

# THE STAR

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**DIY BOAT, B1**

Thursday, April 26, 2018

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## Special meeting likely next week on restoration

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

Another frustrating bid opening Tuesday was followed by tabling of bids for beach restoration pending a special meeting, likely to be called next week.

The county opened bids for the “re-bid” of the restoration project and once again found that the bids fell short of the county’s finish line.

Just two companies bid on what was termed a “reverse bid” of the original

project, and neither arrived near the desired numbers.

The initial bidding for the beach restoration late last year ended with the Board of County Commissioners rejecting the bids, the lowest of which was some 40 percent over the county’s budget.

This time, the county put the dollar figure, \$10.2 million, in front of contractors and asked how much sand it would purchase for placement on the beaches.

The focus with the re-bid

**See BEACH, A6**

## Man arrested on charges of sexual battery, child pornography

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

A St. Joe Beach man was arrested Thursday on charges relating to two sexual batteries and possession of child pornography.

Clark Gilbert Downs, 69, was arrested as the result of an investigation that began March 18, according to the Gulf County Sheriff’s Office.

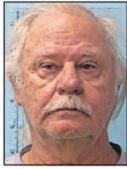
That investigation

stemmed from an allegation of sexual assault and led investigators to evidence of a second incident four years ago.

The victims in each incident was under the age of 18.

Sheriff’s investigators as well as special agents with

**See ARREST, A6**



**Downs**



**Sea turtle seasons runs through the end of October.** [FILE PHOTO]

## Turtle season begins next week



**Nests should begin to appear sometime in the next few weeks.** [FILE PHOTO]

**Turtle patrols uring preparations on lighting, LNT**

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

The turtles are coming, the turtles are coming.

Sea turtle nesting season arrives May 1 and turtle patrol volunteers are urging residents as well as visitors to get ready by dimming the lights and picking up upon leaving the beaches.

“It is time to turn the lights off, to shield the turtles from lights on the beach,” said Jessica Swindall, coordinator of the St. Joseph Peninsula Turtle Patrol, which surveys

the peninsula’s six miles of beach from the Stump Hole rock revetment to T.H. Stone Memorial State Park.

“We also want to encourage people to pick their things up off the beach at the end of the day. It is good for the turtles, but also good for public health and pollution,” Swindall added.

The St. Joseph Peninsula Turtle Patrol’s non-profit arm, the Florida Coastal Conservancy and its Sea Turtle Center, recently received a boost in the awareness campaign for turtles, specifically the value Leave No Trace to hardbacks.

This the third full season

**See TURTLES, A9**

## County could reopen RV ordinance

**Problems in Oak Grove a focus**

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

The county’s RV ordinance has characterized as a “major headache” and a “nightmare to enforce” as county commissioners considered revisiting the

ordinance, for a fourth time.

The Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday asked county attorney Jeremy Novak to review the ordinance to consider solutions to problems arising in the county, particularly in Oak Grove.

The problems there, Commissioner Phil McCroan said, are growing with a proliferation of RVs

and pole barns becoming a detriment to the community and property values.

“There are lot of people who are concerned and rightly so,” McCroan said. “At some point in time we’ve got to address it. I see it becoming a major, major problem.”

“There are impacts to

**See RV, A9**

## PSJ early voting begins Saturday

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

The finish line is in sight for four candidates for the Port St. Joe City Commission in the May 8 election.

All four, it must be added, are vying for a single seat,

however.

Early voting for the Port St. Joe municipal election begins Saturday and will continue through the following Saturday, May 5.

Voting will take place every day, save Sunday, 9 a.m. until

**See VOTING, A6**

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Scene Around



VETERAN INTEGRITY COMMITMENT HONESTY PROVEN LEADER VETERAN INTEGRITY COMMITMENT HONESTY PROVEN LEADER

**Elect Scott HOFFMAN** For Port St. Joe City Commissioner Group 4

I refuse to be the voice of “the few” and committed to always being the voice of every PSJ citizen.

I served my great Country, I served the State of Florida, and now I am ready to serve the people of Port St Joe. Let’s get Started!

Paid by Scott Hoffman for PSJ City Comm Grp 4

VETERAN INTEGRITY COMMITMENT HONESTY PROVEN LEADER VETERAN INTEGRITY COMMITMENT HONESTY PROVEN LEADER

# Relay for Life highlights things to do

By Tim Croft

The annual Relay for Life of the Forgotten Coast returns Friday at the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School football stadium, highlighting the weekend's slate of events.

This is the fifth year for the Forgotten Coast Relay, which combines teams from Gulf and Franklin counties in the battle against cancer.

"We make the most of our money that way by not paying for two events," said this year's event chair, Cheryl Fritsch-Middleton.

The event begins at 6 p.m. ET and continues until 12 midnight ET.

The Survivors Lap will be held at 6:15 p.m. followed by the Caregiver Lap.

"They (caregivers) are a big piece of the equation," Fritsch-Middleton said.

After the Caregivers Lap, survivors will be treated to a catered meal at 6:30 p.m. ET.

The Luminaria ceremony arrives at 9 p.m. ET, though folks who will participate are asked to be on hand by 8 p.m. in order to decorate their luminaria bag, which honors those who have lost the fight to cancer.

This year's theme is "At the Movies: Take Action to Fight Cancer."

Laps, such as Minions Lap, Purple Rain Lap and Superheroes Lap, will adhere to the theme as well several of the games and activities on tap.

There will also be a DJ and food for sale; all proceeds raised benefits cancer research.

As of the first of the week, there were 16 teams and 40 participants signed up for the Relay, which involves one member of each team being on the track at all times.

The event is open to the public.

"There are teams that



Relay for Life is Friday at Shark Stadium. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

people can join or just a group of friends can get together and register as a team," Fritsch-Middleton said. "Or just come out, hang out and join us in the fight against cancer."

**Enjoy "Song Tales" at the Port Theatre.** Anna Wilson and Monty Powell, who live half of the year in Gulf County, will take the stage in the latest edition of the "Thursdays at the Theatre" series at the historic theater. The husband and wife, both Grammy-winning songwriters, will take the stage 7 p.m. ET tonight with a show they crafted, and recorded, several years ago called "Song Tales." With Anna on piano and Monty on guitar, the two will bring the audience behind the notes and graphs that comprise a song. It is show the couple performed at the Nashville's venerable Bluebird Café among other venues. "The (Port) theater is made for it, a small theater," said Anna. "We bring the stories behind the songs. How, what inspired a song and how it came about." Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$35 for VIP, which includes preferred seating, attendance to a meet-and-greet with Wilson and Powell and a drink ticket. Beer and wine is sold during "Thursdays at the Theatre." Tickets are available at the Port Inn, Gulf



**Oranges on trees in a grove at the Citrus Research and Education Center. A workshop on citrus and dooryard fruit is Friday.**

[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

County Chamber of Commerce or online at <http://www.historicporttheatre.com>.

**Learn about growing, preserving citrus/dooryard fruit.** Want to learn more about how to care for your fruit trees, about preserving the harvest? Find out what varieties will grow best in the Panhandle, learn the soil/water/light requirements, the TLC needed for your fruit trees to thrive and how to preserve and enjoy the fruit harvest. The event is presented by Gulf County



**Anna Wilson and Monty Powell will bring their "Song Tales" at the Port Theatre tonight.** [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]



**Climb the Cape San Blas Lighthouse Wednesday through Saturday.**

[COURTESY OF RICHARD NICHOLS]

Extension Director Ray Bodrey and Family & Consumer Science Agent Melanie Taylor and will be 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. CT Friday at the Charles Whitehead Wewahatchka Public Library, located at 314 N. 2nd St.. For more information call 639-2419

This is a free event.

**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 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.



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April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

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# OPINION

## CRANKS MY TRACTOR

### Powdered aspirins and left-turning cars



BN Heard

May is a good month, with three children in college, I look forward to May, because I get to spend time with my children. We will get to spend a week together at the beach before they head off to their summer internships and obligations. May also has other important dates like Mother's Day and Memorial Day.

It seems that the first week of May is important to NASCAR and aspirin lovers alike. Why? Well, it seems that Bayer patented powdered aspirin around the first week of May back in 1899. I know I've studied this before, giving the folks in North Carolina credit for powdered aspirin, but I do find it interesting enough to look into again – or at least mention it and get into NASCAR which I know nothing about.

I'm not saying I don't like it, I just don't know all the strategy involved and how points are accumulated and such. I do remember sitting on my back steps growing up in Alabama and being able to hear the cars running around the track in Talladega.

Ok, now the interesting part of the connection between powdered aspirins like BC and Goody's and their ties to NASCAR. Richard Petty, who many think of as "The King" of NASCAR, much like Elvis was the King of Rock and Roll Music, was and possibly still is the official spokesman for Goody's Headache Powders.

For the record, Goody's was the first non-automotive sponsor of NASCAR. BC and Goody's Headache Powders have also had a long relationship with minor league baseball and country music. In other words, they (headache powders) are very American.

It seems Richard Petty, who is now 80, is in the process of cleaning out his house or houses and is having a big auction coming up in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 12th. He noted that he just has too much stuff for his museum in Level Cross, North Carolina and his kids don't want it.

One of the vehicles being sold is his 1974 Dodge Charger which he won 31 races driving, including the 1974 Daytona 500. They estimate the value of this vehicle at between \$400,000 and \$600,000. Good night! If I would have known these 1974 vehicles were so popular, I would have kept my Grandmama's 1974 Ford Granada that I drove whilst in college in Jacksonville, Alabama.

If you can't afford the Charger, you can wait on the King's 1978 Chevrolet Monte Carlo, which should go for between two and three hundred thousand dollars. I think I had a 1978 or possible 1979 Buick Skyhawk that I successfully bent into the shape of a letter "U" with the help of a van that I pulled out in front of... I needed a little more than a BC Powder after that one. I woke up somewhere in the road outside of my car, which no longer had a driver's seat large enough to sit in.

It was one of those very very rare cases where not having a seat belt on "might" have been better than having it on. I will never know. I just know that I am very thankful that I survived that 18th year of my life, so that I could go on into my 19th year and do more stupid things while in college.

My car crashes are not anywhere close to what Richard Petty has lived through. He has broken legs, arms, shoulders, fingers, knees and even his neck, which apparently he didn't realize until a doctor was looking at his x-rays for another ailment. King Richard and all his scars and victories will be 81 this July.

It makes you wonder if Goody's Headache Powders do more than just help headaches. If they have gotten him through all those broken bones, maybe I need to take them on a regular base.

I'm not sure what year it is. I'm serious, I really don't know. However, I do know that I am continuing to drive my second daughter's first car that looks like it has been in a few Alabama short/dirt track fights and such. I'll hang on to it maybe. By the time I'm 80 it might be worth a cup of coffee or a doughnut.

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

## HUNKER DOWN

### Do I look like Dear Abby?



Kesley Colbert

The thing that worries me about dispensing "life advice" is that old adage about different strokes..... Plus, wouldn't it be a little hypocritical of a guy who didn't cotton much to people telling him what to do.....to now spout out little tidbits of wisdom like some guru from high atop Mt. Knowitall.

A couple of seniors asked me about life after high school. Boy howdy, did they come to the wrong spigot! I love those kids like they were my own but I'm not sure "don't take any wooden nickels" or "drink upstream from the herd" is going to do them much good as they leap forward into a brave new world.

Advice is a well meaning concoction that ultimately has to be filtered through the eye of the beholder.

Kids today are not into "a stitch in time saves nine" or "the secret to getting ahead is getting started." The key in the growing process is finding the advice that works for you.....before it's too late! Or perhaps you need to eliminate the wrong counsel before it can do irreparable damage!

Coach Scott made us run a hundred wind sprints and then play a scrimmage game.

After getting run over and kicked and tackled and stomped and blindsided and beat up for two hours, he finished practice by making us run another hundred wind sprints. I ran out of "wind" about halfway into the last session. I passed out twice, saw stars, had a bear

*It didn't seem like much of an answer at the time. I failed to see any connection whatsoever between ugly girls and chopping weeds out of a never ending line of butterbeans. But as the years rolled along that bit of wisdom has come into focus more than a time or two.*

jump on my back and threw up some Gerber strained bananas I'd eaten fourteen years earlier. Coach was ready with today's life lesson, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going!"

Sound advice I'm sure. But all I could think of was, "If we keep practicing like this, there ain't going to be enough live bodies left to take on the Huntingdon High Mustangs!"

The summer before my junior year I asked Dad if he thought I ought to date the extra good looking blonde with zero personality or the rather homely girl with the keenest wit and bubbly disposition. He didn't study on it half a second, "Son, a man has got to hoe his own row."

It didn't seem like much of an answer at the time. I failed to see any connection whatsoever between ugly girls and chopping weeds out of a never ending line of butterbeans. But as the years rolled along that bit of wisdom has come into focus more than a time or two.

Advice can age and mature along with you.

Back when I was still trying to figure out Dad's "hoeing" statement Leon warned me about using too much Old Spice. "You don't want those girls jumping all over you." What kind of advice was that for a sixteen year old boy – IT was exactly what I wanted!

Mother overused the "wear clean underwear" counsel. But when I spun the car around on the icy curve out by Max Manley's house and ended up sideways in the ditch, guess what came to mind.....even before the flying snow settled and I checked to see if

Buddy, Ricky, Mary Hadley, Jane, Yogi and Billie Jean were all right!

Mom's other gem was, "Finish your plate, son, there are children in India going to bed hungry tonight." I dutifully ate the very last bite of liver and spinach. I felt obligated to help those children any way I could!

I'm not the only guy in history who's been known to spurn good advice. Every Indian scout in Custer's party told the general there were way too many Lakota Sioux, Northern Cheyenne and Arapaho camped on the Little Big Horn for him to attack.

My sophomore year in college was one continuous wind sprint.

The low point was a baseball game at St. Bernard College in Cullman, Alabama. I struck out three times and let two ground balls go right between my legs to allow plenty enough runs to score for us to loose the game. I figured Coach Majors would pull my arms out of the sockets or cram the Louisville Slugger (that I hadn't used nor needed on this day) down my throat. I was sure at the very least he would make me walk back to Tennessee. It had been done with other players.

He was waiting for me out by the bus. I swear he almost grinned (that's how bad it was) and said, "Kes, the sun don't shine on the same dog everyday."

No it doesn't. But it sure has a better chance if you can find someone way smarter than I am.....hang as close as you can.....and get the cotton out of both ears!

Respectfully,  
Kes

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Gentry suspension

Dear Editor,

I am not a teacher. I am, however, a parent - and a mildly obsessive one at that. So, before my eldest daughter began schooling in Port St. Joe, I decided I would teach her to read. I googled terms like "blending" and "sight words," I printed out worksheets, and I bought easy readers at the Goodwill. But, despite my best efforts, I could not teach my daughter to read. She entered kindergarten, I feared, unprepared.

Fortunately, my daughter was blessed with a wonderful kindergarten teacher at PSJ Elementary. In what seemed like a snap, her teacher worked pure magic. Words and ideas were suddenly accessible to her. With 19 children in the class, the teacher managed to do in a couple of months what I had not been able to do in a year. She taught my child to read.

As a mother who works, who has to work to provide for my family, who probably works too much, I have more than admiration and respect for our teachers. I am purely and entirely thankful for and dependent on their work, their service, to our children. That's why, when I heard that a teacher - Krissy Gentry - was being threatened with discipline, I wanted to learn more. When I heard that this was a teacher with 29 years of teaching experience, who had been named Teacher of the Year twice and recognized as a Florida Department of Education High Impact Teacher, I became concerned that something unfair was occurring. When I learned that she

was President of the teachers' union, I became suspicious that this disciplinary process might involve more than basic concern about her fitness for teaching. When I attended the school board meeting and heard parents, students, and teachers' praises for Ms. Gentry summarily dismissed in an abrupt vote by the school board, I became deeply skeptical of the process.

Repeated over and over at the meeting, in an attempt to quiet the wrath of outspoken community members, was the phrase "due process." Superintendent Jim Norton explained that they "followed due process" in recommending suspension without pay for Ms. Gentry. The written investigation and the conclusions contained therein were presented to the Board as "factual." While I am not a teacher, and not an expert in the laws surrounding school administration, as a defense attorney I have familiarity with general concepts of "due process." I know that there is not a court in the United States of America that accepts an attorney's conclusion about an interviewee's truthfulness as fact. Our courts of law have found polygraphs inadmissible as unreliable, much less human lie detectors. Yet at least four times in this report the attorney's opinion on Ms. Gentry's truthfulness was presented to the School Board as fact. Nor were any students or parents interviewed as part of the report.

Ms. Gentry was not afforded any opportunity to confront witnesses. Though this lack of fairness was so blatant that it was questioned even by the Board, concerns about actual due process were quickly

swept under the rug with a declaration that Ms. Gentry would have an opportunity to challenge the Board's decision. A sudden vote was taken affirming the recommendation of the Superintendent. Only School Board member Danny Little voted against the suspension. To my eyes, the due process afforded seemed to be one of swift injustice.

The matter is now in the hands of Ms. Gentry and her union representatives. I hope that we as a community can come together in support of our teachers and their union. I hope that the fear of retribution, of which I heard loud murmurs among attendees at the meeting, does not silence our teachers and their supportive community members. I hope our education system's administration does not promote an ethic of bullying and intimidation. The Union protects our teachers and our teachers protect our children. Let us stand together as a community to support our teachers, the teachers' union, and our schools.

Shannon Stallings  
Chair, Gulf County Democratic Executive Committee

### How big, Kes?

Dear Editor,  
I read with great pleasure and nostalgia Coach Colbert's "Second-hand Lions" story in The Star paper. I do have just one question for the old hedge trimmer: Just how BIG was the "World's Biggest Fish Fry Queen?"

Rodney Herring  
Port St. Joe



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LOCAL

# Cross Shores Corner

By Shelly Cain  
Cross Shores Senior Center  
Special to The Star

If you stand in our lobby long enough, the entire community walks through our front door! On April 7 the sweetest thing happened. A bus load of high school students pulled up in front of the building and made us part of the Prom Parade. Our residents, their families, and staff are still talking about it. We all loved it! It gave us all a chance to reminisce about our own Prom, how we dressed up, and how I managed to drop the hoop skirt before I could sit in the car. First, I tried to get in the car. The hoop skirt flipped all the pink taffeta clean over my head! Finally, I had to take it off completely and stuff it in the back seat. All the girls had hoop skirts then so we all had similar stories to tell.

The students seemed to enjoy the Parade as much as we did. One of the parents told a staff member that her daughter felt so good afterward.

In a small community, like ours, most of our elders are from this area. Something as easy and fun as a 20-minute walk through the halls was enough to make them feel like a participating and vital part of our community again. If you are wondering what you can do for your elders we have some great ideas! Do you play a musical instrument? Does your dance class need an audience to practice in front of? Would your business or club like to sponsor a party? Cake, ice cream and music make a party!

We can't thank our young people enough for taking time to parade with us. We are taking care of your family, your friends, your police officers, your teachers, and your community. Remember to treat everyone with importance and always be kind!



[SPECIAL TO THE STAR PHOTOS]



## Dwindling wealth, middle classes and Marvin Gaye



Margaret McDowell

**"Are things really gettin' better, like the newspapers say? What else is new my friend, besides what I read?"**

"What's Happening Brother?" as performed by Marvin Gaye

Unemployment has declined steadily since late 2009. Wage growth appears to finally be waking from its decades-long slumber, albeit very slowly for lower-income folks. And

some industrial and blue-collar companies are so desperate for employees that they are offering sign-on bonuses to new workers. The Federal Reserve is no longer artificially stimulating the economy. Their plan to progressively raise interest rates up to four times this year speaks to their confidence in an economy finally rebounding from the Great Recession. On the surface, things seem to be getting better. In the soft underbelly of our economy, well, not so much. Here's what we mean. A recent survey found that a record 30 percent of American households, or almost a third of the population, enjoy no non-home wealth. That means that if you take away the little equity they carry in their homes, they owe more than they own.

The number of households in this situation has been on a steady rise since the late 1960's, with the exception of the late 1990's, when the tech bubble temporarily inflated the net worth of households. What this means is that millions are one catastrophic illness, one serious accident or a few missed paydays from financial ruin. Forget affording college for kids or putting money away. This is why the housing bubble was so intertwined with the Great Recession; the stock market decline was accompanied by a strong real estate decline. A home equity loan may be a last resort for many in this 30 percent group, and if home values suddenly decline significantly, that option is lost. Many factors are to blame for America's relatively-new

"permanent underclass." Economists often cite stagnating wages for the inflation-adjusted drop in living standards for lower-income Americans. Some cite the lack of participation in the stock market, with household stock ownership being around 10 percent lower than it was 20 years ago. You can't benefit from a rising stock market if you don't have the discretionary income to invest. Those arguments have merit and are a part of the equation. But if I had to offer a primary reason why many Americans can't get ahead it would be the cost of healthcare. In 1960, health care costs were only 5 percent of GDP. Two years ago, health care costs were almost 18 percent of our GDP. In 2016, health care costs per person in the

U.S. were \$10,348; in 1960, they were a paltry \$146 per capita. On average, health-care costs have risen faster than both wages and inflation for decades on end. If we solve this conundrum, our middle class may flourish again. 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" registered investment advisory firm located near Destin, FL. This column should not be considered personalized investment advice and provides no assurance that any specific strategy or investment will be suitable or profitable for an investor.

# BEACH

From Page A1

shifted to the southern portion of the project's original design, from the Stump Hole rock revetment to the southern end of Billy Joe Rish Park.

Under the original design, said consulting engineer Michael Dombrowski, the county had targeted placing roughly 800,000 cubic yards of new sand.

The higher of the two bids opened Tuesday was for 705,882 cubic yards; the lower bid was for just 340,000.

"I was disappointed by the low cubic-yardage," said Dr. Pat Hardman, president of the Coastal Community Association of Gulf County, while stressing the urgency of the situation.

"We've got to get some sand out there."

County administrator Michael Hammond said

staff needed time to examine the bids and secure a recommendation on proceeding from Dombrowski.

Another complicating factor, at least for the actual award of the contract, is receipt of the \$2.8 million in RESTORE Act funds which represent the bulk of the county's contribution to the project.

Due to the altering timeline, the county has had to rewrite and publicly notice plans to the spending of RESTORE funds.

In addition, the county, and project, lost some initial funding due to design changes and additional interest costs on the bonds from voter approved taxing units for a project the county thought would be completed nine months ago, Hammond said.

That has eaten in to the available funds, including a \$1 million state appropriation, Hammond said, noting the \$10.2 million budget does not include a cushion of several hundred thousand dollars.

"We want to move forward as soon as possible," Hammond said.

He suggested a special meeting would likely be called within the week to provide a recommendation to the board.

Hardman said another factor to consider is exactly how far 700,000 cubic yards would go.

The decision to focus on the southern end, met with some controversy from those to the north who have been taxed for the restoration project, was based on the theory that existing currents would move sand placed to the south north.

That was the case with the initial beach restoration project of nearly a decade ago.

The county would address "hot spots" to the north as needed by truck and sand from the county pit on the north end.

## New beach access law

County attorney Jeremy Novak provided an

overview of a new state law which was passed earlier this year and takes effect this summer.

That law, Novak said, struck down a Walton County ordinance pertaining to public enjoyment of the beach and required that counties or cities wishing to approve "customary use" ordinances regarding coastal beaches must go through the courts.

That, Novak said, is a lengthy and costly process, though several Florida counties have done so.

In effect, the customary use doctrine, consistently upheld by courts, is rooted in the concept that the beaches belong to all.

Gulf County does not have such an ordinance, Novak said, but does have historic access laws, such as beach driving and Leave No Trace and an erosion control line by ordinance, which serve to facilitate public access to the beach while being sensitive to private property rights.

Novak said the county will continue to enforce those ordinances and if

desired in the future could pursue a customary use ordinance.

## County-wide voting

Resident Roland Wilson told commissioners their job was to oversee the county staff and business and to do the voters' work.

He said it was time commissioners moved ahead on county-wide voting, which voters approved more than a decade ago only to have the referendum ignored by successive boards.

"You've kicked county-wide voting down the road for years," Wilson said.

"The voters urge you to move forward.

"You no longer have a valid excuse."

Additionally, Wilson said the board has worked to exclude the public by holding meetings in the morning instead of the evening, which had been the case until several years ago.

"You are hired to represent the people, to do the wishes of the majority of the people, not what you want done," Wilson said.

# ARREST

From Page A1

the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and analysts from the FDLE Computer Crime Center executed search warrants at Downs' home Thursday.

A warrant for Downs' arrest had been secured based on evidence Downs was using a computer to seduce, solicit, lure or entice a child, according to the GCSO.

Downs is alleged to have used Facebook Messenger to receive and solicit inappropriate photographs of the victim, who he knew.

While serving the search warrant, and taking Downs into custody, investigators seized multiple computers and electronic devices for additional analysis.

On a computer at the scene, investigators found photographs taken in November 2014 of the second victim.

The photos corroborated information provided by the victim.

That led to additional charges against Downs of sexual battery on a person 12 years or older, lewd or lascivious molestation of a victim 12 years or older and 11 counts of possession of child pornography.

Additional charges are anticipated.

Downs was booked into the Gulf County Detention Facility and later released on \$110,000 bond.

# VOTING

From Page A1

5 p.m. ET at the Supervisor of Elections Office located at 401 Long Ave.

Voters are requested to enter through the "Early Voting" entrance facing Fourth Street.

While there are four names on the ballot, they are all found beneath the race for the Group 4 seat following Commissioner Rex Buzzett's decision not to seek a seventh term.

During candidate qualifying Commissioners Brett Lowry and Eric Langston

did not draw a challenger, ensuring their automatic re-election.

The candidates for the Group 4 seat are, in alphabetical order, Scott Hoffman, Rosemary Lewis, Aaron Little and Jim Sickels.

This is a non-partisan, non-district election, therefore all of the city's 2,607 registered voters are eligible to vote on the seat.

The Supervisor of Election's Office has already received nearly 100 mail ballots. The voter registration book for the election is closed. Polls will open Election Day, May 8, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. ET at the Port St. Joe Fire Station at 400 Williams Ave.

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## NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION THE GULF COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

**Purpose and Effect:** The Gulf County School Board proposes to amend and adopt policies, as provided for in the Administrative Procedures Act, for the purpose of bringing said policies into compliance with Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rules.

**Summary:** The following is a brief description of each proposed change.

- 2.26 School Improvement
- 2.95 Wellness Program
- 3.90 Charter Schools
- 4.10 The Curriculum
- 5.20 Student Assignment
- 5.201 Student Out of Zone Transfers / CHOICE
- 5.202 Postsecondary Enrollment Programs
- 5.321 Bullying and Harassment
- 6.41 Instructional Employee Performance Criteria
- 6.70 Staff Training

**Economic Impact:** These proposals may result in direct costs associated with implementation.

IF REQUESTED, A HEARING WILL BE HELD AT:

Time: 10:00 AM EST

Date: May 8, 2018

Place: Gulf County School Board Room

150 Middle School Road

Port St. Joe, FL 32456

The entire text of the proposed rules can be inspected during regular office hours at the Gulf County School Board Office, 150 Middle School Road, Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Special legal authority under which the adoption is authorized and the law being implemented and interpreted is made specific.

The addition and changes are proposed by Bill Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services and approved for consideration by Jim Norton, Superintendent.

**Amendments:** See above

NF-4529090

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
**GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**PORT ST. JOE CITY GENERAL - MAY 8, 2018**

1) TO VOTE, COMPLETELY FILL IN THE OVAL (●) NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE.  
2) USE BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PEN.  
3) IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE, DON'T HESITATE TO ASK FOR A NEW BALLOT. IF YOU ERASE OR MAKE OTHER MARKS, YOUR VOTE MAY NOT COUNT.

**Commissioner - Group 4**  
(Vote for One)

Scott Hoffman

Rosemary Lewis

Aaron D. Little

Jim Sickels

END OF BALLOT

**Early Voting April 28 - May 5, 2018**  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm ET  
**NO VOTING ON SUNDAY**  
Gulf County Supervisor of Elections Office  
401 Long Avenue, Port St Joe, FL 32456

**City Election May 8, 2018**  
Polls are open 7:00 am to 7:00 pm ET  
At the Port St Joe Fire Station  
Picture and Signature ID required to vote

City of Port St Joe
Typ:01 Seq:0001 Spt:01

# 2018 Atlantic hurricane outlook

## 4 US impacts predicted amid another active season

AccuWeather Global Weather Center

AccuWeather reports after a devastating hurricane season for the United States in 2017, forecasters are predicting a near normal to slightly above-normal year with between 12 to 15 tropical storms.

Of those storms, 6 to 8 are forecast to become hurricanes and 3 to 5 are forecast to become major hurricanes.

"Last year we had 17 tropical storms. This year may not

be quite as active, but still probably normal to slightly above normal," AccuWeather Atlantic Hurricane Expert Dan Kottlowski said.

Similar to last year, sea surface temperatures are expected to remain warmer than normal across most of the basin and normal to above normal over the main developmental region, where more than 85 percent of all tropical storms form.

"Right now, we are in a weakening La Niña pattern, but the climate pattern is expected to go into what's called a neutral pattern, which promotes near-normal wind shear," Kottlowski said.

This should limit tropical

development.

"The thing that's causing the balance to tip in one direction [this year] is that sea surface temperatures are warmer than normal," he said.

Warm water creates more favorable conditions for tropical development.

While last year brought six impacts to the United States, including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, this year is more likely to result in three or four.

"This season may not [bring] as many impacts, but I'm almost afraid to tell people this because it only takes one big storm to hit you to cause massive damage," Kottlowski said.

"We saw that from Harvey, Irma and Maria last year. If all we had was just another Irma or Harvey, that would be more than enough to cause catastrophic damage for any coastal community."

According to Kottlowski, conditions are ripe for early season development in the Gulf of Mexico due the warm water already in place in that part of the Atlantic basin.

As for the rest of the season, historical records and the projected pattern suggest the area from Houston to Florida and up through the Outer Banks of North Carolina will be more favorable for direct impacts from tropical storms and hurricanes.

"Anywhere else along the coast, everybody should still be vigilant and prepare for a possible direct impact," Kottlowski said.

"You should have a hurricane plan in action. In other words: If you had to evacuate, what would you take with you? And if you were staying home, how would you deal with a storm that may knock your power out, may knock your water service out," he said.

"You want to prepare for the worst case scenario - that's called having a hurricane plan. And the government and local officials do have guidelines on how to create such a plan depending on where you live."

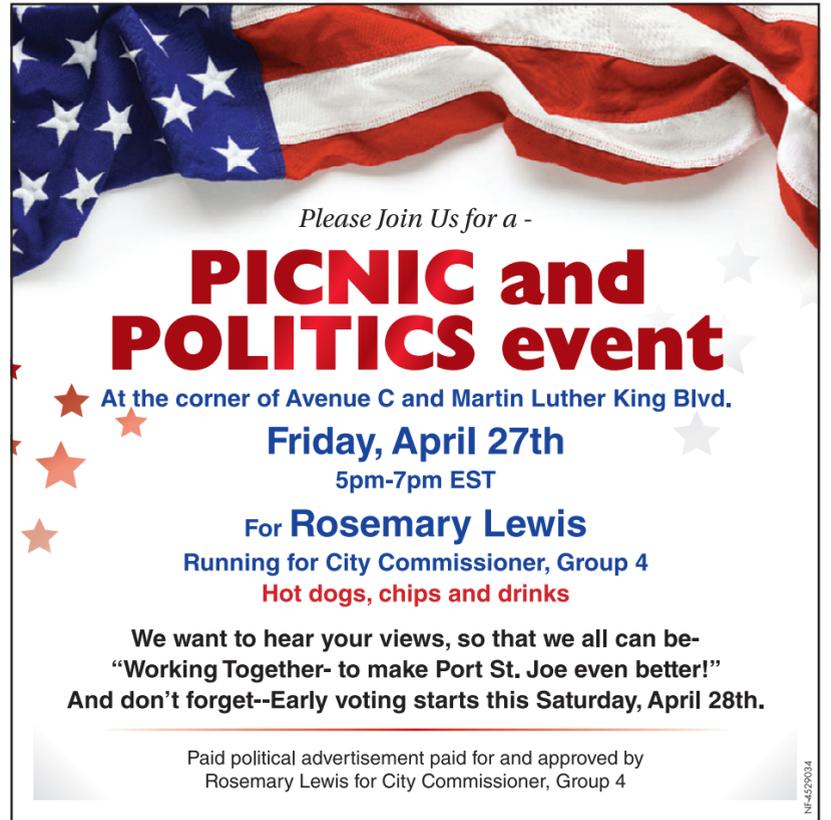


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Friday, May 4th, 7:00-10:00pm  
First United Methodist Church Great Hall

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

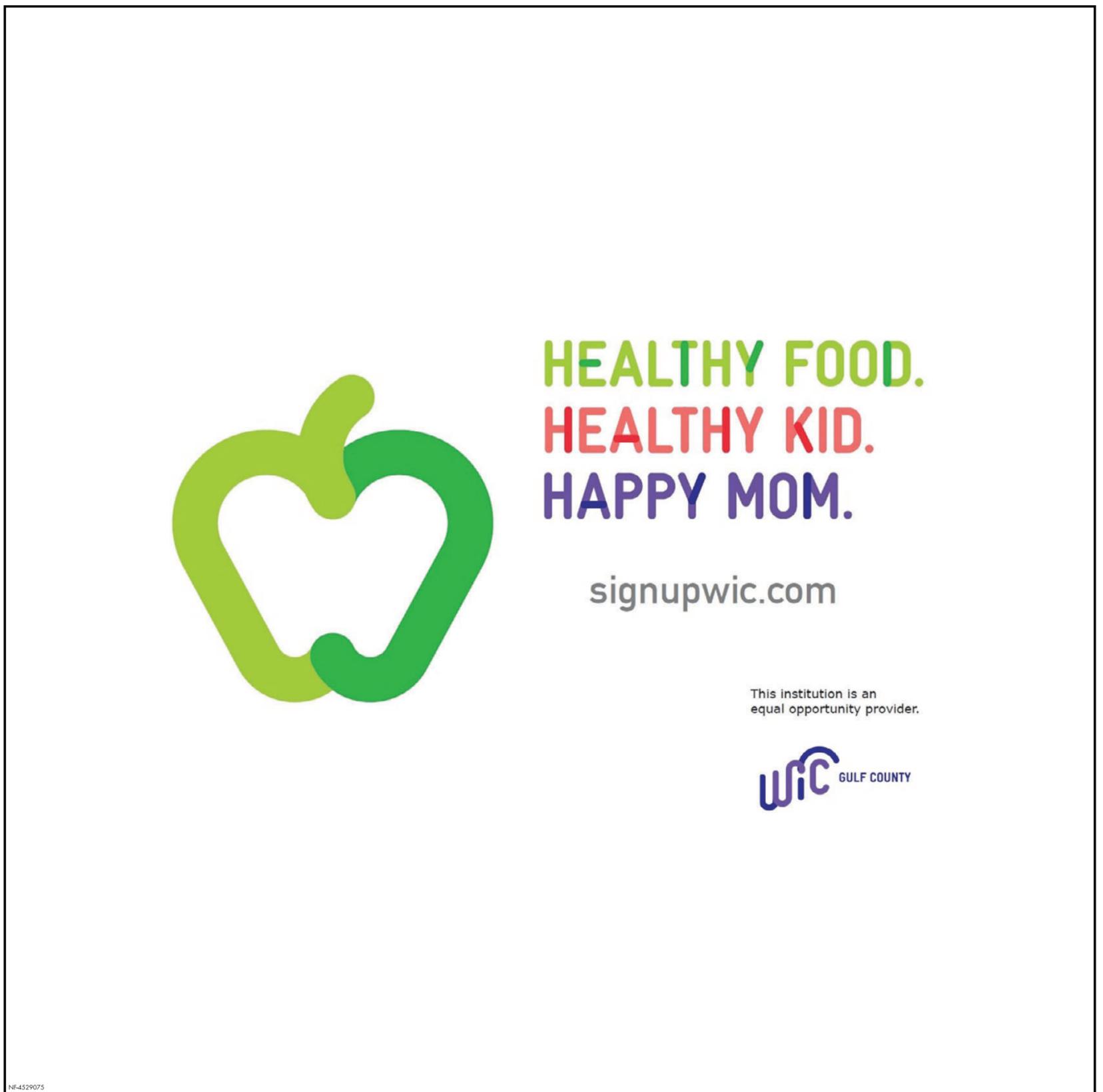


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Running for City Commissioner, Group 4  
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**WIC GULF COUNTY**

# County unemployment continues fall in March

By **Tim Croft**  
The Port St. Joe Star  
850227-7827 | @PSJ\_Star  
tcroft@starfl.com

The county unemployment rate continued a downward descent in March, falling by three-tenths a percent after a half point drop in February.

The March unemployment rate in Gulf County was 3.7 percent, according to a release from CareerSource Gulf Coast.

Over the past two months the unemployment rate has fallen from January's 4.4 percent.

The unemployment rate in March 2017 was 3.8 percent.

The region, which also includes Bay and Franklin counties, saw unemployment fall to 3.6 percent overall, down from 4.0 in February and well below the 4.2 percent of March 2017.

The state unemployment rate for March was above the region's at 3.9 percent, unchanged from February, but down a half percentage point compared to February 2017.

There were 400,000 jobless Floridians out of a labor force over 10 million.

The nation's unemployment rate in March was 4.1, unchanged from February.

Out of a regional labor

force of 100,692, which was up 1.7 percent, or 1,679 from last year, there were 3,675 unemployed.

"We are getting a lot of job orders from employers looking to hire for the tourism season in Gulf County," said Kim Bodine, Executive Director for CareerSource Gulf Coast.

"If you are looking for work just go to our website career-sourcegc.com and register with us to search thousands of jobs."

With the height of the tourist season still to come, the CareerSource release also noted that Gulf County bed tax collections were up over 35 percent in January while bed tax revenue was up 19 percent in Mexico Beach.

Bed taxes were up also up by double digits in Bay and Franklin counties for the month of January.

In March 2018, non-agricultural employment within Panama City MSA, which also includes Gulf County, was 85,700, up 1,700 jobs, or 2 percent, over the year.

The Panama City MSA had the third-fastest annual job growth in Florida in the professional and business services sector, 5.5 percent in March.

In addition, the mining, logging and construction (8 percent), financial activities

(4.5 percent), leisure and hospitality (4.2 percent), and trade, transportation, and utilities (1.8 percent) also grew faster than in the Panama City MSA than statewide year over year.

Industries gaining jobs over the past year included professional and business services (up 600 jobs); education and health services (up 100 jobs); leisure and hospitality (up 600 jobs); mining, logging and construction (up 600 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (up 300 jobs); and financial activities (up 200 jobs).

According to the DEO, the manufacturing (down 200 jobs), government (down 200 jobs); and information industries (down 100 jobs) all lost jobs over the past year.

The other services industry was unchanged.

The unemployment rate does not reflect those unemployed who are no longer receiving unemployment benefits nor does it include those who have stopped seeking employment.

CareerSource Gulf Coast operates offices in all three counties. Visit [www.career-sourcegc.com](http://www.career-sourcegc.com) to learn more about professional workforce development and job placement services, all offered free of charge.



[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

## Recital prep

Special to The Star

on Saturday, May 12 at 1:30 p.m. CT.

Emerald Dance Academy Company dancers are preparing for their annual recital which will take place at the Martin Theater in Panama City

owner, Barbie Walker, and company dancers, Lainey Ingalls, Elliana Burkett, Bailey Lake, Ana Lactiva.

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STARFL.COM**

# Real Estate Picks

Best Values on the Forgotten Coast

**MLS 260348 • PORT ST. JOE, FL • \$879,000**

Custom built 3 story home w/attached carriage house located in the privately gated, security patrolled & family friendly Windmark Phase 1 community. This home has a reverse floor plan w/the top floor allowing for panoramic views of St Joseph Bay & Cape San Blas. The double 14x36 screened porches allow family gatherings & dinners cooked in the gourmet kitchen featuring granite counter tops & chef quality JenAir Stove w/double ovens. The soaring 11' ceilings & 7' Anderson windows allow views that are unmatched in the area. The 2nd floor has 2 master suites w/the main bedroom featuring 2 complete his & her bathrooms, walk-in closets, & a connecting 14x36 screened porch. The carriage house connected by a deck walkway has over 400 w/a full bath, kitchenette, & its own screened porch.

**Jay Rish, Broker**  
Gulf Coast Real Estate Group, LLC  
850-227-5569  
[jay@floridagulfcoast.com](http://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  
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[TLake@CapeSanBlasRealty.com](mailto:TLake@CapeSanBlasRealty.com)

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**Eli Duarte**  
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Office: 850.227.7891  
[www.gulfcoastalproperties.com](http://www.gulfcoastalproperties.com)

**Coastal Realty Group**

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

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](mailto:carol@mustseemagazine.com)

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# TURTLES

From Page A1

since the county adopted a Leave No Trace ordinance, though there have yet to be funds budgeted for enforcement.

Instead the county has relied on education outreach and the peninsula turtle patrol and its non-profit arm has been instrumental.

Patrol volunteers are on the beaches each morning during the six month turtle season and are beachside residents when not patrolling or surveying.

They are, literally, the first line in protecting the beach and its critters.

Last week, the Florida Coastal Conservancy was awarded a grant of nearly \$5,000 to bolster the information and education campaign behind Leave No Trace.

The money flows from the state out of proceeds from the sea turtle specialty license plate and through the Florida Sea Turtle Grants Program.

The grant award came after a competitive process that is open to coastal county governments, educational institutions and Florida-based non-profits working to improve the livelihood of sea turtles and conserve natural habitats.

The goal of the local project is to enhance nesting beach habitat and marine conditions for the hundreds of sea turtles, loggerheads, Kemp's Ridley and green, which nest on county beaches each year.

Habitat enhancement includes near-shore areas of St. Joseph Bay where

juvenile sea turtles thrive in their early life.

"This is all about outreach to facilitate the educational aspect of Leave No Trace," Swindall said. "In a lot of ways we are an arm of the county, like the citizen support organization supporting the county and Leave No Trace."

"Our volunteers are out there, talking with people, seeing the beach each morning."

The grant dollars will purchase new and updated road signage urging folks to dim the lights and adhere to Leave No Trace during their beach visit.

In addition to updating the three existing road signs along the peninsula, a fourth will be purchased and erected.

In addition, brochures and magnets speaking to lighting and Leave No Trace will be purchased for distribution by the Gulf County Tourist Development Council, Florida Coastal Conservancy, during the upcoming Forgotten Coast Sea Turtle Festival, other local events and placement in rental units.

Ambassador cards will be distributed to youngsters with their pledge to assist in the effort to keep beaches clean.

"(All of it) will include information about how improper lighting, litter and recreational equipment left overnight on the beach can negatively impact sea turtles," according to a press release from the Florida Coastal Conservancy.

"The items ... will be beneficial in informing residents and visitors about our sea turtle population and how best to enjoy the natural beauty and recreational opportunities in Gulf County



Hatchlings will begin emerging in July.

[FILE PHOTO]

without negatively impacting these important animals and their habitat."

There will also be information on what to do if you encounter a stranded or injured sea turtle.

The grant proposal includes a survey of beachgoers concerning their knowledge of lighting and Leave No Trace information and issues.

"We want to try and understand where folks are getting the information and what information they are getting," Swindall said.

The sea turtle season, nesting and hatching, continues from May 1 through the end of October.

The beaches, Swindall, who has been surveying them in advance of the season, are "pretty clean, pretty wide" though erosion at the south end of the peninsula is a decided issue in an area sea turtles love.

The first nests typically are found in late May, the third week or so, and from July 1 through October the hatchlings will begin to emerge from their nests.

In each of the past two years, the peninsula beaches have seen well over 200 nests.

And that does not include Indian Pass, St. Vincent Island or St. Joe Beach out to East Bay.

# RV

From Page A1

home values and property values. I can understand the concerns of people. Their concerns are valid."

McCroan submitted for the record a petition signed by nearly 40 homeowners in the area of Oak Grove urging the county to step into the fray.

The city of Port St. Joe specifically pointed to issues in Oak Grove as it debated, and continues to debate, implemented restrictions on accessory structures such as pole barns.

Lorinda Gingell, who said she could just sit along Madison Ave. and watch the RVs heading in and out of Oak Grove, said the problem goes beyond impacts to property values to degrading of infrastructure by folks not paying taxes.

"The implications and money the county is losing with this kind of free-for-all" is considerable, Gingell said.

And, resident Chris Wall said, the problems are not exclusive to Oak Grove, but can also be seen in St. Joe Beach where some areas are being rendered permanently into RV parks and where RVs have been advertised as homes for sale.

"It has had a negative effect in Oak Grove, but it is not an Oak Grove issue," Hall said. "It impacts values and in turn taxes for the county."

"And it is just not fair to (neighboring) property owners."

Novak noted to the current board that most members had not previously dealt with the RV ordinance, or its controversial evolution.

The county first began contemplating a RV ordinance at the urging of coastal property owners in 2010 and twice, after public hearings and advertisement, on the verge of a final vote, were scuttled by commissioners.

In 2015, the ordinance was finally approved after the county, using state guidelines, established the Coastal Construction Corridor spanning one-mile from coastal open waters in which RVs, other

than short-term, county-permitted stays, were banned.

However, Novak said, commissioners also went back in and amended the ordinance on three occasions, once to carve out Oak Grove, Jones Homestead and Highland View.

Under the county's rules, those areas were taken out as they were not considered adjacent to "open waters" but the waters of St. Joseph Bay.

"(The problem in Oak Grove) is a direct response to the RV ordinance," county administrator Michael Hammond said, saying RVs banned from the beaches had nowhere else to go but Oak Grove and Highland View.

"The RV ordinance has been a major headache for staff and a nightmare to enforce. It's almost impossible to enforce as it is," Hammond added.

A glimmer is that Oak Grove is zoned residential, as opposed to mixed commercial/residential in Highland View and Jones Homestead, providing some teeth for the enforcement county ordinances.

Further, the RV ordinance does not address pole barns which, he added, were more the purview, as with RVs being rented out in Oak Grove or St. Joe Beach, of the building department.

Novak said if commissioners wished to relook at the RV ordinance amendment which carved out Oak Grove, his recommendation would be to re-examine Highland View and Jones Homestead as well.

The county wanted to avoid any implication of "spot-zoning," he said.

McCroan said he was not seeking abolishing the RV ordinance, but providing some relief and fairness for those impacted by the rise of RVs and other structures in their neighborhood.

Pole barns, under county rule, can not go up on a lot without a primary structure and the limit on RVs in the county outside the CCL is one per lot.

After much discussion, commissioners authorized Novak to take a look at the ordinance and come back with recommendations.

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# MBARA completes reef construction project

Star Staff Report

The city of Mexico Beach and the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association (MBARA) last week completed a deployment of artificial reef structures in Bay and Gulf County waters.

The \$179,000 project, with Walter Marine providing the heavy lifting, included 57 structures in 22 locations across nine permit sites in state and federal waters, according to a MBARA release.

The deployment also included a milestone for the MBARA: the largest reef structure in the Gulf of Mexico at roughly 750 feet in length.

"This year's project used a new capability aboard Walter Marine's newest vessel, a Dynamic Positioning System (DPS)," said MBARA President Bob Cox.

This system is a robust autopilot feature in which a computer and GPS system takes control of the ship's steering, throttles and bow thrusters, keeping the vessel in a stationary position working against currents, tides, and winds that would otherwise move the vessel away from targeted stationary location such as a reef construction site.

"This is the first artificial reef construction vessel using DPS in our region and we're pleased with the accurate and precise placements," Cox said, adding, "the DPS was instrumental in successful construction of Mexico Beach's largest reef to date."

The deployment included 10 Super Reefs measuring 16-feet by 15-feet and 18 tons each, 16 pyramids measuring 8-10-feet by 10-feet and three to four tons, nine Grouper Reefs measuring six-feet tall, 10-feet long and



The project included nine Grouper Reef structures.



Fundraisers the past two years for a Veterans Honor Memorial Reef supported the deployment of this and several other reefs.

five-foot wide and weighing four tons.

In addition, 22 Chicken Transport Units measuring six-feet tall, eight-feet long, three-feet wide and 750 pounds were placed.

Of the 16 pyramids, 10 were memorial reef structures honoring loved ones, friends, military, and veterans.

The project was sponsored by the Courtney Knight Gaines Foundation, the MBARA, Mexico Beach Reefs for the Military and Veterans Committee, private

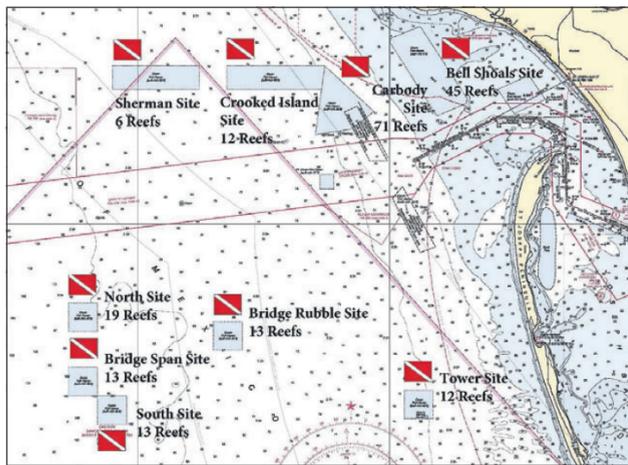
donors, the St. Joe Community Foundation, the city of Mexico Beach, the State of Florida, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program.

Cox thanked volunteers Bob Stapleton and Jimmy Nicholson for providing their boats and assistance and "making it a smooth deployment."

A film crew also followed the deployment to capture MBARA's memorial reef process for



Walter Marine deployed 10 Super Reefs. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR PHOTOS]



A dive map of the new reef locations.

a segment on an of "Chasin' the Sun" to be aired on the Discovery Channel soon.

Artificial reefs are important to conservation of marine resources and the local economy. With natural reefs in jeopardy from environmental changes and physical damage, artificial reefs play a mitigating role to preserve ocean ecosystems for future generations.

Additionally, economic studies show that every dollar invested in artificial reef construction provides an annual return of over \$131 to a local economy that's heavily

dependent tourism, recreation, and seafood industry.

MBARA is in need of more donors, members, sponsors and volunteers to make its program even better, Cox said.

The public is invited to attend MBARA meetings held on the first Thursday of every month and/or contact one of the Board of Directors with other means of support like donations, grants, and sponsorships, Cox added.

For more information about MBARA and its Memorial Reef program, please visit [WWW.MBARA.org](http://WWW.MBARA.org).

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- 17 HYUNDAI SONATA SE SILVER, PA5521 ..... **\$18,998**
- 13 HYUNDAI SONATA SE BLUE, N1389A ..... **\$15,998**
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# OUTDOORS

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## Give nesting waterbirds space to help keep them safe

Special to The Star

It's nesting season for Florida's waterbirds, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Audubon Florida are reminding beachgoers and boaters to give these birds and their young space to help keep them safe.

"This is a critical time of year for nesting birds and their young," said Craig Faulhaber, avian conservation coordinator for the FWC. "By taking a few simple steps, people can enjoy a day at the beach or on the water without disturbing nesting birds and their chicks, which increases the birds' chances of survival."

Shorebirds and seabirds build shallow nests out of sand and shells on beaches in spring and summer, and eggs and chicks are difficult to see. Wading

birds, such as herons and egrets, as well as pelicans, are also nesting now on islands around the state. Both types of birds can be easily disturbed if people approach too closely. Such disturbance can cause birds to abandon their nesting sites, exposing eggs and chicks to predators, sun exposure and other harm.

Shorebird nests, eggs and chicks are well-camouflaged and can easily be missed and even stepped on unless people know to look out for them. The snowy plover, least tern, black skimmer, American oystercatcher and Wilson's plover are several of Florida's beach-nesting bird species facing conservation challenges. Wading birds and pelicans typically nest in mangroves and on tree islands. Reddish egrets, tricolored herons and



[[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]]

### WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, April 26	76°	58°	20%
Fri, April 27	76°	58°	20%
Sat, April 28	77°	59°	10%
Sun, April 29	79°	63°	0%
Mon, April 30	79°	65°	10%
Tues, May 1	76°	64°	10%
Wed, May 2	77°	64°	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
26	Th	11:02a 0.8	9:42p 0.9	3:35a 0.3	2:48p 0.7
27	Fr	9:58a 0.9		3:19a 0.6	4:26p 0.4
28	Sa	12:06a 0.8	9:45a 1.1	2:02a 0.7	5:37p 0.2
29	Su	9:55a 1.3		6:40p 0.1	
30	Mo	10:17a 1.4		7:40p 0.0	
1	Su	1:39a 0.8	11:07a 0.9	4:20a 0.7	6:52p 0.1
2	Mo	11:28a 1.1		8:11p 0.1	

### APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
26	Th	1:13a 1.1	2:20p 1.2	8:14a 0.3	8:41p 0.5
27	Fr	2:36a 1.1	2:40p 1.2	8:58a 0.5	9:25p 0.3
28	Sa	3:41a 1.2	2:58p 1.2	9:36a 0.7	10:06p 0.1
29	Su	4:37a 1.2	3:16p 1.3	10:08a 0.8	10:44p 0.0
30	Mo	5:27a 1.2	3:36p 1.3	10:35a 0.9	11:20p -0.1
1	Tu	6:14a 1.2	3:59p 1.4	11:01a 1.0	11:55p -0.1
2	We	7:01a 1.2	4:26p 1.4	11:28a 1.1	

**SPONSOR THE WEEKLY ALMANAC CALL TODAY! 227-7847**

### FISHING REPORT



What a great break in the weather this last week and the fishing has picked up along with the beautiful weather. Pompano continues to pick up with more fish moving in along the beaches. Pomp Jigs, FishBites and Shrimp will catch fish for you. Some of the better reports are coming out of the Mexico Beach area but they are being taken all the way down to Windmark Beach and out at the Cape. Spanish

Mackerel reports have slowed but we are sure there are plenty of fish still to be had and the Kings will be following shortly. Trout and Redfish are starting to turn on a little better in the bay and small Pin Fish flat lined along the grass flats are getting attention. Make sure and visit Bluewater Outriggers for all your gear, tackle and bait needs. We'll be happy to "hook you up". Until next week, Happy Fishing!

roseate spoonbills have also experienced declines.

"Florida's coasts took a beating from Hurricane Irma in 2017," said Julie Wraithmell, interim executive director for Audubon Florida. "We can't control impacts to nesting sites from weather, but we can protect them from human disturbance. This year it is more important than ever."

The FWC has established Critical Wildlife Areas to protect congregations of one or more species of wildlife during critical life activities such as nesting, feeding or migration.

People can help keep nesting birds safe by keeping their distance from CWAs and other areas where birds are nesting or raising young. In addition to observing the marked-off areas

around CWAs, people can also help by following a few simple steps while enjoying the beach this season:

- Keep your distance from birds, on the beach or on the water. If birds become agitated or leave their nests, you are too close. A general rule is to stay at least 300 feet from a nest. Birds calling out loudly and dive-bombing are signals for you to back off.

- Respect posted areas. Avoid posted nesting sites and use designated walkways when possible.

- Never intentionally force birds to fly or run. This causes them to use energy needed for nesting, and eggs and chicks may be left vulnerable to the sun's heat or predators. Teach children not to chase shorebirds and seabirds, and kindly ask fellow beachgoers to do the same. Shorebirds and

seabirds outside of posted areas may be feeding or resting and need to do so without disturbance.

- It is best to not take pets to the beach, but if you do, keep them leashed and avoid shorebird and seabird nesting areas. (State parks, national parks and CWAs do not allow pets.)

- Keep the beach clean and do not feed wildlife. Food scraps attract predators, such as raccoons and crows, which can prey on shorebird eggs and chicks. Litter on beaches can entangle birds and other wildlife.

- Spread the word. If you see people disturbing nesting birds, gently let them know how their actions may hurt the birds' survival. If they continue to disturb nesting birds, report it to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922), #FWC or

\*FWC on a cellphone or by texting Tip@MyFWC.com. You may also report nests that are not posted to our Wildlife Alert Program.

For more information, go to MyFWC.com/Shorebirds and download the "Share the Beach - Nesting Birds" brochure. Or go to the Florida Shorebird Alliance website at FLShorebirdAlliance.org to learn more about how to participate in shorebird and seabird conservation efforts.

For more information about Florida's CWAs, visit MyFWC.com/CWA.

To learn how you can volunteer your time to protect nesting coastal birds, visit [www.flshorebirdalliance.org](http://www.flshorebirdalliance.org) and scroll over the "Conservation" tab at the top, then click on "Coastal Conservation" and "Coastal Bird Stewardship," or you may email [FLConseruation@Audubon.org](mailto:FLConseruation@Audubon.org).

## Snook to close in Gulf state and federal waters

Special to The Star

Snook will close to all harvest in Gulf state, federal and inland waters, including all of Monroe County and Everglades National Park, starting May 1. Seasonal harvest closures conserve Florida's valuable snook populations and help sustain and improve the fishery for the future.

Snook is open to harvest in Atlantic state, federal and inland waters, including Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee River, through May 31, closing June 1.

Both the Atlantic and Gulf will reopen for recreational snook harvest Sept. 1.

Snook are one of the many reasons Florida is the Fishing Capital of the World. While snook may be caught and released during the closed season,



[[COURTESY OF FWC]]

the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) encourages anglers to handle their catch carefully to help the fish survive upon release. Proper handling methods

can help ensure the species' abundance for anglers today and generations to come. To learn more about fish handling, visit MyFWC.com/Fishing and click on "Saltwater Fishing," "Recreational

Regulations" and "Fish Handling."

Learn more about recreational fishing at MyFWC.com/Fishing by clicking on "Saltwater Fishing" and "Recreational Regulations."

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# SPORTS

## DISTRICT 4-1A SOFTBALL

### PSJ and Franklin advance

By Pat McCann  
The News Herald

SAND HILLS — Class 1A schools have one less stage in the regional round than their counterparts in Classes 5A-9A in Florida.

Part of that disparity, however, is compromised by the fact that many 1A districts are twice the size of those with larger enrollment schools. At least they can be in the Panhandle.

So there can be an extra round of district games played, as was the case on Monday at host Bozeman in the District 4-1A grouping.

Port St. Joe and Franklin County each won elimination games. Port St. Joe advanced to meet No. 2 seed Bozeman today at 4 p.m. in one semifinal. Franklin County will play top-seeded Wewahitchka in the other at 6 p.m.

#### Port St. Joe 11, Liberty County 9

Through three innings the rubber match looked like a mismatch.

Port St. Joe, 14-7, and Liberty County had split regular-season games. After three, however, the Lady Tiger Sharks not only had built a 9-1 lead, they had done so against two Liberty County pitchers.

The mercy rule loomed. That's when the Lady Bulldogs began to catch up to some of the offerings of Brooke Zinker, who had struck out eight entering the top of the fifth inning.

With one out, Taryn Kirkland singled sharply, and after Kacy Partridge forced her at second McKenzie Hanna slammed a two-run home run to left field.

Kirkland had relieved starter Destiny Tucker in the third inning and immediately surrendered four runs. When she pitched a scoreless fourth and fifth, the Lady Bulldogs regrouped.

Holly Ammons laced a two-run double in the sixth, two more baserunners crossed the plate on a Port St. Joe throwing error and Hanna thumped an RBI double.

Suddenly the invincible lead had been reduced to 9-8 as Liberty County batted around.

Port St. Joe made a final statement with two insurance runs in the bottom of the sixth. Erica Ramsey singled, was sacrificed to second and scored on a single by seventh-grader Kali Austerman, her third hit of the game.

Brooklynn Quinn's second sacrifice fly opened an 11-8 lead, and the Lady Tiger Sharks withstood a run-scoring double by Hanna Bailey in the top of the seventh.

Hanna finished with three hits and three RBIs for Liberty

County. Kirkland had two hits and Bailey two hits and an RBI.

Georgia Lee had two doubles, scored twice and knocked in two runs for Port St. Joe. She also made five putouts in left field.

Ramsey had two hits and an RBI and Hagen Parrish two hits and two runs. Zinker struck out 10.

**Liberty County** 010 025 1 - 9 10 6  
**Port St. Joe** 144 992 x - 11 12 4  
Tucker (L), Kirkland 3 and Partridge; Zinker (W) and Quinn.  
LOB: Liberty County 6, Port St. Joe 9. E: Copas 2, Ammons, Bailey 2, Carson, Alcorn 2, Todd, Ramsey. 2B: G.Lee 2, Austerman, Hanna, Bailey. HR: Hanna. S: Austerman, Alcorn. SF: Quinn 2, Zinker. HBP: by Zinker (King 2). WP: Tucker 4, Kirkland, Zinker 2. PB: Partridge, Quinn. IP: Tucker. RBIs: Liberty County, Hanna 3, Ammons 2, Bailey, Port St. Joe, Quinn 2, G.Lee 2, Zinker 2, Ramsey, Austerman.

#### Franklin County 15, Vernon 0

Franklin County lost a coin flip with Bozeman to determine the second seed, and was forced to play a first-round game while Bozeman received a bye.

The opponent was winless Vernon, which ended a frustrating season 0-20 as the 15-run threshold was reached in the bottom of the fourth inning.

The Lady Seahawks, 17-9, used Jaylin Charles' steady pitching and a relentless attack to advance. They scored five runs in each the first, second and fourth innings.

Madison Smith set the tone initially when reaching on a bunt single, sprinting all the way to third base as Sophia Kirvin was grounding out and scoring when Vernon left third uncovered on its throw across the diamond.

Alexi Johnson walked, Charles reached on an error and Michaela Cassidy was hit by a pitch to load the bases with two outs. Johnson scored on a wild pitch, and then Abby Johnson smacked a two-run triple into the left-field corner.

Rosie Davis led off the second with a single and the bases quickly were loaded with no outs. Melanie Collins had an RBI single, Alexi Johnson knocked in a run with a sacrifice fly and Abby Johnson collected her third RBI with a single to left.

Vernon's Caitlyn Taunton stranded two Franklin County baserunners in the third, but the Seahawks bunched singles by Cassidy, Kyla Ross and Kirvin while ending the game in the fourth inning.

Vernon had three hits off Charles, with leadoff hitter Faith Baxley collecting two of them. Savannah Moore stroked a double for the Yellow Jackets leading off the top of the fourth.

**Vernon** 000 0 - 0 3 7  
**Franklin County** 550 5 - 15 10 1  
1 out in the fourth inning when game called. Taunton (L) and Baxley, Charles (W) and Johnson.

## PSJHS football work day

Special to The Star

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School football team will have its annual work day Saturday, May 12. The cost is \$40 a kid and we like to send them in groups of 2 or 4. Work will begin at 9 a.m. ET and finish at

2 p.m. If you have any spring cleaning jobs around your house or business please let us know. All the money made will go toward our players to go to FCA camp in July. If you are interested please call the school at 229-8251 or email tbrowning@gulf.k12.fl.us.

## DISTRICT 4-1A SOFTBALL



Wewahitchka's Brianna Bailey delivers to the plate during her perfect game performance on Tuesday in Wewahitchka's 9-0 win over Port St. Joe.

## RALLY AND A GEM

### Bozeman and Wewahitchka to meet in district softball final

By Pat McCann  
The News Herald

SAND HILLS — The District 4-1A softball semifinals figured to be dominated by two strong pitching performances on Tuesday at Bozeman.

Consider the results as advertised, as Bozeman used Abby Jo Batton's six-hitter in a 4-2 win over Franklin County and Wewahitchka followed with Brianna Bailey exhibiting what a perfect pitching performance looked like while overpowering Port St. Joe 9-0.

As a result, Bozeman will entertain Wewa at 6 p.m. Thursday for the district championship. Both teams already have qualified for the region tournament.

#### Bozeman 4, Franklin County 2

This Bozeman softball team wants to go farther than any other in school history.

The Bucks, 19-5, took a needed step in doing just that as sophomore Batton was strong in the circle and her teammates rallied twice to avoid elimination.

Bozeman tied the game at 2-2 in the fourth inning with an unearned run. Hannah Tiller reached on an error, and when Shelby Folmar bounced to Jaylin Charles, the first baseman stepped on the bag for the out, then tried to nail Tiller at second for a double play.

The throw wound up in left-center field and Tiller was able to come all the way around to score. The Bucks then used another misplay by the Lady Seahawks in the pivotal sixth inning.

"We had good games with them the last two times. They're a good-hitting team," Batton said of Franklin County, which ended 17-10. "But I thought we'd come out on top."

Brianna Harper tripled with one out in the sixth to initiate the winning rally against Lady Seahawks' eighth-grader Sage Brannan, who allowed only four hits.

Tiller attempted a safety squeeze, but with Brannan, Charles and third baseman Alexis Johnson charging, Harper had to retreat to third base when Brannan quickly fielded the runner. Her attempt to get the ball at third rolled down the line in foul



Wewahitchka's Gracie Price slides into third at Bozeman on Tuesday. [JOSHUA BOUCHER/THE NEWS HERALD PHOTOS]

territory, however, as Franklin County didn't fully execute its rotation.

Tiller reached third, from where she scored when Kaylee Jones grounded an infield hit to the right side between Charles and second baseman Sophia Kirvin.

Otherwise, Batton the only Bozeman player to hit safely until Harper's opposite-field triple.

Bozeman scored a single run in the first when Meredith Sanders was hit by a pitch, Batton doubled and Emily Hurst had an RBI groundout.

Franklin County rallied with two runs in the fourth. Kirvin and Melanie Collins singled, Alexis Johnson bunted them into scoring position and Abby Johnson continued a productive district tournament with a two-run single up the middle. Abby Johnson had three RBIs in Franklin County's win against Vernon on Monday.

Batton wasn't overpowering in the circle with only four strikeouts as she averages more than one per inning.

"The defense played really well behind me," said Batton, who vowed the Bucks want to exceed last season's breakthrough when they advanced to the region tournament for the first time.

"Are we capable?" of going farther than a first-round defeat. "If we just play hard, we can for sure."

Bozeman lost both regular-season meetings to Wewahitchka by shutouts, 6-0 and 3-0.

**Franklin County** 000 200 0 - 2 6 3  
**Bozeman** 100 102 x - 4 4 0  
Brannan (L) and Ab.Johnson; Batton (W) and Hurst.

LOB: Franklin County 6, Bozeman 5. E: Charles 2, Kirvin, Brannan. S: Collins, Al.Johnson, Smith. HBP: by Brannan (Sanders, Hurst), by Batton (Al.Johnson). RBIs: Franklin County, Ab.Johnson 2, Bozeman, Hurst, Jones.

#### Wewa 9, Port St. Joe 0

Pitch counts aren't critical in softball as a measure of arm exertion. But in the case of Lady Gators senior right-hander Bailey, a University

of Florida Gulf Coast commitment, it was informative.

Bailey needed only 86 pitches to toss a perfect game and improve to 20-1 on the season. That was magnified by 16 strikeouts, meaning that she needed at least 48 pitches in retiring those hitters.

All told, she tossed 62 strikes and only 24 called balls. Only twice, to Brooke Zinker in the fourth inning and Claudia Alcorn in the fifth did Bailey approach a three-ball count. Both ended in strikeouts.

Bailey raised her strikeout total 229 for the season in 122 innings and lowered her ERA that was 0.43 entering the game.

The Lady Gators, 21-4, used provocative baserunning to challenge Port St. Joe's defense. The Lady Tiger Sharks, 14-8, were without their starting catcher which weakened them at two positions and they weren't always able to execute under pressure.

Wewahitchka scored once in the first as Gracie Price and Bailey stroked base hits, and got four more runs in the second when Port St. Joe began to throw the ball around in frustration.

Angela Long, Lindsey Butler and Anna Setterich singled to produce a run in the third that made it 6-0. The Lady Gators scored twice without a hit in the fifth and Katie Shealy had an RBI to close the scoring in the seventh.

Bailey struck out every Port St. Joe batter at least once as Wewa's defense only had to make five putouts behind her.

Price, Bailey and Shealy each had two hits for the Lady Gators and Aleah Wooten knocked in two runs.

**Port St. Joe** 000 000 0 - 0 0 3  
**Wewahitchka** 141 021 x - 9 10 0  
Zinker (L), G.Lee 6 and Ramsey; Bailey and Price.

LOB: Port St. Joe 0, Wewa 8. E: Ramsey, Austerman, Todd. S: Nichols, Wooten. SB: Nichols. 3B: Price. HBP: by Zinker (Butler). WP: Zinker 2. PB: Ramsey 4. RBIs: Wewa, Wooten 2, Thompson, Shealy.

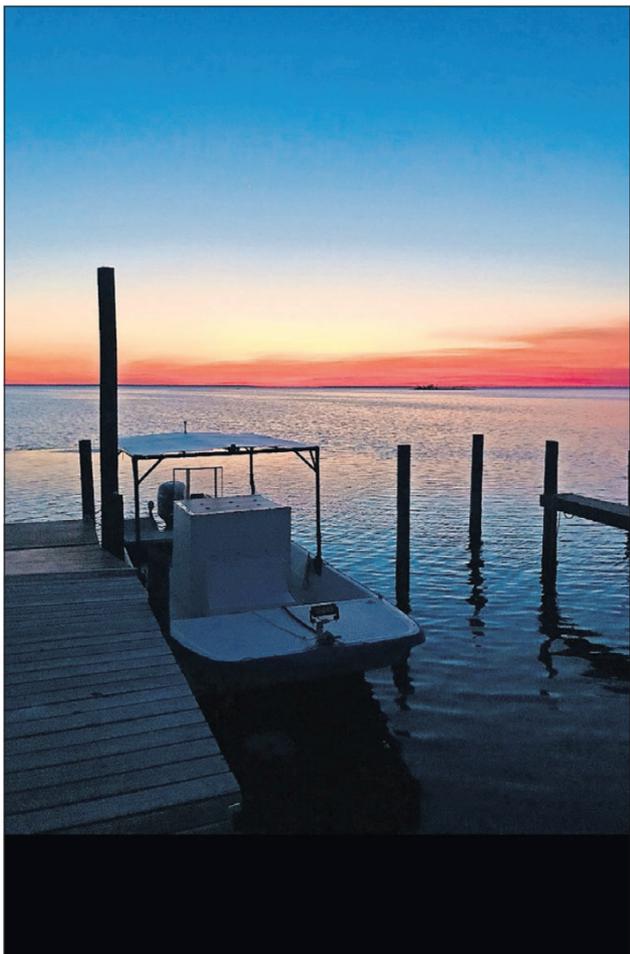
# SCENE AROUND



**Tupelo honey season is underway; a bee hovers among Tupelo blossoms.** [COURTESY OF SUSAN WOZNIAK]



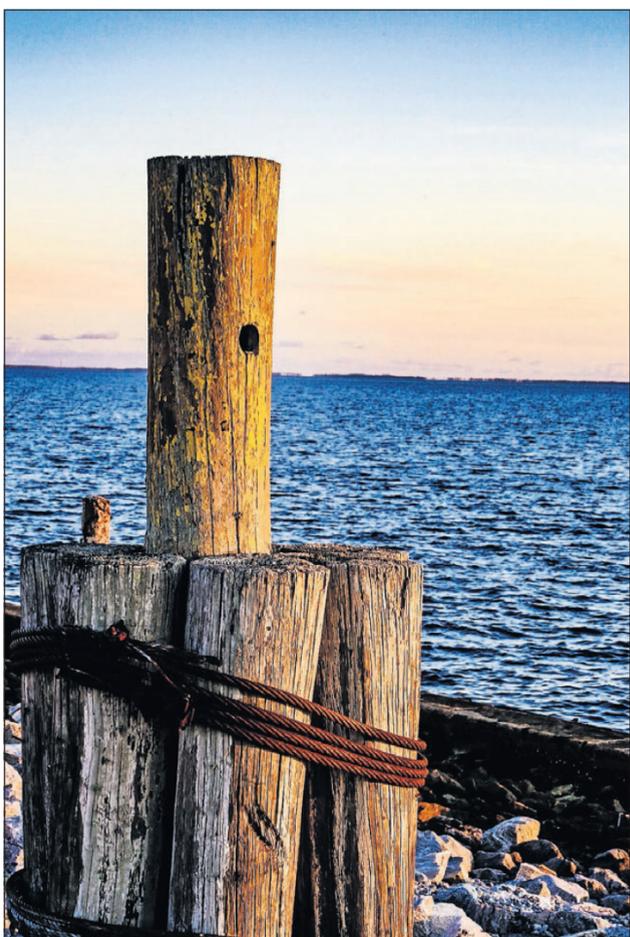
**Another memory made at Cape San Blas over Spring Break. Grandson at sunset.** [COURTESY OF STEPHANIE THOMPSON]



**A Simmons Bayou sunset.** [COURTESY OF CAROL AND PHIL DOHMEN]



**Grandkids from Powder Springs, GA enjoy the sunset over Spring Break.** [COURTESY OF SHAY WATERS]



**An afternoon at the Port St. Joe Marina.** [COURTESY OF RICHARD NICHOLS]



**The gorgeous end to another day along the Forgotten Coast.** [COURTESY OF MARGY JONES]



**Another summer visitor has arrived: the Swallow-tail Kite.** [COURTESY OF DEBORAH MAYS]

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

## As season arrives, concern about Tupelo

By **Tim Croft**

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

The next three weeks or so is the buzz the harvest of Tupelo honey.

But the Tupelo, the tree, its blossoms and the honey they produce, with a huge helping hand from the honeybee, is under pressure.

From the ever-lower water flows from the Apalachicola River.

From the demand of the marketplace, where the worth of Tupelo honey sits well above that of most

honey, making production more attractive.

And that has led to an increase in producers, in the case of Gulf County, out-of-state and region producers following pollination patterns and honing in on the valuable honey only produced locally.

"You have a very sought-after plant that is not doing well and is being over-forged," said Jeff Pippin of the Florida Department of Agriculture, which regulates beekeeping in the state.

The problems, said County Extension Director Ray Bodrey, begins at the Tupelo



**The Tupelo season will play out over the next 3-4 weeks**  
[COURTESY OF SUSAN WOZNIAK]

tree. The tree, particularly young saplings, must have

plenty of water to survive; the tree flourishes along the banks of Apalachicola and Chipola Rivers.

But the reduced flows along the river system from the north, and Georgia, the subject of long-running "water wars", is nibbling away at habitat.

Pippin noted that along the river, areas that once were deep, saturated muck year-round now "crunch" underfoot.

"Tupelo needs that water, it has to have that water to grow," Pippin said.

See **TUPELO, B6**

## 'Honor Walk' ground breaking next week

By **Tim Croft**

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

With a fundraising drive in full swing, the county will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the "Honor Walk" to be constructed at Veterans Memorial Park at Beacon Hill.

The ceremony will be held 10 a.m. ET May 3.

County Veterans Services officer Joe Paul, also a member of the committee spearheading the fundraising and construction of the walkway, said the event would not bring the usual "dog-and-pony" show.

That would come upon the grand opening.

The goal next week was to turn some shovels of dirt and in doing so raise awareness of the project and the campaign underway.

Paul said the committee already had \$77,000 in the bank with commitments not yet cashed.

"The goal is \$300,000 and with the money we have and the commitments we are well on our way to \$300,000," Paul said.

Two of those donors were Drs. Rachel Bixler and Joshua James, who donated \$10,000, making them the first "Platinum Level Partners" for the project.

"The committee has been energized by their generous contribution and would like to thank them for leading the charge in honor of our veterans," detailed a release from the committee.

"Other local businesses, individuals and organizations have expressed an interest in partnering as well."

As currently conceived, the "Honor Walk" would fill an 80-foot-by-140-foot area between the park's new amphitheater and the highway, situated along the bluff overlooking the Gulf of Mexico.

The area would be anchored by an American flag on a pole of 70-80 feet within a pentagon, the American flag surrounded by flag poles and flags honoring the branches of the military.

The American flag would be lit according to flag standards.

At each point of the pentagon around the American flag would be five 8-foot-by-3-foot monuments for each branch of the military, each inscribed with the Gulf County veterans who "paid the ultimate sacrifice," in battle.

There will be seating behind the flags and several areas for quiet reflection and brick and concrete walkways thread through the memorial.

The entire area would be surrounded by a 4-foot high fence with pillars spaced along the length of the fence.

"The Honor Walk will complete the recognition of veterans in this park, recognition which is well-deserved," Duren said at the time the concept was unveiled.

See **WALK, B6**

## Sailing through?



**The top of the cabin fell into place last week for Mike Holcombe.** [TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

### Boat project reaches key milestone

By **Tim Croft**

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

In the general spectrum of DIY projects, Mike Holcombe and his boat would seem on another plane altogether.

And we should, at this juncture, note that to describe the project arising inside Holcombe's, um, garage, as a boat is to delve into abjectly absurd understatement.

So, some clarity.

First, the structure attached to Holcome's home is a garage in the sense that the White House is a home.



**The hulls of the tri-maran will hold living spaces, including sleeping berths, a kitchen and restroom**  
[COURTESY OF DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM]

See **SAILING, B6**

### 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. What was the same nickname of Floyd Herman, Mildred Didrikson and George Ruth?**  
Ace, Babe, Pistol, Slick  
**2. Elbow, tee and collar all are types of?**  
Toilets, Pipe fittings, Bow ties, Aquariums  
**3. What is a vexillologist an**

**expert in the study of?**  
Bees, Losers, Traffic, Flags  
**4. Costa Rica consists of how many provinces?**  
3, 5, 7, 9  
**5. What game gave us the word "debut"?**  
Football, Billiards, Bridge, Baseball

**6. A celesta is a type of?**  
Frilly shirt, Musical instrument, Short novel, Desk

**ANSWERS:** 1. Babe, 2. Pipe fittings, 3. Flags, 4. 7, 5. Billiards, 6. Musical instrument

## SCHOOL/SOCIETY

# This is National Infant Immunization Week

Special to The Star

The Florida Department of Health in Franklin and Gulf Counties recognizes April 21-28 as National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), an annual observance promoting the benefits of immunizations for children from birth to two years old. NIIW also celebrates the milestones achieved in controlling vaccine-preventable diseases among infants worldwide as a result of immunization.

"National Infant Immunization Week helps to highlight the critical role vaccination plays in protecting our children, communities, and public health," said Marsha Lindeman, Administrator of the Florida Department

of Health in Franklin/Gulf. "Immunizations are available by appointment at our health department locations in Franklin and Gulf Counties. Call today to schedule your appointment, Franklin County: 653-2111, Gulf County: 227-1276."

NIIW is a call to action for parents, caregivers and health care providers to ensure that all children are protected from birth against 14 serious childhood illnesses. It is important that parents and health care providers work together to follow the recommended Advisory Committee on Immunizations (ACIP) schedule to protect infants and children by providing immunity early in life, before they encounter potentially life threatening diseases.



Darlene Ake's WES Pre-K raised \$500 for the fight against Sanfilippo Syndrome. [TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

# Senior Citizens meals programs

Special to The Star

Gulf County Senior Citizens, located at 120 Library Drive in Port St. Joe and 314 E. Third Street in Wewahitchka, provides a hot nutritious noon meal Monday through Friday to seniors 60 and over. Donations are not required to receive a meal; however, they are greatly appreciated and make it possible for us to serve more seniors.

Transportation may be available to our meal sites.

Each site has daily activities, some of the activities include gospel singing, bingo, blood pressure checks, exercise classes and educational programs.

We have a live DJ the first Wednesday of each month at the Port St. Joe site.

For more information please call Debbie at 229-8466.

# Joe Center for the Arts: Call for entries

Special to The Star

The Joe invites two- and three-dimensional artists working in all mediums to submit original artworks for jury consideration for the 2018 Turtles and Trash Show. Entries must be submitted online at <http://TheJoeCenter.org/call-for-entries> by Tuesday, June 12.

The Joe's summer exhibit "Turtles and Trash" focuses on endangered sea turtles and the impact of marine debris on the health of St. Joseph

Bay.

This exhibition is a partnership between The Joe Center for the Arts and environmental organizations such as The Florida Coastal Conservancy. Participation by local artists will provide support for these organizations and will help raise awareness about this issue.

The Joe Center for the Arts, 201 Reid Avenue, is a community based non-profit art center. Our mission is to educate, exhibit, partner and inspire through the Arts.

# 'Like a snowball'

WES Pre-K completes coin drive for cure

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

Darlene Ake was explaining last week to her pre-K children at Wewahitchka Elementary School what they had accomplished, once again.

Like her classes the past four or five years, Ake's young students embarked this month on a drive to raise funds for the cause of curing Sanfilippo Syndrome.

Ake talked about Ross and Meredith, Wewahitchka children afflicted with the syndrome and how their plight differed from the sniffles plaguing one child. "You can get better with some medicine, but Ross and Meredith, they don't have medicine right now to make them better," Ake said.

And, she noted, the funds the students raised through the annual "Coins for a Cure" drive is just a trickle in a much larger stream.

"They put our money together with other people's money and it will get bigger," Ake said.

To which one responded, "Like a snowball."

"Yes, exactly like a snowball," Ake said with a smile.

Ake's class ended up luring \$500, in nickels, dimes, quarters and some

**There is no known cure. In fact, the disease, affecting 1 in 700,000 births worldwide, is so recently diagnosed and understood, that medicine is playing catch up.**

greenbacks, during their drive to aid the Cure Sanfilippo Foundation.

The money is sorely needed for a race that is, quite literally for the Davis family, against time.

Sanfilippo Syndrome is a rare disease which impacts young children. The first signs in Ross appeared around age 5.

The disease is hereditary; both parents must carry the recessive gene with the odds 1 in 4 their child will actually be afflicted by the disease.

Ross and Meredith both ultimately tested positive for the disease.

Without bogging down in science-speak, Sanfilippo Syndrome is caused by the absence on a DNA strand of a single enzyme, the lack of which causes individual cells to be unable to properly "flush" themselves of toxins, waste.

Those symptoms manifest first in the central nervous system, especially the brain.

Due to the symptoms, progressive dementia, extreme behavior and sleep disturbances, seizures,

it has become known as "Childhood Alzheimer's."

There is no known cure. In fact, the disease, affecting 1 in 700,000 births worldwide, is so recently diagnosed and understood, that medicine is playing catch up.

The ultimate goal is to develop a pre-natal test to identify the syndrome.

In Ross's case, a normal child began at 5 to develop memory loss and other symptoms and due to the rarity of the disease he was nearly 6 before his diagnosis.

Now, at 10, he has required a wheelchair for several years, is unable to speak, has significant sleep issues, suffers from seizures and has begun to have difficulties swallowing, all signs of the progression of the disease.

The average life expectancy of a child with Sanfilippo Syndrome is 10-12 years.

Research is painfully scarce and underfunded.

The research is expensive and, the Cure Sanfilippo Foundation notes on its website, lacks the end results for pharmaceutical companies in the form of any kind of profits, at least anytime soon.

There are private interests working to produce research across a number of potential treatment fronts, but it is race against the clock.

Meredith just turned 6.

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

Meet Venus, a 2 year old hound mix. She is fully vaccinated and spayed. She is very social with other dogs and does not mind the cats either. She walks well on a leash and is great in her kennel. She loves everyone and plays well with kids. She came to the shelter as a stray, and is looking for a family to call her own! Come visit her today and let her steal your heart, and give lots of kisses!

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](mailto: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.sjbhumanesociety.org](http://www.sjbhumanesociety.org)

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**SCHOOL NEWS**

# 13 inducted into NHS at PSJHS

Special to The Star

In a ceremony held April 12, 13 students were formally inducted into the Port St. Joe Junior/Senior High School's National Honor Society for the 2018-19 school year. Surrounded by current members, faculty, and family members, the

following students were inducted: 11th-graders, Joel D. Bogaert, Hannah N. Coppock, and Ana R. Lacivita; 10th-graders, Brandon W. Barnes, Catherine M. Bouington, Wesley M. Chapman, Jade A. Cothran, Sean M. Farnsley, Carley G. Fortner, John A. Gee,

Kelvin D. Griffin, Annabelle R. Humble, and Madeline M. Jones.

National Honor Society 2017-2018 members include: President Sydnee O'Donnell, Vice President Hannah Fulk, Secretary Celeste Chiles, Treasurer Allison Gerspacher, Historian Madison Hagler;

Seniors Claudia Alcorn, Islord Arroyo, Braden Baumgardner, Grace Boss-tick, Ashton Childress, Aidan Evans, Hannah Lee, Lashavion McCloud, Brooklynn Quinn, and Shad Tracy; Juniors Caleb Butts, Josh Butts, Delaney Ingalls, Jacob Kennedy, Bailey Lake, and Kharisma

Langston.

The National Honor Society was established to recognize outstanding high school students. Excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character is paramount to the organization. Each of the new members met the stringent

3.75 Grade Point Average (un-weighted) required of the Port St. Joe local chapter, as well as meeting other eligibility requirements. Please congratulate these fine students should you see them.

Special thanks to Bayside Florist for supplying floral arrangements.

## Bridges Field Day 2018

There are few events on the school calendar each year that are as fun and uplifting as Bridges Field Day.

The Bridges classes teach the district's most physically- and mentally-challenged students, offering a nurturing educational environment.

And Field Day, this year

held at Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School, is something of a climax to the school year, providing an opportunity for the Bridges elementary and high school students to enjoy a morning of games and friendly competition.

From shooting baskets to relay races performed on small rolling dollies, the

students had a blast, ir-repressible smiles abounding, and finished the field day with a festive lunch.

Centennial Bank provided the food and the Gulf County Sheriff's Office provided the cooking hands for the meal.

Words and photos by Tim Croft | The Star



[TIM CROFT]SPECIAL TO THE STAR PHOTOS



## Clements graduates from Troy

Special to The Star

Congratulations to Carley Ann Clements Troy University Graduate 2018

College Of Psychology B. A. Degree in General Psychology

Thanks to the Port St. Joe community that molded and developed her love for people and her love of learning!



[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

## S.O.A.R.-ING AT PSJES



S.O.A.R. students for the week of April 20 at Port St. Joe Elementary School. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

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# FAITH

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## HOWARD ROGERS

Howard Rogers passed away April 22, 2018, at the age of 94. He was born January 5, 1924 to Mollie and Buster Rogers of Washington County.

Mr. Rogers was a police officer in Port St Joe for thirty years where he made many good friends and provided support for countless others. He served his country in the 244th Port Co., in the Army during World War II. He traveled from Sidney, Australia to Yokohama, Japan.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Mollie and Buster Rogers; his loving wife of sixty-nine years, Paulette; and his brothers, Allen (Mollie), Aurthor (Lucille), Clark (Mertee), Lewis (Wilma) Leo (Evidee).

He is survived by two sons, Johnny (Teresa) and Jimmy (Donna); two grandsons, Barry (Sheryl) and Byron Rogers; and two great-grandsons.

Howard loved to hunt and fish and loved telling stories of his vast adventures of World War II and his days as a police officer.

The family would like to extend a special "thank you" to the staff at Cross Shores Care Center.

Family received friends at Hope Family Church at 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 25, 2018, prior to the funeral; services were held at 11 a.m. conducted by the Rev. Glenn Davis.

Services are under the direction of Comforter Funeral Home.

## BARBARA JEAN WALSTEAD WOOD

October 20, 1940 - April 22, 2018

Mrs. Barbara Jean Walstead Wood of White City, FL passed away peacefully at the Cross Shores Nursing Facility in Port St. Joe on April 22, 2018, with her husband, James Broward Wood, near her side.

Barbara was born October 20, 1940, in North Miami. She lived in OJS until she met the love of her life "JB" while he was stationed in Key West. They married in June 4, 1963, and a year later they welcomed a son, Charles J. "Charlie" Wood.

JB's military service required relocation of the family every 4 - 6 years in areas from Key West to San Diego, and then to Pearl.

Barbara loved traveling to all the new places and enjoyed spending time with new friends at each location. JB fondly recalls that Barbara even became quite good at bowling and tug-of-war during those years.

Barbara absolutely loved flowers (especially lilies), and she was named a life-long member of the Port St. Joe Garden Club.

Barbara is survived by her husband of nearly 55 years, James Broward Wood, son, Charlie Wood of Kissimmee, grandchildren, Julie and Zachary, two sisters-in-law, Iduma Wingate and Eleanor Strader and their families, and special friends, Buddy and Mary Lou Cumbie of White City.

A memorial service will be held under the pavilion at the Holly Hill Cemetery Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 11 a.m. EST. A private interment will take place at the family plot at a later date.

Condolences may be submitted or viewed at [www.southerlandfamily.com](http://www.southerlandfamily.com).

Southerland Family Funeral Home  
 100 East 19th Street  
 Panama City, FL 32405

## FAITH BRIEFS

### Women's Missionary Day at New Bethel

On Sunday, April 29, 2018, at 3 p.m. ET, the Minnie K. Weston/Lula M. Wilson Women's Missionary Society of New Bethel A.M. E. Church, 146 Avenue C, Port St. Joe FL, will host its Annual Women's Missionary Day.

We are planning a successful day, both spiritually and financially.

However, we solicit your assistance in making this day a big success and we will be forever grateful and blessed by your presence on this special day. The attire for the occasion is WHITE and we are looking for 100 Ladies in White to participate in our processional. We are inviting ALL ladies of their respective local Missionary

Societies to join us.

Men and children are welcomed, too. We are looking forward to having a Glorious time in the Lord. Everyone is invited.

### Ties and Tiaras, father/daughter dance

First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe will host, "Ties and Tiaras: A Father, Daughter Dance" 7-10 p.m. ET May 4 in the church's Great Hall. The cost is \$25 per family and tickets are available for purchase at First United Methodist Church, Anchored South, Port St. Joe Elementary School (Liz Lentz), Faith Christian School (Patty Hortman) and Coastal Food and Ankle Clinic in Apalachicola. For more information

## IN MEMORY, FRANK HEALY

Sunday, April 29, would have been my precious husband Frank Healy's 90th birthday. He went to be with our Lord 27 months ago, January 22, 2016.

Love, Brenda Healy

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**New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church**

Sunday Morning Schedule	Wednesday
Blended Worship with Choir/Praise Team...8:30 AM	Dinner.....5:00 - 6:00 pm
Great Commission Sunday School.....9:45 AM	AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm
Contemporary Worship w/Band.....10:45 AM	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)

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 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.

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[www.StPetersAnglicanChurch-psj.com](http://www.StPetersAnglicanChurch-psj.com)

**First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach**  
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**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

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Help us Lord in all we say and do. That what we do for others would point them Lord, to you. If what we do, should point to us, it's all done in vain. When things we do, don't lift your name, we should then refrain. Your walk will lead someone, somewhere, so watch

your step each day. Stay close to God in your daily walk, don't lead someone astray. We're so unworthy, of God's abundant grace. Let's grow more like Him and glorify Him, while we're still in life's race.

Billy Johnson

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**Schedule of Worship Services**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday School 9:00 AM						
Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM						
			Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 PM			
			Elective Adult Classes 6:00 PM			
			Children & Youth Ministry 6:00 PM			

Nursery provided for all services

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[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

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Service Times

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---	--

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 10:00AM EST Sunday School  
 11:00AM EST Sanctuary Service with Special Children's Time

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 Pastor  
 Ann Comforter  
 Director of Music  
 Krystal Terry  
 Director of Children's Ministries  
 Julie Hodges  
 Director of Youth Ministries

**Long Avenue BAPTIST CHURCH**

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY:	WEDNESDAY:
Sunday School - 9:15	Family Dinner - 5:30
Morning Worship - 10:30	Prayer Meeting - 6:30
Evening Worship - 5:00	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

## WHAT SOUTHERN FOLKS EAT

## Old Florida: A Land Remembered



Stephanie Hill-Frazier

**“Perhaps animals are smarter than men, he thought, taking only what they need to live today, leaving something for tomorrow.”**

Patrick D. Smith, *A Land Remembered*

I just finished listening to an audiobook that thoroughly captured my imagination, reminding me of the Eden-like paradise that Florida once was. Though you may be familiar with it, I wanted to share some of my thoughts from the book with you.

“*A Land Remembered*” was written by Patrick D. Smith in 1984. This work of historical fiction tells the story of the MacIvey family, who migrated to Florida from Georgia in the mid-19th century, while the Civil War was still underway. Many teachers, I hear, have used this over the years to help teach Florida history, though because it does contain some racial slurs used by some of the less educated characters, it may not be used as openly, at least in unabridged form, today as it might have been after it was first written.

But I digress.

The hardships faced by Tobias and Emma MacIvey, along with their son Zech, as they attempted to make a home in Florida were numerous. There were swarms of mosquitos carrying malaria, ground that wouldn't produce the crops he had learned how to grow in Georgia, and, of course, snakes, alligators and panthers, as well as the occasional Confederate deserter hiding out in the swamp.

In the place they first settled near modern-day Gainesville, the family was eventually able to build what is fondly called a “cracker shack” for shelter, obtain an iron skillet to cook meals in, and build a small barn for their oxen. Tobias began rounding up wild cattle, first for food, and later for selling to men who would ship them on boats to Cuba.

The story is lengthy, encompassing three generations of MacIveys from the mid-1800s to the late 1960s, but I'll tell you what I took from it, other than the excellent storytelling that kept my attention. Florida is an amazing land. In the 19th century, as the MacIveys described what they saw and felt, it seemed one part Eden, and one part land of horrors. There were dense swamps,



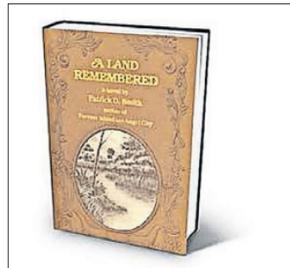
**Corn tomato salad.** [SPECIAL TO THE STAR PHOTOS]

of course, for the people to navigate as they drove cattle from one area to the next in search of good grazing for the herd. One small wild herd they assembled wandered off one night, as there were no fences, of course, and walked into quicksand in a swampy area, nothing visible the next morning but the tips of their horns. That's the stuff of nightmares!

There were snakes who'd crawl into one's tent on the cattle drives on a cold night, seeking warmth from the chill. There were hungry bears and panthers, always ready to take down a cow for a meal... or a person, if the opportunity presented itself. There were freezing winters that killed the orange groves they eventually tried planting, and there were hurricanes that toppled their homes and took the lives of family members.

But what the book reminds us is that Florida was worth the struggle. The MacIveys stayed, and though the third generation came to regret their eventual contribution to, for example, the vast custard-apple forests being clear-cut for track homes to be built, and the endless buildings dotting the Miami coastline where once there had been a clear view of the water, they still loved Florida. They never retreated back to Georgia, nor did the generations who followed.

They loved the sea turtles, the mullet, the birds and the sand. They admired the gorgeous sunsets, the scent of endless flowers, and the beautiful lakes they encountered on their months-long cattle drives. They loved the friends they made among the



**A Land Remembered**

remnants of the Seminoles they encountered, and they were enthralled by the ancient cypress stands as much as the clean, open beaches.

What a life that must have been. Those who were in Florida during those years, long after the explorers had come and gone, but while Florida was still largely wilderness, were pioneers who were blessed to see its beauty if they could survive its difficulties.

One thing the book teaches is that, once land is clear cut, or swamps are drained, and the habitats of the different species who lived there are destroyed for whatever purpose, whether it be cattle ranching or the addition of more and more subdivisions or strip malls, there will be a price to pay. Animals will end up scavenging from our garbage cans or swooping up our small pets because we are taking away their natural ability to provide for themselves by hunting. Certain animals can, and have, become endangered or extinct, over time.

There will be detrimental effects to the water, too; not just the animals' water, of course, but the water we drink, and the water we swim in, when forests and swamps

are continually cut or drained. These are all things we must keep in mind as we move forward in Florida. While making money is the American way, we can learn from the example of those in this historical novel that sometimes, what seems like a great financial idea can end up killing off entire species of animals and harming humans, too.

I hope that as we progress, we keep in mind that the real treasure isn't really what is in our bank accounts, it's the beautiful land itself.

Now, as far as the food the MacIveys ate, I have to be honest; other than the fresh seafood and fruit, there wasn't much to take forward to enjoy today. I'm honestly not planning to try out raccoon stew or roasted rattlesnake. But I would like to share with you a recent salad I made that could have come from the MacIveys' garden, minus the dressing, and is a great accompaniment to whatever you have on the grill: chicken, fish, or...even squirrel, I suppose, if the need arose.

#### **Corn-tomato salad with spicy Ranch dressing**

##### **Ingredients:**

##### **Salad:**

- 12 ounce bag frozen white corn, thawed but still cold (even better fresh corn cut off the cob during the season!)
- 16 ounces grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 1 small cucumber, diced (about a cup)
- Red or orange bell pepper, diced (about a cup)
- 2 small or one large stalk celery, chopped (½ to ¾ cup)

- 1 teaspoon dried basil or a small handful fresh basil leaves, torn
- ½ cup grated Parmesan

##### **Dressing:**

- ¾ cup light sour cream
- 3 tablespoons Duke's mayonnaise
- ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1 tablespoon Hidden Valley Dill-Ranch dressing powder

##### **Method:**

In a glass mixing bowl, combine all chopped and diced vegetables, basil and Parmesan.. Toss to combine.

In a separate bowl, combine the dressing ingredients, whisking to incorporate the Ranch mix into the dressing well.

Set aside for ten minutes for best flavor, then pour over the vegetables, and toss to coat. Before serving, sprinkle with more grated Parmesan and a bit of dried basil for color, if desired.

Enjoy!

*Stephanie Hill-Frazier is a writer, food blogger and regional television chef, whose on-air nickname is “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](http://WhatsouthernfolksEat.com), and she'd love to hear about your own favorite books or recipes via email at [Steph@whatsouthernfolksEat.com](mailto:Steph@whatsouthernfolksEat.com).*

## Spring signals leaf gall for some camellias

By Ray Bodrey

Gulf County Extension Director  
UF/IFAS  
Special to The Star

Camellias are a Panhandle favorite, as the flowers can highlight a landscape with bright, vibrant colors in fall and winter. However, spring time can bring about these colors in a negative way, in the form of leaf gall.

The camellia is native to Asia and brought to America in the late 1700's. These plants have proven to be a dependable addition to the southern landscape with minimal care.

When camellias are correctly planted and cared for, minimal disease problems arise. However, camellias can contract leaf spot, dieback,

root rot and bud and leaf gall.

Leaf and bud galls are caused by the fungus *Exobasidium vacciniae*. The gall appears as thickened, waxy and enlarged leaves or buds during the cool spring months. One or several leaves on a single shoot may be affected. Once you've found infected leaves, no chemical control will be effective. Actually, no fungicide has been found very effective in combatting this condition. However, control can be accomplished in the home garden by simply pinching off and destroying infected leaves.

Disease activity usually stops with warmer weather. A best management to reduce or curb infection is to reduce overhead watering during



**Camellia Gall.** [PATTY DUNLAP, GULF COUNTY MASTER GARDENER]

cool, wet weather periods of spring. Great news, this condition does not cause any long-term issues with the

plant.

For more information regarding fungal issues in landscape plants, contact

Gulf County Extension at 639-3200.

Fun camellia fact: The young leaves of the species, *Camellia sinensis*, are processed for tea, one of the world's most popular drinks. Please see UF/IFAS EDIS publication, “Tea Growing in the Florida Landscape” by Jonathan H. Crane and Carlos F. Balerdi: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/HS/HS30800.pdf>

Supporting information for this article can be found in the UF/IFAS EDIS publication, “Camellias at a Glance” by Sydney Park Brown: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/EP/EPO0200.pdf>

*UF/IFAS Extension is an Equal Opportunity Institution.*

# SALING

From Page B1

The space is 200-250 square feet larger than the Holcombe's residence.

It was built to specifications to allow the exit of Holcombe's boat, with maybe a half-foot to spare.

The front doors would seem appropriate for any of thousands of barns in field across the country, measuring 24 feet across.

And the boat?

Well, it is a catamaran, specifically a tri-maran.

When completed it will measure 43 feet in length by 23 feet in width, with a draft of 23 feet and total displacement of roughly 16,900 pounds.

Each hull has an inner clearance of 6-feet-4.

This is one large vessel.

And last week, Holcombe, with the assistance of wife, Glynis, and a couple of neighbors who have become something of apprentices/assistants on the project, placed the last major piece on the tri-maran.

The top, which had been lashed to the ceiling of Holcombe's garage the 18 months or so as the tri-maran was taking shape below, was with just a bit of guidance, turned and dropped onto the cabin walls, fitting as if a long-sought piece of a jigsaw puzzle.

"It just lined right up," Glynis said. "I thought it was a major milestone. It was the last major piece."

Not that hauling it out and to the water is imminent, Mike cautioned.

"The sense of accomplishment for me will be when I put it in the water," Mike said.

He figures that will be roughly a year and, in light of time projections he offered in December 2016, Mike is actually ahead of his initial schedule.

In addition to the completion of the outer hull, electric motors are installed and within the hulls living quarters, including sleeping berths and a restroom, are taking shape.

Additionally, Mike has applied and sanded his water-proofing sealant along the outside of the hulls, the sealant a mix of epoxy and glass balloons which break and seep into the cracks and fissures on the outer shell.

Another sign of progress: Mike is clearly well past the midpoint of the plans, contained, each page in plastic sheathing, in a thick three-ringed notebook sitting on



The shed in which the work is being done is just large enough to allow the tri-maran to be pulled out via flatbed truck [COURTESY OF DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM]



The materials that make up the shell, foam and fiberglass and a pipe that will serve a scuppers for the deck. [TIM CROFT | THE STAR]



Mike is more than halfway through his plans to build the tri-maran [TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

an outsized table at one end of the shed.

They are instructions from the designer of the Corsair Marine F-41 tri-maran, Jan Farrier.

An F-41 has been sailed from Australia to San Francisco and a manufactured F-41 can fetch as much as \$1.2 million, though Mike isn't seeking fortune with his "project."

The plans, purchased in 2004, are detailed step-by-step instructions along the lines of a toy model ship, provided your model had space for sleeping berths, kitchen and bathrooms.

Each page is replete with diagrams and inset boxes, annotated with checkboxes; before moving to the next page, those boxes should be

checked.

"I'm a builder," Mike said when we met him in 2016, with Glynis adding, "We both are."

Mike makes machine controls that allow machines in an operational setting to "talk" to machines in the front office, for administration.

For his tri-maran, he designed a system that will allow the boat to be completely energy neutral; the boat will run entirely on the energy from a system revolving around a generator and two 12 hp motors.

But, a somewhat significant but for a man on a clock, is finding that balance of work and, we suppose, hobby (compulsion, maybe).

Mike said he's spent more time away from his vessel

than he'd like.

He has to pay the bills, he said.

The cost of the tri-maran, for example, is already into the six figures.

Upon water entry Holcombe figured he and Glynis will have about \$200,000 in the boat.

Glynis and Mike are currently shopping for mast and sails: together they will likely run about \$40,000, Mike said.

After purchasing the plans for the tri-maran, Mike built an 11-foot sailboat, "for practice."

The two large tri-maran hulls were started in the Holcombe's hometown in Georgia before they moved full-time to Gulf County.

The work of getting one

nearly-complete hull, the port hull, into the new shed was a journey unto itself.

The second hull was completed in the shed in Jones Homestead.

The shell of the catamaran is fiberglass foam construction; foam, heated to allow flexibility, shaped to the wooden frame, and sandwiched between two layers of fiberglass.

"This is what I live with," is what Glynis repeatedly said on another tour of the "project" last week, after the triumphant placing of cabin top.

Glynis just wants somebody to take document the building of boat, figuring few are going to believe Mike built the entire thing by hand.

"You are our witness," she said again last week.

# TUPELO

From Page B1

Some sloughs and creeks have simply dried up.

The health of the hives is also in the mix, with a type of mite followed by evidence of a bacterial blight impacting harvests the past couple of years.

"The harvest produced last year was not very good," Pippin said.

The nature of beekeeping also factors into hive health, Pippin said.

Many keepers travel across a region or country, even to California, to pollinate any number of crops, from almonds to cranberries.

But that travel, and interaction with bees and hives from other spots on the map, increases the chances of disease or pest transmittal.

For County Commissioner Ward McDaniel, there is also the human issue.

Pippin noted that the number of bees and keepers in Florida has multiplied, nearly by a factor of three, in recent years.

In turn, the demand for Tupelo has grown as has the

human population of the state.

That has led to an increased number of keepers attempting to make a buck during a single three-week season from a finite root habitat.

McDaniel said a man offered to pay to park a semi-trailer of bee hives on his property.

Keepers not from Gulf County have, in the past few years, come to descend on Gulf County with their hives to tap into the Tupelo market.

Additionally, McDaniel added, where keepers once agreed to give each other "breathing room" and not crowd, in current times folks are a tad less flexible and a little more territorially-aggressive.

"If we don't address some of these human issues we are going to lose this," McDaniel said.

Pippin said his department has rules and there are some in place regarding temporary establishment of hives, they must be inspected for starters, and said the department is also reaching out to keepers with an education campaign.

He said too much money and resources were being wasted over-harvesting a Tupelo crop that is finite and in peril.

# WALK

From Page B1

"This will help remind everyone our freedoms have been willingly paid by our veterans."

The walkways will extend 20 feet from the center of a monument in opposite directions.

Commemorative paver bricks on the walkways, inside the center circle of the memorial and along both outer circles will be engraved in the honor of or in memory of individual veterans.

The "Honor Walk" committee, a non-profit organization, is composed of George Duren, Ralph Rish, Rodney Herring, Joe Paul, Rick Lamberson, Jessica Susich and George Cahill.

The conceptual schematics were drafted by Dewberry|Preble Rish, in large measure to allow the committee to pursue available grants to fund the work of creating the memorial.

The Board of County Commissioners approved



Drs. Rachel Bixler and Joshua James (middle) recently donated \$10,000 to the Honor Walk project. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

The "Honor Walk" committee, a non-profit organization, is composed of George Duren, Ralph Rish, Rodney Herring, Joe Paul, Rick Lamberson, Jessica Susich and George Cahill.

the concept last September.

There are several fundraiser options available and all donations are

tax-deductible. To learn more go to: <http://www.VeteransParkHonorWalk.org>.

# Gulf County Sheriff's Office law enforcement summary

April 16-22

On April 16, Deputy M. Peek and Port St. Joe Police Officer Ricky Tolbert conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of U.S. 98 and Avenue A. The driver of the vehicle was identified as Denetria Tiara Robinson (29). While running a driver's license check on Robinson, it was revealed that she did not have a valid driver's license. Robinson was placed under arrest and charged with Driving with No Valid License.

On April 16, Investigators S. Ferrell and P. Williams went to the 2000 block of S. State 71 to arrest Jamie Lynn Bruner (32) on a warrant for Violation of Probation for the original charges of Possession of Methamphetamine (x2) and Obstruction of Justin (x2). Bruner was located and arrested on the warrant.

On April 17, Deputy P. Young was assigned to investigate a report of a fraudulent use of a credit card. The victim reported that his credit card was given to someone to purchase a specific item. When the card was returned to the victim, he discovered that multiple unauthorized purchases were made with the card. Deputy Young continues to investigate.

On April 17, Deputy M. Manley was dispatched to the 300 block of Jehu Road in reference to a theft of a miter saw. The theft of the saw resulted from a landlord/tenant dispute, which led the former tenant to allegedly take the saw.

On April 17, Deputy M. Peek conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of

Lake Avenue and Lake Alice Park Drive. The driver, and sole occupant, was identified as Kody Michael Martin (19). During the traffic stop, Deputy Peek deployed K-9 Brix to conduct a free air sniff around the vehicle. The K-9 gave an alert, indicated the presence of narcotics. A search of the vehicle revealed marijuana, a digital scale and other drug paraphernalia items. Martin was placed under arrest and charged with Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute.

On April 18, Deputy M. Peek conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of State 71 and CR 381. During the course of the traffic stop, Deputy Peek deployed K-9 Brix on the vehicle he had stopped to conduct a free air sniff. Brix alerted on the vehicle, indicating the presence of illegal narcotics. A search of the vehicle ensued and revealed marijuana, methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. The aforementioned items were proven to belong to vehicle passenger, Danielle Nicole Cruz (26). Cruz was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Cruz also had an active warrant for her arrest out of Bay County.

On April 18, Sgt. L. Dickey closed a child crime investigation that led to the arrest of Clark Gilbert Downs (69). A search warrant was executed at Downs' residence after it was concluded that Downs had been engaging in inappropriate communications with a minor child. Downs

was taken into custody and charged with using a computer to engage in unlawful sexual conduct with a child, sexual battery on a person twelve years of age or older, lewd or lascivious molestation of a victim twelve years of age or older, and eleven counts of possession of child pornography.

On April 19, Deputy D. Sanders was dispatched to the 8000 block of CR 386 in reference to a burglary. The suspect entered a home through an open window and stole two wrist watches. Enough evidence was collected at the scene to identify a suspect and charges are pending.

On April 19, Sgt. S. Strickland received a report of a marijuana odor on a school bus that arrived at the Port St. Joe High School. Sgt. Strickland boarded the bus and verified the report. K-9 Sgt. J. Williams arrived on scene and deployed K-9 Ellie. A search of the bus revealed a baggie of marijuana under a seat. The marijuana could not be tied to any of the students. Later that day, further investigation into the matter led to the search of a 16-year-old student's backpack. The search revealed a small amount of marijuana. Charges are pending against the student for Possession of Marijuana.

On April 19, Deputy G. Desrosier was assigned to investigate the theft of a motorcycle from Kemp Cemetery Road. The motorcycle was recovered and a suspect has been identified. Criminal charges are pending.

On April 19, Investigators

P. Williams and S. Ferrell executed an arrest warrant on Sunset Drive in Wewahatchka for Tori Anne Broxson (20). Broxson was wanted for Violation of Probation (Community Control). She was on probation for methamphetamine related charges. Broxson was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility where she is being held without bond.

On April 19, Deputy Harvey and other GCSO deputies went to the 700 block of Jones Homestead Road to locate Willie Edward Pelt (35) and arrest him on a warrant for Violation of Probation on the original charge of Grand Theft. Pelt was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility where he is being held without bond.

On April 19, Deputy G. Desrosier went to Laurelwood Street in Wewahatchka to locate and arrest Gary Allen Noah Roberts (41) on a Violation of Probation (Community Control) warrant. Roberts was on probation for Sale of Methamphetamine, Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of Listed Chemicals. Roberts was taken into custody and is being held without bond.

On April 20, Charles Wayne Sorenson (44) turned himself in to the Gulf County Detention Facility to be served and arrested on a Writ of Bodily Attachment for failing to pay child support.

On April 21, Deputy P. Young was dispatched to the 8000 block of U.S. 98 in reference to a theft. It was reported that someone had stolen three fishing rods and reels from a boat that was

parked under a carport.

On April 21, Deputy M. Peek was dispatched to the 200 block of West Avenue in reference to a trespassing. William Harley Brown (22), who was previously trespassed from this location, was found to be on property. Brown was placed under arrest and charged with Trespassing.

On April 21, K-9 Deputy M. Peek conducted a traffic stop in the 9000 block of CR 386. During the course of the traffic stop, Deputy Peek deployed K-9 Brix to conduct a free air sniff around the vehicle. K-9 Brix alerted on the vehicle and a search of the vehicle ensued, which revealed Methamphetamine and a glass pipe used to smoke methamphetamine. The driver, James Walter Lewis, Jr. (36), was placed under arrest and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

On April 22, Deputy M. Peek responded to Lanny Lane, on Cape Ban Blas, in reference to a report of a physical disturbance. Deputy Peek learned that the disturbance was a family dispute infused with alcohol. During his investigation he learned that Rimvydas Blistrabas (57) had punched a female family member in the mouth. Blistrabas was placed under arrest and charged with Domestic Battery.

*If you have any information regarding the aforementioned cases, please contact the Gulf County Sheriff's Office at 227-1115, 639-5717, or remain anonymous by calling Crime Stoppers at 785-TIPS.*

## TDC to toast tourism

Star Staff Report

The Gulf County Tourist Development Council will host Tourism Appreciation Day from 5-7 p.m. ET May 7 at the TDC Welcome Center.

The celebration is "for our community and our visitors" to thank them for the support of tourism in Gulf County.

Hot dogs and hamburgers will be offered via Centennial Bank and there will photo ops

and yard games.

The celebration is free. The TDC Welcome Center is located at 150 Captain Fred's Place in Port St. Joe, between Frank Pate Park and George Core Park.

## Old mill family reunion

Star Staff Report

The Old Mill Family reunion will be held 10 a.m. ET Saturday, May 5, in the Commons area of Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School.

There is no charge for the event. All old mill family members are urged to attend.

SEE MORE ONLINE AT STARFL.COM



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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Linda Gant, 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 #2017-23 Tax Sale Certificate #2014-1027**  
**Name in which assessed:** Edward Mitchell, Waldo Thomas, and Mrs. Eliza Dawson  
**R.E. No.** 05773-000R  
**Date of Issuance:** May 30, 2014

**Description of Property:**

Lot 11, Block 1005, of Millview Addition to the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, according to the Official Map on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court 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, 23rd day of May, 2018.

Dated: April 16, 2018  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk  
Pub: April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2018

**201825**



**FOUND PROPERTY NOTICE**

NOTICE TO THE OWNER AND ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ATTACHED PROPERTY.

This property: A floating structure (green and white boat) was abandoned on the waters of the Chipola River on Lockey Lake, in Gulf County, FL. To claim said property, contact the FWC Panama City Regional Office at 850-265-3676. Dated this 12th day of March 2018.  
FWNW18OFF002048  
Pub: April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2018

**201845**  
**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 #2017-28 Tax Sale Certificate #2015-1067**  
**Name in which assessed:** G P H Holdings LLC AGENT: Trent L. Coggins  
**R.E. No.** 06287-385R  
**Date of Issuance:** May 29, 2015

**Description of Property:**

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

Lot 57, Jubilation Phase II, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 12, of 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, 23rd day of May, 2018.

Dated: April 16, 2018  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk  
Pub: April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2018

**202545**  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**Case No. 18-16PR**

IN RE: ESTATE OF DOROTHY C. MAGIDSON, Deceased.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

The administration of the estate of DOROTHY C. MAGIDSON, deceased, whose date of death was January 15, 2018, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

Dated: April 16, 2018  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

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 OR 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.

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.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO(2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is April 19, 2018.

**Personal Representative:** Guerry Magidson 101 Allen Memorial Way Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
**Attorney for Personal Representative:** Mel C. Magidson Jr. FL Bar No.: 261629 528 6th St. P.O. Box 340 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 Phone: (850)227-7800 Fax: (850)227-7878 E-Mail: [mmagidson@fairpoint.net](mailto:mmagidson@fairpoint.net)  
Pub: April 19, 26, 2018

**202645**

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

**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 #2018-02 Tax Sale Certificate #2015-236**  
**Name in which assessed:** Raymond Lewis Syfrett and Ann S. Syfrett  
**R.E. No.** 01362-050R  
**Date of Issuance:** May 29, 2015

**Description of Property:**

That portion of Gov't Lot 1, Designated as Parcel #1362, by the Property Appraiser to Gulf County, which lies West and South of Linton Road, being a portion of the NE 1/4 of Section 36, Township 3 South, Range 10 West.

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, 30th day of May, 2018.

Dated: April 23, 2018  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk  
Pub: April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 2018

**202785**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority will hold a meeting of its Board, its Executive Committee, and its Financial Committee on 5/8/18 in the Conference Room of the Walton Area Chamber of Commerce located at 63 South Centre Trail, Santa Rosa Beach, FL. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. CT.

Any person requiring special accommodations to participate in these meetings is asked to advise the Corridor Authority at least 48 hours prior to the meeting by contacting Alicia Stephen at (850)429-8905 or [alicia.stephen@hdrinc.com](mailto:alicia.stephen@hdrinc.com).  
Pub: April 26, 2018

**203285**  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**Case No: 18-22-CA**

**SABRINA CHRISTINA HARPER,** Plaintiff,

vs.  
**SEAGRASS PROPERTIES, LLC,** a dissolved, inactive Florida limited liability company, et al,

Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ACTION**

**T O : S T E V E N DELONGA,** individually and as Managing Member of Core Development Group, LLC, as one of the two last known managing members of Seagrass Properties, LLC, a dissolved, inactive Florida limited liability company - **address unknown**

**RYAN DWYER,** Individually and as Managing

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

Member of Dwyer Ventures, LLC, as one of the two last known managing members of Seagrass Properties, LLC, a dissolved, inactive Florida limited liability company - **address unknown**

and as to each of said persons against the unknown husband or wife, as the case may be, of any or either of them, if alive; and if dead, then against their and each of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, grantees and all other parties or persons claiming interest by, through, under or against them, and against all persons having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in and to the following described lands.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that an action to **quiet title** on the following described property in GULF COUNTY, Florida:

**LOT 13, BLOCK D, SEAGRASS SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 1, PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA**

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it upon MICHAEL J. COOPER, Plaintiff's attorney whose address is 321 Northwest Third Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34475. **BY NOT LATER THAN: May 25th, 2018,** and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on this the 13th day of April, 2018

**REBECCA L. (BECKY) NORRIS**  
Clerk of the Court  
**BA Baxter**  
Deputy Clerk  
Pub April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 2018

**203385**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**

Notice is hereby given that Bayou RV Supplies & Storage, LLC., Pursuant to FS83.806, will dispose of or offer for sale after **May 10, 2018** the miscellaneous items belonging to the following tenants: Janah Strickland, Unit 212 and Amanda Baez, Unit 025. Unit contents may be redeemed by owner prior to May 10, 2018, for cash only Pub April 26, May 3, 2018

**203585**  
**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 #2018-03 Tax Sale Certificate #2015-451**  
**Name in which assessed:** Willie O. Riley  
**R.E. No.** 02555-000R  
**Date of Issuance:** May 29, 2015

**Description of Property:**

Lot 12, Block 4, of Pine Ridge Addition to Wewahitchka, Florida, according to the Official Map or Plat thereof on file in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida.

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
**1100**

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, 30th day of May, 2018.

Dated: April 23, 2018

REBECCA L. NORRIS  
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk  
Pub: April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 2018

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

**Beach Baptist Chapel**  
311 Columbus Street  
Port St. Joe Beach  
Saturday, April 28th  
8:00am to 2:00pm  
**INSIDE YARD SALE**  
All proceeds go to Home Missions.

**NEW TODAY!**  
**Port Saint Joe**  
10147 CR30A  
April 28th  
9am - 5pm  
**Multi-Family Yard Sale**  
Clothes, furniture, tools, etc.

**Port Saint Joe**  
2337 State Road 30A  
Behind Simmons Bayou Ice  
April 20th - 21st  
8am - 1pm  
**Mega Sale**  
Furniture, jewelry (some Sorelli), clothing, beautiful coastal decor, Tons of womens shoes (most new and many designer), no junk, Rain or Shine. Portion of proceeds go to St Joe Bay Humane Society. No Checks.

**Port Saint Joe**  
2291 State Road 30A, Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
(approx. 2.5 miles from the Y as you turn on C30. We are just past Presenells RV campground on the Bay side)  
8:00 AM EST UNTIL  
**Great bargains, priced to sell**  
Printer, TVs, ladies formals and clothing size large and 14, misc. bedding, housewares, antiques, tools, various medical equipment and scooter, Rain or shine we are under house and at the barn.

**Blockbuster Moving Sales**  
**Port St. Joe**  
2291 State Road 30A, Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
(approx. 2.5 miles from the Y as you turn on C30. We are just past Presenells RV campground on the Bay side)  
8:00 AM EST UNTIL  
**Great bargains, priced to sell**  
Printer, TVs, ladies formals and clothing size large and 14, misc. bedding, housewares, antiques, tools, various medical equipment and scooter, Rain or shine we are under house and at the barn.

**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)

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
**3300**

SAWMILLS from only \$497.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill! Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: [www.NorwoodSawmills.com](http://www.NorwoodSawmills.com) or call (800)578-1363 Ext. 300N

**HELP WANTED**  
**4100**

**Pest Control Technician**

Full time employee needed; must be presentable and motivated. Apply in person at Donnie's Total Pride Pest Control, Inc. 324 Reid Avenue, Port St. Joe. **No phone calls.** Experience not necessary, will train.

**MainStay Suites is now Hiring!**

**Front Desk Housekeeping**

Weekends a must! Immediate openings Comparative pay Great work environment  
Apply in person at Mainstay Suites, PSJ 3951 East HWY 98.  
Drug Free Workplace Equal Opportunity Employer

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

**Equal Housing Opportunity**

**Part-time Site & Special Projects Coordinator**

needed for the WindMark Beach community located between Mexico Beach and Port St. Joe. Maintenance experience required with some construction background helpful. A job description is available at: [www.joe.com/st-joe-company/careers](http://www.joe.com/st-joe-company/careers)  
Email resume to [donna.monte@joe.com](mailto:donna.monte@joe.com).  
EOE M/F/D/V

The Apalachicola Bay Charter School is accepting applications for teaching positions for the 2018-2019 school year. Certified teachers for elementary grade and music needed. ABC School is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please send resumes to Chimene Johnson, **ABC School 98 12th Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320** or [cjohnson@abceagles.org](mailto:cjohnson@abceagles.org).

**Collins Construction of SGI, Inc. Office Position Serious Inquires Only**

Collins Construction is seeking a motivated individual to fill an office position. The individual must excel in computer skills, communication skills, be detail oriented, and have good personal skills. Strong candidates will be dependable, self-motivated, self-starters, with exceptional organization skills and work well with other employees. Position will be at the Eastpoint office located at 96 Otter Slide Rd.

Candidates may request an application via email at: [melanie@collinsconstruction.com](mailto:melanie@collinsconstruction.com) or come by the address listed to fill one out.  
**Phone: 850-670- 5790**



**Resort Vacation Properties of SGI Inc.**

Looking for dependable professional Independent Contractors/Housekeepers to perform departure cleans and deep cleans for vacation homes. Must have experience and references. Must carry liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance if required by Florida Law. Weekend work is required.  
Call 850-670-1266 or visit us in person at 25 Begonia Street, Eastpoint, FL



**Housekeeping Property Inspectors**

Part-Time seasonal positions available. Weekend work required. Personal vehicle, valid driver's license, and automobile insurance needed. Competitive wages. Come by Collins Vacation Rentals, Inc. located at 60 East Gulf Beach Drive to apply in person or email Quentin Allen to request an application be emailed to you.  
[quentin@collinsvacationrentals.com](mailto:quentin@collinsvacationrentals.com)

**APARTMENT RENTALS**  
**6110**

**Publisher's Notice**

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination" Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



**HELP WANTED**  
**4100**

**Resort Vacation Properties of SGI Inc.**

Looking for dependable professional Independent Contractors/Housekeepers to perform departure cleans and deep cleans for vacation homes. Must have experience and references. Must carry liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance if required by Florida Law. Weekend work is required.  
Call 850-670-1266 or visit us in person at 25 Begonia Street, Eastpoint, FL

The Apalachicola Bay Charter School is accepting applications for teaching positions for the 2018-2019 school year. Certified teachers for elementary grade and music needed. ABC School is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please send resumes to Chimene Johnson, **ABC School 98 12th Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320** or [cjohnson@abceagles.org](mailto:cjohnson@abceagles.org).

**Collins Construction of SGI, Inc. Office Position Serious Inquires Only**

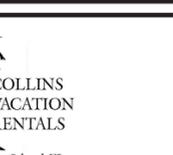
Collins Construction is seeking a motivated individual to fill an office position. The individual must excel in computer skills, communication skills, be detail oriented, and have good personal skills. Strong candidates will be dependable, self-motivated, self-starters, with exceptional organization skills and work well with other employees. Position will be at the Eastpoint office located at 96 Otter Slide Rd.

Candidates may request an application via email at: [melanie@collinsconstruction.com](mailto:melanie@collinsconstruction.com) or come by the address listed to fill one out.  
**Phone: 850-670- 5790**



**Resort Vacation Properties of SGI Inc.**

Looking for dependable professional Independent Contractors/Housekeepers to perform departure cleans and deep cleans for vacation homes. Must have experience and references. Must carry liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance if required by Florida Law. Weekend work is required.  
Call 850-670-1266 or visit us in person at 25 Begonia Street, Eastpoint, FL



**Housekeeping Property Inspectors**

Part-Time seasonal positions available. Weekend work required. Personal vehicle, valid driver's license, and automobile insurance needed. Competitive wages. Come by Collins Vacation Rentals, Inc. located at 60 East Gulf Beach Drive to apply in person or email Quentin Allen to request an application be emailed to you.  
[quentin@collinsvacationrentals.com](mailto:quentin@collinsvacationrentals.com)

**LOTS AND ACREAGE**  
**7150**

**Jackson County Florida**  
377 Acres,  
\$2,985.00 per Acre  
145 Acres  
Cultivated/Irrigated  
6,000 SQ FT Open  
Packing Shed  
2,400 SQ FT Cooler  
with Loading Ramps  
Multiple Wells  
Call Kane  
850-509-8817

**HELP WANTED**  
**4100**

**MINI STORAGE In Port St. Joe**

**229-6200**  
Climate Controlled Units Available  
NF-4527586

**Spot Advertising works!**

**HELP WANTED**  
**4100**

**JOB NOTICE**

The City of Port St. Joe (pop. 3,567) is accepting applications for the following position:

**Operator Trainee or Licensed Operator, Surface Water Treatment Plant**  
Please submit an application, cover letter, and five references to The City of Port St. Joe, Attn. Charlotte Pierce, POB 278, Port St. Joe, FL 32457. Applications and a full job description can be found on our website [cityofportstjoe.com](http://cityofportstjoe.com). If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Pierce at (850) 229-8261. The Position will close on May 11, 2018. The entry level salary for an Operator Trainee will be \$12.08 per hour and requires that a Class C Water License be obtained within two (2) years of hire. All other licensed operators will be based on qualifications.  
**The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace.**



**RESORT VACATION PROPERTIES of SGI, Inc.**

is now accepting applications for:  
**Part-Time Seasonal Housekeeping Inspectors**  
Work 1-3 days per week.  
\$12/hour plus fuel reimbursement  
Weekend work required. Must have reliable transportation.  
Apply in person at **123 W Gulf Beach Dr. St. George Island.**

**HOUSE RENTALS**  
**6140**

**HOUSE RENTALS**  
**6140**

**Sandy Beach PROPERTIES**

3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a beautiful view of Apalachicola Bay  
\$1,200 per month  
\$1,200 Security Deposit  
1 Pet Allowed

**Please call 850-697-5300**

to set up an appointment to let our friendly staff show you these properties!