



# THE WEWA NEWS™



*“The Good News Newspaper!”*

DECEMBER 2022 >> Vol. 4 No. 12 << A FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER Take One!

## CITY COUNCIL AND CITY LAWYER AGREE TO MEDIATE WITH ALL PARTIES IN THE FIRE HOUSE LAWSUITS

by Tom Wynn

During the November city meeting the city attorney discussed four lawsuits that the city of Wewa is involved with concerning the failure to complete the fire house building before December 25, 2021. The new firehouse was under construction (which is being funded by a FAMA Grant) by Winterfell Construction Company, located in Panama City Florida. The city fathers and the attorney agreed to meet with all parties to discuss the situation at the request of the bonding company in January.

## CORN GRIFFIN STREET WOES

A resident who lives on Corn Griffin Street, Mr. David Brown, discussed his issues with the dirt road not being properly maintained by the Gulf County Road Department causing flooding in front of his home. The city contacted the county over the issue via the City Manager, Michael Gortman, last month on the matter. They agreed to repair the crowning of the road, but did not do so properly. The city agreed to contact the county again to stop the flooding issue. The mayor stated that it had never been prepared or paved before, and it would be very costly to pave in today's prices, as he stated in last month's city meeting. Mayor Gaskin agreed to help see to it that the county repair the crowning of the road and whatever else that is needed to resolve the issues with the dirt road.

## HOME BUILDING COMPANY ASKS FOR IMPACT FEE WAIVER

Mr. Jerad R. Kemp, representing Mammoth Factory, a home building company based in Marianna, Florida, came before the board. He reported they are breaking ground on a new subdivision in Oakridge Village area. They are requesting the city to waive the city's impact fees. The mayor quickly discounted the idea as the city needs the money to help upgrade our water and sewage system to handle the new homes that are being constructed.

The City Council agreed 5-0 to not waive the fees. Mr. Kemp requested their decision in writing. The mayor polled the council to make sure they all had their individual say in the matter. As a result, the public at the meeting were able to understand the importance of these fees on our infrastructure, and how subdivisions affect the services to the community.

## WEWA LOSES TWO ICONS IN NOVEMBER

by Tom Wynn

With a tight race between Billy Traylor and Ward McDaniel, the Republicans voted Mr. Traylor as their Republican candidate for Gulf County Commissioner, District 2. On November 8<sup>th</sup>, the citizens of Wewahitchka voted again between Mr. Michael Charles Riley, a Democratic candidate and Mr. Billy Traylor. Mr. Traylor won the vote by 77 percent.

But, to our sadness and sense of great loss, **Billy Traylor** passed away over Thanksgiving weekend due to a medical issue that he had been battling this year. He will be missed by so many of us.

Billy Traylor was a city commissioner, the mayor of Wewa, as well as a Gulf County Commissioner throughout his political career. But, more importantly, he was a friend to everyone and was a good listener to those he served.

He also served as supervisor for the Tourist Development Council in Gulf County and retired from the County a few months ago. He was a public servant and friend to many folks. He now rests with our Creator and thus his memory will live on in us as a man who served and loved his community with a great passion.

**Mr. Charles Cleckley** passed away in early November following a long-term illness. He served in the U.S. military during the Vietnam war era. He also served in our community, his entire adult life as a schoolteacher, an EMT, and many other ways he gave his time, money, and love to Wewa and the surrounding area. He was a man of God and country. He was one of my dear friends, being like an uncle to me. I will miss our talks and his encouragement to write the Wewa News.

History tells us, especially in a small town like Wewa, that when someone passes on to Glory, it is felt by everyone.

This edition of The Wewa News is designed to investigate our rights as citizens of these United States. We have failed to teach our children who we are and what we stand for. Have we forgotten the costs of freedom? **“Let freedom ring before the bell is melded down by those that are careless and know not what they do.”** Tom Wynn Jr.

## THE WEWA WOMAN’S CLUB NEWS



The GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club presented Wewahitchka Arts Teacher Coach Stuart Vines with a check for \$578.00 to help the Arts students of Wewahitchka and Port St. Joe attend the St. Pete Fairgrounds. Pictured is President Terri Norris and Secretary Rhonda Alderman. Please have a safe and memorable trip.

GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club is gearing up for the Annual Christmas Facebook Cake Auction. Look for the beautiful cakes beginning December 21 and ending on December 22 at 3:00 PM. The funds from this event will go towards scholarships and other community needs.

Cakes by several local bakeries and some by our very own members will be featured in the auction. **BE ON THE LOOK OUT!**

**BRICKS!** Did you say **BRICKS?** A shipment of bricks for the Veterans Park has arrived. Be on the lookout for these bricks to be placed soon. If you would like to order a brick, please contact Terri Norris at 850-832-9670. We are trying to get another order placed soon. The Woman’s Club continues to sell the Veterans bricks, as well as other fundraising events in the Wewa area.

**IN CASE YOU DIDN’T KNOW...**you are reading a free local newspaper, who exercises any and all rights given by the Most High and supported by the community we call these United States of America, the United States Inc., the U.S. Constitution, and the three bodies of government in their various institutions as protectors of our rights and privileges of “We The People.” We all stand in unity to protect one another from domestic and foreign governments and individuals that may infringe upon our eternal rights as children of the Most High, as contractually given by the author of, “The Holy Bible.”—**The Editor**

**Isaiah 53**

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**THE HOLY BIBLE WAS  
DECLARED LAW BY UNITED  
STATES...PUBLIC LAW 97-288**  
by Tom Wynn

**The 97<sup>th</sup> UNITED STATES CONGRESS passed  
the Law! 97<sup>th</sup> Congress  
1<sup>st</sup> SESSION Joint Resolution**

A joint resolution authorizing and requesting the President to proclaim 1983 as the "Year of the Bible." *Whereas* the Bible, **the Word of God**, has made a unique mark in shaping the United States as a distinctive and blessed nation and people; *Whereas* deeply held religious convictions springing from the Holy Scriptures led to the early settlement of our Nation; *Whereas* Biblical teachings inspired concepts of civil government that are contained in our Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States; *Whereas* many of our great national leaders—among them Presidents Washington, Jackson, Lincoln, and Wilson, paid tribute to the surpassing influence of the Bible in our country's development. In the words of President Jackson that the Bible is "the rock on which our Republic rests;" *Whereas* the history of our Nation clearly illustrates the value of voluntarily applying the teachings of the Scriptures in the lives of individuals, families, and societies; *Whereas* this Nation now faces great challenges that will test this Nation as it has never been tested before; and *Whereas* that renewing our knowledge of and faith in God through Holy Scripture can strengthen us as a nation and a people: *Now, therefore*, be it *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, that the President is authorized and requested to designate 1983 as a national "Year of the Bible" in recognition of both the formative influence the Bible has been for our Nation, and **our national need to study and apply the teachings of the Holy Scriptures.** *Approved October 4, 1982.* Proclamation 5018 was the resulting action by President Reagan.

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## WEWAHITCHKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting Notes - Nov 17, 2022

Ann Johnson opened our meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Tom Semmes read last month's minutes, Tommy Wynn motioned to accept the minutes and Chuck Johnson seconded the motion.

Tom Semmes gave us the treasure's report. The yard sale was a great fundraiser, with additional sales Ann made out of her shop. Tom Semmes stated that he, along with Pastor Derek Gerber (Ministerial Association) and a few 6th graders went to Jehu Cemetery to clean headstones.

Carol Wood gave us an update on the Presbyterian Church. A special grant has been applied for, and they are now waiting for the Legislation to approve it. Some of the events they hope to use the church for in the future are for weddings, tours, etc.

Some discussion was made about the Charles Whitehead Public Library's Local History Day which went very well. The music was great, the face painting was creative and well done. The food was good too.

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The Friends of the Library will meet next month to discuss next year's event. Hope you will come out.

Discussion was made on the next Afghan with new pictures. Talk concerning a membership drive being held in January. A table will be set up at the IGA for the membership drive and to sell the Afghans we have left. Some discussion about clean-up at the Iola Cemetery was made. The Sons of the Confederacy want to mark the confederate soldiers buried there.

Members were informed about a meeting on Friday morning at 10:00 AM titled Tour Through Our Heritage. We had a cemetery workshop that was a success. Linda Davis signed us up for the Florida Historical Society.

Chuck Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting and Carol Wood seconded it.  
(Hey Wewa and our local community, come join us!)

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**HEY VETS, NEED HELP WITH YOUR VA CLAIMS? CONTACT: Ms. Lynn Lanier, Gulf Co. Veterans Reps, at 850-229-6125. Leave a message and she will return your call.**

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We are located on Highway 22 near the red \_ light.  
Senior Chief James Harvell served in the U.S. Navy.

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**James 1:2-3**

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## **UPDATE ON THE HISTORICAL FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN WEWA**

by Carol Wood

"It takes a village to raise a child," so says an African proverb. In Wewa, it's going to take a community to "raise" First Presbyterian Church back to pre-hurricane Michael grandeur. It is one of the oldest churches in continuous use in Gulf County. It was consecrated as St. John's Episcopal in November 1903. After four years of working with FEMA, we have only been able to repair the foundation. There is much work yet to be done and the process with FEMA is ongoing. We have also applied for funding from the State of Florida Division of Historical Resources for a grant to paint the exterior of both buildings. Our application has been approved by the State grants committee. It will go forward to the Secretary of State with a recommendation to fund, and then to the state legislature for final approval. For both the FEMA grant and the State Grant, the church must provide 25% of the funding.

We have been encouraged by the State of Florida Division of Historical Resources Historic Preservation Grants Committee to pursue having the church listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Because the steeple is not original, having been struck by lightning and replaced in 1996, and because the altar was removed when the building was sold to the Presbyterians in 1943, the building does not qualify architecturally for the register. However, we may be able to qualify because of the buildings' importance to the community.

If you have photos of any events that took place in the church or fellowship hall, or if you have memories that you could write down, it can help us in our efforts to have the building designated. With the proper signage, this may also bring more visitors to Wewa. It is our desire to create a series of exhibits with the help of volunteers from the Wewahitchka Historical Society, that will be displayed inside the fellowship hall for the community to enjoy.

The small congregation continues to gather for Sunday worship in the fellowship hall, where the church pews have been temporarily relocated, and of course, all are welcome. Sunday Service is at 11:00 AM Central Time. We invite you to share this journey of restoration with us. Please send any information that may help us

document the Church's importance to the community via postal mail or email.

Most urgently though, we need you to offer your talents and resources to help us reach our current financial and restoration goals before Wewahitchka's Sesquicentennial in 2025. We aim to make the church and fellowship hall available to the community for meetings. We hope that this Carpenter Gothic treasure will be a sought-after location for weddings and special events in the future.

The church was constructed with cut nails, using local heartwood pine and cypress boards to create the ceiling, interior walls and rafters that support the lofty ceiling. It also has seventeen beautiful stained-glass windows and a small choir loft behind the altar. For more information, please contact: Rev. Carol Wood. 850-866-9850; Email: woodrink@gmail.com, or our Treasurer, Mrs. Myrle Jones at 850-639-2657 or mail: First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 281, Wewa, 32465. You can help by:

1. Sending photos of any past events at the church
2. Making contributions to First Presbyterian Church (mailing address above)
3. Sending stories about events that occurred at the church
4. Contacting Rev. Wood if you would like to share your talents



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**HEY, VETERANS AND FAMILIES –  
TAKE NOTE!**

**Get the New Toxic Exposure Screening  
Preplan today for Tomorrow's health issues**  
by Tom Wynn

It is time for you to get off that couch and manage your own health care today and for the future. Were you not an action man or woman in the military? MOVE on your own behalf. Call Ms. Lynn Lanier at the Gulf County VA office for an appointment this week. Please! We want you to have what is due you and we are concerned about your health and well-being.

One of the best ways to manage your health is to develop a long-term health plan with the VA involved. Why? Because it is their duty to take care of your health needs, that is why they exist! FOR YOU!

See your local doctor or health care provider or the local VA clinic/providers. VA's new toxic exposure screening can help you plan for future concerns. Yes, all of the times you put your hands in JP4 or JP5 you were exposing your body to dangerous chemicals. (I was told by the U.S. Navy, via a teletype message back in the late 1970's that JP has Benzene in it, and Benzene can cause cancer, I had been putting my hands and arms in JP5 for 5 years already and had to continue for the next 15 years). Remember all of the \_poisonous fumes of burning oil and smoke, yes you were taking in chemicals that can have lasting effects on your body and soul, as well as your spiritual wellbeing when you saw all that action in the field. This is how the program works, as best as I understand: If you're enrolled in VA health care, you'll receive a first screening and a follow-up screening at least once every 5 years. If you're not enrolled but meet eligibility requirements, you'll have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening. We have a few quick facts that'll help you know what to expect with VA's new toxic exposure screening. During your screening, you'll be asked if you believe you experienced toxic exposure during your military service. The screening is quick—it only takes around 5–10 minutes to answer the questions. You can even complete the screening during one of your regular healthcare appointments, or you can decline the screening. If you decline, it'll be offered to you the following year.

Document possible exposures. The new toxic exposure screening documents different kinds of exposures.

There are several types of possible exposures or hazards you may have experienced during your military service. If you report a potential toxic exposure, it'll be included in your health record.

Plan for your long-term health. The screening makes your VA health care team aware of any potential exposures to toxins during your military service. Your VA health care team can provide ongoing care with a focus on early diagnosis and treatment of any health concerns that might be connected to your exposure(s).

After your screening, VA will provide information about benefits, registry exams, and clinical resources. Being screened is separate from joining a VA environmental health registry, like the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pits registry. Even if you don't have concerns now, you might in the future. You'll be screened at least once every 5 years. The screening is not part of the VA benefits claims process. Learn more about filing a claim by visiting [va.gov](http://va.gov). How to get screened. You may receive the screening at your next VA health care appointment. If you want to be screened sooner, contact your local VA facility and ask to be screened by the Toxic Exposure Screening Navigator.

The screening isn't diagnostic, but it identifies and records potential exposures. If needed, it'll support you in connecting with your VA health care team. You can always send your VA health care team a secure message if you have questions or concerns. **TW**

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**THE WEWA LIBRARY**  
by Joyelle Linton



Merry Christmas from the Charles Whitehead Public Library! Your local library has many exciting programs going on during December. The first program for the month is an adult cookie exchange program on the December 2 at 3:00. Please bring 3 dozen cookies and your recipe. On December the 5<sup>th</sup> Mr. Matthew Storey

from the Florida State Archives will do a virtual presentation at 2:00 PM about Gulf County during WWII. You may request a zoom link to watch from home or come to the library to view with others.

On Friday, December 9 at 3:30 PM, teens and adults will make cards and gift tags using rubber stamps. Local New York Time's Best-Selling author, Michael Lister, will be doing a book talk and signing on Monday December 12 from 5:30-7:00 PM.

Once again, Santa and Mrs. Clause will be visiting the library on Friday, December 16. Join us for a Storytime at 4:00 PM. Stop by anytime until 6:00 PM to make a festive craft, have cookies and cocoa, and take a photo with Santa and Mrs. Clause. Kids, it is time to get to baking! Join us for a kid's cookie swap on the December 19 at 3:00 PM.

The Chess Club is open to anyone of any age and skill level. The next event will be on December 20— at 3:30 PM. On December 22 at 11:00 AM we invite school age children to join our Christmas Full STEAM Ahead Program. Each Tuesday\_ we have a preschool story time at 10:00 AM.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers that helped with our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Wewahitchka Local History Day, with a special thanks to the Friends of the Wewahitchka Library. We could not have done it without you! Also, I would like to thank all of the local businesses that donated door prizes and raffles: Friends of the Wewahitchka Library, Honey Hole, IGA, Dixie Dandy, Blue Eyed Girl Honey, Rish Tupelo Honey, Car Quest, Hungry Howie's, Subway, Harvell's Cajun Chicken, and Ace Hardware.

Business hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM CST. Please contact us at (850) 639-2419. **JL**

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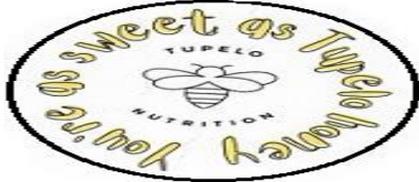
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### THE NEUTRAL ZONE WAS OPEN TO STAR TREK FANS by Tom Wynn

In mid-November Tom Wynn and Aaron Wynn (father and son), made a 5-hour trip to see "The Neutral Zone" for a second time this year. The studio is open to the public for a free tour a few times a year. The actor who played Capt. James T. Kirk, Vic Mignogna played in all 11 episodes of STAR TREK CONTINUES Series. Mignogna is best known for his voice-acting work and is a longtime Star Trek fan. Having done 11 episodes for the fans to enjoy, bringing in several old actors from the original series to play in the films as well.

The owner of the Studio was there to greet us and started the tour with very interesting information that we had not heard before. Later an actor and collector of everything "Star Trek" came and continued to give us even more insight to the history of the original Star Trek series and the cost and difficulties that came with such a strange and fancy adventure that took most of my generation to the far side of dreaming of traveling the stars and cool inventions (which some of them we use today, thanks to those little boys and girls who dare to take a TV show and turn it into reality). Vic came in and we were off to the rest of the studio tour. How they made such a show in 1960's was amazing. Vic and his crew made many of the props themselves, in the mid 2000's.

It was a fun day for us. We met a very nice couple who came dressed in uniform of the Star Trek Series they ordered offline, just in time to wear for our tour. They are RVer's and filmed our visit with a camera for their YouTube series for RVer's. Their site is: [gfexplorers.com](http://gfexplorers.com) and they told us they would have that day's filming online sometime in January. Their names are Richard and Victoria Wolf. They made the day more fun with their uniforms and asking questions that I knew the answer to. OH, WHAT FUN!

If you are interested their YouTube address is: [youtube.com/gfexplorers](http://youtube.com/gfexplorers). The Neutral Zone website is: <https://neutralzonestudios.com/> The mission of NEUTRAL ZONE STUDIOS is to provide world class sci-fi sets to make fan films, professional filmmakers, host out-of-this-world events, and provide a unique home for fans to celebrate and meet each other, having a common interest. It is NOT a money-making enterprise. All contributions will go towards rent, utilities, and maintenance. Any monies collected beyond that will fund studio improvements and new set construction. It is a fun thing to go and see and you will not be disappointed if you are a world class fan of the Star Trek series.



Vic Mignogna teaching Aaron how to beam out! Richard Wolf was filming his upcoming YouTube video of this adventure. I invited him and his wife to come see the Famous Dead Lakes and Wewahitchka. They are big time RVers. (I will not reveal how beaming out or in works here, go see for yourself).




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### THE STORY AND HISTORY OF THE WEWA STATE BANK AND ITS BEGINNINGS, AS TOLD BY GEORGE CORE



**WEWA STATE BANK COOLER, Vintage 1990's**

## THE STORY AND HISTORY OF THE WEWA STATE BANK

by George Core

The story and history of the Wewa State Bank and its beginnings as it was told by Mr. George Core, a longtime resident of Wewa. He wrote this history shortly before he passed away in a hospital. By grace and wise thinking, Mrs. Carolyn Husband kept this story in a safe place, so we can all know our local bank history of Wewa.

**George wrote:** "Please contact Carolyn or Jerry and tell them you have my bank history—chapter 1 & 2 Chapter 3 (**editor's note:** we do not know if he wrote chapter 3 before his passing) will be ready next week or late this week The Gulf County Breeze newspaper needs this today. I am going into hospital at 8 am this morning which makes it impossible for me to take this to Wewa.

Thanks for your help. George Core 9/19/2006 @ 6:45 AM

### Wewahitchka State Bank

#### Chapter 1

The need for a bank in Wewa started several years before the first application to the State Comptroller was filed.

Wewa being in Calhoun County prior to the Florida Legislature creating Gulf County from the South 49 miles of Calhoun County with the City of Wewa being 25 miles from the County seat in Blountstown and Port St. Joe being 49 miles from the County seat.

Wewa had no bank, nor did Port St. Joe. Some of the businesses in Wewa used the Apalachicola Exchange Bank. It was not easy to travel to Apalachicola or anywhere else during the early 1920's. According to Mr. Joe Hunter, Captain's Poley McDaniel and Roy Connell, both captains of steamboats, have talked about merchants from Wewa who were regular customers on the steamboats going from Wewa to Apalachicola to do business with the bank there. These two steamboat captains knew every person in Wewa and knew about their business. Most of the banking business could be accomplished by mail. Mail into and out of Wewa was by a mail boat, running only twice a week.

There were several Naval Store\_ operations in and around Wewa during the 1920's. The owners of these operations kept more cash money than the Wewa businesses did. These turpentine operations acted as bankers to their friends that were in business.

From this picture of banking in the 1920's is certainly proof that Wewa needed a bank. The businesspeople had begun talking about the need of a bank. Some of those people pushing for a bank were: W.R. McDaniel, store owner; Theo Levins, storekeeper;

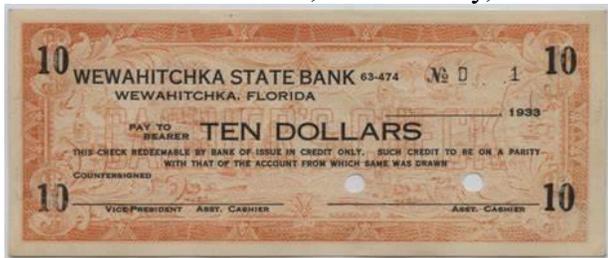
L.L. Lanier, Tupelo honey producer; James F. Rish, rancher; Cecil W. Alderson, developer; J.K. Isbell, real estate, and many others from time to time. Mr. Isbell had contacted the banking department of the State Comptroller's Office in Tallahassee; that if a bank charter could be issued for a bank in Wewa with a capital of \$15,000.00.

None of these men pushing for a bank had \$15,000.00 and most of them had less than a \$1,000.00, according to Joe Hunter, nor did any of them know anything about operating a bank. Now\_ the \$15,000.00 must be in hand prior to filing for a charter. H.T. McKinnon and J. G. Sanders of Ozark, Alabama, were in business in Wewa. They were both officers in the Gulf Land and Nursery Company. They were also officers in an Ozark bank. Hearing about the need for \$15,000.00\_ these two bankers joined the Wewa men and took care of the \$15,000.00.

By this time Gulf County had been created by the Legislature. The bank group had filed its petition for a charter, listing those signing and to all other matters and information needed.

C.H. Norton of Union Springs, Alabama, was notified by the State Comptroller on May 27, 1926, that he had been approved as cashier for a new bank to be located in the City of Wewahitchka. Mr. Norton had completed all of the paperwork up to this date. Now he has an official title that he will conclude his bank matters with.

C.H. Norton received the letters of Patent and Charter on September 16, 1926, for a state bank to be established in Wewahitchka, Gulf County, Florida.



## Chapter 2

The county commissioners were now installed into offices and were conducting business. After a special election as to where the county seat of Gulf County would be located, the City of Wewahitchka received the majority of the votes; therefore, making the city of Wewahitchka the county seat. Being the county seat and the prospects of getting a bank was something \_\_ extra special for the people living in and around the new county seat. This caused great excitement in the north end of the county.

C.H. Norton of Union Springs, Alabama, having been approved by the State Comptroller to be the

cashier for a new bank to be located in Wewahitchka, was busy completing the legal work for the bank. A search for the original stockholders were complete as follows:

| Name                     | No. Shares | Address                  |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| <b>J.T. McKinnon</b>     | <b>40</b>  | <b>Troy, AL</b>          |
| <b>C.H. Norton</b>       | <b>20</b>  | <b>Union Springs, AL</b> |
| <b>J.G. Sanders</b>      | <b>20</b>  | <b>Troy, AL</b>          |
| <b>Theo Levins</b>       | <b>5</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>J.K. Isbell</b>       | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>C.F. Glenn</b>        | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>N. B. Stone</b>       | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>J.R. Hunter</b>       | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>A.Z. Culbreth</b>     | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>L.L. Lanier</b>       | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>Tom W. Harper</b>     | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>H.M. Johnson</b>      | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>Herbert Rish</b>      | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>J.B. McDaniel</b>     | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>Mrs. C.H. Collins</b> | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>S.M. Bryant</b>       | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>J.J. McDaniel</b>     | <b>14</b>  | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>E.V. Pollock</b>      | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>C.L. Land</b>         | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>G.W. Hensey</b>       | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>Thomas Meriwether</b> | <b>2</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>Mrs. E.Z. Taylor</b>  | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>A.H. Croom</b>        | <b>5</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>A.J. Jenks</b>        | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>Cecil W. Alderson</b> | <b>10</b>  | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>W.R. McDaniel</b>     | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>W.R. McDaniel</b>     | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>J.A. Siegler</b>      | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |
| <b>James F. Rish</b>     | <b>1</b>   | <b>Wewahitchka, FL</b>   |

There were about 20 citizens that were included in the original group that was a part of the group advocating the need for a bank that did not become a shareholder. The new bank was the talk of the town as more and more people learned that Wewahitchka was going to have a bank. J.J. McDaniel said, "no more will it take me a week to go to the Apalachicola State Bank."

The bank bought property for its bank building located on the north corner where S.R. 71 intersects Lake Grove Road (County Road 22-A) in downtown Wewahitchka. The bank opened its doors for business during the depression days. Very little money was changing hands back in the late 1920's and 1930's. The bank operated under its first president McKinnon for the first several years. Many banks were failing through the State of Florida, and it appeared that the Wewahitchka Bank was next in line to close.

A farmer and turpentine operator by the name of George Gaskin decided he and his family could run a bank, even though none of his family had any experience in banking, except putting money in the bank. He had been successful in running seven turpentine stills so why not try banking.

Within a few days Gaskin had bought most of the bank stock and now he was in control. Mr. Gaskin called his son, Dave Gaskin, to come in to see him. He told Dave Gaskin that "We now own the Wewahitchka Bank." I am putting you in charge of the bank and I want you to change the way the bank operates. Mr. Dave answered his father, "I don't know anything about banking. All I know is how to run our turpentine business and to keep the farm going." Mr. Dave took over the bank the next day. Mr. Dave hired his choice of employees and set the course for a successful banking business.

Some years later\_ Mr. Dave was asked by one of the state bank examiners how he turned the bank into a profit in such a short time. His answer was something like this: "I turned the operational part of the bank into something like a country store. I saw to it that every customer was satisfied when he left the bank. It was important to me to be sure that everyone that came into our door went away happy."

It was always a fun trip to the bank as you entered the door. There was Mr. Dave sitting at a small desk over in the left corner of the small lobby. Everyone had to go by his desk before anything pertaining to bank business was mentioned. He would say how nice it was to see this customer. He would ask all sorts of questions about his family, about fishing, the farm, or a grandchild. After this five-minute talk, he would then say, "what can we do for you today". The customer would tell Mr. Dave what he needed. The answer was almost the same for each customer. He would turn to the cashier and say, "Now, take care of our friend, he needs \$5,000.00.

On a few occasions\_ the customer needed more than the bank could lend, but knowing this customer was worth the amount of the loan requested, he would say, "You know, your mortgage would be more than our limit allows, but don't worry, my wife, Miss Annie will loan you that amount." Miss Annie made several loans such as this.

There was not much advertising in newspapers. Mr. Dave was the bank's advertisement, the way he talked to people wherever he met them, never passed a person he didn't stop and talk to. If someone on the street needed \$3.00 or \$5.00, he would take it from his pocket and hand it to the person.

Mr. Dave was smart enough to help finance some of the State cabinet candidates and candidates to the Legislature. He had three of those Candidates elected. Within a short time after the election, the State decided to keep some of its money in the Wewahitchka State Bank.

This is the first bank advertisement in the Gulf County Breeze dated September 30, 1927:

**"Can you name another place in which you invest as small or as large amount as you can please at any time you please receiving a regular return upon it or add or withdraw from it your prime capital such amount you please as often as you please included with the element of safety of courtesy of privacy and you have the full value of our bank to you.**

**Wewahitchka State Bank, Wewahitchka, Florida"**

**George's Note:** This ad was very hard to read

**George Y. Core died** on June 7, 2007. He was born in



Apalachicola 1917, He worked with St. Joe Paper Company in the accounting and personnel departments until December 1942 when he joined the Army. He served in the 206 AAA Battalion which was part of an amphibious assault group which saw service in Siapan and was part of the forces poised to invade Japan

when the war ended.

After the war he returned to Port St. Joe. In November 1948\_ he was appointed to the unexpired term of Mr. Joe Hunter, Clerk of the Circuit Court, which was then located in Wewahitchka. Six months after moving to Wewahitchka\_ George knew every family in town. He was a resident of Wewahitchka for 17 years until the county seat was moved to Port St. Joe. George then retired as Clerk of the Circuit Court on January 1, 1980 and remained a resident of Port St. Joe for the rest of his life.

George was an outstanding fisherman and expert turkey hunter. He was a member of the Rotary Club and the First United Methodist Church. Above all, George loved people and is known as "Uncle George" to many of the residents of Gulf County. He simply was a dear, sweet man.

---

**Psalms 47:1**

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Every veteran experiences PTSD symptoms differently, but there are four common symptoms that a Vet may develop:

- Reliving the event, avoiding things that remind them of the event-Having more negative thoughts and feelings compared to before the event(s) to place, feeling on-edge all the time

**PTSD symptoms may include:**

- Flashbacks and nightmares
- Experiencing triggering events
- Anxiety
- Stress
- Depression
- A feeling of numbness
- Loss of interest in the things you used to enjoy
- Inability to discuss the event
- Lack of trust of other loved ones or suspicion
- Feelings of guilt or shame about the event
- Insomnia
- Difficulty concentrating
- Avoiding crowds due to a feeling of danger

- Avoiding tasks that remind them of the event
- Staying busy to avoid thinking or talking about the event
- Difficulty concentrating and focusing on tasks at hand
- Difficulty maintaining relationships

Sometimes symptoms take months or even years to develop. Other veterans may have signs and symptoms within hours of the traumatic event, it depends on the individual and the events in their life.

*If you or someone you love is dealing with suicidal ideations, don't wait.* Please call the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255** and press option 1. Veterans with these symptoms may find it difficult to concentrate at work, keep relationships with coworkers and supervisors, or complete job duties reliably and without mistakes. Have relationship issues with loved ones. Let's not lose another Vet today folks. These people served their country.



I saw this blue car in a Lynn Haven Taco Bell parking lot. It hit me in that spiritual spot that many of us have. I thought to share it with my readership as it gave me a spark of joy as I read it. I hope it does the same for you too. I went into the store and started asking who owned the blue car. **Mrs. Starla Puckett** spoke up and we enjoyed a lengthy conversation of the joy she gets in doing this. What a blessing! TW

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**Ecclesiastes 9:7**



## LET'S TALK ABOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW

Here is what Wikipedia has to say about it, let's dig deep into the subject matter, lets dig in...

Due process of law is the application by the state of all legal rules and principles pertaining to the case so all legal rights that are owed to the person are respected. Due process balances the power of law of the land and protects the individual person from it. When a government harms a person without following the exact course of the law, this constitutes a due process violation, which offends the rule of law.

Due process has also been often interpreted as limiting laws and legal proceedings (see substantive due process) so that judges, instead of legislators, may define and guarantee fundamental fairness, justice, and liberty. That interpretation has proven controversial. Analogous to the concepts of natural justice and procedural justice used in various other jurisdictions, the interpretation of due process is sometimes expressed as a command that the government must not be unfair to the people or abuse them physically. The term is not used in contemporary English law, but two similar concepts are natural justice, which generally applies only to decisions of administrative agencies and some types of private bodies like trade unions, and the British constitutional concept of the rule of law as articulated by A. V. Dicey and others.[1] However, neither concept lines up perfectly with the American theory of due process, which, as explained below, presently contains many implied rights not found in either ancient or modern concepts of due process in England.[2]

Due process developed from **clause 39 of Magna Carta** in England. Reference to due process first appeared in a statutory rendition of clause 39 in 1354 thus: "No man of what state or condition he be, shall be put out of his lands or tenements nor taken, nor disinherited, nor put to death, without he be brought to answer by due process of law." [3] When English and American law gradually diverged, due process was not upheld in England but became incorporated in the US Constitution.

Fifth Amendment – Right to Due Process, what is it? The right of due process has grown in two directions over the past 2 centuries that this amazing nation existed:

It affords individuals a right to a fair process (known as procedural due process) and a right to enjoy certain fundamental liberties without governmental interference (known as substantive due process). The Fifth Amendment's due process clause applies to the federal government's conduct. In 1868 the adoption of the 14th Amendment expanded the right of due process to include limits on the actions of state governments as well.

1791 Fifth Amendment Ratified the Bill of Rights, including the Fifth Amendment, is ratified. The amendment has several clauses that supply protection against governmental abuse of criminal law. Another clause says that no one "shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law." The amendment protects individuals by limiting the government's power of eminent domain under which it can confiscate private property.

1856 Seizure of Property Without Full Hearing Allowed  
The federal government seizes property from a man who owes it money. He argues that the lack of a hearing violates his Fifth Amendment right to due process. The U.S. Supreme Court rules in *Murray's Lessee v. Hoboken Land and Improvement Co.* that different processes may be legitimate in different circumstances.

To decide the constitutionality of a procedure, the Court looks at whether it violates specific safeguards in the Constitution and whether similar types of proceedings had been used historically, particularly in England. In this case, because a summary method for the recovery of debts had been used in England, the procedure is constitutional in the U.S.

1857 'Dred Scott' Ruling Says Slaves Are Property, Not Citizens the U.S. Supreme Court decides the landmark *Dred Scott v. Sandford* case. Born a slave, Scott had lived with his owner in the slave state of Missouri. After his first owner died, he moved with his new one to the free state of Illinois and later to the free territory of Wisconsin. Several years later, after his second owner died, he returned to Missouri. In 1847, he sued for his freedom, pointing to the years he lived in free territories. Ten years later, the U.S. Supreme Court holds that slaves are property and have no right to sue. The Court says that people of African ancestry can never become U.S. citizens. It also invalidates the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which restricted slavery in certain territories. The Court further explains that slave owners cannot be deprived of their property (slaves) because citizens cannot be deprived of "life, liberty or property without due process of law," as established by the Fifth Amendment.

1916 7th Amendment Not Applicable to State Court Trials In *Minneapolis and St. Louis R. Co. v. Bombolis*, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that the Seventh Amendment right to a

jury trial in civil cases does not apply to civil trials in state courts. In reaching its decision, the Court looks to the due process clause of the 14th Amendment (the vehicle for applying the Bill of Rights to the states) and concludes that a jury trial in a civil case is not a fundamental due process right.

1922 Hearing Required Before Deportation in *Ng Fung Ho v. White*, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that the Fifth Amendment due process clause requires the government to hold a hearing before deporting a U.S. resident who claims to be a citizen, arguing that otherwise the person is deprived of liberty, and possibly in danger of losing property and life.

1943 Restrictions on Japanese Americans Upheld in *Hirabayashi v. United States*, the U.S. Supreme Court says a federal law passed after Pearl Harbor that requires Japanese Americans to live in restricted areas and obey curfews does not violate their Fifth Amendment right to due process. The case revolves around the conviction of Gordon Kiyoshi Hirabayashi, a Japanese American college student, who had refused to register for relocation and had violated a curfew. The Court does not address the relocation issue and instead focuses on the curfew, which it deems a necessary “protective measure.”

1944 Price-Control Law in Wartime Upheld in *Yakus v. U.S.*, the U.S. Supreme Court considers the constitutionality of the Emergency Price Control Act, which Congress passed during World War II to battle inflation. The law set up an Office of Price Administration, which had the power to limit the prices of certain goods. A seller could challenge a price as too low within 60 days of its determination and could appeal any adverse ruling to an emergency Court of Appeals. The Court rules that this procedure meets the Fifth Amendment’s due process standard because the 60-day challenge period and the appeals procedure supply safeguards against unfair decisions.

1948 Secret Trials Violate Due Process Right  
In *In re Oliver*, the U.S. Supreme Court overturns the conviction of a Michigan man who was convicted and sentenced during a secret grand jury hearing before a single judge. The hearing had occurred under a Michigan law allowing a single judge to hold secret grand jury proceedings. The Court does not rule on the law because it was not challenged by the defendant. Grand jury proceedings, held to decide whether to issue an indictment (confirming enough evidence exists to take a case to full trial), traditionally are conducted in private. In this case, the one-man grand jury went further when the judge also decided the defendant’s guilt and sentenced him to jail.

1954 Denial of Counsel Is Ruled Unconstitutional  
In *Chandler v. Fretag*, the defendant said he did not want an attorney when he appeared in court to plead guilty to a

charge of breaking and entering. At that time, he was told for the first time that he faced a sentence of life in prison because of his criminal record. He requested a delay so he could consult a lawyer on the habitual criminal charge, but his request was denied. The U.S. Supreme Court reverses the denial, saying that it violated the defendant’s due process rights under the 14th Amendment.

1958 Court Protects ‘Free Association’ In NAACP Case  
In *NAACP v. Alabama*, the U.S. Supreme Court holds that when Alabama state officials demanded that the NAACP hand over its membership list, the members’ right of “free association” was violated. Although no such right is specifically included in the First Amendment, the Court says it is a necessary extension of the rights to free speech and free assembly: “It is beyond debate that freedom to engage in association for the advancement of beliefs and ideas is an inseparable aspect of the ‘liberty’ assured by the due process clause of the 14th Amendment, which embraces freedom of speech.”

1959 Ability to Practice Chosen Profession Cannot Be Taken Away Without Due Process In *Greene v. McElroy*, the U.S. Supreme Court looks at whether the due process clause was violated when the federal government took away an aeronautical engineer’s security clearance without a hearing. The clearance was taken away because of suspicions that the engineer’s ex-wife had been associated with members of the Communist Party. Although employed by a private company, the engineer worked on projects for the federal government and had access to classified information. The court says that because loss of his clearance deprives the engineer of his right to practice his chosen profession, the due process clause requires a full hearing where the engineer could confront and cross-examine witnesses against him.

1961 Government Employment Can Be Denied Without Hearing in *Cafeteria and Restaurant Workers Union v. McElroy*, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that a military commander did not violate the Fifth Amendment’s due process clause when he decided, without a hearing, to indefinitely ban a cafeteria worker from entering the government building where she worked. The commander’s decision was based on his conclusion that the cook did not meet security requirements.

Despite the similarity to *Greene v. McElroy*, 1959, the Court says here that the military commander was acting within the wide authority given to him by Congress to ensure the safety of government buildings. The private employer in *Greene* had no such mandate, the Court says, and therefore could not take away an employee’s ability to practice his chosen profession without a due process hearing. **Notice-This is not Legal Advice and is for educational use only.**

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## DID YOU KNOW?

by Tom Wynn

That German and Chinese researchers say they know the approximate number of ants currently crawling across the planet. Based on data from 489 ant studies, they figured out there are 20 quadrillion individual ants, with a dry weight far heavier than that of all wild birds and mammals on the earth combined. (The number 20 quadrillion is 20 followed by 15 zeros.) This means that for every human, there are nearly 2.5 million ants scurrying, eating and breeding across the landscape YEA! And 2 million are in my yard!

Source: Earthweek article.

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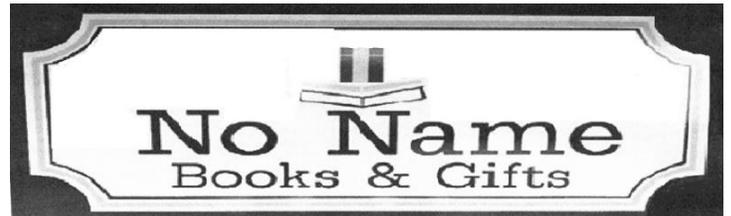
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## RISH FINDS SOMETHING INTERESTING HISTORICALLY by Tom Wynn

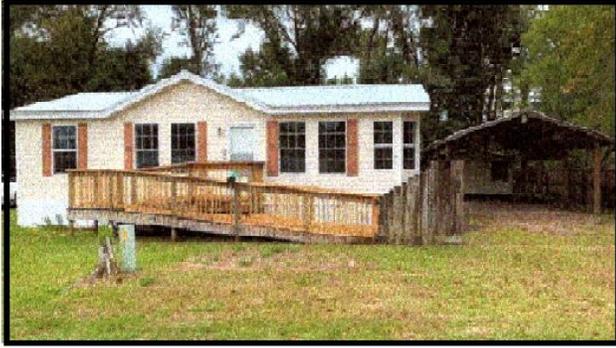
Mr. James Earnest Rish, a local beekeeper, was selling his liquid gold Tupelo Honey at the Library History Day. The



thing he is holding in his hand is a long piece of metal that he recovered from his father's farm recently. He is a member of the Historical Society of Wewahitchka and was available to talk about his amazing find at the Library History Day we had in November. We are all puzzled as what it is. Ask him to show it to you if you know about old farm equipment etc.  
TW

Have you ever heard of the term "Color of Law" or "under the Color of Law?" Let's dig in and find some answers: Taken directly from the Attorney Generals website: Color of Law-The appearance of a legal right. The act of a state officer, regardless of whether or not the act is within the limits of his or her authority, is considered an act under color of law if the officer purports to be conducting himself or herself in the course of official duties. [Now go to the next page to see Deprivation of Rights under Color of Law]

Isaiah 9:3



328 CHIPOLA AVE. Wewahitchka, Florida 32465  
List Price: \$189,000



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Office: Bay Properties Real Estate Group, LLC  
Phone: 850-247-9131  
Email: [kjones@baypropertiesfl.com](mailto:kjones@baypropertiesfl.com)  
Website: <http://baypropertiesfl.com>

This freshly painted and floored, split 3 bedroom and 2 bath home is in the very heart of the City of Wewahitchka. Not only a home ready for moving in all your personal furniture and pictures but a pole barn for that boat, RV, or multiple cars. A workshop for all your tools or make it into a man cave. A choice of stairs or ramp to access the house. Once inside\_ enjoy all the natural light due to all the windows. The kitchen has an island with a bar area to seat 3 chairs and watch the cook work their magic. Wewa is a golf cart community which allows you to make a quick trip to all the local stores and Burger King just down the street.

Lake Alice is very close and so are the popular fishing areas in and around Wewa. The home is in a peaceful well-kept area of Wewa.

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1 Peter 1:8-9

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## DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS UNDER COLOR OF LAW

Section 242 of Title 18 makes it a crime for a person acting under color of any law (i.e., statutes) to willfully deprive a person of a right or privilege protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

For the purpose of Section 242, acts under "color of law" include acts not only done by federal, state, or local officials within their lawful authority, but also acts done beyond the bounds of that official's lawful authority, if the acts are done while the official is purporting to or pretending to act in the performance of his/her official duties. Persons acting under color of law within the meaning of this statute include police officers, prisons guards and other law enforcement officials, as well as judges, care providers in public health facilities, and others who are acting as public officials. It is not necessary that the crime be motivated by animus toward the race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin of the victim.

The offense is punishable by a range of imprisonment up to a life term, or the death penalty, depending upon the circumstances of the crime, and the resulting injury, if any.

## TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTION 242

*Whoever, under color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation, or custom, willfully subjects any person in any State, Territory, Commonwealth, Possession, or District to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States, ... shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; and if bodily injury results from the acts committed in violation of this section or if such acts include the use, attempted use, or threatened use of a dangerous weapon, explosives, or fire, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both; and if death results from the acts committed in violation of this section or if such acts include kidnapping or an attempt to kidnap, aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to commit aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to kill, shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned for any term of years or for life, or both, or may be sentenced to death. Updated May 31, 2021*

**Proverbs 10:28**

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The Wewa News is a locally owned and operated local newspaper, created solely for the enjoyment of the people who live in the Wewa area. Our purpose is to bring “Good News” and “Whatever” to our locals’ attention. I hope to bring back some joy and fun into our lives again and bring us closer than ever before. Thank you to those that support our efforts.

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#### Up Coming Events and Other: Mark Your Calendars

The Local Bee Association is meeting at 6:00 PM in the Gulf County Extension Agents meeting room on December 6 at 6:00 PM.

The Friends of the Wewa Library’s December 1 at 9:30 AM in the library conference room.

Wewahitchka Historical Society meets every month on the third Thursday at 6:00 PM at the old Corner Café’ building.

**Correction Notice:** The story of the Corn Snake and the Bird in the November issue. I made an error in the spelling of the photographer’s name Ms. Judie McCormick, my confusion about the bird becoming a meal or not. Sorry for my error Ms. Judy, I misread your email: “Hi Tom , this is some of the photos of the corn snake . Some people get upset about this, but truthfully it’s just showing the food chain. I was really amazed at how he constricted on the bird. and the way he went into a hole in the ground to get away from me. Judie McCormick.

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