



THE WEWA NEWS™



“The Good News Newspaper!”

JANUARY 2023-02 >> Vol. 5 No. 01 << A FREE LOCAL NEWSPAPER Take One!

CITY COUNCIL UPSET-FIREHOUSE LAWSUITS DRAGS ON

by Tom Wynn

During the January city meeting, the city lawyer, via the city manager Michael Gortman notified the council that the meeting for all the parties involved in the lawsuits was delayed again.

The mayor complained that the lawyers involved seem to be the only ones making money on this mess by delaying the various court cases, yet no one is paying up to have the poorly built structure removed or repaired. The clock ticks for the FEMA new deadline come October of 2023. Presently there are now four lawsuits that the city of Wewa is involved with , concerning the matter.

CORN GRIFFIN STREET WOES CONTINUE

Several of the residents of the dirt road community on Corn Griffin Road continue to ask Gulf County and the city to fix their road and its various issues, due to flooding and poor maintenance by the Gulf County Road Department(which I believe to be contractors). The city council is in much agreement with the citizens on their complaints. The city manager has been in contact with the county on the issues at hand. Gulf County Commissioner Mr. David Rich will be asked to come to the next city meeting to discuss what the county can do to help in the meantime. A resident who lives on Corn Griffin Road, Mr. James Royce Watkins, as well as a few others discussed the latest issues with the dirt road not being properly kept by the county. They continue to have flooding after a rain because the road has not been, “Crowned” by the county as of this issue. Some folks are not able to drive to their homes or leave their homes, especially if they have thin tires or are on motorcycles. The city contacted the county over the issue via the city manager Michael Gortman last month on the matter, and the month before. They agreed to fix the crowning of the road but have not done so.

The city agreed to contact the county again, but this time, request Mr. Rich come to the February meeting. Mayor Gaskin and others in the meeting agreed that it would cost in today’s dollars \$438,000 for one mile of preparation and paving. Corn Griffin Road is approximately ½ mile long, thus about \$220,000 to get the job done, the longer they wait the more it will cost. The city agreed to continue to look for funds via grants and other ways or avenues for the funds, including a bond fund that the city and the county agreed to many years ago. The bond money would be about half a

million dollars for Wewa to pave roads whenever we ever see the money. The city fathers continue to support the efforts of the Corn Griffin Road community to get something done. TW



GULF COUNTY AND WEWA HAVE A SHORT TIME TO PLAN THE CEREBRATION

by Tom Wynn

In 2025 Gulf County will cerebrate **100 years** as a county. We broke away from Calhoun County to form a more perfect union, a county that’s name was not some politician or General from a gone by war, all forgotten in 50 years. Our forefathers were wise to name the county, “Gulf County” so there would be no mistake where we are and that name places us on the prettiest beaches and lakes in the world. Consider asking the “County Boys” to form a steering committee from both ends of the county to make a major event with a festival and a parade, for our birthday. Maybe the Historical Societies could come together.

MULITIPLE AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS ON 71 AND OVERSTREET

by Tom Wynn

Wewa continues to lose citizens on the local state and county highways. Please folks, pay attention, keep your eyes on the road and slow down when something is happening around or near you as you travel. Many people who have driveways off the highway may stop in the road to make that turn off, so watch for them. Animals like to wander on the highways and destroy your happy day. I hit a large deer several years ago, tore my truck up! No one hurt, deer just laughed and ran off. My wife always tells me to, “Don’t speed!” with a kiss as I leave the house. I remember it as I am traveling, it helps to remember when it comes with a kiss.



Honeybee Pollen A Health Food to Consider



by Leslie Cantu

When bees collect nectar from flowers their legs become coated with pollen, these granules are collected as the bees pass through a trap that brushes the pollen from their legs into a tray upon entering the hive. Pollen has been used for thousands of years by civilizations worldwide for its beneficial properties. It can be enjoyed sprinkled in smoothies, yogurt and salads or anything that is not hot enough to destroy the beneficial properties.

Some of the benefits include reduces inflammation, has antioxidant properties, protects against liver toxicity, boosts immune system, serves as a dietary supplement, relieves menopausal symptoms, relieves stress, promotes healing. In its composition it is rich in vitamins, minerals, protein, lipids and fatty acids, enzymes, carotenoid, and bioflavonoids – making it an antibacterial, antifungal, and antiviral agent that strengthens the capillaries, reduces inflammation, stimulates the immune system, and lowers cholesterol naturally. **Risks and side effects:** While it is generally safe, it is rare but possible for someone to have an allergic reaction. It is not recommended for use during pregnancy or if on blood thinners.

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(Photo by Miss Faye Marshall)

MRS. LOUISE GLASS KEITH HITS 93! HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR, WE ALL LOVE YOU!

by Tom Wynn

Ms. Louise at the age of 14 had to begin a life of love and responsibility for her siblings when her mother passed away soon after having her brother Johnny, after she gave birth to little Johnny, she was called into her mother. Her mother gave her instructions that she had to be momma to her family, then her mother passed on to be with the Lord.

Having done several interviews with her over the past year, she has told me so many interesting stories of Wewa and what life was like, having to grow up so fast and suddenly. She raised all her siblings and did a fine job of it. She is a fine woman of the Lord and a very good example to others in the community.

She has been devoted to her family, even today, as she still has siblings living. She is always glad to have someone come and sit down with her and ask questions about life in the north parts of Gulf County. She was a mail carrier during her professional life when she wasn't raising her siblings or supervising her loving husband of many years. She is an amazing woman and a daughter of the Lord who shines bright in the community that loves her very much. Happy Birthday Sister Louise, please have many more.

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Florida Homestead Protection Hmmm...

Let's talk about it, shall we? by Tom Wynn

Whether the family residence is protected from creditors will largely depend upon the state's laws and the amount of protection that is allowed. The amount of protection by the State of Florida depends on the level of protection offered for the family home via homestead in Florida, which is the best in the Unites States in my personal opinion, along with the Long Horn State of Texas, our kissing cousins when it comes to protections of the people, **"We The People"**.

Florida is in fact one of best states for benefits in this regard. Just one major reason why I love Florida so much. Think about it, more Sun, more Fun, more freedoms and a lot less TAXES, meaning more money for you to spend in all those shops that create jobs. Not filling up the banks with Taxes, that just never make it back to the people who made the sweat labor. Florida

loves its people and their visitors too. Just keep the peace and behave yourself, and you too can enjoy the Fun in the Sun, the Sundown moments with your Sweetie. We have thousands of places to see, and things to do. It would take a lifetime to do it all.

Florida treats U.S. Veterans with a high level of respect and gives them great tax breaks. They, that is "WE" Floridians make a point for you to come join us in the baking bright sunlight by buying a home here. We still have room for you and would leave the light on for you if it were not for the bugs that like to hang around the front door, just use a yellow light and that will help.

We, the People of Florida love our Vets, retirees and our elderly. One of the best places to put roots down and warm your bones at the same time.

Alabama, our near family, we laugh sometimes because "we in the Panhandle" say we are from "LA", Lower Alabama, LOL! Alabama is among the best in the country, possibly second only to Texas in Homestead protections.

In Florida, it is important not to confuse the homestead tax exemption from the exemption that is applicable for asset protection purposes both under the state laws as well as the federal bankruptcy laws in our state. The state of Florida offers 100% protection against the forced sale of a home. Homestead protection is guaranteed under Article X, Section IV of the Florida Constitution and it covers 100% of the real property value of up to 160 contiguous acres in any county in Florida or up to ½ acre in a municipality. Comparing Florida to the state of Texas, it offers even greater protection of 10 urban acres and 200 rural acres, and this protection is strictly enforced by the state courts (contact our local property Appraiser, Mr. Mitch Burch office personnel for more information on this subject matter).

Many states offering an "in between level" of protection allow approximately \$70 – \$170,000 of homestead real property value to be claimed as exempt from creditors in a state action or bankruptcy proceeding.

So, the effectiveness of this strategy will be largely based upon your local state's laws, or you might consider moving your residence to good ole' Florida (or to our cousins the great States of Texas, or Alabama). Another important point is that there are



**Wewahitchka Historical Society
December 15, 2022**

President Ann Johnson opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag. President asked everyone to take a moment to remember three members of the Historical Society who passed away in 2022. Those members were **Tunnie Miller, Tom Godwin, and Billy Traylor**. They will be truly missed not only by the Historical Society, but also by anyone who knows them. May they all rest in peace.

Dianne Semmes read the minutes from the November meeting. They were approved. Tom Semmes gave the treasurer's report. Ann reported that she had spoken to Matt Godwin. He said that he has a huge amount of documented material from his dad, Tom Godwin, and that he would like to donate some of it to the Historical Society in the future. This information will be greatly appreciated.

Ann informed members that we will be having a membership drive in January. Committee members include Ann Johnson (850.867.5970, Dianne Semmes (850.227.6425), and Carol Ann Childress (417.291.5212). If any other members would like to join the Membership Committee, please contact Ann. **We will have a table at the IGA**, put up flyers in the local businesses, put the information on Facebook, etc. On December 17 Ann and Dianne will have a table at the IGA selling the 2022 Afghans. Anyone who would like to buy one, two, three, etc., please call Dianne on the above number.

A discussion was held among members concerning cleaning up the Iola Cemetery. James Ernest Rish asked if he could ask Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative to help with the clean-up. Mitchell Johnson suggested going to the city for aid. Ann said that members of the **Sons of the Confederacy** have also offered their help. Ann informed members that the Charles Whitehead Public Library has information on Archaeology of Northwest Florida: A Tour Through Our Heritage, by the Florida Archeology Network

<https://youtube/Nxucbj8Gr84>, which is a link for the Gulf County WWII Program. Old Business: Brick cleaning at the City Hall – A date will be decided after the holidays.

Members were informed that permission was given by **City Commissioner Brian Cox** to remove a wooden headstone at Jehu Cemetery. This is the burial site of **Ann Ford Suber and Ferald Hall Greer's grandmother**. The Society will have a case built to display it in.

The new website for the Wewahitchka Historical Society is **Wewahistory.org**. Tom Semmes made a motion to end the meeting, and that was second by Ann Johnson. The next meeting of the Historical Society will be Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Corner Café. Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month. The public is invited to attend and hear about the exciting things the Wewahitchka Historical Society has planned and what we will be working on in the new year. Happy New Year to each and everyone. Dianne Semmes

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The Wewahitchka Library has been supplying kids and adults with a venue for learning and playing chess since the spring of 2022. Currently there are about 12 to 15 people on the contact list and anywhere from two to eight people show up to enjoy the game and occasional refreshments. All skill levels are welcome, beginners to rated players seem to understand the thrill of learning and getting better is why we play. Any promotional help you can supply would be appreciated.

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The schedule for the January 2023 is: (Sat) Jan 14 @ 10:00-12:00 (Tue) Jan 24 @ 3:30-5:00

Chess sets are supplied but participants can bring their own. Expectations: All ages, abilities welcome, attitude to be "Have fun with competition, teaching, winning and learning.

Offering group interaction: Choose to play and/or watch, person to person, person to group, virtual, in person, computer chess games and learning opportunities. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Pre-teens must have parent/guardian supervision within the library building.

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by Joyelle Linton

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DID YOU KNOW: EZRA ASSEMBLED THE OLD TESTAMENT(TORAH) ON SHEEP SKIN IN 400 BC.

DID YOU KNOW: THE WORD, "PAPYRUS" COMES FROM THE GREEK LANGUAGE MEANING, "BIBLE" IN ENGLISH, OR BOOK.

JEREMIAH 7:23

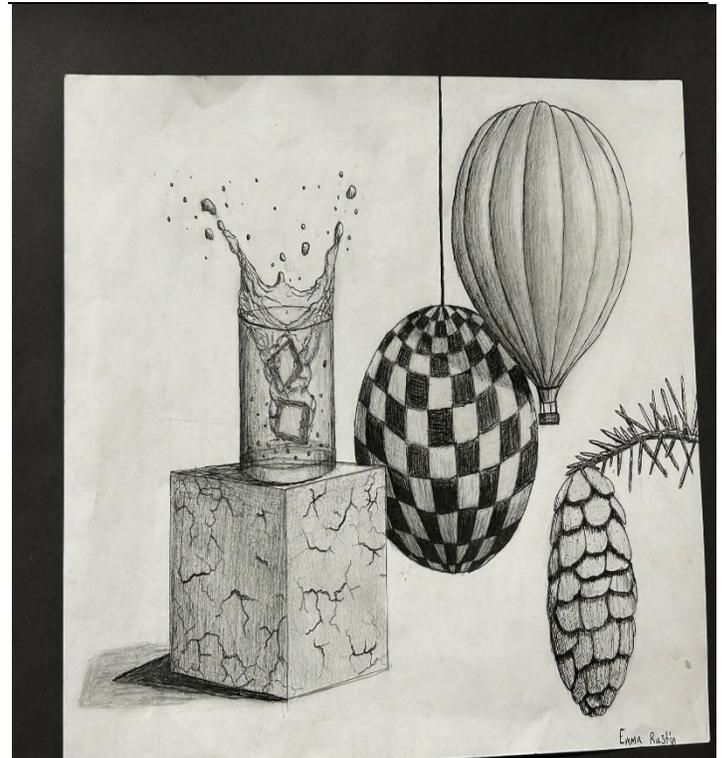
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Trip to the Tallahassee Automobile Museum

by Jo Ellen Campbell

On December 8, several members of the Wewahitchka Senior Citizens (who are also Wewahitchka Historical Society) took a day-long trip to Tallahassee to spend time exploring the Tallahassee Automobile Museum and have a meal at the Golden Corral.

We broke up and wandered around the museum. It is a wonderful place to explore. I personally



explored an area of antique dolls, including Elvis Presley and Doris Day and Princess Di, as well as Shirley Temple to name a few. We all checked out the Batman

car collection and classic motorcycles. One motorcycle in particular that caught my eye was an Indian, all decked out in fringed black leather. The earliest electric cars are represented.

Several members found the cars they had driven as teenagers among the ranks. There



are exhibits of arrow heads, golf clubs, antique appliances and office machinery, back in the days. We found such things as typewriters, wall phones, cash registers. We used all these things when we were growing up.

Our friend Ms. Vera, who is 98, who will have a birthday in February with her twin sister, loved it so much she told Tom to look her up if he was coming back in 10 years so she can go. After exploring parts of it, we decided to go to the Golden Corral for lunch. That way we could all pick out our own meals.



After slowly eating and socializing, we got back in the car and Tom Wynn drove us back to Wewahitchka. It was a great trip, and there are still many exhibits that we did not see. The place is enormous and the workers there are very courteous and helpful. I would recommend a trip to the Tallahassee Automobile Museum for families and friends alike. They give Military and Seniors discounted tickets. It is just an amazing place to see our past as we compare it to today.

JC

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HOW TO ADDRESS MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS WHEN THEY ARE RETIRED

by Tom Wynn

The branch of service designation – USA, USMC, USN, USAF or USCG – and “Retired” or “Ret.” are used on official correspondence and in official situations when it is important to specify the person is retired and is not on active duty. The service designation and retired are not used on social correspondence or in social situations.

Fully retired personnel are orally addressed by rank at their preference in (1) social situations and (2) official situations when their participation is related to their service in the military, **or follow their lead, if they refer themselves as to their rank or military title, out of respect honor them by using what they told you at their introduction.** (i.e. City meetings and County meetings, are two good examples).

In every case the service-specific abbreviation for the (full rank) can be used. These service-specific abbreviations are standard usage within the armed services of The United States. For official correspondence DOD guides use the comma ... and either *Ret.* or *Retired* is acceptable. I will show two formulas:

—(Rank) (Full Name), (Branch of Service), (Retired)

—(Rank) (Full Name), (Branch of Service), (Ret.)

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You may want to consider for your computer databases using the service-specific abbreviations for the ranks: - BG Frank Sliverhair, USA, Retired--BG Frank Sliverhair, USA, Ret.

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TOSSING PLASTIC OVERBOARD COULD LEAD TO DEATH IN OUR WAKE.

by Tom Wynn

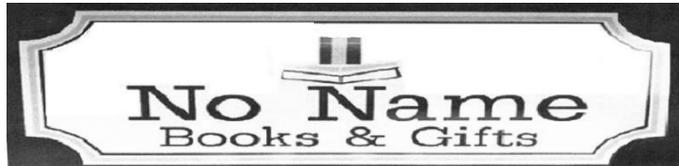
Throwing a few plastic bags or things or this or that off a boat or ship, may seem harmless enough, right? Wrong!

When I served in the U.S. Coast Guard as a very young man, age 17, my first trip to sea was in the dead center of the Pacific Ocean, 1000 miles to San Fran and 1000 miles to Hawaii. It was called Ocean Station November. We had to stay out there for 30 days (we were newlyweds, so that was the first time I was away from my wife, leaving her in Alameda), before being relieved. I was told that the airline pilots refuse to fly that far without the U.S. Coast Guard in the middle in case one of them went down.

So, after a few days out to sea, I saw the cooks throwing over the fantail plastic bags of garbage, several bags a day went overboard. I at once ran over and asked why they were doing that? They quickly responded, **“The sharks would eat it very soon, they are following us, looking for a free meal.”** I could not believe my ears. But it was true. It was completely legal and was normal operation for ships to do this. I have never gotten over it, as you can tell as I write this story. Back then we humans did all kinds of things to the ocean that we would cry about today.

So, think about our own lakes and rivers, everything we put in the water, something is going to try to eat it, or die trying.

Please be wise and just keep “people stuff” in your boat and take it home, to get rid of it properly. Save our water resources and keep our fishery healthy. Are we in fact, what we eat? Are fish not the same too? Well then, you can see where I am going here. If it is not biodegradable, take it home with you. Birds are known to eat strange things that float in the water as well. If you would like to learn more about how you can help, write to: Center for Marine Conservation, 1725 DeSales Street, N.W. Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036 for information.



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2 THESSALONIANS 1:3

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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

Colossians 1:20

TRUE STORY!

by Tom Wynn

After “The Eagle Landed” (payday) last week my family and I went to Callaway to eat some southern style BBQ, at “The Rib Crib” on Highway 98. As we walked through the door, two young ladies greeted us. One was named Faith and the other, Neveah. They were totally at home in their place of business. They both knew the menu well, so it made it easy for us to choose our meals, and they made sure I got my military discount to boot!

As I was talking to the two young ladies Neveah told me her name was Heaven spelled backwards. I thought that was a great idea on her mother’s part. The more I thought about it, I was amazed at the idea of having such a wonderful name. Then it dawned on me, I was being served by “Faith’ and ‘Heaven.” How cool!

So later that day, we went to the brand-new “Whataburger” for the first time to check it out, before heading home after a long day in the Big City. I spent way too much money. Ole’ Gene Hanlon warned me 40 years ago, not to go there except once a week, or PC would break your wallet. Boy! Was he right, let’s not forget all that gasoline back and forth! So back to the Whataburger, I struck up a conversation with the manager that was about to leave. I told her the story of the two girls and their names. She started giggling and told me that she knew them and that she went to church with NEVEAH. WOW!

Now that is an amazing story! Thought I would share that with you. This seems to happen to me a lot. Strange! God is Great and God is Good! He continues to amaze me daily.

— Thanks for reading my little stories. I hope that brightens your day. TW

DID YOU KNOW: Shakespeare quoted the Geneva Bible 5000 times in his plays.

“A POSITIVE ATTITUDE WILL LEAD TO POSITIVE OUTCOMES”

ISAIAH 52:15



Photo by Tom Wynn

THE LIGHTHOUSE

by Louise Sprague

I stand my watch, I do my duty, gazing at the sea, with only stars and moon and wind to keep me company.

I'm proud to stand, so tall and straight alone in the night.

Their loved one, too, they hope and pray, that sea again won't win, they wait and watch till God, and I can bring them home again.

THANK-YOU!

I would like to make a special point to thank you all for your Sponsorship for those that help produce The Wewa News as a local “Good News” newspaper. I have helpers behind the scenes, who are smart and loving, I am just the pretty face that runs the streets of Wewa in my Flying Electric Cart, which will fly around at a super speed of 14 miles an hour (good thing Wewa is about 4 miles total from The West Arm Creek bridge to Overstreet, that’s my limit on that “THING”). I have been trying to get the Good News out about Wewa so others can see just how great The Wewa Folks ready are.

They are the most loving folks I have come across in my nearly 70 years of life, having been to 22 countries and lived in all parts of the USA. So all kidding aside, I love you very much and am not afraid to tell you so. Men and women alike should never be afraid to express their brotherly or sisterly love for others. We are the only example of God’s Love on earth at the time. Times are coming when we may not be able to express our freedoms, so better practice now, you may need to later, in defiance of some new law.

ISAIAH 53:5b

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INFORMATIONAL NOTICES

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.

Notice: The Wewa News operates in the Private, freedom of speech and of the Press are fundamental to our effort of expression, as well as God given rights as men and women on the land called Florida. I am moving the publishing day to the 7th of the month effective this issue.

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Up Coming Events and Other: Mark Your Calendars

The Local Bee Association meets at 6pm in the Gulf County Extension Agents meeting room on every first Tuesday of each month at 6pm.

The Friends of the Wewa Library’s meet at the Wewa Library, contact the library for the date and time. We meet in the library conference room.

Wewahitchka Historical Society meets every month on the second Thursday at 6pm at the old Corner Café’ building.

Contact us: thewewanews2021@gmail.com

Website: the.wewa.news