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County to take up LNT, RV ordinances Tuesday

Defenders of Wildlife express concerns

By Tim Croft

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827
@PSJ_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

The Board of County Commissioners is likely to take up the county's ordinances pertaining to Leave

No Trace and RVs during Tuesday's monthly meeting.

Meeting agendas are typically released the Thursday prior to the meeting, after press time, however, neither ordinance was on the agenda last month and both were discussed at some length.

The tenor of that discussion revolved primarily around Leave No Trace and

the lack of enforcement of some provisions pertaining to personal property left on the beaches.

County administrator Michael Hammond recommended that commissioners "redline" portions of the ordinance, maintaining those that focus on beach safety and eliminating provisions that are contrary to a

"common sense" approach.

Hammond said the ordinance was a "nightmare" to enforce and an "overreach" by the BOCC that approved it nearly five years ago.

The BOCC has never devoted the funds or manpower to enforcement of all provisions of Leave No

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Primary Day Tuesday

County trending ahead of state averages on turnout

By Tim Croft

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827
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With the statewide tally over 1 million and the county pushing 1,000 ballots cast, the primary season is a busy one.

"It is shaping up, if things hold, to be a higher than average turnout for a midterm primary," said Supervisor of Elections John Hanlon.

"If that trend holds."

As of Wednesday morning, Hanlon's office had received back 452 of nearly 900 absentee mailed ballots and the early voting numbers have been strong every day but Sunday, again typical, Hanlon said.

Early voting was nearing 520 Wednesday morning, putting the number of ballots cast among the 10,097 voters pushing 10 percent, 9.59 percent.

Hanlon said he compares the county to others statewide and his latest look showed the Florida's 67 counties had received, as of Wednesday morning of early voting week, 6 percent.

"So, we appear to be trending ahead of much of the state at this point," Hanlon said.

And there remain three more days of early voting at two sites: Hanlon's office at 401 Long Ave. in Port St. Joe and the Wewahitchka Public Library at 314 N. 2nd Street.

Early voting continues 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. ET (6:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. CT) Thursday and Friday and 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET (7 a.m. until 4 p.m. CT) Saturday.

Polls will be open Tuesday 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. ET.

There are 4,837 registered Republicans in Gulf County and 3,968 Democrats; add in those who register with no party affiliation or with a minor party and the total Gulf County electorate is 10,097.

Ballots will vary depending on party and precinct where the voter casts their ballot during any Election Day.

School Board and BOCC District 4

Two of the local races on the ballot, for School Board Districts 1 and 5 are non-partisan

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PSJ into consent order for wastewater lagoon

By Tim Croft

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827
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The city of Port St. Joe and Florida Department of Environmental Protection have entered into a consent order outlining a plan to address issues with the city's wastewater lagoon.

The city will be fined \$500 for regulatory violations over the years and provided a three-year period to attempt to address the problems through "biological dredging."

In addition, during those three years the DEP will relax the threshold for violations so the city will accrue no more violations or fines unless the new relaxed benchmark is exceeded.

"This is a good motivator," said Commissioner David Ashbrook. "We have been planning for (some kind of dredging)."

The city has long been vexed with problems in the 75-acre lagoon, with algae and stink issues arising in the heat of a typical summer, a particular nuisance for residents in adjacent Highland View.

"We've had a problem with algae for several years," said City Manager Jim Anderson.

Meanwhile, the city has also exceeded limits for what

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The new vehicle has just about anything a firefighter/emergency responder would need except the water. [PHOTOS BY TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

Firefighting gets a boost

New Beaches vehicles houses all but water

By Tim Croft

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827
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One in exchange for two proved a positive equation for the Beaches Volunteer Fire Department.

In truth, for firefighting in all Gulf County.

The Beaches VFD recently took delivery of a new vehicle which, depending on the national rating service one consults, is a "specialty rescue" or "heavy rescue" or "service" truck.

Regardless of moniker, the vehicle will mean



Open any side or back of the truck and tools and equipment are handy.

more efficient firefighting for the Beaches, as well as all volunteer departments in the county which rely heavily on aid from each

other when emergencies arise.

The new truck, which came at a cost of \$288,000, without equipment, and roughly \$350,000 completely equipped, takes the place of two trucks.

"We were always running two trucks at a time to the scene," said Chief Bobby Plair. "This one has everything we need beyond pumping water."

The truck, 18-and-half feet long, 11 feet tall, is almost a fire station unto itself.

Spreaders, cutters and other tools of all size are stored within, a metal box on the roof housing hazmat gear, other

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Elect **Barbara Radcliff**
School Board District 5

Early Voting Continues through August 25th
ELECTION DAY is AUGUST 28th

Barbara Radcliff
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THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Star Staff Report

Join a "Coffee Talk" about foster parenting

There are zero foster households in Gulf County, so a child taken from their home in the county must be relocated to a foster household out of the county. Life Management Center is hosting a "Coffee Talk" about foster parenting 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. ET at the Corinne Costin Gibson Memorial Port St. Joe Public Library. "Coffee Talk" is an informal conversational style meeting where people can come and learn more about foster parenting and adopting. There will be a Q&A and discussion will focus on a list of common barriers that people face as well as the rewards. Some common questions asked are: Can I foster if I'm single? Am I too old to foster? May I still have firearms and foster? Those are just a few examples. The "Coffee Talk" is also designed for people who know this is not the right season for them to foster, but they still want to be involved in the mission. There will be lots of ideas on how they can get plugged in and support the families who do foster.

Gulf/Franklin 'Coastal Culture' Open House

An Open House for the upcoming Coastal Culture program, an evolution from Education Encore, will be held 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. ET Friday at the Gulf/Franklin Campus of Gulf Coast State College, located at Garrison Ave. and U.S. 98 in Port St. Joe.



Port St. Joe Soccer fundraiser is Saturday. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]



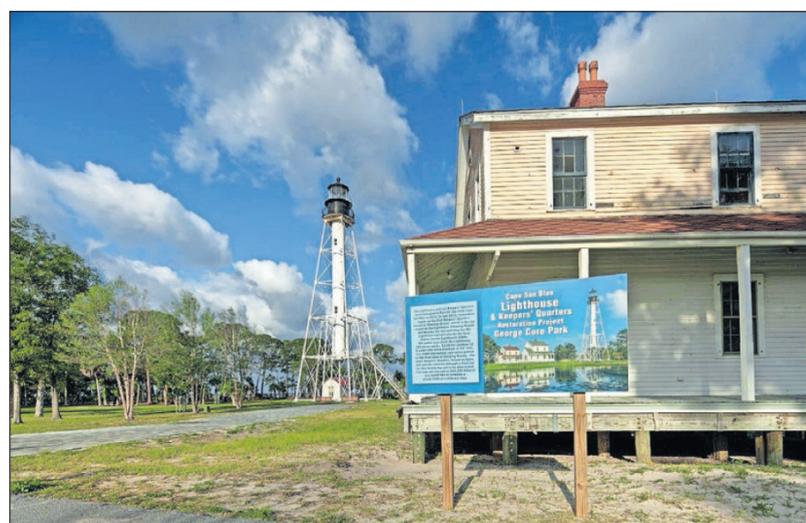
Pancake breakfast fundraiser this weekend. [FILE PHOTO]



Open House at the Gulf/Franklin Center Friday. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

The Open House is an introduction to the program and an opportunity meet some of the instructors. Coastal Culture offers community education courses, combining leisure and learning via personal enrichment programs for active adults with a desire for life-long learning, exploring new

hobbies and developing new talents while meeting new friends. The program adheres to the adage that we are never too old to learn with a goal to provide a learning environment that is fun. Learn about gardening (edible gardening) in small places, drawing, computer basics, jewelry-making,



Hours to climb the lighthouse expanded in August. [FILE PHOTO]

home repairs and more. Courses will be offered from Wednesday, Sept. 5 through Oct. 10; participants can take up to three courses. Courses cost \$25 per class or \$75 for all three. Registration is open. For more information visit gulfcoast.edu/GulfFranklin or call Lara Herter at 873-3583.

Support the "Swivel Sisters"

We're serious this week. Last week we were a bit early, but this weekend is time for the "Swivel Sisters" fundraisers. The Swivel Sisters, an active women's fishing club in Port St. Joe will be holding a "Pancake Breakfast"

fundraiser. A \$5 ticket buys three pancakes, two sausages, butter, syrup and a 12 ounce coffee or juice. On Friday, the Sisters will be at Half-Hitch Tackle in Port St. Joe 5-9 a.m. ET and Saturday they will be at Tommy T's in Mexico Beach from 5-9 a.m. CT. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Half-Hitch Tackle or the day of either event.

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Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School soccer fundraiser

Come to the Haughty Heron Saturday and listen to the Bo Spring Band and the Gulf County Soccer Boosters will be running its concession stand 7-10 p.m. ET, before and during the show. The boosters will be cooking hot dogs, hamburgers and French fries and, naturally, there will be plenty of cheese and chili for those dogs and fries. There will be a limited supply of Port St. Joe Soccer t-shirts and pullovers and the boosters will hold a raffle. All donations support the girls' and boys' high school soccer teams and are much appreciated.

August hours to climb lighthouse expanded

The Cape San Blas Lighthouse will be open through Labor Day 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. ET Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Venture to George Core Park in Port St. Joe and climb to the top, nearly 100 feet high and check out the Gift Shop in "Sleeping Beauty." 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.



A new feature added by local firefighters: lettering to know where the proper equipment is located. [TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

BOOST

From Page A1

ladders.

There are the oxygen tanks, fire gear, rakes, shovels, everything, beyond the water at high speed, one would need at the scene of a fire or other emergency.

Equipment for the Jaws of Life is revealed with the drop of a door in back, which also includes all hoses and lines needed to operate the various devices which might be needed in an emergency.

"We have everything (national agencies) require on this one truck," Plair said. "We have our full array of salvage equipment.

"And we can run four

tools at the same time."

In addition, a receiver is embedded in each side of the truck to allow a winch to be operated from any side of the vehicle.

And the truck's components and storage spaces were largely designed by the members of the Beaches department.

"We designed every cabinet on the truck," Plair said. "We designed it and they built it."

Included in that design was something of an A-frame cabinet which allows additional storage.

And another touch added by the locals that the manufacturer indicated was being looked at by other departments was lettering on the outside which indicates where specific tools and equipment are located.

"This is a county

benefit," Plair said of the new vehicle.

And, here, is the place to delve into just what Gulf County has in way of fire protection, the men and women who volunteer; say it again, volunteer, to run toward danger instead of away.

The annual budget for the Beaches Volunteer Fire Department is roughly \$100,000.

The cost of equipment maintenance, to vehicles and equipment such as hoses, pumps and ladders, is \$20,000 annually.

The cost of training a firefighter to Firefighter 1 status costs \$1,500-\$2,000, said Assistant Chief David Richardson.

To duplicate, from scratch, the department's equipment, vehicles and physical infrastructure would likely cost an

estimated \$1.2 million, Richardson added.

And there is a constant challenge in maintaining the ranks of volunteers.

The Beaches currently has about 20 members on its active roster, with 11 of those trained as Firefighter 1 with three more in school.

A department must have a sufficient number of trained Firefighter 1 members to enter a "hot zone" of a fire.

"All the departments are lacking in firefighters," said Lt. Jay Smith. "We all need people."

Whether the issue is generational, or apathy

toward volunteering, the reality is the county maintains a decent ISO rating, assisting property owners on insurance, through the dedication of its volunteer fire departments.

And those departments spread the wealth as much as possible.

The two trucks the Beaches effectively replaced with their new vehicle ended up in White City and Wewahitchka.

The department responds not just to fires along the beaches, but to White City, Highland View and Port St. Joe through the mutual

aid agreements that link departments.

During a recent structural fire in Money Bayou, the Beaches, Highland View and Port St. Joe departments all sent vehicles and personnel.

Finally, any of the county's departments could use a hand from the public with training their members.

If you have a car, with legal and proper title, which is in disrepair or heading to junk heaven, please consider donating it to the local fire department as a training tool for the Jaws of Life and associated tools.

PSJ

From Page A1

are known as "total suspended solids," in what is discharged to the spray fields, triggering regulatory violations.

The benchmark is 5 parts per million; under the three-year term of the consent order the benchmark will be raised for the city to 20 parts per million.

Additionally, constructed in 1972, the lagoon's window, without dredging the sludge that builds on the bottom, was closing in the next few years.

However, the estimated cost of the dredging was well into seven figures, far outside the city's financial wherewithal.

Further, disposal of the sludge resulting in such dredging has become an environmentally controversial practice.

A final factor, and this one a positive for St. Joseph Bay, is the city no longer discharges into the bay when the lagoon gets too high, but into spray fields operational since 2012 on land donated by the St. Joe Company.

Last year, the city had a company offer, free of charge, a six-month trial project of a biological approach to the dredging: effectively using another biologic to dissolve the sludge.

"We had some good signs there," Anderson said, noting that a significant amount of sludge was removed from the

bottom.

Anderson said DEP officials have been working with the city on possible solutions and the final result is the consent order.

"The DEP listened to us on ways to fix (the problems) and put it writing," Anderson said.

He added that the presence of the consent order and prior violations will be a positive for the city in the pursuit of state or federal grant money to help fund the fixes.

But, how much the fixes will cost is the next question.

Commissioners moved Tuesday night to move ahead with a request for proposals.

The hope, Anderson said, was that an initial "biological dredging" will act as something of a "shock" to the lagoon, easing the way a bit for the rest of the work.

10th Street Park

Residents to the current 10th Street Park continued to push back against a board decision earlier this month to approve a resolution with a budgeted plan for improvements to the park.

In addition to what have become familiar concerns about safety, flooding and disruption of lives, several residents referenced documents and questioned why a recreational complex was not being built on Field of Dreams Ave.

One document was a copy of the specialty warranty deed issued by the St. Joe Company to the city concerning acreage

off Field of Dreams to be used "for a recreational complex."

The land is now used by the city has a lay down yard for yard debris picked up by city crews.

Language in the deed directly indicates no other use for the land and there were several questions (could the city lose the land, in particular) best left to an attorney to decipher.

City attorney Adam Albritton said he would review the deed and come back to the board.

Secondly, documents were provided dating to 2005, and revisited by county and city officials in 2013, detailing a joint venture to build a "sports complex" on Field of Dreams.

The earlier document was part of a wide-ranging interlocal agreement between county and city; the second document stemmed from discussions by the Board of County Commissioners to implement a fifth penny of bed tax for a sports complex.

In implementing the fifth penny, the BOCC has expanded, via language, the use to include parks and recreation and last summer the BOCC unanimously approved moving the focus away from Field of Dreams to 10th Street.

The BOCC has yet to approve spending bed tax dollars on the city's proposed plan for the improvements at 10th Street Park, which includes the addition of one field, additional parking and concessions.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Port St. Joe Planning Development and Review Board (PDRB) will hold a Meeting to discuss a request for a Special Exception on **Tuesday September 11, 2018, at 4:00 P.M. EST.** The Public Hearings will be held in the City Commission Meeting Room at City Hall, 305 Cecil Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 for **Mark Davenport** located at **711 Woodward Avenue, Parcel # 04909-000R.** The reason for the request is **Per Section 3.04(2)m. of the Land Development Regulations to encroach residential front yard setbacks.** The proposed plans can be reviewed at the Building Department located at 1002 10th St. and can be reached for questions at 850-229-1093.

All persons are invited to attend this meeting. Interested persons may attend and be heard at the public hearings or provide comments in writing to the Planning Development and Review Board, City of Port St. Joe City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. Transactions of the public hearings will not be recorded. Persons wishing to appeal any decision made during the hearings will need a record of the proceeding and should ensure a verbatim record is made, including the testimony on which the appeal is based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons wishing to attend needing assistance and special accommodations to participate in these proceedings should contact Charlotte Pierce, City Clerk, at City Hall, (850) 229-8261.

OPINION

CRANKS MY TRACTOR

Gulf of Medicina



BN Heard

Growing up, my parents or my grandparents, or specifically my grandfather would take me to Gulf of Mexico for a few days at a time. My Papa (grandfather) used to think if he could just get in the Gulf of Mexico, all of his ailments would be healed. First, he would try Lysol to cure things like bug bites, dandruff and my Grandmama nagging at him.

If that didn't work, he would announce that we should go to the beach. He led a pretty wonderful life in rural Randolph County, Alabama, in that he and his buddies (me and a little dog of some sort) could head off on a whim with no preparation other than a stop at a gas station to get a wedge of hoop cheese wrapped in wax paper, crackers and a couple of cold Nehi soda waters.

He would talk on his radio along the way and the dog and I would hang our heads out of the windows. Thus, my love for places on the Florida Panhandle will forever be instilled with a picture of my Papa and his advice that the saltwater of the Gulf of Mexico could heal just about anything. He passed away many years ago, but he still "floats" with me out in the saltwater when I come back to the beach.

He could float for what seemed like hours. I would be on a cheap blowup raft and he on his back. So calm that a little boy had to bother him every once in a while to make sure he was still alive.

On this day, I was floating in the water and thinking about what he said about how the saltwater and air at the beach seem to medicinal. Maybe he read it in Popular Mechanics or some other magazine, but I think there is probably proof of this being correct. I am a scientist who lost many a nickel bet to my Papa who would bet me I couldn't throw a piece of Styrofoam a given distance out in his yard.

He realized that the Styrofoam didn't weigh enough, but a little boy saw it as a sure nickel. I lost every time and I don't think I ever had to pay him.

So, the wonderful beaches and communities along the Gulf of Mexico are always yelling for me to "Come on down!" I know we can get a raft along the way and surely there will be a cinderblock building or open air market hawking boiled peanuts or fried chicken. It is the way life should be lived.

So after a successful sunburn on the first day, I decided to check out Papa's theory. It didn't matter if he was wrong, I would still swear by it, because Papa said it was so.

So, is salt water and the beach good for you?

A clinical psychologist has noted that "Staring at the ocean actually changes our brain waves' frequency and puts us into a mild meditative state." But we don't want to just stare at it... We want to get in it...

Well Papa, they now say sea salt is packed with healthy skin-friendly minerals like magnesium, calcium, and potassium, which is which is what makes it so wonderful for various skin conditions (maybe even dandruff). The sea salt and maybe even the sand absorbs the toxins in the body and on the skin, including acne-causing bacteria, and works to heal infections.

Ok, it cleans your skin. It strengthens the immune system. The ocean water also slows down the development of rheumatism. It improves your breathing, helps fight liver and kidney problems, cleans out the large intestine and even prevents insomnia and reduces depression.

What about the nagging wife?

Again because the Gulf of Mexico's salt water contains magnesium, it will calm you down. People who live a stressful life (and I suppose those who have nagging spouses) are advised to go to the beach, not only for its relaxing atmosphere and beautiful scenery, but also because of the soothing medicinal properties of the ocean water.

So just maybe, they should call it the "Gulf of Medicina" or "Gulf of Medicine." Also please note that I loved my Grandmama and my Papa probably nagged at her just as much as she nagged at him.

Get to the beach and cure what ails you. Don't eat too much hoop cheese though. As Papa used to say, "It'll stop you up."

Read more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.

HUNKER DOWN

Prehistoric search engine



Kesley Colbert

I'm going to die without ever kissing Jane Hill. I was reminded of that all over again as news of Google's latest eavesdropping methods hit the airways. According to the latest reports, the giant internet guru has been tracking "every move you make" by storing information about our whereabouts when we open any number of their apps.

This has got some folks up in arms. They are shouting "invasion of privacy" and demanding a Senate subcommittee be formed to see if some "ex post facto law" hasn't been breached.

They act like "keeping track of someone" is a new phenomenon. It's all Sputnik, flying drones, space age stuff to them! Shoot, Google didn't invent GPS, nor were they the first to discover a "ways and means" of pinpointing an individual's exact location at any given moment.

You should have heard the steel ball bearing roaring across the hardwood floor in our third grade class. It was loud as all "get out" as it echoed across the silent room. Buddy caught it with his foot about the time Miss Belle said, "Kesley Colbert, I know that was you!"

"Yes ma'am, I'm sorry, it slipped."

Bud dropped it back in my lap when he moved up front for his reading class. I laid it in the little slot for pencils at the top of my desk. But the temptation

was more than I could bear..... I eased it down to the floor and accidentally gave it a nudge.

Apparently you didn't get two slips with Miss Belle. She hauled me to Mr. McIver's office. He gave me a couple of whacks with his "Board of Education" and collected the offending bearing.

I couldn't go to the house after the final bell. This was 1954. You get whipped at school—you got whipped at home! It wasn't too complicated back then. I figured I'd hide over on West Cherry Street in those tall bushes behind Yogi's house. I was thinking about joining the circus when Dad caught me by the arm.

Nobody knew I was there! You couldn't see the road, or vice versa, from where I was hunkered down! There was no possible way he could find—He whipped me plumb out of the gallberry bushes, down a row of Fire Light Hydrangeas and into Bo Booth's yard next door.

The rubbing alcohol in junior high was Yogi's idea. We were "trick or treating" that Halloween by pouring alcohol up the sidewalk to the front door of a few unsuspecting neighbors. I would knock on the door and run, Yogi would light the alcohol and run, Buddy would drop a cherry bomb into the mail box and run. It sure lit up the night.

We were having the time of our lives when one of them mentioned that most everyone we'd "tricked" was on the same telephone party line as us..... I broke and ran for the hills! Oh man, I don't think we'd been seen but if there was the slightest chance Dad might make the connection, I was in deep trouble.

I dived underneath a pile of

old slab wood at the far end of the Southern Star Lumber Company lot. I didn't even catch my breath before I was grabbed rather roughly by the left ankle. There wasn't no way, I just got here myself! The whipping stung for a few minutes. The abject embarrassment of going back to each house, again knocking on the door, this time apologizing for my rude, brash, stupid and inappropriate behavior has lasted a lifetime!

The summer I turned sixteen Jane Hill was the best looking girl in West Tennessee. It took three months of begging to get her to agree to ride out to Frank's Dairy Bar with me. I borrowed the family car, promised I'd be home by ten and enjoyed the best shake, hamburger and fires I'd ever eaten.

It was soooo perfect. We drove around afterwards—Jane actually slid a smidge closer when the Beatles broke into "I Want to Hold Your Hand." We rode out the old Paris Highway till we hit the Clear Lake Road, turned north up Macedonia and finally eased off the pavement down a seldom used one lane gravel path. I think we were in another county!

It was ten o'clock when I stopped the car. I was promising her I would take her to a Jerry Lee Lewis concert and maneuvering for that first kiss when I heard the horn and saw the lights bouncing across a darkened cow pasture. Daddy roared up on our old Farmall tractor, leaped off, tapped the driver's side window and pointed to his watch!

Google didn't invent nothing in the "I've got my eye on you" business.

Respectfully,
Kes

Expand, don't restrict, voters' access to polls

By Lee H. Hamilton
Special to The Star

There are times when I'm convinced the progress of this country can be measured through our ballot laws. Think about it. Over the course of our history, we've expanded the franchise from the sole preserve of white male property owners to most all citizens 18 and older — regardless of race, gender, or wealth.

Yet despite this steady march, we remain embroiled in debate over who gets to vote. Mostly this is carried on in the states, with Republicans often favoring limits on access to the polls, and Democrats usually hoping to expand access.

The chief argument for moves to restrict access focuses on ballot integrity: protecting against fraud. We know that fraud happens: a voter showing up at the polls pretending to be someone else, or non-citizens trying to vote. But this is rare. After looking over 1,800 files collected by President Trump's now-defunct Voter Integrity Commission, Maine's secretary of state wrote, "the Commission documents made available to me...do not contain evidence of widespread voter fraud. Indeed...the sections on evidence of voter fraud are glaringly empty."

More pointedly, a few years ago Judge Richard Posner, a widely respected Republican appointee to a federal appeals court, raised eyebrows when he declared that he'd been wrong in 2007 when he'd voted to uphold an Indiana law strengthening voter ID requirements. That law, he wrote, is of a type "now widely regarded as a means

of voter suppression rather than of fraud prevention."

Of course, you don't need voter ID laws to make it harder to vote. You can cut the hours when the polls are open. You can reduce the number of voting places. You can cut funding for efforts to encourage voting or help voters get to the polls. You can make voting itself difficult — by limiting the number of booths, for example, so that long lines form. You can excessively purge the voter rolls. Creative minds have come up with all kinds of devices to make it more difficult to vote.

I don't mean to dismiss the idea that we need to protect the integrity of the ballot and ensure that people who vote are entitled to do so. We do. But I believe representative democracy is strengthened by expanded voting through public marketing campaigns, registration drives and even automatic registration when you get a driver's license, through longer hours, early voting or voting by mail.

Voting is our most basic right as a citizen. It's how we make ourselves heard and felt. Our elected representatives respond to what voters consider the most important issues and how to decide them. Our whole political system depends on it, and erodes if voting turnout falls.

So the impact of voting is huge. The results that flow from voting in a representative democracy can determine the availability of guns, which health-care proposals move forward, the quality of governance you have, the economic policies that shape your life.

Ask yourself why it is that the federal government spends

a lot more money on programs for older people than for young people. Is it because older people are simply more deserving of public spending? Of course not. The reason is that politicians know older people vote at far higher rates than younger people do. The laws reflect members of Congress' sensitivity to that simple fact.

As a politician, I kept track of the reasons people gave me for not voting. Often it was just plain apathy, inconvenience, or a sense of powerlessness. Transportation could be bad. Older people were intimidated by the hoopla that surrounds the voting place, what with politicians out there shaking hands and people carrying signs. As a result, I understood their reasons for not voting, and could work to correct their legitimate concerns and make our democracy stronger.

We need to do everything we can to lift voter turnout, not suppress it. The more people who vote, the more nearly our democracy will reflect the views of "the people," not just the people who had the wherewithal to have the right ID or a ride to the polling place. And the more the polls reflect the communities we live in, the healthier and more legitimate our democracy will be.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



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LOCAL

School Board candidate election survey

Star Staff Report

The Gulf County Democrat Party provided a list of questions for School Board candidates in the two races on the primary election ballot.

Both races, non-partisan, will be decided Tuesday between candidates seeking to succeed retiring board members.

Respectively, in District 1, Bernadette Hackett faces Dennis McGlon; and in District 5, Ruby Knox faces Barbara Radcliff.

The questions were published in The Star Aug. 9.

1. What are your plans to resolve the teacher shortage in Gulf County?

Hackett: I believe in dialogue to uncover the reasons for the shortage. I have begun to do that by attending the Cafe Conversations. I would be proactive and hands on in finding creative solutions. I believe in being respectful of all opinions and ideas for changes needed. I believe that good leaders reach out to all stakeholders; operate in the “Sunshine”; do not think they have all the answers; are not dictatorial; and, nurture a culture of collaboration. I have a history of being the Executive Director of two corporations and so I do know something about leadership. I learned that putting my ego aside and respecting others; just listening to individuals breaks down barriers and effects practical solutions.

Knox: I advocate allowing classroom teachers in the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) to extend their DROP beyond the five years currently allowed by the School Board for up to three more years, which is allowed by state law when approved by the School Board.

I support allowing retired teachers to return to the classroom after the required year of retirement at their pre-retirement salaries.

The School District uses the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC) to help advertise for teacher vacancies, but I would like to encourage “casting a wider net” by using other online services.

I encourage implementing clubs such as “Future Teachers of America” at the high schools to recruit local students to get their college degrees in education and return to the District.

We should work with the Tourist Development Council (TDC) to help publicize teacher recruitment efforts.

I will continue positive relationships with area universities to develop teacher preparation programs that meet the needs of the District.

Radcliff: There is obviously no quick answer for the teacher shortage in Gulf County. It is a problem facing schools across the country. Specifically, for Gulf County affordable housing is an issue for many people, not just teachers. Something affordable isn't suitable and something suitable isn't affordable based on teacher pay levels. This problem is multi-layered and will require the implementation of a multi-year strategy in order to address this situation. I feel my business background and unique skill set will prove very helpful in analyzing and solving such problems.

2. For which vocational programs, if any, should Gulf County seek Triumph Gulf Coast funding?

Hackett: First I would seek the counsel of Mr. Shoaf. I would speak to school Guidance Counselors and High School teachers as they would

know our students needs and dreams best. Educate myself as to where the future good paying jobs will be for those who do not feel inclined to go on to college. I have great respect for those who choose vocations in “the trades” and such. My husband has been a woodworker, cabinetmaker, and, furniture fabricator for over 40 years. I love my hair-dresser as she transforms my unruly locks, and, am in awe of my auto mechanic as he diagnoses my car's problems. So those are a few of the good paying jobs that will continue into the future but there are many others that will need to be identified because our children deserve our best efforts.

Knox: The Gulf School District is working closely with a consultant through the Triumph Gulf Coast organization to write a grant for an unmanned aircraft systems (drones) program that will produce certified students who will be able to work with Tyndall Air Force Base and a variety of industries. This transformational technology is expected to have a profound impact on the Panhandle region. Because our small high schools in Port St. Joe and Wewahitchka cannot easily obtain funding for multiple vocational programs, the Triumph funding for the drone program will be an exciting new program for our students.

We already have Microsoft Specialist Certification and welding at Port St. Joe High School. Wewahitchka High School also has Microsoft Specialist Certification and a carpentry program, and they will add welding this year if funding is approved. Wewahitchka High School recently began an agriscience program in response to the needs of new companies in the area. Triumph funding can be instrumental in firmly establishing that program and permitting it to be self-sustaining. Similarly, Port St. Joe High School would benefit from Triumph resources in implementing a culinary arts program being started this year. While not a true vocational program, our excellent NJROTC program at Port St. Joe High School gives students an advantage through experience and pay grade when joining the military.

With an overwhelming aging group of Baby Boomers, I feel another needed program for career preparation would be the eventual implementation of a nursing preparation program at our high schools. This program would increase job opportunities and excellent health care support in the local medical community. Our students would provide invaluable nursing services in any community in which they settle.

Radcliff: Within the guidelines of the Triumph funding, I am in favor of seeking funding for a culinary program – I have heard this is perhaps already on the table. I also favor any funding that will help our students get the proper courses to move into the trade industry – HVAC, plumbing, welding, carpentry, etc.

3. Will you establish a policy to enable members of the community to introduce agenda items to the School Board meetings?

Hackett: If I find out there is no such policy I will write and introduce one.

Knox: There is already a policy in the Gulf County School Board Policy Manual that outlines the procedure to be used to place items on the School Board agenda.

Radcliff: There is currently a procedure where members

of the community are placed on the agenda and afforded an opportunity to speak at school board meetings. However, I will seek to promote a more welcoming atmosphere when the public comes before the Board. I want to see the Board, through the leadership of the Chairman, engage with parents and other visitors as opposed to the superintendent taking the lead.

4. What efforts will you make to ensure the safety of students and staff?

Hackett: That is sadly a question that troubles everyone. My grandson was in first grade in the neighboring school district to Sandy Hook when that school was invaded. My daughter worked in the World Trade Center Complex when the planes ripped those buildings apart. Living freely without being paralyzed by fear can be challenging. I do not want our children attending schools that are armed encampments. Yet a safe learning environment is a necessity. I think that identifying what has worked in the past in other schools, workplaces, and, public places can be retrofitted for our schools. The introduction of School Social Workers into our schools will be a giant plus. They have the skills to identify troubled children, give assistance to families, and, intervene with creative solutions. They also offer forums to children to speak their truth without judgment creating safe spaces for children to “just be”. We can also harden our school campuses. I am open to all ideas and I welcome all input.

Knox: I will support the efforts of the District's Safety Director as he works to fulfill the requirements of the Department of Education in regard to school safety. Although money has been allocated by the legislature for school safety for the 2018-2019 school year, it is not enough to do all the things that would “harden” our schools. Local charitable organizations and volunteer groups, along with local law enforcement, could be contacted to help with making our schools safer.

Radcliff: The safety of every student, teacher, and District employee is paramount. I support seeking qualified security experts to apprise the District of its options and continue efforts to harden our schools. The camera-equipped school buses is certainly a positive step for improved security extending beyond the school grounds. The District should continue to work closely with our local law enforcement to maintain a safe and secure environment to promote productive learning.

5. How will you encourage dialogue between the community and the school district?

Hackett: I will ask for it and stress how important open dialogue is to having a school system that all in the community feel they have a stake in and that belongs to everyone. When issues and needs arise they should be made known and not be a secret of a few who hold power positions. When a plan is implemented and an unintended consequences arises as a result someone needs to make everyone aware so it can be addressed. This can only happen if there is a “culture of safety” within the environment. People will not speak if they fear retribution. If a person makes a suggestion and they are accused of something nefarious or if they

are disrespected they are not going to feel open to express themselves. That is a toxic environment. Therefore, I will encourage dialogue by refusing to accept a culture that does not produce a respectful, safe environment.

Knox: I would invite the community to attend School Board meetings and follow the policy for placing their agenda items on the monthly agenda. The School Board represents all of the students and families in Gulf County, and I will always make myself available if anyone would like to speak with me. I welcome any and all phone calls and will be happy to meet and discuss anything that affects our students. My home phone number is 229-6334.

I would also like the Gulf County Schools website to add a “Suggestion or Comment” box (electronic) under School Board Resources for families to ask questions, address concerns, and offer ideas.

Radcliff: The District website is user friendly and I encourage parents to acquaint themselves with it. I will work to expand communication to parents – it is your school system and the Board, Superintendent, and staff work for you – I will be available for your concerns. Good communication between parents and the school system is a vital component to an enriched educational experience and I commit to maintaining those open lines of communication.

6. What efforts will you make to ensure the students have access to mental health counseling, guidance counseling, and/or character development programs?

Hackett: As I stated previously, with the introduction of Licensed Clinical Social Workers into our schools much of these will be addressed within the school by them personally or by their ability to refer students and families to appropriate professionals. If an issue is more widespread, such “bullying”, it could be addressed by professional assembly programs that are “jump off” points that lend themselves to small group discussions that can be facilitated by our LCSW staff.

Knox: History shows us that most school shootings have been perpetrated by students or former students who are mentally unstable and/or have emotional issues. The legislature has recognized this, too, and allocated funding for mental health intervention in this year's budget. It is my understanding the Gulf District has used this funding to hire two additional mental health counselors so that each school will have a mental health counselor on site every day. This counseling of students individually and educating students about bullying, anger management, substance abuse, and other topics, will help our district to, hopefully, curb future violence. I support the training of all personnel to identify students who may be at risk.

Radcliff: The newly required mental health training for all school board employees and a mental health counselor in each school this year will help identify students who may be at risk – providing help when needed sooner rather than later. I would encourage community involvement to promote character development – there are many retired residents in Gulf County who would gladly donate their time to mentor our young people.

7. What policies will you establish to encourage constructive discussion of current affairs among teachers and students?

Hackett: I would institute a written policy and procedure that instructs a teacher to bring her/his need to the attention of her supervisor for the purpose of identifying a creative, practical solution. The P&P will highlight that no subject brought before a teacher will be adjudged to be taboo. As example: if a child has a personal problem, the solution would most likely be a personal solution such as referral to a Social Worker. If it is a universal issue like a school active shooter situation that occurred recently in another school you might address it by doing something more universal. Eg. You might have an assembly where several students take different sides and debate the issue. This engages all students and helps in the development of Critical Thinking and Consequential Thinking. It also universalizes feelings; thus, helping children to not feel isolated in their thoughts. It also teaches listening skills rather than arguing. In other words, the Policy and Procedure would be written and the solution would be creative and situational. In the case of the school shooting the discussion and solution can be anticipatory because you will know that the issue needs to be addressed. In this case there will be several teachers in discussion with the supervisor. In order for Supervision to work you again need that “healthy culture of safety”.

Knox: I will encourage age-appropriate discussions of current events during appropriate class periods, such as social studies.

Debate classes and student government associations also provide opportunities for constructive discussion of current affairs.

Radcliff: In this age of 24 hour news, social media, and the internet it is virtually impossible to shelter children from what is very often horrific events. Sometimes these events make it to the classroom. I believe we should give our teachers the discretion, while maintaining the curriculum requirements, to address current events with students – always on an age appropriate basis.

8. Do you support or oppose removing corporal punishment as a disciplinary procedure from the Gulf County School District's Code of Conduct?

Hackett: I oppose violence. There is much violence within our society. Domestic Violence is a major problem and leads to the breakup of many families. It also leads to many deaths. Therefore, I would rather use disciplinary situations as opportunities for learning to deal with feelings and teaching that all behaviors have consequences. Good behaviors have good consequences and negative behaviors have negative consequences. Teaching that we all make choices and can act first or think first and act second. We also model controlling anger and exhibit self control when we meet bad behavior with discussion and then an appropriate punishment. This results in teaching children positive coping skills through your modeling and Consequential Thinking because you will administer a punishment that will teach that thinking first is better. Of course, as with all learning, repetition is key and some children need more repetition experiences than others.

See SURVEY, A10

Florida Master Naturalist class makes splash on St. Joseph Bay

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

So, what is the Florida Master Naturalist Program?

The Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) is an adult education program developed by the University of Florida and provided by many UF/IFAS Extension Agents and participating organizations throughout the State of Florida. FMNP training will benefit persons interested in learning more about Florida's environment or wishing to increase their knowledge for use in education programs as volunteers, employees, ecotourism guides, and others.

The Coastal Shoreline Restoration course focuses on living shoreline restoration and is intended to improve participants' understanding of the science and application of living shorelines. It includes foundational training on the ecology, benefits, methods, and



Joe Morrow demonstrating UAS/Drone Technology for Coastal Processes Monitoring. [OE MORROW, MRD ASSOCIATES, INC.; ERIK LOVSTRAND, UF/IFAS FRANKLIN COUNTY EXTENSION]

monitoring techniques for restoring oyster reefs, mangroves, and salt marsh. Graduates of this course will be better prepared to promote and assist with restoration projects.

This summer, UF/IFAS-FL Sea Grant Extension Agents, Scott Jackson of Bay County, Erik Lovstrand of Franklin County and Ray Bodrey of Gulf County hosted a course on Coastal Shoreline Restoration. Session

2 of the 3-session course was offered in Gulf County at the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve. This course focused on mangroves. This two-day event was filled with knowledge of marine ecology and restoration principles regarding the bay shoreline.

Topics discussed during the Gulf County session by the Extension Agents were mangrove ecology and their use as a potential shoreline restoration



Ray Bodrey discussing black mangrove expansion in St. Joseph Bay. [ERIK LOVSTRAND, UF/IFAS FRANKLIN COUNTY EXTENSION]

NOTICE OF HEARING TO IMPOSE AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF FIR PROTECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of Mexico Beach, will conduct a public hearing to consider imposing fire services special assessments for the provision of fire protection services within the City for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2018.

The hearing will be held at 6:00 pm, or as soon thereafter as possible, on September 11, 2018, at the Civic Center 105 N. 31st Street, Mexico Beach, Florida, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments.

All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the City Council within 20 days of notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the City Clerk at least two (2) days prior to the proceedings. Telephone (850) 648-5700 for assistance.

The assessments for each parcel of property will be based upon each parcel's Property Use classification and the total number of billing units attributed to that parcel. The following table reflects the proposed fire services assessment schedule being considered by City Council for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2018:

Residential Property Use Category	Rate Per Dwelling Unit
Residential	\$356.00
Non-Residential Property Use Category	Rate Per Square Foot
Non-Residential	\$0.50
Land Property Use Category	Rate Per Parcel
Vacant Land	\$54.00

Fire Services Assessment Rates

Copies of the Master Service and Capital Assessment Ordinance, the Initial Assessment Resolution, the Final Assessment Resolution, the Preliminary Rate Resolution initiating and imposing the fire protection assessment, the preliminary assessment roll, and other documentation related to the proposed Fire Protection Special Assessment are available for inspection at the City Clerk's office located at the City Administration Building, 201 Paradise Path, Mexico Beach, Florida between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The assessments will be collected on the ad valorem tax bill to be mailed in November 2018, as authorized by section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. Failure to pay the assessments will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title.

If you have any questions, please contact the City at (850) 648-5700 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



technique, along with a regional mangrove research update. Other presentations of the course included the importance of sea grass in the bay, and an update and overview of the FWC scallop sifter restoration project. The group also took a field excursion to see black mangroves in the area. Guest speaker, Coastal Engineer Joe Morrow of MRD Associates, Inc., discussed coastal processes affecting St. Joseph Peninsula, beach re-nourishment and protective structures. He also provided a field trip to the Peninsula, in which an aerial drone survey

was conducted, enabling participants of the course to view drone footage in real-time via a separate monitor, highlighting the changes to the shoreline in recent years. The course wrapped up the following morning with a kayak trip to Pig Island. There, the participants were guided through an area of red mangroves, as well as embarking on a snorkeling adventure. Interested in signing up for a Master Naturalist course? Core module courses are offered in Coastal Systems, Freshwater Systems and Upland Systems. Special

topic modules are offered in Conservation Science, Environmental Interpretation, Habitat Evaluation, Wildlife Monitoring and Coastal Shoreline Restoration. To view a current schedule of courses, please visit: <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fmnp/> Want to know more about the Florida Master Naturalist Program? Please Visit: <http://www.masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu/> or contact Gulf County Extension at 639-3200 for more details. *UF/IFAS Extension is an Equal Opportunity Institution.*

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Port St. Joe Youth Soccer

Fall Registration



Port St Joe Youth Soccer registration for the fall soccer season will be held on Friday August 17th and 24th from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm, Saturday August 18th and 25th from 9:00 am until 1:00pm at the STAC House.

The STAC House is located on 8th street in Port St Joe. Boys and Girls born from 2006 – 2014 are invited to play soccer. No experience is necessary and this is a co-ed league. Bring a copy of your child's birth certificate to the registration if they have not played in our league before. Registration fee is \$60 per player including uniforms. A limited number of partial scholarships available. Coaches, referees, and sponsors are needed – please sign up at the time of registration!

Register Online (Optional): www.PSYouthSoccer.com

Port St. Joe Youth Soccer

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- Dr. Frank R. Lin, Johns Hopkins Medicine

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[TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

Grapes from the garden

Bill Lynch of Highland View has showed off plenty of veggies, from turnips to green beans and rutabagas over the years, but this week was a first.

Lynch, a rather spry 92 soon to celebrate another birthday, has 450 feet of grapes growing in his garden, a sample of which he brought for tasting.

They are, to say the least, juicy and sweet.

Lynch even has one vine that is currently nurturing both white and red grapes, on the same vine.

Lynch said he contacted

the local extension service which he said indicated that was not only highly unusual, but “hadn’t been seen in a thousand years.”

We won’t test that one because the positive is Lynch, who experienced some health challenges the past year or so, is on his feet and applying his green thumb for others again.

“I may not walk as well as I used to, but I still look around every day trying to make somebody happy.”

That is a credo for a life well-lived.

Tim Croft



DeEtta Smallwood, center, guidance counselor at Port St. Joe Elementary School, with Sara Walker and Ashton Lovejoy from the Junior Service League of Port St. Joe. [PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

JSL delivers Jam Packs

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Junior Service League, in one of its signature efforts each year, recently delivered Jam Packs to the county’s public elementary schools. This year’s campaign translated into \$1,000 in school supplies to be split between Port St. Joe Elementary School and Wewahitchka Elementary School.

The supplies were delivered in Wewahitchka Aug. 8, in time to be distributed during Teacher Night.

Each school’s guidance counselor provided a list of high-demand items that they run out of quickly. Items included ear buds, earphones, binders, folders, composition books, notebooks, colored pencils, crayons, glue sticks, paper, pencils, tissues and disinfectant spray.



Jennifer Guffey, center, guidance counselor at Wewahitchka Elementary School, with Sara Walker and Ashton Lovejoy from the Junior Service League of Port St. Joe.



[TIM CROFT | THE STAR]

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THE STAR **THE APALACHICOLA TIMES**

GULF COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

Aug. 13-19

On Aug. 13, Deputy P. Young was dispatched to the report of a stolen firearm on Ridge Lane in Dalkeith. It was reported by the victim that a .22 caliber rifle was missing and that he had previously reported other items missing as well. Dakota William Jones (22) was developed as a suspect. Jones, who was incarcerated in the Gulf County Detention Facility for unrelated charges, was interviewed and he admitted to taking several of the items and therefore was charged with Grand Theft.

On Aug. 13, Deputy G. Desrosier arrested Linda Bice (59) at the Gulf County Sheriff's Office Substation after she turned herself in on a violation of probation warrant. Bice was on probation for four counts of Possession of Methamphetamine. She was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility

without incident.

On Aug. 13, Deputy Andy White travelled to the Bay Correctional Facility to pick up Mark William Moore (61) and transported him to the Gulf County Detention Facility to attend court proceedings. Once the proceedings concluded, Moore was transported back to Bay Correctional Facility.

On Aug. 14, Sgt. D. Sanders responded to Roberts Cemetery Road in reference to fraud report. The complainant recently discovered that several suspicious bank transactions, withdrawals and online purchases were fraudulently made on their bank account. A suspect was developed and the investigation was turned over to Sgt. L. Dickey.

On Aug. 17, Sgt. Dickey interviewed the suspect, Damien Chase Wayne Roper (19), and Roper confessed to sixty-seven counts of fraudulent use of a credit card. Roper was arrested and

booked into the Gulf County Detention Facility.

On Aug. 14, Deputy George Desrosier travelled to the Bay County Jail to pick up and transport Curt L Johnson (34) and Tatiana Nicole Davis (22) to the Gulf County Detention Facility for court proceedings. After the court proceedings were over, he transported Davis and Johnson back to the Bay County Jail without incident.

On Aug. 15, Deputy Vince Everett and Investigator Shane Ferrell responded to County Road 381 in the Dalkeith area in reference to a disturbance with possible gun shots. Contact was made with the residents and it was determined that Joseph Weldon Davis (43) had discharged a firearm in anger, during the course of the disturbance, which caused one of the residents to be in fear for their safety. Davis was arrested for Aggravated Assault with a Firearm and

transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility without incident.

On Aug. 15, Deputy Mike Manley transported Mark William Moore (61) back to the Bay Correctional Facility without incident. On Aug. 17, Deputy George Desrosier arrested Ladora Nunnery/Jillson on a Violation of Probation warrant out of Liberty County.

On Aug. 18, Sgt. David Sanders and Deputy Sylvia Sheline responded to April Lane in the Stone Mill Creek area in reference to a verbal altercation between neighbors. After identifying all parties involved it was discovered that Adam Griffin Monk had an active child support warrant. He was arrested and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility without incident.

On Aug. 19, Deputy Michael Layfield was dispatched to Hardy Street in

the Overstreet area in reference to a domestic disturbance. The victim stated that she had been hit in the left facial area which caused swelling by Robert Louis Phillips (33). Phillips was placed under arrest for Battery and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility.

On Aug. 19, Sgt. David Sanders responded to a theft call on Cape San Blas Road. The complainant stated that a neon green Hobbie Compass kayak was missing from the dock where it was left tied off the evening before.

If you have any information about this case, please contact the Gulf County Sheriff's Office. 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.

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Great Bay front lot for the fisherman who wants to start his fishing adventure from his own back yard and the wife who wants to be across the street from the sugar white sand beach. All on the North end of Cape San Blas! Enjoy your own piece of paradise with over an acre across from Pig Island. Buildable area already cleared and in X-flood zone. There is a newer dock in place with fantastic views and access to the deep water channel which leads right out into St. Joseph Bay. Gated entrance and drive already in place. This property is super easy to access and provides for a private location to build a great 2nd home or fishing camp. This property is turn key and ready to build on.

Contact **TOMMY LAKE**
with Cape San Blas Realty
850-227-8388
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North Cape Gulf Front home with NO HOA DUES OR ASSOCIATION that boasts spectacular westerly facing sunsets year round. Oversized 66' wide gulf front lot w/ ample room for a pool, is located in the small subdivision of Paradise Gulf/ Paradise Bay. Home is sold mostly furnished and while it has never been on the rental market, it certainly would be a top income producing property. Large gulf front deck that can be accessed by the living area and two of the bedrooms. Large enclosed storage area and ample parking. There is also a dedicated 10' pedestrian easement on the bay side for deeded access to St Joseph Bay. Just imagine beach combing and sunbathing then take your golf cart across the street with your fishing or scalloping gear and catching or harvesting the nights meal.

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

Gulf Coast REAL ESTATE GROUP

MLS 262827 • Cape San Blas • \$369,000

ATTENTION BEACH LOVERS!
Classic beach cottage with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, covered porch and fenced back yard. Home is located in Piney Woods subdivision on the south end of Cape San Blas and includes deeded beach access with wooden walkover and a community pool. Call today to schedule showing appointment.

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Florida's statewide alligator harvest began last week

Recreational hunting is one part of managing the state's healthy alligator population

Special to The Star

Florida's statewide alligator harvest, nationally and internationally recognized as a model program for the sustainable use of a renewable natural resource, begins Aug. 15.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) issued more than 7,500 permits, including an additional 1,313 county-wide permits, as a method to help manage the alligator population.

Alligators are a conservation success story in Florida. They were included on the original

federal endangered species list in 1967. Conservation efforts allowed the population to rebound, and they were removed from the list in 1987. Today, the state's alligator population is estimated at 1.3 million alligators and has been stable for many years.

For over 30 years, the Statewide Alligator Harvest Program has been providing sustainable hunting opportunities throughout the state. The FWC establishes management units with appropriate harvest quotas based on research and proven science to ensure the long-term well-being of the alligator resource.

Recreational alligator hunting is just one part of the FWC's overall approach to managing the species. The



[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

FWC's Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program (SNAP) is another. People who believe a specific alligator poses a threat to people, pets or property should call FWC's toll-free Nuisance Alligator Hotline at 866-FWC-GATOR (866-392-4286). When someone concerned about an alligator calls the Nuisance Alligator Hotline, we will dispatch an

FWC-contracted nuisance alligator trapper to resolve the situation.

In addition, as part of a comprehensive effort to achieve alligator management goals, the FWC has issued an additional 21 Targeted Harvest Area permits that encompass 79 new areas. THA permits allow a managing authority to work directly with a

designated FWC-contracted nuisance alligator trapper, making the process for removing nuisance alligators more proactive and streamlined.

THA permits, which have been in use for almost two decades, define the area's boundaries, the duration of the permit and how many alligators can be removed. Currently, there are 260 THA permits issued that cover 1,460 sites throughout the state with more THAs expected to be added.

Serious injuries caused by alligators are rare in Florida. The FWC works diligently to keep Floridians and visitors informed about safely coexisting with alligators, including providing informational tools such as a video, infographic, and brochure.

PRIMARY

From Page A1

and will be decided Tuesday (see candidate survey A5).

All voters in Precincts 1 and 8, Honeyville and Howard Creek, respectively, will decide between Bernadette Hackett and Dennis McGlon in District 1.

All voters in Precincts 5 and 7,

Centennial Building and the Cape San Blas Fire Station, respectively, will have a choice between Ruby Knox and Barbara Radcliff.

County races for Board of County Commissioners and Gulf County School Board are by districts, not county-wide.

"The non-partisan races will be on both the Republican and Democrat ballots, but if the voter is registered as no party affiliation and are in precincts 1, 5, 7, 8, the school board races will not be on their ballots," Hanlon said.

There is one local partisan race, for the District 4 seat on the Board of County Commissioners.

Incumbent Commissioner Sandy Quinn, Jr. is facing a challenge from Tan Smiley in a rematch of four years ago.

Democratic voters who cast their ballots at the Port St. Joe Fire Station will determine who will advance to the November general election against two no-party affiliation candidate.

All other local races will be decided in November.

The rest of the ballot

That is not to say the voters will not have much more on their ballot.

On the GOP side, voters will cast ballots to determine November candidates for U.S. Senate, Florida Governor, Florida Attorney General and Florida Commissioner of Agriculture.

Democrat voters will have choices for Governor, Florida Attorney General, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture and a candidate for the Second Congressional District.

COUNTY

From Page A1

Trace, opting instead for an education effort, which many argue has run its course.

The board had a Wednesday morning workshop to receive public comment before taking formal action Tuesday.

In two public forums sponsored by the Coastal Community Association of Gulf County and attended by residents from across the coastal areas of the county, common ground was found around urging commissioners to step back from any revisions.

From there, allow a citizens committee to work as a liaison with county staff in reviewing Leave No Trace for recommendations to the board.

Discussed during those public forums have been informal and formal online

surveys that showed a solid majority of responding residents and visitors supported a Leave No Trace ordinance and its enforcement.

The Northwest Florida Office of the Defenders of Wildlife weighed in to the debate against the backdrop of a Habitat Conservation Plan which, now in its fifth draft and several years of back-and-forth with federal agencies, the county and those agencies have yet to approve.

That plan would leave the oversight of development permitting, as they pertain to federal guidelines under the Endangered Species Act, to the county.

The Defenders of Wildlife, a national non-profit founded in 1947, has 200 members and supporters in Gulf County and over 50,000 in Florida.

In his letter to commissioners, Senior Representative Kent Wimmer, said the findings portion of the county's

LNT ordinance, which he noted is intended to "comply" with Florida law, provides a road map for the ordinance.

The findings include Gulf County is "at the core" of a Forgotten Coast known for "pristine beaches, critical environmental habitats and state restricted lands and parks" and LNT "has a vital role" in preserving and enhancing the natural environment.

Sea turtles and other protected species find natural habitat on the local beaches, the ordinance details.

And, the findings continue, items left behind on the beaches are safety hazards, obstacles and "adversely affect tourism ... economic interests ... and can be an obstruction for sea turtles and other protected species."

"In order to protect and maintain the use of the Public Beach for residents, tourists, visitors, wildlife and maintenance crews, the overnight

placement of items of personal property on the Public Beach must be ... prohibited," continues the language of the county's ordinance, Wimmer wrote.

Wimmer wrote that the LNT ordinance adheres to two of the seven principles of leave no trace, which is actually a term originated in forestry management: respecting wildlife and being considerate of other visitors.

Recovery plans for several endangered or threatened species of turtles also require the same actions as found in the LNT ordinance.

Wimmer also noted that the fifth draft of the HCP "consistently references the LNT ordinance, which would make it one of the County's most frequently used tools to avoid and minimize human impacts on sea turtles, beach mice and shore birds."

Wimmer later wrote, "The County's sudden about-face on the LNT ordinance would

create even more distance between measures (in the current draft of the HCP) and the measures necessary to achieve compliance with the ESA."

RV ordinance

If commissioners proceed as indicated last month, the board will also take up a recommendation from Hammond to strike the current RV ordinance in its entirety.

That would return the county to the language of the land development regulations which allow one RV per lot regardless of geographical location in the county.

The current ordinance prohibits an RV within one mile of open coastal waters save for two seven-day permits per year.

After initial passage, the communities of Highland View, Oak Grove and St. Joe Beach were removed from the provisions of the ordinance.

SURVEY

From Page A5

Knox: Corporal punishment (paddling) is only used when parents give permission or request this type of punishment for their son or daughter. I support corporal punishment as it is currently used in the District because I believe in parental choice.

Radcliff: The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines corporal punishment as punishment inflicted on a person's body. I support the removal of corporal punishment from our District.

9. What efforts will you make to ensure our school district and community show encouragement and appreciation for our educators?

Hackett: While I know that there are individuals in every profession that would be better to leave and try another, I believe that the majority try very hard and do their very best. So I personally will treat educators with the respect they deserve. I will expect those in power to always act professionally. I will remind them that their own personal beliefs are not

facts. I will not accept someone in power treating an educator disrespectfully or abusing their power. Poor morale is derived from a lack of good leadership, so I will always encourage and appreciate. Everyone needs that positive feedback. Only people with a poor self concept, need to raise themselves up by berating someone else. The community members I know have great respect for our teachers. I think if we just "...treat others as we wish to be treated" we can work out all problems and issues and still show each other kindness.

Knox: I am a believer that we need to celebrate and encourage our educators, and that includes everyone from non-instructional to teachers, to administrators. Everyone in our district has a common goal to make Gulf District Schools the best small district in the state. I would like to see more newspaper articles about successes.

We already have business partners who sponsor the District's Back to School meeting by awarding door prizes (donated by local businesses) and providing lunch for every district employee. Also, teachers are recognized for their hard work and dedication during Teacher

Appreciation Week.

I believe teacher input is critical for our schools to make them successful and would give our teachers a voice.

I support increasing teacher's salaries for their hard work and endless number of hours spent above and beyond their work hours.

Radcliff: There are so many little ways to show our teachers how much we appreciate them. As a parent - get to know your child's teacher. Make sure your child is prepared for class each day. A simple 'thank you' when you see the teacher out and about in the community, volunteer in your child's classroom, find out the teacher's birthday - send a card, get together with other parents and make a teacher appreciation gift basket, etc. Often it is the simplest gesture that can make someone's day.

I support pay increases as a tangible sign from the District of its appreciation and gratitude for our teachers. Additionally, I will always encourage open dialogue between the Board and our educators. Our teachers need to know that "we've got their back."

10. Why do you want to serve on the Gulf County School Board?

Hackett: I think that the children in our County deserve the very best education possible. I think that our educators deserve to be treated respectfully. We entrust our most precious children into their care. They are there to lovingly, cheerfully teach and encourage our children. We need to do our part, because I do believe "that it takes a village". I have identified some problems that I think are barriers to offering our educators the encouragement, appreciation, and support they deserve. It is my belief that system weaknesses also effect our children's ability to have the optimum learning experience that is most possible. We can do better. I would like to have the opportunity to try to effect some positive changes because IT IS REALLY ALL ABOUT THE KIDS!

Knox: I have a deep affection for the Gulf County School System, and I know that a sound public education is the way to enrich our students' lives and to make this community an even better place to live. I spent most of my adult life as a teacher in this school system and want to continue doing everything I can to make the Gulf County School District the best small

district in the state.

Having grandchildren in our school system makes me more determined to make Gulf District Schools the best!

Radcliff: I want to serve on the Gulf County School Board for a number of reasons. I want to see our District soar! All of our schools should be 'A' schools. 'B' and 'C' schools are not acceptable to me. I believe with proper leadership, a welcoming environment, a true cooperative spirit between administration and educators, more willingness for input from parents and the community, and improved student/teacher morale everyone will enjoy coming to school and to work every day.

My expertise in all aspects of business makes me boardroom ready on day one. My focus will always be on education. I will always vote for the best use of our funds knowing there is never enough money to fund everything.

Our students deserve the best possible education we can provide - I want to be a part of that experience and see that every student graduating from either Port St. Joe or Wewahatchka High School is prepared for their chosen path - attending Vo-Tech school, college, or becoming the next local entrepreneur.

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OUTDOORS

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Lionfish Challenge update: less than a month remaining

Special to The Star

The Lionfish Challenge has less than a month to go (last day to submit is Labor Day, (Sept. 3), but there is still plenty of time to earn prizes or find an FWC-tagged lionfish, worth up to \$5,000. To learn more about where our tagged lionfish can be found, keep reading.

Numbers Update
As of this week:

- 678 people have registered.

- 137 people have submitted lionfish (119 recreational, 18 commercial).

- 14,602 lionfish removed.

- 54 tagged lionfish removed (six in the Atlantic and 48 in the Gulf).

Recent Tagged Lionfish Winners

- Aug. 4, Franklin County: Grayson Shepard of Apalachicola, GoPro Hero5 Camera.

- July 20, Bay County:



Nikkie Cox found this tagged lionfish off Franklin County.
[PHOTO COURTESY OF NIKKIE COX]

Marcus Dabai of Panama City, \$500.

Tagged Lionfish

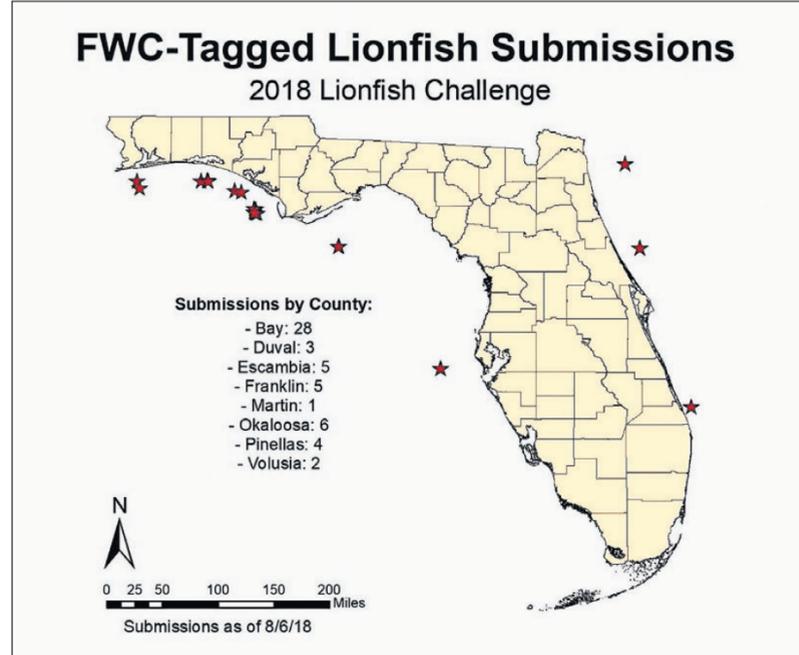
Our harvesters are doing great, but there are still tagged lionfish to be found on both the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Find your tagged lionfish (worth up to \$5,000) today off one of these counties: Bay, Duval, Escambia, Franklin, Martin, Miami-Dade,

Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Pinellas, St. Johns and Volusia.

Upcoming Raffle Drawing

- Final drawing is Aug. 22.

- All qualified participants (submission of 25 lionfish or 25 pounds for commercial) will be entered into drawing. Prizes include 4-foot JBL pole spear from Florida Underwater Sports, Dive



Rite surface marker tube, Lionator pole spear prize pack, Enriched Air Diver Class from Narked Scuba, Color-Dive Lenses from Customatic Optics, Lion Lifts from Toothless Life and YETI tumblers.

Background

The Lionfish Challenge rewards lionfish harvesters with prizes for their lionfish removals, tagged or not. The tagged lionfish component is new this year and includes

cash prizes up to \$5,000. Lionfish were tagged at 50 public artificial reefs across the state between the depths of 80-120 feet.

Sign up and learn more today by visiting MyFWC.com/Lionfish.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, August 23	90°	75°	10%
Fri, August 24	89°	75°	50%
Sat, August 25	88°	75°	50%
Sun, August 26	88°	75°	60%
Mon, August 27	88°	75°	60%
Tues, August 28	88°	75°	50%
Wed, August 29	87°	76°	60%

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
23	Th	8:10a 1.8		6:20p 0.1	
24	Fr	8:59a 1.8		6:49p 0.2	
25	Sa	9:46a 1.8		7:14p 0.3	
26	Su	10:33a 1.7		7:34p 0.4	
27	Mo	11:19a 1.6		7:46p 0.6	
28	Tu	12:08p 1.4		7:48p 0.7	
29	We	2:41a 0.9	1:02p 1.2	4:56a 0.8	7:33p 0.9

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
23	Th	4:10a 1.4	1:12p 1.6	8:24a 1.3	9:39p 0.2
24	Fr	4:34a 1.4	2:07p 1.6	9:11a 1.3	10:12p 0.2
25	Sa	4:55a 1.4	2:56p 1.6	9:50a 1.2	10:41p 0.3
26	Su	5:12a 1.4	3:41p 1.6	10:25a 1.1	11:05p 0.3
27	Mo	5:27a 1.4	4:25p 1.6	10:57a 1.0	11:27p 0.4
28	Tu	5:42a 1.5	5:10p 1.6	11:28a 0.9	11:48p 0.5
29	We	5:59a 1.5	5:58p 1.5	12:00p 0.8	

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FISHING REPORT



It continues to be tough going for fishing along the Forgotten Coast, however, Flounder fishing has been exceptional this spring and summer. Bull minnows would be the bait of choice but white or pearl grubs have done really well also. Anglers here is your head's up, it is Scalloping season and there are a tremendous number of boats on the water and people in the water. That being said fishing it is only going to get tougher before it gets better. Look for areas that have no boaters on the flats and this is where you want to try your hand. And since we've mentioned Scalloping, so far it has been a fantastic harvest with nice large plump meat and easy limits. We can't stress enough to exercise caution on the water, there are literally hundreds of people in the water right now. So slow down and keep a sharp eye out. Until next week Happy Fishing and Scalloping!

Why and how do scallops swim?

By Lon Wilkens
Special to The Star

Scallops swim for two reasons, as an escape response and to migrate.

Swimming by the bay scallop is often observed while snorkeling in shallow sea grass beds, an escape response triggered visually using their eyes or equally by water disturbance detected by the mantle tentacles.

Swimming, or a single jump, can be elicited repeatedly by touching the tentacles with a common predatory snail such as the banded tulip, another common sea grass inhabitant. In fact, if one touches the tentacles extending from the ears of the shell adjacent to the hinge the scallop will almost always swim.

Alternatively, if contact is made anywhere else around the shell the scallop will respond with a backward jump.

For fun, see if you can replicate these behaviors when scallop season opens in St. Joseph Bay.

How did these



[PHOTO COURTESY OF LON WILKENS]

behaviors evolve, when the protective response to a disturbance by nearly all other bivalves is to "clam up"?

The adductor muscle of these bivalves is unique in being able to keep the shell tightly closed for extended periods without fatigue, as is familiar to anyone attempting to open an oyster. Paradoxically, the response in scallops is to open the shell widely, exposing the tasty innards. The effect, however, is to fill the interior of the shell with seawater, which the scallop then uses to jet

away from a predator.

For swimming, the mantle tissues form a curtain around the front of the shell to enclose the water except for pores open at the shell ears where water is jetted backwards when the shell closes. Repeated rapid closures result in swimming, simulated as by a Pacman taking bites out of the water.

Alternately, the single jump involves contractions of the mantle curtain to form a pore at the point of contact through which water is jetted toward the irritant with the scallop

retreating backward.

Two reasons contribute to the highly unusual swimming behavior in scallops.

Foremost, perhaps, is that the ability to migrate takes advantage of optimum conditions for survival. Cold-water species are capable of sustained swimming over long distances.

Also, in connection to swimming, the ears of the shell at the swimming pores do not close completely making the scallop susceptible to predation.

The ability to swim also involves muscle physiology, with the adductor classified as a fast twitch muscle that gives it its succulent tender gastronomic quality.

This is in contrast to other bivalves where only a small fraction of the muscle is fast contracting, nevertheless a necessary component used to expel sediments that collect inside the shell, as can be observed by oysters spitting at low tide on an oyster bar.

FWC Chipola River video wins national award

Special to The Star

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) video, FLOW: the Chipola River Story, received second place in the Association for Conservation Information's "Video Long" award category. FLOW celebrates the charm of the Chipola River and the partnerships forged to protect it. The ACI's annual awards contest recognizes excellence and promotes craft

improvement through a national competition.

FLOW features International Game Fish Association Female Angler of the Year, Meredith McCord, and tells the conservation story of the Chipola River. This video recognizes the dedicated efforts of individuals and organizations such as the FWC, Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (part of the National Fish Habitat Partnership), Trout Unlimited and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service.

The Chipola River is a spring-fed system in north Florida that features the only naturally reproducing population of shoal bass in the state. These bass are genetically unique and have a limited geographic range. Meredith McCord set line class world records for shoal bass and black crappie while filming FLOW, inspiring future conservation efforts.

Two trailers for the video and the full-length video can be viewed on

the TrophyCatch YouTube channel (YouTube.com/TrophyCatchFlorida):

- Trailer 1 – <https://bit.ly/2Bk111P>

- Trailer 2 – <https://bit.ly/2nMkZZo>

- Full-length video – <https://bit.ly/2r1mZai>

For more information about the Chipola River, go to MyFWC.com/Fishing/Freshwater, click on "Sites & Forecasts," and "Northwest Region."

View the entire list of ACI awards at ACI-net.org/Awards/.

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SPORTS

Gators seek time of possession Friday

By **Tim Croft**
The Port St. Joe Star
850-227-7827 | @PSJ_Star
tercroft@starfl.com

The amount of time spent on the field by the offense will likely be a key barometer during the 2018 football season for the Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School Gators.

With a lack of depth, the Gators will need to perform at a similar level to last week's preseason classic, when Wewahitchka ran twice as many offensive plays at Bozeman during one half of action.

In fact, eliminate a running-into-the-punter penalty and an interception, and the Gators could have held host Bozeman to just four plays from scrimmage.

"That is what we have to do," said Wewahitchka coach Bobby Johns. "We have to limit possessions for the other team."

"The whole key is you have to have first downs, you can't get behind the chains."

That will be the formula Friday night when the Gators open the regular season against county rival Port St. Joe in Shark Stadium.

Kickoff is 7:30 p.m. ET. The Gators ran 32 plays during one half against

Bozeman that ended 7-6 Bucks, with a 15-play drive and a seven-play drive.

Wewahitchka drove the opening kickoff 54 yards in 15 plays, Trevor Nunnery's 34-yard return providing a short field.

The big plays were a 12-yard burst by Tyreeq Thomas on the first snap from scrimmage, a 14-yard scramble by quarterback Creed Pariera and Thomas' 5-yard smash on fourth-and-5.

Three runs by Pariera and two more dives by Thomas reached the end zone.

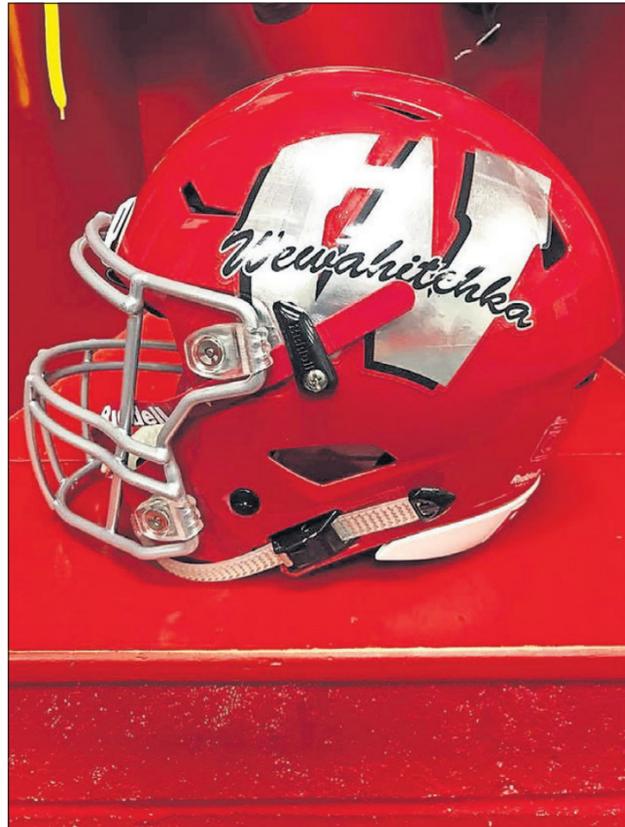
Bailey Brodgon's extra-point attempt suffered from faulty timing and was squibbed short.

"The goal is the same (against Port St. Joe) but it is a different challenge," Johns said.

That challenge will be on a defense still learning a 3-5 scheme put in place this season to take advantage of the players' skill-sets.

Players have not become fully comfortable with the defensive calls, Johns said, and the lack of depth, especially in practice, is also an impact.

"It is very difficult to simulate the game, speed-wise, in practice," Johns said, noting the Gators allowed



Wewahitchka plays at Port St. Joe tonight. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

two long runs during a pre-season scrimmage against Blountstown.

Last week, Bozeman cashed in an interception returned to

the Wewahitchka 30 for its lone score, which came after an eight-play drive.

An extra point kick was the difference in the score.

"We knew there would be growing pains on defense," Johns said. "It is a question of them understanding their responsibilities enough to respond instinctually, instead of thinking about."

"And we are not adjusting to the speed of the game. (Port St. Joe players) are still learning a new system, but when they touch the ball they can take it to the house."

Another important aspect to this week's game is learning to be a better road team, Johns said.

At times last year, playing before sparse crowds and the Gators lacked the energy Johns hoped to see.

After playing at Bozeman last week, the Gators visit Port St. Joe this week with a trip to Lighthouse Christian in Pensacola coming as conference play gets underway next week.

"This is a new challenge this week and that is good, because all the mistakes, we need to know where they are with conference play starting next week," Johns said.

"The conference is more important to us (in the long run). And with our seniors were trying to teach them to have a little more focus and a higher energy level on the road."

Tiger Sharks run past Graceville

By **Tim Croft**
The Port St. Joe Star
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With quarterback Josh Butts rushing for three touchdowns and Russell Russ and Jasmin Thomas adding scores on the ground, the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School Tiger Sharks cruised in last week's preseason classic in Graceville.

Butts scored on runs of 66, 1 and 62 yards and Port St. Joe scored three touchdowns in each half.

The win might not have counted in final records, but it was a nice way to start the season, said Port St. Joe coach Greg Jordan.

"Classic or not it's hard to argue with the score," Jordan said. "But we've got a lot of things we need to clean up."

"We had some missed blocking assignments, some penalties, but the effort was there on both sides of the ball."

Port St. Joe hosts Wewahitchka 7:30 p.m. ET Friday night in the regular-season opener for both teams.

Against Graceville, Russell Russ's 3-yard touchdown run put Port St. Joe on the scoreboard in the first quarter, Joel Bogaert adding the first of five extra-point kicks.

Thomas rushed over from the 11 in the second quarter and Bogaert made it 14-0 before Butts ripped off a 66-yard touchdown run and it was 21-0 at the half after Bogaert took care of business.

Neither team scored in the third quarter; Butts charged over from the 1 early in the fourth quarter to make it 28-0.

Minutes later the senior broke a 62-yard touchdown run.

"We've got to fix a lot of



Josh Butts rushed for three touchdowns during last week's preseason classic at Graceville. [COURTESY OF CONNIE LAMBERSON]

"Classic or not it's hard to argue with the score," Jordan said. "But we've got a lot of things we need to clean up. We had some missed blocking assignments, some penalties, but the effort was there on both sides of the ball."

Coach Greg Jordan

things offensively, but it was a good starting point and a good win for us," Jordan said.

The final points of the game arrived courtesy of a defensive hit from Russ, which caused a fumble that was

picked up by Josh Farmer and turned into six points.

The extra point was blocked.

"Overall, our defense played pretty well," Jordan said.

Football sign-ups continue

Special to The Star

Youth football sign-ups for the Gene Raffield Football League will be held from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. ET Saturday at the Port St. Joe Fire Station on Williams Ave.

Please bring a fee of \$75 and if the player was not a member of the league last year, a copy of his

birth certificate. Every player must have a physical exam prior to playing. Equipment distribution will be done immediately following registration so the player must be present.

Port St. Joe will field teams in three age brackets in 2018: the Dolphins (ages 7-8), the Jaguars (ages 9-10), and the Buccaneers (ages 11-13).

Coach's Corner

Are you ready for some football?

By Coach Greg Jordan

I would like to start off by introducing myself to the Shark fans I have not met yet. My name is Greg Jordan and I am the new ball coach at PSJ. I am entering my 14th season as a Head Football Coach.

Each week I will be sending in a Coaches Corner article to the paper. It will be an insider's view and recap of the past week's game plus a preview look at next week's opponent.

This past week the Sharks traveled to Graceville for a Kickoff Classic.

It was a chance for us to get players on film and work on some fundamentals going in to the season. We kept the game plan pretty simple and just wanted the kids to execute and control the things that as players they could control.

We wanted to control the clock and maintain possession of the ball which we did.

We wanted to play good defense which we did pitching a shut out.

There were things that we need to correct as the season approaches like penalties and better execution on offensive assignments.

We had too many penalties and too many blown assignments. Those are all things that can and will be corrected as the season unfolds.

Overall it was a good win on the road and a good starting point for us to build off of.

This week we welcome our County rival to Shark Field as Wewa comes to town week 1 of the regular season. The Gators played Bozeman for a half last week at Bozeman.

They will bring a ground attack on offense with an emphasis on the Veer Attack using the triple option.

We will have to play assignment football on defense to slow down their ground game.

On defense they have shown an 8 man front running the 3-5-3 scheme. They crowd the line of scrimmage with that 8 man box and make it difficult to run the football. Offensively we will have to do a good job up front to be able to move the ball. It should be a fun night to kick off high school football.

Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m. EST. Get there early and get a seat.

Let's pack out Shark Stadium and cheer on the 2018 Shark Football team!! See you at the game Friday!!

GO SHARKS!!!

STARFL.COM

SCENE AROUND



Summer showers bring rainbows. [COURTESY OF KEN PAULK]



Sunset over Overstreet. [COURTESY OF RON RUDOLPH]



St. Joseph Bay in black-and-white. [COURTESY OF LINDSAY JARVIS]



Sunset over the Gulf. [COURTESY OF KENNY MOORE]



Treasures of the sea. [COURTESY OF EDWINA BACK-YAKKEY]



Ready to launch. [COURTESY OF LAURA AT DRAGONFLY PHOTOGRAPHY]



A wall of storm clouds over St. Joseph Bay. [COURTESY OF GINA BRAMBLE]

COMMUNITY

Plenty of (s)wag

DAWGS graduates 60th class

By **Tim Croft**

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827
@PSJ_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

There is a certain synergy that among the 60th graduating class, which pushed the DAWGS in Prison to 600 dogs saved, the Top Dog would find a “forever” home in Port St. Joe.

A pup, okay, maybe not a

pup, named Ford recently graduated from the Developing Adoptable dogs With Good Sociability (DAWGS) in Prison program and headed about 20 minutes south of the Gulf Forestry Camp to the home of Preston and Sherrill Russ.

Sherrill put it this way, Preston had “a new leg by the name of Ford.”

“He has attached himself to Preston, sleeps next to him on the floor, follows him

everywhere,” Sherrill said. “He can’t get close enough.

“Preston is loving it. (Ford) loves riding with Preston and sits in the front when Preston gets out of the car.”

The Top Dog is awarded to the dog in each graduating that travels the farthest on the spectrum during the eight weeks of training at the Forestry Camp under the care of a team of inmates.

See DAWGS, B5



Preston and Sherrill Russ adopted Top Dog Ford.

[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

‘Show up to clean up’

International coastal cleanup Sept. 15

By **Tim Croft**

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827
@PSJ_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

A summer permeated by “Turtles and Trash” and Leave No Trace, renouncing plastic straws and grabbing canvas tote bags to shop, will end, fittingly, with a cleanup of the area’s coastal areas.

The Ocean Conservancy will hold its annual International Coastal Cleanup along beaches around the globe Sept. 15, with volunteers gathering to perform the cleansing ritual on Mexico Beach and St. Joe Beach.

Volunteers will gather at the beach access point at the intersection of County 386 and U.S. 98 near the county line and across from the Lookout Lounge.

Sections of the beach will be assigned, trash bags, gloves and a sheet to document everything found, provided.

All trash bags will be securely placed at the nearest beach receptacle to be picked up by the public works departments from Mexico Beach and Port St. Joe.

“All residents are invited to come out and pick up trash while keeping track of what they find to help,” said Melina Elum, who has coordinated the cleanup the past few years. “That helps the Ocean Conservancy document how much and what kind of trash is being left behind on our beaches.

“Stuff like cigarette butts, food wrappers, plastic and glass bottles, plastic bags, plastic straws, and plastic stirrers. Yes, plastic, plastic and more plastic.”

This is a mighty timely effort given issues that have been part of the local dialogue this summer.

In that vein, this year the first 50 volunteers will be given, instead of t-shirts of the past, a box of paper straws.

The straws are donated by Nancy Jones and her partner, who operate a business called Flyaway which sells plastic straws to restaurants.

A percentage of straw sales are donated to the Forgotten Coast Sea Turtle Center.

“They are not only a better alternative (to plastic), but they are decorative and very cool looking as well,” Elum said of the straws, which are adorned with green turtles.

See CLEAN UP, B5



Volunteers will document all trash taken from the beaches.

[SPECIAL TO THE STAR]



Last year’s winner in the Recreational King Mackerel was the boat Hard Tail, Capt. Darron Crozier with a weight of 45.75 pounds.

[COURTESY PHOTOS/MARIE STEPHENS PHOTOGRAPHY]

King of the reef

MBARA tournament adds ‘amateur’ category

By **Jennifer Sheffield**
The Port St. Joe Star

The biggest area top-water fundraiser benefiting underwater infrastructure for the Gulf of Mexico is taking place Saturday.

The 22nd annual Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association’s Kingfish Tournament offers prize money in several categories with a \$3,000 payday for its top sport fish.

See KINGFISH, B5



Last year’s top Spanish Mackerel, caught on the Fox Fire by Capt Jayne Redmond, 3.19 lbs.

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 Mayor Stubbs of Talkeetna, Alaska, who honorarily served from 1997 until his death in 2017?

Cat, Polar bear, Raccoon, Walrus

2. Which U.S. coin was first to have the engraving “In God We Trust”?

Penny, Two-cent, Nickel,

Dime

3. What’s a note made in the margins of a book explaining its original language?

Gloss, Niro, Ober, Maya

4. Which U.S. constitutional amendment gave women the right to vote?

Ninh, 19th, 21st, 23rd

5. What is an astrophobe

ordinarily afraid of?

Children, Libraries, Thunder, Asteroids
6. Where is your Eustachian tube?

Leg, Throat, Ear, Nose

ANSWERS: 1. Cat, 2. Two-cent, 3. Gloss, 4. 19th, 5. Thunder, 6. Ear

SOCIETY



Blacklight artist Perdinto Ross helps Nate Harvey put the finishing touches on one of the two turtle sculptures on Reid Avenue. [PHOTOS BY JENNIFER SHEFFIELD | THE STAR]

Turtles take a bow

Curtain call for art exhibit unites community and conservation

By Jennifer Sheffield
The Port St. Joe Star

The Joe Center for the Arts has hosted three events in its short stint on Reid Ave. but based on the crowd gathered at the closing reception for its recent “Turtles and Trash” exhibit, the space is taking root as a venue for residents to celebrate creativity while opening up conversation about issues affecting the community and coastline.

The highlight of the evening was an opportunity to paint paper-mache turtle sculptures, created entirely out of recycled cardboard boxes by one of the many classes offered since the start of the show.

The activity was led by Tallahassee black light artist Perdinto Ross and came to life on the sidewalk of Port St. Joe on Friday night.

Ross conducts similar events at her Railroad Square studio and got involved in the show when she met Joan Matey at a Fishy Fashion Show, in



Joan Matey looks on as Ward Fisher begins applying neon paint to a paper mache turtle sculpture outside of The Joe.

Carrabelle. “I’ve been an environmental person for a long time. This started as a box-painting project,” she explained. “It gets deconstructed and made into collage. That’s how the shapes come to be ... Art makes you look at things differently.”

The exhibit’s impact, at the height of the summer sea turtle nesting season, rippled out from The Joe.

“This is an amazing, and inspiring venue,” said Jessica Swindall, volunteer coordinator at the St.

Joseph Peninsula Turtle Patrol. “Hanging this art was helpful in getting the word out (about plastics in our oceans).”

“It is also perfect timing, with the placement of the turtle walk markers around town and the beach restoration project going on this month. It’s been a jam-packed summer. We are hot and heavy on hatching season now, plus, relocating 134 nests.”

Nancy Jones, curator of the show, first saw and fell in love with the three-dimensional art of Apalachicola artist Beth Appleton, also displayed at “Trash Meets the Sea” held last year.

It was staged at the Apalachicola Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR) that tests micro plastic as part of ongoing research.

Other participants in the show included scientists from Plastic Free Gulf Coast of Biloxi.

“It’s really wonderful the community is so small,” said Nancy Jones, who moved to the area from Atlanta, where she founded Blue Heron

Nature Preserve. “I love the coastal environment, plus people are asking for positive change.”

The exhibit provided stark reminders about current issues facing Gulf County, including Leave No Trace.

“What’s great is the emphasis on trash gathered from the beach,” said Charles Gaddy, who works with Swindall. “People have to understand that Leave No Trace is not just about turtles, but people, too. A child could easily be injured.”

The connection between people and this exhibit reached further with something of a product line that emerged during the show.

There was a push to get paper straws into restaurants and retail stores. Jones, who a regional representative for the company making the straws, reported she has eight area customers.

“We would not have any if we’d not started talking about it,” she said.

The Joe also sold out of canvas tote bags, totalling \$1,500 in sales.

“I would love to see this become an environmental town,” Jones said.

Ross is excited the turtles might next be displayed at the Corinne Costin Gibson Memorial Public Library in Port St. Joe.

“I like that what we create can have a further life,” she said.

The Recollections of Eastpoint’s Cat Pointe Music entertained and had a number of attendees up and dancing.

The Joe Center for the Arts is a nonprofit funded by membership starting at \$30. For information contact info@thejoecenter.org. Its next show will feature textiles in November.

Financial Peace University offers hope to Port St. Joe families

Special to The Star

“This isn’t a boring financial class.”

Dave Ramsey

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — More than 5 million people have positively changed their financial future through Ramsey Solutions’ Financial Peace University (FPU). Created by financial expert Dave Ramsey, the nine-week digital course provides families and individuals with practical tools to gain control of their finances and set themselves up for long-term financial success. FPU will be held in Port St. Joe at: Family Life Church located at 323 Reid Ave. The classes will begin 6 p.m. ET Monday, Sept. 24. Go to www.fpu.com/1068219 for more information or to register.

Through common-sense principles, FPU gives people the tools they need to change their behavior and succeed financially. Along with Ramsey Personalities Rachel Cruze and Chris Hogan, Ramsey teaches lessons on budgeting, relationships and money, getting out of debt, saving for emergencies and investing. On average, families who complete FPU pay off \$5,300 and

save \$2,700 in the first 90 days. Following the class nearly 94 percent of those families budget regularly.

“FPU will not only transform the way you handle money, but also your marriage and other areas of your life,” said Ramsey. “This isn’t a boring financial class. We make learning about money fun and easy to understand so people in every situation can benefit from the information.”

An FPU membership includes immediate access to online video lessons, financial coaching assistance, digital tools and a one-year subscription to the EveryDollar Plus budgeting tool. Also included is the follow up course, Legacy Journey, which shows families and individuals what to do once they have control of their finances and helps them navigate their way through building wealth, so they can leave a lasting legacy. Go to DaveRamsey.com/FPU for more information.

Lather, rinse, donate!



Special to The Star

Brianna Grey of Port St. Joe recently donated 9 inches of her hair to Children With Hair Loss!

CWHL is a non profit organization that provides human hair replacement kits at NO COST to children and young adults facing medically related hair loss.

When a child’s hair is lost due to cancer

treatments, Alopecia, Trichotillomania, Burns, etc., the painful effects are far deeper than cosmetic. Since 2000 CWHL has provided more than 4000 Hair Replacement Kits. The hair must be at least 8 inches or more to donate.

If you are interested in donating your hair, Call Christy Allen at Allure Hair Artistry, 407 Reid Ave, PSJ. 705-1589 or 348-6799

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Foxy will melt your heart! She is a 2 year old basset mix and loves everyone she meets. She has a big play group but her favorite job is an office assistant. She enjoys sitting in the chairs and greeting all the customers who come into the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society. If you think Foxy would make a perfect pet for you, please swing on by!

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

For the fur baby parents with kitties... Available at **Sea & Soul Gifts**, 106 Reid Ave 850.294.9995




Also home to Mermaid's Canvas Painting parties!

Coping with guilt explored at Lifetree Café

Special to The Star

Ways to deal with guilt will be considered 7 p.m. CT Monday, Aug. 27 at Lifetree Café.

The program, titled “Unburdened: Letting Go of Guilt,” features a screening of the award-winning short film Unburden. The film tells

the story of a mother who accidentally injures her infant daughter and the woman’s journey to resolve her guilt.

“Guilt can cripple our ability to live well and enjoy life,” said Lifetree representative Craig Cable. “We’ll consider the lessons of this compelling film and how we

can cope with guilt in our own lives.”

During the program participants will explore steps that may help resolve guilt.

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

Beach across from El Governor Motel.

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

SCHOOL NEWS



High school drama students are already starting to plan for the spring show. [PHOTOS BY JENNIFER SHEFFIELD | THE STAR]

School year off to a good beat at WHS

By Jennifer Sheffield
The Port St. Joe Star

Students at Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School, with saws in hand, welding helmets on, and stars in their eyes about being on the stage in its spring drama production, are off on a new year.

This is what principal designee, April Bostwick, said about Principal Jay Bidwell and what he brought to his post five years ago.

“Learning it’s not static,” Bidwell said. “There never comes a point at which a person cannot learn so anyone can learn ways to learn better.”

Growth has included creating a new welding class, keeping carpentry curriculum alive, and getting kids to dream bigger in Arts programs.

This is all while maintaining a focus on keeping academic standards on par with state expectations through online content-driven Khan Academy, which sponsored a contest last year, through its back-to-school initiative, that Wewahitchka won.

LearnStorm, is Khan Academy’s free program that gives teachers a way to jump-start a school year. It works by, “combining growth-mindset activities and lesson-aligned practice,” driving mastery of core skills, classroom motivation, and student confidence.

The video that was made about the school as a result features reading and ELA teacher Cameron Totman, who along with seventh- and eighth-grade teacher Misty Wood helped Khan write math materials to Florida standards.

“It was a big deal for us to have been in it,” said Bidwell. “Both are using it.”

Totman added, “LearnStorm was more enjoyable than traditional practices and kids were motivated by seeing their progress on the tracker.”

“The biggest impact for those who engaged in its self reflection activities, are that they’ve learned the skill of goal setting and that’s going to affect them their whole lives. They are going to be able to keep going.”

In the video, senior Amber Runyon said, “One



Principal Jay Bidwell is pumped for a new school year and proud of what his students are achieving.

thing I leaned from the activities is your intelligence can grow just like your muscles and that is something that really stuck with me because I didn’t know that before.”

“The world is going digital,” Bidwell said, “and we need to start finding good resources in schools. Khan has been the first one, that has been a significant, curriculum-changer here.”

Three teachers retired last year but 70-year-old Esther Taunton came out of retirement to serve as a math and sciences teacher.

She has taught K-12 in the district for 40 years and “has more energy than a 30-year-old and has taught three-quarters of the town,” said Bidwell.

On the vocational side, the welding course was brought in by grant funding and as with all if its hands-on programs has a classroom side and it is the aim of teacher Eddie Price to start certifying students with the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER).

Price brought equipment from his own garage to get started this year until the new tools are delivered.

Carpentry teacher Eric Bidwell echoed the goal to, “offer as many

industry certifications as possible so that students have a chance to start work immediately.”

His program has over 50 kids in three foundational modules.

Bidwell also heads up the agriculture lineup in its third year and says every day is experimental combining science with small engine training and strict testing.

“We want to tune students in,” he said.

Bidwell is also proud of its fine Arts program.

“We’re about becoming a little academy,” he said. “Kids don’t get to see culture here, less than in Port St. Joe.”

Runyon, and fellow senior, Brett Roper, recently auditioned for, and participated in five-weeks at Gulf Coast College’s summer stage.

“It is nice to be at a small school,” she said. “We have more opportunities to be in a show.” Roper plans on attending Gulf Coast and continue acting.

School secretary, Ashley Forehand also reported the first day of games was fun. Bidwell, who encourages students and staff to be active said every year, he challenges the Student Government Association (SGA) to impress him with indoor activities, and every year the students exceed at

that.

“It was a fabulous way to welcome students back,” said Forehand.

“I’m pumped up,” said Bidwell. “So I want to imprint that to do a good job, we all have to be 99-percent pumped up, too.”

The next community event the school will hold is a show and meal program by a six of its arts classes, held on Veteran’s Day in November.

VFW Auxiliary donates to schools

Special to The Star

VFW Post 10069 Auxiliary has donated a total of \$1,000 in school supplies to five area schools. The auxiliary’s purpose is to serve and aid Veterans as well as support the community in which we live. We’re hoping that these donations will also raise awareness of the scholarship programs sponsored by the VFW and the Auxiliary.

They include Patriot’s Pen with this year’s essay theme being “Why I Honor The

For more information students can contact their school administrators or the Post on Trout Avenue in HighlandView.

American Flag” and Voice of Democracy with the theme “Why My Vote Matters.” There are cash awards at the Post, District, State and National levels. For more information students can contact their school administrators or the Post on Trout Avenue in HighlandView.

S.O.A.R.-ing at PSJES



S.O.A.R. students for the week of Aug. 17 at Port St. Joe Elementary School.

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April Bostwick stands with senior welding and carpentry student Sebastian Demunck in the school’s workshop.

FAITH

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OBITUARY

ANNETTE S. LOWERY

Mrs. Annette S. Lowery, 82, of Port St. Joe, passed away on Friday, August 17, 2018 in Panama City.

Annette was from Decatur County, GA, she was the youngest of eight children born to the late John Harvey Stewart and Mellie Mae Lambert.

She moved to Port St. Joe in 1956 after graduation from Attapulgus High School and soon married the love of her life, the late Ernest Lowery, Jr. in 1958.

Mrs. Lowery was an active member of her community and church. She was a member of the Eastern Star and held the office of Esther. She served tirelessly and faithfully in the First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe, serving in various capacities, but her most favorite was chairing the hospitably committee, in which she held the position for many years.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her seven siblings; four sisters, Estelle Stewart Wade, Dorothy Stewart Perry, Florence Stewart Boyett, and Edith Stewart Harvey; three brothers, John Henry Stewart, Harvey Edward Stewart and James Calvin Stewart.

Left to cherish her memory is her daughter, Sissy Lowery Worley



(Chuck) of Port St. Joe; two sons, Ernest Allen Lowery of Port St. Joe and David Paul Lowery of Atlanta, GA; four grandchildren, Lacey Annette Lowery, Ernest Tyler Worley, Charlotte Nadine Lowery and William Richard Lowery; three great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews. Funeral services were at 3 p.m., EST, Sunday, August 19, 2018 at First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe with Rev. Boyd Evans and Rev. Buddy Caswell officiating.

The following gentlemen served as active pallbearers; Bobby Nobles, Ben Ashcraft, Don Ashcraft, Andy Smith, Gus Griffin, Mica Ashcraft, Phil Collier, Matthew Taylor, Teddy Nobles, Josh Dailey, and Bill Rich.

Honorary pallbearers were the deacons of First Baptist Church. Interment followed in Holly Hill Cemetery.

FAITH BRIEFS

Women's Day at Victory Temple

Victory Temple First Born Holiness Church will celebrate its annual Women's Day 11:30 a.m. ET Sunday, Sept. 9. The theme is "For Such a Times as This." Colors are the Rainbow. Guest speaker will be Missionary Tolliver at New Life Tabernacle by the Sea Church in Apalachicola. Come fellowship and receive a blessing from the Lord. The church is located at 315 MLK, Jr. Blvd. in Port St. Joe.

"Over 55 Bunch" Alabama trip

The "Over 55 Bunch" will be traveling to Bellingrath Gardens & Foley, AL for shopping on Nov.

29-30. Trip includes motor coach transportation, one night accommodations, one breakfast, one lunch, one dinner (Lambert's), admission to Bellingrath House and Garden and a chance to do some shopping in Foley. Cost of trip \$279 single, \$224 double per person. Deposit of \$100 is due when reservation is made. Final payment is due Nov. 1. This trip is filling up quickly so call today 674-4163.

"Over 55 Bunch" at Beach Baptist

The "Over 55 Bunch" at Beach Baptist Chapel invites all to join them in a game of Hand-and-Foot. The Bunch meets

10 a.m. ET every Tuesday and Thursday. Bring your lunch and enjoy getting to know new people. If you enjoy a little friendly competition stop by and try a hand. Don't know how to play? These ladies will be happy to teach you.

Bible study at FUMC-PSJ

First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe will host a Bible study program, "Proclaim the Excellencies of Jesus" Sept. 19 through Oct. 24. The group will meet 10-11 a.m. ET each Wednesday. The curriculum is provided by Ann Hillyer-Hashem Ministries. The cost is \$10, due the first session. Call FUMC at 227-1724 or visit sayersleigh@aol.com to sign up. Request nursery care if needed.

What is your hope in?

The Lord loves to hear from us each and every day. Even tho He knows our needs before we ever pray. He has healing in His wings, if we stay in one accord. And encourage one another to depend solely on the Lord.

We're to pray boldly that His glory might shine through.

That others would put their hope in Him, as those that love Him do.

Billy Johnson

IN CONCERT



Jeremy Dixon with Port City Worship, will perform 6 p.m. ET Sunday at First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe Admission is free.

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New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Schedule

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

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 Evening Worship - 5:00

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 Prayer Meeting - 6:30
 Student Ministry - 6:30
 Children's Ministry / Choir - 6:30
 Adult Choir - 7:30

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Schedule of Worship Services

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 Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM

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

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 Psalm 29:2

Sunday School.....10 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship11 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship6 p.m.
 Wednesday Evening Service6 p.m.

DAWGS

From Page B1

Those inmates have applied and been selected to participate in the program, hoping to advance from caretaker to trainer, and in select cases, lead trainer.

“(Allie) came from us from the DAWGS in Program in Florida, a wonderful group that rescues animals and then has inmates train them,” said Cheryl from Connecticut, whose adoptee, Allie, recently passed away.

“By far in the 20-plus years of having dogs she was the sweetest soul, from the moment she walked off the rescue transport into our lives she was such an easy loving girl.”

DAWGS in Prison has placed rescued and trained dogs with 578 families over nine-plus years.

Those 578 families are spread across 28 states and three countries.

“We have graduated more than any other canine prison program in Florida,” said co-director Judy Miick.

“Last year, Sandi (Christy) and I (co-directors of DAWGS) were at a conference and according to the literature on the canine programs they handed out, we had graduated more dogs.”

Many DAWGS adopters, in turn, become repeat customers.

Several households include two DAWGS dogs (say that three times) and one New York City residence is home to four such graduates.

One woman recently noted that the first dog she and her family adopted out of DAWGS was beginning to show signs of age as a second adoptee was joining the family.

“Thanks for this fabulous program and God bless the trainers,” Sherrill Russ wrote on Facebook. “I know they love those animals.”

The DAWGS in Prison program, a mere idea tossed around over a decade ago,



Allie, an adoptee from DAWGS, recently passed away. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

celebrated nine years of graduations in June.

The graduation earlier this month was for Class No. 60, a remarkable milestone for the public-private partnership forged among the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society, Florida Department of Corrections, the Gulf Forestry Camp and the Board of County Commissioners.

As of Class No. 60, the program has translated into homes for more than 600 humane society dogs, abandoned, given up, whatever, that might otherwise not be around for a bark over that huge number of pups spared.

Equally impressive is the number of inmates,

The total of inmates who have worked in the program is nearing 550, a number of whom have gone on to apply skills learned in dogs, including discipline, accountability, responsibility with a mix of humble, to a successful life outside the prison.

The rewards, for inmates, dogs and adopters, arrive every eight weeks as one class of 10 canines graduates, another group of rescued dogs arrives and the circle continues.

“(Ford) loves our grandchildren and great-grandchildren,” Sherrill Russ gushed. “Just a wonderful, very, very smart dog. Even our 17-year-old lab is tolerating him, which is a very big accomplishment.”



The Top Dog from Class No. 50 lounges in his home in Carrabelle. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]



The 2017 winner in the Professional King Mackerel category, Southern Lady, Capt. Brad Timmins, 33.58 pounds. [COURTESY PHOTOS/MARIE STEPHENS PHOTOGRAPHY]

KINGFISH

From Page B1

Changes to this year’s format mean that amateur anglers will have a chance to hit on a target weight fish and win money the same way that commercial captains and master division boats do with the monster kings expected to weigh in over the weekend.

“In our recreational division we changed the third-place kingfish to a random slot weight, between 9-19 pounds,” said MBARA president Bob Cox.

The weight will be announced during the Captain’s Party, to be held 7 p.m. ET Friday at Veteran’s Memorial Park at Beacon Hill.

“We have gotten a lot of good feedback on this change,” Cox said, “because it gives the smaller boats and less experienced fishermen a better chance at winning one of the top prizes in the competition among larger boats and more experienced fishermen that run much further offshore where more of the larger kingfish and Wahoo are found.

“We feel this will make the tournament more fun for everyone by balancing the opportunities to win.”

In past years up to 1,200 people have shown up to the captain’s meeting according to Mexico Beach charter captain Kevin Lanier with KC Sportfishing. This is where teams sign up, and win raffle prizes, too.

Giveaways include a signature shotgun and custom rod packages plus a \$1,000 gift certificate at Bluewater Outriggers.

The tournament was founded as a fundraiser to support MBARA and its primary mission to build public, artificial reefs for use by fishermen, divers and snorkelers.

These activities are important to the local economy that puts people in hotels,



Last year’s winning Wahoo, weighing 27.91 pounds, was landed by the boat Garfin, Capt. Finley Cook.

restaurants, marinas, bait and tackle shops.

In the Panhandle alone, artificial reefs have a \$415 million annual impact, creating 8,100 jobs and \$84 million in wages according to the MBARA.

Reefs also create new habitat that enhances fisheries, and eco-tourism.

“So far this year we built seven new reefs,” said Cox, “Bringing our total to over 300. We usually net \$40,000-\$50,000 from this tournament for construction projects.”

Lanier said, “Sponsorship for MBARA is growing across the country. They took a desert and turned it into a fish haven using as close to natural material as possible. They then allow it to keep creating itself.”

Lanier remembers one family who participated in MBARA’s Memorial Reef program.

“I had the privilege of taking them out next to the barge, where they lowered their loved one’s ashes,” he said. “After we placed it on bottom, I pulled up over the reef, to see it on my depth finder. It was very moving.”

The program also allows families to buy existing reefs and name them. Lanier

donated trips last year toward the veterans’ reef for those who can’t afford a reef but would like someone remembered.

Tournament anglers can also donate their catch that will be collected by, Water Street Seafood, and sold with monies donated to Franklin’s Promise Coalition in Apalachicola.

Lanier, whose team had the winning number until the last minutes of the 2017 contest says he will have a Tyndall Air Force Base crew and they will fly the flags high above his boat.

“It’s a real community feeling,” he said. “We’ve got them snowed ... when in reality, 80-percent is actually leaving the dock. Anybody on any day, can catch a 10-pound king on the buoy lines.”

Fishing begins at 5 a.m. CT Saturday from Mexico Beach, Panama City or Port St. Joe, and weigh-ins end at 5 p.m. CT Saturday at the Mexico Beach Marina. There is a captain’s breakfast, at Sharon’s Café, from 5-6 a.m. CT Saturday.

If you want to be involved, without fishing the tournament, MBARA meetings are held the first Thursday night of each month at the Mexico Beach Community Center at 5:30 p.m. CT.

CLEAN UP

From Page B1

Jones was also the curator of The Joe Center for the Arts’ just-closed show, “Turtles and Trash.”

Jones became interested in an alternative for plastic straws while dining out locally.

She and her partner had a connection to a paper straw manufacturer in Indiana through environmental work the two had done while living in Atlanta.

“We have found it a great way to get the word out about changing our habits to help the Earth,” Jones said. “Looks like we are part of the coastal

cleanup and we didn’t realize it.”

The couple are also performing quarterly micro plastics testing as part of a data collection project grant for the entire Gulf Coast out of Mississippi State University.

There is reward, beyond an inner satisfaction, at the end of the cleanup.

After all is picked up there will be refreshments and drawings for original beach art donated by members of the Art & Soul Painters’ group from St. James’ Episcopal Church.

“Please remember that behind each piece of trash there should have been a human action to prevent its ending up on the beach,” Elum said. “Let your concern for our beautiful beaches

motivate you to join the cleanup.

“The international cleanup engages people to remove trash from the world’s beaches and waterways, identify the source of debris and change the behaviors. Any effort to remove (trash) will benefit the environment and improve the beach aesthetic.”

In the event of inclement weather, the cleanup will take place at the same time and place Saturday, Sept. 22.

Visit the Ocean Conservancy’s website oceanconservancy.org for more information on the international effort.

For questions or more information about the local cleanup, contact Elum at melina33@earthlink.net.



WHAT SOUTHERN FOLKS EAT

A Southern lady's football experience

By Stephanie Hill-Frazier
Special to The Star

"The South is known for its hospitality, traditions, football, pageants, and food. Football is almost like a religion here. People say their priorities are faith, family, and then football. People eat, breathe, and sleep it in the South."

Katherine Webb

Football, which is an important part of the Southern experience for most folks, features prominently in some of my own favorite memories. When I was in middle school, I began attending the exciting games under the Friday night lights at Shark Stadium. The crowd's excitement was so contagious, especially in the section immediately surrounding Mrs. Martha Sanborn's seat. Her excitement and support for the Port St. Joe Sharks made the experience that much better for my friends and me. She showed us what school spirit and the love of football was all about.

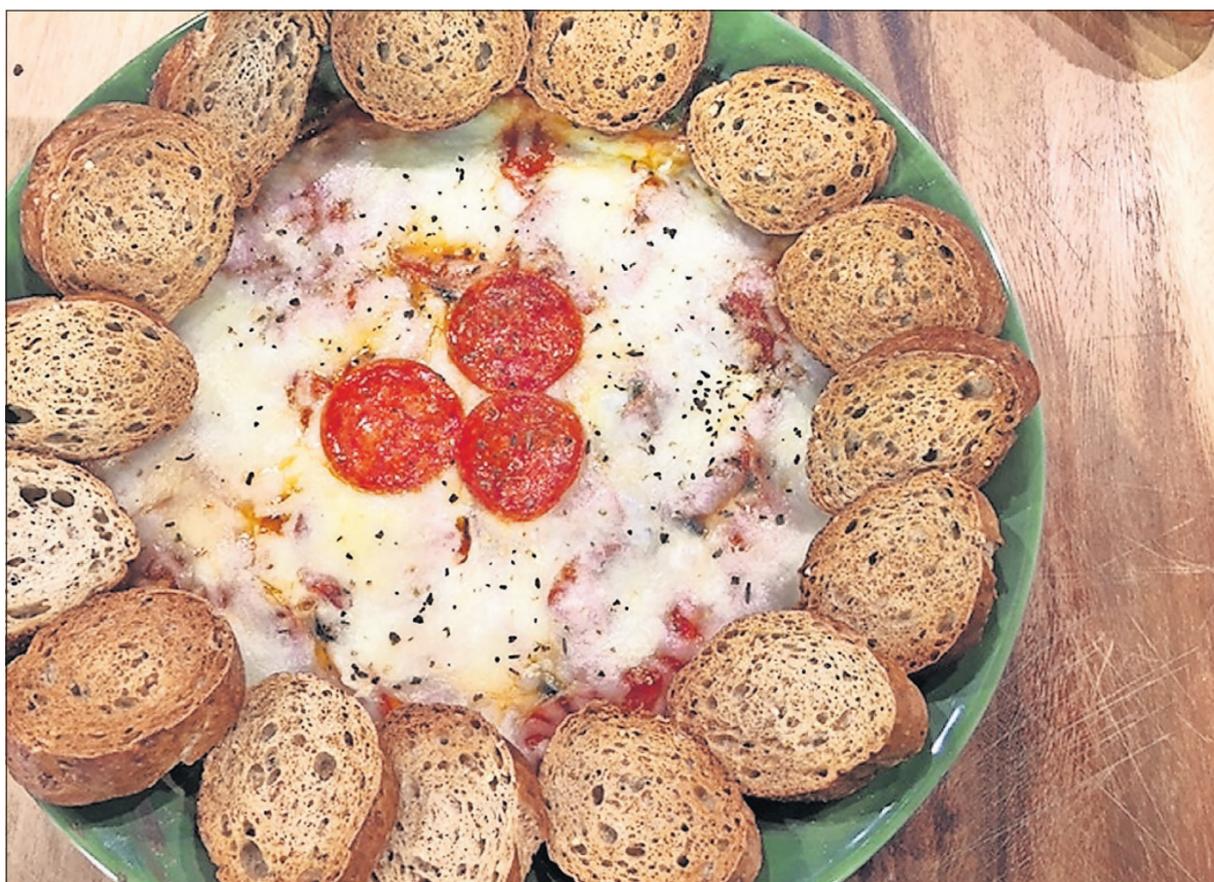
When my classmates and I were seniors, the Sharks became 2A state champs, and we called that year the "Purple Reign." Prince's song called Purple Rain was on auto-replay at every pep rally that year...and our pep rallies were loud, exciting, and fun. I am so glad I got to be a part of that.

Now, football was important not only at school, but in our home, as well. I remember my dad watching football in our living room every fall weekend, and I know he still does. I watched with him quite often as I was growing up. We would watch college ball on Saturdays, pulling for Clemson or Florida State, and on Sundays, we'd watch and pull for the Miami Dolphins. I loved Sundays because of that.

We'd come home from church, and mom would begin making one of her always-delicious Sunday dinners, maybe pork chops with rice and gravy and some vegetables like green beans with a special mustard seasoning she made. She'd usually ask me to make the tossed salad, which I always happily did, because I loved (and still love) chopping vegetables.

After lunch, it was football time during the fall months. I'd curl up on the couch in the living room, and start off with the best of intentions, planning to watch the game and root for our team. But, inevitably, the effects of rising early to get ready for Sunday School and services at Beach Baptist Chapel, the delicious meal that filled our bellies, and the sound of the commentators and the cheering crowd in the background, all conspired to lull me to sleep. I call those "football naps." I thoroughly enjoy them, to this day.

Fast forward to 2018. I've been



Hot pizza dip with garlic baguette rounds. [SPECIAL TO THE STAR]

married for 27 years and we've been raising our sons for 24 of those years, and we have watched innumerable hours of football on TV, as well as in person. As you can imagine, I've made all kinds of things to satisfy their hearty appetites during those football games, too. There has been the usual fare, things like tortilla chips and queso dip, Ruffles with onion dip, buffalo wings from scratch with french fries on the side, Frito chili pie, and more.

This season, which is just getting underway, make sure to have extra snacks, a dessert or two, and a few healthy options for dieters who may join you at home or at a tailgate party. Just for these occasions, I came up with this amazingly tasty dip, which gets hot and gooey in the oven. I took some of the elements of one of America's favorite foods, pizza, and created a layered dip to make every pizza lover happy...even if, heaven forbid, they don't like football.

This dip is decadent, though it can be made with all low fat cheeses, which helps lighten it up. Enjoy it with delicious toasted garlic baguette rounds, which are certainly easy to make! Or grab some tortilla or pita chips, or nice big corn chip scoops!

Then plan to get together with some people who love to cheer on their

favorite team, and enjoy!

Hot pizza dip with garlic baguette rounds

Ingredients:

- 1 block low fat cream cheese (Neufchatel)
- ½ cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder (NOT garlic salt)
- 2 cups low fat mozzarella cheese
- 1 cup grated cheddar
- 1 small can black olives, drained (optional)
- 1 package pepperoni (about 1 cup)
- 1 ½ cups marinara or pizza sauce

Method:

1. In a small mixing bowl, combine cream cheese and Greek yogurt. To make it spreadable, you may microwave it for 20 seconds or so, then stir to combine.
2. Add Parmesan, garlic powder and Italian seasoning to cheese mixture, stirring well to combine.
3. Spread the mixture across the bottom of a pie plate or an 8x8 baking dish

4. Layer the other ingredients on top of the cream cheese mixture: cheddar, ½ the mozzarella, olives, pepperoni (save three to put on top for decoration) sauce, and end with the remaining half of the mozzarella. Place the three remaining pepperoni in the center of the top of the dip.

5. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 15-20 minutes, until bubbly and slightly golden brown on top.

For the baguette rounds:

Slice a baguette from the grocery store bakery into ½-inch thin rounds. Place on a cookie sheet, and sprinkle with garlic powder. Bake at 350 until crisp and golden brown. They should be crisp for dipping into the thick, cheesy pizza dip! 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 love football and food, too. You can find more of her recipes at WhatSouthernFolksEat.com. You can email her at Steph@whatsouthernfolkseat.com.



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ARBOR OUTLOOK

Retirement Fears, Longevity and Old Friends



Margaret McDowell

“Can you imagine us years from today? Sharing a park bench quietly... How terribly strange to be 70. Old friends, memory brushes the same years; Silently sharing the same fears.”

“Old Friends” as performed by Simon and Garfunkel

A major annual retirement survey was released this summer. Among its findings are the nine biggest fears that Americans have regarding retirement.

The greatest fear, shared by over half of the

respondents, is outliving one’s savings and investments.

A larger number of those surveyed now see themselves living to age 90. A smaller but respectable percentage envision themselves as future centenarians. Bottom line? Our money must last longer as life expectancy increases. If Paul Simon was writing “Old Friends” today, he’d change the age in the lyrics.

This is the overriding financial concern we all share in retirement. Of course, we need to begin addressing this issue decades prior to our actual retirement years. The survey did note that the average age that most Americans begin contributing to retirement accounts is 27. That’s not bad.

Almost half of those surveyed fear the demise of Social Security. My own opinion is that Social Security will be there for

Almost half of those surveyed fear the demise of Social Security. My own opinion is that Social Security will be there for us, with some potential changes, throughout our lifetimes. The voting bloc represented by Boomers is awfully strong. The collapse of Social Security has been predicted annually since I began my practice over two decades ago. Nothing to be gained by worrying about this issue, anyway, since it’s beyond our control.

us, with some potential changes, throughout our lifetimes. The voting bloc represented by Boomers is awfully strong. The collapse of Social Security has been predicted annually since I began my practice over two decades ago. Nothing to be gained by worrying about this issue, anyway, since it’s beyond our control.

Three of the next four fears involve health related issues: declining health that requires long term care; lack of access to adequate and affordable health care; and fear of cognitive decline, dementia, and Alzheimer’s disease. Health issues are

the financial wild card in retirement planning. People rightfully fear the price tag of escalating health problems.

We are also scared of living at less than our best, living in pain, or becoming a shell of our former physical selves. In fact, according to many surveys, most of us fear being incapacitated or impaired more than we fear dying.

Folks often fear not one but a combination of these factors, even if they have amassed a significant nest egg and are enjoying a nice annual income. One of the biggest challenges in

retirement is accepting that we are never going to be as financially secure as we’d like to be.

Retirement means crossing the Rubicon from full-time employment to part-time work or none at all. Once we are there, things happen that we can’t control. But planning well and taking care of our health can lead us in the right direction.

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.

Judicial Nominating Commission names candidates

Special to The Star

As per the Governor’s request and pursuant to the Florida Constitution and Florida Statutes, the 14th Judicial Circuit Nominating Commission recently

convened in order to begin the process of filling the vacancy that was created when Circuit Court Judge James Fensom announced his pending retirement. The Commission received 12 applications from interested

members of the Florida Bar.

Of those, the Commission chose to interview six individuals in order to determine their fitness for appointment.

Those interviews took place on Aug. 17. Upon completion of the interview process,

the Commission proceeded directly to deliberations.

After much discussion and careful consideration, the Commission agreed that the following four (4) candidates, listed in alphabetical order, are highly qualified and more

than capable to fill the position available.

Consequently, these names will be forwarded to the Governor for his consideration: 1. Maria Dykes; 2. Robert Som-bath; 3. Dustin Stephenson; and 4. Zachary Taylor



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<p>21290S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MTAG as Custodian for Caz Creek Florida II, 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:</p> <p>Application #2018-09 Tax Sale Certificate # 2016-659 Name in which assessed: Robert E. Welker R.E. No. 03793-001R Date of Issuance: May 31, 2016</p> <p>Description of Property: COMMENCE at the Northeast Corner of Original Government Lot 4, in Fractional Section 31, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, an extend a line South along the East line of said Lot 4 for 649.72 feet; then turn 138 Degrees 32 Minutes right for 57.94 feet; then turn 89 Degrees 18 Minutes left for 278.1 feet, more or less, to a point on the Mean high Water Line of the Gulf of Mexico for the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence turn 180 Degrees and retrace the line last described above for 180 feet, more or less, to a point on the right of way of U. S. 98; then turn 90 Degrees left for 96 feet; then turn 90 Degrees left for 180 feet, more or less, to a point on the mean high water line; then turn 90 Degrees left for 96 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING.</p> <p>LESS a portion conveyed to Jack and Doreen Levy, June 1, 1993. A cut-Out of Gulf</p>	<p>County Property Appraiser's RE#03793-001R A portion of Section 31, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida, being more particularly described hereof:</p> <p>COMMENCE at the Terra-cotta monument marking the Northeast Corner of Government Lot 4, of said Section 31; thence along the East line of said Government Lot 4, South 00 Degrees 11 Minutes 28 Seconds East, 812.70 feet to a point of intersection with the Southwesterly right of way line of U.S. Highway 98 (having a 100 foot wide right of way); thence along said right of way line, North 40 Degrees 21 Minutes 13 Seconds West, 298.14 feet to an iron rod marking the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continue along said right of way line, North 40 Degrees 23 Minutes 53 Seconds West, 40.63 feet; thence leaving said right of way line, South 49 Degrees 49 Minutes 28 Seconds West 191 feet, more or less, to a point on the mean high water line of the Gulf of Mexico; thence Southeasterly along said mean high water line, 41 feet, more or less, to a point that is South 49 Degrees 38 Minutes 34 Seconds West of the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence North 49 Degrees 38 Minutes 34 Seconds East, 190 feet, more or less, to the POINT OF BEGINNING.</p> <p>All of said property being in Gulf County, State 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.</p>	<p>Florida at 11:00 am E.T., Wednesday, 19th day of September, 2018. DATED: August 13, 2018 REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk Pub August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2018</p> <p>21296S PUBLIC NOTICE OF AUCTION</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that ST. JOE RENT-ALL, INC intends to dispose of or offer for sale the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under The Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (Section 83.801-83.809).</p> <p>ST. JOE RENT-ALL, INC., will dispose of said property no later than August 25, 2018. Property is located at 706 First Street, Port St. Joe, FL 32456</p> <p>Kyle Link W16 Misc Furnishings Lauren Hanley W13 Misc Furnishings Keli Speck 12 Misc Furnishings Heather Faircloth 14 Misc Furnishings Jeffrey Squzey 30 Misc Furnishings Armish Harris 35 Misc Furnishings David King 78 Misc Furnishings Pub: August 16, 23, 2018</p> <p>21298S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MTAG as Custodian for Caz Creek Florida II, 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</p>	<p>number, Date of Issuance and Name(s) in which it was assessed are as follows:</p> <p>Application #2018-11 Tax Sale Certificate # 2016-870 Name in which assessed: Nathan Peters III R.E. No. 05968-000R Date of Issuance: May 31, 2016</p> <p>Description of Property: The East Half of Lot 2, Block 1017, Port St. Joe, Florida, said lot being a part of that area shown as "not included in Plat" on the Official Plat of Millview Addition of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, Unit Number Two, as filed in Plat Book 1, Page 47, in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida.</p> <p>All of said property being in Gulf County, State 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, 19th day of September, 2018.</p> <p>REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk Pub August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2018</p> <p>21503S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY.</p> <p>CASE NO. 18CP-47 IN PROBATE</p>	<p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</p> <p>TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:</p> <p>The administration of the estate of GILBERT POWELL GRIFFIN, JR., deceased, whose date of death was May 20, 2018, File Number 18CP-47, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Gulf County Courthouse, Probate Division, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The name and address of the personal representative and that personal representative's attorney are set forth below.</p> <p>All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is served within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.</p> <p>All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent, must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.</p> <p>ALL CLAIMS OR DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.</p> <p>NOTWITHSTANDING</p>	<p>THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.</p> <p>The date of the first publication of this Notice is August 16, 2018.</p> <p>Thomas S. Gibson Rish & Gibson, P.A. 116 Sailor's Cove Drive Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 (850) 229-8211 Attorney for Personal Representatives FL Bar No. 0350583</p> <p>MELISSA P. YONCE 422 S. Dianna Street Wewahitchka, Florida, 32465 Personal Representative</p> <p>PHILIP LAMAR GRIFFIN 450 S. Dianna Street Wewahitchka, Florida, 32465 Personal Representative Pub: August 16, 23, 2018</p> <p>21631S NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS BID #1718-26 FPID NO. 438295-1-54-01</p> <p>The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing:</p> <p>CANAL STREET RESURFACING</p> <p>This project includes 0.320 miles of reclaim and resurfacing of Canal Street from US 98 to Georgia Avenue including striping, signs, and grading. Project is located at St. Joe Beach in Gulf County, FL.</p> <p>Plans and specifications can be obtained at Dewberry Engineers Inc, 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, (850) 227-7200.</p>	<p>The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes. Cost for Plans and Specifications will be \$50.00 per set and is non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC.</p> <p>All bidders shall be FDOT Qualified per Section 2-1 of the FDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, latest edition in the following work classes: Grading, Drainage, Flexible Paving, and Hot Plant Mix-Bituminous Course. If you have any questions, please call Clay Smallwood at (850) 227-7200.</p> <p>Completion date for this project will be 60 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder. Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$250.00 per day.</p> <p>Please place YOUR COMPANY NAME, SEALED BID, and the BID NUMBER on the outside of your envelope, and include the original bid plus 3 copies.</p> <p>Bids will be received until 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, on September 24, 2018 at the Gulf County Clerk's Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd, Room 149, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, and will be opened and read aloud at a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held in the Donald H. Butler Commission Chamber in the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, Gulf County Courthouse Complex, Port St. Joe, Florida on the following day, September 25, 2018 at 09:00</p>	<p>a.m. Eastern Time.</p> <p>All bids shall remain firm for a period of sixty days after the opening. All bidders shall comply with all applicable State and local laws concerning licensing registration and regulation of contractors doing business to the State of Florida.</p> <p>The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid that in their judgment will be in the best interest of Gulf County.</p> <p>BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA /s/ Sandy Quinn, Chairman Pub: August 23, 30, 2018</p> <p>21641S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 18000014CAAXMX</p> <p>LAKE VIEW LOAN SERVICING LLC, Plaintiff, VS. DAVID RAY CAUSEY; MARILYN LEE CAUSEY, et al. Defendant(s).</p> <p>NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 16, 2018, and entered in 18000014CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the FOURTEENTH Judicial Circuit and for GULF County, Florida, wherein LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING LLC is the Plaintiff and DAVID RAY CAUSEY;</p>	<p>MARILYN LEE CAUSEY are the Defendant(s). Rebecca L. Norris as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Lobby 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456, at 11:00 AM, on September 20, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: ET'</p> <p>LOT 26 OF HONEY HILL, AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCE AT THE NE CORNER OF SAID SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 9 WEST, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89°56'03" WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 19 FOR 990.0 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00°57'05" WEST FOR 705.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 00°57'05" WEST FOR 165.0 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89°54'09" WEST FOR 132.0 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 00°57'05" EAST FOR 165.0 FEET; THENCE RUN, SOUTH 89°54'09" EAST FOR 132.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.</p> <p>ALSO</p> <p>LOT 27 OF HONEY HILL, AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCE AT THE NE CORNER OF SAID SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 9 WEST, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89°56'03" WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 19 FOR 990.0 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00°57'05" WEST FOR 540.0 FEET TO THE POINT</p>

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OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 00°57'05" WEST FOR 165.0 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89°54'09" WEST FOR 132.0 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 00°57'05" EAST FOR 165.0 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89°54'09" EAST FOR 132.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Property Address: 162 HONEY HILL RD WEWAHITCHKA, FL 32465

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the us pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 16th day of August, 2018.

Rebecca L. Norris
As Clerk of the Court

By: BA Baxter
As Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711 or e m a i l ADARequest@jud14.flcourts.org.

Submitted by: Robertson, Anschutz & Schneid, P.L. Attorneys for Plaintiff Robertson, Anschutz & Schneid, P.L., Boca Raton, FL 33487 Phone: 561-241-6901 Fax: 561-997-6909 Pub: August 23, 30, 2018

21653S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Capital One CtrI Assignee of FIG 2222, 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 #2018-12 R.E. No. 01238-00R Tax Sale Certificate #2016-213 Date of Issuance: May 31, 2016 Name in which assessed: Paul P. Gates

Description of Property:
Lots 1 and 2, Block 1, Midway Park Subdivision, as per recorded Plat in Plat Book 1, Page 43, Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

ALSO, a right of way for boat use only onto the owners and their guest of Lots 1 and 2, in Block 1, of said Midway Park Subdivision, on the creek or branch flowing through said Lot 7, of Block 2, Midway Park Subdivision, for the purpose of ingress and egress from said Lots 1 and 2, Block 2, to the waters of Dead Lakes as given by Harry J. Leary to J. A. Sudduth and wife, Vera R. Sudduth, and recorded in Official Records Book 17, Page 982, and recorded in the First Addition to Shamrock Estates, as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 51, Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

ALSO, that part of Bass Street in Midway Park Subdivision which lies West of Lots 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Block 2, of said Subdivision, and which lies North, East, and South of the existing County Road, said parcel being approximately 30 feet in width and approximately 500 feet in length as recorded in Official Records Book 38, Page 641.

All of said property being in Gulf County, State 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, 26th day of September, 2018.

DATED: August 20, 2018

REBECCA L. NORRIS

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CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk Pub August 23, 30, September 6, 13 2018

21655S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Capital One CtrI Assignee of FIG 2222, 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 #2018-13 R.E. No. 06029-004R Tax Sale Certificate #2016-884 Date of Issuance: May 31, 2016 Name in which assessed: The Williams Development Co. LLC Agent: Elaine Williams

Description of Property:

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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TREE STUMP GRINDING
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Lot Five (5), South One-Half of Lot Three (S 1/2 of Lot 3) and the North One Half of Lot Seven (N 1/2 of Lot 7), in Block One Thousand Twenty-Two (1022), of the Millview Addition of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, Unit Number Three (3) according to the plat thereof in Plat Book 2, Page 53, 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, 26th day of September, 2018.

DATED: August 20, 2018

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk Pub: August 23, 30, September 6, 13, 2018

MISCELLANEOUS
3300
If anyone has any information on Jimmy Lynn Shelton, Kym/Kimberly Clark or Outlaw their workplace, address, or phone number, in Wewahitchka or surrounding areas, contact 865-368-1637 CALLER TO BE COMPENSATED

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Life Management Center
Of Northwest Florida Inc.
is currently seeking
Full Time Mobile Crisis Counselors
to work with children and adults in Bay, Gulf, Calhoun, Jackson, Holmes and Washington Counties.

For more details on these and other positions, please visit us online at: <http://mccares.org/careers/employment-opportunities>

JOB NOTICE

The City of Port St. Joe (pop. 3,567) is accepting applications for the following position:
Utility Service Worker I - Sewer Collection, Public Works Department.
Please submit an application 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. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Pierce at (850)229-8261. The position will close on September 7, 2018. The entry level salary for a Utility Service Worker I will be \$12.08 per hr. The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Affirmative Action Employer, and a Drug Free Workplace.

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Port St Joe Area
Top pay
Good benefits
Call (850)227-1101 or (850)528-0907

Stylist & Nail tech needed for very busy salon - Open 7 days Flexible scheduling. Commission paid. Adv education. Apply in person. Cut N Up Family Haircare. FT/PT 147 W. HWY 98, PSJ

Spot Advertising works!

Hometown Helpers
Gulf County Senior Citizens
Gulf County Senior Citizen's Association
is seeking applicants for the position of
Homemaker (PRN)
Homemakers provide: Meal Planning & Preparation and cleaning up meal-related items.

Housekeeping Tasks
Laundry & Running errands. Assist with budgeting & bill paying. Form trustworthy relationships. Provide companionship and conversation. This is a part time position and will be for the Wewahitchka & Port St. Joe areas.

The Job Requirements:
High School Graduate or GED equivalent. Pass Level 2 Background Check. Pass Drug Screen. Must have own transportation and vehicle insurance. Must be able to lift (20lbs) or move heavy objects. Possession of unrestricted mobility, which includes the ability to balance, bend, kneel, and crouch. Self-direction, problem solving and strong organizational skills a must.

Interested applicants are welcome to apply at: PSJ Senior Center, 120 Library Drive Port St. Joe, FL 32456 850-229-8466 or tgaines@gulfcountryseniors.org

HELP WANTED
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Help Wanted
Kennel Tech at St. Joseph Bay Humane Society. Must have a love for animals, ability to lift 50 lbs, and reliable transportation. Shifts are 6 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Please stop by St. Joseph Bay Humane Society to apply.

Need a helping hand? Advertise in the Help Wanted Section in the Classifieds! 747-5020

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One bedroom, one bath apartment available in Port St. Joe.
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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.

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Experienced residential Plumbers and helpers needed.
Port St Joe Area
Top pay
Good benefits
Call (850)227-1101 or (850)528-0907

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Full Time Mobile Crisis Counselors
to work with children and adults in Bay, Gulf, Calhoun, Jackson, Holmes and Washington Counties.

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