

The **TCHS** Lady Bulldogs' girls softball team won 14-13 over Fort White in extra innings to advance to the district championship game Tuesday (See page 5)

Inside this issue



Perry News-Herald

75¢
Friday/
Saturday

April 30 - May 1, 2021

www.perrynewspapers.com

Hospital posts \$294,000 gain through first 9 months of fiscal year

DMH finances swing to positive

Like most businesses in Taylor County, Doctors' Memorial Hospital (DMH) was hit hard by the COVID-19 outbreak and the associated shutdowns in 2020.

According to DMH CFO Doug Faircloth, the hospital's revenues in April and May of last year -- the final two months of Fiscal Year 2020 for DMH

and the first full months of the COVID-associated shutdowns -- were down \$4.1 million compared to the same two-month period the previous year.

However, through the first nine months of the current fiscal year (June 2020 through February 2021), the hospital has seen a positive financial swing of \$434,000 -- improving

from a \$140,000 loss to a \$294,000 gain.

Faircloth presented the figures to the Taylor County Commission during its April 20 meeting, joined by new DMH CEO Chris Schmidt, who addressed the commission for the first time since being hired earlier this year.

Schmidt opened his remarks by noting that

some 180 rural hospitals have closed in the United States since 2010.

He stressed the challenges facing the hospital, but also outlined a number of programs and partnerships he hopes will help keep the facility financially viable.

According to Schmidt, the hospital's in-patient census has been running between seven and 11 per day, while

approximately 120 people utilize outpatient services each day. Additionally, around 30 people visit the emergency department

each day, while 100 patients are treated at DMH's three rural clinics per day.

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A partnership with Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare

Noah had an angelic smile, warrior spirit

Noah Amador had the smile of an angel, the fighting spirit of a warrior and a capacity for joy that few find in a lifetime.

The Taylor County kindergartener who battled a rare cancer for more than half his life died Tuesday. He was



Noah Nicolas Amador

five years old.

Family and friends will gather today (Friday) to celebrate his life during services planned at 2 p.m. at Crosspoint Baptist Fellowship. (For complete obituary, please see page A-4.)

Noah was first diagnosed with chordoma, a rare skull-based tumor, in April 2017. He was just 20 months old. After seven months of chemotherapy, his tumor had shrunk more than 90 percent.

From November 2017 to July 2018, Noah was placed on maintenance chemotherapy to prevent or delay the return of the cancer.

Noah's second fight with cancer began in July 2018 -- this time with acute myeloid leukemia, a cancer of bone and blood cells.

Noah's acute myeloid leukemia required two rounds of chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant in October 2018.

In February 2019, doctors discovered two new lesions on Noah's C1 and C2 vertebrae -- the first two segments of spine in his neck. Biopsy results revealed the lesions were a recurrence of the cancerous chordoma tumor.

➔ Please see page 2

Bean left legacy of honor, dignity

With a signature style and impeccable reputation on the bench, Judge James Roy "Jim" Bean left an indelible legacy of honor, dignity and respect on those he served with in the Third Judicial Circuit, as well as the many family and friends by his side over the years.

Bean, who served as circuit judge here for more than two decades, died Tuesday, April 27, after a valiant fight against cancer.

Burns Funeral Home is handling arrangements, and memorial services are planned at a later date.

"In terms of his ethics, you can't do any better as a fellow judge or a friend to have by your side. He was simply impeccable -- as a judge, parent, spouse and

➔ Please see page 2



Judge James Roy 'Jim' Bean

Siegmeister still in jail, pleads not guilty

During first appearance and arraignment hearings held Thursday in Jacksonville, a federal judge ordered that former state attorney Jeff Siegmeister continue to be held in custody while awaiting trial on multiple felony charges.

Siegmeister, who faces 11 federal counts ranging from bribery to extortion, entered "not guilty" pleas to all charges.

Siegmeister was also appointed a (federal) public defender to represent him in court proceedings after indicating he did not have the funds to hire an attorney.

Siegmeister's case has been set for the June 2021

trial term, with a status conference set for May 24.

From 2013-19 Siegmeister served as state attorney for seven counties making up the Third Judicial Circuit of Florida -- including Taylor -- before abruptly resigning prior to the end of his term, citing an impending divorce as the reason.

Siegmeister was indicted by a federal grand jury on Feb. 24 and arrested in a remote area of Arizona just two days later.

The FBI's investigation of the former elected state attorney began in 2018 following allegations of a

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Paralympic qualifier held here Saturday

This weekend the Taylor County Sports Complex will play host to a qualifying event for athletes attempting to make the USA team competing at the upcoming Paralympic Games in Tokyo, Japan this summer.

The Dixie Wheelchair Athletic Association (DWAA) received permission to utilize one of the local sports complex fields on Saturday, May 1, to hold "seated" events for adult paralympians seeking to make their rankings in shot-put, discus and javelin.

The DWAA includes Alabama, Georgia and Florida, and the organization has a 35-plus-year history of providing competitive sports and recreational opportunities for athletes with physical and visual disabilities.

DWAA started in 1978 with the Georgia Invitational Wheelchair Games held in Marietta, Ga., and in 1981 merged with the Alabama association.

DWAA is approved by World Paralympics and

➔ Please see page 2

Snapper opens June 4!

Private recreational offshore anglers have about one month to tie up their bottom-dropping rigs, as the popular 2021 Gulf red snapper recreational season opens on June 4 and runs through July 28, with a possible fall reopening if quota is available.

"This will be the longest summer season anglers will have since the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) started setting seasons for fishing in the Gulf state and federal waters off Florida," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "The state is proud to provide continued access and opportunities for Florida families to enjoy the Fishing Capital of the World."

This season will apply to those fishing from private

recreational vessels in Gulf state and federal waters, as well as charter vessels that do not have a federal reef fish permit and are limited to fishing in state waters only.

The 2021 recreational red snapper season for federally-permitted charter for-hire operations will be June 1 through Aug. 2.

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Red snapper season has been extended an additional 55 days. (Photo courtesy Sea Hag Marina)



BBTC SkillsUSA state winners: (left to right) Meagan Mosley, Bobbi Walsh, Jessi Young, Harlee Mosley and Joshua Langley. Not pictured are Kiwanis Mango and Makaela Langford.

BBTC SkillsUSA team earn top spots at state

It was a total sweep for Big Bend Technical College (BBTC) competitors in this year's SkillsUSA State contest, as every participating student placed in the top three

in the state.

"All totaled, BBTC had five first-place (gold), six second-place (silver) and three third-place winners. Congratulations to the students, their teachers

and SkillsUSA advisors! The first-place winners will now represent BBTC and Florida at the national conference scheduled for

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Perry News-Herald



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Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
81° 67° 20%	83° 65°	83° 65°

DMH CFO: Hospital ‘losing money’ on most patients

DMH
Continued from page 1

Faircloth focused much of his presentation on the hospital’s payer mix, noting that many insurance providers pay the hospital less than what it costs DMH to provide the actual service.

According to Faircloth, 46% of the hospitals patients have Medicare, followed by 17% with Medicaid, 14 % with Blue Cross insurance, 13% with other insurances and 10% with no insurance.

“The hospital’s expenses run about \$40 for every \$100 of services we provide,” Faircloth said. “If you turn that formula around, what that means is our prices are two and a half times what our cost is. Most businesses set their prices based on what their operating expenses are. If we were any other type of business, we would be in a profitable situation because we would have our pricing structure based on our expenses.

“The hospital is a not-for-profit entity... but no business can sustain itself

without making a profit,” Faircloth said. “Without a profit, we don’t have any money for capital expenditures and cannot get new equipment.

“A lot of people complain about our charges. They say things like they got charged \$5 for an aspirin. That may in fact be true. However, the part they leave out is nobody pays us based on our charges anymore. The reason the charges are the way they are is because that’s how the program started in 1967 when the Medicare program came into being. They allocate costs based on charges, and all hospitals have to have uniform charges, and they can’t deviate charges from one payer mix to the other.

“None of our insurance carriers pay us based on what we charge,” Faircloth said. “Medicare and Medicaid, which make up 63% of our patients, are on a fixed pay system based on the illness of the patient. They totally disregard our charges,” Faircloth explained.

“The Medicare program pays us \$38 for every \$100

we charge a patient,” he said. “So, they’re paying us \$2 less than what our actual expenses are to pay the salaries of the nurses and doctors, as well as the medical supplies. The Medicaid program pays us \$23 for every \$100 we charge.

“Blue Cross pays us \$46. We make a profit off Blue Cross patients. Other insurance companies pay us \$36. For individuals who have no insurance, we’ve found we usually collect approximately \$11 out of every \$100 we charge,” Faircloth added.

“So, out of our five types of customers, there is only one customer that pays us a profit. They are Blue Cross, and they only account for 14% of our patients,” Faircloth said. “The other portion of our patients, we’re losing money on everyone of them.”

Faircloth also noted that the hospital received funding through three different COVID-19 assistance programs, although he said the only one to have a major impact on DMH’s financials was the Paycheck Protection

Program (PPP), through which the hospital received approximately \$2 million. Of that, DMH will have to repay \$200,000 because it did not retain all of its employees last year.

Looking ahead, Schmidt outlined a number of programs DMH is either implementing or investigating to help improve both patient care and hospital revenues.

Those include the newly-established hospitalist program (see related story on page 9), as well as potential partnerships with wound care and infusion services providers.

Amador returned home April 12

NOAH
Continued from page 1

Throughout 2019 and 2021, Noah underwent various treatments for tumors found in his chest, lungs, neck and face.

Earlier this month, his mother, Kathy Flores, announced on social media, “We brought Noah home from the hospital April 12. The cancer is progressing quickly, and there are no more treatment options. It

is heart-wrenching to even have to type those words. Noah is incredibly strong and has bravely fought not one, but two cancers over the last four years, and he continues to amaze us with his strength. He just wants to be happy and to feel good. He even went to school the day after we got home from the hospital and another day that same week. He wants to be with his friends and teachers. He has been wanting to do all

of his favorite things, but his body is tired. We are still doing everything we can for him and praying for miracles every single day. This is indescribably hard, God is still good. Please #prayfornoah.”

Chordoma occurs in one in one million people per year, usually adults, totaling an average of 300 people per year in the U.S. Less than five percent, or one in 20 million, of all chordomas occur in children.

Bean retired as judge in 2013

BEAN
Continued from page 1

leader in his church. He was also a man who was an impeccable dresser. He could rock a hat. I enjoyed being around him. We had a lot of fun. And he loved his rock-n-roll,” Circuit Judge Greg Parker said.

“He will be honored throughout the year locally and certainly at the upcoming conference of circuit judges. He was well-known, not only within the circuit, but also with sitting Supreme Court judges, state attorneys and public

defenders,” Parker said.

Bean received his B.A. degree in Multidisciplinary Social Sciences from Michigan State University in 1970 and his Juris Doctor from Wayne State University in 1973.

Bean became a member of the Florida Bar in 1974 and began his legal career as an assistant public defender in South Florida.

In 1977 he became an assistant state attorney for the Third Judicial Circuit and worked in that capacity until he first joined the circuit court bench in 1992.

Bean retired as a circuit court judge in 2013, but continued to serve the circuit as a senior judge. He served as the circuit’s Chief Judge from July 1, 2001 until June 30, 2003.

“Judge Bean served the Third Judicial Circuit with honor, dignity and respect, and he will be missed by many. Please keep Judge Bean’s family in your thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time,” Chief Judge Mark Feagle said in an email sharing the news of Bean’s death to members of the Third Judicial Circuit.

Event slated for Saturday

PARALYMPIC
Continued from page 1

United.

The Taylor County Commission approved the use of the sports complex

field for Saturday’s event at its April 20 meeting as part of its consent agenda.

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Investigation began in 2018; Siegmeister resigned in 2019

SIEGMEISTER Continued from page 1

bribery scheme in which Siegmeister was accused of having “solicited money or things of value from defendants and lawyers in exchange for favorable prosecution treatment” by his office.

He also faces additional charges and forfeiture proceedings for allegedly swindling nearly \$1 million from the estate of an elderly person under his legal guardianship.

Over a six-year period (January 2010 through April 2016), Siegmeister allegedly engaged in a scheme that resulted in the

theft of \$985,000 in assets from an elderly transient who ended up in the hospital for an unknown injury while living in a Lake City motel room in 2010.

When 80-year-old Leonard Thomas was released, he was transferred first to an assisted living facility in Live Oak and then to another long-term care facility in Lake City.

In March 2010, a judge appointed Siegmeister as Thomas’ voluntary guardian. Five weeks later, Thomas signed a will designating Siegmeister’s mother, Nancy Bowen, as the sole beneficiary of his estate. At the time, Thomas

owned \$664,000 in Coca-Cola stock and had \$36,000 in the bank. The value of the stock increased over time, and court documents accuse Siegmeister and/or his mother of stealing a total of approximately \$985,000 from Thomas, who died in 2015.

The FBI interviewed Siegmeister’s mother on Dec. 5, 2019, and he resigned two weeks later.

A forfeiture complaint details how Siegmeister used proceeds of stock sales to make some mortgage payments on two properties the government is seeking because the FBI says he acquired them through “money-laundering.”

Season could re-open this fall if snapper quota is remaining

SNAPPER Continued from page 1

“Anglers across the state look forward to red snapper season each year,” said FWC Chairman Rodney Barreto. “Our agency looks forward to providing 55 days of red snapper opportunities in Gulf state and federal waters.”

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.

Last year, the Gulf red snapper season ran from

June 11 through July 25, and was re-opened for several weekends in the fall after officials determined there was remaining quota available.

For more on recreational snapper regulations, visit MyFWC.com/Marine and click on “Recreational Regulations” and “Snapper” under the “Reef Fish” tab.

State winners spotlighted

BBTC Continued from page 1

June,” BBTC Director Jodi Tillman said.

State winners include:
• Basic Health Care Skills (High School): Silver, Makaela Langford, and Bronze, Alexys Latham.

• First Aid/CPR (High School): Gold, Joshua Langford, and Bronze, Harley Mosley.

• First Aid/CPR (College): Gold, Bobbi Walsh.

• Job Interview (College): Silver, Jessi Young.
• Medical Terminology (College): Gold, Megan Mosley, and Silver, Kiwanis Mango.

• Welding (High School): Gold, Kady Puhl, and Silver, Christian Robinson.

• Welding (College): Gold, Hunter Fain, and Silver, AJ Lemus.

• Electronic Technology (High School): Silver, Christopher Lago, and Bronze, Jeremiah Kimmel.



Kiwanis Mango



Alexys Latham



Shown above are welders (left to right): Kady Puhl, AJ Lemus and Christian Robinson. (Not pictured is Hunter Fain.)

The Cottage

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Thursday morning at 7 a.m.

Shady Grove to host National Day of Prayer service

Local churches are hosting a prayer event in observance of the National Day of Prayer on the first Thursday in May (May 6) at Shady Grove Community Park at 7 a.m.

We hope residents will take advantage of this opportunity to lift our nation in prayer.

The theme for 2021 is "Lord Pour Out Your Love, Life and Liberty."

In 2 Corinthians 3:2-3, Paul reminds the Jesus followers in Corinth, "You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men; being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."

Just as it was 2,000 years ago, the mission remains today.

We, the believers and followers of Jesus are the messengers, the letters written with the Spirit on our hearts, and from the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.

It is our prayer today and throughout 2021 that the Spirit of the Lord, pour out, pour through us across America, to fill our lives, families, churches, workplace, education, military, government, arts, entertainment and media, with Biblical, not cultural, not worldly, but Spirit-empowered, Spirit-filled LOVE, LIFE and LIBERTY as designed and defined by our Creator and Savior.

Our 2021 National Day of Prayer theme prays:

"LORD pour out Your LOVE, LIFE and LIBERTY."

Once again praying and proclaiming a promise of God in our theme verse, 2 Corinthians 3:17, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

We can talk and write about a lot of things, but I believe prayer is of utmost importance.

The Bible also says in 1 Thessalonians 5:17: Pray without ceasing."

To me, that means to remain in a close spirit of prayer, so that during the day we are speaking with God, thanking Him, pouring out our hearts to Him and praising Him for the hope we have in Christ.

And don't ever get the mindset that prayer doesn't

work; we are to pray in faith believing and not giving up hope.

Let's begin praying together now, please join me: "Jesus we come now professing that You are our Lord, the One and only Son of God who came to take away the sin of the world and that whosoever believes in You will not perish but have everlasting life."

"As our Lord we are clay in Your hands, vessels of Your plans and love. Fill us we pray, to be overflowing vessels and examples of Your LOVE, LIFE and LIBERTY."

"We thank you for loving us and commit to showing and sharing Your love."

"We thank you for our life, and commit to serve You in the awe and respect You deserve, knowing You have put Your image in all

of us, and that every person is fearfully and wonderfully made."

"We thank you for forgiving our sins; for the LIBERTY you have given us, the mercy You have shown us, and You suffered in agony on the cross and the wrath of the Father was upon You, so that I might be found 'Not guilty' through Your shed blood."

"Help me to show compassion and respect to others so that they may hear the gospel and come to know You as Lord and know the release of being a slave to sin."

"Pour out Lord, and pour through Your Church across America we pray, in Jesus Name. Amen!"

I hope you can join one of the organized prayer events on May 6. If not please pray where you are. Let's do this

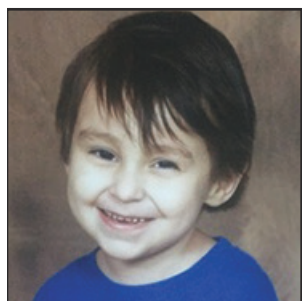


Shady Grove News

By FLORRIE BURROUGHS

together. Lord willing, I'll see you back here soon.

Obituaries



Noah Nicolas Amador

Noah Nicolas Amador

Noah Nicolas Amador, 5, passed away on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, in Perry.

Noah was born July 30, 2015, in Tallahassee to Victor Amador and Kathy Anderson Flores.

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Jack Anderson and Graciano Amador.

Noah was such a blessing!

He was an amazing little boy with the most beautiful smile and the sweetest giggles.

He was always so excited for what he wanted to do the next day.

He was strong, brave, resilient and so happy. He loved to laugh and to make others laugh. He loved playing Mario, Among Us and watching lots and lots of YouTube videos.

Noah loved his family, his classmates, his teachers, his nurses and doctors. He brought joy to everyone he met. Noah was so full of love and life, and Noah was, and always will be, so very loved.

He is survived by: his parents, Victor and Kathy; six brothers Lorenzo, Javier and Christopher Amador, Jacob, Alex and Shane Flores; his sister,

Rosie Flores; and his grandmothers, Elizabeth Anderson and Justina Zubieta, as well as a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

A celebration of life service will be held today (Friday) at 2 p.m. at Crosspoint Baptist Fellowship with Brother Eddie Pridgeon, Brother Ronnie Fleming and Brother Randy Maubauch officiating.

The family received friends from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, at Crosspoint Baptist.

All arrangements are under the direction of Burns Funeral Home of Perry.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Chordoma Foundation in memory of Noah Amador, PO Box 2127, Durham, NC 27702.

Friends may sign the

online guest book at www.joeburnsfuneralhomes.com.



Jerry David Cruce

Jerry David Cruce

Mr. Jerry David Cruce passed away on April 26, 2021, in West Memphis, Ark.

Jerry was born in Perry to John David Cruce and Christine Watson Cruce.

He trained greyhounds for 40 years.

Jerry was preceded in death by: his parents, John "JD" and Christine Cruce; his brother, Lewis "LM" Marion Cruce; and his father-and mother-in-law, Eddie and Maria "Constance" Dicandia.

He is survived by: his wife of 50 years, Mary Dicandia Cruce; sons, Bart Falcone, Phillip Falcone and Quinde Falcone Jr. (Yolanda); grandchildren, Quinde Falcone III, Kim Falcone, Taylor Falcone and Allison Sosne; great-granddaughter, Nellie Frey Sosne; and God-daughter, Chelsea Whitman; sister, Reba Cruce Rogers (Freddie); brothers, Joseph William Cruce (Derry) and Richard Harold Cruce (Carol); and sister-in-law, Bessie Cruce, as well as a host of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, May 1, at 2 p.m. at Burns Funeral Home of Perry with the Rev. Bobby Hall officiating. Interment services will follow immediately afterward in Hendry Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Burns Funeral Home. Friends may sign the guest book at www.joeburnsfuneralhomes.com.



By Sarah Hall

Let the Lord guide us

We need Jesus

I gotta have Jesus because I just can't make it by myself.

I need the Lord to guide me every day, all along life's narrow way.

Every hour, every minute, every second of the day, I gotta have Jesus because I just can't make it by myself.

No, no, no, no, that is why I pray, pray, pray.

Every year, every month, every week, come what may. I gotta have Jesus because I just can't make it by myself!

A salute to Earth Day (April 22)

As stated in the Bible (Psalm 24: 1-4): "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof of the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas and established it upon

the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."

The earth is here for all generations.

Birthday shout-outs

Happy birthday to Queen Simmons, April 25.

Prayer focus

Please keep these friends in your prayers: Christine Anderson, Janie Mae Jones, Charlie Blalock Jr., Troy and Gaye Register, the Johnson family, Sharon McBride, Danny and Rose Lassinger, Teresa Greene, Willie Mae Gadsden, Frankie Edwards Sr., Jacquelyn Shuler, Chelsea Williams, Lovette and LaDoris Brasby, Linda Randall and Sarah Hall.

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May 8

10:00 am

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Advance to district championship game

Lady Bulldogs win 14-13 in extra innings

The Taylor County High School (TCHS) Lady Bulldogs’ softball team advanced to the district championship game with a thrilling 14-13 extra-innings win over Fort White on Tuesday.

The Indians and Lady Bulldogs battled it out for three extra innings before Taylor County scored one run in the top of the 10th inning and then played solid defense in the bottom half of the inning to secure the victory.

Adrianna Carter started on the mound for Taylor County and gave up two runs to Fort White in the bottom of the 1st inning, as the Lady Indians grabbed an early 2-0 lead.

The Lady Bulldogs answered right back with two runs in the top of the 2nd inning to tie the game up thanks to a sacrifice bunt by Layla Hunter.

Taylor County went ahead by two runs in the top of the 3rd inning after Trista Knowles ripped a double, which was followed up by a two-run homer by Hannah Shiver to put TCHS ahead, 4-2.



Trista Knowles scored the go-ahead run with an inside-the-park home run in the 10th inning of the Lady Bulldogs’ victory against Fort White. Knowles had a career-best day at the plate, collecting five hits in six plate appearances, driving in four runs (RBIs) and scoring five times herself.

(Photo by Amy Sadler)

The Indians scored once in the bottom of the third inning to cut Taylor County’s lead to one run, 4-3.

Shiver took over pitching duties for the Lady Bulldogs in the 4th inning, when the Indians managed to score four runs due to three errors committed by the Taylor County defense.

Going into the top of the

5th inning, Taylor County trailed Fort White 7-4.

But, the Lady Bulldogs battled back again to score three runs in the top of the 5th thanks to a pair of doubles hit by Knowles and Adrianna Carter that led to TCHS knotting the score at 7-7.

The Indians broke the tie in the bottom of the 5th inning by cashing in one run to reclaim the lead (8-7).

Taylor County jumped back ahead of the Indians in the top of the 6th inning when Rebecca Shoaff and Addison Carter both scored thanks to a hit by Knowles that knocked in two runs.

Adrianna Carter followed up with a double as well that scored Knowles and Shiver to pull the Lady Bulldogs ahead of the Indians, 11-8.

Fort White answered with two runs of their own in the bottom of the 6th inning to cut the lead to just one (11-10) heading into the 7th inning.

Shoaff scored once in the top of the 7th inning thanks to a hit by Addison Carter that gave the Lady Bulldogs a 12-10 advantage and needing just three outs to seal the win in the bottom of the final inning.

However, Fort White refused to lose and managed to score twice in the bottom of the 7th to tie the game at 12-12 and force extra innings.

Trista Knowles led off the top of the 8th inning with a deep solo home run over the centerfield wall to give the Lady Bulldogs a 13-12 lead.

Shiver was still pitching for TCHS in the bottom of the 8th inning until taking a line drive off of her leg, which led to her being replaced on the mound by the Lady Bulldogs’ starting pitcher, Adrianna Carter.

Fort White rallied once again and scored the one run necessary to force another inning of play, as the game was tied 13-13 at the end of the eight innings.

The Lady Bulldogs were unable to score in the top of the 9th inning, giving Fort White the chance to pull out a win by scoring a run in the bottom half of the inning.

Fort White loaded the bases with only one out, as Adrianna found herself behind in the count (3-0) and only one ball away from walking in the winning run for the Indians.

However, Carter fired a strike before forcing the batter to fly out to Shoaff, who gunned down the runner attempting to score from third base to save the game and get the Lady Bulldogs out of a jam, forcing another inning of play with the score tied 13-13.

Knowles led off the top

of the 10th inning with a double to right field that she turned into an inside-the-park home run thanks to an errant throw by the Indians’ right fielder.

Knowles’ speed on the base paths turned out to be the game-winning play, allowing Taylor County to grab a 14-13 lead.

Adrianna Carter took the mound for the Lady Bulldogs in the bottom of the 10th inning, clinging to a one-run lead.

Carter retired the first batter on a ground out she fielded and threw to first, and the second batter flied out on a great diving play by second basemen Shoaff, while the last batter grounded out on another great play by third baseman Hayden Durham.

Durham ended the game by racing two steps to her left to field a hard-hit ground ball and quickly threw out a speedy slap-hitting left-handed batter for the final out of the game, as the Lady Bulldogs edged out the Indians in the district semifinals, 14-13.

Knowles had a career-best day at the plate, as she collected five hits in six plate appearances, drove in four runs (RBIs) and scored five times herself to help keep her high school

softball career going for at least one more game.

Shoaff racked up three singles for TCHS in addition to crossing home plate twice.

Shiver and Adrianna Carter not only shared time on the mound, but also both ended up recording two hits in the semifinal victory.

Shiver knocked in two runs, while scoring three times herself, and Carter knocked in four runs, while scoring once.

Adrianna Carter recorded two hits as well for Taylor County, as she managed to cross home plate twice.

Brianna Reams and Samantha Bratcher each recorded a hit against Fort White, as Reams chipped in one run for the Lady Bulldogs.

The Lady Bulldogs had eight stolen bases against the Indians, led by Shoaff who finished with three herself.

Knowles, Reams, Durham, Macy Dean and Addison Carter each stole a base in the semifinal victory to advance TCHS to the district championship game.

Taylor County was slated to face Branford in the district championship game yesterday (Thursday), but results were not available as of press time.

Branford edged out Bell in the first round, 4-3, before defeating Lafayette County in the semifinals, 7-2.

The Bulldogs beat Branford twice during the regular season by scores of 15-13 and 12-8.

Results from the district championship game that was held in Bell will be featured in next week’s edition of the **Taco Times**.



With the game tied 13-13 in the ninth inning, Lady Bulldog pitcher Adrianna Carter faced a 3-0 count with the bases loaded and just one out. She then fired a strike, before forcing the batter to fly out to Rebecca Shoaff, who then gunned down a Fort White runner at home plate to keep the game tied heading into the 10th inning, when the Bulldogs scored the game-winning run.

(Photo by Amy Sadler)

Keaton Beach Fishing Report

Gulf waters will hit 80

By PAT MCGRIFF
onemorecast@gtcom.net

The trout bite slowed considerably after the “big blow” Saturday, as the passing front left us with high pressure that just slammed the brakes on the great bite we had before the “blue bird” skies took over.

I managed to get my clients a limit each day Sunday through Tuesday despite the oppressive high pressure combined with a slick to light breeze conditions the trout so abhor.

Most of our fish came from live pinfish rigged under Back Bay Thunders, however we have also landed some fine trout on Assassin 5-inch Shads bounced on

1/8 oz. chartreuse flash Assassin jigheads.

The trout have been in 4.0-4.5 feet of water for the most part, however on Tuesday Bert Deener caught most of his limit in 4.5-5.5 feet after the south w-i-n-d came up in the afternoon.

Bert had success with Grey Ghost, Northern Minnow, Stinky Pink and Space Guppy patterns in the 5-inch Shad.

Water temperatures moved from 70 degrees (early Sunday) to 77.6 degrees late Tuesday.

With the current trends, expect the Gulf to warm up to nearly 80 degrees by the weekend.

Gosh that’s warm for the first of May!

FEED TIMES

	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
30	9:04 AM	3:25 AM	----	3:56 PM
1	11:49 PM	4:27 AM	10:05 AM	4:58 PM
2	12:49 AM	5:28 AM	11:08 AM	5:56 PM
3	1:40 AM	6:24 AM	12:12 PM	6:50 PM
4	2:23 AM	7:16 AM	1:13 PM	7:40 PM
5	3:00 AM	8:03 AM	2:12 PM	8:26 PM
6	3:33 AM	8:48 AM	3:09 PM	9:09 PM
7	4:02 AM	9:30 AM	4:03 PM	9:50 PM

TIDE TABLES

F 30	High 5:24 AM	3.0	Tu 4	Low 3:40 AM	0.3
30	Low 10:35 AM	1.4	4	High 10:25 AM	2.5
30	High 3:55 PM	4.0	4	Low 3:13 PM	1.8
Sa 1	Low 12:11 AM	-0.6	4	High 8:40 PM	2.6
1	High 6:20 AM	2.7	W 5	Low 4:54 AM	0.5
1	Low 11:08 AM	1.6	5	High 11:17 AM	2.7
1	High 4:30 PM	3.8	5	Low 5:29 PM	1.5
Su 2	Low 1:10 AM	-0.3	5	High 10:53 PM	2.6
2	High 7:29 AM	2.5	Th 6	Low 5:52 AM	0.6
2	Low 11:48 AM	1.8	6	High 11:52 AM	2.9
2	High 5:12 PM	3.4	6	Low 6:33 PM	1.1
M 3	Low 2:20 AM	0.1	F 7	High 12:03 AM	2.8
3	High 8:59 AM	2.4	7	Low 6:36 AM	0.8
3	Low 12:54 PM	1.8	7	High 12:21 PM	3.1
3	High 6:11 PM	3.0	7	Low 7:16 PM	0.7

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LIPPERT



Foley School

This class photo captures the seventh grade class of Foley School, 1949. Pictured are: (first row, left to right) Merelyn McCall, Joyce Attaway, Floyd Falany, William Carnathan, Tommy Stalans and Joseph Partin; (second row, left to right) Harold Padgett, Melba McNeese, Willie Pruitt, Lane Mixon, Margaret Maddox, Van Edith McHargue and Julia Baxter; and (third row, left to right) Hulda Mixon, Mamie Joe Sadler, Staff Hathcock, Eston Hendry, Annette Taylor and Betty Lue Green with teacher Mrs. Sarah Wages.

A glance at the past
Canine corps reports for duty

THE 80s
PERRY NEWS-HERALD
May 2, 1986

BLOODHOUNDS: THE NOSE KNOWS
“Beau,” “Leroy” and “Star,” the Taylor County Sheriff’s Office canine corps, got back in shape and ready for action under the care and tutelage of Deputy Tony Chambers.
Chambers said the bloodhounds would be used to track escaped prisoners, missing and lost persons, and possibly to track burglars at crime scenes.
Sgt. Richard “Peanut” Bennett assisted Chambers with the hounds at the jail.
TILLIE ADAMS ENDS 42-YEAR CAREER
Tillie Adams, associate finance officer of the Taylor County School District, retired in April 1986 after more than 42 years in the school offices.
Adams went to work for the district in 1944 as the finance officer under Superintendent D.S. “Dub” Register.
Adams held that position until she resigned in 1973, “but they got her to stay on as associate finance officer,” said her husband of 46 years, Bud.



Deputy Tony Chambers (left) and Sgt. Richard “Peanut” Bennett (right) with members of the TCSO canine corps, Beau, Leroy and Star.

Adams said she would probably enjoy her retirement for about two weeks before becoming bored, but indicated that she might try her hand at her husband’s favorite pastime – golf.
TUTORING
Taylor County High School students did some tutoring at Perry Primary in 1986.
Freshmen Shelby Ferguson and Jennifer Sheffield, as well as sophomore Tommy Jones, tried their hand at tutoring Mrs. Sharon Smith’s first grade class at the primary school.

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL
Gladys Morse third graders Anthony Brasby, Jason Mosely, Shawn Floyd and Lanika Randall were busy the last week of April 1986 choosing books in the school’s “Reading Is Fundamental” book give-away program.

“LOVE OF THE FAMILY”
The National Child Abuse Prevention Project sponsored the April 1986 Art Show at the Taylor County Public Library.
The show’s theme was “The Love of the Family,” and winning artists were chosen from each class at Perry Primary.
The winners from the “Varying Exceptionalities” class were submitted by Kim Braun, Michael Ancog, Joda Lynn and Greg Louque.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES
An automated self-service car wash featuring state-of-the-art technology was scheduled to open in mid-June, according to owner Kevin Campbell.
The facility, to be located on U.S. 19 adjacent to Wendy’s and Winn-Dixie, was anticipated to have the capacity to clean boats, RVs, tires and engines.

KEY CLUBBERS ATTEND CONVENTION
Eleven local Key Club members attended the 48th annual Convention of the Florida District of Key Club Intentional held April 24-27 in Orlando.
Representing Taylor County High School were: Jack Adams, Heath Annin, Darrel Austin, Jim Blume, Bob Donnelly, Steve Drum, Brian Faircloth, Jeff Mershman, Deano Mixon, Stacy Sturdivant and Greg Yarbrough.

Scholarship deadline is Wednesday, May 12

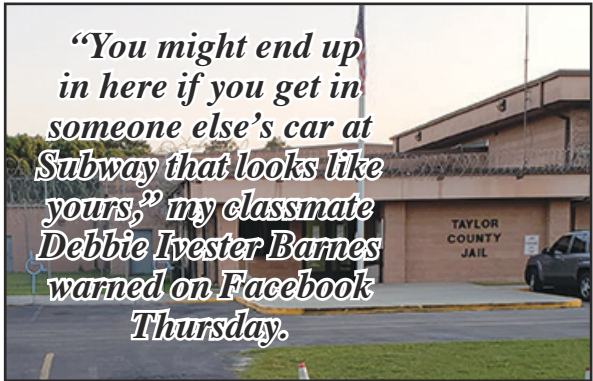
The Taylor County Historical Society is accepting applications for the second annual Wanda Cash Presidential Scholarship, named in honor of its longest-serving president, the late Wanda Cash.
The \$1,000 scholarship is being sponsored by the historical society and the Cash family.
Applications for the “Wanda Cash Presidential Scholarship” are available online at the society’s Facebook page and at the office of Perry Newspapers, as well guidance offices at the high school and Point of Grace.
The scholarship is open to all graduating Taylor County seniors. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, May 12.
Cash served as president of the historical society from 2000 to 2014 and was instrumental in the publication of the popular “Cash Writings of Taylor County” by W.T. Cash.

Remember when...

I’m just tired... not old



By Anthony White



“You might end up in here if you get in someone else’s car at Subway that looks like yours,” my classmate Debbie Ivester Barnes warned on Facebook Thursday.

Debbie went on to explain that the door of the car (that wasn’t hers) was unlocked, so she got in, sat down, closed the door, then tried to figure out why her key wouldn’t fit in the ignition. It didn’t take her long to realize she had gotten into the wrong car.
I’m guessing that’s when the images of the Taylor County Jail flashed before her eyes.
After reading Debbie’s post, I began to wonder if her ordeal was a tell-tale sign that the TCHS Class of 1982 was reaching a certain age. Since I wasn’t ready to blame it on our age, I asked Debbie if this mistake occurred because the car was a similar color and make to hers.
“Exactly the same except the interior was a different color,” she responded. “How did I not notice that?”
Another classmate, Debra Arnold Driggers, reached out to let Debbie know she’d had her own wrong car ordeal.
“I went to Walmart one day to put something in Brooke’s car for her,” Debra wrote. “I punched in the lock code, and it didn’t open. I punched it in four more times, and it still would not work. I happened to look in the window and the seats had orange seat covers on them. Well, her (Brooke) car had black seat covers. LOL. So, I told her if she came out that afternoon and someone was fussing because they were locked out of their car, to blame me.”
Since Debra had confessed, I decided to do the same.
“This happened to me and our classmate, Patricia Knight,” I admitted. “We were out at the bar one night and decided to go to the car to smoke a cigarette. We went outside, opened the car doors (which were unlocked) and got in. We were smoking when Patricia told me to turn on the CD player, so I tried to put the key in the ignition, and it wouldn’t fit. About the same time, Patricia and I noticed the dashboard looked different than it did when we went in the bar. We both looked around then burst out laughing. I’m glad we didn’t end up on 27 that night.”
Debbie felt a little better knowing that her classmates had gone through similar ordeals.
“OMG that’s hilarious,” Debbie responded to my admission. “Looks like I’m not in this craziness alone. Thank goodness.”
Debbie went on to say that “I’m gonna blame it on being tired, not old age just yet.”
I decided to go along with Debbie’s reasoning, especially since Patricia’s and my ordeal was 20 years ago, which put the Class of 1982 in our mid-30s.
That’s when Cheryl N Keith Parker confirmed to Debbie and the rest of us that it could happen to anyone regardless of their age.
“You have a nephew (no names mentioned) that went to Atlanta with a bunch of friends. He left the room in the middle of the night and forgot the room key, so decided he would sleep in the vehicle. He woke up to the police and owners of the vehicle standing over him. He was in the wrong vehicle. Thankfully they did not press charges.”

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Oscar ceremony ends with a whimper

After the year we’ve had since the COVID-19 outbreak shut down the world, including pretty much the entire movie theater industry, the 93rd Academy Awards were never going to be a normal ceremony. And, in a year in which the nominees were even less-well-known than usual, fewer people were going to care.

Both turned out to be true, with a very unorthodox ceremony taking place Sunday night viewed by the smallest audience ever watching the broadcast.

I’ve still yet to see any of the Best Picture nominees, so I found it hard to get worked up over any of the wins or losses, although I did manage to finish with a 13-7 record in my predictions.

Facing numerous challenges, the show’s producers made some unfortunate decisions along the way that turned what was always going to be a lackluster event into a dud.

Yes, there was the usual political posturing, but I’ve seen enough Oscar ceremonies that I grade this on a curve, and for the most part, it was a lot more bearable than in some years.

I did like the concept of learning more about the various nominees for the less-publicized categories like cinematography and production design, but in a year when pretty much no one tuning in had seen the nominated films, the decision to not show clips from the movies was a big mistake.

Of course, what most people have heard about is how the show ended, when the upset of the night came in the form of Anthony Hopkin’s surprise win over the late Chadwick Boseman for Best Actor. And no, I’m not upset Hopkins won. I’m just still flabbergasted over the decision to move the award to the end of the ceremony.

But again, more on that later. We have 20 categories to get through, so let’s get started.

Best Short Film, Live Action
Pick: *none*
Award: “Two Distant Strangers”
I knew nothing about this movie, but the plot is apparently about a black man’s deadly run-in with a cop, which makes the director’s speech -- the most overtly political of the night -- a little more understandable. I’ve long said I’m more tolerant of on-stage political posturing by award winners than I am presenters.

Best Short Film, Animated
Pick: *none*
Award: “If Anything Happens I Love You”
Speaking of thematically-relevant political speeches, the winners here spoke about gun violence, which fits their film about parents dealing with the loss of their child.

Best Documentary, Short Subject
Pick: *none* Award: “Collette”
The path to Oscar gold for “Collette” may be the most unique of the year -- or ever -- as the short documentary was originally produced to be included as a “gallery” film unlocked while playing the VR video game “Medal of Honor: Above and Beyond.”

Best Documentary, Feature
Pick: “My Octopus Teacher”
Award: “My Octopus Teacher”

I watched the Academy Awards with my mom, and after seeing a short clip of the winning documentary -- this was one of only a handful of categories to show clips -- she said she wanted to watch it. Let that serve as a reminder to future producers that showing clips of the nominees is a good thing.

Best Foreign Language Film
Pick: “Another Round”
Award: “Another Round”

Director Thomas Vinterberg delivered perhaps the most emotional moment of the night. To be honest, I wasn’t sure where his sometimes meandering speech was going at first, but then it turned into a dedication to his late daughter who was originally supposed to star in the film before being killed in an auto crash a handful of days into shooting. Truthfully, it was more emotional than many of the movies I saw in 2020.

Best Animated Feature
Pick: “Soul” Award: “Soul”

The Academy still loves Pixar, even if Disney seemingly won’t release their films in theaters anymore.

Best Achievement in Visual Effects
Pick: “Tenet” Award: “Tenet”

I honestly couldn’t see any other film legitimately winning here.

Best Sound
Pick: “The Sound of Metal”
Winner: “The Sound of Metal”

As I said in my prediction, it even has the word “sound” in its name.

Best Original Song
Pick: “Speak Now”
 (“One Night in Miami”)
Award: “Fight for You”
 (“Judas and the Black Messiah”)

Best Original Score
Pick: “Soul” Award: “Soul”

Best Achievement in Makeup and Hairstyling

Pick: “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”
Award: “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”
I didn’t do all that well in the production-level categories, but I felt pretty confident about this one, and I turned out to be right.

Best Achievement in Costume Design
Pick: “Emma”

Award: “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”
Best Achievement in Production Design
Pick: “Tenet” Award: “Mank”

This was a “heart” pick that didn’t work out. Pretty much all of my “heart” picks were wrong.

Best Achievement in Cinematography
Pick: “Nomadland” Award: “Mank”

Until we got to Best Actor at the end of the ceremony, this was the biggest upset of the night.

Best Achievement in Editing
Pick: “Trial of the Chicago 7”
Award: “The Sound of Metal”

Best Adapted Screenplay
Pick: “Nomadland” Award: “The Father”

Best Original Screenplay
Pick: “Promising Young Woman”
Award: “Promising Young Woman”

This was the first category awarded Sunday night, skipping ahead of the usual Best Supporting Actor opening. Emerald Fennell delivered a heartfelt speech that started the ceremony off on the right foot. Unfortunately, the night couldn’t hold on to that early momentum.

Best Director
Pick: Chloé Zhao (“Nomadland”)
Award: Chloé Zhao (“Nomadland”)

Chloé Zhao is only the second woman to win Best Director and the first woman of color. She delivered a wonderful speech during which she talked about the power of seeing the good in people. It’s ironic that the Chinese government has essentially censored all news of her win due to a comment she made in an interview a decade ago that officials took umbrage with. That’s just sad. Also sad is the fact that this award, usually saved for near the end, was presented in the ceremony’s first hour, sandwiched between Costume Design and Sound.

Best Supporting Actress
Pick: Yuh-Jung Youn (“Minari”)
Award: Yuh-Jung Youn (“Minari”)

The award for most heartwarmingly funny speech goes to Yuh-Jung Youn, who talked about how happy she was to finally meet Brad Pitt (who presented the category) before thanking her sons for “forcing” her to go to work.

Best Supporting Actor
Pick: Daniel Kaluuya
 (“Judas and the Black Messiah”)
Award: Daniel Kaluuya
 (“Judas and the Black Messiah”)

The award for most awkwardly funny speech goes to Daniel Kaluuya, who meandered his way around in joyful enthusiasm before embarrassing his mother for the rest of time by talking about, well, certain acts she took part in that ensured Daniel’s arrival on this planet.

Best Actress
Pick: Frances McDormand (“Nomadland”)
Award: Frances McDormand
 (“Nomadland”)

Frances McDormand delivered a short speech. In fact, what would turn out to be the night’s final speech was also its shortest.

Best Actor
Pick: Chadwick Boseman
 (“Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”)
Award: Anthony Hopkins (“The Father”)

It’s obvious what the producers were expecting, a win for Chadwick Boseman that would allow the ceremony to end with a tribute to the late actor and his career. Of course, that’s not what happened. Instead Anthony Hopkins won, and the 83-year-old wasn’t there to accept his award, so presenter Joaquin Phoenix did so on his behalf, effectively ending the program. I’ve never been a fan of giving people “career” Oscars, and since I have not seen “The Father,” I can’t provide any meaningful commentary on who should or should not have won. The only “wrong” thing that happened was the fact Best Picture wasn’t the last category presented.

Best Picture

Pick: “Nomadland” Award: “Nomadland”
There was no surprise in which film won the big prize, only that it was not the last award delivered. When they started presenting the award, I thought I had somehow skipped ahead and missed Best Actor and Best Actress. After such a nice speech when accepting Best Director, Chloé Zhao delivered a generic list of names before turning the microphone over to Frances McDormand, who encouraged everyone watching to go “very, very soon” to see the nominated movies in theaters. She also howled like a wolf to honor the memory of “Nomadland” sound mixer Michael Wolf Synder, who died last month.

‘Mortal Kombat’ delivers the violence

Until the recent releases of “Detective Pikachu” and “Sonic the Hedgehog,” there have been very few examples of even decent video games adaptations. The 1995 film, “Mortal Kombat,” based on the violent fighting game franchise, has been a movie I’ve long pointed to as one of the “better” ones, although admittedly, it is much more in the realm of guilty pleasure than actually being good.

So, the new R-rated adaptation of “Mortal Kombat,” which hit theaters and the HBO Max streaming service last weekend, had a relatively low bar to hurdle while simultaneously facing more than two decades of fans’ hopes for a better version.

Now that it is finally here, I can say the new “Mortal Kombat” is a solid video game adaptation that does justice to the game’s bloody action roots, but also suffers from a script that never seems capable of getting out the way of its own story.

The basic plot revolves around an ancient tournament to the death in which representatives of the different realms fight for control. With the fate of Earthrealm in the balance, a group of fighters must take on the forces of Outworld, and if they lose, our world will fall into darkness forever.

Much of the story is seen through the point of view of Cole Young (Lewis Tan, “Into the Badlands”), an MMA fighter who is an original character created for the movie. Unbeknownst to him, he is destined to fight in the tournament. More familiar characters include former soldiers Sonya Blade (Jessica McNamee, “The Meg”) and Jax (Mehcad Brooks, “Supergirl”), as well as Lui Kang (Ludi Lin, “Power Rangers”) and Kung Lao (stuntman Max Huang). Along the way, they’ll encounter Sub-Zero (Joe Taslim, “The Raid: Redemption”) and Kano (Josh Lawson, “Superstore”), among others.

The action is solid, although it’s more memorable for its ultra-violence than for the

camerawork or individual skills on display. However, the film’s biggest issues are definitely in the script. For the record, I’ve only ever played the first game way back in the 1990s, so I’m not a “purist” griping about how they changed things, but I left the movie baffled at some of the creative decisions made in this movie.

Although “Mortal Kombat” is a fighting game, it actually has a lot of lore and character back stories developed across the dozen or so installments. For some reason, rather than simply trusting their audiences to accept the craziness of everything involved in a multi-dimensional tournament to the death, they instead try to explain things. This creates “reasons” why people have superhuman powers, creating a system that makes less sense than if they’d simply said nothing. Frankly, it reminded me of when George Lucas tried to explain why the Jedi can use the Force in the “Star Wars” universe by introducing us to midi-chlorians in “Episode I.”

There are also a number of wide tonal shifts, with some scenes looking like they could be in a martial arts epic, while in others you have Kano being a vulgar idiot. Kano is the funniest part of the movie, and he had me laughing quite a bit, but his low-brow humor is a well the writers draw from a few too many times for my taste.

Overall, this is an enjoyable adaptation of the video games, delivering all of the violent fatalities fans have been asking for since the 1995 film earned a PG-13 rating.

It’s just annoying that my biggest issues with this movie are because the screenwriters tried to answer questions nobody even asked. If they’d just sat back and let the action and existing story drive the film forward, it would have been a lot more enjoyable.

The movie is rated R for strong bloody violence and language throughout, and some crude references.

THIS WEEKEND IN THEATERS,
ON STREAMING AND VOD

By MARK VIOLA

The box office news continues to be quite positive, with both of last weekend’s nationwide releases doubling their respective industry predictions.

The R-rated video game adaptation “Mortal Kombat” took top honors with \$23.3 million, followed closely behind by the R-rated Japanese anime film “Demon Slayer: Mugen Train” with \$21.1 million.

Buoyed by those two films’ performances, last weekend’s total box office take among the Top 10 films was \$55.5 million, even better than the previous 2021 record set on Easter weekend when “Godzilla vs. Kong” debuted with \$31.6 million and the Top 10 totaled \$42.9 million.

The fact that both of last weekend’s newcomers were rated R and were still able to combine to draw more box office gold than “Godzilla vs. Kong” in its first weekend is really great news, because it means the giant-monster action flick wasn’t a fluke.

That doesn’t even take into account the fact that “Mortal Kombat” was also available to watch at home on HBO Max, and “Demon Slayer” is based on an admittedly popular anime series, but still one that most people in the U.S. haven’t even heard of before. The film’s debut is the second-best U.S. debut for an anime film ever, and it is already in fourth place for the all-time grossing anime films in this country.

Meanwhile, “Godzilla vs. Kong” earned \$4.3 million in its fourth weekend, increasing its domestic total to \$86 million, while its worldwide total increased to \$406 million.

We don’t have much in the way of new releases this weekend, so all three films have a solid chance to build on their success.

In Theaters

Speaking of new films, the weekend’s only nationwide release is “**Separation**,” a horror film about 8-year-old Jenny (Violet McGraw, “The



Haunting of Hill House”), who finds herself in the middle of a feud between her attorney mother and her artist father. When tragedy strikes, she finds solace in a series of puppets based on her father’s artwork. However, when they come to life with their own agenda, everyone’s lives will be put in jeopardy.

The movie is rated R for language, some violence and brief drug use.

Amazon Prime
“**Tom Clancy’s Without Remorse**” stars Michael B. Jordan (“Creed”) as John Clark, a Navy SEAL and arguably the second-most famous character created by the late Tom Clancy after CIA analyst Jack Ryan. Introduced in Clancy’s Jack Ryan novels, Clark was given an origin story set during the Vietnam War in the 1993 novel, “Without Remorse.” The new film, co-written by Taylor Sheridan (“Sicario”), brings the character into modern day and sets him on a mission of revenge after the death of his wife, a path that will place him amidst a larger conspiracy. Originally set for a theatrical release last year, those plans were scrapped due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and the rights were sold to Amazon Prime.

The film is rated R for violence.

Netflix
“**Stowaway**” hit Netflix last weekend, and somehow I missed it when working up my preview column. The sci-fi film follows a three-person crew that sets out on a long journey to Mars only to discover they have



an accidental stowaway, putting all of their lives at risk due to limited supplies and air. Unable to turn around, they will be faced with hard decisions. The cast includes Anna Kendrick (“Pitch Perfect”), Daniel Dae Kim (“Hawaii Five-0”), Toni Collette (“Knives Out”) and Shamier Anderson (“Wynonna Earp”).

The film is rated TV-MA.

Moving on to this week’s releases, we have “**Things Heard & Seen**,” based on the novel by Elizabeth Brundage about a Manhattan artist who relocates her young family to a historic hamlet in the Hudson Valley. As she settles into her new life, she begins to suspect her marriage has a sinister darkness, one that rivals her new home’s history. The cast includes Amanda Seyfried (“Mamma Mia!”), James Norton (“Little Women”) and Natalie Dyer (“Stranger Things”).

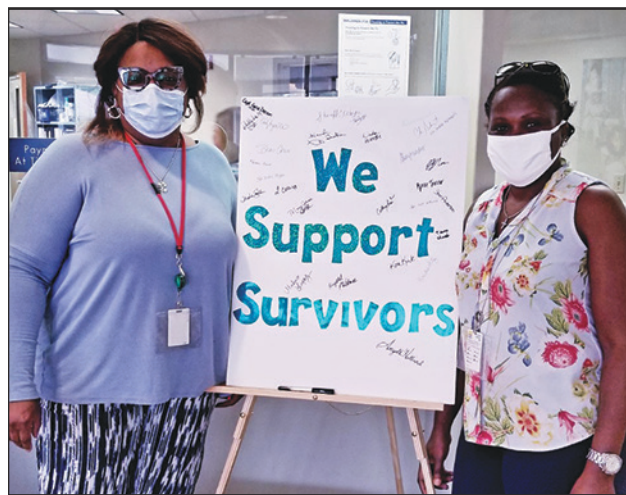
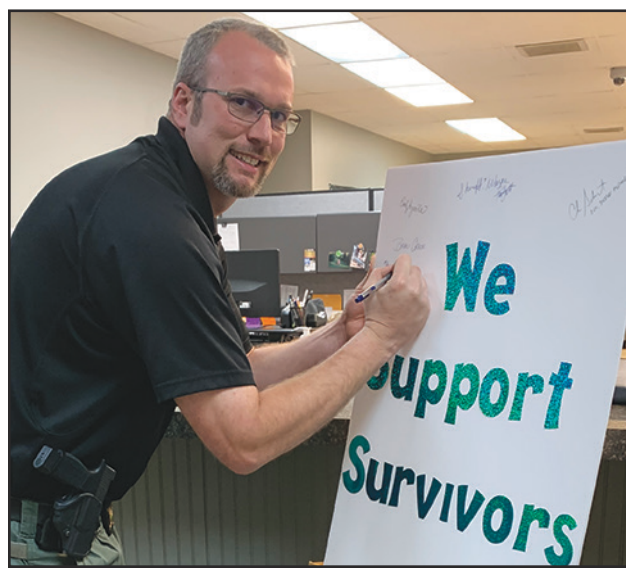
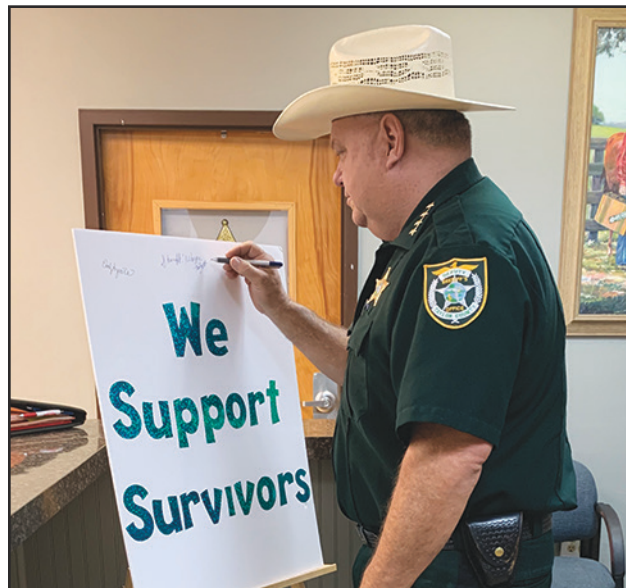
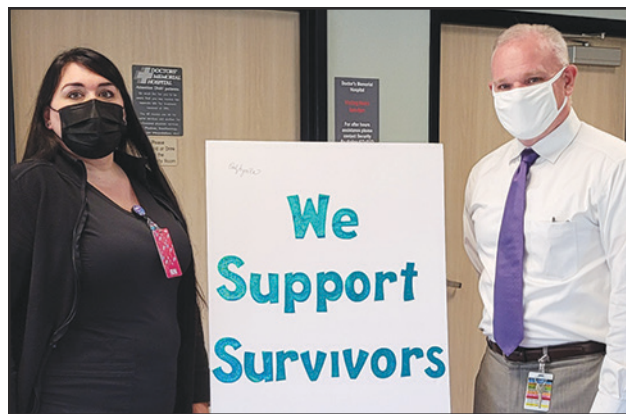
The movie is not yet rated.

Video on Demand
“**Percy vs. Goliath**” follows small-town farmer Percy Schmeiser (Christopher Walken, “Eddie the Eagle”), who challenges a major conglomerate when the company’s genetically modified canola is discovered in his crops. The story is based on the 1998 lawsuit.

The film is rated PG-13 for some thematic elements.

“**Golden Arm**” is a comedy about a tough trucker who trains his wimpy best friend to compete in the National Ladies Arm Wrestling Championship.

The movie is not rated.



Moving forward TOGETHER

By BRANDI TURNER
Refuge House Inc.
Lead Sexual Violence Counselor

Taylor County is "Moving Forward Together" in supporting survivors of sexual violence.

April is recognized as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month," and community members and agencies publicly stood in solidarity with survivors by signing the "We Support Survivors" poster.

This year's theme is "Moving Forward Together." While 2020 presented many challenges, 2021 is looking positive, and changes are being made to better the services for survivors of sexual violence in Taylor County.

On April 1, Doctors' Memorial Hospital (DMH) and Refuge House reviewed the services being offered through the emergency room, which is usually the first point of contact for a survivor seeking help.

DMH made the decision to re-initiate the SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) program, discovering the need for more RN's to be SANE trained and implemented a Sexual Assault protocol training schedule for all ER staff and nurses throughout their facility.

All changes are victim-focused, meaning the safety, comfort and confidentiality of the survivor are taken into consideration and written into policy.

Thank you to Doctors' Memorial Hospital, Taylor County Sheriff's Office, Cricket Wireless, North Florida Adult Training Center, the Department of Health in Taylor County, the Taylor County School Administration staff and all community members who publicly supported survivors!

If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual abuse or have experienced sexual abuse in the past, we encourage you to call the Refuge House, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at (850) 584-8808, (850) 681-2111 or (800) 500-1119 to receive the help you need.

Advocacy services are provided with compassion, understanding and confidentiality.

The mission of Refuge House is to provide direct services to battered women, their children and sexual assault survivors, as well as to work to eliminate the conditions in society that allow such violence to continue.

Refuge House Services provided in Taylor County are free and confidential, and include:

- The emergency shelter program provides a safe place for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Dependent children are sheltered with their parent.
- The **hotline program** provides 24/7 crisis intervention, supportive counseling, safety planning, referrals and screening for shelter.
- The **outreach program** offers services designed to meet the needs of all people affected by domestic and/or sexual violence.
- The **community education and training program** works to eliminate conditions in society that allow domestic and sexual violence to continue.
- The **courthouse program** provides assistance in completing official documents related to "Injunction for Protection." Advocates also provide information and referral services, courtroom support, safety planning and crisis intervention. Advocates can accompany petitioners to hearings and providing emotional support.



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DMH expands Hospitalist Program

When it comes to medical care, the terms, procedures and best practices are always changing. It can be hard to keep it all straight.



Cara Pappas, APRN

Doctors’ Memorial Hospital (DMH) has launched a new hospitalist program, but what exactly does that mean? Hospitalists are medical providers, like physicians and nurse practitioners, who only see patients when they are in a hospital. These providers do not have an outpatient clinic like your primary care provider does. Instead, they are focused on giving patients the best care possible when they are admitted to a hospital. Hospitalists dedicate their careers to caring for hospitalized patients. As a patient, your

hospitalist will coordinate all of the care while you are in the hospital. And since these providers routinely treat conditions that would result in a hospital stay, they are experts in caring for this special patient population. Your hospitalist will also work with your primary care provider to ensure you have a smooth transfer of care when it is time to go home. Collectively, DMH’s expanded hospitalist team of nurse practitioners Cara Pappas and Betsy Lopez have more than 62 years of clinical experience,



Betsy Lopez, APRN

with specific focuses in emergency medicine, hospital-based medicine, cardiology, family medicine and vascular surgery. Through a collaborative partnership with Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare, this hospitalist program is also adding services which will allow for virtual consultations with cardiology, pulmonology and other specialists through

telemedicine in the near future. The residents of Taylor County can have more of their healthcare needs met while staying close to home through the recent expansion of specialty care and growth of the hospitalist program. Please join DMH in welcoming the new clinicians to the hospital as the organizations continues to grow services for the community.



Doctors’ Memorial Hospital’s expanded hospitalist team has more than 62 years of clinical experience, with specific focuses in emergency medicine, hospital-based medicine, cardiology, family medicine and vascular surgery.

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Nutrition is a popular topic of conversation, particularly among those embarking on a weight loss or maintenance plan. Individuals carefully study food macros and pore over various diets to get the most out of the foods they eat. When the end goal is simply looking good, it may be easy to forget about the other benefits of nutritious diets, including their link to overall health. A close relationship exists between nutritional status and health. Experts at Tufts Health Plan recognize that good nutrition can help reduce the risk of developing many diseases, including heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and some cancers. The notion of “you are what you eat” still rings true. The World Health Organization indicates better nutrition means stronger immune systems, fewer illnesses and better overall health. However, according to the National Resource Center on Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Aging, one in four older Americans suffers from poor nutrition. And this situation is not exclusive to the elderly. A report examining the global burden of chronic disease published in The Lancet found poor

➔ Please see page 10

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Simple ways to maintain memory as you age

Adults confront various age-related side effects as they transition from middle age to their golden years. Skin may begin to wrinkle and hair may turn gray, but those are just the visible side effects of aging. Many additional effects are unseen, but those changes can have a profound effect on adults' quality of life. According to the Mayo Clinic, various parts of the body are affected by aging. For example, the cardiovascular system changes as people grow older. Blood vessels and arteries stiffen as adults age, forcing the heart to work harder to pump blood through them. Though many changes are linked to aging, other changes commonly associated with aging, such as a decline in memory, reasoning and other thinking skills, are not natural. The Alzheimer's Association® notes that dementia is not a normal

part of aging. There are many different types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, and these are the result of damage to brain cells that affect a person's ability to communicate. That damage is not inevitable, even if it's commonly associated with aging. The Harvard Medical School (HMS) notes that fleeting memory problems experienced with aging often reflect normal changes in the structure and

function of the brain. But it's important that those changes not be mistaken for dementia, and it's equally important that adults recognize there are many ways they can protect and sharpen their minds as they age. **Continue learning** HMS notes that a higher level of education is associated with improved mental functioning in old age. The reasons for that are unknown, but experts theorize that advanced education compels people to remain mentally active, which in turn helps them maintain a strong memory. Even aging men and women who are still working in challenging fields can benefit from

pursuing a new hobby or learning a new skill. **Use the tools at your disposal** It may seem counterintuitive to suggest that organizational tools like planners, maps and lists can help people maintain their memories. However, HMS notes that expending mental energy on finding car keys or trying to remember what to buy at the store makes it harder to learn new and important things. **Let all your senses play a role** HMS reports that the more senses a person uses to learn something, the more his or her brain is involved in retaining a memory. HMS cites one study in

which adults were shown a series of emotionally neutral images that were each presented along with a smell. Participants were not asked to recall what they saw, but were later shown a set of images and asked to indicate which they had previously seen. The participants had excellent recall for the odor-paired images, and researchers believe that's because additional parts of the brain were activated when participants were asked to use more than one sense. Memory loss is not an inevitable side effect of aging, especially for adults who take steps to maintain their memories as they age.

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It's important that adults recognize there are many ways they can protect and sharpen their minds as they age.

'You are what you eat'

APPLE A DAY
Continued from page 9

And this situation is not exclusive to the elderly. A report examining the global burden of chronic disease published in The Lancet found poor diet contributed to 11 million deaths worldwide -- roughly 22 percent of deaths among adults and poor quality of life. Low intake of fruits and whole grains and high intake of sodium are the leading risk factors for illness in many countries. Common nutrition problems can arise when one favors convenience and routine over balanced meals that truly fuel the

body. **Improving Nutrition** Guidelines regarding how many servings of each food group a person should have each day may vary slightly by country, but they share similarities. The U.S. Department of Agriculture once followed a "food pyramid" guide, but has since switched to the MyPlate resource, which emphasizes how much of each food group should cover a standard 9-inch dinner plate. Food groups include fruits, vegetables, grains, proteins, and dairy. The USDA dietary guidelines were updated for its for 2020-2025 guide.

Recommendations vary based on age and activity levels, but a person eating 2,000 calories a day should eat 2 cups of whole fruits; 2-1/2 cups of colorful vegetables; 6 ounces of grains, with half of them being whole grains; 5-1/2 ounces of protein, with a focus on lean proteins; and 3 cups of low-fat dairy. People should limit their intake of sodium, added sugars and saturated fats. As a person ages he or she generally needs fewer calories because of less activity. Children may need more calories because they are still growing and tend to be very active. Those who are interested in preventing illness and significantly reducing premature mortality from leading diseases should carefully evaluate the foods they eat, choosing well-balanced, low-fat, nutritionally dense options that keep saturated fat and sodium intake to a minimum.



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RECOMMENDED MEN’S HEALTH SCREENINGS

Men need to be proactive in regard to monitoring their overall health. This includes seeing their doctors for regular wellness visits and keeping up with recommended screenings to catch and/or prevent illnesses.

While men and women can experience the same conditions, health experts recommend specific tests and screenings for men in various age groups. Johns Hopkins Medicine advises that men are at risk for certain conditions, including several types of cancer, such as prostate, colon and lung cancers.

However, Harvard Medical School states men are less likely than women to get routine physical exams and screenings. An American Academy of Family Physicians survey found that 55 percent of men had not seen their doctors for a physical exam in the previous year, even though 40 percent had a least one chronic condition.

While many screenings are recommended starting at age 40 or 50, men should discuss family histories and risk factors to determine if testing should begin earlier. The following are important health screenings to consider.

Prostate-specific antigen test
A PSA is a blood test that measures how much

Men 45+

It is time to talk about your health

The human body requires constant upkeep in order for people to maintain their health over the long haul. An encouraging annual physical should inspire people to keep up the good work, while one that uncovers certain issues should spark changes designed to promote optimal health for years to come.

High Blood Pressure/ Hypertension
Blood vessels naturally become less flexible as the body ages. WebMD notes that this decreased flexibility puts pressure on the system responsible for carrying blood throughout the body. That’s one reason why high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, is more common among aging adults.

Johns Hopkins Medicine (JHM) notes that even people who do not have hypertension by age 55 still have a 90 percent chance of developing it at some point. JHM notes that shedding excess weight, reducing alcohol consumption, becoming more physically active and reducing stress are just some of the ways adults can reduce their risk for hypertension.

Heart Disease
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that a growing number of middle-aged Americans are dying from heart disease. The CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics found that, between 2011 and 2017, the rate of deaths from heart disease for adults between the ages of 45 and 64 increased by 4 percent.

The American Heart Association notes that a significant percentage of heart disease cases are linked to obesity, so men in middle age can make a concerted effort to lose weight if they’re already overweight or obese. Middle-aged men who are currently maintaining healthy weights can continue to do what they’re doing while also recognizing that they may need to alter their diets and exercise regimens in the years ahead.

prostate-specific antigen is in the blood. Measuring PSA has been a standard for prostate cancer screening for 30 years. General guidelines indicate PSA screening begin at age 55. However, having at least one first-degree relative with prostate cancer could necessitate earlier testing.

Colorectal cancer screening
Colorectal cancer screening generally occurs between ages 50 and 75. Tests include fecal occult blood tests, stool DNA tests, colonoscopy and contrast barium enemas. Doctors will determine which tests are applicable and how often to conduct them.

Diabetes
Men who have a BMI over 25 are overweight and should consider a diabetes screening. In addition, blood pressure above 130/80 mm Hg or other diabetes risk factors could require a blood test to check for elevated glucose levels. **Abdominal aortic aneurysm**
Guidelines recommend a one-time screening for men who have smoked between the ages of 65 and 75. **Hepatitis B and C**
Men are at increased risk for infection if they have had unprotected sex with multiple partners, received

blood transfusions or transplanted organs before June 1992, are healthcare workers who have been stuck by needles, or travel to regions with high rates of the hepatitis B virus. **Lung cancer screening**
Men should undergo a lung cancer screening through low-dose computed tomography if they are over age 55, have a 30-pack-per-year smoking history and currently smoke or quit within the past 15 years. **Testicular cancer screening**
Testicular cancer is one of the most common cancers among young men, says Johns Hopkins Medicine. Early screening can include self-checks. Routinely checking the testicles for any lumps or unusual features while

showering can help detect testicular cancer. Doctors may order a painless ultrasound if something is discovered. Health screenings are an important component of men’s health care. Now is the time to have a discussion with the doctor about which screenings are necessary.



While many screenings are recommended starting at age 40 or 50, men should discuss family histories and risk factors to determine if testing should begin earlier.

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Feeling forgetful? It may be dementia

Dementia is a global issue that affects people's daily lives in myriad ways. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), dementia is a syndrome marked by deterioration in memory, thinking and behavior. That deterioration affects dementia patients' ability to perform everyday activities, potentially robbing them of their independence. Approximately 50 million people across the globe have dementia, and there are nearly 10 million new cases diagnosed each year. Though the hallmarks of dementia, such as memory loss, might be the same, the WHO notes that dementia affects each person differently due to certain factors, including a patient's personality. While people may experience dementia differently, the signs and symptoms of the disease are typically categorized as being in one of three stages: early stage, middle stage and late stage.

Early Stage
Signs and symptoms that mark the early stage of dementia are often chalked up as side effects of aging. The WHO notes that dementia is not a normal part of aging, so its signs and symptoms, even if they are not yet severe or significant, should not be written off as a byproduct of growing old. Common symptoms in the early stage of dementia include forgetfulness, losing track of the time and becoming lost in familiar places.

Middle Stage
Life becomes more difficult during the middle stage of dementia, when signs and symptoms become more apparent. The forgetfulness present in the early stage now becomes forgetfulness of recent events and people's names. People in the middle stage also may become lost in their own homes and experience a growing difficulty with communication. People in this stage may need help caring for themselves, and some experience behavioral changes such as wandering and repeated questioning.

Late Stage
Memory disturbances are significant in the late stage of dementia, when people are almost entirely dependent on others. People in late stage dementia may have difficulty recognizing relatives and friends and be unaware of the time and place. Many people in this stage need assistance with self-care, and they may have difficulty walking. Behavioral changes may escalate, and some people in this stage become aggressive, even toward their loved ones. Though there currently is no cure for dementia, the WHO emphasizes the importance of early diagnosis, which starts with learning the stages of dementia and the hallmarks of each stage.



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As many a parent can attest, decoding a youngster's needs can be challenging when that child is not yet able to fully communicate. Diagnosing health issues may require a little trial and error. So it's no wonder many parents are not aware if their children are having issues with vision. Routine wellness exams by your child's physician can help to determine if a child is having problems with his or her vision. Doctors may detect subtleties that parents may not see, including signs that suggest kids are having trouble with their vision. The American Optometric Association recommends vision exams at age six months, three years and before entering first grade, as well as every two years thereafter until age 18. Initial vision assessments typically take place in a pediatrician's office. Parents can speak with their children's pediatrician and ask if he or she can look for signs of vision trouble in their sons or daughters. Some pediatricians may recommend children visit an optometrist or ophthalmologist. In addition to speaking with their children's pediatricians, parents can keep an eye out for the following warning signs children may exhibit when they're experiencing vision disorders.

- Squinting, which can be a sign of compensating for poor vision.
 - Sitting too close to the television or holding a tablet screen close to the face.
 - Covering or shutting one eye.
 - Rubbing eyes due to visual fatigue and not general fatigue.
 - Pulling toys or other objects closer.
 - Head tilting, which could be a signal that vision may be better in one eye than the other.
 - Inability to make steady eye contact or track an object in an infant older than three months of age.
 - Crossed or misaligned eyes after age four months.
 - Children who are easily distracted in learning situations or have difficulty paying attention may be losing interest due to trouble with their vision.
- A proactive approach to eye health by parents when children are young can help correct problems early on and ensure children can see and function successfully through the years. Early treatment can lead to major, long-term improvements in vision.



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EALM WELCOMES NEW OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

EALM Therapy, Perry’s newest occupational and physical therapy outpatient office, has announced its most recent team member, Jana Beriswill Smith, occupational therapist.

Smith is an alumnus of Adventist University, where she obtained her masters in occupational therapy, and University of South Florida, as a graduate in psychology.

She comes to EALM Therapy from Wolfson Children’s Hospital in Lake City, where she was responsible for the completion of medical based evaluations and treatment sessions of pediatric patients.

Wolfson’s is recognized annually as one of America’s Best Children’s Hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.

“Jana loves working with people, particularly children and families,” said Amy Parker, occupational

therapist and owner of EALM Therapy.



“She believes all people are designed to live with independence and ability within community. This is what fostered her to become an occupational therapist, to help people of differing abilities participate as fully as possible in community-life. She uses her skills

therapist and owner of EALM Therapy.

“My husband and I are so glad to join such a warm and welcoming community,” Smith said. “I am so glad to be a part of such a wonderful team.”

“We are very excited to add Jana to our growing therapy practice. She has

immediately become a friend to each of us,” stated Parker.

“Jana brings with her a great blend of education and knowledge, as well as a passionate heart for serving others and providing the best patient care,” Parker added.

Occupational therapists focus on adapting the environment and/or task to fit the patient.

According to the American Occupational Therapy Association, interventions include helping children with disabilities to participate fully in school and social situations, helping people recover from injuries to regain skills and providing supports for older adults experiencing physical and cognitive changes.

Physical therapists are

movement experts who improve the quality of life through prescribed exercise, hands-on care and patient education, according to the the American Physical Therapy Association.

They treat individuals of all ages to facilitate improvement in their ability to move, reduction or management of pain and restoration of function.

Their ultimate goal is to encourage an active lifestyle.

EALM Therapy is a family-centered therapy team that has recently opened an office located in downtown Perry focusing on developmental skills and orthopedics.

The office is located at 605 S. Jefferson Street.

For more information, go to www.ealmtherapy.com

or call (850) 838-EALM (3256).



Jana Beriswill Smith is EALM Therapy’s newest occupational therapy team member. She has master’s degree in occupational therapy from Adventist University, as well as a background in psychology. Smith has been recognized by th U.S. News & World Report for her work with the Wolfson Children’s Hospital in Lake City.

Get your kids moving!

Children have a seemingly endless supply of energy. Channeling that energy into something positive can benefit their minds and bodies.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends various amounts of daily physical activity for children depending on their ages and abilities.

Adhering to these recommendations is especially important in the wake of what many public health officials fear has become an epidemic of childhood obesity in many nations.

The United States-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that roughly 13.7 million children between the ages of two and 19 are presently obese.

In Canada, the Childhood Obesity Foundation reports that childhood obesity rates have hovered around 12 percent for years.

Routine physical activity can help children maintain healthy weights, and it also pays dividends for youngsters’ mental health.

According to the American Psychological Association, children between the ages of six and 18 who exercise regularly tend to have lower levels of depression, stress and psychological distress.

Those findings reflect the ways exercise affects the mind.

The mental benefits don’t stop there, as the study also found that youngsters who are physically active also have higher levels of positive self-image, life satisfaction and psychological well-being.

The amount of physical activity children need each month depends on their age, and the AAP recommends the following age-based guidelines.

Infants

The AAP recommends infants get at least 30 minutes of tummy time and other interactive play throughout the day.

Toddlers

Toddlers can be tough to keep up with, and parents can channel that energy

into something positive by ensuring their kids get at least three hours of physical activity every day.

Free play outside and daily neighborhood walks are some examples of appropriate physical activities for children in this age group.

Preschoolers

Three-plus hours of physical activity, including one hour of moderate to vigorous exercise, is recommended for preschool-aged youngsters.

Tumbling, throwing and catching are some of the activities recommended by the AAP.

Elementary school students

School-aged children need at least 60 minutes of physical activity on most days of the week.

The AAP recommends giving children in this age group ample opportunities for free play, but also notes that organized sports focused on fun can be great outlets for kids in elementary school.

Parents can speak with their children’s pediatricians about appropriate muscle/bone strengthening activities, which the AAP recommends three days a week for kids in this age group.

Middle school students

Students in this age group need the same amount and types of exercise that elementary school students need.

Parents are advised to guide children toward physical activities that encourage socialization and to avoid having kids specialize in a single sport at this age.

Teenagers

Teenagers need an hour or more of physical activity most days of the week.

Muscle and bone strengthening activities should be included three days per week. Activities that encourage socialization and competition are beneficial to teenagers’ development.

Physical activity can benefit kids in myriad ways and should be a vital component of their daily lives.





WE INSPIRE HOPE

by positively impacting the way our community experiences serious illness or grief – one family at a time.

“Big Bend Hospice is committed to patient-centered care and quality service in our community.”

-Dr. Niharika Suchak
Medical Director, Big Bend Hospice



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Tallahassee, FL. 32308

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1596-C Crawfordville Hwy.
Crawfordville, FL. 32327

Big Bend Hospice offers ‘open’ and ‘closed’ groups

How grief programs can help people

By **LISA BAGGETT**
Big Bend Hospice Community Engagement Coordinator

It’s a Thursday afternoon, and a group of strangers have gathered to talk about something personal, painful and raw.



Lisa Baggett

I ask the group to share why they have decided to attend today.

Nearly every response suggests a yearning to be understood; to be in the company of others who ‘get it’.

As we close our first meeting, it feels as though the walls of the room have released a collective sigh; the type when you hadn’t realized you’d been holding your breath.

Grief will do that to you. It is traumatic, life-altering and unforgiving.

Grief is also a universal and inevitable part of the human experience...yet, it can feel incredibly lonely.

Under “normal” circumstances, grievers may feel emotionally isolated.

The added physical isolation due to a global

pandemic has compounded the struggles faced by many.

Being unable to say goodbye or hold the hand of a loved one due to COVID-19 visitation restrictions, the inability to honor or memorialize at a funeral or to simply hug friends and family are just a few of the issues discussed during night one of our six-week grief support group.

Grief support groups are not suitable for everyone, but have been found effective for many since they began over 50 years ago.

These spaces can provide validation for people experiencing the physical, cognitive, emotional, spiritual and social impacts of grief.

At Big Bend Hospice Inc., our grief and loss



Grief support groups feature counselors who provide grief education and healthy coping strategies. Groups are available to anyone living in the Big Bend area, including Taylor County, free of charge.

counselors provide grief education and healthy coping strategies.

The most valuable feedback often comes from the group members themselves.

Whether it’s affirmations of support, brainstorming of ‘ways to deal’ or simply sharing space, the new growing bonds between group members are precious igniters of hope and healing.

Groups are available to anyone living in the Big Bend Area (including Leon, Madison, Jefferson, Taylor, Wakulla, Franklin, Liberty and Gadsden counties) and are free of charge.

An important distinction to consider is whether a group is “closed” or “open.” Closed groups have a clear beginning and end. They are comprised of the same participants at every session, although new members may be permitted to join through the second or third meeting.

Open groups are just that – open to new members at any meeting and are usually held on the same day and time of the month.

All BBH bereavement groups require prior registration, and space is capped due to COVID-19 safety precautions.

To learn more, visit: <https://bigbendhospice.org/how-grief-programs-help-people/> or call (850) 878-5310. For Youth Bereavement Services, call Katie at (850) 671-6094.



Big Bend Hospice has been serving this community since 1983 inspiring HOPE by positively impacting the way our community; Leon, Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Liberty, Madison, Taylor and Wakulla counties; experiences a serious illness or grief – one family at a time.

If you would like information about services, please call 850-878-5310 or visit www.bigbendhospice.org.

FREE EDUCATION FOR ANYONE

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Cooking Demonstration

Financial Literacy

Health Education

If you are interested in us hosting group classes for your facility, workforce or family

Email us: cportalatin@bigbendahec.org or Call us: 850-224-1177

BIG BEND RURAL HEALTH NETWORK

We Are Here to Serve You and The Community!

Our mission is to create and enhance community and academic partnerships that improve the health of rural & medically underserved populations. Through coordinated efforts, we aim to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities within the community.

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HELP WANTED

WOLVERINE'S MOVING LLC IS SEEKING an honest, hard-working LABORER. Experience preferred, but not necessary, \$20 per hour. Call Lee Spees at (850) 843-0568 for drug testing and other details. LS

JOE P. BURNS FUNERAL HOME of Perry is currently accepting applications for part-time employees. Please apply in person Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 1400 North Johnson Stripling Road. Must have a clean driving record. Drug-free workplace. 5/7

LASER OPERATOR CIVIL/STRUCTURAL ENGINEER-IN-TRAINING

Job descriptions can be found online at bigtopshelters.com/careers. Please apply through our website or call (850) 584-7786 to schedule an appointment to complete an application onsite. Employees are provided with health, dental and vision insurance at no cost - the premiums are 100% employer-paid! Other benefits include 401(k), paid time off and life insurance. Big Top Manufacturing is a Drug-Free Workplace and Equal Opportunity Employer. BT

\$12.75 PER HOUR

EARLY HEAD START ASSISTANT TEACHER POSITIONS: BGC Early Head Start is looking to hire assistant teachers to work full time with kids younger than 3 years. DCF Staff Credential or CDA - \$12.75/hour. Associate degree - \$14.25/hour. If you do not meet the minimum requirement of a DCF Staff Credential or CDA, apply if willing to pursue one as soon as possible upon hire - \$10.25/hour until acquired. If interested, please apply at www.bgcperry.com/employee-information. We are an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or veteran status.

FIELD TECHNICIAN

This position requires extensive travel, including weekends and some holidays. We do require you to have a valid driver's license, pass a background check and drug screen, knowledge of tools & equipment, ability to lift 50lbs, interact with customers, and have professional communication skills. Transportation and lodging and all tools provided by BTS. Health Insurance after 60 days. 401K after one year. Applications accepted between 8am to 4:30pm. Please apply in person at Big Top Services (BTS). 3015 North US 19 Perry, FL. Starting Pay rate between \$15-17 per hr. Contact Chandler Tuten for details at 850-843-2800. 4/30

TAYLOR COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Job Vacancy Announcement. The job description and our 2-step application process can be found on our website at www.taylorcountygov.com or in the lobby of the County Annex. Applicants must apply through Career Source. Taylor County is an EEO employer. **Engineer** - full-time. **Park attendant** - seasonal, part-time. **Animal control officer** - full-time. **Roll-off Site Attendant** - call-in. **Mosquito Control Driver** - on call. **Boat Ramp Attendant** - seasonal. **Road Maintenance Technician** - full-time. TCBC

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IN SEARCH OF

LOOKING TO LEASE office building-shop combo on 1-2 acres in Taylor County. Requirements: 16-foot ceiling with roll-up door, water, sewer or septic, and a 3-phase power supply. Call (870) 275-5138.

YARD SALES

HUGE BENEFIT YARD SALE for Nicole Mock on Saturday, May 1 from 7:30-1 at the Camlocker Plant, 3882 S. Byron Butler Parkway. We will have a lot of miscellaneous items including a fish cleaning table and household things. We will also be selling raffle tickets to win a Camlocker ATV box.

GARAGE SALE Saturday, May 1, from 7:30 until at 3645 Slaughter Road. Jewelry, collectibles, designer purses and designer clothing (size 16-18), toys. Rain or shine!

HUGE YARD SALE Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1, from 8-2 p.m. at 15125 Snapper Street (Off of Yates Creek Road). Household, furniture, tools and more. No early birds! Call (850) 295-5222.

TWO-DAY YARD SALE. Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1, from 8-2 p.m. at 10977 McLeod Drive (between Lake Bird and Shady Grove). We will also have an RV and hot tub for sale!

YARD SALE SATURDAY, May 1, from 8-12 p.m. at 204 W. Veterans Drive. Plus-size clothing, household décor, books and more!

LEGALS

INVITATION TO BID

The Taylor County School District will receive sealed bids in the office of the Superintendent, 318 North Clark St. Perry, FL 32347 until 11 a.m., Monday, May 10, 2021, for Bid #2021-5, the Construction of Covered Walkways at Taylor County Elementary and Taylor County Primary. Bid packets may be picked up from the Facilities Department on Monday, May 3, 2021. For more information, call Dan Anderson at (850) 672-0067.

NOTICE OF AGENCY ACTION TAKEN BY THE SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the following permit was issued on April 22, 2021: Big Top Manufacturing, Inc., 3255 N US HWY 19, Perry, FL 32347 permit# ERP-123-204321-8. The project is located in Taylor County, Florida, Section 4, Township 4 South, Range 7 East. The permit authorizes a surface water management system on 23.39 acres for construction of 7.31 acres of impervious surfaces known as Big Top Expansion. The receiving water body is n/a (self contained). A person whose substantial interests are or may be affected has the right to request an administrative hearing by filing a written petition with the Suwannee River Water Management District (District). Pursuant to Chapter 28-106 and Rule 40BB-1.1010, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the petition must be filed (received) either by delivery at the office of Live Oak, FL 32060 or by e-mail to tjm@srwmd.org, within twenty-one (21) days of newspaper publication of the notice of intended District decision (for those persons to whom the District does not mail or email actual notice). A petition must comply with Sections 120.54 (5)(b)4 and 120.569(2)(c), Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Chapter 28106, F.A.C. The District will not accept a petition sent by facsimile (fax). Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S., is not available.

A petition for an administrative hearing is deemed filed upon receipt of the complete petition by the District Clerk at the District Headquarters in Live Oak, FL during the District's regular business hours. The District's regular business hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., excluding weekends and District holidays. Petitions received by District Clerk after the District's regular business hours shall be deemed filed as of 8 a.m. on the next regular District business day.

The right to an administrative hearing and the relevant procedures to be followed are governed by Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, Chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code, and Rule 40B-1.1010, Florida Administrative Code. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing or a petition means the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Failure to file a petition for an administrative hearing within the requisite time frame shall

LEGALS

constitute a waiver of the right to an administrative hearing. (Rule 28-106.111, F.A.C.).

If you wish to do so, you may request the Notice of Rights for this permit by contacting the Business Resource Specialist in the Division of Resource Management (RM), 9225 CR 49, Live Oak, FL 32060, or by phone at 386.362.1001

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

CASE NO. 2020-CA-537

BRAFFORD PROPERTIES, LLC,
Plaintiff, vs.

MELISSA & DOUG, LLC and
UNKNOWN TENANTS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Taylor County, Florida, I will sell the property situate in Taylor County, Florida, described as:

Commence 95 feet West of the Southeast corner of Block One (1) of the Original Town of Perry, Florida, thence run North 80.5 feet, thence run West 20.5 feet, thence run South 80.5 feet, thence run East 20.5 feet to the Point of Beginning, a map or plat of said Original Town of Perry, Florida, being of record in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Taylor County, Florida.

Parcel Identification Number 24-04-07-03823-000

at public sale, to the highest bidder, for cash, at the Taylor County Courthouse at 11:00 a.m., on May 25, 2021. 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 26 day of April, 2021.

Gary Knowles
Clerk of Circuit Court
BY: Marti Lee
DEPUTY CLERK
JAMES C. THOMPSON
FLORIDA BAR NO. 125477
ANDREW J. POWER
FLORIDA BAR NO. 0013856
SMITH, THOMPSON, SHAW,
COLÓN & POWER, P.A.
3520 Thomasville Rd., 4th
Floor
Tallahassee, Florida 32309
Phone: (850) 893-4105
Facsimile: (850) 893-7229
E-mail: jamest@stslaw.com
andrewp@stslaw.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR TAYLOR COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

CASE #21-37CP

IN RE: The Estate of VERNON KEITH

BLANTON, Decedent.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Vernon Keith Blanton, deceased, whose date of death was February 21st, 2018, File #21-37CP, is pending in the Circuit Court for Taylor County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Post Office Box 620, Perry, Florida 32348. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION

OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

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

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

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

Bradley Keith Blanton
4157 Strickland Landing
Perry, Florida 32348
ANGELA M. BALL, Attorney for
Petitioner

FL BAR NO.: 0796557

Post Office Box 734

Perry, Florida 32348

(850) 584-8960

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR TAYLOR COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION

CASE #21-119CP

IN RE: The Estate of SELMA J.

LEPAGE, Decedent.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of SELMA J. LEPAGE, deceased, whose date of death was January 11th, 2021, File #21-119CP, is pending in the Circuit Court for Taylor County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Post Office Box 620, Perry, Florida 32348. The names and addresses of the co-personal representatives and the co-personal representatives' attorney is set forth below.

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

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

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

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

David Harden
2026 Golf Course Road
Perry, Florida 32348
Dawn Ponce

13 Olmstead Park Lane
Newnan, Georgia 30263

ANGELA M. BALL, Attorney for Co-

Petitioners

FL BAR NO.: 0796557

Post Office Box 734

Perry, Florida 32348

(850) 584-8960

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of 291 Steinhatchee Rentals, intends to register the said name with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations, Tallahassee, FL. Joe D. White American Legion Post 291 Inc. 218 11th Street SE Steinhatchee, Fla, 32359

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or Clay @ 229-891-0501

REAL ESTATE

BUILDING LOT FOR SALE IN PERRY. 0.27 acres. Already surveyed. Corner of E. Main St. and N. Arena Av. Final Price: \$3,000. Email: gszejner@verizon.net or call (915) 694-5536. 4/16- 5/5

LAND FOR SALE: 11.48 acres. Includes well, good water, electric, eight-foot game fence, some timber and highway frontage. Call (850) 584-2874. 5/21

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HELP WANTED

POSITIONS AVAILABLE at North Florida College, Madison FL: Coordinator of Data and Reports; Director of Fitness and Wellness; Staff Assistant-Fitness Center part-time; See www.nfc.edu for details. NFC

GREEN'S OUTDOORS AND MORE is now accepting applications for a cashier/clerk (must be able to lift 50 lbs.) and parts counter help. Apply in person at 1969 Old Foley Road. Call 371-5395 for more information. GM

HIRING ALL POSITIONS!

- Boat mechanic
- Welder/TIG welder
- Asst. dock boss
- Dock hand
- Housekeeping

Apply in person Steinhatchee River Club or send your resume to Rwiggin@shrclub.com. No phone calls please. 4/30

BADCOCK HOME FURNITURE AND MORE is hiring for two positions: Full-time salesperson and delivery/warehouse person (must be 21 or older for delivery). Drug testing/background check. Apply in person. No phone calls.

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Nurse's Week: May 6 - May 12



Honor your nurses in our Nurse Appreciation section of the Taco Times on **Wednesday, May 5th**, recognizing them for their hard work and strength over the past year and every day.

Material deadline is 5 PM Monday, May 3rd.

If you have any questions, please call or email:

Jessica Moore
(850) 584-5513
ads@perrynewspapers.com

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2007 CHEVY TAHOE LTZ Q4903	2015 CHEVY TAHOE LTZ Q200194B	2017 CHEVY TAHOE C210059A CARFAX FLOWNER	2017 CHEVY TRAVERSE Q210053A	2016 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN V210093B
2018 DODGE JOURNEY V210069A	2017 FORD ESCAPE V200296A	2018 FORD EDGE C210031A	2013 FORD EXPLORER C3389A	2017 FORD EXPEDITION XLT Q4847B
2019 GMC ACADIA C210064A CARFAX FLOWNER	2019 JEEP COMPASS LIMITED Q4907 CARFAX FLOWNER	2021 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE Q4895	2019 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE V3226 CARFAX FLOWNER	2016 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE V3218A
2021 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE Q4908	2013 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE Q4879M	2020 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE Q4921 CARFAX FLOWNER	2019 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED V3214	2020 JEEP WRANGLER Q4899
2010 JEEP WRANGLER Q210072A CARFAX FLOWNER	2020 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA Q4898	2020 JEEP GLADIATOR Q4838A CARFAX FLOWNER	2020 TOYOTA RAV4 V210097A CARFAX FLOWNER	2019 TOYOTA RAV4 LIMITED V210100A
2014 CHEVY 1500 CREW LT V210061A	2017 FORD F-250 LARIAT 4x4 Q210076A	2019 FORD RANGER Q190255A CARFAX FLOWNER	2020 GMC 1500 DENALI 4x4 V3412A CARFAX FLOWNER	2014 GMC 1500 SLT 4x4 Q200126A
2012 NISSAN TITAN V200355A CARFAX FLOWNER	2020 RAM 1500 CREW 4x4 Q4901 CARFAX FLOWNER	2020 RAM 1500 CREW SLT V210144A CARFAX FLOWNER	2016 RAM 1500 CREW 4x4 V3373A	2017 RAM 1500 CREW 4x4 Q4831
2020 RAM 1500 LIMITED 4x4 Q4827	2020 RAM 1500 LIMITED 4x4 Q4894	2018 RAM 1500 LIMITED Q210043A CARFAX FLOWNER	2019 RAM 1500 EXPRESS Q4875	2021 RAM 1500 LARAMIE Q4918 CARFAX FLOWNER
2016 RAM 1500 LARAMIE 4x4 Q4807A CARFAX FLOWNER	2019 RAM 1500 LARAMIE 4x4 Q200197A CARFAX FLOWNER	2020 RAM 1500 LARAMIE 4x4 Q4917 CARFAX FLOWNER	2015 RAM 1500 SLT Q200184A	2020 RAM 1500 SPORT Q4849A CARFAX FLOWNER
2019 RAM 2500 CREW 4x4 Q4893 CARFAX FLOWNER	2020 RAM 2500 CREW 4x4 Q4904 CARFAX FLOWNER	2019 RAM 2500 CREW 4x4 Q210075A	2014 RAM 2500 CREW 4x4 Q4829B	2014 RAM 2500 CREW 4x4 V200217A CARFAX FLOWNER 6.7 CUMMINS DIESEL
2014 RAM 2500 MEGA 4x4 V210089A	2020 RAM REBEL 4x4 Q4905 CARFAX FLOWNER	2019 TOYOTA TUNDRA V200276M CARFAX FLOWNER	2017 TOYOTA TUNDRA CREW 4x4 V200103C	

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