

Lake and Farm



The current state of Lake Seminole

The subject this week is Lake Seminole, 37,500 acres claimed to be at the Florida/Georgia line. Each time we go out, it's to a different section of this lake, and/or through the connecting waterways. We're very disappointed in the Army Corps each time we've been out since Hurricane Michael. The last cruise was from Cypress Pond, to Fish Pond Drain, out to the main lake, then east towards the Flint River, taking a left into the Sealy's Point channel heading towards land, then right towards Spring Creek. Up Spring Creek, we took a left into Grassy Pond and back to Cypress Pond.

During this cruise we noticed many channel markers missing.

Ok, take boaters not familiar with the lake, then imagine them trying to



Son of Seminole Son Anderson

stay in the channels to avoid stumps. As they go through a port and starboard post it gets confusing. Ahead is one post with the other missing. Maybe they fail to notice the color marked on that post, caus-

ing them to have problems deciding which side of that post should they go.

Well, an experienced boater would have noticed as to whether the post was red or green, making it easy for them to decide.

As we traveled it was noticed, some didn't know what to do and went to the wrong side. Grassy Pond to Cypress Pond have some very shallow, narrow channels connecting the small lakes. Those channels still have trees down in them. It appears that locals have trimmed just enough for boats to get by. But let me tell ya, in some areas, those limbs do scrape, with overhanging limbs hitting the tops when up. In many channels, we found it necessary to reverse the outboard to clear the prop of vegetation.

That's a big problem for larger boats traveling the marked channels that are narrow. Several would come alongside to pass, then accelerate full speed before becoming clear of our vessel. That definitely rocked our 18 foot pontoon boat, and almost washed us into a channel marker pole once.

We're beginning to believe weekends are not a friendly time to be on the lake.

Remember, the first thing repaired after Hurricane Michael was the carp gates. I'm thinking safety first, clearing channels and replacing markers would have been the highest priority.

Who did we feel sorry for last weekend? Those who were trying to fish.

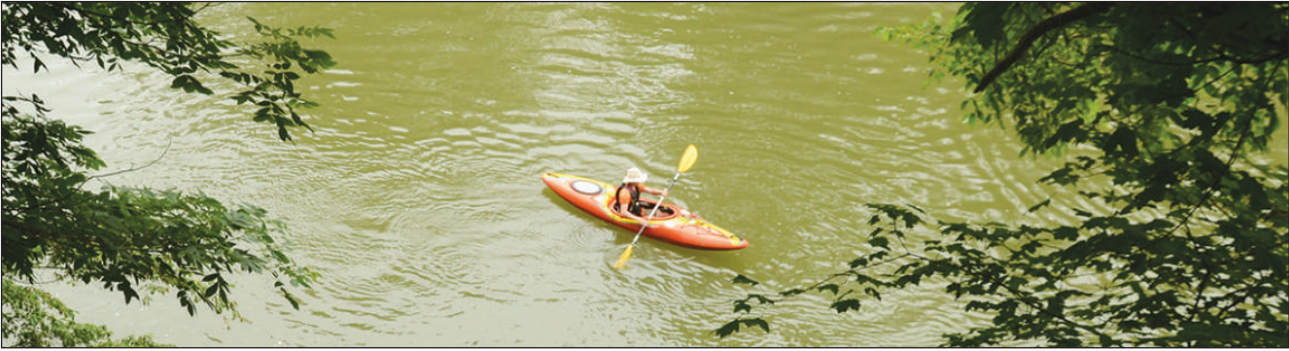
See you outdoors . . .

PUBLIC NOTICE

Water Customers of Iron City

A copy of the 2019 Consumer Confidence Report of water quality for the Town of Iron City, Georgia 253-0001 is available for your inspection at City Hall

Office Hours are Mondays and Tuesdays 8:30 am until 5:30 pm



Sign up for social-distancing paddle trips

Online registration is available at <https://garivers.org/hidden-gems/>

In an unexpected twist to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn, at least one business sector is booming—the outdoor recreation industry and especially paddlesports.

At a time when team sports and other group recreation activities have been cancelled, recreation enthusiasts appear to be turning to the great outdoors — a place where the risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus is considered less likely.

"It's unconstrained demand right now," said Don Meredith, director of product and marketing with Confluence Outdoor, maker of Dagger, Perception, Wilderness Systems and other brands of canoes, kayaks and paddleboards. "We can't make it fast enough."

In fact, while other manufacturers have been slow to start up or have downsized their work force, Meredith said Confluence's U.S.-based manufacturing facilities are scrambling to return to production and even hire new workers to meet the demand.

While brick and mortar shops closed during the

shutdown, purchases made online and through retailers offering delivery and curbside pick up have ushered in a boom for makers of person-powered vessels..

Cedar Creek Outdoor Center, a paddle sports retailer based in Dallas, Georgia which relies heavily on online sales and implemented a curbside pick up option, has seen its sales skyrocket.

"We've sold more boats in the first five months of this year than we did all of last year, and most of that has been since February" said owner James Lossick. "Sales of accessories are up 350 percent."

Industry observers attribute the rise in sales to a number of factors. With team sports shut down and many gyms and fitness centers closed or under strict social distancing guidelines, people are seeking new recreation opportunities. And with vacation plans altered, many are looking to "COVID-19-safe" activities they can enjoy near home.

Meanwhile those working at home, furloughed or not working at all have more free time and are seeking inexpensive and safe ways to recreate outdoors.

And, there's the "carpe

diem" factor that retailers have heard repeatedly during the pandemic.

"It's a wake up call," said Meredith. "People have taken a step back and looked at life and realized there's just that one today. If there's anything I want to do I better do it now."

While paddlesports sales are booming, those offering water sports adventure opportunities have been forced to alter their business models to ensure safe paddling.

Georgia River Network (GRN), a statewide river advocacy organization that runs multiple group paddle trips each year, was forced to cancel its annual week-long river journey known as Paddle Georgia originally scheduled for June 20-27. Considered the largest week-long canoe/kayak camping adventure in the country, it attracts more than 300 people each year.

Instead, the organization has developed a series of paddle trips that incorporate social distancing protocols.

"In group paddle trips, the greatest risk for transmitting the virus is during shuttles in which participants are together inside a van or bus,"

said Joe Cook, Paddle Georgia Coordinator. "Our paddle trips this summer eliminate the need for shuttles."

GRN has planned four Paddle-Bike Hidden Gem river adventures in which participants bicycle rather than ride in shuttle buses or vans. The paddle and rides range from six miles to 14 miles and begin July 25 with a six-mile bike and six-mile paddle on the Etowah River near Cartersville.

Online registration is available at <https://garivers.org/hidden-gems/>

Come join the growing team at



We are now accepting applications for the following positions:

HOSPITAL:
RN – Med/Surg – Full-Time
Clinic Coordinator – Physician Office – Full-Time
C.N.A. – Full-Time
Dietary Aide

NURSING HOME:
RN – Full-Time
LPN – Full-Time
C.N.A. – Full-Time

Competitive Salary/Excellent Benefits
All RN/LPN/Paramedic Positions require current licensure from the State of Georgia

Applications can be obtained at www.lifebriteearly.com.

Please send completed applications to: kbusby@lifebriteearly.com

Or fax to: 229-724-7335

Applicants may apply in person at LifeBrite Community Hospital of Early
11740 Columbia Street
Blakely, GA 39823

LifeBrite Community Hospital of Early is an
Equal Opportunity Employer and is a Drug-Free Workplace

6/25, 7/2, 9, 16



NOTICE OF CALLED COUNCIL MEETING

The City of Donalsonville is holding a Called Council Meeting on June 29, 2020 directly after the scheduled Public Hearing regarding the FY 20-21 Budget at 5:00 PM.

The Called Council Meeting will be held in the Council Chambers to discuss awarding the bid on the Natural Gas Line Project.

Job Opportunity Police Officer

The Donalsonville Police Department is actively pursuing certified and noncertified qualified individuals to become police officers, both full time and part time.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

An applicant must be at least 21 years of age. Applicants must be United States citizens with no felony convictions, or misdemeanor convictions involving violence or moral turpitude. Applicants must have the following:

- High School Diploma/GED Certificate
- Valid Driver's License
- Military discharge form DD214 (if applicable)
- Social Security Card
- Birth Certificate

SALARY

Salaries for certified and non-certified officers are competitive for the area. Other benefits available include health insurance, vacation leave, sick leave, military leave, holiday leave, and retirement.

APPLICATION

Applications may be picked up at the Donalsonville Police Department located at 204 South Woolfork Street, Donalsonville, Georgia.



Public Hearing Notice

The City of Donalsonville will hold a Public Hearing at 5:00 P.M., Monday, June 29, 2020 for the purpose of receiving public input and comments for the FY 20-21 Budget. The proposed budget is available for review at City Hall.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Hearing which will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers, 127 East Second Street, Donalsonville.

-Donalsonville Mayor and Council