

The Chattahoochee News-Herald



& Sneed's Sentinel

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County commissioners vote to look for new lobbying firm

Fabrizio Gowdy
Correspondent

At its Oct. 21 meeting, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to search for a new lobbying firm to represent the board's interests, choosing not to extend its agreement with Tallahassee-based Ballard Partners.

Commissioners say decision was driven by Ballard's failure to send a representative to the meeting or appear via Zoom, which irked Commissioner Shawn Wood.

"I'm not giving \$90,000 to someone that didn't show up," said Wood. "I make a motion that we look for another [lobbying firm]."

Wood's motion was quickly seconded without discussion and unanimously adopted by the board.

The board first hired Ballard in November 2022. With the current contract expiring on Nov. 14, 2025, the board had the option to extend the contract for another year at a rate of \$7,500 per month.

Per the agreement, Ballard

was responsible for advocating Gadsden County's interests at the federal level by securing funding, monitoring legislation, arranging meetings with decision-makers, and advising on policy strategies.

According to Open Secrets, a Washington D.C.-based nonprofit that tracks money in politics, Ballard currently has 272 clients worth a total amount of \$33,930,000. The firm did not respond to a request for comment.

In Other Business

- The board begrudgingly

approved a measure that brings the county into compliance with Florida Senate Bill 784, which expedites development approvals and streamlines the platting and replating process by shifting approval authority from elected governing bodies to designated administrative officials within local governments. The board designated the interim county administrator as Gadsden County's official responsible, but several members noted they only did so because it was the opinion of the interim county attorney that they were required

to appoint somebody.

- The board added \$594,428 to the sheriff's law enforcement budget for 2025-2026 to cover employee raises, IT software, and more vehicles.

- Interim County Administrator Reginald James announced the first phase of his county vehicle reduction plan is underway, which involves selling high-end vehicles like Ford Expeditions and Chevy Tahoes back to Enterprise.

The next county commission meeting will take place Nov. 4 at 6 p.m.

Senior Day Breast Cancer Awareness Celebration held in Midway

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

Saint Luke Primitive Baptist Church in Midway hosted a Senior Day Lunch and Breast Cancer Awareness Celebration on Thursday, Oct. 23, 2025.

[Themed "Wisdom, Wellness & Strength," the event was emceed by Gadsden County Commissioner Rontreius Green of District 5.

The program began with a processional featuring a parade of breast cancer fighters, survivors and caregivers. Presenters included Mother Agatha Salters Lamb, Elder Torail Jackson, and Mary Washington.

Commissioner Ronterious Green led the opening prayer, followed by a musical tribute from Stanley Dupoint. Allene J. Milton presented the scripture, and Freddie Ash delivered the welcome and occasion.

The celebration recognized honorable guests, city and county



officials, pastors and ministers.

Breast cancer awareness highlights were shared, including remarks by Terry Stepple, a prostate cancer survivor, who emphasized that "men get cancer too."

Elder Torail Jackson, the church's pastor, presented "The Pastor's Vision."

Marrisa Henderson, representing Advantage Aging Solutions of Tallahassee, spoke during the senior aging segment. Dominique Jackson, CEO and behavioral mental health professional at Advantage Aging Solutions, provided insights on mental health.

The event also included an October birthday celebration with a rendition of "Happy Birthday" in the style of Stevie Wonder.

Organizer Shirley Bryant delivered words of thanks, and Elder Torail Jackson gave the final remarks, blessing of the food, and benediction.

A complimentary lunch was served in the fellowship hall. Donations were accepted to support future programs.

The next Senior Day program is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Quilt & Fiber Arts Show & Sale is this weekend

Janice Eakin
Gadsden County News Service

The Quilt & Fiber Arts Show & Sale is set to be a vibrant showcase of textile creativity in Havana, FL, promising a haven for anyone who appreciates the intricate beauty of quilts and fiber art. The event features an impressive collection, including over 100 quilts available for purchase, offering a unique opportunity to acquire a handcrafted piece. The main exhibition will also proudly display over 80 quilts alongside a variety of other stunning fiber art items. The event includes a raffle for a gorgeous king size quilt made by Wendy Adams and silent auction items.

A highlight of the show is a special talk by Sheila Callahan titled "Fabric Art Inspired by Asia and Africa," which is sure to offer attendees cultural insights and creative inspiration. Sheila will also have some of her incredible quilts and fiber art items on display. In a special and moving ceremony, local veterans will be honored with a Quilt of Valor presentation, recognizing their service to the community and the nation.

The event is designed to be engaging for the whole family, featuring a fun activity area for children and a free slow-stitch workshop for adults looking to learn or refine a relaxing fiber skill. Guests can browse a selection of specialty vendors, including Oh Sew Pretty from Opp, AL, and 108 Sharp from Alachua, Fla. Refreshments will be available at a food court, operated by the Havana Volunteer Fire Department. Admission to the Quilt & Fiber Arts Show & Sale is \$5 for adults, and children 12 and under are admitted free.



SHOP LOCAL



Community Calendar

October

Trunks of Treata

- Friday, Oct. 31
- 6 p.m.
- Wards Lot (Behind Quincy City Hall)

Haunted house, treats,

prizes for best costume and much more.

Chattahoochee Main Street's Final Friday

- Friday, Oct. 31
- 6 - 9 p.m.

- 22 Jefferson Street, Chattahoochee

Enjoy music, food and fun. JC and The Back Scratchers will be performing. For more information visit

Chattahoochee Main Street's Facebook page.

Bowls and Boos Chili Cook-Off

- Friday, Oct. 31
- 5 - 9 p.m.
- 22 Jefferson Street, Chattahoochee

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is hosting its 2nd Annual Bowls and Boos Chili Cook-Off. For \$10.00 adults will receive an All-You-Can-Eat bowl of chili with cornbread and a beverage. Up to three children, 12 and under, are allowed to eat FREE when they accompany a paid adult.

Havana Main Street Quilt and Fiber Show Sale

October 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Holidays						

- Saturday, Nov. 1
- 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- 101 W. 7th Avenue, Havana (Havana Welcome Center)

More than 100 quilts for sale. Raffle for beautiful King Size Quilt. Silent Auction and Buy it now items available. There will also be a slow-stitch workshop and demonstrations.

Havana Garden Club Annual Fall Bazaar

- Saturday, Nov. 22
- 8:30 a.m. - noon
- 128 7th Ave E., Havana (Hazel Baker Community Center)

Our famous casseroles, baked goods, crafts and white elephant items with be available!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church to host 2nd Annual Bowls and Boos Chili Cook-Off

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

St. Paul's Episcopal Church will host its 2nd Annual Bowls and Boos Chili Cook-Off on Friday, Oct. 31, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the corner of King and Adams streets.

Individuals, businesses and organizations will compete for Episco-Pepper Awards, with prizes of \$75 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for

third place. The event will include music, decorations, and treats for children.

Admission is \$10 for adults, which includes an all-you-can-eat bowl of chili with cornbread and a beverage. Up to three children ages 12 and under may eat free when accompanied by a paying adult. Take-out chili will be available for \$15 per quart.

Proceeds will support

Gadsden County Outreach Ministries of the Episcopal Church Women. Last year's cook-off raised funds for two \$500 donations — one to Gadsden Community Cares and another to The Pregnancy Center of Gadsden County.

This year's panel of judges includes Jose Canuse, senior producer of The Preston Scott

See Church on page B2



Legal Advertisement

GADSDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ADDENDUM #1 TO ITB 26-01 BARINEAU BRIDGE REHABILITATION

ISSUED: October 30, 2025

This addendum #1 is being issued to reflect updates to Section 1. Schedule of Events. New events and dates are in **RED** and deleted events and events are indicated with overstrike.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Failure to comply with this or any other paragraph of this ITB shall be sufficient reason for rejection of the Proposal.

All times listed in the Schedule of Events for this ITB are Eastern Standard Time (EST).

Event	Date
Advertisement Date	October 2, 2025
Registration Deadline for Virtual Option for Mandatory Pre-Bid*	November 7, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
Release Date	October 2, 2025
Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference Location: Gadsden County Public Works Office 1284 High Bridge Road, Quincy, FL 32351*	October 14, 2025 @ 10:00 AM NOVEMBER 12, 2025 @ 10:00 AM
Questions Due from Prospective Proposers	October 20, 2025 @ 3:00 PM NOVEMBER 17, 2025 @ 5 PM
Responses to Questions Due	October 27, 2025 @ 3:00 PM NOVEMBER 20, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
PROPOSALS DUE	November 6, 2025 @ 3:00 PM DECEMBER 4, 2025 @ 3:00 PM
PROPOSAL OPENING	November 6, 2025 @ 3:15 PM DECEMBER 4, 2025 @ 3:15 PM
Board Approval of Intended Award	TBD
Posting of Intended Award	TBD
Board Approval of Award	TBD
Posting of Award	TBD

***Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference Registration:** The pre-bid meeting can be offered in person and via **TEAMS/ZOOM**. All interested bidders are required to **register by emailing the Purchasing Department no later than Friday, November 7, 2025, by 5:00 PM to receive the Teams/Zoom meeting link and access details.**

Only registered bidders will receive the meeting link. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is mandatory to be eligible to submit a bid.

Roosevelt Morris *els*

Roosevelt Morris
Acting Assistant County Administrator and Purchasing Director



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Guns and pot case put on hold

Jim Saunders
News Service of Florida

The Supreme Court’s decision will have a big impact on the Florida lawsuit.

After the U.S. Supreme Court this week said it will hear a case focused on the same federal law, a judge Thursday put on hold a long-running lawsuit about whether Florida medical-marijuana patients can be barred from having guns.

Chief U.S. District Judge Allen Winsor issued a stay of the Florida lawsuit until after the Supreme Court decides whether a law prohibiting drug users having guns violates the Second Amendment. The Supreme Court on Monday announced it will take up a Texas case, known as United States

v. Hemani, that focuses on the law.

In a motion seeking the stay of the Florida case, U.S. Department of Justice attorneys wrote that the Supreme Court decision in the Hemani case will “almost certainly have a significant impact” on the Florida lawsuit.

“The court (Winsor) should stay this case because the Supreme Court is currently hearing a case concerning the constitutionality of the same statutory provision at issue in this case,” the Justice Department attorneys wrote.

The Florida lawsuit, filed in 2022, is rooted in a conflict between federal and state laws. Under federal law, possession of marijuana is illegal; under a 2016 Florida constitutional

amendment, hundreds of thousands of patients are able to buy medical marijuana.

The federal law at issue bars possession of firearms by a person who is an “unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance.” The Florida and Texas cases center on whether that prohibition violates the Second Amendment.

“In this (Florida) case, plaintiffs allege that they either use or wish to use marijuana pursuant to Florida’s medical marijuana laws,” said the Justice Department’s motion for a stay, which was filed Thursday.

“Plaintiffs also allegedly wish to possess firearms while being regular users of marijuana, but are prohibited from doing so by (the federal law). Plaintiffs seek a declaration

that (the federal law) and its implementing regulations violate the Second Amendment as applied to their conduct and an injunction preventing the government from enforcing (the federal law) and its implementing regulations against plaintiffs.”

The Texas case does not involve medical-marijuana patients — it stems from the discovery of a gun and drugs during an FBI raid of the home of Ali Danial Hemani as part of a criminal investigation. Hemani was charged under the law prohibiting drug users from having guns. In a document filed at the U.S. Supreme Court, the federal government said the prosecution involved Hemani’s “habitual use

of marijuana.”

But the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of Hemani’s arguments that the federal law was unconstitutional as it applied in his case. The Justice Department then asked the Supreme Court to take up the issue. While the Supreme Court announced Monday it will hear the case, it is unclear when a ruling will come.

The Florida lawsuit was filed by then-state Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried and medical-marijuana patients. The lawsuit said the federal prohibitions “forbid Floridians from possessing or purchasing a firearm on the sole basis that they are state-law-abiding medical marijuana patients.”

Winsor dismissed

the case in November 2022, spurring the plaintiffs to go to the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson, who was elected in 2022 to succeed Fried, dropped out of the case, but it has continued with the patients as plaintiffs.

A panel of the appeals court this year overturned Winsor’s dismissal of the case, saying the federal government “failed to meet its burden ... to establish that disarming medical marijuana users is consistent with this nation’s history and tradition of firearm regulation.”

The ruling sent the case back to Winsor for further consideration.

Legislators look at ‘tweaks’ to growth law

Jim Turner
News Service of Florida

State legislators are discussing the possibility of revising a new law that has drawn legal challenges because it blocks cities and counties from approving “more restrictive or burdensome” changes to growth plans.

Senate Majority Leader Jim Boyd, R-Bradenton, said Monday during a Manatee County legislative delegation meeting that he has talked with sponsors of the 2025 legislation and that “tweaks” are being discussed.

“I know I could speak for them because I talked to them individually,” Boyd, who is slated to become Senate president after the 2026 elections, said during the delegation meeting in Bradenton. “We said all along, if there’s things we can tweak and we need to fix, we certainly will.”

Sen. Tom Leek, R-Ormond Beach, made similar comments Monday during a St. Johns County delegation meeting in St. Augustine.

“I can’t tell you what those changes are going to look like, finally, because, like I said, it’s a collaborative process negotiated between the two chambers (the House and Senate),” Leek said. “But there will be some changes to that bill, I fully expect. At least that’s what I’m pushing for.”

The limit on changes to growth plans was included in a wide ranging bill (SB 180) that Gov. Ron DeSantis signed on June 26.

Numerous cities and counties and the growth-management group 1000 Friends of Florida have filed two lawsuits in Leon County circuit court challenging the constitutionality of the part of the law dealing with growth plans.

The City of Ocoee has also filed a case at the state Division of Administrative Hearings after the Florida Department of Commerce rejected the city’s revised comprehensive plan because of the law.

During delegation meetings across the state in advance of the 2026 legislative session, residents and local officials have criticized the part of the law that has essentially frozen local land-development regulations and comprehensive plans through Oct. 1, 2027. That part of the law also was made retroactive to Aug. 1, 2024.

“Right now, in Manatee County, our board of county commissioners cannot do what we the people elected them to do. Why? Because of the vague language contained in SB 180. It’s an easy fix,” Kevin Wright, representing the Manatee County Republican Liberty Caucus, told the Manatee County delegation.

The overall bill included a series of measures aimed at helping the state recover from three hurricanes that made landfall in 2025. For example, it required local governments each year to set in advance at least one debris-management site; to develop plans

for businesses and homeowners about post-storm permitting processes; to establish what are known as mutual-aid agreements to bring in help from elsewhere; and to set plans for staffing after storms. Local governments also will be prohibited from increasing building-permit and inspection fees for 180 days after emergencies are declared for hurricanes or tropical storms.

DeSantis has defended signing the bill, saying the “the core issue” for him was to ensure people whose homes were damaged by hurricanes could rebuild without government interference.

“If you have damage to your home and you go to rebuild it and to restore it to what it looked like the day before that storm hit, you should be permitted to do it,” DeSantis said Sept. 3 during an appearance in Valrico. “The government cannot prevent you from doing that. And these local governments were not allowing that. They were being difficult. So we got a lot of complaints about that.”

Manatee County Commission Chairman George Kruse, whose county is part of one of the lawsuits filed in Leon County, expressed support for amending the law.

“We do not want to see Senate Bill 180 go away. It’s a great bill,” Kruse told lawmakers Monday. “We just want it tweaked so that the intent is actually implemented by the agencies. We have three branches of government, and your branch of

government, I believe, passed a good, albeit unclear bill. We just need to make sure it’s clarified so that other branches of the government are acting upon it to allow municipalities to have the home rule necessary for proper growth management.”

The disputed part of the law applies to governments that were placed under federal disaster declarations from any of the three 2025 hurricanes. All 67 of Florida’s counties were listed in at least one of the three declarations.

Sen. Don Gaetz, R-Niceville, and Rep. Shane Abbott, R-DeFuniak Springs, have filed identical bills (SB 218 and HB 217) for the 2026 session that would carve out certain counties from the freeze on changing growth plans.

“This (new) bill ensures that counties not affected by Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton regain full local control over growth and development decisions,” Abbott posted last week on Facebook. “It protects communities

that were not impacted by Hurricanes Debby, Helene, or Milton from unnecessary restrictions so they can keep moving forward.”

The proposal would exempt from SB 180 most of the Panhandle west of Tallahassee, excluding the coastal Gulf and Franklin counties; Nassau County in the northeast corner of the state; and Monroe and Miami-Dade counties in South Florida.

The 2026 session will begin Jan. 13.

NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION OF TAX ROLLS

Pursuant to section 193.122(2), Florida Statutes, notice is hereby given to all taxpayers and owners of both real and personal property that the 2025 Gadsden County Tax Rolls have been extended to show the tax attributable to all taxable property and that said tax rolls were certified for collection to the Tax Collector on October 21, 2025.

Public Service Announcement Meeting Announcement

The Apalachee Regional Planning Council announces a meeting to which all persons are invited. The Gadsden County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board will meet on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 2:00 pm Eastern Time, at the Gadsden County Government Complex, 9-B East Jefferson Street, Quincy Florida. A public workshop will precede the meeting at 2:00 pm Eastern Time, with the Board meeting to follow immediately after. The agenda will include its regular quarterly business items, and a review of the Annual Operating Report. For additional information contact Austin Britt, TD Program Coordinator at the Apalachee Regional Planning Council at 850-312-1862, or by email at abritt@arpc.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING CITY OF MIDWAY PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that the City Council of City of Midway, Florida, intends, at a meeting in the City Hall of Midway, Florida, at 6:15 p.m. on the 6th day of November, A. D. 2025 to consider the following:

Preliminary Review

The Midway Planning and Zoning Board will consider the following preliminary development:

- 1.) Old Dominion Freight Line LLC located at parcel 4-16-1N-2W-0000-00111-0400 (SP-2025-001)

Any person requiring special accommodations because of a disability or physical impairment should contact City Hall at (850) 574-2355 at least 48 hours in advance.



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I think there must be autumnal reasons for Halloween being hued in orange and black. It's a fun time, a magic evening if you're a kid, and if you're a grandpa-type guy, like me, who gets to hand out the goodies.

But the colors of this sweet evening celebration are orange and black, and so is October. In another week or so, our deciduous trees will stand like skeletons against the gray skies of winter, but now we have the orange and black of fall.

It happens right about sunset each day. The sky turns that eternal burnt-umber orange and the remaining leaves and the baring branches of our trees fill the evening with a holy filigree of contrast.

Oh, it's not something we need to do anything about. There's no need for picture taking or anything. But it's just something that we can step outside for ... look toward the west through the lacy pattern of black branches and for a moment, just a short moment, say to ourselves, "Isn't that pretty?"

If the paint store could sell me something that looked even close to that for the walls of the little cabin I have, I'd buy a gallon. Maybe two.

For the best in outdoor and Western art, check out artvincent@comcast.net.

Need to talk? We're here. Rattle the cage and let's get it on.

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PeaceVoice

Turning back from the brink of nuclear war

Lawrence S. Wittner

Early this year, legislators in the U.S. House of Representatives and in the U.S. Senate introduced resolutions that call upon the U.S. government to lead a global effort to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race. Co-sponsored by 36 members of the House and five members of the Senate, H. Res. 317 and S. Res. 323 urge the U.S. government to pursue nuclear disarmament, renounce the first use of nuclear weapons, end sole presidential authority to launch them, cancel plans for new, enhanced nuclear weapons and delivery systems, maintain the current moratorium on nuclear testing explosions, and provide a just economic transition for impacted communities.

The context for these antinuclear measures is an escalating nuclear arms race that is rapidly spiraling out of control. In recent years, Russia and the United States, which together possess 87 percent of the world's nuclear weapons, have scrapped nearly all their nuclear arms control agreements. The only exception is the New Start Treaty, which is scheduled to expire in February 2026. Meanwhile, all nine nuclear powers (Russia, United States, Britain, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan, and North Korea) have committed themselves to dramatically upgrading their nuclear arsenals. The U.S. government, for example, at the enormous cost of \$1.7 trillion, is currently engaged in revamping its entire nuclear weapons complex and building an array of new, more devastating nuclear weapons.

This worldwide nuclear weapons buildup has been accompanied by a revival of public threats by the leaders of nuclear-armed nations to initiate nuclear war?threats that have been issued, repeatedly, by Donald Trump, Kim Jong Un, and Vladimir Putin. Not surprisingly, the Doomsday Clock of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists currently stands at 89 seconds to midnight, the most dangerous setting in its history.

The House and Senate resolutions seeking to halt and reverse this race toward catastrophe are primarily the product of the Back from the Brink campaign. Founded in 2017 by the leaders of two U.S. national organizations, Physicians for Social Responsibility and the Union of Concerned Scientists, Back from the Brink has emerged as an impressive coalition of organizations, individuals, and public officials working together to create a world free of nuclear weapons.

At this point, the Back from the Brink campaign has secured the endorsement of a significant number of additional national organizations, including peace and disarmament groups like the American Friends Service Committee, the Federation of American Scientists, Pax Christi USA, Peace Action, and Veterans for Peace, religious organizations like the Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Unitarian Universalist Association, and the United Church of Christ, environmental groups like 350.org, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Sierra Club, political activist groups like the Hip Hop Caucus and Indivisible, and governmental organizations like the United States Conference of Mayors.

PeaceVoice
on page B1

NURSE JUDY'S NOOK

My bestfriend

Judy Conlin

I grew up in a little village in Pennsylvania and that is where I met my bestfriend. We were practically joined at the hip through all those growing up years, and even though we have since lived far apart, she is still my dear dear friend. We do not always keep in close touch, but we do remember each other on birthdays and holidays, and we always vow that we are going to do a better job of contacting each other. On my last birthday we said we were going to call each other every other month. Three months later her birthday rolled around, and we still hadn't called each other. I sent her a small remembrance . I have always called her on her birthday, and

I meant to but at the time I was dealing with so many unfamiliar issues which happen when there is a death in the family, I never got to it. Yesterday, 2 months after her birthday, I called her.

Just the sound of her voice filled me with love and nostalgia. I remember the day I met her. We were about 5 years old. I was twirling around a metal post in front of my grandfather's grocery store when this beautiful little girl walked up the sidewalk from her house only 2 doors away and said hello. We were immediately both twirling and we became inseparable after that.

We either stayed overnight at my house or hers. Our households were very different.

My mother was very strict. Her mother was very lenient. We learned to navigate both environments with no problems. When we were at her house and her parents were in bed, we'd get up, turn on the radio in the kitchen and dance to the Grand Old Opry. Her mother would sometimes rap on the wall for us to be a little quieter but never made us quit.

My house was completely different. My mother would have us in bed before the sun went down and there was to be no noise coming from our room. We hid flashlights under the covers and spent hours communicating by making letters and words with our fingers.

In hindsight I often wonder why my friend would want to stay with me, but she did. We alternated homes almost every other night and I can only remember one time we had a quarrel. I have no recollection of what it was about but she packed up and went home. It didn't last and we were soon inseparable again.

Her family went to church all the time. Mine did not. My friend rang the church bell. I helped her. I went to Sunday school, church, choir practice, Prayer meetings, revivals, daily vacation Bible School, and eventually church camp with her. My mother came to church whenmy friend and I were performing there, cheering us on. .She never missed anything we did.

Somehow it all worked.

My mother would send me to school with pigtails which I hated. My friend's mother would take them out and give me curls on the way to school and do the reverse when we stopped there on the way home. Looking back this now seems deceitful but truly this was two good mothers who were very opposite in approach but always wanted the best for us girls and we turned out fine.

My mother instilled discipline, following the rules, common sense, being a good citizen in us always encouraging our friendship, but monitoring our behavior.

In junior high I was #1 in our class, and my friend was #2. In senior high, my friend was #1 and I was #2. We shared everything.

Growing up we always played school, or hospital. She wanted to be a teacher, and I wanted to be a nurse. We both did just that and I got to do both.

As life has gone on, I have made many other friends, who I love and cherish. I wouldn't downgrade them for the world. They are what make me happy on a daily basis, but there is something about that first best friend that can never be duplicated. They are part of you with memories that cannot ever be erased, and as much of who you are as any strictly inherited traits.

I was blessed.

I love you, Lenna Beth, and I love your family for their part in my upbringing.

*More later,
Nurse Judy
www.nursejudyinfn.com*

At The Pump
local, state, and national
National Average
\$3.04 per gallon
State Average
\$2.89 per gallon
Gadsden County Average
\$2.78 per gallon
Jackson County Average
\$2.71 per gallon
Leon County Average
\$2.72 per gallon
Numbers based on AAA Gas Prices report, as of Oct. 28, 2025

Grace Notes

When God holds the bolts together

Nancy Kennedy

Years ago, I drove a 1988 red Ford Tempo. I loved that car and put 186,000 miles on it driving my daughters and their friends all over central Florida.

Then it started making a noise that sounded like metal contracting.

I'd bring it to Ron, our car repair guy. He'd run all kinds of diagnostic tests, take the tires off, look under the hood, and put it on his lift to check underneath—but he couldn't find anything that would make that noise.

So I kept driving my daughters to Orlando, to the mall or Disney World, to school, volleyball games, and the beach—and I'd hear that noise.

After a while, I tuned it out. I told myself, It's just a noise.

Then my husband bought me a new car. Instead of trading in the Tempo or selling it, I gave it to a woman at work who needed a car for her son.

A few days later, she stopped by my desk, laughing. She said she drove the car home, parked it in her yard — and the motor fell out!

When her son checked it out, he discovered the motor mount was missing a couple of bolts. For months, as the motor tried

desperately to break free, I drove it all that time, completely unaware.

It could've fallen out on I-75 in 70-mph traffic!

Ignorance may be bliss, but it's also dangerous. Likewise, a false sense of security is just that — false.

Lately, when I watch the news, everything in me wants to hide in ignorance. What I don't know can't hurt me, right?

I tell myself, Everything is fine. Just ignore the noise — and those "Everything is not fine" nudgings.

Not just what's going on in the world — the wars, rumors of war, bitter political divisions and unrest — but also what's going on inside me when my bolts become loose.

Just the other day, my coworker Sarah and I were talking about how we sometimes don't want to "bother" God with our small needs, and how that really reveals an attitude of pride.

"I'm fine, God. I don't need you right now. I'll let you know. Bye-bye."

We know we need God when the car motor crashes to the ground. But God knows we need him when we first start hearing the noise.

"Metal contracting" is not an "everything's fine" sound.

It's the sound of small neglects leading to big

breakdowns.

Jesus warned his followers to be vigilant: "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." He also said we must guard against all kinds of greed and not be deceived by false prophets and false messiahs.

The writer of Proverbs didn't pull any punches: "The complacency of fools destroys them" (Proverbs 1:32).

With my Tempo, the car started every day, the wheels turned, the radio and A/C worked — so how bad could the noise be? Turns out, pretty bad. Neglect, complacency, and willful ignorance always seem harmless—until they aren't. Thankfully, God sends warnings—through his Word and through his Spirit living in us. And sometimes, he shows mercy and prevents a disaster from happening. Hallelujah!

Even all these years later, whenever I remember my little red Tempo, I think of bolts — and of God's mercy that holds me together, even during those times I don't even know I'm falling apart.

Contact Nancy Kennedy at 352-564-2927 (leave a message) or email at nkenedy@chronicleonline.com.

Today can be different

Sin never takes us to a good place

Sheryl Boldt

What do you admire most about the person you want to emulate? What causes you to lose respect for someone you once admired?

It's inspiring to see (and, if possible, to spend time with) people who achieve success through their wise choices — those who stay true to themselves and their life's purpose.

On the other hand, it's frustrating to want to help someone escape their destructive choices, only for them to stubbornly reject your advice.

Which one are you? The person worth emulating or maybe you're the one your family and friends have repeatedly tried to rescue, but you've refused their help. Perhaps you've seen a bit of both in yourself.

Many of us have ignored wise advice and carry the scars to show for it. This is why we want to help others avoid making the same mistakes as those who resist God's ways.

In Matthew 4:17 (AMPC), Jesus said, "Repent (change your mind for the better)."

Today, I prayed and asked the Holy Spirit to show me what "better" means in relation to the choices I make.

It's frightening to realize that sometimes we not only succumb to sinful temptation but also lack

the wisdom to recognize the danger of our sin. Apart from God, we don't have the strength to resist that behavior, which almost guarantees days (or even years) of humiliation.

We'd be wise to think about where we want to be before we reach the end of our lives. Even before the end of this day.

The other option is to allow our sinful choices to continue to hold us hostage. But how much

devastation are we willing to suffer before we reach the end of our rope; Before our family and friends have had enough?

What would happen if we asked God to show us the long-term consequences of our decisions?

What if we asked Him to show us His way — the better way? Our sins are destroying us.

Disobedience (even delayed obedience) shortchanges us. Sin — any sin — never takes us to a good place. And once we've suffered the consequences, how long will it take us to regain our footing? If we ever do.

Thankfully, we're not alone. In every temptation, we're never without God's wise counsel.

Furthermore, we're never without His love, compassion, grace, mercy and power.

Every day, let's pray for the wisdom to obey God. From now on, let's resolve to make obedience to Him non-negotiable. Let's live the kind of life we want to see in others — the life God revealed to us in Christ.

This kind of tenacity will make us people who deserve respect and emulation.

Sheryl H. Boldt is a faith columnist and the author of the blog www.TodayCanBeDifferent.net.



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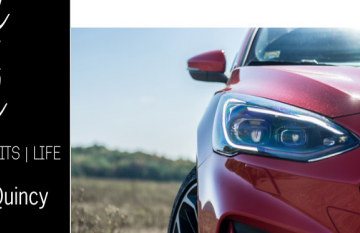
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PeaceVoice from page A4

In addition, the campaign has attracted the support of hundreds of local peace, academic, civic, environmental, health, policy, religious, and other organizations, as well as endorsements from 78 municipalities and counties, eight state legislative bodies, 488 municipal and state officials, and 53 members of Congress.

Despite this array of support, Back from the Brink's immediate prospects are not good. Its antinuclear resolutions, now awaiting action by the Republican-controlled House and Senate, seem unlikely to pass, as not a single Republican legislator has signed on as a co-sponsor of them thus far. Nor is it likely that President Donald Trump, who seems enamored with U.S. military "strength," will champion halting, much less reversing, the

nuclear arms race.

Longer term, however, the prospects are brighter. Unlike the Republican Party of recent decades, the Democratic Party has championed a variety of nuclear arms control and disarmament measures. Thus, if the Democrats do well in the 2026 midterm elections and, thereby, retake control of the House and the Senate, there is a reasonable chance that they will pass Back from the Brink's antinuclear resolutions. Also, if the Democrats hold on to Congress and win the presidency in 2028, it's quite possible that nuclear arms control and disarmament will appear once again on the U.S. government's public policy agenda.

Of course, even if there are public policy advances along these lines, as there have been in the past, it will not end the immense danger of worldwide nuclear annihilation—a

danger that emerged with startling clarity in 1945 with the advent and use of nuclear weapons to obliterate two Japanese cities. Ultimately, a secure future for civilization will be attained only when these weapons of mass destruction are abolished.

Is that feasible?

It's certainly a possibility. After all, when directly confronted with the issue of human survival, most people have displayed an appropriate concern for it by demanding an end to the nuclear menace. And that goal could be attained by seeing to it that all nations sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. That landmark treaty, which was hammered out painstakingly at the United Nations in 2017 and which entered into force in 2021, has already been signed by 95 countries (a majority of the world's nations)

and ratified by 74 of them.

Admittedly, the nine nuclear powers, still clinging doggedly to their nuclear weapons, are not among them. But, if there were a mobilization of substantial public pressure and the development of international security guarantees enforced by a strengthened United Nations, the reluctance of these holdouts could be overcome and a nuclear weapons-free world established.

Meanwhile, to provide us with the time it will take to get to this state of affairs, we do need to focus on turning back from the brink of nuclear war.

Dr. Lawrence Wittner, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is Professor of History emeritus at SUNY/Albany and the author of *Confronting the Bomb* (Stanford University Press).

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

IN RE: FORFEITURE OF:
2019 Toyota Tundra (white)
VIN: 5TFDW5F17KX830269
CASE# 25-CA-780

Owner/Claimant: Barry James Blanton II

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS
TO ALL PERSONS who claim an interest in the above-described property, which was seized on or about September 30, 2025 in Chattahoochee Florida. Said property is in the custody of Chattahoochee Police Department. Any owner, entity, bona fide lien-holder, or person in possession of the property when seized has the right to request a preliminary adversarial hearing from the Circuit Court within 15 days of initial receipt of notice, with notice to Casey Bigelow, Attorney for the City of Chattahoochee. A Petition for final order of forfeiture has been or will be filed in the above styled Court.
Casey Bigelow, Esq., FL BAR 84887
22 Lincoln Drive, Chattahoochee, Florida, 32324
(850)663-4046
2t: 10/30, 11/6

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR
GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA**
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 25000572CAA

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
PLAINTIFF,
VS.
RENA WARREN-KENON A/K/A RENA
WARREN KENON, ET AL.,
DEFENDANT(S).

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: 3843 S Bristol ST. STE 134 Santa Ana CA 92704 Current Residence: UNKNOWN

TO: Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: 54 Carmen Maria Ln, Quincy, FL 32351 Current Residence: UNKNOWN

TO: Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: 117 Mossy Oaks 4TH St Quincy FL 32351 Current Residence: UNKNOWN

TO: Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: 4428 Mount Pleasant RD Quincy FL 32352 Current Residence: UNKNOWN

TO: Unknown Spouse of Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: C/O The Retention Group, Registered Agent, 3843 S Bristol St. Ste 134, Santa Ana, CA 92704 Current Residence: UNKNOWN

TO: Unknown Spouse of Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: 54 Carmen Maria LN Quincy FL 32351. Current Residence: UNKNOWN

TO: Unknown Spouse of Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: 117 Mossy Oaks 4th ST Quincy FL 32351. Current Residence: UNKNOWN

TO: Unknown Spouse of Rena Warren-Kenon A/K/A Rena Warren Kenon
Last Known Address: 4428 Mount Pleasant RD Quincy FL 32352. Current Residence: UNKNOWN

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

LOT 3, BLOCK A, CARMEN MARIA SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE(S) 178-180, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA.]

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on MILLER, GEORGE & SUGGS, PLLC, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is 210 N. University Drive, Suite 900, Coral Springs, FL 33071, on or before November 30, 2005 within or before a date at least thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the Havana Herald, 103 W 7th Avenue, Havana, FL 32333 and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Office of Court Administration at (850) 577-4401, or at the Leon County Courthouse, Room 225, 301 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301 within 2 working days of receipt of a notice compelling you to appear at a court proceeding; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

The ADA Coordinator for the courts in Leon County is Doug Smith. He may be reached at (850) 577-4444 or through the Florida Relay Service, TDD at 1-800- 955-8771. The address for the Office of Court Administration is: Leon County Courthouse, 301 S. Monroe Street, Room 225, Tallahassee, FL 32301. In all other counties in the circuit please contact the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office and ask for the ADA Coordinator. The Clerk's number is included on each county page.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 21 day of October, 2025.

(Seal)
NICHOLAS THOMAS
As Clerk of Court
By: Charlotte Willeby
As Deputy Clerk
Publish: Havana Herald, 103 W 7th Avenue, Havana, FL 32333
2t: 10/30, 11/6

See Church from page A2

Show on iHeartRadio; Davey Owens, chef and owner of Big Papa's Chophouse; and Roger Rankin, chef and owner of Burned Beard Brewery. The event will offer parking on church property and will coincide with the City of Quincy's Trunk or Treat event, taking place four blocks away at Ward's Lot."

The Reverend Canon Tanya Scheff, rector of St. Paul's, said family-friendly costumes are welcome but not required.



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COMICS AND PUZZLES

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Schwadron 2-15

JUMBLE
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEYZT
LRIDL
ABOBOM
EOCTPI

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Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

AT 7'4" TALL AND 500 POUNDS, CLOTHES SHOPPING FOR ANDRE THE GIANT WAS A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HITCH NINTH BALLET PUBLIC
Answer: Being a ram and smashing horns so often was becoming a — PAIN IN THE BUTT

JUMBLE FOR KIDS
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME!®
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

The letters of these crazy words are all mixed up. To play the game, put them back into the right order so that they make real words you can find in your dictionary. Write the letters of each real word under each crazy word, but only one letter to a square.

YEE
NABK
EFTE
ETLB

THE INSECT LOVES PRODUCING HONEY AND IS HAPPY TO ---

Color me

Now you're ready to solve today's Jumble For Kids. Study the picture for a hint. Play around with the letters in the circles. You'll find you can put them in order so that they make your funny answer.

Print answer here: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Jumbles: EYE BANK FEET BELT
Answer: The insect loves producing honey and is happy to — BE A BEE

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OSBURN 1-15

GARBAGE OUT! NOW!

RUSSELL MYERS 4/78

AT HOME, COLONEL SANDERS IS OUTRANKED BY MRS. GENERAL SANDERS.

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Thanks for inviting me to eat supper with you, Rufus!

I know Corky's Diner ain't fancy like yo' is used to, but ...

Rufus, it's not the ambience that's important - it's the person you're with!

What's an am-bu-lance got t' do with it?

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SCANCARELLP

SQUARK! GROONK!

YEAH, TWO BURGERS.

SUP BUR

NOPE, NO FRIES.

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE FLUENT IN FAST FOOD.

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SCHULTZ

SCRABBLE G R A M S

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[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

A₁ A₁ I₁ I₁ T₁ N₁ R₁

RACK 1

[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

E₁ E₁ I₁ U₁ M₃ L₁ G₂

RACK 2

[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

A₁ E₁ I₁ O₁ G₂ L₁ F₄

Double Word Score

RACK 3

[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

A₁ E₁ O₁ G₂ K₅ C₃ D₂

3rd Letter Triple

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 209

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION TOMORROW

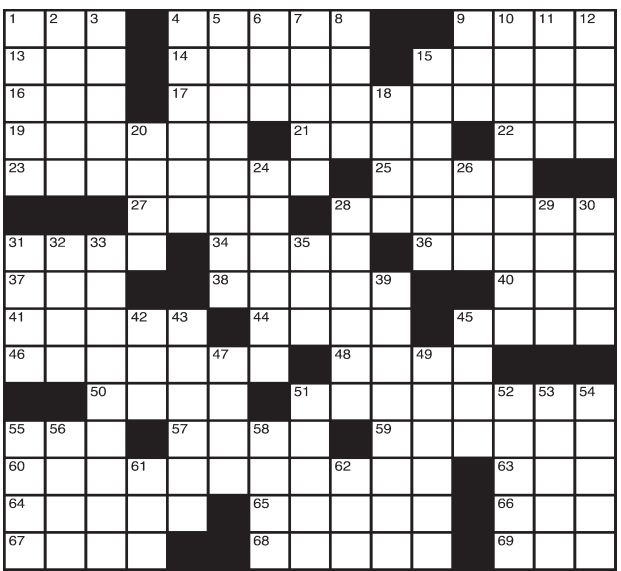
For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

11-13

EDITORS: Here is the solution to today's SCRABBLEGRAM. You can print the solution on the same day elsewhere in your paper, or beneath the following day's puzzle. If you choose to run the solution elsewhere in the same day's newspaper, insert the appropriate type (below) over the SOLUTION TOMORROW line in the puzzle.

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

Puzzle solutions on page A6



- Across**
- 1 20s dispenser
4 See 65-Across
9 Apex
13 Brit's restroom
14 «Reading Rainbow» host Burton
15 In the boonies
16 401(k) kin
17 Hurdles for British students hoping to attend
- university
19 Frank and sincere
21 Face covering
22 Main squeeze
23 App for finding a main squeeze
25 Bubbly drink
27 Military sch. located in «America's Sailing Capital»
28 Apple tablet option

- 31 «Shaun of the Dead» actor Simon
34 Coal mine carrier
36 Bus station
37 Egg cells
38 1300, in military time
40 «Thanks a _!»
41 Short-range basketball shot
44 Colorful eye part
45 Low-carb diet
46 National song celebrating «the True North strong and free»
48 Agile
50 Rex Stout's stout sleuth Wolfe
51 Rental option on moving day
55 Was introduced to
57 Ripped
59 Cut in two
60 Sex-determining heredity unit
63 Golf target score
64 Multicountry org. based in NYC
65 With 4-Across, storage unit made of
- fragrant wood
66 Celebration at the end of Ramadan, informally
67 Goal in the board game Sorry!
68 Wails woefully
69 Sneaky
- Down**
- 1 Girl who meets the Cheshire Cat
2 Holy text in Hebrew
3 Disney film set in Polynesia
4 Calls dibs on
5 Retained
6 Holiday lead-in
7 Practical know-how
8 Elm or oak
9 «La Cage _ Folles»
10 Small sour fruit
11 First word for some babies
12 «What _ is new?»
15 Bring up again, as a web page
18 Struggle with «s» sounds when speaking
20 The «D» of FDA

- 24 «The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe» realm
26 1950s POTUS
28 Mischievous
29 Cheer (for)
30 Director Preminger
31 Casual top with a collar
32 Relocation in an emergency, for short
33 Song in a Pride event set list
35 Bubbly prefix
39 1980s maze runner with a red bow
42 French one
43 Superstar Dolly
- 45 «South Park» kid in a green hat
47 _ and gloom
49 Focus of some lessons in history class and math class
51 «I wish I could _ that!»: «My eyes!»
52 Flouts a «No Smoking» sign, perhaps
53 To no _ in vain
54 Geeky
55 Legend
56 Empty room sound
58 Boulder
61 Feel remorse over
62 Poem in tribute

WANTED

FOR BLATANT, JAW-DROPPING CRYPTO-CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND ROUTINE EMOLUMENTS ABUSES (ALSO FOR HARASSING WOMEN)

CROOK!!

LETITIA JAMES #177K HOTT GAGE

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We're making a special popcorn...

...mix and watching spooky movies!

Kids: color stuff in!

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Whew!
Now I've got to figure out my costume!

Trick-or-Treat only at houses that are well-lighted.

Read the clues to fill in the crossword:

1. October 31, _____, is a time of pumpkin patch visits, parties, parades and special treats!

2. A _____ is lighted and grins from the porch.

3. People dress up in _____ and turn into pirates, clowns and princesses.

4. Kids _____ up and down the streets.

5. Battery-powered _____ glow, lighting their way.

6. Doorbells ring, _____ of candy and small toys are tossed into bags.

7. Zombies and _____ sit in the graveyard placed in the neighbor's front yard.

8. A _____ stirs her cauldron, mixing a potion and casting a spell.

9. Tractor-powered _____ creep through fields full of spooky creatures.

10. _____ roam a school's hallways tonight, flying from room to room.

11. A haunted _____ gives us "scares" and we laugh with friends and family.

12. A dog howls, an _____ hoots, a cat hisses and children shout.

13. A giant web spun by a hairy _____ hangs in the corner of a porch.

14. A full _____ glows and lights up the houses and streets below.

15. The next morning the sun rises and all the creatures and shadows of the night _____.

Happy Halloween!

I've just finished carving my jack-o'-lantern. I'm going to use a battery-operated light in it.

Have lots of fun whatever your family chooses to do! We're making orange popcorn balls.

It is the season of costume making, witches and bats in flight, spooky parties and favorite candy treats. All of this fun, fun, fun fills my mind, but I also know that it's important to follow a few safety rules while celebrating.

Let's go!

My sister, brother and I are ready for the parade!

house

witch

ghosts

spider

flashlights

costumes

jack-o'-lantern

treats

owls

hayrides

Trick-or-Treat

disappear

skeletons

Sweet Treats - Counting up the Goodies

This is my bag full of treats!

8 coins + 5 mini bags of candy corn = treats

13 lollipops
17 chocolate bars
+ 4 popcorn balls
 treats

6 lemon drops
2 peppermint patties
+ 3 small toys
 treats

treats
+ treats
+ treats
= total treats in bag

...in your candy bag is fun. Add up each group of treats, then total all the goodies to find out how many treats are in the ghost's bag.

1. I roam at night: my black cape and sharp fangs give people a fright!
e v r
p m a

2. I have hair almost everywhere! A full moon makes me howl in the air!
w e e w l
f r o

3. I wear a pointy black hat; I fly with my broom and my cat!
t c
i w
h

4. Yo Ho! I have a dagger and a hook; I've hidden a treasure map in a book!
e t
i r
p a

5. I arch my back when I smell a rat; I hiss and spit I am a black...
a t
c

Who Am I ?

Very good arch. Now practice your hissing!

Hssssssssss...

Whew!
Now I've got to figure out my costume!

Trick-or-Treat only at houses that are well-lighted.

Spoooooooky Sayings!

1. skeletons in your closet

2. cat got your tongue

3. as the crow flies

4. to turn into a pumpkin

5. to start a witch-hunt

6. blind as a bat

7. white as a ghost

8. scaredy-cat

9. a ghost of a chance

10. like a kid in a candy store

A. very nervous; fearful

B. to stay out late

C. dark or shameful secrets you keep hidden

D. the straightest possible path

E. happy and excited

F. very pale; frightened

G. to have nothing to say

H. only a very small chance of success

I. to search for people to find guilty

J. not able to see very well

Happy Halloween!

Have lots of fun!

lots of fun!

house

witch

ghosts

spider

flashlights

costumes

jack-o'-lantern

treats

owls

hayrides

Trick-or-Treat

disappear

skeletons

Sweet Treats - Counting up the Goodies

8 coins + 5 mini bags of candy corn = treats

13 lollipops
17 chocolate bars
+ 4 popcorn balls
 treats

6 lemon drops
2 peppermint patties
+ 3 small toys
 treats

treats
+ treats
+ treats
= total treats in bag

Don't Peak. Puzzles on page A5.

Puzzle Solutions

ATM	CHEST	ACME
LOO	LEVAR	RURAL
IRA	ALEVELEXAMS	
CANDID	VEIL	BAE
EHARMONY	SODA	
USNA	IPADPRO	
PEGG	TRAM	DEPOT
OVA	ONEPM	LOT
LAYUP	IRIS	KETO
OANADA	SPRY	
NERO	UHAULVAN	
MET	TORN	CLEAVE
YCHROMOSOME	PAR	
THEUN	CEDAR	EID
HOME	KEENS	SLY

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

SCRABBLE GRAMS SOLUTION									
A ₁	N ₁	T ₁	I ₁	A ₁	I ₁	R ₁	RACK 1 = 57		
L ₁	E ₁	G ₂	U ₁	M ₃	E ₁		RACK 2 = 9		
F ₄	O ₁	L ₁	I ₁	A ₁	G ₂	E ₁	RACK 3 = 72		
D ₂	O ₁	C ₃	K ₅	A ₁	G ₂	E ₁	RACK 4 = 71		
TOTAL							209		
PAR SCORE 150-160									
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A Tempting Dinner with Endless Toppings



Cheese and sour cream, cilantro and guacamole, lettuce and salsa – the combinations are nearly endless with these make-at-home Taco Cups. You can save time in the kitchen and room on your plate for dips, salsa and sides, making them a perfect fit for weeknight dinners with loved ones. To find more family meal ideas, visit Culinary.net.

Taco Cups

Recipe courtesy of “Cookin’ Savvy”
Servings: 4-6

- 1 1/2 pounds ground beef
- 1-2 tablespoons taco seasoning
- 1 package (8 count) flour tortillas
- shredded cheese

- lettuce
- cilantro
- sour cream
- salsa
- guacamole (optional)
- black olives (optional)

Heat oven to 350 F.

Brown ground beef with taco seasoning.

Cut tortillas in half then in half again, making four pieces. Place two pieces in each hole of muffin tin. Place browned ground beef in each hole then top with shredded cheese. Bake 15 minutes, or until tortillas reach desired crispiness.

Using knife, shred lettuce and cilantro. Top each cup with sour cream, salsa, lettuce and cilantro, as desired. Add guacamole and olives, if desired.



Advertise here!

Contact a staff member to find out how you can advertise in this spot.

The Herald's 2025



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11/8

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
GADSDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ITB# 26-04 – FAIRBANKS FERRY MILL AND RESURFACING PROJECT

ADVERTISEMENT BEGIN DATE: October 9, 2025
RELEASE DATE: October 9, 2025
MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE: Thursday, October 23, 2025 @ 10:30 AM
PROPOSALS DUE TO BOCC: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 @ 3:00 PM

Sealed proposals will be received at the Gadsden County Purchasing Office, 5B East Jefferson Street, Rm 204, Quincy, FL 32351 until Thursday, November 12, 2025 @ 3:00 PM local time. All proposals will be opened and read aloud on Thursday, November 12, 2025 @ 3:00 PM local time. Proposals received after said time will be returned unopened.

The Project consists of approximately 100LF of floating turbidity barrier, 150 LF of a standard integral pile jacket and 820 pounds of structural steel rehab. The specifications of the procurement are stated in ITB# 26-04.

Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 10:30 AM, Eastern Time, Thursday, October 23, 2025, at the Public Works Office located at 1284 High Bridge Road, Quincy, Florida 32351.

The ITB# 26-04 and any addendum issued will be posted on the County's website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov or can be obtained by contacting the County's Procurement Office at procurement@gadsdencountyfl.gov.

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid; reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; re-bid a project, in whole or in part; and to accept a proposal that in its judgment is the lowest and best bid of a responsible bidder with all decisions being made based upon what Gadsden County believes to be the best interests of its ratepayers, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion. Gadsden County further reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as may be required to meet the needs of Gadsden County, at the unit price which was bid.

- Gadsden County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, marital status and disability/handicapped status in employment or provision of service.
- Gadsden County is an Equal Opportunity Employer
- MBE/WBE businesses are encouraged to participate
- Gadsden County strictly enforces open and fair competition

ADA - Special Accommodations: Any person requiring accommodation by the County due to a disability should call the Purchasing Office at 850-875-7243 or 850-627-4053 at least five (5) business days prior to any pre-response conference, response opening, or meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the County Purchasing Office by the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).



LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
GADSDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ITB# 26-02 – CR161A (DOGTOWN ROAD)

ADVERTISEMENT BEGIN DATE: October 2, 2025
RELEASE DATE: October 2, 2025
MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 @ 10:00 AM
PROPOSALS DUE TO BOCC: Thursday, November 6, 2025 @ 3:00 PM

Sealed proposals will be received at the Gadsden County Purchasing Office, 5B East Jefferson Street, Rm 204, Quincy, FL 32351 until Thursday, November 6, 2025 @ 3:00 PM local time. All proposals will be opened and read aloud on Thursday, November 6, 2025 @ 3:30 PM local time. Proposals received after said time will be returned unopened.

The Project consists of approximately 4,031 tons of asphalt pavement, 6,671 square yards of base, and 50 mitered end sections. The specifications of the procurement are stated in **ITB# 26-02**.

Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 10:00 AM, Eastern Time, Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at the Public Works Office located at 1284 High Bridge Road, Quincy, Florida 32351.

The ITB# 26-02 and any addendum issued will be posted on the County's website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov or can be obtained by contacting the County's Procurement Office at procurement@gadsdencountyfl.gov.

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid; reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; re-bid a project, in whole or in part; and to accept a proposal that in its judgment is the lowest and best bid of a responsible bidder with all decisions being made based upon what Gadsden County believes to be the best interests of its ratepayers, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion. Gadsden County further reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as may be required to meet the needs of Gadsden County, at the unit price which was bid.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
GADSDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ITB 26-05 CONSTRUCTION - HURRICANE SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER RETROFIT
ADVERTISEMENT BEGIN DATE: October 10, 2025
RELEASE DATE: October 10, 2025
MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE: October 16, 2025 @ 11:00 AM
PROPOSALS DUE TO BOCC: November 10, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Sealed proposals will be received at the Gadsden County Purchasing Office, 5B East Jefferson Street, Rm 204, Quincy, FL 32351 until Monday, November 10, 2025, 10:00 AM EST. All proposals will be opened and read aloud on Monday, November 10, 2025, 10:15 AM EST. Proposals received after said time will be returned unopened.

The specific retrofit includes, but may not be limited to, replacement of all windows and doors and ATS protection as indicated in the ITB 26-05 documents for a wing of the Gadsden County Community Hospital to serve as a Hurricane Special Needs Shelter.

Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 11:00 AM, EST, Thursday, October 16, 2025, at the project site located at the Gadsden County Community Hospital located at 23186 Blue Star Highway, U.S.90, Quincy, Gadsden County, Florida,

The ITB 26-05 and any addendum issued will be posted on the County's website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov or can be obtained by contacting the County's Procurement Office at procurement@gadsdencountyfl.gov.

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid; reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; re-bid a project, in whole or in part; and to accept a proposal that in its judgment is the lowest and best bid of a responsible bidder with all decisions being made based upon what Gadsden County believes to be the best interests of its ratepayers, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion. Gadsden County further reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as may be required to meet the needs of Gadsden County, at the unit price which was bid.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
GADSDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ITB# 26-03 – CR 274 (PROVIDENCE ROAD)

ADVERTISEMENT BEGIN DATE: October 2, 2025
RELEASE DATE: October 2, 2025
MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 @ 10:30 AM
PROPOSALS DUE TO BOCC: Thursday, November 6, 2025 @ 3:00 PM

Sealed proposals will be received at the Gadsden County Purchasing Office, 5B East Jefferson Street, Rm 204, Quincy, FL 32351 until Thursday, November 6, 2025 @ 3:00 PM local time. All proposals will be opened and read aloud on Thursday, November 6, 2025 @ 3:45 PM local time. Proposals received after said time will be returned unopened.

The Project consists of approximately 5,602 tons of asphalt pavement, 9,896 square yards of base, and 352 LF of drainage pipe (side & cross drains), with 106 mitered end sections. The specifications of the procurement are stated in ITB# 26-03.

Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 10:30 AM, Eastern Time, Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at the Public Works Office located at 1284 High Bridge Road, Quincy, Florida 32351.

The ITB# 26-03 and any addendum issued will be posted on the County's website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov or can be obtained by contacting the County's Procurement Office at procurement@gadsdencountyfl.gov.

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

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid; reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part; re-bid a project, in whole or in part; and to accept a proposal that in its judgment is the lowest and best bid of a responsible bidder with all decisions being made based upon what Gadsden County believes to be the best interests of its ratepayers, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion. Gadsden County further reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as may be required to meet the needs of Gadsden County, at the unit price which was bid.

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Sheriff's Office holds breast cancer walk

Leo Torres
Gadsden County News Service
Photos by Leo Torres

The Gadsden County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) held its 10th annual Cancer Awareness Walk Friday.

"We just want to let the survivors know that we are standing by them," Sheriff Morris A. Young said. "We know what cancer does in this community and all over. It's a disease that brings a lot of fear."

The walk started from the Gadsden County Jail at 9 a.m. and went through numerous areas of Quincy before ending at the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office. Part of the walk included passing James A. Shanks Middle School and George Monroe Elementary School, where students were let out of class to show their support for the walkers. The event culminated with a "Pink Out" celebration where the walkers were treated with lunch and refreshments to thank them for their

participation.

Gadsden County resident Alisia Robinson said she participates in the race to honor her sister, Shannon Robinson, who passed from the disease. She said the event was about giving back to those who have passed and those still combatting the disease.

"We have a lot of people who have survived and a lot of people still going through the process of treatment," Robinson said.

According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer accounts for 30% of all new female cancers each year. For 2025, the organization estimates that about 316,950 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women and 42,170 women will perish from the disease.

Gadsden County resident Del McCall said events such as this are important because breast cancer connects us all.

"A lot of people's families have been affected by breast cancer



in some way," McCall said. "It connects all of us. At some point, this touches us, whether it's directly or indirectly."

Gregory Shoats, another Gadsden County resident, said it's important for him to support the event

because his aunt is a breast cancer survivor. "Seeing this many people come out this early in the morning — it's a blessing."

There was also a candle light memorial held, and informational booths were also provided by GCSO and community partners. There were

approximately a 100 people who participated in the event, comprised of several organizations such as the Gadsden Correctional Facility, the Gadsden County Department of Elderly Affairs, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Gadsden County Management

Services, and others. Young said they'll continue to hold events like this in the future, citing the devastating impact breast cancer has on the county's residents.

"I know what it does to this community," Young said. "We're gonna stand up for them."



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF CHATTAHOOCHEE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Chattahoochee City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at Chattahoochee City Hall Council Chambers, 22 Jefferson Street, Chattahoochee, Florida 32324, to consider the following ordinance which title reads:

ORDINANCE NO. 580

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FLORIDA SETTING THE HOURS FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR RESTAURANTS ON PREMISES; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The ordinance and its Business Impact Statement may be inspected at the office of the City Clerk during normal business hours at the Chattahoochee City Hall. If a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (Fla. Stat. 286.0105). Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the City Clerk's office at (850) 663-4046 at least 48 hours in advance.

Amanda Applewhite
City Clerk
City of Chattahoochee

Utility Customer Service Specialist Job Announcement

Compensation: Compensation is dependent on relevant qualifications and job experience; employee will receive FRS retirement package, sick and vacation time accrual benefit, and 100% employer paid CHP health insurance package

Location: 22 Jefferson Street Chattahoochee, FL 32324

Job Type: Full-Time Non-Exempt

Department: City Hall

Closing Date and Time: November 7, 2025, 3:00 PM EST

Contact Person: Amanda Applewhite (850) 663-4046

MAJOR FUNCTIONS

Receives payment from customers for services and responds to citizen inquiries by performing the essential duties listed below. Work is performed under general supervision with review to ensure conformance with prescribed policies, procedures and common practices. Work may also be reviewed through reports, feedback from customers and observations of results obtained. The Customer Service Representative reports directly to the City Clerk.

ESSENTIAL AND OTHER IMPORTANT JOB DUTIES

Processes new accounts and/or transfers old accounts. Serves as cashier and uses Tyler Technologies ERP 10 (Incode 10) to access customer accounts for inquiries. Sorts, posts, and lists mail and night drop items. Collects fees for all utility services (water, sewer, gas, electric, garbage, security lights, etc.). Assists with monthly utility billing and billing reports. Receives and processes customer service requests or complaints by telephone and in person, including various types of work orders and billing information. Dispatches work crews as warranted to service work orders. Assists with monthly cut-off listing. Assists with daily transactions, balances cash register, posts to financial reporting, assists with preparation of bank deposits, creates backup files. Monitors work orders for reconnection and disconnection of accounts, insuring that computer records are complete and up to date. Interacts with other City departments, external agencies, City employees, and citizens as necessary in the performance of job duties and provides customer support services consistent with organizational values and department standards. Performs other duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills

To perform this job successfully, one must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Must have good integrity. Must have good knowledge of basic mathematics. The ability to communicate effectively and in a courteous manner with the general public. The ability to understand and implement technical oral and written instructions. Ability to communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing. Knowledge of and the ability to operate standard office machines. Must be able to handle cashier duties with some basic knowledge and skills. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships as necessitated by work assignments.

Minimum Training and Experience

Possession of a high school diploma or the equivalent and at least two (2) years of customer service experience.

HOW TO APPLY

Individuals wishing to apply for this position must turn in a completed cover letter, resume, and City of Chattahoochee application packet no later than the closing time and date referenced above. The individual must fill out an application packet to be considered for hire as a cover letter and resume will not substitute for the completed application packet. This packet may be picked up at either City Hall (22 Jefferson Street). **All completed applications, resumes, and cover letters must be received at City Hall.** The City of Chattahoochee is a drug-free work place which prioritizes and is committed to continuously providing a workplace where equal employment opportunity is afforded to all people.

MEETING NOTICE

The next regular meeting of the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners will be on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, starting at 6:00 p.m. The following items have been agendaed: **Awards, Presentations, and Appearances:** Presentation of Legislative Agenda, Presentation of Right Sizing Vehicle Inventory **Consent:** Ratification Memo, BOCC Meeting/Workshop Minutes: October 21, 2025, Regular BOCC Meeting, Approval of Authorization for Chairperson to Execute Agreement, Approval of Resolution No 2026-005, to accept the transfer of Surplus Personal Property from the Board of Commissioners of Wakulla County, Approval of IOPS 360 Software Agreement Renewal **Items Pulled for Discussion. Citizens Requesting to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items (3-minute limit):** The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at all Board meetings. Citizens can speak for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda items. Public comments and participation are also encouraged for items on the agenda. Additionally, if you are unable to attend a meeting in person, comments from the Public can also be submitted via email to CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov by noon on the meeting date. Comments submitted after the deadline but prior to the meeting will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review them prior to the meeting. Citizens are further encouraged to participate on the County's website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov. **Public Hearings. General Business:** Approval for Emergency Medical Services ambulance remounts and Stryker Power-Pro 2 stretcher, Approval of the Return of Enterprise Rental Vehicles and payout for early return, Approval of Addendum to Engineering & Design Services Agreement with Consolidated Design Professionals, LLC for the South Adams Street Sidewalk Project – Project No. 18-02, Approval of an Amendment between the Florida Department of Health and Gadsden County to supervise and facilitate the Prescription and Ambulatory Medical Services (PAMS) program. **Clerk of Court:** Updates; Interim County Attorney: Updates; **Interim County Administrator:** Updates; **Discussion Items by Commissioners:** Updates. (This agenda and a listing of the Receipt/File items may be viewed in electronic format on the County's website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov.) *If a person decides to appeal any decision by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at such public meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence to which the appeal is to be heard.* In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the Facilities Management Office, 9-B East Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL 32351, by written request at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Telephone: (850) 875-8665 or 850-363-1360.

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A man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a dark cap, a dark polo shirt, and a light-colored jacket, stands next to a framed painting. The painting depicts a busy fair scene with a red building, a large green machine, and people walking around. The man is smiling and looking towards the camera. The painting is signed 'John H. Hagen' in the bottom left corner.

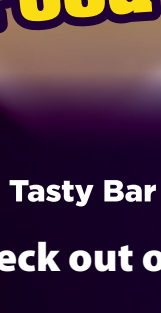
The Gadsden Arts Center & Museum is honored to present James Thigpen: A Painter's Journey, on view through

December 13. Born and raised in Quincy, Florida, Thigpen brings a lifetime of experiences as a resident, artist, and art teacher to his paintings, reflected in the stories

After graduating with a degree in art in 1965, Thigpen taught art in Jacksonville, Quincy, and Fort Lauderdale public schools before transitioning to school administration in Broward County. When he returned to Gadsden County in the early 2000s, Thigpen rekindled his passion for painting and became actively involved with the Gadsden Arts Center & Museum, serving on its Board of Directors and contributing to exhibitions. His work is now represented in the museum's permanent collection.

James Thigpen: A Painter's Journey is on view at the Gadsden Arts Center & Museum through December 13, 2025. Gadsden Arts is located at 13 N. Madison Street in Quincy, and open to the public Tuesdays–Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission: Free for members and children 17 and under; \$5 for non-member adults; \$3 for non-member students. Every Saturday is a free Family Day for any family with children. For more information, visit www.gadsdenarts.org.



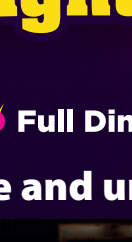


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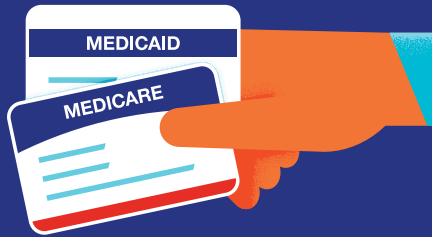
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