

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- **Blue Springs is open for Summer Season!**
- **Avian Flu—Are You Prepared?**
- **Thriller Movie about Taylor County Opens Fall 2007**

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Jackson County News Bits

VOLUME 1, EDITION 2

JUNE 29, 2007

Pandemic Flu Comes To Town

A tabletop exercise will be conducted on July 25, 2007, at the Jackson County Agriculture Complex (Conference Center). The complex is located at 2741 Penn Avenue, Marianna.

Registration of participants will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. in the lobby area of the Ag Center Complex.

Participants and community guest will attend a summit from 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., led by Mr. Tom Becuour, Alachua County Florida Health Department Director.

The summit will be followed by a brief break from 10:00 a.m. until 10:30 am, at which time the Pan Flu Tabletop Exercises will begin. This will be a working lunch provided by Sonny's Bar-B-Q of

Marianna.

Anyone wishing to participate must notify Renee' Scurlock at the Emergency Management Office at (850) 526-4500, no



H5NI—Avian Flu is coming to town via Tabletop Exercise on July 25, 2007 at the Jackson County Ag Center

later than July 13th, in order to assure that there are plenty of materials and food. If you do not inform the EMO of your desire

to attend, you will not be able to do so.

At 2:00 p.m. the exercise evaluation and critique will begin and last until approximately 3:30 p.m. at which time the program will wrap up.

This exercise is a joint collaboration between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness, Emergency Response Educators and Consultants, Inc. and the Emergency Management Office of Jackson County.

It is a multi-agency level participation program, which will include health departments and public offices from other counties.

Don't forget to mark your calendar.

Avian Flu Facts...

Avian influenza is an infection caused by avian (bird) influenza (flu) viruses. These influenza viruses occur naturally among birds. Wild birds worldwide carry the viruses in their intestines, but usually do not get sick from them. However, avian influenza is very

contagious among birds and can make some domesticated birds, including chickens, ducks, and turkeys, very sick and kill them.

Infected birds shed influenza virus in their saliva, nasal secretions, and feces. Suscep-

tible birds become infected when they have contact with contaminated secretions or excretions or with surfaces that are contaminated with secretions or excretions from infected birds. Domesticated birds may become infected with avian influenza virus

Avian Flu Facts cont'd from page 1

through direct contact with infected waterfowl or other infected poultry, or through contact with surfaces (such as dirt or cages) or materials (such as water or feed) that have been contaminated with the virus.

Infection with avian influenza viruses in domestic poultry causes two main forms of disease that are distinguished by low and high extremes of virulence. The "low pathogenic" form may go undetected and

usually causes only mild symptoms (such as ruffled feathers and a drop in egg production). However, the highly pathogenic form spreads more rapidly through flocks of poultry. This form may cause disease that affects multiple internal organs and has a mortality rate that can reach 90-100% often within 48 hours.



Treatment and vaccination for H5N1 virus in humans

The H5N1 virus that has caused human illness and death in Asia is resistant to amantadine and rimantadine, two antiviral medications commonly used for influenza. Two other antiviral medications, Oseltamivir and Zanamivir, would probably work to treat influenza caused by H5N1 virus, but additional studies still need to be done to demonstrate their effectiveness.



Wearing mask will help reduce spreading of Avian flu.

Jackson County Summer Fun Spots

Jackson County is full of fun in the sun places for anyone looking for a summer blast.

Blue Springs recreation area opened on Memorial Day weekend and will remain open until Labor Day weekend.

Patrons can spend the day at one of the best swimming holes around for just \$2.00 a day, or you can

purchase a summer pass for \$20.00 with a photo ID. Minors MUST BE accompanied by an adult! Blue Springs offers all sorts of recreational activities with tubes, volleyball's, basketball's, boats, and canoes for rent. They also rent paddle boats by the hour.

Are you looking for a spe-

cial place to hold a family reunion picnic? Look no further, Blue Springs has pavilions available, and for those that are into diving, there is no better cave diving around! Contact Parks and Recreation Department at 718-0437 to reserve a pavilion or for further information.

Blue Springs

Recreation Area is

Open to the Public

and Full of Fun

Activities!

County Road 14.... In theaters

1975-2004

County Road 14 is a fictional thriller, inspired by an actual event. The main character, Retina Cofax and her husband Tom move back to Regina's hometown, Perry, Florida after her Great Aunt Passes away in a car accident. The story begins when Regina, now a Taylor County Homicided Investigator, is assigned

numerous cases involving County Road 14. She befriends a local deputy, Jess Williams. Together, Regina and Jess begin investigating these mysterious similar accidents. The two run into problems when the local sheriff Disapproves of Regina's digging up the past and when Regina discovers a timeline of these accidents linking back to the murders

linking back to the murders of a young girl and a voodoo woman. Regina becomes obsessed with the idea of supernatural entities on this eerily dark road, which brings her to the truth about her past. The mysterious legends and ghost story will surface to bring her world to a true hell. In theatres Fall 2007...



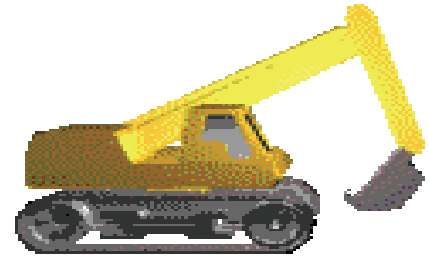
Years of Service to Jackson County...

On June 11, 2007—Chuck Lockey, chairman of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners presented awards to the following employees:

15 year service: Solomon Garvey—JCCC, Sam Breth—JCFR; 5 year service: Dewanna Smith, Comm. Dev., Anthony Faulkner—Utilities.

Employee of the Month went to Lavon Pope, Human Resources.

Gene Perry, who spent nearly thirty years with the Jackson County Road and Bridge Department, retired this past month. A retirement ceremony was held at Road and Bridge where Mr. Perry was presented with a shadow box containing a replica of the backhoe he operated for all these years and the photograph below framed..



Smokey Road Gets Facelift!

Residents along Smokey Road in Northwestern Jackson County will soon be driving down a wider and freshly paved Smokey Road.

This is a project that has long time been coming, repairing the pot holes, increasing the width of the road, and improving drainage along the right-of-way from Highway 2 to Highway 273. This project is being completed under a Florida Depart-

ment of Transportation (FDOT) Small County Road Assistance Program (SCRAP) grant..

The project is currently on schedule and is expected to be completed by September 2007.

Baxter's Asphalt is the contracted company in charge of construction, with Melvin Engineering overseeing the project.



Something New For Old Spanish Trail!



A portion of Old Spanish Trail, beginning at the Sneads City Limits, and heading West for .8 miles is being paved with discretionary funds from Commissioner Jeremy Branch's District Four budget. This is one of several roads around Jackson County that was earmarked to be paved due to the conditions of the road.

County workers are preparing a portion of Old Spanish Trail for paving.



Willie Spires
District 1



Jeremy Branch
District 4



Edward Crutchfield
District 2



Milton Pittman
District 5



Chuck Lockey
District 3



Ted Lakey
County Administrator

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What's Happening In Jackson County

Current County Road Projects:

Church Street

FDOT Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) Resurfacing/ Reconstruction

Messer Road

FDOT Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) Resurfacing/ Reconstruction

Old Spanish Trail

In house project—Paving portion of OST at Sneads City limits.

Peanut Road Phase III

Designed by Melvin Engineering, in bidding process. This project will include Resurfacing/Widening and Drainage Improvements.

Smokey Road

FDOT Small County Road Assistance Program (SCRAP) Resurfacing/ Widening/Drainage Improvements

Welcome Church Road

FDOT Small County Outreach Program (SCOP) Resurfacing/ Reconstruction

JCDC Projects

Old Castle Fabrication Plant is being constructed in the Industrial Park South of Marianna. This plant will make pre-fabricated concrete pipes and storm water boxes.

Pellets Plant—Cottondale will produce energy pellets for clean fuel.

Three electric sub-stations are being constructed by Alabama Electric Cooperative, Inc, to provide energy to a

growing Jackson County. One will provide power to the Pellets Plant, and two are being constructed North of Marianna, one near Malone and the other near Bascom.

The new **Emergency Operation Center** building construction will begin soon with completion expected by Spring 2008.

Jackson County has received a Grant from the Florida Department of Transportation to construct sidewalks along the south side of SR 166 from east of the Marianna High School to a proposed crosswalk to the east side of Federal Prison Road.