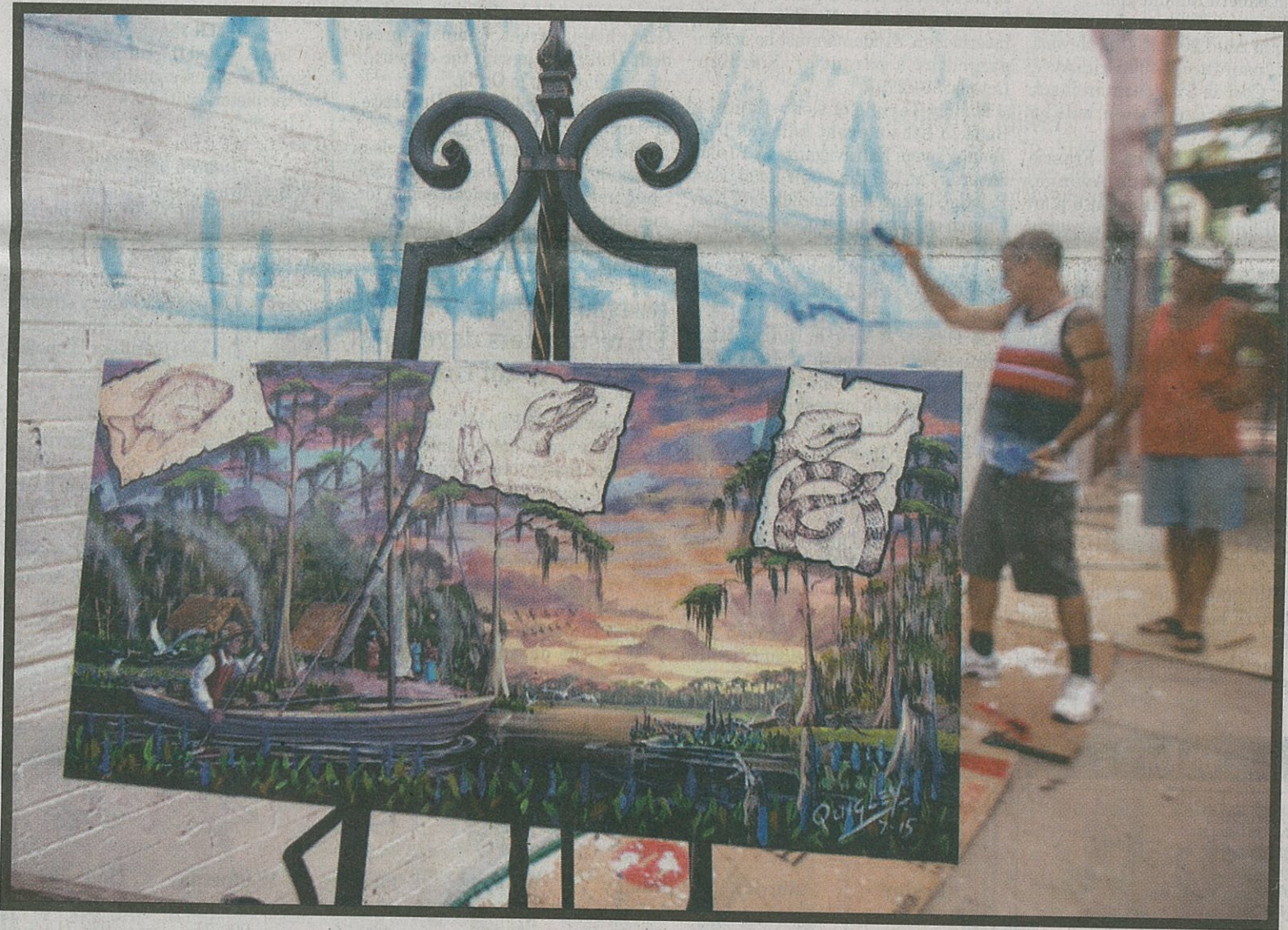


# SCENE OF BEAUTY



Mural artist Dean Quigley begins work Thursday on a mural depicting William Bartram traveling by boat on the St. Johns River on a building at the corner of Third Street and St. Johns Avenue. With Quigley is Conlee-Snyder Mural Committee member William Snyder. CHRIS DEVITTO/Palatka Daily News

## Work begins on William Bartram mural in downtown Palatka

BY ASIA AIKINS  
Palatka Daily News

The Conlee-Snyder mural committee will honor the committee's late founders with its newest mural. Bill Snyder, committee founders Clint and Elizabeth Snyder's son,

said the William Bartram mural on S. Third Street and St. Johns Avenue would be in honor of his parents. "It's something that's been in the works for a while," Bill Snyder said. Clint and Elizabeth Snyder co-founded the mural committee in 1998. Clint Snyder died in

November, and Elizabeth Snyder died in 2010. During the last 16 years, the committee inspired 21 murals in the city of Palatka. Bill Snyder said the Bartram mural is special to him because it would depict a scene from Bartram's travels in 1774, before Palatka was an established city. "It's always intrigued me, to

know where I came from," Bill Snyder said, adding he is a fourth-generation Putnam County resident. He said he wants to link Putnam County's roots to the committee's roots by honoring Clint

See MURAL, Page 5A

## Flaming out: Interlachen Town Council rejects county's fire fee hike

BY BRANDON D. OLIVER  
Palatka Daily News

INTERLACHEN – In a reversal from a previous decision, Interlachen Town Council voted against paying an

increased fire tax introduced by the county. During the group's meeting Tuesday, the council voted 3-2 against a town ordinance increasing the fire Municipal Service Taxing Unit from 0.7425 mills

this fiscal year to 1.1000 mills next fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1. County Administrator Rick Leary said he and other county officials were blindsided by the council's decision, especially since it voted 4-1 to approve

the fire tax ordinance on first reading during a July 29 special meeting. Leary, County Attorney Russ

See FIRE, Page 5A

## LICENCES to hunt bears available

Deadline to purchase licenses is Oct. 23

BY BRANDON D. OLIVER  
Palatka Daily News

For the first time in 21 years, Florida residents will be allowed to hunt black bear, and local hunters have already expressed interest in doing so.

Bear hunting licenses went on sale Aug. 3, and Putnam County Tax Collector officials said they've sold 10 permits in Palatka and one in Interlachen.



Myers

County businesses – including Walmart and Messer's Westside Bait – allowed to sell bear hunting permits sold an additional 28 permits, officials said.

"They went on sale Monday a week ago," Tax Collector Linda Myers said. "I believe 600 were sold statewide. We haven't had that opportunity in a long time."

In 1994, the conservation commission closed bear hunting season statewide, because the number of bears in the state plummeted.

Conservation commission officials said in statement there were only hundreds of bears left in the state during the 1970s, but there are more than 3,000 bears today.

Bear hunting has been reinstated to stabilized expanding bear population, authorities said. Licenses will be sold until Oct. 23, and bear hunting season starts the next day.

See BEARS, Page 12A

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you think people should be allowed to hunt bears? Email Letters to the Editor to publicforum@palatkadailynews.com. Letter writers must include full name, daytime phone number and address. There is a 350-word limit.



By mail, 1 section



The Voice of  
Putnam County  
since 1885

### INDEX

Advice ..... 6A  
Briefing ..... 2A

Classified/Legals ..... 10A  
Comics ..... 6A  
Horoscope ..... 6A  
Lottery ..... 9A

Obituaries ..... 3A  
Opinions ..... 4A  
Sports ..... 8A  
Sudoku ..... 5A

VOL. 127 • NO. 161  
PALATKA, FLA.

Public Notices on Page 10A