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2024 Election

Danny Federico
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

71,893,987
votes received by
President Elect
Donald Trump

312
Electoral College
votes received by
Trump

13,845,913
registered voters
in Florida

26,957
registered voters in
Suwannee County

22,034
ballots cast in
Suwannee County

4,360
registered voters in
Lafayette County

3,786
ballots cast in
Lafayette County

7,144
registered voters in
Hamilton County

5,783
ballots cast in
Hamilton County

Election Day 2024 saw a wave of voter enthusiasm across Suwannee, Hamilton and Lafayette Counties, setting new records for local participation. With Lafayette

See "Election" on page 3

Suwannee, Lafayette and Hamilton Counties choose Trump

Once again, voters of Suwannee County, Hamilton County and Lafayette County made Donald Trump their choice for President of the United States. On Tuesday, Nov. 5, Trump carried Suwannee County with 17,458 votes, his closest competitor, current Vice-President Kamala Harris, who received 4,215 votes. In Hamilton County, Trump carried the victory with 3,964 votes, once again his closest competitor was Harris with 1,722 votes. Finally, in Lafayette County Trump took the most votes with 3,296, once again, his closest competitor was Harris with 441 votes.

Statewide, Trump carried the State of Florida with 56.13 percent of the vote, with 6,099,686 votes. Harris received 4,667,481, or 42.95 percent of the vote in the Sunshine State.

Lafayette County election

Lafayette County boasted a landmark voter turnout of 86.7 percent, outpacing 2020's numbers by 5.9 percent. In the local race, Andrew Branche (REP) defeated incumbent Earnest Jones (DEM) in the District 5 County Commissioner race with a sweeping 71.5 percent of the vote.

Hamilton County election

Hamilton County also set a record, with 81.16 percent of eligible voters casting ballots, an 8.67 percent increase from the last general election. In the local races, Brian S. Creech (REP) narrowly secured the position of Hamilton County Sheriff, winning by a 3.06 percent margin over Anthony Williams (NPA). Leslie Jones (REP) won the seat of Tax Collector by 11.06 percent against Charlene Robinson (NPA). Incumbent Lee Wetherington-Zamora (REP) retained her role as Superintendent of Schools with a strong lead of 38.96 percent over Paula G. Williams (DEM). James I. Howell (DEM) will now represent District 3 as County Commissioner, defeating Edgar A. Perez (REP) with a solid 35.36 percent margin.

Suwannee County election

Suwannee County joined its neighboring counties with record turnout, with 81.74 percent of voters heading to the polls, up 5.43 percent from 2020. Incumbent Sheriff Sam St. John (REP) will continue his service after securing a 50.46 percent victory over Harry Kin Weaver, Jr. (NPA). Ronnie Gray (REP) will lead Suwannee's schools as the new Superintendent after a 77.64 percent win over write-in candidate Janene Fitzpatrick (NON). Meanwhile, Lesley Townsend Fry (NON) will take a seat on the School Board for District 1, claiming the victory over Adam Hitt (NON) by a margin of 10.94 percent.

FDC K9 team locates missing vulnerable adult

FDC
Contributor

The Florida Department of Corrections (FDC) K9 tracking team from Hamilton Correctional Institution (CI) in Jasper responded to a call for assistance placed by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in locating a missing elderly male on Thursday, Oct. 17. The search was initiated between 7:20 p.m. and 8:15 p.m.

"We are always proud to assist in providing service and support to our surrounding community, especially in times of need," said Hamilton CI Warden Paul

See "K9" on page 3



Photo courtesy of FDC
Hamilton County CI's K9 tracking team assisted in locating a missing elderly man on Thursday, Oct. 17.

Hamilton County Animal Shelter coming to Jennings

Jason Futch
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Hamilton County will soon be opening a new Animal Shelter in Jennings, which will help dogs and cats throughout Hamilton, Suwannee and Madison Counties.

The new home of the Hamilton County Animal Services (HCAS) facility will be situated on six acres in Jennings at the former North Florida PAWS' spay/neuter clinic, which was previously operated by Doug and Katie Rooney. Katie is also a certified dog trainer.

"In 2006, we bought the property and had the facility built from the ground up," Katie said. She lived on the property until her husband passed away in 2016, residing in the four-bedroom three-bathroom house attached to the facility. Rooney sold the property soon after to the county

See "Shelter" on page 3



A random act of kindness



Cheryl Cruce
Guest Columnist

So many thoughts were running through my mind as I was interrupted by an older gentleman standing behind me in the checkout lane. Lifting his hand, he showed me three bracelets and asked that I choose the one I wanted. He had given away more than 500 colorful bracelets over the past year and only had a few left. I chose the red one.

I was a stranger to him, but he showed me a random act of kindness that changed the course of my day. I hugged his neck and thanked him for the kind gesture as his smile warmed my spirit. I do not know his name, where he came from, or where he was going. I only know for a moment he was present in my life, and I am grateful.

I enjoy this time of year: the gift-giving, the cheer and the random acts of kindness we share. In December, our homes are brightened with decorations, and our schedules are filled with charitable events. There is a look of innocence in the children's eyes when they see the red-clad elf

promising a visit on Christmas morning. Likewise, there is something special about looking for the perfect gift for the one you love and seeing their face light up with excitement.

However, in the joy of the season, some people are hurting. They have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. Not every child will receive the "perfect" gift; not every person will be warm, feel safe or be fed. Life is not perfect; people need random acts of kindness to fill in the empty spaces of life. We are a people dearly loved by God and have been chosen to be holy. As holy people, we are called to clothe ourselves with compassion and kindness toward others (Colossians 3:12). We are taught how our kindness to one another shows kindness to our Lord.

Jesus shares the parable of a great king who thanked the people for their compassion. The king said they had visited him when he was sick and imprisoned. The people had provided food, clothing and shelter when he was in need. The people could not remember such a time and questioned their king. The king answered them, saying, "I tell you the truth. Anything you did for my people here; you also did for me" (Matthew 25:31-40).

There was a man who had spent his life begging for money because of his disability. When the disciples, John and Peter, saw him, they did not offer him silver or gold but healing (Acts 3). Maybe we are not called to heal the paralytic, but hunger is crippling. When the grocery store offers a "BOGO" (Buy One, Get One), buy one for yourself and give the free one to your neighborhood food bank. Donate to your local shelter if you have outgrown your winter coat. Nursing homes are filled with lonely people looking for a friend. Be a friend! After all, loving the King's people is loving the King.

The red stretchy bracelet I received in the checkout line has no monetary value. However, it is priceless because a stranger took the time to see me and to offer me a blessing. Take the time today to see the needs of others. We may not have silver and gold, but we have random acts of kindness to offer the people of the King.

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. 2 Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers; by so doing, some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (Hebrews 13:1-2).

Living God's way: Turning back a stray Christian



Carlton McPeak
Guest Columnist

James gives one final word of encouragement to his "brethren." He is concerned about the "brother" or "sister" who has strayed "from the truth." James expresses how important it is for Christians to work at turning back a straying Christian to "the truth." (James 5:19, 20).

James points out that "any among you" can stray from the truth. He understands that Christians, believers in Christ, can stray from the truth. While Christians should never stray from the truth, if they do, a fellow Christian needs to help them return to it.

The concept of "to stray" means to wander from a course of action, which in this context is the teachings of "the truth." It means leaving the teachings of Christ and returning to the life a

person lived before becoming a Christian. When a person does this, they are facing spiritual death if they do not turn back.

While James gives this word of warning, he also gives a word of instruction. He speaks to those who have not strayed and instructs them to take action against those who have strayed. James wants them to know that the Christian "who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save [the sinner's] soul from death." James also wants them to know that in the process of turning one back, they have covered "a multitude of sins."

What a fitting way to close his book by emphasizing the saving of a soul from death. All that James wrote in this book is about how one should live because one is a Christian. Would it not seem quite logical to encourage his readers to work with and help Christians who have strayed from the truth? It is all about helping each other.

When helping others, we need to be

constantly reminded that we, too, may need some help coming back. We should always live our lives so that we will not stray from the truth. Christians need to be diligent in examining themselves to make sure they are abiding by the truth and not straying from it.

Here's one final thought about helping a straying Christian turn back to following God: When the straying Christian sees our love for them and our kindness and gentleness in dealing with them, our efforts become more powerful to them.

Christians need to look out for each other and be willing to help each other "turn back" if one has strayed from the truth. Providing this help is just one way a Christian demonstrates that they are living God's way.

Carlton G. McPeak (carlton_mc@msn.com) is an evangelist working in the Florida Gateway region.

Scriptural quotations from the NASB.

Cagle grams: Repent or perish



James H. Cagle
Guest Columnist

"There were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay, but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:1-3 KJV).

God has commanded all men everywhere, at every age, to repent (Acts 17:30). Repentance is not a suggestion or a request but a God-given command. Like all of God's commands, man is free to choose not to obey them, but if he chooses not to obey them, the consequence of his choice is that he will perish.

What does it mean to "repent?" Repentance or to repent means "to feel pain, sorrow or regret for something done or something left undone by one's self; to experience such sorrow for sin as produces a change of heart and amendment of life." Repentance is a change of mind. The literal meaning of repentance is "afterthought" or "reconsideration." A "change of mind" is the substitution of a new mind for the old mind. True repentance is self-judgment, which leads to a change of mind, which will lead to a change of action. Repentance is absolutely necessary for salvation and restoration of our fellowship with God. Repentance is to confess and forsake our sins.

What does it mean to "perish?" To "perish" carries with it the idea "to die, expire, pass away; become extinct, cease to exist, wither away, decay, come to ruin, crumble, and be destroyed." But that only

applies to material things. Immaterial or spiritual things do not perish or cease to exist. Man's corporeal mortal body will perish, but his spirit or immortal being will live eternally somewhere (2 Corinthians 4:16) in either Heaven or Hell.

There is no such thing as a dead person; there are only dead bodies. Everyone who has ever lived is still alive in either Heaven or Hell based on what they did with Jesus Christ, accepting Him as their Savior or rejecting Him.

Perish cannot mean annihilation, for the lost are said to suffer in Hell forever (Matthew 25:41, 46) and to be conscious of their suffering. Our body dies, but the soul never dies, and to perish is to be eternally separated and eternally cut off from the presence of God (2 Thessalonians 1:9). "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41). These words that the lost exist coextensively with Satan and fallen, bad angels.

The Psalmist said, "The way of the ungodly shall perish" (Psalm 1:6). That means that the way of disobedience and rebellion against God, the wickedness, evil and sinfulness as we see and know today, will one day be put away and sin and sinners will no longer exist in the presence of God and His people. This happens after the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelations 20:11-15) when all sin and sinners are cast into the Lake of Fire, which is called the Second Death, where they will be eternally separated from God and His glory. There in the Lake of Fire, they will live forever, and they may be dying forever.

But God is not willing that anyone should perish (2 Peter 3:9), and through repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ, they can be saved and won't (Act 20:21).

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I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend.

-Thomas Jefferson

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Election

Cont. from page 1

County leading the way with an unprecedented 86.7 percent turnout, voters made their voices heard with historic engagement.

At the state and federal levels, Floridians primarily supported incumbent Republican candidates, with Rick Scott retaining his Senate seat with 55.6 percent of the vote. In the House, Neal Dunn (REP) will continue to represent District 2, while Kat Cammack (REP) will remain in office representing District 3. Corey Simon (REP) also retained his seat as a State Senator, and Jason Shoaf (REP) will stay on as a State Representative. Justices Renatha Francis and Meredith Sasso will continue to serve on Florida's Supreme Court with 63.2 and 62.3 percent support, respectively. In the First District Court of Appeal, Judges Stephanie Ray, Bradford L. Thomas and M. Kemmerly Thomas will retain their positions, each receiving over 64 percent of the vote.

The constitutional amendments on the ballot revealed a split among Floridians. Amendment 1, which would have made school board elections partisan, failed with 55 percent support. Amendment 2, the right to hunt and fish, gained overwhelming approval, passing at 67 percent, while Amendment 5's homestead tax exemption adjustment received 66 percent approval, officially passing. Attempts to legalize recreational marijuana (Amendment 3) and guarantee abortion rights up to fetal viability (Amendment 4) both fell short, with only 56 and 57 percent support, respectively. Amendment 6, which proposed repealing public campaign financing provisions, narrowly failed, with just 50 percent in favor.

Finally, all eyes were turned toward the most important race: the Presidential election. In a decisive victory, Donald J. Trump (REP) reclaimed the presidency, capturing 295 electoral votes (50.9 percent) to Kamala Harris's (DEM) 226 (47.6 percent), though final tallies are still pending.

K9

Cont. from page 1

Allen. "Our K9 tracking teams are the best in the business, and we are thankful

for our relationship with our local law enforcement partners, which provides the pathway to ensure individuals such as this can

be brought home safely."

FDC K9 tracking teams are tasked with pursuing escaped inmates; however, such instances have become infrequent in modern times. As a result, these teams are often deployed within communities to aid local law enforcement in capturing dangerous fugitives

and finding missing children and vulnerable adults.

The total length of the K9 track was two and a half miles from the initial point of origin, and the total activation time once the track began was one hour before the team located the missing individual.

Shelter

Cont. from page 1

so a new facility could be used as the county animal shelter. "I was very grateful to the county for the sale," Katie said.

The reason for this was because of how small the current animal shelter in Jasper is, which limits how many animals the shelter can take in. The facility itself is also outdated.

Katie said the progress of the facility will depend on how fast additional kennels will be built and what the plans are for the former residential home attached to the facility. "The former home could serve as an administrative area or an area for other needs of the shelter," she said. "The added kennels on top of what we have now will also be a big help." The Hamilton County Correctional Institution will be assisting the HCAS with building additional kennels.

The facility will provide more space not only inside the facility, but outside as well. With six acres of land, there will be nice, fenced in yards for the dogs to exercise and play, which will also be used as a "meet and greet" area for potential adopters and their dogs. Katie said that the shelter is also planning to set up an agility course for the dogs.

In order to support the staff that will be hired to maintain the shelter, the nonprofit Friends of HamCo Animal Shelter was recently established. The organization will also help with adoption events, fundraising for supplies, and equipment above what the county can provide, continue spay and neuter assistance for low income pet owners and feral cat colony caretakers, recruit volunteers, and other activities such as fun family events at the shelter. They will also help with a dog training program.

Katie also shared that she is optimistic about how animal services have been since animal control officer Rose Bonney took over at the Hamilton County Animal Control in December of 2023. "To date, she has been able to adopt out or transport to no-kill shelters of over 300 adoptable dogs and cats in Hamilton County," Katie said.

Despite help from Bonney's crew, what really concerns Katie is the lack of foster homes, and homes in general, for unwanted, abandoned and abused dogs and cats in the area. There is a growing need to outsource to other foster homes, adopters and no-kill shelters due to the lack of homes available in

Hamilton County and the surrounding areas.

Because of this, they have been seeking homes outside of the tri-county area, as well as no-kill shelters willing to bring them in. However, transportation is an issue. "Most facilities and adopters are willing to take the animals, but they need to be brought to them," Katie said. "That is why we are seeking a van that can possibly be donated to Friends of HamCo Animal Shelter so we can be able to provide the transportation needed."

Friends of HamCo Animal Shelter are seeking the donation and are asking the community for help in securing this. Ideally, Katie said, the shelter would need a cargo van or a stripped down van with no passenger seats.

"We thank the responsible pet owners who we don't hear from because they are taking care of their pets and keeping them safe," Katie said. "Dogs and cats are created by people; therefore, it is the people's responsibility to care for them."

The new Hamilton County Animal Shelter will be located across from Cunningham Park on U.S. Highway 441 in Jennings. An opening date has yet to be determined, however, Riverbend News will keep readers up-to-date on the progress. For more information, contact the Hamilton County Animal Shelter at (386) 249-9000 or Katie at (386) 938-5051.



Photo courtesy of Katie Rooney

Behind the new Hamilton County Animal Shelter, where the current dog kennels are located, plans are underway to expand the shelter's kennels.

BUCCANEERS RETURN HOME STATE RUNNERS-UP



Photo courtesy of Branford Buccaneer Volleyball

The Buccaneers have returned home to Branford with the title of FHSAA Rural Class Volleyball State Runners-up.

Christian Peterson
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On Wednesday, Nov. 6, the Branford High School Buccaneers volleyball team traveled to Polk State College in Winter Haven, Fla., for the ultimate volleyball showdown against the Liberty County Bulldogs in the FHSAA Rural Classification State Championship. What ensued was an intense matchup, where every point felt like the final point of the game.

The first set was tight,

with the Bulldogs eventually walking away with the win, 25-20. This was the farthest away in points that the Buccaneers would be from the Bulldogs. Set two went a similar direction; despite their best efforts, the Buccaneers only scored 24 points compared to the Bulldogs' 26. The Buccaneers entered the third set concerned, as the Bulldogs only needed one more set to win. They fought as hard as they could, but it wasn't enough. The Buccaneers scored a close 24

points and the Bulldogs scored 26, ending the game 3-0.

While the Buccaneers came in as State Runners-Up, they still had an incredible season. They took three losses in August, but after that, they went on a winning rampage, taking the victory in 25 straight games. This was also only the Buccaneers' second time on the state stage in two years. Their players also had tremendous success. Five of them had over 100 kills, including Madison Ward with

216, Lalyn Sikes with 184, Addison Folsom with 182, Anabella Dicks with 141 and Kayley Johnson with 137. On top of that, Andi Sabourin turned out to be the ultimate support teammate, offering 754 assists. The Buccaneers finished with an incredible season record of 27-4 and as Florida State Runners-up.

"This was by far one of the most memorable seasons I have ever had," said Coach Mendy Sikes. "At the start of the season, we did not look like the team that would make

it to the state championship game, but with hard work and determination, they worked hard to become that team. I enjoyed watching this group become a true team. They respect and lift each other up. Although we did not walk away with the state title, we had an amazing season. I am truly grateful to the players, parents, families, fans and community that became a part of this program. It truly has been an honor to be the coach of these amazing young ladies."

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2024 Award Winning Newspaper

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Suwannee County Sheriff's Office seeking absconded sex predator

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Since August 2021, Suwannee County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) investigators have been attempting to locate an absconded sexual predator who was released from prison and hasn't been seen since.

Pursuant to Florida Statute 775.21, a sexual predator is defined as an individual who has been convicted of a sexually violent offense, has been committed under the Jimmy Ryce Act, or has a written court order designating them as a sexual predator. Sexual predators experience more scrutiny due

to the sexually violent circumstances surrounding their charges. They are required to report to a law enforcement liaison four times a year. In Suwannee County, they meet Investigator JR Smith, whose office is located at the Suwannee County Jail. His job is to ensure that sex offenders and predators register, update their information, and report when they are required to for a follow up.

However, there is one sexual predator that has not reported to Smith: Samuel Dillon Free. "He is a very dangerous individual," Smith said.

According to Smith, Free absconded from his Sex Offender Probation after being convicted of

sexual battery-coercing a child by an adult in 2019 after having been arrested by SCSO in 2018.

Free was engaging in an inappropriate relationship with the female victim from the time



Samuel Dillon Free

she was 12 years old through her early teenage years. While most of the abuse occurred while the two lived in Tennessee, there were two occasions Free abused the girl while visiting Wellborn. During the Wellborn abuse, she had been in her

early teens. When they returned to Tennessee, it continued until she was 15.

In 2017 and 2018, Free texted the victim while she was living in Suwannee County, attempting to set up a meeting with her. However, investigators with SCSO were present during the contact and Free was ultimately arrested. He would be convicted and sentenced in March of 2019 to five years in prison, of which he only served two years.

After being released from prison in 2021, Free failed to register with the SCSO and has been on the run since. According to Smith, there have been sightings of Free, but have not been confirmed.

"We received a report that Free had been seen in the McAlpin area," Smith said. "He does have family in Suwannee County and someone may know where his whereabouts are."

Free has ties to Arizona, Tennessee and Florida, as well as other parts of the country. He also has convictions in Columbia County. "It's difficult to determine exactly where he is unless someone can come forward and provide SCSO with this information," Smith said. "His information is in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), so if he is arrested in another jurisdiction, the law enforcement agency in that jurisdiction will know we are looking for him and he will

be brought back to Suwannee County to face a judge for absconding."

As of this article, Free will have been absconded for three years, two months and 28 days. He is considered a dangerous sexual predator.

Individuals with information regarding the whereabouts of Free are asked to contact the SCSO at (386) 362-2222. To remain anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000, contact Crime Stoppers of Suwannee County at (386) 208-TIPS (8477).



Samuel Dillon Free with longer hair.

Live Oak man arrested for selling stolen goods on Facebook

Jason Futch
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On Saturday, Nov. 2, Live Oak Police Department (LOPD) Officer Kittrell was dispatched to the 400 block of Southeast Helvenston Street regarding stolen items that were being sold on Facebook Marketplace.

Upon arrival, Officer Kittrell was met by the victim, who stated that some of the items that had been stolen from her shed were being sold on Facebook by 32-year-old Live Oak resident Gregory Scott Lane. According to the arrest report, the victim had previously reported these items stolen. An air filtration system that was allegedly being sold by Lane on Facebook matched the serial numbers of the one stolen from the victim.

Officer Kittrell and Sgt. Mark Pierce arrived at Lane's mother's house. It was known that Lane stayed at the house from time to time, and that some of the photos taken had identifiers that were consistent with Lane's mother's house.

While approaching the home, a carport was observed to have a blue tarp wrapped around it. Inside, officers allegedly saw Lane sitting down smoking. As the two officers approached the opening, they could smell marijuana emanating from the carport and observed two pistol magazines, one of which had rounds. Also observed was what appeared to be a marijuana cigarette on the left side of the couch where Lane was sitting.

Lane was asked to leave the carport and was read his Miranda Rights. He was also asked about the stolen items on Facebook. Lane allegedly told the officers that he was asked to sell the items for a friend who was incarcerated, to which the money earned from the items would be for bail. According to the police report, while being asked about the items, Lane was allegedly shaking and talking quickly, seeming eager to lead the officers into the house and away from the couch area where he was located.

Lane led the officers inside the house, where they quickly located the stolen items. Lane was placed in handcuffs and put into a patrol vehicle. Lane agreed to having the house searched, but told officers they would need to speak to his mother, who owned the house.

Lane's mother, who was on the phone with

officers, gave permission to search the house, where drug paraphernalia was located inside the couch Lane was sitting on.

While checking his arrest record, Officer Pierce found out that Lane had been convicted on three felonies. Lane was asked about the gun magazines, but he stated that he was rummaging through items when he located them.

A glass bulb smoking pipe with burnt white residue was also located. Directly under the seat where Lane was sitting was a clear plastic bag with marijuana. On top of the bag of marijuana was a loose .380 caliber round and two clear plastic bags which contained methamphetamine. The methamphetamine was tested and weighed approximately 25.5 grams. The marijuana found at the scene weighed approximately 8 grams.

While searching for the gun that matched the magazines, a laundry bag was located next to the couch and was searched and a Davis Industries P-380 handgun was located that matched to the loaded magazine. A second firearm, a Lorcin L32, was located on the backside of the couch in a box that the other empty magazine was a match to.

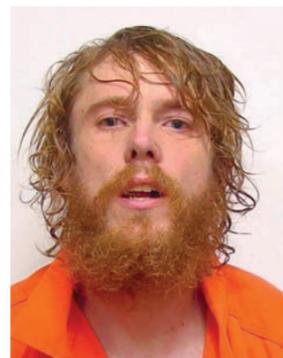
Other stolen items belonging to the victim were located on the property. Officer Kittrell noticed a small baggie located inside of the coffee table directly in front of where Lane was sitting, which contained a green pill partially smashed. The pill was field tested positive for MDMA (ecstasy), weighing approximately .8 grams.

Next to the stolen filtration system, on top of a table, an additional glass smoking pipe was also located.

After an inventory of all the stolen items was made and returned to the victim, Lane was questioned about the firearms and narcotics. Lane allegedly told officers that a lot of people come and go from his house and that the drugs were not his. He additionally stated that his mother's house was not his primary residence and that he mainly spent his time on the couch not bothering anyone.

Lane was transported to the Suwannee County Jail, where he was charged with dealing in stolen property, burglary, grand theft, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He is being held on a \$245,000 bond.

Live Oak man charged with exposing himself



Zackary Don Morris

Jason Futch
reporter2.riverbendnews@gmail.com

A Live Oak man is behind bars after publicly exposing himself to law enforcement while at Suwannee Plaza.

On Wednesday, Nov. 6, at approximately 1:35 a.m., Live Oak Police Department (LOPD) Officer Del Sasso was dispatched to Suwannee Plaza Boulevard in response to a white male allegedly running around behind Fresenius Kidney Care Dialysis Center unclothed, exposing his genitals.

According to the police report, upon arrival, Officer Del Sasso located the suspect behind Fresenius Kidney Care with no pants on. The suspect, identified as 33-year-old Zackary Don Morris, was asked why he was not wearing his pants, to which he did not respond. Morris allegedly continued changing the subject, including sharing with the officer that he was planning on going to the National Football League (NFL).

Morris then proceeded to make a lewd statement to investigators, followed by attempting to pleasure himself. It was there that Officer Del Sasso placed Morris in handcuffs and transported him to the Suwannee County Jail without incident.

Morris was charged with indecent exposure and is being held on no bond.

Jail Report

Lafayette County

Nov. 4

Eduardo Pinto-Cruz, driving while license suspended or restricted

Jessica Crumity, disorderly intoxication, resisting officer

Shelby Walker, driving under the influence

Nov. 5

Cleve Pugh, trespassing

James Newbern, damage property criminal mischief

Nov. 6

Bryan Garcia, attach registration license plate not assigned, operate motor vehicle without valid license

Nov. 7

Christopher Hawkins, failure to appear

Nov. 8

James Garlock, driving while license suspended or restricted, fail to stop at agriculture inspection station

Hamilton County

Nov. 5

Zed Donald Washington, Jr., simple assault

Nov. 6

Willie Joe Bell, four counts of cocaine sell, three counts of cocaine possession, four counts of use two way communication device to facilitate a felony

Desontae Douglas Evans, failure to appear

Nov. 7

Delondra Elijah Knight, probation violation

Scott O'Neal Phillips, moving traffic violation

Nov. 10

Ryan Christopher Grantham, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill, improper exhibit firearm or dangerous weapon, use firearm under influence of alcohol, resist officer without violence

Jesse Isiah Wyatt, out-of-state fugitive

Shiara Morales, battery

Suwannee County

Nov. 4

Torrence Jeric Lawrence, drug equipment possession, moving traffic violation, two counts nonmoving traffic violation, contribute to delinquent minor, cocaine possession, out-of-county warrant

Monica L. Mitchell, cocaine possession, drug equipment possession, contribute to delinquent minor, drugs possession

Nov. 5

Carlos Rodriguez, moving traffic violation, marijuana possession

Betty Miranda Fondren, two counts failure to appear, pass forged altered instrument

Jesse Macon Carter, probation violation

Daniel Ervin Fralick, moving traffic violation

Kevin Duane Blich, drug equipment possession

Ricky Dean Fletcher, battery

Nov. 6

Joseph Anthony Riglioni, moving traffic violation, nonmoving traffic violation

Zackary Don Morris, indecent exposure

Ivan Aliaksandrovic Basalayu, moving traffic violation

Joyce Nichole Smith, out-of-county warrant

Nov. 7

Jeffery Allen Steele, simple battery domestic violence

Nov. 8

Sha'Miah Tameika Henderson, petit theft

James Curtis Raymond Furman, probation violation

Steven Robert Patterson, probation violation

Jennifer Anne Brueckheimer, larceny, petit theft

Nov. 9

Steven Michael Stevens, battery

Joshua Luis Torres, moving traffic violation

Zachary M. Hoffland, withhold support

Joshua Christopher Jad Taylor-Leidy, moving traffic violation, drug equipment possession, resist officer without violence

Jennifer Jeanee Porter, petit theft

Shawn Patrick Larrison, petit theft, obstruct criminal investigation, out-of-county warrant

Ronnette Marie Walker, driving under the influence

Frederick Lamar Cooks, intimidation

Jorde Laquan Gainer, flee and elude police

Nov. 10

Christopher Robin Coleman, resist officer flee and elude law enforcement with lights siren active

Bailey Marie Mathews, two out-of-county warrants

Bruce Ladd Andrus, battery

Nov. 11

Shane Michael Westberry, stalking, moving traffic violation, drug equipment possession

or suitcase. The Suwannee River Regional Library is located at 1848 Ohio Ave. S, in Live Oak.

Friday, Nov. 15

If you or someone you know is in need of clothing to prepare for the coming cold weather, drop by Jasper City Park from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. for Share Day. This event, organized by New Hope Baptist Church and First Baptist Church of Jasper, aims to provide free winter clothing to those in need. Five items of clothing will be given per person. Individuals wishing to donate clothing can drop them off at the park during the giveaway hours. Jasper City Park is located in front of the Hamilton County Courthouse on Hatley Street.

Saturday, Nov. 16

See, touch, honk and explore a variety of service vehicles at Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative's annual Touch-a-Truck. Admission is free. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative, located at 11340 100th St., in Live Oak.

Saturday, Nov. 16

The Live Oak Makers' Market is your one-stop-shop for all the products you seek. Members of the Suwannee County community come together each month to offer residents the shopping experience of a lifetime with a variety of products. The market will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Suwannee County Historical Museum, located at 208 Ohio Ave. N, in Live Oak.

Saturday, Nov. 16

Christ Central Church of Live Oak will be hosting a free soup kitchen to feed those in need. The distribution will begin at 11 a.m. in the Badcock Home Furniture & More parking lot, located at 1429 Ohio Ave. N, in Live Oak.

Saturday, Nov. 16

Calling all Veterans – make your way over to the entertainment building of the Florida Gateway Fairgrounds from noon to 2 p.m. for a free barbecue lunch. Enjoy entertainment, guest speaker Senator Danny Burgess (R-

Tampa), door prizes and much more. This event is hosted by Wezzie Huelskamp and Brannon Real Estate. The Florida Gateway Fairgrounds are located at 164 SW Mary Ethel Ln, in Lake City.

Saturday, Nov. 16

Join .50 Cal Coffee & Desserts, located at 208 Howard St. W, in Live Oak, at 3 p.m. for its Grand Re-opening! There will also be a military vehicle showcase beginning at 11 a.m. for visitors to enjoy.

Sunday, Nov. 17

The Orchard Community Church will be holding its Harvest Celebration and Annual Meeting at Barnes Hay Farm beginning at 4 p.m. Celebrate the season with a time of worship and communion before enjoying hayrides, bounce houses, a bonfire, and plenty of activities for kids and adults alike. Dinner will also be provided. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs sit and fellowship. Barnes Hay Farm is located at 24271 FL 247, in O'Brien.

From farm to table: Reflecting on Farm-City Week this Thanksgiving season

Lafayette County Farm Bureau Contributor

Thanksgiving season is a time when many Americans gather with their families and reflect upon many blessings. One of those blessings is a nutritious and diverse food supply produced by the nation's farmers and ranchers.

Americans also benefit from other agricultural products that provide clothing, housing, medicines, fuel and other products that are used on a daily basis.

These basic necessities are available because of a broad partnership of farmers, ranchers, processors, brokers, truckers, shippers, scientists, wholesalers and retailers. These collaborative partnerships help maintain citizens' standard of living.

In appreciation of farm-city partnerships, the President of the United States annually proclaims the week leading up to Thanksgiving Day as National Farm-City Week.

Florida's agriculture, natural resource and food industries employ more than two million individuals and annually contribute \$182.6 billion to Florida's economy.

Citizens are encouraged to pause for a moment this holiday season and consider the many diverse and healthy foods available.

Neither the farm nor the city can exist in isolation. This interdependence creates jobs, markets and relationships that build America's economy and support its collective security.

As the nation celebrates Thanksgiving, remember the farm-city relationships that have created an outstanding quality of life for all Floridians.

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 Al-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, Nov. 13 and Thursday, Nov. 14

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, Nov. 13, at 9:15 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, located at 9989 CR 136, in Live Oak. The group then meets on Thursday, Nov. 14, 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.

Thursday, Nov. 14

Transform spaces through tidying and move through your own journey while, of course, sparking some joy! Join the Suwannee River Regional Library in this class about “The Art of Organizing.” The workshop will take place from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Patrons are welcome to bring items they would like to learn to fold and organize, as well as a bag, box

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“Bringing Local News Home”

Turning pages, shaping futures with National Young Readers Week

Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Reading is important. This sentiment has been preached for decades, and every parent is told that reading to and with their children is important. It has a plethora of benefits, including improvements to social and cognitive function. A recent study by Ohio State University showed that children who are read five books a day before they enter kindergarten will have heard roughly 1.4 million more words than kids who are never read to. “Even kids who are read only one book a day will hear about 290,000 more words by age 5 than those who don’t regularly read books with a parent or caregiver,” the study article reads. The study shows how many words kids have heard by the time they are 5 depending on how much reading is done. If they are never read to, they will hear 4,662 words; however, if they are read to once or twice a week, they will hear 63,570 words; three to five times a week makes 169,520 words; daily brings the number to 296,660; and five books a day equals 1,483,300. However, the value of reading and vocabulary doesn’t end at age 5. Children who consistently read and have a love for reading increasingly find themselves outpacing their peers on an educational level. This is why National Young Readers Week is so important.

Every year, during the second week of November, or from Monday, Nov. 11, to Friday, Nov. 15, this year, the nation celebrates National Young Readers Week. “Did you know that children learn between 4,000 to 12,000 words per year by simply reading, no matter what book it is,” National Today reads. “Young Readers Week raises awareness about the importance of reading, and it is a great time to help your kids develop a fiery passion for reading.”



Photo courtesy

National Young Readers Week started because of Pizza Hut and its BOOK IT! program. The program, which is still active today, started in 1984. President Ronald Reagan had been encouraging businesses to become involved in education, and Pizza Hut president Arthur Gunther took this to heart. He met with educators in Kansas and came up with the largest and longest-running corporate supported reading program. Children meet a monthly reading goal and are rewarded with delicious pizza.

Although the program was only initially rolled out in Kansas, it soon became nationwide. The program was endorsed by President Ronald Reagan, and by then-Arkansas Governor and future President Bill Clinton.

There are many ways to celebrate National Young Readers Week. The number one way is to buy kids books. “Children who have a home library with as little as 20 books of their own get three more years of schooling than kids who don’t have any books at home,” The National Today website reads. Another option is to read to your child. No matter your station in your kid’s life, the best way to lead is to lead by example. Read a book to your children, read a book with your children, and just read a book by yourself

around children. Another option is to donate books to libraries, especially school libraries. Many libraries are underfunded, and donations help a lot, whether that is in the form of books or even cash donations. Many children spend their after school time at the library, and you could help change a child’s life with donations. Not to toot our own horn, but read your children the *Riverbend News*. It will help them learn new words, such as superfluous, exhilarating, suspicious, stupendous, tremendous and gargantuan. Help teach them about the world around them, while helping grow their brain through reading.

Keep it clean by staying green

Christian Peterson
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America Recycles Day, otherwise known as National Recycling Day, is Friday, Nov. 15. It is a national observance day dedicated to promoting recycling across the United States. While America Recycles Day is a one-day event, the practice that it promotes is a good habit for everyone across the nation. It offers a chance to take a look at your own recycling habits and make changes and improvements to help better your life, your community and the world around you.

“America Recycles Day, brought to you by Keep America Beautiful, is the only nationally recognized day that’s all about recycling,” the Keep America Beautiful website reads. “It’s a time to learn, get inspired, and take action. Whether at home, school or work, we can all pitch in to recycle more and waste less.” Last year, America Recycles Day collected 936,499 pounds of recyclables; 18,822 pounds of clothing; 11,493 pounds of beverage containers; 199,420 pounds of paper and cardboard; 231,927 pounds of electronics; and 4,150 pounds of plastic.

America Recycles Day was originally started out in 1994 as Texas

Recycles Day. Kevin Tuerff and Valerie Davis, employees of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, came up with the idea. After the two left their government jobs, they reached out to the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), explaining their idea for a national recycling day, which the NRC loved. Just three years after the first Texas Recycles Day, on Oct. 1, 1997, the first America Recycles Day was announced in Orlando. Then, two years later, in 1999, President Bill Clinton proclaimed America Recycles Day, making it a national observance.

Keep America Beautiful has tips and tricks for recycling some of the trickier products. Batteries, for example, while a household staple, are very bad for the environment if disposed of improperly. There are multiple programs that will recycle batteries, however, the best way is to keep an eye out for “Toxic Roundup” events, which offer the chance to dispose of all electronic items without damaging the environment. Cigarette butts are another harmful item, and they make up almost 90 percent of litter across the United States. To dispose of them in a safe way, collect your cigarette butts, then visit [hs.terracycle.com](https://www.hs.terracycle.com). Fill out a short form on the TerraCycle website and receive a free shipping label to mail your cigarette butts in to be recycled. Gum is another often carelessly discarded item. Organizations like TerraCycle

will take used gum and repurpose it for things such as pencil erasers, shoe soles and even travel mugs. Many people may not realize that even mattresses can be recycled, in fact, 80 percent of a mattress can be recycled. “The metal springs, foam and wood can all find new life, reducing waste in landfills and contributing to a circular economy,” the Keep America Beautiful website said. Reach out to local municipalities or county resources to find drop-off events for hard-to-recycle items like these.

The list continues with items such as plastic bags. While a plastic bag is made out of plastic, it should not be recycled with other plastics, as it can get stuck in machinery at recycling facilities. Most grocery stores have a place to drop off your extra bags so that they can be disposed of properly and given a second chance. “Styrofoam, or expanded polystyrene (EPS), is another material that poses challenges when it comes to recycling. Many curbside recycling programs do not accept styrofoam due to its lightweight nature and tendency to break into small pieces, making it difficult to process. However, recycling options do exist,” the Keep America Beautiful reads. “Some specialized recycling facilities and drop off locations accept styrofoam for recycling, where it can be transformed into new products, such as insulation or packaging materials. To find a nearby facility, check with your local waste management department or search online for EPS recycling programs in your area.” Finally, paint is another common item that many don’t realize can be recycled. Many people finish their paint job and discover that they have paint left over. The best way to handle this situation is to reach out to local organizations or even national ones, such as Habitat for Humanity, which would welcome donations of extra paint, creating a resource for other people. Remember, the golden rule for recycling is to “reduce, reuse, recycle.”



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Local areas earn Purple Heart designation



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Gisonni

The designees and HCHS members smile for a photo after speaking to JROTC members.

Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Florida Youth Charitable is a non-profit organization fully focused on improving Hamilton County. One of the first projects that the crew ever took on was HAMCO Hometown Heroes. “The purpose of this project is to honor our community’s deceased and living Veterans on Memorial Day each year,” said member Jennifer Gisonni. As the group was researching Veterans in the area, they came across those who had earned Purple Hearts. The Purple Heart medal is a military decoration award given to those who were wounded or killed while serving the United States military. “It was such a distinction that we wanted folks who live here and drive through our community to know that we honor and respect everything our Veterans do and have done for us.” So, the group went to work to get Hamilton County and Jasper designated as a Purple Heart County and City.

The group was successful in this endeavor, but saw an even bigger chance ahead of them. They joined another group named the Community Cares Coalition. “This group focuses on drug prevention, but also works for the betterment of the tri-county area: Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee. We worked with locals in each municipality to get proclamations completed, and the rest, as they say, is history,” Gisonni said.

Four guests traveled to Hamilton County, beginning their day-long adventure through the three counties and municipalities earning Purple Heart designations. The guests were Command Sergeant Major William Smith, Command Sergeant Major Andrew Walden, Sergeant Sylvester Bolden and Commanding Officer Lawrence Walker. Their first stop was Hamilton County High School (HCHS). The guests were escorted by the Columbia County Sheriff’s Office and American Legion Riders Tom Johnson, Chuck Caldwell, JD and Allen Wood. They were met at the school by JROTC students, Superintendent Lee Wetherington-Zamora, Assistant Superintendent Philip Pinello, Principal Ryan Mitchell, Director of Teaching and Learning Christopher Combass, Coordinator of Safety and Mental Health Marjorie Cooks, Master Sergeant Steven Hawkins and Major Lacy Croft.

“Students were able to ask questions and hear the stories of the military duty of the Purple Heart guests. Lunch was provided by Florida Youth Charitable and the guests departed,” Gisonni said. After the crew left HCHS, they moved towards Suwannee County. They were escorted to Suwannee High School (SHS) by the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office and Jasper Police Chief Dan Bennett. At SHS, they were met by Live Oak Mayor Frank Davis and Principal Laura Williams. Then, once more, they traveled to American

Legion Post #57 in Lake City. There, they were met by Jasper City Manager Mark Meyers, Fort White Councilwoman Kathryn Terry, Lake City Mayor Stephen Witt, Lake City Councilman Rickie Jernigan and Columbia County Commissioner Robby Hollingsworth to accept the proclamations on behalf of their municipalities and counties.

Florida State Army Reserve Ambassador Jennifer Flynn was also present to give pins to each of the Columbia High School JROTC members, as well as the other students present. Also in attendance was 2024 Minuteman Scholarship recipient Victoria Coker, who was one of the individuals who had helped organize the event. Finally, all the students in attendance took an oath to be drug free.

“Many thanks to Yvonne Scott and Marcus Allen Funeral for coordinating transportation and assistance with Suwannee High School, hosting of the event by Commander Bill Huggins of American Legion Post #57 and their staff,” Gisonni said. Suwannee, Hamilton and Columbia all earned the Purple Heart designation. Additionally, the municipalities of Branford, Fort White, Jasper, Jennings, Lake City and Live Oak also earned the designation. Each of the counties and cities who earned the designation will be added to the Purple Heart trail and will have signs announcing them as such.

See, touch, explore with SVEC's annual Touch-a-Truck



Danny Federico
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

The Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative (SVEC) is gearing up to host its annual Touch-a-Truck on Saturday, Nov. 16. This free community event will give children and adults alike a chance to get up close and personal with an impressive lineup of trucks, emergency vehicles and heavy machinery.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., SVEC’s main office will transform into a bustling hub of exploration and excitement. Attendees will have the opportunity to see, touch and even honk the horns of various vehicles, with their drivers and operators on hand to answer questions and share their expertise.

In addition to the main attractions, families can enjoy a bounce house for kids and grab a bite to eat, with food and drinks available for purchase. Proceeds from the concessions will benefit United Way of Suwannee Valley.

Organizations interested in participating in the event still have time to get involved. To join the lineup of trucks and machinery, email communications@svec-coop.com for more information.

SVEC’s Touch-a-Truck event promises an afternoon of discovery and hands-on fun, perfect for families looking to learn more about the impressive machinery that helps keep the community running. Save the date and get ready to make some noise—this is one event you won’t want to miss! SVEC is located at 11340 100th St., in Live Oak.

Mayo to kick off Christmas season Nov. 30

Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Christmas time is here, full of joy and cheer, and just like always, the Town of Mayo is the first to kick off the holiday season. On Saturday, Nov. 30, the Mayo Christmas Market will be open. This event will bring local shopping, the lighting of the courthouse lawn, and the annual Christmas parade. The market will be at the intersection of Monroe Avenue and Bloxham

Street, and will boast plenty of items for all ages, shapes and sizes. The market will be open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. However, just because the market has closed doesn’t mean the festivities. At 6 p.m., the “Light of the World” Christmas parade will begin, officially marking the beginning of the Christmas season. For more information on the Mayo Christmas Market, or to learn how to become a vendor, contact the Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce through their Facebook page.

Christmas on the Square vendor applications still open

Jason Futch
reporter2.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Christmas on the Square is just around the corner! During the first week of December, the Suwannee County Chamber of Commerce turns downtown Live Oak into a Christmas wonderland as the city celebrates the most wonderful time of the year.

This year, Christmas on the Square will celebrate its 39th year. The theme for this year will be “Lighting the Way to Christmas.”

The festivities begin in Millennium Park on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 5:30 p.m., which includes the annual tree lighting by Mayor Frank Davis and hot chocolate, popcorn, the Kids one-mile Fun Run and then the Jingle Bell Fun Run & Walk for ages 13 and up. The night will end with a Christmas movie under the stars.

The festival continues on Friday, Dec. 5, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. with various vendors and events, including an appearance by Santa, sponsored by Coca-Cola of Florida. There will also be snow and a fireworks show at 9 p.m.

The festivities will draw to a close on Saturday, Dec. 6, beginning at 8 a.m. with over 300 arts and crafts vendors, dozens of different food vendors, a car show, Santa Land and live entertainment at Millennium Park. The event will end with the annual lighted Christmas Parade through downtown Live Oak at 6 p.m.

Christmas on the Square vendor applications are still open. Businesses and individuals interested in signing up as a vendor should visit chamberorganizer.com/christmas-on-the-square.html to learn more.

NOTICE OF RECERTIFICATION OF TAX ROLLS

Pursuant to section 193.122(2)(3), Florida Statutes (2021), David Goolsby, Jr. Property Appraiser of Hamilton County Florida, hereby gives notices to all Taxpayers and Owners of both Real and Personal Property that the 2024 Hamilton County Tax Rolls have been extended to show the Tax attributable to all Taxable Property and that said Tax Rolls were Recertified for Collection to the Tax Collector on November 1, 2024.

David Goolsby, Jr. CFA
Property Appraiser

Brotherhood Ride hosts 17th annual bike ride across Florida



Riverbend News photo by Jason Futch, October 28, 2024

Helmets from across Florida were piled up in front of the memorial by the Hamilton County Courthouse, reminding everyone that first responders may be gone, but never forgotten.

Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

The Brotherhood Ride just wrapped up its 17th year. This annual event sees people across Florida join together to preserve the memory of first responders who have died in the line of duty. It all started on June 18, 2007, when nine Charleston, S.C., firefighters lost their lives while fighting a fire and serving their community. “As time went on, a small group of firefighters gathered at the station,” the Brotherhood Ride website reads. “This is when the concept of the Brotherhood Ride was conceived. It was at this time that we decided to honor these nine members of the Charleston Fire Department. We knew whatever we did to honor these heroes should not and would not be easy. Whatever we did would be representative of the pain and loss that the families of these nine

brothers would be feeling. This is when we decided to ride bicycles nearly 600 miles from Naples to Charleston, S.C.” Since then, the ride has grown to honor first responders from across the country, riding a year after their death “as a reminder that they have not and will not be forgotten.” Since its inception, the Brotherhood Ride has traveled over 12,600 miles through 16 states, honoring a total of 738 first responders. The first day of the trip started in Naples, Fla.

#1770 for the night. On day three, riders honored Firefighter Mark E. Rueter from Riviera Beach Fire Rescue, who passed away on April 5, 2023. It was the shortest pedaling day so far, with the group traveling 64 miles and ending at Port St. Lucie Elks Lodge #2658. The bikes were set back on the road for day four. This day honored Battalion Chief Leigh Ann Flyn from the Sarasota County Fire Department, who passed away on Jan. 18, 2023 and Firefighter Jason C. Tucker from Pasco County Fire Rescue, who passed away on April 23, 2023. The distance that the bikers were traveling began picking back up, as they rode 82 miles to the Cocoa Elks Lodge #1532. Day five was unique, as the first responder being honored was K9 Fredy from the Orange County Sheriff’s Office. Fredy passed away on Oct. 16, 2023, in a car crash in Orlando. The bikers made sure to stop and speak with his handler and coworkers during the ride. The team



Riverbend News photo by Jason Futch, October 28, 2024

Bikers walk behind current Jasper Police Chief Dan Bennett to the Jasper Police Department Memorial.

However, the end location of day one was Miami, over 100 miles away. With dozens of supporters lined up, the first day focused on honoring James W. McFee, a paramedic from Lee County who passed away in January of 2023. The 9/11 survivor had dedicated his life to serving the community, and now the honor was returned. The crew settled in Miami after a long 103 mile bike ride to Miami Elks Lodge 948.

Day two arrived with participants preparing to head to Delray Beach. Four first responders were the focus of the day. Captain Paul Gurdak from Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, who passed away on Dec. 31, 2023; Police Officer Charles Herring from the Pembroke Pines Police Department, who passed away on Feb. 9, 2023; Battalion Chief Terryson Jackson from the Broward Sheriff’s Office Department of Fire Rescue, who passed away on Aug. 28, 2023 and Lieutenant Ray J. Keith from Delray Beach Fire Rescue who passed away on Oct. 18, 2023. The group took time to stop in each of the fallen first responder home towns to pay homage to each of their legacies. The group ended their 72 miles of bike riding at the Delray Beach Elks Lodge

pedaled a total of 91 miles before arriving at DeLand Elks Lodge #1463 for the night. The morning of day six shone through, and while the bikers were tired, it was nothing compared to the price their brothers and sisters had paid. Day six was dedicated to Sergeant Michael Kunovich from the St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office, who passed away on May 19, 2023 and Aviation Enforcement Agent Esteban Gabriel Pena from the US Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection – Air and Marine Operations, who passed away on April 15, 2023. The day ended as one of the longest days yet, as the bikers pedaled 102 miles to the Green Cove Springs Elks Lodge #1892.

The event was nearing its end as the sun rose on day seven. This time, the group set out for Lake City, with a focus on honoring Captain Adam Wayne Hart from Hulburt Field Fire and Emergency Services, who passed away on Oct. 5, 2023 and Lieutenant Terrell D. Jackson from Escambia County Fire Rescue, who passed away on Jan. 9, 2023. After a 65 mile bike ride, the crew ended up in Lake City at Elks Lodge #893 for the evening.

The final day of the bike ride was day eight. This time, it was focused on honoring a local hero from Hamilton County: Jasper Police Chief Anthony Rickerson, who tragically lost his life in a car accident on June 11, 2023, in Hamilton County. The group made sure to make a stop in Jasper to meet with family, friends and colleagues, and remember Rickerson’s sacrifice. Finally, after 50 miles of biking, the crew arrived at the Live Oak Elks Lodge for the final stop on their journey. Another year had come and another group of first responders had been honored; they may be gone, but they will never be forgotten.

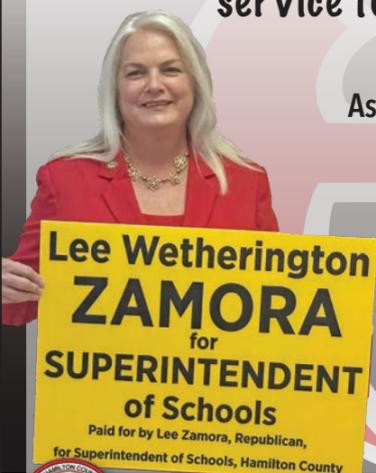


Riverbend News photo by Jason Futch, October 28, 2024

Bikers and first responders gather around the Jasper Police Department memorial to honor the memory of Anthony Rickerson and C.J. Powell.

THANK YOU to everyone for your vote to have me continue as your Superintendent of Schools of Hamilton County. I am truly appreciative and humbled by your confidence in me. I considered it an honor to be of service to our children and to our community!

As we continue to move forward with our schools and with our county, please reach out to me with any suggestions. My office number is 386-792-7800 and my email address is dorothy.zamora@hamiltonfl.com. Thank you!!



Lee Wetherington-Zamora, Superintendent
Hamilton County School District

NOTICE

THE 2024 TAX ROLL FOR LAFAYETTE COUNTY HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE PROPERTY APPRAISER. TAX NOTICES HAVE BEEN MAILED TO THE OWNER OF RECORD AT THE LAST RECORDED ADDRESS. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR TAX NOTICE BY NOVEMBER 15, 2024, PLEASE NOTIFY THE TAX COLLECTOR’S OFFICE AT 386-294-1961 OR AT THE OFFICE LOCATED IN THE LAFAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE, 4% NOVEMBER, 3% IN DECEMBER, 2% JANUARY, 1% FEBRUARY, NO DISCOUNT IN MARCH, 3% PENALTY IN APRIL, ADVERTISED IN MAY.

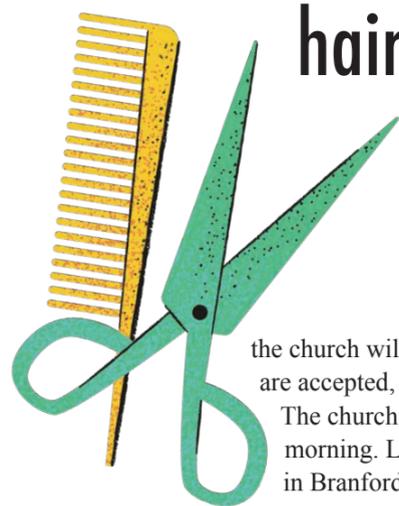
POSTMARKS ARE USED TO DETERMINE THE MONTH OF MAILING FOR DISCOUNTS AND PENALTIES WHEN APPLICABLE.

PROPERTY OWNERS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE ANNUALLY.

PLEASE READ ALL ENCLOSED MATERIAL CAREFULLY WITH YOUR TAX NOTICE, IMPORTANT INFORMATION INCLUDED.

CHUCK HEWETT
LAFAYETTE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

Living Springs Worship Center offering haircut opportunities



Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Living Springs Family Worship Center is a church in Branford. Like most churches, its congregation is focused on helping the community in any way it can. On Saturday, Nov. 16, the church will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for haircut opportunities. Donations are accepted, however, the main focus is giving back to the community in need. The church will be open to any and all visitors, just like it is every Sunday morning. Living Springs Family Worship Center is located at 26471 Hwy 27, in Branford.

Lighthouse Christian Center set to honor Veterans with concert

Danny Federico
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Lighthouse Christian Center in Mayo is set to host a special concert honoring Veterans on Saturday, Nov. 16, at 6 p.m. The event will feature a lineup of performers, including special guest appearances by the Mercy Mountain Boys and

recording artist Haley Jones. Carolina the Band will headline the evening's performances.

This free event promises to be a heartfelt tribute to Veterans, and attendees are encouraged to come out and show their support while enjoying an evening of uplifting music. Lighthouse Christian Center is located at 772 FL 51, in Mayo.

Operation Christmas Child's shoeboxes put feet to the gospel

Mickey Starling
reporter3.riverbendnews@gmail.com

As the holiday season rolls into view, this is the perfect time to spread love, joy and hope to children all over the world. There's no easier way to do that than participating in Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child, which ships shoeboxes full of toys and essential items to kids in need.

National Collection Week will take place from Monday, Nov. 11, through Monday, Nov. 25. The following are the collection locations and hours of operations within the tri-county area.

Hamilton County

New Hope Baptist Church

(6592 NW 48th St., Jennings, Fla.)

Monday, Nov. 18: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 19: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 19: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 20: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 21: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 22: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 23: 11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lafayette County

Airline Baptist Church

(300 CR 354, Mayo, Fla.)

Monday, Nov. 18: 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 19: 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 20: 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 21: 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 22: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 23: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 24: 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 25: 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Suwannee County

First Baptist Church of Branford

(607 Suwannee Ave. NW, Branford, Fla.)

Monday, Nov. 18: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 19: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 20: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 21: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 22: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 23: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 24: 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Suwannee Baptist Association

(1747 Walker Ave. SW, Live Oak, Fla.)

Monday, Nov. 18: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 19: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 20: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 21: 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 22: 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 23: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 24: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Over the years, millions of children have been thrilled to receive these boxes full of goodies that also let them know that Jesus loves them and has a plan for their lives. If you would like to join this worthy cause, visit samaritanspurse.org for information and ideas on how to build the perfect box for an appreciative child. Be sure to make your box fun by adding a "wow" gift that is sure to put a smile on anyone's face. Practical supplies like socks and expandable sandals are excellent items, along with crayons, paper and other select art supplies.

Make sure your box is full, following the suggested guidelines on the website. Most importantly, pray as God directs you over each box. These gifts often lead to evangelism opportunities and further discipleship. If you are unable to pack your own box, consider donating on the website, and someone will do it for you. Also, a \$10 donation per box will help cover the costs of collecting, shipping, processing and purchasing evangelism and training materials.

"Shoobox gifts are like snowflakes," said Samaritan's Purse President Franklin Graham. "No two are alike."

NAPA of Live Oak

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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

"Freedom is Here"
(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 Service11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Church Dinner5:45 p.m.
AWANA6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting7:00 p.m.

Bulldogs clench victory from the jaws of defeat on Senior Night

Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

On Friday, Nov. 1, the Bulldogs faced off against the Chiles Timberwolves in a football showdown. What ensued was a nail-biting grapple back and forth for the victory. The game was personal for the Bulldogs, as the last time they had crossed paths with the Timberwolves, they had lost the game 20-7. Both the Timberwolves and the Bulldogs headed into the game with their two most recent games being victories. However, the Bulldogs put everything they had on the field, winning the game, 25-24. The first quarter was a tie, as both teams were able to score seven points. The second quarter was almost a perfect mirror, with both teams again scoring seven points. However, after resting at halftime, things looked rough for the Bulldogs. In the third quarter, the Timberwolves scored seven points to the Bulldogs' three points. The entire game rested on the fourth quarter, as the Bulldogs pulled out the win, scoring eight points to the three points that the Timberwolves scored for a 25-24 total.

Junior Noah Lopez was the star receiver of the evening, receiving 99 yards and scoring a touchdown. Senior Michael Rossin and Sophomore Koy Frier were the other two Bulldogs who made it into the end zone, each scoring touchdowns. Senior Logan Brooks was able to score two points on a conversion. Finally, rounding out the scoring was A.J. Hitt, who scored five points after touchdowns. Then, on Thursday, Nov. 7, the Bulldogs traveled to Crawfordville to face off against the Wakulla War Eagles.

Unfortunately, the game didn't go perfect for the Bulldogs. In the first quarter, both teams scored seven points. In the second quarter, the Bulldogs scored seven points, while the War Eagles scored 14 points. Neither team was able to make any movement on the scoreboard in the third quarter. Then, in the final quarter, both teams once again scored seven points. Sadly, the Bulldogs lost the game 21-28. The Bulldogs' next game will be on Friday, Nov. 15, against the Godby High School Cougars. The Bulldogs will travel to Tallahassee for this face off, entering with a 4-6 record compared to the Cougars' 6-3 record.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Harley Pool was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Kaitlyn McGee was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Jacarion Armstead was escorted by his family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Emma Dean was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Lynnlee Stratton was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Danica Williams was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Myka Scott was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Whitton Musgrove was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Krista Law was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Kimberly Linblade was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Pacia Carrol was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Caydence Jenkins was escorted by her family on Senior Night.

See "Senior Night" on page 11

Senior Night

Cont. from page 10



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Haylie Norman was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Clay Starling was escorted by his family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Brooke Stevens was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Haley Carter was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Gabrielle Clubb was escorted by her family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Benson Nissley was escorted by his family on Senior Night.



Riverbend News photo by Lucy Golub, November 1, 2024
Hailey Newton was escorted by her family on Senior Night.

SHS holds official Hall of Fame induction ceremony

Christian Peterson
reporter:riverbendnews@gmail.com

On Thursday, Oct. 17, a small crowd began to gather in the Suwannee High School (SHS) atrium to honor some of the most influential athletes from Bulldogs history. While the inductees had been announced weeks in advance, now was the time to officially induct the four members into the SHS Hall of Fame. There were four total inductees: Tom Daniels, Tyler Chambliss, Willie Gardner and Shane Wheeler-Mitchell. Unfortunately, both Gardner and Wheeler-Mitchell were unable to attend the event.

"I have no words to express my gratitude," said Daniels, who is a staple of Bulldog sports. For over 30 years, Daniels was a broadcaster. He routinely called football and baseball games on the radio. On top of that, he was the first person to ever call a SHS football game on television in 1991. Daniels's commitment to athletics was also shown through his service as the host of the Bulldog halftime show for 10 years and the Coach's Corner for 20 years. He served as a charter member of the Suwannee Quarterback Club and was the vice-president for two years. Daniels also spread his love of sports by writing a weekly column for the Independent Post and the Suwannee Democrat, always focused on local sports. Of course, throughout his time, Daniels has always been focused on the athletes, and even as he was being rewarded he couldn't help but tout the accomplishments of all the athletes he had covered over the years. He told stories about many attendees to the event, including Frankie Allen, Damon Wooley, Donnie Allen and Mike Pittman. Another local broadcaster, Wayne Littrell, was given the honor of introducing Daniels and spoke on his incredible history as the sports lover that he is.

Chambliss was the second inductee able to make it to the event. Chambliss is a 2003 graduate from SHS. He was well known for his prowess on the baseball field, working under head coach Ronnie Gray. Chambliss was a two-time all-state selection, and in 2003 he received first team honors. In 2003, Chambliss had a 6-2 record, having struck out 91 batters within 57 innings and finishing the season with a 1.47 earned run average (ERA). Chambliss made the jump after high school to the Florida State Seminoles. He was a second team All Atlantic Coast Conference selection in both 2005 and 2006. In 2005, he garnered 15 saves across 56 innings and had an impressive ERA at 2.06. In

2006, Chambliss moved to a starter and sported a 12-4 record. Once again, he had an impressive 2.97 ERA and a total of 117 strikeouts. On March 11, 2006, he singlehandedly struck out 14 Maryland Terrapins, earning the team a total victory. Still, Chambliss could not be stopped. After his junior season with Florida State University, he was selected in the 11th round of the Major League Baseball draft by the Kansas City Royals. Chambliss put three seasons under his belt with the Royals and earned himself All-Star honors in 2006 and 2007. He was also named Caroline League Pitcher of the Week.

The third inductee, who was unfortunately unable to attend the event, was Gardner. He is an unforgotten member of the SHS football team. He was a three time All-State selection and earned First-Team honors in 1995. Throughout his career as a Bulldog, Gardner threw 5,467 yards and 60 touchdowns. In only his senior season, he threw 2,012 yards passing and 34 touchdowns. Before his dominant senior season, the Bulldogs were a nationally ranked team according to USA Today. On top of that, Gardner was named a Super 11 selection by the Florida-Times Union. Gardner's two and a half seasons had him lead the Bulldogs to 28 wins. After graduation, he went on to play at Northwest Mississippi Community College, where he once again received more accolades, including honorable mention all-conference honors for both his seasons.

The fourth and final inductee was Wheeler-Mitchell. He is a 1995 SHS graduate who played football under legendary coach Mike Pittman. Wheeler-Mitchell was a solid Bulldog, but he really took off after high school. After graduating, he began playing at Huron University in South Dakota. While he was playing there, Wheeler-Mitchell became a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes All-American twice. He was also named first team all conference in each of the four seasons he played. On top of all this, he was the team captain in 1998 and 1999, and helped his team go to the national semifinals in 1998. Eventually, Wheeler-Mitchell retired from playing, but his love for the game and his love for his high school never faded. As a recruiter for both Huron and Bacone College in Oklahoma, he came back to SHS and recruited 19 former SHS athletes. He still remains in contact with the school to this day, and continually visits the school. Though he was unable to make it to the event, his mother, Ernestine Wheeler, was there in his stead. She accepted the award, voicing her gratitude for her son, his hard work, and the honor that the Hall of Fame brought to him.



Riverbend News photo by Christian Peterson, October 17, 2024
Ernestine Mitchell shakes hands with Hunter Abercrombie as she accepts the plaque on behalf of her son, Shane Wheeler-Mitchell.



Riverbend News photo by Christian Peterson, October 17, 2024
Tyler Chambliss shares a joke and shakes hands with Hunter Abercrombie after being inducted.



Riverbend News photo by Christian Peterson, October 17, 2024
Tom Daniels smiles as he shakes hands with Hunter Abercrombie and accepts his induction into the Hall of Fame.

Attention teachers, grants are available for you!

Christian Peterson
reporter.riverbendnews@gmail.com

Each year, the Cenex and Harvest States (CHS) Foundation and CoBank provide \$500 grants to 40 pre-kindergarten through 12th grade teachers. This grant, named the 2024 CHS Foundation/CoBank Classroom Grant, is available for teachers who take advantage of agricultural concepts to teach

throughout the year. "Eligible projects include, classroom and schoolyard gardens, embryology projects, aquaculture projects and agricultural literacy reading programs, to name a few," the website reads. Of course, those are just a few of the options. Really, the grant is open to those who prove they are using agriculture to teach subjects such as reading, writing, math, science and social studies.

This grant isn't open for long, though! The

deadline to apply is Friday, Nov. 15. Any projects approved will need to be completed by June 1 the following year, with a submission of a final report by June 30. Teachers interested in applying can visit agclassroom.org. The website includes the application, the classroom grant budget, and the CHS Foundation/CoBank Classroom grant guidelines to help each and every teacher apply to the best of their ability.

Lafayette claims top spots in 97th National FFA Convention and Expo



Photo courtesy of Chad Lyons

Chapter members were joined by advisors and supporters as they celebrated the Parliamentary Procedure LDE team's second National Championship win.

Chad Lyons
Contributor

The Lafayette Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter represented Florida in four career and leadership development events (LDE) at the 97th National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis, Ind., from Wednesday, Oct. 23, through Saturday, Oct. 26.

The Parliamentary Procedure LDE Team finished as National Champions, the Conduct of Chapter Meetings LDE Team finished as National Runners-Up, the Dairy Evaluation Career Development Event (CDE) Team placed fourth, and the Meats Evaluation CDE Team placed seventh. All four teams

were "Gold," the highest level at the National FFA Convention. More than 69,500 FFA members and supporters attended the convention, including 94 members and supporters representing Lafayette County.

The Lafayette FFA Parliamentary Procedure LDE team won the program's second National Championship (2022 and 2024). The team was recognized as the "Highest Exam Team" and the "Highest Group Activity-Research Team." Trey Galbraith was named the "Best Chairman" of the event. Each team member will earn \$1,000 from the National FFA Foundation. The LDE sponsors are Elanco, Harris, Lincoln Electric and Tractor Supply. Team members are Trey Galbraith, Wyatt Chandler, Alyssa Jones, Sidney Wimberley, Delaney Deadwyler and Emily Reese Thomas.

The Lafayette FFA Conduct of Chapter Meetings LDE team finished as the National Runner-up Team. Levi Smith was recognized as the "High Test Score Member," and Fhelix Hernandez was recognized as the "Best Chairman in Flight B Award." The team had the highest test average of the event. Each team member will receive \$600 from the National FFA Foundation. The LDE sponsors are Harris, Lincoln Electric, Nationwide Foundation and Rabo Agri-finance. Team members are Fhelix Hernandez, Dallas Deadwyler, Boone Riley, Levi Smith, Mallory Moseley, Corrine Walker, Emerson Kerby and Tucker Shaw.

The Lafayette FFA Dairy Evaluation CDE Team finished fourth in the nation. JayLee Heijkoop was the CDE High Individual, and Johanna Heijkoop was the third High Individual of the CDE. JayLee will receive \$1,000 and Johanna will receive \$800. The CDE sponsors are Cargill, Elanco, Merk and New Holland. The Dairy Evaluation coach is Brenda Peterson. This was Coach Peterson's third top-four team in the nation.

Team members are JayLee Heijkoop, Johanna Heijkoop, Trey Lawson and Molly Hamlin.

The Lafayette Meats Evaluation CDE Team finished seventh in the nation. Harrison Jackson was the sixth High Individual of the CDE. The CDE sponsors are Cargill, Culvers, Hormel Foods and USPoultry. The team appreciates The University of Florida, The Ohio State University and The University of Illinois for allowing the team to practice. Team members are Harrison Jackson, Silas Fletcher, Zane Elam and Durand Driver.

The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.



Photo courtesy of Chad Lyons

The Lafayette Meats Evaluation CDE Team finished seventh in the nation.



Photo courtesy of Chad Lyons

The Lafayette FFA Conduct of Chapter Meetings LDE team finished as National Runners-up.



Photo courtesy of Chad Lyons

The Lafayette FFA Parliamentary Procedure LDE team won the program's second National Championship at the 97th National FFA Convention and Expo.

Remembering Suwannee: Judge John Fletcher White, Part 3



Photo courtesy of Rob Wolfe
Eric Musgrove

We continue looking at the life of Judge John Fletcher White this week.

White's service to the Confederacy ended with the cessation of hostilities in April of 1865. With the war over, White continued his legal practice in his new home of Suwannee County, but he would make frequent trips to his birthplace in Tennessee for the rest of his life. Unfortunately, White's wife, Martha, died suddenly on June 3, 1865, at the age of 39 and was buried in the Houston Cemetery. Her tombstone reads that she was "a dutiful child, an affectionate sister, a devoted wife, fond mother, constant friend, and a consistent Christian." The death of Martha left White with several minor

children still in his care. On June 6, 1866, White married Sarah (better known as Sallie) Ann Latimer at her parents' home in Duval County. Sallie was the widow of Confederate soldier, scout and militiaman Jacob E. Mickler of Suwannee County, who was killed in a hunting accident in late 1864. John and Sallie would have two children of their own, in addition to raising a surviving child of Sallie's through Jacob Mickler and John's by his first wife.

White, through his legal practice and farming endeavors, was able to expand his land holdings in the Houston area until 1868, when Live Oak became the county seat. White then began purchasing multiple properties in the new county seat. County records show that at least 8,000 acres, in addition to numerous lots in multiple Suwannee County communities, passed through White's possession during his time here in Suwannee County. In 1887, he became a Circuit Judge for the Third Judicial Circuit (which included Suwannee County); he would serve in this capacity until his death. His peers thought well of him, and he was highly esteemed by those in the county. An 1899 photograph of snow in downtown Live Oak also purportedly shows Judge White sitting on the front seat of a carriage.

White died on Aug. 14, 1901, in Live Oak at the age of 77. He was buried in the family plot at Houston alongside his first wife, Martha; eventually, his second wife, Sallie (she died in December of 1922) would join him. Due to his service in the Confederacy during the War Between the States, White's widow, Sallie, received a Florida pension beginning in 1908. There is also a good possibility that White Avenue in Live Oak was named for Judge White, although it could be named after one of several other Whites who were active in Live Oak around the same time.

But there's more to his story...Join me next week!
Eric Musgrove can be reached at ericm@sungov.org or (386) 362-0564.



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

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

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

ANSWER:

☺ * ☒ ☹ ~ ☾ ☽ ✧ * ✨ ✕ ✨ + ☼ * ☾ * ☽ ✨ ✨ ☽ ☽ ☽

CRYPTO FUN

☒ ☾ ☽ ✨ ✨ ☽ ☽ ☽

Solve the code to discover words related to Halloween.
Each number corresponds to cooking.
(Hint: 10 = E)

A. 25 4 2 12 10 21 25 10 4 7 26
Clue: They make a meal

B. 7 25 19 25 4 2
Clue: Duration

C. 19 10 9 17 26
Clue: Dinner and breakfast are two

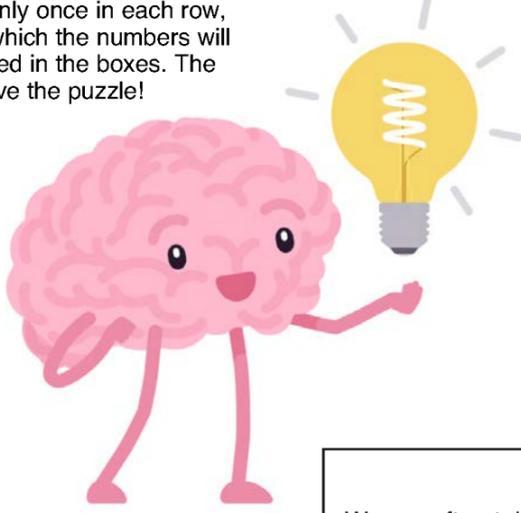
D. 20 12 10 20 9 12 10
Clue: Get ready

Answers: A. ingredients B. timing C. meals D. prepare

GUESS WHO?

I am a politician born in Pennsylvania on November 20, 1942. I attended the University of Delaware and played half-back for the freshman football team. I served as a Delaware senator and went on to be President of the United States.

Answer: Joseph Biden



ASK DOCTORS HIGGINS AND WHITE

BABY'S FIRST VISIT
Generally speaking, your baby should see her dentist by age one, or within six months of the eruption of her first tooth. And remember: baby teeth are important. Some parents put little effort into the care of so-called baby teeth because they are going to fall out anyway. But baby teeth deserve care. Among other functions, they are place holders for the permanent teeth.
On your daughter's first visit, the dentist will examine her mouth and explain to parents how to keep the area clean. The dentist will also be able to detect whether any habits the baby may have developed, like thumb sucking, are having any impact on the development of the mouth. He may also have some nutrition tips.
Baby teeth are not immune to decay. Tooth decay can develop any time after your baby's teeth first erupt. By her first birthday, your baby could have eight or more baby teeth. And if one of them is causing any pain, she won't be able to articulate that. Another consideration weighing in favor of an early exposure to the dentist is the opportunity to establish a good relationship between the doctor and the patient.
So talk with your dentist about your baby's care. Your dentist may recommend a dentist who specializes in pediatric care.

Presented as a service to the community by
HIGGINS and WHITE DENTISTRY
602 Railroad Ave., Live Oak, FL
(386) 362-6556 • (800) 829-6506

This is a paid service announcement

MORSELS FOR ZION'S POOR

We are often told that we need to have a "proper world view" by many of today's prominent foghorns of make believe. They usually use this supposed "proper world view" exhortation in order to extort money from their hearers to support their various "ministries" which are (according to them) doing fantastical works in all sorts of places. They tell us that vast multitudes of the human race slide headlong to destruction with GOD, powerless to prevent it. In this view, men hold the key to the salvation, not only of themselves but the salvation of multitudes of others who they either will or will not reach through their great missionary endeavors. This "world view" cannot be discovered in the scriptures, and is completely void of the TRUTH as it is in JESUS CHRIST. A proper world view recognizes whose world this is. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." If it is HIS world, how can any of HIS creation be able to stand upon and question HIS doing? "Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? A proper world view declares that HE shall perform all that HE purposes to do. "But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. Yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it." A proper world view magnifies the purpose of HIM whose world it is. The purpose of GOD in the earth is to magnify the glory of HIS grace in the exaltation of HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON through the redemption of a people which were chosen in HIM before the foundation of the world. HE has come into the world to purchase the redemption of that elect people which HE has loved with an everlasting love. "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." CHRIST is ALL.
-m.a.m.

forthepoor@windstream.net

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11/11/2024 THROUGH 11/18/2024

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PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for a quote or inspection today 1-877-644-9799
 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

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FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required!
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Home Improvement/Service
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Call 866-472-8591.

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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.**
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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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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED.
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Michael J. Johnson, the holder of the following certificate(s) has filed said certificate(s) for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number(s) and year(s) of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:
 CERTIFICATE NO: Issued June 1, 2022
 DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
 Parcel No. 4904-014
 Section 15 & 22 Township 2N Range 11E 3723A5
 Lot 5 Southlake Woodlands at Oak Woodlands
 ORB 410-480 ORB 568-26
 NAME(S) IN WHICH ASSESSED:
 Trent A. McDaniel
 All of said property being in the County of Hamilton, State of Florida.
 Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the South Front Door of the Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 Northeast First Street, Jasper, Florida at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2024.
 Pursuant to Chapter 197.542(2), Florida Statutes, the highest bidder is required to post a nonrefundable cash deposit of \$200 with the Clerk of Court at the time of the sale, to be applied to the sale price at the time of full payment. The Clerk may require bidders to show their willingness and ability to post the cost deposit.


 Greg Godwin
 Clerk of Circuit Court
 Hamilton County, Florida

11/06, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27

PUBLIC NOTICE
 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUWANNEE COUNTY, FL
 2025 COLLECTION SITE PERMIT DECALS SET TO MAIL ON NOVEMBER 18TH. PLEASE BE WATCHING FOR THEM.



THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE NEW 2025 PERMIT DECALS IS JANUARY 1ST, 2025.

THERE WILL BE NO ENTRY WITH THE 2024 PERMIT DECAL AFTER JANUARY 31ST, 2025.

If you have not received your 2025 permit decals in the mail before January 31st, 2025, please contact Suwannee County Administration Office for assistance in obtaining the necessary decals for access to the County collection sites.

SUWANNEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 TRAVIS LAND, CHAIRMAN

10/30, 11/06, 11/13

RFP SOLICITATION
NO. 2025-01

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

CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION STUDY

Date/Time/Location for Receiving RFPs:
 Friday, December 6, 2024, 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 RFP Opening:
 Tuesday December 10, 2024, 10:00 am
 or soon thereafter
 Suwannee County Airport
 Conference Room
 13302 80th Ter., Live Oak, FL 32060

Question Deadline:
 Monday, November 25 2024, 5:00 pm
Late questions will not be answered

RFP Documents Available from:
 www.demandstar.com
 www.suwanneecountyfl.gov or
 Suwannee County Administration
 13150 80th Terrace, Live Oak, FL 32060
 (386)364-3400

Description: Suwannee County is requesting proposals from qualified consultants to conduct a Countywide Employee Classification and Compensation Study for the development and creation of a comprehensive classification and compensation plan. The plan shall include job position descriptions, position classifications, salary survey, compensation ranges and organizational impact of minimum wage law being implemented.

SUWANNEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 TRAVIS LAND, CHAIRMAN

11/13

REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Board of County Commissioners of Hamilton County, Florida, will receive bids for **bathroom/shower repairs** at Gibson Park. The site is located at 6891 SW CR 751, Jasper, Florida 32052. The site is easily accessible.

The scope of work for the project will be provided at a MANDATORY pre-bid conference at the site beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 18, 2024; all persons intending to make a bid for the project **MUST BE PRESENT AT THAT TIME AND PLACE.** Bids made by a person not present at the pre-bid conference will not be considered.

NOTE: BIDS SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN TRIPLICATE, SEALED AND MARKED: "GIBSON PARK BATHROOM REPAIRS"

You may file your bid in the office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 NE First Street, Room 106, Jasper, Florida 32052, any time before 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 2, 2024. Bids may be mailed or hand-delivered to the Clerk's Office. All bids received after this date and time will not be considered.

The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to refuse any or all bids in whole or in part, with or without cause, and/or to accept the bid that in their best judgment will be for the best interest of Hamilton County.

"A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building, or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY TWO for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list."

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER; FAIR HOUSING AND HANDICAP ACCESS JURISDICTION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 HAMILTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
 207 NE 1st STREET, ROOM 106
 JASPER, FLORIDA 32052

11/13

BID SOLICITATION
NO. 2025-03

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

PURCHASE AND CONSTRUCTION OF BAYS

Date/Time/Location for Receiving BIDS:
 Friday, December 6, 2024, 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 BID Opening:
 Tuesday, December 10, 2024, 10:00 am
 or soon thereafter
 Suwannee County Airport
 Conference Room
 13302 80th Ter., Live Oak, FL 32060

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting:
 Monday, November 25, 2024, 10:00 am
 4468 US129, Live Oak, FL 32060

Question Deadline:
 Monday, December 2, 2024, 5:00 pm
Late questions will not be answered

BID Documents Available from:
 www.demandstar.com
 www.suwanneecountyfl.gov or
 Suwannee County Administration
 13150 80th Terrace, Live Oak, FL 32060
 (386)364-3400

Description: The Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners is seeking bids from companies for a "design-build" for the apparatus bays for a new fire station.

SUWANNEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 TRAVIS LAND, CHAIRMAN

11/13

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HAMILTON COUNTY FLORIDA

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LB-DWELLING SERIES V TRUST, Plaintiff,
 v.
 RUBY T. WILLIAMS, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 (Publish in THE RIVERBEND NEWS)

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated April 02, 2024, and an Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Reset Foreclosure Sale dated October 23, 2024, issued in and for Hamilton County, Florida, in Case No. 2023-CA-000041, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LB-DWELLING SERIES V TRUST is the Plaintiff, and RUBY T. WILLIAMS, TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA and UNKNOWN TENANT #1 N/K/A NICOLE WILLIAMS are the Defendants.

The Clerk of the Court, GREG GODWIN, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, in accordance with Section 45.031, Florida Statutes, on January 08, 2025, at in-person sale beginning at 11:00 AM, in the lobby of the Hamilton County Courthouse, 207 N.E. First Street, Jasper, FL 32052 the following-described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure, to wit:
ALL THAT CERTAIN LANDS IN THE COUNTY OF HAMILTON, STATE OF FLORIDA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: NORTH HALF (NORTH 1/2) OF LOT FIVE (5) BLOCK TWENTY-SIX (26) RENEAU'S SURVEY OF THE TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, BEING IN SECTION SEVEN (7), TOWNSHIP TWO (2) SOUTH, RANGE SIXTEEN (16) EAST AND CONTAINING ONE-HALF (1/2) ACRE, MORE OR LESS.

Property Address: 16797 Mill Street, White Springs, FL 32096

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.

Dated: This 1 day of November, 2024.

W. GREG GODWIN
 Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: 
 Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT

If you are a person with a disability who requires accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Carrina Cooper, Court Administration, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, FL 32055; Phone: 386-758-1465, adamaill@jud3.flcourts.org. Contact Court Administration at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing impaired call 711.

Publish In: THE RIVERBEND NEWS

Invoice to:
 HOWARD LAW
 4755 Technology Way, Suite 104, Boca Raton, FL 33431
 Phone: (954) 893-7874
 Fax: (888) 235-0017
 E-Mail: Pleadings@HowardLaw.com
 Harris@HowardLaw.com
 Counsel for Plaintiff

11/13, 11/20

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PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CALEB ACUNA, the holder of the following tax certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CALEB ACUNA, the holder of the following tax certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that ANDREW FAY, the holder of the following tax certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that LAND LEGACY HOLDING, LLC, the holder of the following tax certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that RNZ LLC, the holder of the following tax certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Michael J. Johnson, the holder of the following certificate(s) has filed said certificate(s) for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CALEB ACUNA, the holder of the following tax certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.
IN RE: Estate of BRADLEY ALAN KIBBE, II, Deceased.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Michael J. Johnson, the holder of the following certificate(s) has filed said certificate(s) for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that ANDREW FAY, the holder of the following tax certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Bradley Alan Kibbe, II, whose date of death was September 9, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court, Third Judicial Circuit, in and for Suwannee County, Florida, Probate Division, Case No. 2024-CP-209.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Michael J. Johnson, the holder of the following certificate(s) has filed said certificate(s) for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

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"NOTICE"
PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD OF THE CITY OF LIVE OAK, FLORIDA, SERVING AS THE LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY, BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION AGENCY
REQUEST FOR BOARD SEAT APPLICATIONS
The City of Live Oak, Florida, is currently accepting applications for consideration of appointment by the City Council to Seat Number 5 of the Local Planning Agency.

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IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SUWANNEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF MARIELYS PUPO BAEZ, Petitioner/Wife v. MARCELO MARTIN GALARZA Respondent/Husband
AMENDED NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: MARCELO MARTIN GALARZA Address unknown
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Petition for Dissolution of Marriage has been filed against you.

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Thank you, Hamilton County, for putting your faith and trust in me as your next Tax Collector. Your prayers, support and vote are greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank my campaign team for all their hard work and dedication. It did not go unnoticed. I would also like to thank my biggest supporter, my campaign manager; my rock and husband, Jason; our children, Jase (Nicole) and Alyssa (Ethan); and our granddaughters, Savanna and Sawyer. We are so blessed with great family and friends. I would also like to acknowledge my friend and opponent, Charlene Robinson. Thank you for your courtesy and respect throughout our campaign journey. Thank you all for your continued prayers and support.



THANK YOU!

THANK YOU so much District 3 voters!
I am truly humbled and appreciative of your support this election. I'm grateful and honored to continue serving as your commissioner.



TRAVIS LAND

County Commissioner, District 3

THANK YOU

Suwannee County!



SUWANNEE HIGH SCHOOL
Home of the Bulldogs

BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL
Home of the Buccaneers

from Lesley Fry Suwannee County School Board District 1

THANK YOU

Suwannee County residents for having the confidence in me to continue being your sheriff.



Suwannee County Sheriff Sam St. John



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