



1B Clutch plays, stellar defense propel Pace flag football team to playoff win

SANTA ROSA'S
Press Gazette
WEEKLY IN PRINT • DAILY ONLINE
inside
2 sections

SERVING NORTH SANTA ROSA COUNTY

MAY 1-7, 2025 \$1.25 NEWS & INFORMATION

Builders wary of Ibis Road decision



4A Mondelez International, Inc. breaks ground at I-10 Industrial Park

Conditional use permit for Milton Wastewater Treatment Plant granted

Escambia County Animal Welfare Locates, Rescues Dog Seen in Viral Animal Abuse Video



3B Pace baseball team gets playoff series rolling with big win

4B: Pace beach volleyball team sees a lot of growth in year two of program

5B: Milton's baseball season comes to an end in regional quarterfinal round



Photos by Marlo Scafe
Above: The residents of Ibis Road came together to protest their cul-de-sac becoming a thoroughfare. At right: Ibis Road residents Jodi Burkhammer and Darrell Jones hold signs to oppose access to Makaira Ridge through Avalon Estates.

By Marlo Scafe
news@srpressgazette.com

The crowd at the Board of County Commissioners meeting on Thursday, April 24, was comprised of Ibis Road residents, builders, and a lawyer waiting for an update on Ibis Road. The question on everyone's mind was, will the cul-de-sac Ibis Road become a thoroughfare?

County Attorney Tom Dannheisser announced staff had revoked the amendment to the developer's order that included connecting the Makaira Subdivision through the Ibis Road cul-de-sac. Dannheisser also said he will be representing the county in any ongoing litigation with the developer on this matter.

But perhaps an unintended consequence of the partial

revocation hit the building industry. Chair of the West Florida Home Builders Association (HBA), Alton Lister, said this revocation has the attention of local builders.

"The impact of what is happening is already sending rippling effects. It truly is," Alton Lister, Chair of the Local Home Builders Association (HBA), said. "We're

already hearing people who want to invest in this community, and they have already made commitments to doing it, start putting the brakes on and saying we're going to wait and see what happens here."

Lister said the builder was given permits, had already started work, and that it is absurd to stop a builder after

they have already put money, time, and hard effort into a project. But the residents of Ibis Road said there are multiple access points to the subdivision without going through their cul-de-sac, and for more than two decades were told their street would not become a thoroughfare.

See IBIS ROAD 2A



Copyright © 2025
ISSN 2688-6316
Santa Rosa Press Gazette
5842 Commerce St., Suite D
Milton, FL 32570

Subscribe Now!

Commissioners move forward on Rural Protection Zone



John Szymoniak says the Rural Protection Zone may be the most critical effort undertaken by the current commissioners.

By Marlo Scafe
news@srpressgazette.com

At the Board of County Commissioners meeting on April 21, the commissioners revisited the idea to extend the Rural Protection Zone.

Commissioners expressed their support for the Rural Protection Zone's intended purpose. They also shared their concerns about the Rural Protection Zone's power to protect

the rural character of Northern Santa Rosa County. The Chairman, Kerry Smith, said he has always been in support of the Rural Protection Zone.

"I have always been steadfast and sure on that rural protection line. And one of the things I always wanted to do is keep that line with some serious teeth in it so we do not have the rezonings," Smith said. "I agree with expanding it to that area, I just want to know what the enforcement is going to look like."



Smith

See RPZ 2A



42694 00197 2



EMBARRASSED BY YOUR WEBSITE?

Need a website that works for you and sends you leads?

Sandpaper Marketing can help you make awesome first impressions.

SandpaperMarketing Call or email today.
info@sandpapermarketing.com • 850.939.1900



SCAN ME

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

May 3

2nd Annual Crawfish Boil 2.0 at the Prost Office Brewery starting at 12 p.m. Back by popular demand, it's time for another round of delicious crawfish and good vibes. Bring your friends and family for a day filled with great food, cold drinks, and music.

Foundry Student 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament Fundraiser at the Milton SportsPlex from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event is a fundraiser for Foundry students for their Camp Baldwin retreat and mission trip. \$10 per player, up to 4 players on a team. Open to the public. Boys and girls of all ages can participate.

May 4

Paint for A HOPE at Your Pace Yoga Studio starting at 2 p.m. a night of creativity, connection, and giving back at our Paint for A HOPE Fundraiser, guided by the amazing Emily from The Traveling Painter. Whether you're an artist or just in it for the fun, this afternoon is for you.

May The 4th Be With You Skate at Weber's Skate World from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Come dressed as your favorite Star Wars character! We will have a costume contest with judging happening after 4 p.m. for the best Star Wars costume.

May 10

Hop into a Fur-Ever Home at Santa Rosa County Animal Services from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join the Krewe of Wicked Pirates and the Santa Rosa County Shelter for an egg-stra special, 'Hop into a Fur-Ever Home' pet adoption event. Come meet your new furry friend at the Santa Rosa County Animal Services Center.

Special Day at the Farm at AWA Farms from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. A special day at the farm for special needs kids in middle school or high school.

May 15

STEAM Day at the Milton Library from 4 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Monthly STEAM Day. Each month will feature a different theme. Speak with a staff member for more information.

May 16

Stormfolk "Bands on the Blackwater" at Jernigan's Landing from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and your friends. Food trucks available.

May 30

2025 Sheriff's Rodeo - First Responder and Military Night at Sant Rosa County Fair Association, Inc. starting at 7:30 p.m. A family-friendly evening packed with heart-pounding rodeo riding, jaw-dropping K-9 and SWAT demos, and other experiences, all in support of the SRSO Star Foundation.

City of Milton celebrates Arbor Day with tree planting at Milton High School

Staff report
news@srpressgazette.com

The City of Milton continued its longstanding commitment to urban forestry by marking Arbor Day with a special tree planting ceremony at Milton High School on April 25, 2025.

City officials, students, and community members came together to plant a new tree on campus.

"Trees do more than beautify our city—they reduce urban heat, improve air and water quality, increase property values, and enhance overall quality of life for current and future generations," Milton City Manager Ed Spears said. "We are excited to celebrate Arbor Day with the students of Milton High School and continue our efforts to keep Milton green."

This year's Arbor Day celebration comes as Milton is

once again recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation—a designation the city has maintained for 31 consecutive years.

Recently, the city planted more than 80 native trees in city parks like Carpenter's Park and Jernigan's Landing, thanks to a \$23,000 FDACS Urban Forestry Tree Grant. This initiative aims to restore Milton's Urban Tree Canopy, which plays a vital role in stormwater management, reducing erosion, and protecting the Blackwater River.

Vernon Compton works for the Longleaf Alliance as a Project Director in Milton. He said Arbor Day is his favorite holiday. In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees. Arbor Day was first observed with the planting of more than one million trees



Photos submitted
Mayor Heather Lindsay participates in Arbor Day at Milton High School.

in Nebraska and is now celebrated internationally.

"We know roads, water, and sewer as community infrastructure, but so are trees," Compton said. "Trees are great stormwater manage-

ment tools to keep aquatic resources clean and aquatic habitats healthy. And it is so easy for us to implement."

The trees planted at Milton High School were Southern magnolias, which Compton said are native, long-lived, large canopy trees. For years now, Milton High School has been planting large canopy trees that help not only beautify the campus but also keep it cooler as well.

Compton said trees can help remedy the heat island effect caused by blacktop surfaces absorbing heat. Helping cool yards, homes, and creating a more welcoming environment outside. FFA students attended and participated in engaging discussions about trees on campus. They also helped plant the magnolias, which can live for over 100 years.

"Every day is a good day to plant a tree," Compton said.

RPZ

Continued from page 1A

According to the Land Development Code, the Rural Protection Zone is designed to protect the rural character, agricultural viability, and natural resources of Northern Santa Rosa County. Within the Rural Protection Zone, the creation of new communities will be allowed, but urban sprawl will be avoided, and development performance standards will reflect the rural character of the area.

Resident John Szymoniak spoke at the meeting in support of extending the Rural Protection Zone and said that it may be the most important effort the current county commissioners undertake. He spoke about the importance of protecting local watersheds like Blackwater River, Yellow River, and Coldwater Creek through land buffers, which filter pollutants and stabilize stream banks.

"I think this Rural Protection Zone is one of the most critical things you will encounter in your time on this board," Szymoniak said. "You may not feel it, but it is going to be a very lasting, long-term thing that is critically important to the watersheds of this county."

Concerns were also raised about the impact zoning has on the cost of land. In gen-



Photo by Marlo Scafe
Chairman Kerry Smith says he has always been in support of the Rural Protection Zone and wants to ensure it is enforced.

eral, rural zoned land is likely to be less expensive than land zoned for commercial or high-density use. However, the Rural Protection Zone does not prevent land within it from being rezoned.

Anyone can request that their land be rezoned. The Zoning Board would then review it to submit their recommendations for approval to the commissioners, who make the final call. And being in the Rural Protection Zone does not prevent anyone from building a home, but it does dictate the acreage required. For example, one-acre lot homes are the smallest allowed within the current Rural Protection Zone. Commissioner Colten Wright expressed some of his concerns about one-acre lots being a problem for farmers.

"Gross residential should not exceed one dwelling unit per acre, now we're back at one house per acre. I don't like that," Wright said. "Homesites become too large to mow, but too small to plow."

Section 7.05.04 of the Land Development Code details the benefits and limitations of zoning. Benefits range from protecting public and private property from harmful inconsistent uses to protecting the current and future industry by informing residents where industry will be allowed to develop.

Limitations include that zoning does not require design to rural standards, force land to stay in agricultural production, require provision of open space, or protection of natural vistas. Zoning, as a stand-alone tool, cannot protect the character of Northern Santa Rosa County, protect farming operations, or preserve open space.

And perhaps the most detrimental to rural character is the subdivision of agricultural land into large lots. The AG and Ag-2 categories are typical "large lot" zoning districts. While these districts do reduce the number of homes that can be built, they also require homes to be spread out in such a way that none of the

remaining land is useable for farming, forestry, or recreation.

"In moving the line, I thought our entire conversation was trying to address some of these things, and that's what I want to do. So, I really want to solve the problem," Colten Wright said.

Commissioner Rhett Rowell, who proposed extending the Rural Protection Zone, said he has been speaking to farmers about their concerns. And found that skinny rectangular lots and the current 50-foot land buffer are often problematic. Rowell suggested extending the buffer to 125 feet and wants to avoid the narrow lots that inhibit potential farmland. Commissioner Bobby Burkett said he fully supports Rowell's suggestions.

Rowell said if the commissioners are willing to move forward with scheduling a public hearing to discuss extending the boundary, he would entertain a delayed implementation. This would allow further review of the Rural Protection Zone and ensure that it serves its intended purpose to protect the rural character, agricultural viability, and natural resources of Northern Santa Rosa County.

Commissioners agreed to move forward with the process of extending the Rural Protection Zone and have advertised the public hearing on May 8 for public input on the matter.

City of Milton to host groundbreaking ceremony for major gas line replacement project

Staff report
news@srpressgazette.com

The City of Milton will hold a ceremonial groundbreaking ceremony on May 1, 2025, at 10 a.m., to launch the project to replace over 12 miles of aging natural gas pipeline throughout Milton and Pace.

Funded through a \$10 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), the project is part of the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization (NGDISM) program. It is designed to improve public safety, reduce emissions, and strengthen energy reliability for thousands of residents.

"This project is about more than replacing pipe—it's about equity, safety, and sustainability," Milton City Manager Ed Spears said. "Thanks to the city's grants department and federal partners, we're making a generational investment that protects both our residents and the environment—without raising customer costs."

The project will replace an estimated 4.38 miles of cast iron and an estimated 7.91 miles of bare and unprotected steel gas mains with modern, durable polyethylene (PE) piping.

Construction is anticipated to begin in Summer

2025, following contract finalization and material delivery. Work will take place in various streets and neighborhoods across the Milton Natural Gas Service Area.

Real-time construction updates, road closures, and other notices will be posted on the City's website, Facebook page, and Nextdoor App.

Construction progress and impacts will vary by location. Traffic, street size, weather, and soil conditions may affect how long work takes in each area. Landowners will be informed in advance of heavy equipment usage, noise impacts, and the posting of temporary "No Parking" signs. Job sites will be secured nightly to restore as much normalcy as possible.

Once the new mains are installed and tested, work will begin on replacing necessary service lines. The city will make every effort to notify landowners 3-5 days in advance of service line access needs, including relighting gas appliances.

Following completion of utility work, paving contractors will permanently restore affected streets and sidewalks to their original conditions.

The project will be managed by Florida Gas Utility and constructed by Equix Energy Services, LLC.

For more information, please contact the City of Milton at (850) 983-5400 or email PIO@miltonfl.org.

Ibis Road

Continued from page 1A

West Florida Home Builders Association President Austin Tenpenny, who is also a member of the Land Development Task Force and owner of aDoor properties, said the county's decision is setting a dangerous precedent that undermines the integrity of the development process in Santa Rosa County.

"To rescind that order, after the fact, signals to developers, business owners, and investors that decisions made by this body are not final," Tenpenny said. "That they are subject to the reversal based on political pressure or shifting opinions. That is not governance, that is instability, and instability is the fastest way to stop growth."

Joanne Swahlan lives on Ibis Road and said she found the Ibis Road connection agreement between the developer and the county wrapped in layers of verbiage disheartening.

"On its surface, it was a cost-saving item to the county. Could plausible deniability be at play?" Swahlan asked. "I respectfully request permanently blocking Avalon Estates'

Ibis Road as an access to the subdivision, as the years of agreements have indicated."

Other residents have expressed their concern for public safety and having their children, who are used to playing in the cul-de-sac, in dangerous traffic. Many residents also said they felt lied to. And that for years now, they have heard that their cul-de-sac will remain untouched. But suddenly, the builder opened up the cul-de-sac and started pouring pavement for a thoroughfare.

After the Monday, April 21, meeting, the county placed concrete barricades, preventing the road connection. Founder of Moorhead Law Group and Legal Counsel for West Florida Home Builder Association, Stephen Moorhead, spoke about due process at the meeting and how the builders were denied that by the county.

"You give them an opportunity to be heard before you make your decisions. And clearly, that hasn't happened here. The decisions have already been made," Moorhead said. "This is the first chance we've had to do that, and it's appalling to me that we're to this point."

Moorhead said there are two sides to every story, and the county has not heard from the developers. He argued that due to the 2021 agreement being dissolved, there was no impediment to access through Ibis Road.

But Ibis Road resident Trinity Colburn rebutted Moorhead, saying that the terms of the 2022 agreement state no access is allowed to any of the existing streets on Avalon Boulevard.

Moorhead also mentioned vandalism that was done to construction equipment on the Makaira Ridge development site.

"We're talking about actually drilling into blocks and ruining equipment," Moorhead said.

Santa Rosa Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer Christi Cole confirmed that there was a report filed regarding the vandalism. And that it is going to be a felony criminal mischief charge relating to trespassing on a construction site. She also said that, to her understanding, Ibis Road residents have been asked if they have any camera footage that could help the case.

District 5 Commissioner

Colten Wright had strong words for the people of Ibis Road. "I think if you have a deputy out there, they are probably going to think it has something to do with what is going on right now," Wright said. "Residents of Ibis Road, if it was none of y'all who did it, if it is truly no one you know I would ban together and try to find out in every way who did it to prove someone in your group is completely innocent."

Chairman Kerry Smith said he does not want the people of Ibis Road to be convicted of the vandalism based on hearsay. He said it was unfortunate and prays the perpetrator is caught, but that they can't assume it was an Ibis Road resident without proof.

The county decided against voting on a motion regarding Ibis Road, because with the revocation of the amendment to the developer's order, it would be redundant. Commissioner Colten Wright said he does believe in due process and looks forward to a judge reviewing the matter, as it is years of convoluted agreements muddled with intricate legalities. Dannheisser said he would represent the county in any litigation with the developer.

Advertise on the...

BILLBOARD

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

H.E. Roberts Roofing, Inc. Commercial & Residential

FEATURE YOUR BUSINESS ON THIS PAGE

Starting at

\$75 PER WEEK

with a 52-week commitment

Receive a **FREE** story on your business in rotation with the other advertisers on this feature page.

Showcased on the front page of SRPressGazette.com when your feature story is in rotation.

\$2,100 value!

CALL TODAY 850-623-2120

SIGN UP FOR 12 WEEKS FOR \$90/WEEK AND RECEIVE ONE STORY IN ROTATION OF ADVERTISERS.

Story will be removed from SRPressGazette.com once your advertising cycle stops.

YOUR STORY HERE



H.E. Roberts Roofing is a company that cares. Their homegrown values, commitment to their community and top-quality service are the product that make them a business you can trust. Specializing in residential roofing, commercial roofing and new construction roofing, H.E. Roberts does it all. Whether you are getting your house ready to sell with a brand-new roof, or fixing a leaky spot after a windy

take care of the needs of the people that are requesting jobs. We try to look after them and make sure they're satisfied with the work we do," Roberts said.

The team at H.E. Roberts Roofing are experts in all types of roofs – asphalt, metal and even flat roofing.

They service roofs all over Northwest Florida and South Alabama and their average roof turnaround time is one to two days.

What sets H.E. Roberts

Roofing apart from the other roofing companies is their commitment to customer satisfaction. Their crews are local, and they aren't going anywhere.

They live, work and play in Northwest Florida, and they care about their community.

"We're here," operations manager Cheyenne Bodie said. "We actually live in the community. We're invested

in the community. We're here, and we're going to be able to meet those warranty needs – those workmanship warranty issues that come up after the fact – because we're not going anywhere."

Owner Hunter Roberts grew up in Milton, Florida and started roofing in 2001 when his friend's dad taught him the skill. He enjoyed the trade and decided to make a career out of it. He

worked for the state and developed his skills and learned roofing inside and out. In 2017, Hunter started H.E. Roberts Roofing with an emphasis on quality work, affordability, integrity and giving back to the community.

Some of the charitable causes they have given to are Life Option Clinic, My Father's Arrows and the cold weather shelter for the

homeless and The Living Room, a nonprofit that helps homeless families find a place to live.

Roberts wants this business to be a multi-generational operation that he

H.E. Roberts Roofing
HERobertsRoofing.com
Milton, FL 32570
850-281-6509
License # CCC 133119

hands down to his sons one day and then to his sons' sons. They want to become a large company with home-grown values and a hometown perspective.

Mr. Roberts' favorite part of his job is providing people with a quality product that can give them peace of mind about their home being safe and the integrity of the home being sustainable for a long time to come.

"Roofs are an investment item, they are an asset," Bodie said. "Customers don't think about the quality or the condition of the roof on their property until they have a problem arise."

And when a problem arises, H.E. Roberts is here to help. They offer the option to repair at a fair price.

Are you in the market for a new roof or need a repair to your existing roof? Call H.E. Roberts Roofing and request a free estimate. You won't be disappointed that you did.

FREE ESTIMATES!

HE. ROBERTS ROOFING
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
850.281.6509

HEROBERTSROOFING.COM



LIGHTHOUSE PRIVATE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY K-12
6163 Dogwood Drive
Milton, FL 32570
850.417.6380

lighthousepca.com/milton

ATTENTION: Milton/Pace Homeowners who are frustrated with their Lawns!

Have you threatened to cement the whole thing over and paint it green?

Before you do that, call me for a **FREE LAWN CONSULTATION!**

850-240-7935
www.FatherAndSonLandscape.com



Skip Orth
Lawn Expert, 30 Years



VETERANS PROTECTING CHILDREN

We provide comprehensive security solutions tailored specifically for schools, ensuring a protective shield against the unthinkable. Through proactive measures and rapid response strategies, we stand as guardians, committed to creating an environment where every child can thrive without fear.



ANGEL FORCE
THE RAMPART OF OUR FUTURE
angelfp.com



SET FREE FOUNDATION
HELPING WOMEN OVERCOME TRAUMA

850-463-5191 • INFO@SETFREEREFUGE.COM

CENTURY 21
Island View Realty LLC

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
VACATION RENTALS
REAL ESTATE



850-939-2366
NAVARRE21.COM

8443 GULF BLVD D18, NAVARRE, FL 32566



SOUTHERN SPECIALTY
8223 NAVARRE PKWY
850-684-1355

APPAREL | GIFTS | GOURMET



850-515-0109
9025 Navarre Pkwy
(just east of Navarre Bridge)

Mon., Wed., Fri. and Sat.
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
for both shopping and donations

Full line of all thrift store items

BRANDING STRATEGY CONSULTING SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITES HOSTING PRINT & MORE



SandpaperMarketing



SANDPAPERMARKETING.COM
WE'RE SOCIAL



+1 850 939 1900



7502 HARVEST VILLAGE CT
NAVARRE, FL 32566

Mondelez International, Inc. breaks ground at I-10 Industrial Park

By Marlo Scafe
news@srpressgazette.com

Mondelez International, Inc. broke ground on April 23 in Milton's I-10 Industrial Park. According to Mondelez officials, this new distribution location will distribute cookies and crackers like Oreos and Wheat Thins.

Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis (CBRE) is a global commercial real estate services and investment firm that manages over \$146 billion in assets. In collaboration with Summit Real Estate Group, they leased 53,598 square feet to Mondelez and plan to have the construction for the new building completed in September this year.

"We were recommended Summit and started talking to them about plans throughout the region. And it's great to see their investment in our community," CBRE Senior Vice President Tom Watson said.

With Ben E. Keith, Buffalo Rock, Hershey's, and Damian's Ice Cream also taking up residence within the Industrial Park, Milton is growing into a key food and beverage distribution location. Watson said having local distributors supports hospitality on the beach, but also the lives of local residents by putting food on the shelves of grocery and convenience stores.

Watson also spoke about Eglin Air Force Base and Naval Air Station Whiting Field's (NAS), presence being a catalyst for growth and their support for the industrial park. And that these large-scale projects would not be possible without the building supplies and construction business, which are pillars of support in the county.

"It's amazing to see the larger users with the demand that drives projects



Photos by Marlo Scafe

CBRE Senior Vice President Tom Watson (right) and Summit Real Estate Director Jack Ross (left) announce Mondelez International, Inc. as the new vendor at the I-10 Industrial Park.

like this," Watson said. "That's what we're seeing in the market."

County Administrator Brad Baker attended the groundbreaking ceremony and spoke about the efforts it takes to make an industrial park happen. He thanked Summit for partnering with the Economic Development Office and for their efforts in bringing companies like Mondelez to Santa Rosa County.

"It takes a plan to develop industrial parks and strategic locations where companies and developers need to be located," Baker said. "So, having available industrial

sites with proper infrastructure is key to landing compliance."

Mondelez is one of the largest snack companies in the world, with global net revenues of approximately \$36 billion in 2024. They hold the number one position in bookies and crackers, number two in chocolate, and are rapidly growing in baked snacks. They also make and sell gum, candy, cheese, and powdered beverage products.

The distribution site in Milton will make and distribute cookies and crackers and replace the Pensacola distribution site. The Pen-

sacola location was built in the 1950's and Summit Real Estate CEO John Ross said it was inconvenient for large trucks to maneuver in and out of without blocking a road.

"The 87 corridor is very close to the I-10 Interstate, which provides great access to all the Gulf Coast Region," Baker said about the new Mondelez distribution location.

Summit Real Estate Director Jack Ross said the industrial park has many building, manufacturing, and distributing businesses that will serve residents, employ locals, and provide

a tax base to the community.

They are also breaking ground on building a 127,382-square-foot building that will be leased to multiple tenants who could benefit from a brand-new distribution facility with easy access to the interstate. He said they are already receiving inquiries from businesses about the large facility.

"The multi-tenant building will have 17 trailer parking spaces, 43 dock doors, 32 feet clearance height, and full circulation around the building so we can accommodate tenants from 15,000 square feet up to a full build-

ing user," Jack Ross said.

30% of the buildings at I-10 Industrial Park have been pre-leased before they even start construction. Jack Ross said this shows there is a prevalent need in the area for more distribution centers. These two buildings are a significant accomplishment for him, as he has surveyed the surrounding areas for years.

He thanked the Santa Rosa County Economic Development Director, Shannon Ogletree, and the county for being forward-thinking and a champion of investment in the infrastructure in the I-10 Industrial Park.

Conditional use permit for Milton Wastewater Treatment Plant granted

By Marlo Scafe
news@srpressgazette.com

At the special rezoning meeting on April 24, the Board of County Commissioners approved the conditional use permit for the City of Milton's wastewater treatment plant. People from both sides of the aisle attended, speaking in favor and opposition.

City Manager Ed Spears said the conditional use permit will allow the city to take the next step forward with finalizing the design of the plant and adjacent spray fields. Initialize the permitting process with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and allow the city to start applying for grants for the construction of the facility.

"Without the conditional use permit, we cannot move forward on either front as we will not have the right to build the plant on the property we own," Spears said.

Chairman Kerry Smith asked if they would be able to use the spray fields for effluent before the plant was built, and if they had permits to do so. Spears said it would be a separate project to be permitted by FDEP and said the 117-acre site, separate from the location for the new plant, is permitted for a spray field.

Ric Delp, Baskerville Donovan Inc., Water Resources Market Director, said that the 117-acre site was permitted for effluent disposal from the downtown plant. But if they build the new plant at the new location, they will do a permit modification to allow that plant to discharge there. Attorney William "Rod" Mitchell said that was incorrect information.

"They absolutely do not have the right end of this permit to spray effluent out there in that area," Mitchell said. "They've got to get a different permit if that's what they want to do with that. They cannot take effluent from the downtown facility and spray it on those spray fields."

Santa Rosa Press Gazette reached out to FDEP for comment, but they have not responded at the time of publication.

Mitchell also spoke about Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). He said PFAS is a shorthand for thousands of chemicals that are marked by their strong carbon and chlorine bonds, which label them forever chemicals. He said that thanks to FDEP, they know the city has an issue with effluent and influent PFAS at its current wastewater treatment plant that discharges

into the Blackwater River.

Spears responded to this claim, saying the PFAS numbers were from the lift stations for raw sewage, not post-treatment numbers, which, according to Spears, show very low to no detection for PFAS coming out of the plant.

"Recent reports by the federal EPA that East Milton water tests, Point Baker, and Midway Water all have elevated levels of PFAS above drinking water standards. Where is that coming from because we're not spraying anything today in East Milton," Spears said. "It's already in the aquifer, it's in the rain, it's in everything we touch every day. That's the reality of the proliferation of PFAS in our world."

Mitchell, residents and even commissioners have raised other concerns about the new site location. Proximity to the wellfield protection area, wetlands, and natural springs on the site was also discussed. Mitchell said a report from Advanced Geospatial Solutions shows that due to its generally unconfined nature, the groundwater in the system and the sand and gravel aquifer is considered highly vulnerable to contamination.

There were three recommendations to the county

after that study: one was to do groundwater modeling, which should be conducted to determine the five-year capture zones for wells and adjust the wellfield protection area based on the results. Mitchell said neither the county nor the city has done this.

"The safety of the public, the land, and the aquifer are at risk by what the city is proposing to do here," Mitchell said. "You can't pump chemicals on top of the sand and gravel aquifer and expect that everything is going to be okay."

"Your plant that you're proposing to build sits due south of I-10 at 87 right at the heart of the wellfield protection area and due north of a minimum of two live wells that are pumping water today," Spears said. "What's going to happen to the PFAS in that treated effluent at that location. It's a problem for all of us, and we have to find ways to address that."

Smith inquired about the city's funding for the plant. The city lost more than \$47 million in awarded grants when it decided to relocate the plant, and the project has been estimated to cost about \$100 million. Spears said city revenue, reserves, grants, and other sources would be used. Smith said

Councilman Robert Leek and Spears mentioned that Triumph Gulf Coast Inc., funding would be pursued, but Smith does not believe they qualify.

Triumph Gulf Coast Inc. is a nonprofit created by the Florida Legislature to assist with economic recovery in eight counties that were disproportionately affected by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, including Santa Rosa County. They seek to select projects and programs that have the potential to generate increased economic activity.

"You might be employing up to 20 people, but it's not going to match the metrics for employment numbers for Triumph Funding. I think it was Leek that said they had taken that metric out of the equation, correct?" Smith asked.

"I did not make the comment that Triumph Gulf Coast is using other metrics now. And not solely on the job creation, but they would be a source that we would look at to apply for funding to this project," Spears replied.

While Smith does not believe they qualify for funding through Triumph, Spears said that does not prevent them from trying. Commissioner Bobby Burkett said he does not like the

location for the new plant. He strongly urged Spears to find a new location that is not near local waterways.

It should be noted that Commissioner Colten Wright and Ray Eddington were absent from this meeting. Smith made a motion to deny the conditional use permit, which was objected to by Commissioner Rhett Rowell. Smith then made a motion to deny and look for a second location, but it did not pass.

Rowell said it's important to focus on the specific request and said it is Milton's project. And if the FDEP engineers and the city staff all agree, he was not comfortable standing in opposition to the culmination of their review.

Rowell made a motion to approve the location and look for a second location, which was seconded by Burkett. The motion was passed with Rowell and Burkett in favor and Smith opposing.

Fla. Statute 288.8017
http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&SubMenu=1&App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=288.8017&URL=0200-0299/0288/Sections/0288.8017.html

Triumph Gulf Coast Inc.
<https://www.myfloridatriumph.com/about/frequently-asked-questions/>

THE MILTON GAZETTE

PUBLISHED SEMI WEEKLY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

VOLUME 15—NUMBER 99

MILTON, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1925

FOUR PAGES TODAY

GOV. MARTIN URGES AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION, FOR STATE TO ASSIST RURAL SCH.

Tallahassee.—Governor Martin today addressed a special message to the legislature urging that body to pass a resolution submitting to the people of the state a constitutional amendment that would make it possible for the legislature to increase the county school fund by direct appropriation from the treasury, as is now done in the case of institutions of higher learning.

Following the receipt of the message the resolution was introduced and referred to judiciary committees. It would submit the proposed amendment to the voters in the general election of 1926.

The resolution asks that section 9 article 12 of the constitution, relating to education, be amended to read as follows:

"In addition to the tax provided for in section 8 of this article the county school fund shall consist of the proportion of the interest of the state school fund and of the one mill state tax apportioned to the county, all capitation taxes collected within the county and all appropriations by the legislature which shall with all other county school funds be apportioned and distributed as may be provided by law and shall be disbursed by the county board of public instruction for the support and maintenance of public free schools."

Must Keep All He Says
"If the child in the rural districts and poorer counties of this state is to enjoy equal educational advantages with the more favored child in the cities and wealthier counties," said the governor in his message, "the generous hand of the state cannot be withheld. It is an anomalous situation when a legislature can appropriate millions for higher education and not one cent for an essential common school education."

"No one would withhold from our institutions of higher learning funds necessary to their support," the message continued. "As chairman of the state board of education and of the budget commission I was glad to advocate liberal appropriations for these splendid institutions which are the pride of every patriotic citizen within the commonwealth. I did this freely but with the fixed conviction, however, that the time had come to do justice to the great mass of the youth of the state."

Florida is a growing state, said the governor, "and her educational facilities are lagging behind her material development."

Plans For State Unity
Education and good roads are not a local concern, he added, but necessary to the state's fullest development. "We would forget boundary lines that divide counties and know none save those that mark the political limits of Florida."

Declaring that he could address the legislature on no more important subject, the governor concluded his message by saying: "Florida one and inseparable should be our motto in matters of legislation, particularly and especially those that affect the education of the youth of the state. I earnestly urge the submission of the proposed amendment to the electorate of this state."

JUDGE W. A. McLEOD, GROWS FINE IRISH POTATOES HERE

It is not what a community does grow, that really tells the merits of the country, so much as what they could grow, if they tried. In this connection, we call attention to the fact that while many Irish potatoes are being shipped into Milton, Judge W. A. McLeod, brought into the Gazette office, this morning, a sample of six fine potatoes as we have seen anywhere. These potatoes were just picked off the top of a bucket brought in this morning from his "patch" here in Milton and the largest one measures nearly 4 inches in length and about three inches through the shorter way. Just another example of what can be grown in Santa Rosa county, if one tries.

Mrs. W. L. Perry, Mrs. Hubble Helms and children and Miss Jessie Mae Helms, composed an automobile party to Pensacola Wednesday.

Judge T. F. West, of Tallahassee, spent Thursday visiting friends and looking after business matters here in Milton, his home town.

Mr. G. R. Lee and wife and Misses Eloise and Nell Stokes of Baker, were visiting in Milton Monday of this week.

FLORIDATOWN CITIZEN CATCHES SEVEN FINE STURGEON, MARKETED BY WILLIAMS' F. H.

One of the finest strings of fish taken recently, if a half a truck load of fish may be so designated, was caught this week by a Floridatown citizen, Captain of the Floridatown Ferry boat. This lot of fish consisted of seven fine sturgeon, the largest of which weighed 147 1/2 pounds. These fish were brought to Milton by Mr. Robbie Robinson, and handled by the Williams Fish House. We understand this fish commands close to the highest price of any fish on the market, selling for about forty-five cents per pound in the northern markets.

These fish were caught at the mouth of the Escambia river by a sturgeon net, which we are informed, is of such coarse mesh that it does not interfere with any of the ordinary fish, catching only such fish as sturgeon and possibly porpoises, if they get in the way of it.

PEOPLE OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY TO DETERMINE BY ELECTION, ROUTE OF OLD SPANISH TRAIL

Tallahassee, April 26.—Voters of Escambia county will be given the right to say whether \$150,000 of highway funds will be used on what is known as the Ferry Pass route for a part of state road No. 1, or transferred for the construction of the road along the North Shore route.

The home committee on county organization this afternoon voted to make favorable report on a bill by Senator Cox of Escambia, which had been passed by the senate and sent to the house.

Representatives of several committees were present at the hearing. R. P. Reese, in a speech that lasted for more than an hour, warmly protested the bill. The measure was defended, however, by Fred Statish, representative of the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce, Woman's club and other organizations.

Mr. Marsh told the committee that practically all of the civic clubs and the Chamber of Commerce of Pensacola had agreed on the North Shore route, which skirts Pensacola and Escambia bays for a great part of the distance.

The senate bill was referred to committee when it came up to the house under an urgent request by Mr. Reese, who represented the interests favoring the Ferry Pass location of the highway.

RURAL ROUTE C NEWS (Mrs. Ruth Hicks)

First I must correct an error in my items last week. The report was that Mr. Bob Reeves and family had moved back to this community from near Milton. I have later learned that it was a false report. I must again ask the readers to please pardon me for such errors as they are not intentionally made.

Mr. F. D. Roberson, of Dallas, Texas, spent a few days last week with his wife, Mr. Q. W. Hall and family.

Miss Mary and Mabel Cantrell spent from Friday until Sunday with the grand father, Mr. J. L. Gibson and family near Greenwood.

Miss Anna Brown entertained a number of her friends Saturday night with a sociable party. All returned a splendid time.

Mr. Q. W. Hall left Saturday for Dallas, Texas, to visit relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Thompson and Miss Joyce Whitfield spent from Thursday until Saturday on Yellow River fishing. They report "good luck" and a nice time.

Mrs. Emory McLean and children, Mrs. Nettie Griffin and Messrs. Henry and Oscar Whitfield of England, are here to be at the bedside of their father, Mr. Calvin Whitfield, who is seriously ill at the home of his son, William Whitfield.

Mrs. Eudora Strickland and little son recently visited relatives at Pace.

Mr. J. C. McArthur and son Charles, were at Jay Saturday on business.

Messrs. John Lowry, Grady Blackman and Jim Fields were at Brewton Sunday.

Miss Lois McCurdy and little brother, Ross, of Greenwood vicinity were here Tuesday.

Messdames Casson Walker, J. H. Stewart, Ida McDaniel, W. A. McLeod and Miss Chloebene Shupkins composed a happy party, who motored to New Valparaiso, Chap. Walton and Florida Wednesday, enjoying a most delightful trip.

Mrs. H. Hanna, and son Haywood, and Misses Mary Mitchell and Katie Hanna composed a pleasant party motoring to Monroeville, Ala., Sunday, where they spent the day visiting friends.

Miss Mable McJunkin and Mrs. Langston of Crestview, were visiting friends and shopping in Milton during the past week.

Mr. J. B. Brown, who recently disposed of his grocery and fruit business, to Mr. J. C. Coleman, left last night for Jacksonville, where he will join one of his sons, in the contracting and building business.

JACK CANNON, FORMER SANTA ROSIAN MAKES BIG LIQUOR CAPTURE IN NEW SMYRNA

The following story clipped from the New Smyrna News, will be of interest to Santa Rosa County readers, dealing as it does with a former Santa Rosa citizen, who made a big liquor capture, single-handed in his home town. The story is as follows: "With a total of 73 gallon syrup cans filled with liquor, from which he was distributing a liberal supply out in the colored section of the city, a man giving the name of Thomas Forman made a dash for liberty when the car was approached by Policeman A. J. Cannon last Thursday night, leaving his wife seated in the car. The policeman placed the woman under arrest and took the woman, car and liquor to the city police station, after which he began a search for the man in the case.

Patrolling his regular beat, the policeman noticed the car in the colored section of the city apparently dozing out syrup to certain customers. When he approached the car the man jumped from the machine and beat it leaving the woman, the car and its contents. An investigation showed that the one-gallon cans were filled with liquor instead of syrup and the outfit was taken to the city jail.

The car, a Buick roadster, was fitted with a secret compartment for handling the liquor and a capacity which showed that many additional gallon cans could be carried than were found in the car. A number of sales had evidently been made.

After safely securing the woman, the car and its contents, the policeman started on a search for the driver of the car and finally picked him up on the hills between the Spruce Creek bridges, several miles north of the city. He was brought back and lodged in the city jail.

Arraigned in municipal court, the man, "Thomas Forman" admitted he was selling liquor and he was fined \$250 and costs by Judge Dohn. He said he had purchased the liquor in Jacksonville at \$3 per gallon and was retailing it out at \$5 per gallon. The liquor and car are being held by the police.

ANTI-FLAPPER AND WOODEN INDIAN BILLS POSTPONED INDEF.

Tallahassee, April 30.—The flapper and wooden Indian bills, which have been the source of excitement and comedy during the present session, met their Waterloo in the house today when a motion was adopted to indefinitely postpone consideration of the two measures.

The flapper bill, which provides that it would be against the dignity of the state of Florida for any newspaper or other publication to refer to a woman in this state as a flapper, was introduced by Representative Branch of Liberty. It was referred to the committee on Indian affairs to be considered along with a bill by Representative Eaton of Alachua, that provides that all stores dealing in tobacco or cigars display the wooden likeness of an Indian in front of their establishments.

Considerable opposition to the bill going to the Indian committee was raised by members of that committee, it being their contention that Indians and flappers had nothing in common. The house voted, however, to send it to the committee.

The two bills came up this morning when Representative Ed Stokes of Bay, made an effort to have them placed on the calendar as special order business for next Thursday evening.

Mr. Stokes stated that there being so much interest throughout the state in the two bills he thought it nothing but right that interested parties be given an opportunity to be heard in public meeting. The house evidently preferred to put an end to the two bills at once.

Mr. and Mrs. John Collins are expected as their guests, over Sunday, Mr. J. Edgar Brown, of Tampa, who is en route to Milton and expects to arrive here tonight. Mrs. Brown, nee Miss Irene Collins, has been here visiting home folks for several weeks past. Mr. Brown expects to be here some two weeks, when he and his wife will return to their home in Tampa.

Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Read expect to leave as their guests, over Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Seasons, of Bonifay. Mr. Seasons is at the head of the Round Lake Development project and several other development enterprises in Jackson, Washington, Holmes and Bay counties, while Mrs. Seasons is known throughout the State as a singer of exceptional ability.

Mrs. H. Hanna, and son Haywood, and Misses Mary Mitchell and Katie Hanna composed a pleasant party motoring to Monroeville, Ala., Sunday, where they spent the day visiting friends.

Miss Mable McJunkin and Mrs. Langston of Crestview, were visiting friends and shopping in Milton during the past week.

Mr. J. B. Brown, who recently disposed of his grocery and fruit business, to Mr. J. C. Coleman, left last night for Jacksonville, where he will join one of his sons, in the contracting and building business.

MR. J. L. MONEYWAY ADDRESS-ES NOTED GROUP AMERICAN WRITERS WASHINGTON CONV.

Mr. J. Lewis Moneyway, son of Mr. A. Moneyway, of this City, who has made his home in Washington, D. C., for a number of years, was one of three distinguished literary writers who addressed the League of American Pen Women in convention in Washington, recently. The other speakers were Mr. S. S. McClure, dean of American magazine publishers, and Mathilde Elker, noted writer, whose novel, "Mrs. Mason's Daughter," has proven one of the successes of the season.

Of this convention, the Washington Evening Star says, in part, as follows: "J. Lewis Moneyway, of the George Washington University faculty, who also is a successful short-story writer, gave practical hints on what not to do in producing a saleable story. These points, said Mr. Moneyway, are so overworked that it is practically impossible to sell a story based on one of them: Mistaken identity, mixing of families, mixing bridegrooms, gratitude for rescue, lost will requiring the hero to marry some unknown woman, the poor against the rich suitor with the poor triumphant, the cruel father and the cruel stepmother, heaping coals of fire on the head, overheard prayers, the little child who shall lead them, the unprotested country girl in New York, the poor boy who works hard and weeps his employer's daughter."

He urged the use of notebooks by which chance ideas which may come into the brain at any time may be set down for use as occasion requires.

JUNIOR-SENIOR BANQUET

The Junior-Senior banquet was an event of this week that marked one of the series of dances in the progress of the two highest grades in the Santa Rosa County High School. The Junior class entertained the Seniors as has been the custom for many years in most of the high schools of the state. The banquet was held at the Regard Inn Thursday evening at eight o'clock and while not an elaborate affair was very effectively arranged and carried out. The big dining room was decorated with the usual tax, sweet peas and crepe paper in rainbow streamers representing the colors of the seniors, the favors were made by the Junior girls of peanuts and crepe paper in very remarkable likeness of parrots perched upon a wire support which carried the place cards. The tables were laid for fifty-two people and a splendid three-course menu was served. Principal S. A. Draper acted as toastmaster and the following program was rendered:

Song, Add Long Syne, all present.
Toast, To the past, Agnes Diamond.
Toast, To the present, Anna Jones.
Toast, To the seniors, Margaret Reed.
Response, George Shoyder.
Toast, To the Juniors, Willie Robinson.

Response, Perry D. Melvin.
Reading, The Guest, Arold Dillon.
An Exposition—Who's Who and Why in the Senior Class and Why Is a Senior Anyhow, Mary Emma Jernigan and Billie Clark.
Toast, To the Senior Girls, Buster Henrickson.
Response, Kathryn Barry.
Toast, To the Junior Girls, Calvin Corser.
Response, Annie Carruth.
A Declaration, I Wouldn't Do It Again, Gordy Reynolds.
Toast, To the Faculty, Ethel Lynn.
Response, Miss Mary Louise Stewart.
Toast, To the Future, Jamie Meeklin.

Response, All Present.
Song, Memories, All Present.
Many of the toasts and responses were very original and catchy, and the entire company seemed to enjoy the entire program to the fullest.

Mr. J. B. Holland and family, of California, who have been spending a couple of weeks in this locality, sight-seeing and prospecting a little bit, left Thursday morning for points further east. However, Mr. Holland expects to return within a few weeks and close up some investments that he now has under consideration.

While he has traveled over much of the United States, Mr. Holland expresses himself as being wonderfully impressed with conditions and opportunities as he sees them here.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Yeoman, who have been visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Yeoman of this city, left Tuesday morning for Bayonne, N. J. Mr. Yeoman made many friends while here, who regretted very much to see them go back north, they expect to make their home in Bayonne. Mr. Yeoman will continue with his same job, with the Gulf Refining Co.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church will meet Wednesday afternoon, May 6th at three o'clock. Program and place of meeting will be announced in Tuesday's paper.

The friends of Mr. A. Moneyway, will regret to learn that he has been quite ill at his home for several days past. When his condition has been considered critical, he is believed to be convalescent at the present time.

Mr. L. L. Shaw of Crestview, was among the out of town visitors attending the closing number of the Chautauque entertainments here Monday night.

MR. BENTLY LEWIS KILLED WHEN LOG TRAIN WRECKS NEAR WALLACE THURSDAY

Mr. Bently Lewis, one of the well known members of the Pace Mill Company train crews, was instantly killed yesterday shortly before noon when the section of the train that he was on left the track. The train was backing out, as is its custom, and Young Lewis was on the second car from the lead. When they came to the Wallace switch, the lead car passed alright, but the second, the one upon which young Lewis was riding, split the switch and was hurled violently against a car of steel standing on the siding, thereby crushing the young man in the smash-up, killing him almost instantly.

Deceased who is little more than a youth, leaves a father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Robt Lewis, and several brothers as well as a bride of a little more than a month to mourn his death. The body was brought to the Fisher Undertaking Parlor of Milton and arranged for burial. The funeral is being held today. The sympathy of a large circle of friends is extended to the bereaved wife, who is the sister of the engineer in charge of the train at the time the accident occurred.

Mr. Roland Hamilton, in her time of greatest sorrow, as well as to other members of the family who mourn the death of a son and brother.

MEETING SHAKESPEARE CLUB POSTPONED UNTIL MAY 12TH

The next meeting of the Shakespeare Club will be held on May 12, instead of next Tuesday, May 5th, as announced, Mrs. W. C. Sailer will be hostess with Messdames L. B. Krenzmann and R. H. Finkbeiner, hosts.

MRS. F. H. READ, President.
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McQueen, well known in the Batts section of this county, expect to leave tomorrow for Independence, Missouri, where they will make their home in the future.

Mrs. S. N. Cox, will act as hostess to the meeting of the Woman's Club to be held at her home on Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. All members are urged to be present.

ALVIN SPURLOCK, OF ALLENTOWN, WINNER OF MEDAL GIVEN BY MILTON LODGE K. OF P.

About twenty-five members of Milton Lodge No. 25, Knights of Pythias, formed into a body that motored to the Alhambra Agricultural High School, Thursday night, where they were present for declamation contest held in that school for a gold medal offered by the Knights of Pythias to the winner of the contest.

The Milton delegation, together with a large number of the restaurant and students of the school composed a very interesting and attentive audience for the young speakers of the evening.

County Superintendent R. B. Hobbs, acting as President for the occasion, announced the speakers, giving also their subjects for the oration. Six contestants appearing on the platform each delivering his oration in a very creditable and forcible manner, made quite an impression upon the audience.

After the last speaker had delivered his oration, the Judges: G. H. Leonard, O. J. Locklin and Marion R. Knight retired to the balloting place to make their decision as to the winner.

Referring to the authorship, Mr. Knight acted as speaker for the judges and from the stage, he announced that much credit was due every boy, and that only through very careful consideration were they able to pick a winner from the six entries. However, on ballot selection, the Judges had decided that Mr. Alvin Spurlock was the winner of the contest.

Following the rendition of the decision, Mr. John Collins, who is a veteran Pythian, gave a little of the history of Pythianism and made the presentation of the medal, in words which fittingly portrayed the event of the evening.

Professor Creed and Miss Robinson of the faculty thanked the Pythian Lodge for having made the contest possible through the giving of the medal.

Mr. Sam Robertson, has started his motor boat, the "Rita" on her daily run as a freight and passenger boat between Milton and Pensacola. This boat will leave Milton in the morning, making the round trip daily.

A party composed of Messrs Campbell, Simmons and Collier, of Baker, attended the Redpath Chautauque performance here Monday night.

Mrs. E. C. Work, Jr. and Mrs. Marlon B. Knight, motored to Pensacola Wednesday, where they spent the day visiting and shopping.

Mrs. W. H. Mapples and children, of Crestview, passed through Milton Monday, en route home after spending the week end visiting in Pensacola.

Mr. J. L. Moneyway, of Washington, D. C., arrived in Milton Thursday morning, being called here on account of the serious illness of his father, Mr. A. Moneyway, of this city. He found his father quite ill, but better than he had expected. He will be here for a few days, at least.

FIFTY-THREE PEOPLE GUARANTEE REDPATH CHAUTAUQUA FOR RETURN HERE IN 1926

The people of Milton and surrounding territory are to be congratulated on the fact that enough public spirited citizens of Milton were willing to back up the Redpath Chautauque Association to assure their return for another year. The number of endorsers that the contract calls for was placed at fifty, but before the contract was closed, three additional names were added for good measure, making fifty-three endorsers in all. This is the largest number of guarantors that have yet signed up for the Chautauque, and in view of the fact that the fifty underwriters, this year were only called on to buy an additional hundred dollars worth of tickets, or but one ticket each, it is confidently expected that the sale of tickets next year will "go over the top."

As a guarantee to the underwriters that the people wanted the Chautauque to return, and would support it, pledges for more than half the amount of the guarantee, were signed up for tickets at the last night's performance, when Solis Marimou Band most delightfully entertained a packed tent for two and a half hours.

The Chautauque offers a wonderful opportunity for the people of any community to secure the best that is obtainable in the way of entertainment, musical, theatrical, and forestry, at prices that would otherwise be impossible. That the splendid work done by the Chautauque here and its beneficial effects are largely appreciated, none can doubt who listens to the expression of those who attended, both men, women and children. And it is to be hoped that there will be complete unity of effort, when the time comes to sell tickets, next year, to put it over, good and strong, thus assuring the underwriters that the people appreciate their efforts to secure high class entertainment for them at a minimum cost.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT to Create a Reservation or Sanctuary for wild game birds and wild animals in Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton counties in the State of Florida.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

Section 1. That all lands lying South of the Tallahassee base line survey between Escambia bay on the west and Choctawhatchee river on the east and Santa Rosa Sound and Choctawhatchee bay on the east and Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and Walton counties, Florida, which is partly covered by United States Forest Reserve, are hereby declared to be and are constituted a reservation or sanctuary for birds and wild animals.

Section 2. That it shall be unlawful for any person at any time of the year to molest, hunt, or kill any wild game birds or wild animals within the bounds of the foregoing reservation.

Section 3. That anyone found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided by law.

Section 4. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor.

I cannot enjoy too strongly upon you the absence of economy and frugality.—President Coolidge.

IMOGENE THEATRE

TODAY "RUGGLES OF RED GAP" Ernest Torrence, Lois Wilson, Louise Dresser, Fritz Ridgeway and Edward Horton.

It's a Paramount Picture Starring Cast Showing also: Last Chapter of "THE TELEPHONE GIRL" AND PATHE NEWS

SATURDAY BIG WESTERN AS USUAL ALSO "AESOP'S FABLES" AND "THE TELEPHONE GIRL" And Another Good Comedy

MONDAY A SUPREME Western Picture OVER AGAIN

TUESDAY WEDNESDAY "ALONG CAME RUTH" A Metro Special ALSO "AESOP'S FABLES"

FREE TICKET—If the following person will call at the ticket window any day this week they will be admitted to the Show Free: Miss Callie Mae Cobb

VIOLA DANA
IN
"ALONG CAME RUTH"
Big Metro Special at
THE IMOGENE THEATRE
"HO, DOG!" RUTHS HERE
TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
ALSO AESOP'S FABLES

The image shown is a page from the May 1, 1925, issue of The Milton Gazette, providing a glimpse into history and the culture that was Milton.

Consumer Cellular
BIG WIRELESS COVERAGE, WITHOUT BIG WIRELESS COST.
Plans start at just \$20/month.
Switch & Save Today.
844-522-2413

BUILD YOUR CAREER HERE
SANDPAPER PUBLISHING

WORK WITH PERKS
COMPETITIVE PTO
VARIETY & OPPORTUNITY
COMPREHENSIVE BENEFITS
MATCHING 401K

CULTURE IS SO IMPORTANT
WE BUILT OUR
CORE VALUES AROUND IT.
THE TRUTH IS OUR CURRENCY
EXCELLENCE IS OUR ORDINARY
PASSION FOR WHAT YOU DO
PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY
WE ARE NOT HERE FOR US
THERE IS NO TASK BENEATH ME

LEARN MORE + APPLY

COME WORK WITH US!
SANDPAPERUBLISHING.COM/CAREERS/

For God's sake

By Rev. Michael Bannon
Compass Community Church

One of the required courses in the seminary from which I got my degree was apologetics. For those not familiar with the term, apologetics is not a course in which you learn how to say you are sorry in meaningful ways. The term comes from the Greek word apologia which means "to make a defense" and is found in the Apostle Peter's first letter to the churches in Asia Minor. He exhorts Christians to turn away from evil and be zealous for what is good, and "in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy." Knowing that such a life will be noticed in a world that does not honor Christ the Lord as holy nor is typically zealous for what is good, he continues, "always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect." The field of apologetics is engaged in teaching Christians how to defend the Christian faith.

The first several weeks of classes were somewhat confusing for me. Apologetics employs familiar English words but often uses them in a different way. I felt sorry for the handful of students in my class for whom English was not their first language. They wisely recorded the class lectures for future reference. It wasn't until I read the required textbooks that I got a handle on the terminology.

One class assignment painfully revealed the need for training in apologetics. The professor divided the class into several teams of four people and assigned each team a topic and what view it was to defend. We were given two weeks to prepare our defense for a scheduled debate with the team with the same topic but the opposing view. My team was assigned Christ's resurrection, and our unfortunate task was to argue against it. Sadly, we won. It is not that the resurrection is indefensible, the other team was, quite simply, not ready to give a defense for the hope that is in them.

As our team's spokesperson, I first dulled our opponents' attention with the stock arguments against the resurrection, then I quoted the Apostle Paul's reminder about what is of first importance: Christ died for our sins in accordance with Scripture, was buried and was raised from the dead in accordance with Scripture. I simply asked the other team, "in accordance with which Scriptures?" Their answer was uncomfortable silence as each team member looked to the others for the answer none of them was prepared to give. The professor smiled through it all then devoted the remainder of the class to looking up those Scriptures.

It is important for Christians to know what the essential Christian truths are and what is their Scriptural warrant. It is equally important that we live by these truths, living lives that honor Christ as holy. Such lives will get noticed and create questions in the minds of unbelievers. Are you ready to give an answer?

FAITH

Pope Francis dies, Northwest Florida Bishop responds



Stock photo

By Hansen Hasenberg
news@srpressgazette.com

Easter is a time of death and renewal.

For the Catholic Church, this symbolism of Easter was especially poignant this year as Pope Francis, the Bishop of Rome, died at 88 years old Monday, April 21.

Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1936, he joined the Jesuits in 1958 and was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1969. From 1973 to 1979, he was a Jesuit provincial supervisor in Argentina and became archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998. In 2001, Pope John Paul II made him a cardinal.

In 2013, following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI, a papal conclave named Bergoglio his successor. The first Latin American pope, Bergoglio chose his papal name in honor of St. Francis of Assisi.

During his time as the head of the Holy See, Francis was known as a reformer and a progressive voice, especially following the conservative papacies of John Paul II and Benedict XVI. He spoke out against climate change, sought to expand the Church's acceptance of LGBTQ+ people, criticized Pres-

ident Donald Trump's mass deportations of migrants and apologized for Catholic-run residential schools' cultural "genocide" of Indigenous Canadians.

In response to Francis' death, Bishop Rev. William Wack of The Catholic Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee released a statement in which he discussed Pope Francis' life and Wack's personal interactions with him.

"On this Monday in the Octave of Easter, I thank God for the life and ministry of Pope Francis and I ask all of the faithful to join your prayers for the happy repose of his soul. Our Holy Father enriched the church and the world with his deep faith, his love of the poor and marginalized and his simple joy. May he join the company of the saints in the kingdom of heaven, continuing to serve by interceding for us all. I am forever grateful to and humbled by Pope Francis' trust in me, calling me to shepherd the local church of Pensacola-Tallahassee as her bishop. When I met with him in Rome, shortly after my ordination and installation, he received me very warmly. He looked me in the eye, patted my hand and said 'Sea un buen pastor' ('Be a good shepherd') and he assured me of his prayers for me and for the diocese I am

privileged to serve. On another occasion I met with Francis along with several other bishops. He said, 'My advice to you is to stay close to the Lord, and then to your priests, and then to your beloved people.' These are words that he himself lived by. He tried to be a good shepherd for us all, and he loved the Lord and the people entrusted to his care to the end."

According to Wack, Pope Francis taught those in charge of the Church to strive to be among the people they served and urged world leaders to be better stewards of the planet's natural resources. He called him "the pope of mercy" for his treatment of the poor and all of God's creation.

Wack also said Pope Francis will be remembered for his provocative nature.

"He was not afraid to speak the truth, even when it was not well-received by all," Wack said.

Francis' death comes after several months where his health was in decline. He was admitted to the hospital Feb. 14, 2025, after suffering from bronchitis. His condition worsened and he was diagnosed with bilateral pneumonia Feb. 18. After 38 days in the hospital, he was released and returned to his Vatican residence.

According to Vati-

can News, a news and information service of the Vatican, Francis had dealt with respiratory illnesses throughout his life. This included a 2023 illness that led to him canceling a planned visit to the United Arab Emirates.

The world responds

Following the news of Pope Francis' death, world leaders and prominent figures in the Catholic world shared their thoughts and condolences.

President Donald Trump took to social media to share his thoughts.

"Rest in Peace Pope Francis! May God Bless him and all who loved him!"

On social media, former President Barack Obama said, "Pope Francis was the rare leader who made us want to be better people. In his humility and his gestures at once simple and profound – embracing the sick, ministering to the homeless, washing the feet of young prisoners – he shook us out of our complacency and reminded us that we are all bound by moral obligations to God and one another."

Archbishop of New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan, one of the highest ranking Catholic officials in the U.S., reflected upon Pope Francis' death

saying, "This is... the Monday of the Angels, the day after Easter, because this is the day the Angels announced the resurrection and you remember what the angels said to the women, 'why are you looking for the living among the dead?' We are convinced that even though Pope Francis has passed over from this life to the next, he still lives. Even though we have rock solid confidence in the mercy of Jesus, we never take it for granted. We ask mercy upon his noble eternal soul."

"We also offer gratitude for the gift that he was. We don't call him Holy Father for nothing. He is the father of our family and there is a death in the family and we are saddened. We can never choreograph our own birth or death, can we? That is always in God's hands. But if you could choreograph it, you couldn't choreograph it any better than what happened. The last time we saw him, Easter Sunday, the last words, a blessed Easter... You couldn't have choreographed it better."

The funeral Mass for Francis was held April 26 and he was interred at St. Mary Major Basilica. Cardinals have chosen May 7 as the date to start conclave and elect a new leader.

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Obadiah (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which Babylon king went insane living in the fields eating grass? Nebuchadnezzar, Solomon, Daniel, Herod
3. From Genesis 23, what was the first land purchase in the Bible? Garden, Hilltop, Cave, River shore
4. Which apostle was foreordained to minister

to the Gentiles? Thomas, Paul, Andrew, John

5. According to Song of Solomon 1:2, what is love better than? Food, Wine, Money, Song

6. Which son of the dying Jacob did he compare to a vicious lion? Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Nebuchadnezzar, 3) Cave, 4) Paul, 5) Wine, 6) Judah
Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at www.pat-reon.com/triviaguy.

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

This page is for the faithful and for faith communities of all denominations. Do you or your church have a story you think needs to be told?

Email us at news@srpressgazette.com. We'd love to hear your ideas.

VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

Fake deployments and free plane rides

It takes an especially devious mind to come up with some of this stuff. We have to wonder what staff at the Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General (VAOIG) think when they're investigating certain crimes. They probably aren't smiling.

For example, this one:

A veteran managed to grab 130 free airline flights while pretending he was on active duty and being sent on military assignments. The guy was an airline baggage handler, but only for one week. Then he showed his airline employer a fistful of fake military documents that said he needed eight months off for deployment.

During that time he jetted around the globe using the free flights benefit of employees, hitting all the hot-spot tourist destinations, from the Caribbean, to South America, to Europe and all points in between -- and documented the trips online. At the end of that period, he gave the airline more fake military documents and managed to extend the whole scam for another two years.

Meanwhile, while still employed by the airline and pretending he was entitled to free unlimited flights, he snagged a job as a federal air marshal.

Also, meanwhile, he took a job at a sporting goods retailer and pulled the same "I have to go do my military service" scam, likely so he could get the store discount.

It didn't help that the fake military orders he created were allegedly signed by someone who didn't exist.

The scammer's undoing began in part because he wanted to take his federal air marshal weapon with him on the plane and there was confusion about why an airline employee baggage handler, which he still claimed to be, would be carrying an air marshal weapon while on personal travel and while he was supposedly still in the military.

Once investigators started digging into it, they unearthed a jaw-dropping 130 flights the scammer had taken.

I hope he enjoyed his vacations in the sun, because he could be looking at 20 years in the slammer.

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

Subscribe to the
Santa Rosa
Press Gazette at
850-623-2120
or
srpressgazette.com

MILITARY

Honoring the Doolittle Raid



U.S. Air Force Photos

Army Air Corps Lt. Col. James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle, left, with the skipper of the USS Hornet, Capt. Marc A. Mitscher.

By Army Maj. Wes Shinego
DOD News

On April 18, 1942, a small group of Army Air Forces aviators changed the momentum of World War II with a single, audacious strike. Known as the Doolittle Raid, this operation — launched from the deck of the USS Hornet — was the first U.S. air attack on Japan's home islands.

Led by then-Army Air Corps Lt. Col. James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle, the mission was conceived in the wake of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and served as a bold demonstration of American resolve. More than 80 years later, the raid remains a defining example of how courage, innovation and decisive leadership can reshape the course of history.

A Bold Plan Takes Shape

The raid's origins can be traced to Navy Capt. Francis S. Low, who recognized the possibility of launching medium bombers from an aircraft carrier. At a time when America was still reeling from the Pearl Harbor attack, this concept promised a new way to strike back quickly, surprising an enemy that believed itself impervious to attacks at home.

Doolittle, an accomplished pilot and aeronautical engineer, was the ideal commander to make Low's vision a reality. Operating under tight secrecy, he recruited volunteers and trained them at Eglin Field, Florida, for the unprecedented task of taking off from a carrier deck in twin-engine B-25 Mitchell bombers.

Despite rigorous rehearsals, many believed the plan was too risky. The ship had to sail close enough for the bombers to reach Japan yet remain undetected. Any misstep could leave pilots stranded over hostile territory. However, Doolittle's unwavering confidence and careful preparation inspired his crews.

The team he assembled modified the B-25s to extend their range, reduced the weight of the aircraft by stripping unnecessary equipment, and mastered the short-run takeoffs that



Service members who made up crew one of the Doolittle Raid and were assigned to the 34th Bombardment Squadron. Army Air Corps Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle, pilot, front left; Army Air Corps Lt. Richard E. Cole, copilot, front right; Army Air Corps Lt. Henry A. Potter, navigator, back left; Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Fred A. Braemer, bombardier, back middle; Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Paul J. Leonard, flight engineer/gunner, back right.



Army Air Corps Lt. Col. James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle, Medal of Honor recipient, pioneering holder of speed records, leader of the first aerial attack on the Japanese mainland and famed World War II air commander.

would be critical to success. Their sense of urgency — and willingness to accept great risk — embodied a warrior ethos that refused to accept half-measures.

Executing the Unthinkable

Steaming toward Japan, the task force commanded by Navy Vice Adm. William Halsey faced an unexpected challenge: a Japanese picket boat spotted them about 150 miles short of the planned launch point. Rather than retreat, Doolittle and Halsey agreed to launch immediately.

The weather was far from ideal, but Doolittle led by example, piloting the first B-25 off the Hornet's deck. Each subsequent plane followed in close sequence, skimming perilously over the waves before climbing toward Japan.

As wartime journalists later noted, the element of

surprise was paramount, and the raid succeeded in striking Tokyo and other targets with minimal opposition.

Though the physical damage inflicted was limited, the psychological impact proved far greater. Tokyo's sense of invulnerability was shattered; Japanese leadership diverted valuable resources to defend the home islands, a shift that would have consequences in engagements such as the Battle of Midway. In his autobiography, Doolittle observed that part of the raid's success was sowing doubt about Japan's ability to protect its people.

Costs and Consequences

For the raiders themselves, the mission came with a high price. Three men were killed in action, and eight were captured; several of those would be executed by Japanese forces. Chinese civilians also suffered a tragic toll. They were systematically punished by Japan for aiding the raiders, resulting in an estimated 250,000 deaths.

Doolittle, believing the minimal damage inflicted did not justify the cost, initially expected a court-martial. Instead, he was promoted to brigadier general and received the Medal of Honor, illustrating a willingness at the highest levels of command to recognize bold leadership — even when outcomes were uncertain.

In modern military doctrine, that same spirit is often cited as critical to mission success: trusting trained leaders on the ground to make rapid, difficult decisions and empowering them with the resources to do so.

Reflections Through a Modern Lens

Today, the Doolittle Raid still resonates as a template for thinking beyond conventional limitations. Leaders across the Defense Department continue to emphasize innovation, operational security and the willingness to act decisively.

Earlier this month, in a speech delivered to midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth described a climate in which individuals are encouraged to take initiative.

"The only thing I cared about ... was to know that my command and my commander had my back," he said.

That sentiment echoes Doolittle's own leadership style. He demanded excellence from his volunteers but also trusted them to carry out the mission under challenging circumstances.

Information warfare, still critical in modern conflicts, was also a factor in 1942. The U.S. withheld details of the raid's origins, and former President Franklin D. Roosevelt famously joked that the

planes had taken off from "Shangri-La." Such deception helped shield the true capabilities of the American fleet.

Today's strategic focus on deterrence, border security and global power projection all trace back to lessons learned during operations like the Doolittle Raid, underscoring that creativity and secrecy can change the balance of power.

Legacy of Lethality and Readiness

What Doolittle's men accomplished underscores a basic truth: the necessity of operational preparedness. Though many of the raiders ended up crash-landing in China or the Soviet Far East, their rigorous training ensured they had the best chance of survival and success.

Modern defense policy continues to advance new capabilities, such as the recently announced F-47 fighter jet, to maintain strategic advantages. Providing warfighters with cutting-edge tools, from advanced aircraft to real-time intelligence, also preserves the same forward-thinking tradition Doolittle championed.

In this light, the Doolittle Raid is more than a historical footnote; it is an enduring model of what can be achieved through skilled planning, bold action and a commitment to mission success.

Even when faced with the unknown, Doolittle's men demonstrated how disciplined forces can execute operations with precision and daring, operating under clear guidance and with support at the highest levels.

Continuing the Tradition

As the nation commemorates the 83rd anniversary of the Doolittle Raid, the department honors the legacy of those who flew into danger to strike a critical blow at a pivotal moment. Their story remains a rallying point for service members across the globe, reminding military leaders that extraordinary feats become possible when they empower their units, guard essential information and inspire a sense of shared purpose.

EDUCATION

Construction Career Days 2025

By Marlo Scafe
news@srpressgazette.com

More than 1,300 high school students convened for the 2025 Northwest Florida Construction Career Days on April 22-23. The two-day event was a hands-on experience and an opportunity for students to explore new career possibilities.



Santa Rosa High School student Taylor Reasner was able to practice operating excavators, learn about road work safety, and how to build bridges. Reasner said he enjoyed visiting all the booths at Construction Career Day and learn about the potential career opportunities that civil engineering has to offer.

"So far, we've seen over the water bridges, when they're constructing them, how they're made, what they're made of, and now we're working on learning suspension bridges and how they operate. And other cool things."

Reasner graduates in two weeks but said he has his eyes on a construction career by the end of the day. He said he has a knack for building, and that's how he expresses his art; rather than painting and drawing, he builds. He has a diverse background in construction, from helping reroute the plumbing at his family's house to building wall sections. He was able to meet future employers and hopes to hone new skills in a rewarding career.

Civil engineering is a broad field that deals with the design, construction, and maintenance of the physical and naturally built environment. It encompasses a wide range of projects, including roads, bridges, buildings, and infrastructure systems. Haden McCaskill is a Project Administrator at Mott MacDonald in the Greater Panama City Area, but he had different plans before discovering civil engineering.



Central High School senior Tyler Lewis plays golf with an excavator.

Photos by Marlo Scafe

McCaskill said he was always good at math and initially wanted to go into the medical field. But as he started his college journey, he realized it might not be the best fit for him. A family friend working as a project administrator showed him the ropes, and now he has enjoyed working in the industry for years.

"When I first started in engineering, I thought all engineers were designers, and that's not the case," McCaskill said. "Like project managers, what I'm doing now, I'm working with the contractor hand in hand, and I'm not tied to the office full time."

He said he was able to attend college and work full time as an inspector's aide with the help of scholarships. At the Construction Career Days, McCaskill was sharing his story with students and letting them know about the scholarship opportunities available.

High school seniors who



Jay High School students Brantley Diamond, Bridger Hebb, and Cooper Dees visit the interactive Construction Career Days installations.

attended the event in person or virtually are eligible to receive a portion of up to \$50,000 in scholarship funds that will be awarded. The scholarship fund was established to assist high school graduates enrolling in college, trade/vocational education programs, or

those entering directly into the workforce.

Students who were over the age of 18 were able to fill out applications for hiring companies during the event. And with billions of dollars of construction activity lined up for the next decade and entry-level workers in

high demand, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is working to create a pipeline of workforce opportunities.

Jay High School juniors Bridger Hebb, Cooper Dees, and Brantley Diamond tried the bucket trucks and were lifted 50 feet into the air. They were strapped in and didn't have a problem conquering any qualms with the high altitude. Central High School senior David Robinett also practiced operating the bucket trucks.

"It was a great view up there. I would definitely pursue some construction careers after today," Robinett said.

Central High School senior Tyler Lewis practiced operating an excavator by playing golf with it. A large club head was attached to the excavator, and Lewis was tasked with maneuvering a large ball into a hole. He made it look easy and said there was nothing to it. When asked if he would

pursue a job using an excavator, he said he was more interested in working with bulldozers.

Lewis is 19 years old and said he would be applying for jobs and inquiring about scholarships he could apply for and use towards heavy equipment operator certification programs. Career Source EscaRosa Apprenticeship Coordinator Brian Powell said that their office in Milton has computers for job seekers to use, resume help, and more. He recommends that anyone looking for a job in any field visit them at their office.

"Many of our high school kids, some of them at the point where they don't know what do, and we try to help," Powell said.

He also recommended visiting employflorida.com where job seekers can see local job opportunities and employers can connect with potential employees.



Santa Rosa High School student Taylor Reasner hopes to have a job offer by the end of the day.



Central High School senior David Robinett practices operating the bucket trucks.

Chick-fil-A THE RIDGE Presents **PHS Student of the Week**

Tanner Kyser

Age: 18
Class: Class of 2025
Parents: Justin and Shannon Kyser

Favorites

School subject: History
Extracurricular activity: Working out
Hobbies: Weightlifting, hunting and hanging out with friends
Car: Chevrolet Silverado 1500
Store: GHC
Musical Artist: George Strait
Movie: "Talladega Nights"
TV show: "Seinfeld"

Fast Facts

Cafeteria food must-have: Chicken sandwich
Last book read that wasn't required: "Bible"
Pet peeve: People who don't get straight to the point
Person most admired: Grace Simon
Person I'd like to meet: Will Ferrell
First job: Mowing yards
Top accomplishment: State champion in weightlifting out with friends

Future

After-graduation plans: Attend Locklin for electrician program
Career goal: Own my own company



Chick-fil-A THE RIDGE Presents **MHS Student of the Week**

Abigail Hardaker

Age: 17
Class: Class of 2025
Parents: Dana and Earl Hardaker

Favorites

School subject: AP Art History
Extracurricular activity: Lacrosse
Hobbies: Reading, playing, lacrosse, hanging out with friends
Car: Subaru Forester
Store: Bath and Body Works
Musical Artist: Taylor Swift
Movie: "Barbie"
TV show: "Parks and Recreation"

Fast Facts

Cafeteria food must-have: Nachos
Last book read that wasn't required: "Little Women"
Pet peeve: Being late
Person most admired: My mom
Person I'd like to meet: Taylor Swift
First job: Server
Top accomplishment: Being leading save percentage in the district for lacrosse for past 2 years

Future

After-graduation plans: Play lacrosse in college and get my degree
Career goal: Market research analyst



SANTA ROSA
HOME & GARDEN

Gear up for grilling season



Family Features

As the days get longer and the temperatures rise, it's time to fire up the grill and elevate your outdoor cooking game. Whether you're a seasoned grill master or just starting out, success comes down to three essentials: quality ingredients, the right seasonings and reliable equipment that gives you full control over heat and timing.

If you're ready to turn up the heat this season, explore high-performance grilling solutions from Nexgrill – built to match every cooking style and skill level. From backyard barbecues to weeknight dinners under the open sky, its lineup is designed to help you serve up unforgettable flavors all season long. Visit nexgrill.com to learn more and get inspired.

Unlock a new level of outdoor cooking versatility

Transform your backyard into a chef-inspired kitchen with the Gourmet Pro 6-Burner Stainless Steel Gas Grill featuring the Griddle Max Cooking System. Designed to go beyond

traditional grilling, this powerhouse lets you grill, saute, griddle and smoke all at once or on demand. The innovative system makes it easy to achieve restaurant-quality results, delivering unmatched versatility for any meal. Built with stainless steel burners, angled flame tamers and porcelain-coated cast-iron cooking grids, it ensures consistent heat and fewer flare-ups. With 811 square

inches of cooking space, six main burners and a high-heat searing side burner, you'll get 75,000 BTU of total cooking power.

Take on breakfast, lunch and dinner

From sizzling fajitas at your backyard bash to early-morning pancakes before your next adventure, the Daytona 4-Burner Propane Gas Griddle delivers the heat, flavor and perfor-

mance you need. Designed for versatility, this powerhouse features a 792-square-inch cooktop and four stainless steel burners, giving you the space and control to cook multiple dishes at once. Built-in convenience comes standard with dual side shelves, a lower storage rack to keep tools within reach and a removable grease cup for quick and easy cleanup. When it's time to pack it in, a heavy-duty

lid protects your cooking surface.

From kitchen to patio, it goes where you go

Grilling isn't just for the backyard. When weather or space keeps you inside, the Fuse 22-inch Electric Griddle delivers bold, flame-free cooking anywhere there's an outlet. Ultralightweight and easy to transport, it's built for seamless indoor-outdoor use. With 308 square

inches of edge-to-edge heat, a durable nonstick surface and digital temperature control, this electric flattop offers precision and power. A hinged lid with a built-in viewing window locks in heat and flavor so you can cook efficiently. From weekday breakfasts in the kitchen to weekend feasts on the patio, it can be your all-access pass to delicious, flexible cooking – wherever life takes you.

Do you have a home or garden related business? Get in front our audience with a quarterly advertorial and weekly ad. Grow your business!

For more information, please call 850-623-2120.

Santa Rosa Press Gazette
850-623-2120
or srpressgazette.com

Working for you. Every single day.™

Learn more at FPL.com/WaysToSave

Art of Drawers®
RE-IMAGINE YOUR SPACES

Custom Pull-Out Drawers for your **EXISTING** Cabinets and Pantry

Upgrade to better organization, more space and easy access

Schedule your Complimentary Design Consultation

20% OFF
Through June 30, 2025

(844) 206-3800

MADE IN THE USA
LIFETIME WARRANTY

Jacuzzi
BATH REMODEL

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

CALL NOW
888.617.0364

SPECIAL OFFER
Waiving All Installation Costs!

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 6/30/25.

SANTA ROSA'S PRESS GAZETTE

Volume 4 • Issue 18

Santa Rosa Press Gazette is published weekly. Santa Rosa Press Gazette and its entire contents and style are fully protected by copyright and registered according to copyright laws. Santa Rosa Press Gazette cannot be reproduced in any form for any purpose without the expressed written permission of Santa Rosa Press Gazette.



To Contact Us:
 Santa Rosa Press Gazette
 5842 Commerce Rd. Suite D
 Milton, FL 32570
Phone: (850) 623-2120
Web: srpressgazette.com
Email: news@srpressgazette.com

Editor/Publisher
 Gail Acosta
 gail@sandpaperpublishing.com

Business Development
 Sandi Kemp
 sandi@srpressgazette.com

Production Manager
 Dickie Williams

Sports Reporter
 Brian Lester
 sports@srpressgazette.com

Reporters
 Hansen Hasenberg
 news@srpressgazette.com

Marlo Scafe
 news@srpressgazette.com

Tony Judnich
 news@srpressgazette.com

Bookkeeper
 Kristy Mumaw
 accounts@srpressgazette.com

Circulation
 Jessie Morgan
 info@srpressgazette.com

EDITORIAL

In Our Opinion

Peeling back the layers of Ibis Road

The Ibis Road and Maikaira Ridge debacle has been at the forefront of Milton's news for a couple of weeks now – though its roots stretch back over two decades. And this latest chapter of problems and actions and reactions has brought even more issues into focus.

The problem stems from the persistence on the part of the developer, Heaton Brothers, to build a road which would allow future Maikaira Ridge residents to connect to Avalon Boulevard through Ibis Road, which is currently a cul-de-sac.

That road has been the topic of controversy since the beginning of the development (1996), and through the years several agreements have been made by the developer and the residents that access to Avalon through Ibis Road would not happen. It has been repeated over and over in meetings and motions every time the developer has had to come before the county for a zoning change.

In the latest series of events, Santa Rosa County approved the most recently submitted plans, which included the aforementioned road. Residents showed up in numbers to fight against the road, which was under construction, remind the commissioners of the previous agreements and express their feelings of betrayal on the part of the commissioners.

The outfall of it has been jaw-dropping. At some point during this mess, an unknown person or persons intentionally damaged the developer's heavy equipment, drilling holes in the bottoms of their machines. The damage estimates spoken publicly have been as low as \$200,000 and as high as \$900,000.

The damage to the equipment came at the worst time for the residents of Ibis Road. Could it be a rogue resident of Ibis Road? Could it be a random act of vandalism? Either could be true. In this country, we don't prosecute and persecute people on what "could" be true. We only do it on what we know to be true.

Yet, Colten Wright gave a very stern chastising to all the residents of Ibis Road, as if it were a mob who went and damaged the builder's equipment saying, "I think if you have a deputy out there, they are probably going to think it has something to do with what is going on right now. Residents of Ibis Road, if it was none of y'all who did it, if it is truly no one you know I would ban together and try to

find out in every way who did it to prove someone in your group is completely innocent."

We think it was irresponsible of Wright to convict the Ibis Road residents before he knows the answers, and to make an assumption based on the timing of it. Again, it could have been anyone. We believe he owes the people of Ibis an apology.

Chairman Kerry Smith reacted appropriately saying he didn't want to accuse the residents of Ibis Road without knowing the facts.

But the chairman has had his own set of problems from the dais, including his self-admitted quick temper. To have a successful term, he will really need to keep it in check, have Teflon shoulders and be cautious about how he interacts with county residents.

At the podium, while the residents addressing the commissioners should speak respectfully – the commissioners MUST speak respectfully. There is no room on this. And to be clear, everyone is welcome to the podium at public forum, as awkward as it is.

A person has three minutes to speed talk through their issue and if they ask a question, the commissioners just stare at the speaker because there is no back and forth conversation allowed. After the very last speaker, the commissioners can provide answers to any questions asked if they choose to, but they don't have to. We believe this set up leads to an additional layer of frustration on the part of the people.

We would like to see an atmosphere at the commissioners meetings where the public can speak without feeling like they are talking to a chalk board. Also, if these same people are speaking at every single meeting – Bravo to them! We need more of those people who speak on behalf of the communities of our county. We are blessed to have people who care. And some of them are holding up a mirror to the commissioners and holding them to their campaign promises. We hope they set an example for others to speak and become involved. That kind of interaction leads to a healthy county.

Last but not least, we need the commissioners to check their attitudes, egos and temper at the door. We should never see the type of communication with residents we have witnessed this year. Commissioners are our leaders and should be leaders we are proud to stand behind, and not in fear of challenging. We expect more, we deserve more.



Out and About

By Sandi Kemp



Last week I was writing about my critics and this week I started scanning pages of one hundred-year-old copies of the Milton Gazette, which is now the Santa Rosa Press Gazette. I found the following printed on May 1, 1925 – which could have been my column last week – just said in a different way...

"TELL IT TO THEM (Yes- it was in all caps) Next time you hear a citizen of Milton yelping about a typographical error in his home paper, or in any other paper, just hand him these few figures to stop his (or her – added by Sandi) tongue: In an ordinary column there are 10,000 pieces of type: there are seven possible wrong positions for each letter; there are 70,000 chances to man an error, and millions of possible transpositions. In this one sentence, 'To be or not to be' by transpositions alone, it has been figured out, 2,759,022 errors can be made. Newspaper people from the 'devil' up to the boss, and other high officials, are merely human, and liable to err. Don't be nosing around for errors but read for the information you can get and good you can get. You'll find errors enough in your daily walk-through life without having to hunt for them in a newspaper."

I believe we are printing the front page from the May 1 issue- and you will see it has the early beginnings of "Facebook," with notes from the Rural Route. Apparently, the newspaper printed "gossip" from the postal routes – by each postal route. They knew who was visiting whom, who was sick, where they went for the weekend, and more...and printed it in the paper. In the May 1, 1925, issue, it was Rural Route "C" and they even have the name of the person reporting the "news," Mrs. Ruth Hicks. Coincidentally, she starts out by apologizing for getting it wrong and for publishing a "false report."

There is also a column titled "Wanted" where people put in items they are looking to buy – not sell. My brother thought that was his idea, but it looks like someone thought of it before him. Here is a sample: "Wanted – Saw Mill Labor – We are running day and night and can use saw mill labor of all kinds. Free quarters, extra healthful location in the hills and lake region. Come ready for work. J. Ray Arnold Lumber Co., Groveland, Florida."

In the March 20, 1925, issue, the population gains of Santa Rosa County were reported. "Tallahassee, March 17 – the 1925 population of Santa Rosa County is 14,599, a gain of 929 or 6.9 percent increase over 1920 when the total was 13,670, it was announced today at the census office. Milton, the county seat, showed a gain of 596 or 37.6 percent over the five-year period, the figures for 1925 being 2,190, compared with 1,594 five years ago." Santa Rosa County currently has a reported population of 203,166.

I'm spending a lot of time looking at newspapers from 100 years ago because Navarre is celebrating a Centennial this year. There have been many events commemorating this momentous occasion so far, including the turtle drop, the Mardi Gras Parade theme this year, and a birthday party at the Navarre Beach Area Chamber of Commerce. The next event is the "Centennial Ball" on June 21. The \$100 tickets are limited and there are special commemorative metal tickets that are limited to only 100 lucky collectors, at \$100 each if you also buy a ticket to the ball. (yes – there is a theme here) or \$150 if you aren't going to the ball. The band for the ball is "Six Piece Suits" and they are phenomenal. Also, there will be a special guest speaker, Jonathan Crider, PhD, who will have a very entertaining walk-through history to include the founding of Navarre. There will also be voices of the past on video reminiscing of the early days of Navarre.

Quote of the Week: Ecclesiastes 1:9
What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. History is merely repeating itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under the sun is truly new. Solomon 1010 BCE(ish) - 931 BCE (ish)

Santa Rosa County and City of Milton Meetings

8 May 5
Santa Rosa County Commission Committee
 Santa Rosa County Administrative Board Room
 6495 Caroline St., Milton at 8:30 a.m.

May 8
Santa Rosa Commission Regular
 Santa Rosa County Administrative Board Room
 6495 Caroline St., Milton at 8:30 a.m.

Santa Rosa County Zoning Board
 Santa Rosa County Administrative Board Room
 6495 Caroline St., Milton at 6 p.m.

May 9
Land Development Code Task Force
 Santa Rosa County Administrative Board Room
 6495 Caroline St., Milton from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

May 13
City of Milton Work Session (agenda review)
 6738 Dixon St., Milton from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

City Council
 6738 Dixon St., Milton from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

May 14
Aviation Advisory Committee
 Santa Rosa County Administrative Complex
 6495 Caroline St., Milton at 5 p.m.

May 19
Commission Committee
 Tiger Point Community Center
 1370 Tiger Park Lane, Gulf Breeze at 8:30 a.m.

May 20
Law Library Board
 Santa Rosa County Courthouse Conference Room #1411
 4025 Avalon Blvd., Milton at noon

May 22
Santa Rosa Commission Regular
 Santa Rosa County Administrative Board Room
 6495 Caroline St., Milton at 8:30 a.m.

Santa Rosa Commission Special Rezoning
 Santa Rosa County Administrative Board Room
 6495 Caroline St., Milton at 5 p.m.

Milton Community Redevelopment Agency
 6738 Dixon St., Milton from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Sundial Utilities of Milton, Inc.
 6738 Dixon St., Milton from 5:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

City of Milton Work Session
 6738 Dixon St., Milton from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Subscriptions:

Available at \$48 for 52 weeks or for \$38 for 26 weeks. The publisher reserves the right to change subscription rates during the term of subscription. Notice of a rate change may be by mail to the subscriber, by notice in the newspaper, or by other means. Subscription rate changes may be implemented by changing the duration of the subscription. There are NO refunds.

Deadlines:

For inclusion in any Thursday edition, stories and ad reservations are due at 5 p.m. on the previous Friday. Press releases and story submissions are welcome and encouraged, but will be printed on a space available basis, subject to editor approval.

Tell us what you think!

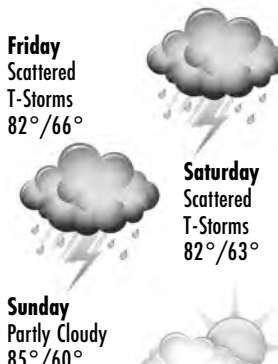
Letters to the Editor
 Letters to the Editor is your chance to write to us and tell us what you think. Letters should not exceed 350 words and must include your full name, mailing address, and phone number. Letters may be edited. Send letters to editor@srpressgazette.com.

Weekend Weather

Friday
 Scattered T-Storms
 82°/66°

Saturday
 Scattered T-Storms
 82°/63°

Sunday
 Partly Cloudy
 85°/60°



Fine Print

Santa Rosa Press Gazette
 Volume 4 • Issue 18
 Santa Rosa Press Gazette is published weekly. Santa Rosa Press Gazette and its entire contents and style are fully protected by copyright and registered according to copyright laws. Santa Rosa Press Gazette cannot be reproduced in any form for any purpose without the expressed written permission of the Santa Rosa Press Gazette.

Advertising
 Santa Rosa Press Gazette reserves the right to reject or revise any copy which it considers not in the public interest, either because said copy is not in keeping with usual newspaper advertising acceptability standards or for any other reason deemed material by the publisher. Advertising set to resemble news matter must carry the word "Advertisement" at the top of the advertisement. Newspaper news department type cannot be used in reader ads.

Mission Statement
 Our newspaper's only license to publish is the freedom of the press clause in the Constitution. Santa Rosa Press Gazette is pledged to an aggressive, responsible and fair pursuit of the truth without fear of any special interest and with favor to none. It is our social responsibility to listen to the voiceless, avoid any and all acts of arrogance, and to face the public politely and candidly.

Santa Rosa Press Gazette is published weekly for \$48 per year, 5842 Commerce St. Unit D, Milton, FL 32570
 Sorry, no refunds on subscriptions.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
 SANTA ROSA PRESS GAZETTE,
 5842 Commerce St. Unit D, Milton, FL 32570

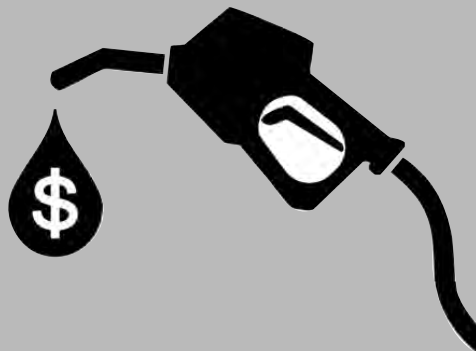
Disclaimers
 Correspondence and editorial submissions from our readers are welcome. Submitted articles shall become copyrighted by Santa Rosa Press Gazette, either in written or electronic format. Santa Rosa Press Gazette reserves the right to edit or reject all editorial or advertising material submitted. Santa Rosa Press Gazette will not be held responsible for the return of any unsolicited materials. Though we take great measures to prevent mistakes, neither the advertiser nor the publisher is responsible or liable for misinformation, misprints, typographical errors, etc. herein contained. Publication of advertising contained herein does not necessarily constitute endorsement. Signed columns or letters to the Editor are the opinions of the authors and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Publisher.

STATE NEWS

News Service of Florida

10¢ down

The average price of a gallon of gasoline in Florida dipped below \$3 on Monday and was down 10 cents from a week earlier, according to the AAA auto club. Motorists paid an average of \$2.99 for a gallon of regular unleaded as demand has slowed amid economic uncertainty. But the decline isn't expected to continue.



750 COVID-19 deaths

More than 750 Florida resident deaths have been linked this year to COVID-19, though the pace of deaths is significantly slower than during the past five years, according to data posted on the Florida Department of Health website.



\$5B tax package

The House on Apr. 22 put a new price-tag on its growing tax package, which differs from a Senate proposal. The House Budget Committee voted 20-8 to approve the package (HB 7033), which is projected to cut state and local revenue by \$5.008 billion next fiscal year and now calls for dissolving local tourist-development councils.



34,947 less policies

Citizens had 806,966 policies as of Apr. 18, down from 843,517 policies a week earlier and 841,913 two weeks earlier, according to data posted on its website.

Lawmakers eye obscured license plates

Motorists who try to obscure their license plates would face increased penalties under a bill that will be sent to Gov. Ron DeSantis. The Senate on Apr. 23 unanimously passed the bill (HB 253), which would lead to a second-degree misdemeanor charge, up from a non-criminal traffic infraction, for attempting to conceal license plates. The House last week passed the bill. Senate sponsor Ana Maria Rodriguez, R-Miami-Dade County, said obscured license plates have mostly been a problem in South Florida but affect the entire state and are "becoming more and more prevalent." The bill also would make it a third-degree felony to use an obscured license plate when committing a crime. The bill defines obscuring a tag as switching a plate, angling the plate so letters and numbers are not visible or covering the plate to interfere with reading numbers and letters.

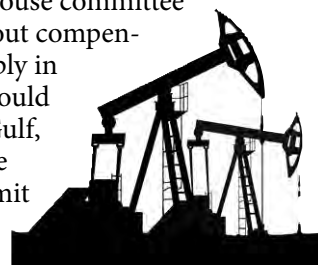
Senate oks repealing beach access law

Amid noisy battles in Walton County about beach access, the Florida Senate on Apr. 24 passed a bill that would repeal a controversial 2018 law about "customary use" of beaches. Lawmakers have moved forward with a repeal after widespread complaints about waterfront property owners in Walton County preventing people from using beaches. Bill sponsor Jay Trumbull, a Panama City Republican whose district includes Walton County, said the repeal (SB 1622) would allow beaches to "be for everyone, not just a select few." The Florida Constitution ensures public access to portions of beaches "below mean high water lines," often described as wet areas of beaches. But customary use involves dry-sand areas of beaches above the mean high water line that are often privately owned. The 2018 law put in place an extensive process for certain local governments that want to have ordinances or rules aimed at ensuring customary use, including requiring judicial approval. The Senate voted 35-2 to pass the repeal bill, with opposition from Sen. Don Gaetz, R-Niceville, and Sen. Kathleen Passidomo, R-Naples. Gaetz said he thinks the bill would result in new lawsuits and "politicization" about customary use. "I don't believe this bill solves anything," Gaetz said. A similar bill (HB 6043) has cleared House committees and is pending in the full House.



Senate revises oil drilling curb

An effort to protect Northwest Florida's Apalachicola River and Apalachicola Bay from oil and gas drilling is headed back to the House after the Senate made a change Apr. 23. The Senate voted 37-1 to approve a revised House bill (HB 1143). With the oil industry expressing concerns about the proposal, Senate sponsor Corey Simon, R-Tallahassee, said the change was needed to "reduce exposure to potential taking claims." The House bill and a Senate version called for the Department of Environmental Protection to use a "balancing test" to determine potential risks to natural resources before issuing drilling permits near water bodies. But the House bill, which unanimously passed the House last week, also called for banning oil and gas drilling within 10 miles of the state's three National Estuarine Research Reserves --- the Apalachicola reserve, the Guana Tolomato Matanzas reserve north of St. Augustine and the Rookery Bay reserve south of Naples. Eric Hamilton, a lobbyist for the American Petroleum Institute, told a House committee this month that the proposed 10-mile rule would take away mineral rights without compensation. The Senate change would scale back the 10-mile rule so it would only apply in counties designated by the governor as rural areas of opportunity. The change would limit the zone to areas around the Apalachicola River and Apalachicola Bay in Gulf, Franklin, Liberty and Calhoun counties, Simon said. The bills were filed after the Florida Department of Environmental Protection last year approved a draft permit for a Louisiana-based company to drill an exploratory well in Calhoun County near the Apalachicola River --- an approval that faces a legal challenge.



"The intent is to provide affordable housing," Rep. Bill Conerly, R-Lakewood Ranch said. After the Senate this month passed a similar bill, House members Apr. 22 continued moving forward with a proposal that would require local governments to allow what are known as "granny flats" or "carriage houses" in single-family residential areas.



"I don't love it, to tell you the truth. I think if somebody works, whether they're being an apprentice or whatever, the minimum wage is in the (state) Constitution for a reason." Senate President Ben Albritton, R-Wauchula, told reporters Apr. 24. A proposal to carve an exemption in the state's voter-approved minimum wage isn't expected to pass during this year's legislative session.

"Just because you have gone a slight inch further in the right direction doesn't mean that you've solved for the problem." House Speaker Daniel Perez, R-Miami, said property-insurance problems have not been fixed. With the annual legislative session poised to enter its final scheduled week, lawmakers do not appear likely to pass major property-insurance changes.



Apple TV app - Top Movies Week

By The Associated Press

Top Movie Purchases and Rentals (US):

1. Conclave
2. A Working Man
3. Captain America: Brave New World
4. The Passion of the Christ
5. Mickey 17
6. Black Bag
7. Wicked
8. Flight Risk
9. Sinners
10. The Woman in the Yard

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, May 1, the 121st day of 2025. There are 244 days left in the year.

On May 1, 2011, President Barack Obama announced the death of Osama bin Laden during a U.S. commando operation, which took place in Abbottabad, Pakistan in the early morning hours of May 2 local time.

Also on this date:

- In 1866, three days of race-related rioting erupted in Memphis, Tennessee, as white mobs targeted Black people, 46 of whom were killed, along with two whites.
- In 1931, the Empire State Building was dedicated in New York City; it would be the world's tallest building for four decades.
- In 1960, the Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 reconnaissance plane over Sverdlovsk and captured its pilot, Francis Gary Powers.
- In 1963, Jim Whittaker, joined by Sherpa mountaineer Nawang Gombu, became the first American to summit Mount Everest.
- In 1964, the computer programming language BASIC (Beginner's All-Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) was first run by its inventors, Dartmouth College professors John G. Kemeny and Thomas E. Kurtz.
- In 1971, the national passenger rail service Amtrak went into operation.
- In 2003, President George W. Bush, in a speech delivered from the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln which bore a banner reading "Mission Accomplished," stated, "Major combat operations in Iraq have ended." (The last U.S. combat troops would not withdraw from Iraq until December 2011.)
- In 2011, Pope Benedict XVI beatified Pope John Paul II, moving his predecessor a step closer to sainthood in a Vatican Mass attended by some 1.5 million pilgrims.
- In 2015, six Baltimore police officers were charged with felonies ranging from assault to murder in connection with the death of Freddie Gray, a Black man who'd suffered a spinal injury while riding in a police van. (None of the officers would ultimately be convicted.)
- In 2020, U.S. regulators allowed emergency use of remdesivir, the first drug that appeared to help some COVID-19 patients recover faster.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Judy Collins is 86. Singer Rita Coolidge is 80. Filmmaker John Woo is 79. Actor Dann Florek is 75. Musician Ray Parker Jr. is 71. Hall of Fame jockey Steve Cauthen is 65. Singer-actor Tim McGraw is 58. Filmmaker Wes Anderson is 56. Football Hall of Famer Curtis Martin is 52. Actor Jamie Dornan is 43. Singer Victoria Monét is 36. Social media personality Charli D'Amelio is 21.

Escambia County Animal Welfare locates, rescues dog seen in viral animal abuse video

Staff report
news@srpressgazette.com

After weeks of dedicated search efforts, Escambia County Animal Welfare officers have located and rescued a dog involved in a recent animal abuse case which was widely shared on social media.

Animal Welfare officers were responding to a wildlife rescue call on Wednesday, April 23, when they noticed the dog tied to a light pole and immediately began investigating.

The officers were ultimately able to confirm it was the dog they had been searching for as part of an animal cruelty investigation initiated in March 2025, in coordination with the Escambia County Sheriff's Office.

Officers responded to an animal cruelty call in the 1500 block of North "Y" Street in late March after a neighbor's security camera captured footage of a man harming his dog. The concerned neighbors shared the video to social media to help find the responsible individual.

Lead Animal Welfare Officer Sgt. Merideth Roberson received the video from a concerned citizen and immediately investigated. She quickly contacted the Escambia County Sheriff's Office and handed the investigation over to deputies, who made an arrest the next day, Thursday, March 27.

However, the dog in the video was nowhere to be found.



Sgt. Merideth Roberson and Sgt. Mackenzie Hamel with Tupac the dog, who was finally rescued after being abused in a viral video.

Submitted photo

"We never gave up looking for the dog," Sgt. Roberson said. "Every time we would go out on patrol, we would always look for the dog. There was always hope that the dog would turn up some day."

When Sgt. Roberson and Sgt. Mackenzie Hamel were headed to wildlife calls early in the afternoon on April 23, they noticed two dogs tied to a light pole on Mobile Highway.

"When we got closer, we looked at each other and thought, 'That looks like the dog,'" Sgt. Roberson said. "As we got closer, we became convinced that it was the dog. We saw the body camera

footage but that was all we had to go off of."

Once the dog was safely in the back of their truck, Sgt. Roberson and Sgt. Hamel examined the body camera footage to try and get a match for the dog.

"Once we saw the chest pattern, we knew one thousand percent that it was the dog," Sgt. Roberson said. "The color of the dog's fur, the black muzzle, everything looked exactly like it did in the body camera footage."

The neighbors who originally recorded the video also positively identified the dog, confirming what Sgt. Roberson and

Sgt. Hamel suspected.

The dog, whose name is Tupac, is a mixed breed and estimated to be about two or three years old. Despite what he has been through, Sgt. Roberson said Tupac appears to be in good spirits. Tupac will be evaluated by Escambia County Animal Welfare's veterinarian and will remain in the care of Animal Welfare staff before determining his eligibility for adoption.

Escambia County Animal Welfare Director John Robinson said this rescue is another one of many examples of his team's dedication to helping animals each day.

"Our officers are passionate about what we do, and we're always working toward helping the animals in our community," Robinson said. "I'm glad that our work with the Sheriff's Office has led to charges and one less animal cruelty case in our community. Without their body camera footage, we would never have been able to identify the dog. I look forward to continuing our partnership and bringing these animal cruelty cases to justice."

To learn more about the Escambia County Department of Animal Welfare, visit the Escambia County website.

Crash on Yellow River Bridge

Staff report
news@srpressgazette.com

On April 21, a crash occurred on State Road 87 South in the northbound lanes of the Yellow River Bridge, resulting in serious injury to a Milton woman.

According to FHP, two vehicles were traveling north at approximately 8:20 p.m. A sedan driven by a 38-year-old female from Milton lost control and collided with the bridge's concrete barriers, which caused a sedan driven by a 54-year-old male from Milton to collide with the female's vehicle.

The female driver was transported to a local hospital with serious injuries. No injuries were reported for the male driver.

Santa Rosa Press Gazette
subscribe today
850-623-2120
or
srpressgazette.com

BANDS ON THE BLACKWATER

<p>APRIL 4 BAY BRIDGE BAND</p> <p>APRIL 11 JOHN HART PROJECT</p> <p>APRIL 18 THE NEW CAHOOTS</p> <p>APRIL 25 CROSTOWN BAND</p> <p>MAY 2 SMOKEY JONES & THE 3 DOLLAR PISTOLS</p>	<p>MAY 9 SIX PIECE SUITS</p> <p>MAY 16 STORMFOLK</p> <p>MAY 23 NU-BLU</p> <p>MAY 30 FREE RANGE IGUANAS</p> <p>JUNE 6 BOX OF ROX</p> <p>JUNE 13 DISCO KISS</p>
--	---

FRIDAYS 7-9PM
Downtown Milton
Jernigan's landing

GET YOUR GRAD IN THE PAPER!

On **May 29**, Santa Rosa's Press Gazette will publish a special section honoring the 2025 High School graduates featuring your graduate and their classmates in baby photos and/or senior photos.

2025 GRADUATION SPECIAL SECTION WILL INCLUDE:

- Senior Group Photo
- Awards Banquet Highlights
- List of Scholarship Winners
- Special Recognition Articles

YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT IS

FREE!

WITH AN ANNUAL SANTA ROSA'S PRESS GAZETTE SUBSCRIPTION OR RENEWAL

ALL GRAD ADS ARE DUE BY FRIDAY, MAY 23

SCAN TO SUBMIT YOUR GRAD AD OR VISIT:
SRPRESSGAZETTE.COM/GRADADS

START OR RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW & WE WILL RESERVE YOUR SPACE!
FOR MORE INFO CALL 850.623.2120

SPORTS. Stepping up

Clutch plays, stellar defense propel Pace flag football team to playoff win



Amaya Pablo gets ready to make a throw in a regional quarterfinal against Bartram Trail.

Photos by Brian Lester
Kenna Pacitti makes the game-winning touchdown catch for the Patriots in their playoff game against Bartram Trail.

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

Amaya Pablo saw Kenna Pacitti in the end zone and fired off a pass.

Pacitti had to battle to hang on after the ball was deflected, but she ultimately made a clutch catch that proved to be the difference in Pace's hard-fought 13-6 win over Bartram Trail in a Region 1-3A quarterfinal last Wednesday night.

It was the latest example of Pablo knowing she can count on teammates to make plays when they need to.

"She clutched up for me and won us the game," Pablo said.

Pacitti was a little worried but at the same time confident that she could make a play. Her touchdown in the third quarter broke a 6-6 tie and catapulted the Patriots into the regional semifinal round.

"It was crazy, but it felt good to catch it," Pacitti said.

For Pace, the win improved its record to 16-1 and ignited its march to a return trip to the state final four. The sec-



Amaya Pablo scores the first touchdown of the game.

ond-ranked Patriots were scheduled to play a semifinal against No. 9 Ponte Vedra on Monday night. The winner moves on to Thursday's regional final.

"I told the girls I don't care if we win 30-0 or 13-6. A win is a win at this point," head coach Pat Riley said. "It moves us on. We just have to keep fighting every single play."

Pace scored first on Pablo's touchdown run where she avoided a defender and crossed the goal line in the first quarter, cele-

brating with teammates afterwards.

But the Bears tied the game right before halftime.

The second half was a defensive battle until Pablo, one of the nation's top quarterbacks, connected with Pacitti.

"I told (my coaches) Kenna was about to score. It was a great throw and catch," Riley said.

Bartram Trail had chances to answer but the defense of the Patriots, who have allowed double digits in points once all

season, answered the call.

Whether it was a ball getting batted down near the goal line or close to the sideline on a big-play attempt, Pace was ready.

"Our defense is our backbone. They always pick us up," Riley said. "I trust everyone on our defense."

Pace made one final play in the closing seconds, stopping a receiver short of the end zone. Players rushed the field. Pacitti did cartwheel and back flip to highlight the celebration.

Pacitti has been one of the Patriots' top receiving threats this season. She loves having someone like Pablo throw her the ball.

"Having a great quarterback like Amaya, it's just pretty awesome," Pacitti said.

Riley adds that Pablo knows she can trust all of her teammates.

"She's gained the confidence where she can throw to every receiver and trusts all of them.

We're blessed to have that," Riley said.

Pace came into this season driven to contend for a title again. The Patriots have won 10 in a row and are two wins from getting back to state.

Pablo and the Patriots are looking to finish the job this time.

"The thing I took from that loss is it really motivated me. And it's my senior year. I have to go all out," Pablo said.



Josie Arthur breaks up a pass near the sideline.



RELIVE THE MOMENT
CHECK OUT THE LATEST SPORTS GALLERIES!

PressGazette

Scan the QR code or visit
yourcommunityphotos.com





Brian Out Loud!

By Brian Lester

It's easy to focus on the athletic talent of an athlete. But don't ignore what they do in the classroom either. There are a ton of athletes who get the job done on and off the court, not only locally at the high school level, but when they go off to college as well. Take notice of the valedictorian list at Navarre, Milton and Pace. All three of those athletes, Aaron Pinkerton (Navarre lacrosse), Drew Henry (Milton swimming) and Caden Crow (Pace soccer) are the top students in their respective graduating classes. And there are plenty of other athletes who are in the top 25 of their respective graduating classes throughout the area.

Those athletes should be praised for their hard work and dedication in the classroom and praised for the example they set for others. It's one thing to be great at making plays on a lacrosse field or setting personal bests in a pool or scoring goals on a soccer field. But it's an entirely different thing to succeed in school as well, especially when you consider these athletes often get home late from games on a school night or are tired after practice and have to find that extra boost of energy to get the work done.

I've seen plenty of athletes succeed in college as well, taking on demanding majors that don't allow room to cut corners in any way, shape or form.

The perception of athletes has changed a great deal for sure over the years. These student-athletes take the student side of that equation seriously.

Because, ultimately, an athletic career is only going to last so long. Even going pro, it's a short-lived amount of time. More of an athlete's life will be spent outside of athletics.

If anyone can attest to how important school is, it's Bri Edwards. She's a Navarre grad who went on to Florida to compete for the Gators' gymnastics team.

I talked with her a few weeks ago for a feature on her final season, but the focus of the story wasn't as much on her athletic career as it was on what she has done in the classroom.

Edwards plans to be a doctor. She's already done a couple of internships in the medical field and heads to medical school this summer at Florida.

Yes, athletics played a big part in her college experience. And yes, the lessons learned from being an athlete – how to manage time, the value of hard work and the understanding of how to deal with failure – will all serve her well going forward.

But I asked Edwards about advice she'd give to young athletes getting set to compete in college. And really, her advice can easily apply to high school as well. Here's her quote.

"The way you apply yourself in athletics, that will to win, to go after a championship, have that same dedication in academics, and it will take you far."

Edwards' words should be posted in every school as a reminder to the importance of academics.

Because in the end, athletics matter. But academics matter a whole lot more.

Harp looking forward to next chapter of football



Submitted Photo

Sam Harp signed with Lighthouse Christian College earlier this year for football.

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

Sam Harp had other options for playing football in college. But the Jay standout chose Lighthouse Christian in order to stay closer to home. "My grandma said it best in her Facebook post, that this kid had many more offers than Lighthouse," Harp said. "But some of those were 10-12 hours away and ul-

timately, sitting with family, it was the best move." Harp signed his letter of intent earlier this year. "I always wanted to play in college and have a chance to sit at a table and sign a letter. It feels great," Harp said. Harp was the starting center for the Royals the last three years, helping the team put together back-to-back season of going to the playoffs. The Royals went 9-2 this past year.

He loved being part of the turnaround at Jay, which was a combined 4-15 in 2021 and 2022 before getting on track. "It was great helping to set up the winning culture," Harp said. "We helped lay the foundation for the future." Harp hopes to play center in college, though he's capable of playing a variety of positions on the field. "I'm like a Swiss Army knife when it comes to

fat boy positions," Harp said with a laugh. "I can play anywhere on the offensive line, some defense and long snap. But I really want to play center (in college)." Harp has been playing football since second grade and loves how a team thrives when the offensive line is clicking. "You know you are winning the game if the line is doing good," Harp said. "You don't get your name called a

lot, and we are aware of that, but you know the team is doing well if you are doing your job." Harp is joining a Lighthouse team that will be in its second year as a program. The Makos were 8-0 in the regular season in year one. "I know they have a lot of coaches with experience and it's a good situation. I'm ready to play on Saturdays," Harp said.

Wilson stepping up at plate and as leader for Central baseball team

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

Quincy Wilson has been a leader at the plate this season for Central's baseball team. He's hitting over .500 and has played a key role for the Jaguars in their run to the regional tournament. "I'm just working hard and trusting myself and taking what the pitchers give me," Wilson said. Wilson said he's always been a baseball player and loves that sport more than any other. "Oh yeah. It's my favorite sport every time," Wilson said. Heading into the regional tournament this week, Wilson owned a .536 average and had gotten on base more than 60% of the time.

He's also tied for the team lead in stolen bases, utilizing his speed to rack up 14. He's tallied 30 hits while driving in 24 runs for a Central team that is 14-7 and finished as the district runner-up to rival Jay. Central and Jay were scheduled to begin a Ru-



Photo by Brian Lester

Quincy Wilson leads the way at the plate for the Jaguars this year.


ral Regin 1 regional tournament series starting Monday. As for Wilson, with the way things have gone for him at the plate this year, it's no surprise. "I love hitting. It's my favorite part of the game," Wilson said.

Wilson said he's also done his best to step up as a leader this year. "I feel like I am a lot better as a leader. Last year, I was at a new school and just trying to play my game. This year, I've led a lot more," Wilson said. And while baseball can

be a challenging game, he doesn't mind. "It's a game of inches and it's a hard game. You have to be okay with failure. If you do that, you'll be fine," Wilson said. While he has yet to commit to a school, he is hoping to play at the college

level and is confident he can bring a lot to the table. "I'm going to play hard every time," Wilson said. "I love being in the batting cages and working in the weight room. Anything baseball related that's going to make me a better player, I'm going to do it."

 Presents **MHS Athlete of the Week**

 <p><i>Lexi Hawthorne</i></p> <p>Sports: Softball, basketball and volleyball</p> <p>Class: 2025</p> <p>Parents: Gary and Stephanie</p>	<p>Plans after graduation: Play softball at Coastal Alabama and study business</p>	<p>What is the best part about being an athlete? Traveling, winning and friends</p>
	<p>Dream Job: Accountant</p>	<p>Favorite Sports Memory: Playing for Team Canada</p>
	<p>Favorite TV Show: "Gossip Girls"</p>	<p>Who is the funniest teammate on your team? Emma</p>
	<p>Favorite Movie: "Blind Side"</p>	<p>What is your biggest strength as an athlete? Ability to stay positive and be a leader no matter what</p>
	<p>Favorite Store: Target</p>	<p>If you could be a pro athlete for a day, who would you be? Janae Jefferson</p>



Lexi Hawthorne

Pace baseball team gets playoff series rolling with big win



The Patriots celebrate Grant Walters' home run.



Tucker Ricks got the win in Game 1, striking out 12 for the Patriots.



Glenn Brooks swings at a pitch and got on base before scoring off a home run by Grant Walters.



Madox Land bats in Game 1 of three-game series against Oviedo.

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

Glenn Brooks racked up a big hit with one out, and moments later, he was on his way home after Grant Walters crushed a two-run home run, the delighted crowd cheering.

Brooks paused for a moment to watch the ball soar out of sight as Pace surged ahead 3-0 against Oviedo in a momentum-swinging fifth inning last Wednesday night.

Pace scored five runs in the frame and went on to beat the Lions 6-0 in Game 1 of a best-of-three Region

1-6A quarterfinal series at Pace.

"It was awesome," Brooks said. "Having that one-two punch makes a big difference," Brooks said.

There was a celebration at home plate once Walters came home, leaping up to celebrate with teammates, and head coach Jason McBride said that moment changed everything.

"It was huge," McBride said. "You could tell when he hit it that it was one of those moments where everyone settles in, and stuff starts going your way. When Glenn and Grant come up to the plate, it's always good."

The second-ranked team in the state and the No. 2 seed for the regional, Pace (21-4) won its eighth in a row and cranked out seven hits against the Lions (12-16), who came in on a six-game win streak.

Walters led the way with three hits for the Patriots, who got a 1-0 lead in the first on Bryce Hatton's base hit and didn't score again until the fifth.

"I thought we were having good at-bats. We were hitting the ball. We just hit right at them or had some close calls at the plate. That's just how it goes," McBride said. "We finally got some

pressure on them and got some things going our way to break it open."

Brooks, one of the senior leaders on this squad, said he has a ton of confidence in this offense.

"I feel like we are firing on all cylinders," Brooks said. "This is the most confident I have ever been in a lineup. I'm excited about what's ahead."

Tucker Ricks did his part, too, giving the Patriots what they needed on the mound in a playoff opener. He worked 6 1/3 innings, giving up just three hits and striking out 12.

He was asked if this game

felt different because it's the start of a series rather than a one-game scenario.

For Ricks, it didn't matter. "For me, it wasn't any different. I'm only pitching one game anyway, so I just went out and gave the best start that I could," Ricks said.

Ricks saw his pitch count rise a bit in the third after retiring the first six batters he faced, but he overcame those struggles and went back to work.

"I felt my control wasn't there early. I threw way too many pitches," Ricks said. "I think I was at 50 after three. But I honed it back in and did my best."

McBride was impressed. "He's been so good for us. All he does is pound the strike zone and makes the other team try to beat you," McBride said. "He's a competitor."

Pace (22-4) won Game 2 on Thursday at home by a 7-0 score, and advanced to the semi-final round against Toco Creek.

The Patriots are hoping the strong start is a sign of things to come as they take aim at their first trip to state since 2022.

"It's a long process. You just have to stay focused. One game at a time," Ricks said.

A look at automatic qualifiers for the Region 1-1A track meet

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

The Region 1-1A track meet is slated for May 3 at Pine Forest in Pensacola. The top four athletes from the April 17 district meet at Baker have punched a ticket to the regional.

Among the athletes competing is Central's Callie Posey, who won the district title in the javelin with a throw of 100-feet-10-inches.

Central's James Allen also won a district title last month, claiming one in the discus with a throw of 134-8.

Automatic Regional Qualifiers (Place is based on finish at district meet)

- Girls**
High Jump: 2. Emma Posey, Central, 4-9 3/4; 4. Lakin Mathews, Central, 4-9 3/4
Long Jump: 4. Amaya Allen, Central, 14-11 1/2
Discus: 4. Julia Campbell, Central, 85-5
Javelin: 1. Callie Posey, Central, 100-10
Shot Put: 4. Julia Campbell, Central, 27-8
100 Hurdles: 3. Callie Posey, Central, 17.18
400 Relay: 3. Central (Amaya Allen, Kesley Campbell, Gabriella Magdalena, Natalia Magdalena), 59.93

- 400:** 4. Abigail Persichini, Central, 1:02.98
1600 Relay: 4. Central (Abigail Persichini, Lakin Mathews, Gabriella Magdalena, Maggie Rose White), 4:38.67
Boys
High Jump: 3. Levi Blackman, Jay, 5-7 3/4
Discus: 1. James Allen, Central, 134-8; 4. Keaton Henry, Central, 121-9
3200 Relay: 3. Jay (Ramsey Reaves, Hunter deGraaf, Adrian Stamper, Braden Adams), 9:03.95
100: 2. Grayson Shehan, Jay, 11.36
400 Relay: 3. Jay (Dolan Enfinger, Braydon Nowling, Brady Godwin, Grayson Shehan), 46.27

TEAM BRUCE BAKER, MBA
RE/MAX INFINITY

Presents

PHS Athlete of the Week

Grant Wise

Sports: Weightlifting and football

Class: 2026

Parents: Ty and Mary

Plans after graduation:
Attend Clemson to play football

Dream Job:
Play in the NFL or be an athletic trainer

Favorite TV Show:
"The Simpsons"

Favorite Movie:
"Tombstone"

Favorite Store: Bass Pro Shops

What is the best part about being an athlete?
Seeing the team succeed and building relationships

Favorite Sports Memory:
Winning an individual state championship in weightlifting

Who is the funniest teammate on your team?
Gavin Bush

What is your biggest strength as an athlete?
Overcoming adversity

If you could be a pro athlete for a day, who would you be?
Creed Humphrey

Grant Wise

Get all your local sports here.

Subscribe to the Santa Rosa Press Gazette
850-623-2120
srpressgazette.com

Team Bruce Baker, MBA - RE/MAX Infinity • 850-449-0365 • www.brucebakermba.com

Pace beach volleyball team sees a lot of growth in year two of program



Liv Riffell goes up and hits the ball in a district tournament match in Fort Walton Beach.

Photos by Brian Lester



Cambree Klein dives to keep the ball in play.



Anna Musgrove sets the ball in a district tourney match against Arnold last Tuesday.



Dani Burton keeps the ball in play against Arnold.

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

Pace's beach volleyball team just missed out on a trip to the championship match of the District 1-2A tournament last week at the Fort Walton Beach Recreation Center.

The Patriots topped Arnold in their district opener last Tuesday but lost to Crestview in the semifinal round on Wednesday.

Still, overall, it's been a good year for Pace, which is expected to get a regional tournament berth for the first time.

"It's been a good experience and there's been a lot of growth for us as a team," Pace head coach Cody Trimm said. "We've gotten a lot better this year. I'm happy with the growth of our kids and the work we have put in."



Marley Manning celebrates a point with teammate Cambree Klein.



Harper Cooley makes a play on the court in a match against Arnold.

This is year two of Pace's beach volleyball program and the Patriots won eight games in the regular season.

Though their district tourney run ended in the semifinals again, Trimm believes the team took another step forward.

"I don't feel like we took a step back. Everyone has

gotten better this season. We've seen a lot of improvement."

Liv Riffell, who is only a freshman, has enjoyed being part of the program and playing a part in the team's success.

"I'm just honored to be on the team. It's so much fun," Riffell said.

One of the keys to suc-

cess, according to Riffell, is the environment of the program. A lot of positivity envelops it.

"The culture," Riffell said. "Everyone supports each other, and that can be a rare thing to find sometimes. It's a good place to be."

Pace added additional courts this season, allowing for home matches and more

opportunities for practice. "Having the courts is huge. It's really big for us," Trimm said. "Kids were able to get more experience, more reps and more time to play. It's good for the program."

Pace went into the district tourney ranked fifth in the region and 15th in the state. Earning a regional bid

is a big deal. "The girls get to be another pressure type situation and that always helps you get better as a player," Trimm said.

Riffell said it's neat knowing this year's team has helped raise the bar.

"We've set a new standard and hope to keep it going in the future," Riffell said.

Milton's baseball season comes to an end in regional quarterfinal round

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

Down only a run after one inning of play, there was hope Milton's baseball team would stun top-ranked Niceville and force a deciding third game in this Region 1-5A quarterfinal series.

But the Eagles being who they are swayed the momentum in their favor once and for all in the second inning, scoring four times to build a lead the Panthers could not overcome.

Five innings later, the season was over on a picture-perfect Thursday night in Okaloosa County. Milton was swept out of the playoffs with a 9-1 loss in Niceville. The Panthers fell 7-3 to the Eagles in the opener one night earlier.

"I thought we came off the bus both nights to play," head coach Keith Little said. "We outhit them (Wednesday). But we didn't have enough tonight to get it done."

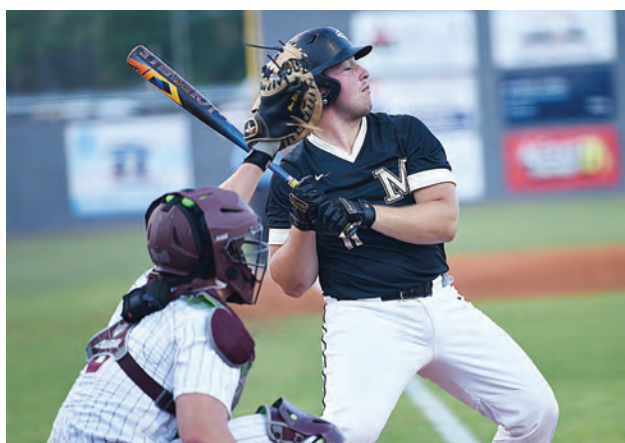
As the Panthers gathered their gear up in the dugout, Niceville players celebrated, slipping and sliding on the outfield grass, which was being sprayed by water from a fire truck behind the fence as sirens went off.

Maybe that celebration doesn't happen if the Panthers get their offense going against the Eagles, who are the No. 1 team in 5A and held a 6-1 lead going to the third.



Sayler Melton was the starting pitcher for the Panthers in Game 2 of a best-of-three playoff series against Niceville.

Photos by Brian Lester



Emmett Battles avoids a pitch inside in Game 2 of a playoff series against the Eagles.

Milton tallied only three hits, with Cade Burdette, Brayden Barrow and Har-

ley Messer each coming up with one. Burdette scored the lone run.

"We wouldn't be the first team in history to come back after giving up six runs in the first two innings. But their pitcher did a good job keeping us off balance. You have to stack things up offensively and put pressure on them, and we didn't do that."

The Panthers led 3-2 after five innings in Game 1 on Wednesday and were confident they could come back and steal the second game.

But Milton only scored one more run over the next nine innings against

Niceville in the series.

"We were close (Wednesday). Six outs away from stealing Game 1 with Sayler going in Game 2," Little said. "You have to keep scoring and we didn't stack up enough offense against them."

Melton worked five innings and struck out three. Four of the seven runs he allowed were earned.

The Panthers finish the year at 10-15, having battled through some key injuries along the way. They stunned No. 2 Gulf Breeze in a district tournament

semifinal and finished as runner-up to Niceville.

That effort was good enough to get them into the playoffs. It just wasn't enough to keep their season going.

Little said he's proud of the effort his team showed this year and said the attention now shifts to the offseason.

"The next 180 days or so are the most important," Little said. "We have to work hard, get more physical. Get faster. That will be the focus in the offseason. Just work to get better."

Jay, Pace and Milton in position to make softball postseason



Carleigh Baker warms up before a game against Pace earlier this season. She's been one of the key players for Jay this season.



Gracie Ueberroth is used to getting on base this season as she is the team's top hitter.



Photos by Brian Lester

The Milton Panthers have turned things around after a tough start to the season.

By Brian Lester
sports@srpressgazette.com

Jay, Pace and Milton wrapped up their regular seasons in softball this past week and are in good shape to make the regional tournament heading into district tourney play.

The Royals and Patriots are atop their respective regions, with Jay No. 1 in Rural Region 1 as well as the state. Reigning state champion Pace is ranked first in Region 1-6A and second in the state while Milton is sixth in Region 1-5A.

The region's top eight teams make the postseason.

Jay

The Royals played only one game last week and that was against Pace. Jay won 17-6 earlier this season over Pace but lost 3-1 in nine innings last Monday.

At 19-2, it's been a stellar year so far for the Royals. In the loss to Pace, Kylei Martinez drove in the lone run.

Jay has a lot of confidence going into the postseason and can lock up the right to be home for the regional tournament with a district championship. If that happens, the road to state goes through Royal country.

Statistically Speaking: Mylee Frazier finished the regular season leading the team in batting average (.510) but was expected to miss a few weeks due to an injury. She has 26 hits, including four home runs, according to the team's latest MaxPreps stats.

Kiley Samford sports a .431 average. She has 22 hits, the second-most on the team, and is tied with Kaylee Gilbreath for the most runs scored (23).

Presley Hawthorne, known for her role as the starting point guard of the Jay girls basketball team, is third in batting average (.364).

Layna Lowry (.362) and Gilbreath (.353) aren't too far behind while Carleigh Baker has proven to be a dangerous hitter near the bottom of the line. She's hitting .333 and has three home runs.

Lowry also leads the way in the circle for the Royals.

Pace

Pace won in nine innings against Jay last Monday, scoring twice in the ninth off a hit by Emma Hicks while Hannah DeMarcus struck out 24 in a 3-1 win.

Against Milton last Wednesday, Pace scored a run in the first and another in the sixth to secure a 2-0 win.

DeMarcus struck out 18

while Gracie Ueberroth's first inning home run gave the Patriots the only run they would need in the win.

Pace finished the regular season 18-3 and hoping to make a fifth straight trip to state. It should be home throughout the regional tourney.

Statistically Speaking: Abby McLean leads Pace with a .433 average. Ueberroth ranks second in batting average (.427) and Lana Gonzales is third (.397).

Ueberroth has a team-high seven home runs and also leads the team in hits (32) and RBIs (26).

Britten Kettler ranks second in runs driven in (16) and also has three home runs. She's batting .283.

In the circle, DeMarcus has struck out more than 300 batters while allowing only 12 runs on 26 hits.

Milton

The Panthers could have folded after dropping their first five games. But instead, they flipped the script and finished the regular season with a 13-11 record.

That success has also put Milton in the discussion for a regional tournament bid. The Panthers are in the top eight of a region that features the top two teams in the state in 5A.

It was big for Milton to hang with Pace late in the season after losing 8-0 the first time around. Chloe Norman, who is only a freshman, struck out 18 in the 2-0 loss.

Milton opened last week by crushing Pine Forest 15-0. Lexi Hawthorne racked up four hits and drove in four runs. Ashlyn Sutton struck out 10.

Ranked No. 14 in the state, Milton likely doesn't

have to win the district title to secure a regional bid. But a championship would probably ensure the Panthers at least one home game.

Statistically Speaking: Hawthorne has been a leader. The senior is batting .382, racking up 29 hits and driving in 18 runs. She has also scored 25 runs.

Adrienne Yoder and Norman are hitting .344 and .326, respectively, and it's worth noting that both players are only freshmen. Savannah Gardner has tallied 20 hits and Faith Cain has 19, ranking second and third, respectively, on the team in that category.

Norman is not only a threat at the plate, but she's been impressive in the circle, recording close to 100 strikeouts on the season.

HEALTHY
LIVING

What is Pilates?



Green Shoot Media

While it may seem like a new trend, Pilates was actually developed in the early 20th century by German physical trainer Joseph Pilates.

He called his method controllogy, though it's more commonly known by his name.

Pilates uses a combination of repetitive exercises to spur muscle exertion. These exercises come from the five es-

entials: breath, cervical alignment, rib and scapular stabilization, pelvic mobility and utilization of the transversus abdominis, a major abdominal muscle.

History

As a child, Pilates had both asthma and rickets and he created his exercise routine from a desire to strengthen his body. As an orderly in World War I hospitals, Pilates began to therapeutically

move non-ambulatory soldiers, and doctors noticed those soldiers recovered more quickly. He brought his method to the U.S. in 1923.

How to do Pilates

Pilates exercises are either done on a mat, using gravity to help stabilize the core, or on a specialized machine called a reformer. On the reformer, varying resistance to movement is provided via light springs and

pulleys. In both methods, body weight is the main resistance used. Changes in body position can challenge participants as fitness levels increase. Participants are encouraged to focus on breathing and concentration during exercise.

Does it work?

There have been few studies on how or even whether Pilates works, but an article in the journal *Muscle, Ligaments*

and Tendons says there is "cautious support" for Pilates' ability to improve flexibility, abdominal and pelvic stability, and muscle activity.

Healthline reports Pilates practice can also have a positive effect on depression and back pain, improve posture and even prevent injuries. By focusing on breath, Healthline also says the routine can improve cardiorespiratory capacity.

Finding a class

You can choose a studio that focuses solely on Pilates, or you can find a class at a gym near you. You may also be able to practice at home just using a mat. Whichever option you choose, speak to a doctor before starting a new workout routine and stick with it. Try having a workout buddy to hold you accountable and help you stick to your practice and achieve your fitness goals.



Raising magnesium intake helps with bigeminy heartbeat

Dear Dr. Roach: Several months ago, I developed a case of a bigeminy heartbeat, so my cardiologist prescribed metoprolol. At about the same time, I had reduced my intake of magnesium from about 50% of the daily value (DV) to 35%. (This may have preceded the bigeminy onset.)

Quite by accident, I read an article recommending magnesium for a heart arrhythmia. Within a week or so of reading the article, I started magnesium gluconate at 100% of the DV. I have been taking this and metoprolol for about a month, and my condition has improved about 95%.

The question is: How can we tell if shorting down the magnesium to 35% was actually the cause and increasing it to 100% was the cure? -- L.R.

Answer: Bigeminy,

more precisely ventricular bigeminy, is a term most people probably haven't heard of, but most people have heard of a premature ventricular contraction (PVC). Ventricular bigeminy is when every other beat is a PVC and alternates with regular beats.

While this rhythm can happen in people without any heart disease or risk factors, your cardiologist will have considered many underlying causes such as excess alcohol use, anemia, low oxygen levels, and thyroid disease. A beta blocker like metoprolol is usually the first drug that is used as beta blockers reduce adrenalin levels, reduce the oxygen needs of the heart, and are proven to be effective at reducing the number of PVCs.

A low magnesium level is another risk factor for PVCs and ventricular bigeminy, and there are case reports of the rhythm going away completely with magnesium. So, while we can't be sure whether your bigeminy was caused by a low magnesium level, the story is suggestive that it's a real possibility.

I don't recommend taking magnesium except in people who have low levels, but 100% of the DV

of magnesium is quite safe to take.

Dear Dr. Roach: I am a 76-year-old female who weighs 112 pounds. I am 5 feet, 4 inches tall, and in good health. I walk 40 minutes to 1 hour over a very hilly course five days a week and do strength training two days a week. I was just diagnosed with osteoporosis, with my risk of a major osteoporosis fracture being 12.6% and my risk of a hip fracture being 3.8%, according to FRAX.

I have Barrett's esophagus that is monitored every three years and take 20 mg of omeprazole for it. I also take 2,000 IU of vitamin D daily and try to eat a high-calcium diet. My only other medication is 50 mg of trazodone for sleep. I have no other medical problems.

My primary doctor wants to put me on medication for osteoporosis. Given my situation, which medication would you recommend? -- P.C.

Answer: The FRAX score is a way of combining a person's measured bone density with clinical risk factors like age, sex and weight to provide an estimate of the fracture risk. Most authorities recommend treatment when

the risk of a major osteoporotic fracture is greater than 20% or the risk of a hip fracture is greater than 3%. Your primary doctor is following the published literature. (I will note that a revised calculator called the FRAXplus includes additional risk factors and can be found at FRAXplus.org/calculation-tool/.)

Omeprazole, the medicine you take for Barrett's, protects your esophagus

but can cause poor absorption of calcium, which may be an additional risk factor for you. Because of your Barrett's, the normal first-line treatments (oral bisphosphonates) are not recommended. Instead, intravenous bisphosphonates such as zoledronic acid once a year are the standard recommendation.

Denosumab is another option, but people need to stay on this medication

long-term because, unlike bisphosphonates, bone loss occurs rapidly after stopping it.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

(c) 2025 North America Synd., Inc.

All Rights Reserved

Be careful, reading
Santa Rosa Press Gazette
could make you become aware.

subscribe today

Santa Rosa Press Gazette

850-623-2120

or srpressgazette.com

FOR THE RECORD

SRC BUSINESS LICENSES

■ 4/17/25 - Christopher N. Dador, Dadors of Success LLC, Service, 5476 Rowe Trail, Pace, FL 32571 US

■ 4/17/25 - Jacob Knoth, JMHK Homes LLC, Contractor, 3632 Berry Patch Ln., Pace, FL 32571-6324 US

■ 4/17/25 - Lindsey Loyed, L and M Tech Repair LLC, Service, 1813 Praline Ln., Cantonment, FL 32533-8464 US

■ 4/17/25 - Shyann Piwonski, Partners Family Medical Practice and Recovery Center, Professional, 4453 Hwy 90, Pace, FL 32571 US

■ 4/17/25 - Shane Colvin and Daniel Tolbert, Phoenix Green Solutions LLC, Service, 5602 Hearn St., Milton, FL 32570 US

■ 4/18/25 - Ashley Kilby, Dental Care at Forest Crossing, Professional, 5877 Dogwood Dr., Milton, FL 32570-3546 US

■ 4/18/25 - Thomas Delvecchio, Quixotic Ventures, Retail Sales, 5568 Woodbine Rd #2, Pace, FL 32571-8766 US

■ 4/21/25 - Cody Catnach, Service, 5228 McCallister t., Milton, FL 32583-3409 US

■ 4/21/25 - Kelly Kilbarger and Joyce Caughorn, Hot Southern Mess Holdings LLC, Service, 2420 Ten Mile Rd., Pace, FL 32571 US

■ 4/22/25 - Brake Electric LLC, Contractor, 3171 Bernath Dr., Milton, FL 32583-8454 US

■ 4/22/25 - Steven D. Williams Jr., Steven Williams Pressure Washing and Tractor Work, Service, 4894 Tealwood Dr., Pace, FL 32571 US

■ 4/22/25 - Daniel Land, Grey Man Armory II LLC, Service, 5579 Stewart St., Milton, FL 32570 US

■ 4/22/25 - Austin Shelton, Shelton Soil & Density LLC, Service, 3585 Gardenview Rd., Pace, FL 32571 US

■ 4/22/25 - Edson J. Ochoa Sanchez, Victory Auto Detailing LLC, Service, 35643 Wilder Rd., Cantonment, FL 32533 US

■ 4/22/25 - Brian Harris, Harris Aviation Services, Professional, 5922 Ridgeview Dr., Milton, FL 32570 US

■ 4/23/25 - Donald Bellonoski, Curb Appeal Exterior House ad Pressure Washing, Service, 6060 Kassandra Ln., Gulf Breeze, FL 32563-9793 US

■ 4/23/25 - Karah J. Knowles, Southern and Sweet, Retail Sales, 4375 Highway 4, Jay, FL 32565 US

■ 4/23/25 - Comfortable Care Dental Health Professionals P.A., Blue Horizon Dental Care, Professional, 4645 Highway 90, Pace, FL 325761-1436 US

■ 4/23/25 - John Dunaway, Dun Deal Fishing Charters LLC, Service, 5852 Pebble Ridge, Milton, FL 32583 US

■ 4/23/25 - Matthew Ryan Young, My Workshop LLC, Service, 5424 Tom Sawyer Rd., Milton, FL 32583 US

King Crossword

ACROSS

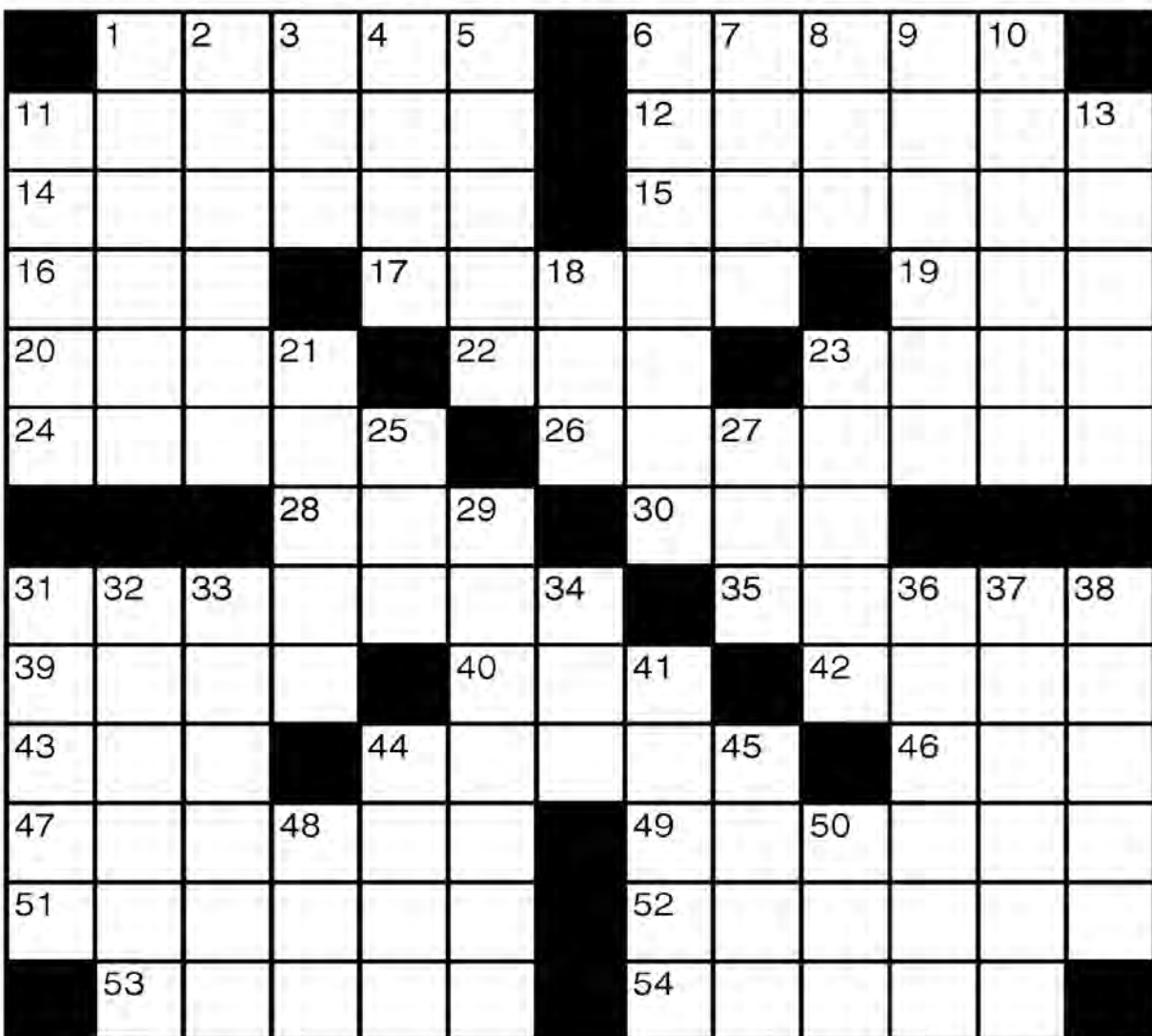
- 1 German sausage
- 6 Hoops great Curry
- 11 More minuscule
- 12 Succeed
- 14 Ridiculous
- 15 Eventually
- 16 Bygone bird
- 17 Valleys
- 19 Pensioned (Abbr.)
- 20 Taking action
- 22 Label
- 23 Corrida bull
- 24 Tennis star Rafael
- 26 Dessert that jiggles
- 28 Violin tuner
- 30 Novelist Deighton
- 31 "The Peasant Dance" painter
- 35 Everglades wader

- 39 Give temporarily
- 40 Lumber unit
- 42 Wrestling style
- 43 "Nasty!"
- 44 Thread holder
- 46 Damage
- 47 South Carolina river
- 49 La Brea attraction
- 51 Oral
- 52 Moving vehicles?
- 53 Ceases
- 54 Garlic crusher

- 9 Christie sleuth
- 10 Arm bones
- 11 Shakespeare's " — of Athens"
- 13 Rockies range
- 18 Trail the pack
- 21 Recorded
- 23 Zesty flavors
- 25 Pants part
- 27 Director Spike
- 29 Smooth writing implements
- 31 Ecstasy
- 32 Summaries
- 33 Detangle
- 34 Brit's restroom
- 36 Ado
- 37 Inbox fillers
- 38 Civil wrongs
- 41 Arose
- 44 Ooze
- 45 Cowardly Lion portrayer
- 48 Ring decision
- 50 Arctic explorer John

DOWN

- 1 Actress Ryder
- 2 Tacit
- 3 Estuary
- 4 Dispatch
- 5 Pick up the tab
- 6 Classic catalog giant
- 7 Catches some rays
- 8 Tolkien creature



© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

MARRIAGES

■ Eugene Richard Myers Jr. to Tricia Marie Brown

■ Bella Luna Zolfagher to Benjamin Harris Bluemel

■ Alyson Lee Helper to Lior Noiman

■ Earl Buckwalter to Elizabeth Leann Simmons

■ Cassidy Lee Patton to Kyle Matthew Sasser

■ Dakota Lee Conner to Whitehurst Jyoti Chenando Reynolds

■ Matthew Cole Kirkner to Jayden Leanne Carter

■ Madison Grace Welch to Matthew Lee Dorfman

■ Kim Bonner Jr. to Adrienne Denys Mitchell

■ Tanner Jayleen Coughlin to Dakota Kai Watson

■ Lacey Amber McKinnon to Jordan Bryor Menefee

■ Steven Eugene Vincent to Angela Dawn Gora

■ Paul Steven Stroud to Lauren Faith Davis

■ Dustin Tyler Bell to Tatum Alexis Salter

■ Leyton Pierce Krohn to Bethany Grace Helen Koontz

■ Sarah Elizabeth Hamrick to Brittany Nicole Willie

■ William Ryan Irwin to Juli Ann Rabia Bowser

■ Larry Wilburn Sager to Rachel Anne Shumpert

■ Jesse Aaro Murray to Diamon Nichole Weekley

■ John Hall Hertel to Ashley Lynn Gillispie

■ Lauren Neomi Edgin to Philip Allen Roberts

■ Damien Eugene McCadney to Alexandra Justine Waters

■ Davena Lynn Gould to Mark Duane Goffinet

■ Crysta Marie Meredith to Devon Martin Michael Barnhart

■ Gwendolyn Denise Calloway to Ronald Shella Albritton

■ Jessica Katharine Martens to Shawn Matthew Bradley

■ Jessica Anne Toole to Anthony Frederick Gonzalez

■ Nicole Maegen Bouvlin to Nicholas Isac Gonzalez

■ Lori Gregory Annen to Jeffrey David Frantz

■ Lauren Marie Brooks to Nickolas Clifford Anderson

■ Steven Christopher Roland to Montanna Rose Allgood

■ Kirsten Celeste Patterson to Anthony James Melino

■ Jaden Rose Litton to Evan Daniel Bassham

■ Stephany Kathleen Heath to Brandon Henry Ingram

■ Jared Brandon Dawkins to Kaidin Grace Jackson

■ Sarah Michelle Winter to Robert Elliot Jones

Weekly SUDOKU

		7	9			8		1
		9				5	3	2
		2		1				6
	8							
9	2		4	7				
1	7	5	6	3	2	9		
2	5							8
7			2	5	4	1	6	3
			7	8	3			9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Squirm
- GIFTED
- Stifle
- KOCHE
- Empty
- REBARN
- Motive
- ACUSE














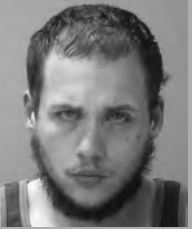
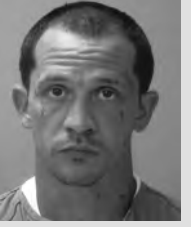


























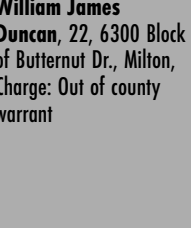
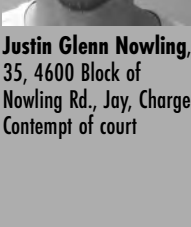

TODAY'S WORD



"You'd think the _____ would WANT to cool off on a hot day!"

ARRESTS OF NORTH SANTA ROSA COUNTY RESIDENTS

Arrest and incident reports are taken from the information released from law enforcement agencies. Charges or citations reported in the Santa Rosa Press Gazette do not imply guilt. Guilt is determined by the courts. Information on this page is public information. Names on arrest records will not be withheld by request for any reason. Every effort is made to provide accurate information. If an error in the named charge occurs, Santa Rosa Press Gazette will correct the named charge in a future publication when it is brought to our attention. Juveniles are named only if the arrest involved a felony offense.

<p>April 17</p>  <p>Brittnee Nikole Braden, 30, 6200 Block of Fox Run St., Milton, Charge: DUI</p>	<p>April 18</p>  <p>Santonio Omar Allen, 20, 7200 Block of Johnson Rd., Milton, Charges: Aggravated battery with domestic violence, aggravated assault with domestic violence, possession of a weapon, battery with domestic violence</p>	<p>April 18</p>  <p>Kenneth Wayne Touchstone, 65, 4300 Block of Pine Villa Cir., Pace, Charge: Battery with domestic violence</p>	<p>April 18</p>  <p>Monte R. Tredway, 69, 5900 Block of Happy Hollow Dr., Milton, Charge: DUI</p>	<p>April 20</p>  <p>Jacey Nichols Brazelton, 31, 4500 Block of Gainer Ave., Milton, Charges: Battery with domestic violence, neglecting a child, probation violation</p>	<p>April 21</p>  <p>Michelle Lynn Cook, 32, 4400 Block of Belleville Ct., Milton, Charge: Battery with domestic violence</p>	<p>April 22</p>  <p>Charles Dane Blackburn, 31, 6400 Block of Hamilton Bridge Rd., Milton, Charges: Resisting an officer, larceny (x2), fraud/swindling (x2)</p>	<p>April 22</p>  <p>Sherry Lynn Grinolds, 60, 6500 Block of Oak Crest Rd., Milton, Charge: Drug possession</p>
 <p>Justin Lee Bryant, 36, 6800 Block of Hwy 89, Milton, Charge: Probation violation</p>	 <p>Myle Chaim Bayless, 26, 4400 Block of Pine Villa Cir., Pace, Charges: Probation violation (x2)</p>	 <p>Samuel Joseph Weddle, 40, 7700 Block of Rube Pace Rd., Milton, Charge: Withholding support</p>	<p>April 19</p>  <p>Daniel Ronnie Adams, 52, 4400 Block of Church St., Milton, Charges: Moving traffic violation, possession of harmful drugs</p>	 <p>John Wayne Cawthon, 56, 4100 Block of 6th Ave., Pace, Charges: Burglary, larceny</p>	 <p>Adam Matthew Hahn, 36, 4200 Block of Rice Rd., Milton, Charge: Probation violation</p>	 <p>David Lee Kent, 30, 5700 Block of Stewart St., Milton, Charges: Marijuana possession, DUI, resisting an officer</p>	<p>April 23</p>  <p>Christopher Loyce Smith, 33, 4000 Block of Kentwood St., Milton, Charges: DUI, battery with domestic violence, intimidation</p>
 <p>Earl Michael Caminiti, 71, 6500 Block of Park Ave., Milton, Charge: Battery with domestic violence</p>	 <p>Anthony John Lankey, 23, 6400 Block of Eva St., Milton, Charge: Loitering</p>	 <p>Sterling Ray White, 29, 4400 Block of Jensen Ln., Pace, Charge: Battery with domestic violence</p>	 <p>Anthony Robert Krevatas, 27, 3900 Block of Red Bud Ln., Pace, Charges: Arson, larceny, burglary, escape, resisting an officer, possession of burglary tools, carrying a concealed weapon, damage to property with criminal mischief</p>	 <p>Jessica Lee McGaha, 43, 4800 Block of Malay Cir., Milton, Charges: Resisting an officer, drug possession, drug equipment possession</p>	 <p>Marquese Carrell Hunter, 35, 5100 Block of Cora St., Milton, Charge: Moving traffic violation</p>	 <p>Sean Holman Smitha, 52, 54000 Block of Milestone Circle, Milton, Charge: Out of county warrant</p>	 <p>James Wallace Faulkner, 61, 4300 Block of Audiss Rd., Milton, Charge: Drug possession</p>
 <p>John Calvin Hurley, 38, 6600 Block of Ridge Crest Drive, Milton, Charge: Larceny</p>	 <p>Donald Dearn McCall-Moore, 36, 6200 Block of Hamilton Bridge Rd., Milton, Charges: Moving traffic violation (x2)</p>	 <p>John Justin Coburn, 36, 6000 Block of Jesse Allen Road., Milton, Charges: Drug possession, drug equipment possession</p>	 <p>Jason Bruce Landry, 44, 7000 Block of Heath Rd., Milton, Charge: Aggravated battery with domestic violence</p>	 <p>Roger Wayne Smothers, 42, 3100 Block of Tunnel Rd., Milton, Charges: Moving traffic violation, fleeing/eluding the police, amphetamine trafficking, drug equipment possession</p>	 <p>Elleona Susan Caprice Wages, 24, 5100 Block of Cora St., Milton, Charges: Moving traffic violation, obstructing justice</p>	 <p>Clayton John Coffey, 40, 3900 Block of Arthur Ave., Jay, Charge: Resisting an officer</p>	 <p>Dawn Marie Ledet, 55, 5700 Block of Northrop Rd., Milton, Charge: Battery with domestic violence</p>
 <p>Kristina Oreskovich, 54, 3100 Block of Ciralee Ln., Pace, Charges: Probation violation (x2)</p>	 <p>Latoya Charmane Pinkney, 37, 6500 Block of Cedar St., Milton, Charge: Withholding support</p>	 <p>Angelina Rose Cortez, 38, 4300 Block of Santa Villa Dr., Milton, Charges: Drug possession, drug equipment possession</p>	 <p>Sheri Lee Stout, 54, 5500 Block of Holley St., Milton, Charge: Probation violation</p>	 <p>Emily B. Carroll, 29, 6200 Block of Ladera Trl., Pace, Charge: Battery</p>	<p>April 22</p>  <p>William James Duncan, 22, 6300 Block of Butternut Dr., Milton, Charge: Out of county warrant</p>	 <p>Mark Andrew Rohan, 26, 3800 Block of Adams Rd., Pace, Charges: DUI, drug possession, drug trafficking, drug equipment possession</p>	 <p>Justin Glenn Nowling, 35, 4600 Block of Nowling Rd., Jay, Charge: Contempt of court</p>
 <p>Monique Angela Rivera, 48, 5600 Block of Collinswood Dr., Milton, Charge: Animal cruelty</p>	 <p>David Earl Stringer, 39, 2400 Block of Eleanor St., Pace, Charges: DUI, refusal to submit to DUI testing</p>	 <p>Larry Huel Land, 46, 6800 Block of Trammel Drive, Milton, Charges: Larceny, possession of a weapon, fraud/imposition</p>	 <p>Madison Lynn Garcia, 32, 7000 Block of Tylerwood Court, Milton, Charge: Battery</p>	 <p>Darien Lynel Gilbert, 48, 2600 Block of Wildhurst Trail, Pace, Charges: Smuggling contraband, possession of cocaine, DUI, resisting an officer</p>	 <p>William James Duncan, 22, 6300 Block of Butternut Dr., Milton, Charge: Out of county warrant</p>	 <p>Justin Glenn Nowling, 35, 4600 Block of Nowling Rd., Jay, Charge: Contempt of court</p>	 <p>Justin Glenn Nowling, 35, 4600 Block of Nowling Rd., Jay, Charge: Contempt of court</p>

CITY OF MILTON NOTICE OF MEETING

The City of Milton's City Council will meet for a Work Session at 5:30 p.m. and a Regular City Council Meeting Session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 6738 Dixon Street. For further information on the meeting, contact the City Manager's Office at 983-5411.

Melissa Short
Planning Admin. Asst. / Permits Clerk

ML3719

CITY OF MILTON NOTICE OF MEETING

The Community Redevelopment Agency will meet at 5:30 p.m., the City of Milton's City Council will meet in the Executive Session and as the Board of Directors of Sundial Utilities at 5:45 p.m., and The City of Milton's City Council will meet for a Work Session at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 6738 Dixon Street. For further information on the meeting, contact the City Manager's Office 983-5411. All meetings are open to the public.

Melissa Short
Planning Admin. Asst. / Permits Clerk

ML3720

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Milton's Planning Department has scheduled the following meetings in May 2025 at City Hall, 6738 Dixon Street, Milton, FL 32570.

<p>Historic Preservation Board Milton Planning Board LEAP Community Improvement Board</p>	<p>Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>in Council Chambers in Council Chambers in Conference Room A in Council Chambers</p>
---	---	---

All meetings are open to the public. If you would like additional information concerning any of these meetings contact the Planning Dept at (850) 983-5440.

ML3718

Be careful, reading
Santa Rosa Press Gazette
could make you
become aware.

subscribe today
Santa Rosa Press Gazette
850-623-2120
or srpressgazette.com

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF LAND USE AND INTENT TO CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE

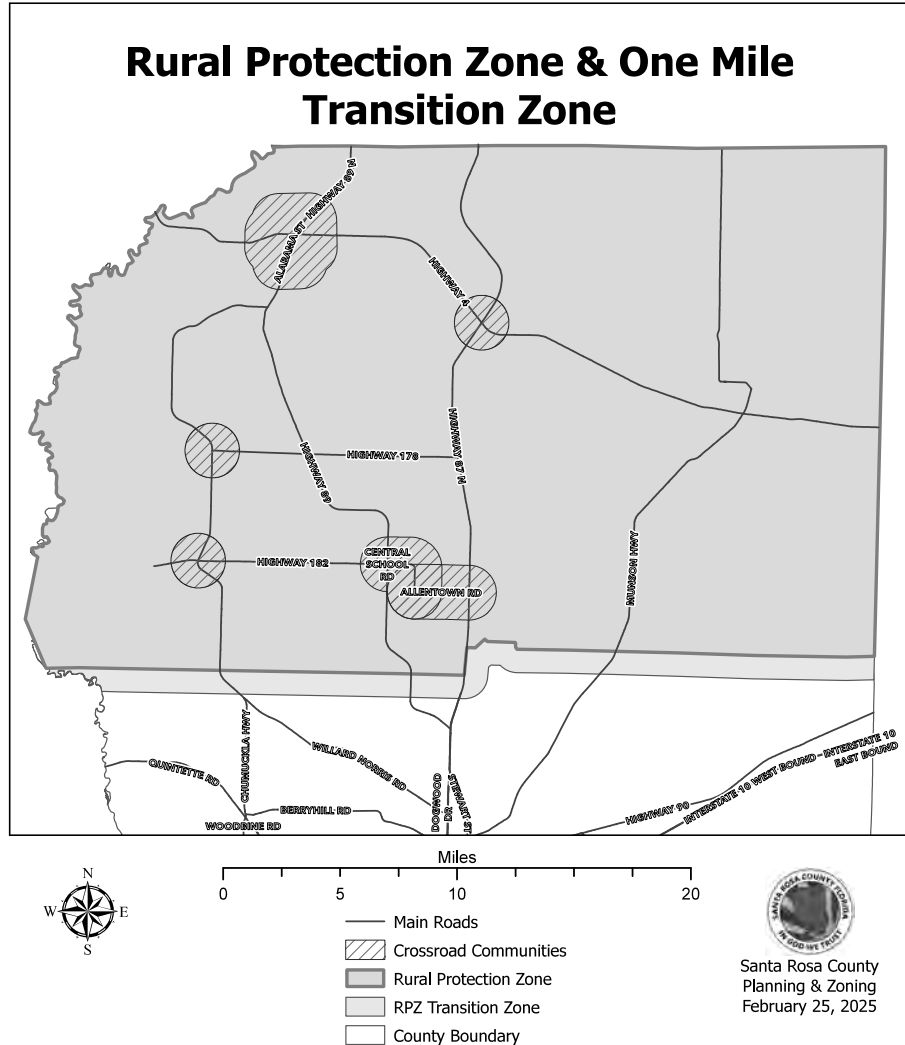
The Santa Rosa County Zoning Board and Board of County Commissioners will conduct public hearings to consider a change of land use and/or rezoning of land areas depicted on the maps within this advertisement. The hearings are scheduled as follows:

Board of County Commissioners (to consider adoption of the ordinance):
Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 9:00 A.M.

The Board of County Commissioners meeting will be held at the Santa Rosa County Administrative Center in the Board Meeting Room, 6495 Caroline Street, Milton, Florida. At the public hearings, the Zoning Board and Board of County Commissioners shall consider the ordinances entitled:

Ordinance 1:

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING ORDINANCE 21-19 AS AMENDED; AMENDING LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE CHAPTER 7.05.01; REPEAL AND REPLACING THE RURAL PROTECTION ZONE MAP AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WITH THE RURAL PROTECTION PLAN AS DEPICTED IN THE ATTACHED MAP; AMENDING ORDINANCE 2021-13; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



The proposed ordinance and map may be inspected by the public prior to the above scheduled meetings at the Santa Rosa County Planning Department, 6051 Old Bagdad Highway, Milton, Florida. The agenda and backup documentation will be available via the Meetings & Agendas Page of the County's website at www.santarosa.fl.gov approximately 1 week prior to each scheduled meeting. Interested parties may appear at the meetings and be heard with respect to this proposed ordinance. All interested parties should take notice that if they decide to appeal any decision made by the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter coming before said Board at said meeting, it is their individual responsibility to insure that a record of proceedings they are appealing exists and for such purpose they will need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record shall include the testimony and the evidence upon which their appeal is to be based.

Santa Rosa County adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act and will make reasonable modifications for access to this meeting upon request. Please call Santa Rosa County Planning, Zoning and Development Division at (850) 981-7086 to make a request. For the Hearing-Impaired, 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). Requests must be received at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in order to provide the requested service.

ML3721

INCIDENTS

Navarre teen snatches Lulu Lemon wristlet from locker room

Angie Alvarez Martinez, 18, is facing a larceny charge after she allegedly took a Lulu Lemon wristlet from the girl's locker room at Navarre High School April 1.

According to Alvarez Martinez's arrest report, she noticed the wristlet on the ground and took it. The victim, another student at the school, told the Sheriff's Office she left her backpack in the girl's locker room during fifth period. When she went back to retrieve her possessions, she noticed the wristlet had been removed from the bag.

The wristlet had \$30 cash inside it.

The victim soon received text messages from Alvarez Martinez which included a picture of the wristlet with Angie's name written on it. The victim told Alvarez Martinez she would notify law enforcement of the theft and Alvarez Martinez reportedly said "good luck."

The victim's father said he wished to press charges.

On April 3, a Sheriff's deputy met with a witness who said she had met with Alvarez Martinez after school and was told by Alvarez Martinez that she had the victim's wallet. The witness was given the wallet as Alvarez Martinez was aware law enforcement was involved.

The witness gave the wallet to the deputy, who returned it to the victim. On April 8, a deputy made contact with Alvarez Martinez over the phone. She confirmed she was at school April 1 and saw the wristlet on the floor of the locker room and took it.

Alvarez Martinez said she took it as she thought it belonged to her. She said the wristlet was empty when she took possession of it. Following the interview, the

agency requested an arrest warrant for Alvarez Martinez. She was booked into county jail April 11.

Pace man arrested after wrestling keys away from wife, holding her down in chair

Benny Enfinger, 76, of Pace, was arrested and charged with Battery with Domestic Violence following an altercation with his wife.

According to Enfinger's arrest report, a Santa Rosa County Sheriff's deputy responded to disturbance complaint April 12 at the 8100 block of Tidwell Road. Upon arriving, the deputy spoke with the victim, who informed him that Enfinger was her husband of 39 years and was recently diagnosed with dementia. Enfinger has been advised not to drive due to his diagnosis.

At 11:50 a.m. April 12, Enfinger exclaimed that he wished to use his wife's car to drive to Home Depot. His wife told him he wasn't allowed to drive and couldn't use the car.

Enfinger argued with his wife as she walked back into a bedroom. The verbal altercation turned physical with Enfinger grabbing his wife's wrist and shoving her down into a chair. He held his wife down in the chair while reaching for the keys, which were in her hand.

The altercation continued with Enfinger placing his hand around his wife's neck and applying pressure. His wife told the deputy she didn't feel he was attempting to hinder her breathing but this action caused her to release her grasp of the keys.

Enfinger grabbed the keys, pushed his wife back in the chair and exited the home. He got into the vehicle and left the scene. The deputy also spoke with the victim's grandson, who provided a witness statement,

in which he gave a similar account to her.

Law enforcement later located Enfinger at Pace Church of Christ and arrested him. Enfinger provided that he engaged in a verbal altercation with his wife but didn't elaborate.

Woman who used bug control spray on husband in 2022 arrested

Francesca Wunderle, 25, is charged with Battery with Domestic Violence for allegedly spraying Cutter brand bug control spray on her husband. She was booked into Santa Rosa County Jail April 14.

According to her warrant report, Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a residence on Ranney Drive in Navarre in reference to a physical disturbance on Oct. 7, 2022. The husband said he arrived home and noticed Wunderle was on the bed of their camper, asleep.

While sitting in the living room and watching TV, the husband said Wunderle came out of the bedroom, unplugged the TV and asked why he would not talk to her.

According to the husband, the two had not been getting along for a few months prior to the incident.

Upset with her husband for not talking with her, she went to the pantry and grabbed Cutter brand bug control spray and sprayed her husband with it. The spray got on his arm and face. As he called 911, Wunderle left the residence in her vehicle.

The deputy on scene, as well as others, attempted to contact and search for Wunderle throughout Navarre but to no avail. A warrant was issued for her arrest. Three years later, she was booked into Santa Rosa County Jail. She has since been released.

**Tappie A. Villane
 Santa Rosa County Supervisor of Elections
 reminds you of the
 DEADLINE TO REGISTER**

Supervisor of Elections, Tappie A. Villane, hereby gives Notice the Santa Rosa County voter registration books will close on Monday, May 12, 2025, for registration to be eligible to vote in the Special Election that will be held on June 10, 2025.

Regular business hours for the main office located at 6495 Caroline St, Milton are Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30.

Beginning on April 28, 2025, regular business hours for the South Annex located at 5841 Gulf Breeze Pkwy, Gulf Breeze will be Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30.

New registrations may be completed by visiting votesantarosa.gov and selecting Register to Vote. Mailed forms **must be** postmarked by May 12, 2025.

ML3722

Consumer Cellular®

**BIG WIRELESS
 COVERAGE, WITHOUT
 BIG WIRELESS COST.**

Plans start at just \$20/month.

Switch & Save Today.

844-522-2413

© 2024 Consumer Cellular Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. Plans shown above include \$5 credit for AutoPay and E-billing. Taxes and other fees apply. Credit approval required for new service. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations.

**Loud,
 Clear,
 FREE!**

Clarity Caption Phone

Hello. This is John.

NO internet connection needed!

The attached captioning tablet provides free, landline-based caption calling, and the cordless phone provides amplification!

- Amplifies up to 50 decibels
- Multiple volume & tone settings
- Slow down incoming speech option
- Built-in answering machine

Easy to Qualify:

- Florida Resident
- Over the age of 3
- Have a Hearing Loss or Speech Disorder

Apply by Phone:
800-222-3448

See more options at:
ftri.org/products

Apply Online:
FTRI.ORG/FREE

Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc.

800-222-3448
www.ftri.org

RFCAP25

LEGALS

Additional legal notices may be accessed on sprssgazette.com and the statewide legal notice website.

-1-
LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA Case No. DR-2024-901249.00 IN RE: GRAND PARENTS RIGHTS JENNIFER CRUIKSHANK Plaintiff Vs. CHARITY JUSTINA BURDITT Defendant NOTICE Defendant, CHARITY JUSTINA BURDITT, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer Plaintiff's, JENNIFER CRUIKSHANK, GRAND PARENTS RIGHTS and other relief by JUNE 06, 2025 or thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him or her in the above styled case, No. DR-2024901249.00, Circuit Court of Baldwin County. Done the 28th, day of MARCH, 2025. /s/ BRENDA Q. GANEY BRENDA Q. GANEY Clerk of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, AL MCCONNELL LYNN FARLEY P.O. BOX 215 FAIRHOPE AL, 36533 ML3682

File #: 2025007 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT RICCARDO MARINO, holder of the following Tax Sale Certificate has filed said Tax Certificate for the Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Certificate Number and year of Issuance, the Description of the property, and Name(s) in which it is assessed is as follows: Certificate Number: 1900903 Year of Issuance: 2019 Description of Property: OLLINGER TRACT SE DIAGONAL 1/2 OF LOT 2 BLK 72 AS DES IN OR 1606 PG 667 & OR 3307 PG 1772 Parcel ID: 11-1N-28-2920-07200-0020 Name in which Assessed: PATRICIA WHITFIELD ET AL All of the above property is located in Santa Rosa County, In the state of Florida. Unless such certificate(s) shall be redeemed according to the law the property described in such certificate(s) will be sold to the highest bidder online at www.santarosa.realtaxdeed.com on the 05/19/2025 at 12:00 noon CT, by Jason D. English, Esq, Santa Rosa County Clerk of Courts & Comptroller. ML3687

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA IN THE INTEREST OF: H.J.F. IV (DOB: 12/03/2023) Minor Child Case No.: 2024 DP 003 NOTICE OF ACTION (TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS) TO: Veronica Perez, mother and Hal Fuller III,

-1-
LEGALS

father Address Unknown YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families, has filed a Petition to terminate your parental rights and permanently commit the following child for adoption: H.J.F. IV (DOB: 12/03/2023). A copy of the Petition is on file with the Clerk of the Court. You are hereby commanded to appear on June 3, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. before the Honorable Steven C. Warrick, Juvenile Division, at the Santa Rosa County Courthouse, 4025 Avalon Blvd, Courtroom 2D, Milton, FL 32583, for an ADVISORY HEARING. FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THIS NOTICE. 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: Court Administration, ADA Liaison; Santa Rosa County, 4025, Milton, FL 32583; Phone (850) 623-3159; Fax (850) 982-0602; ADA.SantaRosa@fcourts1.gov, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. WITNESS my hand as Clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 8th day of April 2025. JASON D. ENGLISH, as Clerk of Court By:/s/ Wendy Thompson As Deputy Clerk ML3695

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA IN THE INTEREST OF: G.N.M. (DOB: 02/07/2024) Minor Child Case No.: 2015 DP 044 NOTICE OF ACTION (TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS) TO: Stephanie Morrow Address Unknown YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families, has filed a Petition to terminate your parental rights and permanently commit the following child for adoption: G.N.M. (DOB: 02/07/2024). A copy of the Petition is on file with the Clerk of the Court. You are hereby commanded to appear on May 20, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. before the Honorable Steven C. Warrick, Juvenile Division, at the Santa Rosa County Courthouse, 4025 Avalon Blvd, Courtroom 2D, Milton, FL 32583, for an ADVISORY

-1-
LEGALS

HEARING. FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR AT THIS ADVISORY HEARING CONSTITUTES CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THIS CHILD. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME SPECIFIED, YOU MAY LOSE ALL LEGAL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THIS NOTICE. 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: Court Administration, ADA Liaison; Santa Rosa County, 4025, Milton, FL 32583; Phone (850) 623-3159; Fax (850) 982-0602; ADA.SantaRosa@fcourts1.gov, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. WITNESS my hand as Clerk of said Court and the Seal thereof, this 8th day of April 2025. JASON D. ENGLISH, as Clerk of Court By:/s/ Wendy Thompson As Deputy Clerk ML3695

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: The following storage unit contents containing household and other goods will be for sale by Avid Storage - Surfside, 8202 Navarre Parkway, Navarre FL 32566 to satisfy a lien on May 16, 2025 at approx. 11:00 AM on www.storage treasures.com: 2331: Furniture, Boxes, Totes. ML3709

Notice of Sale Pursuant to Chapter 45 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 57-2022-CA-000275 DIVISION: U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS COLLATERAL TRUST TRUSTEE OF FIRSTKEY MASTER FUNDING 2021-A COLLATERAL TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, OR AGAINST WILLIAM L. ETHERIDGE, DECEASED, et al, Defendant(s). NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 2, 2025, and entered in Case No. 57-2022-CA-000275 of the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit in and for Santa Rosa County, Florida in which U.S. Bank Trust National Associa-

-1-
LEGALS

tion, not in its individual capacity but solely as collateral trust trustee of FirstKey Master Funding 2021-A Collateral Trust, is the Plaintiff and The Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees, or other Claimants claiming by, through, under, or against William L. Etheridge, deceased, Rebecca Etheridge, The Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, Assignees, Lienors, Creditors, Trustees, or other Claimants claiming by, through, under, or against, Jason Lawson Etheridge, deceased, James Turner Etheridge, Sybil McClain, Joleen Etheridge, State of Florida, Santa Rosa County Clerk of the Circuit Court, Brandi M Etheridge, are defendants, the Santa Rosa County Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on online at www.santarosa.realtaxdeed.com, Santa Rosa County, Florida at 11:00AM CST, 12:00PM EST on the May 13, 2025 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure: LOT 13, BLOCK 2, MOSSY OAKS, A SUBDIVISION OF A PORTION OF SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 27 WEST, SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK C, AT PAGE 158, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY. A/K/A 7271 MOSSY OAKS DR NAVARRE FL 32566 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. ALBERTELLI LAW P. O. Box 23028 Tampa, FL 33623 Tel: (813) 221-4743 Fax: (813) 221-9171 EService: servealaw@albertellilaw.com By: /s/ Justin Ritchie Florida Bar #106621 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: Court Administration, ADA Liaison Santa Rosa County 4025 Avalon Blvd Milton, FL 32583 Phone (850) 623-3159 Fax (850) 983-0602 ADA.SantaRosa@fcourts1.gov at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. ML3711

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 25000056CAMXAX NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE

-1-
LEGALS

SERVICING, Plaintiff, vs. GREGORY WILLIAM COATS A/K/A GREGORY W. COATS; NICKELLE COATS; UNKNOWN TENANT(S) IN POSSESSION #1 and #2, Defendant(s). NOTICE OF ACTION TO: GREGORY WILLIAM COATS A/K/A GREGORY W. COATS (Current Residence Unknown) (Last Known Address(es)) 7223 MARTIN ROAD MILTON, FL 32570 144 CAMELLIA CT FREEPORT, FL 32439 NICKELLE COATS (Current Residence Unknown) (Last Known Address(es)) 7223 MARTIN ROAD MILTON, FL 32570 144 CAMELLIA CT FREEPORT, FL 32439 ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES, INCLUDING, IF A NAMED DEFENDANT IS DECEASED, THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, THE SURVIVING SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, CREDITORS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING, BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THAT DEFENDANT, AND ALL CLAIMANTS, PERSONS OR PARTIES, NATURAL OR CORPORATE, OR WHOSE EXACT LEGAL STATUS IS UNKNOWN, CLAIMING UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE NAMED OR DESCRIBED DEFENDANTS (Last Known Address) 7223 MARTIN ROAD MILTON, FL 32570 YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property: COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 29 WEST, SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 52 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION A DISTANCE OF 2384.76 FEET; THENCE DEPART SAID NORTH LINE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 52 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 2108.79 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 500.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 52 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 500.00 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF MARTIN ROAD (RIGHT OF WAY VARIES); THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF 300 FEET; THENCE DEPART SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY NORTH 00 DEGREES 52 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 500 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 300 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PARCEL LYING IN AND BEING A PORT OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 29 WEST, SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA. A/K/A: 7223 MARTIN ROAD, MILTON, FL 32570.

-1-
LEGALS

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Brian L. Rosaler, Esquire, POPKIN & ROSALER, P.A., 1701 West Hillsboro Boulevard, Suite 400, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442., Attorney for Plaintiff, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the (Please publish in Press Gazette) and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. 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: Court Administration, ADA Liaison Santa Rosa County 4025 Avalon Boulevard Milton, FL 32583 Phone (850) 623-3159 Fax (850) 983-0602 ADA.SantaRosa@fcourts1.gov at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. WITNESS my hand and the seal of this Court this 15th day of April, 2025. JASON D. ENGLISH, ESQ. As Clerk of the Court and/or Comptroller /s/ Tammy Jo Brown Signature ML3712

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA. CASE No. 24000132CAMXAX BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST, PLAINTIFF, VS. GORDON STEPHEN ANDERSON, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE(S) UNDER THE THOMPSON LIVING TRUST, DATED JULY 24, 2002, ET AL. DEFENDANT(S). NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 4, 2025 in the above action, the Santa Rosa County Clerk of Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash at Santa Rosa, Florida, on June 3, 2025, at 11:00 AM, at www.santarosa.realtaxdeed.com for the following described property: LOT 6, BLOCK 1, HICKORY SHORES, A SUBDIVISION OF A PORTION OF SECTIONS 22 AND 27, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 28 WEST, ACCORDING TO PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK "A" AT PAGE 50 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property own-

-1-
LEGALS

er as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The Court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein. Tromberg, Morris & Partners, PLLC Attorney for Plaintiff 600 West Hillsboro Boulevard Suite 600 Deerfield Beach, FL 33441 Telephone #: 561-338-4101 Fax #: 561-338-4077 Email: eservice@mpplc.com By: Kyle Melanson, Esq. FBN 1017909 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: Court Administration, ADA Liaison Santa Rosa County 4025 Avalon Blvd. Milton, FL 32583 Phone (850) 623-3159 Fax (850) 983-0602 ADA.SantaRosa@fcourts1.gov at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. ML3716

Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice Spare-Box Storage - S0024 Hammersmith located at 4240 Berryhill Rd. Pace FL 32571 intends to hold a sale to sell the property stored at the Facility by the below list of Occupants who are in default at an Auction. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storageauctions.com on 5/21/25 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Trevor Brown unit #A016; Deborah Carroll unit #CA0053; Deborah Carroll unit #CC0047; Jowanna Johnson unit #G157. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details. ML3717

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2023-CA-000875 ALLIED FIRST BANK, SB DBA SERVBANK, Plaintiff, v. MICHAEL WAYNE WHIDDON, et al., Defendants. NOTICE OF ACTION TO: Tamara K. Elie 9 Webster Street Lisbon ME 04250 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property in Santa Rosa County, Florida: Commencing at the Southeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 26, Township 1 North, Range 29 West, Santa Rosa County, Florida; thence North 89 Degrees 19 Minutes 00 Seconds West a distance

-1-
LEGALS

of 1312.7 feet; thence North 01 Degrees 21 Minutes 30 Seconds East a distance of 1622.00 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 01 Degrees 21 Minutes 30 Seconds East a distance of 175.00 feet; thence North 89 Degrees 19 Minutes 00 Seconds West a distance of 290.4 feet; thence South 01 Degrees 26 Minutes 30 Seconds West a distance of 175.00 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 19 Minutes 00 Seconds East a distance of 290.4 feet to the Point of Beginning. Less the East 25.0 feet and less the North 25.0 feet for road right of way. Being Lot 1-A, Landmark Estate, an unrecorded subdivision. Has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, on Anthony R. Smith, Esquire, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 1201 S. Orlando Ave, Suite 430, Winter Park, FL 32789, on or before thirty (30) days from the date of first publication of this Notice, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; or a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. 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: Court Administration, ADA Liaison, Santa Rosa County, 4025 Avalon Boulevard, Milton, FL 32583, Phone (850) 623-3159, Fax (850) 983-0602, ADA.SantaRosa@fcourts1.gov, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said Court at Santa Rosa County, Florida, this 22nd day of April, 2025. JASON D. ENGLISH, ESQ. a Clerk of the Circuit Court of Santa Rosa County, Florida By: T. Warren DEPUTY CLERK ML3723


TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC. 302 North Oklahoma Street; Bonifay, FL 32425 Tri-County Community Council, Inc., Board of Directors will meet via hybrid format at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at the Head Start Conference Room located at 2499 Cypress Street, Westville, FL 32464. Finance & Head Start Committee meetings will be held at 4:15. For more information please call 1-800-395-2696. ML3724

-1-
LEGALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of Creations of Energy, at 4738 Easter Street, in the County of Santa Rosa, in the city of Pace, Florida, 32571, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Pace, Florida, this 1st day of May 2025. Michael Lee Morrissey, owner, or Corporation full name. ML3725

Invitation to Bid - ITB 2025.06 Russell Harber Dock Repair/Replacement The City of Milton will receive sealed proposals until 2:00 p.m. (CST) on Wednesday, June 04, 2025, at City Hall, 6738 Dixon Street, Milton, FL 32570 for ITB 2025.06 Russell Harber Dock Repair/Replacement Project. Documents and description may be obtained at the City of Milton's website at <https://miltonfl.org/322/Purchasing-Bids>; from the Florida Purchase Alliance at www.BIDNETDIRECT.com; www.DemandStar.com and Office of Supplier Diversity. For additional information, e-mail the City of Milton Purchasing Department, Michele Williams at mwilliams@miltonfl.org. Please be advised that the City Council reserves the right to accept the best submission for the city or reject all submissions. ML3726

-700-
SERVICES



CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, LLC

Specializing in Driveways, Patios, Brick Mailbox, Retaining Walls. Senior & Military Discount. 30 years experience. Licensed & Insured. Call 850-400-0660.

-800-
MISCELLANEOUS

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADS

- Home Improvement/Service Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-888-521-2793
- Home Improvement/Service WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-833-714-3745. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!
- Home Improvement/Service PROTECT YOUR HOME

King Cross Answers

	W	U	R	S	T		S	T	E	P	H	
T	I	N	I	E	R		P	A	N	O	U	T
I	N	S	A	N	E		I	N	T	I	M	E
M	O	A		D	A	L	E	S		R	E	T
O	N	I	T		T	A	G		T	O	R	O
N	A	D	A	L		G	E	L	A	T	I	N
			P	E	G		L	E	N			
B	R	U	E	G	E	L		E	G	R	E	T
L	E	N	D		L	O	G		S	U	M	O
I	C	K		S	P	O	O	L		M	A	R
S	A	N	T	E	E		T	A	R	P	I	T
S	P	O	K	E	N		U	H	A	U	L	S
	S	T	O	P	S		P	R	E	S	S	

Sudoku solution

5	3	7	9	2	6	8	4	1
6	1	9	8	4	7	5	3	2
8	4	2	3	1	5	7	9	6
3	8	4	5	9	1	6	2	7
9	2	6	4	7	8	3	1	5
1	7	5	6	3	2	9	8	4
2	5	3	1	6	9	4	7	8
7	9	8	2	5	4	1	6	3
4	6	1	7	8	3	2	5	9

SCRAMBLERS
solution

- Fidget
- Choke;
- Barren;
- Cause

Today's Word
NEIGHBORS

LEGALS cont.

-1-
LEGALS

from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable.

Call for a quote or inspection today 1-877-644-9799 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

4. Miscellaneous
DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS. Your donation helps fund the search for missing children. Accepting Cars, Trucks and Vans. Fast Free Pickup - Running or Not - Tax Donation - Call 888-815-4341

5. Home Improvement/Service
AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-967-1158

Have zip code of property ready when calling!

6. Medical
ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 866-472-8591.

7. Home Improvement/Service
BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-855-315-1952

8. Wanted to Buy
CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-888-280-1115

9. Wanted to Buy
We Buy Vintage Guitars! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-866-307-5421

Be careful, reading Santa Rosa Press Gazette could make you become aware.
subscribe today
Santa Rosa Press Gazette
850-623-2120
or srpressgazette.com



SPECIAL OFFER

NORTH AMERICA'S **#1 Selling Walk-In Tub** *Featuring our Free Shower Package*

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **FREE Shower Package!**

- ✓ First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY
Call Toll-Free 1-855-709-2133



With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

Call Today for Your Free Shower Package

1-855-709-2133

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT



We deliver your news your way!

SANTA ROSA'S Press Gazette

S E R V I N G N O R T H S A N T A R O S A C O U N T Y

SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE IN PRINT AND ONLINE.



ALL ACCESS

- Printed Paper Mailed Weekly
- 1 Happy Ad 2 x 2
- 2 Classified Ads 20 words or less
- 1 Garage Sale Ad
- Email Alerts With Breaking News
- Online access to daily content on srpressgazette.com
- Digital access to weekly e-edition
- Press Pass Discount Card*
- Annual Subscriber Coupons*
- Tickets to Special Events*
- Access to Online Archives*

\$138 /YR
MORE THAN \$670 VALUE

BASIC

- Printed Paper Mailed Weekly
- Press Pass Discount Card*
- Annual Subscriber Coupons*

\$48 /YR
MORE THAN \$450 VALUE

DIGITAL

- Digital access to weekly e-edition
- Online access to daily content on srpressgazette.com
- Press Pass Discount Card*
- Annual Subscriber Coupons*

\$68 /YR
NO MAILED PAPER

*coming soon

SUBSCRIBE TODAY! 850.623.2120

MEMBERSHIP CHOICE: (PLEASE CHECK ONE)

- ALL ACCESS \$138**
 SENIOR/MILITARY PRICE \$130
- BASIC \$48**
 SENIOR/MILITARY PRICE \$43

- DIGITAL \$68**
 NO MAILED PAPER

MORE OPTIONS COMING SOON

MAILED PAPER

- 3 MONTHS\$28
- 6 MONTHS\$38
- 12 MONTHS (BASIC).....\$48

SENIOR/MILITARY DISCOUNT

If you are a senior citizen (age 65+) or military (active duty or retired), you are eligible for the discounted price. Please check one or the other. On your honor...

- MILITARY** **SENIOR CITIZEN (65+)**

PAYMENT AMOUNT: _____

CARD #: _____

CHECK ENCLOSED VISA MC DISCOVER AMEX

CV CODE: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

NAME: _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

MAIL TO: SANTA ROSA PRESS GAZETTE
7502 HARVEST VILLAGE CT. | NAVARRE, FL 32566