



APALACHICOLA
THE TIMES
SERVING FRANKLIN COUNTY SINCE 1885

THE STAR
SERVING GULF COUNTY SINCE 1937

WEEKLY NEWS
APRIL 11— 18, 2024

Local people. Local stories. Local events. **\$1.25**

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OUT TO SEE

Hear the voice of Spring this weekend

The Bay Area Choral Society will present its Spring Concert "Celebrate Music: Why We Sing" on Friday, April 12, at Port St. Joe's First United Methodist Church and Saturday, April 13 at Apalachicola's Trinity Episcopal Church. Tickets for both concerts, each at 6 p.m. ET, are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students and can be purchased from BACS members or online at <https://www.tinyurl.com/BACS-tickets>.

Apalachicola Farmers Market Saturday

The Apalachicola Farmers Market is this Saturday, April 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mill Pond Pavilion at the end of Market Street. For more info email farmersmarket@cityofapalachicola.com.

The sky's the limit Sunday evening

The T.H. Stone St. Joseph Peninsula State Park will offer "Look Up In The Sky" Day at 8 p.m. Sunday, April 14, free with paid admission. This after-dark event features a volunteer astronomer, with telescopes and binoculars set up, to observe celestial objects. Participants must enter park before sunset, when front gates will be locked. For more info, email melissa.shoemaker@floridadep.gov

Want to be a writer?

The Franklin County Public Libraries hosts the popular writers' series, "Pen to Paper" on Monday, April 15 at 2 p.m. at the Carrabelle Branch Library. This session will feature authors Dale Cox and Thomas Becknell. The library is located at 311 St. James Avenue (Hwy 98), in Carrabelle.



Apalachicola's Tricia McLemore returns a volley during competition at last month's fourth annual Pickleball for Sea Turtles Tournament in Port St. Joe. McLemore and partner Bessie Graham took a silver medal in the age 60 and above highly rated Women's Doubles division. For a complete look at the tournament visit B1. [STEPHEN TEEKELL PHOTOGRAPHY]

Famed duPont home to be reborn Chateau to be transformed into restaurant

David Adlerstein

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An aging relic of the heyday of The St. Joe Company is about to be rejuvenated into a high-end restaurant.

But first it has to be moved from where it sat in downtown Port St. Joe for more than 85 years.

On April 17, Port St. Joe businessman Ralph Rish is slated to have Ducky Johnson House Movers move the Chateau Nemours, often referred to as just The Chateau or even The Cottage, from its site adjacent to the Port Inn down U.S. 98 to where it will be placed on a 75-acre parcel about a third-of-a-mile east of the Gulf-Franklin Center on the opposite side of the highway.

In a year's time, Rish plans to have the two-story, 4,200-square-foot building fully restored to its vintage look, adding wings for bathrooms and a



A rendering of the proposed Chateau restaurant.

[RALPH RISH | CONTRIBUTED]

kitchen, and auspicious landscaping so that hopefully by spring 2025, a destination restaurant, likely

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Franklin commissioners to revamp TDC board rules

David Adlerstein

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After several weeks of discussion, Franklin County commissioners plan to make changes as to who and how members are selected, including getting rid of the designation of two seats that had been earmarked for representatives of the Apalachicola and Carrabelle chambers of commerce.

At their April 2 meeting, the board voted in favor of a change that will bring the appointments strictly in line with state rules, which call for the nine-member board to be populated by a representative of the county commission, representatives of each of the two cities, either three or four to be from entities who pay the three-cent lodging tax and the remainder to be of people involved in the tourist industry.

An initial draft of rules had called for geographic diversity, but Commissioner Cheryl Sanders argued that any limitations to the west side of the county would be unfair to those who reside from Carrabelle east through Lanark Village and Alligator Point to the Wakulla County line.

For a number of reasons, including the fact that the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce has a contract to manage the TDC, and the fact that the president of that chamber board also serves as Apalachicola's representative, commissions had pushed against there being an earmark for chambers' representatives.

Six weeks ago the commissioners had rejected

an effort to replace two outgoing members of the TDC board whose terms were expiring with two named St. George Islanders recommended by the island's civic club.

As it stands now, they have decided that the new policy they want County Attorney Michael Shuler to draft would require that all TDC board members have to reapply when their terms expire, that the county commission will serve as the review committee for applications, and that representatives of the two cities can be recommended by the cities but still require county commission approval.

They plan to have no geographic requirements, only that as per state statute they be electors within the county.

"A lot of people want to serve but they feel they don't have a chance to get their foot in the door," said Chairman Ricky Jones. "They find they're on the outside looking in."

Office Amison said that as in the case of the airport board, "I'm looking out for the best qualified" and that by having the commission having a stronger hand in the decision making, "it gives us where we can go back and say we really like that appointment."

Sanders, who served as a commissioner when the TDC was first enacted, said a lot has changed since then.

"When it was a \$1 million you didn't see nobody who wanted to be on that board," she said. "At one cent nobody wants it. Now that it's 3 cents, wowwee, we have some ideas!"

THE TIMES



THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024



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THE STAR



GULF COUNTY

Forehand seeks tax collector post

David Adlerstein

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Wewahitchka resident Ashley Forehand has announced her intent to run for Gulf County tax collector.

Forehand, 44, of 221 Lister Drive, is seeking to succeed incumbent Shirley Jenkins, who has decided not to seek re-election.

A Republican, Lewis would compete in the November general election if no other members of her party decide to run.

The following statement has been provided by the Forehand campaign:

Hello neighbors, I am Ashley Lister Forehand, and I am announcing my candidacy for the office of Gulf County tax collector. For four generations, my family has lived in this area, and as a lifelong resident of Gulf County myself, I am



Ashley Forehand, candidate for Gulf County tax collector [SUBMITTED BY CANDIDATE]

committed to helping our little piece of paradise continue to prosper, while also maintaining the small town charm and caring atmosphere we all love.

My husband Wayne, a tow-boat captain for Marathon Petroleum, and I are raising our two daughters here. Madison is finishing her first year at Troy State University, where she is working to earn her bachelor's of science in nursing degree, and Avery is a sophomore at Wewahitchka High School, where she participates on the



track and field team and the girls wrestling squad.

During his 14 years as the Gulf County Clerk of Courts, my father, Benny Lister, taught me the value of public service, and my mother, Patsy Lister, who was a teacher and librarian at Wewahitchka Elementary School for almost three decades, cemented these lessons in my character. My family, my roots and my heart are based in Gulf County, and I am 100 percent dedicated to this wonderful place we all

call home.

After graduating from Wewahitchka High School in 1998, I continued my education at Chipola Junior College. Upon earning my associate's degree, I started a job at the Gulf County tax collector's office where I worked for six-and-one-half years. When my daughters were young, I became a stay-at-home mom until they enrolled in school. At that time, I began as a substitute teacher in the Gulf County School system, and soon after, I was hired on full time as a paraprofessional.

In 2017, I became the administrative assistant to the principal at Wewahitchka High School. In my second year in the school office, I was invited to join the leadership team. My area of focus is customer service, and I strive diligently to initiate policies that ensure

See GULF ELECTION, Page 8A

Eastern partners to build Corps' hopper dredge

Special to the Star and Times

Eastern Shipbuilding Group, Inc. has announced a strategic partnership with Royal IHC to design and construct a highly automated medium-class hopper dredge for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

This state-of-the-art vessel, contracted for the Department of Defense, is slated for delivery in 2027, and will be constructed at Eastern's Allanton and Port St. Joe facilities.

Building on a history of successful collaboration, a news release from Eastern said the two companies aim to deliver an unparalleled dredging vessel, incorporating ground-breaking design, engineering, dredging equipment, and automation systems. This partnership underscores Eastern's commitment to supporting its customers in achieving new levels of dredging efficiency and performance, reads the release.

"Our partnership with Royal IHC exemplifies our longstanding commitment to working with the best in the industry to deliver superior vessels to our custom-



A rendering of the medium-class hopper dredge that Eastern Shipbuilding will be building for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. [EASTERN SHIPBUILDING GROUP]

ers," said Joey D'Isernia, CEO of Eastern Shipbuilding Group, Inc. "Our extensive experience in building highly mission capable TSHDs (Trailing Suction Hopper Dredgers) in the U.S. positions us well to construct this exceptional vessel for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers."

The new hopper dredge will enter the Corps' Ready Reserve Fleet and will play a critical role in the Corps' navigation mission and provide for safe, reliable, ef-

fective, and environmentally sustainable waterborne transportation systems for vital national security, commerce, and recreation needs.

The vessel will replace the 57-year-old Dredge McFarland based in the Corps' Philadelphia District. The Dredge McFarland is one of four oceangoing hopper dredges owned and operated by the Corps.

The collaboration between the Corps, and the two companies represents a blend of expertise and innovation with Eastern the most experienced in building high-specification TSHDs in the U.S. complementing Royal IHC's advanced design capabilities, state-of-the-art dredging equipment, automation, and environmental awareness.

Vessel specifications are 320-feet long, with a 72-foot beam, a hull depth of 28 feet, a draft of 11-feet 3-inches when the hopper is empty and of 25-feet 6-inches when it is full.

The maximum hopper capacity is 6,000 cubic yards. The maximum dredge depth with suction tube at 45 degrees is 65 feet.

New tanker for Wetappo Creek



Thanks to a half-million dollar appropriation last year from the Florida Legislature, the Wetappo Creek Volunteer Fire Department has just received a 2023 Pierce Freightliner Tanker truck, which holds 3,000 gallons of water, for use in fighting fires in the district which covers a large area in the north end of the county from outside Wewahitchka out Highway 22 to Bay County. "It's the biggest tanker the north end of the county has," said Matt Herring, head of emergency management for the county. He said the truck cost \$465,000 with another \$35,000 added in equipment. He said in this year's session the Dalkeith fire department was awarded \$600,000 for a sister truck. Standing with the new truck are, from left: Fire Chief Jarrod Mcardle and county commissioners David Rich, Patrick Farrell, Jack Husband, Sandy Quinn and Phil McCroan. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE STAR]

Airport gate crashers



Sometime either late the previous night, or in the early morning of Saturday, March 30, someone drove a Subaru pickup truck at top speed through the security gate at the Carrabelle-Thompson Airport, destroying the gate, its operating motor housing and the post with the surveillance cameras. Bruce Graham, a Port St. Joe resident who flies out of the airport, said it appears the driver of the truck did not try to stop on their way through the gate, and backed up into the surveillance camera pole, spilling antifreeze on the ground. Carrabelle Police Chief Robbie Hogan said the truck has been recovered and that it appears to have been stolen from the owner. The investigation is ongoing. [BRUCE GRAHAM | CONTRIBUTED]

TRANSFORMATION

From Page 1A

to be called “The Chateau” will draw visitors from throughout the Panhandle, and even the country, to the area.

“I admire him. He’s getting a very complicated historic restoration project,” said David Warriner, owner of the Port Inn and its adjacent land, and who owned the Chateau ever since he acquired it in 2011 from the federal government after its most recent owner, Coastal Community Bank, went belly-up.

Between 2011 and 2018, Warriner used the second floor as office space for senior managers and staff, and the first floor he rented out to an events company.

But in October 2018, a mighty wind and rain named Hurricane Michael nearly devastated the structure and taking with it the original blueprints (but not the copies) used by Jessie Ball duPont’s architects when the widow of St. Joe Company founder Alfred I. duPont, and older sister to St. Joe executive Ed Ball, had the house built in 1938.

Styled after the duPont’s lavish 200-acre, 77-room estate in Delaware, the house became a cozy place for Ball and other St. Joe execs to cool their heels when they stopped in town to visit the paper mills.

“They used to go there after work and have a nip of bourbon and talk deals and whatever they did,” said Warriner.

In fact, when Rish puts in an enlarged bar at The Chateau, he plans to offer a drink called



The building has been lifted up and is ready for moving April 17. [THE PORT INN | CONTRIBUTED]

“Confusion of the Enemy,” made from Old Forester, since that bourbon, and the words of his toast, were favorites of Ball.

After St. Joe sold off the paper mill, they closed the offices they had at The Chateau, and went on to sell the property in 1998 to Jeannette Palmer, a local woman who remodeled the place and reopened it as one of the town’s earliest bed-and-breakfasts, the Chateau Nemours Seaport Inn.

In 2003, with the opening of the Port Inn next door, which Warriner had bought in 1999 as The St. Joe Motel, and reclaimed the original name, Palmer sold the Chateau off to the bank at a sizeable profit.

Coastal Community added a drive thru, and a vault, but seven years later, the bank had gone under and Warriner acquired the building.

His offices in the building were forced out Oct. 10, 2018 when the fury of Hurricane Michael severely damaged the first floor, and caused a tree to fall into it.

Shuttered ever since, Warriner after two years had settled the insurance claims, and while the building was secure with boarded-up windows, and had a new roof, its future use was in doubt, perhaps as a new site for the Thirsty Goat.

“Then Covid hit and those plans went out the window,” said Warriner. “Construction costs were way higher than expected. And when the city changed the flood map they basically made the building un-insurable. Between windstorm and flood insurance (the cost) would have been unacceptable.

“I wasn’t about to spend money to elevate the building and still get the same insurance bill,” he said.

Warriner chafes at the code enforcement violation he received first in 2022 and then later last fall, in which he was given a deadline to either bring

the building entirely up to code or tear it down.

Warriner’s wife Trish floated the idea to Rish of relocating the building, which will turn out to cost about 20 times the \$10,000 he paid in November to the Warriners for the structure itself.

Despite the enormous cost of moving the structure, “Ralph took it and ran with it. God bless him,” said Warriner. “It’s going to be saved in a beautiful, beautiful way. I’m really excited about what it’s going to be.”

Last week the movers jacked up the structure off the ground, which appears sturdy enough to withstand the move, given its heart pine, square-edged lumber, absent any plywood. “Some are still plastered walls,” Warriner said. “We took the wirelapped plaster out, and we stripped it down to the studs.

“Sometimes the old buildings aren’t built well enough to withstand this, but this will be almost a phoenix rising. The bones of this house are really solid,” he said. “Unfortunately

with the rules and regulations, that building’s life expired on that location.”

Rish plans to place The Chateau on a small hill, with portions of the remaining acreage to be used for a small housing development.

There will be a total of 157 seats, 60 on the second floor, 58 on the outdoor deck. 23 at the first floor bar, and 16 in the first floor dining area.

Gulf County Food and Beverage LLC, the new owners, envision a visual return to the 1930s era, with large leather furniture, couches, love seats, vintage stairs and bar stools, and with vehicles from that period, including a tractor, placed in front of the entrance.

“The upstairs will look like it did 80 years ago, with oak floors and staircases, like it was before the hurricane. We want it to look old, but new-old,” he said.

Rish estimates it’s an 18-minute scenic drive west to the site from Two Mile, shorter than many distances within Franklin County and so will attract diners from that county as well.

He said that with the structure’s strong, diagonal wood floors, he has a lot to work with, but knows some aspects may be a challenge and so has hired a structural engineer to evaluate what can be preserved to remain sound with the increased foot traffic.

“I think it’s going to be something super cool, a place for, good or bad, telling and restoring the history,” he said. “Telling the story of the history from France and Delaware and all the way down here. It happens to be something dear to my heart.”



Jessie Ball duPont, shown here in her youth, lived from 1884 to 1970, and left behind the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, one of the largest such philanthropic funds in the state which bestows grants to religious, charitable and educational organizations. [JESSIE BALL DUPONT CENTER]



Getting you back into the *swing* of things.

Short-Term Inpatient Rehabilitation Care Rural Hospital Swing Bed Program

Swing Bed is a program that allows patients to receive skilled care services at Weems Memorial Hospital once acute hospital care is no longer required, but the patient continues to need services that cannot be easily provided in the patient’s home. The program is designed to assist patients in reaching their highest potential for health and independence prior to returning to their home.

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4PM

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BILLY BLACKMAN, Author,
Journalist, Musician, Horse
Farrier & Storyteller
of WEWAHITCHKA

Final SSS
May 18 Jack Rudloe



www.apalachicolahistoricalsociety.org

OPINION



Guild gave heart and soul to new community

Carol Guild lived in this community for far too brief a time, yet left behind gifts given passionately and graciously that enriched the lives of all of us.

Initially Carol shared her vast knowledge of marketing and promotion with Historic Apalachicola Main Street. While there she spearheaded the community Easter Egg hunt, a wonderful partnership with the Apalachicola Margaret Key Library, and Bring Me A Book. As part of a marketing plan she developed for them she created an award-winning short film made available to all businesses in Apalachicola called There Is A Place.

She continued to give her heart and soul to her new community with the Apalachicola Margaret Key Library. As a member of the PALS board of directors, she developed an out-

standing branding program for them, designing their logos, corporate images and creating their newsletters. In addition to her hours of dedication to the library, Carol and Dan were major donors to the new library.

After her time on the PALS board she turned her attention to the Ilse Newell Concert Series, perhaps her greatest passion, for which she is to be honored at their final concert on Sunday, April 28 at Trinity Church at 4 p.m.

Rarely does someone from “away” give so much to a newly adopted home. But Carol was a remarkable, warm, smart, special woman. She will be greatly missed, and her memory will last for many years in the hearts of those who knew her in Apalachicola.

Jody Rosenbaum
Apalachicola

I have to open my own Cokes now



Kesley Colbert
Guest Columnist

I thought this writing business for me was over forever... and then Pam Collins died.

I don't remember life without Pam. We were born nine days apart in 1947. She was telling me what to do when we were stacking those wooden blocks on top of each other in the nursery of the First Baptist Church. When we discovered Miss Katie celebrated with cake and ice cream if it was someone's birthday in kindergarten, Pam quickly “conjured up” extra birthdays for each one of us during the year.

We were the fattest class Miss Katie ever had.

In elementary school, they seated

us alphabetically. That put Pam right behind me. I got an earful of whatever she was thinking for six years running! She would sit uncomfortably close to me at the Park Theatre during the Saturday afternoon westerns. In junior high, she got in her head I ought to be dating her cousin, Charlotte Melton. She could be relentless!

High school separated us often into different classes, but she'd give me tips, warnings, and advice during home-room, at lunch, and when we passed in the halls. We shared hopes and dreams about everything and nothing on those rock-hard park benches up on the square.

She would call weeks in advance when we had a class reunion. She was determined that I would make the 500-mile trip back “to see everybody.” On many such occasions, she would designate me as the reunion speaker.

We never dated one time. I never held her hand or kissed her. I don't believe I hugged her neck till about our 25th-year class gathering. But make no mistake here, she was one of the best all-time girlfriends I ever had!

Her passing is a loss of unimaginable magnitude in my little world.

People have been telling me for years that the worst part of growing old is the mental and physical slowdown. And, at 77, I understand exactly what they are saying. I don't think as quickly as I used to. I can remember the face, but the name escapes me more often than it once did. I walk into a room and find myself wondering “Exactly why did I come in here?”

I'm halfway through a movie before I realize I've seen this one before. I catch myself wondering if I am repeating a story...

The health industry does its best in a barrage of age-re-

lated commercials to alert us of our dire circumstances. As if we needed a reminder that all “might not be like it used to be” as we inevitably race toward those golden years.

Good golly, money-seeking entrepreneurs are building homes just for us!

Recent events have made me look at this aging process in a bit of a different light. Sure, it's tough not to function quite as sharply or as youthfully as we once did. But I'm not so sure anymore that that is our “worst dilemma” as the years pile up on us.

Pam is only the last in an ever-growing line for me. I still miss Buddy Wiggleton and he has been gone for several years. I want to call him when I think of something funny...

Gene Hale's death hit me hard. And he wasn't in our class. But his little brother Ricky was. My heart broke for

See COLBERT, Page 5A



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Oil and rivers don't mix



Cameron Baxley
Guest Columnist

The Apalachicola River, the largest river by volume in Florida, has the largest and most environmentally sensitive undisturbed floodplain ecosystem in our state. That central feature of the river system is confirmed by its legally recognized status in 1984 as an Outstanding Florida Water, a special category of water body set in Florida statute. They are waters designated worthy of special protection because

of their natural attributes of an ecologically outstanding character. Of course, spending a day boating or fishing on the Apalachicola River or Bay can confirm for anyone the outstanding status of our water. We also know our region's economy is tangled tightly with its ecology. Commercial and recreational fishing, along with tourism rely on a healthy Apalachicola River and Bay system.

This month, the state will deny or approve a permit for exploratory oil and gas drilling within the floodplain of the Apalachicola River in southern Calhoun County. An exploratory well is an attempt to find commercially viable crude oil.

Clearwater Land and Minerals seeks to drill a well of about 14,000 feet in an effort to find commercially viable crude oil. The site is located between the Apalachicola River, the Chipola River and the Dead Lakes.

It feels like déjà vu for those tracking oil and gas drilling permits in the Apalachicola River Basin. In fact, this is the third company seeking to drill an exploratory “wildcat” well in the last decade within the river floodplain. For reference, the exploratory wells drilled in Calhoun County and adjacent Gulf, Gadsden, Franklin, Liberty, and Washington counties have a 100% failure rate (70 dry holes

out of 70 wells actually drilled) over the past several decades.

Clearwater Land and Minerals' proposed drilling site is within the Apalachicola River floodplain and close to flowing river waters during normal high flows, typical in winter months. At those times, about 95 percent of the floodplain is connected to aquatic habitat. Of note, the water elevation at the Blountstown gauge, the closest gauge to the site, has risen higher than the estimated 100-year flood stage of 54 feet twice in the past 25 years.

Moreover, during major flood events, the drilling pad would be surrounded by flowing water.

See BAXLEY, Page 5A

Have something to say?

Letters to the editor and comments on Web versions of news stories are welcomed. Letters are edited only for grammar, spelling, clarity, space, and consistency, but we ask that they be limited to 300 words. Letter writers are asked to provide a home address, daytime telephone number and a signature on your letter or comment for verification purposes (none of this information is printed).

Letters may be sent to: 221 Avenue E, Apalachicola, FL 32320, or emailed to dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com. Questions? Call 850-851-0724.

Democrats should reclaim patriotism



Mona Charen
Guest Columnist

In 1984, at the Republican National Convention in Dallas, a lifelong Democrat stood up to denounce her former party. Jeane Kirkpatrick, who

had switched parties to serve as Reagan's U.N. ambassador, lambasted her former party for always "blaming America first."

Today, it is the Republican Party that -- despite its MAGA slogan -- is trafficking in dark, anti-American ideas and imagery. The party that claims to put "America first" is led by a man who describes the nation as "failing" or "corrupt" a hundred times for every

one mention of an American virtue.

Our cities, according to Trump, are crippled by "bloodshed, chaos and violent crime." Our courts are corrupt. Our press is the "enemy of the people." Immigrants are "poisoning the blood of our nation" while committing countless murders and rapes. Our military is "woke." Meanwhile, those who gave the last full measure of devotion are "suckers"

and "losers." We are a "failing nation" whose free elections are actually rigged by a stealthy and unaccountable "deep state." Far from a global leader, America is a "laughing stock" around the world.

The Republican Party has traded patriotism and uplift for an apocalyptic cult. This presents Democrats with an opportunity -- if they can seize it.

Most people are patriots. In June

2023, 67% of Americans said they were extremely or very proud of their country. If you add those who say they are "moderately" proud to be American to those who are extremely or very proud, you arrive at 89% of the adult population.

For Democrats to scoop up the banner of patriotism will require rejecting the approach of progressives. I'm a devoted listener to NPR, and they

do excellent work. But their progressive bias results in a seemingly endless litany of American sins and shortcomings past and present. Some self-criticism is a sign of maturity. Too much can be demoralizing.

Most Democrats are not progressives though, and they have a golden opportunity to uphold true patriotism in contrast to the nativist nationalism now

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D.C. taxes us to no end as it spends



Ron Hart
Guest Columnist

In a hilarious April Fool joke, Congress (the rich men north of Richmond) assures us that they spend our tax dollars wisely. Then they send us to go do our taxes for the April 15 due date. Congress is about as funny as an IRS audit.

I have an MBA, I worked at Goldman Sachs for years, I have predicted Three Card Monte with 25% accuracy in Times Square, and I pretty much understand the theme of Game of Thrones. But I cannot make rhyme or reason out of what I owe and how to file.

Taxes are intentionally made confusing, maybe so government can get any of us, for anything, any time it chooses.

We have a system where we send them money all year and they keep it. Then

we try to figure out this four-million-word, Byzantine tax code. Government gives us no help because they don't understand it either. Just try to get sensible help on the phone. It is like talking to someone at a McDonalds drive-through who is trying to explain to you why the ice cream machine is always down.

We file our return, praying that we got it close. Then the government magnanimously (sometimes) sends us some money back. And the dumb among us

think they won the game.

I see by my federal tax bill I owe \$7,589 (with penalties) to Ukraine for last year, and it looks like they are getting ready to bill me for a bridge in Baltimore.

Government overspending is at the core of why our taxes and deficits are so high, and it is also the cause of the inflation we are experiencing. There are a few deficit hawks left in Congress. Marjorie Taylor Greene, whose career has risen above many controversies in-

cluding multiple affairs with men at her gym etc. is one of them. She filed a motion to oust House Speaker Johnson over this pork-filled budget, marking for a rare time she has tried to push a Johnson away.

Dems want to hire 80,000 new agents. If you're concerned about an audit, try to avoid what CPAs call "red flags." For example, if the government sees that you have any money left in your account after paying taxes and you're a Republican, that is a

red flag.

It really disgusts me when people cheat on taxes. I do not want to live in a country that does that; it does not set a good example to the 38 kids I claim as dependents.

Only half of the people in our country pay taxes. Those people are called Republicans. The top 50% of taxpayers pay 97.7% of the taxes. And -- get this -- they are called "greedy" and accused of "not wanting to pay their fair share." The top 1%

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COLBERT

From Page 4A

Rick the minute I heard the news. Gene was a lifeguard at the swimming pool when I first started working there. How I looked up to him! And he always took the time to treat me like a real person. You'd be surprised how many older guys didn't do that when I was coming along.

Phil Chandler, Eddie Carden, and Iris Brashear were actually in the class ahead of me. Phil and Eddie played in a lot of our sandlot baseball games. And I remember Iris wearing her head majorette uniform and marching along with a smile as big as all outdoors.

Graylene Lemonds left a great memory of us riding in the back of a pickup truck to the County Fair in Huntingdon. Reggie Lawrence, like so many of my departed friends, just seemed to be everywhere I was when we were growing up. I've told you before how Jane Hill would open those Coca-Cola bottles with her teeth. She, Pam, and the others were easy to love as we steamed full speed ahead into life.

I think you're catching my drift here. It can be disconcerting in so many ways to lose some of your faculties as you age. But you at least understand the process. You may not be prepared for it, but it comes with some degree of comprehension.

The real "tough part of aging" is the gigantic hole in your heart from losing those people who you have never lived a minute of your life without!

Thank goodness we've got that old line from a Hank Williams' song to hang on to, "Memory is one gift from God that death cannot destroy."

Respectfully,
Kes

BAXLEY

From Page 4A

Drilling uses toxic drilling brine and sludge that punches thousands of feet down through the Floridan Aquifer, which is what we use for drinking, bathing, and irrigating crops. There are fracturing and fissures that occur in the confining layers within the aquifer system and the toxins from drilling find those fissures and impact our groundwater.

The Apalachicola River is also connected at high flows to the source of drinking water for the city of Port St. Joe. The freshwater intake canal for Port St. Joe is in the Chipola River, within the floodplain of the Apalachicola River, 30 to 35 river miles downstream of the proposed drilling pad site. At high flows, the velocity is at least two miles per hour, meaning that site contaminants could reach this drinking water intake canal in less than one day.

Oil drilling and production in the floodplain of any river of this character risks catastrophic damage to the river system. The Apalachicola River's extensive forested floodplain contains a diverse assortment of aquatic and wetland habitats. About 60 species of trees occur in the bottomland forest of the floodplain. Streams, sloughs, ponds, lakes, and swamps in these floodplains are alternately connected and disconnected from the main river channel as river levels fluctuate. Complex relationships exist between plant and animal communities in flood-

plain habitats and river flow. During low-flow periods, shallow waters in the floodplain provide refuges for fishes from the deep, swiftly flowing waters of the main channel. During flood events, fishes use inundated floodplain forests for food, protective cover, spawning sites and nursery grounds.

The Apalachicola River's floodplain has the highest species diversity of reptiles (over 80 species) and amphibians (over 40 species) found north of Mexico. It also provides habitat for more than 280 species of birds, over 130 species of fish, over 52 species of mammals, and over 1,300 species of plants -- including over 70 different species of trees. Among these species are more than 30 federally threatened or endangered animal species.

Oil and rivers just don't mix. Oil drilling and production in the floodplain of any river of this character risks catastrophic damage. The Apalachicola River is a rare gem that holds one of the nation's richest hotspots of biodiversity and is one of the last places in Florida to boast a wild and free landscape. We are fortunate to share this place and call it home. Let's protect it from pollution and degradation. Our livelihoods depend on it.

Cameron Baxley serves as Riverkeeper at Apalachicola Riverkeeper. She can be contacted at cameron@apalachicolariverkeeper. For more information including location and the permit application, visit apalachicolariverkeeper.org

SPORTS

Tiger Sharks even the score against Lady Seahawks

David Adlerstein

Dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

The Port St. Joe Lady Tiger Sharks avenged an earlier season loss last week against the Franklin County Lady Seahawks, winning at home 7-1.

Sophomore Christina Clayton twirled a five-hit victory, striking out three and walking one over seven innings in the April 2 game.

The Lady Tiger Sharks fell behind 1-0 in the top of the second, after Seahawk freshman Jaelynn Millender drove in freshman Ashton Carey for the team's only run.

Millinder finished with two of the team's five hits, including a double. Junior Michalyn O'Neal and junior Sarah Ham also had doubles, with sophomore Alexis Webb also banging out a base hit.

Port St. Joe's bats came alive in the bottom of the fourth with two runs, and four more in the bottom of the fifth, capped with a seventh and final run in the bottom of the sixth.

Booth junior Addy Silcox and sophomore Elli Newman had outstanding days at the plate, with Newman smacking a double, scoring a run, and driving in four runs. Silcox clocked two runs batted in on



The Lady Tiger Sharks line up in an embrace prior to a recent game. [PSJHS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT]

a pair of doubles, and scored a run.

Freshman Annie Gainer had a double and scored two runs, while sophomore Brooklyn Bishop had a single and scored two runs. Senior Addy Creekmore had a pair of hits, stole a base, and scored a run, and senior Maya Itzkovitz also scored a run.

Over six innings of work, Franklin County's Ham had a lackluster evening on the mound, striking out nine and walking four, while giving up five earned runs on nine hits.

The victory avenged a 6-4 Lady Seahawk victory in East-point last month.

The victory followed three consecutive losses for Port St. Joe, whose record stands at 5-9.

The team fell 9-7 March 28 to Jonathan Alder (Ohio), as the Pioneers scored a pair in the top of the seventh to break a 7-all tie for the win.

Clayton had a solo homer in the game, while her fellow pitcher Bishop had a three-run homer. Silcox had two hits and drove in a run.

Two days earlier, the Lady Tiger Sharks were mercy ruled in three innings 15-0 by the Wewa Lady Gators, as Silcox's lone single spoiled sophomore Severa Haney's no-hitter.

On March 23 at home against

North Bay Haven, Port St. Joe lost 16-1 to the Lady Buccaneers in five innings, managing just three hits and committing four errors.

Port St. Joe downed Chiles 17-1 at home March 21, as the team banged out five doubles, two by Clayton and one each by Gainer, Newman and sophomore Trinity Farmer, whose two-bagger drove in a pair of runs.

Newman had three hits and three runs batted in, while junior Bri Fleming had two hits and one RBI. Silcox went 2 for 2 with a pair of runs batted in.

On March 13, the team had their hearts broken when Sneads scored a walk-off 10-9 win in the bottom of the seventh.

Bishop and Creekmore each doubled in the game, while Silcox went 3 for 4 with three runs batted in.

The team fell at Marianna March 7 11-2, and they managed three hits but committed five errors.

Prior to the Marianna loss, the Lady Tiger Sharks won for the first time in recent memory over Wewa, defeating the Lady Gators 14-3 in an away game March 4.

Bishop struck out five and walked two in the seven-inning affairs, giving up just two hits and no earned runs.

Home runs were the big difference as Silcox had a grand slam, and Bishop and Gainer each put one over the fence. Gainer drove in three runs on two hits, and Bishop two runs on three hits. Newman had three hits and drove in a run, and Itzkovitz one hit and drove in a run.



Sophomore Christina Clayton is having an outstanding year on the mound. [PSJHS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT]



Sophomore Elli Newman, left, and freshman Annie Gainer. [PSJHS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT]

Apalachicola club hosts April 21 sailing day

Special to the Times

The Apalachicola Bay Sailing Club invites all sailors in Franklin or Gulf counties to bring their sailboats to Apalachicola on Sunday, April 21, for a day of sailing on the bay.

"We are looking to assemble as many sailboats as possible and to sail around a short course in mid bay where the water is deepest," said Josh Fitzhugh, spokesman for the sailing club. He said the club intends to have two or three power boats at the regatta to help in launching, de-launching and in case of emergency.

Apalachicola Bay, a large but shallow

estuary best known for its oyster fishery, was closed to oystering three years ago in a plan to replenish the oyster population, which was damaged by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. As a result of the closure, boating activity associated with oystering is much diminished.

Those planning to attend the sail-in are asked to register by sending to the address below their name, sailboat model they intend to sail, and contact telephone number or email address.

Registration, which is free, can be done by email, or by visiting the club's Facebook's page. Registrants will be sent

information about sailing on the bay and further details regarding the event.

Apalachicola Bay Sail Club

165 7th Street

Apalachicola FL 32320

802-522-3740

josh@fitzhugh.com

Those wishing to sail on April 21 may also be interested in participating in the Saturday, April 20 car, boat and golf cart show organized by the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce. That event will be held at Riverside Park in Apalachicola beginning at 8:30 a.m. Details for that show can be found at the Chamber's website.

Back-to-back wins even Seahawks' record

David Adlerstein
Dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

Two straight wins last week have evened the Franklin County Seahawks' record at 7-7, as they won at home against Freeport April 6 7-5, and then a day later 5-1 in an away game at Seminole County (Georgia).

Seniors Logan Bentley and Cody Abercrombie, and freshman Chase Martina together struck out six, giving up just one earned run on seven hits, against Freeport.

The Seahawks spread out their runs over the first three innings and then held on to withstand the Bulldogs' effort to climb back in the game.

Both teams had eight hits, with the Seahawks led by senior Will Luberto, who drove in two runs on two hits, including a double. Junior Preston Klaus and Freshman Sadiq Jones also each had a pair of RBIs,



Seahawks honored at recent Senior Night were, from left: Cody Abercrombie, Logan Bentley, Will Luberto, Brayden McCall, Chase Mil-lender, Terry Proctor and Alex Sterling. [JADYN LUBERTO | CONTRIBUTED]

with Jones doubling to drive his runs in.

Martina and sophomore Nolan Alford also each drove in a run.

Against Seminole County, Abercrombie struck out seven

and walked one and gave up no earned runs on three hits.

Four of the Franklin County runs came in the top of the third inning, the team generating their five runs on just five hits.

Senior Terry Proctor had a double that drove in a run, with Jones, Bentley and sophomore Colby Blackburn also nailing RBIs.

Luberto, Martina, Bentley and Jones each stole a base.

The Seahawks fell 6-2 in Gulf County on April 1 to Port St. Joe, as the Tiger Sharks avenged their earlier season loss.

Tiger Shark Jentzen Odom struck out two in the seven inning affair, giving up one earned run on four hits.

Bentley, McCall and Abercrombie each divvied up the assignment on the mound, combining to strike out two and walk four, as they gave up five earned runs on six hits.

The Tiger Sharks were led by senior Fisher Vandertulip, who banged a triple and drove in two runs on two hits. Senior Max Godwin had a solo homer, sophomore Baylor Partie had a double that drove in a run, and sophomore Eli Harris doubled.

Odom and senior CJ Conway also each drove in a run.

On March 26 at home, following a 15-0 shutout over Wewa the night before, the Seahawks fell 7-3 to Cottondale.

Abercrombie struck out 10 and walked one in six innings of work, giving up one earned run on seven hits.

Franklin County jumped to a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first, but that's all they would plate, as the Hornets came back with seven runs.

Luberto had sole home run in the inning, with Bentley and Abercrombie the only two other Hawks to have hits in the game.



Senior Brayden McCall pitches for the Seahawks. [JADYN LUBERTO | CONTRIBUTED]

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GULF ELECTION

From Page 2A

our school has an open, service-oriented environment. It is important to me that our students, parents and staff feel welcome as they enter our facility, and I will bring this same emphasis to my role as tax collector if elected.

Community is important to me and I have served in many capacities to help in our area. For two years, I was an officer in the Dixie Softball League. At Wewahitchka High, I coached softball as an assistant for three years. Currently, I am the cross-country coach and the Student Government Association sponsor at the school. Additionally, I am a volunteer bus driver for several sports teams, school organizations and field trips.

As an active member of the Wewahitchka Woman's Club, I work on many community service projects throughout

the year. My family and I enjoy attending the Glad Tidings Assembly of God Church in Wewahitchka, and I often help with fundraising activities for community members in need.

The Gulf County Tax Collector is unique among the seven countywide elected constitutional officers, because almost every citizen in Gulf County comes in direct contact with the tax collector's office. Whether it is to apply for or renew a driver's license, to sell or buy any item with an official Florida title of ownership such as a car, truck, boat, trailer, etc., or to simply pay land taxes, the vast majority of Gulf County residents will interact regularly with the tax collector.

This provides a huge opportunity for the Gulf County Tax Collector to create an office atmosphere in which citizens can expect a welcoming environment and an efficient business transaction with the staff. I have the experience and

the knowhow to make this a reality, and I have truly relished creating a customer oriented experience in all my previous work positions. Please vote for and elect me, Ashley Lister Forehand, to be your tax collector, and I will give my all to make Gulf County a great place to live for you and your family.

I am excited to visit with as many Gulf County residents as possible during this campaign, and I am very interested in hearing your ideas over the next few months. If you would like to discuss your concerns, please feel free to contact me at (850) 624-8600.

Each candidate for elected office in Gulf County is provided with the opportunity to run one announcement of their campaign in The Star free of cost. These announcements are submitted by the candidates' campaigns and must be submitted in advance of qualifying week, June 10 through 14.

CHAREN

From Page 5A

proclaimed by the Republicans.

What is there to love about America?

Let's begin with the Declaration of Independence. Though written by a slave owner, its stirring words inspired not just colonists along the Atlantic coast of the new world, but all of humanity.

The Constitution enshrined a republican form of government, checks and balances, and rights like freedom of speech and worship, the right to trial by jury, and the right to be secure in your home from government intrusion that were practically unheard of in the 18th century and remain too rare today. And where those rights are honored, it is often due to the example and influence of the United States.

Seventy-four percent of Americans believe that, on the whole, America has been a force for good in the world. I'm with them.

There are countless examples of American benevolence to those in need, but one that has disappeared from our national consciousness is the story of American relief of Europe after World War I. Had he never had the misfortune to be president when the Great Depression hit, Herbert Hoover would be remembered as one of

the most consequential humanitarians in history. When tens of millions in Europe faced starvation, Hoover was tapped to lead the American Relief Administration and saved tens of millions from starvation.

The United States offered similar humanitarian relief after World War II. After bitter warfare, the United States administered Japan without vengeance or plunder and put that nation on the road to democracy and prosperity.

In recent years, the United States has underwritten peace between Egypt and Israel, provided the lion's share of funding for the U.N.'s humanitarian missions and undertaken to save Africans from the scourge of AIDS with the PEPFAR program.

On the home front, with all of our flaws, the United States has provided a haven for generations of immigrants from war-torn, despotic or impoverished nations. Among them were my grandparents.

This nation has been guilty of slavery, ethnic cleansing (of Native Americans), discrimination, religious bigotry, and always and everywhere racism. But this is also the nation that passed the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Housing Act and many more. It is the nation that,

imperfectly but steadily, implemented Brown v. Board of Education.

The American genius for innovation gave the world many of the most significant inventions of the past two centuries. Americans invented the telephone (Alexander Graham Bell was an immigrant to the United States), the lightbulb, anesthesia, the airplane, the elevator, the skyscraper, the polio vaccine, air conditioning, the cellphone, the internet, nuclear power, GPS (with key work by an African American woman from rural Virginia), and mRNA vaccines. Americans landed on the moon and established the first national parks.

America's capacity to absorb and blend cultures from around the world led to the flourishing of music and art. Tap dancing originated here, along with jazz, the blues, movies, hip hop and, of course, blue jeans.

The MAGA vision of a woke, corrupt, crime-infested hellscape is not patriotism but its opposite. Speaking up for the goodness of America is just -- and may also be politically potent.

Mona Charen is policy editor of The Bulwark and host of the "Beg to Differ" podcast. Her new book, "Hard Right: The GOP's Drift Toward Extremism," is available now.

HART

From Page 5A

of taxpayers pay 45.8% of all federal income tax.

My buddy P.J. O'Rourke aptly described it: "Then there was communism's weak-

tea sister, socialism. Socialists maintained that we shouldn't take all the money away from all the people since all the people don't have money. We should take all the money away from only the people who make money. Then, when we run out of that, we could take more

money from the people who... hey, wait! Where'd you people go? What do you mean you're 'tax exiles in Monaco'?"

Just a little quick math. A rich person makes \$100 million in his life. He or she (if Oprah) is taxed at about 40%, so he or she has \$60 million after taxes to spend. When he dies, he will owe another 40% estate tax over a certain exempt amount. The feds again get another 40% of what is left, or about \$20 million. For those keeping score at home, for \$100 million the individual's family keeps \$40 million and government gets \$60 million.

This does not count local, state and gift taxes. Of course, northern Dems help out their hedge fund buddies with the carveout of the "carried interest rule." In short, the fat cats pay no taxes as they make the money. Essentially the same loopholes are given to tech oligarchs. On a separate note, for years Hunter Biden didn't pay taxes on his bribery money.

But do not cheat; if you're right of center, you will get audited. The difference between cheating on your taxes and cheating on your wife is that if you get caught, the IRS will still want to screw you.

Thankfully, my CPA handles everything for me. I had to fire the last guy in 2001. He seemed to know what he was doing, punching up my numbers intensely on his calculator. But upon closer observation, I noticed that it was just an old VCR remote clicker.

Now if you will excuse me, I must prepare for my inevitable audit.

A libertarian op-ed humorist and award-winning author, Ron Hart does commentary on radio and TV. He can be contacted at Ron@RonaldHart.com or @RonaldHart on Twitter.

Local leaders with a long-term view.



L to R: Bill Reid, Phil Early, Eugene Ratfield, Shirley Jenkins, Mark Costin, Chip Luke & Clay Smallwood

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 2022-00088-CA U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPLEG HOLDING TRUST,

Plaintiff,
v.

DARRELL G. NICKELL; DONNA K. NICKELL; et al,

Defendants.
/

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment in Foreclosure entered on February 18, 2024, and entered in Case No. 2022-00088-CA in the Circuit Court of the 14th Judicial Circuit in Jackson, County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPLEG HOLDING TRUST, is the Plaintiff and ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, CREDITORS AND ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST DARRELL G. NICKELL, DECEASED; DONNA K. NICKELL; DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; BAY COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM, LLC, D/B/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER - SACRED HEART HEALTH SYSTEM F/K/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER, A SPECIAL DISTRICT, CHAPTER 2005- 343, LAWS OF FLORIDA; BAY MEDICAL CENTER, L.L.C., A SPECIAL DISTRICT, CHAPTER 95-510, LAWS OF FLORIDA; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2 N/K/A DANA MARIE CLARK; LEWIS DEAN NICKELL, SR.; LADORA NUNNERY; TODD NICKELL, are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest bidder for cash, Online at <https://gulf.reaforeclose.com> on **April 25, 2024, at 11:00 AM, CST**, following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment in Foreclosure entered on February 18, 2024, and entered in Case No. 2022-00088-CA in the Circuit Court of the 14th Judicial Circuit in Jackson, County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPLEG HOLDING TRUST, is the Plaintiff and ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, CREDITORS AND ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST DARRELL G. NICKELL, DECEASED; DONNA K. NICKELL; DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; BAY COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM, LLC, D/B/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER - SACRED HEART HEALTH SYSTEM F/K/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER, A SPECIAL DISTRICT, CHAPTER 2005- 343, LAWS OF FLORIDA; BAY MEDICAL CENTER, L.L.C., A SPECIAL DISTRICT, CHAPTER 95-510, LAWS OF FLORIDA; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2 N/K/A DANA MARIE CLARK; LEWIS DEAN NICKELL, SR.; LADORA NUNNERY; TODD NICKELL, are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest bidder for cash, Online at <https://gulf.reaforeclose.com> on **April 25, 2024, at 11:00 AM, CST**, following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

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) 767-3550 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 OR VOICE IMPAIRED, PLEASE CALL 711 OR EMAIL ADAREQUEST@JUD14.FLCOURTS.ORG.

BEGINNING AT ST. JOE PAPER COMPANY MONUMENT MARKING THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 35, T3S, R10W, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA AND THENCE RUN SOUTH 86 DEGREES 39' 48" WEST ALONG THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID SECTION 35 FOR 228.13 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY RAY LINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 71; THENC TURN RIGHT ALONG SAID R/W LINE ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT WHICH HAS A RADIUS OF 4384.04 FEET AND A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 05 DEGREES 10' 23" FOR AN ARC LENGTH OF 85 DEGREES 55' 02" EAST FOR 634.08 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 21' 05" EAST FOR 390.04 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 85 DEGREES 55' 02" WEST FOR 482.24 FEET TO POB SAID LAND LYING AND BEING IN SECTION 35 AND 36, T3S, R10W, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA AND HAVING AN AREA OF 261,338.22 SQUARE FEET OF 6.00 ACRES,

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via e-mail upon all parties registered to receive notification via the service list for this action maintained by the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal Governed By The Florida Courts E-Filing Authority or via U.S. Mail to those parties on the attached service list on this 20th day of March, 2024.
GHIDOTTI | BERGER LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
1031 North Miami Beach Blvd North Miami Beach, FL 33162
Telephone: (305) 501.2808
Facsimile: (954) 780.5578
By: /s/ Tara L. Messenger, Esq. Chase A. Berger, Esq. Florida Bar No.: 083794 Tara L. Messenger, Esq. Florida Bar No.0059454
fcpleadings@ghidottiberger.com

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3420 N. HWY 71, 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 LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM BEFORE THE CLERK REPORTS THE SURPLUS AS UNCLAIMED.

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LEGAL ADVERTISING

MORE OR LESS. EXCEPTING THEREFROM, ALL THAT CERTAIN LAND SITUATE IN GULF COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA, TO-WIT; COMMENCE AT THE SE CORNER OF SECTION 36, T3S, R10W, AND THENCE RUN 86 DEGREES 39' 48" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 227.93 FT. TO THE EASTERN R/W LINE OF SR 71; THENCE RUN NORTH 145.5 FT., M/L, TO THE SOUTHERN R/W OF A PAVED DRIVEWAY; THENCE EASTERLY ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE OF SAID PAVED DRIVEWAY 227.93 FT., M/L, TO THE BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN SECTION 35 AND 36, T3S, R10W; THENCE SOUTH ALONG SAID SECTION LINE TO THE POB, CONTAINING 3/4 ACRE, M/L.

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Bay Medical Center, L.L.C., A Special District, Chapter 95-510, Laws of Florida C/O Pallegar, Geetha Mrs 1811 Bayshore Gardens Parkway Bradenton, FL 34207

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Unknown Tenant #1 3420 N. Hwy 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Unknown Tenant #2 N/K/A Dana Marie Clark 3420 N. Hwy 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Lewis Dean Nickell, Sr 3420 N HWY 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Ladora Nunnery 3110 S HWY 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Todd Nickell 7518 Pinewood Dr., Lot 83 Mabelvale, AR 72103

381 REQUEST FOR BIDS & QUALIFICATIONS

General Contractor bids and qualifications to be accepted at the offices of the Architect, Quina Grundhoefer Architects, 400 W Romana Street, Pensacola, Florida 32502 and will be opened and evaluated by the Architect and the First United Methodist of Port St. Joe Building Committee on the date and times listed below for the construction of the following project:

First United Methodist Hurricane Rebuild - The church is located at 1001 Constitution Drive in downtown Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. Digital copies of plans and specifications will be available on request from the office of Quina Grundhoefer Architects, P.A., 400 West Romana Street, Pensacola, FL 32502 (850-433-5575) or may be requested by emailing qq@qgarchitects.com. **Submittal Opening: Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. Central time. Bids may be emailed, mailed, or delivered to the Architect's office. PLEASE NOTE, A Pre-Submittal Zoom Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Central time and potential contractors may schedule a site visit during**

382 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

RONALD E. MAYHANN, Plaintiff,

v. Case No.: 23-58 CA

KERESSA DOMINIK BRUCE, Defendant.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to a Final Judgment on Foreclosure dated December 6, 2023, entered in Case No. 2023 CA 58 of the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Florida, wherein RONALD E. MAYHANN is the Plaintiff, and KERESSA DOMINIK BRUCE; AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT WHO IS NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES OR OTHER CLAIMANTS are the Defendants, the undersigned will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash by electronic sale at realforeclosure.com , **11:00 a.m. Eastern on Thursday, 2 May, 2024** the following described real property as set forth in said Final Summary Judgment on Foreclosure, to-wit: Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, less 10 feet off the South side of Lot 7, all in Block 13, Gulf County Land Company Subdivision, according to the official plat thereof on file in the office of the Clerk of Court, Gulf County, Florida, Plat Book 1, Page 11.

383 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY. CASE NO. 24-22 PR IN PROBATE

IN RE: The Estate of RICHARD RUSSELL ALLEN,

Deceased.

384 PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing to discuss and consider the adoption of the following Ordinance with the following title:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY AND THROUGH PROCEDURES REQUIRED FOR PLAN AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY UNDER FLORIDA STATUTE 163.3184 AND FLORIDA STATUTE 125; SPECIFICALLY, SO AS TO ADOPT AMENDMENT TO TEXT CHAPTER 4 (SANITARY SEWER, SOLID WASTE, DRAINAGE, POTABLE WATER AND NATURAL GROUNDWATER AQUIFER RECHARGE ELEMENT); PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A first reading, introduction and Public Hearings will be held during the Gulf County Board of County Commissioner's Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. (Eastern), to be held in the Donald H. Butler Commissioner Chamber and meeting room in the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, Gulf County Courthouse Complex, Port St. Joe, Florida.

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.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

CASE NO.: 2022-00088-CA All Unknown Heirs, Beneficiaries, Legatees, Devisees, Personal Representatives, Creditor and Any other Person Claiming by, Through, Under or against Darrell G. Nickell, Deceased 3420 N. Highway 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Donna K. Nickell 3420 N. Highway 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Bay County Healthcare Services, LLC, D/B/A Bay Medical Center - Sacred Heart Health System F/K/A Bay Medical Center, A Special District, Chapter 2005- 343, Laws of Florida C/O Corporation Service Company 1201 Hays Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

Department of The Treasury - Internal Revenue Service C/O Katherine C. Kerwin, Esq. 111 N. Adams Street, 4th Floor Tallahassee, FL 32301

Unknown Tenant #1 3420 N. Hwy 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Unknown Tenant #2 N/K/A Dana Marie Clark 3420 N. Hwy 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Lewis Dean Nickell, Sr 3420 N HWY 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Ladora Nunnery 3110 S HWY 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Todd Nickell 7518 Pinewood Dr., Lot 83 Mabelvale, AR 72103

381 REQUEST FOR BIDS & QUALIFICATIONS

General Contractor bids and qualifications to be accepted at the offices of the Architect, Quina Grundhoefer Architects, 400 W Romana Street, Pensacola, Florida 32502 and will be opened and evaluated by the Architect and the First United Methodist of Port St. Joe Building Committee on the date and times listed below for the construction of the following project:

First United Methodist Hurricane Rebuild - The church is located at 1001 Constitution Drive in downtown Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. Digital copies of plans and specifications will be available on request from the office of Quina Grundhoefer Architects, P.A., 400 West Romana Street, Pensacola, FL 32502 (850-433-5575) or may be requested by emailing qq@qgarchitects.com. **Submittal Opening: Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. Central time. Bids may be emailed, mailed, or delivered to the Architect's office. PLEASE NOTE, A Pre-Submittal Zoom Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Central time and potential contractors may schedule a site visit during**

382 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY. CASE NO. 24-22 PR IN PROBATE

IN RE: The Estate of RICHARD RUSSELL ALLEN,

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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.

APPLICATION #2023-30

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CHRIS HECKER

LEGAL ADVERTISING

387 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT FNA DZ 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 #2023-30

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CHRIS HECKER

TAX SALE CERTIFICATE #: 2021-318

DATE OF ISSUANCE: 5/28/2021 R.E. No.: 02281-050R

Description of Property: Lot 31-34 Block E, of "College Park" according to the Plat thereof as recorded in the Plat Book 1, Page 13, 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 ONLINE at: www.gulf.realtaxdeed.com on 05/15/24 at 11:00 a.m. ET or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

APPLICATION #2023-29

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: JAMES HOFFMAN FULLER

TAX SALE CERTIFICATE #: 2021-760

DATE OF ISSUANCE: 05/28/2021

R.E. No.: 06274-041R

Description of Property: Lot 3, Unit IV B, Bayco Unrecorded: A tract of land located in Fractional Section 14, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the point of intersection of the North line of Treasure Bay Unit 1 as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 32, Public Records of Gulf County, Florida with the Westerly R/W line of County Road No. 30; thence N15°27'30"E along said Westerly R/W line 723.80 feet for the Point of Beginning; thence N89°16'30"W, 220.13 feet; thence N15°27'30"E, 103.40 feet; thence S89°16'30"E, 220.13 feet to a point on the Westerly R/W line of said County Road No. 30; thence S15°27'30"W along said Westerly R/W line 103.40 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to easements and restrictions of record, if any, which are specifically not extended or reimposed hereby. Subject to 1989 taxes and assessments.

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 ONLINE at: www.gulf.realtaxdeed.com on 05/15/2024 at 11:00 a.m. ET or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

DATED: 04/08/2024 REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Leslee Bennett, Deputy Clerk

APRIL 11, 18, 25, 2024

389 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT RB TAX INVESTMENTS 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 #2023-28

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: ONYX ISLAND LLC AGENT: MARK K LOGAN

TAX SALE CERTIFICATE #: 2021-759

DATE OF ISSUANCE: 05/28/2021 R.E. No.: 06270-000R

Description of Property: Parcel 1: Commence at the Southwest corner of Lot 113, in Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 11 West, as shown on an unrecorded plat of said Section 25 that was drawn by C.P. Gauding and commonly referred to as the "Plat of Golden", (which point is the Southwest corner of Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 11 West), and extend a line Northerly along the West line of said Lot 113 for 309.77 feet to a concrete monument for a Point of Beginning; From this Point of Beginning turn 89 degrees 20 minutes right from the line last described above for 343.26 feet to a point on the East line of the aforesaid Lot 113; then turn 89 degrees 26 minutes left for 8.65 feet to a point on the western right of way line of State Road 30; then turn 15 degrees 45 minutes left along said right of way line for 115.4 feet; then turn 74 degrees 49 minutes left for

APRIL 11, 18, 25, 2024

388 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC, the Certificate

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NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CHRIS HECKER

TAX SALE CERTIFICATE #: 2021-318

DATE OF ISSUANCE: 5/28/2021 R.E. No.: 02281-050R

Description of Property: Lot 31-34 Block E, of "College Park" according to the Plat thereof as recorded in the Plat Book 1, Page 13, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

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UNFORGETTABLE COAST

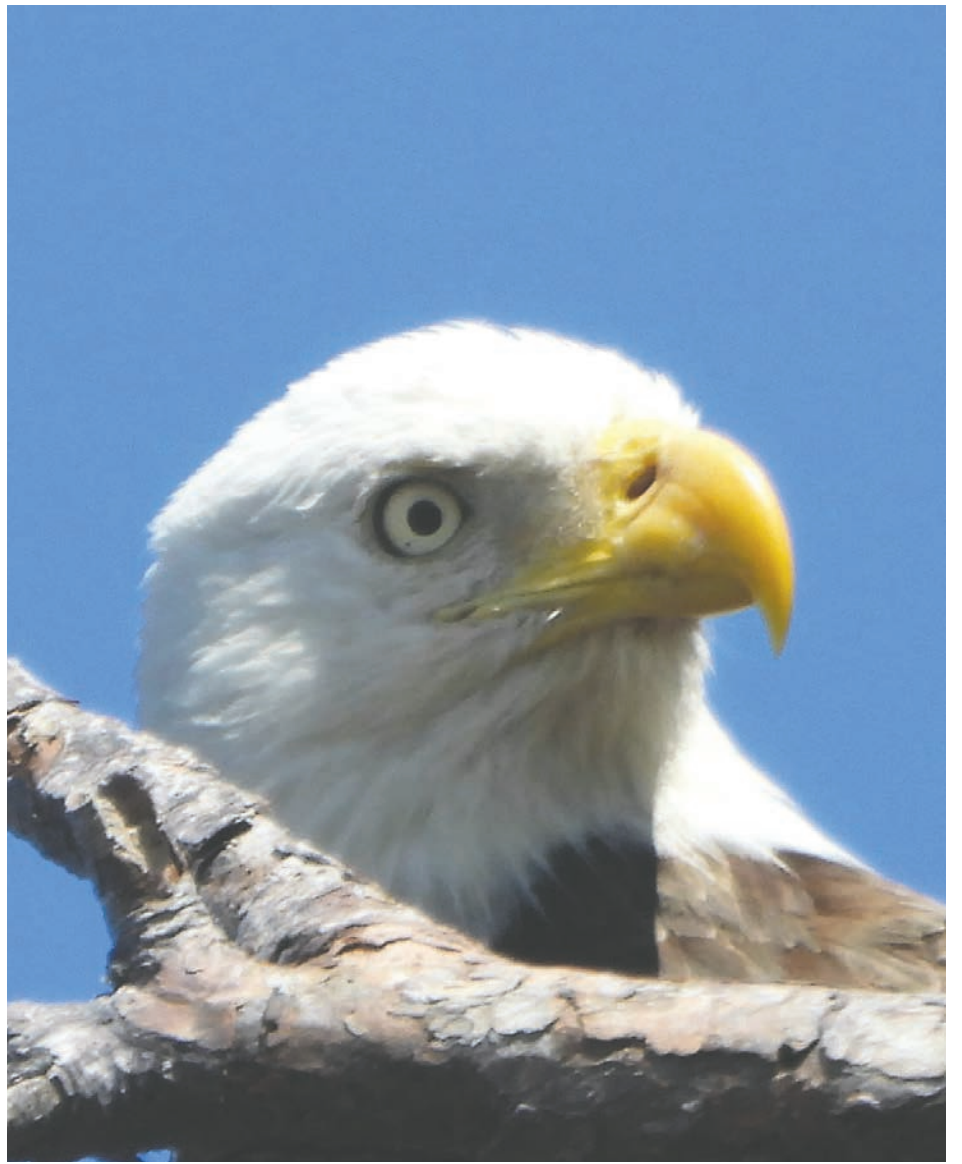
Spring has arrived and with it comes beauty and excitement throughout Franklin and Gulf counties. The Times and the Star welcome readers to submit their best photographs. All subject matter is welcome, a beautiful place, interesting wildlife, a vivid person,

an unusual image, we want to share it on this page.

Please email photographs, labeled "Unforgettable Coast" and with a short description and name of the photographer, to Editor David Adlerstein at dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com



A long beak [BILL FAUTH]



A piercing eye [JO PEARMAN]



Ten-Foot Hole in Apalachicola, minus the many liveaboards that used to flourish there. [CHARLIE SAWYER]

PET OF THE WEEK

Franklin County Humane Society

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Mary Johnson
REALTOR®
850-370-0044

Beach Properties of Florida
140 W. 1st Street
St. George Island,
FL 32328
www.sgiproperties.com

Athena is a 1 yr old Pointer mix and pretty as a picture. She is sweet, loving and gentle so should make a wonderful family pet. She loves other dogs and adores belly rubs! Franklin County Humane Society, 244 State Road 65, Eastpoint, FL 32328 | Phone: (850) 670-8417

www.forgottenpets.org

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society

Hi, I'm JJ! I am a 2 year old 55 pound male hound/lab mix. I came to the shelter in July of 2023 with my brother Jet and we are both still waiting for our forever families. I am a very active boy who loves to go for long walks with lots of sniffs! I am treat motivated and a quick learner. I am dog and cat friendly and would make a wonderful companion! Come by the shelter to meet me and all of my friends.

www.sjbhumanesociety.org

Coastal Realty Group
www.gulfcoastalproperties.com

CELEBRATE COMMUNITY



Steve Julian, left, and Ed Mitchem took silver in the age 70 and older Men's Doubles. [STEPHEN TEEKELL PHOTOGRAPHY]

Paddling for the turtles

Port St. Joe pickleball tournament a hit

David Adlerstein
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

In its best ever turnout in the four years since it started, the Pickleball for Sea Turtles Tournament in Port St. Joe drew a record number of participants, and a big haul in fundraising to benefit sea turtles.

Held between March 14 and 17 at Frank Pate Park, the tourney drew 170 players, 60 more than last year, from throughout the Panhandle, including snowbirds from as far as Georgia, Maryland, Maine, Arkansas, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Thanks to a robust number of business and individual sponsorships, player fees, merchandise sales, raffles and drawings, organizers will soon be handing over a check for more than \$20,000, about \$8,000 more than last year, to the Florida Coastal Conservancy's Forgotten Coast Sea Turtle Center in Port St. Joe.

"Everybody loved it and they've been loving it for four years," said Susan Hudlow, tournament director. "They can't wait to come back."

Next year's tourney is slated for the middle of February, and is expected to be on two ad-

ditional six courts set for construction at Frank Pate Park.

"We'll be adding singles divisions, and we're expecting over 200 players next year," Hudlow said. "We're looking forward to a lot more sponsors at higher dollar amounts."

She said one enhancement to this year's tourney was the addition of three USA Pickleball certified referees, led by Bay County's Norman Clinkscales, who last week could be seen on television refereeing a championship in North Carolina on the professional tour.

"For a lot of folks this was their first time playing and they loved it," Hudlow said. "They learned this is the way the pros do it."

She said the tourney drew about 150 spectators each day, with players competing in anywhere from six to 16 games each day.

While there were many exciting matches, Hudlow said that watching John Dohogne and his teammate win the age 50 and older Mens Doubles, and his taking a silver in the Mixed Doubles, were among the best, as Dohogne is eyeing competing as a senior professional.

THE WINNERS

The following list contains the top finishers in the pickleball tournament. The categories listed as 3.5+ contain the higher ranked competitors.

Janis Thomas
Silver: Peggy Renihan / Debby Skipp
Bronze: Mitzi Alpe / Wendy Woodrick

Age 16+ Men's Doubles
Gold: Jonathan Nelson / Gavin Choosakul
Silver: Seth Crutchfield / Kade McInaney
Bronze: William Vaughn / John Tomasicyk

60+ Women's Doubles
Gold: Rose Dunlap / Helene Antel
Silver: Debbie Hooper / Kathy Perrier
Bronze: Donna Scharff / Lauren Jensen

50+ Men's Doubles 3.5+
Gold: John Dohogne / Brian Reetz
Silver: John Scott / Scott Ward
Bronze: Walter Woodrick / Randy Pridgeon

60+ Women's Doubles 3.5+
Gold: Karen Quesada / Susan Hudlow
Silver: Tricia McLemore / Bes-sie Graham
Bronze: Sylvia Yarborough / Penny Isom

60+ Men's Doubles
Gold: Michael Scott / Joseph DeVenuto
Silver: Roger Dunning / James Frost
Bronze: Bill Crain / Allan Becker

16+ Mixed Doubles 3.5+
Gold: Tricia McLemore / Jim-my Harwood
Silver: Josh Minshew / Peggy Renihan
Bronze: Brandon Krambeck / Cailee Krambeck

60+ Men's Doubles 3.5+
Gold: Ray Ross / Howard Stein
Silver: Keith Stroup / Steve McCann
Bronze: Marshall Masai / David Cain

50+ Mixed Doubles
Gold: Cindy Scott / Michael Scott
Silver: Wendy Woodrick / Gerry D'Arco
Bronze: Michael Balcerek / Betsy Balcerek

70+ Men's Doubles
Gold: Harry Clifford / Michael Cantalupo
Silver: Ed Mitchem / Steve Julian
Bronze: Ron Harris / Art Porep

50+ Mixed Doubles 3.5+
Gold: Tracy Nye / Rob Eldridge
Silver: John Dohogne / Luzzet MacDonald
Bronze: Mitzi Alpe / Walter Woodrick

16+ Women's Doubles
Gold: Rhonda Scott / Kendra Ward
Silver: Staci Swotek / Kimberly Sears
Bronze: Irina Frakes / Amy Brown

60+ Mixed Doubles
Gold: Dave Rozenboom / Donna Scharff
Silver: Patsy Johnson / Dennis Fleshren
Bronze: Barbara Pickels / Lee Pearson

16+ Women's Doubles 3.5+
Gold: Jill Lutz / Michelle Seale
Silver: Luzzet MacDonald / Marlana Mardis
Bronze: Lin Ai Liao / Lauren Morgan

60+ Mixed Doubles 3.5+
Gold: Karen Quesada / Brian Reetz
Silver: Howard Stein / Debby Skipp
Bronze: Gail Stroup / Keith Stroup

50+ Women's Doubles
Gold: Cindy Scott / Michelle Carleton
Silver: Sharon Sullivan / Lisa Pridgeon
Bronze: Vicki Dickert / Michele Yown

70+ Mixed Doubles
Gold: Renee Cantalupo / Michael Cantalupo
Silver: Linda Huffman / Mic Huffman
Bronze: Allan Becker / Kathy Perrier



Karen Quesada, from Lynn Haven, took gold in both the Women and Mixed Doubles. [STEPHEN TEEKELL PHOTOGRAPHY]



When a player attacks a ball headed toward their partner, it's called a poach, and often takes the opposing team by surprise. [STEPHEN TEEKELL PHOTOGRAPHY]



Susan Hudlow, tournament director, pets the shell of Raylan, a turtle from the Forgotten Coast Sea Turtle Center. [STEPHEN TEEKELL PHOTOGRAPHY]

A COMMUNITY'S SERVICE AGENCIES ARE ONLY AS SUCCESSFUL AS THE BUSINESSES AND PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT THEM.



Choral society to perform for elementary students



Composer, orchestrator and arranger Ed Hogan will be a special guest of both the children's concert and the Bay Area Choral Society's Spring Concerts. [ED HOGAN MUSIC]

Annette Cederholm
Guest Columnist

The Bay Area Choral Society, with help from the PTO of Port St. Joe Elementary School and Duren's Piggly Wiggly in Port St. Joe, will perform a children's concert for third graders at PSJES and elementary students from Franklin County schools on Friday, April 12, at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe.

With funding from The Tapper Foundation, BACS commissioned Ed Hogan to compose a song that expresses how the beauty of our surroundings on the Forgotten Coast fill us with music. The song is titled "The Maker's Song" and will be performed during BACS children's concert and Spring Concert.

Also during the concerts, Hogan will provide brief narratives on composition, genre, and instrumentation to educate and provide incentive for students and their parents to further pursue music. Vocalists and symphonic instrumentalists from the Florida State University doctoral program will also participate in the concerts.

Hogan earned a degree from Florida

State University where he studied music education and composition. He was a high school band director for 11 years before founding EHF Productions, a full-service music and audio production company. For over 20 years, Hogan has been involved with every aspect of the production of church music. He has received 33 JW Pepper "Editor's Choice" awards - 11 for choral orchestrations, six for instrumental projects and 16 for choral arrangements.

Hogan resides in Carrollton, Georgia, with his wife, Carol, and enjoys spending time with his two daughters and grandchildren.

Since 1989, BACS has been committed to providing choral musical excellence in the Forgotten Coast Area. Music is directed and performed by a volunteer chorus and local accomplished musicians who are dedicated to producing a high standard of music to entertain and educate audiences. With music and narrative, audiences are exposed to various genres and eras of music and are provided the highest quality performance and educational experiences.

Annette Cederholm is a member of the Bay Area Choral Society.

PORT ST. JOE GARDEN CLUB

Learn how to propagate plants Saturday

Susan Wozniak
Guest Columnist

Gulf County Master Gardeners will hold a workshop "Plant Magic: How to Propagate Plants" on Saturday, April 13 at 10:30 ET at the Corinne Costin Gibson Memorial Public Library in Port St. Joe.

This will be the second presentation in the Florida Friendly Gardening Series slated in conjunction with the library and the Gulf County Extension Service.

Gardeners have many reasons to create extra plants from the ones they currently cultivate. They can easily produce multiples of their favorite plant without spending more money. It may be the only way to generate additional plants if the one they own is a rare variety and it is a time-tested strategy to quell insatiable cravings for more plants in general.

Pointers on growing plants from seeds, dividing plants,



Air layered yaupon
[SUSAN WOZNIAK | CONTRIBUTED]

taking cuttings, and variations on air layering will all be addressed. Exhibits of plants in various stages of propagation will be on hand for close observation and a question and answer session will follow.

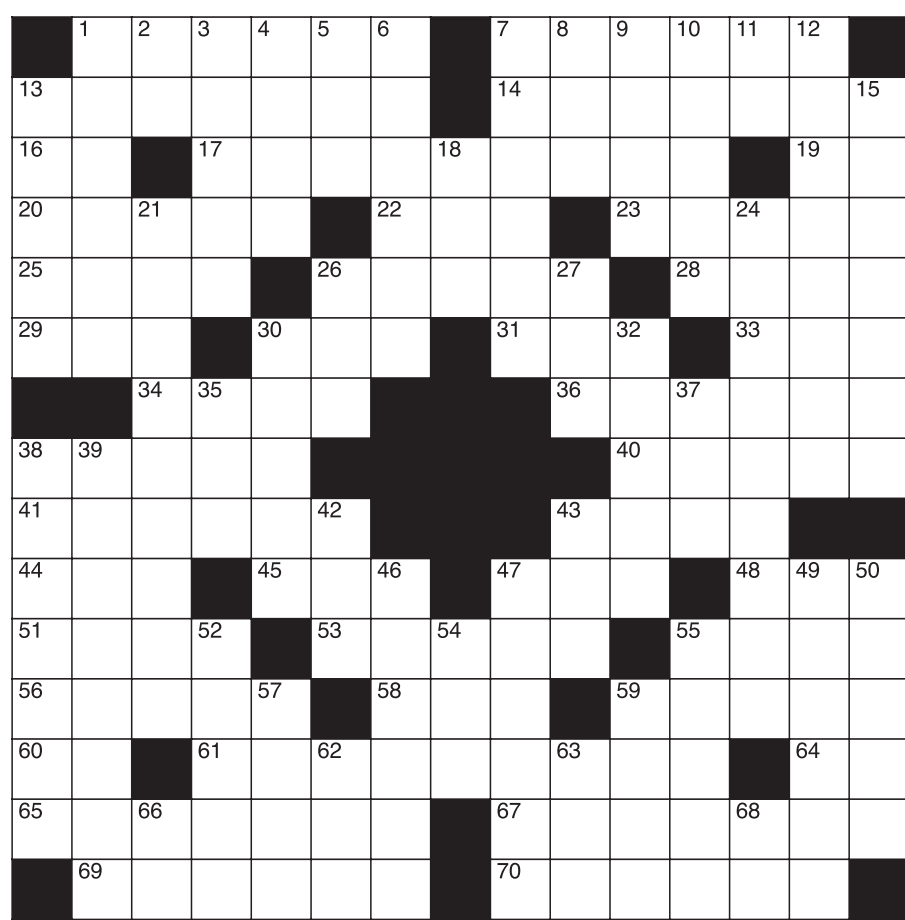
Attendees will have the opportunity to avail themselves to the seed library

See **GARDENING WORKSHOP, Page 5B**

DOLPHINS THAT DAZZLE



The Dazzling Dolphins this month at Port St. Joe Elementary School are, back row, from left: Lyric Rivera, Amia Roberts, Gy'bryel McCall, Walker Williams, Ryne Barfield, Aliyah Arnold, River Hart, Rhea Bracht and Kailani Dailey. Front row, from left: Amelia Powell, Kyo Chambers, Sophia Thomas, Lauren Bodiford, Relic Bailey, Brynlee Campbell, Garrison Deal and Luella Hamm. [PSJES | CONTRIBUTED]



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Island nation
- 7. Platforms
- 13. Project plan
- 14. French fishing port
- 16. South Dakota
- 17. Oakland's baseball team
- 19. Military policeman
- 20. Ornamental stone
- 22. Garland
- 23. Process that produces ammonia
- 25. Mousses
- 26. Music notation "dal _"
- 28. Fail to win
- 29. Peyton's little brother
- 30. Not near
- 31. Some cars still need it
- 33. Lizard genus
- 34. An idiot (Brit.)
- 36. Postponed
- 38. African country
- 40. Gazes unpleasantly
- 41. In a way, traveled
- 43. Ukraine's capital
- 44. Appropriate
- 45. Dash
- 47. Twitch
- 48. Swiss river
- 51. Data file with computer animations
- 53. City in S. Korea
- 55. Particular region
- 56. They have eyes and noses
- 58. Tear
- 59. Large Madagascan lemur
- 60. Not out
- 61. Ornamental saddle covering
- 64. A driver's license is one
- 65. Latin term for charity
- 67. Rechristens
- 69. Objects from an earlier time
- 70. Hindu male religious teachers

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Used as a weapon
- 2. Yukon Territory
- 3. Makes a map of
- 4. An established ceremony prescribed by a religion
- 5. Unnilhexium
- 6. Merchant
- 7. Playing the field
- 8. Folk singer DiFranco
- 9. Something to scratch
- 10. Mexican agave
- 11. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 12. Session
- 13. North American people
- 15. Ranches
- 18. Electroencephalograph
- 21. A type of compound
- 24. Avenue
- 26. High schoolers' test
- 27. A type of meal
- 30. Gradually disappeared
- 32. Ancient Frankish law code
- 35. Popular pickup truck
- 37. Buzzing insect
- 38. Deal illegally
- 39. Lying in the same plane
- 42. Obstruct
- 43. Related
- 46. Challenge aggressively
- 47. Nocturnal hoofed animals
- 49. Bird's nests
- 50. Forays
- 52. ___ B. de Mille, filmmaker
- 54. Title of respect
- 55. One-time name of Vietnam
- 57. Self-immolation by fire ritual
- 59. Private school in New York
- 62. Political action committee
- 63. A way to fashion
- 66. Email reply
- 68. "The Great Lake State"

See **ANSWERS, PAGE 7B**



MARRIAGE LICENSES

Information for the newspaper's list of marriage licenses in Franklin and Gulf counties comes from the clerk of court's offices in the respective counties. The listings indicate the bride and groom, their ages, where they reside and when the marriage ceremony took place, unless not indicated on the license, in which case it is listed under the date the license was issued.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Saturday, March 23

• Max Garland Rieves, 29, and Natalie Ryan Humphrey, 28, residing in Smyrna, Georgia

Saturday, March 30

• Seth Daniel Swanson, 47, and Arielle Susan Littlepage, 35, residing in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

• Anthony Thomas Magliula, 25, and Sharon Elizabeth Verna-Brown, 26, residing in Knoxville, Tennessee

GULF COUNTY

Thursday, March 28

• Wyatt Sherlock Haskell, 28, and Natalia Renae Grothe, 28, residing in Elk Park, North Carolina

Saturday, March 30

• Claude Thomas III, 48, and Rhonda Lynn Pittman, 49, residing in Port St. Joe

Optimizing your Social Security benefits



Walter L. Woodrick CFP
Guest Columnist

The number of interesting, talented, intelligent, and aging (notice I didn't say "aged") people who currently live in Gulf and Franklin counties is quite

remarkable. And that number is increasing, literally, on a daily basis. I was asked by one of my pickleball friends to address, "When to start taking Social Security." Within my word count and space restrictions, here goes:

In a nutshell, the best way to optimize Social Security benefits is to know how old you will be at your death. I say that

mostly tongue-in-cheek, but with today's statistical analysis that can evaluate your current age, health conditions, medications, past procedures, daily habits, activity levels, and family longevity, one can probably get pretty close to an estimated age at death. One website told me that I should live to be 92 and that if I drank a little alco-

hol every day that I could lengthen my life by two years. I am praying for a healthy 92 years!

I pay a pretty hefty monthly fee for a financial planning software package that helps me prepare up to 700 "Optimal Social Security Strategy" scenarios based upon life expectancy, earnings estimates

See WOODRICK, PAGE 8B

Gulf County real estate sales

The following is a listing of real estate sales in Gulf County. Each entry includes the day the sale was recorded with the clerk of courts office, the address or approximate address, names of the seller and the buyer, and sales price. All information is provided by the office of Property Appraiser Mitch Burke.

MARCH 21: **Hardy Street, Port St. Joe**, from John Arnold to Sherry and Caesar Siclare, Jr. and Kathe and Phillip Jones for \$90,000

MARCH 21: **County Road 381, Wewahitchka**, from Harold Thompson to Christie and Paul Todd, for \$50,000

See GULF REAL ESTATE, Page 9B

Franklin County real estate sales

The following is a listing of real estate sales in Franklin County. Each entry includes the day the sale was recorded with the clerk of courts office, the address or approximate address, names of the seller and the buyer, and sales price. All information is provided by the office of Property Appraiser Rhonda Skipper.

MARCH 21: **Vacant lot in River Bluffs, Carrabelle**, from Kymberly and Kevin Rejda, to Marjorie and Todd Berghaus, for \$49,000

MARCH 21: **254 Patton Drive, Eastpoint**, from Linda Plessinger to Sara and Robert Caiola, for \$450,000

See FRANKLIN REAL ESTATE, Page 9B

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LAW ENFORCEMENT

THE TIMES Arrest Reports

The following report is provided by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. All defendants are to be considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

MARCH 20



Lataska Vanteria Harris, 42, Apalachicola, battery (APD)

MARCH 21



Stanley Duane Smith, 34, Apalachicola, violation of an injunction for protection against domestic violence (FCSO)

MARCH 21



Ramesh Chandra Ramkumar, 50, Orlando, DUI (APD)

MARCH 22



Timothy Shawn Ward, 42, Apalachicola, illegal burning (FCSO)

MARCH 22



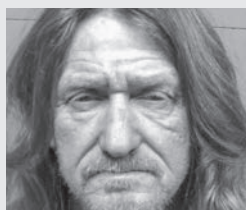
Michael Lee Allen Owens, 24, Eastpoint, violation of probation (FCSO)

MARCH 22



Stanley Duane Smith, 34, Apalachicola, possession of a controlled substance, violation of an injunction for protection against domestic violence (APD)

MARCH 22



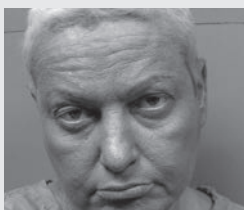
William Guy Shiver, 48, Eastpoint, violation of conditional release (FCSO)

MARCH 23



Shannon Macdonald, 40, Carrabelle, two counts of possession of a controlled substance, possession or use of drug equipment, possession of marijuana with intent to see or deliver, possession of marijuana - over 20 grams (FCSO)

MARCH 23



Donna Kay Varner, 42, Eastpoint, trespassing on property - not structure or conveyance (FCSO)

MARCH 23



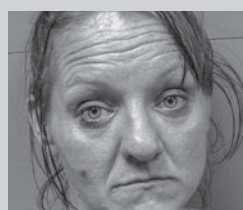
Melisa Lee O'Shields, 48, Tallahassee, DUI (FCSO)

MARCH 24



Jason Paul James, 43, Eastpoint, petit theft first degree - more than \$100 and less than \$750, loitering or prowling, burglary of unoccupied conveyance during state of emergency (FCSO)

MARCH 24



Kristen Renee Edgcomb, 42, Eastpoint, failure to appear (FCSO)

THE STAR Arrest Reports

The following report is provided by the Gulf County Sheriff's Office. All defendants are to be considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

MARCH 21



Cleatha Ann Simmons, violation of probation - petit theft, third conviction (GCSO)

MARCH 21



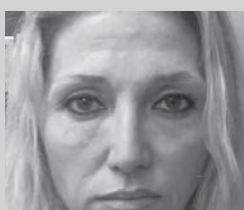
Marvin Jerome Hamilton, Sr., larceny, fraud (PSJPD)

MARCH 21



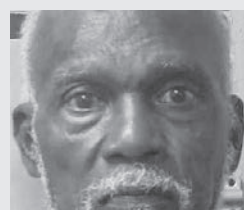
Jordan Lee Nickell, two counts of possession of methamphetamine, two counts of possession or use of drug paraphernalia, felony driving while license suspended or revoked (Out of county warrant)

MARCH 21



Shayla Ceighann Gay, violation of probation - possession of methamphetamine (Out of county warrant)

MARCH 22



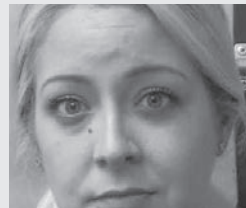
Calvin Junior Johnson, violation of probation - two counts of possession of a controlled substance (Court)

MARCH 22



Kahlif Miguel Cooper, violation of probation - battery, criminal mischief (Court)

MARCH 23



Alexis Brinkmeier, failure to appear - knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked (Out of county warrant)

MARCH 23



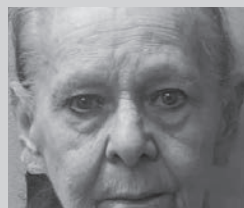
Anthony Leon Skanes, violation of probation - fleeing or eluding a law enforcement officer (Court)

MARCH 23



Mark Anthony Williams, knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked (GCSO)

MARCH 23



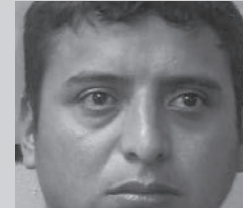
Barbara Ann Arendt, failure to register a motor vehicle, knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked (GCSO)

MARCH 27



Demetri Marcell Williams, violation of probation - felony battery (Court)

MARCH 31



Esvin Lionel Milian, operating a motor vehicle without a valid license (GCSO)

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LANARK NEWS

Firefighters train at State Fire College



Pat Sewell Funderburk
Guest Columnist

Hi Y'all, Happy Spring!

The Spring Breakers came in and the Snowbirds flew out.

The Lanark Village Association, Inc. had their monthly membership meeting on Monday, April 1. The attendance was low, not allowing for a quorum vote. The membership needs to be aware of the changes that are taking place in the organization. Please get involved in the community.

The Lanark Village Golf Club, Inc. will have a meeting on Thursday, April 11 at 5 p.m. at the Lanark Village Boat



St. James/ Lanark volunteer firefighters taking part in training at the Florida State Fire College in Ocala are, from left: Chris Smith, Christopher Barnett, Chief Joe Ross, Shelby Day, and Greg Hansen. Not pictured is Harry Larsen. [ERIC GRAJALES | CONTRIBUTED]

Club. Discussions on important issues need for you to attend.

On Saturday, April 13 the LVA will have for the first time "Fresh Finds Market" at Chillas Hall, come rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They will be offering fresh microgreens, baked

goods, coastal décor, Mother's Day baskets and more. Any vendor interested in participating please email Lanrkva@yahoo.com for more information.

One of the best ways to meet and be a part of the Lanark community is to join in the events

and activities that it has to offer. One is coming up on Sunday, April 14. Come join us for Sunday covered dish at Chillas Hall. Bring a dish and have lunch with us, starting at 1 p.m.

The Lanark community has concerns about a request to the county

to rezone property on Oak Street in Lanark Village to allow an RV park to come into the Village. This zoning would open that property to many types of businesses, which may not be appropriate, to easily come into our community. Please, let the commissioners know your feelings on this issue.

The St. James/ Lanark Volunteer Fire Department continues to move forward on re-opening our fire department. Training is continuing. The department needs volunteers to come forward. Please contact sjlvfd@gmail.com. This past week six volunteers attended instruction at the Florida State Fire College in Ocala. The training consisted of wildland firefighting and pump operations. All six completed

the courses and received their required certificates. Congratulations to those amazing, loyal volunteers. Before this training there was a fundraiser to help pay for the expenses; while there is no charge for the instruction, the expenses to go are not covered. The goal was met by some very generous businesses and individuals. So, next time a fundraiser is held, please reach down deep in your pockets and let's help get our fire department open.

Yes, there is still a fire ban in Lanark by Franklin County commissioners.

Love Lanark.
Pat Sewell Funderburk is the Times Lanark News columnist. Be sure to send news and society items about Lanark Village life to her at p.funderburk@yahoo.com

WEWAHITCHKA WOMAN'S CLUB

Vaccines save millions of lives annually

Rhonda Alderman
Guest Columnist

Each Spring GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club members **Advocate to Vaccinate. Shot@Life** advocates across the United States speak out to increase access to vaccines for children and people around the world. This year advocates came together to urge U.S. policymakers to fund investments in global vaccine programs.

Every year vaccines save more than four million lives. Yet every 20 seconds, a child

still dies from an infectious disease that could have been prevented by a vaccine. This is unacceptable. We must protect progress made with immunizations, strengthen health systems, and ensure people everywhere have access to lifesaving vaccines for diseases like polio, measles, pneumonia, rotavirus, and COVID-19.

What can you do? Ask Congress to fully fund FY 2024 vaccination programs that save lives and serve U.S. interests. Send an email to your US senator and US representative.

The Wewahitchka Woman's Club meetings

are the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. CT at the Wewahitchka Senior Citizens Building. Join us to learn more about how you can be a part of an 87-year-old club and as a volunteer, can make a positive difference in the community. Contact us at gfwcwewawomansclub@gmail.com.

The GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club is a non-profit, 501c (3) volunteer charity organization whose purpose is to promote and provide civic, educational, and charitable activities that enrich the lives, and the environment in the service area of Wewahitchka.

PORT ST. JOE GARDEN CLUB

Annual plant sale set for April 27

Susan Wozniak
Guest Columnist

The Port St. Joe Garden Club will hold its annual Plant/Bake/Yard Sale on Saturday, April 27 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Garden Center at 216 Eighth Street in Port St. Joe.

Rain or shine, this much anticipated event will attract shoppers from as far away as Franklin and Bay counties.

Plant lovers are sure to find something to scratch that unceasing itch for additions to their collections. Succulents, shrubs, flowering annuals and perennials, vegetables, and even native plants will be available.

Bargain hunters have learned over the years that the indoor yard sale always has surprises for early bird shoppers. Casual buyers will find themselves loading the trunk with bargains they didn't even know

they needed!

And who can't resist Miss Valerie's exquisite sweets? Or Miss Sandy's home baked focaccias? Most items freeze well for unexpected guests or late night forays into the kitchen.

This fundraiser allows the garden club to further its mission to encourage horticulture and conservation in Gulf County and to beautify the local area. It also supports the maintenance of installed Blue Star markers that honor those who have served in the US Armed Forces.

For more information about the garden club, please visit its Facebook page. The Garden Center is a charming venue for family reunions, showers, and receptions. Contact rental coordinator Lanann Tuttle at 404-932-0646 to reserve the site for your next special occasion.



Native coral bean plants [SUSAN WOZNIAK | CONTRIBUTED]

GARDENING WORKSHOP

From page 2B

which is stocked with species suitable for spring time planting here. Library patrons may check out up to five packets

of flower or vegetable seeds with their library card. Those who do not have a library card need only ask a librarian for assistance in obtaining one.

The Gulf County Extension Service, an outreach of the University of Florida,

offers practical and proven assistance with matters of home health and nutrition, residential and commercial horticulture, conservation, and even youth engagement. For more information, visit its Facebook page.

FAITH

Resentment brings out the worst in us



Sheryl Boldt
Guest Columnist

Remember when you were newly married? You loved doing whatever you could for your spouse. You found yourself humming while emptying the dishwasher, mowing the lawn, even scrubbing toilets.

Do you recall when you first started that new job? How you smiled as you pitched in because you were thrilled to be part of the team?

Now that time has passed, are you still

humming? Still smiling? Or do you spend more time muttering and scowling? When people don't sufficiently show their appreciation, most of us begin to feel used and taken advantage of.

Would you feel resentful if I told you 1 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV) says, "[Love is not] resentful"?

Maintaining a good attitude is hard when we don't feel appreciated. We're not asking for billboards to be erected in our honor, but a simple "thank you" now and then would be nice.

If we're not careful, though, the more we dwell on feeling overlooked, the more we resent the very people we previously found joy with.

Resentment brings



out the worst in us, causing us to think and behave in ways we'd never admit to. We might sabotage a coworker's promotion by slandering his or her reputation. Or shame a family member by bringing up an unkind action from the past just to torment him or her. We know they don't

deserve our mean-spirited actions, but we're so miserable that we want them to suffer too – especially if they're receiving the praises and "attaboys" we crave.


What would happen if we completely shifted our mindset and refused to allow ourselves to feel like

a martyr? Especially during this National Volunteer Appreciation Month, what if our highest desire was to honor God in all we do? And what if we gave those by whom we feel slighted the benefit of the doubt, at home and at work? They're likely aware of how much we contribute and

would miss us dearly if we were to leave. But, as we also do at times, they allow their distractingly busy schedules to keep them from expressing their gratitude.

As we allow God to change our motives and grow in our ability to love others, we'll be quicker to overlook offenses, even when we feel slighted. And, miracle of miracles, we might even find ourselves spending less time muttering and scowling and more time humming and smiling.

Sheryl H. Boldt, a Franklin County resident, is the author of the blog, www.TodayCanBeDifferent.net. Connect with her at SherylHBoldt@gmail.com.



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Michael J. Brooks
Guest Columnist

A property committee member complained some "knucklehead" installed the wrong bulbs in a room at church. I had to confess the knucklehead was me. I mistakenly took LED tubes from the

supply closet and tried to insert them in fluorescent fixtures. No damage, but no light, either. This reminded me of the old joke about how many Baptists it takes to change a light bulb. In this case, the correct

answer is "two." But the traditional answer to the pun is, "Change? What's that?"

Thom Rainer of Church Answers did a recent podcast on change and cited two examples.

See BROOKS, PAGE 8B

OBITUARIES

Carah Frances Causey Sweet

Carah Frances Causey Sweet, 85, died March 30, 2024 with family by her side in Apopka, Florida. Carah was preceded in death by her husband of 32 years, David Erwin Sweet Sr. of Gloversville, New York; parents Clarence Willis and Tercie Holland Causey of White City; sister Mary Joyce Isaacks of White City; brother and his wife, Benjamin Franklin and Mary Catherine Causey of Wewahitchka; and grandson John Taylor Hoover Jr. of Casselberry. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Teresa Diane Sweet of Apopka, Evelyn Joyce and Benjamin Clayton Isaacks of Osteen, Leslie Ann and Donald Joseph Flannery of Kissimmee, David Erwin Jr. and Kirsten Kialik Sweet of Cibolo, Texas; grandchildren and their spouses Christopher Wade and Kayla Burton Flannery of Winter Garden, David Joseph Flannery of Kissimmee, Carah Rose Hoover of Osteen, Carlton David and Carly Renee Hoover of Schertz, Texas; step-grandchildren and their spouses, Donnie Ray and Crys-

tal Brown Flannery of Hagerhill, Kentucky, Crystal Michelle and Jason Picklesimer of



Cohutta, Georgia, and Autumn Elizabeth and Ashwin Kalia of Dickinson, Texas; a great grandson Aiden Taylor Hoover of Osteen; a great granddaughter of Alina Rose Kalia of Dickinson, Texas; several nephews and nieces including William Edward McDaniel of Edison Georgia and Catherine Marie Piland of Geneva. Frances, as she was known by many of her friends, graduated with the class of 1957 from Port Saint Joe High School in Gulf County. She married Dave on October 19, 1957, and served as a United States Air Force wife for more

than 18 years while raising her family on bases at Tyndall in Florida, Itazuke in Fukuoka, Japan, Victorville in California and Myrtle Beach in South Carolina. Upon Dave's Air Force retirement in 1975, Carah began her career in custodial management with the Gulf County School Board. The family moved to Orlando in 1978 and she accepted a position in Building Services at the University of Central Florida. Carah ended her career as the superintendent of building services at the university when she retired after more than 30 years of service. Carah enjoyed spending time with her family, reading, fishing, gardening and eating good old southern foods. As Carah wished her body was cremated; funeral service arrangements are being handled by Loomis Funeral Home in Apopka, Florida and Comforter Funeral Home in Port St. Joe, Florida. Carah's ashes will be interred at the family plot in Holly Hill Cemetery, Port St. Joe, Florida.



"As long as there is love and memory, there is no true loss."

- Cassandra Clare

Timothy "Tim" Jack Chastain

Timothy "Tim" Jack Chastain of Wewahitchka, Florida, 5ft 10in of pure Southern charm and questionable sarcasm, passed away on April 1st, 2024. It appears this wasn't an elaborate April Fool's joke. Tim, a retired from the Air Force of almost 25 years is preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and JoAnn Chastain, his siblings Debbie, Jeff, and Jody and their families, and his in-laws, Pearl and Ralph Via. Tim leaves behind his closest friends including his work family at Smileys Honey, and most importantly his wife, Sunny McGill-Chastain, the woman who somehow tolerated his antics

for almost 24 years and his daughters Amy and Ashley (who have inherited his terrible jokes



and questionable sense of humor), including a whole bunch of grandkids who will surely miss their pop's stories (most of which were probably true). To celebrate Tim's life, a legacy of laughter and tall tales (some may say

taller than him), the family asks that you take a moment today, tell your best Tim story, and remember the man who taught us all that life is best served with a laugh, an oversized cup of mountain dew and shades, because let's face it, a funeral just wouldn't be Tim's style. Tim Chastain will be deeply missed by all who knew him, but we know he is up there making everyone laugh. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Tunnel to Towers Foundation for America's Heroes at <http://www.t2t.org>. To extend condolences online, visit <http://www.heritagefhllc.com>.

'Lend Me A Tenor' was missing a lot

David Adlerstein
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

There is such a long list of what the Panhandle Players did not do last weekend in performing the final show of their 2023-24 season, that I feel compelled to share these pronounced omissions so obvious throughout the staging of the Tony Award-winning farce "Lend Me A Tenor" at the Chapman Theatre.

For example, the actors did not slow to a plodding pace in the delivery of their lines and hurried dashes across the stage, thereby depriving the audience of what is so common in community troupe shows of this challenging theater genre.

There was absolutely none of those sus-



Rob Pierce plops down in the director's chair he was presented by the cast after the show on Sunday.
[PANHANDLE PLAYERS | CONTRIBUTED]

penseful pauses when one actor forgets his or her lines, and the audience is on the edge of their seats to see how the other actor reacts.

The many openings and closings of the bedroom, closet and bathroom doors did not shake the entire set as if it were wobbly cardboard.

The costumes did not appear cobbled together out of various hand-me-downs from previous shows.

And the musical interludes did not vary from the mood of the 1930s and did not intrude or distract from what was happening on stage.

I could go on, but these should suffice to convey that a lot was missing from "Lend Me A Tenor," and what was left amounted

to little more than merely one of the best shows the troupe has put on in many years.

There's no point now recounting the entire plot of the show, it won't be repeated now that the 2023-24 season is *fnis*. It was a farce, involving the late, in all senses of the word, Tito Morelli (Nick Avossa) a world class tenor slated to appear with the Cleveland Grand Opera Company.

He arrives at the posh hotel with his wife Maria (Gina Vicari), and from the outset these two are fighting with each other with a passion that, at the risk of crossing some politically correct line here, only a pair of natural born Italians can fully bring to life. It was a joy to see Vicari, a veteran of many

See PANHANDLE PLAYERS, Page 9B



Saunders (Josh Hall), the opera company manager, appears ready to strangle the Bellhop (Dan Floyd) as the chairwoman of the opera guild Julia (Debra Olds) looks on.
[PANHANDLE PLAYERS | CONTRIBUTED]



Tito Morelli (Nick Avossa) considers suicide by fork as Max (Scott Davis) looks on in horror.
[PANHANDLE PLAYERS | CONTRIBUTED]

THE TIMES Classifieds

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<p>385 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA</p> <p>RBC BANK (GEORGIA), NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. CASE NO.: 2023CA-000096CAAXMX D. MICHAEL WILLIAMS A/K/A DAVID WILLIAMS A/K/A DAVID MICHAEL WILLIAMS; CYNTHIA WILLIAMS; BAY MAGNOLIA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; UNKNOWN OCCUPANT 1 IN POSSESSION; AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANT 2 IN POSSESSION, Defendants.</p> <p>NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Consent Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 20, 2024, in Case No. 2023CA000096CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Florida, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, 2nd Floor Lobby, Apalachicola, FL 32320 in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 24th day of April, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. (ET) on the following described property as set forth in said Consent Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to-wit:</p>	<p>Lot 17, BAY MAGNOLIA, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 14, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.</p> <p>Street address commonly known as: 120 Bay Magnolia Lane, Carrabelle, FL 32322</p> <p>Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus unclaimed.</p> <p>Dated this 21st day of March, 2024.</p> <p>CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT As Clerk of the Court</p> <p>BY: <u>/s/ Terry C. Segree</u> Deputy Clerk</p> <p>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, 301 South Monroe Street, Room 225, Tallahassee, FL 32301; 850-606-4401 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.</p>	<p>Submitted by: Attorney for Plaintiff Gary I. Masel, Esq. Edwards Maxson Mago & Macaulay, LLP 101 NE 3rd Avenue, Suite 1500 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Email: gmasel@em3law.com Phone: (954) 312-3482 Publish: April 4, 11, 2024</p> <p>387 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION</p> <p>IN RE: ESTATE OF CASE NO.: 2024000020CP</p> <p>ADA WHITE LONG, Deceased.</p> <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</p> <p>The administration of the estate of ADA WHITE LONG, deceased, whose date of death was February 4, 2024, is pending in the Circuit Court for FRANKLIN COUNTY, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 33 Market St #203, Apalachicola, FL 32320. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.</p> <p>All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a</p>	<p>copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.</p> <p>All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.</p> <p>ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.</p> <p>The date of first publication of this notice is April 4th-April 11th.</p> <p><u>/s/ Donna Duncan</u> DONNA DUNCAN Florida Bar No. 63869 Attorney for Petitioner DONNA DUNCAN, P.A. P.O. Box 157 Apalachicola, FL 32329 (850)653-8976 ddduncan@fairpoint.net akeith@fairpoint.net</p> <p>Barbara Sanders Personal Representative 215 W. 12th Street St. George Island, FL 32328 April 4, 11, 2024</p>	<p>Highway 98 East, Carrabelle, Florida 32322, until Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 1:30pm local time. Sealed bids must be submitted in triplicate and marked "Sealed Bid, DEMOLITION AND SALVAGE OF THE FORMER CARRABELLE HIGH SCHOOL." At that time, the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.</p> <p>The Project includes the following Work:</p> <p>Labor and materials for demolition and salvage the existing building, formerly known as the Carrabelle High School at Gray Avenue</p> <p>Obtaining the Bidding Documents</p> <p>The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Inovia Consulting Group 401 East 9th Avenue Tallahassee, Florida 32303</p> <p>Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00am - 5:00pm and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Each Bidder must deposit with his/her security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders. Sureties used for obtaining bonds must appear as acceptable according to the Department of Treasury Circular 570. The selected contractor shall begin mobilization and procurement of materials within ten working days after the receipt of the "Notice to Proceed". The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer and reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.</p> <p>Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office by paying a nonrefundable deposit of \$50.00 for each set. Make</p>	<p>deposit checks for Bidding Documents payable to Inovia Consulting Group.</p> <p>Bidding Documents may be purchased from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Cost does not include shipping charges. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents or electronic documents on compact disk will be sent via the prospective Bidder's delivery service. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method chosen. Bidding Documents are available for purchase in the following formats:</p> <p>A hard copy of the Bidding Documents may be purchased at a fee of \$50.00. Or the same Bidding Documents may be received electronically, via either Compact Disc or electronic download, for no charge. They will be provided via download link. April 11, 2024</p> <p>390 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF CARRABELLE CARRABELLE, FLORIDA 5TH STREET EAST PAVING</p> <p>General Notice</p>	<p>CITY OF CARRABELLE (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:</p> <p>5TH STREET EAST PAVING 170.058.00</p> <p>Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Carrabelle City Hall located at 1206 Highway 98 East, Carrabelle, Florida 32322, until Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at 1:30pm local time. Sealed bids must be submitted in triplicate and marked "Sealed Bid, 5th Street East Paving." At that time, the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.</p> <p>The Project includes the following Work:</p> <p>Milling and resurfacing the length of 5th Street east from US HWY 98 to Gray Ave. Obtaining the Bidding Documents.</p> <p>The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Inovia Consulting Group 401 East 9th Avenue Tallahassee, Florida 32303</p> <p>Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through</p>	<p>Friday between the hours of 8:00am - 5:00pm and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office. Each Bidder must deposit with his/her security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders. Sureties used for obtaining bonds must appear as acceptable according to the Department of Treasury Circular 570. The selected contractor shall begin mobilization and procurement of materials within ten working days after the receipt of the "Notice to Proceed". The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer and reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.</p> <p>A hard copy of the Bidding Documents may be purchased at a fee of \$50.00. Or the same Bidding Documents may be received electronically, via either Compact Disc or electronic download, for no charge. They will be provided via download link. April 11, 2024</p>	<p>of \$50.00 for each set. Make deposit checks for Bidding Documents payable to Inovia Consulting Group.</p> <p>Bidding Documents may be purchased from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Cost does not include shipping charges. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents or electronic documents on compact disk will be sent via the prospective Bidder's delivery service. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method chosen. Bidding Documents are available for purchase in the following formats:</p> <p>A hard copy of the Bidding Documents may be purchased at a fee of \$50.00. Or the same Bidding Documents may be received electronically, via either Compact Disc or electronic download, for no charge. They will be provided via download link. April 11, 2024</p>

ANSWERS

From page 2B

CROSSWORD

■	C	Y	P	R	U	S	■	D	A	I	S	E	S	■		
■	O	U	T	L	I	N	E	■	A	N	T	I	B	E	S	
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389
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CITY OF CARRABELLE CARRABELLE, FLORIDA

DEMOLITION AND SALVAGE OF THE FORMER CARRABELLE HIGH SCHOOL

General Notice
CITY OF CARRABELLE (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

DEMOLITION AND SALVAGE OF THE FORMER CARRABELLE HIGH SCHOOL 170.055.00

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Carrabelle City Hall located at 1206

FOR SALE

36' Navy Landing Craft - LCPL MK 11

Fiberglass hull with Detroit 8V71 Turbo.
Owner has well over \$20,000 invested.
Sturdy hull easily converted to a shrimper.
Engine partially rebuilt by Detroit Dealer in PC, FL
\$12,000 OBO

Located in PC 850-774-9738

BROOKS

From page 6B

One was the traditional offertory time. Covid brought modifications, of course, with offering boxes (by the way, why do some churches lock these?). Rainer said pastors sometimes moved the offertory to the end of the service rather than in the middle, and moving the offertory to a different place in the service often brought conflict.

I don't know of any scriptural direction on where to schedule the offertory, especially when studies show up to 60 percent of church members today are open to digital giving.

Rainer cited another event I apparently didn't understand.

Many congregations cover the table on communion days. Evangelicals are

familiar with leaders removing the cloth and folding it with precision like a flag at a military graveside.

In one church the custom was for the pastor and deacon chair to do this, but I suggested deacon officers do it instead since it always made me nervous that I'd spill something!

When I was a young pastor, someone instructed me that the cloth represented the burial shroud of Jesus since the Lord's Supper "shows the Lord's death" (1 Corinthians 11:26). But Rainer insisted the cloth was actually intended before air conditioning to keep flies off the table. His point was that some insist this tradition continue, though it may no longer be useful.

A pastor explained how some families placed flowers on the communion table when the Lord's Supper wasn't observed,

and there seemed to be competition for the best and brightest. Once the arrangement was so tall the pastor couldn't be seen! He decided to move the table from the pulpit area – called a "split chancel" in liturgical churches. He's a braver man than me.

Sir Francis Bacon once described Queen Elizabeth, daughter of Henry VIII: "Her majesty loveth peace. Next, she loveth not change."

Worship traditions are fine as long as they fulfill a purpose and meet needs. But we live in a world of Internet radio, texting and podcasts, so we shouldn't be afraid of better ways of doing the Lord's work.

Change need not be an enemy.

As the kids say, it can be a "God thing."

Reflections is a weekly faith column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church, Alabaster, Alabama. The church's website is siluriabaptist.com.

NOTICE OF LAND USE CHANGE

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners proposes to adopt the following by ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CHANGE THE PERMITTED USE OF A 0.93 +/- ACRE PARCEL OF LAND IN SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 6 WEST, FROM RESIDENTIAL TO COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL.

A public hearing on the proposed change will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 11:10 a.m. at the County Commission meeting room in the Franklin County Courthouse Annex, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida. More information can be obtained, and the proposed changes may be inspected at the Franklin County Planning Department, 248 US Hwy 98, Eastpoint, Florida 32328 (telephone 850-653-9783).

The County Commission encourages the public to continue the use of Zoom. The login information will be provided online by Thursday, April 11, 2024, by downloading the agenda for the April 16, 2024, Board of County Commission Meeting located at www.franklincountyflorida.com/resources/agendas-minutes/

Persons wishing to comment may do so in person, by using the virtual meeting feature noted above during the public hearing or in writing to the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, 248 US Hwy 98, Eastpoint, Florida 32328. Transactions of this public hearing will be recorded. Persons who may wish to appeal any action resulting from this hearing should make the necessary arrangements to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including testimony and evidence, if any, upon which the appeal is to be based. The meeting room is handicap accessible. Those having special needs to attend the meeting may contact Deputy Clerk, Jessica Gay, at 850-653-8861, x-100, at least two business days prior to the public hearing to make arrangements



NOTICE OF ZONING CHANGE

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners proposes to adopt the following by ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE REZONING 1.23 ACRES OF LAND IN SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 4 WEST, FROM C-4 MIXED USE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-3 COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL.

The location of the proposed zoning is shown in the map below.

A public hearing on the proposed change will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 11:05 a.m. at the County Commission meeting room in the Franklin County Courthouse Annex, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida. More information can be obtained, and the proposed changes may be inspected at the Franklin County Planning Department, 248 US Hwy 98, Eastpoint, Florida 32328 (telephone 850-653-9783).

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FRANKLIN REAL ESTATE

From page 3B

MARCH 21: 1032 Gorrie Drive, St. George Island, from John Gordon Dubay II, to Golden Key Investments LLC for \$1,400,000

MARCH 22: 1707 Landing Street, Carrabelle, from Shane Carroll to Constance and Jared Parramore for \$ 30,000

MARCH 25: 192 River Road, Carrabelle, from Kathy Blake to Bette and Gerald Barth, for \$312,500

MARCH 25: 159 Georgia Street, Lanark Village, from George Faircloth to Eric Norton, for \$20,000

MARCH 27: 140 Las Brisas Drive, Eastpoint, from Bruce Rankin to Justin Nunnaly, for \$420,000

MARCH 27: 125 Anglers Harbor Lane, Carrabelle, from Pamela and Robert Wright, to Brady Squires, for \$83,000

WOODRICK

From page 3B

from Social Security or current benefits, marital status, other income, income tax rates, and other details. I would be happy to prepare one for you at no charge.

If you are already receiving benefits, this same software package can help chart out your financial future. It is a valuable tool that I appreciate and utilize on a daily basis. Knowing that not much, if anything, is guaranteed, people appreciate such a thorough evaluation of current assets, income, liabilities, income tax rates, life expectancies, investment risk level, and statistical probabilities.

There is a great deal of talk about the long-term viability of the Social Security program. It was created at a time when people didn't live very long after they retired – maybe five years at most. But, with people living 20-30 years after starting to receive benefits, the people currently paying into the system are basically funding the shortfall for the people who are depleting the system. It is estimated the system will be out of money sometime in the 2030s. We will see what our government does to help shore up the system. They are discussing, among other things, increasing payroll taxes, the taxation earnings limit, or pulling money from other sources to fund the program, raising the retirement age again, and reducing future benefits.

While they are trying to shore things up, I would be happy to help you shape things up. Feel free to text me if you would like me to run some scenarios for you – code word "optimization."

Gulf County resident Walter L. Woodrick is a Certified Financial Planner practitioner, and the author of two books. His website is WoodrickFinancial.com. You can text Walter at 850.724.1369. Securities and advisory services are offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC. The opinions voiced in this article are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. 561246-1

PANHANDLE PLAYERS

From page 7B

Players shows but not in recent years, back with the troupe and she and Avossa went at each other with unrestrained gusto. It attested to each of their more than four decades in theatre, she in show business and he with teaching, acting, directing and producing over that same period.

Playing across from Avossa was the opera company's assistant, Max (Scott Davis), a nebbishy wannabe opera singer in love with Maggie (Sophia Fonseca), who of course is moonstruck by Morelli's superstardom. No need to break down what happens; the important thing here is that Davis and Fonseca, who appeared in much smaller parts in their debut with Jerry Hurley's The Trailer Park, showed that they could carry a show on their acting shoulders.

Fonseca, clad in one of the many stunning period costumes hand-sewn by assistant director Renee Valentine, was captivating as the doe-eyed ingenue, understating her allure to the point where she had the audience firmly caught in the dimples of her smile.

Davis had arguably the most difficult challenge of all the actors, in that he not only had to carry off pretending at times to be Morelli as the sad clown Pagliacci, but he had to be convincing as Max in his transformation from the exasperated suitor of Maggie to the confident wooer of her affection. His energy, his mannerisms, his delivery was so effective that it would have been a waste of good pillows for director Rob Pierce to have fattened him up to better match Morelli's girth. There was no need; Davis made a memorable Max.

Speaking of Pierce, this was his directing debut with Players. The word is he ran the play preparation with hands-on attention, coaxing from his actors superb performances and shaping a wonderful blend of effects. 'Nuff said, he met the challenge

head on and his success was worthy of a standing ovation.

Deserving of that applause were the other members of the ensemble cast, each up to the assignment.

Newcomer Josh Hall, who also debuted with a small role in "Trailer Park, brought to life opera company manager Saunders with a forehead vein-bursting energy both menacing and comic and a pleasure to watch. Another new addition, Dan Floyd as the bellhop balanced Hall's fury with a gentleness that brought out the sweeter laughs, not the sarcastic ones.

The two other women, both now veterans of the Players stage, balanced each other's sexuality nicely, Mishelle McPherson as the risqué actress Diana and Debra Olds as the blue-blooded but flirtatious head of the guild Julia. Performing a fast-moving farce is no easy feat, as there can be no pause and no lapsing into implied silliness, and

these two supporting actresses were solid anchors in this rollicking ship.

Nancy Friauf as the maid Elle was a small touch Pierce added to the cast and while she did not have much to say or do, the director's gesture gave her a chance to be a part of what should go down in Players' lore as one of the truly fine productions not only of this year but of any year.

Because it was in early April, past the "snowbird" shows whose earlier place in the winter calendar ensure they will have robust attendance, "Lend Me A Tenor" drew a smaller audience to the Chapman Theatre, which will soon have new carpeting to go along with its newly installed plush seating.

Players would be wise to make sure its best shows are placed in those coveted snowbird slots on the schedule. Rob Pierce and the entire cast and crew showed they were more than deserving of that honor.

NOTICE OF ZONING CHANGE

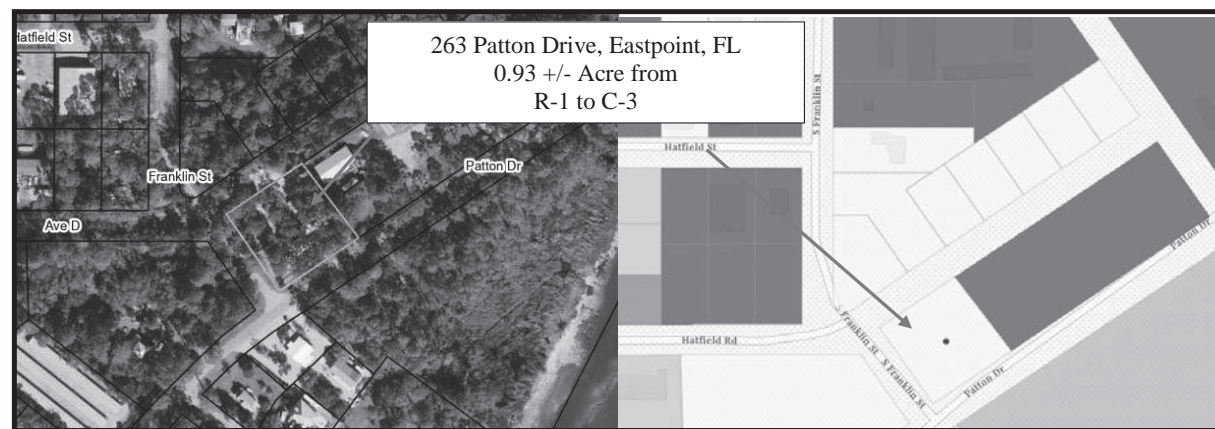
The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners proposes to adopt the following by ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE REZONING 0.93 ACRES OF LAND IN SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 6 WEST, FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-3 COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL.

A public hearing on the proposed change will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 11:15 a.m. at the County Commission meeting room in the Franklin County Courthouse Annex, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida. More information can be obtained, and the proposed changes may be inspected at the Franklin County Planning Department, 248 US Hwy 98, Eastpoint, Florida 32328 (telephone 850-653-9783).

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NOTICE OF LAND USE CHANGE

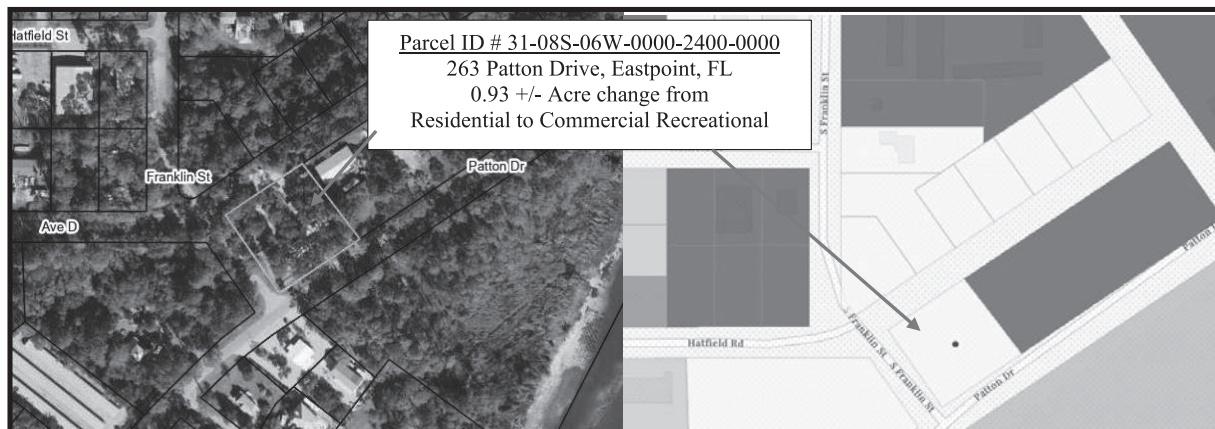
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GULF REAL ESTATE

From page 3B

MARCH 21: 7520 Robinwood Drive, Cape San Blas, from Paula and Harry Hutchinson III, to Sill Properties, LLC, for \$890,000

MARCH 21: 289 Sea Grove Way, Port St. Joe, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Alicia and Kenneth Durden, Jr., for \$520,900

MARCH 21: 454 Cove Lane, Port St. Joe, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Lawrence J. Schwartz, for \$368,600

MARCH 21: 6039 County Road 381, Wewahitchka, from Harold Thompson to Christie and Paul Todd, for \$50,000

MARCH 21: 224 Seahorse Lane, Cape San Blas, from Janice and Chris Bellew, to Candace and Michael Turner, for \$760,000

MARCH 22: 144 Cove Lane, Port St. Joe, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Kristine and Daniel Miller, for \$369,600

MARCH 22: 304 Sea Grove Way, Port St. Joe, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Justin Buddin, for \$590,000

MARCH 22: 115 Chapel Lane, Port St. Joe, from Christopher Knapp to Janet and Scott Moser, for \$79,900

MARCH 22: 805 Woodward Avenue, Port St. Joe, from Jeffrey and William Powell, to Rish and Romac Rental, LLC for \$365,000

MARCH 22: Mariner Lane, Port St. Joe, from Lisa and Michael Crabb III to O & M Development, LLC for \$660,000

MARCH 22: 348 Cove Lane, Port St. Joe, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Hannah and Aaron Yoshimura, for \$317,000

MARCH 22: Gulf Pines Drive, Port St. Joe, from Leigh and Boyd Merritt, to Edward Pellon, for \$187,000

MARCH 22: 2289 Flat Water Street West, Port St. Joe, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Jean and Daniel Webster, for \$500,200

The Apalachicola Bay Charter School is seeking the following for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year: Testing Proctors, Substitutes, and Tutors (Part-time, full-time & contracted available). **2024-25 Positions: Certified Elementary and Middle School teachers.** Applications are available at the school's website: abceagles.org. Email completed applications to the CEO/Principal, Elizabeth Kirvin, ekirvin@abceagles.org. Employment of personnel in ABC School is in compliance with Federal and State Laws regarding nondiscrimination and preference. Any person who believes he/she may need reasonable accommodations during the application or interview process should notify Elizabeth Kirvin.

OUTDOORS

WEEKLY ALMANAC

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
Thu, April 11	75°	56°	97%
Fri, April 12	74°	53°	4%
Sat, April 13	75°	57°	3%
Sun, April 14	77°	60°	6%
Mon, April 15	77°	63°	8%
Tues, April 16	78°	63°	8%
Wed, April 17	79°	63°	18%
Thu, April 18	79°	65°	19%

THE TIMES

APALACHICOLA

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
11 Thurs	8:10 1.5	5:06 1.8	12:43 -0.4	12:26 1.3
12 Fri	9:41 1.5	5:38 1.8	1:29 -0.5	12:48 1.3
13 Sat	10:57 1.4	6:14 1.7	2:20 -0.4	1:11 1.4
14 Sun		6:55 1.6	3:22 -0.3	
15 Mon	1:00P 1.3	7:49 1.4	4:36 -0.2	3:06 1.3
16 Tues	1:45P 1.3	9:38 1.2	5:54 0.0	5:54 1.2
17 Wed	2:14P 1.3	11:32 1.2	7:06 0.1	7:39 0.9
18 Thurs		2:38 1.3	8:00 0.2	8:26 0.7

CARRABELLE

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide AM	Low Tide PM	Low Tide PM
11 Thurs	6:45 2.4	3:41 2.9	10:13 2.0	11:16 -0.8
12 Fri	8:16 2.3	4:13 2.9	10:35 2.2	
13 Sat		4:49 2.8	12:07 -0.7	
14 Sun		5:30 2.6	1:09 -0.5	
15 Mon		6:24 2.3	2:23 -0.3	
16 Tues	12:20P 2.0	8:13 2.0	3:41 0.0	3:41 1.8
17 Wed	12:49P 2.0	10:07 1.8	4:53 0.1	5:26 1.5
18 Thurs		1:13 2.1	5:47 0.3	6:13 1.2

THE STAR

ST. JOSEPH BAY

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide AM
11 Thurs	11:12 1.8		12:31 -0.1	
12 Fri	11:51 1.9		1:10 -0.3	
13 Sat		12:44 1.8	1:46 -0.3	
14 Sun		3:14 1.7	2:25 -0.2	
15 Mon		4:14 1.6	3:12 -0.1	
16 Tues		5:09 1.5	4:17 0.0	
17 Wed		6:05 1.3	5:27 0.1	
18 Thurs		6:59 1.2	7:48 0.3	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
11 Thurs	7:43 1.3	4:39 1.6	12:16 -0.4	11:59A 1.3
12 Fri	9:14 1.3	5:11 1.6	1:02 -0.5	12:21 1.3
13 Sat	10:30 1.2	5:47 1.5	1:53 -0.4	12:44 1.4
14 Sun		6:28 1.4	2:55 -0.3	
15 Mon	12:33P 1.1	7:22 1.2	4:09 -0.2	2:39 1.3
16 Tues	1:18P 1.1	9:11 1.1	5:27 0.0	5:27 1.2
17 Wed	1:47P 1.1	11:05 1.0	6:39 0.1	7:12 0.9
18 Thurs		2:11 1.1	7:33 0.2	7:59 0.7

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Be BearWise to prevent conflicts with bears

Special to the Times and Star

Spring has arrived and wildlife is becoming more active, including Florida's black bears. With this increase in activity, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is sharing ways to be BearWise to help prevent conflicts between people and bears.

Black bears are on the move more this time of year in search of things to eat, including female bears teaching their cubs where to look for food. To prevent bears and other wildlife from associating your yard with an easy meal, remove potential food sources and attractants—such as unsecured garbage, pet food and bird seed – from around your property.

Florida black bears typically try to avoid people but may linger in neighborhoods if they can easily access food sources. Bears will move on if they can't find food.

Help avoid negative interactions with bears by following these tips and BearWise Basics this spring:

1: Never feed or approach bears
• Always give bears and other wildlife space — getting too close to a wild animal can be dangerous.

• It is illegal in Florida to intentionally feed bears or leave out food or garbage that will attract bears and cause conflicts.

• Feeding bears can make them associate people with food and lose their natural fear of humans.

2: Secure potential bear food sources
• Store garbage in a sturdy shed or garage and then put it out on the morning of pickup rather than the night before.

• If not stored in a secured building, modify your existing garbage can to make it more bear-resistant or use a bear-resistant container.

• Secure commercial garbage in bear-resistant dumpsters.

• Protect gardens, beehives, compost and livestock with electric fencing.

• Pick ripe fruit and nuts from trees and bushes, and remove fallen fruit and nuts from the ground.

3: Remove or secure bird and wildlife feeders

• Remove bird and other wildlife feeders when bears are more active in the spring and fall.

• If feeders are left up, only put enough food out for birds and other wildlife to finish eating before dark and make feeders bear-resistant.

4: Don't leave pet food outside

• Feed pets indoors.

• If feeding pets outside, only put food out for short time periods and bring in leftover

food and dishes after each feeding.

5: Clean and store grills
• Clean and degrease grills and smokers after each use.

• If moveable, keep them stored in a secure shed or garage.

6: Alert neighbors to bear activity

• If you see a bear, share sightings with your neighbors.

• Share these BearWise® tips on how to avoid conflicts with bears.

• Encourage your homeowner's association or local government to institute bylaws or ordinances to require trash be kept secure.

Black bears are generally not aggressive but they have injured people in Florida. Dogs in particular can trigger defensive behaviors from bears, especially females with cubs. When walking dogs, keep them close to you on a short leash and stay aware of your surroundings. Before letting your dog outside in your yard, flip exterior lights on and off and bang on the door to give bears and other wildlife a chance to leave the area.

Bears cross more roadways as they become more active this time of year. To avoid vehicle collisions with bears and other wildlife, slow down when driving, particularly on rural highways at dawn or dusk. Look for road signs identifying bear and other wildlife crossing areas. Each year in Florida, an average of 250 bears are killed after being hit by vehicles.

Having conflicts with bears? FWC should be your first call - our staff are here to help. Please call one of the FWC's five regional offices to speak with a biologist about the specifics of your situation to help resolve any conflicts. Go to MyFWC.com/Contact and click on "Contact Regional Offices" to find the phone number for your region. If you want to report someone who is either harming bears or intentionally feeding them, call the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922).

More information is available at MyFWC.com/Bear, where you can access the "Guide to Living in Bear Country" brochure. Find additional ways to be BearWise at BearWise.org. Thirty-eight states, including Florida, support BearWise, an innovative program that helps people learn ways to responsibly live around bears. Help us help bears and other wildlife by purchasing the Conserve Wildlife license plate at WildlifeFlorida.org/CWT.

Spring is an active time for many of Florida's wildlife species. For more information on wildlife in Spring, visit MyFWC.com/News and click on "Spring Wildlife News."

Forgotten Coast Fishing Report

Special to the Times and Star

These cold fronts have made it hard for fishing offshore but some captains have it dialed in. The Spanish bite has slowed but the tip of the Cape seems to be holding a few as well as Mexico Beach. Try dragging a Rapala X-Rap as well as Mackerel Rigs. Capt. Chase Wilder of Signal 0 Charters had a great day, catching vermilion snapper. Although red snapper season is closed, it's hard to keep them off the line. Capt. Pete Barwick of Bounty Bay Charters reports the vermilion, porgie and red grouper bite is also doing good; cut mackerel seems to be the bait of choice.

Inshore, Capt. Jason Williams of Chasin Dreams Charters had a prominent trip with several redfish and sheepshead. Live shrimp as well as bull minnows are the bait to have.

Capt. Lee Thompson of Shallow Seas Charters never disappoints; he caught several St. Joe Slams, consisting of redfish, trout and flounder. Capt. Chris Lance of Gettin Reel Sportfishing had a happy crew of young fisherman with limits of redfish and Sheepshead.

The rivers have been up and down this week. Lake Wimico is still the spot to be for catfish and shellcracker. The crappie bite has also been good up in the creeks on live minnows. If you're throwing artificial, try the Berkley Crappie Nibbles or a small 2-inch grub, such as Kalin's Triple Threat in a Tennessee Shad.

Be sure to stop in BlueWater Outriggers for all your fishing needs and the latest tips on where they're biting! Until next week, keep an eye on the horizon, for a front moving through.

Tom Gannaway



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