



'This is for you and anyone who wants it!'

Man jailed for threatening victim with firearm in face



Corey R. Griffin

A violent repeat criminal offender was arrested Wednesday afternoon, June 14, after allegedly pointing a gun in a man's face and stating "this is for you and anyone who wants it."

Corey R. Griffin, 37, is being held without bond at the Taylor County Jail on a felony charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill.

Police officers were dispatched to the area

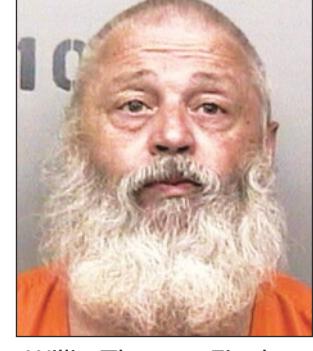
of Highway 98 West and Warner Avenue at 12:47 p.m. Wednesday in reference to man being threatened with a firearm.

When they made contact with the victim, he stated he was in the area speaking with someone when Griffin rode up to him on a bicycle and stuck a gun in his face.

"The victim stated he was in fear for his life, so he left the area in his

→ Please see page 2

Man arrested after allowing child, 11, to drive on highway



Willie Thomas Fincher

An eyewitness report of a minor child operating a vehicle erratically at high speeds on Beach Road Wednesday evening led to an arrest after deputies discovered an 11-year-old boy behind the wheel.

The witness called 911 while following a vehicle he said was driving erratically – at speeds reaching 80-90 miles per hour – on Beach Road from the area of Kelly

Grade to Highway 19 and was shocked to see a child behind the wheel.

The eyewitness reported the incident to law enforcement around 7:42 p.m., leading to an arrest of the adult in the vehicle.

Suspect Willie Thomas Fincher, 59, stated he was teaching the child to drive and told deputies, "I don't

→ Please see page 8

City may increase max height to allow for hotel

Two weeks after denying a developer's request to increase the maximum allowable height of structures in certain commercial zones from 35 to 50 feet, the city council indicated it may reverse course and amend its height restrictions to allow for construction of a new four-story hotel on Hwy. 19.

The city council initially denied the request at its May 23 meeting, after the City Fire Department warned it could potentially result in higher insurance premiums unless the city spent millions on hiring

additional personnel, purchasing a ladder truck and constructing a new city fire station.

However, at the city's June 13 meeting, City Manager John Hart suggested the city revisit the issue.

Hart shared new information he received from the ISO (Insurance Services Office) auditor who analyzes the city's water system, fire prevention and suppression capabilities before assigning an ISO rating that reflects how prepared a local community is and

affects local residential and business property insurance rates.

In an email to ISO Solutions Field Representative Joseph Colavolpe, Hart explained the council rejected the request for a height change from 35 to 50 feet due to fire department concerns that it could cause the city's ISO rating to increase.

"We don't want to prevent growth and development, but we also don't want to hurt citizen's insurance rates," Hart stated.

→ Please see page 8

County passed similar ordinance in 2019

TOBACCO FREE

Continued from page 1

Hart stated the city researched the county's tobacco-free ordinance, as well as several other municipalities, and came up with a draft ordinance, which he sent to city council members via email in late April.

Although he received only one response in favor (and none against) Hart stated he wanted to move ahead with the introduction and first reading of the ordinance.

"I encourage you to approve this ordinance to promote healthy habits for citizens and reduce litter at our parks," Hart stated.

At a second reading and final public hearing on the Tobacco-Free Parks ordinance held at the city's recent June 13 meeting, Hart stated the city's code enforcement officer and

officers with the Perry Police Department would be authorized to issue citations to those in violation.

When asked if it would create extra work for the police department, PPD Chief Jamie Cruse stated he expected it to be minimal,

adding that "after we issue a few citations, there probably will not be many more. The goal is to keep our parks cleaner."

When asked by Councilman Ward Ketting, Cruse confirmed that an officer will have to actually observe the offense.

Hart pointed out that the ordinance outlaws possession of tobacco as well, and not just smoking.

"We have received calls in the past wanting us to enforce (no smoking in city parks), but we did not have the option," Cruse said. "This is similar to an ordinance the county passed for their parks as well."

"What if somebody gets out of their truck and forgets they have a can of snuff in their pocket?" Ketting asked.

"They get a ticket," Cruse replied.

"I am not sure why possession is an issue. I can see me getting out and forgetting I have something in my pocket," Ketting stated.

"The enforcement official has discretion to write a ticket or a warning. They may get a warning if it is a case of forgetting," Cruse said.

"This is for the one who denies smoking and they have a pack of cigarettes in their pocket," Hart said.

Hart added that the local health department has provided metal signs for the city to install at local parks in the near future.

On a motion by Councilman Bill Brynes and second by Councilwoman

Diane Landry, the council voted 5-0 in favor of the ordinance, which will take effect 10 days after adoption (June 23).

Under the new ordinance, it is unlawful to smoke tobacco products on park property, which is defined as covering "all parks, parkways, playgrounds, recreational fields, auditoriums, buildings, athletic or recreational facilities, including, but not limited, to any playing field, ball field, basketball court, tennis court or playground which is owned, leased, or operated by the city, and their respective parking lots, concession areas and other facilities."

The ordinance defines "smoking" as: inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying, or possessing any tobacco product, including cigarettes, and any other tobacco product." Unfiltered cigars are specifically exempted from the definition of tobacco products.

TOBACCO FREE ZONE TOBACCO USE IS NOT ALLOWED IN THIS PARK

Poster NPA-NAP www.ComplianceSigns.com

According to City Manager John Hart, the Florida Department of Health in Taylor County has provided metal signs for the city to install at local parks.

Tobacco products is defined as including "loose tobacco leaves, and products made from tobacco leaves, in whole or in part, and cigarette wrappers, which can be used for smoking, sniffing or chewing, as well as vaping and electronic cigarettes. Unfiltered cigars are specifically exempted from the definition of tobacco products."

The county commission

adopted a similar ordinance in 2019, banning the use of tobacco products and vaping at nearly all county parks, including Hodges Park, Southside Park, Hampton Springs Historical Site, Keaton Beach Coastal Park, Taylor County Sports Complex, Shady Grove Community Center and Park and Steinhatchee Community Center and Park.

FATHER'S DAY

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June 18

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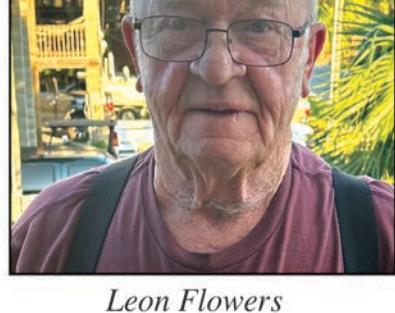
1107 S. Jefferson St. 584-2118

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Wishing all fathers and grandfathers

A HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

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TOBACCO FREE ZONE TOBACCO USE IS NOT ALLOWED IN THIS PARK

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Officers unable to locate a firearm

FIREARM

Continued from page 1

vehicle and called to report

the incident," Perry Police

Department (PPD) Capt.

Lin Gray said.

Griffin reportedly fled the

area on foot.

"K9 Officer Kyle Wimberley deployed his K9 partner Kolt in an attempt to track the suspect. After a

brief track – approximately

four minutes – the suspect

was located in a wooded

area off Bird Street," Gray

said.

"He began advancing toward the officers and was ordered to the ground. He complied and was detained."

Officers searched the

area, but were unable to

locate the firearm at that

time, Gray said.

The investigation

remains ongoing.

Florida Department

of Corrections (FDOC)

show that Griffin has been incarcerated three times since 2005 on a range of charges, including robbery (with a firearm), sale of cocaine, possession of cocaine and carrying a concealed firearm.

Have information? Call TCSO

MISSING TEEN

Continued from page 1

Information Officer Capt.

Gina Deeson.

The TCSO has listed the teen as missing in the Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC), a statewide information center that is tied directly to the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

After conducting a search in Taylor County, the TCSO sent an investigator to Suwannee County in an attempt to make contact, but could not access the residence due to a locked

"We only have speculation at this point. In the absence of a credible eyewitness saying they saw him there – or some other extenuating circumstances -- we are unable to get a search warrant at this time," Deeson said.

The phone Chastain was using prior to disappearing has been deactivated.

Chastain has been reported missing previously in cases reported in other counties.

Anyone with information on Chastain's location can contact the TCSO at (850) 584-4225.

Women's health workshop set for Tues.

The Healthy Start

Coalition of Jefferson,

Madison and Taylor

Counties will host a

women's health workshop

Tuesday, June 20, for

women ages 18-44 who

may become pregnant now

or in the future.

The free workshop will be

held at the Perry Women's

Club, starting at 11 a.m. and

lunch will be served.

A \$20 gift card will be

presented for each attendee.

Space is limited to the first

20 women who register.

For more information or

to register, please e-mail

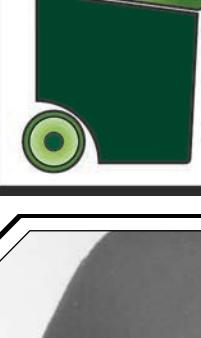
tbell@healthystartjmt.org

or call (850) 253-5355.

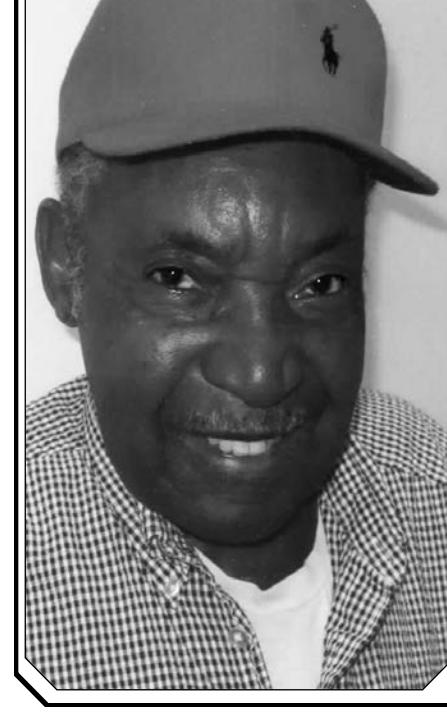
HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICK-UP SCHEDULE

City of Perry

The holiday schedule for garbage pick-up during Juneteenth will be as follows:



- Monday customers will receive service on Tuesday, June 20th
- Tuesday customers will receive service on Wednesday, June 21st
- Thursday and Friday will be regularly scheduled.



Happy Heavenly Birthday

Mr. Willie Hugger

June 15, 1925- April 9, 2017

Your birthday brings back so many memories of laughter and of tears of all the celebrations held throughout your precious years.

As you're now watching over us I hope that you can see how much those memories we made will always be with us.

We'll always cherish the times we had and smile just at the thought. The magnitude of joy your life brought to us in your almost ninety two years words can't express.

We thank God for the blessings he bestowed upon us, you were and will always be the greatest dad, grandfather and mentor to each of us.

Happy Birthday Daddy,

Bertha Hugger Bryant and family



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Thursday, July 13, 2023

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Refreshments Served
5:00 - 7:00 pm

Ribbon Cutting
5:30 pm

*With Taylor County
Chamber of Commerce*

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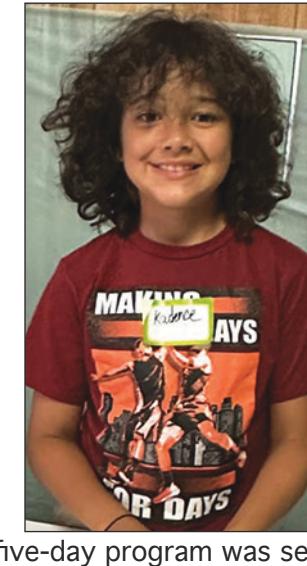
Cindy Dunkle, Director
dunklec@nfc.edu

Start today



Vacation Bible School

at Westside Baptist Church



There were smiles for miles during the first few days of Vacation Bible School at Westside Baptist Church this week. The five-day program was set to wrap up with a Family Night on Thursday.



Thank you, Father

Your Smile - A Gift to Share

One smile coming up! When someone gives you a beaming smile, how do you respond? Ignore it, pretend you don't see them, avoid eye contact, just breeze by on your merry way or return the smile with a nod of your head or a friendly look?

Well, if you smiled back, you probably felt a wee bit better and happier too. Yes, genuine smiles, whether from friends or strangers, are infectious and evoke good feelings. A sincere smile indicates positive emotions such as amusement, happiness, and pleasure.

Indeed, smiling seems to be built into our nature. It sends a message of cheer and goodwill. It seems to create an act of well-being, freedom and love. What it says to me is, "all is not lost." There's some good left in our world, and God is still in control.

A Tribute of Appreciation to Fathers on Father's Day

God of our fathers, and of us all, we thank you, we treasure you and our earthly fathers, who are guardians of your creations.

We thank you for strengthening their mind, bodies and spirits as they faithfully serve you. Help today's fathers, oh Lord, to become wiser in Your Word, as they manage our government, our households and our world. We remember those fathers who pioneered our lives long ago. We love them still.

We thank you Father for being our Father who loves us so much, who provides for us and keeps us.

We thank you as the Father of Jesus, who loves us so much that He sacrificed His life on the "Old Rugged Cross" so that we too will become closer to You.

We thank you because You are the "Father of all fathers."

We love You, Lord for who you are. The Alpha and the Omega.

In the Spotlight

A sincere congratulations to the Class of 2023's "Dreamer and Doers" who were honored during



Guest speaker Michael Thompson (left) and City Attorney Charita Hope Demps.

a recent graduation and recognition celebration.

"The future belongs to those who are willing to work for it." These words will resonate in your mind and spirit in the years to come.

Our program was opened with an invocation by Mrs. Diane McClain, followed by remarks by Ny'Kiah Miller.

The Rev. Young gave the closing remarks.

Graduates, full speed ahead! With God's help you will be able to do mighty things. (Psalm 60:12)

Prayer Focus

Please keep these friends in your thoughts and prayers: Roy Lee Glover and family, Mary Wallace, Gaye Register, Ralph Carlton, Shawanda Massey, Annie Mae Porter, Lucille Lester, Jean Ester Lee, Cherrie Sutton, Wayne and Margaret Thompson, Bill and Maggie Gunter and Mary "Miz Topsy" Jones.

Black Music History Month

Two more voices to honor: the Rev. John McGrew and the Rev. Jessie Hawkins.

VBS Pre-Celebration

Wed., June 21st
5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Snowcones

Waterslides

Meal Provided

Pre-Registration for VBS

STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

Lakeside Baptist Church

3111 E. Us Hwy. 27, Perry, FL

FATHER'S DAY

Prayer Breakfast this Saturday

The Temple of God International Church of God in Christ will host the first "Men Moving Forward in Christ" Father's Day prayer breakfast this Saturday, June 17, at 9 a.m.

Keynote speaker will be Elder Tavariss Davis.

"Please come out and be blessed," Pastor Dr. Willie Anderson said.

The church is located at 604 W. Julia St.

VBS kicks off Sunday, June 25

New Home Baptist Church kick off Vacation Bible School (VBS) with a rally planned Sunday, June 25, from 6-8 p.m.

VBS classes will continue Monday,

June 26, through Friday, June 30, from 6-8:35 p.m.

Children ages four year old through sixth grade are welcome.

St. Johns Christian Fellowship

6050 Pucket Road
(Intersection of Pucket and Golf Course Rd.)

Sunday Services

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Service

Live stream available via YouTube and Facebook

Pastor Cody McNeese

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Your Smile - A Gift to Share

One smile coming up! When someone gives you a beaming smile, how do you respond? Ignore it, pretend you don't see them, avoid eye contact, just breeze by on your merry way or return the smile with a nod of your head or a friendly look?

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In the Spotlight

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Sports

Lady Bulldogs defeat Leon in 7 vs. 7

The Taylor County High School (TCHS) Lady Bulldogs' soccer team notched a second straight impressive win over a bigger school last week to remain undefeated in a Tallahassee area 7 vs. 7 area summer soccer league.

The Lady Bulldogs' soccer team once again traveled to Tallahassee last Thursday to take on Class 6A Leon County in the Tallahassee 7-on-7 Summer Soccer League.

After giving up an early goal to trail 1-0, the Lady Bulldogs rallied to score three unanswered goals to return home a second-straight upset victory over a larger area school.

Hannah Claire Curry scored twice, and Hannah Harvey scored the third goal for Taylor County, while goalie Hannah Shiver anchored the defense, along with Emma Kirkland, Ella Goodman, Mallory Folsom, Autumn Young and Brylee Gant.



Taylor County Lady Bulldog Emma Kirkland prepares to send a pass upfield in a 3-1 win over Leon during a recent 7-on-7 summer league soccer game in Tallahassee.

Red snapper season now open

Governor Ron DeSantis recently announced the 2023 Gulf red snapper recreational season will total 70 days, the longest combined season since the state assumed management of red snapper.

The 2023 season includes both a 46-day summer season and a 24-day fall season.

Those fishing from private recreational vessels

in state and federal waters in the Gulf and charter vessels without a federal reef fish permit that are limited to fishing in state waters will be able to participate in the 2023 Gulf red snapper season.

The 46-day summer season will begin on June 16 and will run through Friday, July 31.

The 24-day fall season will include all weekends

(Friday-Sunday) in October and November, including: Oct. 6-8, Oct. 13-15, Oct. 20-22, Oct. 27-29, Nov. 3-5, Nov. 10-12 (Veterans Day weekend), Nov. 17-19 and Nov. 24-26 (weekend after Thanksgiving).

If you plan to fish for red snapper in state or federal waters from a private recreational vessel, even if you are exempt from fishing license requirements, you

must sign up as a State Reef Fish Angler (annual renewal required) at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com.

The 2023 red snapper fishing season for vessels with a federal for-hire reef fish permit is 85 days in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico and will open at 12:01 a.m., local time, on June 1, 2023, and close at 12:01 a.m., local time, on Aug. 25, 2023.

If you are looking for a fun and healthy youth activity, now is the time to sign up for the upcoming 2023 Upwards flag football and cheerleading season.

Players in grades K-5th grade can register for boys or girls flag football league teams, as well as cheerleading.

Evaluation dates will be June 27, June 29 and July 6th from 6-8 p.m. at Crosspoint Baptist Church (920 N. Courtney Rd.)

For more information,

search for "Perry Upward Flag Football" on Facebook or call Christie Mathers at (850) 371-6569 or email: christiemathers23@gmail.com.

The camp will focus on

the fundamentals of golf, such as proper golf swing, driving, chipping and putting.

Youth campers will learn proper practice techniques, personal swing tendencies and swing drills.

Campers are asked to

bring their own equipment, but there will be clubs on site if needed.

The camp is open to all youth ages 5-14, as both boys and girls are invited to participate.

There will be a fee of \$160 for 12 hours of instruction through four days.

The camp will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until noon, when lunch will be served. The pool will be open for one hour (12-1 p.m.) each day following camp.

For more information

about the camp or to sign up, contact Cole Wentworth at (850) 843-2772.

FEED TIMES

	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
16	4:19 AM	11:02 AM	6:51 PM	---
17	5:03 AM	11:29 PM	7:50 PM	11:55 AM
18	5:52 AM	12:22 AM	8:46 PM	12:49 PM
19	6:46 AM	1:16 AM	9:35 PM	1:42 PM
20	7:43 AM	2:08 AM	10:18 PM	2:33 PM
21	8:40 AM	2:57 AM	10:55 PM	3:21 PM
22	9:37 AM	3:44 AM	---	4:06 PM
23	11:28 PM	4:27 AM	10:33 AM	4:48 PM

TIDE TABLES

F 16	High	2:03 AM	3.0	Tu 20	High	4:32 AM	3.0
16	Low	7:14 AM	1.6	20	Low	9:50 AM	1.4
16	High	12:45 PM	3.8	20	High	3:11 PM	3.8
16	Low	8:44 PM	-0.3	20	Low	11:10 PM	-0.2
Sa 17	High	2:44 AM	3.0	W 21	High	5:06 AM	3.0
17	Low	7:55 AM	1.6	21	Low	10:30 AM	1.4
17	High	1:24 PM	3.8	21	High	3:46 PM	3.7
17	Low	9:24 PM	-0.3	21	Low	11:41 PM	0.0
Su 18	High	3:21 AM	3.1	Th 22	High	5:42 AM	3.0
18	Low	8:34 AM	1.5	22	Low	11:12 AM	1.4
18	High	2:00 PM	3.9	22	High	4:23 PM	3.6
18	Low	10:02 PM	-0.3	F 23	Low	12:12 AM	0.2
M 19	High	3:57 AM	3.0	23	High	6:18 AM	3.0
19	Low	9:12 AM	1.4	23	Low	11:59 AM	1.4
19	High	2:36 PM	3.9	23	High	5:04 PM	3.4
19	Low	10:37 PM	-0.3				

A-5 Perry News-Herald June 16-17, 2023

After the initial goal, the Lady Bulldogs held Leon scoreless for the rest of regulation and booked an impressive 3-1 win.

"This was a great victory. All of our girls have learned to take that Taylor County toughness and apply it to winning soccer," Coach Kevin Kidd said. "Tonight, they put that spirit on full display and came away with the victory."

The Lady Bulldogs opened the eight-game schedule with a 2-1 win over Class 5A soccer rival Wakulla last week, getting goals by Jha'miyah McIntyre and Hannah Harvey on assists from Hannah Claire Curry and Autumn Young.

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The Taylor County defense held Wakulla in check, and Lady Bulldog goalie Hannah Shiver recorded four saves.

The Lady Bulldogs were invited by ASG/Warner Soccer in Tallahassee to participate in the summer 7v7 league (featuring teams with seven players on the field instead of the normal 11), against perennial Big Bend powerhouse soccer

programs Wakulla, Leon, Macay, Florida High, Chiles, and Lincoln.

The Lady Bulldogs' faced off with district opponent and Class 3A private school powerhouses Macay on Tuesday, June 13. Results will be included in next week's TaCo Times.

The TCHS 7-on-7 squad will battle Class 3A private school Florida High on June 20, Class 6A Chiles on June 22, Class 5A Lincoln on June 27 and Class 5A Wakulla again on June 29.

Taylor County (Class 3A) has an enrollment just above the 600 threshold of being in the Class 1A Rural classification for high school sports.

The Lady Bulldogs 7v7 summer league team roster includes: Hannah Harvey,

Hannah Shiver, Hannah

Claire Curry, Mallory

Folsom, Becky Buhler,

Jha'miyah McIntyre,

Ella Goodman, Emma

Kirkland, Brylee Gant,

Addalyn Collins, Autumn

Young, Jalyne Sheppard

and Olivia Brock. Coaches include:

Stuart Ely, Kevin Kidd and

Cheryly Curry.



Now Registering for Boys & Girls Flag Football teams! and Cheerleading!

Evaluations & Sign-ups:
June 27th, 29th & July 6th
6-8 p.m.

Crosspoint Baptist Fellowship
920 N. Courtney Rd.
Perry, FL 32347

Cost is \$55 per child

5-12 years of age

For more information call (850) 584-5441



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Father's Day is Sunday, June 18

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Steinhatchee/Beaches

A-6 Perry News-Herald

June 16-17, 2023

Scallop season now open off Keaton, Steinhatchee

Scallopers heading out of Keaton Beach and Steinhatchee got the first chance to harvest the Gulf of Mexico's "white gold" after the season opened Thursday, June 15 in all state waters between the Fenholloway River and the Suwannee River.

However, the daily bag limit will be reduced during the first two weeks of the season (June 15-30) in the area off the Taylor and Dixie County coast.

This early season will allow one gallon of whole bay scallops in the shell or one cup shucked bay scallop meat per person, with a maximum of five gallons whole or two pints (four cups) shucked bay scallop meat per vessel.

The 2023 season will

remain open through Labor Day (Sept. 4) for this area.

From July 1 through Labor Day, regular bag and vessel limits apply. Regular season limits are two gallons of whole bay scallops in the shell or one pint of bay scallop meat per person, with a maximum of 10 gallons of whole bay scallops in the shell or 1/2 gallon (four pints) shucked bay scallop meat per vessel.

Throughout the season and region-wide, vessel limits do not allow an individual to exceed their personal bag limit.

Other Regulations

Scallops may be collected by hand or with a landing or dip net.

There is no commercial harvest allowed for bay scallops in Florida.

Direct and continuous transit of legally-harvested bay scallops is allowed through closed areas. Boaters may not stop their

vessels in waters that are closed to harvest and must proceed directly to the dock or ramp to land scallops in a closed area.

For information on bay scallop regulations, visit MyFWC.com/Marine and click on "Recreational Regulations" and "Bay

Scallops" under the "Crabs, Lobster and other Shellfish" tab.

Boater and Scallop Safety

When scalloping in open water, divers should stay within 300 feet of a properly displayed divers-down flag or device, and within 100 feet of a properly displayed divers-down flag or device if on a river, inlet or navigation channel.

Boat operators traveling within 300 feet of a divers-down flag or device in open water or within 100 feet of one on a river, inlet or navigational channel must slow to idle speed.

For more information, visit MyFWC.com/Boating/Regulations and click on "Divers-down Warning Devices."



The daily bag limit is reduced during the first two weeks of the season (June 15-30) in the area off the Taylor and Dixie County coast, allowing one gallon of whole bay scallops in the shell or one cup shucked bay scallop meat per person, with a maximum of five gallons whole or two pints (four cups) shucked bay scallop meat per vessel.

Keaton golf cart zone expanded in '17, changed back in '18

GOLF CART

Continued from page 1

will consider amending the Steinhatchee golf cart ordinance to allow golf carts on any road within the legal boundary of the community with a speed limit of 25 mph or less, which would include the Beach Road segment.

County Engineer Kenneth Dudley has expressed safety concerns

about both proposed changes, stating that drivers would likely not adhere to the reduced 25 mph speed limit that comes with the extended golf cart zone.

The county placed a traffic counter on Beach Road at the 25 mph speed limit sign near the Keaton Beach Ice House for one week from April 25 to May 1, and picked up the device on the morning of May 2.

During that time, the

counter registered 8,597 vehicles.

The average speed recorded was 35.5 mph, which included an average of 33.3 mph in the northbound lane and 37.7 mph in the southbound lane.

Of the total traffic recorded, 94.3% of the vehicles were traveling faster than 25 mph. This included 97.1% of vehicles traveling southbound and

91.3% of vehicles traveling northbound.

Meanwhile, 25% of the recorded traffic was traveling 40 mph or faster, and 10% of the traffic was traveling 44 mph or greater.

The highest speeds recorded during the study period were 62.3 mph in the northbound lane and 63.2 mph in the southbound lane.

The proposed change to the Keaton Beach golf cart

ordinance was requested by Gayle Lundy, who

addressed the board at its March 21 meeting. Lundy owns a 12-spot RV park on J.L. Gibson Road, and requested the change to

allow guests to drive their golf carts to and from Keaton Beach.

At that meeting, the commission voted unanimously to instruct County Attorney Conrad Bishop to draft an ordinance

enacting the change.

During the discussion, Dudley voiced his concerns over the proposed change.

"With respect to -- and don't take this negatively -- being kind of indiscriminate where you place speed limits and how you change them from one speed to another, drivers are intolerant when the roadway itself doesn't suggest you should be slowing down," Dudley said.

"It's a couple of thousand feet -- right at half a mile, I believe -- from J.L. Gibson up to the curve that's north of there. It's another 2,000 feet from J.L. Gibson to the Corner Store. That long straightaway, people don't have the feeling of slowing down until they hit that congested area, irrespective of what you put out there as a speed limit sign.

"So, just be mindful of where you put them, and realize that we don't want to develop intolerance. They need to have a reason why we're putting a sign somewhere," he said.

If approved, the northern boundary of the Keaton Beach golf cart zone would return to what it was for a 20-month period between March 2017 and November 2018.

In March 2017, the board voted to extend the border to J.L. Gibson Road at the request of the late Commissioner Frank Russell after he received requests from residents on the road.

However, less than a year after that change was made, Russell reported receiving numerous complaints regarding the associated drop in speed limit on Beach Road in the golf cart zone, which, when combined with the buffer zones to bring the speed limit down from 55 mph to 25 mph, forced drivers to begin slowing down well away from Keaton Beach.

Russell discussed changing the ordinance back to its previous boundary, but no action was taken prior to his death in early 2018.

Commissioner Steve Spradley, who was appointed to fill Russell's seat, requested the board consider amending the ordinance to reduce the golf cart zone boundary, and in November 2018, the commission approved an amendment that set the boundary at 700 feet north of the Corner Store (in the area of the ice house), where it currently remains.

That amendment was approved 3-1, with Commissioner Jim Moody providing the lone "no" vote. The late Commissioner Malcolm Page abstained from the vote (due to having relatives on J.L. Gibson Road), while current commissioners Pam Feagle and Thomas Demps joined Spradley in voting in favor of the change.

Steinhatchee student receives scholarship

Winners of this year's Palmer C. Hodges Scholarship are Noah Francis from Steinhatchee and Henry Orduz-Kingcade of Alachua County.

Francis, who graduated from Dixie County High School, will be going on to Florida Gateway College. Orduz-Kingcade, who was homeschooled in Alachua County while dual-enrolled his last semester at Santa Fe College, will continue his studies at Santa Fe College.

The Palmer C. Hodges Scholarship was started by Larry and Crystal Pesek in honor of their friend and Steinhatchee resident, the late Palmer C. Hodges.

Two \$500 scholarships are awarded to participants who have each written a 500-word (or less) essay

on either family, friends, fishing or faith.

To be eligible, participants must be Florida residents and graduating students in either Taylor, Dixie or surrounding

counties.

An awards ceremony was held at Steinhatchee Marina at Deadman Bay on Sunday, June 12, with scholarship founders Larry and Crystal Pesek presenting.



Henry Orduz-Kingcade of Alachua County accepts his award.



Noah Francis of Steinhatchee (right) accepting his Palmer C. Hodges Scholarship from scholarship founders Larry and Crystal Pesek.



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Bowden is named 'Paralegal of the Year'

By JIM ASH

Senior Editor

The Florida Bar News

Tallahassee resident Kerri Bowden's name likely rings a bell — the FSU football icon was a distant cousin.

But for the past 28 years, the relentlessly upbeat and deeply committed paralegal has become a legend in her own right, with teammates



Kerri Bowden, the daughter of Jimmy and Gerry Bowden, was named the 2023 Florida Registered Paralegal of the Year."

and clients at Legal Services of North Florida, Inc. (LSNF).

"She could run this program if she wished," gushes LSNF Managing Attorney Stephanie Johnson.

After observing Bowden's tireless dedication to the program and the community for a quarter century, Johnson secretly nominated her for one of the profession's highest honors.

The Florida Registered Paralegal Enrichment Committee agreed, and recently named Bowden the "2023 Florida Registered Paralegal of the Year."

Bowden says she was a little shocked — "I had no idea Stephanie did this" — and couldn't be more thrilled.

"I do a lot for this agency," she said. "And it's rewarding for someone to single me out in a way that says, hey, we recognize

► Please see page 8



Taylor Senior Citizens Center



A number of Taylor County officials — including Sheriff Wayne Padgett — found themselves in the slammer...all for a good cause. The first "Jail & Bail" fundraiser benefitting the Taylor Senior Citizens Center raised \$2,405, with an estimated \$670 in pledges still coming in. Funds will be used to purchase food and to repair the air conditioning unit in the center, where local seniors eat. (Top photo, left to right) "Bailiff" Mike Strickland, Property Appraiser Shawna Beach, Supervisor of Elections Dana Southerland, Clerk of Court Gary Knowles, City Councilman Ward Ketting and Sheriff Wayne Padgett; (bottom photo, left to right) Capital City Bank President Marvin Brooks presents a check in support of the fundraiser to Sheriff Padgett.

Remember when...

My favorite playground: the Taylor County Courthouse

The Taylor County Courthouse used to be our favorite playground, especially during the summer.

There were no monkey bars at the courthouse. No merry-go-rounds. No swings or slides. No slip-and-slide splash pads.

What the courthouse did have was four floors of hallways and stairways to roam. An abundance of office workers and people taking care of business. And most of all, it had a second-floor hangout where we could explore forests. We could cook and then eat all sorts of dishes at our second-floor hangout. We could learn to grow gardens and learn how not to waste money.

Back in the day, our hangout was the Taylor County 4-H Program and the County Extension Office on the second floor of the courthouse. When I joined 4-H in seventh grade, I joined because I wanted to be able to walk home from school. After a week or so of attending 4-H, I was more concerned about being able to hang out at my new playground than about being able to walk home.

After school, my friends and I would walk from school to the courthouse to attend 4-H programs like forest ecology, cooking and baking, horticulture, consumer education, sewing and others.

The programs were taught by County Extension Agents Mr. Henry Davis and Mrs. Carol Mott, who made the classes just as fun as they were educational.

The after-school 4-H programs were so popular that when we arrived at the 4-H office, we would sign in and then rush over to the bakery or Bloodworth's before class began. We did this to ensure we had a seat when we got back.

During our 10-minute program breaks, we explored the rest of our playground.

We rode the elevators from the basement to the third floor, stopping on each floor going up and coming down.

We wandered up and down hallways, making way too much noise sometimes.

We sanctioned stairway races to see who could race up or down the four flights of stairs the fastest.

We pressed our faces against office windows and waved at the workers who, though busy, would stop for a few seconds to smile and comment on the aroma of fresh baked breads and sweets from our baking class or marvel at the armload of plants and bushes they saw us haul upstairs for our forest ecology or horticulture class.

And we stood at the door of the third-floor courtroom and eavesdropped on the proceedings.

When we returned from our break, if we had been too loud in the hallways, Mrs. Leola Glenn, the 4-H program assistant and our club leader, put us in check by threatening to tell our parents, which, in my household, meant we might get barred from the playground. And none of us wanted that.

Our playground was open to us nearly all day during the summer months. Instead of hanging out at the local swimming pool or parks, we spent most of the day at the courthouse preparing for district and state 4-H competitions. There would be days when we spent five or six hours at the playground — two or three of which would be in the 4-H office preparing for the competition and two or three playing "catch me if you can" around the courthouse.

Today, the former 4-H and County Extension Offices are occupied by a courtroom presided over by County Court Judge Bill Blue.

I bet Judge Blue doesn't have nearly as much fun in our old hangout as we used to.



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'I don't know what the big deal is...he drove fine'

HIGHWAY

Continued from page 1

know what the big deal is...he drove fine."

However, Taylor County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) Sgt. Corey Burrus reported that the eyewitness stated "he and the maroon Jeep Cherokee were traveling northbound on Beach Rd. (The eyewitness) was

behind the vehicle in the area of Kelly Grade and Beach Road. The same vehicle continually swerved into the oncoming lane and off the roadway. The vehicle continued to swerve, so (the eyewitness) called the sheriff's office.

"In the area of Donald Russell Road, the vehicle nearly left the roadway completely and swerved

from the northbound lane into the southbound lane. The Jeep accelerated at a high rate of speed, 80-90 miles per hour, but stopped at the stop sign to enter Highway 19. When the vehicle turned southbound onto Highway 19, (the eyewitness) observed (a) child driving the vehicle," Burrus reported.

The eyewitness was able

to provide continued updates to deputies as they responded to the area near Beach Road and Highway 19.

"The final update was the maroon Jeep Cherokee pulled into the Servilla Motel, and a young child was driving," Burrus reported.

Fincher, who lives in the apartment where the Jeep was parked, told deputies he

and the child were both in the vehicle.

"I explained to Fincher that there have been several fatal traffic crashes on Beach Road and the intersection of Highway 19 and Beach Road every year, and it is not the place to try to teach somebody to drive. Fincher responded he was not on Highway 19 long," Burrus reported.

Fincher was booked at the Taylor County Jail on charges of allowing an unlicensed minor to drive and cruelty toward a child without great bodily harm.

ISO is already calling for city to add ladder truck

MAX HEIGHT

Continued from page 1

In his response, Colavolpe wrote, "According to your most recent survey, a ladder truck is already being called for based on the amount of three-story buildings in your district. Increasing the maximum height of buildings would not affect your survey. This would only affect the credit you would receive for when/if you purchase a ladder truck.

"To get full credit for the ladder truck, you would need to have the ladder to be the (same) height or taller of the maximum building," Colavolpe said.

"I spoke to the ISO auditor and he said since we already have 12 or 13 buildings over three stories tall, we are already being negatively impacted for not having a ladder truck, so if we go to 50 feet it would not affect our ISO score at

all," Hart said.

"What about your manpower over here (at City Fire)?" Councilwoman Venita Woodfaulk asked.

"You will still be operating without a ladder truck, like you are doing now, with buildings that are already over that height," Hart said. "He said it would not change your ISO rating one bit."

"Since we rejected it at the last meeting because we thought it would affect our ISO score, if you want to pursue us allowing buildings up to 50 feet, we can bring it back at the next meeting," Hart suggested.

"I think we should, yeah," Councilman Ward Ketting said.

By consensus, the council requested Hart bring back a draft ordinance with the proposed maximum height change from 35 to 50 feet at the next meeting.

Although Hart said he had

added a \$450,000 line item to his recommended five-year capital improvement plan for the purchase of a ladder truck in the future, the council appeared to be in favor of allowing the height change without immediately purchasing any additional equipment or increasing the number of paid firefighter personnel.

Hart agreed to bring a proposed ordinance – changing the maximum height from 35 to 50 feet -- to the next meeting for the council's consideration, adding the hotel's request could then be presented to the building and planning board for approval.

At the previous meeting, Hart explained a potential developer (Rex Champany, VP of Development and Construction with SR Companies in Tallahassee) had inquired about changing the city's 35-foot height restriction in regards

to the potential construction of a new four-story hotel.

Hart explained the hotel plans came in standard designs four or more stories tall, adding that constructing a three-story hotel would require a special exemption from the franchise and higher building costs due to it not being a standard layout.

During its last ISO audit, the City Fire Department lowered its ISO rating from a 6 to a 4, which was estimated to save residents and businesses money on property insurance premiums.

At the city's May 23 meeting, City Fire Department Capt. R.B. Lee told the council the city would need a minimum of two more firefighters per shift (six total) and a new ladder truck estimated to cost roughly \$500-\$750,000 due in part to the construction of the new apartment complex, several new banks and the proposed hotel.

"We do not have enough manpower to operate the ladder truck, as NFPA

(National Fire Protection Association) recommends a minimum of two, and possibly a four-man crew to operate," Lee said, adding the additional manpower would cost the city \$450,000 more per year in salaries, plus additional training costs.

"And, you have nowhere to store it, so you will have to build another fire department station to house it," Lee added.

"The ISO rating will probably go up if you don't. We barely scraped by to get (ISO rating) down from (Class) 6 to (Class) 4 five years ago. They are coming back again in September, because they review it every five years," Lee said. "Our suggestion is leave it like it is, or it is going to cost a lot of money."

In a memo to the council, City Fire officials stated, "In our last meeting with ISO, he advised that (due to) the number of buildings we already have over three stories, that we already need a ladder or aerial truck."

"All firemen will have to go for training on how

to operate the truck. We would need a new station to accommodate the size of the new truck and to house all of the additional firemen. Our ISO rating lowered from a 6 to a 4, giving the community lower insurance rates, without the truck.

"The cost of a new truck, manpower and a new station does not justify the additional burden on taxpayers for a possibly slightly lower ISO rating," the memo stated.

"The equipment we have now is only capable up to 35 feet. If the city decides to raise the height limit, we will need a ladder or aerial truck and all the additional costs that come with it," the memo stated, adding, "It is the recommendation of the Fire Department not to raise the height limit unless funds become available for the additional costs," the memo states.

On a motion by Woodfaulk and second by Landry, the council voted 5-0 to decline the request to increase the maximum height to 50 feet at the May 23 meeting.

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PARALEGAL

Continued from page 7

you, we know you're doing good."

The recognition is special for another reason, Bowden says.

An ardent cheerleader for the FRP program, she recently recruited another NFLS colleague to register for the program.

"I was the first to sign up when the program started in 2008," Bowden said.

When she's not running an orientation or training session for new paralegals and staff attorneys, or signing up for a training session, Bowden is usually on the road to perform a service in one of the LSNF's 16 counties.

Johnson cites myriad reasons that Bowden, the mother of two special needs children, has become indispensable to LSNF.

"She is constantly learning about new areas of the law that will impact her family law clients," Johnson wrote.

"In addition, her wealth

of experience, and trauma-informed approach has helped her work with the victims of domestic and sexual violence with compassion and professionalism."

A Taylor County native, Bowden is the daughter of a teacher turned school administrator father and a registered nurse mother.

Bowden was studying psychology, criminology, and nursing in South Florida decades ago when life interrupted.

"I went through a divorce

way back in the day," she said. "At the time, I had a child with my first husband, and he is significantly disabled, he has autism and several other disabilities."

Bowden moved back to North Florida to be closer to family, continue her education and launch a career.

The plan included a stint at Keiser College.

"I already had an AA

degree, and I got a second

Legal Services of North Florida has been more than accommodating to her family situation, Bowden said.

But she stresses that the accommodation works both ways.

Her "lived experience" has helped staff attorneys and others better anticipate and fulfill clients' needs, Bowden said.

"I've enhanced their knowledge, and they've enhanced mine with all the trainings that they allow me to go to," she said.

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'Rise of the Beasts' is another entertaining 'Transformers' film

By MARK VIOLA

Perhaps it's an overused expression, but when I think about Michael Bay's five-film "Transformers" film series, I think about the quote from Shakespeare's "Hamlet" — "Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, Signifying nothing."

The first film is still the best of the bunch, while the second, "Revenge of the Fallen," is still, in my opinion, one of the worst summer blockbusters of all time, not the least because the film was made during the 2007-08 writers strike, and many of the action sequences were outlined by Bay without a full script, which was only finished after much of the action was already filmed.

To be honest, I don't remember much, if any, of the plot of the final three movies, but I do remember that the fourth one, "Age of Extinction," was the first movie I ever saw that made explosions boring.

But, Bay's franchise reached its much-welcomed end, and the "Transformers" universe was rebooted by 2018's "Bumblebee," which was a surprisingly fun and competently-written action flick, which brought the story back to 1988.

Now we have its sequel, "Transformers: Rise of the Beasts," the first film to feature the animal-inspired Maximals, introduced by the "Transformers: Beast War" franchise, which included a popular animated series in the 1990s.

Admittedly, despite the success of "Bumblebee," to say a film is "good for a 'Transformers' movie" is about the faintest praise one can give, but "Rise of the Beasts" is, indeed, good for a "Transformers" movie. It's about like saying "Fast X" is "good for a 'Fast and Furious' movie," although "Rise of the Machines" is a much better film than "Fast X."

"Rise of the Machines" begins with a prologue showing the Maximals' home world coming under attack by the planet-eating menace known as Unicron. His heralds, the Terrorcons, led by Scourge, seek a device called the transwarp key, which would give Unicron the ability to devour the entire galaxy.

However, several Maximals escape, fleeing to Earth, where they hide the transwarp key so it will never be found by



Unicron or his minions.

Skip ahead to 1994, six years after the events of "Bumblebee," and we're introduced to two new human characters. First is Noah Diaz (Anthony Ramos, "In the Heights"), a former military electronics expert, who is struggling to find a job in order to help his mother cover his younger brother's medical expenses.

Second is Elena Wallace, a museum intern who is studying a strange artifact of a falcon featuring, unbeknownst to her, the symbol of the Maximals.

Both will eventually encounter the Transformers through a series of events that also alert Scourge and his army that the transwarp key is on Earth, setting into motion a race against time to find the key before Unicron gets it and devours the entire planet.

Director Steven Caple Jr., who gave us the exceptional "Creed II," takes over directing duties from "Bumblebee" director Travis Knight, who made his live-action debut with that movie after starting his career in stop-motion animation.

"Bumblebee" was much better than pretty much all of the previous "Transformers" films in keeping its action in camera so the audience could more easily follow what was happening.

Caple does this again in "Rise of the Beasts." Although there are moments when the perspective is such that it's hard to keep track of who is where, this is often when the movie is being shown from the point of view of its human characters, so the chaotic nature doesn't feel out of place.

Speaking of the action, although there are moments where the special effects aren't the best, overall, the film looks quite good, especially compared to a lot of big-budget spectacle films released these days with subpar effects.

The story also keeps the total number of Transformers to a level where it's much easier to keep track of who is who, although admittedly, aside from Scourge, I couldn't tell you a thing about any of the villains, which aside from two or three named characters, consist almost entirely of nameless CGI cannon fodder.

"Rise of the Beasts" also does a better

job integrating its human characters into the story, and although we only just met them, I felt more connected to Noah and Elena than I ever did with any of the other humans we've met in this movie, except for Charlie (Hailee Steinfeld) in "Bumblebee."

They also do something I had never seen before in a "Transformers" movie, and I have to say I really liked it, because it allows at least one of the human characters to

better take part in the action.

Sure, the script is not the deepest, and the story has a few holes, but overall, I enjoyed "Rise of the Beasts" much more than I expected I would. Thanks to it and "Bumblebee" before it, I might actually be excited when the next "Transformers" film arrives in 2024.

The film is rated PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action and violence and language.

THIS WEEK IN THEATERS AND STREAMING AT HOME



By MARK VIOLA

Lots of folks went to movie theaters last weekend, with "Transformers: Rise of the Beasts" debuting to a strong \$60.5 million, and "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" holding on to bring in \$55.4 million in its second weekend of release.

With Disney's "The Little Mermaid" swimming away with \$22.7 million in its third weekend and "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3" and "The Boogeyman" rounding out the top five with \$7 million and \$6.9 million respectively, last weekend was the second-highest grossing three-day weekend of the year so far.

Although the month has had a decent start so far, it has a steep road ahead if it is to come close to last year's June, which collected \$968 million thanks to "Top Gun: Maverick" and "Jurassic World: Dominion" each earning more than \$300 million.

While "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" will almost assuredly reach that mark, it's much less certain if any other film will this month. The early box office projections for both "The Flash" and "Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny" are both lower than one would might expect, and even if "Indiana Jones" can bring people to theaters again, since it debuts on June 30, most of that film's tickets will be sold in July.

On the writers strike front, no news is not necessarily good news if you're looking forward to fall television. So far, there are no signs that the Writers Guild of America is any closer to reaching a deal with the major studios, with picketing continuing in many places (although the smoke that filled New York City last week) put some of events on temporary hold.

Meanwhile, we're two weeks away from the deadline for the Screen Actors Guild to reach a new deal before the actors go on strike as well. The Directors Guild of America is the only union so far to finalize a deal, so the directors will be able to continue to work, although there will be no new scripts and potentially no actors to direct.

Due to the strike and overall uncertainty, the Television Critics Association recently announced it was canceling its summer tour, during which many of the networks usually showcase their fall line-ups for potential advertisers.

In Theaters

Diving into an already

crowded box office neighborhood are three new films opening in nationwide release this weekend.

"The Blackening" is a horror comedy about seven black friends who go away for the weekend only to find themselves trapped in a cabin with a killer who has a vendetta. Will their street smarts and knowledge of horror movies help them stay alive? Probably not. The movie is directed by Tim Story ("Barbershop") with a script from Tracy Oliver ("Girls Trip") and Dwayne Perkins ("Brooklyn Nine-Nine").

The film is rated R for pervasive language, violence and drug use.

"Elemental" is the latest animated film from Pixar. Set in Element City, where fire-, water-, land- and air-residents live together, but don't often mix, a fiery young woman (Leah Lewis, "Nancy Drew") and a go-with-the-flow guy (Mamoudou Athie, "Jurassic World: Dominion") are about to discover something elemental: how much they actually have in common. After Pixar's first theatrically-released feature since the onset of COVID, "Lightyear," failed to wow audiences last year, the once unshakable Pixar really needs a hit.

The movie is rated PG for some peril, thematic elements and brief language.

"The Flash" is the newest DC Comics film, which will more or less mark the end of the former DC Extended Universe and lay the groundwork for the new universe to come, according to new studio head James Gunn. In this movie, Barry Allen (Ezra Miller) uses his super speed to change the past, but his attempt to save his family creates a world without super heroes, forcing him to race for his life in order to save the future. There's a lot working against this movie, most notably the myriad of legal and ethical complaints lodged over the past several years against Miller, who will most likely never play the Flash again, even if he doesn't spend time in prison.

However, by all accounts, the movie is actually really good, and, it also brings back the original theatrical live-action Batman, Michael Keaton.

Meanwhile, we're two weeks away from the deadline for the Screen Actors Guild to reach a new deal before the actors go on strike as well. The Directors Guild of America is the only union so far to finalize a deal, so the directors will be able to continue to work, although there will be no new scripts and potentially no actors to direct.

Due to the strike and overall uncertainty, the Television Critics Association recently announced it was canceling its summer tour, during which many of the networks usually showcase their fall line-ups for potential advertisers.

In Theaters

Diving into an already

crowded box office neighborhood are three new films opening in nationwide release this weekend.

"The Blackening" is a horror comedy about seven black friends who go away for the weekend only to find themselves trapped in a cabin with a killer who has a vendetta. Will their street smarts and knowledge of horror movies help them stay alive? Probably not. The movie is directed by Tim Story ("Barbershop") with a script from Tracy Oliver ("Girls Trip") and Dwayne Perkins ("Brooklyn Nine-Nine").

The film is not yet rated.

Disney+

"Stan Lee" is a documentary about fabled comic book creator Stan Lee, celebrating what would have been his 100th birthday (last December). The film provides an origin story for the man who helped give us Spider-Man, the Fantastic Four, Hulk, Thor, Iron Man and Doctor Strange.

The documentary is not yet rated.

Hulu

"Jagged Mind" is a horror thriller in which Billie is plagued by blackouts and strange visions that lead her to discover she's stuck in a series of time loops, possibly related to her mysterious new girlfriend.

The film is not yet rated.

Max

"How Do You Measure A Year?" was one of the Academy Award nominees for Best Documentary Short Film at this year's Academy Awards.

The 29-minute film was directed by Jay Rosenblatt and features his daughter, Ella. From the time she was two years old and until she turned 18, they had a ritual: Dad asked (and filmed), and Ella answered.

What do you dream about? What do you think about our relationship? This is a little story about growing up and the love between father and daughter.

The documentary is not rated.

Netflix

"Extraction 2" is the much-anticipated sequel to 2020's "Extraction," which arrived on Netflix a month into the COVID-19 movie theater shutdowns. After barely surviving the grievous wounds from his mission in Bangladesh, Tyler Rake (Chris Hemsworth) is back, and his team is ready to take on their next mission.

Tasked with extracting a family who is at the mercy of a Georgian gangster, Tyler infiltrates one of the world's deadliest prisons in order to save them.

The movie is rated R for strong bloody violence throughout, language and brief drug use.

Amazon Prime

"An Unforgettable Year - Winter" is the third of four films from Brazil debuting

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 8-25

"The Play That Goes Wrong"

Theatre Tallahassee presents "The Play That Goes Wrong," which will run through June 25.

Welcome to the opening night of the Cornell University Drama Society's newest production, "The Murder at Haversham Manor," where things are quickly going from bad to utterly disastrous. This 1920s whodunit has everything you never wanted in a show -- an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead and actors who trip over everything (including their lines).

Nevertheless, the accident-prone thespians battle against all odds to make it through to their final curtain call, with

June 13-17

"Hot Dogs, Cool Cats"

The Watermelon Festival Children's Show "Hot Dogs, Cool Cats" will be presented by Monticello Acting & Dance Company at Monticello Opera House on June 13-17.

The three little kittens have lost their mittens. But never fear! Detective Sam Spadeneuter is here to save the day. He'll follow the clues, "unravel" the mystery and save the kittens from the Bad Dogs and The Pound.

"This original script is set to cool jazz music, reminiscent of the TV detective shows of the 1960s and 1970s," organizers said.

"The plot twists and turns will have you

June 16-17

Monticello Watermelon Festival

The Monticello Watermelon Festival will be held June 16-17.

"Our theme this year is 'Homegrown Happiness.' Since 1949 we have celebrated this summertime tradition, originally founded to recognize local watermelon growers in Jefferson County," Festival Chair Katrina Richardson said. "Engaging our local community, businesses and visitors through the time-honored tradition is our utmost priority. Our amazing sponsors, advertisers and volunteers, who we couldn't do without, truly make this a community-wide treasured event."

"Plan to come on down with your Homegrown Happiness and sit a spell as we

jumping out of your seat. Who knows? Maybe you can help to solve the mystery of the missing kittens."

The production is based on a short story by Alexandra Brookins with a script by Melanie Mays.

Remaining showtimes are June 16 at 1:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. and June 17 at 11:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors (62+) and military personnel and \$15 for students.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <https://theatretallahassee.org/> or call (850) 224-8474.

Tickets will also be available for purchase at the door for all performances.

celebrate our time-honored tradition that says summertime in Monticello," she said.

Events on Friday, June 16, include: vendor village, 4-9 p.m.; family entertainment, 6 p.m.; kids show, 7 p.m.; street dance, 7-9 p.m.; and beer garden, 7-9 p.m.

On Saturday, the festivities continue with: Kiwanis 5K Run & Walk, 8:15 a.m.; vendor village, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Watermelon Parade, 10 a.m.; antique car show, 11 a.m.; platform events, 11 a.m.; kids show, 11:30 a.m.; beer garden, 12-4 p.m.; family entertainment, 1 p.m.; watermelon games, 1:15 p.m. and kids show, 2 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://www.monticellocwatermelontestival.com>.

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LEGALS

(Continued from page 10)

LOT 40; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 52' 30" E 77.55 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 52' 30" W, 129.00 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 52' 30" WEST, 77.55 FEET, THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 52' 30" E, 129.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF SAID LOT 40.

TOGETHER WITH A 1993 FLEETWOOD DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME, IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS: GAFLN36A06126HS AND GAFLN36B06126HS AND ALSO TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN 2020 MOBILE HOME WITH VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NO.S: LOHGA22035387 A AND LOHGA22035387B.

Property address: 114 Walter Smith Road, Pen-y, FL 32348

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.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: 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. Individuals with a disability who require special accommodations in order to participate in a court proceeding should contact the ADA Coordinator, 173 NE Hernando Avenue, Room 408, Lake City, FL 32055, (386) 719-7428, within two (2) business days of receipt of notice to appear. Individuals who are hearing impaired should call (800) 955-8771. Individuals who are voice impaired should call (800) 955-8770.

Gary Knowles, Jr.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

As Clerk of the Court

By: Kathryn Lago

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that DeWayne and Brenda Leggett, owner(s), desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of Bre's Sun Shine Bounce & Inflatables, intends to register said name in Taylor County with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations, pursuant to the fictitious name statute (Chapter 20953 or Section 865.09). Upon receipt of proof of publication of this notice, I/we expect to engage in business at our address: 3208 Vera Ln., Perry, Fla., 32347. The extent of ownership is: DeWayne and Brenda Leggett (owners) (100%).

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED TDA 23-024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Brandy M Van Gaasbeek, the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of the property and the names in which the property was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number 280
Year of Issuance 2021
Description of Property: Parcel Number R03372-000
Described as: The west 1/2 of Lots 18 and 19; Lot 20, less northeast 1/4 of said lot; all being in Block 6 of Quindale subdivision. Containing 0.26 acres, more or less. Section 24 Township 04 Range 07. Taylor County, FL official record 635 page 136.

Name in which assessed: Bobbie Ann R O'Quinn. Said property being in the County of Taylor, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 17th day of July, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2023.

Signature: Gary Knowles
Clerk of Circuit Court
Taylor County, Florida

Linda Bryant. Said property being in the County of Taylor, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 17th day of July, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2023.

Signature: Gary Knowles
Clerk of Circuit Court

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED TDA 23-025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that IDE Technologies, Inc., the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of the property and the names in which the property was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number 274
Year of Issuance 2021
Description of Property: Parcel Number R03341-000
Described as: Lots 7 and 8 and the north 1/2 of Lot 9, all of Block 2 located in Quindale Subdivision. Contains 0.39 acres, more or less. Section 24 Township 04 Range 07. Taylor County, FL official record 635 page 136.

Name in which assessed: Emma Taylor Estate c/o Gertrude Palmer. Said property being in the County of Taylor, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 17th day of July, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2023.

Signature: Gary Knowles
Clerk of Circuit Court
Taylor County, Florida

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED TDA 23-026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that IDE Technologies, Inc., the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of the property and the names in which the property was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number 274
Year of Issuance 2021
Description of Property: Parcel Number R03341-000
Described as: Lots 7 and 8 and the north 1/2 of Lot 9, all of Block 2 located in Quindale Subdivision. Contains 0.39 acres, more or less. Section 24 Township 04 Range 07. Taylor County, FL official record 635 page 136.

Name in which assessed: Emma Taylor Estate c/o Gertrude Palmer. Said property being in the County of Taylor, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 17th day of July, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2023.

Signature: Gary Knowles
Clerk of Circuit Court
Taylor County, Florida

Description of Property:

Parcel Number R04060-000
Described as: Blair -Hinely Addition; Lots 2,3,4, of Block 1. Contains 0.40 acres, more or less. Section 24 Township 04 Range 07 - Taylor County, FL.

at 11:00 a.m.
Dated this 16th day of June, 2023
Signature: Gary Knowles
Clerk of Circuit Court
Taylor County, Florida

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 2.13(B) of the City Charter of the City of Perry, Florida, notice is hereby given that the City Council had Introduction and First Reading on Ordinance No. 1028 on June 13, 2023, in the City Council Chambers, 224 S. Jefferson Street, Perry, Florida. A Public Hearing and Final Reading on Ordinance No. 1028 is scheduled for June 27, 2023, in the City Council Meeting Room, located at 224 S. Jefferson Street, Perry, Florida at 5:00 p. m. or as soon thereafter as possible. The public hearing may be continued to a future date at the meeting, without further legal notice in the local newspaper.

Any interested persons may appear and be heard on the aforementioned public hearing date. Notice is also given, pursuant to Florida Statutes 286.0105 that any person deciding to appeal any decision of the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the meeting will need a record of that meeting and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be heard.

Introduction and First Reading
Ordinance No. 1028
(Conveying Land, Frank Hardan)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PERRY, TAYLOR COUNTY, FLORIDA REGARDING SURPLUS LANDS; CONVEYING CERTAIN LAND; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
John R. Hart, II, City Manager
Shirlie Hampton, Mayor



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