

STRUCK BY AUTO, MAN BADLY HURT

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W. D. Greene, 74, of 820 Briarcliff road, N. E., was in Grady hospital in a critical condition late Sunday night with head and internal injuries received when he was struck by an automobile, thought to have been driven by a man named Stiles, at the intersection of Moreland and Ponce de Leon avenues about 9 o'clock Sunday night.

According to a report made to police by Jack Fain, of 1210 Fairview road, who took the injured man to the hospital, Greene was crossing Ponce de Leon at Moreland when he was knocked down by an automobile. Fain stated that the driver of the car stopped and went to the hospital with (Fain) when he took the injured man there but left a short time after. The driver said his name was Stiles, but did not give an address or any

particulars of the accident, Fain said. Police are looking for a man answering Fain's description of the driver.

FEUD IN FLORIDA TAKES TWO LIVES, ONE IS WOUNDED

Inverness, Fla., July 1.—(AP)—Two men were killed and a third was wounded in a gun battle in a fishing settlement on the Chassahowitzka river near Homosassa today.

J. J. Johnson and Arthur Strickland, fishermen and guides, were killed and a man named Jones was wounded in a shooting affray that followed an argument over rights to the river.

Johnson, it was said, recently built a fence around his place, cutting off the river from Strickland. The latter attempted to cross the property today, officers said, and the shooting followed. Johnson used a pistol and shot Strickland twice.

Strickland shot Johnson several times with a shotgun. The third man was wounded, it was said, when he attempted to help Johnson. He had not been arrested tonight.



So how do you pronounce it and where the heck is it? Locals just call it "Chaz", but we've heard it called everything from Chasshowizka to Chassawhiskey, but any of these will work when asking for directions to one of the best kept secrets on Florida's Gulf Coast, for trophy sized inshore gamefish and gracious hospitality.

The name in Timucuan means "Place of the Hanging Pumpkin," but those in the know call the Chassahowitzka Hotel, an angler's slice of heaven.

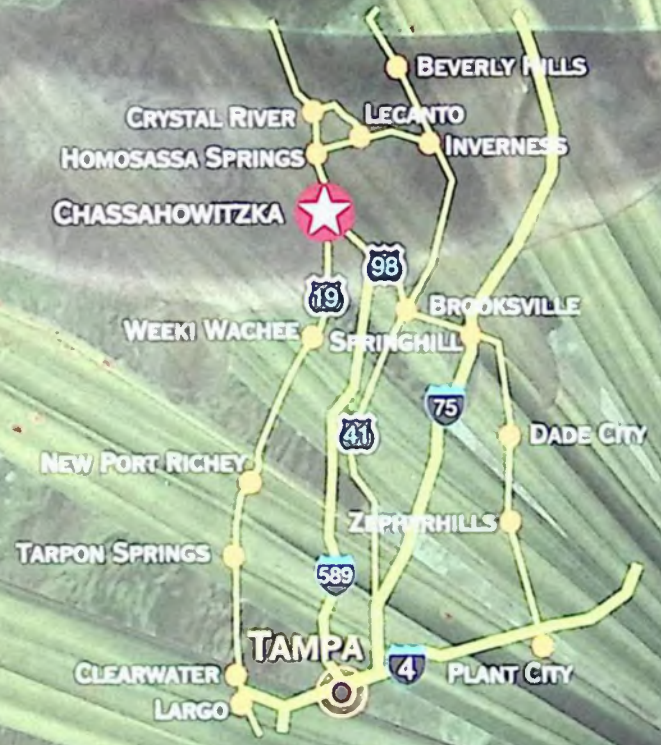
The hotel lies a short walk from one of Florida's most beautiful rivers, slowly revealing itself through a living curtain of foliage, as a startling blue oasis in a surrounding world of brown and green, a lovely combination of marsh, semitropical forest, and canopied water trail.

The Chassahowitzka River eloquently displays the forces of nature converging to create a living aesthetic vision.

"Our team of talented fishing guides are ready to put you on your dream catch. All our guides are USCG certified with 20+ years of fishing experience. Boats average 24 to 27 feet long with 85 HP motors. We supply everything - rods and reels, bait, and a delicious lunch," boasts owner David Strickland, proudly.



For further information or to make a reservation contact:
CHASSAHOWITZKA HOTEL
 8551 W. Miss Maggie Drive
 Homosassa, Fl. 34448
 (352) 382-2075 or (877) 807-7783
 www.chazhotel.com



THE CHASSAHOWITZKA HOTEL





AN ANGLER'S SLICE OF HEAVEN



This is a retreat for those in search of a truly unique Florida fishing and heritage experience. The Chassahowitzka Hotel provides superior facilities for professional and corporate conference groups, as well as singles and couples, who wish to relax in a secluded and stress-free environment.

For corporate group, specially designed business lunches and coffee break snacks will be served without intruding upon your work.

Best of all, when your work is done, you can relax and enjoy the beauty of Florida, the way it was meant to be enjoyed.

So, the question remains, how big do you want your "fish story" to be?

We cater to everyone's wildest dreams when it comes to fishing and relaxation.

We offer very competitive "all inclusive" rates for groups, singles, and corporate retreats which include: boat, experienced guide, daily fishing, lodging and all meals.



GARY W. KUHL/Special to the Chronicle

Seven Sister Springs in the headwaters of the Chassahowitzka River — one of the few remaining pristine springs in the area.

Our stupid path

IT'S THE SAME OLD STORY. Florida citizens take responsible and strong action passing Amendment 1 by a 75 percent approval margin. The amendment was carefully crafted and well defined to bring Florida back to the days when Republican and Democratic governors and legislators could agree saving some of Old Florida and preserving and protecting her water resources was a high priority. Now the 2015 Legislature and many of our state elected leaders find the 75 percent voting margin carries no weight, that voters did not know what they were doing and the priorities really need to be in line with what some big businesses, developers and agricultural interests lobby for and contribute to political campaigns for.

Many of us remember a similar scenario on the Florida Lottery issue where proceeds were to supplement Florida's education needs — didn't happen. Legislature simply used lottery monies to fund existing educational programs and used the prior education funding allocations for other programs.

Gosh, I hope this play by the Legislature is not motivated by egos that resent citizens telling them by a 75 percent voting margin they have not been headed in the right direction on environmental issues in recent years. And I really hope

it's not because of all the contributions to political campaign funds handed out by the Big Sugar boys and many others — and, oh yeah, those free hunting trips to Texas on lands owned by Big Sugar our governor, secretary of agriculture and many legislators participated in. Tell me that's not the reason. For a few bucks and a hunting trip, some elected officials would actually



Gary Kuhl
**GUEST
COLUMN**

sell out our state's water resources?

This thing is all intertwined. Along with using funds from Amendment 1 for purposes other than intended, the Legislature is considering a bill to do away with the "local sources first" statute that for many years has successfully protected counties like Citrus and others in our region. The statute protects us from pipelines

being built to connect large urban areas to water-rich rural counties to tap cheap groundwater sources for burgeoning city populations.

Throw in the unexplainable actions of our Florida attorney general, who joins other states in condemning the Chesapeake Bay improvement group as an overreach by the feds. Does this make sense to anyone?

Then there is the idea water management districts are just too powerful and not helpful in creating

KUHL

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new jobs. I mean, for gosh sakes, these water-management and Florida Department of Environmental Protection folks used to actually enforce water-conserving and water-quality protection regulations! So let's just let the water-use permit holders maintain "best management practices" without those nasty state regulators checking pumping records or water-conserving projects to ensure compliance. I mean, let's just post suggested speed limits on our highways and issue no speeding tickets — I bet everyone would stay under 70 mph on Interstate 75. Sure.

Don't get it wrong here — most farmers, developers, home builders, chamber of commerce folks, miners and industry people are good, decent people trying to earn a living. My own family tree includes folks who came to Florida and bought citrus groves in the 1890s. Several agricultural families here in Citrus County are absolutely great stewards of our natural resources — because they are responsible and they love this great state. Our local chamber has fostered many good programs promoting protection and conservation of our resources.

But the power and money brokers at the top of the pile seem ready to destroy what made Florida one of the most sought-after retirement and vacation destinations in the nation, if not the world. It's her water resources — beaches, springs, lakes, wetlands and rivers, together with

our climate, which fuel our economy. Visit Three Sisters Springs here in Citrus County after a cold snap in February and hear visitors from around the world speak of the beauty of that spring, the manatees, the azure clear water and the lush natural landscape. Other natural wonders can be found in the Everglades, the St. John's River, Apalachicola Bay, Silver Springs and the Indian River Lagoon. They are all in trouble. It is easy to see.

Doesn't take a scientist.

There is no politically correct, pleasant, or diplomatic way to say what has to be said: Many of our state leaders are selling this state down the road. Forrest Gump said it best: "Stupid is as stupid does."

This path we are on is stupid, my friends.

Gary Kuhl is the former county administrator of Citrus County and previously served as the executive director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

*I mean,
let's just
post
suggested
speed
limits on
highways
and issue
no speeding
tickets —
I bet
everyone
would
stay under
70 mph on
Interstate
75. Sure.*