereby provides notice, pursuant to Sections 163.08(2), (3) and (4) and 197.3632(3)

LEGAL ADVERTISING

(a), Florida Statutes, each as amended from time to time, of its intent to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem assessments for more than one year to be levied within the area encompassed by the boundaries of every county in Florida, or any of the municipalities therein, served by the Agency's statewide provision of funding and financing to assist property owners who wish to construct, install or otherwise obtain qualifying improvements identified by the Legislature including, but not limited to, energy conservation and efficiency improvements, renewable energy improvements, and wind resistance improvements, in accordance with Section 163.08, Florida Statutes, as amended (collectively, the "Qualifying Improvements"). By law and resolution of the Agency, a property owner may apply to the Agency for funding and financing of Qualifying Improvements. The non-ad valorem assessments contemplated by this notice are voluntary and are only imposed by the Agency with the prior written consent authorized by or on behalf of affected property owners who determine to obtain financing for Qualifying Improvements from the Agency. The Agency is authorized by state law to fund and finance Qualifying Improvements and is required to annually collect repayment by non-ad valorem assessments. The Board will consider the adoption of a resolution electing to use the uniform method of collecting such assessments as authorized by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, after a public hearing to be held at Kissimmee Gateway Airport-Administrative Offices located at 401 Dyer Blvd Kissimmee FL 34741 on Tuesday November 21, 2023 at 1pm. Date/Time/ Location to be filled in with selection of the board j. In the event of a local or national emergency, a hurricane, or any other interfering circumstance, if necessary, the meeting may be continued to a time, date, and place certain, and notice thereof, along with

LEGAL ADVERTISING

appropriate means for public attendance and participation, if other than in-person, will be posted on the Agency's website. Such resolution electing to use such uniform method will state the need for the levy and will contain a legal description of the boundaries of the real property that may be subject to the levy – which is the entirety of the State of Florida. A copy of the proposed form of resolution and other information may be viewed at the Agency's website: www.FloridaPACE.Gov . Advance written communication will be given equal weight to comments or objections made in person, and may be submitted to the Board in advance at Info@FloridaPACE.Gov ; and, should be received by the Agency on or before November 3, 2021 Thursday November 16, 2023 so that copies can be distributed to Board members for advance review and hearing preparation purposes. Any person desiring to speak in person may appear at the public hearing. If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this public hearing such person will need a record of proceedings and for such purpose such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made at their own expense and which record includes the testimony and evidence on which the appeal is based. Any person requiring a special accommodation at this meeting due to disability or physical impairment or needing an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Agency at 850-400-PAACE at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If hearing impaired, Florida Relay Service numbers for assistance are (800) 955-8771 (tdd) or (800) 955-8770 (voice).

BY: KODOM Deputy Clerk November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023

000421 IN THE COUNTY COURT FOR THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING

Plaintiff(s),

000420 IN THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case No.: 2023-CA-000082

LEGAL ADVERTISING

THOMAS CAZIER, Plaintiff, vs.

NATHAN R. LAWRENCE, ROBERT I. LAWRENCE, and AMERIS BANCORP INC., as successor to PROSPERITY BANK, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION To: Nathan R. Lawrence 902 Sea Robin Drive Panama City Beach, FL 32408 and 7923 Panama City Beach Parkway Panama City Beach, FL 32407 and all parties claiming interests by, through, under or against Nathan R. Lawrence

AND ALL PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED;

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to enforce a partition for real property on the following property in Washington County, Florida:

Lot 10, Block 395, SUNNY HILLS UNIT SIX, according to the map or plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page(s) 60 through 76, of the Public Record of Washington County, Florida has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Daniel P. Saba, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 4557 Chumuckla Highway, Pace, Florida 32571, on or before December 11, 2023, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. Executed this 26th day of October, 2023. LORA C. BELL Clerk of Circuit and County Courts

BY: KODOM Deputy Clerk November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023

000421 IN THE COUNTY COURT FOR THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING

LEGAL ADVERTISING

vs.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF BRENDA S. FINKLEA DECEASED; THE UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF 740 BROWN STREET, CHIPLEY, FL 32428

Defendant(s).

CASE NO.: 230000125C

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF BRENDA S. FINKLEA DECEASED Last known address: Unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a civil action has been filed against you in the County Court of Washington County, Florida, to replevin certain personal property described as follows: 1998 Peachstate, 28x66 4009, Mobile Home Serial Number(s): PSH-GA20576A, PSH-GA20576B.

Property address: 740 Brown Street, Chipley, FL 32428

You are required to file a written response with the Court and serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Padgett Law Group, whose address is 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312, at least thirty (30) days from the date of first publication, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATED this the ____ day of ____, 20__.

Clerk of the Circuit Court As Clerk of the Court

BY: Deputy Clerk Plaintiff Atty: Padgett Law Group 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203 Tallahassee, FL 32312 attorney@padgettlawgroup.com November 8, 15, 2023

000423 NOTICE OF

LEGAL ADVERTISING

PULIC SALE BROCK AUTO BODY & TOWING gives notice that on 11/20/2023 at 8:00 am the following vehicles may be sold by public sale at 707 EAST BLVD to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery .towing,or storage sevicees charges administrative fees allowed pursuant Florida statute 713.78. 1986 toyota JT4RN64D1G5000871 November 15, 22, 2023

000424 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: WHITES WRECKER SERVICE LLC gives notice that on 12/01/2023 at 08:00 AM the following vehicles(s) may be sold by public sale at 1021 ROLAND FOWLER DR CHIPLEY FL 32428 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78. 1FMHK7D81CGA49060 2012 FORD 1FMJU1JT8HEA63073

2017 FORD 1HGCP2F33AA014655

2010 HOND 1J4NF1FB8BD183205 2011 JEEP 2CNDL13F276007026 2007 CHEV 3GNAXKEV3KL205308 2019 CHEV 3GTU2VEC9FG276354 2015 GMC 4M2CU87147KJ19774 2007 MERC This notification is published in Washington County News on 11/15/2023.

November 15, 2023

000426 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF CHIPLEY, FLORIDA 687 5 TH STREET (MONGOVEN BUILDING) – SELECTIVE DEMOLITION City of Chipley (Owner) is requesting Bids for the completion of the following Project: 687 5th Street (Mongoven Building) – Selective Demolition FC CDBG-DR M0041 DHM CH12HR

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the City of Chipley Clerk's Office located at 1442 Jackson Avenue, Chipley, FL 32428 , until Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 2:00 PM local time. At that time, or shortly thereafter, the Bids received will be publicly

LEGAL ADVERTISING

opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work: This project includes the selective demolition of a two story 6,000 sq./ft building known as the Mongoven Building located at 687 5 the Street, Chipley, FL 32428. Demolition shall include removal of on-site utilities, removal of all debris and clearing of the first floor in anticipation of future work. During the demolition process the Contractor shall preserve a few historic items, a portion of the entrance, as well as the lower portion of the southern, eastern, western exterior walls. Any existing utility service(s) shall be terminated and capped at right-of-way. See project bid documents for full plans and specifications. The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: DHM Melvin Engineering 4428 Lafayette Street, Marianna, Florida 32446 Email request: martvickery@melvineng.com Office phone: (850) 482-3045

Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office. Bidding Documents may be purchased from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Cost does not include shipping charges. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment (non-refundable), printed Bidding Documents or electronic documents will be sent via the prospective Bidder's delivery service. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method chosen. Bidding Documents are available for purchase in the following formats:

LEGAL ADVERTISING

Format: Bidding Documents (including Full-Size Drawings) - \$125.00 Bidding Documents (including Half-Size Drawings) - \$100.00 Bidding Documents (Electronic Copies) – No payment required.

Pre-bid Conference A non-mandatory pre-bid conference for the Project will be held at the project site on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 10:00 AM local time.

Instructions to Bidders. For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

This Advertisement is issued by : Owner: City of Chipley By: Dan Miner Title: City Administrator

Small business and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit proposals, and firms using such subcontractors are strongly encouraged to solicit such firms in the subcontracting process. Any Contracts/subcontracts issued under this procurement must comply with the necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible, in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.321.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE/FAIR HOUSING JURISDICTION November 15, 2023

LAND/ACREAGE

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

FOR SALE

2016 Rockwood Mini Lite pull behind RV; Excellent condition Gas for heat but has new electric water heater TV with DVD player, microwave, fridge/freezer, Murphy bed MUST SEE! For more information, call 850-638-7269 or 850-890-0004

FAITH

The vision thing



MICHAEL J. BROOKS
Guest Columnist

I've never forgotten where the Apostle Paul had his famous Macedonian vision after Dr. Bryan asked this on a test in New Testament class and I hadn't a clue...but Dr. Luke states clearly that he was in Troy—the city made famous by the beautiful Helen whose “face launched a thousand ships,” according to Christopher Marlowe.

This vision was significant since it meant Paul left Asia and traveled to Europe. Macedonia was the northern province in Greece. He visited Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea and planted a gospel flag in each city.

President George H.W. Bush called it “the vision thing.” Every person needs a life-changing vision to force us to excellence.

I talked with a career planner once and he bluntly told me I was a great manager and a poor visionary. I am a good manager and have learned to do good administration because I've done such poor administration!

Many times I assumed things would go as planned, but many times they didn't. So one learns management by walking around in the ruins of bad planning!

Management is necessary because the machinery does need grease but if all we do is manage, then we limit our achievement. Sometimes we think that good is good enough and we're content with the status

quo but, in that sense, the good can be enemy of the best.

Soon we'll stand on the precipice of a new year. This is naturally a time we think of improvements, and every Christian should envision 2024 to end being better Christians than we were at the end of 2023.

One way to improve is to institute a daily devotional time. Most churches supply devotional guides to their members, and there are countless apps now that offer daily readings and prayers, or that will read scripture to us as we commute or do household chores.

Scripture further teaches that every Christian is gifted by God's Spirit in at least one venue. Thus, not only are we commanded to serve the Lord, but we're gifted to serve the Lord.

This is a great time to complete a simple spiritual gifts inventory and begin one's gift discovery if not done already. Many church websites such as ours include an inventory like this.

But every church needs a vision, too. We can't just “hold services” and think we've fulfilled our responsibilities. We're called to be fruitful and to be a blessing to our communities.

The new year is a great time for a church “dream team” to pray for guidance and determine what new ministries can be accomplished to God's glory.

Every Christian and every church needs a vision of what we can be and do with God's help.

“Reflections” is a weekly faith column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church, Alabaster, Alabama. The church's website is siluriabaptist.com.

Do we crave God's presence?



SHERYL BOLDT
Guest Columnist

Are we, individually and as a church, truly experiencing God's presence?

Jesus said, “Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him” (John 14:21 ESV).

The Amplified Bible says, “I will make Myself real to him.”

Isn't this what we want – for Jesus to make Himself real to us?

Read the first part of the verse again. Do we truly love

God? Do we desire to experience His presence in such a way that we're willing to obey His Word? What about the verses that speak about loving others?

Do we love God enough to forgive “seventy times seven” (Matthew 18:22 AMP) when someone expresses a different political opinion time after time? Are we committed to loving others as Christ loves us, even when they infuriate or just plain bother us?

Or would we prefer to hold on to our grudges and forfeit a manifestation of God's presence?

Unrelenting animosity is rampant – sadly even in the Church. Doesn't it seem as if the enemy especially enjoys stirring up trouble among God's beloved?

Bear in mind that the world can see how well (or badly)

we're following Jesus by the way we treat our brothers and sisters in Christ. Can others clearly see whether you or I are Christ-followers? Or do we leave them wondering?

Jesus says, “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35 ESV).

What would happen if we, the body of Christ, loved one another in our communities, on social media, and within our churches so magnificently that those observing took notice?

What if we actually behaved in a Christ-like way toward one another instead of just talking about it?

We could start by asking God to search our hearts to show us where we've failed in our relationships and humbly ask those we've offend-

ed to forgive us. As the Holy Spirit continues to reveal our imperfections, we'll also likely be compelled to offer grace to those who are also imperfect.

A great way to obey God and express our love for others is to pray for those we've been holding grudges against (and for those holding grudges against us) and ask God how He wants to use us to meet their needs.

Let's obey God's Word. Let's stop letting our divisiveness and petty disagreements eat away at our relationships.

Most of all, let's truly experience God's presence – and allow Him to make Himself real to us as never before.

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



The history of Red Hill UMC of Holmes County

COURTESY OF RED HILL UMC

In the 1800's, earlier generations gathered each Sunday for worship services in a rustic, log cabin structure located near Ten Mile Creek, east of where the church cemetery is located today.

The church was known in the community as the Primitive Hard Shell Baptist Profession Church of Holmes County, Florida. Regrettably, no record of the history of this church exists due to a fire that destroyed the Holmes County Courthouse during the 1800's.

It is known however that an existing cemetery was located near the Primitive Hard Shell Baptist Church. A deed was recorded in 1881 for a one-acre plot of land.

The deed was made between John J. Perkins and his wife Elizabeth Catherine Whitaker

Perkins. This land was used for an addition to the existing “Whitaker Graveyard.”

Years later, on January 18, 1907, a deed was made for another one-acre plot of land from Mr. J. J. Hall and his wife Mrs. M. L. Hall and Primitive Baptist Church to Whitaker Graveyard.

In the early 1920's, two brothers, J. D. (Jim) and J. J. (Jonas) Whitaker, had the desire to build a church across the road from where the old log structure was standing. Land was purchased from the Alabama Lumber Company and the construction of a small, one-room bungalow structure was underway atop a red clay hill across the road from where Red Hill UMC church is currently located today.

Mr. Albert Johnson believed in the project enough that he donated the timber used to build the sanctuary. Jim and

Jonas Whitaker took the logs to the nearby sawmill to have them cut into planks and other materials and items for the church.

The brothers' commitment became reality when the first services were held in the new building in the winter of 1923 with a pot-bellied stove warming those attending. In July 1923, the church joined the Methodist Episcopal Church and was placed on the Noma charge of the Marianna District, Alabama Conference Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rev. J. A. Kelly, a Methodist Circuit Rider, was the first pastor to serve the small church sitting atop the red clay hill. In joining the Methodist Episcopal Church, Red Hill was one of seven churches on the charge.

Being a pastor in charge of seven churches meant that Pastor Kelly would preach at

seven different churches each Sunday. The time slot for services at Red Hill was 2 p.m.

Red Hill remained on the Alabama-West-Florida Charge for more than 50 years with a number of other churches including Cedar Grove, Bethlehem, Pond Town and Black UMC.

In the early 70's plans were being made for a new church building. The members wanted to build the church beside the cemetery on the west side of Highway 2, which was then known as the “Hog & Hominy Road.” Land was traded for an equal parcel from Mrs. Elvia Meadows.

The Rev. Cecil Coleman, pastor of Red Hill UMC, along with several members were present for the groundbreaking ceremony, November 30, 1972. The first services were held in the new building November 3, 1974. Dedication services for the new church

were held January 16, 1977.

The old one-room bungalow church had become a place that held many memories of sacred harp singing and dinner on the ground. It was eventually sold for \$500 to Mrs. Barbara Goff and moved off the land to a location on Highway 79, south of Esto, Florida where it became a daycare for several years.

The building still stands today as a personal dwelling.

In 1985 plans were being made to build a foyer and move the restrooms to the front of the church. A Sunday school room, restrooms and a storage area were added.

In 1989 plans were being made for a dining hall to be added to the church. The rafters for the dining hall were raised in February 1990.

On November 18, 1990, homecoming was celebrated and lunch was served in the new fellowship hall.

Until 1984, Red Hill continued to remain on a charge with six other churches, which means services were only held once a month. In October 1984, Red Hill was changed to a two-point charge with Bethlehem UMC.

For the first time in the church's history Red Hill would share a pastor with Bethlehem UMC. This charge allowed Red Hill and Bethlehem to rotate a Pastor every other Sunday.

Preaching services for Red Hill were held on the first and third Sunday of each month, rotating the fifth Sunday between the two churches.

However, the doors of the church were open every Sunday and members would gather for Sunday School and fellowship.

One failure after another



CALEB DUNCAN
Guest Columnist

Remember that New Year’s Resolution you made about 11 months ago? How’s that going? How is the diet you started or the commitment you made? As we wind down toward the end of the year, reflect on the past several months. Did you accomplish everything you wanted in your business, home, or church?

Now, I want to be honest with you, reader. This year has gone differently than I hoped. There have been many things that crashed and burned. While many positive things have happened this year for the better, I can’t help but think that there’s been one failure after another.

I wonder what the Bible says about failure? Quite a bit, actually. In the short space I have, let me tell you about one instance in Mark 9:14-29. It’s an incredible story about a woman whose son was possessed by a demon. As an act of faith, she brought her son to the disciples to see if they could cast it out. But things didn’t go as expected.

“Teacher, I brought

my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute...So I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they were not able.” (Mark 9:17-18)

In the Gospel stories, even before Jesus was taken to the cross, Jesus gave his disciples the authority to minister in his name without hindrance. One day, Jesus called together his twelve disciples and gave them power and authority to cast out all demons and to heal all diseases. Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick (Luke 9:1-2).

This begs the question: if they were able to do this in the past, why not with a demon-possessed little boy? Why were they...unable? Have you ever felt this way? Unable? Incapable? Powerless to do anything? Do you ever just feel like an absolute failure?

We see a small glimpse of how the disciples felt. Verse 28 says, “When he had entered the house, his disciples came to him privately and asked, “Why could we not cast it out?”

The question the disciples posed to Jesus is a familiar question that we have all asked at one point or another, especially when we experience a failure of some sort. “Why could we not?” Why didn’t things go the way that we had

hoped? Why do we seem to fail?

If we were to leave this devotional thought like this, that would be one depressing devotional. “Sometimes we just fail” seems to be an inadequate answer. We want to know, “Why do we fail?”

Thankfully, Jesus answered his disciples. “This kind,” he replied, “Can only be cast out by prayer.” Was Jesus just giving his disciples a lesson in demonology, or was he trying to tell them a more profound spiritual truth?

The disciples could not cast out that demon because they did not depend and trust in God. I would venture to say, with cautious boldness, that many of the failures we experience come from the fact that we did not depend on God.

Our goals, however big, will sometimes fail if we do not put God first and rely on Him for everything. There is much more to say on this topic, but I’ll close by saying: my “New Year’s Resolution” next year is to depend more on God and not myself.

Caleb Duncan is the Director for the West Florida Baptist Association in Chipley and holds an M.A. in Ethics, Theology, and Culture from Southeastern Seminary. Email him at Wfba-Dom@outlook.com or follow his Twitter @calebtduncan.

SUDOKU

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

See ANSWERS, Page11A

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

			1	2	3			4	5	6	7	8	9				
			10					11									
12	13			14					15								
16			17							18				19	20	21	
22									23								
24							25		26				27				
					28			29					30				
31	32	33			34						35			36			
37			38				39										
40							41				42	43		44	45	46	47
48					49						50						
51											52						
			53								54				55		
			56						57		58						
			59								60						

CLUES ACROSS

1. Beats per minute
4. Hindu deity
10. Polynesian garland of flowers
11. Not chained to
12. Metric ton
14. Tall, rounded vase
15. Musical composition
16. St. Francis of ____
18. Discover the location of
22. Compact group of mountains
23. Mend
24. Not current
26. Atomic #64
27. Young hawk
28. Or ____
30. Pouches
31. Southern Thailand isthmus
34. Mends with yarn
36. Downwinds
37. One of two equal parts of a divisible whole
39. Italian archaeological site
40. Cold appetizer
41. Yes
42. Peninsula
48. Of that
50. A way to divide
51. Relating to the physical senses
52. One who makes money
53. ____ Spumante (Italian wine)
54. Inconvenience (abbr.)
55. South Dakota
56. Snow sport
58. The products of human creativity
59. Change mind
60. Born of

CLUES DOWN

1. Similar to the color of a clear unclouded sky
2. Former name of Iran
3. Made smaller
4. Type of meter
5. Revolt
6. Killed with rocks
7. Gregory ____, US dancer
8. Nullifies
9. Home to the Flyers
12. Female parent
13. Pre-1917 Russian emperor
17. Outsourcing (abbr.)
19. Regal
20. Line
21. Hermann ____, author of “Siddhartha”
25. Clearing up
29. No seats available
31. Leaves of an Arabian shrub
32. Groove in organ or tissue
33. Not of this world
35. Cooking device
38. Forget
41. Operational flight
43. Actress Danes
44. Poke holes in
45. A way to discolor
46. Shouts of welcome or farewell
47. Pharrell’s group
49. Red fluorescent dye
56. Jr.’s dad
57. Electronics firm

See ANSWERS, Page11A

RED HILL

From page 8A

It was not until the mid-1990s that Red Hill was supplied with a young, part-time supply pastor, Anthony Cuchens, who encouraged the congregation to step out in faith and help support a pastor to fill the pulpit each Sunday.

It was not until a few years after Anthony had been appointed to other churches, that the realization of having a full-time pastor happened for Red Hill.

June 2000 brought the appointment of Bro. Charles Wimberly to Red Hill UMC.

No longer placed on a charge with another church, Bro. Wimberly would fill the pulpit each Sunday.

In June 2004, Pastor Buddy Pennington was appointed to Red Hill UMC as supply pastor. Over the years, Red Hill UMC members and visitors have been blessed by a number of men of God who have served as pastors.

In October 2008, Red Hill began making plans for an addition to the

dining hall and adding Sunday School rooms. Through untiring volunteer efforts from local people in the community, as well as church members, the building project was completed in October 2009.

A dedication service was held on October 11, 2009 and the fellowship hall was named The Roy K. Smith Fellowship Hall in memory of the late Roy K. Smith. Bro. Smith was the son-in-law of Mary Whitaker Vickers, who in turn is the daughter of Jim Whitaker and the niece of J.J. Whitaker.

GOLDEN

From page 4A

even predicting he’ll occupy a jail cell before the election.

If belligerence translated into support, Christie would be hard on Trump’s heels. It didn’t and he isn’t.

Christie, at 8.5%, occupies fourth place in New Hampshire, slightly behind DeSantis but well behind Haley. A failure to crack double digits there, though, will intensify the pressure on Christie to follow Pence’s example.

DeSantis, once welcomed with optimism as a viable alternative to Trump and capable of overtaking him, has been spectacularly unimpressive, losing ground to Haley while continuing to lag far behind the former president.

Haley has acquitted herself well, moving into second or third place behind Trump

while drawing increasing interest as the candidate the others in the field could and should unite behind.

She is capable of appealing to suburban women – a crucial voting bloc to whom Trump is unacceptable – while maintaining broad support among moderates and even right of center voters.

Her criticisms of Trump have been more muted than Christie, for instance, and she has threaded the needle to avoid alienating the former president’s dedicated and fervent base.

She has polled well in hypothetical matchups with President Biden – as has Trump and others – but she is free of the immense personal and political baggage weighing on the former president.

As Biden continues to flounder under dismal levels of job performance support, he is increasingly weakened and vulnerable.

Concerns about his physical well-being and cognitive strength have grown steadily, even to the point at which a majority of Democrats feel he should not seek a second term.

A lane to success – the presidency and control of Congress – exists for Republicans, but only a united party will be able to take advantage of it.

Achieving that unity, though, depends on Christie, Scott and Ramaswamy recognizing their hopeless situations and putting aside their egos, aspirations and animosities.

Time, however, is of the essence. The sand is rapidly filling the bottom half of the hourglass.

Carl Golden is a senior contributing analyst with the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University in New Jersey. You can reach him at cgolden1937@gmail.

Lucky's

LIQUOR & LOTTO

2839 Hwy 231 • Cottondale, FL
850-352-4449

Get 20% off on DoorDash for your alcohol orders of \$45+ by using this code: DRINKS20

Largest Selection and Lowest Prices for Liquor, Wine & Beer

ON SALE THIS WEEK!

Crown Royal 750ml \$27.99

Hennessy 750ml \$44.99



Jim Beam, any flavor 750ml \$13.99

BUSINESS

Our plans could help you and your pocket

How it adds up

Which plan you choose can make all the difference. The HumanaChoice Florida H5216-393 (PPO) is a Medicare Advantage plan made to get you all the right benefits for your budget. It includes:

- **Part B giveback benefit**
Part B premium reduction, putting up to \$164.90 back into your Social Security check each month*
- **Dental, hearing and vision coverage**
Routine dental, hearing and vision coverage

Call a licensed independent sales agent



Leslie Brown
850-643-1566 (TTY: 711)
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
LVBSACKETT@GTCOM.NET

Humana® A more human way to healthcare™

* The Part B Giveback Benefit pays part or all of your Part B premium and the amount may change based on the amount you pay for Part B.

Humana is a Medicare Advantage PPO organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in any Humana plan depends on contract renewal. Applicable to HumanaChoice Florida H5216-393 (PPO). **At Humana, it is important you are treated fairly.** Humana Inc. and its subsidiaries comply with applicable federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, ancestry, ethnicity, marital status, religion or language. **English:** ATTENTION: If you do not speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **877-320-1235 (TTY: 711).** **Español (Spanish):** ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **877-320-1235 (TTY: 711).** **繁體中文 (Chinese):** 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 **877-320-1235 (聽障專線：711)**。

Chipley woman named Chief Financial Officer of Jackson Hospital



Marcey Morgan, new CFO of Jackson Hospital. [CONTRIBUTED]

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Jackson Hospital in Marianna has announced the appointment of Marcey Morgan as its new Chief Financial Officer.

“Morgan brings a wealth of healthcare financial knowledge to the role, having worked in the industry for over 20 years,” a news release from Jackson Hospital said.

Morgan is originally from Graceville and graduated from

Florida State University with a bachelor of science in accounting. She furthered her education at Troy University, where she earned her master of business administration.

Before joining Jackson Hospital, Morgan served as the controller of Northwest Community Hospital in Chipley. She has also held various other financial leadership positions.

Morgan lives in Chipley with her two

daughters, Sydney and Abigail. She enjoys spending time with her daughters, reading and volunteering with the youth at First Baptist Church of Chipley.

“We are excited to welcome Marcey Morgan to our team,” the hospital said in a prepared statement. “Her experience and expertise will be invaluable as the hospital continues to grow and provide excellent care to its patients.”

Stay Secure: FPL’s Advice on Avoiding Scams and Impostors

In today’s digital age, scams and frauds are becoming increasingly prevalent, targeting utility company customers across the nation.

Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) is urging its customers to take preventive measures to safeguard themselves from potential scams by remembering a few critical do’s and don’ts!

1. Don’t Share Personal Information

One of the fundamental rules is to never share personal information if you receive a suspicious call. In such situations, it is crucial to hang up immediately. Caller ID information can be easily manipulated, falsely displaying FPL’s phone number and name. Scammers often use this tactic to gain the trust of their targets.

2. Avoid Responding to Questionable Payment Requests

Be cautious when it comes to payment requests. FPL will never demand immediate payment through channels like Zelle, pre-paid cards, or wire transfers to avoid service disconnection. This is a crucial point to remember since scammers often pressure individuals into making hasty payments under the threat of having their power disconnected. Customers are advised to take their time, verify the authenticity of the request, and consult FPL’s official channels to confirm the payment status before making any payments.

3. Check for Employee or Contractor Identification

For scheduled appointments, request and verify their photo identification badges and work request numbers before letting them into your premises. This should be done consistently for every scheduled visit. Scammers may attempt to pose as utility workers to gain unauthorized access to your property, making it crucial to be vigilant in confirming their identity.

4. Report Suspected Scams to Law Enforcement

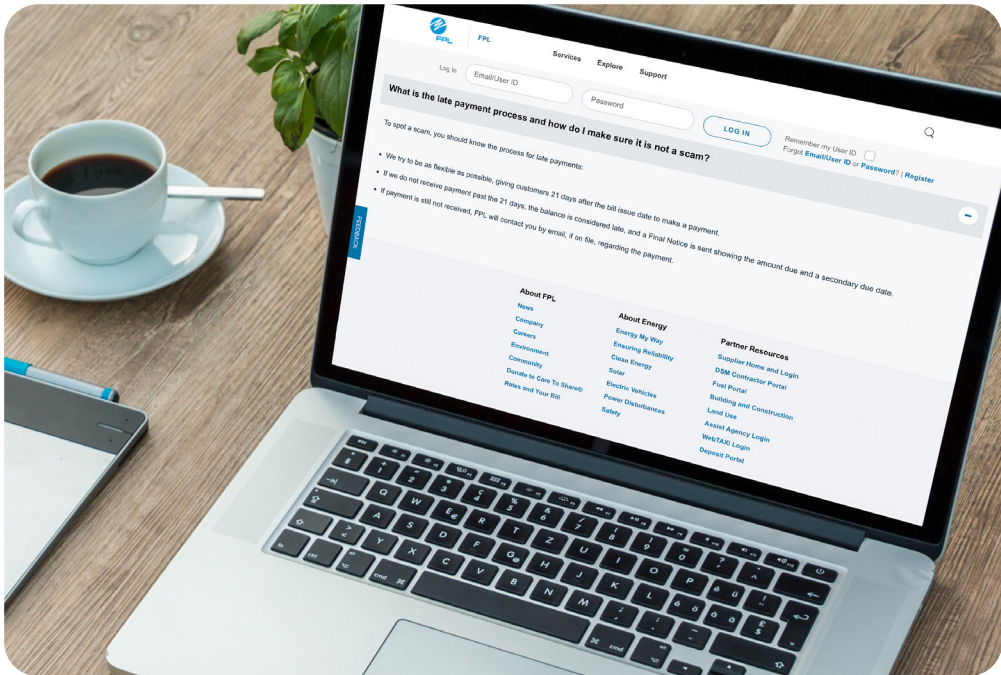
If you suspect that you or someone you know may have fallen victim to a scam, it is imperative to report the incident to law enforcement. By working together with law enforcement, you can help protect not only yourself but also others who may be potential targets of scams. FPL also has a scam reporting function on [FPL.com/protect](https://www.fpl.com/protect).

Additional Resources

Remember, education and awareness are key components of staying safe in an increasingly interconnected world. By staying vigilant, customers can protect their financial and personal well-being, ensuring a safer and more secure future.

Visit [FPL.com/protect](https://www.fpl.com/protect) to access additional information, resources and updates regarding scams and fraud prevention. If you suspect that your business has fallen victim to a scam, report it via email at reportbusinessfraud@nee.com.

After a scam incident, customers should also contact their local police department, the Florida Attorney General Office at www.MyFloridaLegal.com or the Federal Trade Commission at www.consumer.ftc.gov.



COMMUNITY

Garden Club stays busy during fall with community activities

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

The Chipley Garden Club has enjoyed a busy fall so far in 2023. November began with the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 1, at the home of Gweneth and Wade Collins. The special guest of the day was Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District II Director, Sue Meyers, who thanked the group for attending the District II meeting in October and discussed upcoming FFGC events. In other business, the tree for Arbor Day 2024 has been purchased and is on hold at the nursery until January. A Golden Pollinator certificate was presented to the Butterfly Garden Team and a Butterfly Sanctuary certificate was presented to Wildflower/Butterfly Chair Glenda Wilson. Wilson presented the Gloriosa Lily, aka Gloriosa superba, as the wildflower of the month. This bright red and orange lily is non-native, invasive, and toxic to humans. Members were reminded to propagate succulents and gather dried materials for school activities in January and February.

The club's Community Outreach for November will be a donation of \$250 to the Kate M. Smith Elementary School's Closet Fund. Earlier in October, 68 pounds of food was donated to the food bank and boxes of peanut butter were donated to UF/IFAS. The club voted to begin holding the monthly meetings at the Washington County Ag Center East Classroom beginning in January 2024, to bestow an honorary membership to Paul Goulding of Panhandle Technical College for his club support and to participate in the Chipley Christmas Fest with the Glitter Pine Cone activity. Club members also enjoyed a field trip to Dothan Area Botanical Gardens in October to view the Scarecrows in the Garden and visit the butterfly house. Chipley Garden Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at a public venue or member's home. Visitors are also welcome. If you would like to attend a meeting, or find out more about the club's activities, contact Gweneth Collins, President, at 850-260-4049.



Chipley Garden Club members are seen with Florida Federation of Garden Club President Tina Tuttle at a Fall District II meeting in Mexico Beach. [CONTRIBUTED]



A Golden Pollinator certificate was presented to the Butterfly Garden Team. Pictured are Chair Glenda Wilson, Vice President Linda Pigott, and club member Cheryl McCall. Not pictured is Haley Pendleton. [CONTRIBUTED]



Club member Diane Webb is shown in the Rose Garden at Dothan Area Botanical Gardens. [CONTRIBUTED]



Community Outreach Chair Pam Morzos and Treasurer Debbie Mitchell present a check to Kate M. Smith Elementary School Principal Chris Tyre and Guidance Counselors Sule Locke and Tiffany Clifton. [CONTRIBUTED]

SUDOKU ANSWERS

From page 9A

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

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

From page 9A

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

Kent Smith Group
Filling the gap between ideas and reality

X-TREME
MOBILE
CAR DETAILING

Who God Bless No Man Can Curse

WASH*SHAMPOO*VACUUM*WAX

FREE ESTIMATES
Owner: Justin Cook

850.849.8855

Join us for a
Taste of
Italy

Diabetic Educational
Dinner

Thursday,
November 16, 2023
5:00 – 7:00pm

Agricultural Center
2741 Pennsylvania Ave.
Marianna

No cost to attend.

Featured Speakers

Rachel Coleman, RDN, LDN
Clinical Nutrition Manager

Claudia Burns, APRN
Emergency Department

Reservations Required.
Seating Limited.
Call 850.718.2884 to
reserve your spot today!

OUTDOORS

Xtreme Bounty Racing Motorsports at Vortex Spring

STAFF REPORT

Xtreme Bounty Racing Motorsports (XBR) took over The Original Vortex Spring in

Ponce de Leon for the weekend during Nov. 10 and 11. The event featured dirt bike racing on dirt trails. Spectators came out to the outdoor recreational spot to enjoy the competitions and record the moment on their phones. Bikes whizzed by as country and rock music was played by a DJ.



Dirt bike racers took off on an outdoor trail on Nov. 10 during Xtreme Bounty Racing (XBR), a racing event at Vortex Spring. [COLLIN BREAUX | Washington County News and Holmes County Advertiser]



Dirt bike racers took off on an outdoor trail on Nov. 10 during Xtreme Bounty Racing (XBR), a racing event at Vortex Spring. [COLLIN BREAUX | Washington County News and Holmes County Advertiser]



Dirt bike racers took off on an outdoor trail on Nov. 10 during Xtreme Bounty Racing (XBR), a racing event at Vortex Spring. [COLLIN BREAUX | Washington County News and Holmes County Advertiser]



Riders weren't afraid to get muddy during Xtreme Bounty Racing at Vortex Sprint on Nov. 10-11. [COURTESY OF RICKMERC]



Riders weren't afraid to get muddy during Xtreme Bounty Racing at Vortex Sprint on Nov. 10-11. [COURTESY OF RICKMERC]

Lonely Paws Club



Pet of the week: Smile
NANTHOMPSON

“Smile for the camera, Frankie. No, look here. Frankie, sit right.”
What? Do I look like a supermodel?
I don’t think so. I am tired and ready for a nap.
Digging is in my nature, so I might make a few holes in the yard. The name Dachshund is actually German for “Badger Dog.”
Guess this all leads to the fact I’m going to need a fenced yard and supervision until I learn where I belong. I love to play and have fun but also like nice long cuddling sessions where you scratch my ears and my tummy. Are you up for the task?
My name is Frankie and I am an approximately two-year-old male long haired Dachshund. I’m up to date on my shots, neutered, and ready for my new home.
I currently live in Bonifay at BARRK Rescue and I love everyone. I am crate trained and housebroken.
For more information about me or any of my friends here at BARRK Rescue, call 850-768-0157 or visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/barrkrescueinc.
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.

EST



2021

PAW BARN PET RESORT

982 Hwy 90 Chipley, FL 32428
850-676-4143



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