



HELENE TEARS THROUGH TRI-COUNTY AREA

from its center, and tropical storm-force winds reaching out as far out as 345 miles from the center.

As of Sunday, the storm, which had been downgraded to a post-tropical cyclone, was still stalled over the Tennessee Valley, causing major flooding, property damage and power outages. All told, the storm caused massive outages across multiple states, resulted in millions if not billions of dollars of property damage and loss, and was responsible for the deaths of at least 95 people as of early Monday, Sept. 30, according to news reports.

The death toll as of Monday morning included 36 in North Carolina, 25 in South Carolina, 17 in Georgia, *See "Helene" on page 9*

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The remnants of Hurricane Helene – which struck the Big Bend region as a major storm last Thursday night – were still wreaking havoc across the U.S. Southeast on Sunday and into Monday, leaving a reported 600-mile swath of death and destruction in its aftermath.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) reports that Helene had an enormous wind field, with hurricane-force winds extending outward 60 miles



Business Damage Assessment Survey activated to measure Hurricane Helene's impact

FloridaCommerce
Contributor

Damage Assessment Survey in response to Hurricane Helene. Business owners can self-report physical and economic damage caused by Hurricane Helene. Survey responses will allow the state to expedite Hurricane Helene recovery efforts by gathering data and assessing the needs of impacted businesses.

Businesses can complete the survey online by visiting FloridaDisaster.biz and selecting "Hurricane Helene" from the dropdown menu.

Individuals who need additional assistance with their businesses can call the private sector hotline at (850) 815-4925, open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or email ESF18@em.myflorida.com.



Additional relief assistance available to those in need

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As the community continues to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, several organizations are offering additional assistance to those in need.

SBA offers disaster loans

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has announced the availability of disaster loans for individuals and businesses in areas impacted by Hurricane Helene. The storm, which struck Florida on Thursday, Sept. 26, caused significant damage in several counties. On Sunday, Sept. 29, President Joe Biden signed a Major Disaster Declaration,

opening the door for residents and business owners in affected areas to apply for financial assistance through the SBA's disaster loan programs.

Eligible counties for physical damage and economic injury loans include Charlotte, Citrus, Dixie, Franklin, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Taylor and Wakulla. Neighboring counties, such as Alachua, Collier and Suwannee, are eligible for economic injury loans only. Additionally, three Georgia counties—Brooks, Lowndes and Thomas—are also eligible for economic injury loans.

The SBA is offering several types of disaster loans. Business Physical Disaster Loans provide funding to repair or replace damaged

business property, while Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) assist small businesses and non-profits in meeting financial obligations they are unable to meet due to the disaster. Homeowners and renters may also apply for Home Disaster Loans to repair or replace their damaged properties.

The loan amounts can reach up to \$2 million for businesses and up to \$500,000 for homeowners, with interest rates varying based on credit availability. Rates for homeowners without credit elsewhere are as low as 2.813 percent, while business loans for those without credit elsewhere are available at 4 percent. Non-profit organizations can apply for loans at an interest rate of 3.250 percent.

Applications for physical damage loans must be submitted by Nov. 27. The deadline for economic injury loans is June 30, 2025. Applicants can submit their loan applications

See "Relief" on page 9

Eggroll Truck to distribute 10,000 free meals to residents impacted by Hurricane Helene

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In response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, the Eggroll Truck is organizing a large-scale meal giveaway to support those affected by the storm. The initiative aims to distribute 10,000 free meals across two Lowe's locations in Lake City and Live Oak, providing much-needed relief to impacted residents.

The first distribution will take place at Lowe's in Lake City, located at 3463 NW Bascom Norris Dr., on Wednesday, Oct. 2, beginning at 11 a.m. and continuing until all meals are distributed.

In Live Oak, meals will be distributed on Thursday, Oct. 3, at Lowe's, located at 208 72nd Tr. NE, beginning at 10:30 a.m. and continuing until the supply is exhausted.

The Eggroll Truck team encourages residents in need to come to these locations early, as demand is expected to be high. This effort is part of a larger community-driven response to aid recovery efforts after Hurricane Helene.



Photos courtesy of Riverbend News Staff and Community Members

The good, the bad and the ugly: "Creation of the Gods I: Kingdom of Storms"



Christian Peterson
Columnist

"Creation of the Gods I: Kingdom of Storms" is the first movie in the "Creation of the Gods" trilogy. The trilogy, which is based off of the 16th century Chinese novel "Investiture of the Gods" tells the story of the fall of the Shang dynasty and the rise of the Zhao dynasty, albeit with fictional and fantastical elements. The story has multiple intersecting plotlines. The main focus is on Yin Shou (Fei Xiang), the second prince of the Shang dynasty. Under the influence of Su Daji (Naran), who is possessed by a fox demon, Shou has his father and older brother killed, taking the place of King of All Realms. His son and crown prince, Yin Jiao (Chen Muchi), and hostage son of the Duke of the West, Ji Fa (Yosh Yu), begin to witness this evil and begin feeling uncomfortable by the evil exhibited by the king. At the same time, the Immortals of Kunlun entrust Jiang Ziya (Huang Bo) with the Fengshen Beng, a scroll with the ability to grant god-like powers, sending him on a journey to find the rightful King of All Realms and help end the Great Curse which is descending on China. What ensues is a wild, crazy, intrigue-filled romp through fantasy China. Be aware, there are SPOILERS in the following review.

The good: There was a lot about this movie I liked. Recently, I have found myself more and more enjoying foreign films and television; mostly because it seems that Hollywood refuses to attempt anything new, and foreign movies tend to have stories and concepts that I have never heard. My main credit in this movie goes to the actors in it. I was actually pleasantly surprised by how well the actors did. Specifically, Yosh Yu as Ji Fa, Chen Muchi as Yin Jiao, Xuejian Li as Ji Chang and Kris Phillips as King Zhou.

In doing my research for this review, I discovered that the actors working on this movie went through an intensive six-month bootcamp to prepare for filming. They learned things like horseback riding, archery, sword play and, for some of them, how to speak Chinese. This is the most expensive movie that China has ever made, and they actually filmed all three movies of the trilogy at one time. It is clear throughout the movie that the money was well spent on many things, including some superb actors and excellent costumes. It isn't a perfect movie, and there are places where money should have gone that it didn't, but I will touch on that later.

First, I must touch on the story. I do not know the original novel that this is based off of, "Investiture of the Gods." However, I am very aware of the difficulty of adapting a book to the screen, especially with one that is so highly regarded as the source material for this movie. From what I was able to understand, however, they did a good job. I at no point felt lost in the story. I always knew the general idea of what was happening, and was able to follow along despite watching the entire thing in Chinese.

Continuing the discussion of the story, this is a phenomenally interesting plot. The original book is the fictional retelling of the fall of the Shang dynasty and the rise of the Zhou dynasty, two real dynasties throughout Chinese history. It is very interesting to see the political intrigue throughout the movie, including in the regicide that it seems is committed every half hour in the movie. Not to mention the political interactions of a foreign entity, especially in that ancient of a setting. I may be too trusting, but I am hoping there was some realism to those interactions, showcasing what it would have been like to be a duke under punishment from the king of all realms.

I also wanted to give a shoutout to whoever the costume designer is for this movie. Everything was bright, colorful and fantastical, easily fitting with the theme of the

movie. Simultaneously, everything felt historically accurate. At no point was I pulled out of the film in confusion about why someone had on some jean shorts or a t-shirt. There is one specific scene with an individual tied up in ropes that was clearly designed for the ladies and those a little light in the loafers. However, I couldn't help but appreciate the way that whoever had designed that prisoner-type costume took into account the shape and musculature of the actor's body.

The music was also good, and there were some cool surprises in the film I don't want to spoil, but that make the movie worth it. Finally, as a closing comment in the good section. The ancient medieval battle scenes are epic and just worth watching.

The bad: Alright, this movie isn't from Hollywood, and there are definitely parts where that shows. The first and most obvious that anyone can pick out is the computer graphics (CG). For one particular character, the fox demon, the CG was actually awesome. The character felt ethereal and ghostly and creepy and demonic. It was well done and I liked it a lot. However, there are two particular scenes in this movie where you can't help but be pulled out of the story due to the CG. The first is an interaction with the Immortals of Kunlun. I mean, I struggle to even come up with the words to describe how bad the CG is in this scene. It's genuinely atrocious; almost bad enough for me to put it in the ugly section. However, I am willing to give some leniency to a movie studio and area that is not well-known for its ginormous CG-filled blockbusters like we are in the states.

The second is a green flying demon type character that only shows up for a few minutes in the film, though I am sure he will be elaborated on in the later films. I mean we are talking like late 90s early 2000s bad CG. It's really rough.

The other thing I think this movie has a little rough is its run time. This film is two and a half hours long, which is the average time for a blockbuster. However, it just felt that long, which is not something you want. You don't want your audience to check their watch, which unfortunately I did. The end of the second act and the beginning of the third act definitely drag a little bit. Just as a personal opinion, I have watched plenty of foreign content, and would have appreciate a dub for such a big movie. Though, I will say dub actors never give justice for the actual actors of the movie.

The ugly: Finally, here is what I found to be just the downright worst parts of this movie, and what parents should be warned about. I will say that this is a surprisingly violent and dark movie. There is war, there is regicide, there is patricide, there is torture and, to top it all off, there is accidental cannibalism. I was very surprised at how dark the movie became in the second and third act. I didn't expect it to be a children's movie, but I also didn't expect it to become so adult so fast. Also, I must point out something that has always bothered me about Asian mythology: the clear obsession with demons. While I, like any good Christian boy, love watching demons get sliced and diced on screen, there is a strange obsession in Asian mythology with the worship of demons, and I theorize that, due to the lack of influence by the Western Christian world, this continued to a degree unseen across the world. The fear and simultaneous adoration of demons throughout this movie may be uncomfortable for some viewers. I must also warn that there are a few scenes with the character Daji, where she is acting fairly sexual. While there are no sex scenes in the movie, there is still a tremendous amount of sensuality from the character and may not be appropriate for younger viewers.

Conclusion: Honestly, I really did enjoy the movie. Even looking back about a week after watching it I still find myself recommending the movie. It's fun, it's crazy, and you really can't predict the next move in the story. The music is great, the action is great and the actors are great. All around, it's just a fun and wild trip. I probably wouldn't let a 10-year-old watch it, but really anyone older than that would handle it fine. The only issue is that it is only available in Chinese. Ultimately, it's going to be a recommendation for me. We should support attempts at original stories and stories that haven't been given an honest adaption, and this movie is awesome on its own. I give it eight out of 10 gator tails.

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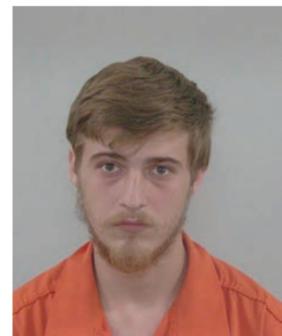
Jasper teen arrested for possession of firearm

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A Jasper teenager was arrested on Tuesday, Sept. 24, after officers with the Lake City Police Department (LCPD) were dispatched to Magnolia Pediatrics at approximately 11:45 a.m. in reference to three teenagers walking around the business with firearms.

In a press release, LCPD stated witnesses reported one of the suspects, later identified as 19-year-old Jasper resident Timothy Lee Johns, fled the scene before officers arrived. Witnesses stated Johns abandoned a backpack that was in his possession before fleeing. The press release states a subsequent search of the backpack revealed a loaded Remington RP9 9mm semi-automatic handgun.

Officers later located Johns at a nearby business, where he was apprehended without further incident. Johns was booked into the Columbia County Jail at 2:10 p.m. and charged under Florida Statute 790.01.2 for the concealed carry of a firearm without the proper criteria to do so and Florida Statute 784.021.1a for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intention to kill.



Timothy Lee Johns

Man arrested for allegedly exposing himself to crowd while drunk

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On Saturday, Sept. 21, officers with the Live Oak Police Department (LOPD) were sent to a residence on Hillman Avenue to speak with 53-year-old resident Jose Martinez Reyes. The original reason for the call was to trespass Reyes from the EZ Corner on Houston Avenue. According to a report filed by LOPD, Reyes had approached the cashier and threatened her by grabbing his own neck and

running a finger across his throat, as if to “insinuate cutting [her] throat.” At the time, the cashier only wanted to trespass Reyes from the store.

Once the officers made contact with Reyes, they noted a strong scent of alcohol coming from his breath and person. He was asked for his name and date of birth, to which he responded slowly. Reyes then attempted to stand up, stumbling around and unable to maintain an upright position. The report states he “appeared to be intoxicated, was unsteady on his feet, slurring his speech and was slow to respond to questions and commands.”

Officers attempted to continue the conversation with Reyes, but he attempted to

walk away. Reyes was told to sit down on the porch of a nearby residence, but refused before trying to unzip his pants. He was warned by the officers that if he exposed himself, he would be arrested. Reyes ignored the warning and pulled out his genitalia to urinate in a trash can. “As this occurred, it appeared there was a social gathering at this location, as numerous people were present on the porch and front yard,” the report states. “Multiple witnesses made comments expressing their disgust, and as a result, [Reyes] was clearly disturbing the peace of others. One party even stated out loud, ‘He needs to go to jail.’”

Reyes was arrested and charged with disorderly intoxication and indecent exposure. He was then taken to the Suwannee County Jail.



Jose Martinez Reyes

Help support a local single father

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On Saturday, July 27, Eddie Collier was working with his cousin, Lee Chauncey of Veteran's Tree Services to clear land in Wellborn. Collier was 45 feet off the ground in a bucket truck. In a turn of events that no one could have predicted, a tree limb snapped back and hit the bucket that Collier was in. This sent him careening towards the ground headfirst, ending in serious injuries.

Chauncey is a retired paramedic and immediately began helping his cousin. It is taught that when someone falls from a height that is three times their height it can be fatal. However, Collier hit a chain-link fence, which helped break

his fall. Nevertheless, the fall was still brutal. Collier broke his back in three places, had six broken ribs, a punctured lung that collapses, a lacerated liver, a lacerated spleen and his right arm was crushed.

Unfortunately, Collier is now in a rough spot. He had just received full custody of his daughter, and is very concerned about the future, as the accident will keep him away from work for a long time. Thankfully, since then, Collier has left the hospital. However, that doesn't mean that his road to recovery isn't still long. To help out, a GoFundMe page has been set up. The money will go to Collier to help support him as a single father, and to help with his medical expenses. Visit the the GoFundMe website and search: “Help Eddie and his daughter through this crisis.”

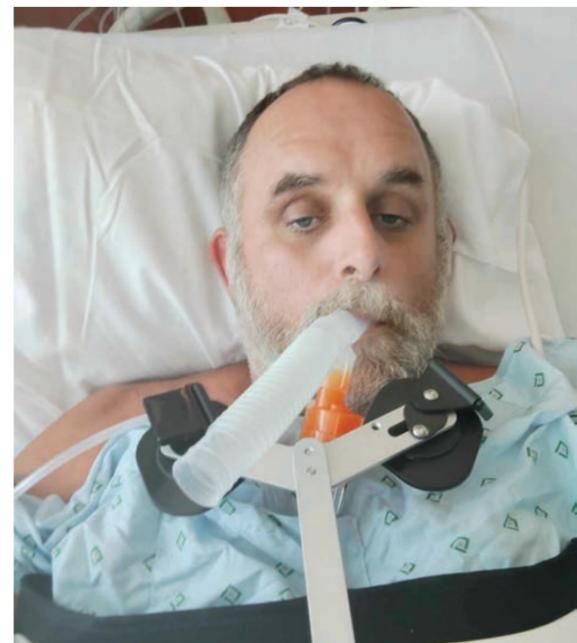


Photo courtesy of Eddie Collier

Collier lies in the hospital bed trying to heal from his tragic accident.

STAY INFORMED: Sign up for emergency updates

Haley Heseltine
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When preparing to face a crisis, every second counts. That is why it is so important that timely and effective emergency alerts reach everyone before the crisis does. Emergency alerts do not just notify citizens about an existing hazard, they help everyone prepare for disasters so they can act fast. Getting the time to take decisive action when faced with a crisis saves lives and reduces property losses, lessening the overall impact of the disaster on homes, the community and residents' lives.

In the tri-county area, there are two different emergency alert programs available, but the functions of both programs, Everbridge and CodeRED, serve similar purposes. Whenever there is a local crisis, such as severe weather, these programs ensure residents are informed and can take appropriate action. In most places, landlines are called automatically, but citizens may also opt to receive additional emergency notifications via email, call and text for their mobile phones with these programs.

With the chaotic Florida weather and hurricane season in full swing, it is

more important now than ever for us all to stay informed, and ensuring emergency updates reach residents is a vital step in doing so. Do not delay in signing up if you have not already done so!

Suwannee County residents:

Sign up for Everbridge directly at member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725570. Individuals needing assistance with signing up may call (386) 364-3405.

Hamilton County residents:

Sign up for CodeRED at hamiltonem.com. Individuals needing assistance with signing up may call (386) 792-6647.

Lafayette County residents:

Sign up for Everbridge via the quick links at www.lafayetteso.org/emergency-management.html. Individuals needing assistance with signing up may call (386) 294-1950.

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Community Calendar

Tuesdays - Sundays

“You want to drink? That’s your business. You want to stop? That’s our business.” Join Live Oak’s Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) group to discover a new way of life. Regular Live Oak AA meetings are held each week at 7 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays. Men only meetings are held each Sunday at 8 a.m., and are followed by women only meetings at 4 p.m. The group also holds AI-Anon and AlaTeen meetings every Sunday at 2 p.m., which are open to friends and family of all ages. Each session will be held in the building next to the Suwannee County Health Department at 911 Nobles Ferry Rd., in Live Oak.

Wednesday, Oct. 2 and Thursday, Oct. 3

Let TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) help you with your weight management goals. TOPS is a weight-loss support group that meets weekly on Wednesdays and Thursdays. TOPS will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 9:15 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, located at 9989 CR 136, in Live Oak. The group then meets on Thursday, Oct. 3, at 9 a.m. at First Advent Christian Church, located at 699 Pinewood Dr. SW, in Live Oak. For more information, call (386) 362-5933 or (386) 362-5995.

Friday, Oct. 4

Join the Suwannee River Regional Library for its free Health and Wellness Series. This week's class will be about high blood pressure, and will run from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Attendees can expect to receive a free blood pressure cuff, a free blood sugar monitor and supplies, education and resources, heart healthy recipes and more. No registration is needed for this class. For more information, contact Kim Griffin or Sandra Wainwright with the UF/IFAS Suwannee Extension at (386) 362-2771. The Suwannee River Regional Library is located at 1848 Ohio Ave. S, in Live oak.

Thursday, Oct. 10 – Saturday, Oct. 19

The Suwannee County Friends of the Library will hold its annual Book Sale starting Thursday, Oct. 10, to Saturday, Oct. 19, at the Suwannee River Regional Library, located at 1848 Ohio Ave. S, in Live Oak, during regular library hours. The Friends of the Library will be offering books, DVDs and CDs at great prices. All proceeds will benefit the Suwannee River Regional Library System.

Jail Report

Lafayette County

Sept. 24

Maxwell Scott, simple assault domestic violence

Crystal McKnight, driving while license

suspended or restricted habitual

Joseph Pye, violation of probation

Hamilton County

Sept. 23

John Presley Woolum, moving traffic violation, marijuana possession

Joshua Paul Holroyd, failure to appear

Sept. 25

Kala Ryan Truex, aggravated battery

Sept. 28

Darwin Rubin Maldonado Santos, moving traffic violation, battery, resist officer with violence, resist officer without violence

Sept. 29

Delonshea Sherrod Townsend Sr., withhold

support

Talmadge Dunagan Barber, two counts of failure to appear

Suwannee County

Sept. 23

Abigail Solei Law, out-of-county warrant

Juan Ramon Fernandez, aggravated battery, felony battery or domestic violence strangulation

Mylysa Christine Pierson, possession of controlled substance, drug equipment possession, making false report, out-of-county warrant

David Scott Apperson, battery, resist officer without violence

Sept. 25

Jacob Curtis Harry, moving traffic violation, nonmoving traffic violation

Jefferson Hamilton Helfrich, lewd and lascivious behavior victim over 12 years old but younger than 16 years old

Wayne Alan Fairbanks, possession of controlled substance

James Andrew Denmark, petit theft

Sept. 26

Mya La'Kori Williams, probation violation

Rufus Charles Battle, fraud

Manuel Lopez-Diaz, petit theft

Sept. 28

Angela Leigh Gaar, moving traffic violation, nonmoving traffic violation

Sept. 29

Heather Marie Curtis, neglect child, battery

Sept. 30

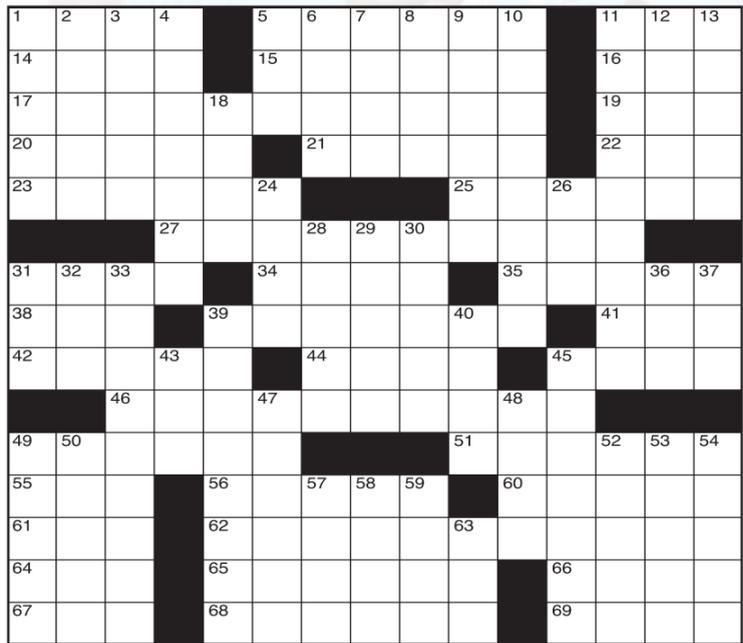
Aaron Scott Lake, neglect child, felony battery or domestic violence strangulation

Joshua Vernest Smith, drug equipment possession, drugs possession, probation violation

Michael Scott McLean, drug equipment possession, drugs possession

Puzzle

Crossword



- Water sprite
- Ones to look up to
- Monetary units
- We all have one
- Marine invertebrate
- One who institutes a legal proceeding
- Outer
- Parallelograms
- Uncomfortable feelings
- Cross to form an X
- Remove
- Some pages are dog_
- Capital of Ukraine
- A citizen of Denmark
- Eighth month (abbr.)
- Hindu queens
- Acids structurally related to amino acids
- Rider of Rohan in Tolkien
- Wet dirt
- Russian city
- Observed
- Irate
- Inspire with love
- Think Japanese ankle sock
- Appears
- Old World lizard
- The lead dancer: ___ ballerina
- Protein involved in motion
- Rosalind Franklin biographer
- Popular 1920s style art ___
- ___ Blyton, children’s author
- Abnormal breathing
- A place to rest

CLUES ACROSS

- Separate with an instrument
- State clearly
- One-time MLB speedster Gordon
- Broad in scope
- Lacking social polish
- Amount of time
- Frame
- Automobile
- Caps
- High school dances
- Utilize
- Checked
- One-sided
- Having an extreme greed for wealth
- Potted plants
- We all have one
- Lake north of the Kalahari
- Unidentified flying object
- Aging persons
- Small amount
- Mother of Perseus
- Ornamental waist box
- Officials
- Uncertain
- A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- Extensive, treeless plains
- Your consciousness of your own identity
- Consumer advocate Ralph
- Notable Spanish sports club
- Body part
- One’s responsiveness
- Woman (French)
- Ready and willing to be taught
- Muslim ruler title
- Unhappy
- Gradually disappeared
- Able to think clearly

CLUES DOWN

- Brushed

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Solutions

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

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

Help celebrate the African American Development Council's 29th anniversary

Rachal Deming
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Join the African American Development Council, Inc., as it celebrates its 29th Anniversary. The African American Development Council works towards the professional, spiritual, education, civil, political and economic development of the African American community in Suwannee County. The theme of the anniversary will be "Find your place, and fill it." The event's guest speaker will be Kerri Renee Brown, JD. The event will take place at Ebenezer AME Church, located at 411 Parshley Ave., in Live Oak, on Saturday, Oct. 5, at 6 p.m. It will be a event you don't want to miss!

Spread holiday cheer at the annual Festival of Lights

Adyson Hammock
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The Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park's annual Festival of Lights will be held from Friday, Dec. 6 to Monday, Dec. 23, and they are looking for volunteers. There are several positions to choose from to participate and spread holiday cheer throughout the festival. The positions throughout the festival that need to be filled include Santa's helpers, popcorn poppers, hot chocolatiers, marshmallow stickers, toll takers, snow patrollers, roaming elves, train guards and decorators. The park is looking for creative volunteers to fill the park with holiday displays. To volunteer, contact (386) 397-7009 or email volunteer.stephenfoster@dep.state.fl.us to arrange a time that works for you. Positions other than decorators will be from 4:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. nightly, and decorators can arrange a time that works for them.

Suwannee County 4-H selling chicken and rice lunches

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In order to raise funds for the Suwannee County 4-H program, a chicken and rice lunch fundraiser will be held on Thursday, Oct. 10. Meal tickets can be



purchased from any Suwannee County 4-H council member, 4-H volunteer or the Suwannee County Extension Office. For \$10 a ticket, you can receive a delicious lunch of chicken and rice, a side, a roll

and dessert to be picked up at the office on Coliseum Loop from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For orders of multiple meals, a delivery option is available. For more information on this fundraiser, contact suwannee4h@ifas.ufl.edu or (386) 362-2771.



NFLT encourages landowners in the O2O and C2C to apply for financial assistance programs

North Florida Land Trust
Contributor

North Florida Land Trust (NFLT), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS), is urging landowners within the Ocala to Osceola Wildlife Corridor, or O2O, and within the Corridor to Coast, or C2C, area to apply for financial assistance through land management programs. Landowners in these areas can apply now through Friday, Nov. 1, for land management opportunities through the NRCS's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

Landowners within or touching the O2O or the C2C boundary could be eligible for financial assistance to address natural resource challenges on their agricultural land. The counties included in the project areas are portions of Baker, Bradford, Clay, Hamilton, Marion, Putnam and Union Counties and all of Duval, Flagler, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties. To be eligible for the programs, these landowners must be registered with the USDA Farm Service Agency. Interested landowners should contact NFLT at (904) 557-7985 or email o2o@nflt.org or c2c@nflt.org. Priorities will be given to historically underserved farmers and ranchers, as well as landowners who already hold an RCPP conservation easement.

to manage land that protects natural resources and wildlife. The program further enhances conservation goals and addresses on-farm, watershed and regional natural resource concerns.

NFLT is leading both the O2O and C2C partnerships, which protect and improve land within these areas, which serve as natural buffers and provide habitats for many wildlife species. The natural land helps protect against flooding by providing storage and decreases the potential for soil erosion and pollution from fertilizers, insecticides, oil, grease and other human-made and natural pollutants that can enter water sources through runoff, drainage, seepage or precipitation. Preserving these water-abundant landscapes is critical for protecting the region from sea level rise, erosion and increased rainfall.

About North Florida Land Trust

North Florida Land Trust is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the quality of life by protecting North Florida's irreplaceable natural environment. Founded in 1999, NFLT has preserved tens of thousands of acres of land through the donation or purchase of land as well as conservation easements. NFLT is funded largely by private and corporate contributions and works closely with willing landowners and public agencies at all levels of government, not-for-profit partners and foundations. For more information, visit nflt.org.

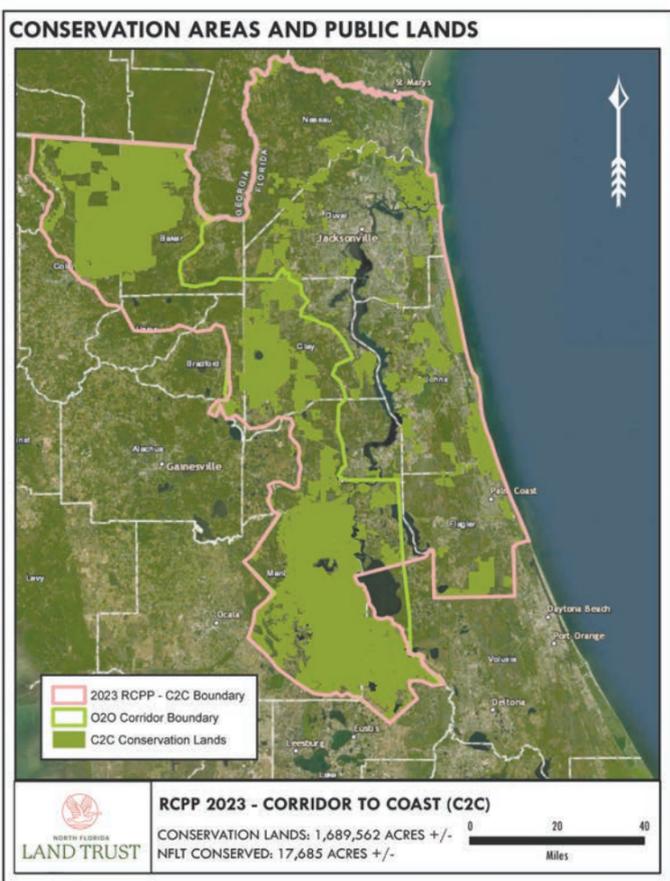


Photo courtesy of NFLT

Landowners within or touching the O2O or the C2C boundary, including Hamilton County, could be eligible for financial assistance to address natural resource challenges on their agricultural land.

These landowners can access funding through the RCPP in 2025: \$700,000 is available for land management projects in the O2O, and \$1,500,000 is available for those in the C2C. The C2C is an expansion of the O2O and extends through Northeast and Central Florida to the East Coast. The funding is for restoration and management practices that benefit habitats for wildlife and imperiled species, improvements to timber stands, water resources quantity and quality and carbon sequestration.

NFLT and NRCS are interested in addressing concerns in the O2O, including degraded plant conditions, fire management, source water depletion, terrestrial habitat and weather resilience. In the C2C, the priorities are focused on degraded plant conditions, field sediment or nutrient pathogen loss, fire management, pest pressure, soil quality limitations, terrestrial habitat and wind-water erosion.

The RCPP is a partner-driven approach to conservation that funds solutions to natural resource challenges on agricultural and natural lands. It brings together local, state, and federal financial landowner assistance programs for private landowners

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Suwannee Animal Shelter holding Halloween adoption event

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The Suwannee County Animal Shelter will be holding an in-house Halloween Trunk-or-Treat and Adoption Event on Saturday, Oct. 12, beginning at 10 a.m. A raffle will kick off the event, which can be entered through donations being made to the vet medical fund at the shelter or from the shelter's Amazon wishlist, which can be found on its Facebook page. There will also be a trunk-or-treat at the event, a children's costume contest, a food truck and tons of fun games for the whole family. The event will last until 3 p.m. and will take place at 11150 144th St., in McAlpin. For more information, contact (386) 208-0072.



Donations needed for domestic violence survivors

Rachal Deming
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October is National Domestic Violence Awareness month, and to help those in need, Vivid Visions Inc. will be collecting items for victims of domestic abuse throughout the entire month of October.

The items that the organization is in need of are:

- Non-perishable food, coffee, tea and drink mixes.
- Pillows and twin size sheets.
- Bath towels and kitchen towels.
- Laundry detergent, cleaning products and clothes baskets.
- Paper products.
- Pots and pans.
- Dishes, flatware, glasses and kitchen utensils.
- Small kitchen appliances.
- Durable flashlights.
- Personal hygiene products and toiletry items.
- New socks and underclothing
- Baby supplies and diapers.

Individuals wishing to make a donation can drop items off at the Suwannee County Sheriff's Office, Criminal Division, located at 1902 NE Duval St., in Live Oak, or at the front of the main office, located at 200 S Ohio Ave., Suite 105, in Live Oak.

Local raffle to support a student in need

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Growing up, senior year is always something every student plans for. It's a very exciting time in one's life.

Unfortunately for Branford High School student Julian Young, his senior year looks a little different than others'. Young was recently diagnosed with Leukemia, a cancer of the body's blood-forming tissues, including bone marrow and the lymphatic system, and is having to undergo treatment. With that, medical bills start to pile up, along with added travel expenses for him and his family.

Kelsey Bass, Young's friend of three years, has noticed the need for the Young family and is hosting a raffle to help raise funds for them. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. Items included in the raffle basket are a Yeti Roadie, a cast iron oyster grill seasoning injector, a Bayou classic seafood set, a grill set, a 30 ounce Stanley cup, a \$50 Suwannee Brew gift card, a \$50 gift card to The



Photo courtesy of Jessica Danielle
Julian Young

Gathering, five bags of corn from Branford Feed and a \$500 auto repair from Corbin Automotive. The donations have been made from local business, such as The Old General Store, The Addison Family, DHI, Dylan Harrelson, INC. and Three Rivers Design and Printing.

You can purchase tickets from Suwannee Brew Coffee Co., located at 101 Suwannee Ave. SW, in Branford, or message Kelsey or Brooke Bass on Facebook. The drawing will be held on Friday, Oct. 4, during halftime at the Branford vs. Trenton football game. You do not have to be present to win.

GRACE GAZETTE

Volume XXII Issue 38

Published occasionally for mourners in Zion

Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Hebrews 12:12-13

OUR MEDITATION

And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. Matthew 14:23

At the end of his Gospel record, John wrote these words: "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen" (John 21:25). Just prior to that, he had commented upon the fact that the LORD JESUS did many miracles that only HIS close disciples were witnesses to, but are not given unto us to know. "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:30-31).

Yet, while we are left to wonder about these things, we are also reminded by him that "one thing is needful" (see Luke 10:42). Often times, men seek out answers to questions they have which no one has the answer to, while they overlook the ONE TRUTH which is the answer to all needful questions. John says it plainly here. "That ye might believe" and that "believing ye might have life through his name."

It does not matter what secrets men may discover or what great theological knowledge they might obtain, if they miss this important TRUTH, they are destitute. It is reported that John Newton, the author of the well known hymn, "Amazing Grace," was asked (as he lay upon his death bed) what great Bible truths gave him comfort in these final hours. The inquirer assumed that he would share some deep words of knowledge gained from his many years of Bible study and service to the brethren of his church. As he waited with bated breath, Newton told him that he could only remember two things: One was what a great sinner he was, and the other was what a great SAVIOR CHRIST is.

That is the "one thing needful" for men to know. The man who is given eyes to behold this TRUTH and believe it is privileged beyond measure, for he has been granted the gift of FAITH which cannot be overturned, forgotten or taken from him. The LORD said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand" (John 10:27-29). The comfort and lasting hope of the awakened sons of GOD is found in the SAVIOR's declaration: "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:14-15).

The LORD JESUS CHRIST was a MAN of prayer. "And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1). HIS disciples observed this throughout HIS short sojourn upon this Earth, and seeing HIS example; desired that HE instruct them in these matters. What follows is HIS model prayer which is often wrongly (in my opinion) called the "LORD's prayer." Actually, I believe that HIS entire life was one of prayer, and if we were to single out one prayer which would be called the "LORD's prayer," it would be found in the 17th chapter of John's gospel. It was this prayer which typified HIS devotion to HIS FATHER and HIS commitment to deliver HIS people from bondage. Herein, we see HIS great love to both HIS FATHER and those which were given to HIM by HIS FATHER.

It would seem that HE prayed this prayer in the presence of HIS disciples, for immediately afterwards, HE crossed the Brook Cedron going into the Garden of Gethsemane (see John 18:1). There, HE took Peter, James and John a ways off from the rest and then removed HIMSELF, even from them, so that HE might enter upon the greatest agony of soul that any man before or since has experienced. "And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matthew 26:39). HE was surely in the anteroom of hell as the sin of HIS people was pressed upon HIM and HE poured out HIS soul unto death (see Isaiah 53:12). HIS experience here is described by the Psalmist: "I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death" (Psalms 22:14-15).

The afflictions of Job are but a partial illustration of that which fully encompassed our LORD as HE grappled with the afflictions of HIS people, which HE had made HIS own. "Terrors are turned upon me: they pursue my soul as the wind: and my welfare passeth away as a cloud. And now my soul is poured out upon me; the days of affliction have taken hold upon me. My bones are pierced in me in the night season: and my sinews take no rest. By the great force of my disease is my garment changed: it bindeth me about as the collar of my coat. He hath cast me into the mire, and I am become like dust and ashes" (Job 30:15-19). Is it any wonder that HE should cry out that this cup might be removed from HIM? Never once did HE desire to abandon HIS people for HIS own rest, but rather here demonstrates both the weakness of the flesh and the utter triumph of the GOD-MAN as HE commits HIMSELF again to the FATHER's will.

HIS greatest desire was to do HIS FATHER's will and walk in a manner which pleased HIM. Yet, here HE is before HIM who will not look upon sin, covered in the filth of those whose SUBSTITUTE HE was. Never has such a dilemma been visited upon any man nor could any mere man have survived it. For now, HE was everything HIS FATHER despised and the only manner in which HE could please the FATHER was to be displeasing in HIS FATHER's sight. Oh, what wonder and amazement which sweeps over our mind as we behold the crushing weight of this burden and HIS absolute resolve to bear it for our sakes. "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and he hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:3-5).

David was given the privilege of experiencing and writing down those heart meditations of our LORD as HE often went apart to pray, sometimes in a mountain, sometimes for an entire night. Yet, HE declared the ONE in whom HE trusted. "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar. Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me. Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the enemy?" (Psalms 42:5-9). Truly, HE was compassed about with many enemies as Satan himself sought to destroy HIM, and the Jews plotted HIS demise daily as they went about to confound HIM with their reason and yet HE triumphed over them all.

We are greatly blessed, as we are given the privilege from time to time, to meditate upon that which HE has undertaken for us. HE is indeed our "song in the night," our sweet MEDITATION. "Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel. And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard" (Isaiah 30:29-30). "I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search" (Psalms 77:6). Though these meditations are often very fleeting, they are nonetheless greatly satisfying, not because of our activity, but because of the ONE whose glory we are allowed to contemplate. "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:2-3).

"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee. Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips: When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches. Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice" (Psalms 63:1-7). As this is the prayer of our LORD, may it be ours, as well.

Suwannee County Friends of the Library to hold annual Book Sale



Danny Federico
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

The Suwannee County Friends of the Library will be hosting its annual Book Sale from Thursday, Oct. 10, through Saturday, Oct. 19, at the Suwannee River Regional Library, located at 1848 Ohio Ave. S, in Live Oak. The sale will be held during regular library hours.

A wide variety of books, DVDs and CDs will be available for purchase at discounted prices. All proceeds from the sale will go to benefit the Suwannee River Regional Library System, supporting its programs and services.

The Friends of the Library organization is dedicated to enhancing library resources and fostering community involvement. This year's event is expected to draw residents who are eager to support the library while picking up affordable books and other media.

For more information, contact the Suwannee River Regional Library at (386) 362-2317.

The Suwannee River Regional Library is open from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. The library is closed on Sundays.

BUCCANEERS SEND TIGERS AWAY WITH 3-2 WIN

Christian Peterson
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On Monday, Sept. 23, the Branford High School Buccaneers made their way just a little to the north to face off against the Columbia County Tigers in a volleyball showdown. What ensued was an intense matchup between the two teams, which ended in a victory for the Buccaneers.

The first set established the tone for the entire game, with the Buccaneers taking the set with a score of 25-20. The second set was an upset, as the Tigers pulled out a win with a score of 25-22. Set three was another concerning one for the Buccaneers, as the Tigers stole another win with a score of 25-21. However, things got back on track for the Buccaneers in the fourth set, as they dominated with a score of 25-19. Everything came down to the line; the teams were tied with two sets under each of their belts. Each team was desperate for the win and tired from an intense game. However, the Buccaneers had a hunger that couldn't be filled, claiming the fifth and final set with a score of 15-13. The game came to a close as the Buccaneers walked away with a 3-2 victory.

After their win, the Buccaneers hold a 16-3 record. Their next game was on Tuesday, Sept. 24, when the team traveled to face off against the Dixie



Photo courtesy of Branford Buccaneers

The Buccaneers smile for a photo after destroying the Tigers.

County Bears. No game scores were available at the time of writing, but the Buccaneers and the Bears have faced off before and it ended with a 3-0 loss for the Bears. The next home game for the Buccaneers was scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 26. However, due to Hurricane Helene, that game has been canceled. The next regularly scheduled game is set for Monday, Oct. 10, at 5 p.m. once again against the Tigers this time on the Buccaneers' home court.

Hornets take first loss of volleyball season

Christian Peterson
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On Tuesday, Sept. 24, the Lafayette High School Hornets hosted the Columbia County Tigers in a volleyball showdown. The Hornets entered the game without a single loss on their record and a chip on their shoulder to take down the Tigers and defend their home court.

The game started off tight, as the Tigers took the first set 25-20. The Hornets were not to be dismissed, however, as they responded in the second set destroying the Tigers with a score of 25-11. The third set mirrored the second, with the Hornets claiming the win once more, 25-18. However, the winds changed for the Hornets in the fourth



Riverbend News photo by Alexa Duarte

The Hornets smile for a team photo.

set, as they lost it 25-16. Everything came down to the last set, as both teams had proved their worth to the other. They stood on the court, exhausted, sweating and with victory within both of their reaches. Volley after volley flew

by. Unfortunately, the Tigers ended up on top, winning the set 15-11. Thus, the game ended with a loss for the Hornets 3-2, making it their first loss of the season.

The Hornets now have a 14-1 record for the season, and a district record of 4-0. The Hornets' next game was scheduled against Branford on Thursday, Sept. 26. However, due to Hurricane Helene, that game has been canceled. The next regularly scheduled game will take place on Thursday, Oct. 3, in a rematch against the Tigers at Columbia County High School.

Bulldogs raise hundreds for cancer patient

Christian Peterson
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On Tuesday, Sept. 24, the Suwannee High School Bulldogs hosted the Hamilton County High School Trojans for a volleyball match. The Bulldogs took the victory in three straight sets. However, that wasn't the main event of the evening.

Throughout the month of September, the Bulldogs have been hosting a fundraiser called "Go Gold for Childhood Cancer." The fundraiser asked for donations at the concession stand to help support Jade Cato, the 9-year-old daughter of Jamie and Wade Cato, who has been diagnosed with a rare form of childhood leukemia. This, of course, has put intense emotional and financial stress on the family. With the game against Hamilton being the culmination of the donation period, at the end of the game, the Bulldogs were able to present the donation via video call to the Cato family. The grand total of the donations was \$247, all of which goes to the Cato family. "Way to go ladies," said Suwannee High School Athletics in a Facebook post.



Photo courtesy of Suwannee High School Athletics

The Bulldogs pose for a photo with Jade and Jamie Cato as they present the donated money to them.

ASK DOCTORS HIGGINS AND WHITE ALCOHOL-BASED MOUTHWASH BRAND DISRUPTS THE BALANCE OF YOUR ORAL MICROBIOME

Researchers have identified a significant change in composition and abundance of bacteria in the oral microbiomes of study participants that used a popular brand of alcohol-based mouthwash.

The research, published in *Journal of Medical Microbiology*, found that two species of opportunistic bacteria (*Fusobacterium nucleatum* and *Streptococcus anginosus*) were significantly more abundant in the mouth after daily use of the alcohol-based mouthwash.

These two bacteria have been previously linked to several diseases including gum disease and esophageal and colorectal cancers. Researchers also saw a decrease in a group of bacteria called Actinobacteria, which are crucial contributors to the regulation of blood pressure.

Alcohol-based mouthwashes are widely available. The public may use them daily to tackle bad breath or prevent periodontitis, but they should be aware of the potential implications. Ideally, long-term usage should be guided by healthcare professionals.

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MORSELS FOR ZION'S POOR

All earthly governments ultimately fail because that is the design of GOD for them, that the eternal nature of HIS kingdom might be contrasted thereby. "That the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will." All that can be seen with the natural eye is temporary and passes away. "We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." The LORD plainly declared, "My kingdom is not of this world." The triumph of CHRIST over the kingdoms of this world is complete. "And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it." HE manifests that triumph as HE calls those, which are HIS, out of every nation upon the Earth. HE calls HIS own sheep by name and the voice of another shepherd they will not follow. Thus, those who are awakened by HIS SPIRIT and born from above by HIS almighty power are thus "translated" from a satisfaction with this present world to a longing for that kingdom "wherein dwelleth righteousness." These awakened sons of GOD, confess that they look "for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." This "new creature" groans and travails and desires that which the natural creation has no knowledge of, nor any desire after. Those who are "born from above" desire not a continuation of the present world order, but rather a deliverance from it. In this desire, they are given a hope in the resurrection of CHRIST that they, too, shall be raised in a body which is incorruptible and fadeth not away. The natural man's desire for life is that he might continue on in fulfilling the carnal desires of his heart. The man who is born of the SPIRIT however has his affections set upon those things which cannot pass away. That CITY in which they desire to dwell is described by John. "The glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." What city are you looking for? -m.a.m.

forthepoor@windstream.net



Hornets host homecoming celebration

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On Friday, Sept. 20, Lafayette High School (LHS) hosted its Homecoming football game. This classic American tradition allows students to engage in the Homecoming court. The event allows everyone to celebrate LHS, its alumni, future students and the Homecoming court. It's a chance for students to exhibit school spirit the week up to the football game, culminating in a celebration during halftime.

A total of 14 students from across the Lafayette County School District were honored.

Mr. LHS was Hyatt Richardson, while Miss LHS was Libby Beach. Teeny Miss LHS was Estelle Braswell, Tiny Miss LHS was Maylah Thurman and Little Miss LHS was Lexie Avery. On top of that, there were attendants from all the grades at LHS. The attendants were: Lanae Colson, sixth grade; Kenley Melland, seventh grade; Nyasia Sparrow, eighth grade; Anistyn Bass, ninth grade; Miley McCray, 10th grade; Piper Wagenman, 11th grade and Madison King, 12th grade. Then, the highlight of the evening was the announcement of the queen and princess. Sparrow walked away with the Princess crown, and McCray walked away as Queen.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Mr. LHS Hyatt Richardson was accompanied by Marcy Richardson.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Miss LHS Libby Beach was accompanied by Mark Beach.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Ninth grade attendant Anistyn Bass was accompanied by Andrew Bass.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Homecoming Queen Miley McCray was accompanied by Garrett McCray.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Twelfth grade attendant Madison King was accompanied by Greg Douglas (left) and George Brock (right).



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Princess Nyasia Sparrow was accompanied by Isaac Watkins (right) and Alicia Townsend (left).



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Seventh grade attendant Kenley Melland was accompanied by Kenny Melland.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Eleventh grade attendant Piper Wagenman was accompanied by Heath Wagenman.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Teeny Miss LHS Estelle Braswell was accompanied by Nick Bracewell.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Little Miss LHS Lexie Avery was accompanied by John Avery.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Sixth grade attendant Lanae Colson was accompanied by Travis Colson.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, September 20, 2024
Tiny Miss LHS Mayla Thurman was accompanied by Colby Thurman.



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Helene

Cont. from page 1

11 in Florida, four in Tennessee and two in Virginia. And many more people were still missing or unaccounted for as of Sunday, Sept. 29. Hundreds of roads also remained closed on Sunday, especially in the Carolinas, both hampering the delivery of badly-needed supplies and stranding motorists. And more than two million customers remained without electric power, according to *PowerOutage.us*.

Meanwhile in Florida, where the hurricane struck as a Category 4 storm near midnight Thursday, Sept. 26, recovery and relief efforts were underway, as the utter devastation caused by the storm daily became more evident, with Hamilton, Lafayette and Suwannee Counties being part of the hardest-hit areas. Small coastal communities such as St. Marks and Steinhatchee were especially hard hit by the storm surge, according to news reports.

According to the NHC, Helene slammed into the Big Bend near the mouth of Aucilla River and about 10 miles southwest of the small town of Perry at 11:10 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26, packing winds of 140 miles per hour (mph) just prior to landfall.

Classified as one of the largest storms on record to hit the Gulf Coast, Helene made landfall in an area that had already been impacted by two other hurricanes in the last 13 months. The first was Idalia, a Category 3 storm that hit near Keaton Beach in August 2023, and the second, Debby, a Category 1 storm that made landfall near Steinhatchee in early August of this year.

By Friday morning, the fast-moving Helene was already in Georgia and had weakened into a Category 1 storm, according to the NHC. Even so, the storm continued to wreck a wide path of destruction as it swept across the Southeast, spinning tornadoes, causing massive flooding and mudslides in the Carolinas and elsewhere, some which devastated mountain communities and left countless people homeless or stranded, with storm conditions reaching as far north as Maryland and Virginia and causing widespread power outages everywhere.

Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative (SVEC) reported nearly all its customers in Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette and Suwannee Counties suffered power outages as a result of countless downed trees and limbs. Additionally, nine

of the cooperative's 13 substations were without power due to a loss of transmission services provided by Duke Energy and Florida Power & Light. As of Monday morning, Sept. 30, however, SVEC reported that power had been restored to 59 percent of the co-op's customers.

"I couldn't be prouder of the work our employees are doing," said SVEC CEO Mike McWaters. "The results we are seeing are a testament to their commitment to their neighbors here in the community. Everyone here at the cooperative is also very grateful for the assistance we are receiving from our industry colleagues."

As of Monday morning, SVEC reported the only transmission delivery point not reenergized was the Blair substation in Hamilton County. Furthermore, the co-op estimated power to be restored to 95 percent of its customers by the following times:

- Lafayette County (11:59 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 30)
- Columbia County (11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 1)
- Hamilton County (11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 2)
- Suwannee County (11:59 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3)

SVEC reported 2,157 documented reports of damage to its distribution system, including 458 broken poles.

Furthermore, President Joe Biden approved a Major Disaster Declaration for 17 Florida counties on Sunday, Sept. 29, as a result of Hurricane Helene, including Lafayette County. Thus, residents are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) individual assistance. Contact Lafayette County Emergency Management at (386) 294-1950 to learn how to apply for assistance.

Anyone who needs help recovering from Hurricane Helene is urged to call (833) GET-HOPE for free assistance and resources such as food, household goods or debris removal.

Meanwhile, as of Monday, there were four other disturbances or active hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean and a potential one was forming in the western Caribbean and southern Gulf of Mexico. Meteorologists early on predicted that this would be an extremely active Atlantic hurricane season, and there are still two more months to go before the season officially ends on Nov. 30.

Relief

Cont. from page 1

online via the SBA's MySBA Loan Portal at lending.sba.gov.

For more information, individuals and businesses can contact the SBA Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 1 (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Those with speech or hearing disabilities can access services by dialing 7-1-1.

FEMA offers disaster assistance to homeowners and renters

Homeowners and renters in the 17 Florida counties named in the Major Disaster Declaration who suffered uninsured damage or losses due to Hurricane Helene may be eligible for disaster assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The assistance aims to help with urgent needs such as temporary lodging, home repair costs, personal property losses and other disaster-related expenses.

Residents in the affected counties are encouraged to apply for assistance. FEMA's support includes flexible funding directly to survivors and a simplified application process that expands eligibility, making it easier for Floridians to access aid.

Those who applied for assistance after Hurricane Debby and experienced further damage from Hurricane Helene must submit a separate application for Helene, noting the most recent damage. Applications can be submitted online at DisasterAssistance.gov, via the FEMA mobile app, or by calling the FEMA helpline at (800) 621-3362. Assistance is available in multiple languages, and relay services such as Video Relay Service (VRS) and captioned telephone services can be used.

When applying for FEMA assistance, applicants should be ready with the following:

- A current phone number for contact.
- The address of their residence at the time of the disaster and their current address.
- Social Security number.
- A general list of damages and losses.
- Banking information for direct deposit.
- Insurance policy details, if applicable.

Applicants are advised to file claims with their insurance providers as soon as possible. FEMA

cannot duplicate benefits that are covered by insurance, but federal assistance may be available for costs not covered by existing policies.

For up-to-date information on Hurricane Helene recovery efforts, visit FEMA's official website at fema.gov/disaster/4828.

Additional services available for Hurricane Helene relief

Veterans in need of housing or utility assistance may be able to receive help from MISSION UNITED through the United Way of Suwannee Valley. Individuals located in Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette and Suwannee Counties who are not eligible for Veterans Affairs or Supportive Services for Veteran Families benefits are urged to call (386) 752-5604 for application assistance.

Current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients who lost food due to Hurricane Helene are eligible to apply for food replacement. Applicants must: currently be SNAP recipients and complete the application by Sunday, Oct. 6. Furthermore, households are required to provide verification of having a power outage of four or more hours to their MYACCESS Account, except for households in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Nassau, Suwannee, Taylor, Union and Wakulla Counties. For more information or to fill out the form, visit myffamilies.com/helene.

Florida Baptist Disaster Relief is available to provide aid for anyone in the community. Individuals seeking help can call (904) 253-0502, text "Helene" to 27123, or email fldrresponse@gmail.com for assistance.

Farm Bureau adjusters from multiple states are working to handle insurance claims related to Hurricane Helene. Residents are encouraged to contact the claims report hotline at (866) 275-7322 if an adjuster has not yet contacted them. Policyholders are reminded to take photos of any emergency repairs made to prevent further damage and keep all receipts.

For those in need of help with debris removal, the Crisis Cleanup Hotline is available at (844) 965-1386. Volunteers from local relief organizations, community groups, and faith-based organizations may assist with mucking out, tree removal, tarps and

debris cleanup. All services are free, but availability is not guaranteed due to the high demand. This hotline will remain open until Friday, Oct. 11.

For those with livestock or animals in critical need of care, emergency assistance is available. Fill out the form available at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and email it to DAIOPSAssessment@FDACS.gov or call (863) 993-5460 during business hours. For after-hours assistance, call (386) 397-2732. For other state-related emergency needs, the Division of Emergency Management can be reached at 1 (800) 342-3557.

Lafayette County residents experiencing debris blocking access to or from their residences can report the issue by calling Lafayette County Sheriff's Office Dispatch at (386) 294-1301.

Additionally, Lafayette County residents are encouraged to report property or home damage from Hurricane Helene via the Crisis Track website. Photos and descriptions of the damage can be submitted at Crisis Track - Lafayette County. This information will help the county assess the impact of the storm and make informed decisions about potential assistance. It is important to note that this form is not an application for assistance. Additionally, homeowners can determine if their property is in a FEMA flood zone by visiting the FEMA website and entering their address.



Photos courtesy of Riverbend News Staff and community members

Church Directory

To advertise in the church directory
call the Riverbend News at
(386) 364-4141.

Apostolic Lighthouse Church

10344 CR 10A, Live Oak, Fla.
(386) 365-8506

Pastor Dustin Bell

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Worship.....11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
THURSDAY
Evening Worship.....7:00 p.m.

First Methodist Church of Live Oak

311 South Ohio Ave., Live Oak, Fla.
(386) 362-2047

Pastor Bill Payne P.H.D.

COME JOIN US IN WORSHIP!
SUNDAY

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Lighthouse Christian Center

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(386) 294-3089 Mayo, Fla.
www.lcamayo.org
SUNDAY

Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Kids of the King.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.
Kids of the King.....7:00 p.m.
Army of Fire Youth.....7:00 p.m.

Live Oak Christian Church

1015 Ohio Ave. N., Live Oak, Fla. (386) 362-1085
Scott McNeely, Pastor
COME WORSHIP WITH US
SUNDAY

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

Live Oak Church of the Nazarene

915 Church Ave. SW, Live Oak, Fla.
(386) 362-6380
Pastor Louis Medaris
SUNDAY

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Children's Church.....10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Morning Service.....11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.
Teen Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.

Live Oak First Assembly of God

13793 76th St., Live Oak Fla.
(386) 330-2210
Rev. Mike Townsend
SUNDAY

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Children's Church.....10:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Evening Service.....7:30 p.m.

St. Therese Catholic Church

Three Miles North of Jasper US 41
P.O. Box 890, Jasper, Fla.
Rectory US 90 E, Live Oak, Fla.
(386) 364-1108

Saturday Mass.....4:00 p.m.

The Village Church at Advent Christian Village

Rev. Sam Worley, Pastor

Worship with us on Facebook and YouTube
Sunday Morning Worship.....9:40 a.m.

Friendship Baptist Church

14364 140th St., Live Oak, Fla.
(386) 776-1010
Reverend Marshall Faulkenberry, Pastor
SUNDAY

Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Service.....11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Church Dinner5:45 p.m.
AWANA6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.

Live Oak Church of God looking for vendors

Rachal Deming
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

On Saturday, Oct. 19, the Live Oak Church of God will host an Arts and Crafts Fair from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. However, it is in search of vendors that can help the event grow. The church is looking for

crafters, painters and artists. Booths are 10 feet by 10 feet and are \$50 to rent. The rental fee includes wi-fi and lunch. This will be an indoor event. If you have any questions, call Yolanda Tanksley at (386) 362-2483 or (407) 314-8708. The Live Oak Church of God is located at 9828 US Hwy 129, in Live Oak.

Church to bless community with clothing

Cheltsie Holbrook
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

In today's times, prices are rising on everyday essentials which is causing struggles for families everywhere. However, the Live Oak Church of God is easing the burden when it comes to clothing.

On Saturday, Oct. 5, the church will be hosting a "Dress to Bless" event, where it will be selling gently used clothing for only \$1 each. Clothing for all ages and sizes will be available and some clothing still hold the original price tags on them. This event is open to the community and surrounding areas.

"We heard many in the community had a lot

of damage to their clothes in the last hurricane and we wanted to help," said Yolanda Tanksley. "So we decided on a price of \$1 for clothing because so many people in the community are not looking for a handout. We felt like \$1 was a way to provide affordable clothing to those in need."

The Dress to Bless event will be held at the Live Oak Church of God Family Life Center, located at 9828 US 129, in Live Oak. Clothing will be sold on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, donations are accepted at the Live Oak Church of God. For more information or for donation information, contact the church at (386) 362-2483.

Childhood reflections with a touch of grace



Mickey Starling
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

In my previous column, there were a few references to the beloved merry-go-round, an apparatus known for creating plenty of nausea in the bellies of children everywhere. Since I couldn't resist this

abomination, I discovered a way to manage its effects on me. I rode in the center of it. Though I still felt lousy occasionally, at least I didn't fall off. The center became my happy place.

Summers gave me many opportunities to find multiple happy places, especially when food was involved. My dad shared my love of watermelons, which we would often partake of in our kitchen if my mother wasn't home. She turned a strange color and uttered some strong statements regarding my dad's health when she caught us eating them in the house. According to her, watermelons were meant for the far recesses of the backyard and the rinds were to be disposed of as if they were nuclear waste.

It didn't take long to discover that watermelons were best eaten from the center. The combination of fewer seeds and sweeter morsels made the center the place to be, no matter where I had to eat it. Any day with a watermelon was a good day.

Recently, I found myself in the midst of a not so good day. Even watermelon wouldn't have helped. I had an appointment in Valdosta, which I was fashionably late for. Matters got much worse when I was summoned to the hospital to pick up records I didn't know I needed. Of course, I went to the wrong department and was forced to the other side of the building to retrieve my records.

As I finally made it back to my vehicle, I was fuming at the thought of how late I was going to be. My temper was getting a bit testy when all of a sudden, my tantrum was interrupted by a still, small voice invading my madness with wisdom.

It was a God moment. "Center," was the beginning of the conversation, but there was more. "Keep Me in the center. You can be late, miss your appointment, burn a tank of gas and miss a day's work, and it will still be ok. I am all that matters, so center yourself on that."

Suddenly, my temper calmed and I took a deep breath, smiled with a fresh sense of purpose and prepared to miss my appointment in style. The ride to Valdosta was filled with worship and gratitude for God's patience. When I sheepishly approached the receptionist upon my arrival, she sent me right into my appointment like I owned the place.

I found the center, and it was sweeter than the best watermelon could have ever been. The rest of my day was flawless in my estimation, not because everything went right, but because I was right on the inside. It was a great lesson that we all need, and it's so easy to forget as the world throws a vast array of requirements at us daily.

King Solomon surely had a lot on his plate, overseeing a kingdom and keeping up a different wife for each day of the year (he had 700 wives). Yet, in Ecclesiastes 12:13, he says, "This is the end of the matter; all has been heard: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man." That is more than a command; it's a compass for life.

Now, before you go trying to figure out how to keep all of His commandments, focus on the main one: "Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all your heart, soul and mind." While no one achieves this all of the time, it is the perfect place to center our daily pursuits. The closer we remain to Him, the less things of earth matter, even if they seem terribly important. If they need doing, we can trust God to make it happen.

You, too, can be late, spill coffee down your white shirt, lose the car keys, and still, everything will be okay. If you choose the Lord over your circumstances, you can rise above them all, looking like a boss who owns the place.

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7)



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SCAN ME!

Longwings Academy opens in McAlpin

Danny Federico
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

The one-room schoolhouse is making a return in McAlpin with the opening of Longwings Academy. Having officially opened on Monday, Sept. 9, the nonprofit private school is set to offer a unique educational experience to local families. The academy is dedicated to supporting the families it serves, with a focus on teaching reading, writing, arithmetic and rural life skills.

Longwings Academy aims to provide flexible education options for the community. The school offers full-time, part-time

and after-school programs, as well as tutoring, French lessons and homeschool evaluations. As a nonprofit, the academy accepts scholarships to ensure that education is accessible to a wide range of students.

Those interested in supporting Longwings Academy's mission can contribute in several ways. The school has created an Amazon wishlist for anyone who wishes to purchase needed supplies, which can be accessed by scanning the QR code accompanying this article. Monetary donations can also be made through the school's website or at

donorbox.org/longwings-donation.

For more information about Longwings Academy, tuition rates and the school's programs, visit its website at www.longwingsacademy.org.



Homeschooler meet-and-greet

Adyson Hammock
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Children of all ages who are homeschooled are invited to the White Springs Library on Wednesday, Oct. 9, for a homeschooler meet-and-greet. They will have the opportunities to learn about upcoming science programs through local UF/IFAS and 4-H programs and discover resources available for homeschoolers at the library. There will also be pizza for lunch, and those attending can meet other homeschool families. The meet-and-greet will begin at 11 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. The White Springs Public Library is located at 16403 Jewett St., in White Springs.

Mayo Lodge adopts teacher for 2024-25 school year



Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

The Mayo Masonic Lodge has been in existence in Mayo since 1891. While the Masons are still a mysterious group to this day, one thing is for certain, they help the community around them. Each year, Mayo Lodge #119 selects a teacher in the Lafayette County School District to adopt.

Almost all teachers join the profession because they love teaching and helping students. Often, this love for helping children leads to them sacrificing their own finances to provide fun learning experiences for the students. Lodge #119 is devoted to helping support teachers when these situations come up.

Each year, the Lodge approaches the principal of Lafayette Elementary School (LES) to ask for help picking a teacher. They focus on the younger grades because they feel they can make the most impact with the largest amount of students there. This year, they selected first grade teacher Kourtney Morris. They were able to meet with her and present her with a donation of \$200 at LES. The money will help her provide supplies and items for her students.

"We're glad to be able to contribute and give back to our community," said Stan Swam, Senior Warden of Mayo Lodge #119. "We love to help support our youth."

Photo courtesy of John Barber

Mayo Masonic Lodge #119 was able to present a check to Kourtney Morris at Lafayette Elementary School. Pictured, from left to right, are: LES Principal Lisa Newman, Kourtney Morris and Senior Warden Mayo Lodge Stan Swam.

NFC named 2024 "Great College to Work For" nine years running

NFC
Contributor

For the ninth consecutive year, North Florida College (NFC) has again been named one of the best colleges in the nation to work for, according to the Great Colleges to Work For® program.

The 2024 results, released in a special insert of The Chronicle of Higher Education, are based on a survey of colleges and universities across the U.S. In all, 75 institutions achieved "Great College to Work For" recognition for specific best practices and policies.

NFC won honors in two categories this year:

- Compensation & Benefits
- Mission & Pride

"Our college is a family in the truest sense of the word," states John Grosskopf, President. "NFC is a great place to work because every employee has an opportunity to strengthen the whole and can expect to be supported in return."

The survey results are based on a two-part assessment process: an

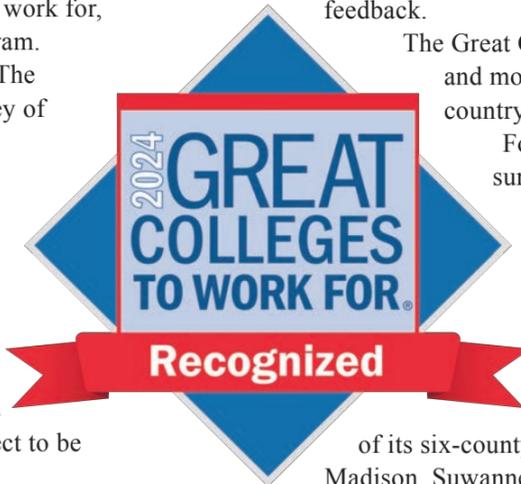
institution questionnaire that captured employment data and workplace policies from each institution, and a survey administered to faculty, administrators and professional support staff. The primary factor in deciding whether an institution received recognition was the employee feedback.

The Great Colleges to Work For® program is one of the largest and most respected workplace-recognition programs in the country.

For more information and to view all the results of the survey, visit greatcollegesprogram.com. NFC's listing can be found at greatcollegesprogram.com/list/colleges/North-Florida-College/.

NFC is a member of the Florida College System and accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

NFC proudly serves the distinct educational needs of its six-county district, including Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Taylor Counties, and beyond. For more information on NFC, contact news@nfc.edu or call (850) 973-1613.



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Debby Causes Up to \$263M in Farm Losses

Jim Turner
Contributor

Hurricane Debby caused up to \$263.2 million in estimated losses to crops and farm animals when the Category 1 rainmaker swept through North Florida in August.

Preliminary findings by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, known as UF/IFAS, could mean the agricultural damages from Debby were close to losses from Hurricane Idalia, a Category 3 storm that roared across the same rural region nearly a year earlier.

"There always are impacts to agriculture of these types of events," Christa Court, UF/IFAS economic impact analysis program director, said Thursday during a call with reporters. "Hurricane Debby was not quite as intense as Hurricane Idalia, which might still be somewhat fresh on people's minds. But it's still a reminder that there's a lot of production of agriculture out in Florida."

UF/IFAS found Debby affected more than 2.2 million acres of agricultural land in the state, with two-thirds of the land used for livestock grazing. It resulted in an estimated \$93.7 million to \$263.2 million in losses, with the loss amount expected to be narrowed in the coming months.

About \$3.1 billion in annual

agricultural production occurs in the areas, and Court said it could take several years before long-term impacts from Idalia and Debby are understood.

The Debby estimates are mostly tied to the current growing season and don't include damage to items such as fertilizer and feed or repairs for damaged and destroyed infrastructure.

Debby came ashore near Steinhatchee in Taylor County on Monday, Aug. 5, with maximum sustained winds of 80 miles per hour (mph).

The hurricane produced tropical storm-force winds and rains over more than 30 counties as far south as Lee County. The rural North Florida counties of Suwannee, Lafayette and Dixie each received more than 15 inches of rain between Friday, Aug. 2 and Thursday, Aug. 8.

The storm resulted in between \$41.1 million and \$98.5 million in losses to farm animals in the state, ranging from stressed and injured beef and dairy cattle to salinity issues that affected shellfish aquaculture.

Flooding caused field crops to suffer between \$19.3 million and \$53.1 million in damage. Greenhouses and nurseries had up to \$53.6 million in losses, including from power outages that hindered necessary cooling and irrigation.

Debby interrupted the planting

schedule for vegetables, melons and potatoes and resulted in \$12.1 million to \$32.1 million in anticipated losses.

"They're just now planting, or just now getting ready to plant, so had the storm happened one to three weeks later than it did, it would be a very different story," Court said.

Flooding and winds are estimated to have caused \$3 million to \$12.9 million in impacts to non-citrus fruit and tree nuts.

The citrus industry didn't report significant or widespread losses from Debby, but rain could result in up to \$13 million in losses, the UF/IFAS report said.

By comparison, Idalia, which made landfall with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph, affected 3.5 million acres and caused production losses of \$276 million. Beef cattle, dairy cattle, poultry and aquaculture accounted for \$157.6 million in estimated losses from Idalia.

When damaged infrastructure and losses suffered by the timber industry are included, a state Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services estimate put damages from Idalia at \$447 million.

Forestry-related losses are assessed by the Florida Forest Service, which is part of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The department hasn't produced a similar report for Debby.



Quad-County Chick Chain Show is a success

Beth Moore
Contributor

Thirty-one 4-H members and 40 laying hens from four counties converged at the Madison County Ag Center on Tuesday, Sept. 10, for the Sixth Annual Quad-County Chick Chain Show. 4-Hers between the ages of 5 and 18 from Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Taylor Counties began the Chick Chain project back in April.

Beginning with at least six-day-old chicks, each child raised the chicks to full-grown laying hens and brought their best bird (or two birds) to the Chick Chain Show for the judge to determine which bird would be the best laying hen in the show.

How does a person know if the bird will be a good layer? The judge explained that he was looking for the bird with the greatest abdominal capacity and in good overall health. 4-Hers also competed in a showmanship competition. They were judged on how they handled their bird and their knowledge of raising their birds. A skill-a-thon was also held for the youth to test their identification of breeds, parts of a chicken, comb types, parts of an egg and reading a feed tag.

This year's big winners were:

Cloverbuds (5 to 7-year-olds)

First place: Berkleigh Greiner- Madison County
Second place: Kyrin Muldoon- Suwannee County
Third place: Mahoney Greeley- Suwannee County

Juniors (8 to 10-year-olds)

First place: Kylie Cacchiotti- Suwannee County
Second place: Rileigh Pickles- Madison County
Third place: Karoline Beach- Lafayette County
Showmanship: Andimae Collins- Suwannee County

Intermediate/Senior (11 to 18-year-olds)

First place: Jada Hendricks- Lafayette County
Second place: Will Melvin- Madison County
Third place: Stella Dickey- Madison County

Showmanship:

Tenley Fillyaw- Lafayette County

Skill-a-thon Champion:

Andimae Collins: Suwannee County

Grand Champion Laying Hen:

Kylie Cacchiotti: Suwannee County

Overall Showmanship:

Tenley Fillyaw: Lafayette County



Photo courtesy of Beth Moore

The winners of the Cloverbud division pose with their ribbons. Pictured, from left to right, are: Mahoney Greeley (Suwannee County), Kyrin Muldoon (Suwannee County) and Berkleigh Greiner (Madison County).



Photo courtesy of Beth Moore

The winners of the juniors division pose for a photo. Pictured, from left to right, are: Kylie Cacchiotti (Suwannee County), Rileigh Pickles (Madison County) and Karoline Beach (Lafayette County).



Photo courtesy of Beth Moore

The winners of the intermediates-senior division smile for the camera. Pictured, from left to right, are: Stella Dickey (Madison County), Will Melvin (Madison County) and Jada Hendricks (Lafayette County).

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NEED NEW WINDOWS? Drafty rooms? Chipped or damaged frames? Need outside noise reduction? New, energy efficient windows may be the answer! **Call for a consultation & FREE quote today.**
1-888-993-3693. You will be asked for the zip code of the property when connecting.

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YOU MAY QUALIFY for disability benefits if you have are between 52-63 years old and under a doctor's care for a health condition that prevents you from working for a year or more.
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
FIRST COMMERCIAL CREDIT CORPORATION,
 Plaintiff,
 vs.
ISHA FLORES BRADSHAW AND ROBERTO FLORES,
 Defendants.

Case No. 2024 CA 44

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO DEFENDANTS, ISHA FLORES BRADSHAW AND ROBERTO FLORES:

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose on your mortgage has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on John A. Grant, the plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 2121-C Killarney Way, Tallahassee, FL 32309, on or before 30 days from the publication of this notice of action, 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.

DATED on September 16, 2024

W. Greg Godwin, Clerk for Third Judicial Circuit
 Court of Hamilton County, Florida

By: *[Signature]*
 Deputy Clerk



09/18, 09/25

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, CIVIL DIVISION
 Plaintiff, CASE NO. 24000013CAMXAX
 vs.

RANDAL J. ERICKSON; CHRISTINE A. ERICKSON; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED,
 Defendant(s) /

RE-NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated July 9, 2024 and an Order Resetting Sale dated August 27, 2024 and entered in Case No. 24000013CAMXAX of the Circuit Court in and for Suwannee County, Florida, wherein LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC is Plaintiff and RANDAL J. ERICKSON; CHRISTINE A. ERICKSON; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on the Front Steps of the Suwannee County Courthouse, 200 S. Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, FL 32060, 11:00 a.m., on **October 22, 2024**, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 31, ROLLING GREEN, A SUBDIVISION OF THE NE 1/4 SECTION 32, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 13 EAST, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 216, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN A 2008 FLEETWOOD DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME WITH IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS GAF734A81041SM21 AND GAF734B81041SM21, THE TITLES WHICH HAVE BEEN RETIRED WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES PURSUANT TO SECTION 319.261, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND HEREAFTER CONSIDERED A PART OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM BEFORE THE CLERK REPORTS THE SURPLUS AS UNCLAIMED. THE COURT, IN ITS DISCRETION, MAY ENLARGE THE TIME OF THE SALE. NOTICE OF THE CHANGED TIME OF SALE SHALL BE PUBLISHED AS PROVIDED HEREIN.

DATED at Live Oak, Florida, on October 02, 2024.
 BARRY BAKER
 As Clerk, Circuit Court
 By: _____
 As Deputy Clerk

Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A.
 Attorneys for Plaintiff
 P.O. BOX 19519
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33318
 Telephone: (954) 564-0071
 Service E-mail: answers@dallegal.com

10/02, 10/09

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of County Commissioners of Suwannee County, Florida, will hold its first and second regularly scheduled Board meetings for the month of October on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, and Tuesday, October 15, 2024, beginning at 5:30 P.M. The meetings will be held at the Judicial Annex Building 218 Parshey Street, Live Oak, Florida. The agenda will be posted on the County website: www.suwanneecountyfl.gov.

10/02

NOTICE OF SECOND PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Sections 163.3161 through 163.3215, Florida Statutes, as amended, and the Hamilton County Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development regulations, objections, recommendations and comments concerning the Special Exception, as described below, will be heard by the Planning and Zoning Board of Hamilton County, Florida, at a second and final public hearing on October 15th at 6:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the County Commission Meeting Room, County Courthouse located at 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida.

SE 24-02, a petition by Richard Dungan, requesting a special exception be granted as provided for in Section 4.5 of the Land Development Regulations to allow for a livestock auction facility in an Agriculture-4 (A-4) zoning district submitted as part of a petition received August 28th, 2024, to be located on property described as follows:

Lot 15, FACIL FARM'S PHASE 1, according to the map or plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 22-23, of the Public Records of Hamilton County, Florida.

Together with a 2005 MERT double-wide mobile home VIN's: FLHML3F171028273A & FLHML3F171028273B, Title #'s: 0091431141 & 0091431151. (Parcel ID Number: 1741-038)

The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no future notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing.

At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the amendment. Copies of the petition for special exception are available for public inspection by calling Matthew Morgan, Land Use Administrator, at 386-792-0507, during regular business hours. All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

10/02

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CERTIFICATION

This Notice shall be published once a week for two weeks starting September 25, 2024. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has received a request from the Lafayette County Soil and Water Conservation District (District) for the issuance of a certificate determining that the continued operation of the District is not administratively practicable and feasible under the provisions of chapter 582, Florida Statutes.

The territory included in the Lafayette County Soil and Water Conservation District is the same as the jurisdictional boundaries of Lafayette County, Florida. This Notice shall be published once a week for two weeks. Any comments or objections to the proposed certification, or any claims against the assets of the District, must be filed with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Agency Clerk, 600 South Calhoun Street, Holland Building Suite 254, Tallahassee, FL 32399; email: AgencyClerk@fdacs.gov not later than 60 days after the date of last publication.

09/25, 10/02

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lafayette County Commission will be holding a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, on the second floor of the Lafayette County Courthouse in Mayo, Florida. Listed below is an agenda for the meeting.

By Order Of:
 Earnest Jones, Chairman
 Lafayette County Commission

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING:

1. Open the Board of County Commissioners meeting.
2. Invocation and pledge to the flag.
3. Approve the minutes.
4. Requests and comments from the community.
5. Department Heads:
 - A) Marcus Calhoun – Maintenance.
 - B) Seth Jackson – Public Works.
 - C) Garret Land – Building/Zoning.
 - D) Marty Tompkins – EMS.
 - E) Shawn Jackson – Extension Office.
6. Approve Resolution No. 2024-10-02, extending the State of Emergency.
7. Consider approving Resolution No. 2024-09-05, opposing Pro-Abortion Amendment to Florida State Constitution.
8. Consider approving Resolution No. 2024-10-03, a temporary easement with the Department of Transportation.
9. Consider approving Resolution No. 2024-10-04, a perpetual easement with the Department of Transportation.
10. Consider approving Local Government Comprehensive Planning Services Agreement with North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.
11. Consider approving the Hazardous Waste Monitoring Agreement with North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.
12. Open sealed bids for engineer project on CR 411/CR 410.
13. Leenette McMillan-Fredriksson – various items.
14. Approve the bills.
15. Other business.
16. Future agenda items.
17. Adjourn.

All members of the public are welcome to attend. Notice is further hereby given, pursuant Florida Statute 286.0105, that any person or persons deciding to appeal any matter considered at this public hearing will need a record of the hearing and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact (386) 294-1600 or via Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8771.

See www.lafayetteclerk.com for updates and amendments to the agenda.

10/02

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PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

IN RE: Estate of GARY CHARLES SCHOEN, Deceased. CASE NO. 2024-CP-173

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Gary Charles Schoen, whose date of death was August 6, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court, Third Judicial Circuit, in and for Suwannee County, Florida, Probate Division, Case No. 2024-CP-173, the physical address of which is Suwannee County Courthouse, 200 South Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, Florida 32064. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the attorney for the personal representative are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons, who have claims or demands against the decedent's estate who are required to be served with a copy of this Notice, must file their claims with this Court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate, including unmatured, contingent or liquidated claims, must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702, FLORIDA STATUTES, WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of the first publication of the notice to creditors is October 02, 2024.

Personal Representative: Tammy Lynn Webb, 10704 132nd Path, Live Oak, Florida 32060. Attorney for Personal Representative: Rose Decker Channey, Florida Bar No. 47021, The Channey Law Firm, P.A., 320 White Avenue - Street Address, Post Office Drawer 5408 - Mailing Address, Live Oak, Florida 32064. Telephone: (386) 364-4445, Telecopier: (386) 364-4508, Email: rdc@channeylaw.com. 1002, 10/09

"NOTICE"

LIVE OAK COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS FOR FY 2023-2024

BY THE CITY OF LIVE OAK COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CRA), in accordance with Chapter 189, Florida Statutes, the CRA Board has approved to meet on the following dates during the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year:

Meeting schedule table with columns for month/year and meeting details. Includes dates from October 2024 to September 2025.

All meetings will be held in the City of Live Oak City Hall Council Chambers located at 101 White Avenue SE, Live Oak, Florida 32064, and will begin at 5:30 PM or shortly thereafter.

A copy of the meetings schedule will also be available on the CRA webpage under www.cityofliveoak.org/cra.

CITY OF LIVE OAK COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, Matt Campbell, CRA Board Chairman, 1002

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

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF FREDDIE LEE JONES, JR., Deceased. PROBATE DIVISION, File Number: 61-2024-CP-0143, Division: Probate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Freddie Lee Jones, Jr., deceased, whose date of death was September 12, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Suwannee County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 200 South Ohio Ave., Live Oak, FL 32064. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is September 25, 2024.

THE HINSON LAW FIRM, P.A. Personal Representative: Kathryn E. Stanfill, Edna E. Wells, 760 Edna St, Live Oak, FL 32064. Matthew H. Hinson, Esq., Florida Bar No. 94017, Kathryn E. Stanfill, Esq., Florida Bar No. 1002636, 300 West Adams St., Suite 500, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Phone: 904-527-1700, Fax: 904-355-8088, Matt@HinsonLawPA.com, Kathryn@HinsonLawPA.com, Attorney for Personal Representative, 09/18, 09/25

CORRECTION BID SOLICITATION NO. 2024-18

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUWANNEE COUNTY, FL WILL RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

169th Road Sinkhole Repair

Date/Time/Location for Receiving BIDs:

Friday, October 25, 2025, 4:00 pm

Late submittals will not be considered

Suwannee County Clerk of Courts

Cashier Window

200 S Ohio Avenue, Live Oak, FL 32064

(386) 362-0500

Date/Time/Location for MANDATORY Pre-Bid Meeting:

Monday, October 14, 2024, 9:00 am

169th Road south of 106th Terrace

Date/Time/Location for BID Opening:

Tuesday, October 29, 2024, 10:00 am or soon thereafter

Suwannee County Airport Conference Room

13302 80th Terrace, Live Oak, FL 32060

Question Deadline:

Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 5:00 pm

Late questions will not be answered

BID Documents Available from:

www.demandstar.com

www.suwanneecountyfl.gov

Suwannee County Administration

13150 80th Terrace, Live Oak, FL 32060

(386)364-3400

Suwannee County is inviting qualified contractors to bid on the 169th Road Sinkhole Repair project. Project includes subsurface pressure grouting and repair the affected paved roadway. Contractor shall provide all labor, materials, equipment, and incidentals necessary to perform Subsurface Pressure Grouting Injection, backfill depression areas with suitable soils, construct base and pavement in affected area and restriping of the roadway. The Subsurface Pressure Grouting program is to improve the subsurface conditions by injecting cement grout to fill voids and densify the soils to minimize the potential for future ground subsidence. EXPERIENCE IN SINKHOLE REMEDIATION & STABILIZATION USING SUBSURFACE PRESSURE GROUTING MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH THE BID. Upon completion of all activities, site shall be uniformly graded to a smooth surface and stabilized with seed/mulch.

SUWANNEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TRAVIS LAND, CHAIRMAN, 09/25, 10/02

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS FOR THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

I, CORD BYRD, Secretary of State for Florida, do hereby give notice that the ballot title, summary and proposed text for each of the following proposed amendments and revisions to the Florida Constitution will be on the General Election ballot on November 5, 2024, in each county. The full text may also be found at https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/ at FloridaPublicNotices.com, and at this newspaper's website.

No. 1 Constitutional Amendment

Article IX, Section 4 and Article XII

Ballot Title: Partisan Election of Members of District School Boards

Ballot Summary

Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to require members of a district school board to be elected in a partisan election rather than a nonpartisan election and to specify that the amendment only applies to elections held on or after the November 2026 general election. However, partisan primary elections may occur before the 2026 general election for purposes of nominating political party candidates to that office for placement on the 2026 general election ballot.

Text: ARTICLE IX EDUCATION

SECTION 4. School districts; school boards. — (a) Each county shall constitute a school district; provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into one school district. In each school district there shall be a school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of the electors in a partisan nonpartisan election for appropriately staggered terms of four years, as provided by law. (b) The school board shall operate, control and supervise all free public schools within the school district and determine the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance joint educational programs.

ARTICLE XII SCHEDULE

Partisan election of members of district school boards. — This section and the amendment to Section 4 of Article IX requiring members of a district school board to be elected in a partisan election rather than a nonpartisan election shall take effect upon approval by the electors, except that members of district school boards may not be elected on a partisan basis until the general election held in November 2026. However, partisan primary elections may occur before the general election held on November 3, 2026, for purposes of nominating political party candidates to that office for placement on the 2026 general election ballot.

No. 2 Constitutional Amendment

Article 1, Section 28

Ballot Title: Right to Fish and Hunt

Ballot Summary

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to preserve forever fishing and hunting, including by the use of traditional methods, as a public right and preferred means of responsibly managing and controlling fish and wildlife. Species that the amendment does not limit the authority granted to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission under Section 9 of Article IV of the State Constitution.

Text: ARTICLE I DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

SECTION 28. Fishing, hunting, and the taking of fish and wildlife. — Fishing, hunting, and the taking of fish and wildlife, including by the use of traditional methods, shall be preserved forever as a public right and preferred means of responsibly managing and controlling fish and wildlife. This section does not limit the authority granted to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission under Section 9 of Article IV.

No. 3 Constitutional Amendment

Article X, Section 29

Ballot Title: Adult Personal Use of Marijuana

Ballot Summary

Allows adults 21 years or older to possess, purchase, or use marijuana products and marijuana accessories for non-medical personal consumption by smoking, ingestion, or otherwise; allows Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers, and other state licensed entities, to acquire, cultivate process, manufacture, sell, and distribute such products and accessories. Applies to Florida law; does not change, or immunize violations of, federal law. Establishes possession limits for personal use. Allows consistent legislation. Defines terms. Provides effective date.

Financial and State Budget Impact Statements

The amendment's financial impact primarily comes from expected sales tax collections. If legal today, sales of non-medical marijuana would be subject to sales tax and would remain so if voters approve this amendment. Based on other states' experiences, expected retail sales of non-medical marijuana would generate at least \$195.6 million annually in state and local sales tax revenues once the retail market is fully operational, although the timing of this occurring is unclear. Under current law, the existing statutory framework for medical marijuana is repealed six months after the effective date of this amendment which affects how this amendment will be implemented. A new regulatory structure for both medical and nonmedical use of marijuana will be needed. Its design cannot be fully known until the legislature acts; however, regulatory costs will probably be offset by regulatory fees. Other potential costs and savings cannot be predicted. THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE STATE BUDGET. THIS IMPACT MAY RESULT IN GENERATING ADDITIONAL REVENUE OR AN INCREASE IN GOVERNMENT SERVICES.

Text: ARTICLE X MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 29. Medical marijuana production, possession and use. — (a) PUBLIC POLICY. (1) The medical use of marijuana by a qualifying patient or caregiver in compliance with this section is not subject to criminal or civil liability or sanctions under Florida law.

(2) A physician shall not be subject to criminal or civil liability or sanctions under Florida law solely for issuing a physician certification with reasonable care to a person diagnosed with a debilitating medical condition in compliance with this section.

(3) Actions and conduct by a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center registered with the Department, or its agents or employees, and in compliance with this section and Department regulations, shall not be subject to criminal or civil liability or sanctions under Florida law.

(4) The non-medical personal use of marijuana products and marijuana accessories by an adult, as defined below, in compliance with this section is not subject to any criminal or civil liability or sanctions under Florida law.

(5) Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers, and other entities licensed as provided below, are allowed to acquire, cultivate, process, manufacture, sell, and distribute marijuana products and marijuana accessories to adults for personal use, shall not be subject to criminal or civil liability or sanctions under Florida law.

(b) DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this section, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings: (1) "Debilitating Medical Condition" means cancer, epilepsy, glaucoma, positive status for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Crohn's disease, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, or other debilitating medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable to those enumerated, and for which a physician believes that the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the potential health risks for a patient.

(2) "Department" means the Department of Health or its successor agency. (3) "Identification card" means a document issued by the Department that identifies a qualifying patient or a caregiver. (4) "Marijuana" has the meaning given cannabis in Section 893.02(3), Florida Statutes (2014), and, in addition, "Low-THC cannabis" as defined in Section 381.986(1)(b), Florida Statutes (2014), shall also be included in the meaning of the term "marijuana."

(5) "Medical Marijuana Treatment Center" (MMTC) means an entity that acquires, cultivates, possesses, processes (including development of related products such as food, tinctures, aerosols, oils, or ointments), transfers, transports, sells, distributes, dispenses, or administers marijuana, products containing marijuana, related supplies, or educational materials to qualifying patients or their caregivers and is registered by the Department. (6) "Medical use" means the acquisition, possession, use, delivery, transfer, or administration of an amount of marijuana not in conflict with Department rules, or of related supplies by a qualifying patient or caregiver for use by the caregiver's designated qualifying patient for the treatment of a debilitating medical condition. (7) "Caregiver" means a person who is at least twenty-one (21) years old who has agreed to assist with a qualifying patient's medical use of marijuana and has qualified for and obtained a caregiver identification card issued by the Department. The Department may limit the number of qualifying patients a caregiver may assist at one time and the number of caregivers that a qualifying patient may have at one time. Caregivers are prohibited from consuming marijuana obtained for medical use by the qualifying patient. (8) "Physician" means a person who is licensed to practice medicine in Florida. (9) "Physician certification" means a written document signed by a physician, stating that in the physician's professional opinion, the patient suffers from a debilitating medical condition, that the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the potential health risks for the patient, and for how long the physician recommends the medical use of marijuana for the patient. A physician certification may only be provided after the physician has conducted a physical examination and a full assessment of the medical history of the patient. In order for a physician certification to be issued to a minor, a parent or legal guardian of the minor must consent in writing. (10) "Qualifying patient" means a person who has been diagnosed to have a debilitating medical condition, who has a physician certification and a valid qualifying patient identification card. If the Department does not begin issuing identification cards within nine (9) months after the effective date of this section, then a valid physician certification will serve as a valid qualifying patient identification card in order to allow a person to become a "qualifying patient" until the Department begins issuing identification cards. (11) "Marijuana accessories" means any equipment, product, or material of any kind that are used for inhaling, ingesting, topically applying, or otherwise introducing marijuana products into the human body for personal use. (12) "Marijuana products" means marijuana or goods containing marijuana. (13) "Personal use" means the possession, purchase, or use of marijuana products or marijuana accessories by an adult 21 years of age or older for non-medical personal consumption by smoking, ingestion, or otherwise. An adult need not be a qualifying patient in order to purchase marijuana products or marijuana accessories for personal use from a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center. An individual's possession of marijuana for personal use shall not exceed 3.0 ounces of marijuana except that not more than five grams of marijuana may be in the form of concentrate. (c) LIMITATIONS. (1) Nothing in this section allows for a violation of any law other than for conduct in compliance with the provisions of this section. (2) Nothing in this section shall affect or repeal laws relating to non-medical use, possession, production, or sale of marijuana. (2) Nothing in this amendment prohibits the Legislature from enacting laws that are consistent with this amendment. (3) Nothing in this section authorizes the use of medical marijuana by anyone other than a qualifying patient. (4) Nothing in this section shall permit the operation of any vehicle, aircraft, train or boat while under the influence of marijuana. (5) Nothing in this section changes federal law or requires the violation of federal law or purports to give immunity under federal law. (6) Nothing in this section shall require an accommodation of any on-site medical use of marijuana in any correctional institution or detention facility or place of education or employment, or of smoking medical marijuana in any public place. (7) Nothing in this section shall require any health insurance provider or any government agency or authority to reimburse any person for expenses related to the medical use of marijuana. (8) Nothing in this section shall affect or repeal laws relating to negligence or professional malpractice on the part of a qualified patient, caregiver, physician, MMTC, or its agents or employees. (d) DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. The Department shall issue reasonable regulations necessary for the implementation and enforcement of this section. The purpose of the regulations is to ensure the availability and safe use of medical marijuana by qualifying patients. It is the duty of the Department to promulgate regulations in a timely fashion. (1) Implementing Regulations. In order to allow the Department sufficient time after passage of this section, the following regulations shall be promulgated no later than six (6) months after the effective date of this section: a. Procedures for the issuance and annual renewal of qualifying patient

identification cards to people with physician certifications and standards for renewal of such identification cards. Before issuing an identification card to a minor, the Department must receive written consent from the minor's parent or legal guardian, in addition to the physician certification. b. Procedures establishing qualifications and standards for caregivers, including conducting appropriate background checks, and procedures for the issuance and annual renewal of caregiver identification cards. c. Procedures for the registration of MMTCs that include procedures for the issuance, renewal, suspension and revocation of registration, and standards to ensure proper security, record keeping, testing, labeling, inspection, and safety. d. A regulation that defines the amount of marijuana that could reasonably be presumed to be an adequate supply for qualifying patients' medical use, based on the best available evidence. This presumption as to quantity may be overcome with evidence of a particular qualifying patient's appropriate medical use. (2) Identification cards and registrations. The Department shall begin issuing qualifying patient and caregiver identification cards, and registering MMTCs no later than nine (9) months after the effective date of this section. (3) If the Department does not issue regulations, or if the Department does not begin issuing identification cards and registering MMTCs within the time limits set in this section, any Florida citizen shall have standing to seek judicial relief to compel compliance with the Department's constitutional duties. (4) The Department shall protect the confidentiality of all qualifying patients. All records containing the identity of qualifying patients shall be confidential and kept from public disclosure other than for valid medical or law enforcement purposes. (e) LEGISLATION. Nothing in this section shall limit the legislature from enacting laws consistent with this section. The legislature may provide for the licensure of entities that are not Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers to acquire, cultivate, process, transfer, transport, sell, and distribute marijuana products and marijuana accessories for personal use by adults. (f) SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this section are severable and if any clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this measure, or an application thereof, is adjudged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction other provisions shall continue to be in effect to the fullest extent possible. (g) EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall become effective six (6) months after approval by the voters.

No. 4 Constitutional Amendment

Article 1, New Section

Ballot Title: Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion

Ballot Summary

No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider. This amendment does not change the Legislature's constitutional authority to require notification to a parent or guardian before a minor has an abortion.

Financial and State Budget Impact Statements

The proposed amendment would result in significantly more abortions and fewer live births per year in Florida. The increase in abortions could be even greater if the amendment invalidates laws requiring parental consent before minors undergo abortions and those ensuring only licensed physicians perform abortions. There is also uncertainty about whether the amendment will require the state to subsidize abortions with public funds. Litigation to resolve those and other uncertainties will result in additional costs to the state government and state courts that will negatively impact the state budget. An increase in abortions may negatively affect the growth of state and local revenues over time. Because the fiscal impact of increased abortions on state and local revenues and costs cannot be estimated with precision, the total impact of the proposed amendment is indeterminate. THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THIS AMENDMENT CANNOT BE DETERMINED DUE TO AMBIGUITIES AND UNCERTAINTIES SURROUNDING THE AMENDMENT'S IMPACT.

Text: ARTICLE 1 DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

SECTION Limiting government interference with abortion. — Except as provided in Article X, Section 22, no law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider.

No. 5 Constitutional Amendment

Article VII, Section 6 and Article XII

Ballot Title: Annual Adjustments to the Value of Certain Homestead Exemptions

Ballot Summary

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to require an annual adjustment for inflation to the value of current or future homestead exemptions that apply solely to levies other than school district levies and for which every person who has legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another person legally or naturally dependent upon the owner is eligible. This amendment takes effect January 1, 2025.

Text: ARTICLE VII FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 6. Homestead exemptions. — (a)(1) Every person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another legally or naturally dependent upon the owner, shall be exempt from taxation thereon, except assessments for special benefits, as follows: a. Up to the assessed value of twenty-five thousand dollars; and b. For all levies other than school district levies, on the assessed valuation greater than fifty thousand dollars and up to seventy-five thousand dollars, upon establishment of right thereto in the manner prescribed by law. The real estate may be held by legal or equitable title, by the entirety, jointly, in common, as a condominium, or indirectly by stock ownership or membership representing the owner's or member's proprietary interest in a corporation owning a fee or a leasehold initially in excess of ninety-eight years. The exemption shall not apply with respect to any assessment roll until such roll is first determined to be in compliance with the provisions of section 4 of this article designated by general law. This exemption is repealed on the effective date of any amendment to this Article which provides for the assessment of homestead property at less than just value. (2) The twenty-five thousand dollar amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation provided in subparagraph (a)(1)(b) shall be adjusted annually on January 1 of each year for inflation using the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, if such percent change is positive. (3) The amount of assessed valuation exempt from taxation for which every person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, or another person legally or naturally dependent upon the owner, is eligible, and which applies solely to levies other than school district levies, that is added to this constitution after January 1, 2025, shall be adjusted annually on January 1 of each year for inflation using the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, if such percent change is positive, beginning the year following the effective date of such exemption. (b) Not more than one exemption shall be allowed any individual or family unit or with respect to any residential unit. No exemption shall exceed the value of the real estate assessable to the owner or, in case of ownership through stock or membership in a corporation, the value of the proportion which the interest in the corporation bears to the assessed value of the property. (c) By general law and subject to conditions specified therein, the Legislature may provide to renters, who are permanent residents, ad valorem tax relief on all ad valorem tax levies. Such ad valorem tax relief shall be in the form and amount established by general law. (d) The legislature may, by general law, allow counties or municipalities, for the purpose of providing a discount to real estate owners, to grant the exemption to a grant either or both of the following additional homestead tax exemptions: (1) An exemption not exceeding fifty thousand dollars to a person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate and maintains thereon the permanent residence of the owner, who has attained age sixty-five, and whose household income, as defined by general law, does not exceed twenty thousand dollars; or (2) An exemption equal to the assessed value of the property to a person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate with a just value less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, as determined in the first tax year that the owner applies and is eligible for the exemption, and who has maintained thereon the permanent residence of the owner for not less than twenty-five years, who has attained age sixty-five, and whose household income does not exceed the income limitation prescribed in paragraph (1).

The general law must allow counties and municipalities to grant these additional exemptions, within the limits prescribed in this subsection, by ordinance adopted in the manner prescribed by general law, and must provide for the periodic adjustment of the income limitation prescribed in this subsection for changes in the cost of living. (e)(1) Each veteran who is age 65 or older who is partially or totally permanently disabled shall receive a discount from the amount of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on homesteaded property if the veteran owns and resides in it if the disability was combat related and the veteran was honorably discharged upon separation from military service. The discount shall be in a percentage equal to the percentage of the veteran's permanent, service-connected disability as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. To qualify for the discount granted by this paragraph, an applicant must submit to the county property appraiser, by March 1, an official letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating the percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability and such evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as combat related and a copy of the veteran's honorable discharge. If the property appraiser denies the request for a discount, the appraiser must notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the denial, and the veteran may reapply. The Legislature may, by general law, waive the annual application requirement in subsequent years. (2) If a veteran who receives the discount described in paragraph (1) predeceases his or her spouse, and if, upon the death of the veteran, the surviving spouse holds the legal or beneficial title to the homesteaded property and her or she remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the homesteaded property, if the surviving spouse sells or otherwise disposes of the property, a discount not to exceed the dollar amount granted from the most recent ad valorem tax roll may be transferred to the surviving spouse's new homesteaded property, if used as his or her permanent residence and he or she has not remarried. (3) This subsection is self-executing and does not require implementing legislation. (f) By general law and subject to conditions and limitations specified therein, the Legislature may provide ad valorem tax relief equal to the total amount or a portion of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed on homesteaded property to: (1) The surviving spouse of a veteran who died from service-connected causes while on active duty as a member of the United States Armed Forces. (2) The surviving spouse of a first responder who died in the line of duty. (3) A first responder who is totally and permanently disabled as a result of an injury or injuries sustained in the line of duty. Causal connection between a disability and service in the line of duty shall not be presumed but must be determined as provided by general law. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "disability" does not include a chronic condition or chronic disease, unless the injury sustained in the line of duty was the sole cause of the chronic condition or chronic disease.

As used in this subsection and as further defined by general law, the term "first responder" means a law enforcement officer, a correctional officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, or paramedic, and the term "in the line of duty" means arising out of and in the actual performance of duty required by employment as a first responder.

ARTICLE XII SCHEDULE

Annual adjustment to homestead exemption value. — This section and the amendment to Section 6 of Article VII requiring an annual adjustment for inflation of specified homestead exemptions shall take effect January 1, 2025.

No. 6 Constitutional Amendment

Article VI, Section 7

Ballot Title: Repeal of Public Campaign Financing Requirement

Ballot Summary

Proposing the repeal of the provision in the State Constitution which requires public financing for campaigns of candidates for elective statewide office who agree to campaign spending limits.

Text: ARTICLE VI SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 7. Campaign spending limits and funding of campaigns for elective statewide offices. — The provision of this constitution which requires public financing for campaigns for elective statewide offices shall be repealed. A portion of public financing for campaigns for state-wide offices shall be established by law. Spending limits shall be established for such campaigns for candidates who use public funds in their campaigns. The legislature shall provide funding for the provision. General law implementing this paragraph shall be in effect no later than January 1, 2025.

08/28, 10/02

PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA. IN RE: Estate of Helen Williams Kansky, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS. The administration of the estate of Helen Williams Kansky, whose date of death was July 17, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court, Third Judicial Circuit, in and for Hamilton County, Florida, Probate Division, Case No. 2024-CP-56, the physical address of which is Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 NE First Street, Jasper, Florida 32052. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the attorney for the personal representative are set forth below.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA. IN RE: THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM PHILIP CREWS, SR., Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS. The administration of the estate of WILLIAM PHILIP CREWS, deceased, whose date of death was January 1, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for Hamilton County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 207 NE First St., Jasper, FL 32052. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA. IN RE: ESTATE OF LONNIE AUSTIN DAVIS, JR., Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS. The administration of the estate of LONNIE AUSTIN DAVIS, JR., deceased, whose date of death was November 28, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for HAMILTON COUNTY, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 207 N.E. First Street, Jasper, Florida 32052. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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PROPUESATAS DE ENMIENDAS Y REVISIONES CONSTITUCIONALES PARA LA ELECCION GENERAL DEL 2024. Yo, CORD BYRD EE, Secretario de Estado de la Florida, por el presente notifico que el título del boleta, el resumen del boleta, y el texto de las siguientes enmiendas constitucionales propuestas y revisiones estarán en el boleta de las elecciones generales del 2024 en el día 5 de noviembre, 2024, en cada condado. El texto completo de estas enmiendas caso se presenten aquí también se puede encontrar en DOS.Elections.MyFlorida.com/initiatives, en FloridaPublicNotices.com, y en el sitio web de este periódico.

N.º 1 Enmienda Constitucional Artículo IX, Sección 4 y Artículo XII Título de la boleta Elección Partidista de Miembros de Juntas Escolares de Distrito. Resumen de la boleta Se propone enmiendas a la Constitución estatal para requerir que los miembros de una junta escolar distrital sean elegidos mediante una elección partidista en vez de una elección no partidista y se especifica que la enmienda solo se aplica a las elecciones celebradas a partir de las elecciones generales de noviembre de 2026. Sin embargo, las elecciones primarias partidistas pueden suceder antes de las elecciones generales de 2026 con el fin de nominar a los candidatos de partidos políticos para ese oficio para su inclusión en la boleta de las elecciones generales de 2026.

Texto ARTÍCULO IX EDUCACIÓN SECCIÓN 4. Distritos escolares; juntas escolares. (a) Cada condado formará un distrito escolar, no obstante, dos o más condados contiguos, con el voto de los electores de cada condado conforme a ley, podrán combinarse en un distrito escolar. En cada distrito escolar habrá una junta escolar compuesta de cinco o más miembros electos por el voto de los electores en una elección partidista no partidista, para mandatos de cuatro años apropiadamente escalonados, según lo dispuesto por ley. (b) La junta escolar deberá operar, controlar, y supervisar todas las escuelas gratuitas públicas en el ámbito del distrito escolar y deberá determinar la tasa de impuestos del distrito escolar dentro de los límites establecidos en este documento. Dos o más distritos escolares podrán operar y financiar programas educativos colectivos.

ARTÍCULO XII ANEXO Elección partidista de miembros de las juntas escolares de distrito. — Entrarán en vigor tras la aprobación de los electores, esta sección y la enmienda de la Sección 4 del Artículo IX que exige que los miembros de una junta escolar de distrito sean elegidos en una elección partidista en lugar de una elección no partidista, excepto que los miembros de las juntas escolares de distrito no podrán ser elegidos no partidista hasta las elecciones generales celebradas en noviembre de 2026. Las elecciones primarias partidistas pueden sin embargo suceder antes de las elecciones generales celebradas el 3 de noviembre de 2026 con el fin de nominar a candidatos de partidos políticos para ese oficio para su inclusión en la boleta de las elecciones generales de 2026.

N.º 2 Enmienda Constitucional Artículo I, Sección 28 Título de la boleta Derecho a Pescar y Cazar. Resumen de la boleta Se propone una enmienda a la Constitución estatal para preservar constantemente la pesca y la caza, incluso por medio de métodos tradicionales, como derecho público y medio preferido para gestionar y controlar responsablemente los peces y la vida silvestre. Especifica que la enmienda no limita la autoridad adjudicada a la Comisión de Conservación de Pesca y Vida Silvestre en virtud de la Sección 9 del Artículo IV de la Constitución estatal.

Texto ARTÍCULO I DECLARACION DE DERECHOS SECCIÓN 28. Pesca, caza y captura de peces y vida silvestre. — La pesca, caza y captura de peces y vida silvestre, incluso por medio de métodos tradicionales, se preservarán constantemente como un derecho público y un medio preferido para gestionar y controlar responsablemente los peces y la vida silvestre. Esta sección no limita la autoridad adjudicada a la Comisión de Conservación de Pesca y Vida Silvestre en virtud de la Sección 9 del Artículo IV.

N.º 3 Enmienda Constitucional Artículo X, Sección 29 Título de la boleta Uso Personal de Marihuana Para Adultos. Resumen de la boleta Autoriza que los adultos de 21 años de edad o mayores posean, compren o utilicen productos y accesorios de marihuana para consumo personal que no sea medicinal mediante el tabaquismo, por ingestión o de otra manera. Centros de tratamiento de marihuana medicinal y otras entidades con licencia estatal, para adquirir, cultivar, procesar, fabricar, vender y distribuir dichos productos y accesorios. Se aplica a la ley de la Florida; no cambia, tampoco protege contra las violaciones de leyes federales. Define los límites de posesión para uso personal. Da consistencia legislativa. Define los términos. Define la fecha de vigencia.

Textos ARTÍCULO X MISCELÁNEO SECCIÓN 29. Producción, posesión y utilización de marihuana medicinal. — (a) POLÍTICA PÚBLICA. (1) La utilización de marihuana medicinal, por parte de un paciente o cuidador calificado de conformidad con esta sección, no está sujeto a responsabilidad penal o civil ni a sanciones según la ley de Florida. (2) Un médico no estará sujeto a responsabilidad penal o civil ni a sanciones según la ley de Florida únicamente por emitir una certificación médica con atención razonable a una persona diagnosticada con una condición médica debilitante de conformidad con esta sección. (3) Las acciones y conductas de un Centro de Tratamiento de Marihuana Medicinal registrado en el Departamento, o sus agentes o empleados, y de conformidad con esta sección y las regulaciones del Departamento, no estarán sujetas a responsabilidad penal o civil ni a sanciones según las leyes de Florida. (4) El uso personal y no medicinal de productos de marihuana y accesorios de marihuana por parte de un adulto, como se define a continuación, de conformidad con esta sección no está sujeto a ninguna responsabilidad penal o civil ni a sanciones según la ley de Florida. (5) Los Centros de Tratamiento de Marihuana Medicinal y otras entidades autorizadas según lo dispuesto a continuación pueden adquirir, cultivar, procesar, fabricar, vender y distribuir productos y accesorios de marihuana a adultos para uso personal en la fecha de entrada en vigor que se proporciona a continuación. Un centro de tratamiento de marihuana medicinal u otra entidad con licencia estatal, incluidos sus agentes o empleados, que actúe de acuerdo con esta sección en lo que se refiere a la adquisición, el cultivo, procesamiento, la fabricación, venta y distribución de productos y accesorios de marihuana a adultos para uso personal no estará sujeto a responsabilidad penal o civil ni a sanciones según la ley de Florida. (b) DEFINICIONES. A los fines de esta sección, las siguientes palabras y sus términos tendrán significaciones siguientes: (1) "Enfermedad médica debilitante" significa cáncer, epilepsia, glaucoma, estado positivo para el virus de inmunodeficiencia humana (VIH), síndrome de inmunodeficiencia adquirida (SIDA), trastorno de estrés posttraumático (PTSD), esclerosis lateral amiotrófica (ELA), enfermedad de Crohn, enfermedad de Parkinson, esclerosis múltiple u otras afecciones médicas debilitantes del mismo tipo o clase o comparables a las enumeradas, y para las cuales un médico cree que el uso médico de la marihuana probablemente superaría los riesgos potenciales para la salud del paciente. (2) "Departamento" significa el Departamento de Salud o su agencia sucesora. (3) "Tarjeta de identificación" significa un documento emitido por el Departamento que identifica a un paciente o cuidador calificado. (4) "Marihuana" tiene el significado que se le atribuye al cannabis en la Sección 893.02(3) de los Estatutos de Florida (2014) y, además, "cannabis con bajo contenido de THC" tal como se define en la Sección 381.986(1)(b) de los Estatutos de Florida (2014), también se incluirá en el significado del término "marihuana". (5) "Centro de Tratamiento de Marihuana Medicinal" (MMTC) significa una entidad que adquiere, cultiva, posee, procesa (incluido el desarrollo de productos relacionados como alimentos, tinturas, aerosoles, aceites o ungüentos), transfiere,

transporta, vende, distribuye, dispensa o suministra marihuana, productos que contienen marihuana, suministros relacionados o materiales educativos a pacientes calificados o sus cuidadores y está registrado por el Departamento. (6) "Uso medicinal" significa la adquisición, posesión, uso, entrega, transferencia o administración de una cantidad de marihuana que no entre en conflicto con las reglas del Departamento, o de suministros relacionados por parte de un paciente o cuidador calificado para uso de la persona calificada designada por el cuidador del paciente para el tratamiento de una enfermedad médica debilitante. (7) "Cuidador" significa una persona que tiene al menos veintidós (21) años de edad que ha aceptado de ayudar con el uso medicinal de marihuana de un paciente calificado y ha calificado y obtenido una tarjeta de identificación de cuidador emitida por el Departamento. El Departamento puede limitar la cantidad de pacientes calificados que un cuidador puede ayudar al mismo tiempo y la cantidad de cuidadores que un paciente calificado puede tener al mismo tiempo. Los cuidadores tienen prohibido consumir marihuana obtenida para uso médico por el paciente calificado. (8) "Médico" significa una persona que tiene licencia para ejercer la medicina en Florida. (9) "Certificación del médico" significa un documento escrito firmado por un médico, que establece que, en la opinión profesional del médico, el paciente sufre de una condición médica debilitante, que el uso médico de la marihuana probablemente superaría los riesgos potenciales para la salud del paciente, y durante cuánto tiempo el médico recomienda el uso médico de la marihuana al paciente. Solo se puede proponer una certificación médica después de que el médico haya realizado un examen físico y una evaluación completa del historial médico del paciente. Para que se emita una certificación médica a un menor, unos de los padres, o tutor legal del menor debe dar su consentimiento por escrito. (10) "Paciente calificado" significa una persona a la que se le ha diagnosticado una condición médica debilitante, que tiene una certificación médica y una tarjeta de identificación de paciente calificado válida. Si el Departamento no comienza a emitir tarjetas de identificación dentro de los nueve (9) meses posteriores a la fecha de vigencia de esta sección, entonces una certificación médica válida servirá como tarjeta de identificación de paciente para permitir que una persona se convierta en un "paciente calificado" hasta que el departamento comienza a emitir tarjetas de identificación. (11) "Accesorios de marihuana" significa cualquier equipo, producto o material de cualquier tipo que se utilice para inhalar, ingerir, ingerir tópicamente o introducir de otro modo productos de marihuana en el cuerpo humano para uso personal. (12) "Productos de marihuana" significa marihuana o productos que contienen marihuana. (13) "Uso personal" significa la posesión, compra o uso de productos de marihuana o accesorios de marihuana por parte de un adulto de 21 años de edad o más para consumo personal no médico mediante fumar, ingerir o de otra manera. No es necesario que un adulto sea un paciente calificado para comprar productos o accesorios de marihuana para uso personal en un Centro de tratamiento de marihuana medicinal. La posesión de marihuana para uso personal por parte de un individuo no excederá las 3.0 onzas de marihuana, excepto que no más de cinco gramos de marihuana pueden estar en forma de concentrado.

(c) LIMITACIONES. (1) Nada en esta sección permite una violación de cualquier ley que no sea una conducta de conformidad con las disposiciones de esta sección. (2) Nada en esta sección prohíbe a la Legislatura promulgar leyes que sean consistentes con esta enmienda. (3) Nada en esta sección autoriza el uso de marihuana medicinal por parte de nadie que no sea un paciente calificado. (4) Nada en esta sección permitirá la operación de ningún vehículo, avión, tren o barco bajo la influencia de la marihuana. (5) Nada en esta sección cambia la ley federal ni requiere la violación de la ley federal ni pretende otorgar inmunidad bajo la ley federal. (6) Nada en esta sección requerirá ninguna adaptación de cualquier uso médico de marihuana en el sitio en cualquier institución correccional o centro de detención o lugar de educación o empleo, o de fumar marihuana medicinal en cualquier lugar público. (7) Nada en esta sección requerirá que ningún proveedor de seguro médico ni ninguna agencia o autoridad gubernamental reembolse a ninguna persona los gastos relacionados con el uso médico de la marihuana. (8) Nada en esta sección afectará o derogará las leyes relacionadas con negligencia o mala práctica profesional por parte de un paciente calificado, cuidador, médico, MMTC o sus agentes o empleados. (d) FUNCIONES DEL DEPARTAMENTO. El Departamento emitirá las regulaciones razonables necesarias para la implementación y cumplimiento de esta sección. El propósito de las regulaciones es garantizar la disponibilidad y el uso seguro de la marihuana medicinal por parte de los pacientes que califican. Es deber del Departamento promulgar reglamentos en forma oportuna. (1) Reglamento de aplicación. Para permitir al Departamento tiempo suficiente después de la aprobación de esta sección, las siguientes regulaciones se promulgarán a más tardar seis (6) meses después de la fecha de vigencia de esta sección: a. Procedimientos para la emisión y renovación anual de tarjetas de identificación de pacientes calificados para personas con certificaciones médicas y estándares para la renovación de dichas tarjetas de identificación. Antes de emitir una tarjeta de identificación a un menor, el Departamento debe recibir el consentimiento por escrito de uno de los padres o tutor legal del menor, además de la certificación médica. b. Procedimientos que establecen calificaciones y estándares para los cuidadores, incluida la realización de verificaciones de antecedentes apropiadas, y procedimientos para la emisión y renovación anual de tarjetas de identificación de cuidadores. c. Procedimientos para el registro de MMTC que incluyen procedimientos para la emisión, renovación, suspensión y revocación del registro, y estándares para garantizar la seguridad, el mantenimiento de registros, las pruebas, el etiquetado, la inspección y la seguridad adecuados. d. Una regulación que define la cantidad de marihuana que razonablemente podría presumirse como un suministro adecuado para el uso médico de los pacientes calificados, basándose en la mejor evidencia disponible. Esta presunción de cantidad puede superarse con evidencia del uso médico apropiado de un paciente en particular que califica. (2) Tarjetas de identificación y registros. El Departamento comenzará a emitir tarjetas de identificación de pacientes y cuidadores calificados y a registrar los MMTC a más tardar nueve (9) meses después de la fecha de entrada en vigor de esta sección. (3) Si el Departamento no emite regulaciones, o si el Departamento no comienza a emitir tarjetas de identificación y a registrar MMTC dentro de los límites de tiempo establecidos en esta sección, cualquier Ciudad de Florida tendrá legitimación activa para buscar reparación judicial para obligar al cumplimiento de las disposiciones constitucionales del Departamento. (4) El Departamento protegerá la confidencialidad de todos los pacientes que califiquen. Todos los registros que contengan la identidad de los pacientes calificados serán confidenciales y no se divulgarán al público excepto para fines médicos o policiales válidos. (e) LEGISLACIÓN. Nada en esta sección limitará a la legislatura a la hora de promulgar leyes consistentes con esta sección. La legislatura puede disponer la concesión de licencias a personas que únicamente los médicos autorizados practiquen abortos. También existe incertidumbre sobre la cuestión que suscitará la enmienda sobre el requerimiento del estado de subsidiar los abortos con fondos públicos. Los litigios para resolver esas y otras incertidumbres generarán costos adicionales para el gobierno y los tribunales estatales que impactarán negativamente el presupuesto estatal. Un aumento de los abortos puede afectar negativamente, a lo largo del tiempo, el crecimiento de los ingresos estatales y locales. Debido a que no se puede estimar precisamente el impacto fiscal del aumento de los abortos en los ingresos y costos estatales y locales, el impacto total de la enmienda propuesta es impreciso. EL IMPACTO FINANCIERO DE ESTA ENMIENDA NO PUEDE DETERMINARSE DEBIDO A LAS AMBIGÜEDADES E INCERTIDUMBRES QUE RODEAN EL IMPACTO DE LA ENMIENDA.

N.º 4 Enmienda Constitucional Artículo 1, Nueva Sección Título de la boleta Enmienda Para Limitar La Interferencia Gubernamental En El Aborto. Resumen de la boleta Ninguna ley prohibirá, penalizará, retrasará o restringirá el aborto antes de su viabilidad o cuando sea necesario para proteger la salud de la paciente, según lo determine el proveedor de servicios de salud de la paciente. Esta enmienda no cambia la autoridad constitucional de la Legislatura para exigir notificación a uno de los padres o tutor del menor antes de que una menor tenga un aborto. Declaraciones del impacto del presupuesto financiero y estatal La enmienda propuesta daría como resultado un número significativamente mayor de abortos y un número menor de niños nacidos vivos anualmente en Florida. El aumento de los abortos podría ser aún mayor si la enmienda invalida las leyes que requieren el consentimiento prearbitral antes de que las mujeres se sometan a abortos y aquellas leyes que garantizan que únicamente los médicos autorizados practiquen abortos. También existe incertidumbre sobre la cuestión que suscitará la enmienda sobre el requerimiento del estado de subsidiar los abortos con fondos públicos. Los litigios para resolver esas y otras incertidumbres generarán costos adicionales para el gobierno y los tribunales estatales que impactarán negativamente el presupuesto estatal. Un aumento de los abortos puede afectar negativamente, a lo largo del tiempo, el crecimiento de los ingresos estatales y locales. Debido a que no se puede estimar precisamente el impacto fiscal del aumento de los abortos en los ingresos y costos estatales y locales, el impacto total de la enmienda propuesta es impreciso. EL IMPACTO FINANCIERO DE ESTA ENMIENDA NO PUEDE DETERMINARSE DEBIDO A LAS AMBIGÜEDADES E INCERTIDUMBRES QUE RODEAN EL IMPACTO DE LA ENMIENDA.

Textos ARTÍCULO I DECLARACION DE DERECHOS Nueva sección, enmienda para limitar la interferencia del gobierno con el aborto. SECCIÓN. Limitar la interferencia gubernamental con el aborto. — Excepto lo dispuesto en el Artículo X, Sección 22, ninguna ley prohibirá, penalizará, retrasará o restringirá el aborto antes de su viabilidad o cuando sea necesario para proteger la salud de la paciente, según lo determine el proveedor de atención médica de la paciente. N.º 5 Enmienda Constitucional Artículo VII, Sección 6 y Artículo XII Título de la boleta Ajustes Anuales al Valor de Determinadas Exenciones Impositivas Para Viviendas Familiares.

Resumen de la boleta Se propone una enmienda a la Constitución del Estado para exigir un ajuste anual por inflación al valor de las exenciones de propiedad actuales o futuras que se aplican únicamente a gravámenes distintos de los impuestos del distrito escolar y para los cuales toda persona que tenga un título legal o equitativo sobre bienes inmuebles y los mantenga es elegible la residencia permanente del propietario, o de otra persona que dependa legal o naturalmente del propietario. Esta enmienda entra en vigencia el 1 de enero de 2025.

Texto ARTÍCULO VII FINANZAS Y TRIBUTACIÓN SECCIÓN 6. Exenciones impositivas para viviendas familiares. — (a) (1) Toda persona que tenga título legal o equitativo sobre bienes raíces y los mantenga como residencia permanente del propietario, u otra persona que dependa legal o naturalmente del propietario, estará exenta de tributación sobre los mismos, excepto las evaluaciones por beneficios especiales, como sigue: a. Hasta el valor tasado de veinticinco mil dólares; y b. Para todos los gravámenes que no sean los del distrito escolar, sobre el valor tasado superior a cincuenta mil dólares y hasta setenta y cinco mil dólares, al establecerse el derecho sobre ello en la forma prescrita por la ley. La titularidad sobre los bienes raíces podrá ser legal o en equidad, mancomunada, solidaria, en común, como condominio, o indirectamente mediante la tenencia de acciones o participaciones que representen el derecho de propiedad del propietario o socio en una sociedad que tenga el dominio o los derechos de arrendamiento que inicialmente superen noventa y ocho años. La exención no se aplicará respecto a ningún registro fiscal hasta que primero un organismo estatal designado de conformidad con la ley general determine que dicho registro cumple con las disposiciones de la sección 4. Esta exención se revocará en la fecha de entrada en vigencia de cualquier enmienda a este Artículo que disponga la tasación de la vivienda familiar a un valor inferior al justo valor. (2) La cantidad de veinticinco mil dólares de valoración tasada exenta de impuestos dispuesta en el subpárrafo (a)(1) b, se ajustará anualmente el 1 de enero de cada año por inflación utilizando el cambio porcentual en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor para Todos los Consumidores Urbanos, Promedio de Ciudades de EE. UU., todos los elementos 1967-100, o informes posteriores para el año calendario anterior según lo informado inicialmente por los Estados Unidos, Departamento de Trabajo de los estados, Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales, si dicho cambio porcentual es positivo. (3) El monto del avalúo exento de impuestos al que tiene derecho toda persona que tenga el título legal o equitativo de un bien inmueble y mantenga sobre él la residencia permanente del propietario, o de otra persona que dependa legal o naturalmente del propietario, que se aplica únicamente a impuestos distintos de los impuestos del distrito escolar, que se agrega a esta constitución después del 1 de enero de 2025, se ajustará anualmente el 1 de enero de cada año por inflación utilizando el cambio porcentual en el Índice de Precios al Consumidor para todos los consumidores urbanos, ciudad de EE. UU. Promedio, todos los artículos 1967-100, o informes sucesores para el año calendario anterior según lo informado inicialmente por la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales del Departamento de los Estados Unidos, si dicho cambio porcentual es positivo, comenzando el año siguiente a la fecha de vigencia de dicha exención. (b) No se le permitirá más de una exención a ninguna persona o unidad familiar respecto a ninguna unidad residencial. Ninguna exención superará el valor de los bienes raíces tasables al propietario o, en caso de dominio mediante acciones o participación en una sociedad, el valor de la proporción que devengue la participación en la sociedad sobre la tasación del inmueble. (c) De conformidad con la ley general y con sujeción a las condiciones que se especifican en la misma, la Legislatura podrá entregar a los arrendatarios que sean residentes permanentes una desgravación fiscal ad valorem sobre todos los gravámenes fiscales ad valorem. Dicha desgravación fiscal ad valorem se establecerá de la forma y en el monto que disponga la ley general. (d) La Legislatura podrá, de conformidad con la ley general, permitirles a los condados o municipios, para efectos de sus gravámenes fiscales respectivos y con sujeción a las disposiciones de la ley general, conceder cualquiera de las siguientes exenciones impositivas adicionales para viviendas familiares o ambas: (1) Una exención que no supere cincuenta mil dólares para una persona que tenga la titularidad legal o en equidad sobre bienes raíces y mantenga allí la residencia permanente del propietario, que haya cumplido la edad de sesenta y cinco años, y cuyos ingresos familiares, según lo define la ley general, no superen veinticinco mil dólares; o (2) Una exención equivalente al valor tasado del inmueble para una persona que tenga titularidad legal o equitativa sobre los bienes raíces con un valor justo inferior a doscientos cincuenta mil dólares, según se determine en el primer ejercicio fiscal que aplique el propietario y que cumpla los requisitos para la exención, y que haya mantenido en los mismos la residencia permanente del propietario durante al menos veinticinco años, que haya cumplido la edad de sesenta y cinco años, y cuyos ingresos del hogar no superen la limitación sobre ingresos que se prescribe en el apartado (1). La ley general debe permitirles a los condados y municipios conceder dichas exenciones adicionales, dentro de los límites que se prescriben en este inciso, mediante una ordenanza que se adopte de la manera que lo prescribe la ley general, y debe disponer el ajuste periódico de la limitación sobre ingresos que se prescribe en este inciso respecto a los cambios en el costo de vida. (e) (1) Cada veterano que tenga 65 años o más y que sufra una discapacidad parcial o total recibirá un descuento del monto del impuesto ad valorem que se adeude sobre la vivienda familiar que posea el veterano y donde el mismo reside si la discapacidad hubiera sido causada por el combate y el veterano hubiera sido dado de baja con honor tras retirarse del servicio militar. El descuento se expresará en un porcentaje equivalente al porcentaje de la discapacidad permanente vinculada al servicio del veterano, según lo determine el Departamento de Asuntos de los Veteranos de los Estados Unidos. Para optar al descuento que se concede en este apartado, el solicitante debe presentarle al tasador inmobiliario del condado, a más tardar el 1 de marzo, una carta oficial del Departamento de Asuntos de los Veteranos de los Estados Unidos mediante la que se indique el porcentaje de la discapacidad vinculada al servicio del veterano y las pruebas que demuestren de manera razonable que la discapacidad fue causada por el combate, así como también una copia de la baja con honor del veterano. Si el tasador inmobiliario rechaza la solicitud de descuento, el tasador debe notificar al solicitante por escrito los motivos del rechazo, y el veterano podrá volver a realizar la solicitud. La Legislatura podrá, de conformidad con la ley general, desistir del requerimiento anual de solicitudes en los años posteriores. (2) Si un veterano que recibe el descuento descrito en el apartado (1) fallece antes de su cónyuge, y si, al fallecer el veterano, el(ella) cónyuge sobreviviente posee la titularidad legal o el usufructo de la vivienda familiar y reside permanentemente allí, el descuento se transfiera al(ella) cónyuge sobreviviente hasta que se vuelva a casar, venda o de otra manera disponga de la vivienda familiar. Si el(ella) cónyuge sobreviviente vende o de otra manera dispone de la vivienda, se podrá transferir a la nueva vivienda familiar del(ella) cónyuge sobreviviente un descuento que no exceda el monto en dólares otorgado según el registro fiscal ad valorem más reciente, si la utiliza como su residencia permanente y si no se ha vuelto a casar. (3) Este inciso tiene efecto inmediato y no necesita legislación de implementación. (f) De conformidad con la ley general y con sujeción a las condiciones y limitaciones que se especifican en la misma, La Legislatura podrá concederle una desgravación fiscal ad valorem equivalente al monto total o una parte del impuesto ad valorem que se adeude sobre la vivienda familiar a: (1) El(ella) cónyuge sobreviviente de un veterano que haya fallecido durante su servicio activo en calidad de miembro de las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos. (2) El(ella) cónyuge sobreviviente de un socorrista que haya fallecido en acto de servicio. (3) Un socorrista que tenga una discapacidad total y permanente a causa de una lesión o lesiones que haya sufrido en acto de servicio. La conexión causal entre una discapacidad y el acto de servicio no debe presumirse, sino que determinarse según lo dispone la ley general. Para efectos de este apartado, el término "discapacidad" no incluye una afección crónica o enfermedad crónica, a menos que la lesión que se haya sufrido en acto de servicio hubiera sido la única causa de la afección crónica y la enfermedad crónica.

Según se usa en este inciso y según lo defina más extensamente la ley general, el término "socorrista" hace referencia a un policía, un funcionario penitenciario, un bombero, un técnico médico de emergencia o un paramédico, y el término "en acto de servicio" significa que surge a raíz del desempeño real del servicio que sea necesario en virtud del trabajo como socorrista. ARTÍCULO XII ANEXO Ajuste anual al valor de la exención de vivienda familiar. — Esta sección y la enmienda a la Sección 6 del Artículo VII, que requiere un ajuste anual por inflación de exenciones de vivienda específicas, entrarán en vigor el 1 de enero de 2025. N.º 6 Enmienda Constitucional Artículo VII, Sección 7 Título de la boleta Derogación del Requerimiento de Financiamiento de Campañas Públicas. Resumen de la boleta Se propone el rechazo de la disposición de la Constitución del Estado que requiere el financiamiento público de las campañas de los candidatos que busquen oficios estatales electivos y que se adhieran a los límites de gastos de campaña. Texto a derogar ARTÍCULO VI SUFRAGIO Y ELECCIONES SECCIÓN 7. Límites de gastos de campaña y financiamiento de campañas para oficios estatales electivos. Es política del estado establecer elecciones en todo el estado en las que puedan competir efectivamente todos los candidatos idoneos. Se establecerá por ley un método para el financiamiento público de campañas para la ocupación de cargo estatal. Se establecerán límites de gastos de estableción para tales campañas a los candidatos que utilicen fondos públicos en ellas. La legislatura proporcionará los fondos para esta disposición. La ley general que implemente este párrafo deberá otorgar como mínimo la misma protección a la competencia efectiva de candidatos que utilicen fondos públicos que la ley general vigente el 1 de enero de 2008.

ARTÍCULO VII SUFRAGIO Y ELECCIONES SECCIÓN 7. Límites de gastos de campaña y financiamiento de campañas para oficios estatales electivos. Es política del estado establecer elecciones en todo el estado en las que puedan competir efectivamente todos los candidatos idoneos. Se establecerá por ley un método para el financiamiento público de campañas para la ocupación de cargo estatal. Se establecerán límites de gastos de estableción para tales campañas a los candidatos que utilicen fondos públicos en ellas. La legislatura proporcionará los fondos para esta disposición. La ley general que implemente este párrafo deberá otorgar como mínimo la misma protección a la competencia efectiva de candidatos que utilicen fondos públicos que la ley general vigente el 1 de enero de 2008. 08/28, 10/02

TOUCHSTONE

Heating and Air Inc.

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(386) 752-0720

Mickey Starling
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Touchstone Heating and Air owner Mark Touchstone is no stranger to hard work. The Lake Butler, Fla., native began working in the maintenance department for the school board while he was attending Union County High School. Afterwards, Touchstone worked for Enviro-Temp, a heating and air conditioning company in Gainesville, Fla. After working on a ranch in Wyoming for two years, Touchstone returned to Lake Butler and the air conditioning business, working for Robinson Heating and Air.

In the late 90s, Touchstone was encouraged by several contractors to begin his own business, which he did, initially operating out of a storage building. Things got ugly when the financial markets crashed in 2008. Touchstone faced mounting debts and had to lay off most of his employees. Raising his daughter, Sydney, turned out to be the inspiration he needed to press on through the difficulties he faced.

One day, Touchstone heard financial advisor Dave Ramsey on the radio, giving advice that was music to his ears. He began following Ramsey's advice and soon saw improvements. "I had my health, and I was willing to work hard at anything," said Touchstone, whose breakthrough came with an offer from Camp Blanding to do air conditioning work in their barracks. This sizable contract helped Touchstone regain his financial footing and decrease his debt.

By 2010, inspiration and blessings were flowing in Touchstone's direction when he met his future wife, Amy. "She is very instrumental to our success," said Touchstone. "She gives great advice, and she is patient." He later happened upon a book,

"The Upside of Fear," by Weldon Long, who is now a motivational speaker. "That book helped me to create goals," remembers Touchstone. "I'm still passing the book on to others."

Later, a web design company, iMarket Solutions, contacted Mark with an ad offer he was sure he couldn't afford. The company eventually sold him the ad with a no-risk offer that paid big dividends. He once attended an iMarket seminar and met another favorite business author, Ruth King. She was carrying a large number of books and Touchstone offered to carry them for her. In the midst of their conversation, King said, "I can help you grow your company." "She did, and she still does," said Touchstone.

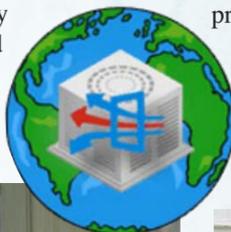
Today, Touchstone Heating and Air has offices in Lake Butler, Lake City and Madison. The Madison branch came about after receiving a call from a resident for service. "I immediately knew this is a town I wanted to do business in," remarked Touchstone. "These are really nice people." It wasn't long before Touchstone joined the Madison County Chamber of Commerce, and he has enjoyed the many opportunities to help people. "We care about service," remarked Touchstone. "We offer 10-year warranties on parts and labor and a money-back guarantee." His customers have been so pleased that Touchstone has only been asked for a refund once. "We respond to our customers, and come when we say we will," said Touchstone, who has made God a major part of his business. "We pray at every staff meeting," he added. "I gave

what I had when I had very little. God always supplied for every need, and there was always jobs. I had an employee who was an atheist who is now a regular church attendee."

Touchstone only sells quality products such as Goodman, Amana, York and others, all with the same warranties. Besides air conditioning and heating, Touchstone also offers generator installation and duct cleaning. For service, call the Madison office at (386) 752-0720. If you would like to hear from some of his customers, visit Grumpy's Diner on Main or The Country Store. The staff at Madison Correctional Institute can also attest to the quality of work offered by Touchstone Heating and Air.



Owners
Mark and Amy Touchstone.



Touchstone Heating and Air Inc.



www.touchstoneheatingonline.com

TOUCHSTONE

- We provide same-day installations.
- We answer the phone in three rings or less.
- We can offer payments as low as \$60/month with financing on new systems.
- Our technicians are NATE and EPA-certified.
- We provide a 100% money-back guarantee with each service.



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