

Steinhatchee Fish Co. offers array of seafood

FAMILY, FAITH, FISH
Continued from page 3

sushi-grade tuna and snow crab are typically obtained by special order. Torrential rain on the day I stopped by didn't keep the customers away. As one would leave, two more would walk in. They were buying everything from Mayport shrimp to scallops to conch. Others were waiting for the truck from Water Street Seafood to deliver the lump

crab, blue crab claws and pint oysters. Each customer I talked to described what they would be preparing for dinner. More than one was making shrimp gumbo, another had a shrimp stir-fry planned, while yet another described how she loves to eat conch raw with just a little lemon juice. I myself purchased a container of lump crab meat and created a decadent blue crab casserole.



Not even torrential rain could keep customers from visiting the Steinhatchee Fish Company. As one would leave, two more would walk in, stopping by to purchase their dinner.

Making Daylight Saving Time permanent will take an act of congress

SPRING FORWARD
Continued from page 1

to make Daylight Savings Time (DST) permanent in the state some two years ago may be asking, "Why are we still springing forward?" Why can't we just stay on the same time all year round? In 2018, the Florida Legislature passed a bill called the "Sunshine Protection Act," which would keep Florida on Daylight Saving Time year round. The measure passed

by overwhelming margins in both the Florida House of Representatives (103-11) and the Florida Senate (33-2). Then Governor Rick Scott signed the bill into law. However, now almost three years later, Florida residents continue to "spring forward" each March and "fall back" every November. Why is this? Under the federal Uniform Time Act of 1966, which regulates time zones, states can choose to exempt themselves from Daylight Saving Time, but

there are no laws on the books allowing states to opt out of standard time. That means it would require an act of U.S. Congress to change the federal statute in order to allow Florida's Sunshine Protection Act to take effect. In March 2019, Florida's U.S. Senator Marco Rubio re-introduced the Sunshine Protection Act legislation he first proposed in 2018 that would make Daylight Saving Time permanent across the country.

In September 2020, Rubio and Scott again introduced legislation to the U.S. Congress that would keep the U.S. on Daylight Saving Time through Nov. 7, 2021. Scott and Rubio cited several studies arguing the potential effects of making Daylight Saving Time permanent, including:

- Reduced car crashes,
- Reduced energy usage,
- Reduced risk for cardiac issues, stroke and seasonal depression,
- Reduced number of robberies by as much as 27

percent,

- Reduced energy usage,
- Increased physical fitness,
- Avoiding the annual 2.2-4.9 percent drop in economic activity that occurs during the "fall back" time period,
- Avoiding disrupting the agricultural economy.

While the bill ultimately did not pass, a newer version of the "Sunshine Protection Act of 2021" has been introduced in the U.S. House by Florida Rep. Vern Buchanan for consideration during the upcoming session.

If the bill were to finally pass Congress this year, preventing the United States from "falling back" to Standard Time in November, Americans would also avoid having to change their clocks next March when everyone typically "springs forward" into DST. Eleven other states — Delaware, Louisiana, Maine, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, Arkansas, Alabama and Wyoming — have passed similar laws, and dozens more are considering it.

Age limit will drop to 60 on Monday

COVID CASES
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"We still have people trickling in," Young said, adding that the minimum age will soon be lowered. "We are still vaccinating based on the priority group of 65 and older until March 15, and then it drops to those 60 and older," Young said. "We are also accepting people with a declaration from their doctor that states they have a medical condition that makes them eligible for the vaccine. It does not necessarily have to say they are a diabetic or go into great detail," she added. "There is a DOH form that can be printed off online, and we have sent it to local provider (doctor) offices here. It is a one-page document that just has to be signed saying that this person needs the vaccine and are under their (doctor's) care," Young said. "That is a group we are starting to vaccinate." Young acknowledged that the number of local positive COVID-19 cases have dropped off recently, but added, "However, that does not mean they have disappeared." "We are still doing testing twice per week, but the big shift now is toward the vaccine," Young said. "We still have cases in our community. We still encourage wearing masks and social distancing and we are definitely encouraging taking the vaccine."

Young stated that the local DOH office in Taylor County is administering the Moderna vaccine, while there is one or more local physician offices that has the Pfizer vaccine. "There is no word yet on if we are getting the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. There are some counties in Florida getting it — I think 11 of the larger counties — but no word on if, or when, they will be distributing it to others," Young added. The health department was scheduled to administer

second doses of the vaccine to some 510 people on Wednesday this week, she said, adding that DOH-Taylor has appointments available as early as 9 a.m. for those eligible who want to receive a first dose on Friday. Those who wish to schedule an appointment for the vaccine can call DOH-Taylor at (850) 584-5087. "We have some things in the works to try and reach some of our different populations," Young continued. "We are meeting with the local hospital to explore some options and get them to help us out with some things. "We are excited to be able to do that and reach some outlier areas, like Steinhatchee, as well as home-bound people," Young said. "We are looking for organizations that want to partner with us, such as faith-based organization to run a POD (point of distribution) and go in and do vaccinations." Young suggested that churches who may have people "who are nervous" about receiving the vaccine can book an appointment and use church vans to transport entire families to the vaccination site. "Whatever makes people comfortable and helps us get the vaccine out to the community," she said. Councilwoman Shirlye Hampton asked about the possibility of a drive-thru

vaccination site here. "Yes, it is in the works. We have secured a location, but one of the biggest things we need is some type of covering so we can do it rain or shine. We have had less than five clinics when it has not rained on us," Young said. She added she has been working with City Councilman Ward Ketring (who also works as the county's airport manager) to hold a drive-thru clinic under a large airport hangar or shelter at the local airport. Young explained that a drive-thru clinic requires more logistics, because unlike testing, where a person can simply drive off after being swabbed, DOH-Taylor staff has to observe those receiving the vaccine afterward which requires traffic control and many more staff members. City Manager Taylor Brown asked if there have been any local cases of the new COVID-19 variants. "We don't know, because we have not had any that we have actually tested for that sort of thing," Young replied, adding that it requires a blood test "that we do not have access to here." "Mrs. Martine, will you tell them why I have this (face mask) off," Hampton said at the beginning of the presentation. "I gave her permission," Young joked. "If you all are wondering why I do not have on

my facemask...I am fully vaccinated and have been for 30 days now. Plus I can't breathe good today," Hampton said. Brown recognized Young and her team's effort on conducting this vaccination program. "Some of our city departments have played a role in this and witnessed first-hand the job they are doing. It is almost like a military operation down there," Brown said.



New awarded Eagle in '73

A story in the March 10 TaCo Times accidentally omitted William C. New from the list of 29 known local Eagle Scouts produced by Troop 600. New achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on Nov. 14, 1973, from Troop 600 of Perry.

New lady captains make waves

Steinhatchee ladies are opening charter businesses to share their love of the sun, sea and sport -- fishing.



Melissa Fain (above) is shown charting points on a map for her captain's license. Once she obtains her license, she plans to offer offshore fishing and scalloping charters. Laura Currier (right) has been a licensed captain since 2019 and plans to offer sunset cruises in the near future.

Licensed as a charter captain since 2019, Captain Laura Currier has

been fishing the waters around Steinhatchee recreationally since 2003. Working full-time for the airline industry, Currier plans to start offering sunset cruises aboard her 18' pontoon. It's Currier's 17' aluminum Jon boat that gets her into the tighter spots for flats fishing. Melissa Fain recently attended a licensing seminar under the tutelage of Adams Marine

Seminars held at the Steinhatchee Community Center. Once she obtains her captain's license, Fain plans to offer offshore fishing and scalloping charters as well as manatee tours. As to why she wants to become a charter captain, Fain stated, "A lot of people don't have a boat, and this is a way I can spread my love for fishing to others."



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19th Annual Steinhatchee Community FISHING TOURNAMENT



MARCH 20, 2021
2:30pm - 3:30pm

Weigh-in at Steinhatchee Community Center
Captain's Meeting:
Fri. March 19, 2021
Steinhatchee Comm. Center

Taylor County
Steinhatchee to Perry, Naturally
PERRY TAYLOR COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Entry Fee:
\$50.00 per person

REDFISH
Largest.....\$1,000
2nd Largest...\$400
Most Spots....\$250

OVER \$3,300
IN CASH & PRIZES!

TROUT
Largest.....\$1,000
2nd Largest...\$400

FLOUNDER
Largest.....\$250

THIS IS A LARGEST FISH TOURNAMENT



REMINDER!
11th Annual NAUTI GIRLS
Fishing Tournament

Saturday October 16, 2021
Capt. Meeting: Oct. 15 @7pm

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION:
River Inn Marina - 352-498-0709 • Sea Hag Marina - 352-498-3008
Who Dat's Bar & Grill - 352-498-8088

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