

# THE STAR

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1937



WILDFIRE, B1

Thursday, April 5, 2018

For breaking news, visit starfl.com | @PSJ\_Star | facebook.com/psjstar | 50¢

## State law creates budget headaches for district

By Tim Croft

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

Education legislation recently passed by Florida lawmakers offers Gulf District School officials something of Sophie's choice.

Neither option has much appeal.

But a tiny 47-cent increase in base per student funding, which does not even reflect the actual amount Gulf

District Schools will receive, has created a potential choice between a reduction in workforce or a tax increase.

To say Gulf County School Board members were less than thrilled with that message Tuesday would be an understatement.

"We are going to have a reset year to establish a new (budget) baseline," said Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton. "We have to assess our programmatic

needs before we think about raising taxes."

The state omnibus education bill for this year provided additional funding for all 67 Florida school districts.

However, the overwhelming portion of that funding is tied to safe schools and mental health services in the wake of the Parkland school massacre on Feb. 14.

In turn, lawmakers provided just .47 per student in additional base funding; in

Gulf County, because of the state's differential formula based on district size and property values, the district received 93-94 percent of that amount.

The association representing state school superintendents urged Gov. Rick Scott to reject the bill and call lawmakers back into special session to address school funding.

The association argued that providing such a small bump

in per pupil funding would force districts to cut programs or employees as the costs of operations, which is funded by the base student allocation, rise across the board.

"They took away from the (base student allocation), where we have some control, to put it into safe schools," Norton said.

Scott signed the budget

See BUDGET, A8

## Bed taxes up big in February

By Tim Croft

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

There was a feeling at the Gulf County Welcome Center that February was a mighty fine month for local tourism.

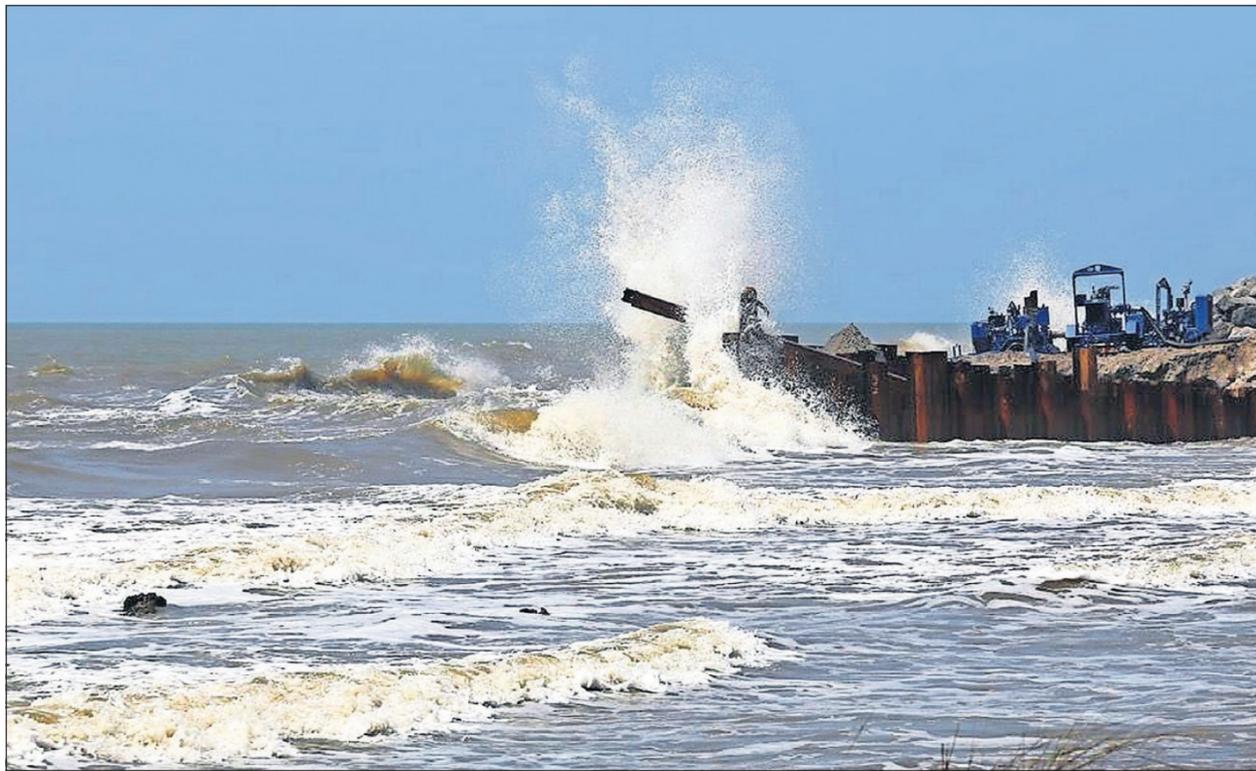
That feeling was translated into dollars last week as February bed tax numbers came in and totaled just shy of 22 percent over February 2017, and that was a month which saw an increase over 3.5 percent over the prior year.

In other words, growth, "responsible growth," said Kelli Godwin, executive director of the Gulf County Tourist Development Council, continues in the tourism segment, the county's main economic engine.

Toss in the February numbers and the bed tax collection during the fiscal year that began in October is now 9.8 percent above the prior fiscal year; in dollars that equals a jump of \$36,314 over five months.

Push that out to the full fiscal year, and bed tax collections, which have risen each of the past four years, and has done so even if eliminating the fifth penny enacted

See TAXES, A6



## Rock waves

Star Staff Report

Local photographer Debbie Hooper said she had never experienced such high waves at the Stump Hole rock revetment as were on display during a breezy Friday last week. Even during hurricanes, she contended, she had never seen such wave height. "These waves were hitting that wall and going crazy," Hooper said after snapping a series of photos of ongoing work being performed to reinforce the revetment. And she likely didn't need to make any comparisons for the workers last Friday, who are clearly not enjoying the waves, no matter their place in the local history books. Photos courtesy of Debbie Hooper at joebay.com.



## PSJ to pursue grants for stormwater, Centennial projects



From left, Aaron Little, Jim Sickles, Rosemary Lewis, Commissioners Brett Lowry and Eric Langston and Scott Hoffman qualified last week for the city election. Lowry and Langston, facing no opposition, were automatically re-elected. [TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

By Tim Croft

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

If at first.

The city of Port St. Joe renewed efforts Tuesday to pursue two grants which the city has fallen short of in recent years.

One is to pursue a \$286,000 state historic preservation grant when the next cycle begins later this month to be used for the restoration of the Centennial Building.

The Centennial Building project, despite being

ranked in the top 10 among 59 applicants for historic preservation grants heading into the just-adjoined legislative session, was out of the money when the state budget passed.

Only the first six projects would be eligible for the funding: projects for the Centennial Building and Port Theatre (ranked No. 7) just missed the funding outline.

City commissioners approved a resolution in support of re-applying in the coming cycle.

The city has banked a local match for the grant, roughly

\$28,000 per year, the past two years to facilitate both the grant and the Centennial project.

The other, larger grant, for \$922,000, is to fund stormwater improvements along what is called the Forest Park stormwater basin.

That would be the 270 acres that drains into a stormwater ditch the flows through the 10th Street Ball Parks to Buck Griffin Lake and St. Joseph Bay beyond.

The idea would be to create

See GRANTS, A8



**THINGS TO DO THIS WEEKEND**

Star Staff Report

Plenty going on under this blue spring skies. Here are a few suggestions.

**Annual cookout for charity.** First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe will sponsor its annual Cookout to benefit local charities this weekend in conjunction with the Bluewater Outriggers' annual Tent Sale.

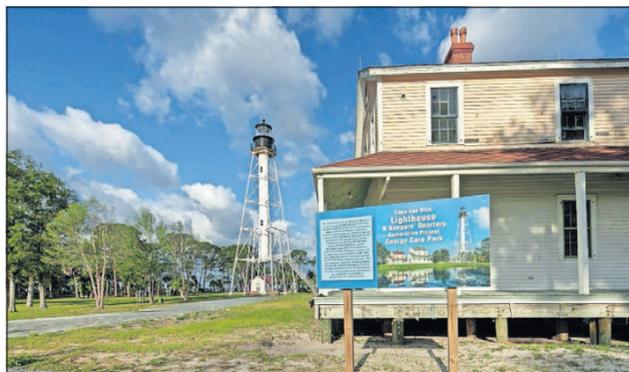
The hours will be 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The menu includes a hamburger combo (chips, drink and dessert) for \$5 and a hot dog combo (chips, drink and dessert) for \$4.

A la carte is also available, including: hamburger (\$3), hot dog (\$2), chips (\$1), drink (\$1) and dessert (\$1). All proceeds benefit local charities through the Men's and Women's Clubs.

**Shop the SaltAir Farmers Market.** The Port St. Joe SaltAir Farmers Market has just kicked off its 11th year and the market is back Saturday at City Commons adjacent to Port St. Joe City Hall, at the intersection of Reid Ave. and Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd.. The market is held 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. ET the first and third Saturdays of every month in the park. At the market you may find fresh seasonal produce, jewelry, tie dye, carved woodwork and much more.

**Climb the Cape San Blas Lighthouse.** Venture down to George Core Park in Port St. Joe and climb to the top of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse, nearly 100 feet high. The lighthouse is open 12 p.m. until 5 p.m. ET Thursday through Saturday. For adults 13 and over, the cost to climb is \$5 and for children under 12, but at least 44-inches tall, the



**New summer hours to climb to the top of the town.** [FILE PHOTO]



**SaltAir Farmers Market returns Saturday.** [FILE PHOTO]

cost for the climb is \$3. Please, no flip-flops – climbers need sturdy shoes. In addition, the lighthouse is open, by appointment, for groups of 5 or more. The minimum charge is \$25. Contact 229-8261 to book an appointment for a group.

**'Books and Bites' with Kristy Woodson Harvey at the Library.** Award-winning author Kristy Woodson Harvey will be visiting Port St. Joe for a "Books and Bites" luncheon at the public library. The author event and book signing will be 11 a.m. ET Tuesday, April 10 in the Corinne Costin Gibson Memorial Public Library. A light lunch will be provided. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Gulf County Public Libraries. Register to attend the free "Books and Bites" luncheon by calling 229-8879 or visiting the library.

Kristy Woodson Harvey is the author of Dear Carolina (2015), Lies and Other Acts of Love (2016), and Slightly South of Simple (2017). Dear Carolina was long-listed for the Pat Conroy Southern Book



**"Books and Bites" is Tuesday at the PSJ library.** [FILE PHOTO]



**First United Methodist Church will be cooking out for charity during the Bluewater Outriggers Tent Sale.** [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

Prize. Her newest release, The Secret to Southern Charm (April 3) is part of the beloved Peachtree Bluff Series exploring the powerful bonds between sisters, mothers and daughters. She blogs daily at Design Chic about how creating a beautiful home can be the catalyst for creating a beautiful life. Discover more about the talented Southern author by visiting kristywoodsonharvey.com.

The Corinne Costin Gibson Memorial Public Library is located at 110 Library Drive. Call 229-8879 or visit www.nwrsl.com for more information.

# Vietnam Veterans welcome/pinning ceremony

Special to The Star

Across the Nation, Americans are uniting to thank and honor Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice!

When our vets came home they were not thanked or honored in a parade, but were actually treated badly in many cases. Now is the time to do something about this. It is estimated that we are losing as many as 382 Vietnam veterans every day.

We are having a welcome home and pinning ceremony 10 a.m. ET April 7 at the Three Servicemen statue on Market Street in Apalachicola to thank and honor veterans of the War.

All United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of Nov. 1, 1955 through May 15, 1975 will receive a Vietnam lapel pin and a personal "Thank You". We are, also, remembering personnel who were POW/MIAs with a Missing Man table.

Everyone welcome to come out and participate.

This initiative is the main focus of the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, a national 50th anniversary remembrance authorized by Congress, established under the Secretary of Defense and launched by President Barack Obama in May 2012.

# April meeting of county Democrats

Special to The Star

The April meeting of the Gulf County Democrats, will be held 7-8:30 p.m. ET Monday, April 9 at the WIG Building located at 401 Peters St. in Port St. Joe.

This month's meeting will be exciting and informative, with two speakers:

- John Nagy, candidate for County Commissioner, District 1 (Wewahitchka)
- An update from Rosemary Lewis, candidate for Port St. Joe City

Commissioner, Group 4 - Discussion topic: Recruiting candidates

The Democrats will be inviting candidates from local, state and federal races to speak at each of their meetings through November.

Meeting updates may be found on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/GulfCountyDemocrats/>). The Democrats look forward to seeing you at the meeting! Bring a friend. Everyone is welcome.

## PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA

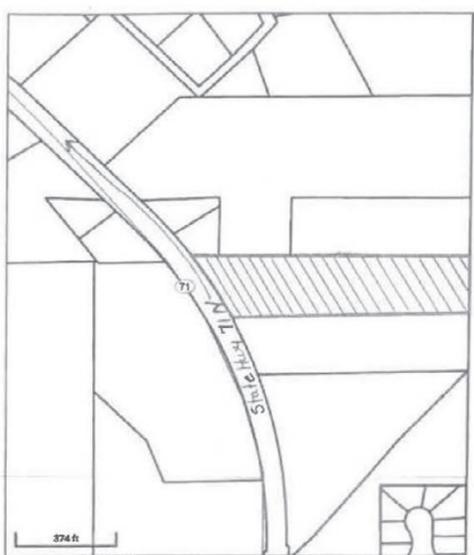
A public hearing will be held by the Planning and Development Review Board of Wewahitchka on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 5pm (ct) at 211 N Hwy 71 in Wewahitchka. The public hearing will be to discuss and act on the following: Small Scale Land Use Change. Owner: Lawrence P Cowart, Parcel Number 01918-015R S 24 T 4 R 10 4.398 AC M/L 249.87 FR ON E R/W SR 71 (SITE OF ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC MISSION) QC FR SMITH FR WACK (BISHOP OF DIOCESE) MAP 93C to the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, according to the plat recorded in the public records of Gulf County, Florida ORB 199/394 ORB 634/690, subject to covenants, restrictions, and easements of record, if any; changing the subject parcel from Public to Mixed Residential/Commercial. Subject to all developments, regulations required by the City of Wewahitchka, Florida.

The Public is encouraged to attend and be heard on this matter. Information can be viewed at the City Hall Annex at 318 S 7th St. Wewahitchka, FL.

Connie Parrish  
City Clerk  
Published 4/5 & 4/12/18

**LAND USE CHANGE**  
788 Hwy 71 N  
WEWAHITCHKA, FL

Land Use Change  
Parcel #0198-015R  
From Public to  
Mixed Residential/Commercial



## RISK FREE TRIAL

Call for a **FREE** hearing profile.

### NO JOKE! NO GIMMICK!

Not sure what a hearing device will do for you? Don't want to make a mistake? At Gulf Coast, we are thrilled to provide you with a TWO WEEK, RISK FREE TRIAL! Hear for yourself the difference it will make with no obligation. Just call 784-4327 for more information.



**KAITYLN LOCKE**  
HAS



**JAMES W. DAME**  
HAS; BC-HIS



**LESLIE A. SMITH**  
HAS; BC-HIS

**COUPONS**  
Oticon "NERA2" \$2,000 Normally \$2,300 | All Sizes and Styles | Expires 3/30/2018  
\$3.00 OFF power one batteries by VARTA | Expires 3/30/2018 | Limit: 4 packs per customer

**GULF COAST HEARING CENTER**  
Preferred BCBS FEP Provider

2232 St. Andrews Blvd. (Highway 390), Panama City, FL  
**850-784-4327**  
gulfcoasthearing.com

**High Quality • Low Prices • Exceptional Service**

## WANTED

Help round-up the following notorious Household Hazardous Wastes



**AND GANG MEMBERS: Fuel, Batteries, Antifreeze, Lead, Arsenic, Silver, Cleaners, Fluorescent Lamps, Mercury Containing Devices, Pesticides, Herbicides, Home Computers, Printers, Scanners, (and other pollutants).**  
If you find these villains hiding-out in your home round 'em up and bring 'em in.



**Gulf County Residential Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

**April 28th - Gulf County Courthouse**  
1000 Cecil G. Costin Blvd. Port St. Joe, FL  
**9AM - 12 PM Eastern Time**

Put Hazardous Waste in its place. Keep Gulf County Beautiful!

## REWARD

For more information, please call Waste Pro at 850-872-1800

# DOH honors Public Health Week

Special to The Star

Tallahassee—The Florida Department of Health in Franklin/Gulf is celebrating National Public Health Week (NPHW) from April 2-8. This year's theme is "Changing Our Future Together," which highlights the importance of engaging communities and partners in all sectors as public health workers strive to put good health within everyone's reach. This week is also a time to celebrate the contributions of the people who are dedicated to public health.

Everyone deserves the opportunity to live a long, healthy life free from preventable disease and injury. In fact, that's what public health workers

strive toward every, single day.

"In Public Health, we work to ensure conditions where everyone has an opportunity to be healthy- where they live, learn, work and play," said Marsha Lindeman, Administrator for the Florida Department of Health in Gulf and Franklin Counties. "DOH-Franklin/Gulf staff work behind the scenes and on the front lines with community partners to prevent diseases, promote health policies and encourage healthy behaviors."

Each day of NPHW focuses on a different public health topic that is critical to ensuring healthy communities. Public health workers

in DOH-Franklin/Gulf work to meet the specific needs of our community members guided by our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

**MONDAY** Behavioral Health, advocate for and promote well-being

**TUESDAY** Communicable Diseases, learn about ways to prevent disease transmission

**WEDNESDAY** Environmental Health, help to protect and maintain a healthy planet

**THURSDAY** Injury and Violence Prevention, learn about the effects of injury and violence on health

**FRIDAY** Ensuring the Right to Health, advocate for everyone's right to a healthy life

## FREE EYE EXAM

**FOR NEW PATIENTS 62 AND OLDER**

**With one of our board certified physicians.**




Todd Robinson, M.D.  
Board Certified Eye Physician and Cataract Surgeon

Julie Wolf, O.D.  
Board Certified Optometric Physician

**"WE WELCOME NEW PATIENTS"**

**MULLIS EYE INSTITUTE**

1600 Jenks Ave. • Panama City, FL  
**(850) 763-6666 • 1-800-227-5704**  
[www.mulliseye.com](http://www.mulliseye.com)

**CALL TODAY FOR YOUR PRIORITY APPOINTMENT**

NO HIDDEN CHARGES: It is our policy that the patient and any other person responsible for payments has the right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed by payment or any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free, discounted fee or reduced fee service, examination or treatment. NF-1181301



# TIES &

A FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE

# Tiaras

Friday, May 4th, 7:00-10:00pm

First United Methodist Church Great Hall

Tickets available for purchase at:  
First United Methodist Church Anchored South  
Port St. Joe Elementary School (Liz Lentz)  
Faith Christian School (Patty Hortman)  
Coastal Foot and Ankle Clinic in Apalachicola

Contact Krystal Terry at 227-1724 for more information

## E L E C T




# Rosemary LEWIS

**For City Commissioner Group 4**

Moved to Florida Gulf Coast in 1960

Graduate of F.S.U.- B.S., M.S.

37 year career as a speech-language pathologist

404.357.0765 | 850.705.1600  
rbl@hargray.com

**I WILL WORK TIRELESSLY FOR:**

Preservation of our Old Florida beauty while growing small businesses and to provide for economic and housing opportunities for all areas of PSJ.

Protection of our environment and for the provision of clean resources for all.

Strategic planning for future generations in training and educational opportunities for 21st century job skills.

That all local residents have what they need for infrastructure and safety concerns.

Recreational events for all ages so as to come together as a community.

**"Working together - to make Port St. Joe even better!"**

Paid political advertisement paid for and approved by Rosemary Lewis for City Commissioner, Group 4

# Closing the Gap Body & Soul Wellness Program

## A CELEBRATION OF HEALTHY EATING AND LIVING

### What is Body & Soul?

Body & Soul: A Celebration of Healthy Eating and Living is a proven health program developed for minority churches. The program empowers church members to eat a healthy diet rich in fruits and vegetables every day for better health. Churches that embrace Body & Soul help their members to take care of their bodies as well as their spirits.

### Why Body & Soul?

Many minorities populations are at high risk for many serious and often fatal diseases. These include high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and many types of cancer. A healthy diet rich in fruits and vegetables promotes good health and can help lower risk for these illnesses.

### How does Body & Soul work?

Church members customize and run Body & Soul to fit the needs of their church. You can draw upon the many talents of your church members to nourish and sustain your congregation as they move toward a healthier "body and soul."

### What are the benefits of Body & Soul?

Body & Soul congregations embrace and celebrate good health through healthy eating. By implementing Body & Soul, you congregation can help meet its health ministry goals:

- Learn how health and spirituality are connected
- Feel empowered to take charge of their health
  - Eat more fruits and vegetables every day
- Live healthier, by eating less fat and getting more physical activity
- Gain access to vital health information at the church






*The following faith-based organizations are participating in the Body & Soul Wellness Program:*

Zion Fair Missionary Baptist Church • New Covenant Church

The Body of Christ Jesus Church

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: 850-653-2111 EXT. 0102/0133**

# OPINION

## The indispensable craft of the politician

By Lee H. Hamilton

For the most part, we Americans value expertise. We want our physicians to possess knowledge and experience. We want our lawyers to know the law inside out. We want our clergymen, our engineers, our farmers to bring the kind of proficiency and skill to their work that comes only with familiarity and practice.

So here's a question. Why is it that the more expertise politicians' gain in their field, the more we deride them?

I've been involved in politics, in one way or another, for most of my life. That makes me a politician. And I've had more than a few people refuse to shake my hand because they believed that might somehow taint them. Politicians, many Americans think, are looking out for themselves, beholden to special interests and party leaders, and incapable of working for the common good.

Politicians may disappoint us, frustrate us, or even anger us. They certainly make mistakes. But here's the thing: we cannot solve our problems at any level — local, state or federal — without skilled politicians. They're indispensable to the system. I've had a good vantage point to observe successful American politicians over the decades, and I've come to believe the craft of politics requires certain characteristics. Not every politician possesses them, but the good ones — and there are plenty of good politicians — strive for them.

First, they're attuned to the moods of the people and to shifts in public opinion. This is not a bad thing — their job, after all, is to represent us. At the same time, they adhere to certain beliefs: they have faith in this country and its future, and they often hold a vision for what its success will look like. They believe it can make progress.

They also know that progress will not come easily. They understand they'll face setbacks, failure, and hardship, but they persevere in the American way of governing because it can make a lot of things possible. They search for a path forward, and for a remedy to a problem.

They tend to be articulate, adept at influencing others, and at times inspirational. But they are also pragmatic, and prepared to adjust, compromise, and improvise in order to move policy in the direction they'd like to see it go. They may pursue the perfect, but most of them know they won't get there, and will have to be satisfied with incremental progress. Very rarely do we advance in leaps and bounds.

They're comfortable holding authority and responsibility, and because they recognize that they share these burdens with others, they respect their colleagues. They try to be civil with them, since they understand the dynamic nature of politics — that you don't have permanent enemies or allies and that your foe one day may be a comrade the next.

And while they know the value of coming together in unity and may even strive for it, they understand that it's rarely achievable. Indeed, they expect criticism, appreciating that it comes with the territory and is one sign of the vitality of the democracy we live in.

Finally, good politicians understand that politics consists of a lot more than running for election. It has to be practiced every day in a democracy. We don't live in a perfect world, and we can't attain one. But in the end, politics is about striving to get there — to make the world, or at least this country, better.

The best politicians understand that this requires inclusivity, that all groups in every part of the nation have to be taken into account, that many interests have to be

See HAMILTON, A5

### HUNKER DOWN

## Let's play two...



Kesley Colbert

The Major League Baseball season cranked off this week. That's very important to me. For more reasons than I can count. None of which actually have anything to do with big league baseball. It's a reminder of the season. And what the game has done for me.

I haven't read, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten" but I did spend a year in Miss Katy's kindergarten two eons and a light year ago. I love Miss Katy to this day, and I mean no disrespect, but I was barely five years old. The only thing I remember about the whole deal was we got ice cream if it was someone's birthday.

My education revolved around a baseball. Leon put a ball in my hand and carefully showed me how to place my fingers across the seams. He explained to throw it properly I had to get my elbow up parallel to the ground with my hand above my right ear.....

My first lesson was how to listen and learn. It can't get much more important than that!

Leon hit ground balls to me every spring afternoon when I got home from kindergarten. I could catch maybe one out of ten. He did the same thing the following spring. My fielding improved to three out of ten. By the fourth grade he couldn't hit one past me.

The second lesson was things don't come easy in life. And the third was hard work pays off.

I didn't have to read a book. I didn't have to hear a lecture. Nobody whipped it into me. I also learned my big brother cared a way lot more about me than he let on.

I grew old enough to follow Leon to the vacant lot over by Bethel College. It was yet another spring and baseball filled the air. His friends were much older and I stood silently waiting as they chose up sides. Finally, after the last guy was picked one of the older boys would volunteer to "choose" me. It took a process.....but I was in the game!

It was a lesson in humbleness and patience that has paid immeasurable dividends in my life.

The first guy I batted against in an "official" Little League contest was Ray Cunningham. I was barely eight. He was twelve. And he could throw a ripe strawberry through a battleship! The first two pitches went by so fast I didn't see either, just heard them.

The lesson here was a tough one; courage is easy to talk about unless you are the guy looking down the barrel.

As the springs rolled along and the older boys moved on, I found myself moving up in the backyard league "picking" order. There were no umpires, grown-ups or written rules. We scrounged up two bats and a ball, chose the teams, decided who played where, made the close calls and, most important of all, kept the game moving.

We learned to share. We learned to play well with others. We learned a little organization and cooperation could save you a world of time. We learned fighting and fussing didn't solve anything.

In those formative years I could only afford a small, inexpensive Revelation glove from Western Auto. It didn't seem right that some of the guys with lesser ability had those costly "Heart of the Hide" Rawlings models.

I learned life sometimes could be unfair.

We lost the championship to the Rotary Club when I was eleven. I pitched horribly and struck out with the tying run on second base in the sixth inning.

I learned it is ok to cry when it really, really hurts.

When I was fifteen, I was asked to join the men on the town team. I was, by several years, the youngest player in the group. I was awed by guys twice my age running around the bases like their very life depended on it. They took me under their wing, gave of their time, shared their knowledge and, with no one looking or anything to gain, went the extra mile for the "young boy trying to play third base."

I learned that sometimes life could be unfair....IN YOUR FAVOR!

I have chased down high flies braced against a brilliant blue sky. I've rounded second with the wind brushing off my cheeks. I've whipped a hickory bat against a curve ball dropping down and away and sent it scorching up the right center field alley. I have slid safely under the tag at home with the winning run.

Baseball taught me life is grand.

And that is a lesson you can grow old with.

Respectfully,

Kes

### CRANKS MY TRACTOR

## Bag that cornbread



BN Heard

It seems my little dog has developed an "air" in her old age. They say that some older folks sometimes "lose their filter" and say and do things without much regard to what others think or possibly have lost their ability to care what others think.

My little poodle, since losing her big companion and my family's big dog, Doolittle, a while back, seems to just do anything she doggone well pleases. The trash catastrophes that were always blamed on the pair of dogs, mainly the bigger dog, now seem to have been conducted my little Princess Poodle.

She could have gone to her grave with that secret, but chose not to. Maybe it's prideful on her part, in that she wanted to show that she could tear the trash apart by herself and spread it around the house without the aid of a larger male dog.

Honestly, she used to be a lot more discreet about her sneaking and such. Now, if she has a path to get on the barn-door kitchen table, she'll just do it. And she will eat anything she can her mouth on... in terms of food.

It's tough to get mad at her.

She is old, deaf and without a canine companion having had one for most of her life. However, the other day, I got a little frustrated.

I'm pretty big on shopping the bargain bin in the produce department at the grocery store. I stop by three or four times a week to talk to folks, piddle in the produce department and look for bargains on meat and vegetables.

With meat, I look for cuts I can make jerky out of or be challenged for dinner. You know how the cooking shows give contestants a basket of stuff and have them make a dish in 30 minutes. My "basket" often consists on what's on sale or in its last couple of days of "use by" life. There are good bargains to find in those situations.

The produce department bargain bin will often have items that I can either dry in my dehydrator or use in my imaginary basket game. Recently, I found a couple of containers of fresh black-eyed peas that needed to be cooked within a day. When I say fresh, I guess they were shipped in from south of the border, I'm not sure.

However, I never have a problem making a meal out of just black-eyed peas, as long as I have cornbread and some other odds and ends like onions, tomatoes and some sort of pepper sauce/peppers in vinegar. I clarify there because some folks who are unfamiliar with the South and her affection with pepper sauce with black-eyed

peas, think that it is something red, rather than peppers swimming in vinegar designed to be doused on turnip greens, black-eyed peas and such.

On this particular evening, I made an excellent cast iron skillet of cornbread to go with my black-eyed peas and pepper sauce. Sometimes you hit things just perfect... Perfect was what this cornbread was. It was so good, I ate only one piece, knowing that I had plenty of peas to last me a couple of lunches at work — I wanted this perfect cornbread to go with them.

You see where I'm going. I bagged it, then admired it, then put it on the counter. I used to not be able to put things on the counter because my Big Poodle Doolittle could easily access anything on the counter.

I got the call... My tiny and old poodle that apparently is going through some sort of stage in her old age, got my cornbread off the counter and left me with nothing but an empty plastic bag and a pitifully small piece at the foot of my chair in the den. Maybe it was some sort of peace offering.

Frustrated, I could only think of all the wonderful things I have found that were reaching their "use by date" or end of life. Hopefully, she still has a lot of years in her, I can make more cornbread.

To my big dog — in big dog heaven — I'm sorry for all the times you were blamed.

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

**THE STAR**

Published every Thursday at 135 W. U.S. 98, Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Editor: Tim Thompson

Editor: Tim Croft

Circulation: 850-522-5197

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

In county	Out of county
1 Year: \$24.15	\$34.65
6 Months: \$15.75	\$21

Home delivery subscribers may be charged a higher rate for holiday editions.

#### TO ALL ADVERTISERS

In case of error or omissions in advertisements, the publishers do not hold themselves liable for damage further than the amount received for such advertisement.

The spoken word is given scant attention; the printed word is thoughtfully weighed. The spoken word barely asserts; the printed word thoroughly convinces. The spoken word is lost; the printed word remains.

## LETTERS

# Cross Shores Corner

By Shelly Cain  
Cross Shores Care Center

I want to offer help to my neighbor. She is taking care of her husband, who has dementia. How can I help? What do I say?

Please don't wait for someone to ask you for help. Almost everyone I know, including myself, would suffer in silence rather than ask for help in almost every kind of situation.

If you ask me, "What can I do to help?" I'm likely to ask you to say a prayer and thank you for your concern. So, instead, make suggestions like, "I'm free tomorrow afternoon, can I sit with your husband while you take a break?" or "I'm going to the grocery store, can I pick something up for you while I'm there?" or "Can your husband go with me to the high school baseball game and you can take a break?" or "What is your favorite meal? Can I cook it for you Saturday night?" Or "I'm mowing my grass on Saturday can I go ahead and cut yours while I'm at it?"



Caregivers are at high risk of isolation. They can withdraw from family and friends.

Be the one to reach out and be a friend.

"I miss our conversations. If you put on a pot of coffee, I'll bring the cookies."

Nothing is better than a personal visit with a friend. If you are worried about what to say take your cues from her. Be a good listener. Help find someone to sit with her husband and take her to a movie, shopping, or out to eat. Sometimes just doing something 'normal' can re-charge her batteries.

What if it's a sibling that is the primary caregiver for your parent. Do the same as above but, also, please remember to thank them. Recognize their hard work

and sacrifice with a simple thank you. And offer to take over for a few hours or a weekend. Learn everything you can to recognize caregiver stress so you can be better prepared to help. Taking care of someone in the advanced stages of dementia can become an impossible task for a caregiver. Be supportive when it comes time for the decision to admit into a nursing home. It's never an easy decision but often necessary for many.

If you have any questions we would love to help. Call us at 229-8244 or you can email me at scain@Cross-SeniorCare.com or, even better, stop by for a visit. Remember, treat everyone with importance and always be kind.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Warrior Weekend

Dear Editor,  
Words can not describe the nauseated feeling I have in the pit of my stomach at the moment. To find out the Forgotten Coast Warrior Weekend has been cancelled, gives me the feeling as losing a member of your family.

What started as a weekend retreat for my Warrior in 2014, turned into something that prepared us for the next stages of our lives.

To know the community we found to be one of the kindest, generous, open

areas in the state of Florida, in which we have returned to many time. To include volunteering at the Warrior Weekend in 2015. Saddens me to no avail.

I have no words for how this honestly effects the many warriors that could have benefitted from Port St Joe.

The bonds we created as caregivers, the battle buddies that were created outside the military for these warriors. Simply, no words to my sadness.

With a Grateful Heart

**Theresa Botts, New Jersey**

## Campers and Highland View water

Dear Editor,  
Well, summer is on it's way. Soon, we will be hearing about the water in Highland View, how high in bacteria it is and people are urged not to swim there. Has it occurred to any of the powers that be that perhaps the cause is the campers. Do they all have septic tanks or sewer hook ups? I bet there are a few that don't. I sure hope someone is not risking the health of

all of us by not doing their job properly. I brought that up a few years ago and was told it was doggie do-do. I don't see many dogs around there but I sure do see campers that don't move. Permanent steps up to the door, I'm thinking there must be at least a few that are just flushing waste into a pit underneath. Step it up, take care of what could be a health risk to everyone.

**Dennis Maulding,  
Port St. Joe, FL**

## HAMILTON

From Page A4

balanced, if the U.S. is going to succeed and be secure. They retain a fundamental

faith in the people of the country. They do not give up on America.

I don't want to suggest either that I think all politicians possess these qualities, or that any politician enjoys them all. Yet

these characteristics are what mastery of the craft of politics demands, and they come only with time and experience. In my book, any politician who displays them deserves the same respect we'd give any specialist who has acquired

the knowledge, skill, and insight demanded by a complicated, demanding, and meaningful profession.

*Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative*

*Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.*



**HEALTHY FOOD.  
HEALTHY KID.  
HAPPY MOM.**

signupwic.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



# TAXES

From Page A1

three years ago, are on target to top \$2.2 million.

That would come five years after collections eclipsed \$1 million for the first time.

"Last year we finished about 7 percent up so the goal was steady, responsible growth," Godwin said. "We were thrilled when we got the numbers."

"We knew it, we felt it was busy. But that was a great number."

In addition to the volume, the demographics of the pre-spring, late-winter travelers was different this year, Godwin said.

"It was a different crowd," Godwin said. "We had a lot of our usual visitors, but we also had a lot of people with families."

"They were having their midwinter breaks. We saw a lot of license plates from Michigan and Tennessee and states like that. They are places where they are starting to have school year-round."

And the increase in families along this slice of paradise was a specific goal of TDC marketing efforts over the past four or five years.

"Families are always going to be our bread and butter, along with the adventure traveler and in a lot of cases those are families," Godwin said.

"We had a lot of people in the Welcome Center (during February). Now, we are having Atlanta spring break."

And, if there is such a thing as "feeling" concerning how lodging and eating partners are faring this month, the weeks immediately prior to and after Easter have carried positive vibes.

"We are hopping right now," said David Ashbrook with the Port Inn and



The Brothers Osborne perform a sold-out concert Saturday at WindMark. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

MainStay Suites. "We had a little bit of dip in March, but for the year we are ahead of last year."

"We are very busy right now."

Another potential factor in a busy start to the year, Godwin said, is the just-completed spring marketing campaign, the main prong of which was an Instagram campaign around #InGulf.

As in, how do you "engulf"

yourself in adventure, in vacation.

Godwin said the TDC would be announcing the winner, a woman from Georgia, soon; she will win a seven-day vacation package.

"In the four weeks that it ran we had 3,200 posts," Godwin said.

"We've had marketing hash tags we have used for four years and (#InGulf) had nearly as many posts in four

weeks.

"This has just really taken off."

With summer months around the corner, this week has been about finalizing the preparations for the performance by The Brothers Osborne Saturday afternoon on the green at WindMark.

Partnering with The St. Joe Company and D.R. Horton, the TDC is hosting the concert which will serve as

the release of The Brothers Osborne's new album, "Port Saint Joe."

The Grammy-, CMA-nominated brothers recorded the album in a Gulf County beach house during a two-week period last year and decided to name the release after the location of its birth.

The concert, with a limit of 500 tickets, sold out the morning tickets went on sale in late March.

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



WEAR BLUE ON FRIDAY, APRIL 6 TO SUPPORT

#GreatChildhoods





## 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report City of Wewahitchka

We are pleased to announce that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is ground water from two wells. The wells draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Because of the excellent quality of our water, the only treatments required are chlorine for disinfection purposes and aeration for removal of hydrogen sulfide.

In 2017 the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at [www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Don Minchew at (850)-639-2605. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at City Hall.

City of Wewahitchka routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2017. Data obtained before January 1, 2017, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l):** one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

**Picocurie per liter (pCi/L):** measure of the radioactivity in water

"ND" means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**2017 CONTAMINANTS TABLE**

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride (ppm)	Feb-15	N	0.75	NA	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	Feb-15	N	35	NA	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
Barium (ppm)	Feb-15	N	0.017	NA	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	Feb-15	N	2.4	NA	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Stage 2 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product (D/DBP)</b>							
Chlorine-Stage 1 (ppm)	Jan-Dec 17	N	0.61	0.46-0.65	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	Jul 17	N	16.5	7.8-16.5	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	Jul 17	N	14.9	13.3-14.9	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceeded Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Lead and Copper (Tap Water)</b>							
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	Jun-Sep 15	N	0.1	0 of 10	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

**SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS TABLE**

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Result	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Secondary Contaminants</b>							
Sulfate (ppm)	Feb-Mar 15	N	310	81-310	NA	250	Natural occurrence from soil leaching

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Wewahitchka is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We at City of Wewahitchka would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

# New Arthritis Painkiller Works on Contact and Numbs the Pain in Minutes

New cream works faster and is more targeted than oral medications. Key ingredients penetrate the skin within minutes to relieve joint arthritis pain. Users report significant immediate relief.

By Robert Ward  
Associated Health Press

**BOSTON** – Innovus Pharmaceuticals has introduced a new arthritis pain relief treatment that works in minutes.

Sold under the brand name *Apeaz™*, the new pain relief cream numbs the nerves right below the skin.

When applied to an arthritic joint, or a painful area on the body, it delivers immediate relief that lasts for hours and hours.

The powerful painkilling effect is created by the creams active ingredients, three special medical compounds.

Anesthetics are used in hospitals during surgery. They block nerve signals from the brain so that patients don't feel pain and they work fast.

The anesthetic found in *Apeaz™* is the strongest available without a prescription.

The cream form allows users to directly target their area of pain. It works where it is applied. The company says this is why the product is so effective and fast acting.

*"Users can expect to start feeling relief immediately after applying,"* explains Dr. Bassam Damaj, President of Innovus Pharmaceuticals.

"There will be a pleasant warming sensation that is followed by a cool, soothing one. This is how you know that the active ingredients have reached the affected joint and tissue."

## Works In Minutes

For arthritis sufferers, *Apeaz™* offers impressive advantages over traditional medications. The most obvious is how quickly it relieves pain discomfort.

The cream contains the maximum approved OTC dose of a top anesthetic, which penetrates the skin in



**Apeaz™: Quick Acting Pain and Arthritis Cream is Now Available Without a Prescription**

At less than \$2 a day, the cream quickly is becoming a household name.

Those with terrible arthritis in their hands and fingers, love how easy *Apeaz™* is to open. The jar fits in the palm of the hand, which makes it much easier to use.

## Instant Pain Relief Without a Prescription

Many *Apeaz™* users report significant improvements in daily aches and pain. Many more report increased flexibility and less stiffness. They are moving with less pain for the first time in years, like Henry Esber, an early user of *Apeaz™*.

*"I've tried more pills than I can count. I've also had a handful of cortisone shots. Nothing is as effective as this product. With Apeaz™, I get relief right away. I rub a little on my hands. It keeps the pain away. It also prevents the pain from getting really bad. It's completely changed my life."*

## How It Works

*Apeaz™* contains the highest, non-prescription OTC dose of a medical compound that fights pain on contact. When applied to the skin it goes to work within minutes by penetrating right to the source of your pain, numbing the nerve endings.

**"This is why Apeaz™ is so effective for people**

### Apeaz™ is an FDA drug with approved claims for the pain relief of the following conditions:

- Arthritis pain
- Simple back pain
- Strains
- Sprains
- Athletic injuries
- Muscle stiffness and pain
- Wrist, elbow, shoulder, hip, knee, ankle, foot, muscle or joint pain

a matter of minutes to numb the area that's in pain. This relief lasts for several hours.

Published pre-clinical animal studies have shown that the ingredients in *Apeaz™* can also prevent further bone and cartilage destruction.

There are also no negative side effects like from oral medication. *Apeaz™* delivers its ingredients through the skin. Oral medications are absorbed in the digestive tract. Overtime, the chemicals in pills can tear the delicate lining of the stomach, causing ulcers and bleeding.

When compared to other arthritis medications, *Apeaz™* is a fraction of the cost.

**with arthritis pain.** It reduces pain while adding an additional potential layer of joint support," explains Damaj.

## A New Way to Treat Pain

Although Dr. Damaj and his team say that their cream is the fastest and most effective way to relieve arthritis pain, they believe there is still a reason to take joint pills. **The most effective are those which help to further lubricate, strengthen and support the joints.**

That's why every container of *Apeaz™* comes with *ArthriVarx™*, a breakthrough supplement that's taking on joint support in an entirely new way.

*ArthriVarx™* works on your joints, making it the perfect companion to *Apeaz™*.

"*ArthriVarx™* contains special compounds published to lubricate the joints and connective tissues that surrounds them. With daily use, they improve joint health and can give an extra cushion," explains Dr. Damaj.

"When combined with *Apeaz™*, it becomes the perfect system to tackle arthritis. While the anesthetic component of *Apeaz™* is working on the outside, relieving pain on contact, *ArthriVarx™* is working on the inside, adding cushioning to the joints"

## A Powerful Combination For Arthritis and Joint Pain

With daily use, *Apeaz™* plus *ArthriVarx™* helps users live a more vital, pain free life without any of the negative side effects or interactions associated with oral drugs.

By delivering fast, long-lasting, and targeted relief from joint pain and supporting long-term joint health, *Apeaz™* and *ArthriVarx™* is the newest, most effective way to tackle your arthritis pain.

You can now enjoy an entirely new level of comfort that's both safe and affordable. It is also extremely effective, especially if nothing else has worked well for you.

## How to Get Apeaz™ in Florida

This is the official public release of *Apeaz™*. As such, the company is offering a special discounted supply to any joint-pain arthritis-sufferer who calls within the next 48 hours.

A special hotline number and discounted pricing has been created for all Florida residents. Discounts will be available starting today at 6:00AM and will automatically be applied to all callers.

Your Toll-Free hotline number is 1-800-448-6123 and will only be open for the next 48 hours. Only a limited discounted supply of *Apeaz™* is currently available in your region.

Consumers who miss out on our current product inventory will have to wait until more becomes available and that could take weeks. Experience the guaranteed *Apeaz™* relief already enjoyed by thousands of consumers. The company advises not to wait. Call 1-800-448-6123 today.

# BUDGET

From Page A1

within days of the letter, leaving the education legislation intact.

The problems with the small size of the rise in base student funding is compounded for Gulf District Schools, where enrollment somewhat plateaued this year.

A projected increase from several factors, expansion of Deseret Cattle and Timber in the north end of the county, port development and economic growth in the south end has yet to fully materialize.

"We are probably a year away from a real bump in (full-time equivalent student) growth," Norton said.

The bottom line from the just-adjourned session is not yet clear, said district financial officer Sissy Worley.

A final run of the Florida Education Finance Plan, always one of the last documents to emerge from every legislative session, has yet to be disseminated.

She said the district will have to absorb a few "unfunded mandates," most of which extend from the safe schools legislation and that while it appears, as with every district, that funding overall increased, looks are deceiving.

"We definitely will need more revenue to maintain what we have now," Worley said.

The first priority, and the board will begin diving during a workshop next week, is identifying program priorities at all four public schools.

Only then, Norton suggested, would board members understand which direction they would have to go.

Reducing the workforce, he added, will likely mean a cut in programs; the district has been battling for several years to increase program options.

A tax increase would come from the Local Capital Improvement dollars the state appropriates to each district for what could be termed "bricks and mortar."

For over five years, the district has maintained one of the lowest LCI millages in the state, nearly or more than a full mill below that allowed by law.

That was a pledge the board made to the public when going to voters for an additional mill in operating funds more than a decade ago; the pledge has been reiterated every four years since.

While maintaining the low LCI, the district was supplementing its capital outlay budget through the general

fund, Worley said.

By raising the LCI millage, those general fund dollars could stay in the general fund, Worley added.

And, Norton said, there also remained real capital outlay issues, particularly the need to bolster the fleet of buses, which the district has been addressing the past two years.

**"There is a lot of information to process, a lot of responsibility. We need to move forward."**

Brooke Wooten, school board chair

"There is a lot of information to process, a lot of responsibility," said school board chair Brooke Wooten. "We need to move forward."

## Safe schools

The safe schools portion of the education legislation will require a process all but separate from the fundamental budget issues.

There are nine criteria and Norton said district staff, spearheaded by Billy Hoover, who has been appointed the district's school safety director, are reviewing the law.

Portions of the legislation will also include ongoing coordination with the Gulf County Sheriff's Office, Port St. Joe Police Department and Department of Health in Gulf County.

"There are a lot of pieces to it," Norton said, adding that while he supported the additional focus on school safety, Gulf District Schools already provide a safe school environment.

There is also funding districts can use to designate certain employees to undergo 150 of police standards training in order to be allowed to carry a concealed weapon on campus.

The public would not know the identity of those individuals, who could only use a weapon in the case of an active school shooting.

And, Norton added, some of the required steps in the bill include actions the district, and Gulf County Sheriff's Office, already undertake and fund.

Creating safer schools, he added, is not a one-day, one-week or one-year process, but a constant one which requires cooperation from all stakeholders.

"It is a vigilant process," Norton said.

"This is something that we can help build the foundation for on into the future."

**"It is a vigilant process. This is something that we can help build the foundation for on into the future."**

Jim Norton, superintendent of schools

# GRANTS

From Page A1

another stormwater pond, on roughly 2.5 acres, approximately the size of the northern end of Buck Griffin Lake, said city engineer Clay Smallwood.

The pond, to the north of Buck Griffin, would provide additional filtering of stormwater before it reaches the bay.

"This is all about protecting the bay," Smallwood said.

He added that there would be a monitoring component to the grant to ensure that the project performed as intended.

Smallwood said the stormwater project would be an entirely separate from the proposed expansion of the 10th Street Ball Parks; the pond could be sited once the ball park plan is in place.

But the grant funding does carry the caveat of not allowing new development adjacent to the pond.

The money would come out of Natural Resources Damage Assessment funds stemming from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

The money would flow from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to the Northwest Florida Water Management District.

"The government bodies really believe this will help clean our bay," said City Manager Jim Anderson.

Icing? There is no local match required on the grant.

The grant application is a revival of earlier applications to the NWFWD for stormwater projects.

In the two prior years 2013 and 2015, the project was not funded.

## Park workshop Wednesday

A joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners and city commissioners will be held 6 p.m. ET

Wednesday, April 11 in the Don Butler County Commission Chamber in the Robert Moore Annex adjacent to the Courthouse.

The workshop was called to discuss the proposed plans for the expansion of the 10th Street Ball Parks in Port St. Joe.

A county subcommittee issued a "conceptual" plan early this year, but that plan came under fire last month when a number of city residents living adjacent to the park complained about the potential impacts.

Particular issues were traffic to the expanded park, stormwater, safety and endangerment or elimination of fauna and wildlife in the proposed park corridor.

Commissioner Jim Anderson, Rex Buzzett, the city's representative on the park subcommittee, has urged that consideration move from 10th Street to a proposed site across U.S. Highway 98 from the Gulf/Franklin Center.

Several city residents have agreed. That plea continued Tuesday, with a petition presented with signatures from both residents and visitors opposed to the park expansion plan.

Another resident expressed frustration with the current location of the ballparks and the unruly and rude behavior of adults on their property.

Another cautioned that pickle ball courts are not a fit for residential areas due to the noise.

Commissioner David Ashbrook said the city does not need more parks, or an expanded park, but improvements to the existing 10th Street complex.

"Let's not add a burden to our already stretched tax dollar by building another park," Ashbrook said. "We need to improve what we have."

APEAZ IS AN FDA OTC COMPLIANT DRUG NDC # 57483-001-04 APPROVED FOR THE RELIEF OF PAIN FROM MUSCLES AND JOINTS INCLUDING ARTHRITIS PAIN. ARTHRIVARX STATEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY THE FDA. ARTHRIVARX IS NOT INTENDED TO DIAGNOSE, TREAT, CURE, OR PREVENT ANY DISEASE AND IS NOT A DRUG. RESULTS MAY VARY.

# NEW LESS THAN USED!

**THIS WEEK AT BAY HYUNDAI**

BRAND NEW HYUNDAI

## AZERA

LOADED WITH ALL THE BELLS AND WHISTLES!

STK#N1218



was \$35,260  
Over \$8,000 OFF!

# \$26,988

\*Must be military.

**NO GAMES--NO GIMMICKS--NO HASSLES**

BRAND NEW HYUNDAI

## IONIQ SEL

LIMITED HYBRID  
LAST ONE! N1451

UP TO  
**59**  
MPG!



was \$28,565

# \$24,988

BRAND NEW HYUNDAI

## ACCENT

THIS WEEK ONLY!



was \$17,620

# \$12,988



**HYUNDAI**



www.BayCars.com  
641 W.15th St. • Panama City, FL

**785-1591**

\*WAC. Must be military and own a Hyundai product to qualify for Sonata pricing. See Dealer for details.

**SEE MORE CARS AT BAY IN 30 MINUTES THAN YOU CAN SEE EVERYWHERE ELSE ALL DAY!**

17 CADILLAC ATS LUXURY Blue, 6K Miles, PA57341	\$37,990	14 FORD F150 SUPER CAB 4X4, GRAY, N0875A	\$28,990	16 HYUNDAI SONATA SPORT BLUE, P0370A	\$17,990
14 CADILLAC ATS LUXURY 35K MILES, 4DR, PA5771	\$20,990	15 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 4X4, RED, 19KMILES, N1047D	\$31,990	16 HYUNDAI SONATA SPORT RED, PC5696	\$17,990
17 CADILLAC XT5 PREMIUM BLACK, 6K MILES, PA5752	\$44,990	16 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 38K MILES, SILVER, PA574A	\$27,990	16 HYUNDAI TUCSON LIMITED SILVER, N1405A	\$18,998
04 CHEVROLET CORVETTE SILVER, PC5636A	\$14,990	09 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 2WD, RED, P0300C1	\$11,990	15 HYUNDAI SONATA SPORT BLACK, FH178501	\$18,998
16 CHEVROLET CRUZE PREMIUM, 21K MILES, PC5715	\$19,990	17 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 17K MILES, BLUE, PA5683	\$38,990	15 HYUNDAI AZERA LIMITED LOADED, BLACK, PC5763A	\$19,998
17 CHEVROLET SILVERADO WHITE, PC5604	\$29,990	16 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 34K MILES, GRAY, PA5744	\$36,900	17 HYUNDAI GENESIS 3.0 WHITE, N0764A	\$38,998
10 CHEVROLET SILVERADO WHITE, P0267A	\$19,990	16 FORD F150 SUPER CAB GRAY, PA5745	\$30,990	16 HYUNDAI EQUUS SIGN WHITE, PC5691A	\$37,990
15 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 22K Miles, Black, P0119A	\$38,990	16 FORD F150 SUPER CAB GRAY, PA5757	\$36,990	17 JAGUAR XE PREMIUM RED, 13K MILES, PA5703	\$30,990
15 CHEVROLET TAHOE C150 WHITE, 30KMILES, LTZ, P0569A1	\$45,990	14 FORD FLEX SEL 26K MILES, WHITE, LOADED, PA5748	\$25,990	17 JEEP CHEROKEE 5K MILES, RED, P0537B	\$21,990
17 CHEVROLET CAMARO LT LOADED! RED, LESS THAN 1500 MILES, N1445A	\$29,998	17 FORD MUSTANG ONLY 500 MILES! WHITE, P0436A	\$27,998	17 JEEP CHEROKEE 8K MILES, PA5538A	\$21,990
15 CHEVROLET SILVERADO BLUE, N031C	\$27,100	12 FORD MUSTANG 52K MILES, BLACK, P0547A	\$12,990	17 JEEP CHEROKEE 5K MILES, BLUE, P0575A1	\$31,990
15 CHEVROLET SILVERADO GRAY, N0930B	\$27,300	13 FORD MUSTANG BLACK, PC5370A	\$14,990	17 JEEP CHEROKEE 25K MILES, BLACK, PA5732	\$28,990
17 CHRYSLER 300 S BLACK, PA5681	\$28,990	16 FORD MUSTANG BLACK, PC5618A	\$20,990	17 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 29K MILES, SILVER, PA5668A	\$33,990
16 CHRYSLER 300C WHITE, PA5680	\$23,990	17 FORD MUSTANG 15K MILES, SILVER, PA5747	\$27,990	16 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 12K MILES, WHITE, PA5723	\$32,990
17 CHRYSLER 300C WHITE, 4DR, ROOF, PC5664	\$24,990	16 FORD FIESTA SE SILVER, PA5332	\$12,999	17 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 8K MILES, BLACK, PA5679	\$39,990
17 CHRYSLER PACIFICA L 24K MILES, SILVER, LIMITED, PA5724	\$36,990	16 FORD FUSION SE BROWN, PA531	\$19,999	18 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 14K MILES, RED, PA5731	\$37,990
13 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY P0584A	\$12,990	16 FORD F150 XLT 4X4 SILVER, PC5310	\$37,889	18 JEEP WRANGLER 575 MILES, WHITE, N1415A	\$31,990
11 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY SILVER, P0594A	\$10,990	17 FORD F150 SUPERCREW XLT SILVER, AUTOMATIC, 17K MILES, PC5335	\$34,888	16 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED, 25K MILES, PC5692	\$38,990
17 DODGE CHALLENGER 23K MILES, BLACK, PC5710	\$28,990	16 FORD F150 SUPERCREW BLACK, 4X4, PC5628	\$36,990	11 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 67K MILES, BLACK, PA5479A	\$19,990
16 DODGE CHALLENGER BLACK, P0132A	\$36,990	15 FORD F150 SUPERCAB BLUE, N1340B	\$33,998	17 JEEP COMPASS SP WHITE, PC5583	\$16,990
18 DODGE CHARGER SX GRAY, 14K MILES, PC5768	\$25,990	16 FORD TRANSIT WHITE, PC5350	\$23,888	17 JEEP COMPASS SP GRAY, PC5584	\$16,990
18 DODGE CHARGER SX 21K MILES, BLACK, PC5769	\$25,990	17 FORD EDGE TITAN SILVER, PC5553	\$28,990	12 JEEP WRANGLER S RED, P0281A	\$22,990
07 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD BROWN, PC5534A	\$7,990	16 GMC ACADIA SLT LOADED, WHITE, PA5770	\$32,990	15 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED BLACK, P0216A	\$32,990
17 DODGE DURANGO CITADEL WHITE, PA5374	\$36,988	13 GMC SIERRA C15 WHITE, P0595A	\$21,990	08 JEEP LIBERTY BLUE, PC5573	\$9,998
14 DODGE RAM BLACK, N0916A	\$35,988	11 GMC SIERRA C15 GRAY, PC5511B	\$18,990	17 JEEP PATRIOT WHITE, PC5562	\$14,998
15 DODGE CHALLENGER RED, PC5626	\$28,990	14 GMC SIERRA C15 SLT, BLACK, PC5857A	\$32,990	17 LINCOLN CONTINENTA WHITE, PA5736	\$57,990
14 DODGE DURANGO LI GOLD, EC503242	\$29,998	13 GMC TERRAIN SL GRAY, P0099A	\$12,950	17 LINCOLN CONTINENTA BLACK, PA5737	\$57,990
15 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN RED, P0310A	\$17,998	16 GMC YUKON DENALI LOADED, REAL WHITE, P0604A	\$58,990	07 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR RED, PC5580A	\$11,998
14 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN RED, N0978A	\$16,990	13 HONDA ACCORD EX-L BLUE, PC5777	\$18,990	14 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR BRONZE, N1018A	\$33,998
17 DODGE JOURNEY CROSSROADS WHITE, PA5675	\$21,990	17 HYUNDAI SONATA SE SILVER, PA5521	\$18,998	17 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR BLACK, PC5594	\$46,998
17 FORD EXPEDITION 14K MILES, WHITE, PA5733	\$39,990	13 HYUNDAI SONATA SE BLUE, N1389A	\$15,998	17 LINCOLN MKX RESERVE BLACK, PA5713	\$36,990
16 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 15K MILES, GRAY, N0759A	\$28,990	15 HYUNDAI SONATA SPORT BLACK, N1269A	\$17,998	17 LINCOLN MKX RESERVE BLACK, PA5730	\$36,990



**HYUNDAI LINCOLN  
MITSUBISHI JEEP  
CHRYSLER DODGE**

www.BayCars.com  
641 W.15th St • Panama City, FL

**785-1591**

# OUTDOORS

CONTACT US

Email outdoor news to [tcroft@starfl.com](mailto:tcroft@starfl.com)

## Look out for manatees when boating

Special to The Star

Chances of close encounters between Florida manatees and boaters increase in the spring.

For manatees, it is the season when they leave their winter refuges and travel along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and through inland waters. For boaters, it is a critical time to be on the lookout for manatees to avoid colliding with these large aquatic mammals.

“Spring is a great time to go boating in Florida, but manatees are out there too. Please watch out for them,” said Ron Mezich, who heads the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) manatee management program.

From April 1 through Nov. 15, seasonal manatee zones require boaters to slow down in certain areas to prevent manatees from being struck by motorboats or personal watercrafts. FWC law enforcement officers are



Manatees in motion this time of year. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

on patrol in state waters to remind boaters of the seasonal manatee speed zones and take enforcement actions when appropriate.

Since manatees are

difficult to detect when underwater, operators of boats and personal watercrafts can help by:

- Wearing polarized sunglasses to help spot manatees.

- Looking for large circles on the water, also known as manatee footprints, indicating the presence of a manatee below.

- Looking for a snout sticking up out of the water.

- Following posted manatee zones while boating.

- Reporting an injured, distressed, sick or dead manatee to the FWC’s Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922) or dialing #FWC or \*FWC on a cellphone.

FWC biologists, managers and law enforcement staff work closely with partners to evaluate current data and identify necessary

actions to protect this iconic animal. Florida has invested over \$2 million annually for manatee conservation, and the FWC works toward continued success for manatees in our state.

Manatee zones and maps are available at [MyFWC.com/Manatee](http://MyFWC.com/Manatee), where you can select “Protection Zones” for links to county maps. Boaters can get tips from “A boater’s guide to living with Florida Manatees.” And if you want to see manatees in the wild or captivity, go to “Where are Florida’s Manatees?”

To support the FWC’s manatee research, rescue and management efforts, purchase a “Save the Manatee” Florida license plate at [BuyaPlate.com](http://BuyaPlate.com), or donate \$5 to receive an FWC manatee decal by going to [MyFWC.com/Manatee](http://MyFWC.com/Manatee) and clicking on “Decals.”

## FWC: tips for living with alligators

Special to The Star

The American alligator is a conservation success story. Florida has a healthy and stable alligator population, which is estimated at 1.3 million alligators of every size. They are an important part of Florida’s wetlands, but should be regarded with caution and respect.

Alligators become more active and visible during spring when temperatures rise and their metabolism increases. Although serious injuries caused by alligators are rare in Florida, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recommends taking precautions when having fun in and around the water. Alligators inhabit all 67 counties in Florida and can be found anywhere there is standing water. Reduce the chances of conflicts with alligators by swimming only in designated swimming areas during daylight hours. Also keep pets on a leash and away from the water.

Because alligators

control their body temperature by basking in the sun, they may be easily observed. However, the FWC urges people to keep their distance if they see one. And never feed alligators because it is dangerous and illegal.

The FWC places the highest priority on public safety and administers a Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program to address complaints concerning specific alligators.

People concerned about an alligator should call the FWC’s toll-free Nuisance Alligator Hotline at 866-FWC-GATOR (392-4286). SNAP uses contracted nuisance alligator trappers throughout the state to remove alligators 4 feet in length or greater that are believed to pose a threat to people, pets or property. The FWC also works diligently to keep Floridians and visitors informed, including providing advice about Living with Alligators.

Learn more about alligators at [MyFWC.com/Alligator](http://MyFWC.com/Alligator).



[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

### WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, April 5	74°	56°	0%
Fri, April 6	77°	62°	10%
Sat, April 7	78°	63°	60%
Sun, April 8	76°	66°	40%
Mon, April 9	79°	67°	20%
Tues, April 10	79°	55°	60%
Wed, April 11	76°	58°	10%

### TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

	HIGH	LOW
Cat Point	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:

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

### ST. JOSEPH BAY

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
5	Th	1:07p	1.4		
6	Fr	1:46p	1.4	12:00a	-0.1
7	Sa	2:30p	1.4	12:59a	-0.1
8	Su	3:22p	1.3	1:49a	-0.1
9	Mo	4:27p	1.3	2:32a	-0.1
10	Tu	5:53p	1.2	3:10a	0.0
11	We	7:29p	1.1	3:42a	0.1

### APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
5	Th	8:41a	1.0	6:19p	1.3
6	Fr	9:51a	1.0	6:59p	1.3
7	Sa	11:08a	1.0	7:48p	1.2
8	Su	12:16p	1.1	8:53p	1.1
9	Mo	1:07p	1.1	10:17p	1.0
10	Tu	1:45p	1.1	11:48p	1.0
11	We	2:15p	1.2	7:40a	0.2

SPONSOR THE WEEKLY ALMANAC  
CALL TODAY! 227-7847

### FISHING REPORT



Ok anglers it is here after a long wait, the Bluewater Outriggers annual tent sale. April 6th and 7th this Friday and Saturday. It is not to be missed if you've never attended before. So if your a visitor or a local come on out and share in the fun and the great buys you'll find under the tent. There will be fishing gear marked up to 70 percent off regular retail. Lots of close out and one of a kind so come early for the best selection. There will be plenty of action in the store as well with great bargains and lots of activities. Bring the whole family, there will be apparel and shoes on sale and to many items to mention. Refreshments will be available and there will be product vendors on hand with advise and sharing knowledge of their products. We look forward to seeing you this Friday and Saturday. Until next week Happy Fishing!

## April 15 marks start of Florida's bat maternity season

Special to The Star

If you have bats roosting in your attic, eaves or chimney spaces, now is the time to give them an eviction notice. Bat maternity season begins April 15 and runs through Aug. 15. Exclusions of bat colonies must be completed before the season starts.

“During bat maternity season, bats gather to give birth and raise their young,” said Terry Doonan, a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) biologist and mammal conservation coordinator. “The season lasts until the young bats can fly and feed themselves. In Florida, this occurs from mid-April through mid-August for most bat species.”

Bat exclusions are illegal during this maternity season to prevent young bats that cannot yet fly from being trapped inside structures and dying.

Florida is home to 13 resident bat species, including threatened species such as the Florida bonneted bat. Some bat species roost in artificial structures, including buildings and houses. Although it is illegal to harm or kill bats in Florida, guidelines have been developed allowing for the legal exclusion of bats outside of the maternity season.

Exclusion guidelines on how to remove bats from buildings can be found at [MyFWC.com/Bats.Materials](http://MyFWC.com/Bats.Materials) and methods to exclude bats can affect the success of

that process. For more information on how to conduct a bat exclusion, watch this YouTube video: How to Get Bats Out of a Building. Further details on how to conduct a legal bat exclusion can be found at Bat Conservation International.

Bats are beneficial to people and are an important part of the ecosystem. The state’s native bats help keep insect populations under control, with the average bat eating hundreds of insects a night. In addition to the benefit of keeping mosquitoes and other insects at bay for residents enjoying the outdoors, the value of insect suppression by bats to U.S. agriculture has been estimated to be in the billions of dollars. There are several ways

that Florida residents and visitors can help bats:

- Preserve natural roost sites, including trees with cavities and peeling bark. Dead fronds left on palms can also provide roosting spots for bats.

- Put up a bat house.
- Report unusual bat behavior to: [MyFWC.com/BatMortality](http://MyFWC.com/BatMortality).

Bats can carry rabies. Although infected bats may not become aggressive, like any other wild animal, they can bite to defend themselves if handled. Don't touch or go near any wild animal, especially one that's not acting normally. For more information about rabies, visit the Florida Department of Health website at [FloridaHealth.gov](http://FloridaHealth.gov).

“Everything for your outdoor adventure”

## BLUEWATER

OUTRIGGERS

11th Annual

# TENT SALE

GREAT CLOSEOUT COMBO PRICES!

HUGE SAVINGS ON THOUSANDS OF ITEMS!

FOOD • FUN • MFG REPS

APRIL 6th & 7th

Friday & Saturday 7am - 5pm EST

121 W. HWY 98 • PORT ST. JOE • (850)229-1100 • [WWW.BWOFISH.COM](http://WWW.BWOFISH.COM)

# SPORTS

## Lady Gators run streak to seven

Star Staff Report

The Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School softball team ran its winning streak to seven games Tuesday with a lopsided 18-2 win over Port St. Joe.

Brianna Bailey started and tossed three no-hit innings, striking out eight, to earn the win.

The Lady Gators (13-4 overall, 7-0 in District 4-1A) scored eight runs in the seventh inning.

Following walks to Bailey, Savannah Lister and Aleah Wooten, Gracie Price tripled, Anna Setterich singled and Cyrina Madrid had an RBI fielder's choice.

Brooke Zinker started in the circle for Port St. Joe and went six innings, allowing five hits and 11 runs while striking out seven.

Georgia Lee tossed an inning in relief.

The Lady Gators had eight hits, Price going 3 for 5 with two triples, a double and driving in four to lead the way.

Bailey homered, had a sacrifice fly and also drove in four runs.

Kristen Thompson singled, doubled and scored twice and Madrid scored four runs and drove in three.

Hannah Lee had a double and drove in two runs for Port St.

Joe; Zinker also doubled.

### Wewahitchka 15, Vernon 0

The Lady Gators scored 10 runs in the first inning and added four more in the second while rolling to three-inning home victory after the game was called on the run-rule.

Bailey picked up the win with three innings of shutout pitching.

Madrid had two hits, scored twice and drove in two and Setterich drove in a three runs on one hit and scored twice to pace the Wewahitchka offense.

Bailey and Price each

doubled, both scoring and driving in a run, Haley Guffey singled and scored twice and Katie Shealy singled, scored and drove in a run.

Wooten walked three times and scored twice and Angela Long and Kristen Nichols each walked and scored.

### Wewahitchka 3, Wakulla 1

Bailey tossed a three-hitter, allowing a single unearned run, as the Lady Gators extended their winning streak to six.

Bailey struck out 14 and walked one while going the distance.

Wakulla took the early lead, scoring on an error in the second innings.

But Wewahitchka bounced back with two in the third inning, Wooten singling in one run and Madrid laying down a sacrifice bunt to drive in the second run.

The Lady Gators collected eight hits, Wooten going 3 for 4 to lead the offense.

Long added a pair of singles, Madrid singled, drove in two runs and stole a base and Lister and Price each contributed a single, Lister scoring.

Shealy reached twice on errors, eventually scoring both times.

## Parker named Class 1A coach of the year

Star Staff Report

Kenny Parker, coach of the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School girls basketball team, was named state Class 1A Coach of the Year last week by the Florida Association of basketball coaches.

Parker led the Lady Tiger Sharks to a 28-3 record, the only Class 1A loss all season to Wildwood in the state title game.

It was the second time in three years Port St. Joe reached the state final four; the Lady Tiger Sharks have reached the final eight in each of those three seasons.

The coaches of the year in each classification:

Dewrie Buggs from City of Life (Class 2A), Chris Cenicola from Orlando Christian Prep (3A), Shannon Wallhoff from Westminster Academy (4A), Tracy Wolfe of Oxbridge Academy (5A), Greg Farias from American Heritage Plantation (6A), Don Brown from Choctawhatchee (7A), Jason Hively from Nova (Class 8A) and Kelvin Hamm of Spruce Creek (9A).

The FABC honors in Class 1A on the boys side also went to a Panhandle coach, Brent Zessin, who led Blountstown to the state Class 1A title game.

The FABC has a policy that a coach can only win the Coach of the Year award once in every three year period in order to honor more coaches in the profession, whether winners of state titles or not.

"There are a lot of success stories each year that don't get recognition or they go unnoticed," said Jim Haley, executive director of the FABC and boys coach at Ocala Vanguard for 36 years before retiring.

The FABC's founder was Ed Kershner, Florida's winning boys hoops coach with over 900 wins.

## WHS's Parker signs with Chipola



Star Staff Report

Naomi Parker will miss her senior season of softball at Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School, but a torn knee ligament didn't stop her from securing her future.

Parker signed a scholarship to attend and play at

Chipola Junior College last week.

Parker, having played a little of everything at Wewahitchka, including outfield, pitcher and catcher, while earning first-team Class 1A all-state honors as a junior and senior.

As junior last year, Parker batted .309 with five home runs, six doubles, 27 RBI, second in the team, and 11 stolen bases in 13 attempts.

She had a combined on-base and slugging percentage over .950.

Parker was headed toward the softball season

with the hope of helping the Lady Gators to their third-straight state 20-win season and a third consecutive trip to the Class 1A final four.

But a torn ACL ligament during volleyball season ended her scholastic athletic career a tad early.

## Lady Tiger Sharks Win One, Lose One

Special to The Star

The Lady Sharks traveled to Cottondale last Tuesday taking a win 6-2. Brooke Zinker picked up the win pitching seven innings, giving up six hits, two runs (two earned), striking out seven and walking one.

Leading hitters were

Brook Quinn with three, Erica Ramsey with two, Brooke Zinker, Hannah Lee, Claudia Alcorn and Kali Austerman with a hit each.

Thursday the Lady Sharks traveled to Franklin County taking the loss 10-1.

Brooke Zinker and Georgia Lee combined

the pitching for the Lady Sharks. Brooke pitched five innings, giving up six hits, giving up eight runs (four earned), striking out seven and walking seven. Georgia Lee pitched one inning, giving up one hit, two runs (earned), striking out two and walking two.

Leading hitters for the Lady Sharks were Hannah

Lee (two hits), Georgia Lee, Erica Ramsey, Kali Austerman and Claudia Alcorn had one hit each.

Next week the Lady Sharks play Vernon on Monday, Liberty County on Tuesday, Bay High on Wednesday and Franklin County on Thursday. All games will be played at home.

## Young PSJ track squad shines at Ram Relays

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School girls won the team title and Antwan Jackson, just a seventh-grader, won the boys shot put and discus during last Saturday's Rutherford Ram Relays.

The meet was held at Mike Gavlak Stadium at Panama City Beach Arnold.

Shamario Cole, one of just two seniors on the PSJHS track teams, won the 1,600 meters to provide the top individual performance among the Lady Tiger Sharks, who also took three of the top four spots in the pole vault and four of the top seven spots in the shot put.

Cole won the 1,600 in front of Emily Lacour, who finished third, and Zoe Gerlach, who was fourth;

Lacour and Gerlach are sophomores. Ashton Amison, a seventh-grader, finished seventh.

Jackson was the standout among the Tiger Sharks, throwing the discus over 117 feet and the shot 40-feet-10 inches.

Sophomore Zach McFarland was third in the 1,600 meters with Tanner Amison, another sophomore, eighth. Bladen Levins, also just a seventh-grader, was third in the pole vault and Philip Riley, a ninth-grader, was eighth in the shot put and 10th in the discus.

Among the Lady Tiger Sharks, sophomore Jade Cothran finished third in the 100-meter and 300-meter hurdles; Kristen Bouington (eighth-grader) was fifth and Sam Corzine (sophomore) sixth in the 300 hurdles.

In the field events, eighth-grader Lily Wockenfuss was second in the pole vault and fourth in the high jump.

Along with Wockenfuss, London White (eighth-grader) was third and Bouington fourth in the pole vault.

Celeste Chiles, the other PSJ senior, was second in the shot put and sixth in the discus.

Joining Chiles in the shot put, TeTe Croom, a sophomore, took fourth, Tori Fountain, a junior, was sixth and Kaitlyn Stockton, a sophomore, was 10th.

In the discus, Croom was seventh, Fountain eighth and Stockton 11th.

Port St. Joe's Jae Lenox, a seventh-grader, finished second in the long jump with Cole taking third and Madelyn Gortemoller, an eighth-grader, taking 10th.

## Dixie Youth night at the ballpark on Friday

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Dixie Youth baseball and softball teams will be recognized between games Friday night at Centennial Field, home of the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School baseball team.

Dixie Youth players are encouraged to wear their uniforms and there will be free admission for all players.

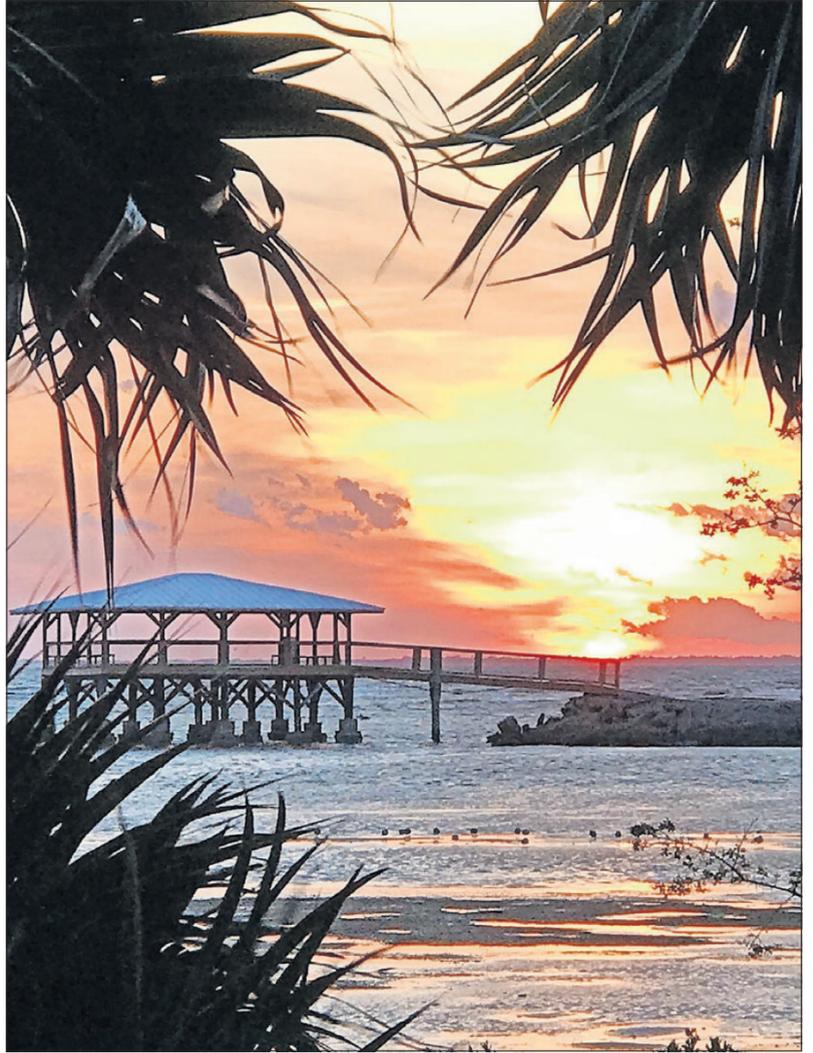
Coaches and parents are also encouraged to come out and enjoy a night of baseball.

Dixie Youth players will be introduced between the Tiger Shark junior varsity and varsity games; players should be at the ballpark by 5:30 p.m. ET.

# SCENE AROUND



**Taken on the beach on Cape San Blas. Might want to offer a wide berth – just saying.**  
[COURTESY OF JACKIE WRIGHT]



**Unforgettable sunsets for our guests** [COURTESY OF CAROL AND PHIL DOHMEN]



**Osprey in flight** [COURTESY OF DEBORAH MAYES]



**A backyard neighbor** [COURTESY OF RON RUDOLPH]



**Sunset at Beacon Hill** [COURTESY OF LIZZY ABSHER]



**A glowing orange end to the day** [COURTESY OF HUNTER HAWTHORNE]



**A deer in a Mexico Beach backyard** [COURTESY OF BECKY BLOCK]

Send us your photos that spotlight the best that Gulf Coast has to offer. This page is for photos submitted to The Star by readers. Please submit your photos to [tcroft@starfl.com](mailto:tcroft@starfl.com).

# COMMUNITY

## Member Show puts local artists on display

By **Tim Croft**

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

When the volunteers at the Joe Center for the Arts decided to hold a Member Show a goal was to build the membership base for the fledgling organization.

The breadth and depth of the talent that would come forward to display their work in the space at 201 Reid Ave. was a most significant side benefit.

"We are really impressed with the quality of the local talent," said Cheryl Ploegstra. "Given that there was just three weeks from the call out to the show, the quality is really amazing."

"Next year we should have twice as many artists."

By the time of the exhibit opening last Saturday, 30



The multi-dimensional Member Show provided an exhibit in a variety of mediums, including bones and acrylics [TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

artists, from Apalachicola to Mexico Beach, had their work, from ceramics to weaving to oil and acrylic paintings to photography, jewelry and pottery, on display.

"Opening it up to multi-dimensional art really opened up the show," Ploegstra said. "We have artists from all along this portion of the Forgotten Coast."

Last Saturday, more than 120 people attended the opening.

"This is a great open space and you put 100 people in here and it really comes alive," Ploegstra said. "Each of the openings we've had the turnout has been more than we could have expected."

Those attending the opening were asked to vote for their

favorite works, with the night ending with the awarding of "The Joe's People Choice Award."

Elizabeth (Libby) Newman of St. Joe Beach, won the award for her acrylic painting "Follow."

"I was amazed that my work was selected ... out of the huge variety of fantastic artwork on display," Newman said. "We are really fortunate to have this new venue for the arts in Port St. Joe."

Newman is also emblematic of one impressive segment of the artists who work is in the Member Show; possessing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Drawing and Painting from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Another artist is a former professor of the arts from the Colorado.

See **ARTIST, B6**



**Pinwheels for Prevention**  
[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

## Local health officials thinking in pinwheels

By **Tim Croft**

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

One of the most over-used cliché just happens to be, maybe, one of the most consequential.

Exhausted to the point of numbness or not, it does, health officials emphasize this month, take a village.

Particularly in those first critical years of a young life.

This month, April, also happens to be Child Abuse Prevention Month and again this year the Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf has partnered with Prevent Child Abuse Florida to consider that theoretical village through the prism of a pinwheel.

A pinwheel connotes whimsy and childlike notions, according to Prevent Child Abuse America, and has come to serve as the physical embodiment, or reminder, of the great childhoods desired for all children.

That, of course, fits the campaign's central goal: fostering "great childhoods."

"Working with our community partners, we are actively engaged in activities to strengthen families and neighborhoods to provide the optimal environment for healthy child development," said Marsha Lindeman, Administrator for the Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf.

"We are proud to participate in the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign to promote great childhoods."

Pinwheels, adopted as the national symbol of child abuse prevention in 2008 by Prevent Child Abuse America, aims to remind that everybody plays a role in the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

The pinwheel is a reminder of the safe, happy and healthy childhoods all children deserve, according to Prevent Child Abuse Florida.

Throughout April, volunteers nationwide, and in Gulf County, plant pinwheel gardens in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Since 2008, the campaign has distributed more than four million pinwheels nationwide.

"You will see Pinwheels for Prevention gardens around our communities this month to promote the #GreatChildhoods-Prevent Child Abuse

See **HEALTH, B6**

## Wildfire scorches 8,080 acres

By **Tim Croft**

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

The weather played a significant part in the growth and eventual containment of a wildfire that scorched more than 8,000 acres of Deseret Cattle of North Florida land in Gulf County.

No homes or structures were ever threatened, according to officials with the Florida Forestry Service's Chipola District.

The fire was the second-largest of some four dozen active wildfires across the state last week. As of the first of this week, it was more than 80 percent contained.

The fire began near the intersection of County Road 71 and County Road 386 south of Wewahitchka and eventually raged to near the work center in White City.

All the acreage involved is owned by Deseret Cattle.

The fire began Tuesday and built steadily into Wednesday when winds gusting over 20 mph stoked the flames and the fire grew from a few hundred acres to nearly 8,000 in just over 24 hours.

By last Wednesday afternoon, with the fire still spreading, Gulf County Emergency Management issued a warning regarding those living within heavy smoke areas or with respiratory problems.

The smell of pine burning wafted over Port St. Joe.

Smoke on the north end of the county was pronounced, though no public roads were closed during the event.

Smoky, hazy conditions were reported as far west as Lynn Haven and Panama City.

At one juncture, more than 60 air and ground vehicles were working the fire.

See **FIRE, B5**



Florida Forest Service bulldozers helped keep a wildfire under control in Gulf County. [CONTRIBUTED]



A wildfire in Gulf County was 75 percent contained by Friday afternoon. [CONTRIBUTED]

### TRIVIA FUN



**Wilson Casey**

"Trivia Fun" with Wilson Casey, Guinness World Record Holder from Woodruff, S.C., is published in more than 500 newspapers across the country. Comments, questions or suggestions? WC@TriviaGuy.com

**1. Who uses the red shield as its recognized symbol of service?**

United Way, Goodwill, Salvation Army, Peace Corps

**2. Which alcoholic drink is obtained by mixing gin and vermouth?**

Screwdriver, Martini, Whiskey Sour, Tom Collins

**3. What's the maiden name of**

**"Blondie" Bumstead in the comic strip?**

Boopadoop, Bloomfield, Buttercup, Bogart

**4. An ailurophile loves them, but what do ailurophobes hate?**

Monkeys, Cats, Children, Dogs

**5. Which state has a cactus as its state flower?**

New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Oklahoma

**6. Katmandu is what country's national capital?**

Tibet, Pakistan, Nepal, Laos

ANSWERS: 1. Salvation Army, 2. Martini, 3. Boopadoop, 4. Cats, 5. Arizona, 6. Nepal

**SOCIETY**

# DAR NEWS

Special to The Star

The St. Joseph Bay Chapter of NSDAR donated Easter Goodies from the Members to Veterans at Sims Veterans' Home.

Pictured are St. Joseph Bay Members Fran Walters and Carolyn Forehand with Ginny O'Hare, Sims Activity Director in the center.



[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

## Senior services available locally

Special to The Star

### Services available for caregivers

Funds are currently available to provide respite services to caregivers of persons 18+ who have memory-loss related to Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia.

The caregiver must provide care on a regular

basis to qualify.

This program is provided under the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative program.

### Service available for elders 60 and up

Funds are currently available to provide a variety of services to persons 60 and above who live with a caregiver and need assistance with

self-care, nutrition and/or homemaking activities because of chronic health conditions or other problems of aging. This program is provided under the Home Care for the Elderly Program. A small stipend for the caregiver is part of the benefit. Income and asset restrictions apply.

Funds are currently available to provide a variety of services to

persons 60 and above who need assistance with self-care, nutrition and/or homemaking activities because of chronic health conditions or other problems of aging. There are no income restrictions, but co-pay based on income may be required.

This program is provided under the Community Care for the Elderly.



[SPECIAL TO THE STAR PHOTOS]

## JSL Easter Egg hunt a success

Star Staff Report

More than 150 youngsters came out to search for eggs, meet the Easter bunny and has a good time during last Saturday's Easter Egg Hunt at George Core Park, sponsored by the Port St. Joe Junior Service League. The JSL thanks the NHS Students and their teacher, Pat Hendricks as well as Andrea de la Vega for volunteering and for their support of the event.

## No excuse for child abuse

### Teach children to protect themselves

Special to The Star

Violence in the home and in relationships is rampant. It's in our neighborhoods, local, state, and national news. We don't need statistics to tell us that.

What we do need is a mindset – a resolve – to break the cycle. We know that those who are abused as children and/or witness abuse to other family members often grow up to repeat the pattern. Sometimes violence is believed to be the normal way to handle situations. Sometimes the adult is so emotionally hurt by the childhood experiences that the hurt rules all emotions.

April is Child Abuse Awareness month. The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GWFC) has child abuse as one of the major components of their domestic violence umbrella.

The GWFC Wewahitchka Women's Club is focusing on child abuse in April as part of its "The law is on your side" campaign. We all know that reporting abuse is critical to stopping it. Local law enforcement and the FL Abuse Hotline

at 1-800-962-2873 stand ready 24/7 to assist in child abuse reports.

Also a way to fight abuse is to see that our children have and know the following:

1. To have trusted adults they can talk to about anything.

2. To know that their bodies are their own and that they should tell a trusted adult if anyone tried to touch them or make them feel uncomfortable in any way.

3. To know the difference between a safe secret – like a surprise party that everyone will know about soon and be happy about – and a bad secret they are warned not to tell anyone.

Child abuse is an uncomfortable top to discuss. However, weight the discomfort against the (possible) lifelong damage that can be done if children do not know how to protect themselves from a predator.

It is always smart to get help/advice from professionals at any time – school counselors, pediatricians, social workers, etc. Together we can take steps to break the cycle of child abuse.

## DAR monthly meeting

Special to The Star

St. Joseph Bay Chapter of NSDAR held their meeting March 28 in the Sunset Coastal Grill with 18 members present including new members, Linda Shepherd and Mazie Scoggins. Two guests were present; Carolyn Mohr, an Indiana DAR Member and Rodney Herring, a local Veteran.

Mr. Herring spoke on a local Gulf County Project, the Salute to Veterans of all Services. A Monument

will be built at Beacon Hill with donations of Memory Bricks for the Honor Walk. Members decided to help by selling cookbooks with profits given to the Project and donating toward the Honor Bricks.

Fran Walters, Treasurer, presented a program on her DAR Ancestry. Easter candy was collected for the Veterans at Sims Veterans' Nursing Home.

The next meeting will be April 25.

## PSJ Garden Club news

Special to The Star

Do you want to know more about gardening? The Port St. Joe Garden Club will meet Thursday, April 12, at the Garden Center on Eighth St, at 12 p.m. ET. After lunch, The Master Gardeners of Gulf County will describe the Master Gardener Program as well as explain gardening in our panhandle and answer questions.

The club will also be preparing for our fabulous annual plant sale on

April 14. On June 9, the Port St Joe Garden Club will be holding a flower show, "By the Sea . . .By the Sea."

Anyone interested in joining the illustrious Port St. Joe Garden Club or attending a meeting may leave a message on the Port St. Joe Garden Club Facebook page. The Port St. Joe Garden Club's Garden Center is on both national and state historical site lists and available for rental.

## Illegal immigration explored at Lifetree Café

Special to The Star

Growing controversy and national division surrounding immigration policy will be discussed 7 p.m. CT Monday, April 9 at Lifetree Café.

The program, titled "In the News: Illegal Immigration," – provides an opportunity for participants to discuss the recent controversy surrounding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival program, or DACA for short.

"There's no shortage of opinions surrounding the issue of illegal immigration," said Lifetree Café director Craig Cable. "This is an hour dedicated to understanding the issue, respectfully sharing thoughts and

opinions, and even hearing from someone directly affected by DACA."

During the program, participants will have an opportunity to share their ideas to fix our nation's immigration policy.

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Snacks and beverages are available. Lifetree Café is located at 1602 U.S. Highway 98 in Mexico Beach across from El Governor Motel.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting. Questions about Lifetree may be directed to Garry Grubb at 334-806-5667 or livingwater@livingwateratthebeach.com

**PET OF THE WEEK**  
St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Meet Jane, a female domestic short haired torti. She is around 8 months old and has a huge personality. She is already spayed, fully vaccinated and litter box trained. She is playful and loving. Jane loves to climb, and sunbathe outside. Come by and visit her today, she is waiting to meet her new family!

If you are unable to adopt at this time, perhaps you could foster or make a Donation. All pets adopted from SJBHS will be current on vaccinations and spayed/neutered. Please do not hesitate to email j.stricklandsjbhs@gmail.com or call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103. Online applications and pet photos are available at www.sjbhumane.org

**SEA & SOUL**  
GIFTS COLLECTIBLES JEWELRY ORIGINAL ART ART SUPPLIES PAINTING PARTIES  
NOW OPEN AT 106 REID  
Home of Mermaid's Canvas Painting Parties!

Where birds of a feather shop together!

SPRING STEP L'ARTISTE  
NAOT  
VIONIC ORTHAHEEL TECHNOLOGY

**Egret & Ibis**  
408 Reid Ave. Port St. Joe  
Monday - Saturday  
10:30 - 6 (Eastern)

## SCHOOL NEWS

# District partners for STEM summer challenge

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

Gulf District Schools has a new challenge for students who will be high school freshmen or sophomores come fall.

Try a hand at unmanned drones. The district, in partnership with Gulf Coast State College, the Panhandle Area Education Consortium and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, will offer a STEM Summer Challenge in unmanned systems in June.

The three-day Summer Challenge will be open to approximately 60 Gulf and Franklin county students June 5-7, with each session held 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. CT daily.

The college and Embry-Riddle will provide the faculty while district teachers will be supervising and the district will provide transportation.

There is no cost to students to attend the Summer Challenge.

"This is an important opportunity for our students because unmanned or autonomous systems are gaining in sophistication, use is expanding and the demand for new systems and operators is growing," detailed a news release from PAEC. "Annually, the potential financial impact totals in the billions of dollars across military, commercial, personal and technology sectors."



Gulf District Schools, PAEC, Gulf Coast State College and Embry-Riddle will partner on a summer camp to learn about drones [FILE PHOTO]

In short strokes, unmanned systems can go where humans can not and perform in a more timely and efficient manner.

Employing cameras, sensors and computing capabilities, unmanned systems sense and navigate challenging terrain and provide information to allow human operators to understand the

environment and put in action processes to achieve a variety of missions, from examining farm crops to innovative shots for movies, mapping areas and getting closer to the action for more accurate news reports.

"Unmanned systems are also making their way onto roadways and in use to deliver packages,

inspect bridges and oil platforms, for search and rescue missions, to monitor drug trafficking across borders, to conduct weather and environmental research, in disaster relief, firefighting and by the military," according to the PAEC news release.

Another example noted: the 1,218 drones that presented a light show as part

of the opening ceremonies of the 2018 Winter Olympics.

The event set a Guinness World Record for the most unmanned aerial vehicles airborne at the same time.

Superintendent of Gulf County Schools Jim Norton encouraged students with a STEM (Science, Technology,

Engineering, Mathematics) aptitude to take advantage of the Summer Challenge as an "excellent, fun summer learning opportunity."

Registration forms for the Summer Challenge are available from Lana Harrison at Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School and Kim McFarland at Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School.

## PSJ's Peacock wins state DAR history contest

Special to The Star

Christian Peacock, a seventh-grade student at Faith Christian School, won the Florida State DAR American history contest for the seventh-grade level.

Christian, his mother, Heather Peacock and his older brother, Justice, attended the state conference in Orlando on March 17. Christian was awarded the state honor by the State Regent of Florida, Dawn Lemongello, and American History State Chairman, Annelie Blanchett (Tallahassee - Caroline Brevard DAR chapter).

As well as the Award, each level (fifth-, sixth-, seventh-grade) winners were gifted with a \$250



Left to right- Annelie Blanchett, Dawn Lemongello, Christian Peacock, Heather Peacock, Justice Peacock, Sherrill Russ [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

check and each report has been forwarded to NSDAR headquarters in Washington, DC for entrance to the national American History contest.

The National DAR conference will be held the week of June 17-24 in Washington, DC at the

headquarters located one block south of the White House.

The DAR purchased one block of land in Washington in 1895 and built their headquarters there, which is now some of the most valuable property in the United States.

## S.O.A.R. students at PSJES



S.O.A.R. students for the week of March 30 at Port St. Joe Elementary School. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

— we are —

# FLORIDA STATE

FSU Panama City

*Small campus. Major university.*

pc.fsu.edu

**66%**

**OF \$10 MILLION CAMPAIGN GOAL**

FSU Panama City is poised and ready to prepare today's students for tomorrow's careers. We invite you to help our community's students pursue a nationally recognized FSU degree by supporting the *Campaign for Our Community's University*. Gifts to the campaign support student scholarships, enhance and expand academic programs, improve community outreach, and provide equipment and technology. For more information, contact Mary Beth Lovingood, Director of Development, at (850) 770-2108 or mblingood@pc.fsu.edu.

**FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
PANAMA CITY

# FAITH

**COMFORTER FUNERAL HOME**  
 W. P. "Rocky" Comforter  
 L.F.D.  
 (850) 227-1818

## WILLIE F. NOBLE, JR.

Willie F. Noble, Jr., known as "Joon Bug", had a love for his family and friends as strong and deep as the rivers he loved fishing in. He loved sunny days around the house with family and friends. He rejoiced in the sound of childrens' laughter. Now he's doing what he loves best ... Joons' Gone Fishing!



Franklin Rardin and Daryl Walls; three beloved grandchildren, Jeremiah Rardin, Alexander Walls and Angelica Walls; his endearing mother, Dorothy Noble three brothers, Edward Noble "Hogie", Johnny Noble, and Toni Noble; with an infinite number of nieces nephews cousins and friends, all from Wewahitchka, FL, and surrounding areas.

With his pole in hand, he joins his father, Willie Noble, Sr., two sisters, Brenda Noble and Emma Noble and brother Curtis Noble for the ultimate fishing trip.

Standing on the riverbank, he leaves behind his devoted wife Sherrie Noble; three loving sons, Steven Rardin,

## RODNEY ALLEN MCGEE, JR.

Rodney Allen McGee, Jr., affectionately known as "RJ" but also known as "Kobe" by his grandmother, Donna, was born June 23, 1987 to Lisa Annette McGee-Mann and Rodney Allen McGee, Sr., in Panama City, Florida.

RJ's primary years were spent in Port St. Joe, Florida where he attended and completed Port Saint Joe High School in 2005. At an early age, Rodney joined and became a faithful member of Zion Fair Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Alonzo Moore where he was an usher, a devotional leader and a member of the choir.

RJ was currently employed at Rosewood/Pruitt Healthcare of Macon as CAN Restorative Aide. He received his certification in massage therapy in 2006 at American Professional Institute. He also trained at Center Florida Georgia Tech for

his current work position in 2009 as a Certified Nursing Assistant. He was currently pursuing his coaching certification.

He was a lover of sports. He had two favorite teams, the Dallas Cowboys and Los Angeles Lakers. RJ was well known as "Coach RJ" at the Rosa Jackson Center where he coached all ages from 2005-2018 until his untimely death. His teams maintained an undefeated title during his career at Rosa Jackson.

He is preceded in death by Alice and George Davis, Albert Salter, Sr., Andrew Salter, Sr., Corinne Edwards; grandmother, Ethel Griffin; an aunt, Sandra Griffin; an uncle, Michael Bowman McGee; belated grandfathers, James McGee, Sr. and Hubert Thomas.

RJ is survived by five children, Jianna Beachum of Orlando, Florida, Kyla McGee, Amiyah Jordan, R'Jay McGee and Anyala McGee, all of Macon,

Georgia; mother, Lisa McGee (Greg) Mann of Macon, Georgia; father, Rodney Allen (Connie) McGee of Port St. Joe, Florida; grandmothers, Donna Pearson of Apalachicola, Florida, Edith Griffin (Jonathan) Best of Port St. Joe, Florida; grandfather, Levon Pearson of Panama City, Florida; great-great aunt, Effie Green of West Palm Beach, Florida; great uncles, George "Buddy Love" (Marzetta) Davis, Loilyn Davis, both of Apalachicola, Florida, Coleman Griffin of Port St. Joe, Florida; great aunts, Penny (Charles) Reddick of Panama City, Florida, Sylvia Griffin Betts of Fort Pierce, Florida; uncles, Albert Salter, Jr. of Apalachicola, Florida, Felix (Nicki) Salter, Sr. of Fort Mitchell, Alabama, Charles Byrd, Ervin Byrd both of Port St. Joe, Florida, LaWayne (Tabitha) Salter, Alvin Salter both

of Tallahassee, Florida, Calvin (Nikki) Pryor of Port St. Joe, Florida, James A. (Jeanette) McGee, Jr. of Clearwater, Florida, Danny L. (Michelle) McGee of Port St. Joe, Florida, Reverend Dante' (Toni) McGee of Panama City, Florida, Douie (Christina) McGee of Tampa, Florida and Andre (Arica) McGee of Gainesville, Florida; aunts, Alice Salter, Tori Salter, Tracy Salter all of West Palm Beach, Florida, Linda Faye McGee-Ceason of Tallahassee, Florida, Bridget McGee (Craig) Collins of Port St. Joe, Florida and Tammy McGee (W. Clyde) Gray of Port St. Joe, Florida; nieces, Alisa Robinson, T'Lisa Williams, Kamora Harris; nephews, Jacori McCullough, Tavant Williams, Te'Anthony Williams, Ahmari Robinson and Adrian Robinson. RJ leaves to cherish his memories a host of other family and friends.

## BESS FAMILY CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Cleo J. Bess acknowledges with heartfelt appreciation the many expressions of kindness and prayers during our time of grief and sorrow.

Our family appreciates all of the love and support you have shown. Many blessings to each of you.

The family of Cleo J. Bess

## LIVE FOR THE BLESSING

Jesus promised complete joy, If only we obey. This is the reason for much unhappiness That's in the world today. We hear and read, But we don't heed.

Self get in the way too much. Like fishing, or sleeping in on Sunday and such. Too many things we never do, Knowing all the while God wants us to.

Like telling the lost what Jesus can do, Because He's already done it for you. Don't be selfish and show your greed. Help someone you know is in need. To be productive as

Jesus would have us be. We need to think more of others and less of me. When you can live like this, God is surely going to bless.

Billy Johnson

**St. Peter's Anglican Church**  
 "An Unchanging Faith In A Changing World"  
**Morning Prayer & Holy Communion**  
 (Sunday 10 a.m.)  
**Bible Study**  
 (Wednesday 6 p.m.)  
 3449 Garrison Ave. The Reverend Lou Little  
 Port St. Joe, FL 32456 (850) 227-5242  
[www.StPetersAnglicanChurch-psj.com](http://www.StPetersAnglicanChurch-psj.com)

**First Baptist Church**  
 102 THIRD STREET • PORT ST. JOE  
 Dr. Boyd Evans Pastor  
 Buddy Caswell, Minister of Music & Education  
 Bobby Alexander, Minister to Students  
**New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church**  
**Sunday Morning Schedule**  
 Blended Worship with Choir/Praise Team...8:30 AM  
 Great Commission Sunday School...9:45 AM  
 Contemporary Worship w/Band...10:45 AM  
**Wednesday**  
 Dinner.....5:00 - 6:00 pm  
 AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm  
 Surrender Student Ministry...6:15 - 7:30 pm  
 Prayer/Bible Study.....6:15 - 7:30 pm  
 Nursery.....6:00 - 7:30 pm  
[www.fbcpsj.org](http://www.fbcpsj.org)

**First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach**  
 111 North 22nd Street • Mexico Beach, FL 32410  
**Sunday Worship Services:**  
 8:30 a.m. CST Traditional Worship  
 10:00 a.m. CST Contemporary Worship  
 Thursday - 6:30 p.m. CST Bible Study  
**Open Hearts. Open minds. Open doors.**  
 The people of Mexico Beach United Methodist Church  
 Nursery Provided  
 Rev. Jerry Arhelger, Pastor • Church/Office: (850)629-5683

**Oak Grove Church**  
 613 Madison Street PSJ, FL 32456 (850) 227-1837  
**Schedule of Worship Services**  
**Sunday**  
 Sunday School 9:00 AM  
 Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM  
**Wednesday**  
 Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 PM  
 Elective Adult Classes 6:00 PM  
 Children & Youth Ministry 6:00 PM  
 Nursery provided for all services

TO KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN  
 Come worship with us!  
 Rector Father Tommy Dwyer  
**ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 800 22ND STREET, PORT ST. JOE  
 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. (EST) • Sunday School 9:45  
[www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org](http://www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org)

**living water church at the beach**  
**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**  
 SUNDAY - 8:00 AM - Worship at Sunset Park (on the sand)  
 9:30 AM - Bible Study at 1602 Highway 98  
 MONDAY - 7:00 PM - Lifetree Café. Join the Conversation  
 WEDNESDAY - 10:00AM to 2:00 PM Open House  
 6:30 PM Bible Study and Mid week worship  
 Where Christ brings life to the Unforgettable Coast  
 1602 Hwy 98, Mexico Beach, FL  
 to contact Worship Leader call 850-705-1255 • [www.livingwateratthebeach.com](http://www.livingwateratthebeach.com)

**Beach Baptist Brotherhood Breakfast**  
 Beach Baptist will host a Brotherhood Breakfast 10 a.m. ET Saturday, April 14. As the weather is becoming warmer, please invite your friends to take a break from their yard work to attend a great breakfast and fellowship. Phil Densmore cooks up a hearty breakfast just for the men in our community. This fellowship is growing every month and the comments are that, "They really have a good time."

**Family Life Church**  
 A Spirit Filled Outreach Oriented Word of Faith Church  
 Pastors Andrew & Cathy Rutherford  
 Welcome you to worship with us:  
 Sunday 10:30am  
 Wednesday 6:30pm  
[www.familylifechurch.net](http://www.familylifechurch.net)  
 323 Reid Ave ~ Downtown Port St. Joe, FL ~ 850-229-5433

**First Presbyterian of Port St. Joe**  
 10 am ET • 508 16th St.  
**Rejoice!**  
 A welcoming, inclusive place of fellowship and worship.  
[fpcpsj.org](http://fpcpsj.org)

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE**  
 1001 Constitution Dr.  
 850.227.1724  
[www.psjumc.org](http://www.psjumc.org)  
**Sunday Schedule**  
 9:00AM EST Worship on the Water overlooking St. Joseph Bay with Special Children's Time  
 10:00AM EST Sunday School  
 11:00AM EST Sanctuary Service with Special Children's Time  
 Dr. Geoffrey Lentz Pastor  
 Ann Comforter Director of Music  
 Krystal Terry Director of Children's Ministries  
 Julie Hodges Director of Youth Ministries

**HIGHLAND VIEW BAPTIST**  
 The Church where the Sun Always Shines  
 Service Times  
 Sunday School.....9:45 am  
 Worship Service.....11:00 am  
 Discipleship Training.....5:00 pm  
 Evening Worship.....6:00 pm  
 Wednesday Night.....7:00 pm  
 382 Ling Street Port St. Joe, FL 32456 (850) 227-1306  
 Pastor Josh Fidler

**CARD OF THANKS - THE FAIRCLOTH FAMILY**  
 We wish to express our gratitude to all those who called, visited, sent flowers, and brought food during this very sad time. Special thanks to Franklin County Sheriff AJ Smith, Apalachicola Police Chief Bobby Varnes, their officers and staff, and the city of Apalachicola. Warren was a very special man who touched many lives. He will be missed by all.  
 Sincerely,  
 The Faircloth Family  
 Annada, Jessica, Sandra, Carla, Dylan, and Jake

**Long Avenue BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**  
**SUNDAY:**  
 Sunday School - 9:15  
 Morning Worship - 10:30  
 Evening Worship - 5:00  
**WEDNESDAY:**  
 Family Dinner - 5:30  
 Prayer Meeting - 6:30  
 Student Ministry - 6:30  
 Children's Ministry / Choir - 6:30  
 Adult Choir - 7:30  
 1601 Long Ave Port St Joe, FL 32456  
 (850) 229-8691

**FAITH BIBLE CHURCH**  
[www.faithbiblepsj.net](http://www.faithbiblepsj.net)  
 801 20th Street, Port St. Joe, FL. (850) 229-6707  
 9:15 a.m. ....Prayer service  
 9:45 a.m. ....Sunday school  
 10:30 a.m. ....Fellowship breakfast  
 11 a.m. ....Worship service  
**Home of Faith Christian School**  
[www.faithchristianpsj.net](http://www.faithchristianpsj.net)

**First Church of the Nazarene**  
 "Our Church can be your home"  
 2420 Long Avenue • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456  
 (850) 229-9596  
 Give unto the Lord the glory due His name, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.  
 Psalm 29:2  
 Sunday School.....10 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship .....6 p.m.  
 Sunday Morning Worship .....11 a.m. Wednesday Evening Service .....6 p.m.

**CHURCH of CHRIST**  
 PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA  
 Located on the corner of Marvin Ave. and 20th Street  
**All are welcome!**  
 Worship with us on Sunday mornings at 9am EST  
 Mailing Address:  
 P.O. Box 758  
 Port St. Joe, FL 32457  
 Email: [psjchurchchrist@aol.com](mailto:psjchurchchrist@aol.com)  
 Website: [www.churchofchristpsj.com](http://www.churchofchristpsj.com) (850)229-8310



Firefighters hold an Easter Service Sunday at the scene of the Gulf County wildfire. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]

# FIRE

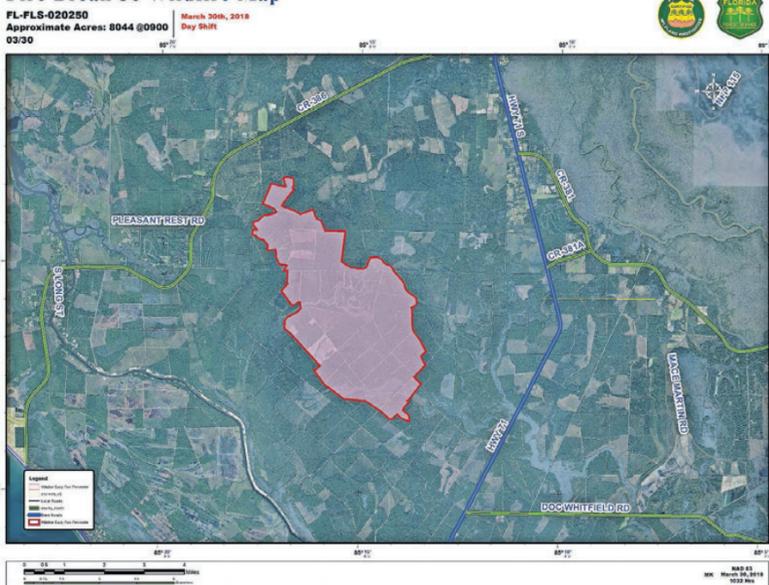
From Page B1

By last Friday morning, however, rain beginning Thursday night and ultimately totally nearly an inch, assisted in containing the fire. By noon last Friday, the fire was 75 percent contained, according to Hannah Bowers, public information officer for the Chipola district. "The weather, especially with this rain, has really benefited us," Bowers said.

The wildfire is expected to continue to smolder for a time and the smell remained evident even in the south end of the county as a new week arrived.

"We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for the tireless work of the Florida Forest

## Fire Break 56 Wildfire Map



This map shows the location of an 8,000-acre wildfire in Gulf County. [CONTRIBUTED]

Service's wildland firefighters in containing the Fire Break 56 Wildfire," said

Michael Archibald, general manager of Deseret Cattle & Timber in a news release.

"The extra-mile efforts, combined with tremendous cooperation by local

firefighters, first responders and neighboring landowners, were indispensable in bringing this fire under control." The origin of the fire was unknown at press time. And it was hardly the only wildfire the Florida Forestry Service was

battling last week. Last Thursday there were 37 active wildfires in the state, down from 55 on Tuesday, which had consumed nearly 33,000 acres; the largest was in Collier County and had raged over more than 16,000 acres.

*Have it all,  
right in your own backyard!*



**Private** 1,300-foot boardwalk & kayak launch

**Bay front lots** (75' x 150') & secluded homesites in The Village

**Located** just 5 minutes from historic downtown Port St. Joe

**Developer Info:**

David Warriner, 850-227-1111

**Residential Sales:**

Tommy Lake, 850-227-8388

shallowreed.com

**Shallow  
Reed** on the BAY



NF-1186201

# Real Estate Picks

Best Values on the Forgotten Coast

**CAPE SAN BLAS, FL • MLS 260465 • \$949,900**

**GULF FRONT**

6 bedroom 5 bath Gulf Front home on the north cape that is fully furnished and appointed. Enjoy year round westerly sunsets overlooking beautiful emerald blue waters in a private 3 home subdivision setting. Brick paved and nicely landscaped long driveway entrance that meanders to the entrance of the home. Three bedrooms on ground level, one bedroom kitchen and living on second level, and 2 bedrooms on the 3rd level. Beautifully landscaped yard between the home and the dune line that is perfect for relaxing or having an afternoon Bar-B-Q. This 6 bedroom 5 bath home will have excellent rental potential. See our virtual tour for more visual details of this exquisite gulf front home.

Jay Rish, Broker  
Gulf Coast Real Estate Group, LLC  
850-227-5569  
jay@floridagulfcoast.com

**Gulf Coast REAL ESTATE GROUP**

**MLS 261475 • 108 29th St. S • Mexico Beach, FL • \$1,395,000**

Beautiful Gulf Front home tucked away in a quiet area away from Hwy 98. This Gulf Front home has panoramic views of the Gulf, beaches and sunsets. The open floor plan with 2,566 sq. ft. of living space will be a great investment and family property. Sun lovers will enjoy this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, tastefully appointed home directly on the sugar white beaches of the Gulf of Mexico. This home has a recently renovated kitchen with stainless steel appliances and stand alone ice maker. The home is situated on an extra large lot that provides plenty of room for parking and construction of a pool. The large gulf front porch area is excellent for entertaining guests and relaxing in the shade while watching the dolphins and sea turtles play in your back yard!

Contact **TOMMY LAKE** with Cape San Blas Realty  
850-227-8388 • TLake@CapeSanBlasRealty.com

**Cape San Blas Realty, Inc.**

**MLS: 261521 • Port St. Joe • \$235,000**

Attractive 3 bedroom/2 bath home with plenty of living space located in a family-oriented neighborhood close to ballparks, playgrounds and schools. The home rests on an over-sized city lot right in the heart of Port St. Joe! The home's spacious design allows for an over-sized laundry room, large Florida/Family Room with wood burning fireplace, open kitchen and an expansive carport. Don't miss the opportunity to make this house your home - a find like this won't last long! Call today to schedule a showing.

**Coastal Realty Group** **VICTOR RAMOS**  
Cell: 850.340.1216  
Office: 850.227.7777  
www.gulfcoastalproperties.com

**Coastal Realty Group**

**THE SALES LEADER FOR GULF COUNTY**

This spot is reserved for your home!

**SOLD!**

www.gulfcoastalproperties.com

**MLS 260364 • Windy Lane • \$1,250,000**

**GULF FRONT**

This custom built 4BR/4.5BA home sits on the highest bluff around overlooking sugar sands and emerald water. The outside has an oversized 41x18 pool with an in pool sun deck, electronic pool cover, Osmosis System with low chlorine use with cool crete brick pavers. After a beach day, you have a grill and dining area to enjoy by the pool. Of course, there's an outside shower and large storage area for all the beach toys to be kept. All decking is TEK Deck. Inside is very well kept and maintained with tile floor in living and kitchen, wood stair casing and carpeted BR. Large screened porch with heavy duty commercial furniture that doesn't rust. There's just too much to list and nothing that hasn't been thought of with this one.

**Carol Anderson, Realtor**  
Cape San Blas Realty  
850-227-4252  
carol@mustseemagazine.com

With over 73,000 pages views monthly our website is a great place for your ad, linking our viewers to your website!

**Contact Robin (850) 227-7847**

WHAT SOUTHERN FOLKS EAT

# Simplicity, Inspiration, and Buttermilk Pie



Stephanie Hill-Frazier

*"Sometimes, the simple things are more fun and meaningful than all the banquets in the world ..."*

— E.A. Bucchianeri

Sometimes a short get-away helps one get hectic, harried thoughts to settle down, helping to relax the body and settle the soul once again. Stepping away from the world of long workdays, continuous talk of politics, and other daily concerns helps us to regroup, and to remember who we are and what we believe truly important.

For me, the best place to do that is on the shores of the Gulf Coast, and many of you may feel the same way. There is something so calming about the waves, the sand beneath the feet, and the salty breeze that helps a person to calm down and refocus. But sometimes, seeing something new is helpful, too, and can serve to bring about all sorts of new inspiration and ideas, as well as a new sense of calm.

I found that sort of inspiration last weekend in a little Texas town called Round Top, population 90. This little town is located in Central Texas, not far from Brenham, where Blue Bell ice cream is headquartered, and just about an



Buttermilk Pie with chocolate chips and pecans [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

hour and a half drive north of Houston. It's the place where HGTV's "Junk Gypsies" live and have their store and inn. It is full of charm, art, and fun, and it was just what my sister and I needed for our annual sister trip.

Twice a year in the Round Top area, an event takes place called Texas Antiques Week. It has grown so much that it actually now spans a just over a couple of weeks; this spring, it runs from March 21 to April 8. During the "show," as they call it, the town of 90 expands to a temporary population of over 100,000 people, all looking for treasures, relaxation, and fun. There are innumerable white tents, filled with beautiful and interesting things, set up in cow pastures for a stretch of several miles. Every empty barn or empty old house has a beautiful shop set up inside it. Food trucks from Austin and Houston descend, feeding the hungry masses of visitors. Traffic

along the two-lane highway can get congested, but no one complains, no one honks horns at other cars. Everyone is laughing, listening to music, and talking about the things they have seen at the show, from rusty windmill blades to architectural elements to priceless French antiques. It's a feast for the eyes.

Sherrin and I wandered aimlessly for hours, talking about whatever was on our minds, frequently stopping to look at things we'd never seen before, or things that we remembered seeing in our childhood. We flipped through old books, tried on handmade jewelry, and sat in Amish-made porch swings that make us long to linger.

We didn't buy much; I bought a pair of beautiful earrings made with guitar strings and sea glass, and she got a t-shirt with a horseshoe emblazoned on it. But we took away so much more than that, in the form of inspiration.

Inspiration doesn't easily come to a cluttered, too-busy mind. Creativity flows best when we're clear-headed and calm, when we are able to slow down for just a minute, unconcerned with meetings or bills or doctor visits. Slowing down helps us to regroup, allowing our mind to catch up with us again. That can happen when strolling through a cow pasture filled with tents and creative, happy people while sipping an iced tea, or it can happen while you're walking on the beach or fishing on a lake. Wherever it is that feeds your creativity, I hope you'll carve out some time to do it. Our days seem long, but our years are short.

While enjoying a live band under a tent on Saturday night, we dined on sandwiches and chips, and shared a small piece of homemade pie from the regionally-famous Royer's Pie Cafe. We decided to try their buttermilk pie, as Sherrin had never had it. Many of you reading this may recall your grandmother making buttermilk pie; it's a simple, sweet dessert made with ingredients most kitchens are stocked with. I'll share the simple recipe with you here, in hopes that you will at least take a few moments this week to sit back in a rocking chair or swing and savor the flavor of a small sliver of this sweet, dense dessert. Maybe while enjoying it, you'll find some inspiration of your own.

Stephanie Hill-Frazier is a writer, food blogger and regional television chef, whose on-air nickname is

## Buttermilk Pie with chocolate chips and pecans

- 8 tablespoons butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- ¼ cup flour
- 1 cup buttermilk
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup pecans, whole or 1 cup pecan pieces (optional)
- 1 deep dish pie crust (don't overfill; use 2 smaller crusts, if necessary)

In a large bowl, use a mixer to cream together the butter and sugar until fluffy.

Add eggs and flour, mixing well.

In a small bowl, combine the buttermilk, nutmeg, and vanilla, and stir into mixture.

Sprinkle the chocolate chips and nuts into the unbaked shell and pour mixture over them.

Bake at 300 degrees for 1 ½ hours or until set.

(If you prefer a plain buttermilk pie, omit the nuts and chips)

Enjoy!

*"Mama Steph". She grew up in Gulf County, on St. Joe Beach, a place she will forever call home.*

*She is married and has three sons who are considerably taller than she is. You can find more of her recipes at WhatSouthernFolksEat.com, and she'd love to hear about your own favorite recipes via email at Steph@whatsouthernfolkseat.com.*

## HEALTH

From Page B1

message," said Sarah Hinds, public information officer for the Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf.

The first five years of a child's life shape a foundation for development and future health, decades of research have showed.

Nurturing relationships and safe, secure environments are critical to brain development, child well-being and the formulation of social skills,

research has demonstrated.

And to not do so is costly.

Research conducted by Prevent Child Abuse America estimated that taxpayers could save \$80 billion a year with the implementation of effective policies and strategies to prevent child abuse and neglect.

"The cost of not doing this is measured in increased costs for foster care services, hospitalization, mental health treatment and law enforcement, as well as loss of individual productivity and expenditures related to chronic health problems, special education and the justice system," according to the organization's

website.

The local department of health offers a number of resources to help young families.

A pregnancy coach to assist on a healthy start to life, a parenting coach to facilitate a healthy family and a connection to Women, Infants and Children (WIC) for nutrition education and ensuring children and infants have access to healthy foods are among the programs.

Contact the Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf to help determine if you or your family are eligible for these free programs.

## ARTIST

From Page B1

The Member Show will remain open to the public Thursdays and Fridays (10 a.m. until 6 p.m. ET) and Saturdays (10 a.m. until 2 p.m. ET) through April 20. The next events at The Joe Center for the Arts are Forgotten Coast en Plein Air (May 4-13, 2018) and an exhibit by the 120 plein air artists attending the Plein Air South convention (May 18-June 20).

The Joe is a recently-opened

art center whose mission is to educate, exhibit, partner and inspire through the arts. Future programming will include classes, workshops, lectures and demonstration for children and adults, and exhibits and community showcases. The community can become involved via memberships, classes, volunteering or just enjoying art events. Renovated in 2017 into climate controlled gallery space, classroom space and handicap accessible bathrooms, The Joe Center for the Arts is sponsored by the Forgotten Coast Cultural Coalition (FCCC).



# TRADES & SERVICES



CFC1429327

**M&L**

**Plumbing, Inc.**

**Quality is the only way**

151-C Commerce Blvd.  
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

**M&LPlumbing.com**  
Office: 850-575-9393  
Office: 850-227-1101  
Fax: 850-926-4255

Your ad could be here for just **\$11.50** per week!

(Minimum 4 ad purchase.)

**ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICE HERE**

**\$23.00** per week  
*with 4 ad minimum purchase*

Call Robin at 850-227-7847  
to reserve your space today!



Need to get the word out about a Trade or Service you provide? Let us help you reach new customers!

This space could showcase your business for only **\$34.50** per week!\*

(\*with 4 ad minimum purchase)

**Call Robin at 850.227.7847 for Options and Availability**

To advertise in this section,  
**Call Robin at 227-7847**

# The mystery of Florida Betony

**By Ray Bodrey**  
Gulf County Extension Director  
UF/IFAS  
Special to The Star

If you look closely at your yard, there's a good chance you'll find a plant that is both a native species and a weed. Well, there are more than a few plants that may fit that description. If you happen to investigate further however, you may find root tubers that resemble egg casings or even a rattlesnake's rattle. If so, you've stumbled upon Florida Betony.

*Stachys floridana* is a perennial broadleaf. It is commonly referred to as rattlesnake weed, due to its fleshy white segmented underground tubers. The plant has an erect stem with leaves that are opposite, shovel shaped and toothed. The plant structure is very

similar to mint. Flowers will emerge that are pinkish-purple in color. Flowers will also produce fruit, consisting of four nutlets. However, reproduction primarily occurs through root tuber development. Florida Betony was once confined to the state of Florida, until the mid-1900's nursery trade dispersed the plant throughout the southeast. It can now be found as far west as Texas and as far north as North Carolina.

This time of year, is especially when Florida Betony thrives. Fall and spring is the prime growing period. The above ground plant structure will struggle in hot, summer temperatures. The plant will often disappear, only to reemerge in the fall. As a lawn weed, tuber development is the key to controlling this plant. Applying herbicide to

the leaves and stalk may seem at first to have conquered the weed. But, in most cases the tuber will simply regenerate. Glyphosate herbicide (trade name Roundup) can be used effectively for control in ornamental plant beds. Be careful when spraying herbicides around trees, shrubs and other desirable plants. Any contact will cause negative effects. There are turfgrass options for controlling Florida Betony. For more information and options, please contact Gulf County Extension at 639-3200 or see the supporting information links below. Always refer to the product's label for specific uses, precautions and application rates when using any herbicide.

Another solution or "organic" control option would be to dig up the tubers



**Florida Betony, *Stachys floridana*.** [UF/IFAS RANGE CATTLE RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTER]

for a treat. As stated earlier, the tubers are edible and are rich in sugars and starches. They can be eaten raw or cooked and some use them in salads and stir fry.

Supporting information for this article can be found in the following the UF/IFAS EDIS

publication, "Florida Betony Biology and Management in Turf" by J. Bryan Unruh, Ramon G. Leon, and Darcy E. P. Telenko: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/EP/EP38800.pdf>

UF/IFAS Extension is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

## Classroom Laptops, Notetaking and Laguna Beach



**Margaret McDowell**

**"I was so broke I couldn't pay attention."**

Southern Colloquialism

Innovative communication devices are wonderful.

Until they aren't.

While searching for a restaurant in Laguna Beach, CA last summer, my husband and I pulled over in a parking lot and asked a lady if she knew the whereabouts of the eatery. She assured us that

she had lived in Laguna her whole life and knew the town well. Then she pulled out her phone, punched at it for five minutes, and provided difficult, lengthy instructions.

We said thanks and left. Ultimately, we drove about a hundred yards, took one turn and went up a hill, and found the restaurant sitting in plain view of the parking lot. You could actually see the eating establishment from the very spot where we had inquired about its location. All that was required of our guide was for her to turn and gesture and say, "There it is. Turn right and drive up the hill."

It's as if folks have forgotten how to point without assistance from a smartphone. So I was not surprised to read recently that college

professors all over the country are banning laptops as note-taking devices. The digital age is fascinating, and there's no denying that technology has revolutionized many businesses, including my own. On a personal level, I love texting with relatives and friends. But I am not joined at the hip with my phone. It's disconcerting and rude when people can't converse, watch a movie or outdoor event or engage in a business discussion without staring at a tablet or screen. We need human linkups in addition to technical ones.

Professors are weary of staring at the back of laptops in lieu of actually connecting visually with their classroom compatriots. The students hidden behind those

screens may be focused on the lecture or they may be surfing the internet, but the teacher can't know without seeing those faces.

Early returns are in from the students. They're complaining that taking notes by hand is tiring and that afterwards, sometimes they can't read their own writing. News flash: no one ever died from a hand cramp. Advice for the students with unreadable hieroglyphics instead of notes? Write more neatly. Develop your own shorthand. And organize your notes in outline form. They can serve as an effective study guide. Many students are recording their classes with cell phones instead of taking notes. What ever happened

to paying attention?

One thing that classes without laptops may inspire is actual interaction and discussion among and between students and teachers. Listening to my classmates express themselves was part of our college education. I cannot imagine a more isolating and boring experience than sitting silently in a group where every individual is hidden behind a small computer screen.

*Margaret R. McDowell, ChFC®, AIF®, author of the syndicated economic column "Arbor Outlook," is the founder of Arbor Wealth Management, LLC, (850.608.6121 - www.arborwealth.net), a fiduciary, "fee-only"*



COVERING MILTON TO APALACHICOLA

# emerald coast market place

YOUR FLORIDA FREEDOM CLASSIFIED CONNECTION

---

Northwest Florida Daily News | News Herald | Destin Log | Crestview News Bulletin | Walton Sun | The Star | Holmes County Times Advertiser | Washington County News | Santa Rosa's Press Gazette | The Times

**Real Estate • New & Pre-Owned Automotive • Classifieds • Job Search partnered with ZipRecruiter®**

## WE'RE AVAILABLE 24 / 7

for all of your buying and selling needs.

**850-747-5020 • 800-345-8688 or visit us online at [emeraldcoastmarketplace.com](http://emeraldcoastmarketplace.com)**

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	
<p><b>1100-1170 ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p> <p>1100 - Legal Advertising 1110 - Classified Notices 1120 - Public Notices/Announcements 1125 - Carpools &amp; Rideshare 1130 - Adoptions 1140 - Happy Ads 1150 - Personals 1160 - Lost 1170 - Found</p>	<p>Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr Blvd., Rm. 148, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.</p> <p>All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.</p> <p>All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.</p>	<p>ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.</p> <p>NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.</p> <p>The date of first publication of this notice is March 29, 2018.</p> <p><b>Personal Representative:</b> Lois Hughes 1345 Brahma Drive Valrico, FL 33594</p> <p><b>Attorney for Personal Representative:</b> Eric J. Olson FL Bar No: 426857 PO Box 2249 LAKELAND, FL 33806 Phone: (863) 688-3606 Fax: (863) 582-9440 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:eolson@ejoppa.com">eolson@ejoppa.com</a> Secondary E-Mail: <a href="mailto:emmya@ejoppa.com">emmya@ejoppa.com</a> March 29, April 5, 2018</p>	<p>17380S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION <b>File No. 17-000031</b> Division Probate</p> <p>IN RE: ESTATE OF BILLY HOWARD HUGHES Deceased.</p> <p><b>NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION</b></p> <p>The administration of the estate of Billy Howard Hughes, deceased, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr Blvd., Rm. 148, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, file number 17-000031. The estate is testate and the dates of the decedent's will and any codicils are Last Will and Testament dated September 23, 2008.</p> <p>The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below. The fiduciary lawyer-client privilege in Florida Statutes Section 90.5021 ap-</p>	<p>plies with respect to the personal representative and any attorney employed by the personal representative.</p> <p>Any interested person on whom a copy of the notice of administration is served who challenges the validity of the will or codicils, venue, or the jurisdiction of the court is required to file any objection with the court in the manner provided in the Florida Probate Rules WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED BY LAW, which is on or before the date that is 3 months after the date of service of a copy of the Notice of Administration on that person, or those objections are forever barred. The 3-month time period may only be extended for estoppel based upon a misstatement by the personal representative regarding the time period within which an objection must be filed. The time period may not be extended for any other reason, including affirmative representation, failure to disclose information, or misconduct by the personal</p>	<p>representative or any other person. Unless sooner barred by Section 733.212(3), all objections to the validity of a will, venue, or the jurisdiction of the court must be filed no later than the earlier of the entry of an order of final discharge of the personal representative or 1 year after service of the notice of administration.</p> <p>A petition for determination of exempt property is required to be filed by or on behalf of any person entitled to exempt property under Section 732.402, WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED BY LAW, which is on or before the later of the date that is 4 months after the date of service of a copy of the Notice of Administration on such person or the date that is 40 days after the date of termination of any proceeding involving the construction, admission to probate, or validity of the will or involving any other matter affecting any part of the exempt property, or the right of such person to exempt property is deemed</p>	<p>waived.</p> <p>An election to take an elective share must be filed by or on behalf of the surviving spouse entitled to an elective share under Sections 732.201 - 732.2155 WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED BY LAW, which is on or before the earlier of the date that is 6 months after the date of service of a copy of the Notice of Administration on the surviving spouse, or an attorney in fact or a guardian of the property of the surviving spouse, or the date that is 2 years after the date of the decedent's death. The time for filing an election to take an elective share may be extended as provided in the Florida Probate Rules.</p> <p><b>Personal Representative:</b> Lois Hughes 1345 Brahma Drive Valrico, FL 33594</p> <p><b>Attorney for Personal Representative:</b> Eric J. Olson Attorney FL Bar No: 426857 PO Box 2249 LAKELAND, FL 33806</p>	<p>19552S <b>NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION</b></p> <p>I, Ken Detzner, Secretary of State of the State of Florida, do hereby give notice that a GENERAL ELECTION will be held in GULF County, State of Florida, on the SIXTH Day of NOVEMBER, 2018, A.D., to fill or retain the following offices:</p> <p>United States Senator</p> <p>Representative in Congress: District 2</p> <p>Florida Cabinet - Governor</p> <p>Florida Cabinet - Lieutenant Governor</p> <p>Florida Cabinet - Attorney General</p> <p>Florida Cabinet - Chief Financial Officer</p> <p>Florida Cabinet - Commissioner of Agriculture State Representative: District 7</p>	<p>Circuit Judge, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit: Groups 3, 4, 6 and 11 County Judge: Group 1 School Board: Districts 1, 2 and 5</p> <p>County Commissioner: Districts 1, 2 and 4 Pub: April 5, 12, 2018</p> <p>19554S <b>AVISO DE ELECCIONES GENERALES</b></p> <p>Yo, Ken Detzner, Secretario de Estado del Estado de la Florida, por el presente notifico que se llevarán a cabo ELECCIONES GENERALES en el Condado de GULF, Estado de la Florida, el día SEIS de NOVIEMBRE de 2018 d. C., para determinar la ocupación o la retención de los siguientes cargos:</p> <p>Senador de los Estados Unidos</p> <p>Representante ante el Congreso: distrito 2</p> <p>Gabinete de la Florida - Gobernador</p> <p>Gabinete de la Florida - Vicegobernador</p> <p>Gabinete de la Florida -</p>

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

Procurador General  
Gabinete de la Florida - Funcionario Principal de Finanzas  
Gabinete de la Florida - Comisionado de Agricultura  
Representante Estatal: distrito 7  
Juez del Circuito, 14.9 Circuito Judicial: grupos 3, 4, 6 y 11

Junta Escolar: distritos 1, 2 y 5  
Comisionado del Condado: distritos 1, 2 y 4  
Pub: April 5, 12, 2018

**19650S**  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, JUVENILE DIVISION, FOR THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, GULF COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA  
**CASE NO.: 2016-DP-009-ABC**

IN THE INTEREST OF:  
Z. H.  
DOB: 04/18/2008  
Z. K.  
DOB: 03/12/2010  
W. K.  
DOB: 02/12/2011  
MINOR CHILDREN

**NOTICE OF ACTION (SEC. 39.801 (b) FS)**

The State of Florida to KAYLA HESTER, mother of the child, Z.H., whose last known residence and address is Unknown.

You are hereby notified that a Petition under oath has been filed in the above styled Court concerning Termination of Parental Rights in the case of Z.H., child, for placement with licensed child placing agency or the Department for the purposes of subsequent adoption.

You are hereby notified that an Advisory Hearing will be held before the Honorable James J. Goodman, Jr., Judge of the Circuit Court, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, at the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil Costin Boulevard, Port St. Joe, Florida 32457, on **26th day of April 2018, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., E.T.**

**FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THE ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION.**

Dated: March 7, 2018  
REBECCA NORRIS, Clerk of Circuit Court

By: B. McGee-Collins Deputy Clerk  
Pub: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2018

**19676S**  
**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Capital One Citri Assignee of FIG 2241, LLC, the Certificate Holder of the following Tax Sale Certificate, has filed said Certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Tax Deed Application number, Real Estate number, Certificate number, Date of Issuance and Name(s) in which it was assessed are as follows:

**Application #2017-27 Tax Sale Certificate #2015-1071**  
**Name in which assessed:** Marion O. Laney  
**R.E. No.** 06290-285R  
**Date of Issuance:** May 29, 2015

*Description of Property:*  
Lot 19, Block 3, Surfside Estates, per plat Book 2, Page 18, in the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida, at 11:00 am E.T., Wednesday, 18th day of April, 2018.

Dated: March 12, 2018  
REBECCA L. NORRIS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk  
Pub: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2018

**19874S**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**

Notice is hereby given that Best American Storage Manager LLC dba America's Mini Storage located at 141 Commerce Blvd Port St Joe, FL 32456, intends to offer for sale the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

under the Self Storage Facility Act Statutes 83.801-83.809. Unit C00035, 10x20 unit, household goods, Rachel Jones 6428 W Highway 98 Port St Joe, FL 32456 The auction will take place at 11am EST April 6, 2018. The auction will be held online on [www.storageireas.com](http://www.storageireas.com)  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**19904S**  
**CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**  
**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2018-05**

Sealed bids for City of Port St. Joe for the Jones Homestead Sewer Project - Bores will be received at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 up until 3:00 PM EST, Thursday April 26, 2018. Bids will be publicly opened and acknowledged, Thursday April 26, 2018, at 3:05 PM EST, in the City Commission Conference Room.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, and bid number for "RFP 2018-05 Jones Homestead Sewer Project - Bores."

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The City of Port St. Joe is accepting bids for underground bore work as part of our Jones Homestead Sewer Project. The work shall consist of various bores as described in the base bid sheet that are required to complete the installation of new low-pressure force mains throughout the Jones Homestead Community. A complete bid package is available at [www.cityofportstjoe.com](http://www.cityofportstjoe.com)

For questions concerning this project, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**19906S**  
**CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**  
**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2018-04**

Sealed bids for City of Port St. Joe for the Jones Homestead Sewer Project Materials Purchase will be received at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 up until 3:00 PM EST, Thursday April 26, 2018. Bids will be publicly opened and acknowledged, Thursday April 26, 2018, at 3:05 PM EST, in the City Commission Conference Room.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, and bid number for "RFP 2018-04 Jones Homestead Sewer Project Materials Purchase."

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** Direct Purchase of materials as listed in the Base Bid sheet that are required to complete the installation of new low-pressure force mains throughout the Jones Homestead Community. A complete bid package is available at [www.cityofportstjoe.com](http://www.cityofportstjoe.com)

For questions concerning this project, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**19916S**  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-styled cause, in the County Court of Gulf County, Florida, I will sell the following property situated in Gulf County, Florida described as:

Lot 14, SAN DUNES SUBDIVISION, according to the plat recorded in the public records of Gulf County, Florida, in Plat Book 5, page 6.

At the public sale to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at:

Gulf County Courthouse, Main Lobby, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. ET on **April 12, 2018.**

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, (all bids must include an engineering spec for the footer).

For questions concerning this project, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

PLAINTIFF,  
VS.  
CLETUS F. HEAPS, III, ET AL.  
DEFENDANT(S).

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 9, 2018, in the above action, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at Gulf County, Florida, on **April 19, 2018**, at 11:00 AM, ET, at Courthouse steps/lobby 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456 for the following described property:

THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY: LOT 17A, PONDEROSA PINES, AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (NW 1/4) OF SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 8 WEST, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 30, SAID POINT BEING SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 37 SECONDS EAST, 1979.80 FEET FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 30; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 23 SECONDS EAST, 267.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 37 SECONDS EAST, 100.07 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 23 SECONDS WEST, 267.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 30; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST LINE NORTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 37 SECONDS WEST, 100.07 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale. The Court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.

Prepared by:  
Tromberg Law Group, P.A.  
1515 South Federal Highway, Suite 100  
Boca Raton, FL 33432  
File No.: 13-001300-F

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact ADA Coordinator at 850-747-5338, fax 850-747-5717 or at [ADARequest@jud14.flcourts.org](mailto:ADARequest@jud14.flcourts.org), P.O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

**19918S**  
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

CIVIL DIVISION  
**CASE NO. 2017-111CC**

SAN DUNES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff,

vs.  
STERLING TRUST COMPANY, n/k/a EQUITY INSTITUTIONAL, a Division of EQUITY TRUST COMPANY, CUSTODIAN, FOB: CHARLES E. YOST, ACCT. 068812, Defendant.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-styled cause, in the County Court of Gulf County, Florida, I will sell the following property situated in Gulf County, Florida described as:

Lot 14, SAN DUNES SUBDIVISION, according to the plat recorded in the public records of Gulf County, Florida, in Plat Book 5, page 6.

At the public sale to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at:

Gulf County Courthouse, Main Lobby, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. ET on **April 12, 2018.**

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, (all bids must include an engineering spec for the footer).

For questions concerning this project, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 22nd day of March, 2018.  
Rebecca Norris  
Clerk of the County Court  
BY: BA Baxter  
Deputy Clerk

Anderson & Givens, P.A.  
Justin J. Givens, Esq.  
[JGivens@AndersonGivens.com](mailto:JGivens@AndersonGivens.com)  
P.O. Box 12613  
1689 Mahan Center Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32317-2613  
(850) 692-8900  
FL Bar No. 0052130  
*Counsel for Plaintiff*  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**19920S**  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION  
**Case No. 1700053CAAXMX**

Wells Fargo Financial System Florida, Inc. Plaintiff,

vs.  
Viola Kemp a/k/a Viola L. Kemp; Unknown Spouse of Viola Kemp a/k/a Viola L. Kemp; Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Wells Fargo Financial Bank Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE**

TO: Phoebe Oreda Butler a/k/a Phoebe O. Butler  
Last Known Address: 4016 Holiday Dr. Panama City Beach, FL 32408

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Gulf County, Florida:

COMMENCE AT THE NW CORNER OF THE NE 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 12, T4S, R11W, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA AND THENCE GO N 89°28'07" E 558.48 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE EAST R/W LINE OF KEMP CEMETERY ROAD; THENCE SOUTH 05°05'09" WEST FOR 205 FEET TO THE POB; FROM SAID POB THENCE NORTH 89°28'07" EAST FOR 326 FEET; THENCE GO SOUTH 05°05'09" WEST FOR 161.95 FEET; THENCE GO SOUTH 89°28'07" WEST FOR 326 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE EAST R/W LINE OF KEMP CEMETERY ROAD; THENCE NORTH 05°05'09" EAST FOR 161.95 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE POB. LESS AND EXCEPT ANY PORTION THAT LIES WITHIN LEGAL DESCRIPTION RECORDED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 199, PAGE 900.

TOGETHER WITH MOBILE HOME VIN NO. ALCA0396270S30264

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Julie Anthonis, Esquire, Brock & Scott, PLLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 1501 N.W. 49th Street, Suite 200, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309, within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication on or before April 30, 2018, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

DATED on March 22, 2018.  
Rebecca Norris  
As Clerk of the Court

By: BA Baxter  
As Deputy Clerk

Brock & Scott, PLLC  
1501 NW 49th St.  
Suite 200  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309  
Phone: (954)618-6955  
File # 17-F02620  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**19952S**  
CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA

**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS 2-SIDED LED SIGN**

Sealed bids for the City of Wewahitchka for a "2-sided LED sign" will be received at City Hall Annex, 318 S 7th St., Wewahitchka, Florida 32465 until April 18, 2018 at Noon. (ct) Bids will be publicly opened at 1pm and acknowledged at 211 Hwy 71 N. Staff recommendations will be on April 26, 2018, Regular Meeting at 6:30.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, (all bids must include an engineering spec for the footer).

For questions concerning this project, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

**Description of Work:** Further described in the bid description document. The bid description document can be requested from [connie.parrish@fairpoint.net](mailto:connie.parrish@fairpoint.net)

For questions concerning the project Contact City Manager Don Minchew, Monday through Wednesday from 8-4, at 850-639-2605

The City of Wewahitchka reserves the right to accept or reject any and all statements of Bids in whole or in part, award bid to the lowest bidder or best in the opinion of the City, to waive informalities in the process to obtain new statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Bid shall be valid to the City of Wewahitchka for a period of sixty (60) days after opening.

The City of Wewahitchka is an equal opportunity employer  
Pub: April 5, 2018

**19978S**  
**CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**  
**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2018-02**  
**Waste Water Treatment Plant Repower**

Sealed bids for the City of Port St. Joe for the WWTP Repower will be received at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 up until 3:00 PM EST, Friday, April 27, 2018. Bids will be publicly opened and acknowledged, Friday, April 27, 2018, at 3:05 PM EST, in the City Commission Conference Room.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, and "RFP 2018-02 for WWTP Repower."

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** Location- 455 CR 382, Port St. Joe, Florida.  
Install (1) 150 amp feeder from MDP panel board to existing 400amp panel GP (appx 525 ft.)  
Install (1) 100 amp feeder from panel GP to panel HA (appx 300 ft.)  
Install (1) 100amp feeder from panel GP to panel in the old office (appx 400 ft.)  
Install (1) 100 amp feeder from panel GP to panel DP (appx 25 ft.)  
Provide and install (1) 150 amp breaker and (3) 100 amp breakers.

All feeders are 3 phase 480 vac. Bids are to include electrical engineering stamped drawings of work. When work is completed, it will be inspected and signed by the electrical engineer as approved.

For questions concerning this Bid, please contact Waste Water Treatment Plant Manager Kevin Pettis at 850-229-6395.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
Pub: April 5, 12, 2018

**20022S**  
**CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**  
**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2018-08**  
**Centennial Train Repainting Project**

Sealed bids for the City of Port St. Joe for the Centennial Train Repainting Project will be received at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 up until 3:00 PM EST, Friday April 27, 2018. Bids will be publicly opened and acknowledged, Friday April 27, 2018, at 3:05 PM EST, in the City Commission Conference Room.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, and "RFP 2018-08 Centennial Train Repainting Project."

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** Bid shall be for the cleaning, minor repairs and repainting of the Centennial Train located at 2201 Centennial Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. There will be a mandatory on-site Pre-Bid Meeting on April 13, 2018, at 1:00 pm EST to discuss this project. Specifications are listed in the Bid Sheet which may be obtained on the City's website at [www.cityofportstjoe.com](http://www.cityofportstjoe.com).

For questions concerning this project, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

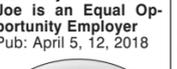
**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
March 29, April 5, 2018

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

ing this Bid, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
Pub: April 5, 12, 2018



**GARAGE/YARD SALES**  
**3230**

**One Day Only Sale by Law**  
Fri & Sat (6 & 7 April)  
Warned by Port St. Joe Code Enforcement Officer that PSJ residents could only have one yard sale per quarter by city ordinance.  
Received two certified letters stating that if I had a sale for two consecutive days, I would be taken to court and fined five hundred dollars and put in jail for six weeks for a violation. Have brought down and putting out much more stuff including many antiques and furniture such as a .century old washstand, Ralph Lauren king sleigh bed, Oscar de la Renta Chippendale chairs, Victorian couch/chair/settee, desks, mahogany corner cabinet, chairs, end and coffee tables, historical military items, lots of smaller stuff and much more - four .garages and a yard full. 8 to 5 EST. Friday will be a preview only day with the sale to be held on Saturday, 8-5. 1405  
Constitution Dr. (Hwy 98), Port St. Joe. Rain or Shine.

**JEWELRY/CLOTHING**  
**3270**

**We Buy Gold**  
Jewelry & Diamonds  
Watches & Silver  
We pay cash for estates  
**7 Days A Week Pawn Loans Low Rates!**  
700 Beal Pkwy US GOLD PAWN  
Call TOM Now!!  
850-974-2462  
[www.usgoldpawn.com](http://www.usgoldpawn.com)

**The Star**  
850-747-5020  
or visit us online at [emeraldcoastmarketplace.com](http://emeraldcoastmarketplace.com)  
For all your buying and selling needs.

**Let a little classified do a BIG job for you.**

**Small Price for Big Results!**

**The Star**  
850-747-5020  
or visit us online at [emeraldcoastmarketplace.com](http://emeraldcoastmarketplace.com)  
For all your buying and selling needs.

**HELP WANTED**  
**4100**

**HELP WANTED**  
**4100**