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Love's Travel Stop opens in Gretna, bringing more than 100 jobs



Gretna Mayor Anthony Baker addresses attendees during Tuesday's grand opening celebration for the new Love's Travel Stop in Gretna. City officials said the \$27 million project has created more than 100 jobs, with most positions filled by Gadsden County residents.



Community leaders, elected officials and Love's Travel Stops representatives gather for a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the grand opening of the new Love's Travel Stop in Gretna on Tuesday.

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

Community leaders and state officials gathered Tuesday to celebrate the grand opening of the new Love's Travel Stop in Gretna, a development city leaders say will create jobs and strengthen the local economy.

Gretna City Manager Antonio Jeffersons said the new travel center has hired more than 100 employees, with most of those positions filled by Gadsden County residents, according to the City of Gretna. The project also represents a \$27 million capital investment in the city.

Gretna Mayor Anthony Baker said the travel center includes a Dunkin' Donuts, a small restaurant and 111 parking spaces for semi-tractor trailers, providing services for both travelers and truck drivers.

"We thank God for it,"

Baker said.

Officials recognized City Manager Antonio Jefferson for his role in helping bring the Love's Travel Stop to Gretna and for his continued efforts to attract additional economic development projects to Gadsden County.

The grand opening drew local, regional and state leaders, including Florida Secretary of Commerce Alex Kelly, representatives from the Florida Department of Commerce, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners, the Gadsden County Development Council, the Big Bend Minority Chamber of Commerce, the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce, state Sen. Corey Simon, state Rep. Gallop Franklin, Gadsden County Sheriff Morris Young, Quincy City Commissioner Beverly Nash and former Gretna mayors Nadine Reed,



Fire rescue vehicles from the City of Gretna and the City of Midway are parked outside the newly opened Love's Travel Stop during the grand opening celebration Tuesday in Gretna. The new travel center represents a \$27 million investment and has hired more than 100 employees, according to city officials.

Clarence Jackson and Earnest O'Barkley. City leaders said the new travel center represents more than a new business opening, describing it as an investment that will create employment opportunities and support continued economic growth in Gretna and throughout Gadsden County. The ceremony concluded with a ribbon-cutting welcoming Love's Travel Stops to the community.



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SHOPOP LOCAL

School district looks to curb spending as reserves near state minimum

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

The Gadsden County School District is preparing for another year of tight spending as officials work to prevent its reserve fund from falling below the state-required minimum.

During a recent budget discussion, district financial projections showed the district's unassigned fund balance could drop below the required 2% reserve next year and potentially become negative if corrective measures are not taken.

The latest projections come as the district

continues to grapple with ongoing financial pressures that officials have previously attributed to declining enrollment and reductions in state funding. In recent months, school leaders have said they are making difficult decisions to stabilize the district's finances while maintaining classroom services.

Marleni Bruner, the district's financial director, said the district plans to take an "aggressively conservative" approach when preparing the 2026-27 budget.

"We will just have to be aggressively conservative

on our budget for next year," Bruner said. "So even if the state gives us a budget and we budget to the amount that we would still keep our expenditures as low as possible. Just so that we can create a fund balance because that is the only way to start adding those dollars back. We would also have to be very aggressive at looking for opportunities for grant funding for sponsorships any way the community can help us."

District officials said more than \$1 million in state funding reductions have contributed to the financial challenges. They said the district's

budget situation reflects declining revenue rather than excessive spending.

Bruner said employee compensation accounts for about 85% of the district's budget, leaving little flexibility to reduce spending elsewhere.

"Yes we're going to do employee salary and benefits first because that is like 85% of our budget," Bruner said. "There is only a little bit of wiggle room left after that. And so we have to figure out with our maintenance where we're going to adjust things."

Bruner said district officials will have to determine where adjustments can be made, including in maintenance and transportation, while also pursuing grants, sponsorships and other opportunities to increase revenue.

Administrators said they will continue refining the proposed budget in the coming weeks in an effort to close the projected gap before the spending plan is adopted. Their goal is to strengthen the district's financial position and avoid falling below the state's 2% reserve threshold, which officials said could trigger state involvement.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

GADSDEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE GADSDEN COUNTY, FL NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a WRIT OF EXECUTION issued in the County Court of GADSDEN, Florida, in the cause wherein RUBEN GOMEZ AND FIRST STOP AUTO SALES LLC is Plaintiff and 31556 BLUE STAR LLC is Defendant, being Case Number 2023CA461 in the said Court. I Morris Young, as Sheriff of Gadsden County, Florida, have levied upon all the right, title and interest of the Defendant, 31556 BLUE STAR LLC, in and to the following described property, to-wit:

31556 BLUE STAR HIGHWAY, MIDWAY, FL, FORMER ACE SALVAGE YARD. PARCEL #4-08-1N-2W-0000-00411-0100.

I shall offer this property for sale, at 31556 Blue Star Highway, at CITY OF MIDWAY, County of Gadsden, State of Florida, on JULY 21, 2026 at the hour of 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as possible, I will offer for sale all of the said Defendant's, right, title and interest in aforesaid property at public auction and will sell the same, subject to taxes, all prior liens, encumbrances and judgments, if any, to the highest and best bidder for CASH IN HAND PLUS FLORIDA STATE SALES TAX, if applicable. The proceeds to be applied as far as may be to the payment of costs and the satisfaction of the above described execution.

In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Civil Clerk at (850) 875-8818 no later than seven (7) days prior to the proceedings. If hearing impaired (TDD) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

PUBLISHED FOUR (4) TIMES IN THE HAVANA HERALD ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

June 18, 2026
June 25, 2026
July 2, 2026
July 9, 2026

Morris A Young Sheriff
Gadsden County
By: /s/
Deputy Sheriff
3t: 6/25, 7/2, 7/9

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO. 25000054CAA DIVISION

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE WITH RESPECT TO CIM TRUST 2023-R1,
Plaintiff,

vs. .

UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, BENEFICIARIES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PERSONS OR SPOUSES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DEBORAH FARLIN A/K/A DEBORAH C. FARLIN A/K/A DEBORAH CARTER FARLIN F/K/A DEBORAH L. CARTER, DECEASED; et. al.,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: SAMMY JEROME CARTER
Last Known Address: 438 ATWATER RD., CHATTAHOOCHEE, FL 32324
Current Address: UNKNOWN
Previous Address: 438 ATWATER RD., CHATTAHOOCHEE, FL 32324

TO: ANTWAN BANKS
Last Known Address: 3983 LINCOLN DR., VERO BEACH, FL 32967
Current Address: UNKNOWN
Previous Address: 3983 LINCOLN DR., VERO BEACH, FL 32967

TO: CIERRA L. BANKS
Last Known Address: 3953 KENNEDY CT., VERO BEACH, FL 32967
Current Address: UNKNOWN
Previous Address: 3953 KENNEDY CT., VERO BEACH, FL 32967

TO: SHAWN DEMETRIS CARTER
Last Known Address: 438 ATWATER RD., CHATTAHOOCHEE, FL 32324
Current Address: UNKNOWN
Previous Address: 438 ATWATER RD., CHATTAHOOCHEE, FL 32324

TO: GLADYS BRITT
Last Known Address: 241 KELLY STREET, QUINCY, FL 32351
Current Address: UNKNOWN
Previous Address: 241 KELLY STREET, QUINCY, FL 32351

TO: PATRICK CARTER
Last Known Address: 2033 MLK BOULEVARD, QUINCY, FL 32351
Current Address: UNKNOWN

Previous Address: 2033 MLK BOULEVARD, QUINCY, FL 32351

TO: ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAME UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS

whose residence is unknown if he/she/they be living; and if he/she/they be dead, the unknown defendants who may be spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, and all parties claiming an interest by, through, under or against the Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the mortgage being foreclosed herein

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage has been filed against you, in regard to the following property in GADSEN County, Florida, legally described as:

THE LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS EXHIBIT IS LOCATED IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA IN THE COUNTY OF GADSDEN IN DEED BOOK 304 PAGE 1156 AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

LOT THREE (3), BLOCK «A», AZALEA PARK SUBDIVISION, A MAP OR PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, GADSDEN COUNTY, FLORIDA.

This property is located at the street address of: 2033 MLK BLVD, QUINCY, FL 32351

YOU ARE REQUIRED to serve a copy of your written defenses on or before August 2, 2026 a date which is within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorney, whose address is 3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092, and file the original with 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 or Petition.

This Notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the HAVANA HERALD.
WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on June 18, 2026.

(COURT SEAL)
NICHOLAS THOMAS
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Charlotte Willeby
By:
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Annalise Hayes DeLuca, Esq.
Gina Vargas, Esq.
Elizabeth A. Wulff, Esq.
MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
Phone: 404.474.7149
Email: ServiceFL@mtglaw.com

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN'S WITH DISABILITIES ACT, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact ADA Coordinator Regina Shaw, shawR@leoncountyfl.gov; 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 2t: 7/2,7/9

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 1172 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2024

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 857 P 656 OR 857 P 654 LOT 15, BLOCK A, SHAWS ADDN OR 705 P 1581 OR 705 P 1583 DB 105, P 153

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3-08-2N-3W-0780-0000A-0150

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: ROBERT KENON; DONTAVIOUS B HIGHMAN; SHANTERICA LOVE; POSSIBLE REMAINING INTEREST OF LILLIE MAY RAY

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5TH Day of AUGUST 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 28TH Day of MAY 2026.
NICHOLAS THOMAS
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gadsden County, Florida
BY: Ann Marie Johns, Deputy Clerk
4t: 7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, RAM TAX LIEN FUND II LP, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 1530 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2024

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 981 P 1811; OR 867 P 252 OR 513 P 395 ALL OF LOT 5 AND 6, BLK L OF FAIRMONT SUBDIVISION. OR 313 P 1004

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3-12-2N-4W-0980-0000L-0050

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: LANZIO BROWN; WILLIAM BROWN

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5TH Day of AUGUST 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 28TH Day of MAY 2026.
NICHOLAS THOMAS
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gadsden County, Florida
BY: Ann Marie Johns, Deputy Clerk
4t: 7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, RAM TAX LIEN FUND II LP, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 1404 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2024

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 707 P 1484 OR 675 P 1069 TRACT 1: COMMENCE AT THE NWC OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECT 11-2N-4W, AND THENCE RUN SOUTH 103.1 FT, THENCE RUN EAST 105.00 FT TO THE POB; THENCE FROM SAID POINT RUN EAST 105.00 FT THENCE RUN NORTH 210.00 FT; THENCE RUN WEST 105.00 FT; THENCE RUN SOUTH 210.00 FT TO THE POB. SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECT

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 3-11-2N-4W-0000-00242-0500

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: LUCILLE WILLIAMS HEIRS OF JULIA BROWN

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5TH Day of AUGUST 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 28TH Day of MAY 2026.
NICHOLAS THOMAS
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gadsden County, Florida
BY: Ann Marie Johns, Deputy Clerk
4t: 7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

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

CERTIFICATE NO: 79 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2024

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: OR 894 P 201; OR 508 P 2035 OR 82, P. 560 LOT 5 BLOCK 6 ANNEX TO MORGAN'S FIRST ADDITION. OR 81 P 664

PARCEL ID NUMBER: 1-33-4N-6W-0080-00006-0050

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: DEWEY PAUL MARTIN, JR

Said Property being in the County of Gadsden, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at the courthouse door on the 5TH Day of AUGUST 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Dated this 28TH Day of MAY 2026.
NICHOLAS THOMAS
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Gadsden County, Florida
BY: Ann Marie Johns, Deputy Clerk
4t: 7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23

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Puzzle Solutions

Don't Peek. Puzzles on page 5.

S	C	A	R	I	F	A	K	C	I	A	V
T	A	I	C	S	F	I	F	I	A	I	O
A	R	G	O	T	S	I	I	V	E	R	F
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8	6	5	3	7	1	2	4	9
1	2	9	4	5	8	6	7	3
3	7	4	2	9	6	5	8	1
4	3	8	1	6	5	7	9	2
9	1	6	7	8	2	4	3	5
2	5	7	9	3	4	1	6	8

SCRABBLE G|R|A|M|S SOLUTION

O ₁	U ₁	T ₁	B ₁	R ₁	A ₁	G ₁	RACK 1 =	60
P ₂	A ₂	N ₂	I ₂	C ₂	K ₂	Y ₂	RACK 2 =	86
M ₃	A ₃	U ₃	D ₃	L ₃	I ₃	N ₃	RACK 3 =	60
M ₄	I ₄	N ₄	I ₄	M ₄	A ₄		RACK 4 =	16
PAR SCORE 145-155							TOTAL 222	

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Bear Creek Bethel M.B. Church invites community to 3-night annual revival

Dr. Deborah Thigpen
Gadsden County News Service

Bear Creek Bethel Missionary Baptist Church is extending an invitation to the Gadsden County community to attend its Annual Revival, a three-night worship experience designed to inspire spiritual renewal, strengthen faith, and encourage believers to deepen their relationship with God.

The revival will be held Tuesday, July 14, through Thursday, July 16, with services beginning each evening at 7 p.m. at Bear Creek Bethel M.B. Church, 3476 Old Federal Road, Quincy.

This year's theme, "Return, Repent, & Recover!", is drawn from Isaiah 55:6-7 (KJV):

"Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and

he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Host Pastor Rev. Terrence D. Milton said the revival is an opportunity for people from all walks of life to pause from the demands of everyday living and experience God's love, forgiveness, and transforming power.

"In today's world, many people are searching for hope, peace, and purpose," Milton said. "This revival is an invitation to return to God, repent of anything that separates us from Him, and recover the joy, peace, and strength that only Christ can provide."

The revival will feature a different guest minister each evening:

- Tuesday, July 14: Bishop Titus Deas Jr. Deliverance Temple Ministries
- Wednesday, July 15: Pastor Julius Harris New Jerusalem M.B. Church



Bishop Titus Deas Jr.



Pastor Julius Harris



Rev. Barry Young



Pastor Terrence D. Milton

• Thursday, July 16: Rev. Barry Young

Each speaker is expected to bring a unique message centered on the revival's theme of spiritual restoration and renewal.

The Bible repeatedly

reminds believers that revival begins with a willing heart. 2 Chronicles 7:14 declares: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I

hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Likewise, Joel 2:12-13 encourages God's people to return wholeheartedly: "Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love."

Church leaders hope the services will minister not only to members but also to individuals seeking encouragement during difficult seasons of life.

Whether facing personal challenges, celebrating blessings, or simply desiring a closer walk with God, attendees can expect uplifting worship, heartfelt prayer, inspiring music, and biblical preaching throughout the three-night event.

Bear Creek Bethel M.B. Church, "The Creek," has served the Quincy and Gadsden County communities since 1887. Guided by its motto, "A Caring Church for Changing Times," the congregation remains committed to proclaiming the Gospel while meeting the spiritual and practical needs of the community through worship, outreach, and fellowship.

The public is invited to attend all three evenings. Families, friends, and visitors are welcome.

As Jesus reminds believers in Matthew 11:28:

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

For those longing for a fresh start, a renewed spirit, or a deeper relationship with God, Bear Creek Bethel M.B. Church offers a simple invitation: Come expecting God to move.

Short Takes

Havana resident named to University of Maryland Global Campus Dean's List

Treasa Lisowski of Havana has been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2026 semester at the University of Maryland Global Campus.

To earn the recognition, students must complete at least six credit hours during the term, earn a semester grade-point average of at least 3.5 and maintain a

cumulative 3.5 GPA at the university.

Quincy student earns Dean's List honors at Valdosta State

Erica Neal of Quincy has been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2026 semester at Valdosta State University.

Dean's List recognition is awarded to students who earn a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher while completing at least nine semester hours and

maintaining a minimum 3.0 institutional GPA.

Havana student named to Champlain College President's List

Darryl Duncan II of Havana has been named to the Champlain College Online President's List for the spring 2026 semester.

Duncan II, who is majoring in computer forensics and digital investigations, earned

the honor by achieving a 4.0 grade-point average during the semester.

Havana resident graduates from Troy University

Mary Gainey of Havana graduated from Troy University during the spring semester/Term 4 of the 2025-26 academic year.

Makayla Caldwell of Quincy recognized on Georgia Southern

University's Spring 2026 Dean's List

Georgia Southern University recently recognized approximately 4,020 students on the Spring 2026 Dean's List. Makayla Caldwell of Quincy has been named to the list for excellence in academics. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must have at least a 3.5 grade point average and carry a minimum of 12 hours for the semester.

Leigh A. Davis, Town Manager
Enosha A. Williams, Town Clerk

TOWN OF HAVANA

P.O. Box 1068
Havana, Florida 32333-1068
Phone: (850) 539-2820

NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONSIDER ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that the 2nd Public reading before the Town Council of the Town of Havana, Florida, intends, at a meeting in the Cecil G. Trippe Municipal Building in Havana, Florida, at 6:00 o'clock pm on the 28th day of July, A.D., 2026, to consider the enactment of the following proposed ordinance entitled:

Ordinance 416 (by Title Only)
AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF HAVANA, FLORIDA, GRANTING TO TALQUIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. AN ELECTRICAL FRANCHISE, AND IMPOSING CERTAIN CONDITIONS AND TERMS RELATED THERETO; MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Such ordinance may be inspected by the public at the office of the Town Clerk in the Cecil G. Trippe Municipal Building in such Town.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed ordinance.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

This 2nd day of July, 2026.

Enosha A. Williams
Town Clerk
Town of Havana, Florida
(Publish One Time on July 11, 2026)

Havana to celebrate opening of new public safety complex Saturday

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

The Town of Havana will celebrate the opening of its new Public Safety Complex with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 11, at 134 Seventh Ave. E.

The multi-million-dollar facility will become the new home of the Havana Police Department and Havana Fire Department, bringing both agencies together under one roof.

In addition to housing both departments, the new complex includes dedicated office space and meeting areas for firefighters, creating opportunities for the police and fire departments to work together more efficiently.

The project also expands the town's public safety technology. New cameras installed throughout Havana will be monitored from an upgraded dispatch center inside the facility, providing officers

with enhanced capabilities to support public safety operations.

The grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony is open to the public.

The event begins at 11 a.m. Saturday at the new Public Safety Complex, 134 Seventh Ave. E., Havana.

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The Herald

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www.sealefuneralhome.com



Steve, the cowboy on the board of directors of the Mule Barn truck stop’s philosophy counter and world dilemma think tank, swears on his coffee it happened.

“Tourist guy got off the train the other day when I was down there picking up a friend,” Steve said. “He asked me if I was a real cowboy, and I allowed I probably was, because I wasn’t smart enough to get a real job. So he asked if I minded if he asked me some questions.”

Steve sipped his coffee. “I said, ‘Shoot’ and the guy says he wondered why we wore these big ol’ hats with the wide brims. So I explained to him they give us shade in summer and keep the rain and snow off our faces, and told him we could give the horse a drink by putting water in them.

“Then he thanked me and asked why we wore chaps. So I explained how they protected our legs from cactus and thorns, you know.

“He asked about wild rags like this one,” he said, touching the blue silk scarf around his neck. “I told him it filtered dust and we could tie our hats down with it in a high wind.”

“Sounds reasonable,” Doc said, “but I thought everybody knew that. Television and Westerns and all that.”

“Well, yeah,” Steve said. “Me, too. But I think this guy was from a city somewhere and didn’t watch TV or eat anything that ever had a pulse. Looked kindapunny. But he was real friendly.

“So then he asked me about saddle horns. Wanted to know if they honk. This guy was really green, you know? He wanted to know about ropes and spurs, all kinds of questions like that. I did my best to answer him, too. Finally he says, ‘Tell me why you cowboys always wear tennis shoes.’

“So I told him we didn’t want anyone thinking we were truck drivers.”

Even the truck drivers laughed at that one. Then they threw cracker packets at Steve.

Brought to you by Sandia Crest Bowhunters Association. It’s their turn.



Grace Notes

Until it was found

Nancy Kennedy

Some years ago, I took an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. with a plane load of World War II veterans, covering the trip for the newspaper.

For the assignment, my editor gave me a camera to use for the day.

I had two jobs: Take a decent photo to go on the front page — and don’t lose the camera.

From 5 a.m. when I got to the airport until close to 9 p.m. when we returned, that camera did not leave my hands.

Except it did.

Exhausted, I was still wound up from a long day traipsing all over D.C. I couldn’t wait to see my husband, tell him about my day and show him the photos I took.

So, I grabbed a cab to take me less than five miles away to a restaurant where I was to meet my husband.

Paid the cab driver, greeted

the husband. Kiss, kiss, blah, blah. “Want to see my pictures?” I asked.

I opened my purse to get the camera that hadn’t been out of my reach all day and it. Was. Not. There.

I panicked. I prayed, but I still panicked.

Not only because the camera was not mine, but it had photos on it from my trip with the veterans that I needed and couldn’t retake.

While I panicked, I walked around in circles in the restaurant, mentally retracing my steps.

You had it at the airport. You had it in your purse in the cab. You still have your purse.

The camera is in the cab!

I must have taken it out of my purse to reach the \$10 bill I had tucked away for cab fare.

By this time, the restaurant staff was aware of my situation and someone found the phone number for the cab company

for me.

My hands shook and my heart pounded as I called — most likely rambling incoherently to the poor woman who answered the phone.

Thankfully she took pity on me, put me on hold and called all her drivers and asked who had driven a crazy lady from the St. Petersburg-Clearwater airport to the nearby Beef O’Brady’s. Since there had been only one, he called in, said he found my camera on the seat and within 10 minutes delivered it to me.

And the angels sang!

I gave him twice the fare amount and thanked him profusely. I know I cried with relief and gratitude mixed with tiredness and slight insanity — he looked scared as he left.

My heart returned to its regular rhythm and all was and is well.

However, for that brief time,

all was not well.

All I could think about was finding that lost camera.

I was hungry, thirsty and tired, but how could I eat, drink or sleep until it was found?

On the way home from the restaurant I kept thinking about that feeling of desperation and then that feeling of utter relief.

I closed my eyes and put my head back. Fighting off sleep, I wrestled with my thoughts. I pictured the shepherd who leaves his flock of 99 others to rescue the one lost lamb.

He put the lamb across His shoulders to carry it home.

That camera didn’t even belong to me.

And yet I belong to Jesus.

I once was lost.

He found me.

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

NURSE JUDY’S NOOK

Why do I try?

Last week, I told Nurse Judy we were going to a resort and everything would be provided for her there. We did not have to shop until I made the mistake of picking out expensive new clothes for her to show off in. She reminded me it was our country’s 250th birthday and she certainly had to have something high-end to celebrate such a great occasion.

I try hard to avoid these crises, but she always outmaneuvers me. I knew I had to take her shopping. She refused to be content with a fancy top or a lace jacket. She insisted that, for such an auspicious occasion, the only solution was long gowns. There had been no long gowns in our closet for years. I tried to explain this to her. We had developed into mature women more inclined to wear pantsuits or slacks with lacy overblouses for dress.

This, of course, was the wrong thing to say. She grew flushed at the word “mature.”

“Speak for yourself,” she shouted. “I am not a mature woman. I am in the prime of

my life, and I need clothing that reflects my youthfulness and vibrancy.”

I had to agree with her on one point. She was the most immature person I had ever met. She has never grown up and lives in her fantasy of eternal youth. She does not see maturity as an asset. To her, it is a detriment — something to avoid at all costs. To her, maturity is old age.

I try to think of ways to explain this to her, but after all these decades with her, I am no closer to reasoning with her than I ever was. I decide the best course of action is to get her a long dress. I eat a hearty breakfast while she fusses about my weight, but I know I am in for a long, grueling day.

She goes from store to store and rack to rack but finds nothing she likes. Somehow, she gets me to Chico’s, which is pricier than I had in mind for one birthday party. She tries on a long, slinky number with a big price tag and immediately says, “I’ll take it.”

It was more than I wanted

to pay, but being done so quickly was worth the price to me. I was breathing a sigh of relief when the clerk said, “I have this same dress in another color. Would you like to see it?”

Before I could object, the clerk was back with an even prettier gown in teal.

“Oh yes, I’ll have that one too,” Nurse Judy said with a huge smile. “I won’t have to try it on because it is the same as the other, and it fits me perfectly.”

“You don’t need two fancy gowns for one birthday,” I say, trying to sound reasonable.

“When I know where the party is, I can decide which one is most suitable, and we can return the other.”

I breathe a sigh of relief. She can be reasonable after all.

“And since we’re not sure where we will be going, we can stop at a cheaper shop and pick up some others and later return them if they don’t work out.”

I am getting a little nervous now. She has never returned a thing in her life, but I’m happy she is finally coming

to her senses. I turn into the mall at her direction. A couple of hours later, we return to the car with four more long dresses. I collapse behind the wheel and drive home.

Once home, I head to the couch while Nurse Judy keeps parading by in a different gown with each pass. I am in trouble. We are not going to a party. We are not going to a resort. And Nurse Judy has six gowns that I know she will never give up. There is nowhere in our little world for her to wear them.

I lie there worrying.

“Maybe I’ll keep them all after all,” she says brightly.

I groan, even though I knew this was going to happen.

“You have nowhere to wear all those gowns,” I say.

“I’ll find somewhere,” she says. “And I can always wear them to church.”

Nurse Judy is sure going to have to spend a lot of time in church.

At The Pump

Local State, and National

National Average:

\$3.79 per gallon

Florida Average:

\$3.73 per gallon

Gadsden County Average:

\$3.81 per gallon

Jackson County Average:

\$3.76 per gallon

Leon County Average

\$3.83 per gallon

Numbers based on AAA Gas Prices report, as of July 7, 2026

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COMICS AND PUZZLES

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"I do want to stop procrastinating, but not right now."

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

PASYO
SYESM
VIWLES
BIRLEG

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Answer "here:"

Saturday's Jumbles: MERCY, WHARF, ADJUST, POUNCE
Answer: Was she an expert seamstress? — NOT-SEW MUCH

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.

SXI
DMUR
OHEP
ERVY

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: SIX, DRUM, HOPE, VERY
Answer: The kids were served bowls of chicken noodle and thought it was "SOUP ER"

WHO NEEDS THE SUN?

WHEN A SMILE CAN BRIGHTEN UP ANY DAY!

AUNTIE BROOM, WHY IS YOUR HAIR GRAY?
AS YOU AGE, YOUR HAIR LOSES COLOR!
I'M COVERED WITH HAIR! I'LL BE GRAY ALL OVER!
LIKE A WOLF! STRONG, PREDATORY, FEARED!
YEAH!
NICE SAVE!

Gertie! Thanks for your grilled cheese sandwiches! They sure taste like steak!
Yeah!
We used to eat our steaks rare, but they cost too much now...
...so we rarely eat them!
That's why Momma developed her secret grilled cheese recipe!

SPRING CLEANING?
COUGH!
LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THIS DUST BUNNY!
COUGH!
MAN, I THOUGHT MY HAIRBALLS WERE BAD.

SCRABBLE GRAMS

Directions: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each rack. Add points for each word using scoring directions at right. If a 7-letter word gets 50 points, "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 scrgram@gmail.com

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.

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

Puzzle solutions on page 2

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 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

- Across**
- 1 Part of the healing process
5 Hiss source
9 Network, say
13 Giant automaton of Greek mythology
15 French pronoun
16 Number two
17 Lingo
- 18 Animal in the creation myth of Achomawi people of Northern California
20 Hybrid pastries
22 Hazelnut
23 Range rovers?
24 Coastal birds
26 Stable diet
27 Revelation

- 29 Shepherd in a 1995 Oscar-nominated film
30 Yak
31 29-Across, for one
33 Sch. with the second-most NCAA team championships
34 One who spends a lot of time in cabs
39 Like a roller derby track
40 Cellular messenger
41 Letter abbr.
42 Shape-shifting prefix
43 Prevents an actor from getting a breakthrough role, perhaps
48 Demonstrate one's humanity
49 Pursued
51 Comedian Trevor
52 Turns the page?
54 Result of a successful collaboration
56 Conan O'Brien's first talk show
58 End
59 Avoids injury
- 60 Gin berry
61 Root used in perfumery
62 Wicker man, for one
63 Spree
64 Email folder
- Down**
- 1 Soup strainer, informally
2 «Dumb and Dumber» star
3 «An Inconvenient Truth» writer
4 Wasteful project
5 Reduce
6 Yale student
7 Completely on board
8 Flightless bird in «Up»
9 Low— diet
10 Shortcut, of sorts
11 Precious
12 Foo Fighters power ballad that was the theme song for the NBC sitcom «Ed»
14 R-V connection?
19 Raised trains
21 Legal exam, familiarly

- 25 Do-overs
28 Tuba sound
29 Brady bunch, once
32 Like Midas
34 Labium inferius oris
35 Breakfast specification
36 David Attenborough, for one
37 Straighten out
38 Cousin's dad, casually
44 Nag
- 45 1957 Jimmy Dorsey hit
46 Takes over
47 Most reserved
49 «Marrakesh Express» band, for short
50 Raise
53 Football : juke :: hockey : —
55 Many a PX shopper
57 Residential community org.

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Pluggers cologne.

Gadsden County Extension Column

Welcome to the World of 4-H



Evie Blount

Gadsden County 4-H is pleased to welcome all families to attend and get ready for a high-energy, fun-filled day of discovery, creativity, and hands-on excitement at the upcoming Welcome to the World of 4-H Event on Saturday, August 1, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the UF/IFAS Extension Gadsden County office, located at 2140 W. Jefferson Street in Quincy. This free, family-friendly event promises something for everyone and is the perfect opportunity for youth to jump into the exciting “World of 4-H,” where learning meets adventure and new interests come to life. From the moment families arrive, they’ll be welcomed into an

atmosphere filled with energy, exploration, and endless possibilities designed to spark curiosity and inspire confidence in youth of all ages. Throughout the day, attendees can explore a wide variety of 4-H clubs and hands-on activities that make learning fun and engaging. Youth can discover their passion while trying out programs like horse and livestock projects, gardening, sewing, archery, and so much more. Whether a child enjoys working with animals, creating something with their hands, or learning new outdoorskills, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy. Interactive demonstrations and activities will allow participants to dive right in, giving them a real taste

of what 4-H has to offer while building friendships and unforgettable memories along the way. This event highlights how 4-H helps youth grow in Head, Heart, Hands, and Health, developing leadership skills, confidence, and a sense of community while having a great time. Families will also have the chance to meet the friendly and knowledgeable team behind Gadsden County’s Extension programs, including Master Gardener Volunteers and Extension agents specializing in horticulture, small farms, agriculture and natural resources, and family and consumer sciences. These experts will be available to answer questions, share exciting program

opportunities, and help families find the perfect fit for their interests and goals. Organizers encourage families to bring friends, neighbors, and anyone looking for a fun and meaningful way to get involved. With hands-on activities, new friends, and

a welcoming environment for all, the 4-H Open House is more than just an event, it’s a chance to discover new passions and begin an exciting journey. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to see how 4-H helps youth learn, lead, and succeed while having fun every

step of the way. For more information, call 850-875-7255 and plan to join the excitement—because in Gadsden County, 4-H truly grows here!

Evie Blount is a 4-H agent for UF/IFAS Extension Gadsden County.



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Nightly!

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Jimbo Smith

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6:30pm - 9:30pm

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- ✔ Classic Cocktails
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- ✔ Beer and Wine

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starting at 6:30

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Thursday
5pm

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