



## Georgia company seeks Triumph funding for port

**By Tim Croft**  
The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827 | @PSJ\_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

A Georgia company is seeking more than \$47 million in grant funding from Triumph Gulf Coast to create a biomass production facility at the Port of Port St. Joe.

In addition, Twin Rivers Land and Timber of Perry, GA, seeks a multi-layered plan to make use of the millions of trees downed by Hurricane Michael and reforest acres of timberland stripped by the storm.

In a pre-application to the Triumph Gulf Coast, which meets at the Gulf/Franklin campus of Gulf Coast State College Jan. 14, Twin Rivers CEO Clay Crosby outlines what he called the "St. Joe Port Project."

He said he has discussed his plans with officials with the Port of Port St. Joe and Genesee Wyoming rail line.

The project emerged from discussions on short- and long-term action plans for timber industry relief and recovery with the Florida Forestry Association, Florida Forest Services and Florida Forestry Task Force, Crosby detailed.

The overall plan of action noted that 2.8 million acres of timberland was "devastated" by Hurricane Michael, 1.3 million acres sustaining damage considered severe or catastrophic.

Foresters have 3-5 months to utilize timber on the ground before it is no longer marketable.

Current markets can not absorb such a volume within that timeframe, particularly with WestRock of Panama City not operational due to the storm, Crosby wrote.

The major component of its project, for which Twin Rivers is seeking the Triumph grant funding, is revitalizing port infrastructure in Gulf County and creation of initial "Nanomass Towers" at the port facility.

Twin Rivers touts itself as the world's leading supplier of raw material biomass, serving national and international markets.

Technology patented by the company using ultrasonic sound waves creates an implosion at the center of the biomass, in this case wood or bark, and separates molecules to leave a

See FUNDING, A6

# Local governments seek \$21 million from Triumph

**Funds would alleviate likely tax burdens**

**By Tim Croft**  
The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827 | @PSJ\_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

Three county taxing authorities are seeking more than \$21 million from Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. to mitigate the anticipated erosion of revenue streams by Hurricane Michael.

The Triumph board will meet

for the first time in Gulf County on Jan. 14 at the Gulf/Franklin campus of Gulf Coast State College.

The board, charged with disbursing over \$1 billion to eight Northwest Florida counties over the next 15 years, was scheduled to meet for the first time in Gulf County the week after Hurricane Michael.

And the changing landscape local governments and the Triumph board are examining is highlighted in a pre-application

from the Board of County Commissioners, city of Port St. Joe and Gulf County School Board.

The BOCC voted in November to back away from an application, approved for \$13 million in grant funding pending a final contract, to construct a floating dry dock in the turning basin of the federally-authorized shipping channel.

Anticipating significant shortfalls in property taxes in

the next few years due to the damage inflicted by Michael to property values, the three governing bodies joined together to seek funds "to continue to operate without an increase to the current ad valorem millage rate," detailed the pre-application.

The BOCC is seeking \$1 million for the current fiscal year and \$3.2 million in funds in each of the following two years.

See TRIUMPH, A6

## MBARA disburses funds to Mexico Beach

**Partners with non-profit to boost businesses**

**By Tim Croft**  
The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827 | @PSJ\_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

In the days following the powerful arrival of Hurricane Michael, the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association (MBARA) stepped into action.

As a non-profit organization, the group was in a position to accept donations made to the city of Mexico Beach, which sat at ground zero for the storm, sustaining widespread and catastrophic damage.

"We quickly added a fourth mission to our bylaws, aiding the local area in disaster recovery," said Carol Cox, MBARA treasurer.

To date, the organization has raised over \$60,000.

Every penny goes directly to the city for projects such as cleaning the canal, building a new pavilion at the canal, a new fire station, road repair, dune walkovers and landscaping, to name a few.

See MBARA, A8



Mayor Al Cathey accepts \$25,000 in the form of donations sent to Mexico Beach via the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

**How to donate**

- To donate to MBARA, visit <http://www.mbara.org/donate.cfm>.
- To check out or donate to Never Forgotten Coast, visit [NeverForgottenCoast.com](http://NeverForgottenCoast.com).

## Donations, mini-grants bolster schools

**By Tim Croft**  
The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827 | @PSJ\_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

What the local schools lost in Hurricane Michael many others, inside and outside the county, are trying to replace.

Take for example, the St. Joe Community Foundation which just before Christmas bestowed a donation of \$100,000 on the Education Foundation of Gulf County, a non-profit dedicated to supporting programs in the public schools.

The St. Joe Foundation grant

will help fund Chromebooks, iPads and ClearTouch Screens and Stands to bolster technology in the schools.

In addition, the Education Foundation has received \$7,000 from the Escambia County Public Schools Foundation, \$4,000 from the Helios Foundation (\$1,000 to each principal/guidance counselor for immediate student, teacher, staff or school needs), \$7,000 from Florida Blue and individual donations of another \$350.

All of them for grants linked to the storm and its aftermath.

That is beside the 800 pillows and hundreds of blankets distributed to elementary school children and the fundraising effort by Georgia middle and elementary schools to supply books for school media centers.

Nor does it count the "Books for the Panhandle" campaign which helped deliver 8,000 books to the county's two elementary schools the week before the Christmas break.

"Many of the donations come with a note about our community or what inspired them to donate for a specific purpose," said Donna

Thompson of the EFGC. "But most just come in an envelope with a check, books, or pillowcases, from all over the country."

The Education Foundation of Gulf County's work also includes providing mini-grants to bolster classroom programs.

The funds supporting those grants came from the Duke Energy Foundation, the Tapper Foundation and the Florida State Matching Grant Program, which matches funds raised by local education foundations.

See DONATION, A8

# Book club replaces the library globe

Star Staff Report

One of the main casualties of Hurricane Michael at the Corinne Costin Gibson Memorial Port St. Joe Library was a globe damaged by via a roof leak.

The globe had been a gift of the Indian Pass Book Club.

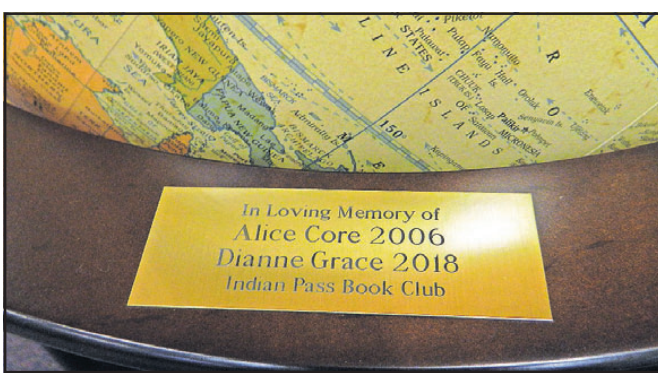
Book club member Leslie Fedota contacted library manager Nancy Brockman soon after the library reopened last month with an inquiry about how the club might assist the library.

Brockman told Fedota about the globe and the club "graciously" offered to replace it.

And this week the globe was delivered to the library by some members of the book club.

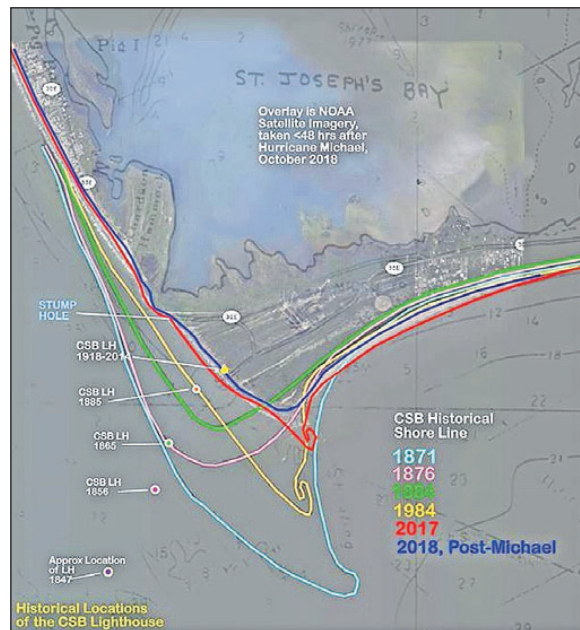
The original globe was dedicated to Alice Core and the new plaque adds another member who has passed away, Dianne Grace, to the dedication.

Members of the Indian Pass Book Club are: Jane Atkins, Gloria Austin, Sue Bull, Leslie Fedota, Sharon Griffith, Faye Jones, Leonore Kusch, Nancy Luther, Trish Petrie, Nancy Stuart and Cheryl Thompson.



**Above: Sharon Griffith, Leslie Fedota, Jane Atkins, Cheryl Thompson and Trish Petrie from the Indian Pass Book Club.**  
[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]



[COURTESY OF JEAN HUFFMAN]

## The changing shoreline

Jean Huffman, who spent nearly a decade as the manager of the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve posted this map which highlights the impacts of time upon the shoreline of Cape San Blas and St. Joseph Peninsula.

Using mapping going back to 1871, and NOAA satellite imagery less than two days after Hurricane Michael came ashore, the overlay has several features worth noting.

First, the various locations, ever inland, of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse, including the clear demonstration that were it not moved in 2014, it would have succumbed to the coast and the Gulf by the time Michael arrived.

Secondly, note the

Stump Hole area of Cape San Blas Road and, again, the reality that the shoreline is now at or above the roadway.

Starkly, the red and blue lines spotlight the changes in the coast after just one year and one major hurricane.

Several years after the prediction that unless a beach restoration project began imminently structures would be lost that prediction is coming true as highlighted by the post-Michael blue line.

Finally, for years the case has been made that St. Joseph Peninsula was one of the fastest-eroding shorelines in the state; this overlay provides Exhibit No. 1.

— Tim Croft

## Library's 'Tuesdays at Two' returns

Star Staff Report

A new year of Tuesdays at Two begins Jan. 8 at the Corinne Costin Gibson Memorial Library in Port St. Joe.

The 2 p.m. ET event will include a Hurricane Michael update from Warren Yeager and Kelli Godwin.

Yeager is the Assistant County Administrator

and Kelli Godwin is the Director of the Tourist Development Council of Gulf County.

They will talk about what is happening following the major Category 4 hurricane that hit the area in October—and how the community can help in the recovery from this devastating storm.

Yeager will address the impact of the storm as

well as the county's progress and plans in regard to the aftermath of Michael.

Beginning in 2019, winter guests and other visitors to Gulf County will have the opportunity to participate in a number of activities to help the area rebuild following Hurricane Michael.

Dubbed "Voluntourism" the Tourist Development Council has organized

experiences for those wishing to take part. Kelli Godwin's presentation will center on ways the winter community can contribute while in the area.

Warren Yeager has served as county commissioner and RESTORE Act Coordinator.

He is the former Business Development Manager at Preble-Rish Consulting Engineers.

Godwin has been the Director of the Tourist Development Council since 2017 and served as the organization's marketing director for five years prior to that time. She has also guided kayak ecotours of the legendary Dead Lakes in Wewahitchka.

The eight-week Tuesdays at Two lecture series is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Events are held each Tuesday in January and February at 2 p.m. EST at the library located at 100 Library Drive in Port St. Joe. Additional topics include a variety of presentations on the history and natural resources of Gulf County including turtles, the state park, bees and fishing.

For more information, contact the library at 229-8879 or visit [www.nwrts.com](http://www.nwrts.com).

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**KICKING HER HEELS**

**Linda Griffin, of Port St. Joe, kicks up her heels at Pam Nobles Studios' dance recital "Winter Wonderland" Dec. 16 at the Chapman Auditorium in Apalachicola.** (PHOTO BY DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES)

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As the residents and businesses of Port St. Joe and Gulf County continue recovery and relief efforts, The St. Joe Company and WindMark Beach community are here to pledge our support. This is our home. We are committed to long term support for the region, the people of Port St. Joe, Gulf County, and Northwest Florida. We are open for business and will continue to work diligently with local partners and businesses lending a hand to help our community thrive. We welcome the opportunity to support you.



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## ST JOE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The St. Joe Community Foundation has currently granted more than \$250,000 to health and education focused recovery efforts in Port St Joe. St. Joe employees have and will continue to provide on site support to affected communities.

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# OPINION

## We meant what we voted

By Julie Hauserman  
Special to The Star

Straight out of the Florida Department of Oh-No-You-Didn't, Governor-elect Ron DeSantis and other Republican politicians are now claiming they need to "implement" the ballot measure that citizens approved to automatically restore voting rights to felons who have paid their debts to society.

DeSantis and Florida Senate President Bill Galvano, among others, ignore that we already "implemented" this. On Election Day. With nearly 65 percent voter approval for Florida Constitutional Amendment 4.

Welcome to yet another Florida episode of politicians thwarting the voters' will, just like when state leaders distorted the directives voters gave them to buy conservation land in the 2014 Water and Land Conservation Initiative, the 2016 medical marijuana amendment, and the 2002 amendment to reduce class sizes, among other examples.

DeSantis and Galvano publicly opposed Amendment 4, a historic reform of our state's embarrassing civil rights restoration process. It's an Alice-in-Wonderland bureaucratic odyssey which ends in a humiliating moment where supplicants stand in the Capitol begging the fickle Governor and Cabinet members "Please, sir, may I have a vote?"

Florida is only one of four states still holding onto this unseemly scenario, which is as much a vestige of our racist Southern past as a KKK uniform tucked up in the attic. This process started about 150 years ago, with African Americans disproportionately convicted by a racist legal system and robbed of their right to vote as a means to suppress their participation in state affairs and bolster white supremacy.

On Nov. 6, Florida voters rejected this throwback process for felon voting restoration in favor of an automatic one, like most other states employ. Amendment 4 says: "Voting Restoration Amendment: This amendment restores the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole or probation. The amendment would not apply to those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinet vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis."

It is scheduled to go into effect Jan. 8. But now, the Florida Legislature is pledging to get involved, and DeSantis says he wants legislators to produce a bill next spring. That's setting up a Titanic Tallahassee Tussle.

When word came out about these new developments last week, various versions of OH HELL, NO! echoed across our sunny state.

"This is non-negotiable," Florida Democratic House Leader Kionne McGhee said on Twitter last week.

State Senate Democratic Leader Audrey Gibson of Jacksonville threw shade, reminding DeSantis that Amendment 4 "was endorsed by 64 percent of the voters, an overwhelming margin much greater than the 49.7 percent by which he won his own election to the governor's office."

"As a self-proclaimed 'constitutionalist,' Governor-elect DeSantis should know better," she snapped.

If the Republicans are planning to drag this out until March, it will have some troubling political consequences. By that time, vote-by-mail and early voting for mayoral races in several large municipalities - including Central Florida, Tampa and Jacksonville, will already be happening.

"A delay would be in direct opposition of the will of Florida voters," the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida Interim Executive Director Melba Pearson said in a statement. "The only responsibility Gov.-elect Ron DeSantis has right now is to direct state agencies to proceed without delay to register voters

See VOTED, A5

## HUNKER DOWN

# Here's to what was



Kesley Colbert

Adolph Hitler was once named Time Magazine's Man of the Year. Joseph Stalin made the list twice. Ed Wiley was, to my knowledge, never considered for the honor. That's how skewed looking back can be at times. Yet, we can't seem to help ourselves as one year draws to a close and another gets set to crank up.

Everybody joins in the act. Hollywood reviewers select their ten best movies of the year. CNN and Fox select their top news stories. Every local paper has their list. The Golf Channel fills up the last week of December regaling us with their choices for the year's best shots.

The operative word here seems to be "their".

Sport Magazine's December issue fell right in line as they would feature the best teams and the top plays from the waning year. It heralded Willie Mays' catch on Vic Wertz's deep fly to dead centerfield at the Polo Grounds in the 1954 World Series as "the greatest catch" of the year, if indeed, not all time!

Listen, I love Willie Mays. I talked Leon into driving me all the way to St. Louis in 1962 just to see him play. I wouldn't dare take one jot away from his Hall of Fame career. But I saw John Ingram make a diving catch in the old field across from the Pajama Factory off a line drive hit by Don Simmons that would make that '54 World Series catch look like a routine pop fly

on the infield!

The best thing about looking back.....it's very much in the eye of the beholder!

And this rearview picture is definitely tinted by age. When we were pre-teens watching another year slip away playing "hide and go seek" behind George Sexton's house we didn't do much reflecting. Our thinking process was pretty straight forward. We didn't ponder cause and effect; or long term implications; and heaven forbid if we related a past event as a learning or growing opportunity.

We just "remembered" the old radiator blowing a gasket and sending steam spewing across the fourth grade classroom. It might have been the highlight of the year. 'Course, Yogi bouncing off those tree limbs when our faux ski lift broke was some more sight to see!

And Buddy maintained for years that David Mark plunging through the iced over pond and dropping completely out of sight was a top five contender.

I don't remember us rating them; or picking a favorite; or really clinging to one more than another in those formative years. We were simply looking back to validate that we did SOMETHING that showed we were alive during the year!

Riding Uncle Clifford's cows was a no brainer highlight. We didn't have a saddle. Nor did we have a bridle that would come close to fitting over those short horns and wide face. Most of those Herefords didn't want to be ridden! We'd shoo one over close to the loading chute and jump on. The Wild West didn't exactly come alive. But believe me, we tasted the dust and the cockleburs and the blood.....

Somehow, in the year end retelling, Leon always rode a little better than I remembered. And he won EVERY backyard football game. He even claimed one year he kissed Barbara Burke back in July behind the swimming pool. Big brothers, I came to realize, had the authority to look back anyway they wanted to. It was kinda the same as Time Magazine picking Adolph Hitler over Mr. Ed Wiley.

Life gets complicated when you get past sixteen. As does the year in review.... Success and failure come into play. The rainy night you scored your first high school touchdown..... there's a "remembrance" that will linger way past December. Of course, the very next night, you stand on a moon lit front porch in the unimaginedly embarrassing "silence of eternity" as Billie Jean Barham answered with a semi-polite "no" to your sincerest request to take her to the prom - it's a memory that won't let go no matter how earnestly one tries to erase it!

As you grow older you realize every year counts. And sometimes the memories now..... are better than when you made them.

And the best ones are very personal. Mr. Ed Wiley was our city clerk. He was quiet, unpretentious, honest to a fault, taught my Sunday School Class for years and reminded me of Jimmy Stewart in "It's a Wonderful Life."

He was simply the best person I knew growing up.

And that's a memory Time Magazine, in all its glory, could never capture.

Respectfully,

Kes

## CRANKS MY TRACTOR

# When you just don't know what to say...



BN Heard

When you get a message that says, "Can you call me," you stop and ask yourself, "I wonder what's up?" Then again, you get those and you think the worse. Someone is very sick or someone has passed away. I got one of those this week and I just didn't know what to say.

After I got the bad news, I simply sat and thought. Not about getting sick or how my buddy died, but I thought about that little boy back in 1966. He looked a little funny because his head was kind of big for a five year-old boy. He was also much larger than the other boys in Kindergarten.

I guess I was pretty smart understanding how valuable it would be to have a "Big Friend," because he stayed with me as a friend for many years. We went to grammar school, middle school, high school and college together. Then we went our separate ways to start careers and families.

My big friend even liked the name we tagged him with - "Hawg." Big, strong, funny and kind-hearted. He would remind you of Hoss Cartwright from the old television series, "Bonanza." Hawg even had one of those hats that Dan Blocker/

Hoss wore in Bonanza.

He was not a bully. As a matter of fact, he was quite the opposite. If he thought you were scared or in danger, he would set you at ease, usually by putting himself between you and the bad situation. I recall a football game when my friend saw I was getting whipped by a fellow much larger than I was. The fellow was actually much larger than Hawg was. But being like he was, he insisted on putting himself in front of the big fellow for the majority of the game which we lost miserably.

In Kindergarten, I seemed to have a knack for getting to stay inside while everyone else got to go outside to play for recess. I honestly don't remember why, I'm sure it was something trivial. My friend always asked the teacher if he could stay inside with me and keep me company. She always let him. I want to go back there and do that again.

Little boys who are true friends. Then life happens and things get complicated. Life is filled with things we have to do, face and ultimately keep moving.

I guess not knowing what to say is a good thing. I have lost other friends - some to death, some to distance and some to life itself.

It's funny what we remember. I can't remember what I did yesterday or last week or a year ago, but I can remember almost all of the shenanigans that Hawg and I got ourselves into from age 5 to about 22. Some of them were things that only we knew about, and I always trusted him to keep it that way because I wasn't sure

about the statute of limitations for some things. (I'm mostly kidding about that.)

I remember sitting and waiting for the train to pass on the way to high school football games. I would be worrying that we would be late and miss the bus. He was more concerned about how much of Lynnyrd Skynyrd's song "Freebird" we could get in before the train passed. He also knew that the football team would have a hard time playing without us. We both played both ways and were 2 of a team of usually 20 less players.

He had this thing about the song "Freebird" and he would often measure time in units of "Freebirds." He would answer a question like, "How long will it take us to get there?" with something like "3 Freebirds," meaning about 30 minutes. He would then explain where on the album the song was a less than 10 minutes, but played live they would sometimes get it to 14 minutes. I was always kind of amazed by his knowledge of trivial things.

What do I say? I say, "Spend time with all of your best friends, whether it be in person, on the phone or even just thinking about them, because you never know when your or their song will be over."

I figured it out. My friend, Hawg, spent around "3 million Freebirds" on this earth and almost a million of those were as my best buddy. He would like that for sure.

Read more stories at [www.CranksMyTractor.com](http://www.CranksMyTractor.com).

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## LETTERS

## VOTED

From Page A4

consistent with state law, including Amendment 4. He could go the extra step of demonstrating his leadership by encouraging legislators not to impede implementation of Amendment 4 with needless legislation.

Listen: I know most of us wish that political battles ended on Election Day, or when a landmark law finally gets passed, but they don't. Think of the incremental court wins and losses in the civil rights movement, in women's suffrage, in every battle for reforms which threaten the powers that be. So even when we hold a popular vote, even when we meet that extra-hard threshold of a 60 percent majority needed to pass a Florida Constitutional amendment, we're not necessarily finished fighting.

To make matters worse, we often end up paying our tax dollars for government lawyers to fight against us. That's what's happening in the case of the Water and Land Conservation Initiative, where voters directed that the state spend a portion of the money it already collects on real estate transactions to buy conservation land. That amendment got 75 percent of the vote — more than any candidate on the ballot that year. Yet we've been paying for agency lawyers and pricey contracted private firms to fight us in court for years.

The old complaint among Florida's chattering political class about making amendments to the state Constitution was that the Constitution was a sacred, bedrock document and it shouldn't be messed with.

That stern muttering was off-heard back in the days when political norms seemed to make sense in this state, when separation of powers and due process and fair debate were actual goals. In this mercenary landscape of self-dealing narcissists that we now inhabit, things look a lot different when it comes to amending the Florida Constitution.

Constitutional amendment petition drives are happening because a frustrated public needs a way to get around the special-interest stranglehold on our state office-holders. Amending the state Constitution is the only form of direct democracy available to us. And, as we can plainly see, even that doesn't always work.

The powers-that-be want us to lose confidence in this process. They want us to believe that our vote doesn't matter, and they want us to lose faith in democracy, because real democracy doesn't work for them. What works for them? Authoritarianism, oligarchy, racism, fear, doubt, and xenophobia. The only check against that entitled, divisive world view is us.

So now we have to do our hard work as citizens: Stand up for what we believe in and muster the stamina to see it through.

*Julie Hauserman is Editor-in-chief of the nonprofit online state news site, The Florida Phoenix, which has a staff of veteran reporters in Tallahassee. www.floridaphoenix.com. It's free of advertising and free to readers.*

# New Medicare drug policy is a step down for seniors

By Peter J. Pitts  
Special to The Star

Officials at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently issued a shocking pronouncement. They've decided to prioritize insurers over patients.

The agency recently released new instructions to insurers that participate in Medicare Advantage, allowing them to require patients to take "the most preferred drug" on the market for their condition first, before trying any other treatments.

Unfortunately, "most preferred" is often merely a euphemism for cheapest. So even if a doctor has concluded, for sound medical reasons, that a different treatment would be more effective, an insurer can demand that a patient first try — and fail — with the "most preferred" drug. This process, known as "step therapy," will delay treatments for cancer patients and other seriously ill seniors, putting their health — and their lives — at risk.

Step therapy is a blemish on the otherwise popular Medicare Advantage program,

***In the time it takes to satisfy an insurer's "fail first" requirements, a patient's cancer could go from treatable to hopeless.***

which offers seniors who opt in privately administered health plans.

Coverage options can include the majority of beneficiaries' health needs, including prescription drugs, physician, hospital, and outpatient services.

CMS' new guidance will impede access to care for Medicare Advantage patients receiving medications administered under a doctor's direct supervision, which fall into Medicare's "Part B" category. These include infusion treatments for cancer and autoimmune diseases.

Step therapy can be downright cruel for patients battling chronic and painful conditions. Imagine suffering in agony for weeks, months, or even years trying out different treatments that your physician knows are unlikely to help. With each new drug comes a new set of side-effects, but no noticeable health benefits.

Previously, a 2012 CMS directive banned

step therapy for Part B treatments — and for good reason. Part B drugs are highly specialized. Doctors must take into consideration a patient's diagnosis, lifestyle, medical history, and more to find the best treatment or combination of medications.

Lifting this ban puts some of Medicare's sickest beneficiaries in real danger.

Consider the cancer patients who rely on Part B for chemotherapy. Such treatment regimens are highly individualized — with some patients responding better to one drug rather than another.

To combat the disease effectively, doctors must find the most appropriate treatment as quickly as possible. That process can be challenging under the best circumstances. Step therapy requirements only add to those difficulties, compounding patient suffering.

In the time it takes to satisfy an insurer's "fail first" requirements, a patient's cancer could

go from treatable to hopeless.

That's especially true for patients with fast-moving cancers. Those diagnosed with esophageal cancer, for instance, have just a 46 percent chance of surviving six months. For pancreatic cancer, it's 27 percent.

It's no surprise that the medical community is overwhelmingly opposed to step therapy.

The American Medical Association, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Society for Radiation Oncology, and the American Society of Hematology have all condemned the CMS move as a threat to patient health.

Their denunciations are richly deserved. CMS' new policy guidance puts insurer profits above the best interests of patients. Introducing step-therapy into Medicare Part B will prolong the suffering of America's most vulnerable seniors.

*Peter J. Pitts, a former Food and Drug Administration associate commissioner, is president of the Center for Medicine in the Public Interest.*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## In praise of STAC House volunteers

Dear Editor,  
I just wanted to mention the tireless efforts of the all-volunteer staff at the STAC House, especially Regina Washabaugh, who works day after day processing and distributing the many donations that have come from all over the country.

What an incredible gift to the community in these times to find clothes, work boots, blankets and children's clothes, all sorted by volunteers ready to be given out for free.

At a time when local government is overwhelmed by the tremendous need, these volunteers are quietly working long hours getting the job done.

I am sure I speak for the Port St. Joe commissioners and the entire community in saying how very grateful we are to Regina and all the volunteers.

Connie Leach  
Port St. Joe

## Have something to contribute?

Send letters to the editor to [tcroft@starfl.com](mailto:tcroft@starfl.com)

## Immigration in focus for rural America

By Brian Depew  
Center for Rural Affairs  
Special to The Star

A raid in north central Nebraska put a spotlight on immigration in rural America.

It targeted alleged labor exploitation by a local employment agency. It swept up more than 100 community members and employees of local businesses.

The raid highlighted how deeply immigration is reshaping rural America.

When we consider immigration, we often think of midsize communities with large meatpackers. Few of us think of communities with 100 residents in a county of 800 residents. That is increasingly the reality.

In conversation with rural people, I often hear a refrain about immigration. I'll paraphrase it as, "I don't mind new immigrants moving here, I just wish they would do it legally."

Unfortunately, there is no legal pathway for the vast majority of immigrants.

Consider, there are three primary ways to immigrate legally to the U.S.

This includes employer-based immigration, family reunification, and humanitarian protection.

Employer-based immigration is limited

and unavailable for most immigrants.

For individuals who have a legal pathway, resulting wait times can stretch to 20 years. This is untenable.

That is why the Center for Rural Affairs first called on Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform in 2013.

We called for creating an opportunity for undocumented immigrants to fulfill requirements and become citizens, a more robust process for legal immigration, a new commission to determine a practical number of workers allowed to immigrate annually, and enforcement of wage and labor laws to prevent employers from misclassifying workers.

The reality is that new immigrants have become an important part of our communities. They are homeowners, entrepreneurs, leaders, parents, and employees.

It is not our new neighbors who have failed to keep up.

It is our own immigration law that has not kept up with our communities and the people who live there — new immigrants and long time residents alike.

The need to enact immigration law change is as critical and urgent as it was in 2013.

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## FUNDING

From Page A1

dehydrated powder, Nanomass, a 40-micron dust particle, about five one-thousandths of an inch.

The processing, inside a tower 16-foot by 24-feet by 24-feet, does not expel harmful emissions and there are no high-decibel sounds nor nasty odors generated by the process, Crosby wrote in his executive summary. The only emission is water vapor from the dehydration process. Each tower can process 12 tons per hour in a 24-hour day. Mixing the Nanomass dust at desired and flexible percentages expands the efficiency in a coal system to generate large quantities of renewable energy while reducing carbon emissions, according to Crosby's executive summary.

As an example, mixing 20 percent Nanomass into a coal plant will produce 20 percent in newly-created renewable energy while neutralizing 20 percent of carbon emissions.

"This technology and the Nanomass System is the first ever efficient method of co-firing biomass in a coal system to generate large quantities of renewable energy," Crosby wrote. The Nanomass would be shipped out of the Port of Port St. Joe for use in coal plants up the Mississippi River or sent via rail once repairs are completed to the Genesee Wyoming line connecting the port with points north. An important feature to the plan: it would extend by

12-18 months the marketability of timber already on the ground.

"Timber with bark off can still be utilized until it rots," Crosby wrote. Once operational, the Nanomass towers would provide additional funding for the company's multi-phase plan.

The first phase would be to take steps to utilize any and all export markets for pulpwood, clean chips, sawtimber and biomass, including, theoretically, shipping through the Port of Port St. Joe. Ship loads could be sent to existing markets in Turkey, China and the Caribbean.

The final phase of Twin Rivers' plan would center on reforestation and sustainability of the biomass facility.

Crosby proposes to use 80,000 acres, 3 percent of the acreage damaged by Michael, to replant in hybrid eucalyptus to be harvested annually and processed into Nanomass dust.

This would also help sustain wood producers in the years as pine pulpwood regrows and matures to market.

In sum, Crosby wrote in his executive summary, establishing the Nanomass system would help extend the marketability of timber on the ground after Michael, create more than 1,000 new jobs in the region's timber industry and create a renewable energy fuel source.

As with any pre-application, Triumph staff must review the project against the legislatively-established goals of the board charged with disbursing more than \$1 billion to eight Northwest Florida counties over the next 15 years.

## TRIUMPH

From Page A1

That totals \$7.4 million over three years.

The school district is seeking the most funding; \$450,000 for the current fiscal year followed by \$4.6 million in each of the following two years.

That equals \$9.650 million over three years.

And the city of Port St. Joe seeks \$1.38 million for the current fiscal year and \$1.625 million each of the following two years for a total of \$4.630 million.

"The most important and fundamental things our local governments and schools are seeking to accomplish is providing the necessary services that will enable our businesses and citizens to recover," wrote Assistant County Administrator Warren Yeager in the pre-application.

"While our community works each day to respond to the devastation, our local government and schools are concerned and acutely aware of the long-term effects of this storm and its destruction."

The pre-application also details the extent of the damage to structures, including businesses throughout the county.

The total count of structures damaged by the storm is 6,327, nearly 47 percent of

all structures in the county.

In some areas, St. Joe Beach, Beacon Hill, the Wewahitchka city limits, the percentage of structures damaged by Michael exceeded 60 percent; in Beacon Hill it was nearly 70 percent.

Those totals include nearly 3,000 structures deemed to have been destroyed or sustained major damage.

"The numbers of destroyed properties in Gulf County is staggering, many of which are also local businesses which support our revenue to keep government services and schools operational," the pre-application detailed.

"These numbers will drop substantially for several years to come. While our business community and residents start the long process of recovery and rebuilding, it is imperative that we provide the necessary assurance that our schools and local governments will continue to provide necessary services, resources, infrastructure and the tools for them to be successful in our collective recovery and provide a hopeful future here in Gulf County."

The exact hit the storm will inflict on local property taxes is unknown.

The office of Property Appraiser has been conducting photographic documentation of impacts to property around the county, but an initial tax roll is not due to the state until July.

Estimates have varied,

from a 20 percent decline from County Administrator Michael Hammond to the potential of as much as 30-35 percent from school officials.

The schools take something of a double whammy; the value of the mill determines the amount of funding from a voter-approved one-mill levy to fund basic operations.

Hammond has further noted that receiving the Triumph funds would likely require the county and city to maintain current millage rates.

How that provision might work with school budgets, almost entirely set by state lawmakers, is not clear.

"We are working to restore basics such as the water and sewer services, power, communications, fire protection, law enforcement, EMS services, etc. and working with the local hospital to ensure our citizens have proper medical services and care," the pre-application detailed.

"Our request ... is for the assistance to maintain our millage rates and ensure that we do not place the incredible burden of increased tax rates on our fragile and recovering county population and business community."

The pre-application must be reviewed by Triumph staff to ensure it adheres to the legislative guidelines laid out for Triumph funding.

If approved the proposal would go before the full board.

# Real Estate Picks

## Best Values on the Forgotten Coast

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

# Doctor urges seniors to carry medical alert device

## Seniors snap up new medical alert device that comes with no monthly bills

(NATIONWIDE) – People don't always do what their doctor says, but when renowned emergency room physician, Dr. Philip B. Howren says every senior should have a medical alert device, you better listen up.

"Seniors are just one fall away from being put in a nursing home," Dr. Howren said. With a medical alert device, seniors are never alone. So it keeps them living independently in their own home. That's why seniors and their family members are snapping up a sleek new medical alert device that comes with no monthly bills ever," he said.

Many seniors refuse to wear old style help buttons because they make them look old. But even worse, those medical

alert systems come with monthly bills.

To solve these problems Universal Physicians, a U.S. company went to work to develop a new, modern, state-of-the-art medical alert device. It's called "FastHelp™" and it instantly connects you to free unlimited help anytime, anywhere nationwide with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever.

"This slick new little device is designed to look like the pagers doctors wear every day. Seniors love them, because it actually makes them look important, not old," Dr. Howren said.

FastHelp is expected to hit store shelves the summer of 2019. But special newspaper promotional giveaways are slated for seniors in select areas. ■



■ **NO MONTHLY BILLS:** "My wife had an old style help button that came with hefty bills every month and she was embarrassed to wear it because it made her look old," said Frank McDonald, Canton, Ohio. Now, we both have FastHelp™, the sleek new medical alert device that our grandkids say makes us look 'cool' not old," he said. With FastHelp, seniors never have to worry about being alone and the best part is there are no monthly bills ever.

# Seniors born before 1956 get new medical alert device with no monthly bills ever

*It's just what seniors have been waiting for; a sleek new medical alert device with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills that instantly connects you to free unlimited help anytime, anywhere nationwide with just a one-time \$149 price tag that's a real steal after today's one hundred-fifty dollar instant rebate*

(NATIONWIDE) – The phone lines are ringing off the hook.

That's because for seniors born before 1956, it's a deal too good to pass up.

Starting at precisely 8:30am this morning the Pre-Store Release begins for the World's first-ever medical alert device that comes with the exclusive FastHelp™ One-Touch E 911 Button that instantly connects you to free unlimited help anytime, anywhere nationwide.

"It's not like old style monitored help buttons that make you talk to a call center and only work when you're at home and come with hefty bills every month. FastHelp comes with state-of-the-art cellular embedded technology. That means it works at home or anywhere, whether you're out watering the garden, driving in a car, at church or even hundreds of miles away on a tour or at a casino. You are never alone. With just a single push of the One-Touch E Button you're instantly connected to free unlimited help anytime, anywhere with no monthly bills ever," said Jack Lawrence, Executive Director of Product Development for U.S. based Universal Physicians.

"We've never seen anything like it. Consumers absolutely love the sleek new modern design and most of all, the instant rebate that practically pays for it and no monthly bills ever," Lawrence said.

FastHelp is the sleek new medical alert device with the rarest of combinations: a quality, high-tech engineered device that's also an extremely great value because there are no monthly bills ever.

Better still, it comes with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever – which makes FastHelp a great choice for seniors, students and professionals because it connects to the vast available nationwide network of cellular towers for free.

And here's the best part. All those who already have an old style monitored medical alert button can immediately eliminate those monthly bills, which is why Universal Physicians is widely advertising this announcement nationwide.

"So if you've ever felt a medical alert device was too complicated or expensive, you'll want to get FastHelp, the sleek new medical alert device with no monthly bills," said Lawrence.

The medical alert device slugfest was dominated by two main combatants: Life Alert® and Philips Lifeline® who both offer old style monitored help buttons that require professional installation of a home telephone land line, expensive base station equipment and a hefty bill every month. But now Universal Physicians, the U.S. based heavyweight, just delivered a knockout blow sending the top rated contenders to the mat with the unveiling of FastHelp. It's the sleek new cellular embedded medical alert device that cuts out the middleman. There's absolutely nothing to hook-up or install. You don't need a land line and you don't need a cell phone. Everything is done for you.

"FastHelp is the World's first-ever medical alert device that makes you look important, not old. Old style monitored help buttons you wear around your neck are the equivalent of a horse and buggy," Lawrence says. "It's just outdated."

Nearly 1.8 million seniors fall every year and spend more than 12 hours lying on the floor helpless and all alone with no help.

But seniors who fall and get immediate help are nine times more likely to



■ **FLYING OUT THE DOOR:** Trucks are being loaded with thousands of new medical alert devices called FastHelp. They are now being delivered to lucky seniors who call the National Rebate Center Hotline today. Everyone is calling to get FastHelp, the sleek new medical alert device because it instantly connects you to free unlimited help anytime, anywhere nationwide with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever.

avoid getting sent to a nursing home and get to STAY living in their own home independently.

Yet millions of seniors are still risking their safety by not having a medical alert device. That's because seniors just can't afford to pay the monthly bills

that come with old style medical alert devices.

That's why seniors born before 1956 are rushing to cash in the whopping \$150 instant rebate before the 2 day deadline ends.

So there's no need to wait for FastHelp

to hit store shelves early next year because seniors born before 1956 can get it now just by using the \$150 instant rebate coupon printed in today's newspaper before the 2-day deadline ends. If lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered. ■

## HOW TO GET IT:

► **IF BORN BEFORE 1956:** Use the rebate coupon below and call this Toll-Free Hotline: 1-866-211-7349 EXT. HELP239

► **IF BORN AFTER 1956:** You cannot use the rebate coupon below and must pay \$299 Call: 1-866-330-6586 EXT. HELP239

## THE BOTTOM LINE:

You don't need to shop around. We've done all the leg work, this deal is too good to pass up. FastHelp with the \$150 instant rebate is a real steal at just \$149 and shipping and there are no monthly bills ever.

**PROS:** It's the World's first ever medical alert device that comes with the exclusive FastHelp One-Touch E 911 Button that instantly connects you to free unlimited help anytime, anywhere nationwide. It saves seniors a ton of money because there are no monthly bills ever making this deal irresistible. Plus it's the only medical alert device that makes seniors look important, not old.

**CONS:** Consumers can't get FastHelp in stores until early next year. That's why it's so important for seniors born before 1956 to call the National Rebate Center Hotline within the next 2 days. For those who miss that deadline, the sleek little medical alert device will set you back over three hundred bucks.



P7148A OF21054R-1

REBATE COUPON

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FastHelp, the new medical alert device that instantly connects you to free help anytime, anywhere nationwide with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever.

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# MBARA

From Page A1

The city will use the MBARA-raised funds as matching funds for larger grants.

Every \$5,000 the city received has the potential to be turned into \$100,000, Cox noted.

And just before Christmas, the organization disbursed an initial \$25,000 to Mayor Al Cathey.

The MBARA campaign expanded, though, as the weeks went along, joining

with the Never Forgotten Coast campaign.

Alex and Chelsea Workman, a husband and wife creative team in Tallahassee, created the campaign in the days following Michael.

Chelsea's father is a small-business owner in Mexico Beach; the couple said they saw his struggle and that of many other community members trying to recover.

"We knew we had to help," Alex Workman said.

Working with Tallahassee designer Jesse Taylor, they designed a logo for the project and



**The Never Forgotten Coast campaign is telling the stories of small business owners in Mexico Beach**  
[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]



**Never Forgotten Coast, a non-profit based in Tallahassee, is raising funds to be used for mini-grants by Mexico Beach business owners**  
[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

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began printing and selling merchandise online and through pop-up shops to raise money to aid recovery efforts.

Joined by Nashville photographer Jeremy Cowart and Tallahassee drone pilot Jonathan Smith, the Workmans also set out to tell the stories of Mexico Beach and put faces "to the city that has been a home and destination for people all over the world," Alex said.

The stories, of folks like Nate Odum, Justin and Alyson Gerlach, Chuck Guilford and many more, along with photos, are found online

at NeverForgottenCoast.com.

Visitors to the site have the opportunity to purchase merchandise, such as T-shirts, and otherwise donate to the recovery effort.

"Our organization, the only non-profit of its kind in Mexico Beach, is proud to partner with Never Forgotten Coast to help families and businesses impacted in our community," Cox said.

"This community is strong and resilient, but we will need all the resources available to recover from this absolutely devastating storm."

## DONATION

From Page A1

Just prior to the disruption of Hurricane Michael, the board of foundation met to review 18 proposals for grants, funding 13 to the tune of \$15,525.

Those include \$5,000 for "Let's Get Cooking" at Port St. Joe Jr./Sr.

High School as the district pursues establishing a culinary arts program at the school.

There was also Christy Wood at Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School, who received \$2,400 for curriculum "Collaboration at Its Best," and Debbie Gerber at Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School, who received \$1,760 for curriculum to boost test results for high school seniors.

The money raised by Never Forgotten Coast, and thus far the amount exceeds \$11,000, will be used by non-profits in Mexico Beach to provide mini-grants to small businesses and individuals to help cover what insurance will not, Alex said.

"Our goal is to help the local economy get back up and running so that locals can get back to work and return to their normal lives," Alex said. "If we can provide opportunities to shop, eat and do business, then we can speed up the rebuilding process and help the community recover."

"Even something seemingly small, like a micro-grant, can have significant impact on the region's economic recovery. Mexico Beach is filled with character and they have the grit and determination to rebuild better than before."

Cox noted that visitors to MBARA's website can also donate to the Never Forgotten Coast.

She added that while the folks at MBARA are anxious to get out in the Gulf and check on storm impacts to artificial reefs, "we feel the need to help our community recover before we can get back into full operations."

Angel Parker at Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School received two grants to enhance e-reading and Spanish in the library and Karen Minger at the media room in Port St. Joe Elementary School received funding to enhance math and language arts learning.

Each of the four public schools received at least one grant.

"All the projects were exceptional and we wish

we were able to support every grant submitted," Thompson said. "Thank you to all the teachers who took the time to apply for a grant on behalf of their students."

The EFGC board of directors includes Thompson, Kara Rish, Heather Jones, Jen Bogaert, Debbie Gerber, Jordan Miles, Cindy Belin, Mandy Pate and Krystal Terry.

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# OUTDOORS

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## January angling action in the Panhandle

By Frank Sargeant  
Special to The Star

It may take a bit of extra effort to find fish in late winter in the coastal waters of northwest Florida, but it can be well worth the work—trout, reds, sheepshead and black drum tend to be tightly concentrated, and where you find one, you may find dozens as the fish stack up in refuges from the cold.

One good place to start after the next cold snap is the East Bay portion of St. Andrew Bay, which has an unusual proportion of deep bayous making off the main bay. These areas not only provide deep water shelters for fish, they also give anglers a place to get out of the wind and waves that are often part of winter fishing.

Watson Bayou is the largest of these locations,

with several miles of water that's 10 to 15 feet deep. Smack Bayou maxes at about 9 feet, Freshwater Bayou at 11 feet, Pitts Bayou at 15 feet and Pearl Bayou at 14 feet.

Anywhere you have that sort of depth in a narrow, protected waterway in winter, there are likely to be reds and trout, and if there's rock or shell bottom, probably sheepshead and black drum as well.

Those with sonar can scan these areas to find fish concentrations. Otherwise, make use of the "single line sampling tool", as biologists call it, a live shrimp on a 1 to 1/2 short shank hook with a quarter-ounce weight, fished on a medium-light spinning rig with 10-pound test braid.

The entire east end of Shell Island Bayou is 20 to 27 feet deep, and



Jigs with soft plastic tails are good fish finders in winter when trout, reds and other species move into creeks, potholes and other backcountry areas--they can be cast or trolled to cover the water rapidly. [COURTESY OF FRANK SARGEANT]

sometimes holds oversized redfish as well as keepers, along with schools of spotted sea trout and silver trout. Trolling large diving plugs locates the bull reds, while easing along slowly with a 1/2 to 3/8 ounce jig with soft plastic swimmer tail finds the trout.

When it comes to larger reds, deeper water is usually the key. These fish, all over the maximum 27-inch size limit, provide great catch and release action when other heavyweight fish are hard to come by.

Waters under the Tyn-dall Parkway DuPont Bridge plunge to 46 feet, the U.S. 98 Hathaway Bridge over St. Andrews Bay to over 40 feet, and the Mid Bay Bridge on Choctawhatchee to over

30 feet. The Destin Channel is over 20 feet deep at the U.S. 98 bridge and has tremendous current action, making it always worth checking. The 331 Bridge on the east end of Choctawhatchee Bay has only about 10 foot depths, but on the northeast side there's a borrow pit with over 25 feet, sometimes a winter hotspot for trout and sheepshead as well as big reds. Bob Sykes Bridge over Santa Rosa Sound at Gulf Breeze has depths over 20 feet, as well.

The numerous deep creeks on the east end of Choctawhatchee Bay are also prime winter spots, particularly for trout and sheepshead. Black Creek, Mitchell River, Indian River, Cypress River and

the Choctawhatchee itself are all highly productive, with lots of water over 10 feet and some holes to 20 despite being very narrow in some areas—it's the ideal area to fish on a blowy winter day because there's never any wave action here. (Often the day of a front, with strong north winds that blow most of the water out of the creeks, can produce exceptional fishing as the fish are forced into the only remaining deep water.)

Visit [www.noaa.charts.gov](http://www.noaa.charts.gov) for electronic charts that allow you to plot your trip and find all the deep spots.

The trick in any of these locations is to keep moving until you find fish. Winter fish inshore tend to bunch

up tightly, and if you drop your bait or lure 15 feet from where they're stacked, you may miss the action completely.

Anglers with sonar, particularly the side-scan version, can often find winter fish by simply easing along the deepest section of these creeks and scanning both sides for bait, structure, or the fish themselves. The side scan also makes it possible to peek under residential docks, where trout, reds and sheepshead frequently gather in winter.

Once a school is located, it's often possible to anchor and collect a limit without moving the boat. Live shrimp, or fresh-cut shrimp on a jig head, is often the best bet in winter, but artificial shrimp like the DOA, Savage, LiveTarget or Vudu Shrimp can also be effective—they work best if fished dead slow like the real thing, just barely twitched along bottom or allowed to drift with the current. A popping cork may help over lime rock or shell bottom where snagging is a problem otherwise. Spinning gear with 10-pound-test braid and 18 inches of 20-pound test mono leader does the job.

Winter fishing lacks the aesthetics of drifting or wading along a clear, shallow grass flat and throwing a topwater or a fly in spring, but when it comes to putting some tasty fillets on the table, it can be highly productive.

### WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, January 3	64°	42°	60%
Fri, January 4	54°	41°	10%
Sat, January 5	60°	44°	10%
Sun, January 6	63°	47°	10%
Mon, January 7	65°	52°	10%
Tues, January 8	65°	48°	20%
Wed, January 9	61°	48°	0%

### TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

To find the tides of the following areas, subtract the indicated times from these given for APALACHICOLA:

Cat Point	HIGH	LOW
	Minus 0:40	Minus 1:17
East Pass	Minus 0:27	Minus 0:27

To find the tides of the following areas, subtract the indicated times from those given for CARRABELLE:

Bald Point	HIGH	LOW
	Minus 9:16	Minus 0:03

### ST. JOSEPH BAY

4527285

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
3	Th	7:33p	1.4	5:25a	-0.7
4	Fr	8:08p	1.4	6:06a	-0.8
5	Sa	8:43p	1.4	6:43a	-0.8
6	Su	9:17p	1.3	7:16a	-0.8
7	Mo	9:51p	1.2	7:47a	-0.8
8	Tu	10:26p	1.1	8:14a	-0.7
9	We	11:00p	1.0	8:39a	-0.6

### APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide				
3	Th	4:10p	1.0	8:29a	-0.5	7:34p	0.9		
4	Fr	12:19a	1.1	4:48p	1.0	9:11a	-0.6	8:20p	0.9
5	Sa	12:59a	1.1	5:17p	1.0	9:48a	-0.6	9:03p	0.9
6	Su	1:41a	1.1	5:42p	1.0	10:21a	-0.6	9:43p	0.9
7	Mo	2:23a	1.1	6:03p	1.0	10:49a	-0.5	10:22p	0.8
8	Tu	3:07a	1.1	6:22p	1.0	11:15a	-0.4	11:03p	0.8
9	We	3:52a	1.0	6:42p	1.0	11:38a	-0.4	11:46p	0.7

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### FISHING REPORT



Well anglers—the folks that have taken the time to get some fishing in Post Hurricane Michael have been rewarded and in a big way. Redfish bite and Trout bite have been great in just about all areas along the Forgotten Coast. Fish are biting on a myriad of baits from frozen shrimp to live shrimp, soft plastics and even Fish Bites.

We saw a Redfish about 40 inches caught on a two inch piece of Fish Bite. So if you have the time and can escape the hard work and recovery efforts, hit the water. There is nothing better for stress relief than a few hours of fishing.

As a reminder Bluewater Outriggers is OPEN, we are here Monday through Saturday and our current hours are 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. ET.

Come see us and the great Christmas decorations and grab some bait or just let us know how you're doing. We are all in this together. Until next time, Happy Fishing!

## FWC continues its efforts to protect against invasive species

Special to The Star

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) last week voted to continue moving forward with proposed rules that would help protect the state from a variety of invasive species including birds, reptiles and mammals. Using recent risk assessments and screenings, staff determined these species present a high level of risk to the state.

Over the past few months the FWC has been working with partners and stakeholders to collect feedback on the draft rule concepts. Staff held public workshops throughout the state and collected feedback through email and an online survey.

Using this feedback, staff presented Commissioners with draft rules that would add high-risk nonnative species to the prohibited list and clarify rule language by defining key terms. Staff also

drafted "grandfathering language" to assist people currently in possession of these species that may be impacted by the proposed draft rules.

The draft rules will be advertised for public review and there will be additional opportunity for commenting before the proposed final rules are presented to Commissioners at an upcoming Commission meeting. Staff also will work with stakeholders on draft rule language related to the importation of non-native species.

A temporary Executive Order is currently in effect to limit the importation of these high-risk species while staff work to finalize new rules. This executive order will remain in place until rulemaking is completed.

"Since Florida is highly susceptible to adverse impacts of nonnative fish and wildlife from escaped or released captive wildlife, it is important we have the appropriate rules in place to prevent high-risk species from becoming established here," said Kipp Frohlich, Director of the FWC's Division of Habitat and Species Conservation.

Invasive species are animals not native to Florida that cause economic or environmental harm or pose a threat to human safety. More than 500 nonnative species have been reported in Florida. Eighty percent of these

have been introduced via the live animal trade with 126 established in Florida, meaning they are reproducing in the wild.

Although invasive species are not a problem unique to Florida, the state's subtropical climate allows a variety of species, such as pythons, Argentine black and white tegus, green iguanas, monitor lizards, lionfish and many invasive freshwater fish species, to thrive.

The public can help the FWC control non-native invasive wildlife by reporting sightings to the FWC's Exotic Species Hotline at 888-IveGot1 (888-483-4681), online at [IVEGOT1.org](http://IVEGOT1.org) or by using the free smartphone app IVEGOT1.

It is illegal to release nonnative species in Florida, so remember, "Don't Let It Loose!" If you have an exotic pet that you can no longer care for or no longer wish to keep, you can surrender it with no penalty during an FWC Exotic Pet Amnesty Days or you can contact the FWC's Exotic Species Hotline at 888-IveGot1 (888-483-4681) for year-round assistance in finding your animal a new home with a pre-approved adopter.

To learn more about nonnative species in Florida, visit [MyFWC.com/Nonnatives](http://MyFWC.com/Nonnatives).



[COURTESY OF FWC]

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# SPORTS



Members of the Class of '76 (PHOTOS COURTESY OF WAYNE TAYLOR)

## PSJHS Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2018

Star Staff Report

During the recently-completed high school football season, the Port St. Joe High School Athletics Hall of Fame welcomed the Class of 2018.

The class was unusual in a couple of ways, including the induction of an athletic trainer as well as the induction of an entire grade class of athletes.

### Doyle Crosby

Crosby, a 1997 graduate, was a three-sport standout.

Playing for then-Coach Chuck Gannon, Crosby was the district Class 2A player of the year in football as a senior and was named to the Orlando Sentinel's Super 24 team.

That year, Crosby recorded 115 tackles, forced six fumbles, had nine tackles for loss and seven sacks and was named to play in the Florida-Georgia All-Star game.

"He was just a good all-around kid," his teammates and coaches said.

Crosby was also the center and tallest player on a Tiger Shark basketball team that won three-straight state titles under Coach Vernon Eppinette.

As a freshman at the state tournament he was honored as the player with the highest GPA playing in the Final Four.

As a senior, he was a pre-season McDonald's Prep All-American in basketball.

Crosby also played baseball for the Tiger Sharks.

Crosby was a scholarship signee of Vanderbilt University, leading the defensive line in sacks and tackles his senior year.

### Terrence Wilton "Terry" Hinote, Jr.

At the top of Hinote's list is athletic accomplishments is state champion in band, the first trombone his freshman through senior years.

The Band of Gold won the state band competition 1954-1958.

In addition to the band, however, Hinote suited up for the Tiger Shark football team which would win conference titles in 1957-58, with Hinote named all conference as a junior and senior.

By the time he was finished with high school, Hinote had lettered in four sports: football, baseball, volleyball and basketball, earning several more all-conference selections.

Hinote went on to play basketball at Auburn University, the Tigers winning



Sandy Sanborn, a member of the Class of '76



Rick Williams

the Southeastern Conference title in 1960.

### Rick Williams

Few people have been as much a fixture in Tiger Shark athletics over the past four decades at Rick Williams, as a coach and more prominently as the athletic trainer.

He played football and baseball in his home town of Dothan, AL and a chance meeting with several Gulf County greats, Walter Wilder, Gene Raffield and Jimmy Cox, at a softball tournament, led to his hiring as a teacher and coach in Wewahitchka.

Williams moved to Port St. Joe High School the following year.

Over the decades since, Williams have been a near-constant presence on sidelines for many of the 28 state championships the school has won, ready to tend to any injured player.

And the work extends far beyond game nights; Williams, working with Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic, sees many of those same players during off-days for treatment and follow-up.

### The Class of '76

This class was the first to go all the way though Port St. Joe High School (grades 7-12) after the new high school was completed in 1969.

The Class of '76 inductees not only succeeded in athletics and the classroom, but also in many facets of life as adults.

The Class of '76 was:

- John Owens, quarterback,



Doyle Crosby

team captain and businessman;

- Steve Cloud, center and Senior Pastor and Dr. of Divinity;

- Robert Farmer, the all-time leading rusher in PSJHS history and former great at Southern Mississippi;

- Sandy Sanborn, an all-sport athlete, No. 12 on the football field and baseball diamond, senior partner with a Panama City law firm;

- Rick Hatcher, former Florida State University and professional pitcher, manager of Dodger Town in Vero Beach;

- Mike "Fead" Ethridge, a multi-sport standout and team captain;

- Marcus Manning, owner of what may have been the biggest smile of any Tiger Shark, contributor to the football team and a life-long resident of Port St. Joe;

- Eddie Creamer, an all-around athlete and former banking CEO who is now St. John's County Property Appraiser;

- Andy May, one of four brothers to play Tiger Shark football and currently a Tampa developer;

- Greg Abrams, known as "Peck" by teammates and also one of four brothers to play Tiger Shark football; now president of Greg Abrams Seafood;

- Calvin Watson, tight end, U.S. Army retired;

- Ronald Daniels, all-state running back and one-half of the "Dynamic Duo" with Robert Farmer, he is a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army;

- Bill Norton, a football flanker and four-sport letterman, Colonel in the U.S. Air Force;

## Tiger Sharks enter holiday break 5-2

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School boys basketball team won its first two district contests and entered the holiday break 5-2 on the season.

Not a bad start considering five players were still playing in the football playoffs until a couple of weeks ago.

"I am excited about our district start," said Coach Sandy Quinn, Jr. "But there is still a lot of work to be done. We have only been playing together, the whole team, for about two weeks.

"It takes time to get (the football players) acclimated and get them shots at the basket and into basketball shape."

The Tiger Sharks hosted the Gulf County Classic before the Christmas break, facing a pair of Bay County teams.

On the opening day, Port St. Joe dropped a close game to Bay High with Kendre Gant's 19 points leading the way.

Jan Lowe added 16 points.

The following day, the Tiger Sharks faced Arnold,

winning 55-47.

Gant led all scorers with 36 points, including nailing 16 of 19 from the free throw line.

"He was basically unstoppable," Quinn said.

Prior to the Classic, the Tiger Sharks opened District 4-1A with a pair of wins.

The Tiger Sharks, the defending district champion, hosted Bozeman and routed the Bucks 77-30.

Travis Roberson led all scorers with 25 points and Drew Jones and Gene Quinn each added 10 points.

Port St. Joe also faced county and district rival Wewahitchka, winning 57-34.

Roberson had 14 points and Gant and Jones each added 10 points.

"The kids are excited and I am excited," Quinn said. "The community is excited.

"But we have work to do and it's not going to come easy anytime you wear a jersey that says PSJ teams are coming for you. No one likes to lose to Port St. Joe and everybody wants to beat Port St. Joe."

## Fishing survey aids data collection for red snapper

Special to The Star

NOAA Fisheries recently announced the certification of a new survey design used to estimate Gulf red snapper caught by anglers fishing from private boats in Florida, building on an agency priority of collecting accurate and timely recreational fishing data.

Florida's survey is one of several survey designs developed by the Gulf States in collaboration with NOAA Fisheries to supplement the agency's Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) angler surveys as well as improve monitoring of the Gulf red snapper fishery.

"Red snapper are an important resource relied on by countless communities and businesses in the Gulf of Mexico," said Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross. "This updated survey design, and others like it, will help the Department of Commerce and NOAA ensure that we will continue to enjoy this resource far into the future."

"The certification of Florida's new supplemental survey design, and similar efforts in other

Gulf states, demonstrates NOAA's commitment to collaborating with state and regional partners to advance recreational fishing data collection," said retired Navy Rear Adm. Timothy Gallaudet, Ph.D., NOAA's acting under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere. "Working together to meet the states' unique data needs helps improve data quality and provide fishing opportunities for generations to come."

Once Florida and NOAA Fisheries collaboratively develop and implement a transition plan to integrate the Gulf Reef Fish Survey with the MRIP survey, the resulting estimates can be used in Federal stock assessments and fishery management actions. Moreover, the survey is now eligible for Federal funding, pending availability, to support implementation efforts and ongoing improvements.

To learn more about Florida's Gulf Reef Fish Survey, similar efforts in other Gulf States and the Marine Recreational Information Program go to [countmyfish.noaa.gov](http://countmyfish.noaa.gov).



Gulf of Mexico red snapper. [NOAA]

# SCENE AROUND

Star Staff Report

Hurricane Michael may have robbed our community of much, but not the essence of why so many of us are here and will remain here to dig out from what Michael wrought. So, we are going to keep this page as a reminder of all that has made this spot, and will once again make this spot, paradise for visitors and residents. Please submit your photos to [tcroft@starfl.com](mailto:tcroft@starfl.com).



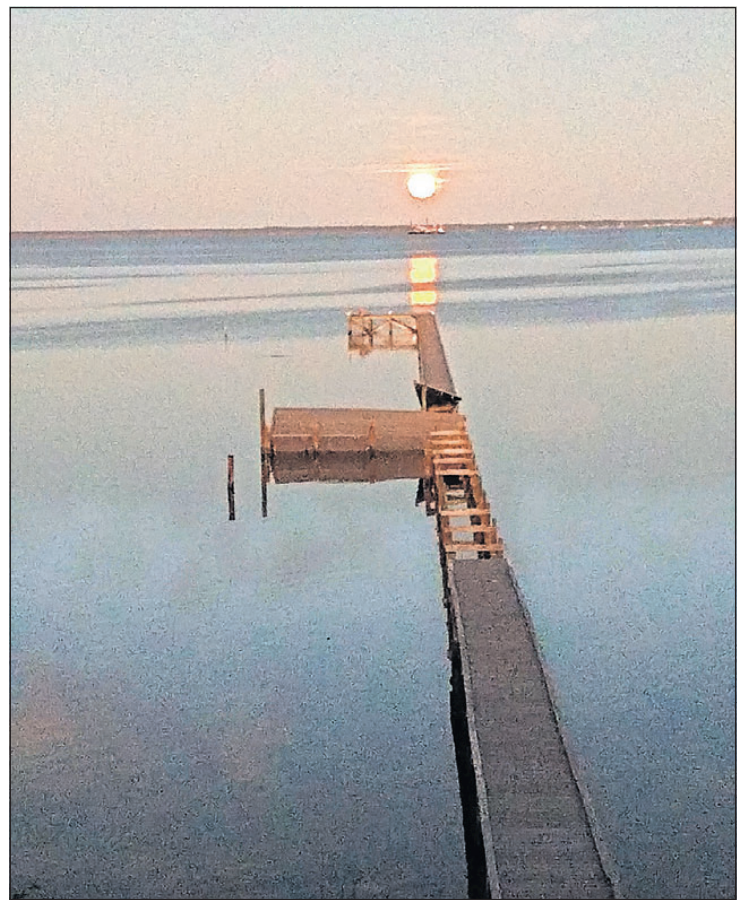
**Faces in the clouds**  
[COURTESY OF NATALIE DOLAN]



**The campground at the El Governor Motel in Mexico Beach, American flag flying**  
[COURTESY OF JUDIE MCCORMICK]



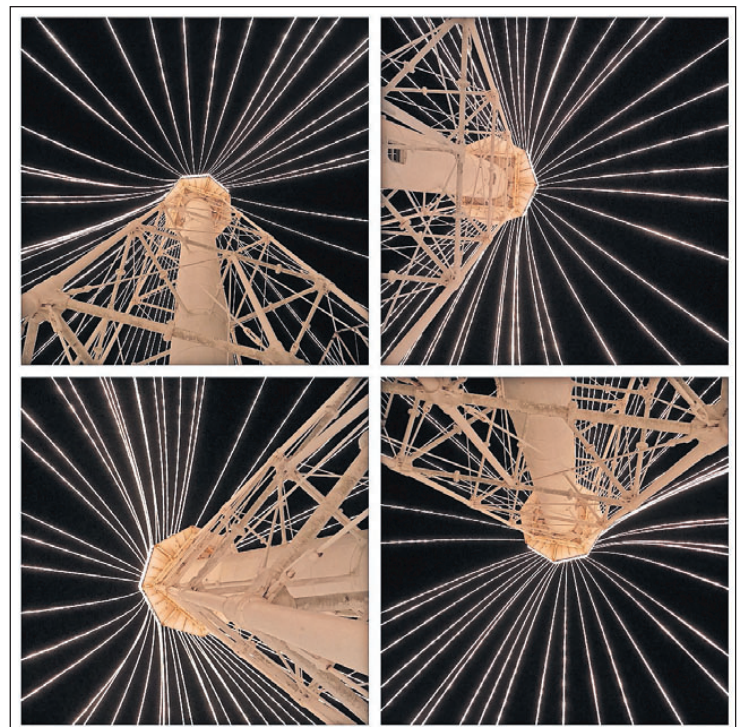
**Christmas Eve sunset from 30A**  
[COURTESY OF JOHN SELLERS]



**Full moon over St. Joseph Bay**  
[COURTESY OF LISSA DULANY]



**Red sky in morning, sailor take warning. Sunrise over Mexico Beach**  
[COURTESY OF SANDI LORD]



**The Cape San Blas Lighthouse with full Christmas lighting**  
[COURTESY OF SANDIE KENNEDY]



**Egret in flight, in black and white.** [COURTESY OF RON RUDOLPH]

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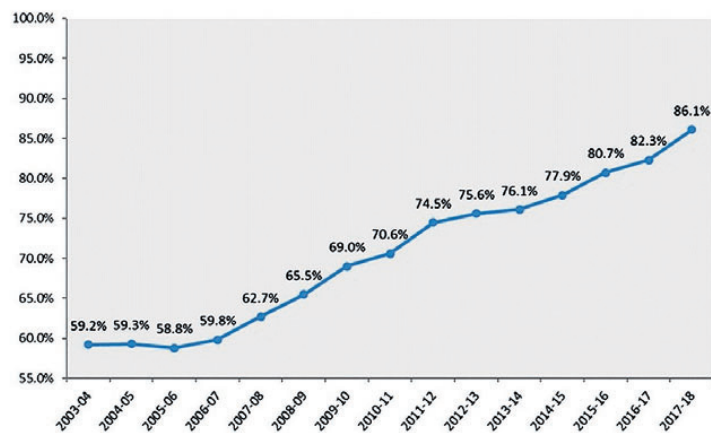
# Florida's graduation rate hits all-time high

Special to The Star

TALLAHASSEE - Gov. Rick Scott announced last week that Florida's high school graduation rate has reached a 15-year high according to data released today by the Florida Department of Education. For the 2017-18 school year, Florida's statewide graduation rate rose to 86.1 percent, an increase of 3.8 percentage points over last year and 17.1 since the school year before Governor Scott took office.

Governor Scott said, "I am proud to announce that Florida's high school graduation rate has once again risen and has reached an all-time high.

Access to quality public education played a critical role in my life, and as a father and grandfather, it has always been important to me that every Florida student has the opportunity to pursue their goals and



Florida's graduation Rates, 2003-04 through 2017-18. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

achieve the American Dream. This accomplishment would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of Florida's teachers and school administrators.

I'm also proud of the work we've done to provide record amounts of funding to Florida schools so they can

continue to deliver results. I will never stop working to ensure students are prepared to succeed."

Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart said, "I could not be more proud of Florida's students and their educators who have demonstrated unrivaled dedication

to excellence. As commissioner, I vowed to be a voice for the voiceless, and that often meant advocating for minority and low-income students whose performance historically fell below that of their white counterparts. Today's announcement is particularly important because it not only shows across-the-board progress, it highlights success in closing the achievement gap and leveling the playing field for all students."

Florida's graduation rates vary by race/ethnicity. All but one group increased their graduation rates over the past year. The subgroups with the highest percentage point increase over the last five years are as follows:

- The statewide graduation rate among Black/African American students increased by 16.2 percentage points over the last five years, rising from 64.7 percent in 2013-14

to 80.9 percent in 2017-18.

- The graduation rate gap between white and African American students narrowed by 3.3 percentage points compared to 2016-17; the gap in 2016-17 was 11.4 percentage points, and the gap in 2017-18 is 8.1 percentage points.

- The statewide graduation rate among Hispanic students increased by 10.1 percentage points over the last five years, rising from 75 percent in 2013-14 to 85.1 percent in 2017-18.

- The statewide graduation rate among students with disabilities increased by 21.9 percentage points, rising from 55.1 percent in 2013-14 to 77.0 percent in 2017-18.

- The statewide graduation rate among economically disadvantaged students increased by 14.3 percentage points, rising from 67.7 percent in 2013-14 to 82 percent in 2017-18.

## Open auditions set for 'Dial M for Murder'

Special to The Star

The Panhandle Players will hold open auditions for Frederick Knott's drama "Dial M for Murder," on Thursday, Jan. 3, and Sunday and Monday, Jan. 6 and 7 at 6 p.m. in the Chapman Auditorium.

"Dial M" requires five actors, four men and one woman in age range from 25 and above. Three of the roles for men are age range 25 to 50, and one is 25 and above. The woman's age range is 25 to 50.

"We welcome anyone interested in participating with community theatre. No experience is necessary," said director David Stedman. "We have roles for actors, set and property designers, audio and lighting technicians, house managers, and others wanting to join in community theatre productions."

"Dial M" takes place in Margot and Tony Wendices' apartment. Tony is a somewhat snobbish and lazy ex-tennis pro desperate to gain an easy way to maintain his free spending lifestyle. He married Margot for her money, and she, though somewhat naive, recently has become more aware of his



greed and laziness.

Margot had a brief fling with an ex-boyfriend named Max who has suddenly reentered her life. Max suspects the Wendices' marriage is shaky and wants to be back in Margot's life. An acquaintance of Tony who has become a small time criminal and con man gets brought into the plot.

Eventually, a very shrewd detective gets involved and must untangle the knots binding Tony and Margot and Max. The web will be built and shredded during the play's production dates of March 22, 23, and 24, 2019.

Start your participation in the excitement on the audition dates of Jan. 3, 6 and 7.

For more info, call Stedman at (850) 340-0391.

## Sacred Heart selects Henry Stovall as CEO

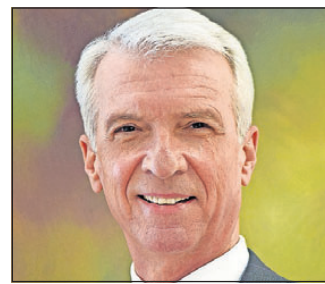
Special to The Star

PENSACOLA -- Ascension Florida has named Henry Stovall as the new president and CEO of Sacred Heart Health System.

Stovall has served as the president of Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola since 2012. In his expanded health system role, he will continue to lead the Pensacola hospital and the Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart. He also will work closely with Roger Hall, president of the Sacred Heart's hospitals in Miramar Beach and Port St. Joe, in guiding those hospitals.

Sacred Heart is a member of Ascension, the nation's largest, nonprofit healthcare system. In Florida, Ascension operates Sacred Heart Health System based in Pensacola and St. Vincent's HealthCare based in Jacksonville.

In addition to hospital-based services, Sacred Heart also provides physician services, rehabilitation services and outpatient imaging and lab services across the Florida Panhandle between Pensacola



Henry Stovall [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

and Apalachicola.

Stovall has held many leadership positions in health care for more than 30 years. Prior to being named president of Sacred Heart Hospital Pensacola, he served as senior vice president of special projects for Sacred Heart Health System. In past roles, Stovall served as a division president for PHNS in Dallas, Texas, a partner in the national healthcare practice of the Hay Group in Dallas, and as a corporate vice president at Presbyterian Healthcare System in Dallas. He also served in a number of senior leadership roles at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas.

Stovall will report to Ascension Florida President and

CEO Tom VanOsdol.

"Henry has a wealth of experience leading healthcare organizations, developing and successfully implementing plans for strategic growth while improving hospital and health system operations and the patient, family and caregiver experience," said VanOsdol. "Henry brings a strong, proven record of success in building trusted and mutually-beneficial relationships with physicians, staff and community leaders to Sacred Heart and Ascension Florida. He has a passion for setting the highest standards for quality, safety and value, and he has demonstrated a steadfast and unwavering commitment to our faith-based mission to serve and care holistically for those most in need."

Stovall earned a bachelor's degree from Mississippi College, a master's degree in healthcare administration from the University of Mississippi, and he completed a post-graduate residency in Hospital administration at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas.

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**"EMERGENCY LIFT STATION - CONTROL PANEL INSTALLATION."**



Bids will be received until **3:00 PM (EST)**, on **January 10, 2019**, at the Port St. Joe City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Boulevard, Port St. Joe, FL 32456, and will be opened and read aloud on **January 10, 2019 at 3:05 PM (EST)**.

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Cost for Plans and Specifications will be \$ 50.00 per set and is non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid that in their judgment will be in the best interest of The City of Port St. Joe.

ROBERT P. NEDLEY, Case #42269 Respondent

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

TO: ROBERT P. NEDLEY, Residence Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an Administrative Complaint has been filed against you seeking to revoke your CORRECTIONAL Certificate in accordance with Section 943.1395, F.S., and any rules promulgated thereunder.

You are required to serve a written copy of your intent to request a hearing pursuant to Section 120.57, F.S. upon Dean Register, Director, Criminal Justice Professionalism Program, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, P. O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1489, on or before February 18, 2019. Failure to do so will result in a default being entered against you to Revoke said certification pursuant to Section 120.60, F.S., and Rule 11B-27, F.A.C.

Dated: December 18, 2018  
Dean Register, Professionalism Director  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT  
By: -s- Craig O'Connell, Division Representative  
Pub: December 27, January 3, 10, 17, 2019

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**EMERGENCY LIFT STATION PROJECT # 50108656 CONTROL PANEL INSTALLATION**

**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS**

The City of Port St. Joe will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing the

**RFP 2018-19 EMERGENCY LIFT STATION CONTROL PANEL INSTALLATION**

The project consists of the removal of existing and installation of twelve (12) new lift station control panels and associated electrical work.

Bid documents can be obtained at Dewberry Engineers, Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456, (850) 227-7200. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes.

Completion date for these projects will be 75 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder.

Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$200.00 per day.

Please indicate on the envelope that this is a sealed bid for the

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**EMERGENCY LIFT STATION PROJECT # 50108656 CONTROL PANELS**

The City of Port St. Joe will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing the:

**RFP 2018-20 EMERGENCY LIFT STATION CONTROL PANELS**

The project consists of the direct purchase and delivery of twelve (12) lift station control panels to the City's Maintenance Facility at 1002 Tenth Street, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456.

Bid documents can be obtained at Dewberry Engineers, Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456, (850) 227-7200. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes.

Completion date for these projects will be 98 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder.

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**EMERGENCY LIFT STATION PUMPS PROJECT # 50108656**

**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS**

The City of Port St. Joe will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing the:

**RFP 2018-21 EMERGENCY LIFT STATION PUMPS**

The project consists of the direct purchase and delivery of twelve (12) submersible sewage pumps to the City's Maintenance Facility at 1002 Tenth Street, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456.

Bid documents can be obtained at Dewberry Engineers, Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456, (850) 227-7200. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes.

Completion date for these projects will be 98 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder.

Please indicate on the envelope that this is a sealed bid for the "EMERGENCY LIFT STATION PUMPS."

Bids will be received until **3:00 PM (EST)**, on **January 10, 2019**, at the Port St. Joe City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Boulevard, Port St. Joe, FL 32456, and will be opened and read aloud on **January 10, 2019 at 3:05 PM (EST)**.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid that in their judgment will be in the best interest of The City of Port St. Joe.

The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Affirmative Action Employer.

If you have any questions, please call Philip Jones at (850) 571-1210 or email him at [pajones@dewberry.com](mailto:pajones@dewberry.com).  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS-00010  
Pub: December 27, 2018, January 3, 2019

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**EMERGENCY LIFT STATION PROJECT # 50108656 CONTROL PANELS**

The City of Port St. Joe will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing the:

**RFP 2018-20 EMERGENCY LIFT STATION CONTROL PANELS**

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS-00010  
Pub: December 27, 2018, January 3, 2019

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**22539S CUSTODIAL CONTRACT BIDS WANTED**

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative is currently accepting bids for custodial services on each of our three offices. Qualified participants must be licensed and maintain their own liability and workman's compensation insurance. Please refer to our website [www.gcec.com](http://www.gcec.com) for full details of the contract for bidding purposes. We must receive your sealed bid no later than FRIDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 2019 by dropping it off at our Wewahitchka or Southport Location or mailing it to Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, Attention: Angie Morris, P.O. Box 220, Wewahitchka, FL 32465. GCEC encourages all qualified contractors to apply. Pub: Jan. 3, 2019

**25511S** The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks, announces a public meeting to which all persons are invited.

**DATE AND TIME:** Tuesday, January 15,

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2019, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (ET)  
Presentation at 6:00 p.m.

**MEETING LOCATION:** Gulf Coast State College, Gulf/Franklin Campus, Building A, 3800 Garrison Avenue, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456

**GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:** An opportunity for the public to provide input on the Hurricane Michael recovery efforts for T.H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula State Park.

**A COPY OF THE AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING:** Mark Knapke, Park Manager, T.H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula State Park, 8899 Cape San Blas Road, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, PH# (850) 227-1327, FAX# (850) 227-1488 or email [Mark.Knapke@floridadep.gov](mailto:Mark.Knapke@floridadep.gov).

A copy of the meeting materials and agenda are available before the date of the public meeting online at <https://floridadep.gov/parks/public-participation>.

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Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting: Mark Knapke, as listed above.

If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).  
Pub: January 3, 2019

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4130 - Employment Information

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