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WEEKLY NEWS
APRIL 4—11, 2024

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Bright morning star

The congregation for Easter Sunday's sunrise service on the St. George Island beach numbered in the hundreds, as people gathered with blankets and chairs to take part in the 6:45 a.m. service, organized and presented by the St. George Island United Methodist Church.

[DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]

OUT TO SEE

Saltair Farmers Market Saturday

The Port St. Joe Saltair Farmers Market is this Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET at George Core Park next to the Lighthouse.

'Lend Me A Tenor' this weekend

The Panhandle Players will present the comedy "Lend Me A Tenor" Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, April 4 to 7 p.m. and Sunday afternoon, April 7 at the Chapman Theatre in Apalachicola. Evening shows at 7:30 p.m. matinee at 3 p.m. Tickets \$25 and available at panhandleplayers.org

Carrabelle First Friday

Downtown Carrabelle businesses and Rio Carrabelle Art Gallery host the downtown First Friday event April 5 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Doctors group proposes to buy Weems

David Adlerstein
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A group of physicians, headed by Port St. Joe resident Dr. Huy Nguyen, have recommended to Franklin County Commissioners a plan to convert the small critical access hospital in Apalachicola into the newly created Rural Emergency Hospital (REH) designation, and to enter into talks to have them purchase Weems from the county.

Nguyen, an emergency room physician who worked during the pandemic at Ascension Sacred Heart on the Gulf, outlined the "transformation and sustainability" proposal to commissioners March 19.

A former Navy doctor who served in Iraq in 2003, Nguyen is currently CEO of Doctors Memorial Hospital in Bonifay, and CEO and managing partner of North Walton Doctors Hospital in Defuniak Springs, which is set to become the first Florida hospital to become a REH under newly introduced state and federal legislation. That REH is designed to subsidize the conversion of small, struggling acute care hospitals into beefed-up emergency rooms with limited inpatient services.

Nguyen's group interested in



Huy Nguyen, MD

obtaining Weems include James McLoughlin, MD, a spine surgeon with offices in Tallahassee and Panama City, and physician owner at North Walton; Andrew O'Connell, chief financial officer at North Walton; Gary Gargus, a healthcare architect; Bryan Cherry, a health care lobbyist; and Christopher Ryan, with Phillips, a maker and distributor of healthcare devices.

North Walton "was an old hospital in Defuniak, basically in a death spiral, losing money, losing providers, and then it got worse and worse," Nguyen said. "Me and other doctors have brought it back (to where it is) the first physician majority owned, managed and operated in this country in 15-plus years."

He said the new ownership has reversed steep operating losses. "Critical to the turnaround is bringing in the latest technology," Nguyen said. "They (patients) will see you when you're using the best equipment."

He outlined numbers for Weems that indicated steady net operating losses in the neighborhood of \$3.3 million, which require an annual infusion of about \$3 million in ad valorem and health care tax revenues in order for the hospital to stay afloat.

"With these kinds of operating losses it's the only way this hospital has been sustained," Nguyen said.

He said over the last two to three years, Doctors Memorial in Bonifay, also a critical access hospital, has under his leadership nearly doubled its revenue collection from \$12.4 million to \$21.4 million and been able to decrease its operating margin loss to 2.4 percent. "Any 3 percent, on either side of zero, is pretty much break even," Nguyen said.

County Commissioner Anthony Croom cited data from a 2022 audit that indicated "serious concern about the deteriorating condition" of the Bonifay hospital, but Nguyen defended the trend of the numbers.

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Wewahitchka settles firehouse litigation

David Adlerstein
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The Wewahitchka city commission is going out for bid for a new contractor to complete its fire station, after settling its suit with the former contractor and its surety company.

City Attorney Michelle Jordan said the case against Winterfell Construction Inc. and the holder of its surety bond FAIRCO (Fair American Insurance and Reinsurance Company) was settled earlier this year, with the city receiving \$850,000 from FAIRCO.

The surety will now collect that from Winterfell according to the terms of a bankruptcy plan worked out in the courts ever since the contractor filed for Chapter 11 in January 2023.

Jordan said she expects bids for a replacement contractor to be reviewed at the Wewa's April meeting. She said the city also received an extension from FEMA through 2025 to complete construction and expenditure of the remaining approximately \$600,000 of FEMA funds.

City Clerk Rachel Jackson said that following the damage wrought in 2018 by Hurricane Michael, FEMA awarded Wewa about \$1.53 million to build the fire house.

A lengthy court fight ensued after the city ter-



The half-finished Wewahitchka fire station will soon have a new contractor to complete the project. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE STAR]

minated Winterfell as the project's contractor in January 2022. Three months later Winterfell sued the city for breach of contract, prompting a countersuit from Wewa.

A complex legal battle, in both state and federal courts, then commenced between FAIRCO, Winterfell and the city, but following mediation and other decisions, the half-finished project is now back on track.

Jordan said she expects construction to be back underway by early summer.

THE TIMES



THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024

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THE STAR



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Carrabelle mayor La Paz steps down

David Adlerstein

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After announcing in a March 25 letter she would not seek re-election, Carrabelle Mayor Brenda La Paz stepped down from office on Sunday.

In a letter to City Administrator Courtney Dempsey, La Paz said “the reasons for my resignation range from personal, health, family, and financial.

“I will not get into specifics as these matters are personal. These obligations will not allow me the time needed to perform my duties as mayor,” she wrote.

La Paz was first elected to the mayor’s post in September 2015 after a term serving on the city commission.

“Nearly every waking moment over the past 12-and-one-half years has been dedicated to performing my duties as a public

servant to the citizens of the Carrabelle community,” La Paz wrote. “My daily work as a public servant has been much more than a fulltime job. Therefore, it is not possible for me to continue the level of public service that I have provided over these many years.”

La Paz said she made the decision “after much prayer, combined with long and thoughtful consideration with my husband. Without the unwavering support of my dear husband, Greg, these many years of public service would never have been possible.”

“I am proud and thankful the citizens have entrusted me with their leadership. It has been a true honor, privilege, and pleasure. Every day brought new educational opportunities and challenges,” La Paz wrote. “Sometimes the outcomes of final decisions on the commission level were discouraging,

but I would pick myself up by the bootstraps and continue my work, always towards a positive future for Carrabelle.

“I am inspired about returning to life as a private citizen. This will now put closure to recent speculation and allow others who may be interested in this challenging public position to come forward,” she wrote.

City Clerk Keisha Messer said last week that two individuals, Danyell Robison and Vance Pedrick, had declared their intention to run for mayor this fall. In addition, the at-large commission seats held by Sebrina Brown and Keith Walden will be on the ballot.

At the upcoming April 4 city commission meeting, the four commissioners could appoint someone by majority vote to fill the mayoral seat; or could appoint one of their own four members to serve as Mayor-Commissioner



Carrabelle Mayor Brenda La Paz stepped down Saturday. [FILE PHOTO]

until the Nov. 5 general election, in which case a commission seat would be vacant and appointment to that seat would be in order.

In addition, the city commission could request that interested members of the public submit a letter of Interest for the vacant seat which they may take action at a special scheduled meeting or at the May 2 city commission regular meeting. They also could appoint a member of the public to fill the vacant seat without receiving letters of interest.

GULF COUNTY COMMISSION

Husband seeks full term representing District 2

David Adlerstein

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Jack Husband, appointed to the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners by Governor DeSantis on July 28, 2023, is

seeking a full four-year term as county commissioner for District 2.

Florida law requires an appointed commissioner to fill the vacant seat until the next general election. The district runs roughly from the Beacon Hill area to the

western side of Wewahitchka.

Husband, 43, of 336 Lister Drive in Wewahitchka, was appointed to replace County Commissioner Billy Traylor, who died shortly after being elected in

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WEEMS

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“It’s going to be a lot better,” he said. “I’m happy to share raw data. If I didn’t know how to turn around a distressed hospital I wouldn’t be here. Bonifay was truly in a death spiral.”

Nguyen told Croom he has “no doubt” the number of jobs at a reconfigured Weems would increase. “I don’t know the wage scale here but I know there’s been a loss of staff,” he said. “We’ll have to readjust the wage scale upwards.”

Nguyen said transforming Weems from a critical access hospital to a REH would be wise for commissioners to pursue.

“This is your classic situation that this designation was designed to save. Right now you guys are effectively a kind of a REH anyway,” he said. “With two to four inpatients, you don’t have a robust inpatient now.

“With a REH, we will keep a patient overnight on observational status, and 95 percent

of the patients are either discharged home or kept overnight in observational status,” Nguyen said. “The biggest advantage is doctors can work there and be owners.”

He said reconfiguring the emergency room would cost anywhere from \$3.6 million to \$6.3 million, much less than building a new hospital, and could be completed over a period of six to nine months of construction.

Nguyen said his physician group would be willing to outfit the new emergency room with state-of-the-art equipment.

“Gulf County no longer has an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging),” he said. “You get an MRI and you’d be the only MRI between Tallahassee and Panama City. What if you can make the argument you’re probably better than Port St. Joe?”

Nguyen said he envisions bringing in cardiology services and a complete corporate rebranding. “If you don’t bring in good doctors, you’re throwing a ton of money after bad.”

While he did not discuss hard numbers as to what the price for Weems would be,

he presented two scenarios. “If the county was to divest itself out of Weems we would be willing to take on financial risk to make this transformation happen,” Nguyen said.

He said under consideration could be a public private partnership where the county has minority ownership with a physician consortium that would assume all risks for this transformation, “The county if it wants could be a partial source of financing and make interest,” Nguyen said. “And we’d have a community support foundation so that we are ensured we meet the needs and input of the community.”

He said the alternative model could be a “pure physician owned and operated hospital. My name is a personal guarantee on a ton of money. I’m grateful that I also have peers who are personal guarantees of a lot of money. I know we can finance this.”

Nguyen noted that if the county commences talks along those lines, he would like a stipulation put in prior to talks. “I would ask that there be a penalty on either side if we don’t end up signing a letter of intent,” he said. “Think of it kind of as an engagement. I’ve never been left at the altar but I know it can happen.”

Before responding to commissioners’ questions, Nguyen summarized by saying “You guys have a hospital that in my mind is in a death spiral. There’s a new hospital classification that you can take advantage of and you can do it without physician ownership.

“If you don’t have the right management and you don’t have the right providers, you’re just now going down another rat hole,” he said. “I believe we have a template, a model of physician ownership that can transform this hospital and we’re willing to look at it.”

Commissioner Ottice Amison asked about the two clinics that Weems operates and Nguyen said that they would be part of their purview as well.

“The clinics would be part of this, and would be part of a 90-day transition,” he said. “We have to address ambulance services, as well as all the clinics, and we’re committed to a clinic system because that’s how you feed the main hospital.

“One way to recruit primary care physicians is to sell the beauty of the region and then dangle physician ownership in front of them,” Nguyen said.

Commission Chairman Ricky Jones said he would be interested in holding an evening workshop to gather community input on the doctors’ proposal. Meanwhile, the county is pursuing a request for qualifications for a healthcare consultant, not interested in operating Weems, to provide them advice on going forward with an REH and other management issues over the hospital.

Local leaders with a long-term view.



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

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OPINION

Opening Day 1969: 'The Kid' returns



Joe Guzzardi
Guest Columnist

During the spring of 1969, spirits were high in the nation's capital. The cherry trees along the Potomac River were in bloom. Cautious optimism prevailed that newly inaugurated President Richard Nixon would fulfill his campaign promise to end the Southeast Asian war.

But more than anything for DC's sports' fans, legendary Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi had agreed to assume the Washington Redskins general manager and head coach positions. And Hall of Fame great Ted Williams, "The Kid," accepted owner Bob Short's offer to manage the moribund Washington Senators.

Short, a trucking and hotel mogul, had previously owned basketball's

Minneapolis Lakers and moved the team to Los Angeles before selling the Lakers for \$5.2 million. Among Short's goals were to entice more Senators fans and turn a profit. To achieve those objectives, he wanted a big name to take the Senators' helm.

Williams was certain that he could help the punchless Senators. When Short offered a five-year, \$65,000 salary with perks that included a \$15,000-a-year hotel suite, an unlimited expense account, a title as vice president and an option to buy 10 percent of the team for \$900,000, Williams became the new Senators manager, and set out to prove that he had leadership skills.

The woebegone Senators that Williams inherited were mocked throughout baseball, including in their home city. The 1968 Senators finished in 10th place, dead last, with baseball's worst record, 65-96. The team also drew the fewest fans, 565,000, a 206,000 decrease from 1967.

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Americans can tell the difference between rosy economic data and reality



Veronique de Rugy
Guest Columnist

The economy is growing, unemployment is low, wages are up, and inflation is down. However, the American people remain grumpy about the state of the economy. This puzzle was just investigated by four economists. They found that people often know that something is wrong even if statistics don't reflect the problem. In this case, people are perceiving that inflation is still, in fact, high.

For months now, Americans have

been told that inflation's downward trend, from almost 9% annually to around 3%, should make them feel good about the economy. But it isn't working. A recent Gallup poll found that 63% say the state of the economy is getting worse and 45% think it's already "poor."

One reason, many have speculated, is that while the rate at which prices are rising might have slowed considerably, prices remain very high. Food and rent in particular are still expensive. These prices are felt everyday by Americans when they pay for their housing and go to the supermarket.

But that's not all. A new study from the National Bureau of Economic Research by economists Marijn Bol-

huis, Judd Cramer, Karl Schulz and Larry Summers finds that a change in the method used to estimate inflation today, compared to the method used in the 1980s, might well cause an underestimation of the true level of inflation.

The paper -- "The Cost of Money Is Part of the Cost of Living" -- highlights the overlooked impact of the highest borrowing costs consumers have faced in decades. From mortgages to car loans to credit-card debt, those costs are up.

As the authors explain, the pre-1983 measure of inflation (the Consumer Price Index) counted the price and interest rate Americans paid to buy housing. The newer measure is

based on what it costs to rent housing. Another way to think about it is if you buy a house this month, the monthly payments will be much higher than if you bought one three years ago. The same is true of a car or other purchase. But measuring inflation based on rental costs, which may not incorporate the sky-high interest rates of a new purchase -- doesn't reflect that difference.

As Summers, the treasury secretary under President Bill Clinton, noted on X, formerly Twitter, "Pre-1983, mortgage costs were in the CPI as were car payments pre-1998. Now, price indexes do not include borrowing costs. Thus, when interest rates jumped last year,

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Reflections on timeless P.J. O'Rourke quotes



Ron Hart
Guest Columnist

P.J. O'Rourke was a friend and mentor. He blurbed my first book, and he was a hero to many of us libertarians who felt humor was an effective way to point out the absurdities of politics and life. He understood economics, free markets, and the value of free people.

"If you say a modern celebrity is an adulterer, a pervert and a drug addict, all it means is that you've read his autobiography."

This P.J. O'Rourke quote speaks to society's obsession with celebs. It has expanded in our new

TikTok world. Celebrities' need for attention knows no end -- and when they write a book and want to sell it, they sensationalize their shortcomings.

When Kate Middleton fought off speculation and put questions about her health to rest with a dignified video, a few people were upset. Kate's California-based sister-in-law, Meghan Markle, saw all the attention and sympathy Kate was getting, so she called Oprah and set up an interview to tell her about that time Wolfgang Puck's in Beverly Hills got her order wrong.

Hunter Biden is another infamous celeb who demonstrates this desperate need for attention. We know that was not Hunter's cocaine at the White House because some of it was left. He is working now with

the guy who paid his taxes, a producer who is following him with a camera to cash in on a Netflix documentary on Hunter's dysfunctional life.

But things may change for "the First Son." Joe Biden's poll numbers are so low that Hunter might be forced to get a job based on his own wherewithal. P.J. nailed this one too: "Politics is the business of getting power and privilege without possessing merit."

We have combined celebrity with politics with the likes of Donald Trump and Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelenskyy, a former TV show comic now running that corrupt country. We should employ a reality show name: "Keeping Up with the Ukrainians."

Even O.J. Simpson got a reality show

named Juiced. Who would have thought murdering your wife would be a good career move? We are in a very confusing time.

"Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys."

This latest \$1.2 trillion, pork-filled, budget deal speaks to this P.J. classic. When I was at Georgetown University, we used to call Washington D.C. "Hollywood for ugly people." Even the most fervent budget hawk goes to Washington with lofty intentions and then starts to enjoy the limo rides and the hot tubs full of women provided by lobbyists.

Speaking for the 50% of us who pay the taxes, I could be just as proud to be

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

NBC News and the Ronna McDaniel failure



Dick Polman
Guest Columnist

The welcome announcement arrived at dinnertime, and it was good for digestion.

Top NBC executive Cesar Conde ate crow: “Ronna McDaniel will not be an NBC News contributor... I approved (the hire) and I take full responsibility for it.”

Then he tried to explain: “Our initial decision was made because of our deep commitment to pre-

senting our audience with a widely diverse set of viewpoints and experiences.”

That’s precisely where they stepped in it with both feet. McDaniel, who worked closely with the criminal defendant to overturn a democratic election and obstruct the peaceful transfer of power, offers a “viewpoint” that is frankly fascist, that is far more Russian than American, that is the antithesis of every hallowed value this country stands for – and thus deserves a red cent from any respectable network’s treasury.

More broadly, Ronna has rebooted questions that have plagued the mainstream media ever

since the MAGA virus took root: How do you cover a party that has degenerated into a cult? Is it possible (memo: it isn’t) to present “both sides” with traditional journalistic “balance” when the leader and fellow travelers of one party lie as they breathe and openly conspire to sabotage our democratic institutions?

I’ll tell you a little story. In the spring of 2018, during my time as a columnist under contract at WHYY News (Philadelphia’s public media outlet), it became clear to me that the station’s overlords were discredited by my relentless focus on Trump’s serial misdeeds. (I called him “a clear

and present danger” to the nation.) They asked if I could recommend a conservative columnist who might be willing to “balance” me and defend Trump.

I told them there was a big problem: No conservative pundit with an ounce of integrity and a respect for facts was willing any longer to defend Trump. Also, by definition, any pundit still willing to defend Trump was untethered to factual reality and likely had a screw loose.

The problem then is the problem now. Alas, Ronna McDaniels’ defenders don’t understand that.

For instance, GOP pollster Frank Luntz tweeted that McDaniel

has a “perspective we all would benefit from. Instead of trying to silence her, we should be listening intently for all we can learn. I listen to people I disagree with all the time.”

So working to overthrow a democratic election is just another “perspective?” We’re supposed to normalize that?

Greta Van Susteren, the Newsmax host, tweets that mainstream broadcasters should not “disrespect” McDaniel because to do so “is not journalism,” it’s “Russia TV.” Those last few words are Orwellian topsy-turvy.

Over on Fox, Jeanine Pirro, said: “The liberal media can’t stand the idea

of having a different point of view on their air.” Abetting a violent coup is just a “different” view, like maybe tax cuts versus tax hikes.

Some of McDaniels’ defenders have pointed out that ex-insiders have long migrated to the media, so what’s the big deal. Granted, that is one of Washington’s revolving-door traditions. The list of ex-Republican insiders who’ve made the big leap includes William Safire, Pat Buchanan, David Gergen, Bill Kristol, Michael Steele, Nicolle Wallace, Joe Scarborough, David Jolly, Brendan Buck, and many more. But – how hard is this to understand? – none of

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GUZZARDI

From Page 4A

The 1968 club had a .623 on-base-plus-slugging percentage, 14 points below the league average. In 1969, Senators batters had a .708 OPS, 18 points above the league’s .690. The Senators drew 630 walks in 1969, compared to 454 the previous season. Even with the rule changes that lowered the pitcher’s mound and tightened the strike zone, the Senators showed an astounding improvement of 176 free passes. Williams understood the age-old axiom that a walk is as good as a hit.

Pitchers also improved under rookie manager Williams. The hurlers listened to Williams’ daily spring-training sermons on hitting and how to exploit American League opponents. In 1968, the Senators ERA of 3.64 was 66 points above the league average, 2.98. The next season, Washington’s pitchers reduced their ERA to 3.49, 14 points below the rest of the AL, 3.63. Williams’ 1969 Senators won 86 games, a 21-game improvement over 1968 and the team’s best record since 1945.

Fans flocked to Robert F. Kennedy Stadium to watch the Senators; the team drew 900,000 paid admissions, and Williams won the Manager of the Year award. Unfortunately, the 1969 Senators proved to be a one-year wonder, returning in 1970 to their habitual doormat as “first in war, first in peace, and last in the American League.” A 70-92 record landed the Senators in sixth and last place in the American League East.

Despite high-profile trades, which brought Curt Flood and a washed-up Denny McLain to the Senators in 1971, the team declined to 63-96. The Cleveland Indians spared them last place in the American League East.

Short had raised ticket prices, and fans refused to pay more to watch a lousy team play in an unsafe neighborhood. Senators’ frustrated fans – 14,500, about twice the daily 1971 attendance – saved their worst behavior for September 30, the final American League game played in Washington.

When the fans destroyed the field, umpire James Honochick forfeited a Senators’ 7-5 lead to the visiting Yankees. The fallout: a long-anticipated September 1971 announce-

ment that Short was moving the Senators to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, to the ingloriously named Turnpike Stadium. The Senators were renamed the Texas Rangers.

Williams befuddled the baseball world when he agreed to accompany the limping Senators to Texas. One disastrous year in Texas was enough for “The Kid.” The Rangers lost 100 games, had a .217 team batting average, a 15-game losing streak, and finished 20-1/2 games behind the next to last California Angels. Williams retired, and headed home to Islamorada to pursue bonefish, a skill that gained him a place in the International Game Fishing Hall of Fame.

For more than three decades and through multiple league expansions, Washington unsuccessfully sought a major league team. Finally, in 2005, the Montreal Expos moved to D.C. to become the Washington Nationals, the 2019 World Series champions.

Joe Guzzardi is a Society for American Baseball Research and Internet Baseball Writers’ Association member. Contact him at guzzjoe@yahoo.com.

DE RUGY

From Page 4A

official inflation did not fully capture the effects it would have on consumer well-being.”

Indeed, if we measured inflation as we did in the 1970s, the inflation that started in 2021 would have peaked at 18% -- double its reported peak. That’s higher than the worst of the 1970 and ‘80s. Inflation’s current annual rate would be about 8%.

As Summers notes, measuring inflation the pre-1983 way helps explain “70% of the gap in consumer sentiment we saw last year.” Not surprisingly, Americans have a better sense of the state of the economy and their daily lives than the economists who focus mostly on data, models and indexes for information about the world.

I assume this paper by Summers and co-authors will revive the debate about how we should measure inflation. John Cochrane, over at the Grumpy Economist Substack, observes that to answer this question properly, you have to ask first what you’re trying to measure:

“The new way is closer to right, if the question is to measure changes in the cost of living right now for the av-

erage person. ... Most people live in older houses with fixed mortgages, so higher prices and mortgage rates for new houses don’t affect them. People who rent don’t care. While higher interest rates are a cost to borrowers, and higher house prices a cost to buyers, higher interest rates are higher income to savers and higher house prices a boon to downsizers. Those wash on average.”

But if the question instead is whether Americans feel that their lives are improving from a few years ago based on the idea that inflation is allegedly falling and they can rent a house just like theirs for less money, then the answer is different.

The bottom line is that, while the question of how best to measure inflation has no single and straightforward answer, one mystery has been clearly solved by Summers and his co-authors. People aren’t crazy. Even if every media outlet and the president continue to insist that ordinary Americans’ lives are getting better because of falling inflation, we know that’s not right.

Veronique de Rugy is the George Gibbs Chair in Political Economy and a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University.

HART

From Page 4A

an American for half the money I send in. My CPA just did my taxes and he told me to make out a separate check for \$14,675 for Ukraine, payable to Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

In the recent budget bill, there is \$175,000 to pay a House Chaplain. Only mind readers in Hollywood have fewer things to do all day.

All this leads us to my favorite P.J. quote: “The mystery of government is not how Washington works, but how to make it stop.” This manifests the maddening self-importance of our leftist government and its ineffectual answers to our problems -- many of which it created with past solutions to our problems. Not a single Democratic solution to our problems is one they did not help create, one that does not take more money from us, and one that doesn’t give government more power over us.

P.J. saw the need for limited government and individual freedoms.

He sums up libertarian views:

“There’s only one basic human right, the right to do as you damn well please. And with it comes the only basic human duty, the duty to take the consequences.”

I say, smoke all the crack you like, but do not expect me to pay for your rehab or not to shoot you if you try to steal my lawnmower. You cannot regulate stupidity. Darwin was onto something.

He coined the phrase “fashionable worries” to define the virtue signaling of the idle class about unquantifiable things such as modern-day “global warming.”

P.J. would love to make fun of our burgeoning “Deep State” today. All the uptick in crime worries me less than the growing and unaccountable morass in our government. To me, the criminals among us are less of a threat than a well-organized big government with enforcement divisions.

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

Lady Gators edge Lady Seahawks 4-3

David Adlerstein
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

The long-simmering rivalry between the Wewahitchka and Franklin County softball teams moved off the back burner last week, as the two teams met for the second time this season, this time in Eastpoint.

Franklin County had a better record, 10-4, going into the contest, and had won the teams' first outing this season, a 5-0 shutout in Wewa Feb. 27.

But the Lady Gators were riding high, with a four-game winning streak that had included lopsided wins: on March 12 16-4 over the Greenback (Tennessee) Lady Cherokees, on March 14 11-2 over the Anderson County (Tennessee) Lady Mavericks, on March 26 15-0 at Port St. Joe, and on March 27 at home 13-3 over the Florida High Lady Seminoles.

So the stage was set, the stands were thick with both Gator and Seahawks fans and the ump's were ready to call 'em as they saw 'em.

Facing Lady Seahawk ace junior Sarah Ham, and her 2.37 earned run average, Justin Smith's Lady Gators wasted no time getting on the scoreboard. After senior Ashley Thompson was hit by a pitch, and later stole second, sophomore Haley Green laid down a sacrifice bunt that advanced her to third. Junior Lai-ken Farrell drove home the run with a base hit.

Following a scoreless bottom of the first, Ham got herself into a pickle in the top of the second, as sophomore Emma Rustin and Jordan Ashby both had base hits. Ham managed to strike out junior Laila Suber, and Seahawk skipper Scott Collins opted to intentionally walk Ashley Thompson to load the bases. But Ham pitched her way out of the situation.

In the bottom of the second, the Lady Seahawks knotted the contest when junior Micahlyn O'Neal sent a pitch from sophomore Severa Haney over the centerfield fence. But Haney kept her cool and allowed just a single up the middle from senior Charity Larkin, and then struck out freshman Ashton Carey to end the inning.

In the top of the third, the Lady Gators put a pair of runs on the board, beginning with a solo home run by freshman Eden Rustin over the center field fence.

Senior Hope Thompson followed by beating out a grounder that O'Neal



Sophomore Lady Gator pitcher Severa Haney throws a practice ball before she has to don her field shield. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]

bobbled at first, and then advanced to second on a passed ball and stole third. She would later come home on a sacrifice by sophomore Emma Rustin, and the Lady Gators had a 3-1 lead.

Wewa added their final run in the top of the fifth, when a sacrifice fly to left field sent Eden Rustin home.

But trailing 4-1, the Lady Seahawks mounted a comeback in the bottom of the sixth, when sophomore Averie Johnson got on base when a Texas Leaguer dropped into short left.

In her first-ever varsity home run, sophomore Alexis Webb then slammed the ball over the fence to the opposite field, and the Gator lead had narrowed to 4-3.

Ham faced three batters in the top of the seventh, striking out one and getting the other two out on infield grounders.

In the bottom of the seventh, Haney did what she had to do, getting Ham to hit a long foul ball that was caught, striking out O'Neal and then getting junior Raegan Dempsey to fly out to end the game.

"We've got to be more consistent at the plate," said Collins, whose team left seven women on base and which was outhit 8-6 by the Lady Gators. "We're not hitting the ball when we need to."

Ham struck out eight and walked two, while giving up three earned runs on eight hits. "Sarah got better as the game went on and hit her normal groove in the third or fourth inning," said Collins.

The Seahawk coach credited a diving catch by the Gator shortstop, after the pitcher got her hand on it, late in the game for stifling a potential rally. "That could have been a game-winning two runs batted in," he said.

Three of the Lady Gator seniors said the win marked a turnaround from their early season loss to the Lady Seahawks.

"We attacked more than we did the first time and our defense was a hundred times better. We've been gelling more at practice and been working on communicating with each other and we've been doing that very effectively and our defense got us through," said Savana Mayhann.



Seahawk sophomore catcher Alexis Webb had her first varsity home run, a two-run shot over the fence to the opposite field. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]



Lady Gator coach Justin Smith eyes the batter from his spot at third base. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]

"It's definitely been the start of a great in everybody. In the beginning we were trying to work it out," said Ashley Thompson.

"I feel like the big change was we had more drive in this game, more competitiveness with the team," said Hope Thompson. "With the first Franklin game we were just going through the motions. We didn't trust our defense and this game we let our defense back us up and we were more confident in our bats"

"This is the beginning of what can be amazing," she said. "We just got to keep working and just showing up and have confidence in our game."



Gator junior #11 Laila Suber lays down a bunt. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]



Seahawk junior Micahlyn O'Neal had a solo home run in the second. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE TIMES]

Vandertulip two-hits Chipley

David Adlerstein
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

Port St. Joe senior pitcher Fisher Vandertulip had perhaps his best outing of the season March 28, as he twirled a two-hit shutout 1-0 on the road against the Chipley Tigers.

He struck out nine and walked just two, in the seven inning affair.

Vandertulip aided his cause with a hit and a run scored, when he was brought home in the top of the third on a single by senior

C.J. Conway.

Conway, junior Peyton Knox and sophomore Eli Harris each had two hits, including each a double. Sophomore Baylor Parte, senior Jentzen Odom, and senior Hunter Hicks also had singles.

The win followed three consecutive losses for the Tiger Sharks, as they fell March 16 2-0 to Callaway and later that day 14-4 to the Heard County (Georgia) Braves. On March 27 at Blountstown, Port St. Joe lost 4-0 to the Tigers.



Port St. Joe senior pitcher Fisher Vandertulip. [DAVID ADLERSTEIN | THE STAR]

GULF ELECTION

From Page 2A

November 2022.

As it stands now, two other Republicans, George “Buddy” Cooper and John Murnan, have also filed letters of intent to seek the commission seat. In the event no Democrats, or individuals without party affiliation, qualify to run, then the election will be decided at the Aug. 20 primary, at which time all voters within the district, regardless of party affiliation, will be able to vote for District 2 county commissioner.

The following statement was submitted by Mr. Husband’s campaign.

Jack Husband is a lifelong resident of Gulf County. As a graduate of Wewahitchka High School Class of 1998, Jack proceeded to Gulf Coast State College to obtain his associate in arts degree in 2000, and then to Florida State University-Tallahassee to obtain his bachelor of science degree in civil engineering in 2004.

Jack immediately went to work after graduation for an engineering firm, and received his professional engineering license in 2008. Branching out on his own after the fall of the economy

in 2010, Jack has been humble and self-employed for 14 years. He started a business with one employee in a home office, and over the course of these years with hard work and discipline, has grown to employ over 20 people. Mr. Husband has two local offices to provide career opportunities for great hometown Gulf County residents.

With his 20 years of work experience in engineering, Jack has worked with city and county governments across the Panhandle, along with state and federal governmental permitting agencies. Jack has attended both city and county commissioner meetings since 2004, often in the evening hours. These meetings have provided experience, insight to government operations, critical thinking, and fortitude. This ultimately proves that Jack is the most qualified person to represent the constituents of Gulf County District 2. Jack understands the role and responsibilities of being a county commissioner.

Since Mr. Husband’s appointment by the governor in July 2023, Jack has diligently served the residents of District 2. The following are some notable accomplishments: received board approval for the opening of the Wetappo Transfer Station, updated striping along county roadways and intersections, and trimmed rights-of-way for safer roadway travel. Currently Jack is working to finalize the Overstreet Paving Project and several additional items pertaining to safety and

betterment for all of District 2.

Mr. Husband also has many years of community service for Gulf County. Starting out as an acolyte at the First United Methodist Church in his youth, an on to Little League baseball and soccer coach for his children’s teams. For over 15 years, Jack has been a firefighter for the Wewahitchka Volunteer Fire Department, now duly serving as secretary to the department. Also, he has served on the board for the Gulf County Economic Development Alliance from 2014 to 2023, and as a previous board member of the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce.

As a small-town boy now businessman, Jack has a large mindset. He understands property rights, that our Forgotten Coast is now found, and the insight for the government to control growth and expansion of our county. As a business owner since 2010, Jack recognizes that county government is operated similarly to a business. His experience will aid in budgeting, management of county departments, updating policies, planning for the future, infrastructure needs, executive duties, and quasi-judicial hearings. Most of all, Jack has greatly enjoyed being able to help residents get their needs accomplished, meeting and talking with new people, and overall, simply trying to be identified as a benefit to the people and Gulf County.

Jack is married to his wife of 20 years, Christy, and together they have two children, Wyatt, 16, and Kate, 13. In his free



Jack Husband, appointed by Gov. DeSantis as county commissioner for District 2, is seeking a full four-year term.

[PROVIDED BY CANDIDATE]

time, Jack enjoys spending time with family and friends, watching his children play sports, hunting, and fishing.

Jack has taken on this role very seriously and is here to help. Jack would appreciate your support on August 20. Please vote for Jack Husband and allow him to continue to serve as Gulf County Commissioner District 2 in a professional manner; to represent you and make everyone proud to live in Gulf County. Please contact Jack Husband anytime via email at commissioner2@gulfcountry-fl.gov or via text/telephone at 850-227-8429.

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



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NOTICE OF ZONING CHANGE

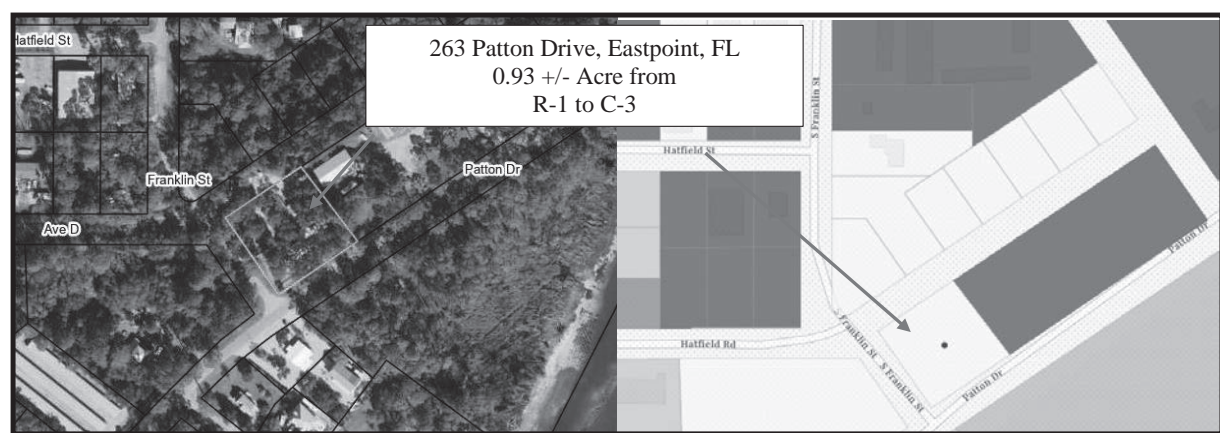
The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners proposes to adopt the following by ordinance:

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

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

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

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



NOTICE OF LAND USE CHANGE

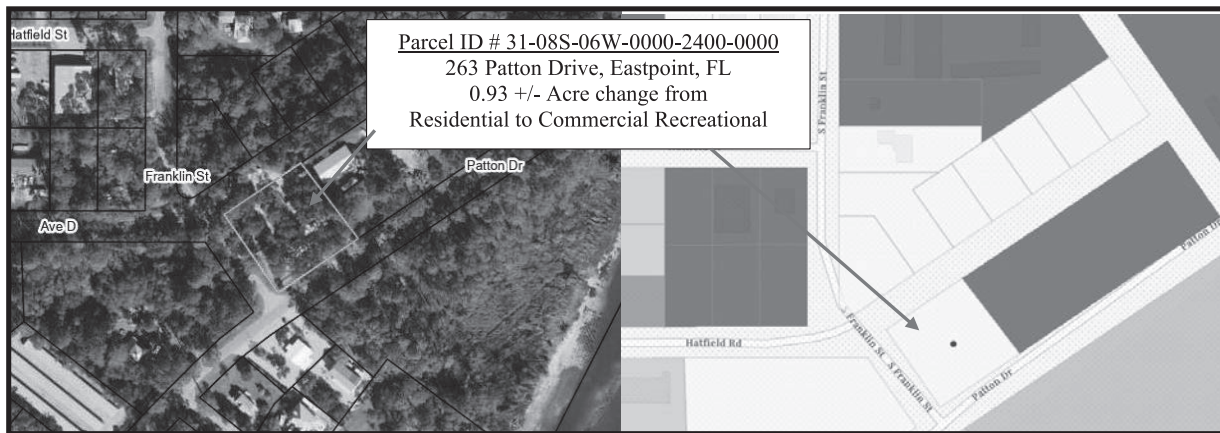
The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners proposes to adopt the following by ordinance:

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

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

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

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NEWS BRIEFS

Free prep course for ham radio license

The Franklin County Emergency Management office will host a free prep course for the general level Ham Radio license.

Because this is the second level of ham radio licenses, the first level, the technician license, has to be completed before taking the general level. Both tests can be taken at the same time; however, technician level material will not be covered in this class.

The classes will be held at the emergency operations center, 28 Airport Road Apalachicola, every Tuesday and Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m. from Thursday, April 4 through Thursday, May 9.

For more information about the class please contact Rob Zingarelli at W4ZING.radio@gmail.com.

Need to better understand dementia?

The Florida Department of Health's Dementia Care and Cure Initiative, and Franklin County's Elder Care Community Council, are teaming up with a free series on ways to gain a better understanding of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, and to learn about resources available to assist persons with dementia, their families, and caregivers.

Open to everyone, the series is held the second Thursday of every month from 11 a.m. to noon at Holy Family Senior Center, 203 7th St. Apalachicola.

On Thursday, April 11 the topic will be "Accessing Local Community Supports and Services for Individuals Living with Dementia and their Caregivers," given by Marissa Henderson, MSW from Advantage Aging Solutions.

Have questions? Please contact Whitney Scott at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare Memory Disorder Clinic 850-431-5002

POLMAN

From Page 5A

them have ever worked to destroy democracy from within.

That's the obvious line McDaniel crossed – yet it's still not clear that the NBC bigwigs get it. Conde's announcement implied that the MAGA hack would be a paid pundit in good standing if not for the fact that the entire newsroom rebelled on the air.

"We must have diverse viewpoints on our programs, and to that end, we will redouble our efforts to seek voices that represent different parts of the political spectrum," Conde wrote. Not a word about whether all coup conspirators and abettors of fascism will be persona non grata.

Apparently the quest for a truth-telling MAGA with a credible "viewpoint" will continue. Good luck with that.

Dick Polman, a veteran national political columnist based in Philadelphia and a Writer in Residence at the University of Pennsylvania, writes at DickPolman.net. Email him at dickpolman7@gmail.com

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

THE STAR

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<p>359 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED</p> <p>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:</p>	<p>Application #2023-06 Name in which assessed:</p> <p>DAVID BYRD, CASSANDRA RUSS, JEFFERY DIXON, DOROTHEA PETERSON, BARBARA BAXTER, JAMES MCGEE</p> <p>Tax Sale Certificate #: 2020-337</p> <p>Date of Issuance: 05/29/2020</p> <p>R.E. No.: 01733-000R</p> <p>Description of Property:</p>	<p>BEGIN AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TWP 4 SOUTH RANGE 10 WEST, AND RUN EAST FOR 740 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE RUN SOUTH TO THE NORTH SIDE OF OLD PANAMA AND WEWA ROAD; THENCE RUN SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF SAID ROAD FOR 263 FEET MORE OR LESS TO LAND DEEDED TO DAVID FASION;</p>	<p>THENCE RUN NORTH TO THE NORTH LINE OF SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SOUTHEAST 1/4; THENCE RUN WEST 250 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SAID LAND LYING AND BEING IN SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 15 TWP 4 SOUTH RANGE 10 WEST, LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION CONVEYED BY VICTORIA PRICE TO JAMES ROUSE AND LUCILLE ROUSE BY WARRANTY DEED DATED SEPTEMBER 9, 1963 BEING THE SAME</p>	<p>PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK 32 AT PAGE 571 OF THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA.</p> <p>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.realtax-deed.com on 04/17/24 at 11:00 a.m. ET or any subsequently scheduled sale date.</p>	<p>DATED: 03/11/24 REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk</p> <p>Publish dates: 3/14/24, 3/21/24, 03/28/24, 04/04/24 March 14, 21, 28, 2024 April 4, 2024</p>	<p>360 AMENDED Summons and AMENDED Petition for Dissolution:</p> <p>ROSS RUTHERFORD v. CANDICE VOLKMAN State of California, Fresno County Superior Court, Family Law Division Case No. 23CEFL05278 To the Respondent, Candice Volkman, Petitioner, Ross Rutherford has petitioned for dissolution of marriage in the State of California, Fresno County Superior Court. The Petition and Summons were issued on September 21, 2023. Due to an administrative error, an AMENDED Petition</p>	<p>and AMENDED Summons was reissued on November 20, 2023. The AMENDED Petition and AMENDED Summons seek to dissolve marriage of Ross Rutherford and Candice Volkman. A Status Conference has been set for July 9, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in Department 202 of the Fresno County Superior Court located at 1130 "O" Street, Fresno, California 93721. If you object to the dissolution of marriage, you should</p>	<p>appear at the hearing and state your objections or file a Response and Request for Dissolution of Marriage. Your appearance is mandatory by you and your attorney, if you are able to hire one to represent your interests. You may examine the file kept by the Court. You can fulfill this request by calling the Court Clerk or by contacting Attorney for Petitioner. Attorney for the Petitioner: Amy R. Lovegren-</p>

Classifieds



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LEGAL ADVERTISING

Tipton, APLC, 225 W. Shaw Avenue, Suite 105, Fresno, California 93704. (559) 421-9137. March 14, 21, 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

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

JAMES GESSLEIN AND KATHY GESSLEIN, Plaintiffs, v. CASE NO.: 2024-CA-0010 DIVISION: KENNETH BROCK; JADWIGA H. GARCIA AND THOMAS E. GARCIA, CO-TRUSTEES, OR THEIR SUCCESSORS IN TRUST UNDER THE GARCIA LIVING TRUST, DATED OCTOBER 20, 1997, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

To KENNETH BROCK; JADWIGA H. GARCIA AND THOMAS E. GARCIA, CO-TRUSTEES, OR THEIR SUCCESSORS IN TRUST UNDER THE GARCIA LIVING TRUST, DATED OCTOBER 20, 1997 :

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to Quiet Title to real property described as: SEVEN SPRINGS LAKE PB 5 PG 18 LOT 21, BLK A ORB 364/806 FR LITTLE RIVER CAMP LLC MAP 95A More commonly known as: Seven Springs Drive, Wewahitchka, FL 32465 AND/OR 57 T6 R11 SUNSHINE FARMS (UNRECORDED) LOT 29 5.18 AC M/L ORB 814/104 TX FR GARCIA MAP 14C More commonly known as: West Kelly Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456

has been filed by Plaintiffs, JAMES GESSLEIN AND KATHY GESSLEIN, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on Alisa Wilkes, Esq., 13400 Sutton Park Dr. S., Suite 1204, Jacksonville, FL 32224, (904)620-9545 on or before April 22, 2024 and file the original with the Clerk of Court and Plaintiff's attorney, otherwise a default and judgment will be entered against you for the relief demanded.

Witness my hand and the seal of this court on this 4th day of March, 2024.

Clerk of the Circuit Court By: Deputy Clerk

Please publish for 4 consecutive weeks.

Please send invoice and copy to: Alisa Wilkes, Esq., Wilkes & Mee, PLLC 13400 Sutton Park Dr., S., Suite 1204 Jacksonville, FL 32224 March 14, 21, 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

362 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 # 2023-05 Name in which assessed: Christopher Anthony Rouse, Jimmie Lewis Rouse, Margie L Rouse, Janie Beverly, Shirley Ragin, Brenda Rouse, Christopher Rouse, John D Rouse

Tax Sale Certificate #:2020-333 Date of Issuance: 05/29/2020 R.E. No.: 01723-000R

Description of Property: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SW 1/4 OF SE 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST, AND RUN WEST FOR 300 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; SAME BEING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LAND OWNED BY ROBERT FAISON; THENCE RUN WEST 100 FEET;

THENCE RUN SOUTH TO THE NORTH SIDE OF THE OLD PANAMA & WEWA HIGHWAY; THENCE RUN SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG OLD WEWA & PANAMA ROAD, TO A POINT DUE SOUTH OF THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING 100 FEET MORE OR LESS; THENCE RUN DUE NORTH FOR 375 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SAID LAND LYING & BEING IN THE SW 1/4 OF SE 1/4, IN SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST.

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder ONLINE at: www.gulf. realtaxdeed.com on 04/17/2024 at 11:00 a.m. ET or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

DATED: 03/04/2024 REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Leslee Bennett, Deputy Clerk Publish dates: 3/14/24, 3/21/24, 3/28/24, 4/4/24 March 14, 21, 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

365 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, 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#2023-02 Name in which assessed: KIM GLAZE; WILLIAM H GLAZE

Tax Sale Certificate #: 2015-104 Date of Issuance: 05/29/2015 R.E. No.: 00540-000R

Description of Property: Commence at the Northwest corner of the Chipola River Dead Lakes Bridge and run North to the State Road right of way line and thence run in an Easterly direction along the Northside of State Road right of way a distance of 2400 feet for a point of beginning. From said point of beginning run thence Easterly along the North right of way line of State Road 22A a distance of 200 feet; thence turn 90° left and run Northerly a distance of 100 feet; thence turn left and extend a line Westerly 200 feet parallel to the North right of way line of State Road 22A; thence turn left and run 100 feet more or less to point of beginning, same being a part of Section 17, Township 4 South, Range 9 West, Gulf County, Florida.

The date of the first publication of this Notice is /s/ Thomas S. Gibson /s/ Richard Kenneth McNeal Thomas S. Gibson Richard Kenneth McNeal Rish, Gibson & Scholz, P.A. 6323 Fall River Drive 116 Sailor's Cove Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80918 Port St. Joe, Florida 32457 Ancillary Personal Representative (850) 229-8211 Attorney for Ancillary Personal Representative FL Bar No. 0350583 (Publish 2 times) March 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

374 CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2024-08 Wastewater Treatment Plant Telehandler

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 04/17/24 at 11:00 a.m. ET or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

DATED: MARCH 11, 2024 REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024

373 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, IN PROBATE

IN RE: The Estate of J. RALPH COMPTON, also known

as JAMES RALPH COMPTON, deceased. /

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

The ancillary administration of the estate of J. RALPH COMPTON, deceased, whose date of death was October 27, 2023, File Number 24-21 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. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The name and address of the ancillary personal representative and that ancillary personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

Pursuant to F.S. §733.702, all creditors of the Decedent and other persons who have claims or demands against Decedent's Estate, including un-matured, contingent, or un-liquidated claims, and who have been served a copy of this Notice, must file their claims in proper form with this Court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE 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 estate of the decedent, including un-matured, contingent, or un-liquidated claims, must file their claims in proper form with this Court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS OR DEMANDS NOT SO FILED 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 the first publication of this Notice is /s/ Thomas S. Gibson /s/ Richard Kenneth McNeal Thomas S. Gibson Richard Kenneth McNeal Rish, Gibson & Scholz, P.A. 6323 Fall River Drive 116 Sailor's Cove Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80918 Port St. Joe, Florida 32457 Ancillary Personal Representative (850) 229-8211 Attorney for Ancillary Personal Representative FL Bar No. 0350583 (Publish 2 times) March 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

374 CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2024-08 Wastewater Treatment Plant Telehandler

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 04/17/24 at 11:00 a.m. ET or any subsequently scheduled sale date.

DATED: MARCH 11, 2024 REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Elaine Bland, Deputy Clerk March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2024

373 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, IN PROBATE

IN RE: The Estate of J. RALPH COMPTON, also known

JLG 5527 as minimum specs. Separate bids per company for different brands will be accepted.

For questions concerning this Bid, please contact Kevin Pettis or Joe Harris at 850-229-6395 or kpettis@psj.fl.gov or jharris@psj.fl.gov

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

The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Drug-Free Work Place Employer March 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

375 CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2024-07 Wastewater Treatment Plant Bar Screen Replacement

Sealed bids for the City of Port St. Joe for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Bar Screen Replacement will be received at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 until 3:00 PM EST, Friday, April 12, 2024. Bids will be publicly opened and acknowledged, Friday, April 12, 2024, at 3:05 PM EST, at City Hall.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, and RFP 2024-07 for "Wastewater Treatment Plant Bar Screen Replacement."

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

Located at 250 Kenny Mill Road in Port St. Joe, FL the current Bar Screen is a Schreiber 48" Front Loader Bar Screen with a Channel Depth of 4"8" and is 480/120V AC. The replacement Bar Screen must meet the following criteria: Ability to handle 5 MGD Flow Rate; Turnkey project, all electrical, mechanical, controls, and supplies are to be included with this project. Screen should be able to remove heavy debris such as towels, jeans, rags, etc. Screening should be able to screen out anything larger than 3/8" wide. All bolting hardware is to be s/s hardware. O & M Manual on site for review. Replacement parts available in the U.S. Must connect to our existing SCADA System for fault monitoring. Will accept separate bids per company for different styles or brands.

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

The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Drug-Free Work Place Employer March 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

376 CITY OF PORT ST. JOE PROJECT #50146280 DOWNTOWN WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 2

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

The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Drug-Free Work Place Employer March 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

376 CITY OF PORT ST. JOE PROJECT #50146280 DOWNTOWN WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 2

The City of Port St. Joe will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation inter-

ested in constructing:

DOWNTOWN WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 2 This project is located in Port St. Joe, Florida and includes construction of approximately 4,957 LF of 6" (PVC) watermain, 443 linear feet of 2" (PVC) watermain, 1,018 LF of 6" Fusible PVC (FPVC) directional bore, and associated connections and services. Work shall be performed by both open cut and directional drilling methods. There will also be asphalt patching, sidewalk removal and replacement, and other restoration associated with this work to restore the alleys and roadways once the project is complete.

CASE NO.: 2022-00088-CA U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPLEG HOLDING TRUST, Plaintiff, v. DARRELL G. NICKELL; DONNA K. NICKELL; et al, Defendants. /

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment in Foreclosure entered on February 18, 2024, and entered in Case No. 2022-00088-CA in the Circuit Court of the 14th Judicial Circuit in Jackson, County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPLEG HOLDING TRUST, is the Plaintiff and ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, CREDITORS AND ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST DARRELL G. NICKELL, DECEASED; DONNA K. NICKELL; DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; BAY COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM, LLC, D/B/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER - SACRED HEART HEALTH SYSTEM F/K/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER, A SPECIAL DISTRICT, CHAPTER 95-510, LAWS OF FLORIDA; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2 N/K/A DANA MARIE CLARK; LEWIS DEAN NICKELL, SR.; LADORA NUNNERY; TODD NICKELL, are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest bidder for cash, Online at https://gulf. realestate.com on April 25, 2024, at 11:00 AM, CST, following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

Plans and specifications can be obtained at Dewberry Engineers Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 by contacting Shannon Renfro at srenfro@dewberry.com . The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes. There is no charge for electronic copies for the Plans and Specifications

The completion date for this project will be 270 days for Substantial Completion and 300 days for Final Completion from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder. Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$1,750.00 per day.

"RFP 2024-09 DOWNTOWN WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 2"

Bids will be received until 3:00 P.M., Eastern Time, on Friday, May 3, 2024, at the City of Port St. Joe City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, and will be opened and read aloud at 3:54 P.M. Eastern Time . The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer/ Handicapped Accessible/Fair Housing Jurisdiction.

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

All bidders shall comply with all applicable State and local laws concerning licensing registration and regulation of contractors doing business to the State of Florida.

If you have any questions, please contact Josh Baxley in writing at jbaxley@dewberry.com by April 19, 2024. March 28, 2024 April 4, 2024

378 NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS REGIONAL RURAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

What: Regional Rural Transportation Plan Workshop When: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 Where: UF/IFAS Gulf County Extension Office; 232 E. Lake Ave. Wewahitchka, 32465 Time: 6:00-7:00 PM Central Daylight Time

The Apalachee Regional Planning Council will be holding a public workshop on the Regional Rural Transportation Plan (RRTP) to identify the County's greatest transportation needs over the next 20 years. The public is invited to attend the workshop to provide input on priority transportation projects in the region. For additional information on this workshop or the RRTP contact Kwentin Eastberg, Apalachee Regional

Planning Council Deputy Director at the at 850-488-6211, or by email at keastberg@arpc.org . April 4, 2024

379 Filing # 194454005 E-Filed 03/20/2024 03:31:26 PM IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 2022-00088-CA U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPLEG HOLDING TRUST, Plaintiff, v. DARRELL G. NICKELL; DONNA K. NICKELL; et al, Defendants. /

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Final Judgment in Foreclosure entered on February 18, 2024, and entered in Case No. 2022-00088-CA in the Circuit Court of the 14th Judicial Circuit in Jackson, County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPLEG HOLDING TRUST, is the Plaintiff and ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES, DEVISEES, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, CREDITORS AND ANY OTHER PERSON CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST DARRELL G. NICKELL, DECEASED; DONNA K. NICKELL; DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; BAY COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM, LLC, D/B/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER - SACRED HEART HEALTH SYSTEM F/K/A BAY MEDICAL CENTER, A SPECIAL DISTRICT, CHAPTER 95-510, LAWS OF FLORIDA; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2 N/K/A DANA MARIE CLARK; LEWIS DEAN NICKELL, SR.; LADORA NUNNERY; TODD NICKELL, are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest bidder for cash, Online at https://gulf. realestate.com on April 25, 2024, at 11:00 AM, CST, following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

Plans and specifications can be obtained at Dewberry Engineers Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 by contacting Shannon Renfro at srenfro@dewberry.com . The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes. There is no charge for electronic copies for the Plans and Specifications

The completion date for this project will be 270 days for Substantial Completion and 300 days for Final Completion from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder. Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$1,750.00 per day.

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378 NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS REGIONAL RURAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

What: Regional Rural Transportation Plan Workshop When: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 Where: UF/IFAS Gulf County Extension Office; 232 E. Lake Ave. Wewahitchka, 32465 Time: 6:00-7:00 PM Central Daylight Time

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SECTION 35 AND 36, T3S, R10W; THENCE SOUTH ALONG SAID SECTION LINE TO THE POB, CONTAINING 3/4 ACRE, M/L

TAX MAP OR PARCEL 10 NO.: 01369-11012

Property Address: 3420 N. HWY 71, WEWAHITCHKA, FL 32465

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM BEFORE THE CLERK REPORTS THE SURPLUS AS UNCLAIMED.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE ADA COORDINATOR BY MAIL AT P. O. BOX 1089, PANAMA CITY, FL 32402 OR BY PHONE AT (850) 767-3550 AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS. IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, PLEASE CALL 711 OR EMAIL ADAREQUEST@JUD14.FLCOURTS.ORG.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via e-mail upon all parties registered to receive notification via the service list for this action maintained by the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal Governed By The Florida Courts E-Filing Authority or via U.S. Mail to those parties on the attached service list on this 20th day of March, 2024. GHIDOTTI | BERGER LLP

Attorney for Plaintiff 1031 North Miami Beach Blvd North Miami Beach, FL 33162 Telephone: (305) 501.2808 Facsimile: (954) 780.5578 By: /s/ Tara L. Messinger, Esq. Chase A. Berger, Esq. Florida Bar No.: 083794 Tara L. Messinger, Esq. Florida Bar No.0059454 fcpleadings@ghidot-berger.com

SERVICE LIST

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

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

Bay Medical Center, L.L.C., A Special District, Chapter 95-510, Laws of Florida C/O Pallegar, Geetha Mrs 181 Bayshore Gardens Parkway Bradenton, FL 34207

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

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

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

Lewis Dean Nickell, Sr 3420 N HWY 71

Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Ladora Nunnery 3110 S HWY 71 Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Todd Nickell 7518 Pinewood Dr., Lot 83 Mabelvale, AR 72103 April 4, 11, 2024

380 PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held before the Gulf County Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) on Monday, April 15, 2024, at 8:45 a.m. EST and thereafter a Quasi-Judicial Hearing before the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. EST. Both the Public Hearing and the Quasi-Judicial Hearing will be held in the Donald H. Butler Commission Chamber located in the Robert M. Moore Administration Building at the Gulf County Courthouse Complex, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., in Port St. Joe, Florida. The Public Hearing before the PDRB will be to discuss, review, and submit recommendations to the BOCC on the following:

Small Scale Map Amendment- APPLICANT- Gulf County Food and Beverage, LLC. LOCATION: 49.00 acres of a 74.46-acre parcel along US Hwy 98, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 Parcel Number: 03072-061R Section 19 Township 8 South Range 10 West. MEETING APPEAL: Requesting an approximate 49.00-acre land use change from Agricultural to Mixed Commercial / Residential.

The public is encouraged to attend and be heard on these matters. Information prior to the Public Hearing and Quasi-Judicial Hearing can be viewed at the Planning Department at 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port 400.

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

RONALD E. MAYHANN, Plaintiff,

v. Case No.: 23-58 CA

KERESSA DOMINIK BRUCE, Defendant.

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

Americans with Disabilities Act Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the County at least 3 days before the workshop/meeting/hearing by contacting: County Administrators Office at (850) 229-6106. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact Gulf County by utilizing and making the necessary arrangements with the Florida Coordination Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at (866) 602-3275. April 4, 2024

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 will be available on request from the office of Quina Grundhoefer Architects, P.A., 400 West Romana

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

DATED this 26th day of March 2024. Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk of Court By: Electronically Filed Gulf Case #23000558CAAXMX 03/26/2024 02:01:44 PM Deputy Clerk April 4, 2024

Street, Pensacola, FL 32502 (850-433-5575) or may be requested by emailing qq@ggar- chitects.com . Submit- tal 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

UNFORGETTABLE COAST

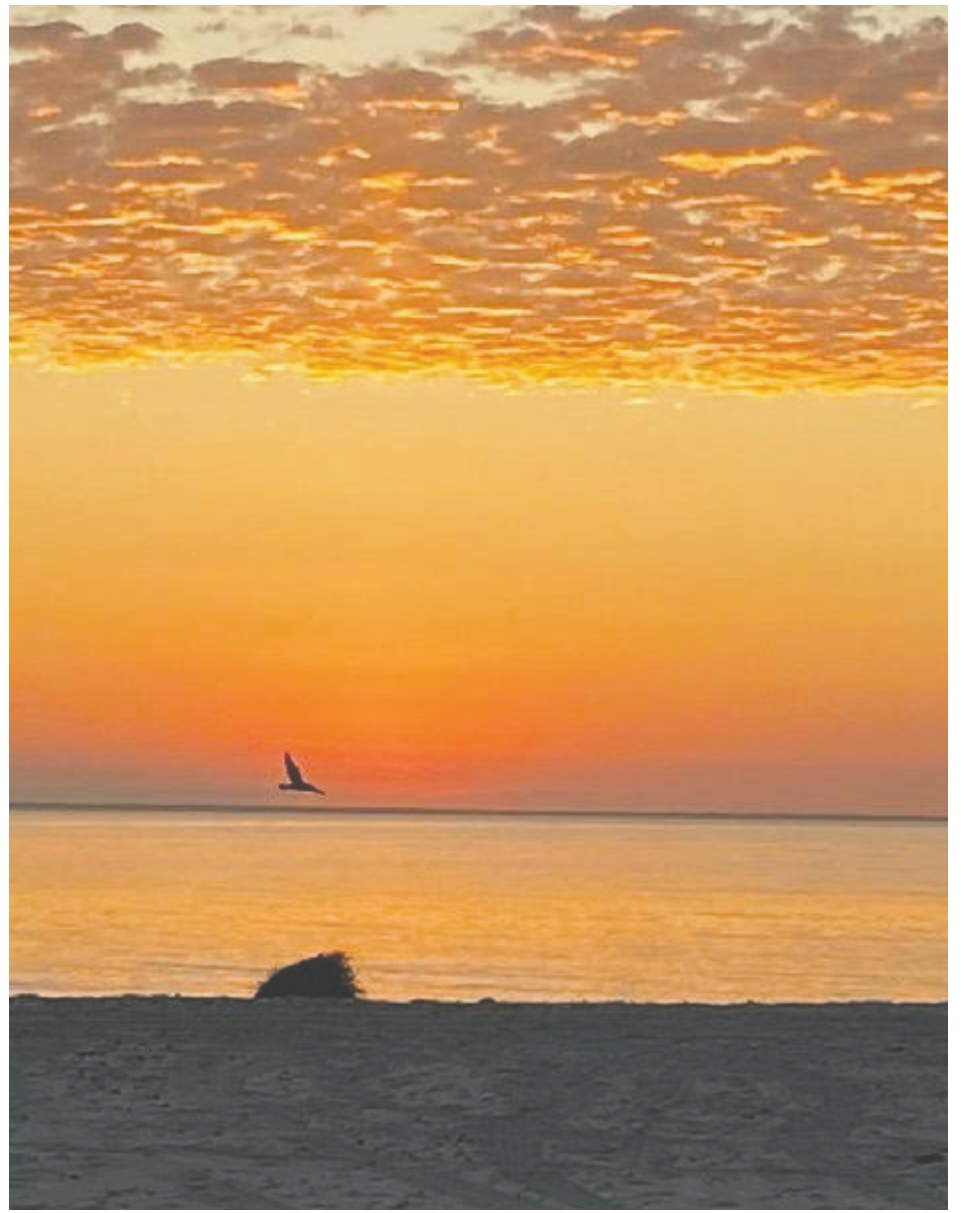
Spring has arrived and with it comes beauty and excitement throughout Franklin and Gulf counties. The Times and the Star welcome readers to submit their best photographs. All subject matter is welcome, a beautiful place, interesting wildlife, a vivid person,

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



Brantley White, 5, right, and Ellie Mae White, 3, enjoy fishing at Buddy Ward Seafood Landing Park in Apalachicola. [BAYLEE WHITE]



Sunrise flight at Cape San Blas [JAY ELLIOFF]



A view from the Port St. Joe marina [BECKY BLOCK]



Aloe plant in bloom [JUDIE MCCORMICK]

PET OF THE WEEK

Franklin County Humane Society

Mary Johnson
REALTOR®
850-370-0044

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

Stone is a very handsome 10 month LabDoberman mix and a very good boy. His coat is a stunning blue and his happy and open expression a delight. He is still a puppy so is a work in progress but he does know basic commands. He does well with dogs, cats and kids but due to his size, small children wouldn't be advisable. The only thing he can't tolerate are chickens!

Franklin County Humane Society, 244 State Road 65, Eastpoint, FL 32328 | Phone: (850) 670-8417

www.forgottenpets.org

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society

Hi, I'm Angus! I am a 3 year old 55 pound catahoula leopard dog mix. I am a lover boy, all I want is attention and treats! I am mostly dog friendly but have not been tested with cats yet. I would make a wonderful addition to almost any home! Come by the shelter to meet me and all of my friends!

www.sjbhumanesociety.org

www.gulfcoastalproperties.com

CELEBRATE COMMUNITY



This Bird photo, Fine Dining on St. George Island!, a semifinalist in the Professional/Hobbyist category, was taken at Dr. Julian G Bruce St. George Island State Park. [ROBIN FRANCIS]



This Camping photo, Beautiful Camping on St. George Island, a finalist in the Professional/Hobbyist category, was taken at Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George Island State Park. "It was such a joy for us to stay at (the park) for a week, just a few yards away from its miles of beautiful and unspoiled beaches!" wrote the photographer. "The campground and the surrounding area were incredibly peaceful, and we plan to return again every year. I felt that this photo captured the essence and beauty of this gem of a state park!" [JACK MCMULLEN]

Natural seduction

State parks' photos capture their allure

David Adlerstein
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

It has long been said by environmentally conscious Floridians, who wish to treat the fragile outdoors gently and ethically, that it is best to "take only pictures, leave only footprints."

In homage to that commandment, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection each year offers a photo contest to find the best images found

among the 175 state parks, trails and historic sites that offer beautiful backdrops for recreational and nature-based photos.

The department wrote that "the judges of this year's photo contest, "Capture the Real Florida," received numerous submissions from talented photographers, and their awe-inspiring images left everyone speechless, making judging them a difficult task.

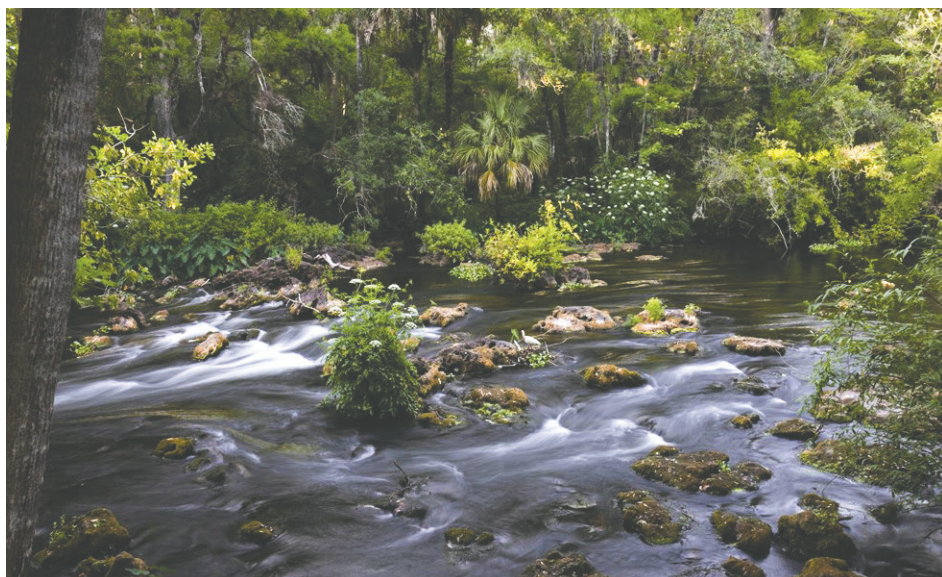


This bird photo, Friendly Visitor, a semifinalist in the Mobile Phone category, was taken at Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George Island State Park. [KATERYNA OVCHARENKO]

Semifinalists were selected within three photography divisions: Professional/Hobbyist, Student and Mobile Phone, from the 12 photo contest categories: Landscape, Wildlife, Birds, Waterscapes, Night Skies, Details and Small Things, Park Experiences,

Park Adventures, Plants and Flowers, Camping, Trails and Sightseeing.

The Star and Times are pleased to present some of the contest's winners, as well as a sampling of the top finishers among photos taken along the Forgotten Coast.



This Waterscape photo, It Never Ceases, first place in the Student Category, was taken at Hillsborough River State Park by a student at Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine. The park, she wrote, "is one of my most loved parks in Florida, and I've spent just as many days there in the rain as I have in the sunshine. This particular day was relatively overcast and not the best time of day for wildlife, but the river was almost the clearest I've ever seen it. I wanted to try and capture the flow of the water, and being that it was darker out it was the perfect occasion to just sit with a slow shutter and let my lens drink it all in." [HOPE BARTLIN]



This Waterscape photo, Blue Grace, second place in the Professional / Hobbyist category, was taken at Ichetucknee Springs State Park. "Each time I swim in the Ichetucknee Blue Hole, I feel as though I've pulled back the curtain for a fleeting glimpse of an alien world," wrote the photographer. "I get an elated sense that I've just witnessed a precious secret of the universe that most will never see, but all should. Words do it no justice. There's no more inspiring place to bring a camera than our Florida Aquifer." [CURT MASON]



This Landscape photo, Morning Glow, the winner in the Professional/Hobbyist category, was taken at Manatee Springs State Park. "Getting up early in the morning is essential to capture the wildlife here. It is always a big inspiration for my photography, and this morning proved to pay off big," wrote the photographer. "As the sun ascended, the combination of the fog and sun created a near-picture-perfect combination that stopped me in my tracks." [JOHN HOOTMAN]

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



Choral society's Spring Concert to debut new work

Annette Cederholm
Guest Columnist

The Bay Area Choral Society will present their Spring Concert "Celebrate Music: Why We Sing" on Friday, April 12, at First United Methodist Church in Port St. Joe and Saturday, April 13 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Apalachicola.

Tickets for both concerts, each at 6 p.m. ET, are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students and can be purchased from BACS members or online at <https://www.tinyurl.com/BACS-tickets>. Tickets for the Port St. Joe concert can also be purchased at No Name Books & Gifts.

BACS will also perform a children's concert for third graders from Port St. Joe Elementary School, and elementary students from Franklin County Schools on Friday, April 12, at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe. Sponsors for this concert are the PTO of Port St. Joe Elementary School and Duren's Piggly Wiggly in Port St. Joe.

With funding from The Tapper Foundation, BACS commissioned Ed Hogan to compose a song that expresses how the beauty of our surroundings on the Forgotten Coast fill us with music. Under the direc-



Members of the Bay Area Choral Society, from left, front row: MacKay, Jo Branch, Frances Campbell, Diane Brewer, Ana Robbins, Debra Olds, Joy Tracy, Marilyn Freeman, and Dana Langford, BACS director. Second row, from left: Megan Lamb, Sara Freer, Susan Galloway, Martha Milas, Dr. Tamara Marsh, Carla May, Judy Burgess, and Elizabeth Sisung. Third row, from left: Melissa Watson, Robin Paulson, Annette Cederholm, Sandra McInnis, Meg Elliot, Rennie Edwards, Ina M. Meyer and Sophia Fonseca. Back row, from left: Dan Paulson, David Davis, Mike Giere, Scott Davis, Desmond King, John Nagy, Tyler Freeman, Josh Hall, Bill Hamilton, Randy Jones, Randy Mims and Sam Anttila. [BACS | CONTRIBUTED]

tion of BACS Choral Director Dana Langford, the song "The Maker's Song" will debut during the Spring Concert.

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

Hogan earned a degree from Florida State University where he studied music education

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

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



The BACS commissioned composer Ed Hogan, above, to write a song about the Forgotten Coast that will debut at the concerts. [WWW.EDHOGANMUSIC.COM]

children.

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

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

Sheriff's Easter basket drive a success

Patricia Hardman
Guest Columnist

Our little Easter Bunny is hopping around, happy! Thanks to your generous donations, children were smiling on

Easter morning,

Sheriff Mike Harrison's Easter Basket Drive was a huge success due to the fundraising efforts of Coastal Community Association of South

Gulf County and the VFW Post #10069 and all of the generous and caring donors in the community. Thanks to each and every one of them.

Through these donations just shy of 300 baskets and stuffed bunnies were given out for Easter to less fortunate and deserving kids from one end of Gulf County to the other by the sheriff's deputies.

In addition to meeting all the needs for baskets and stuffed bunnies for the kids, the additional funds that were donated were split by the sheriff between Two Fish Ministries in Port St. Joe and the Wewahitchka Ministerial Association Food Pantry. So not only did the children have a visit from the Easter Bunny, but they were also well-fed on Easter as well.

Donors dropped off baskets and stuffed bunnies at various

spots throughout South Gulf County. Thanks to these businesses for helping: Cape Trading Post, St. Joseph Bay Golf Club, Beach Realty, Capital City Bank, and The Mercantile Mill and Southern Styles. Other donors choose to make cash contributions. The Duren's Piggly Wiggly in Port St Joe ordered CCA baskets at wholesale prices to make the donations go further. The Lion's Club and the Realtor Association of Franklin & Gulf County stepped up big time.

We appreciate all the CCA board members who gave their time and effort to put on the Liar's Challenge to raise funds, obtain the donations, do the shopping, and pick up and deliver the baskets to the sheriff's office for the deputies to get them to the kids. Special

See GCSO EASTER, Page 8B



Winners at the Chili Cook-off were, from left: third place Tony Johnson, second place Tim Woxman and first place Debbie Howells. [PAT SEWELL FUNDERBURK]

WEWAHITCHKA WOMAN'S CLUB

Volunteer work making a difference in community

Rhonda Alderman
Guest Columnist

Six dedicated members of the GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club are gearing up for an exciting journey to the GFWC Florida Annual Convention in Orlando this month. This convention serves as a gathering point for clubs from all corners of Florida, where they engage in business meetings, listen to inspiring speakers, and celebrate achievements through awards.

The Wewahitchka Woman's Club has a proud history of excellence, having been honored with the title of GFWC Florida Outstanding Club of the year for category 2 twice in recent years. As they head to this year's convention, their sights are set on bringing home more accolades. However, they emphasize that true victory lies in the impact they make on their community.

Reflecting on their achievements in 2023, the club proudly shares statistics

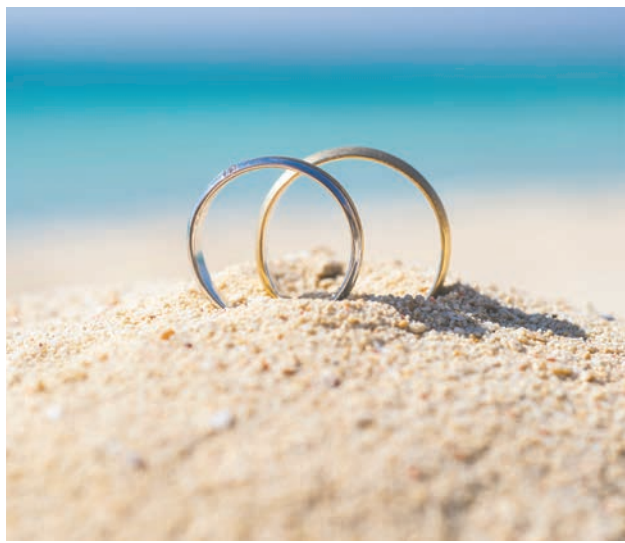
that speak volumes about their dedication and commitment. With 36 members, they worked on an impressive 230 projects, dedicating a staggering 11,051 hours to volunteer work. Their financial contributions were equally commendable, with donations totaling \$9,731 and in-kind donations amounting to \$12,711. Additionally, the club spent \$9,795 on various initiatives and raised \$7,524 to support their causes.

Their projects span across a wide range of community service programs, including Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Education and Libraries, Environment, and Health and Wellness. Furthermore, they actively participate in GFWC and GFWC Florida Special Programs such as Domestic Violence Awareness and prevention, GFWC JUNIORS - Breath-Cystic Fibrosis Awareness, and the State President's Project, Camp Boggy Creek.

However, the club is quick to acknowledge its success is shared with the numerous partners and sponsors who share their vision and enable them to continue the impactful work they've been doing since 1932.

The GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. CT at the Wewahitchka Senior Citizens Building. Join us to learn more about the 87-year-old club and how you can be a part of it and 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.



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.

GULF COUNTY Sunday, March 24

• Calvin Arnold Luebben, 28, and Tyana Rose Ahlman, 27, residing in Morristown, Minnesota

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 12: **184 Sea Dune Drive, Cape San Blas**, from Penelope and David Adams to Donna Dickerson, for \$705,000

MARCH 13: **403 Windmark Way, Port St. Joe**, from Julie Holt to Erin and Joseph Payner, for \$275,000

MARCH 13: **503 Woodward Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Rish Cottages LLC to 4T

Properties LLC for \$550,000

MARCH 14: **217 Signal Lane, Port St. Joe**, from Patricia and Kevin Donahue to LJB Properties LLC for \$1,010,000

MARCH 14: **Highway 71 South, Wewahitchka**, from Teal Timber LLC to H-Track Dozer Service Inc. for \$111,714

MARCH 14: **2432 Park Avenue, Port St. Joe**, from Emerald Coast Investment Fund II to Mary Ruth and Shawn Kravitsky, for \$123,000

MARCH 14: **Cockles Avenue, Mexico Beach**, from Cheryl Alonzo and Evan Buchheim to John and Laree Tribitt Revocable Trust, for \$299,800

See GULF REAL ESTATE, Page 4B

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 19: **49 East Pine Avenue, St. George Island**, from Jeannette and Joseph Poggi, to FWRE, LLC for \$340,000

MARCH 19: **283 Frank McKamey Way, Carrabelle**, from Ande Nazar, to Paula and Thomas Frings, for \$90,000

See FRANKLIN REAL ESTATE, Page 4B

Where do we go from here?



Walter L. Woodrick CFP
Guest Columnist

With the Dow Jones Industrial Average near 40,000 and interest rates higher than we have seen in decades, where do interest rates and the stock markets go from here? And when?

And by how much? Will the path be smooth or bumpy? Why? Let's be honest - you probably don't know the answer to these questions.

To reciprocate your honesty: While

I feel I can answer some of them generally, I cannot answer all of them specifically. There are people, and most of them have a profit motive to sell subscriptions or obtain assets under man-

agement, who will tell you they know. Some of them say it very loudly and persuasively. And, if they keep saying the same thing long enough, they may eventually be correct. In math, a posi-

tive number times a negative number will produce a negative number. Similarly, the right answer at the wrong time is wrong.

The stock markets: Stock market indices (like the Dow Jones) help to give us some idea of how a basket of stocks

See WOODRICK, PAGE 8B

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-Listing Agent-
Sherry Siclare
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Office: 850.227.7770

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LANARK NEWS

Opposition mounts against Lanark RV park



Pat Sewell Funderburk
Guest Columnist

Hi Y'all,
I hope that you had a wonderful Easter! The regular Lanark Village Association's Thirsty Thursday covered dish became a very special event when we celebrated longtime resident Bob Dietz's 95th birthday. He is certainly one of our favorite residents and we were lucky to have some of his family

with him. Bob also has the distinction of being the last surviving World War II Navy veteran in Franklin County.

Easter for the children was great; Lanark Village Golf Club course was buzzing Saturday with little children looking for Easter eggs. The golf club, along with residents and friends, gathered to have a great time. Jon Brucker, along with other residents, organized this fun event. Franklin County Sheriff A.J. Smith got the children excited, then gave them the instructions on how to make this event a safe and fun event.

A countdown sent the children (about 35 of them) eagerly running and laughing. The children received great gifts in exchange for the eggs they had collected.

Later it was on to the American Legion Post 82 for a dinner of pork or chicken gumbo, a great silent auction and music by Duke Manfro. Did I mention great friends and smiling faces? This event was held to benefit Legion Rides for Project Relief, to help end veterans' suicides. If you don't support the Legion, please consider that by doing so you are having good times and

supporting a good cause.

This Saturday, April 6 the golf club will have a yard sale starting at 8 a.m. It will be held on Hefernan Drive in the parking lot across from Chillas Hall. There will be many great bargains.

Lanark Village has some concerns. It seems that our unique, quiet, historic village has been faced with an application to Franklin County Planning and Zoning to have one of the properties in the Village, at 2390 Oak Street, changed from a C-4 to a C-3 which will allow a recreational vehicle Park to be located

within the boundaries of the Village. You can get more information about this issue by dropping in at Chillas Hall, Monday to Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. You can call the County P&Z, Cortni Bankston or Mark Curenton at 850-653-5337 for more information. The date for the hearing has been announced as Tuesday, April 16 at the commissioners' meeting. If you want your voice heard, it is best to try to go to the meeting. Numbers speak loudly. You can get emails of the county commissioners from the above number or by going to the website. The county

commissioner for Lanark Village is Cheryl Sanders, at cheryl@franklincountyflorida.com. You can also contact County Coordinator Michael Moron at michael@franklincountyflorida.com. Go to www.franklincountyflorida.com for any information that you need, this email will also instruct you on how to participate in the meeting by zooming.

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

GULF REAL ESTATE

From page 3B

MARCH 14: **145 Gulf Coast Circle, Port St. Joe**, from Marie and Casey Ehrman to Deborah and Richard Mayhew, for \$550,000

MARCH 14: **4876 Highway 71 North, Wewahitchka**, from Sunset Bound LLC to Cara and Evan Williams, for \$69,000

MARCH 14: **Wide Water Circle, Wewahitchka**, from Ali Izadi to Halie Jasinski for \$24,900

MARCH 14: **Maple Avenue, Wewahitchka**,

from Lora and Alan Floyd to Cornelia Gortman, for \$25,500

MARCH 15: **Land Drive, Wewahitchka**, from Donna and Ronald Drew to Robert Keene, for \$99,900

MARCH 15: **470 South Long Street, Port St. Joe**, from Margaret O'Brein to New Venture Funding, LLC for \$15,000

MARCH 15: **Land Drive, Wewahitchka**, from Donna and Ronald Drew, to Robert Keene, for \$99,900

MARCH 15: **135 Pine Street, Port St. Joe**, from Juliette Adams to Hallie and Christopher Ziegler, for \$865,000

MARCH 18: **227 Bay Street, Port St. Joe**, from Judith and Thomas Seay to CMH Homes Inc. for \$155,000

MARCH 18: **Whippoorwill Avenue, Wewahitchka**, from Leslie and James Fleming to Veran Blackburn and Teresa Carlton, for \$50,000

MARCH 18: **280 Cary Whitfield Road, Wewahitchka**, from Brenda Sue and Charles Laird, to Jencie and Bradley Bailey, for \$70,000

MARCH 18: **10470 County Road 30-A, Port St. Joe**, from April and George Landrum, Jr. to Sobeinfo 1816 Wewa LLC for \$100,000

MARCH 19: **Wide Water Circle, Wewahitchka**, from Jennifer and Thomas Gannaway, to Cynthia and David Boylan, for \$67,000

MARCH 19: **371 Old Bay City Road, Wewahitchka**, from Mary Ann and Joseph Russell, to River J. Rollins, for \$46,500

MARCH 19: **3012 Highway 71 North, Wewahitchka**, from Teramore Development LLC to Meadows Commercial Property Inc., for \$1,995,000

MARCH 20: **149 Ocklawaha Road, Wewahitchka**, from Croft B. Ashmore to Pamela and Howard Barrett, for \$305,000

MARCH 20: **153 Sly Street, Port St. Joe**, from Elizabeth and Paul Schueth to Pines 2 Palms, LLC for \$250,000

MARCH 21: **416 Hardy Street, Port St. Joe**, from John Arnold to Tim Maloy and Dorinda Burgess, for \$30,000

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PLANNING AND ZONING ADJUSTMENT BOARD MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION REGARDING YOUR APPLICATION. ALL APPLICANTS ARE NOTIFIED THAT IF YOUR APPLICATION IS DENIED, IT MAY NOT BE RESUBMITTED FOR ONE YEAR. ALSO, ANY PERSON WISHING TO APPEAL THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING ADJUSTMENT BOARD OR THE DECISION OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION BOARD ARE RESPONSIBLE TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE.

Those wanting to view or participate virtually during the meeting should use the Zoom log-in/call-in information that will be provided online by Thursday, April 4, 2024, by downloading the agenda for the Tuesday, April 9, 2024, Planning & Zoning Adjustment Board located at <https://zoning.franklincountyflorida.gov/agendas>

Meeting to be held, Tuesday, April 9, 2024 @ 5:30 PM at the Franklin County Courthouse Annex located at 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320. If you have any questions, please contact the Zoning Department at (850) 653-9783 Option 4.

VARIANCE REQUESTS

A. Consideration of a request for a variance to encroach 9.83 feet into the front 25-foot setback to construct a single-family residence on the property described as 2274 Highway 98, Lanark Village, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Thurman Roddenberry, agent for Claude Gava, applicant.

B. Consideration of a request for a variance to encroach the side setback and the MHWL setback of the property to place Riprap and fill to prevent further erosion. The property is described as 1241 Alligator Drive, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Elva Peppers, Florida Environmental and Land Services, Inc., agent for David Getchell, applicant.

C. Consideration of a request for a variance to encroach 3 feet into the 10-foot side setback and to encroach 7 feet 9 inches into the 10-foot side setback. This proposal is to construct a 24' x 15' wood frame addition. The property is described as 612 Mariner Circle, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted owner Daniel & Suzette Oligmueller, applicant.

D. Consideration to construct a 185' communication tower and fenced supporting facility. Variance to construct 138' above the 47' max building height. The property is described as Parcel ID Number 07-09S-08W-0000-0010-0000, Apalachicola, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Mattaniah S. Jahn, agent for DESERET RANCHES OF N FL LLC, applicant.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION ACTING AS THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT WILL ADDRESS THESE REQUESTS AT THEIR REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 16, 2024 @ 9:00AM.

****PERSONS WISHING TO COMMENT MAY DO SO IN PERSON OR IN WRITING TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY ZONING DEPARTMENT, 34 FORBES STREET, SUITE 1, APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA 32320. TRANSCRIPTS OF THIS HEARING WILL NOT BE RECORDED, PERSONS WISHING TO RECORD THE PROCEEDINGS MUST MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO DO SO.****

FRANKLIN REAL ESTATE

From page 3B

MARCH 20: **Palmer Pointe Townhomes, Unit C-4, Apalachicola**, from D.R. Horton, Inc. to Cara and Santo McAdoo, for \$299,900

MARCH 21: **163 Bay Colony Way, Apalachicola**, from Linda and James McIntire to Benjamin Bloodworth, for \$59,000

MARCH 21: **272 Magnolia Bay Drive, Eastpoint**, from Cheryl and Terry Whaley, to James Anders II, for \$85,000

MARCH 22: **135 Anhinga Court, St. James Bay**, from Golden Construction Company, Inc. to Cleo and John Karlberg, for \$425,000

MARCH 22: **2508 Highway 98, Lanark Village**, from Jennifer and Jason Lewis, to Tracy and Jan Wivestad, for \$225,000

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PORT ST. JOE GARDEN CLUB

Volunteers, donors pitch in for downtown beautification

Melissa Juberg
Guest Columnist

For locals and tourists alike, it is springtime in Port St. Joe and the garden club volunteers are again hard at work on Reid Avenue. They prune, fertilize, weed and dig, and plant beautiful spring flowers, just in time for Easter.

The Downtown Beautification Project, a committee within the garden club, plants 15 garden beds during fall and spring downtown each year. The DBP has been going strong since November 2021 and plans well in advance to design the beds, order plants and organize both garden club and community volunteers for planting events.

It is an extensive team effort and is appreciated so much by everyone that happens by as we plant. As people drive or stroll by on planting days, they genuinely appreciate the beauty these beds bring to our

area. That smile is why we do it.

Many people ask what plants are being planted and the club members educate them about which flowers are being used in the beds and why. Education is an important part of our mission statement. Service to our community makes this such a worthwhile project and garden club members genuinely enjoy participating.

I am so proud of the level of dedication of our team going into our third year, which includes Leesa Haire, the garden club president and downtown beautification visionary, and grant writers like Leelee Doughty, and those that put in sweat equity to transport the plants and get them in the ground.

It takes a caravan of seven trucks and SUVs to transport the plants. Members planted for three days this past week, 22 volunteers total, many of them planting all three days. We also



4th Street & Reid Avenue
[MELISSA JUBERG | CONTRIBUTED]



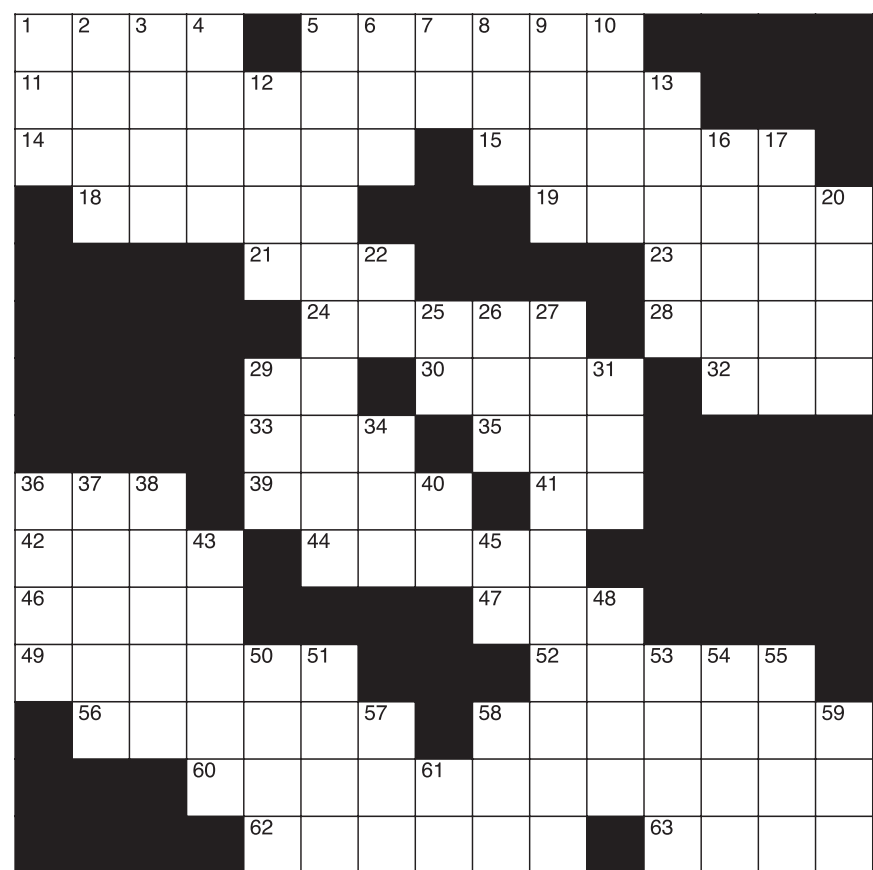
2nd Street & Reid Avenue
[MELISSA JUBERG | CONTRIBUTED]

have groups that come out and weed and prune on their own time to keep the beds looking amazing.

The DBP received grants from The George G. and Amelia G. Tapper Foundation and Duke Energy and generous donations from Capital City Bank, Centennial Bank, and the Junior Service League, which funded the project. We are so grateful to these companies and organizations. The com-

mittee planned for about seven months, getting necessary permission from our city commissioners (as they are city-owned garden beds) and the garden club to move forward with our first planting in late spring of 2022. The city assisted us with getting the irrigation working in each bed. The overwhelming support of our club and community made it possible to

See PSJ GARDEN CLUB, Page 7B



World War II museum remembers the Holocaust

Special to the Times

Camp Gordon Johnston World War II Museum in Carrabelle in April is presenting an exhibit to remember the Holocaust, Hitler's program to commit genocide against those he deemed unworthy, especially Europe's Jews.

This exhibit is on display at the museum until Saturday, April 27. The museum is open every Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is no charge for admission, but donations are gladly accepted.

Beginning in 1933, the German government established prison, labor, concentration, and extermination camps throughout their territories, including in countries they occupied before and during the war. Groups that were arrested and detained included Roma, Communists, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals, the disabled and especially Jews. Some 12 million people perished in the more than 44,000 facilities, ghettos and killing fields across Europe, including six million Jews.

The museum acknowledges the need for all citizens to understand this dark period of

history, what caused it, who perpetrated it, and how some resisted and fought their captors. Eyewitnesses such as survivors and the soldiers that liberated these camps are aging and dying, but many have told their stories. Visitors are invited to come see this sobering exhibit, and help society remember those that were victims of atrocity, prejudice, and hate.

The internationally recognized date for Holocaust Remembrance Day corresponds to the 27th day of Nisan on the Hebrew calendar and marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising which started on April 19, 1943.

In Hebrew, Holocaust Remembrance Day is called Yom Hashoah. In 2024, Yom HaShoah will be recognized beginning at sunset on the evening of Sunday, May 5 through Monday, May 6.

The museum is located directly across from Carrabelle Public Beach Park at 1873 Hwy 98 West. For more information, contact the museum at (850) 697-8575 or museum@camp-gordonjohnston.com. Funded in part by the Franklin County Tourist Development Council.



Jews captured by SS and SD troops during the suppression of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising are forced to march to the Umschlagplatz for deportation. The SD trooper, second from right, is SS-Rottenfuehrer Josef Bloesche, who was identified by authorities using this photograph. He was tried for war crimes by an East German court in 1969, sentenced to death and executed in July of that year. The little girl at left has been identified as Hanka Lamet, standing next to her mother, Matylda Lamet Goldfinger (the woman second from the left). The boy carrying the sack has been identified as Leo Kartuzinsky and the woman in the front has been identified as Chana Zeilinwarger. Numerous people have identified the boy in the foreground as either Arthur Domb Semiontek, Israel Rondel, Tsvi Nussbaum or Levi Zeilinwarger, but none of these identifications can be corroborated. [U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM | NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION]

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A minute amount (British)
- 5. Mystical or magical
- 11. Shortening
- 14. More satisfying
- 15. Other side
- 18. Philippine island
- 19. More unnatural
- 21. Mutual savings bank
- 23. Famed designer Chanel
- 24. Makes less wild
- 28. At some prior time
- 29. The cops who investigate the cops
- 30. Immune system response
- 32. Distress signal
- 33. Engine additive
- 35. "No Scrubs" trio
- 36. Very fast airplane
- 39. A reward (archaic)
- 41. Commercial
- 42. Spots where golfers start
- 44. Polite form of address (Indian)
- 46. French river
- 47. Reduce the light
- 49. Blood-sucking fly
- 52. A way to categorize
- 56. Procrastinates
- 58. Tall slender tower
- 60. Where researchers work
- 62. Office of the Pope
- 63. Office furnishing

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Possesses
- 2. American Board of Orthopedic Surgery
- 3. Ancient Syrian city
- 4. Clip
- 5. In a way, misleads
- 6. Human gene
- 7. The Golden State (abbr.)
- 8. Lizard genus
- 9. Parasites that invade the skin
- 10. Took apart
- 12. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- 13. S. California town
- 16. Suffix plural
- 17. Painting technique
- 20. Small Eurasian deer
- 22. Mr. T character
- 25. Microsoft
- 26. Shock therapy
- 27. Able to be sold
- 29. A doctrine
- 31. These three follow A
- 34. Pulse
- 36. Quantitative fact
- 37. Doctor __: children's book author
- 38. Hebrew calendar month
- 40. Designated hitter
- 43. Norther Poland village
- 45. A passport is one form
- 48. Hand (Spanish)
- 50. Hit with the open hand
- 51. Actor Idris
- 53. Shakespeare's nickname "The ___"
- 54. Northern U.S. lake
- 55. Marvin and Horsley are two
- 57. Soak
- 58. Partner to cheese
- 59. Expression of disappointment
- 61. College dorm employee

See ANSWERS, PAGE 9B

FAITH

Should we have warned our spouse at the altar?



Sheryl Boldt
Guest Columnist

Standing there before God and man, I grasped my soon-to-be-husband's hands tightly. "I need to confess something, Bert. I haven't quite mastered 1 Corinthians 13:5 yet. So, maybe I'd be more honest if I said my vows this way: 'I, Sheryl, take you,

Bert, to be my husband if you don't insult me, hurt my feelings, or do anything to upset me from this day forward, until death do us part.'"

Even though my revised wedding vows would have more honestly revealed the woman Bert was about to spend the rest of his life with, I didn't actually reword them almost 18 years ago. I have no doubt, however, that he would've appreciated the warning.

This week we're focusing on the third challenge in

1 Corinthians 13:5: "[Love] is not irritable" (ESV). The Amplified Bible makes sure we get the point. "It is not provoked [nor overly sensitive and easily angered]."

What?! Irritable? Overly sensitive? Easily Angered? Me?! When do I ever act like that?

But seriously, don't you hate it when your behavior escalates the problem? Would the people in your life benefit if you meditated on and applied 1 Corinthians 13:5?

Let's meditate on this week's verse to

prevent walking-on-eggshell moments, especially when we're so overly sensitive and easily angered that people would rather not be around us.

We could ask God to help us not be so thin-skinned and remind us to count to 10 or, better yet, recite 1 Corinthians 13:5 (in the Amplified Bible) to give us space before we say anything we regret.

Let's also pray for God to help us not take everything so personally. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to give us discernment to be able

to perceive when someone's comment or act wasn't meant to be hurtful – and, if necessary, give us grace to forgive.

We can pray with confidence because God knows us well. He knows the areas we're the most sensitive. He knows our triggers. And thankfully, He knows how much we want to behave in ways that honor Him.

On my worst days, the more I meditate on Scripture and focus on God (all He is to me – and I to Him) the more I experience satisfaction, peace, and joy,

as well as less frustration, anger and hurt. I'm calmer. Less defensive.

Less likely to blow it.

When we trust God's love for us, we become better at loving others. The better we become at loving others, the less we'll wonder if we should've given our spouse a warning before they said, "I do."

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

FAITH BRIEFS

Oak Grove to screen 'Letter to American Church'

Oak Grove Church, at 677 Madison Street in Port St. Joe, will screen the documentary film Letter to the American Church on Sunday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m.

The new film, from New York Times best-selling author Eric Metaxas, challenges audiences to take a stand in the face of evil, as it asserts that "the striking similarities between the church in early Nazi Germany and the modern American church are chilling and grim."

The cast includes Metaxas, Charlie Kirk, Dr. James Lindsay, Pastor Rob McCoy, Seth Gruber, Pastor David Engelhardt, Victor and Eileen Marx and Pastor John Amanchukwu.

For more information call Diane Pierett at (850) 227-1837.

O Death, where is your sting?



Michael J. Brooks
Guest Columnist

It's been my experience that funeral home directors generally have a great sense of humor. I asked a gentleman about this once and he explained that a sense of humor is the only thing that saved him from awful depression. I can imagine these men and women deal with the greatest of tragedies.

But on the other hand, I've heard some interesting

stories from them. One funeral home employee told me about trying to salvage a graveside service after several pallbearers were drunk, and one fell into the open grave. I can't imagine officiating at this service and trying to recoup!

It wasn't funny to me at the time, but it was memorable.

I was in the Old Live Oak Cemetery in Selma conducting a service not far from the mausoleum of Alabama Sen. William Rufus King, the only Alabamian to serve as U.S. vice president, albeit briefly. He was sworn in on the island of Cuba where he'd traveled for his health, only to die

a month later. He also became the only vice president to be sworn in on foreign soil. Today he's honored as one of the founders of Selma as well as James Buchanan's vice president, at least for a few weeks.

Nevertheless, I was nearby this site and trying to comfort the family when I felt sharp pain in my feet and legs. I tried to be discreet but found to my dismay that I was standing in a nest of yellow jackets. I think I was stung three times, but managed to complete the service. A dignified and cultured Selmian, Louise Swertfeger, later told me she was

stung repeatedly as well, but I remember her sitting and looking, well, dignified and cultured, despite this.

I always think of this funeral when I read Paul's word in 1 Corinthians: "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" (1 Corinthians 15:55).


All my life I've heard preachers explain this verse to their congregations. Christ took our punishment on the cross temporarily so that we can be released from the sting of death eternally.

Death does sting. No one of us wants to see the deaths of those we love, except in times when their suffering is so terrible with no hope of recovery. Most often death is as unwelcome as a thief in the night. The death angel is normally not invited inside our homes to visit.

But Paul reminded his readers, and us, that the sting of death is temporary. Those who believe and follow Christ are assured that he accompanies us across the River of Death and brings us safely home to the father.

This is our resurrection hope.

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.



JANET CUMBAA TAYLOR
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OBITUARIES

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

Dan Garlick

As many of you know, we lost our family member and dear friend Dan Garlick on January 4th, 2024. We will be holding a memorial, celebrating his life at the Dixie Theatre in Apalachicola, Florida on Saturday April 6th at 2 p.m. We look forward to remembering Daniel at the memorial with friends and family.



KEENAGERS

"SPRING" Luncheon
APRIL 9, 2024, at 12 Noon

KEENAGERS is a regular gathering of Community –Wide, Senior Adults that meet the **second Tuesday of each month** at our church. We are a "Friends eating and sharing together" event that has two components, a meal (Bring a dish to share) and a unique program.
Church Fellowship Hall.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
46 Ninth Street - Apalachicola, FL 32320
850-653-9540 - Pastor Jeff Strickland

Discipleship Classes at 9:45 a.m.
Morning Service 11:00a.m.
Evening/Wed Services 6PM-in the Fellowship Hall
Home of the First Baptist Christian School K3-8th
Celebrating 40th Yr! Renewal Registration 24-25 yr
Office Hours: Monday-Friday –7:45 a.m.-3PM

Springtime mini-festival in Apalachicola Saturday

Special to the Times

Porch Fest Apalach has a lagniappe for you! (Cajun French for “a little something extra”) In addition to the October festival, this year Porch Fest is celebrating “Springtime in the Park,” with three great bands, food trucks, and a groovy afternoon in Apalachicola.

This free family-friendly mini-festival will be this Saturday, April 6 from 1 to 7 p.m. at Battery Park on what was the popular main stage for Porch Fest Apalach 2023, the full-scale October event. This Saturday enjoy three fabulous bands in this peaceful setting.

Apalachicola’s Hot Mess will fire things up with a tasty program of zydeco, roots, rock, and blues. Legendary keyboardist JB Babich will join them for an extra helping of boogie-woogie and a funky New Orleans vibe.

Up next is Tallahassee’s Two Foot Level, whose instrumentation includes the clawhammer banjo, acoustic and electric mandolins, acoustic guitar, upright bass, drums, and vocals. Folks will be treated to a wide range of bluegrass-influenced tunes that also draw on Ameri-



Tallahassee’s Two Foot Level will offer a range of instrumentation at Saturday’s concert at Battery Park. [TWO FOOT LEVEL]

cana, folk, indie, reggae, and rock genres.

Headlining is Sugarcane Jane, led by Anthony Crawford and Savana Lee, and joined by Lolly Lee, a musical veteran from Birmingham, Alabama, known for singing songs straight from her heart. She has both digital and vinyl albums coming out this spring. Sugarcane Jane hails from Alabama’s Gulf Coast.

Drawing on a rich musical heritage from working with such notables as Neil Young, Steve Winwood, and Dwight Yoakam, their music is rooted in country and rock and anchored by their sweet and soulful harmonies.

They have a highly anticipated album, *On a Mission*, that came out in February.

In addition to the multiple music acts, there will be food trucks and vendors at Battery Park for the day, as well as portable toilets, and a children’s playground. Local restaurants will also be open.

People are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets, bicycles, wagons, picnics, cash (for tipping, donations, food, drink), hats and sunscreen. The Elder Care Community Council (ECCC) is the designated charity for Porch Fest Apalach’s “Springtime in the Park.” Tips,



Sugarcane Jane, led by Anthony Crawford and Savana Lee from Loxley, Alabama will headline Saturday’s concert at Battery Park. [THACKER MOUNTAIN RADIO HOUR]



Lolly Lee will join Sugarcane Jane Saturday’s concert at Battery Park. [LOLLY LEE]

merchandise sales, anything left over after paying expenses will go to help feed Franklin County’s senior citizens.

PSJ GARDEN CLUB

From page 5B

continue in the fall of that year and spurred many to keep the improvements going.

Planters of flowers outside of local businesses showed up to welcome those strolling through town. The DBP added benches to some of the corners. Our merchants started to talk about more lighting on Reid

and Joe Whitmer, director of the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce, guided that project. The colorful directional signs were commissioned by the chamber, which I as a local artist created.

Everyone really started to pitch in and wanted to see more continued improvements, which was exciting. There has always been a wonderful sense of community here, but I feel it

even more so since this beautification began. It shows that one person can have a simple idea to make things better, that can take hold of a group of people, who have a variety of talents, and it can turn into something pretty great.

Special thanks to our garden

club board for the support, and the club members who show up and work hard with a smile. There are too many to name, but you know who you are.

Melissa Juberg is the chairwoman of the Downtown Beautification Project committee of the Port St. Joe Garden Club.



Garden Club members, from left, Sheila Etchen, Debbie Mayfield, Ann Showman, DBP Chairwoman Melissa Juberg and Lanann Tuttle. [TERRI HAYES | CONTRIBUTED]



DBP Chairwoman Melissa Juberg, with Leesa Haire, president of PSJ Garden Club and former DBP chairwoman. [LANANN TUTTLE | CONTRIBUTED]

BAY AREA CHORAL SOCIETY

Celebrate
Music
WHY WE SING



Conductor: Dana Langford, Pianist: Dr. Ian Henning, Instrumentalists: FSU

Friday, April 12, 6 PM EDT

First United Methodist Church
Port St. Joe

Saturday, April 13, 6 PM EDT

Trinity Episcopal Church
Apalachicola

We will be performing at Carnegie Hall, NYC December 2!



Ticket Price: \$20 adults, \$5 students
All tickets are available at
tinyurl.com/BACS-tickets



Tickets for the Port St. Joe Concert can also be purchased at No Name Books & Gifts.

BACS will debut a work by Ed Hogan, composer, commissioned for this concert. This effort was underwritten in part by the Tapper Foundation of Port St. Joe.

Speaking aloud

David Adlerstein
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com

What do a Greek scientist, spiders, candlemaking, and fun stuff to do in Michigan all have in common?

They were among the many topics for speeches given by Franklin County fourth, fifth and sixth graders at the annual 4-H Public Speaking Competition March 22 at the UF IFAS Extension Building in Apalachicola.

Twelve fourth and fifth graders, from the county's three schools and homeschooled students, competed in the young bracket, while nine sixth graders in the older bracket in the morning-long event.

Each had two to three minutes to deliver the remarks they had worked through the classroom and schoolwide levels.

Franklin County Extension Director Erik Lovestrand, and Program Assistant Michelle Huber oversaw the competition at the office adjacent to the Mill Pond marina.

In the younger bracket, Apalachicola Bay Charter School student Kami Poloronis, who had placed third in the schoolwide competition, took home the top prize, with her speech on "Making The World A Better Place."



Standing with Franklin County Extension Agent Erik Lovestrand are, from left: sixth grade runner-up Kairi Trest; fourth-fifth runner-up Joshua Allen; sixth grade winner Myleigh Beasley; fourth-fifth winner Kami Poloronis; fourth-fifth third place Aurora Still; and sixth grade third place Macie Braswell. [MICHELLE HUBER | CONTRIBUTED]

Joshua Allen, who had been tops among homeschooled students, earned second place with his speech on "Archimedes and his Inventions, while place Aurora Still, who had been runner-up among homeschooled kids, finished third with her speech on "Kids Are Capable."

See SPEECH CONTEST, Page 9B

NOTICE OF LAND USE CHANGE

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

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

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

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

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



NOTICE OF ZONING CHANGE

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

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

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

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

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GCSO EASTER

From page 2B

thanks go to board members Jan Roycroft and Rosemary Raganella for organizing and picking up at all the drop-off points. It takes a lot of community effort to have this great success! We are blessed with such a caring and generous community.

Dr. Pat Hardman is the president of the Coastal Community Association Inc.

WOODRICK

From page 3B

has performed. Just because an index is down, it does not mean that it will go up and vice versa. And just because we are at/near all-time highs, we cannot conclude that the markets will continue to move up or go down. This means that one must employ statistically-based prudence in creating, monitoring, and altering one's portfolio in combination with a clear understanding of one's time frame and risk tolerance. Proverbs 21:5 says, "Hasty speculation brings poverty; steady plodding brings prosperity." The markets' increases have silently increased the risk in most portfolios. At times, it makes sense to say, "thank you" to the markets and move some of the profits to other investments in order to rebalance a portfolio and reduce or limit risk. Bonds may be a good replacement.

Interest rates: Inflation appears to be slowing, but the Fed has not cut interest rates yet. If you've never invested in bonds, now might be the time to get a good education on the asset class. A bond is basically a promise to pay from a government or a corporation, can be bought and sold at a profit or loss, can be guaranteed or not, and can have maturity dates from a few days to a few decades.

Here's the main question for You: when would you like to lock-in your ability to receive attractive interest payments? When interest rates are high? Or when interest rates are low? Good job! You would want to lock them in when they are high. If interest rates may be moving lower, instead of only considering bank certificates of deposit of 18 months or less, it may make sense to consider longer-term bonds that have the potential to outperform over the long term.

Gulf County resident Walter L. Woodrick is a Certified Financial Planner practitioner, and author of two books. His website is WoodrickFinancial.com. You can text Walter at 850.724.1369. Securities and advisory services are offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC. The opinions voiced in this article are for general information only and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. To determine which strategies or investments may be suitable for you, consult the appropriate qualified professional prior to making a decision. Bonds are subject to market and interest rate risk if sold prior to maturity. Bond values will decline as interest rates rise and bonds are subject to availability and change in price. 558746-1

OUTDOORS

WEEKLY ALMANAC

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
Thu, March 28	72°	47°	24%
Fri, March 29	70°	53°	2%
Sat, March 30	74°	58°	7%
Sun, March 31	76°	61°	23%
Mon, April 1	76°	61°	31%
Tues, April 2	74°	58°	41%
Wed, April 3	70°	55°	31%
Thu, April 4	71°	57°	24%

THE TIMES

APALACHICOLA

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
28 Thurs	7:27 1.2	5:29 1.6	12:42 -0.1	12:13 0.9
29 Fri	8:34 1.2	5:54 1.6	1:13 -0.3	12:41 1.0
30 Sat	10:07 1.2	6:24 1.6	1:51 -0.3	1:09 1.1
31 Sun		6:59 1.6	2:41 -0.3	
1 Mon		7:44 1.5	3:54 -0.3	
2 Tues		9:08 1.4	5:24 -0.3	
3 Wed	3:11P 1.3	10:53 1.4	6:52 -0.3	6:42 1.2
4 Thurs		3:26 1.3	7:59 -0.3	8:02 1.0

CARRABELLE

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
28 Thurs	6:02 2.0	4:04 2.5	10:00 1.4	11:00 -0.4
29 Fri	7:09 1.9	4:29 2.6	10:28 1.5	11:38 -0.5
30 Sat	8:42 1.9	4:59 2.6	10:56 1.7	
31 Sun		5:34 2.6	12:28 -0.5	
1 Mon		6:19 2.4	1:41 -0.5	
2 Tues		7:43 2.3	3:11 -0.5	
3 Wed	1:46P 2.1	9:28 2.2	4:39 -0.5	4:29 1.9
4 Thurs	2:01P 2.1	11:10 2.3	5:46 -0.5	5:49 1.6

THE STAR

ST. JOSEPH BAY

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
28 Thurs	11:16 1.4	10:56 0.1		8:53 0.0
29 Fri	11:47 1.5		1:08 0.0	
30 Sat		12:32 1.6	1:43 -0.2	
31 Sun		1:44 1.6	2:22 -0.3	
1 Mon		3:14 1.7	3:11 -0.3	
2 Tues		4:21 1.7	4:12 -0.3	
3 Wed		5:42 1.6	5:12 -0.3	
4 Thurs		7:09 1.5	6:07 -0.2	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Day	High Tide AM	High Tide PM	Low Tide AM	Low Tide PM
28 Thurs	7:27 1.2	5:29 1.6	12:42 -0.1	12:13 0.9
29 Fri	8:34 1.2	5:54 1.6	1:13 -0.3	12:41 1.0
30 Sat	10:07 1.2	6:24 1.6	1:51 -0.3	1:09 1.1
31 Sun		6:59 1.6	2:41 -0.3	
1 Mon		7:44 1.5	3:54 -0.3	
2 Tues		9:08 1.4	5:24 -0.3	
3 Wed	3:11P 1.3	10:53 1.4	6:52 -0.3	6:42 1.2
4 Thurs		3:26 1.3	7:59 -0.3	8:02 1.0

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Video feed broadcasts osprey chicks hatching

Special to the Times and Star

Between innings of his intramural softball games, Mark Hostetler will sometimes ask student participants about the high-pitched chirps and shrieks emanating from above their heads.

“We always hear that bird screaming,” the students often say. “What is that bird?”

To many of the people using the fields behind the University of Florida’s Southwest Recreation Center, the sounds are just background noise.

“After I sit with them and talk about the ospreys and what they’re doing and the camera, they get out their smartphones and say, ‘Wow. I can actually see it,’” said Hostetler, a professor of wildlife ecology and conservation at UF’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS).

For the past two years, the top of a light pole between the easternmost softball fields has served as the seasonal home of Stella and Talon, ospreys that have fashioned a 100-pound nest from moss, twigs and other organic material, 75 feet above the human action below. This week, the birds are expected to become the parents of three chicks. And thanks to a camera Hostetler’s team positioned just above the nest, video of the hatchings will be visible online.

Hostetler’s osprey webcam project began in 2016 after he noticed ospreys had crafted a nest atop a light pole in the right outfield of McKethan Stadium, UF’s official baseball field until 2020.

“I thought to myself, ‘This is a great educational opportunity,’” he said. “People see these ospreys, but they don’t really know much about their natural life history, what they’re doing in the nests.”

He put a camera above the nest, and it began broadcasting video footage streamed online. Game attendees could tune in and observe the birds during innings.

When Condron Ballpark replaced McK-



A view of the “studio” where the ospreys are hatching their chicks. [MARK HOSTETLER | CONTRIBUTED]

ethan Stadium, Hostetler searched across campus for a new nest to film. He eventually settled on the intramural softball fields, where several nests were already located, and his team used a boom crane to position a camera above a nesting site. A pair of ospreys returned to the site -- jokingly referred to as “Home Plate” and “The Cheap Seats” -- early this year, and the female began laying eggs in February.

Based on the incubation period of ospreys, Hostetler guesses all three eggs will hatch this week; one already has.

The chicks will unknowingly emerge from their eggs before a sizeable audience; about 70,000 people from across the world tune in each year to watch the ospreys.

Hostetler hopes viewers can learn a valuable lesson about conservation.

“Everything is connected,” he said. “The birds that you hear and the osprey families in the nests are dependent on the habit that’s around them. If it’s not healthy because we’re putting too much fertilizer on our property and introducing too many chemicals, then it affects the availability of fish that the birds eat and feed their chicks. Urban areas are a combination, of course, of human modification, but we can do it in a way that doesn’t disrupt the wildlife in the area.”

Observe the ospreys, learn more and make donations to support the Osprey Cam project by visiting <https://wec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/ospreycam/>.

FWC REPORT

During the week of Feb. 23 through 29, Officer Lipford was on patrol in Gulf County targeting night hunters when he observed a vehicle displaying a light into an open field in a manner capable of disclosing the presence of deer. He stopped the vehicle and found the driver and passenger were in possession of a loaded pneumatic air rifle. The appropriate action was taken.

While Officers Butts and Gerber were

checking hunters in the area, they encountered an individual hunting without a license. Officers discovered the subject was a convicted felon and found him in possession of firearms, drugs and paraphernalia. The subject admitted to shooting a deer days prior with a firearm. The individual was arrested for the violations.

While Gerber was on patrol conducting resource inspections, he found one subject to be in possession of six undersized black drum. The appropriate law enforcement action was taken.

Forgotten Coast Fishing Report

Special to the Times and Star

The nearest shore reefs are really turning on with limits of bee-liners at the top of the list; triggerfish as well as some mangroves are also being caught, shrimp are the bait of choice, cut mullet, works well.

We have had several good inshore reports from our local captains; Capt Phil of Phil’s charter service and his crew were able to wrangle some big reds to the boat this week. Capt Chris Lance of Gettin’ Reel Sportfishing had another first-rate week of sheepshead, trout and redfish. For all you shark fisherman, that bite is turning on with some bull

sharks being caught along Indian Pass; butterflyed bonita are a great bait to start with as well as cut mullet.

The catfish are obliging freshwater fishermen on Lake Wimico using stink bait, as well as cut bait. Crappie are still caught as well. Shellcracker are starting to be caught on the Dead Lakes. Stop by and see our knowledgeable staff for advice or help picking out tackle; we have a vast assortment of offshore, inshore as well as freshwater. We also carry live bait and frozen. Until next week, tight lines and don’t forget to wear those lifejackets and keep those lanyards hooked up.



Everything for your outdoor adventure!!

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