

# FINANCIAL FOCUS



## Five questions that could change how you see retirement



By Cory Taylor

goal — it's what you want to do once you're there that matters.

Start by asking yourself these five questions.

### When do you want to retire?

The age at which you retire matters more than you may realize.

Retiring early sounds appealing, but it means saving more and having less time to do it. It can also create gaps in health care coverage and income before key benefits kick in. For example, Social Security benefits can begin at 62, but at a reduced amount. Full benefits are available between ages 66 and 67, depending on birth year, and waiting until

70 means the maximum benefit. Medicare doesn't start until age 65, and penalty-free withdrawals from retirement accounts generally aren't allowed until age 59½.

For couples, timing gets even more complicated. Staggering retirement dates can sometimes maximize benefits; in other cases, retiring at the same time works better.

A financial advisor can help you sort through these decisions and find the approach that makes the most sense for your situation.

### How do you want to spend your time in retirement?

Many new retirees

are surprised to find that having unlimited free time feels disorienting rather than freeing. Thinking ahead about how to fill the days with meaningful activity — whether that's travel, volunteering, pursuing hobbies or spending more time with family — can make the transition smoother.

It helps to sketch out what a typical week, month or even first year might look like. If there are big gaps, it's worth thinking now about what might fill them in rewarding ways.

### Where do you want to live as a retiree?

Some retirees stay put, while others downsize or relocate entirely. Either

way, it's wise to consider whether a chosen location will work well as you get older, taking into account factors like proximity to family, access to health care, cost of living and climate.

### What will your retirement lifestyle cost?

It's not uncommon for retirees to discover that their travel, entertainment or leisure expenses were higher than expected. The more active and involved you plan to be, the more you will likely need to budget.

### Does your retirement involve giving back?

Retirement often brings both the time and motivation to be more

generous. Whether the goal is helping family members, donating to charity or volunteering in the community, it's worth defining those goals and building them into an overall plan.

Now that your vision is taking shape, turn it into a plan. Work with your financial advisor to align your savings with the life you want — and revisit that plan as your priorities evolve so your retirement keeps pace with you.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by local Edward Jones Financial Advisor Cory Taylor, who can be reached by calling (850) 223-0999.

**Partners In Progress**  
Chamber Luncheon Series  
**JUNE 11, 2026**

## Shoaf will be featured speaker on Thursday

Florida Representative Jason Shoaf will be the featured speaker at the Thursday, June 11, "Partners in Progress" luncheon series hosted by the Perry-Taylor County Chamber of Commerce.

The complimentary luncheon will begin at noon at the Perry Women's Club.

The "Partners in Progress" luncheon series, sponsored by Duke Energy, "is a professional net-

working and educational program designed to bring together business leaders, community stakeholders and economic development partners to share ideas, strengthen relationships and move our region forward," Chamber Director Dawn Perez said.

All stakeholders are invited to attend. Please confirm your free reservation by calling the chamber at 850-584-5366.



Representative Jason Shoaf

## \$29,300 donated in 'time'

### FEEDING HOPE

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value of volunteer time (\$33.49 per hour for 2025), this represents an estimated \$29,300 in donated community service value in a single school year.

Beyond the economic impact, these volunteers provide something even more meaningful, their time, compassion and commitment to ensuring local children have access to nutritious food when school is not in session.

The program also demonstrates the power of community partnerships.

Through the collaboration of schools,

donors, volunteers and UF/IFAS Extension, resources are leveraged efficiently to reach families who need them most.

Volunteers not only help prepare backpacks, but also serve as advocates for youth and champions of community service.

Food insecurity can affect children's physical health, academic success, attendance and overall well-being.

By providing supplemental food for weekends, the Taylor County Weekend Backpack Program helps reduce one barrier to success and supports children in returning to school ready to learn.

Taylor County UF/IFAS Extension is proud to coordinate this effort and grateful for the volunteers, donors and community partners who make the program possible.

Their collective commitment demonstrates how local action can create meaningful change and improve the quality of life for children and families throughout Taylor County.

For more information about the Taylor County Weekend Backpack Program or opportunities to volunteer and support local youth, please contact Taylor County UF/IFAS Extension at 850-838-3508 or lwiggins@ufl.edu.

## LEGALS

(Continued from page 9)

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED TDA 26-020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that FIG 20, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of the property and the names in which the property was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 811 Year of Issuance 2024 Description of Property: Parcel Number: R06562-147

Described as: LEG 0001.00 ACRES - ADAMS BEACH OAKS - LOT 49 BLK A - OR 520-218 DC OR 827-967 SA OR 832-890 OR 832-893 OR 843-650 SECTION 04 TOWNSHIP 07 RANGE 07 Name in which assessed: Johnathan & Melody Seidel Said property being in the County of Taylor, State of Florida. Unless such certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described shall be sold to the

highest bidder in the Courtroom on the 2nd floor in the Taylor County, FL Courthouse on the 6th day of July 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

\*\* To participate in the bidding, you must be prepared to pay a NON-REFUNDABLE \$200.00 CASH deposit immediately following the sale of each parcel in which you are the highest bidder. \*\* Dated this 29th day of May 2026 Signature: Gary Knowles Clerk of Circuit Court Taylor County, Florida

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED TDA 26-021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that FIG 20, LLC, the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number, year of issuance, description of the property and the names in which the property was assessed are as follows: Certificate Number 192 Year of Issuance 2024 Description of Property:

Parcel Number: R02649-000 Described as: LEG 0000.32 ACRES - PERRY HEIGHTS SUB - LOT 22 W 50 FT LOT 21 W 20 FT LOTS - 23 24 BLK 12 DESC AS COM SW COR LOT - 22 RUN E 80 FT N 170 FT W 80 FT S - 170 FT TO POB - OR 624-135 - SECTION 13 TOWNSHIP 04 RANGE 07 Name in which assessed: Eduard L. Lilliott, Jr. Said property being in the County of Taylor, State of Florida. Unless such certificate is redeemed according to law, the property described shall be sold to the highest bidder in the Courtroom on the 2nd floor in the Taylor County, FL Courthouse on the 6th day of July 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

\*\* To participate in the bidding, you must be prepared to pay a NON-REFUNDABLE \$200.00 CASH deposit immediately following the sale of each parcel in which you are the highest bidder. \*\* Dated this 29th day of May 2026 Signature: Gary Knowles Clerk of Circuit Court Taylor County, Florida

## Participants, sponsors sought for scholarship pageant slated Aug. 1

Participants and sponsors are being sought for the upcoming Miss Juneteenth Florida USA Scholarship Pageant planned Saturday, Aug. 1.

"We are looking for young women ages 7-18 from across Florida to compete for the crown. This program offers an opportunity to learn about Juneteenth history, build self-confidence and develop essential life skills," Pageant President Jumelia Montgomery said.

The organization is also seeking partners to provide scholarships and support for the programming.

"This is an excellent opportunity for businesses to demonstrate their commitment to youth development and cultural awareness," Montgomery said.

For more information, please contact Montgomery by e-mail at: missjuneteenthflcommittee@outlook.com.

MISS JUNETEENTH FLORIDA USA SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

**TOGETHER WE RISE**

AUGUST 1 2026 TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

Who will be the next Miss Juneteenth Florida USA? AGES 7-18 APPLY TODAY!

[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/260187754370158](https://form.jotform.com/260187754370158)

850-212-4203 juneteenthcoalitionflorida.org missjuneteenthflcommittee@outlook.com

Happening in June in TAYLOR COUNTY community events

Live Local Support Local Love Taylor County!

**Summer Vibes in downtown Perry this Friday**  
Downtown will be hopping with late night shopping, a classic car show and cruise-in, music and vendors during the Second Friday event this Friday, June 12 from 5:30-8 p.m. Vendors must contact the chamber to reserve a vendor location. Sidewalks must remain clear and handicap accessible at all times.

**Taylor County Republicans meet Thursday**  
Taylor County Republicans will meet this Thursday, June 11, at the Backdoor Bistro, at 6 p.m.

**Register now for 'Stronger Together' showcase**  
Local non-profit groups, community service organizations, government agencies and businesses of all sizes are invited to register today for the upcoming "Taylor County Stronger Together" showcase planned Saturday, June 27. Forms are available from the Taylor County Historical Society (Facebook page). The event will also serve as a twin celebration of America's 250th birthday and Taylor County's 170th founding anniversary.