

The Chattahoochee News-Herald



& Snead's Sentinel

Because Great Communities Deserve Great Community Newspapers



County approves Strong Road as backup site for Boys & Girls Club

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

After months of debate over where to build a proposed Boys & Girls Club and community center, the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners voted 4-1 on Oct. 20 to move forward with the Strong Road property if plans to purchase the New Life property do not work out.

Commissioner Brenda Holt made the motion, with Commissioner Alonzetta Simpkins seconding it. Chairman Eric Hinson cast the lone dissenting vote.

The decision followed another lengthy discussion about potential locations, the county's negotiations with property owners and whether the project could move forward without jeopardizing state funding.

The New Life property remained the preferred option under the motion, while the county-owned Strong Road site would serve as an alternative.

The project has been under discussion for several years, with commissioners divided over which location would best serve the county's children and provide the most practical use of available funding.

At the Oct. 6 meeting, commissioners considered moving forward with the

Strong Road property but ultimately voted unanimously to table the decision until a special meeting could be held.

During the Oct. 20 meeting, Interim County Administrator Reginald James said the county had conducted due diligence on the New Life property.

Interim County Attorney Louis Baptiste confirmed the county had received an offer from New Life and that the offer was part of the public record.

The New Life Ministries property at 640 S. Shelfer St. was offered to the county for \$2.5 million, according to information presented during the Oct. 20 meeting. The proposal involved approximately 7.32 acres and existing facilities.

The property had previously been offered to the county for \$1.29 million in October 2023. According to county records, that proposal included the front five acres and all buildings, with the church retaining the remaining two acres. An appraisal completed in May 2023 placed the property's value at approximately \$850,000.

However, questions remained about the purchase, the condition of existing structures and the requirements attached to the project's funding.



An aerial view shows the county-owned Strong Road property in Quincy, outlined in red. The Gadsden County Commission voted 4-1 on Oct. 20 to move forward with the property as a proposed site for a Boys & Girls Club and community center.

Baptiste explained that county officials had spoken with representatives of FloridaCommerce about the possibility of purchasing property containing an existing building. He said the language governing the grant and the project's scope of work would have to be changed if the county pursued renovation rather than new construction.

Commissioner Ronterious Green questioned whether the county would still be required to construct a new building if it purchased property with an existing structure.

Green also expressed frustration with the amount of information commissioners had received before being asked

to make a decision.

Commissioner Shawn Wood questioned whether the county could construct a facility on property it did not own. Other commissioners raised concerns about the financial and legal implications of the available options.

The discussion also brought renewed attention to the city of Quincy's involvement in the project.

Quincy Mayor Robin Wood appeared before commissioners and said the city was interested in offering property near the Quincy Recreation Center. She explained that the city preferred to retain ownership of the property rather than give it away.

Wood also addressed concerns

communication between the city and county, saying she preferred a face-to-face meeting between the two commissions to discuss the project.

Green said he was encouraged by the possibility of cooperation between the two governments but acknowledged that previous efforts to arrange discussions had not been successful.

Baptiste said he had recommended a meeting between city and county leaders to discuss the details, but the proposal had been rejected by the city attorney.

Several residents and community representatives also weighed in on the project.

Antonio Jefferson, speaking on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club, said the Strong Road property was the organization's preferred location. He also emphasized the importance of security in selecting a site.

Resident Ann Marie Chupa told commissioners the primary consideration should be the best interests of the children who would use the facility.

Commissioners also discussed money already spent on other proposed locations, including the Wards lot, and whether changes to the plans could affect the amount of space available for the facility.

The debate reflected continuing differences among commissioners over location, accessibility, existing infrastructure and the long-term needs of the community.

Although the board approved a path forward, the vote did not resolve every question surrounding the project. The county must still determine whether the New Life property can be acquired and whether the selected location meets applicable funding and construction requirements.

The Strong Road property will remain the alternative if the New Life purchase cannot be completed.

County reconsiders EMS facility location amid funding deadline

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners voted 3-2 on Oct. 20 to reconsider

the location of a proposed emergency medical services facility as officials work to meet a September 2027 construction deadline.

The decision came less than a week after commissioners voted 4-1 to pursue property near HCA Florida Gadsden Hospital, moving away from an earlier plan to construct the facility on Joe Adams Road.

Commissioner Ronterious Green raised concerns about abandoning the Joe Adams Road property after the county had already completed preliminary work associated with the project.

The approximately five-acre site is owned by the city of Quincy, and the county would need to secure ownership before proceeding with construction.

Green said the hospital property remained a viable option but questioned whether beginning the evaluation process at another location could delay construction.

The county has already



completed preliminary inspections and other steps for the Joe Adams Road site. Moving to another location could require additional evaluations, potentially affecting the project's schedule.

County officials have been working to secure a permanent location for the facility, which would provide dedicated space for emergency medical services

operations and ambulances.

The project has received state-administered federal funding, and county officials face a September 2027 deadline to complete construction.

The location has been a point of discussion between county and Quincy officials for several months.

During a September commission meeting, Interim County

Administrator Reginald James asked commissioners for direction on the project after preliminary site inspections had been conducted.

Commissioner Alonzetta Simpkins questioned whether the Quincy City Commission had formally agreed to transfer property to the county.

Commissioner Brenda Holt suggested that

representatives of both governments meet to discuss the issue.

The board voted unanimously at that meeting to authorize James to contact Quincy officials about scheduling a meeting. If a meeting could not be arranged, Interim County Attorney Louis Baptiste was authorized to request that the property issue be placed on a city commission agenda.

The county subsequently considered property near the hospital as an alternative.

The Oct. 20 decision renewed efforts to work with Quincy officials on the Joe Adams Road location.

The proposed facility is expected to cost nearly \$4 million. County officials must determine which property can be secured and developed in time to meet the construction deadline.

A final location had not been established following the Oct. 20 discussion.



7 28028 03563 6

SHOP LOCAL

Community Calendar
October

Thursday, Oct. 29
• **Sawdust Trunk or Treat**
Sawdust will host its third annual Trunk or Treat from 4 to 7 p.m. at Sawdust Community Park, 3355 Providence Road, Quincy. The sports-themed Halloween celebration will feature candy, games, music and activities for families. Participants are encouraged to wear their favorite team colors or jerseys. Costumes are welcome.

• **Gadsden Reentry Halloween Trunk of Treats**
Gadsden Reentry will host a Halloween Trunk of Treats from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 540 Opportunity Lane, Havana. The family-friendly event will feature candy, music, food and Halloween activities. Sponsors and vendors are welcome.

Friday, Oct. 30
• **Breast Cancer Awareness Event**
The Florida Department of Health in Gads-

den County will host a Breast Cancer Awareness Month event from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 278 Lasalle Leffall Drive, Quincy. Women who meet eligibility requirements can receive free clinical breast exams and mammograms through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.

Community partners will also provide women's health information and resources. For more in-

formation, call 850-743-6038.

• **Safe Trick-or-Treat**
The Quincy Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Safe Trick-or-Treat from 3 to 5:30 p.m. in downtown and East Quincy. Participating businesses will distribute candy to children, with volun-

teers stationed at intersections to assist families crossing streets. The event is free.

• **Havana Community Trunk or Treat**
Havana's Community Trunk or Treat will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Havana Public Park, 203 Fifth Ave. E., Havana. The community Halloween event will provide an opportunity for children and families to enjoy trick-or-treating. For more information, contact Dawn McGriff at 850-879-1111.

LEGAL
ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REGISTER FICTITIOUS NAME

Notice is hereby given that **L. William Porter**, owner, intends to register the fictitious name **BILL PORTER MOBILE NOTARY** with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations, pursuant to Section 865.09, Florida Statutes.

Principal place of business: Gadsden County, Florida.

1t: 10/29

Saturday, Oct. 31
• **C.U.R.E. Fellowship Trunk or Treat**
C.U.R.E. Fellowship will host a Community Unity Revival Experience from

trunk-or-treat celebration, food, fellowship, games, music, giveaways, a bounce house and a best-decorated pumpkin contest. Participants are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. Host ministries include Open Door Church, Impact Ministries and Destiny Praise and Worship Center.

• **Halloween at Heritage Park**
Chattahoochee Main Street will present Halloween at Heritage Park beginning at 5:30 p.m. The community Halloween celebration will take place at Heritage Park in Chattahoochee.

• **Trunks of Treats**
The City of Quincy and community partners will host Trunks of Treats beginning at 6 p.m. at Wards Lot, behind Quincy City Hall. The Halloween celebration will feature a haunted house, treats, prizes for the best costumes and other activities. For more information, contact Celese Whiddon at 850-875-8157.



Advertise here!

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

ADVERTISE WITH US

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

RECYCLED POTTING SOIL
\$30.00/CUBIC YARD (WILL FILL YOUR PICKUP)
GREAT FOR ANY GARDENING NEEDS
MAY NURSERY, INC.
178 MAY NURSERY ROAD
HAVANA, FL 32333
539-6495

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

PUMP REPAIR TRENCHING

MILLS WELL DRILLING INC.

5355 TOWER ROAD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32303
(850) 562-2906

IRRIGATION WATER TEST & FILTRATION

W&L Tire & Wheel Co.
BRIDGESTONE Firestone

ALIGNMENT & BRAKE SERVICE
24 HOUR ROAD SERVICE

New, Used, Recapped Tires
Heavy Duty Trucks Tires • Industrial Tires
Farm Tires • Lawnmower Tires • Custom Wheels

John Ledbetter, Manager
820 W. Jefferson St. • Quincy, FL 32351
(850) 627-8830

Winter Animal Hospital

Dr. Greg Winter DVM
Where all great friendships start with a Paw-shake.

1140 Florida Georgia Highway
Havana, FL 32333
Fax: 562-4414 (850) 562-2777

ERIN HILL PHOTOGRAPHY

Capturing moments to last a lifetime

(850) 759-9275
ERINHILLPHOTOC@GMAIL.COM

Terry Tree Service
(850) 539-5562 • (850) 570-3747
(850) 408-4753

Terry Spack
President
84 Spring Brook Trail
Havana, FL 32333

Licensed & Insured
Tree Cutting
Trimming
Clean-Up
Insurance Estimates

SAND GRAVEL
PYRAMID Excavation, Inc.

LAND CLEARING • SITEWORK
850-539-8100
pyramidexcavation.net

Certified Underground Utility Contractor - CUC1224488 General Contractor - CGC1515940

ASHMORE & ASHMORE, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants

- Computer Accounting for Small Businesses
- Tax Return Preparation & Planning
- Financial Statement Preparation
- Auditing & Accounting Services

Sharron Ashmore, (850) 539-5660
Jimmy Ashmore, (850) 539-5690
ashmorecpa@bellsouth.net
109 S. Main St.
Havana, FL 32333

Puzzle Solutions

Don't Peek.
Puzzles on page 5.

PIG PEN

P	I	G	P	E	N	A	D	O	S	G	T	S					
O	T	E	L	L	O	S	I	N	T	E	R	M					
G	O	N	U	M	B	I	C	E	C	A	N	O	E				
						G	O	L	D	F	I	S	H	B	O	W	L
T	E	A		S	E	E		E	E	O		M	E	L			
A	D	A	M		C	E	R	A		R	E	L					
J	U	R	Y		P	O	O	L		T	A	E					
					P	E	T		P	R	O	J	E	C	T	S	
					Y	A	P			P	O	R	T	R	A	I	T
A	C	H	E		O	P	E	N		O	K	R	A				
W	H	Y		A	N	A		A	M	T		E	A	R			
H	A	M	S	T	E	R		W	H	E	E	L					
I	N	N	U	E	N	D				D	R	A	W	E	R		
L	E	A	R		T	O		O	R	I	O	L	E				
E	L	L	E		S	N	L		C	A	T	N	T	P			

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

SCRABBLE G R A M S SOLUTION

S1	E1	A1	B3	O1	O1	T1	RACK 1 =	59
P3	O1	S1	T1	D2	O1	C3	RACK 2 =	65
T1	W4	I1	L1	I1	T1		RACK 3 =	9
V4	A1	M3	P3	I1	S1	H4	RACK 4 =	84

PAR SCORE 145-155
TOTAL 217

Hasbro and its logo, SCRABBLE®, associated logo, the design of the distinctive SCRABBLE brand game board, and the distinctive letter tile designs are trademarks of Hasbro in the United States and Canada. ©2025 Hasbro. All rights reserved. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

GADSDEN SCHOOLS DETAIL PROJECTS PROPOSED UNDER HALF-CENT SALES TAX

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

Gadsden County voters will decide Nov. 3 whether to approve a half-cent sales tax increase that school district officials say would generate approximately \$2.3 million annually to address aging facilities, improve school safety and upgrade classrooms throughout the county.

The Gadsden County School District has released a facilities improvement plan identifying proposed projects at individual schools, including replacements of aging air-conditioning systems, security upgrades, cafeteria renovations and improvements to athletic facilities.

The proposed tax would increase the county's sales tax rate from 7.5% to 8%, adding 50 cents in sales tax to a \$100 taxable purchase.

Among the projects identified in the district's plan are improvements at Havana Middle School, Chattahoochee Elementary School, Greensboro Elementary School, Gadsden County High School and Gadsden Technical College.

At Havana Middle School, proposed improvements include replacing doors and the school's chiller system, upgrading athletic fields and improving the cafeteria.

Chattahoochee Elementary School and Greensboro Elementary School are identified for door and air-conditioning replacements, removal of portable classrooms and the addition of restrooms inside classrooms serving students in kindergarten through third grade.

At Gadsden County High School, the district has identified security door replacements, chiller improvements, athletic facility upgrades and cafeteria improvements.

The plan also identifies renovations and remodeling at Gadsden Technical College, including improvements to mechanical systems.

Another proposed project involves relocating the Head Start program to the former Quincy High School campus.

Beyond the school-specific improvements, the district has identified broader maintenance and infrastructure needs, including roof repairs and replacements, drainage improvements, lighting upgrades and classroom modernization.

The district's facilities plan does not establish that every proposed project will be completed. Final decisions about which projects move forward and their order of priority will be considered by the district's Facilities Planning Committee, with available funding influencing implementation.

The Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved placing the refer-



endum on the November ballot in December 2025 following a request from the School Board.

Superintendent Elijah Key previously said many of the district's school buildings were between 50 and 70 years old, creating significant maintenance challenges.

The proposed surtax would provide a dedicated funding source for capital improvements. Under Florida law, school capital outlay sales surtax revenue is restricted to authorized capital expenditures and related purposes rather than general operating expenses.

Eligible charter schools would also receive a proportionate share of the

revenue based on enrollment.

The sales tax would apply to taxable purchases made within Gadsden County, including purchases by visitors and travelers.

District officials say the proposed funding would help address long-standing maintenance needs while creating safer and more modern learning environments for students.

Approval requires a majority of voters casting ballots on the referendum.

The measure will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot. Early voting continues through Nov. 1.

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 2026 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 20, 2026.

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 19th, 2026, 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.

GADSDEN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE

The Gadsden County Planning Commission will virtually host and broadcast their regular monthly meeting on **November 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** Those wishing to provide public testimony will be able to do so by attending the meeting. This meeting may be viewed by accessing the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/GadsdenCountyBOCC. Virtual meeting access details will be posted to the Gadsden County website, www.gadsdencountyfl.gov. Anyone wishing to speak on agenda or non-agenda items virtually should schedule or notify the County Public Information Officer no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting at 850-875-8671 or at media@gadsdencountyfl.gov before attending the meeting and will be asked to follow the Gadsden County Public Meetings Citizens Access Guidelines. Public comment for Commission meetings can be submitted via email to CitizensToBeHeard@gadsdencountyfl.gov until 12:00 p.m. on November **12, 2026**. Comments submitted after the deadline will be added to the official record, but the County cannot guarantee that Commissioners and staff will have adequate time to review comments prior to the meeting. The proposed agenda will include the following workshop and scheduled public hearing items:

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

APC Towers, LLC Fl- 1932 Quincy (Quasi-Judicial Hearing) (SP 2025-06) -
Consideration of a conceptual/preliminary site plan to construct a telecommunication

tower on Tax Parcel ID # 2-30-3N-3W-0000-00431-0300 located near the intersection of Attapulugus Hwy and Taylor Rd.



General Business: Evaluation and Appraisal report on Comprehensive Plan

The files for the agenda items are available for public inspection at least one week prior to the meeting at the Planning Division, 1B E. Jefferson St., Quincy, Florida, and on the County website at www.gadsdencountyfl.gov. If a person decides to appeal any decision by the Planning Commission 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.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons needing assistance in obtaining any information from the County must contact the Gadsden County Public Information by calling 850-875-8671 or emailing media@gadsdencountyfl.gov at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.



It happened in the check-out lane down at the Soup 'R' Market last week.

As sometimes happens, when we are glancing at the tabloids to see who fathered Bigfoot's new baby, we get into discussions of trivia. Annette was sliding broccoli and corn flakes over the glass-window dinger machine, and we were just chatting about ... I think it was bears this time. You know...

"I read," said Annette, "that a bear can run 45 miles an hour, faster than a race horse."

To which I added, "Did you know a polar bear's skin is black, and a black bear's skin is white?"

"Really?" Annette said, weighing the plastic bag of apples. "And did you know," she said, "that horses can't vomit?"

Horses just hadn't heard me sing yet, that's all.

So it was then that the next guy in line, a young fellow dressed in camouflage, smiled and joined in.

"You know the song, 'The Duke of Earl'?" he asked.

Well, of course we did. We used to slide around the dance floor to that when Elvis was still a pup. Wasn't as good for snuggling as a Johnny Mathis tune, but what is? Half the marriages in this town began while dancing to "The Twelfth of Never."

"Well, here's something to think about," our young friend said. "If you are driving down the highway, and you tap your foot on the accelerator each time the car goes by one of those broken yellow lines, and if you do it in time to 'The Duke of Earl,' you're doing exactly 55 miles an hour."

"You're kidding!"

"Nope. I'm a trucker, and I can tell you it's a fact. Heard it on the radio and gave it a try. Fifty-five miles an hour."

Let's see ... Duke, duke, duke, duke of earl, duke, duke, duke of earl, duke...

Might come in handy if the speedometer goes on the fritz.

Brought to you by the novella "Whimsy Castle" by Slim Randles. On the internet.



Nurse Judy's Nook Judy Conlin

Am I a genius, crazy or just old?

I am a creature of habit. It is how I have survived. I have been able to be involved in so many things because of my organizational skills and preplanning. I don't know what has happened. Sometimes I think it is because I have just taken on too many projects. At other times, I think it is because I have gotten too old to handle so much. Nurse Judy, my ever-so-critical alter ego, immediately pops her head into my office.

"It's because you are older than Methuselah," she shouts at me.

She is so opinionated and so rude. Because of my opinion of her, I refuse to believe this and decide that it is just because my regular routine has gotten way out of control. I will just get things back to normal, and everything will be all right.

Her head with the big mouth pops in again.

"And just when, in your entire lifetime, have you ever been even a little bit normal?" she interjects.

Since those words of mine about getting back to normal had not even been spoken (I had merely typed them on the computer), you can see what I'm up against. It is very difficult to fight one who seems to know your every thought and motivation. I am defeated before I ever get started. What am I to do? I think, I ponder, I whine, and I am getting nowhere. I decide to take a walk and clear my mind.

I put on a sweater, grab my old Walkman and start down the driveway. Hey, what is happening? My knees are buckling, and they are yelling at me.

"Ouch! Ouch!" I say. "What is happening?"

Nurse Judy glides out the back door and hands me a cane.

"Did you forget you are 90 years old now?" she asks with a very harsh laugh. "You are not the same as you were 50 years ago. You are not the same as you were 40 years ago. You are not the same ..."

I cut her off.

"I can still do things," I say. "It just takes me a little longer."

"The world doesn't have enough time to wait for an old duffer like you."

She seems to be winning. I am trying hard to remember the many wonderful contributions to society made by oldsters. I remember hearing about them, but I don't remember who they were or what they did. A silence is dragging on.

"Someone who (I don't remember who) did something great (I don't remember exactly what) said he attributed his abilities at his age to the fact that he took several catnaps every day," I finally come up with.

Dead silence followed this pronouncement. Hurrah! I was winning. The silence deepened. Then Nurse Judy walked over to me and bowed.

I felt exuberant. After 90 years, I had finally won a battle with this nemesis of mine. I couldn't help smiling.

Nurse Judy bowed again.

"I am honored to be in the presence of such a genius," she murmured.

Genius? I am surprised. Nurse Judy would never use such a word to describe me.

"Are you calling me a genius?" I ask, all agog.

That devilish smirk crosses her face.

"Well," she says, every second enjoying herself more, "if taking catnaps makes oldsters smart and great, then you have to be the smartest oldster in the whole world because every time I look for you, you are napping in your lounge chair, just snoring away."

She falls on the floor laughing.

I can't win, but it was nice being called a genius, if only for half a second. I am going to pursue a simpler life and be a little less crazy — just crazy enough to keep writing this column. Now for a nap.

More later,

Judy
www.nursejudyinfo.com

Much more-ness touches me Nancy Kennedy

When my church built our sanctuary, someone donated money for a fountain out front.

It's beautiful, especially on Sunday mornings when the columns of bubbling water are flowing.

Often it's a backdrop for people to take photos before or after church.

Every once in a while you might find yellow rubber ducks floating on the crystal-clear water or kids in their Sunday clothes splashing and laughing.

But on weekdays, especially on Mondays when the church staff is off, the fountain is quiet.

Years ago, before the newspaper office moved to a new location, the church was only a few miles away. Sometimes, when the newsroom was particularly hectic and noisy and I couldn't concentrate on a story I was writing, I'd sneak away and drive up to the church to sit on one of the benches near the fountain so I

could think.

I'd sit by the fountain, my legal pad of paper on my lap and pen in hand, ready to jot down story ideas.

That's when my mind would often wander to places I'd rather forget, like the time years ago when I said something cruel to my mother at a family gathering.

I pretended like I was joking, and she laughed it off.

But it made her cry later.

When I start thinking about such things, I find myself telling God over and over, "I'm so, so sorry!"

One day I noticed that whenever I'd be caught up in this pattern of guilt and remorse, dwelling on past sins, saying I'm sorry, I repeatedly tap my fists together.

I do a lot of odd things, maybe this was just one of many.

But I noticed.

As I was bumping my fists I remembered a guest pastor talking

about the "much more-ness" of the gospel.

That had caught my attention because I love made-up words. But then he started talking about how in Christ we're not just forgiven, but set free. That God is for us, not against us.

That He delights in us.

Sometimes I forget that.

I looked at my fists and realized that in my struggle with sin — past and present — I had been pitting God against me.

I imagined one fist as me and my sin and the other fist as God, the two fists knocking up against each other.

But I had it all wrong.

One fist is me and God together. The other fist is my sin.

Suddenly, Hebrews 4:16 took on a new understanding: "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

I remember looking at my fists as I tapped them together, but this time smiling as I let this truth sink in.

I still catch myself falling into the old pattern of beating myself up over past sin. But I'm quicker to stop and tell my accusing thoughts, "No! I'm forgiven! Go away!"

Sometimes I just shake my head and call myself an idiot and get on with life.

When our fountain was first built, my pastor said it was a symbol of the river of living water that flows from the throne of God, flourishing everything it touches.

The much more-ness of the gospel, the delight of the Father, a river flowing with grace.

It touches me.

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

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation: THE HAVANA HERALD is published weekly at Quincy, FL. Its publisher is Mark Pettus, 103 W 7th Ave, Havana, FL 32333-1660. The editor is Erin Hill, 103 W 7th Ave, Havana, FL 32333-1660. Owner is Priority News Inc., 103 W 7th Ave, Havana, FL 32333-1660. Major shareholders are Mark Pettus and Colleen Sperry, 103 W 7th Ave, Havana, FL 32333-1660. There are no bondholders, mortgagees, or other security holders. Total number of copies printed during the preceding 12 months averaged 2,675, and 1,550 were printed for September 17, the issue nearest the filing date. Average mailed outside the county was 333 for the year and 69 on September 17. The average mailed in-county was 782 for the year and 288 on September 17. Average total copies sold through dealers, carriers or vendors was 1,439 during the year and 1,072 on September 17. Paid distribution averaged 2,554 for the year and was 1,429 on September 17. Total average free distribution was 121 for the year and 121 on September 17. Total distribution averaged 2,675 for the year and was 1,550 on September 17. Copies not distributed averaged 0 for the year and was 0 on September 17. Paid circulation averaged 95.48 percent for the year and was 92.19 percent on September 17. Paid electronic copies averaged 551 for the year and was 611 on September 17. Total paid print copies + paid electronic copies was 3,105 for the year and 2,040 on September 17. Total print distribution + paid electronic copies was 3,226 for the year and 2,161 on September 17. Print and/or electronic copies averaged 96.25 percent paid for the year and were 94.40 percent paid on September 17.

(USPS 237-340)
Published every Thursday by
Priority News, Inc.
103 W. 7th Ave. • Havana, FL
32333 • (850) 539-6586
E-mail: mail@prioritynews.net
Web: theherald.online
Web: chattahoocheenews.com

STAFF
Mark Pettus, Publisher
mark.pettus@prioritynews.net
**Colleen Sperry, Advertising
& Circulation Mgr.**
colleen@prioritynews.net

**Erin Hill,
Editor**
editor@prioritynews.net
Jasmine Green
jasmine@newslinedigital.com

**SUBSCRIPTION
RATES**
\$40 in
Gadsden County
\$50 outside
Gadsden County

DEADLINE
News - 5:00 p.m. Friday
and Advertising - 5:00 p.m.
Monday
THE HERALD (ISSN 237-
340) is published weekly for
\$40 per year — \$50 outside
county — by Priority News,
Inc.,

103 W. 7th Ave., Havana, FL
32333.
Periodicals postage paid at
Havana Post Office.
Send address changes to
THE HERALD, 103 W. 7th
Ave.,
Havana, FL 32333-1097

Numbers based on AAA Gas Prices report, as of Oct. 20, 2026.

At The Pump

National Average:
\$4.28 per gallon

Florida Average:
\$4.04 per gallon

Gadsden County Average:
\$4.02 per gallon

Jackson County Average:
\$3.94 per gallon

Leon County Average
\$4.00 per gallon

COMICS AND PUZZLES

©2026 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 11/7

pluggermail@aol.com

Thanks to Bill Radvansky New Kensington, Pennsylvania

COMING THROUGH!

MEN

A plugger knows that the closer you get to the bathroom, the worse you have to go.

JUMBLE

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

CLKOF

TWHAC

RFMAIF

KOVEIN

©2022 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

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

Let's get to our destination. I need a vacation!

Roger that!

AFTER SO MANY FLIGHTS OVER SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, THE PILOT WAS READY TO ---

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: THUMP ELUDE SKIING FRUGAL Answer: Mr. Twain passed away in 1910, but he certainly -- LEFT HIS MARK

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.

IHD

PYAR

NEBD

YAAW

What's going on? Do you need a brush?

I woke up, and it was a mess.

THE RABBIT'S COUSIN WAS HAVING A ---

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.

Jumbles: HID PRAY BEND AWAY Answer: The rabbit's cousin was having a -- BAD "HARE" DAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOM. MAKE A WISH.

HOLD IT!

MAKE SURE THAT WISH IS AGE APPROPRIATE.

©2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

LIFT WITH YOUR LEGS!

©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

Hey! Hey! We're on our way! Rover, Hoogy, Boogan' Aubee - Here we come!

The scenery sure is beautiful on the drive up to their place!

Yeah! But when do we get to see it?

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

WHEN I ORDERED GERMAN CHOCOLATE CAKE BORDERED WITH FRESH STRAWBERRIES AND BELGIAN TRUFFLES, THE MENU DIDN'T SAY NO CATSUP!

©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

SCRABBLE G R A M S

Hasbro and its logo, SCRABBLE®, associated logo, the design of the distinctive SCRABBLE brand game board, and the distinctive letter tile designs are trademarks of Hasbro in the United States and Canada. ©2025 Hasbro. All rights reserved. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

PAR SCORE 145-155 BEST SCORE 217

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

01-15

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.

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

Puzzle solutions on page 2

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

©2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

BAD KING? NO PROBLEM!

Both vulnerable, South deals

NORTH
♠ 10 6 5
♥ K 6 3
♦ 9 7 2
♣ J 10 6 4

WEST
♠ 4 3
♥ A K Q J 9
♦ Q J 4
♣ K 9 7 3 2

EAST
♠ 9 7 2
♥ A 8 7 4
♦ Q 10 8 5
♣ 8 5

SOUTH
♠ A K Q J 8
♥ 5 2
♦ A K 6 3
♣ A Q

The bidding:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
2♣ Pass 2♦ Pass
2♠ Pass 3♠ Pass
4♠ All pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♥

North's raise to three spades, rather than jumping to four, showed a little something. South judged that it couldn't possibly be enough

hearts proved to be useless. South played low from dummy on the first two heart leads, but he had to make a decision on the third round of hearts. One line of play was to ruff the heart low, cash the ace and king of diamonds, and lead a third diamond. The plan would be to ruff declarer's last diamond with dummy's 10 of spades and then fall back on the club finesse for the contract. After some thought, South came up with something better. He ruffed the third heart with the jack of spades, cashed the ace of spades, and then led the queen of clubs from his hand!

West grabbed his king and exited with a club to declarer's ace. South now cashed the king of spades. When everyone followed to the second trump, it was clear sailing. He led the preserved eight of spades to dummy's 10, drawing the last trump, and discarded his remaining low diamonds on dummy's clubs.

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this

- Across**
- 1 *Messy place [wire mesh, posts, fasteners]
- 7 Fuss
- 10 Barracks bosses: Abbr.
- 14 Verdi opera
- 15 Pride or lust
- 16 Time in office
- 17 Lose feeling
- 18 Winter sport vehicle
- 20 *Area with little privacy [candy jar, rocks, aerator, water]
- 22 Cuppa, to a Brit
- 25 "Get it?"
- 26 Fair-hiring letters
- 27 Director Brooks
- 28 Genesis figure
- 30 Michael of "Juno"
- 32 Depend (on)
- 33 Group summoned to a court-house
- 36 Country duo Maddie & ___
- 38 Labors of love, perhaps, and what the answers to the starred clues are?
- 41 Pup's bark
- 42 Landscape alternative
- 45 Pine (for)
- 48 Uncork, say
- 50 Gumbo pod
- 51 "Please explain"
- 52 Actress de Armas
- 53 Qty.
- 56 Body part examined by an oto-
- laryngologist
- 57 *Dull and repetitive job [cardboard, dowel, popsicle sticks, glue, scissors]
- 61 Insinuation
- 62 Dresser part
- 66 Shakespearean king
- 67 As well
- 68 Camden Yards ballplayer
- 69 French fashion magazine
- 70 "Lisa From Temecula" sketch show, for short
- 71 *Irresistible thing [seeds, soil, water, sunlight]
- Down**
- 1 1990s fad disc
- 2 "How was ___ know?"
- 3 Lead-in to Xer, Yer, and Zer
- 4 Stop (up)
- 5 "___ World": "Sesame Street" feature
- 6 Highborn
- 7 "You wish!"
- 8 More fraught
- 9 Many a kayak
- 10 Wild guss
- 11 Biological map subject
- 12 Mortar-spreading tool
- 13 Like some compost bins
- 19 Comedian Margaret
- 21 Interior design
- 22 ___ Mahal

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
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71		

23 College URL ender

24 50+ group

29 "Nonsense!"

31 Get hitched in Vegas, perhaps

32 Hip again

34 School org.

35 Foes

37 Play a part

39 "The Wolf of Wall Street" Oscar nominee Hill

40 Sushi pairing

43 Golden yrs. fund

44 Road goo

45 Some time

46 Big name in perfume

47 Church songbook

49 "Excuse me?"

52 Noshed

54 French red wine

55 ___ firma

58 "Yeah, I guess so"

59 Cold-weather fabric

60 Milk, in French

63 Came in first

64 Yalie

65 Agr.

Gadsden County sheriff's 11th annual cancer awareness walk unites community

Erin Hill
Gadsden County News Service

Cancer survivors, families and supporters gathered Friday, Oct. 23, for Sheriff Morris A. Young's 11th Annual Cancer Awareness Walk, an event aimed at raising awareness, celebrating survivors and honoring those who have lost their lives to cancer.

Hosted by the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office, this year's walk carried the theme "Stronger Than Cancer," highlighting the importance of unity and support for those affected by the disease.

The event began at the Helen Franks Center in Gretna, where participants gathered for warm-

up activities at 8:30 a.m. The walk started at 9 a.m. and concluded at the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office.

Participants dressed in pink and wore cancer awareness apparel as they joined others in showing support for survivors and families affected by cancer.



Gadsden County Sheriff Morris A. Young, center, joins supporters during the 11th Annual Cancer Awareness Walk on Oct. 23. The event celebrated cancer survivors and encouraged community unity in the fight against cancer.



Participants and community partners gather beneath tents during Sheriff Morris A. Young's 11th Annual Cancer Awareness Walk on Friday, Oct. 23. The event brought residents and organizations together to support cancer awareness and survivors.



Participants wearing pink walk through downtown Quincy during Sheriff Morris A. Young's 11th Annual Cancer Awareness Walk on Oct. 23. The annual event promotes cancer awareness and honors those affected by the disease.

The event also included a celebration at the sheriff's office, with music, food, community resources and health screenings among the activities advertised for the day.

Following the walk, the sheriff's office expressed appreciation to the organizers, volunteers, sponsors, community partners, survivors, families and supporters who helped make the 11th annual event possible.

"The Gadsden County Sheriff's Office is proud to recognize the strength, courage, and resilience of cancer survivors, those currently fighting, and the families who continue to walk alongside them," the agency stated in a Facebook post.

The sheriff's office also emphasized the importance of remembering those who have died from cancer while continuing to support individuals undergoing treatment.

"Together, we continue to raise awareness, promote hope, celebrate survivors, honor those we have lost, and stand united against cancer," Young said.

404 West Jefferson Street
www.myquincy.net


Since 1825
An All American City
...in the heart of Florida's Future

Quincy, FL 32351
850-618-1966


City of
QUINCY
FLORIDA

Annual Cleanup

November 2, 2026 - November 13, 2026

The City of Quincy will conduct a Citywide Annual Cleanup. This year the cleanup will start on November 2, 2026, and run through November 13, 2026. The City of Quincy offers this annual event to assist residents in disposing of unwanted items that are not typically collected with weekly residential service. The mission of this event is to remove unwanted trash from around the **City's streets, parks, and neighborhoods**. Everyone loves a clean City, including our visitors. During these weeks, **City residents** are asked to take unwanted items to the streets to return our City to its natural beauty, truly making this a citywide event.

City residents may dispose of bulky or large items, appliances, and unwanted tires by placing them on the right-a-way of the street at the **City customers' location residence** for pick up by Public Works. Residents are urged not to overload bags and containers beyond their ability to manage. **Please do not mix items. Staff will not pick up mixed trash because items are placed in different locations and cannot be combined.**

Southside Pick-ups
November 2-6, 2026

Northside Pick-ups
November 9-13, 2026


City Wide Clean-Up

As always, residents are asked for their patience during the citywide cleanup process.

AN ALL AMERICAN CITY

IN THE HEART OF FLORIDA'S FUTURE


FOOD • FUN • SPIRITS
OFF THE RAILS
IRISH PUB
Havana, Florida



Join Us for Great
Food & Drink Specials
Nightly!
Live Music

Drummer on the Move
Friday, Oct 29th
6:30pm - 9:30pm



- Tasty Bar Bites
- Full Dinner Menu
- Classic Cocktails
- Specialty Martinis
- Beer and Wine

Check out our store and unique merchandise!

Happy Hour 4 - 7pm Daily

Karaoke
Hosted by
Local Musician
Steven Ritter
Tuesday
Starting
at 6:30pm

Bar Bingo
Wednesdays
Fun and Prizes
starting at 6:30

Prime Rib
Thursday
5pm


306 1st Street Downtown Historic Havana
850-397-1518
facebook.com/OffTheRailsIrishPub


Oak Tree
TREASURES
by Big Bend Hospice



Visit Our New Location and
Save 20%
Off Any One Item*

Oak Tree Treasures on Monroe
3802 North Monroe St., Tallahassee FL

* Must present coupon to receive discount. Valid at the North Monroe Street location only. Excludes specially marked items. One coupon per customer. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires: 11/30/2026

Learn more, call (850) 671-6000 or visit
OakTreeTreasures.org

New Arrivals
Every Day!

Affordable
Prices!

Every Purchase
Supports Hospice!

