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**THE TIMES**  
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WEEKLY NEWS  
APRIL 18— 25, 2024

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

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## OUT TO SEE

### Island Brewfest Saturday afternoon

If you're age 21, you may want to take in the St. George Island Brewfest, a one-day beer tasting festival this Saturday, April 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. ET in the parking area adjacent to the island's Lighthouse Park. For more information visit [www.sgibrewfest.com](http://www.sgibrewfest.com) or call (850) 927-7745.

### Port St. Joe Farmers Market Saturday

The Port St. Joe Saltair Farmers Market will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET this Saturday, April 20 at Reid Avenue and Highway 71. Shop local farmers and artisans and enjoy the flavors of fresh veggies, Tupelo honey and vine-ripened fruit.

### Classic Boat and Car Show Saturday

The Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce will host the 25th annual Boat & Car Show on Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET at Riverfront Park in Apalachicola. To register your car, boat or golf cart for the show visit [Apalachicolabay.org](http://Apalachicolabay.org)

### Wewa storyteller to speak in Apalachicola

The Apalachicola Area Historical Society will host another of its Spring Speaker programs, "Holiness Churches and Honky Tonks: The Life of a Preacher's Kid" featuring Wewahitchka's Billy Blackman on Saturday, April 20 at 4 p.m. at the Raney Carriage House, 126 Market Street, Apalachicola. Blackman is an author, journalist, musician, horse farrier, and storyteller who spent 18 years as editor of the Havana Herald newspaper.

### Full moon climbs Tuesday

There will be two full moon climbs this Tuesday, April 23, from 8 to 10 p.m. ET at the Cape St. George Lighthouse on St. George Island and from 7 to 9 p.m. ET at the Crooked River Lighthouse in Carrabelle.

A snowy plover, among the rarest endemic shorebirds in the Americas and listed as near threatened by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, was recently spotted in Gulf County. The bird, which nests on the beaches here, is under threat from a horde of sources, from habitat destruction from coastal development, to predation by animals ranging from feral cats to dogs to foxes, to being crushed by vehicles or walking humans, to frequent disturbance due to recreational uses of beaches.

[ BILL FAUTH | CONTRIBUTED ]

# Rara avis



## Abell to spend life in prison for Seiden murder

David Adlerstein

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Almost exactly six years since the evening he pummeled to death a woman he claimed he asked to marry him just weeks earlier, Zachary Abell will spend the rest of his life in a state prison for the crime.

Dressed in the county jail's orange jumpsuit, a sharp contrast to the three-piece suit he wore in the courtroom when he was found guilty of second degree murder in January, Abell, 36, of North Miami Beach, sat stoically late Wednesday afternoon, April 10, as he heard Circuit Judge Frank Allman hand down the harshest possible sentence for the crime of bludgeoning to death 31-year-old Aileen Seiden in a room where they, along with a third traveling

See **SENTENCING**, Page 2A



Zachary Abell, left, awaits his sentence, along with his defense attorney Alex Morris.

[ DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES ]

## Gulf seeks kidney dialysis help from Franklin

David Adlerstein

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Following a report that shows roughly one-third of the dialysis patients being seen by Fresenius Kidney Care in Port St. Joe are from their county, Franklin County commissioners are again being asked to contribute to the annual subsidy that Gulf County spends to keep the facility here.

Last week, Jim McKnight, director of the Gulf County Economic Development Coalition, delivered a report on the first-year numbers for the kidney dialysis provider to Franklin County Commission Chairman Ricky Jones.

What it showed was that in its first year of operation, the facility provided services to 59 patients. Of these, 38 were people either staying at a vacation rental or in their second home and the largest chunk came either from Georgia, other places in Florida, or North Carolina or Wisconsin, with the remainder scattered among 10 other states.

While it could not be determined in which county these non-local patients were staying, it

seems likely they follow a similar breakdown as the numbers for local residents.

Of the 21 local patients seen by Fresenius last year, 71 percent live in Gulf and 29 percent in Franklin, based on a broad view over the entire year.

A snapshot of patients from mid-March, show an even higher number, 39 percent, of the patient load living in Franklin, from Apalachicola, Eastpoint and St. George Island. The Gulf County patients live in all portions of the county, but mostly from Port St. Joe, the Cape and Indian Pass.

A key reason that Franklin County numbers are likely to keep increasing is that Capital Health Plan, which covers a large number of the Franklin County insured population, recently announced that because Fresenius is the closest dialysis facility to the county, it would cover those patients. In most other cases, CHP does not extend in-network coverage west of the Gulf-Franklin county line.

See **DIALYSIS**, Page 2A

THE TIMES



THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

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THE STAR



## SENTENCING

From Page 1A

companion, Christina Araujo, 44, of Palm Beach, were staying at the Sportsman's Lodge in Eastpoint.

Araujo in May 2023 pleaded guilty to a similar charge of second-degree murder for having taken part in the beating and for assisting Abell in dumping the body at a cul-de-sac just west of the high school before the two drove back to South Florida, where they were later apprehended and extradited back to Franklin County.

She testified against Abell at his trial and in June will be sentenced by Allman's predecessor Circuit Judge Jonathan Sjostrom, who was on the bench in Apalachicola when he accepted Araujo's plea deal.

In accepting Assistant State Attorney Jarred Patterson's recommendation for life, Allman echoed the prosecutors' description of the massive injuries Seiden sustained in the beating, and the fact that the defendants had dumped her body, perhaps with a breath of life still left in it, on the side of the road. He also said the scoresheet that was prepared prior to sentencing was insufficient in addressing the crime's heinous nature.

For the first time since the crime occurred April 23, 2018, Abell spoke publicly in court about the case, and expressed remorse.

"I have been going over all this for a very long time," he said, following the testimony on Seiden's behalf by her older sister Franceasca, who appeared by Zoom from her home in California, as well as the testimony of three women from South Florida, one of whom appeared in court, on Abell's behalf.

"Everything I've said before has been misconstrued and there's some things I'd like to make right," Abell said. "Today isn't about me; today is about closure for Aileen and for Aileen's family. Me and Aileen had been together for a few years before all this transpired and Aileen never had no issues within the five months that Miss Araujo got involved in our relationship because somebody took it upon themselves to basically out our situation. That's when things got bad.

He told of how he and Seiden, who had known each other years earlier in high school at a Miami private school, had traveled to Los Angeles to visit Franceasca. "We traveled



**Circuit Judge Frank Allman prepares to deliver the verdict.** [ DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES ]

all over together, just having fun," Abell said.

Abell's mother, Kim Clark, had been set to testify June 24 at her son's trial, but passed away the day before inside of the room at Apalachicola's Best Western motel as she awaited her court appearance.

"My mother was going to testify what actually transpired that day when Aileen and I left Miami after she had gotten into a confrontation with Christina," Abell said. "Aileen told me to get in the car and we left with only the clothes on our back. She left without her cell phone."

In the trial, Assistant State Attorney Jarred Patterson had outlined a scenario in which the couple had left hurriedly from the house they shared with Araujo and Clark, and drove together as far west as Dallas, Texas, where they stayed with a mutual friend Dustin Dinkleacker.

After threatening to call the police for their having "stolen" a car that was in her name, Araujo flew to Dallas and then drove back east with Abell and Seiden, stopping for a few days in New Orleans and Pensacola, and then ultimately in Eastpoint.

He said Araujo and others had telephoned them repeatedly after they drove away from Miami.

"My cell phone kept ringing, it sounded like a slot machine, with text messages from every which way," Abell said. "To be honest I never read none of them, I never took the time to look at them."

He said he and Seiden at one point on their trip west had stopped at a restaurant in Alabama. "She never had crawfish and she wanted to try them," Abell said.

Following the meal, he said he decided to pop the question. "I grabbed a ring pop and proposed to her with a ring pop and asked her to marry me. She said yes," Abell said, his voice cracking.

Seiden and Abell had spent "every waking moment" together and that he spoke several times with Franceasca, "not manipulative, honest.

"I am sorry for everything



**Vicky Trent offered a tearful testimony about the need for healing, drawing on her loss of a son to a drug overdose.** [ DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES ]

that has transpired and I take full responsibility for my actions," he told the court. "Nothing's going to change that and anything Franceasca has to ask me I have no problem telling her.

"But from the beginning of this, things have been taken out of context and I will not allow anything else to be taken out of context because the facts were not there," Abell said. "There's things that happened that I have to live with for the rest of my life and I have nightmares.

"I hear things that Christina said over and over again in my head, it plays out, it is a prison," he said. "There's no excuse because I was a coward and I was weak, that's what I was, because I did ask Aileen to marry and she said yes and we were trying to have a child together.

"We thought it would be cool that we had a kid (along) with her friend Alyssum and they'd grow up together," Abell said. "And we'd go back down to South Florida, separate our things and go on, we'd go our way and leave Christina out of it. And the only reason why that came to fruition is because Aileen told me to go forward (with) what we're doing, (and said) you need to tell Christina the truth.

"I did that in Texas with Dustin sitting right there," he said. "I'm so sorry I lost everybody that I love, Franceasca lost who she loved and I'm not making any excuses but I'm so sorry.

"I've waited this long to do this because everything else didn't really matter. This matters," Abell said in closing. "What's going to happen today is what's going to happen. Franceasca deserves closure, Aileen deserves justice and I am sorry. I'm sorry."

In her remarks, Franceasca described a baby sister "who was a beautiful young woman with an incredible life ahead of her." Eight years younger than Franceasca, Aileen was just 14 when their father died, five years after his wife and the girl's mother had died from cancer.

Franceasca described helping to raise Aileen, including taking her to school each day before she was old enough to drive. She told of how she met Abell, and "had been manipulated to believe my sister was in good hands."

That all changed when she began receiving pictures of Aileen with black eyes and bruises, and came to a terrifying climax during the threesome's visit to New Orleans, when Franceasca received a call from Aileen that she was frightened and told her older sister "I think they're going to kill me."

"Because of the little information that was given to me at the time, I didn't yet understand the dire seriousness of why my sister was trapped," she said. "I hope they never see the light of day again and their remaining years on this earth are in prison."

The judge also heard testimony on Abell's behalf via Zoom from Michael Picavet, who testified at trial as a prosecution witness, as well as two friends of the Abell family, Debra Santana and Eva Ramos. Their words were mostly attesting to Abell's honest character and to the fact that he had spiraled downhill after the death of his father.

Vicky Trent, also a family friend, drove here from Ocala, and testified in court on Abell's behalf. She mostly directed her words to Franceasca, and urged her to enable forgiveness to bring peace to her suffering, just as it had Trent, who said she had been devastated by the death of her son from a drug overdose. She said she was for years consumed by anger and hatred for the friends who had been part of securing drugs for her son.

Prior to the hearing, Abell's lawyer Alex Morris had managed to get a second felony conviction, for being an accessory after the fact, dismissed by Allman. Morris argued that a defendant cannot be convicted of a crime as well as for being an accessory to that crime, while Patterson contended that the murder, and the actions that came after that, should be considered as separate crimes.

A third charge, battery on an inmate, stemming from an incident that happened at the county jail, was dropped.

Allman said Abell's five-year sentence for tampering with evidence would run concurrent with the life sentence. He was given credit for 2,190 days in county jail, which was exactly six years.

## DIALYSIS

From Page 1A

Jones said he planned to bring up the Fresenius report at the Tuesday, April 16 commission meeting, as well as the fact that Gulf is requesting Franklin pitch in \$15,000 annually towards the \$100,000 that Gulf is giving Fresenius annually over five years.

"I don't think it's a big ask," said Jones. "We know Franklin County residents are actually using the facility, and CHP covers people, as it's the closest facility for dialysis.

"I will mention it to the board how they want to help facilitate funds to make sure we keep the facility," he said. "It takes funds to run it."

In February 2022, Franklin County commissioners accepted a recommendation from the Weems Memorial Hospital board not to contribute up to \$25,000 per year, for each of the next

five years, to assist with Gulf's subsidy.

County Attorney Michael Shuler advised at that time that the health care trust fund - funded by a 2007 ballot measure that enacted a one-cent healthcare sales tax - did not allow for funds to be spent out of the county, limiting them to constructing a medical clinic in Carrabelle, upgrading the ambulance service and funding the construction of a new public hospital facility to replace Weems.

Shuler advised that commissioners could cover the subsidy by using non-surtax revenues from Weems, drawing on ad valorem tax revenues or initiating a process to amend the two interlocal agreements with Apalachicola and Carrabelle.

In 2022, Weems' board discussed bringing a mobile dialysis unit onsite in Apalachicola, but such a program has not come to fruition.

"We need to be helping our residents out with health care," said Jones. "We will have time to do our homework."

# Fire destroys island vacation home

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A vacation home on St. George Island with a commanding view of the Gulf of Mexico was devastated by fire

Wednesday night, April 10 that saw firefighters battling the blaze during the torrential wind and rain.

According to Jason Timbert, a firefighter with the

St. George Island Volunteer Fire Department, the blaze erupted at just before 11 p.m. at the house at 1136 East Gulf Beach Drive.

By the time firefighters arrived at the scene, the house was fully engulfed, and the firefighters were able to prevent the flames from spreading to nearby homes. No one was hurt in the blaze.

Timbert said the winds were as high as 40 to 45 mph, which prompted occasions when the firefighters, who were assisted by members of the Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department, had to retreat inside their trucks before resuming tackling the flames. An investigation is now un-

derway by the state fire marshal's office, Timbert said, adding that it is not believed lightning was a factor in the fire's origins.

Firefighters wrapped up their work just before 6 a.m. Thursday, and then returned later that morning to extinguish any persistent hot spots.

The house appeared to be a total loss. As a vacation home, it goes by the name "We're Here" and is owned by Laura Grandy of Caseyville, Illinois.

According to the office of Property Appraiser Rhonda Skipper, as of last year the home has a taxable value of \$1.04 million and a market value of \$1.4 million.



The house at 1136 East Gulf Beach Drive was left with little more than charred bones. [ OYSTER RADIO | CONTRIBUTED ]

# Shooting incident takes life of Dalkeith man

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The investigation is continuing in the death of a 19-year-old man killed in a shooting incident Friday morning in Dalkeith south of Wewahitchka.

The Gulf County Sheriff's Office said 19-year-old John Connor was found deceased at a home at 3160 CR 381, where he resided, when deputies arrived there at 7:44 a.m. CT. The property is owned by Angela and John Connor, according to the Gulf County property appraiser's office, but they were not at home at the time, said Sheriff Mike Harrison.

Brennan Reh, public information officer for the department, said Connor's family had called in the morning, first to report a missing person, and then

soon after to report that a family member had found a body on the property.

Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Crime Scene Unit arrived at the scene at 1:13 p.m. Friday.

"We're treating this as a homicide right now," said Harrison. "We treat everything as a homicide until we can prove differently."

The sheriff said a second person had reported to a hospital in Bay County, where he was treated for a superficial gunshot wound and released. "We believe the two incidents



John Dewayne Lee Connor, in his 2023 graduation photo at Wewahitchka High School

are related," said the sheriff.

As of Monday morning, the sheriff was awaiting the results of an autopsy conducted by the medical examiner.

"We're working leads, interviewing potential suspects

See INVESTIGATION, PAGE 9A



A view of the house where the shooting occurred. [ GCSO ]

## National Volunteer Week



### April 21st - 27th

The Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Volunteers in our Community.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart"

Elizabeth Andrew




Thank you to the Franklin County Commission and both Apalachicola and Carrabelle City Commissions for signing Proclamations recognizing our community Volunteers.

Save The Date

### Huge Estate Sale

Friday & Saturday, April 19th and 20th  
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
111 Heritage Lane, Port St. Joe, FL

Antiques, collectibles, tools, fishing & camping gear, furniture, 2 refrigerators, HH goods, etc.

10% discount for anyone driving 50 miles or more for the sale!

YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THIS SALE!



Saturday, April 27, 10 AM to 6 PM

Downtown Carrabelle

presented by the Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce

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# OPINION



## Culture Crawl biggest and best yet

Carrabelle Cares and the Carrabelle History Museum would like to say a big thank you to those who helped make this year's Annual Carrabelle Culture Crawl a successful event. We are grateful to the many people who worked at this event and to all our partners for welcoming our guests so warmly.

Thank you to all the hundreds of visitors and locals who came out to explore Carrabelle during the Carrabelle Culture Crawl this year. The streets were filled with explorers, historians, shoppers, future artists, music lovers and diners who were joined by local artists, musicians and Fishy Fashion characters. We hope you experienced something and somewhere new that day!

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to the Franklin County Tourist Develop-

ment Council, Duke Energy, Franklin's Promise Forgotten Coast en Plein Air, Centennial Bank, Inovia Consulting, Weems Memorial, Air-Con of Wakulla and Coastal Realty for their generous support of this event.

Special "thank yous" to the City of Carrabelle streets and road department, the Carrabelle Police, and the neighbors Coastal Realty, Crowder, A Taste of Korea, Marine Street Mercantile, Gina's Flowers and a big kudo to Rock and Soul for their "Mining for Rocks" experience for kids.

One highlight of this year's Crawl was the Carrabelle History Museum opening a new exhibiton "Tate's Hell, The Legend, Tate's Hell, The Place."

A big hit this year was the variety of vintage vehicles on display – cars, trucks and motorcy-

See ALLEN, Page 5A

## Between a political rock and a hard place



**Kesley Colbert**  
Guest Columnist

I have told you I am getting out of this writing business, and I mean it. But a beautiful young girl in the Omnibus Class at Faith Christian School asked if I was a Democrat or a Republican. Good golly, I've had that very story in mind for the last 10 years... I just didn't know how to start it.

And this may be the most confusing tale of my entire life.

I grew up in West Tennessee in the 1950s. Everybody there was a Democrat. We ran through fields of clover, explored the big ditch down behind George Sexton's house, drank lemonade on the porch, chased butterflies and Brenda Ellis up Stonewall

Street. We never one time discussed the etymology of political parties.

It just never came up as how most all of the South got to be Democrats. Good sense would tell you there was some kind of history there. But George, Brenda, and the butterflies didn't seem to care. If it was good enough for our grandparents, parents, in-laws, the county judge....

We didn't know, of course, if we were blessed, or cursed!

You had to figure there was some difference between the parties. But it was a might tougher than you'd think to sort that out as a teenager in an antebellum state in the days of Elvis and hula hoops; we didn't know what a Republican looked like!

Somebody said the farm parts salesman from Paducah was a Republican. Well, you can bet your bottom dollar we all gathered up in front of McCadams Tractor and Implement Company the

next time he came to town.

He was a big fellow with a tie and a crew cut. He reminded me a lot of Janice Ridley's father. He looked as ordinary as spinach and rainwater. He didn't have any horns if that is what you are thinking. He was carrying a briefcase and he waved to us when he got back in his Buick.

If he was, in fact, a Republican, it was a pretty disappointing sight to everyone in the crowd. He looked as plain and normal as the rest of us. Plus, he wasn't from Illinois, that's where Mr. Bailey Moore Wrinkle told us boys all Republicans came from.

When I got old enough to vote, I didn't have to sign up as a Democrat, it was done by osmosis back then... in our neck of the South.

It was pretty much the same when I arrived in Port St. Joe, Florida, in 1969. But, as you full well know, the times they were a'changing! I woke up a few

years ago to find more Republicans around me than I ever thought possible.

Here's the interesting part, they had some good ideas. It kinda went against my upbringing, but I got to noticing they were just as regular as that tall tractor salesman from Paducah. And they were springing up like flies at a late July taffy pull.

That's when I checked with the boys back home. They told me you couldn't find a Democrat in Tennessee nowadays. I don't have no idea when, where, or how so many of them left the South. And I am just as lost as to when, where, and how all these Republicans began saying "y'all" and asking for "grits and sweet tea."

I saw that movie, "Trading Places," but it wasn't anything like this! To say the least, the whole political party "State of the

See COLBERT, Page 5A

## NCAA hoops, the Masters, and Tiger is back



**Ron Hart**  
Guest Columnist

March Madness just ended with Purdue losing big to formidable Connecticut in the championship game. You know how they make up hats and T-shirts before a big game, one with Purdue as the winner and the other Connecticut? Then they ship the losing tee shirts to Third World countries. This year Biden told them just to leave the shirts at the border and the "newcomers" will pick them up on the way into our country.

Tiger Woods is fighting pain to play in the Masters this year. His is a cautionary tale of fame, mistakes, and redemption. I pulled for him.

A winner of five green jackets, Woods' most recent win at Augusta National came in an extraordinary performance at the age of 43 in 2019. He is ticking 50 now, battling injuries and personal foibles.

It was a tough decade for Tiger. His wife, Elin, caught him when he fell asleep and she saw his text messages. She chased Tiger out of the driveway with a 9-iron (she felt an 8-iron was too much club). Tiger hit a tree running from her in his car, and eight more bimbos fell out. His life spiraled downward.

Elin filed for di-

orce, citing irconcilable waitresses.

Then they settled, as all divorces do once the lawyers figured they had billed all they can bill. Tiger was divorced with a rare non-disclosure agreement that worked. The couple seem to get along well now, both attending son Charlie's award ceremony recently for winning a high school golf championship.

It is fun to see their son Charlie do so well in golf, and genetics play out. Imagine how well Charlie could do in golf and commercials if he became a Woods who understands how to erase text messages.

After the divorce, Tiger hurt his back (I think by picking up too many waitresses). He went to sex rehab, drug

rehab and drunk camp. He actually went to four sex rehab programs, but he made sure they didn't find out about each other.

He has been in and out of Betty Ford more than Gerald Ford had. He's been to sex rehab so many times the cafeteria named a sandwich after him.

When Tiger staged his first comeback, he played terribly. He seemed unable to drive a golf ball or a car. Adolf Hitler spent less time in a bunker in 1945 than Tiger did in 2017. And Tiger kept wrecking cars.

The difference between a car and a golf ball? Tiger can drive a golf ball 295 yards without hitting a tree.

He got pulled over for DUI while he was on pain meds.

See HART, Page 5A



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# The GOP is the party of Putin



Mona Charen  
Guest Columnist

“Russian propaganda has made its way into the United States, unfortunately, and it’s infected a good chunk of my party’s base.” That acknowledgement from Michael McCaul, Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, was echoed a few days later by Michael Turner, the chairman of the Intelligence Committee. “To the extent that this propaganda takes hold, it makes it more difficult for us to really see this as an authoritarian versus democracy battle.”

It has been two months since the Senate passed, by 70-29 (including 22 Republicans), a \$95 billion foreign aid bill that included \$60 billion for Ukraine. The Republican-controlled House, by contrast, has been paralyzed. This week, Volody-

myr Zelenskyy has warned that Ukraine will lose the war if the aid is not approved.

The Republican party is now poised to let a brave, democratically defeated by the power that the last GOP presidential nominee save one called “without question, our No. 1 geopolitical foe.” One member of Congress has sworn to introduce a resolution to vacate the chair if the House speaker puts aid for Ukraine on the floor, and the entertainment wing of conservatism -- most egregiously Tucker Carlson -- has gone into full trucking mode toward the ex-KGB colonel in the Kremlin.

It’s worth exploring how the Republican party, the party of “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall,” became the party that now credulously traffics in blatant Russian disinformation while it flirts with betraying an important ally -- along with all of its principles.

Trump’s particular preferences and ego needs play a starring role in the GOP’s devolution.

Cast your minds back to 2016 and the revelation that the Russians had hacked the Democratic National Committee. To rebut this damaging development, Fox News conjurers got busy inventing a tale about CrowdStrike, the company that documented the hack, alleging that the servers had been mysteriously moved to Ukraine so that the FBI could not examine them. Trump raised the CrowdStrike issue in his infamous call with Zelenskyy.

This was bonkers. As the Mueller report made clear, the FBI did get all the data regarding the DNC hack. There was never a shred of evidence that the servers were moved to Ukraine, and in any case physical control of the servers was unnecessary. But what was Zelensky supposed to say? He promised to look into it just as a courtier to a mad king will say, “Yes, your majesty, we will look into why your slippers are turning into marshmallows when the sun goes down.”

Because Trump regarded any implication that he had

received assistance from Russia as impugning his victory, he latched onto the idea (perhaps whispered by Putin himself in one of their many private conversations) that, yes, there had indeed been foreign interference in the election, but it was Ukraine boosting Hillary Clinton, not Russia aiding Trump. Now, it’s true that Ukraine’s friends reached out to Clinton, but why wouldn’t they? Trump’s campaign manager was Paul Manafort, a paid agent of Viktor Yanukovich, the ousted pro-Putin Ukrainian leader.

Trump nurtured his misplaced grudge for years. Recall that when Putin launched the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Trump’s initial response was that it was a “genius” move. “You gotta say, that’s pretty savvy.”

A non-sociopath would say it was raw aggression of the worst kind. A normal Republican of the pre-Trump mold would have been outraged at the attempted rape of a peaceful, democratic neighbor.

Most Republican officeholders are not sociopaths, but they take their marching orders from one and have adjusted their consciences accordingly. The talking point Sen. J.D. Vance and his ilk favor is that they cannot be concerned about Ukraine’s border when our southern border is also being invaded. Of course it’s absurd to compare immigrants looking for work or safety to tanks, bombs and missiles, but that’s what passes for Republican reasoning these days. In any case, it was revealed to be hollow when Biden and the Democrats offered an extremely strict border bill to sweeten aid for Ukraine, and the GOP turned it down flat.

Russia’s fingerprints are all over the Republicans’ failed attempt to impeach (in all senses of the word) Joe Biden. Their star witness, Alexander Smirnov -- who alleged that Hunter and Joe Biden had been paid \$5 million in bribes by Burisma -- was indicted in February for making false statements. High-

ranking Russians appear to be his sources.

Whether the subject is Ukraine, Biden’s so-called corruption, or NATO, Putin seems to have pulled off the most successful foreign influence operation in American history. If Trump were being blackmailed by Putin, it’s hard to imagine how he would behave any differently. And though it started with Trump, it has not ended there. Putin now wields more power over the GOP than anyone other than Trump. GOP propagandists indulge fictions that even many Russians can see through: Ukraine is governed by Nazis; Russia is a religious, Christian nation; Russia is fighting “woke-ness.”

Republicans are not so much isolationist as pro-authoritarian. They’ve made Hungary’s Viktor Orban a pin-up, and they mouth Russian disinformation without shame. Putin must be pinching himself.

*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.*

## ALLEN

From Page 4A

cles, thanks in part to the support of the Forgotten Coast Cruisers and other owners. During the morning of the Crawl, the Forgotten Coast en Plein Air held a Quickdraw event on the Marine Street Pavilion, which made the perfect beginning for the day.

Thanks, as well to our wonderful musicians and artisans who filled the streets with fun! Joan Matey and the cast of the Fishy Fashion Show, Greg Daniels demonstrator of fishing cast-net throwing and musicians Frank Lindamood, Tom Magnan, Bog

Lilies, Susan David with Boats a Rock’n, Cody Barber and the fabulous DJ Beanie Baby.

This was our biggest and best Carrabelle Culture Crawl yet. We thank the volunteers at all the locations who worked so hard to make this weekend happen. Nothing would happen without you. We offer our sincere gratitude for the tireless effort, passion, creativity, time and dollars offered by this weekend’s volunteers and generous supporters.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating!

*Tamara Allen, Director  
Carrabelle History Museum*

## COLBERT

From Page 4A

Union” thing has gotten a little out of hand.

And it can get “dog house” personal. I had a good friend at church who was going to be affected by a Republican primary vote, I temporarily switched parties to support him. I did apologize to my long-departed grandfather and the memory of Bailey Moore Wrinkle before I made the change.

I was headed down to the Supervisor of Elections to switch back when I got to thinking, “Not one Democratic friend has told me they missed me,” I didn’t get a letter from the state association as to any regret on their part that I had left. The President’s office didn’t call. Apparently, I’m not a “necessary cog” in that party.

On the other hand, not one Republican has thanked me for my service. I got no letter from the land of Lincoln welcoming me with open arms. I haven’t heard a word from them on the national or state level. The NRA hasn’t even contacted me!

You’d think my vote is not important to either group. But that might not be the case. I do keep getting daily heartfelt invitations from both to send money to “help keep the other party” out of office. It seems they don’t want to be “in” as much as they don’t want the other guy hogging all of the spotlight.

Life was much simpler chasing Brenda Ellis up Stonewall Street....

Respectfully,  
Kes

## HART

From Page 4A

The charge was dismissed because he said he was just swerving to miss a tree. It turned out the “tree” was the air freshener hanging on his rear-view mirror, but it held up in Florida.

It was not Tiger’s fault, wrecking all those cars. It just serves to remind us of something we often forget: He is half Asian.

More recently, Tiger got shaken down again by a hostess he was dating. He locked her out of his house, and she made trouble. There is another lesson Tiger could pass on to his son. It often takes more than a 60-degree sand wedge to get rich and famous men out of some traps.

To his credit, Tiger handled his problems with class. He didn’t go crying to Oprah or Dr. Phil. He never dated a Kardashian. He admitted his mistakes and seemed sincere. There are no winners when our sports heroes whimper and

blame on TV like Prince Harry and Meghan.

Trump became friends with Tiger in Florida. And when it was hot, he advised Tiger to take the \$850 million for the LIV Tour, as he advised all the other golfers. Trump was right. And as we know with Trump, he usually ends up being right about things, which gets him impeached or indicted.

As an aside, Trump nuanced his abortion stance, moving it more toward the center. He will not sign a federal bill that bans abortions. Like Tiger, if he’s presented with an abortion bill, from what I know about Trump, before he’d pay it he’d demand a paternity test.

Tiger playing in the Masters is good for golf and for America. He just needs to get someone else to drive for him.

*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.*

# SPORTS

## Wewa dominates Forgotten Coast boys weightlifting

### Seven lifters headed to state tourney

David Adlerstein  
Dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

The Wewahitchka High School Gators showed they were the top boys weightlifting team in Gulf and Franklin counties, dominating the regionals in Baker last week and sending seven lifters to the state tournament next week.

Under the direction of coach Gene Rollins, the Gators won both the Traditional and Olympic classes, edging out Baker 35-26 in Traditional, while Port St. Joe finished seventh and Franklin County tied for 14th.

In Olympic style, Wewa downed Bloutstown 42-27 for the regional title while Port St. Joe was tied for ninth and Franklin County for 20th.

**Traditional results** had Wewa's Brayden Skipper winning in the 119-weight class, with a 355-pound total. Wewa's Isiah Melvin finished sixth, with a 285-pound total, and Port St. Joe's Lucas Rodgers was eighth, with a 255-pound total. In that weight class, Franklin County's Drew Ham and Kameron Sudduth also competed.

In the 129-pound class, Wewa's Cole Williams was first with a 430-pound total, and teammate Landon Webb was third with a 415-pound total. Port St. Joe's Malik O'Neal and Alexander Payne also competed in that weight class in both divisions.

In the 139-pound class, Tiger Shark Ayden Davis was sixth, with a total lift of 375 pounds. Port St. Joe's Blake Childress also competed.

Port St. Joe's Devin Cuttino was the victor in the 154-pound weight class, with Wewa's Bryson Greene finishing fourth. Franklin County's Kaiden Lewis also competed.

In the 169-pound class, Franklin County's Eric Smith was evidence of the emergence of the program under Coach John Cooper, as he took fourth place with a 505-pound total.

In the 183-pound class, Wewa's Tyran Williams took sixth with a total of 485 pounds. Port St. Joe's Costin Marshall also competed in both styles.

In the 199-pound class, Franklin County's Michael Hill was the top finisher from the Forgotten Coast, finish-



Wewa's senior members of the team are, from left, Bryson Greene, Landon Webb, Coach Gene Rollins, Noah Taunton, and Preston Stacey. [COREY WILLIAMS | CONTRIBUTED]

ing fourth with a total of 545 pounds.

In the 219-pound class, Wewa's Preston Stacey was second with a 675-pound total, while Port St. Joe's Camden Focht was fifth with a 515-pound total.

Wewa's Noah Taunton was the champion of the 238-pound class, with a 620-pound total while Tiger Shark Daniel Alaniz was 10th with a total lift of 490 pounds. Tiger Shark Landry Rowland and Seahawk Sheldon James also competed in both styles in this weight class.

In the Unlimited class, Port St. Joe's Uwenses Benedict was seventh, with a 575-pound total.

**Olympic results** had Wewa's Skipper again winning in the 119-weight class, with a 315-pound total. Wewa's Melvin finished seventh, with a 235-pound total, and Port St. Joe's Lucas Rodgers was eighth, with a 220-pound total.

In the 129-pound class, Wewa's Williams was first with a 385-pound total, just ahead of teammate Webb, who lifted a total of 345 pounds. Franklin County's Owen Juno was

10th, with a total lift of 255 pounds

In the 139-pound class, Tiger Shark Davis was sixth, with a total lift of 315 pounds. Teammate

Wewa's Greene was second in the 154-pound weight class, with 425 pounds, ahead of Port St. Joe's Cuttino, who ran third with a total of 390 pounds.

In the 169-pound class, Franklin County's Smith took fifth place with a 400-pound total. Wewa's Peyton Harrell was sixth, lifting a total of 395 pounds.

In the 183-pound class, Wewa's Williams took fourth with a total of 420 pounds.

In the 199-pound class, Port St. Joe's Jacob Marshall was fifth with a 425-pound total while teammate Asher Peacock finished 10th, with a total of 390 pounds.

In the 219-pound class, Wewa's Stacey won with a total of 505 pounds, as Port St. Joe's King Waters finished seventh with a 405-pound total. Tiger Shark Colton Johnson also competed.

Wewa's Taunton was the champion of the 238-pound class, with a 515-pound total.



The Wewa boys weightlifting team celebrate their two regional championships. [COREY WILLIAMS | CONTRIBUTED]



In the 129-pound Olympic class, Wewa's Cole Williams was first and teammate Landon Webb was second. [COREY WILLIAMS | CONTRIBUTED]



In the 183-pound Olympic class, Wewa's Tyran Williams took fourth. [COREY WILLIAMS | CONTRIBUTED]

# Tiger Sharks win seven straight

**David Adlerstein**  
Dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

The Port St. Joe Tiger Sharks are on a tear, breaking out from a 5-5 record to win their last seven games and up their record to 12-5.

The Sharks haven't lost since Bloutstown shut them out 4-0 on March 27, and since that time they have been winning at a brisk clip, beginning with a 1-0 shutout at Chipley on March 28.

On April 1 in Eastpoint, Port St. Joe downed Franklin County 6-2, and the following day they hosted the Jackson (Georgia) Red Devils and shut them out 8-0.

On April 5, it was Callaway's turn to fall to St. Joe, but this time it was a narrow 6-5 affair, with the Tiger Sharks scoring two runs in the bottom of the sixth for the walk-off victory.

Seniors Fisher Vandertulip and Hunter Hicks combined to

strike out eight and walk none as they gave up three earned runs on nine hits.

On April 9, senior Jentzen Odom struck out three, walked two and gave up no runs on four hits as Port St. Joe shut out Marianna 4-0.

With Vandertulip and Hicks once again sharing pitching duties, Port St. Joe won a thriller Friday in extra innings against Freeport, as they triumphed with a walk-

off 4-3 win in the bottom of the eighth.

The pitchers struck out 12 batters between them, and walked just one, and allowed just four hits.

Port St. Joe had an easy time of it Saturday, with a 15-0 shutout in four innings over Godby.

With a nine-run first inning, and a six-run third inning, it marked an easy win as the Tiger Sharks head for the home stretch.



Port St. Joe senior Fisher Vandertulip slides into home as part of a nine-run barrage in the first opening against Godby. [BILL FAUTH | CONTRIBUTED]



Port St. Joe senior pitcher Max Godwin warms up as he readies to come in against Godby, as coach Ashley Summerlin stands at back. [BILL FAUTH | CONTRIBUTED]

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# Gulf, Franklin to share in \$10.5 million Triumph grant

David Adlerstein  
Dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

Both Gulf and Franklin counties will share in a three-year, \$10.5 million grant from Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. to create a regional marketing campaign.

The recipient of the grant, Visit Florida, announced last week that it has been awarded the grant “to create an innovative regional marketing campaign focused on promoting the region’s outdoor and adventure experiences to drive tourism growth and economic development across Northwest Florida.”

This is the first Triumph awarded project that benefits all eight counties impacted by the April 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

The project, developed in collaboration with the Northwest Florida

Tourism Council and supported by the boards of county commissioners in all eight counties, “aims to expand what the region is known for, extend seasonality, and take the region into new markets,” reads a news release from Visit Florida. “By promoting the many world-class adventure experiences in Northwest Florida, the campaign will better position the region as a year-round destination.”

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., is a non-profit corporation created to oversee the expenditure of funds recovered by the Florida Attorney General for economic damages resulting from the oil spill Funds are designated for the recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the eight Northwest Florida counties disproportionately affected by the oil spill - Escambia, Santa Rosa,

Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, Franklin and Wakulla.

“We are honored to have been awarded this funding, which will allow Visit Florida to work hand in hand with our partners in Northwest Florida to showcase its unique appeal,” said Dana Young, Visit Florida president and CEO. “We are grateful to the Triumph Board for their support of this program and look forward to helping create a lasting impact in the region.”

“This funding award marks a significant milestone in our efforts to promote Northwest Florida as a world-class travel destination. This initiative will elevate our region and benefit every member of the community,” said Darien Schaefer, Northwest Florida Tourism Council Chair.

## Local leaders with a long-term view.



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

### MEET OUR GULF COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## BP money goes to new FSU facilities in Panhandle

Ryan Dailey  
News Service of Florida

Florida State University is in line to receive up to \$98.5 million to construct aerospace and advanced manufacturing facilities in Panama City, under a contract approved last week by the Triumph Gulf Coast Board of Directors.

In November, the board voted to negotiate terms and a contract for what’s known as the Institute for Strategic Partnerships, Innovation, Research, and Education (InSPIRE) project.

The plan, which supporters say could be a boon for North Florida’s economy, is slated to be located within or nearby the Northwest Florida Beaches Airport and the Venture Crossings technology park.

The seven-member board voted unanimously Wednesday to approve a contract to fund the project through a grant award agreement of up to \$98,453,615. The money is part of funds that came to the state through a settlement with BP oil company over the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, with the funds intended to help Panhandle counties impacted by the oil spill.

The contract said that the InSPIRE facility would be designed to serve as FSU’s “applied research and workforce development arm” with a “mission of accelerating technology innovation, cultivating corporate investment, nurturing the growth of new industries, and fostering high-skill, high-wage employment opportunities” in the eight counties most affected by the BP oil spill. Those counties are Franklin, Gulf, Bay, Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, and Wakulla.

Stacey Patterson, vice president for research at FSU, told the Triumph Gulf Coast board that the project could have a significant economic impact for the region.

“We are creating a bold and impactful vision to leverage FSU’s current strengths with new investments to create an innovation ecosystem that’s aligned with regional needs, opportunities and strategies, particularly focused on this Northwest Florida region,” Patterson

See BP MONEY, Page 9A

## NOTICE OF CITY OF PORT ST. JOE 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the City of Port St. Joe’s Primary Election will be held in conjunction with the Primary Election held in Gulf County, Florida on Tuesday, August 20, 2024. Voters may cast their ballot using one of the following methods: at any Early Voting Location during the Early Voting Period beginning on August 10, 2024, and ending August 17, 2024; at their assigned polling location on Election Day, August 20, 2024, from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM EST; or by requesting a Vote-by-mail ballot from the Gulf County Supervisor of Elections Office at least 12 days prior to Election Day.

The last day to register to vote or submit a party change for the Primary Election is the close of business on Monday, July 22, 2024, at the Gulf County Supervisor of Elections Office or online at [www.vote-gulf.gov](http://www.vote-gulf.gov) no later than 11:59 PM.

Candidate qualifying begins Monday, June 10, 2024, at 12:00 Noon EST and ends on Friday, June 14, 2024, at Noon EST. The following offices will be up for election: Commissioner Group III, and Commissioner Group IV.

Candidates choosing to qualify by the petition method, in lieu of paying the required fee, must submit 292 petitions for verification to the Gulf County Supervisor of Elections office no later than 12:00 Noon on May 13, 2024.



## BP MONEY

From Page 8A

said during the board's meeting in Franklin County Wednesday.

The facility also is intended to support an increase in the number of engineering graduates in Panama City and an expansion of STEM, or science, technology, engineering and mathematics, activities in the area served by Triumph. The university also projects that \$10 in economic activity will be generated for each \$1 spent on the project.

The school will invest \$65 million in the project over the next 10 years and "is committed to securing more than \$230 million in contract and grant activity," a press release issued by FSU in November said.

## INVESTIGATION

From Page 3A

and anyone who might shed light on activities that occurred that night or the next morning," said Harrison. "It's going to take a lot of police work."

"This is a relatively quiet neighborhood in the county," he said. "One is too many but we're fortunate here that this is

The project also has received backing from the leaders of several North Florida-based state colleges.

Edward Meadows, president of Pensacola State College, told the Triumph Gulf Coast board Wednesday that the leaders of Panhandle colleges signed an articulation agreement with FSU "that is directed toward our collaboration with this project."

Meadows said that he and the presidents of Tallahassee Community College, Northwest Florida State College, Gulf Coast State College and Chipola College signed the agreement.

"We intend to be on the applied end of this research. So, the research that comes out of this grant hopefully will be the kind of research that will help economic development across the Panhandle, and certainly increase workforce opportunities for our citizens," Meadows said.

the first homicide since 2019.

"We believe this is an isolated incident amongst a group of people who knew each other," Harrison said. "My heart goes out to the family and we hope to get them answers and bring the person to justice if it warrants it."

Connor was a student-athlete in the Class of 2023 at Wewa-hitchka High School.

*Donations to help with Connor's funeral expenses can be made by visiting the Facebook page of his sister, Zoe Connor.*

THE STAR

# Classifieds



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### 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 qg@gqarchitects.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 am, Central time and potential contractors may schedule a site visit during the week after April 4th. Please contact the church office (850) 227-1724 to make an appointment. Contractors are encouraged to join the meeting. Minority Contractors are encouraged to participate. All questions should be sent by email to qg@gqarchitects.com. All questions should be submitted by April 24, 2024. Responses to questions will be shared with all interested contractors and will be posted on the Church website. Any submittal received after the above-mentioned date and time will not be considered. The funding for this project is from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The contractor must be fully bondable for the project amount. The Owner reserves the right to waive formalities in the process and reject any/and or all submittals. Selection recommendations to the Church Administrative Board are pending subject to final review and verification of required documents. **This notice is also posted at the Church website:** https://psjumc.org/rebuild/rfq-rfp/ The First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe, Mr. Boyd Bulger, Church Building Committee Chairman. April 4, 11, 18, 2024**

### ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is served within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THE NOTICE ON THEM.

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.

### ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is April 11, 2024.

/s/ Robert Allen  
/s/ Thomas S. Gibson  
ROBERT ALLEN  
THOMAS S. GIBSON  
RISH & GIBSON, P.A.  
Fort Mill, SC 29708  
116 SAILOR'S COVE DRIVE  
Ancillary Personal Representative  
P O BOX 39  
of the Estate of Rich-

### 385 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.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ESTATE:

The ancillary administration of the estate of RICHARD RUSSELL ALLEN, deceased, Case Number 24-22 PR, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Gulf County Courthouse, Probate Division, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The name and address of the ancillary personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

### ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is served within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THE NOTICE ON THEM.

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/s/ Robert Allen  
/s/ Thomas S. Gibson  
ROBERT ALLEN  
THOMAS S. GIBSON  
RISH & GIBSON, P.A.  
Fort Mill, SC 29708  
116 SAILOR'S COVE DRIVE  
Ancillary Personal Representative  
P O BOX 39  
of the Estate of Rich-

ard Russell Allen  
PORT ST. JOE, FL 32457  
(850) 229-8211  
FL BAR NO. 0350583  
ATTORNEY FOR ANCILLARY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
April 11, 18, 25, 2024

### 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 #2023-29

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  
May 2, 2024

### 388 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MIKON FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC, 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 HECKERT

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.

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  
May 2, 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. Gaulding 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 311.38 feet to a point on the West line of the of aforesaid Lot 113; then turn 89 degrees 20 minutes left for 120.0 feet to the Point of Beginning. This parcel of land is a part of Lot 113, of Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida.

PARCEL 2: That certain tract or parcel of land known as Black's Island (approximately 11 acres in area) situated in St. Joseph's Bay, shown on the Coast and Geodetic Survey Chart #183, as being in approximately Sections 3 and 10, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, State of Florida, and by plat of U. S. Survey as Lot 1, Section 3, in said Township and Range.

Subject to easements, restrictions, taxes for the current year, and reservations of record, not coupled with a right of reverter.

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.

DATED: 04/08/2024  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk  
April 11, 18, 25, 2024  
May 2, 2024

390 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that IDE TECHNOLOGIES, INC, 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 #2023-09

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: GARY L. GILBERT, MICHAEL W. SCOGGINS, WARREN M. SCOGGINS, ROBERT C. SCOGGINS, CHRISTOPHER SCOGGINS

TAX SALE CERTIFICATE #:

2020-645

DATE OF ISSUANCE: 05/29/2020

R.E. No.: 03339-200R

### Description of Property:

Lot 20, East Bay Plantation, according to the official plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, at Page 37, 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.

4/8/2024  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk  
April 11, 18, 25, 2024  
May 2, 2024

### 391 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: ESTATE OF PROBATE DIVISION MARGARET INELL STUTZMAN FILE NO. 24-23-PR

Deceased.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of MARGARET INELL STUTZMAN, deceased, File Number 24-23-PR date of death 02/12/2024 is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal

representative's attorney are set forth below.

All Creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on who a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

### ALL CLAIMS NOT SO 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 WITHIN TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is April 18, 2024. Attorney for Personal Representative: Charles A. Costin Post Office Box 98 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 Telephone: (850) 227-1159 Email: ccostin@costinlaw.com Florida Bar No. 699070 Personal Representative: Deborah S. Hinote

4620 Tiburan Drive New Port Richey, FL 34655  
April 18, 25, 2024

392 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the Fictitious Name of neilforrest.com, Gulf

County Florida. Located at 5320 State Rd 30A in the City of Port St. Joe, Gulf County, Florida. 32456 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.

Dated at Port St. Joe, Florida, this day of April 27, 2024  
April 18, 2024

### 393 PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Port St. Joe's Planning, Development, and Review Board (PDRB) will hold a Meeting to discuss a request for a Special Exception on May 7, 2024, at 4:00 P.M. EST. The Public Hearing will be held in the Commission Chamber in the Ward Ridge Building at 2775 Garrison Avenue, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 for 150 Gulf Coast Circle, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The reason for the request is Per Section 3.03. (10) of the Land Development Regulations referencing setbacks. The proposed plans can be reviewed at the Building Department located at 1002 10 th St. and can be reached for questions at 850-229-1093.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons wishing to attend need assistance and special accommodations to participate in these proceedings should contact Charlotte Pierce, City Clerk, at City Hall, (850) 229-8261.  
April 18, 2024

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons wishing to attend need assistance and special accommodations to participate in these proceedings should contact Charlotte Pierce, City Clerk, at City Hall, (850) 229-8261.  
April 18, 2024

## PINE RIDGE APARTMENTS

125 Venus Drive  
(off Garrison Ave)  
Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
(850) 227-7451  
TTY Acs 711

Accepting applications for  
1, 2 & 3 bedrooms  
Family apartment community  
income guidelines apply

This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.

# 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](mailto:dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com)**



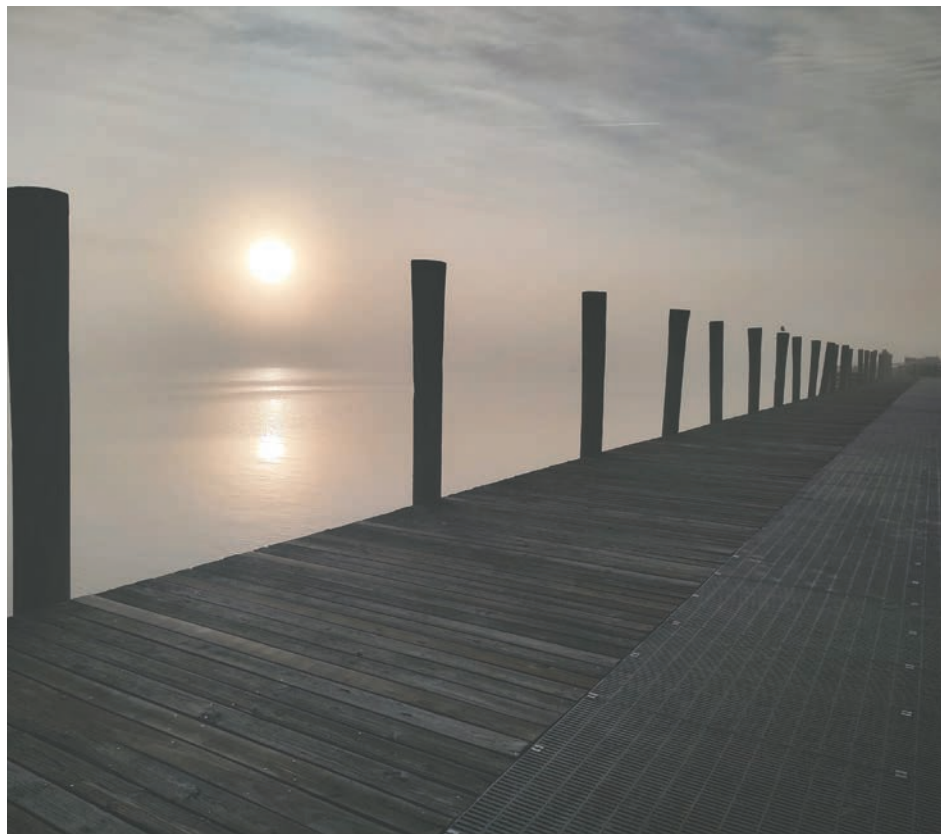
Sunday sunrise on the Apalachicola River [ PALMER PHILYAW ]



Hubby caught his first ever pompano on St. Joe Beach. [ KIM PETERSON ]



A piercing eye [ JO PEARMAN ]



The fog comes on little cat feet [ JOHN WEAVER ]

## 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](http://www.sgiproperties.com)



This sweet, sweet boy is Rusty! He is 18-24 months old and appears to be a Lab crossed with something that has feathering on legs and tail. Possibly a Golden Retriever. He is a gentle, calm, loving guy who walks well on leash, likes other dogs and will no doubt make an ideal family pet! Franklin County Humane Society, 244 State Road 65, Eastpoint, FL 32328 | Phone: (850) 670-8417

[www.forgottenpets.org](http://www.forgottenpets.org)

## PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Hi, I'm Ashley! I am a 1 year old domestic shorthair. I am extremely affectionate with people. I'm usually the first to greet you at the door if I'm not lounging outside in the patio. Sitting out in the patio watching the movement of nature is my favorite place to be! I came in with skin issues that were due to allergies but they are clearing up now! I would make a wonderful addition to any home. Come by the shelter to meet me and all my friends!

[www.sjbhumaneociety.org](http://www.sjbhumaneociety.org)



# CELEBRATE COMMUNITY



Franklin County Schools music teacher Temolynn Wintons, left, chats with Dana Langford, conductor of the Bay Area Choral Society, after the children's concert. [STEVE LANGFORD | CONTRIBUTED]



Saxophonist Sara Beasley Flowers, front, and trumpeter Benjamin Dubbert perform at Saturday evening's concert at Trinity Episcopal Church. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]

## Kids help choral society wrap up season

David Adlerstein  
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

The Bay Area Choral Society closed out their 2023-24 season with a giant crescendo that reverberated in the ears and smiles of school.

Ed Hogan, a Carrollton, Georgia composer who wrote a commissioned piece for the society about the Forgotten Coast called *The Maker's Song*, and Dr. Ian Heming, the society's pianist, joined Dana Langford, the society's conductor, for a special Friday morning concert and workshop with second and third graders from Port St. Joe Elementary School, and from Franklin County Schools, at First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe.

Sponsored by the PTO of Port St. Joe Elementary School and Duren's Piggly Wiggly, the morning turned out to be a delight for both the musicians and the kids.

"It was a roomful of kids," said Hogan. "We did songs that we thought they were family with. Dana did some general music stuff where you clap hands and keep the beat, from her years and years in the



The schoolkids gathered at First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe for the special concert. [STEVE LANGFORD | CONTRIBUTED]

classroom. She just engaged with them.

"I did 15 minutes where I walked them through the instruments of the orchestra," he said. "Dr. Ian did these piano excerpts for them, he played three different short pieces with Dana asking the kids what emotions do you think the music brings out in you, and the answers we got were fabulous. I was amazed at how well these children were able to give words to their responses."

"One kid, on this really frenetic piece, that we called on, said 'it sounds competitive,'

which I thought was pretty dang advanced for a third grader," Hogan said. "And the one right before him said 'it sounds like film music to me,' and Ian commented that he thought that was an adept observation because most film music doesn't have a lot of melodic material, it's simply there to provide an emotional foundation of dialogue or action, and that's sort of the nature of that piece. It didn't have a lot of melody stuff, it was just a lot of clusters and a lot of frenetic, scary stuff."

In his song *The Maker's Song*,

whose commission was funded by The Tapper Foundation, Hogan referred in the lyrics to being "the children of God's hands," and of not forgetting the beauty of children's voices.

Both the Friday evening concert in Port St. Joe and the one Saturday at Trinity Episcopal Church in Apalachicola, were well-attended, with the songs all under the theme of "Celebrate Music...Why We Sing!"

In addition to the three dozen members of the choral society, the singers were joined by musical accompaniment from flutist Pamela Bereuter, oboist Nicholas Kanipe, horn players A.C. Caruthers and Thomas Langston, trumpeter Benjamin Dubbert, percussionist Darci Wright, bass player Miranda Hughes, electric guitarist Josh Hall, acoustic guitarist Marilyn Freeman and alto saxophonist Sara Flowers.

Dan Paulson offered the narration as the program included a range of styles, from modern pop tunes like "People Got to Be Free," to jazz hits like "What A Wonderful World," to Christian melodies like "Amazing Grace" and "Gospel Magnificat."



Composer Ed Hogan talks about his commissioned work "The Maker's Song" at Saturday evening's concert at Trinity Episcopal Church. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]



Tenor Carol Barfield, right, and alto Tamara Marsh perform solos with the song "Gospel Magnificat" by Patti Drennan at Saturday evening's concert at Trinity Episcopal Church. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]

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



# Art in Bloom opens Friday at The Joe



The Roses of Sharon by Laura Tuvyana [LAURA TUVYANA]

**Special to the Star and Times**

Come celebrate the season of spring with the grand opening of “Art in Bloom” Friday, April 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. EST at The Joe Center for the Arts, 201 Reid Ave, Port St Joe.

This exhibition consists of 67 works - paintings, drawings, photography, collage and printmaking - incorporating a floral theme. Local and regional artists, as well as those from across the country are becoming increasingly interested in submitting their work to The Joe for jury consideration.

Submissions came from Port St Joe, Wewahitchka, Apalachicola, Lynn Haven, Tallahassee, Aventura, and Inlet Beach, as well as Minnesota, Texas, Washington, California and North Carolina.

Juror Cindy Thau will award Best of Show, and first, second and third place cash awards during the reception. A People’s Choice award will be given when the show closes May 17.

Drawings will be held to win one of two fresh floral arrangements donated by Bayside Florist and the floral department of Duren’s Piggly Wiggly. Tickets for the drawings will be available for \$1 each.

Phyllis Goff from the Port St. Joe Garden

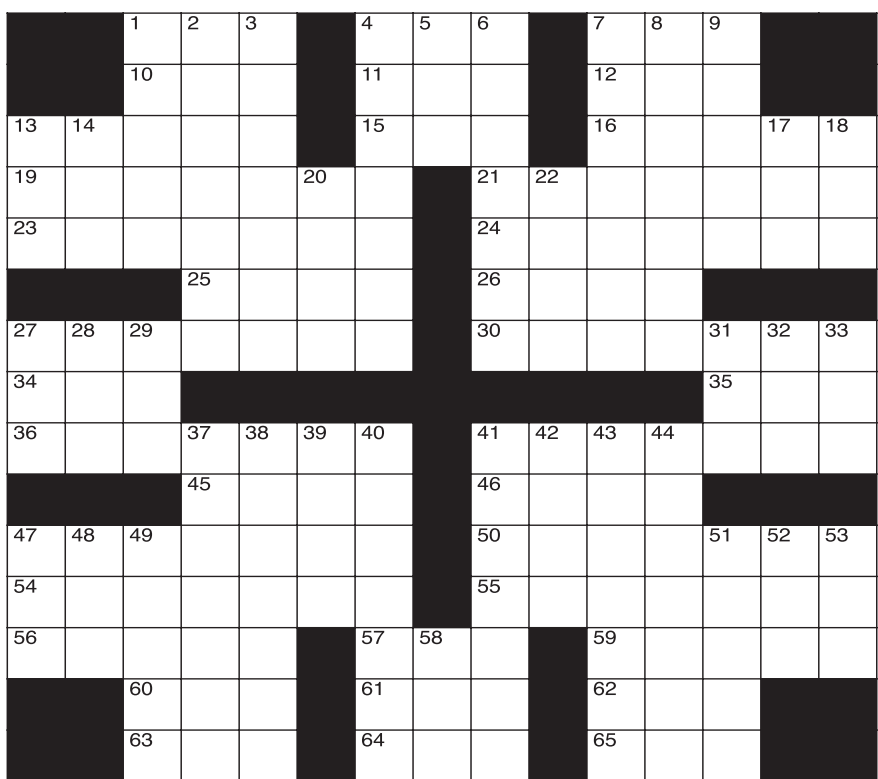


Southern Magnolia Infrared by Kathryn Stivers [KATHRYN STIVERS]

Club will present a program on Thursday, April 25 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at The Joe on “How to Enter a Flower Show” as a precursor to the garden club’s June 2024 flower show, which will be open to the public for entries.

Other activities and classes during this exhibit can be found on The Joe’s website at thejoecenterforthearts.org; Click on classes.

The Joe is open Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission to the reception is free and open to the public. Donations appreciated. The Joe Center for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to educate, exhibit, partner, and inspire through the arts.



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Midway between south and southeast
- 4. For each
- 7. Airborne (abbr.)
- 10. Photographs
- 11. They \_\_\_
- 12. It’s important in respiration (abbr.)
- 13. Monetary unit
- 15. Cool!
- 16. A son of Jacob
- 19. Cut off
- 21. Devour
- 23. Agent of one’s downfall
- 24. Best
- 25. Network of nerves
- 26. Partner to “oohs”
- 27. Origins
- 30. Sewing utensil
- 34. Alias
- 35. Swiss river
- 36. Greek mythological figure
- 41. Type of whiskey
- 45. Lay to rest
- 46. “Rule, Britannia” composer
- 47. Select jury
- 50. Feeling
- 54. Action regarded as morally wrong
- 55. Makes angry
- 56. Act incorrectly
- 57. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 59. Class of escort aircraft carrier
- 60. To what degree
- 61. Buzzing insect
- 62. The human foot
- 63. “The Leftovers” actress Dowd
- 64. A place to stay
- 65. Sun up in New York

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. An involuntary muscular contraction
- 2. Earnest
- 3. Cuts out surgically
- 4. Can’t move
- 5. Baseball stat
- 6. British soldier
- 7. Traditional medicine plants
- 8. Political party controlled by managers
- 9. Hebrew prophet
- 13. Supporter
- 14. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 17. Liberty Mutual mascot
- 18. Georgia rockers
- 20. A place where building is done
- 22. Large, deep-bodied fish
- 27. Clothing retailer
- 28. Supplement with difficulty
- 29. Annoy constantly
- 31. Founder of Babism
- 32. Indigenous person in parts of Asia
- 33. Sea eagle
- 37. Leave behind
- 38. Time of day
- 39. Colorless crystalline compound
- 40. They lay out course requirements
- 41. A diamond has three
- 42. Algerian coastal city
- 43. Remove cover
- 44. Rechristened
- 47. Distinctive practice
- 48. Defunct phone company
- 49. Turkish officer of high rank
- 51. Eliminate from the body
- 52. Witness
- 53. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 58. Founding Father Franklin

See ANSWERS, PAGE 9B

**LANARK NEWS**

## Fresh Finds Market debuts at Chillas



Pat Sewell Funderburk Guest Columnist

Hi Y’all,  
I hope you are reading this electronically at www.franklincountynews.com before Tuesday, April 16 at 11 a.m. when there will be a hearing on the zoning change for property at 2390 Oak Street in Lanark Village. The public hearing will be at the county commission meeting room in the courthouse annex

at 34 Forbes Street in Apalachicola. This change is being requested to go from the present C-4 to C-3, which would allow recreational vehicles park to be put there. This request will allow large RV vehicles to come through our village from Highway 98 at all times of the day and night. The main road, Hefferman Drive is the main entrance to the village, passing residents’ homes. Hefferman has no sidewalks. There are too many reasons that this would be inappropriate for our small, quiet village. Many

residents have signed a petition to stop this zoning change. Changing this zoning would open this property to many commercial ventures that may not be appropriate. I personally do not see any advantage to Lanark Village. Call 850-653-9783 at Franklin County Planning Department for more information.

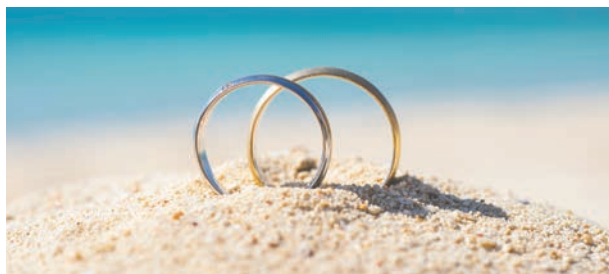
Lanark had a new event this past weekend. Fresh Finds Market had its first market on Saturday at Chillas Hall. There were fresh vegetables, homebaked goods, herbs, vintage jewelry, and much, much more. The event was very successful. Put this one on your calendar for the second Saturday of the month. If you would like more information about joining the vendors, email Lanarkva@Yahoo.com. Don’t worry, I will remind you before next month’s event.

The American Legion Post 82 Riders are at it again. This past week several veterans installed a new flagpole at the local Arabella Health and Wellness Center. Many thanks to



Installing a new flagpole at the Arabella Health and Wellness Center. [JEFF ALLEN | CONTRIBUTED]

See LANARK, PAGE 9B



## 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

#### Thursday, April 4

Joshua Leighton Wilson, 46, and Stephanie Karen Lively, 41, residing in Rittman, Ohio

### GULF COUNTY

#### Thursday, March 28

• Shawn Micheal O'Rourke, 37, and Samantha Christine Kamphaus-Brown, 35, residing in Clermont, Ohio

• Darrin Andrew Mahalek, 39, and Kara Lyn Sanders, 38, residing in Terre Haute, Indiana

#### Saturday, March 30

• Joseph Patrick Farrell III, 22, and Sophia Corbin Kirvin, 23, residing in Port St. Joe

#### Saturday, March 2

• Jakob Alan Bidwell, 28, and Carlee Rita Nicole Wilson, 26, residing in Wewahitchka

#### Saturday, April 6

• Robert Elliott Daly, 35, and Alanna Caitlyn Garrison, 26, residing in Marietta, Georgia

• Christopher Lee Douglas, 38, and Lisa Marie Richards, 41, residing in Dallas, Georgia

#### Monday, April 8

• Jacob Marchman Boyd, 28, and Samantha Allie Nicole Reddish, 23, residing in Rome, Georgia

# When the sting fades away....



Walter L. Woodrick CFP  
Guest Columnist

Congratulations! Most of you have made it past the tax filing deadline. How did things go between you and Uncle Sam this

year? Still stinging a little bit? When it does fade away, here are some thoughts for 2024 and beyond.

If you got a big refund, consider reducing your withholdings so that you earn interest on that money during the year instead of giving the government an interest-free loan. If you are having to pay in a good bit ("a good bit"

is a very relative term – some of my clients wince at paying an additional \$1,000, and I have some clients having to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars), consider increasing your withholdings unless this was a very unique year.

I know your tax preparer/accountant is very busy but, please, for your sake ask her for input and sug-

gestions on how to help you make or save money. It honestly can help to have an additional set of eyes reviewing your financial situation on a regular basis, and I don't mind doing this for my clients. One suggestion, or "what if," or "have you considered?" could end up making a tremendously positive impact on

See WOODRICK, PAGE 9B

## 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 22: **County Road 30A, Port St. Joe**, from Michael Bagley to Kristin and Kyle Smith, for \$80,000

MARCH 22: **345 Firehouse Road, Port St. Joe**, from Bruce Cromer to Mark Taylor and Gordon Renfro, for \$129,500

See GULF REAL ESTATE, Page 8B

## 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 27: **G-6 Bungalows by the Bay, Highway 98 East, St. James**, from Lynn and Michael Haynes to Johnnie Ruh for \$395,000

MARCH 27: **903 Northwest Avenue A Unit-15, Carrabelle**, from Sharon and David Hicks to Bruce Rankin, for \$310,000

See FRANKLIN REAL ESTATE, Page 8B

# YOUR Real Estate Source

The Best Values on the Forgotten Coast

MLS 315856 • NORTH CAPE SAN BLAS • \$529,900



#### BEACH GETAWAY!

- 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath; 1,888 SF (Plus Porches)
- Open Concept With Spacious Rooms
- Great Gated Community With Pool, Tennis Court



-Listing Agent-  
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Office: 850.227.7770

www.gulfcoastalproperties.com

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#### LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!

- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath; 1,125 SF (Plus Outdoor Spaces)
- Built in 2020; Modular Home, Cute Decor
- X Flood Zone, Low Maintenance Yard



-Listing Agent-  
**Sherry Siclare**  
Cell: 850.454.5676  
Office: 850.227.7770

www.gulfcoastalproperties.com

MLS 317144 • CARRABELLE • \$319,000



#### CUTE FLORIDA COTTAGE

- 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath; 1,152 Square Feet
- Completely Renovated, Close to the Harbor
- Large Private Lot in X Flood Zone is Partially Fenced



-Listing Agent-  
**Kathy Frink**  
Cell: 850.899.5104  
Office: 850.697.1010

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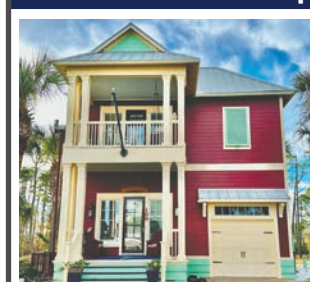
St. George/Apalach  
(850)927-2700

Cape San Blas  
(850)227-7770

Port St. Joe  
(850)227-7777

[www.gulfcoastalproperties.com](http://www.gulfcoastalproperties.com)

MLS RD317131A • Cape San Blas • \$1,495,000



#### COMPLETELY FURNISHED AND TURN KEY!

4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home, gated community of Jubilation Subdivision. Situated on TWO lots with room for a pool and adjacent to protected acreage. Garage allows for covered and secure entry. First level, showcases a large covered front porch. Foyer has seating and decor options for short visits or reading. First level also offers 3 bedrooms and 3 full baths, 2 of which are en suite. Second floor has an open floor plan with full custom kitchen, solid wood cabinets, granite countertops w/ bar, and Stainless appliances; Dacor range and microwave, GE built in refrigerator. Entertainer's dream with the dining area and great room with vaulted ceilings that includes; propane fireplace, gorgeous mantle, automatic hurricane shutter over a large westerly facing custom window. Great room opens to a westerly facing screen porch w/ remote controlled screen treatments. The master suite is at the opposite end with large bathroom, separate vanities, shower and garden tub, walk in closet, and beautiful covered deck. Other amenities; propane Generac generator, outside storage, & exterior elevator.

Rish Real Estate Group  
Jessica Rish  
jessica@floridagulfcoast.com  
850-227-6956  
William Rish, Jr.  
850-227-5569  
jay@floridagulfcoast.com



(850) 227-9600

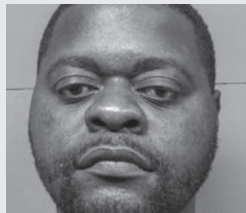
[www.rishrealestategroup.com](http://www.rishrealestategroup.com)

# 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 25



**Marlon Leamaar Hobley**, 33, Chattahoochee, larceny - more than \$20,000 and less than \$100,000 (FCSO)

MARCH 26



**Stephanie Michelle Ross**, 37, Apalachicola, possession of methamphetamine, possession or use of drug equipment, smuggling a controlled substance into a county detention facility (FCSO)

MARCH 26



**Tony Lee Hartsfield**, 36, Crawfordville, violation of probation (FCSO)

MARCH 26



**James David Carden**, 34, Eastpoint, trafficking in amphetamine or methamphetamine more than 14 grams, possession of methamphetamine (FCSO)

MARCH 27



**Markus Apolla Hampt May**, 56, violation of conditional release (FCSO)

MARCH 27



**Jennifer Golden Causey**, 51, Eastpoint, possession of methamphetamine, possession or use of drug equipment, driving while license suspended or revoked (FCSO)

MARCH 27



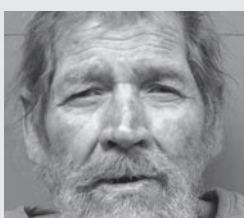
**Myrtle Lee Green**, 55, Eastpoint, possession of methamphetamine, possession or use of drug equipment (FCSO)

MARCH 27



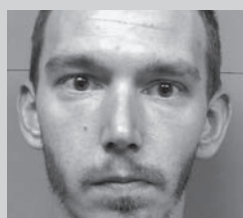
**Tammy Annette Butler**, 51, Eastpoint, possession of methamphetamine, possession or use of drug equipment (FCSO)

MARCH 28



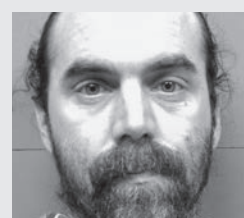
**Eugene Webb**, 76, Eastpoint, failure to appear (FCSO)

MARCH 28



**John Robert Curti McGuffin**, 29, Apalachicola, shoplifting less than \$750 (FCSO)

MARCH 28



**Matthew Tyler Garber**, 35, Crawfordville, failure to appear (FCSO)

MARCH 28



**Tabitha Louise Smith**, 44, Apalachicola, possession of methamphetamine, possession or use of drug equipment, no valid drivers license (FCSO)

## THE STAR Arrest Reports

The following report is provided by the Gulf County Sheriff's Office.

APRIL 1



**Sabrina Lavada Livingston**, grand theft of a motor vehicle, resisting a law enforcement officer with violence (GCSO)

APRIL 2



**Jennifer Paige Stephens**, possession of fentanyl with intent to distribute, possession of methamphetamine, possession of cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia, keeping nuisance house for drug activity, child neglect without great bodily harm (GCSO)

APRIL 2



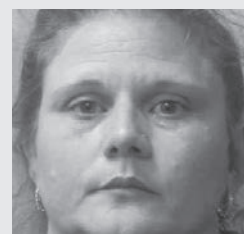
**Jeremy Edward Hysmith**, possession of fentanyl with intent to distribute, possession of methamphetamine, possession of cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia, keeping nuisance house for drug activity, child neglect without great bodily harm (GCSO)

APRIL 2



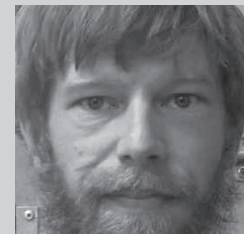
**Bradley Stephen Ballard**, trafficking in drugs, three counts of introduction of contraband - controlled substance, introduction of contraband - currency, introduction of contraband - cellular telephone [ FDC Office of Inspector General]

APRIL 4



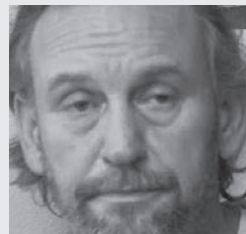
**Shawna Marie O'Bryan**, violation of probation - felony driving while license suspended or revoked (Court) and larceny (GCSO)

APRIL 4



**Johnathan Paul Padgett**, trespassing (Out of county warrant)

APRIL 5



**James Michael Minchew**, violation of probation - possession of a controlled substance (Court)

APRIL 7



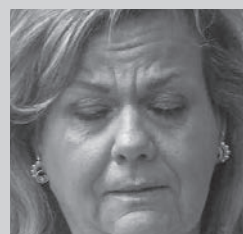
**Nicholas Blake Porter**, DUI, possession of drugs, possession or use of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana (GCSO)

APRIL 8



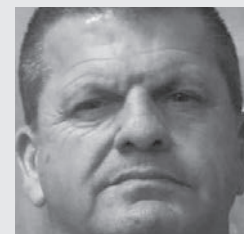
**Adam Tucker Shiver**, violation of domestic violence injunction (GCSO)

APRIL 10



**Cecilee Smallwood**, capias for driving while license suspended or revoked (Court)

APRIL 10



**Charles Wayne Grice**, larceny (GCSO)

**All defendants are to be considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.**

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4457611  
 IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT  
 IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA  
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,  
 Petitioner,

V.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, SPOUSES, AND  
 CREDITORS OF GRADY A. AVANT JR., DECEASED, and others,  
 Defendants.

Civil Action No: 24-CA-000027  
 Parcel No: 826R



**NOTICE OF ACTION IN EMINENT DOMAIN  
 AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

TO: All defendants named in Schedule A, attached; all parties claiming interests by, through, under, or against the named defendants; and all parties having or claiming to have any right, title, or interest in and to the property described in Schedule B.

A petition in eminent domain has been filed to acquire certain property interests in Franklin County, Florida.

Each defendant is required to serve written defenses to the petition on petitioner's attorney, whose name and address are shown below, on or before **May 1, 2024**, and to file the original of the defenses with the clerk of this court either before service on the petitioner's attorney or immediately thereafter, showing what right, title, interest, or lien defendant has in or to the property described in the petition, and to show cause why that property should not be taken for the uses and purposes set forth in the petition. If any defendant fails to do so, a default will be entered against that defendant for the relief demanded in the petition.

*PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Declaration of Taking has been filed in this cause and that petitioner will apply for an Order of Taking and any other order the court deems proper before the Honorable Francis J. "Frank" Allman one of the judges of this court, on **Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. CDT/9:00 a.m. EDT-9:00 a.m. CDT/ 10:00a.m. EDT**, Via Zoom: Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/92261881968?pwd=aVF4SnNianZNR0pNNzFNcldSVU1PdZ09> Meeting ID: 922 6188 1968 Passcode: 742131 \*OR\* Dial by your location +1786635 1003 Meeting ID: 922 6188 1968 Passcode: 742131. All defendants in this action may request a hearing at the time and place designated and be heard. Any defendant failing to file a request for hearing shall waive any right to object to the Order of Taking.*

WITNESS my hand and the seal of this court on April 11, 24.

Michele Maxwell  
 As Clerk of Court

By: [Signature]  
 As Deputy Clerk

Erin Oliver  
 Florida Bar No: 0021177  
 Assistant General Counsel  
 Office of the General Counsel  
 Florida Department of Transportation - District 3  
 J074 Highway 90 East  
 Chipley, Florida 32428-2162  
 Telephone (850) 330-1293  
 Facsimile (850) 330-1758  
 Erin.Oliver@dot.state.fl.us  
 Sheila.Hall@dot.state.fl.us  
 D3.Litigation@dot.state.fl.us

Schedule A

State of Florida Department of Transportation vs The Unknown Heirs of Grady A. Avant Jr., deceased

**SERVICE LIST**

**Franklin County Board of County Commissioners**  
 SERVE Ricky Jones, Chairperson  
 33 Market Street, Suite 203  
 Apalachicola, Florida 32320-2310  
 As to interest in and to any parcel included herein.

**Rhonda Millender Skipper, Franklin County Property Appraiser**  
 SERVE Rhonda Millender Skipper  
 33 Market Street, Suite 101  
 Apalachicola, Florida 32320-1733  
 As to interest in and to any parcel included herein.

**Rick Watson, Franklin County Tax Collector**  
 SERVE Rick Watson, Franklin County Tax Collector  
 33 Market Street, Suite 202  
 Apalachicola, Florida 32320-2310  
 As to interest in and to any parcel included herein.

**The Unknown Heirs, Beneficiaries, Devisees, Legatees, Spouses, and Creditors of Grady A. Avant Jr., deceased.**  
 Parcel 826R

**Possible Heir Surviving Spouse**  
 SERVE Katherine Yancey Avant  
 13 Cross Creek Drive  
 Birmingham, AL 35213  
 Parcel 826R

**Possible Heir Son**  
 SERVE Grady Mellen Avant  
 52817 Old East End Road  
 Homer, AK 99603  
 Parcel 826R

**Possible Heir Daughter**  
 SERVE Mary Willis Yancey Avant  
 a/k/a Mary Avant Lell  
 4029 Montevallo Road South  
 Birmingham, AL 35213  
 Parcel 826R

Schedule B

ITEM NO. 4457611	S.R. 30	FRANKLIN COUNTY	DESCRIPTION PERPETUAL EASEMENT
------------------	---------	-----------------	--------------------------------------

Parcel 826R

A parcel of land being in Fractional Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 5 West, Franklin County, Florida, described as follows: Commence at a 4 inch by 4 inch concrete monument (BCC) marking the southwest corner of said Fractional Section 35; thence North 89°57'49" East 1,019.55 feet along the south line of said Fractional Section 3 5 to the centerline of survey of State Road 30 (US 98/319), as shown on Florida Department of Transportation (F.D.O.T.) Right of Way Map F.P. No. 4457611 (said map being on file at F.D.O.T. District 3 Office, Chipley, Florida); said point being on a non-tangent curve to the right (concave southeasterly); thence, from a tangent bearing of North 55°57' 12" East, easterly along said centerline and said curve, having a radius of 2,437.98 feet, for an arc distance of 75.98 feet, through a central angle of 01 °47'08" to end of curve; thence North 57°44'20" East 631.33 feet along said centerline of survey to a point on a tangent curve to the left (concave northerly); thence, easterly along said centerline and said curve, having a radius of 3,821.97 feet, for an arc distance of 805.84 feet, through a central angle of 12°04'50" to end of curve; thence departing said centerline, run South 44°20'30" East 33.00 feet to the existing southerly right of way line of said State Road 30, as shown on said Right of Way Map and POINT OF BEGINNING; said point being on a non-tangent curve to the left (concave northwesterly); thence, from a tangent bearing of North 45°39'30" East, easterly along said right of way line and said curve, having a radius of 3,854.97 feet, for an arc distance of 30.36 feet, through a central angle of 00°27'04" to end of curve; thence departing said southerly right of way line, run South 44°47'34" East 27.00 feet; thence South 45°27'3 1" West 34.09 feet; thence North 36°55' 10" West 27.23 feet to POINT OF BEGINNING;

Containing 869 square feet, more or less.

**This easement is a perpetual easement for the purpose of constructing the project according to the current construction plans in, upon, over and through the described land in Franklin County, Florida. This easement will be used for purpose of controlling and directing drainage by installation, maintenance, and use of drainage designs and/or structures according to the current construction plans in, under, upon, and through the above-described land.**

OWNED BY: The Unknown Heirs, Beneficiaries, Devisees, Legatees, Spouses, and Creditors of Grady A. Avant Jr., deceased.

# FAITH

## When we revel in our 'enemy's' downfall



**Sheryl Boldt**  
Guest Columnist

"I'm here today to apologize for the personal mistakes I've made and the embarrassment I've caused my family and community... I'm announcing my resignation from Congress..."

We've heard far too many speeches from politicians who found themselves in front of a microphone, con-

fessing their transgressions because of their immoral behavior.

It's hard not to be cynical about whether these politicians feel genuine remorse. There's no doubt that their skeptics feel strong emotions as they observe the demise of their political enemies. But do any of these feelings include compassion or grace? Or are the cynics too busy celebrating the downfall of their rivals?

Then again, how many of us (the body of Christ) offer prayers for those who have

fallen? Do we pray for God to bring healing and restoration to their lives, marriages, souls? Tragic incidents like these don't limit themselves to national politics. We often deal with similar scenarios within our local communities and, sadly, in our churches.

What do we gain when we revel in the demise of our political enemies or social rivals? What does our giddiness at their downfall say about us? Most importantly, how does our pleasure in watching our adversaries (or fel-

low church or community members) squirm define us as representatives of the body of Christ?

This week, we'll focus on the first part of 1 Corinthians 13:6 (ESV). But first, let's read the verse in its entirety: "[Love] does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth."

Though you may try to hide it, do you find yourself sometimes enjoying someone's downfall?

If so, how can we practice compassion when others – including those we're not crazy

about – bring humiliation to themselves and their families? How can we demonstrate God's ways and His love?

We can begin by asking God to show us the times we've rejoiced during another's time of shame. Then ask His forgiveness for being unloving and invite Him to help us recognize when we're tempted to do so again.

We could also ask our heavenly Father to give us a humble heart and help us remember how many times we've blown it and how much it

hurt when others shamed us. How many times we, too, needed grace and mercy.

Some of our actions may, in comparison, have been worse. The words, "There but by the grace of God," come to mind as I consider that in the right circumstances, we could be the ones who find ourselves "in front of a microphone."

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

## No turning back

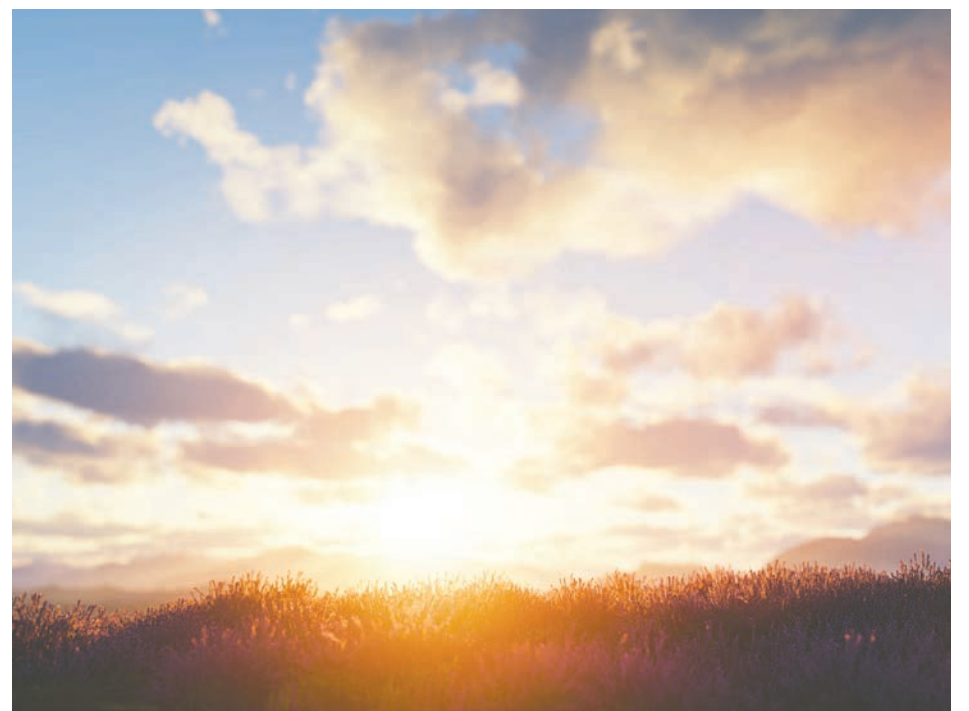


**Michael J. Brooks**  
Guest Columnist

We planned a dream vacation several years ago to Las Vegas where we heard Barry Manilow and The Temptations (these are acts loved by old people). Part of the trip was my taking the short

flight to the Bob Hope Airport in Burbank, California, and the short drive to spend a day at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

The library acquired the retired Air Force One in 2004, and the Air Force One Pavilion is a grand site. It's been featured several times in Republican presidential debates. I remember our tour of the plane, and a question I never got an answer to.



In the movie by the same name, President James Marshall (Harrison Ford) was given the opportunity to take the "escape pod" and save himself from onboard Communist terrorists. Secret Service agents rushed to the pod when it landed only to find it empty. President Marshall chose to remain on board and do battle. The dramatic climax was kicking the lead terrorist down the ramp and shouting, "Get off my plane!"

By the way, this movie featured our first female vice president, Kathryn Bennett, played by Glenn Close.

Anyway, I asked the attendant in Simi Valley where the escape pod was. She only laughed, meaning either there wasn't one or I lacked security clearance.

I thought of this visit recently

when I explored the meaning of Jesus' beatitude about a pure heart (Matthew 5:8). The original word, catharos, is the root of our words catheter and catharsis, meaning to take away impurities. It was used in the first century to describe an army drained of cowards so those remaining were a determined fighting force.

Of course, we think of Gideon's army. This Old Testament judge prepared to battle his enemy, the Midianites, with 32,000 troops. The Lord told him this was too many, so he invited the cowardly to go home. Gen. Gideon lost 22,000 men. The Lord told him again this was too many, so the army was whittled down to 300 mighty men who won the battle, defeating Midian in an unconventional way. This is the kind


of army for which Christ is searching today.

Jesus said, "No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looks back, is fit for the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62).

In other words, those who come to Christ come with a pure heart – a heart of courage and commitment. There is no escape pod when we commit to him. As the old chorus says, "I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back."

Our spiritual commander-in-chief never promised an easy road, but he promised ultimate happiness to those who follow him with a lifetime of commitment.

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



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## OBITUARIES

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

- Cassandra Clare

Wanda Corene McGee passed peacefully away April 5, 2024 at age 85. She was living at "The Blake" Assisted Living Facility in Panama City Beach. A native of North Western Kansas she moved here to Cape San Blas in 1996 after her marriage to Bill McGee. She was a wife, mother, accomplished educator, writer, editor, and artist. She achieved scholastically at the Brewster, Kansas schools, Kansas State University, and a Masters Degree at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. A lover of nature and the outdoors she traveled widely with camera in hand to photograph all of nature. Known

### Wanda Corene McGee

locally as the "Brain Gym" lady, she assisted with the education of learning challenged students in the Port St. Joe Elementary School. She published her first book "Invisible Currents", Nature's Lessons for the Mind and Heart in 2000. Next she recorded an oral history of her mothers' life growing up in Western Kansas and created a book titled "Roses of Burntwood". This is now in the Kansas Historical Library. She edited the life history of her friend Rita Valeo as her last published effort. With her interest in history she spent many hours of research and traveled many miles to do the genealogy of her

family. She is survived by her husband Bill, a step-daughter Cheryl Whipple of Atlanta, Ga., a step-son Tim McGee of Gaithersburg, MD, sons Dennis Veraska and family of Annandale, VA, and Douglas Veraska and family of Frederick, MD. Also surviving are her older brother and sister Raleigh Eggers of Manhattan, KS. And Marcia Zinn of Leawood, KS. She has 9 surviving grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A celebration of life will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Port St. Joe on Monday April 22, 2024 at 1000. Donations may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation in lieu of flowers.



# THE SECRET LIVES OF WORDS

## Rats, Ratso, and Ratatouille

**Rick LaFleur**  
Guest Columnist

“Rats!” Webster defines the interjection, a tad politer than “damn” or some other four-letter words you might let slip, as expressing “disappointment, frustration, or disgust.” The usage, which dates back to the 1800s, may be making a comeback with the widespread resurgence of rat populations, as reported by the NYTimes, PBS, and other media.

A recent Orkin report of America’s 50 “rattiest” cities ranked Chicago, Los Angeles, New York City, and Washington, DC as the most infested, with NYC home to some 2 million rats and L.A. stricken in 2018 by a major typhus outbreak connected to rodent-born fleas.

But two Florida cities made the rat-roster too, with Tampa at #50 and Miami even rattier at #23.

Most folks flat out despise rats. If you’re suspicious of someone, you smell a rat. A messy apartment is a rathole. The hectic workaday world is a rat race. You might or might not like rat-tail hair. Ratfink was 60s slang for a tattler, someone who rats on you: custom car aficionado Ed “Big Daddy” Roth popularized the term with his comic Rat Fink, an anti-hero parody of Mickey Mouse.

Dustin Hoffman’s character Rico Rizzo in the 1969 film “Midnight Cowboy” longed to rid himself of the moniker “Ratso” that his con-man misadventures had earned him on the street. Likewise, the 1971 movie “Willard” (and its 2003 remake), based on Stephen Gilbert’s novel “Ratman’s Notebooks,” did little to improve the image of rats, even those kept by eccentrics as companions.

When I was 12 or so, I had my own pet mice and white rats, though not the murderous kind. In fact, these little guys get plenty of good press in our culture. Disney’s Mickey and Minnie Mouse are prime examples of the loveable rodent. Their original images from the 1928 cartoon “Steamboat Willie” (it’s on YouTube) were recently released from copyright after 95 years.



Didrachm coin with head of Apollo, left, and Apollo Smintheus standing, right; Alexandria Troas, Turkey; 1st cent. B.C. [CLASSICAL NUMISMATIC GROUP | CNGCOINS.COM]



Gravure print of “Le rat de ville et le rat des champs (The City Mouse and the Country Mouse),” Gustave Doré, 1880. [ENVIRONNEMENT.ECOLE.FREE.FR]



Sauce tureen in the shape of an Asiatic dormouse, Jingdezhen, China, ca. 1745; Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware [DADEROT]

And let’s not forget Jerry, of the Tom and Jerry cartoons created by Hanna-Barbera in 1940. Or Terrytoons’ Mighty Mouse, originally “Super Mouse,” a Superman parody, also dating back to the 40s, and Andy Kaufman’s crooning the theme song: “Here I come to save the day.” More recently there’s Remy (voiced by Patton Oswalt), perhaps the most beloved cinematic rat of all time, the culinary hero of the 2007 animated film “Ratatouille.”

The ancient Romans had similarly mixed responses to these RODents. The scientific name for the mammal order Rodentia derives from a Latin word that means to bite, gnaw, eat away, and is source also of corROde and eROde. The ROD- root may be connected with RAT- in Late Latin rattus, our modern genus name.

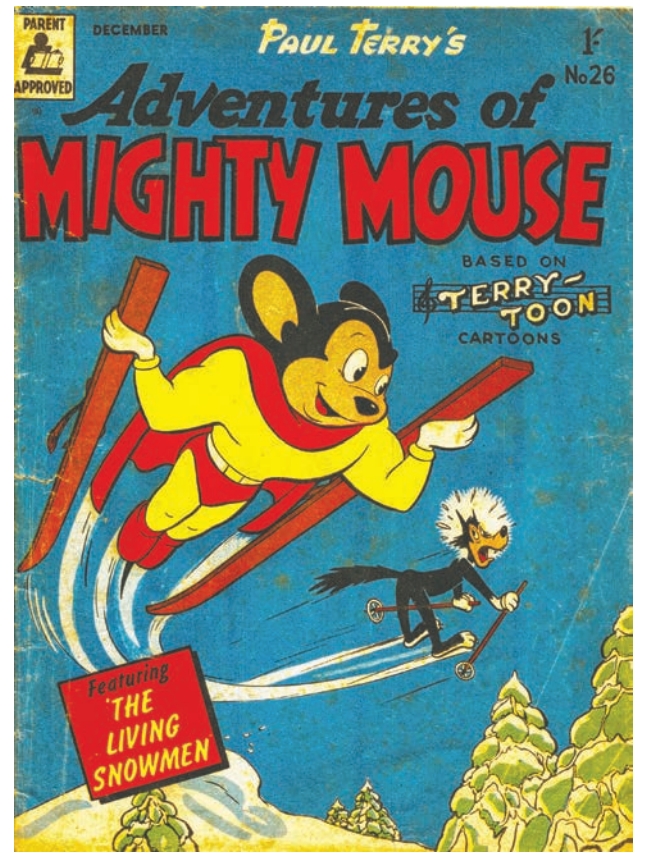
Both rats and mice belong to the rodent family Muridae, and the Romans didn’t distinguish them except by size: what we call a “mouse” they called mus/muris (hence MURidae), and a rat was just a big one (a magnus mus). A tiny mouse was a musculus, a word Roman physicians humorously adopted for what we call MUSCLE, presumably for the little subcutaneous flexing movements muscles make.

The Romans would call someone a mus as an insult (like our “you dirty rat!”) or as a term of endearment (like “my sweet little mouse”). The poet Horace, who gave us carpe diem (“harvest the day”), also retells Aesop’s fable of the City Mouse and the Country Mouse.

We have from the ancient Greeks another delightful tale, the Batrachomyomachia, a mock epic about a battle between mice and frog warriors (the mice win!) – a lively, charmingly illustrated new translation by Alicia Stallings is available on Amazon. Mice have a role in an earlier, more serious epic: in Homer’s Iliad,



“The Night Before Christmas,” Tom and Jerry cartoon, 1941. [HANNA BARBERA | IMDB]



“Adventures of Mighty Mouse” comic #26, 1950s. [TERRY-TOON CARTOONS | ABEBOOKS.CO.UK]

Apollo “Smintheus,” taken by some to mean “Mouse-God,” punished the Greeks with a plague possibly spread by mice.

While rats, or the fleas infesting them, certainly can transmit diseases (the CDC has identified about a dozen connected to rodents), the critters have also proven beneficial to medical researchers and other scientists. From the 19th century onward, the use of rats in experimentation has led to breakthroughs in studies of genetics, diet, human behavior and intelligence, the efficacy of drugs, as well as in treatment of diabetes, cardiovascular conditions, and other diseases.

With their intelligence and keen sense of smell, rats have been put to work in such tasks as identifying tuberculosis in patients and detecting landmines. In some African and Asian cultures, rats are a source of food; Brits in the Victorian Age ate rat-pies; and rat cuisine has appeared on occasion in the West Virginia Roadkill Cook-off and Autumn Harvest Festival in Marlinton. Even the Romans considered the dormouse a delicacy and enjoyed them as hors d’oeuvres or dessert.

“When in Rome, do as the Romans do,” or so they say. But in this instance I think eating mice is not nice: how could I ever look Mickey in the eye?!

Rick LaFleur is retired from 40 years of teaching Latin and Classics at the University of Georgia; his latest books are *The Secret Lives of Words*, a collection of his widely distributed newspaper columns, and *Ubi Fera Sunt*, a lively translation into classical Latin of Maurice Sendak’s children’s classic, *Where the Wild Things Are*. He and wife Alice live part of the year in Apalachicola, under the careful watch of their bobtail manx Augustus.



Poster for the 2007 film, “Ratatouille.” [WALT DISNEY PICTURES | PIXAR ANIMATION STUDIOS]

## GULF REAL ESTATE

From page 3B

MARCH 25: **Seven Springs Drive, Wewahitchka**, from Paula and Philip Griffin to Kathleen and Steven Mohr, for \$17,500

MARCH 26: **209 Gulf Pines Drive, Port St. Joe**, from Elizabeth and Jay Feltz, to Tracey and Daniel Spradling, for \$819,000

MARCH 26: **953 Backwater Road, Port St. Joe**, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Plamen Hristev and Eleonora Cekova, for \$438,600

MARCH 26: **1301 Monument Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Preferred Coastal Properties to Heather Ann Symmes, for \$165,000

MARCH 26: **6240 Doc Whitfield Road, Wewahitchka**, from Brenda and Shannon Johnson, Sr. to Artisan Construction Company Inc. for \$46,000

MARCH 28: **204 16th Street, Port St. Joe**, from Edith and Christopher Toth, to Gary Gibbs, Sr., for \$487,500

MARCH 28: **Olive Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Cheryl Alonzo and Evan Buchheim, to Leigh Ann and John Wisham, for \$279,800

MARCH 28: **107 Mariner Lane, Cape San Blas**, from Michelle Worthy to Jennifer and Kyle Worthy, for \$610,000

MARCH 28: **411 Front Street, Port St. Joe**, from Gail and Woodis Scott, Jr. to Joseph and Karen Spalding, for \$1,500,000

MARCH 28: **146 Sly Street, Port St. Joe**, from Wayne Rich to Juliann and John Kitchen, Jr. for \$300,000

MARCH 28: **Jazzy Lane, Wewahitchka**, from Norma Leaman, to Marcus and Mechelle Reitzammer and Todd Hanson, for \$10,000

MARCH 28: **134 Cove Lane, Port St. Joe**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Michael Hailey, for \$328,000

MARCH 28: **943 Backwater Road, Port St. Joe**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Laura and Ronald Kraus, for \$445,000

MARCH 29: **967 Backwater Road, Port St. Joe**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Susan

and Richard Binger, for \$457,100

MARCH 29: **503 Secluded Dunes Drive, Cape San Blas**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Robert and Susan Rollings, for \$1,100,000

MARCH 29: **497 Secluded Dunes Drive, Cape San Blas**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Erica and Jeffrey Portell, for \$1,100,000

MARCH 29: **Byrd Parker Drive, Wewahitchka**, from John Baker to Emmett Denham, for \$5,300

MARCH 29: **499 Cove Lane, Port St. Joe**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Bruce and Sheila Bradley, for \$342,700

MARCH 29: **143 Sapodilla Lane, Cape San Blas**, from Robert and Linda Patton, to Bryce and Karen Powers, for \$1,500,000

MARCH 29: **575 Vermilion Circle, Port St. Joe**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to John and Kimberly Powell, for \$509,800

MARCH 29: **568 Duval Street, Port St. Joe**, from Wayne Neel to Schwab Long Family Trust for \$111,900

MARCH 29: **493 Secluded Dunes Drive, Cape San Blas**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Philip and Susan Marbach, for \$1,245,000

APRIL 1: **Tulip Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Lynn and Samule Brewer to Pearl Investors, LLC for \$107,500

APRIL 1: **245 Hill Top Drive, Wewahitchka**, from Tammy Wiggins to Michael and Jenny Vasko, for \$265,000

APRIL 1: **211 Pineda Street, Port St. Joe**, from Albert and Diane Garrett to Jake Barrow, for \$380,000

APRIL 2: **6757 Highway 71, Wewahitchka**, from Michael Hammond to J.B. Land Company, Inc. for \$145,000

APRIL 2: **County Road 30A, Port St. Joe**, from Eliseo Duarte to Michael and Jennifer Rivers, for \$134,500

APRIL 2: **402 Windmark Way, Port St. Joe**, from LJB Properties LLC to Amanda-Jo and Kyle Wilt, for \$300,000

APRIL 3: **7959 CR 30A, Port St. Joe**, from Janis and Michael Tyson to Judith and James Fuller III for \$99,000

APRIL 3: **9453 Starfish Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Natalie and Stephen Shoaf, to Jessica and Justin Pedrick, for \$317,500

APRIL 4: **6610 Americus Avenue, Port St.**

**Joe**, from David New to Arthur and Ann Turner, for \$205,000

APRIL 4: **211 Settlers Ridge Drive, Wewahitchka**, from John Fowler to Michael Boree, for \$176,000

APRIL 4: **910 20th Street, Port St. Joe**, from Zero Long Ventures LLC to Melissa and Daniel Bosso for \$556,500

APRIL 5: **Highway 71 North, Wewahitchka**, from Muina Jesus and Sean Bierman to Street Smart Development, Inc. for \$175,000

APRIL 5: **Hardy Street, Port St. Joe**, from John Arnold to George and Theresa Hunter, for \$30,000

APRIL 5: **Pleasant Rest Road, Wewahitchka**, from Glenn Haney to William Carr, Jr. for \$75,000

APRIL 5: **3927 County Road 381, Wewahitchka**, from Linda Somero to Roy and Linda Howard, for \$362,000

APRIL 5: **160 Golf View Drive, Port St. Joe**, from Two Jays Property and Rental, LLC to Mike and Amy Meason, for \$95,000

APRIL 5: **County Road 30A, Port St. Joe**, from Mayle Holdings, LLC to Mathew Le, for \$100,000

APRIL 8: **America Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Francis Power to Nathan Watson for \$197,500

APRIL 8: **149 Palm Breeze Way, Port St. Joe**, from David and Jean Fowler to John D. Fowler, Sr. for \$100,000

APRIL 8: **597 Vermilion Circle, Port St. Joe**, from D. R. Horton, Inc. to Matthew and Amorette Nelson, for \$479,000

APRIL 9: **Heritage Lane, Port St. Joe**, from Ronald May to Maria and Dennis Fleshren, for \$90,000

APRIL 9: **111 Sunset Circle, Port St. Joe**, from Kelly and Lisa Forehand to Oakland Warehouse LLC for \$290,000

APRIL 9: **1401 Long Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Beach Fever LLC to Shawn and Kimberly Cheek for \$295,000

APRIL 9: **Garrison Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from W.P. Comforter Jr. to Kelly and Lisa Forehand, for \$275,000

APRIL 9: **4819 State Route 30A, Cape San Blas**, from Carl Borgman to CSB Sandy Frogs 2 LLC for \$670,000

## FRANKLIN REAL ESTATE

From page 3B

MARCH 27: **607 Pine Street, Alligator Point**, from Park Brittle Jr., to Andrew J. Arnold, for \$135,000

MARCH 27: **128 Haven Court, Carrabelle**, from Barbara and Daniel Dombrowski, to Cassondra and John Pemberton IV, for \$140,000

MARCH 28: **764 East Pine Avenue, St. George Island**, from JW Lighthomes, LLC to Carla Gibbs and Jeffrey Galloway, for \$160,000

MARCH 28: **72 East Gorrie Drive, St. George Island**, from 72 East Gorrie Drive LLC to Janice and Mark Workman, for \$1,100,000

MARCH 28: **405 McCloud Street, St. George Island**, from Kimberly Applewhite to Cardinal Cove FL, LLC, for \$1,300,000

MARCH 28: **Boat Storage Unit #A-126, Carrabelle**, from Shea McInvale to George Hannon and Seth Walker, for \$70,000

MARCH 28: **253 Sunset Way, Carrabelle**,

from Christy and Charlton Salter, to Keri and Jody Shimp, for \$130,000

MARCH 29: **147 West Gulf Beach Drive, St. George Island**, from Thomas Carro and William Thomas III, to JM Workman LLC, for \$980,000

MARCH 29: **4542 Palms Way, Lanark Village**, from Joe Cuffel and Green Arrows II Land Trust, to Heather and S. Austin Cattani, for \$195,000

MARCH 29: **1844 Sea Oat Drive, St. George Island**, from John A. Caddell Family Properties Trust to Cathy Caddell Revocable Trust, for \$3,185,000

MARCH 29: **Vacant lot near Seventh Street, Apalachicola**, from Cassandra and Jeffrey Mason to Pete Thomas, for \$82,000

APRIL 1: **1064 West Gulf Beach Drive, St. George Island**, from Kathleen and William Shierling to Kari and Brent Edel, for \$564,000

APRIL 1: **137 Timber Lane, Carrabelle**, from Harold and June Lee, to Pamela and James Ennis, Jr. for \$47,500

APRIL 2: **746 Bald Point Road, Bald Point**, from Cynthia and Earl Garrison to Cynthia and James O'Neill, for \$1,000,000

APRIL 2: **1729 East Gulf Beach Drive, St. George Island**, from Judy and Craig Crouch, to Debbie and Scott Snyder, for \$415,000

APRIL 2: **33B-1 Carlton Avenue, Lanark Village**, from Belinda Dale to Nicole and Aaron Gerteisen for \$110,000

APRIL 2: **1516 Gulf View Way, St. George Island**, from White Sands Investment Partners LLC to Selyne and Stephen Rickman for \$3,290,000

APRIL 3: **1014 Northeast 1st Street, Carrabelle**, from Billy Strops to Ronda and James Love, for \$15,000

APRIL 4: **25 Indian Mound Drive, Eastpoint**, from Deborah Brown to Tina Babb and Betty Armistead, for \$608,000

APRIL 4: **35 South Franklin Street, Eastpoint**, from Kayla and Eli Griffin, to Beth and Rickey Sewell for \$205,000

APRIL 4: **Near Avenue M and 12th Street, Apalachicola**, from Boncycle, LLC to Karen Boudreaux for \$42,000

APRIL 4: **363 22nd Avenue, Apalachicola**, from Lois Swoboda estate to Nicola Gambardella and Patti Gambardella Rutter, for \$205,000

APRIL 5: **144 and 146 Anhinga Trail, St. James Bay**, from Erma Jean Walker to Forgotten Coast Construction, LLC for \$80,000

APRIL 5: **9 Oak Drive, Apalachicola**, from David Hiddens to Miriam Roxana Barahona and Roger Martinez, for \$175,000

APRIL 5: **Vacant lot in Keough's Addition, Carrabelle**, from Cox Coastal Development LLC to Lucid Lingo, LLC for \$ 6,900

APRIL 5: **1101 Northeast Second Street, Carrabelle**, from Joshua Whitten to Eagleview Financial Services LLC for \$4,100

APRIL 5: **1339 Alligator Drive, Alligator Point**, from Sidney Gray and Lex Thompson to Eagleview Financial Services LLC for \$2,400

APRIL 5: **591 Pine Street, Alligator Point**, from Lynne and Jon Gable to Brenda and Stephen Remke, for \$46,000

APRIL 8: **39-3 Carlton Avenue, Lanark Village**, from Community Church, Inc. to John Yedlowski for \$150,000



## WEWAHITCHKA WOMAN'S CLUB

# Saturday food giveaway wraps up volunteer week

**Rhonda Alderman**  
Guest Columnist

April is National Volunteer Month, and it lets you embrace the spirit of giving back and making a positive impact on the lives of others. National Volunteer Month is a wonderful reminder that even small acts of kindness can have a profound impact.

During the week of April 21 to 27 it is GFWC Volunteers in Action week. Look for volunteers celebrating Earth Day and Arbor Day by planting trees and ending the week with several members helping give out food

on Saturday, April 27 at Carter's Temple in Wewahitchka.

*The GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Wewahitchka Senior Citizens Building. Join us to learn how you can be a part of an 87-year-old club. By being a volunteer, you can make a positive difference in your community and more. 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.*

## LANARK

From page 2B

WoodmenLife, Brenda La Paz, Lanark Village Fire Department, the American Legion Riders, Chapter 82, Camp Gordon Johnston for this teamwork effort. Things like this mean so much to our veterans.

There will be a Lanark Village Boat Club meeting on Thursday, April 18 at

6:30 p.m. Get involved, become a member, and come to the meetings. Also, the boat club will have their pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 20 from 9 to 11 a.m. \$7 donation for this full breakfast.

Heads up! If you want to see 80-plus motorcycles coming through town, the Unity Riders will be coming from Navarre Beach to Legion Post 82 in Lanark. The ride on Tuesday, April 23 will include a brief stop at the Veteran's

Memorial in Carrabelle. The ride is to support VetRelief's Suicide Prevention Initiative. The estimated time of arrival in Apalachicola is approximately 10:30 a.m. Wave some flags as they go by and show your support.

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*

## WOODRICK

From page 3B

your financial and tax situation.

If you regularly donate money to charity and you have retirement accounts from which you take annual required distributions, consider "qualified charitable distributions." QCDs make everyone happy. The IRS is happy because you met the required distribution, the charity is happy because it received money, and you are happy because you did not have to pay tax on the distribution.

If you are self-employed, you have a tremendous opportunity to save money on a pre-tax and/or post-tax basis. Traditional and Roth IRAs, 40(k)s, SEP IRAs, and SIMPLE IRAs are just a few of the potential solutions that could help you meet your financial goals. April is a great month to get started with these types of plans because you still have eight months in the year to get money into them. If you suffer from analysis paralysis or you tend to think yourself into a corner before taking any action, get started soon and seek professional advice.

Due to space constraints, in the future

I will discuss strategies to create and enhance tax-free assets and income streams.

*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. This information is not intended to be a substitute for specific individualized tax or legal advice. Individual tax or legal matters should be discussed with your tax or legal professional. 563650-1*

# THE TIMES Classifieds

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**391**  
Descendants of the successors to the estate of the deceased PEARLIE M. ROCHELLE, who lived at 148-9TH Street, Apalachicola, Florida. In connection with the probate proceedings, we are endeavoring to find any family members who might be entitled to a share of the estate, specifically the offspring of Pauline Farmer, Patricia Jones, and Charles Barfield. Kindly reach out to BRENDA BARFIELD at P.O. BOX 591, APOPKA, FL 32704-0591 no later than May 6, 2024.  
April 18, 2024

**392**  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION**  
**IN RE: ESTATE**

**OF CASE NO.: 24000013CPAXMX**  
**THOMAS KENT ATKINS, Deceased**  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The administration of the estate of THOMAS KENT ATKINS, deceased, whose date of death was December 12, 2023, is pending in the Circuit Court for FRANKLIN County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 33 Market Street, Suite 1, Apalachicola Florida 32320. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.  
All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on

whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.  
All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.  
ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.  
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS

SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.  
The date of first publication of this notice is April 18th-April 25th.  
/s/ DONNA DUNCAN, DONNA DUNCAN, P.A. Attorney for Petitioner Patricia O. Atkins Petitioner Florida Bar No. 63869 80 Market Street Apalachicola, FL 32329 (850)653-8976 ddduncan@fairpoint.net akeith@fairpoint.net  
Patricia O. Atkins Petitioner 1363 US Hwy 98 Eastpoint, FL 32328 April 18, 25, 2024  
**393**  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: **Mikon Financial Services, Inc.**, the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a **TAX DEED** to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: CERTIFICATE NUMBER: 106 CERTIFICATE YEAR: 2021 DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: **THE FULL LEGAL DESCRIPTION CAN BE VIEWED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.** PARCEL ID: 04-075-04W-0000-0020-0150 PROPERTY ADDRESS: N/A NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: **Anthony Ross Elliott** All of said property being in the State of Florida, County of Franklin. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed

according to the laws the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the Courthouse door on June 4, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. Dated this 18th day of March 2024 Date of Publication: April 18, 2024, April 25, 2024, May 2, 2024, MICHELE MAXWELL CLERK OF COURT FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Amber Segree, Deputy Clerk April 18, 25, 2024 May 2, 9, 2024  
**394**  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: **ATCF II Florida- A LLC**, the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a **TAX DEED** to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: CERTIFICATE NUMBER: 155 CERTIFICATE YEAR: 2021 DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: **Lots 24 and 25, Block G, LANARK BEACH UNIT NO. 1, a Subdivision, as per map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 13 of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.** PARCEL ID: 14-075-04W-3131-000G-0240 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 122 California Street, 32323 NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: **Charles J. Spicer and Virginia R. Spicer, husband and wife.** All of said property being in the State of Florida, County of Franklin. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to the laws the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the

Courthouse door on June 4, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. Dated this 18th day of March 2024 Date of Publication: April 18, 2024, April 25, 2024, May 2, 2024, MICHELE MAXWELL CLERK OF COURT FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Amber Segree, Deputy Clerk April 18, 25, 2024 May 2, 9, 2024  
**395**  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: **IDE Technologies, Inc.**, the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a **TAX DEED** to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: CERTIFICATE NUMBER: 456 CERTIFICATE YEAR: 2021 DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: **A FULL LEGAL DESCRIPTION CAN BE VIEWED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.** PARCEL ID: 02-085-05W-0000-0110-0010 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 2202 Highway 98, 32322 NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: **Robert J. Rayer and Marilyn L. Rayer, husband and wife.** All of said property being in the State of Florida, County of Franklin. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to the laws the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the Courthouse door on June 4, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. Dated this 18th day of March 2024. Date of Publication: April 18, 2024, April 25, 2024, May 2, 2024, MICHELE

MAXWELL CLERK OF COURT FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Amber Segree, Deputy Clerk April 18, 25, 2024 May 2, 9, 2024  
**396**  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: **ATCF II Florida- A LLC**, the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a **TAX DEED** to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: CERTIFICATE NUMBER: 814 CERTIFICATE YEAR: 2021 DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: **Lot 1, Block 1, NEELS ADDITION TO THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA, according to the Map of said NEELS ADDITION as recorded in Volume S, Page(s) 302, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.** PARCEL ID: 01-095-08W-8360-0003-0010 PROPERTY ADDRESS: N/A NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: **Helen Ramona Cobb** All of said property being in the State of Florida, County of Franklin. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed

according to the laws the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the Courthouse door on June 4, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. Dated this 18th day of March 2024 Date of Publication: April 18, 2024, April 25, 2024, May 2, 2024, MICHELE MAXWELL CLERK OF COURT FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Amber Segree, Deputy Clerk April 18, 25, 2024 May 2, 9, 2024  
**397**  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: **Sammie or Donna G. Simmons**, the holder of the following certificate, has filed said certificate for a **TAX DEED** to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows: CERTIFICATE NUMBER: 1128 CERTIFICATE YEAR: 2016 DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: **Lots One (1) and Two (2) of Block Three (3), NEELS ADDITION TO THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA, in the County of Franklin and State of Florida, according to a map**

**of plat of said NEELS ADDITION TO THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA on Page(s) 302 of Volume "S" of the Deed Records of said County, in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.** PARCEL ID: 01-095-08W-8360-0003-0010 PROPERTY ADDRESS: N/A NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: **Kerry Feder, husband and wife.** All of said property being in the State of Florida, County of Franklin. Unless such certificate or certificates shall be redeemed according to the laws the property described in such certificate or certificates will be sold to the highest bidder at the Courthouse door on June 4, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. Dated this 18th day of March 2024. Date of Publication: April 18, 2024, April 25, 2024, May 2, 2024, MICHELE MAXWELL CLERK OF COURT FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Amber Segree, Deputy Clerk April 18, 25, 2024 May 2, 9, 2024

## ANSWERS

From page 2B

### CROSSWORD

	S	S	E		P	E	R		A	B	N			
	P	I	X		A	R	E		C	O	A			
F	R	A	N	C		R	A	D		A	S	H	E	R
A	B	S	C	I	S	E		C	O	N	S	U	M	E
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FOR RENT  
1 BEDROOM TRAILER FOR RENT. IF INTERESTED CONTACT CURTIS WATSON 850-653-6103

FOR SALE  
**GARAGE SALE**  
Garage and Tool Sale  
April 20, 2024  
Trailers, Walkboards, Ladders, Saws, Clothes and More!  
135 10th Street  
Be There or be Square!

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April 20, 2024  
Trailers, Walkboards, Ladders, Saws, Clothes and More!  
135 10th Street  
Be There or be Square!

# OUTDOORS

## WEEKLY ALMANAC

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
Thu, April 18	80°	66°	9%
Fri, April 19	82°	67°	9%
Sat, April 20	81°	68°	9%
Sun, April 21	79°	61°	63%
Mon, April 22	77°	58°	22%
Tues, April 23	79°	59°	17%
Wed, April 24	80°	61°	6%
Thu, April 25	81°	62°	10%

## THE TIMES

### APALACHICOLA

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
18 Thurs		2:38 1.3	8:00 0.2	8:26 0.7
19 Fri	1:31 1.2	2:57 1.4	8:39 0.3	9:04 0.5
20 Sat	2:50 1.2	3:09 1.4	9:08 0.5	9:39 0.4
21 Sun	3:47 1.3	3:16 1.5	9:31 0.6	10:12 0.2
22 Mon	4:39 1.3	3:20 1.5	9:48 0.8	10:45 0.1
23 Tues	5:31 1.4	3:28 1.6	10:06 1.0	11:18 0.0
24 Wed	6:22 1.4	3:43 1.7	10:30 1.2	11:50 -0.2
25 Thurs	7:12 1.5	4:05 1.8	11:03 1.3	

### CARRABELLE

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide PM	Low Tide PM
18 Thurs		1:13 2.1	5:47 0.3	6:13 1.2
19 Fri	12:06 1.9	1:32 2.2	6:26 0.5	6:51 0.9
20 Sat	1:25 2.0	1:44 2.2	6:55 0.7	7:26 0.6
21 Sun	2:22 2.1	1:51 2.3	7:18 1.0	7:59 0.3
22 Mon	3:14 2.1	1:55 2.5	7:35 1.3	8:32 0.1
23 Tues	4:06 2.2	2:03 2.6	7:53 1.6	9:05 -0.1
24 Wed	4:57 2.3	2:18 2.8	8:17 1.9	9:37 -0.3
25 Thurs	5:47 2.4	2:40 2.9	8:50 2.1	10:10 -0.4

## THE STAR

### ST. JOSEPH BAY

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
18 Thurs		6:59 1.2	7:48 0.3	
19 Fri	12:16P 0.8	11:38 1.0	3:35 0.4	2:43 0.6
20 Sat		12:37 0.8	3:55 0.5	4:00 0.6
21 Sun	12:50 0.9	9:58A 1.0	4:20 0.6	5:06 0.4
22 Mon	2:16 0.8	10:17A 1.2	4:45 0.7	5:59 0.3
23 Tues	10:28 1.4			6:45 0.1
24 Wed	10:23 1.6			7:27 0.0
25 Thurs	10:32 1.7			8:07 -0.1

### APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
18 Thurs		2:11 1.1	7:33 0.2	7:59 0.7
19 Fri	1:04 1.0	2:30 1.2	8:12 0.3	8:37 0.5
20 Sat	2:23 1.1	2:42 1.2	8:41 0.5	9:12 0.4
21 Sun	3:20 1.1	2:49 1.3	9:04 0.6	9:45 0.2
22 Mon	4:12 1.2	2:53 1.3	9:21 0.8	10:18 0.1
23 Tues	5:04 1.2	3:01 1.4	9:39 1.0	10:51 0.0
24 Wed	5:55 1.3	3:16 1.5	10:03 1.2	11:23 -0.2
25 Thurs	6:45 1.3	3:38 1.6	10:36 1.3	11:56 -0.3

SPONSOR THE WEEKLY ALMANAC  
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# Rare leatherback nest spotted on Indian Pass

David Adlerstein  
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

The first nest of the 2024 sea turtle nesting season on Indian Pass is exciting members of the Indian Pass Sea Turtle Nest patrol, as it appears to be that of a leatherback, the largest of all living turtles and a rare find on Forgotten Coast beaches.

The members of the turtle patrol received a text message last week about “tracks and eggs on the beach,” and after a team went out to investigate they found not only tracks but a nest.

“This is the first documented Leatherback nest on Indian Pass and, we believe, the first nest of the 2024 season in the Florida Panhandle,” members of the patrol wrote on Facebook.

They reported that leatherbacks are massive animals averaging 6 feet in length and ranging in weight from 500 to 1,500 pounds. They said this sea turtle’s track was 83 inches wide, using patrol members for scale.

Data the sea turtle patrol shared indicated that in 2023, Florida statewide nesting totals showed that there were just 1,648 leatherback nests, fewer than 1 percent of the 213,621 nests.

Loggerheads were the most prevalent, comprising 134,933, or 63 percent of all nests tracked, and greens totaled 77,040, or about



A member of the Indian Pass Sea Turtle Patrol shows the breadth of the enormous leatherback that laid eggs on Indian Pass. [IPSTP | CONTRIBUTED]

36 percent.

The year 2019 was the last year turtle patrols recorded finding leatherback nests in either Franklin or Gulf counties, with one in Franklin and three on Gulf County beaches.

“This is an extremely rare event. We are thrilled she decided to nest within our patrol area,” wrote members of the Indian Pass unit. “Thank you to the neighbor who alerted us to this event.”

With nesting season set to officially start May 1, “we are preparing for a busy year,” wrote the patrol. “Please keep the beach clean, flat and dark.”

To reach the Indian Pass Sea Turtle Patrol, call or text to (850) 270-8939, or email at [ipturtles@gmail.com](mailto:ipturtles@gmail.com).

## FWC REPORT

During the week of March 8 through 14, Officers Hartzog and T. Nelson observed a recreational vessel in Franklin County with two individuals on board leaving from the bank of the East River with gear consistent with wild hog hunting. The officers stopped the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection. During the inspection the officers observed the vessel displayed registration indicating it was a homemade vessel, but a contradicting hull identification number was attached to the stern along with a manufacturer's decal on the side. Through further investigation, it was determined the vessel was recently purchased and the previous owner forged a vessel builder's statement and committed title fraud. The violations were cited accordingly.

Officers Hartzog and Forbes observed a recreational vessel on the Carrabelle River with two individuals who were fishing. The

officers stopped the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection, during which the officers observed the individuals in possession of undersized red drum and one of the individuals to be over his daily bag limit. The violations were cited accordingly.

Officers Hartzog and Forbes were conducting a night water patrol on Apalachicola Bay and observed a commercial vessel with one individual on board who was flounder gigging. The officers stopped the vessel to conduct a resource and boating safety inspection. The individual was identified as a commercial angler with an extensive history of resource violations. During the inspection, the subject was observed to be in possession of multiple undersized flounder. The violations were cited accordingly.

During the week of March 15 through 21, Officer Sizemore conducted a resource inspection on a vessel with four individuals coming into the boat ramp on St. George Island. The officer located three undersized black drum and two undersized redfish, and Sizemore issued citations accordingly.

# Forgotten Coast Fishing Report

Special to the Times and Star

Beeliners continue to be the most common catch offshore, followed closely by mangrove snapper. Most are being caught over reefs on either cut bait or live shrimp.

Inshore, Capt. Chase Wilder of Signal 0 Charters, put his crew on a cooler of Spanish mackerel, pompano, and trout this week. Capt. Chris Lantz of Gettin Reel Sportfishing had another productive week as well with trout, redfish and sheephead all being caught in St. Joe Bay. Capt. Lee Thompson of Shallow Seas Charter brought in the catch this week with trout among other species on live shrimp. Flounder bite continues to

improve on live shrimp and bull minnows.

The river levels have been falling and freshwater fishing is picking up with shell crackers at the top of the list. They are also being caught along with catfish on Lake Wimico. Red Wigglers and cut bait in the Dead Lakes continue to be productive for shell crackers. Use a #10 gold hook tipped with a red wiggler or beetle spin. Large-mouth are also good on artificial worms and lizards. Jitterbug works great in the early morning or late evening.

Until next week tight lines and good luck out there. Stop in and see us for the latest update.



Everything for your outdoor adventure!!

Monday - Saturday: 6am - 6pm EST Sunday: 6am - 6pm EST 121 W. Highway 98 • Port St. Joe • (850)229-1100