

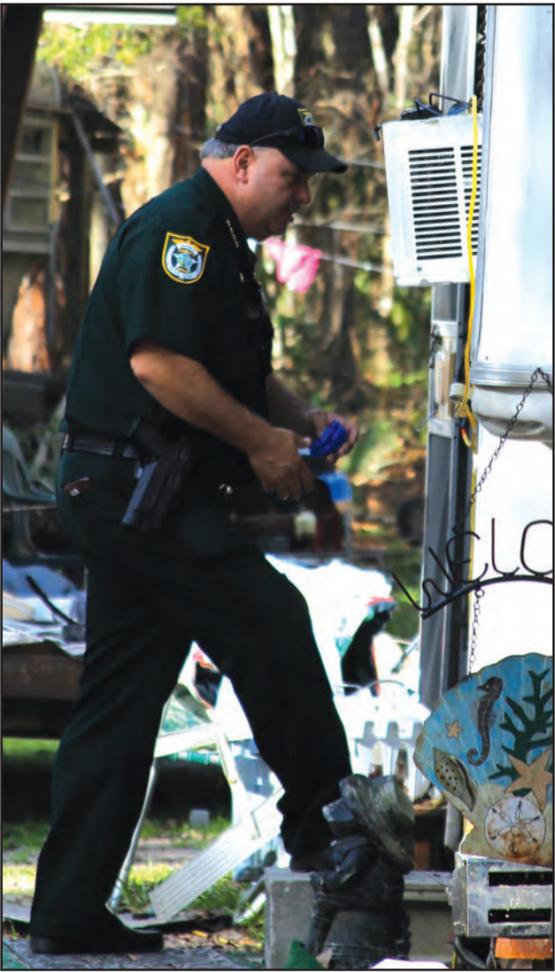
# B A C K



# BLUE

A supplement to the Perry News-Herald

## Sheriff Padgett: 'If you see something, say something'



Sheriff Wayne Padgett is shown honoring his pledge to be a "working sheriff." Padgett and the TCSO protect more than 1,000 miles of territory.

Taylor County's borders encompass more than 1,000 square miles of territory - territory Sheriff Wayne Padgett claims as off limits to drug dealers under his watch.

"Everybody has a number, and one day, your number will come up," Padgett said.

The first-term sheriff took a hard line in the war on drugs during his campaign and has worked to fulfill that promise each and every day he has been in office.

In his first 12 months, Padgett established a Drug Task Force that "has boots on the ground."

"One of the things I promised during my campaign is that I would seek out drug dealers. I want to make it clear to dealers who want to live or do business here -- stay out of Taylor County," he said.

The success the Taylor County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) has experienced this past year is due, in large part, Padgett said, to community involvement. "They are calling and giving us tips. They know it isn't falling on deaf ears. We are investigating. We want to see that momentum

continue. Remember, if you see something, say something."

The sheriff's office currently has 36 deputies, including patrol, school resource and judicial service divisions.

A 26-member corrections officer team oversees the "care, custody and control" of inmates at the Taylor County Jail - which is staffed 24 hours a day, seven

days a week.

Emergency 911 communications are handled by a staff of 10 that fields calls for the TCSO, Perry Police Department, City of Perry Fire Department and Taylor County Fire-Rescue, as well as emergency medical services.

"I promised residents in the beach area and Steinhatchee that I would work to locate a satellite

officers' station at the coast. I can report that the building has been moved to the site, and we are in the final stages of getting it ready to open," Padgett said.

"We have also taken the first step toward securing more affordable, family coverage for our employees and hope to see those negotiations move forward this coming year."

### PPD serves and protects

From its pioneer roots with a reputation as a tough cattle town to the current modern-day municipality with its star on the rise, the City of Perry has always striven to maintain public safety and promote "law and order" within its boundaries.

The Perry Police Department (PPD) has had men and women tasked with that challenge on the job, and on the streets, for well over a century.

Today's PPD force -- comprised of 21 full-time, sworn officers -- faces a multitude of challenges on a daily basis, but in recent years has focused efforts on combating a marked increase in drug-related crime.

PPD Chief Jamie Cruse says his department has adopted a drug enforcement strategy that includes conducting drug investigations that go beyond typical street level enforcement to combat the menace.

"We have been receiving

cooperative assistance from federal, state and local law enforcement

→ Please see page 6



Chief Jamie Cruse

# Perry Police Department

## Promoting Law and Order for more than Century



Chief Jamie Cruse



Capt. Gene Franklin



Lt. Lin Gray



Det. Dwight Norris



Det. Bill Murray



Det. Ray Kellerman



Sgt. Dave Gorby



Sgt. Garrett Campbell



Sgt. Brian Curry



Sgt. Jay Ricketson



Ptl. Kyle Johnson



Ptl. Charles Geyer



Ptl. Jason Bass



Ptl. Timothy Murphy



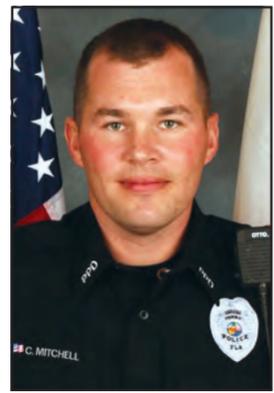
Ptl. Jamin Cephus



Ptl. Chad Cannon



Ptl. John Arnold



Ptl. Charles Mitchell



Ptl. Ricky Dice



Ptl. Matt Smith



Ptl. Koven Phelps

(Continued on page 6)

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TCSO School Resource Officers: Dewayne Bowden, Pam Brasby, Darell Upshaw and Trace James.



TCSO Investigators Jason Vinson, Capt. Jimmy Cash and Inv. Thomas Gunter.



TCSO Investigator Brian Hayden, Lt. Robbie Ricketson and Deputy Jordan Thigpen



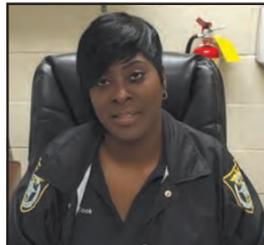
TCSO Dispatchers Dakota Cruce, Kristen Douglas and Katie Morrison.



TCSO Lt. Steve Bell mans the metal detector checkpoint at the Courthouse.



The Perry Police Department receives visitors of all ages -- including two young Boy Scouts who stopped by for a tour. They are shown with Lt. Lin Gray (center).



Sgt. Chrisann L. Cook



Deputy Joe Franklin



Sheriff Wayne Padgett



Chief Chuck Mincy



Evidence Specialist Dep. Brenda Blue



TCSO Work Crew Sgt. Carlos Johnson



City employees wore their "Back the Blue" t-shirts with pride. Shown (left to right) are: (front) Danielle Ondash and Sandy Young; (back) Rave Bryant, Lavonne Tharpe, Delois Clayton, Penny Staffney and Phyllis Poor.



Taylor County students were treated to a K-9 demonstration from K-9 Officer Jason Bass (left) during a field trip to the Perry Police Department. Chief Jamie Cruse and Ptl. Jay Ricketson also visited with the children.



Christmas comes early for participants in the annual "Shop with a Cop" program, spearheaded by the PPD. Children are matched with an officer for a morning of Christmas shopping for themselves and their families using funds raised by local sponsors and the "Shop with a Cop Chili Cook-Off."



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"I would like to acknowledge the dedication and sacrifice of all Taylor County Sheriff's Office personnel. These men and women are the best. Also, a heartfelt thank you to the citizens of Taylor County for your support and encouragement of our office through the years. We stand ready to work with you for the betterment of our community.



**Wayne Padgett**  
Taylor County Sheriff





Taylor Correctional Institution's (TCI) Rapid Response Team is pictured (front row, left to right): Rhonda McDonald, CLS, Warden Shannon Varnes, Captain Aaron Fronck, Sgt. Andrew Mock, Sgt. Colby Murphy, Officer Caleb Cooper, Officer Chad Hill, Sgt. John Vann, Sgt. Adam Vann, Major Cleo Brown. (Top row, from left to right): Colonel Mitchell Keen, Sgt. Jonathan Rose, Officer Laney Buzbee, Captain Gregory Townsend, Sgt. Tyson Watson, Sgt. Jay Swindle, Sgt. Damarcus Taylor, Sgt. Bryon Freeman, AW Robert Surlis, Teresa Bratcher, CLS.

## At Taylor Correctional Institution:

# Correctional officers patrol 'thin blue line'

Correctional officers are a major part of the united "blue" law enforcement family, holding the line and maintaining order at three local facilities – Taylor Correctional Institution (TCI), TCI Annex and Taylor Work Camp – which combine to house more than an estimated 2,000 inmates.

Taylor Correctional Institution (TCI) was constructed here in 1994 on Hampton Springs Road located off Highway 98.

The local state prison employs approximately 370 staff members and consists of five open bay housing units and three cell housing units, with a maximum capacity of 1,301 adult male inmates in a variety of custody classifications.

Taylor Annex was constructed in 2002 to house youthful male inmates, but was converted to an adult male facility in June 2005.

With approximately 192 total staff members, the prison annex also has five open bay housing units and three cell housing units with a maximum capacity of 1,409 inmates.

Both the TCI main unit and annex currently house

just under 1,000 inmates, while the Taylor Work Camp houses an additional 350 inmates.

The Taylor Annex and Taylor Work Camp facilities both fall under the supervision of TCI.

Within those walls are men and women who live by their sworn oath to protect and serve, who have earned their badges and belong to the brotherhood/sisterhood of law enforcement professionals.

They are correctional officers -- responsible for the supervision, care, custody, control and physical restraint (when necessary) of inmates in a correctional institution or facility.

They stand tall in the face of adversity and risk their lives to maintain an environment that is conducive to rehabilitation.

Correctional officers are the peacekeepers who work surrounded by an inmate population dominated by predators and aggressors.

Despite working without weapons, correctional officers perform their duties without fear, as they patrol the housing units

and work areas within the walls of their facility, monitoring, supervising and screening inmates and visitors, performing counts, periodic patrols, checking for contraband, overseeing work details and maintaining proper security of inmates being transported.

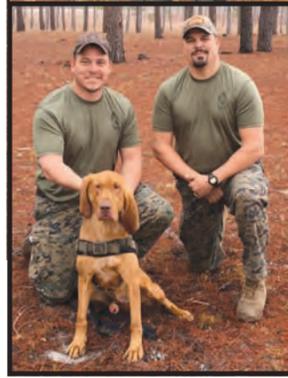
Jails and prisons are no longer considered warehouses for inmates with very limited personal interactions.

Rehabilitation has now become the main focus of correctional institutions nationwide.

This is evident by the Florida Department of Corrections (FDOC) stated vision: "Inspiring success by transforming one life at a time."

The FDOC is currently hiring for open positions within this career path, which are eligible for "criminal justice incentive pay," other state benefits and a uniform allowance.

See ad below for more information.



Taylor Correctional Institution's K-9 "Taz" is shown during a trailing exercise with C.O. Josh Clark handling the lead under the supervision of Sergeant Eric Sadler.

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Phyllis Newport  
Agent



## NFCC offers EMS program, courses

Want to become a paramedic or EMT? North Florida Community College (NFCC) offers programs for students interested in joining an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) unit.

NFCC EMS Program Director Mike Kirkland recently visited Perry Rotary Club to discuss the program, which began in 2002.

"There have been a lot of changes in EMS in the last three to four years, especially in education," Kirkland said.

NFCC serves a six-county region, including Taylor County, and Kirkland said the college has the largest geographic area (combined with one of the smallest populations) of any Florida community college.

These challenges have inspired NFCC to adapt its programs, including offering EMS classes on shift scheduling to accommodate working students, Kirkland said.

The program serves around 60 students per year, and Kirkland said most stay in the area.

"We've had an EMS shortage over the last five years," he said.

The Emergency Medical Technician/EMT-Basic program was developed to provide first-phase training in the career structure of EMTs.

In order to be employed with an ambulance service in the State of Florida, a student must be trained and certified through the EMS section of the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

Successful completion of this course will enable the student to apply to take the National Registry Examination for EMT (NREMT).

The Paramedic Program at NFCC was developed to fulfill the requirements to practice, under medical direction, the art and science of out-of-hospital medicine.

The goal of the program is to provide the graduate with the knowledge, skill and professional attributes associated with an entry-level paramedic position.

Graduates are trained to prevent and reduce mortality and morbidity due to illness or injury. Successful completion of this course will enable the student to apply to take the National Registry Examination for Paramedics (NRP).

For more information, visit [www.nfcc.edu](http://www.nfcc.edu).

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# Perry Fire Department responds to 1,091 calls

Protecting the City of Perry's residents, homes and businesses is the Perry Fire Department, which responded to 1,091 calls in 2017.

The department consists of 14 total personnel, including

three shifts of four people each as well as a swing man (who fills in as needed) and a part-time firefighter.

A Shift includes Chief Robbie Moon and firefighters Ben Meacham, Jake Prosser and Chase Barineau. B

Shift includes Captain Elton Caraway and firefighters Charles Watson, Ryan Thompson and Oby Brannon. C Shift includes Captain Robert Campbell, R.B. Lee,

→ Please see page 7

# Taylor Fire-Rescue is dedicated to protecting Taylor's 1,000 sq. miles

Taylor County Fire-Rescue is responsible for all of Taylor County outside the city limits of Perry, totaling more than 1,000 square miles.

Covering that area are the 11 men and women of Fire-Rescue, which has a full complement of 13 people. The agency is currently hiring two additional

firefighters.

Fire-Rescue personnel include firefighters Logan Brennan, Forrest Kauffman, Stephanie Nuszowski, Earl Paris, Kyle Stewart, Nathan Tyre and Joe Woodson, lieutenants Shaun Cayson and Billy Kennedy and Fire Chief Dan Cassel.

In addition to the full-time personnel, the county also has a roster 20 volunteers.

"We've got a lot of dedicated volunteers," Cassel said, adding that the department is in the midst of a drive to recruit volunteers.

"We're going station by station to seek out interested people. We are all one department," Cassel

→ Please see page 7



Perry Fire Department's A Shift includes (from l to r) firefighter Jake Prosser, Chief Robby Moon and firefighters Chase Barineau and Ben Meacham.



Logan Brennan



Forrest Kauffman



Perry Fire Department's B Shift includes (from l to r) firefighters Charles Watson and Ryan Thompson, Captain Elton Watson and firefighter Oby Brannon.



Stephanie Nuszowski



Earl Paris



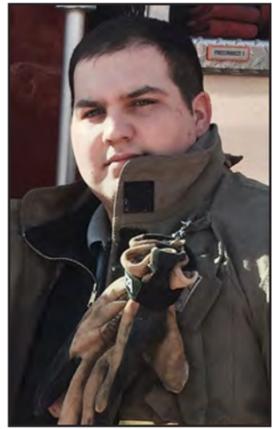
Kyle Stewart



Perry Fire Department's C Shift includes (from l to r) firefighters Michael Helms, R.B. Lee, Ryan Parker and Will Thompson. Not pictured is Captain Robert Campbell.



Nathan Tyre



Joe Woodson



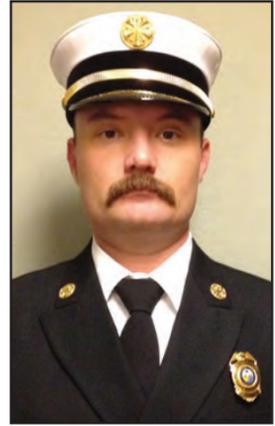
Lt. Shaun Cayson



Lt. Billy Kennedy



Lt. Nick Weadon



Fire Chief Dan Cassel

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 Chief Chuck Mincey  
 Major Marty Tompkins  
 Capt. Buddy Lee  
 Capt. Jimmy Cash  
 Lt. Steve Bell  
 Lt. Robbie Ricketson  
 Staff Sgt. Ed Whiddon  
 Staff Sgt. Eric Woods  
 Staff Sgt. Benji Dorman  
 Sgt. Jesse Young  
 Sgt. Earl Padgett  
 Sgt. Gregg Gulbrandsen

Inv. Jason Vinson  
 Inv. Thomas Gunter  
 Inv. Gina Deeson  
 Inv. Bryan Hayden  
 Deputy Marty Nowlin  
 Deputy Dewayne Bowden  
 Deputy Darell Upshaw  
 Deputy Rusty Davis  
 Deputy Taylor Ericson  
 Deputy Brian Warren  
 Deputy Trace James  
 Deputy Kyle Wimberley  
 Deputy Michelle Sumrall  
 Deputy Jordan Thigpen  
 Deputy Jake Adkins  
 Deputy Pam Brasby  
 Deputy Brenda Blue

Deputy Scott McKenzie  
 Deputy Kathy Bell  
 Deputy Joe Franklin  
 Deputy Danielle Chewning  
 Deputy Greg Melvin  
 Courthouse Security Willie Williams

## TCSO Jail

Capt. Mark J. Stephens  
 Lt. Patricia E. Sadler  
 Sgt. Crystal L. Secor  
 Sgt. Chrisann L. Cook  
 Sgt. Carlos V. Johnson  
 Sgt. Brenda D. Freund  
 Sgt. Sandra Flowers  
 Cpl. Joshua D. Cayson

Cpl. Rene M. Maiullo  
 Cpl. Donna L. Pullum  
 C.O. Bradford L. Basch  
 C.O. Jacob N. Barr  
 C.O. Bobbi Jo Burns  
 C.O. Trenton L. Cooke Jr.  
 C.O. Aaron Deeson  
 C.O. Steven Ford  
 C.O. Paul H. Hayes  
 C.O. Virginia D. Jacobs  
 C.O. Daniel E. Lovett  
 C.O. Timothy Murphy, Jr.  
 C.O. Tony G. Sadler  
 C.O. James M. Strickland  
 C.O. Darren Whiddon

Control Operators:  
 Robyn Ellison  
 Leanne Powell  
 Sharon Granthum  
 Larmie Poppell

## TCSO Dispatch

Brittini Blue  
 Desiree C. Botello  
 Dakota D. Cruce  
 Kristen Douglas  
 Katie Morrison  
 Jaelyn Noles  
 Katie H. Powell  
 Kristen Stephens  
 Hope E. Taylor

Ashleigh S. Vaughn  
 911 Coordinator Sarah Weirick

## TCSO Administration

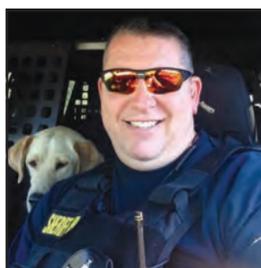
Toni Page: Civil Records  
 Valerie Bodiford: Criminal Records  
 Jabrika Morris: Office Receptionist  
 Kedra Peeples: Receptionist  
 Sandy Hunter: Finance  
 Linda Bryant: Assistant Finance  
 Renee Fierro: Human Resource



TCSO Co. Darren Whiddon



TCSO Dispatch Brittini Blue and Katie Powell



TCSO K-9 "Titan" (pictured with Capt. Jimmy Cash) is assigned to the Drug Task Force and serves as a detection dog.



Staff Sgt. Ed Whiddon and Capt. Buddy Lee

## Four K-9 teams included in PPD day-to-day operations

### SERVE AND PROTECT

Continued from page 1

partners that includes, but is not limited to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Secret Service and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to further our efforts to maximize our enforcement potential," Cruse said. "These efforts have resulted in investigations that have spread from our local jurisdiction into other areas of the country. We have focused our efforts to target mid- and upper-level drug violators, and we have seen an increase in drug-related forfeitures of vehicles, property and currency -- with several forfeiture cases being conducted this year alone. We have also assisted other local jurisdictions in the Third Judicial Circuit with investigative aides, training and manpower to help in their drug enforcement efforts.

"We currently have ongoing investigations that number in the double digits which are expected to produce multiple indictments for drug and weapons violations in both state and federal

jurisdictions," he said. He cited the following statistics for the department in 2017:

- Drug-related cases, incidents or investigations: controlled substances, 165; paraphernalia, 33.
  - Charged or arrested: controlled substance, 184; paraphernalia, 64.
  - Cases with a drug and gun offense component: 9.
  - Cases referred to federal partners: 8-10; more pending.
  - Search warrants: 21 with a drug or gun component.
- Day-to-day operations see four K-9 teams at work, along with a newly-established resource force made up of former deputies and officers who have moved on to other challenges, but who also maintain their law enforcement certifications.

The department's offices are located in a historic building once home to Perry's own Pepsi bottling company. The renovated site spans half a city block and sits adjacent to City Hall.

Administrative staff oversee the daily office duties and "provide invaluable behind-the-scenes support," PPD Capt. Gene Franklin said.

Three PPD officers (Capt. Gene Franklin, Inv. Dwight Norris and Ptl. Jamin Cephus) are also members of the U.S. Marshal's Fugitive Task Force.

A number of patrol officers are also certified as traffic homicide investigators, and additional officers hold advanced traffic homicide investigation certifications.



Ptl. Sandy Young



Reserve Ptl. Mark Hershberger



Secretary to the Chief LaVonne Tharpe



Retired Capt. Nelly Walker



Retired Ptl. Bruce Griffin

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# Fire-Rescue has eight fire engines, 3 tankers, 6 brush trucks and a boat

**FIRE-RESCUE**  
Continued from page 5

said, referring to Fire-Rescue's paid and volunteer firefighters. "No matter where they live, they can help and be part of a bigger department. If you would like to become a volunteer, call 838-3522."

Fire-Rescue's fleet of vehicles includes eight fire engines, three tankers, six brush trucks and one boat, stationed around the county at its seven stations, including the main one on Industrial Drive in Perry.



Taylor County Fire-Rescue has a contingent of 20 volunteers to supplement its paid crews, including Norma Holden (above) and Ken Parker (right).



# Department fights fires and promotes fire prevention

**PERRY FIRE**  
Continued from page 5

Will Thompson and Michael Helms. Currently, part-timer

Ryan Parker is filling in for Campbell. Josh Stephens is the department's swing shift firefighter.

According to Chief Moon,

the department has pump trucks (with 1,000 gallon tanks), two engines, a brush truck and a squad car.

Their newest vehicle is

an extended-cab brush truck purchased with the help of a grant. The truck features "a bunch of gadgets," including a joystick-controlled front

water hose, which can be used in a variety of situations.

The department's goal is to provide fire suppression and rescue services within the

city and all contract service areas, as well as promoting fire prevention through inspection and regulation of the fire code within the city.



The Perry Fire Department's newest brush truck has "a bunch of gadgets," including a joystick-operated front-mounted hose. Above and below left, firefighter Chase Barineau demonstrates the device. Above right, Captain Elton Caraway shows off some of the equipment contained inside the truck, including generators, foam for chemical fires and axes.



## 23 troopers assigned to local Florida Highway Patrol troop

Taylor County is part of the three-county Madison Sub District in Florida Highway Patrol's Troop H.

There are currently 20 patrol troopers and three commercial vehicle troopers assigned to the Madison District, which encompasses Madison, Jefferson and Taylor counties. Of these 23 troopers, seven reside in Taylor County.

These troopers are dispatched out of the

Tallahassee Regional Communications Center, which covers from the Suwannee River to the Alabama state line.



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# DMH EMS responds to 3,500 calls each year

Doctors' Memorial Hospital Emergency Services (EMS) staffs three Advanced Life Support ambulances 24 hours a day. According to EMS Director Mac Leggett, when there is an influx of people, they can staff five ALS units. "We typically respond to around 3,500 911 calls per year," Leggett said. "We have 19 full-time staff and four-part time staff." Please see page 9



EMT Leanne Perry and Paramedic Gary Nave



Paramedic Caroline McLean and EMT Frank Garrard



EMT Britney Archer



Paramedic Cindy Beaver

Doctors' Memorial Hospital (DMH) Emergency Medical Services consist of 19 full-time and four part-time staff. Shown above are: Director Mac Leggett, Paramedic Raymond Hinton, Paramedic Deborah Langford, EMT Tonya Fox, Paramedic Nathan Broughton, Paramedic Kelly Simmons and Paramedic Jane Williams. Not pictured are: Paramedic Chad Bush, Paramedic Venita Woodfaulk, Paramedic Susan Winstead, EMT James Winstead, Paramedic Amanda Thomas, EMT Charles Swindle, EMT Daniel Wentworth, Paramedic Cecil Hall and EMT Trey Godwin. "We typically respond to around 3,500 911 calls per year," Leggett said. "We have 19 full-time staff and four-part time staff. We do have openings for both EMTs and paramedics, and have a wonderful place as our station (DMH)."

Our success is due to the support of our community.

We want to thank our citizens, law enforcement, fire departments and all first responders, for the role they play in helping make our community a safer place to live and raise our families.



## BUCKEYE COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



## THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO

A community is best defined by those who rise to make it great. Buckeye Community Federal Credit Union would like to thank the many people whose selfless work makes Taylor County such a safe and special place to live – from members of our law enforcement, fire departments and all first responders.

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# State Attorney: We could not do our jobs without our support staff

Under Florida law, the State Attorney is charged with being the chief prosecuting officer for his judicial circuit and the counties in it. Florida Statutes and criminal rules define those duties, which are primarily focused on criminal offenders.

The mission of the State Attorney's Office (SAO) is to uphold public safety in a fair and just manner,

keeping people safe by prosecuting those who disrupt our community. The chief goal of the SAO is to ensure the pursuit of justice is done in a transparent, fair and thoughtful way that maintains the trust of those the office serves.

As the State Attorney for the Third Judicial Circuit, Jeff Siegmeister is the constitutional officer charged with representing

the State of Florida in courts within Taylor, Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison and Suwannee counties.

Siegmeister is a licensed attorney in both state and federal court, specializing in criminal law both at the trial and appellate level.

Siegmeister's staff for the State Attorney's Office's Third Circuit includes assistant state attorneys:

- Will Washington, felony prosecutor and Taylor and Dixie County office supervisor,
- James McCain, felony prosecutor and Special Prosecutions Unit team member,
- Tabitha Fishgrab, felony prosecutor,

- Kathryn Davis, misdemeanor, criminal traffic and juvenile prosecutor,

- John Weed, supervisor of the Special Prosecutions Unit, whose main office is located in Live Oak.

"Our support staff, who we could not do our jobs without, includes: Felony and Special Prosecutions Legal Assistant Connie Legge, Felony and Criminal Traffic Legal Assistant Amy Shiver, Misdemeanor and Juvenile Legal Assistant Stacey Woods and Victim/Witness Coordinator and Receptionist Michelle Hinkle," Washington said.

"Our investigator for Taylor and Dixie counties is JT Williams, who assists us

in finding witnesses, serving subpoenas and conducting follow-up investigations, if necessary," Washington added.

The Special Prosecution Unit handles the most serious and complex cases in all seven counties located within the Third Circuit, including Taylor County.

"The Special Prosecutions Unit augments the local staff and is responsible for prosecuting murders, sex offenses involving children and other serious crimes that occur in Taylor County and the rest of the Third Circuit," said Weed, who leads the unit and is assisted by McCain.

"It's a difficult job, but very rewarding," Weed said.



Jeff Siegmeister



John Weed

# Parker, Blue preside over courtrooms

Circuit Judge Greg Parker presides over the Third Judicial Circuit, which includes Taylor, Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison and Suwannee counties.

Parker was sworn into office in January 2009 following 25 years of practicing law.

Parker's primary assignment is felony, circuit civil, family and probate cases in Taylor County.

In addition to criminal and civil cases within the Third Judicial Circuit, Parker also presides over family court (domestic relations, injunctions for protection, probate and guardianship), mental health, Marchman

and Baker Act cases.

Parker has served two terms as Chief Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit (2013-17) and was appointed by the Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice to the Florida Trial Court Budget Commission and Florida Court System Long Range Planning Workgroup.

He graduated from the University of Florida (Bachelor of Science) in 1976 and received his law degree (Juris Doctor) from Florida State University in 1984.

Parker was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1984 and is a former member of the Florida Bar Board of Governors. A former lieutenant in the U.S. Navy (Surface Warfare Officer, Lead bridge officer USS Forrestal CV-59 from 1977-81), Parker is married to Pamela Rigoni Parker of Perry.

Taylor County Court Judge Bill Blue was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1989 and has served as Taylor County Judge since January 2013.

He received his Juris Doctor degree from Cumberland School of Law in 1989 after earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida State University in 1986.

In addition to county court cases (Misdemeanor, Traffic, County Civil, Small Claims and First Appearance), Blue's judicial assignments include presiding over circuit court cases (Family Court, Juvenile Delinquency and Dependency) as acting circuit judge.



State's Attorney Office staff in Taylor County includes (left to right) Tabitha Fishgrab, Amy Shiver, Kathryn Davis, Will Washington, Stacey Woods, Connie Legge and Michelle Hinkle. Not pictured are: James McCain and J.T. Williams.



Judge Greg Parker



Judge Bill Blue

# EMS has openings for EMTs and paramedics

DMH EMS  
Continued from page 8

"We do have openings for both EMTs and paramedics, and have a wonderful place as our station (DMH)," he continued.

DMS EMS works

closely with local law enforcement agencies and fire departments.

According to Leggett, EMS operates under Florida Administrative Code 64J-1 and is regulated by the Florida Department of Health.



Committed to supporting our communities, law enforcement, first responders and everyone who works hard to keep us safe and to make **Taylor County** a great place to live.

# THANK YOU

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*Circuit Judge Greg Parker*




*I would like to express my appreciation for our law enforcement, corrections officers and first responders. Thank you for all you do!*

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Sarah Vaughn and Desiree Botello are part of TCSO's 911 communications department.



TCSO Deputy Brian Warren participated in a Special Olympics fund-raiser.



Taylor County Sheriff Wayne Padgett with members of his administrative staff.



Taylor County Sheriff's Office correctional staff.



TCSO correctional officers take part in firearms certification courses.



TCSO Dep. Brenda Blue participates in firearms certification.

## FWC Law Enforcement is responsible for protecting Florida's natural resources

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) law enforcement officers are responsible for uniformed patrol and investigative services on more than three million acres of freshwater lakes, 11,000 miles of rivers, streams and creeks, 8,400 miles of coastline, 13,200 square miles of offshore waters and more than 34 million acres of land encompassing a variety of habitats including wildlife management areas, state parks and forests.

FWC officers stand as sentinels for the protection of Florida's precious resources and the public who use these resources.

Locally, FWC personnel in Taylor County include Lt. Mike Guy, officers Chad Albritton, William Wilder, Ryan Colasanti and Justin Dasher and Reserve Officer Dale Wilcox.

If you see a wildlife crime, FWC officials ask you to be a good witness and contact the agency at 888-404-3922. You can remain anonymous, and if your information leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a reward through FWC's Wildlife Alert program.

The public can also text Tip@MyFWC.com or visit MyFWC.com/Contact and select "Report Violators."



# Heroes on the Homefront

## Honoring Our First Responders

Every day, Taylor County's law enforcement and first responders put their lives on the line to protect our neighborhoods and keep us safe. The positive impact of their service and dedication to our communities and our country is invaluable, and we owe them the full measure of our respect and gratitude.



To all of our first responders, we thank you for your service. This message is sponsored by:

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