

DECEMBER 2025 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN

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P.O. Box 4323
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32549

OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS
ASSOCIATION

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

There will not be a December 2025 membership meeting. The next meeting will be on January 12, 2026.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

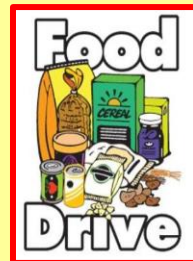
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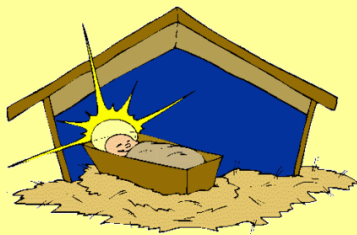
ISLAND FOOD PANTRY DRIVE FOR 2025 STARTS

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
AND RUNS THRU SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 20.**

**DROP YOUR DONATIONS OFF
AT THE FRONT LOBBY OF THE
OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE
STATION– 104 SANTA ROSA
BLVD.**

**THIS YEAR'S
GOAL: 600
LBS!**





MERRY CHRISTMAS

THE OIL LANTERN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND
LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc
P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 3254
Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116
Association Website: www.oilaweb.com
December 2025



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By-Laws of the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association Article 1, Section 3

The general nature of the corporation shall be: to coordinate affairs between leaseholder members and the Board of County Commissioners in their role as heirs to the obligations and privileges of the Okaloosa Island Authority, to preserve the public lands on Santa Rosa Island, Okaloosa County, to advise and assist the county in the application of the protective covenants that affect leasehold members and to advise leaseholders and the public in general in their rights and obligations under said leases.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – Brian Harrington



It is my sincerest wish that everyone spent Thanksgiving weekend feasting, telling stories, and enjoying time spent with cherished friends and family members! And now—as the holiday season approaches, during a quick trip down Santa Rosa Boulevard, I am reminded of why our community is so special. After all, where else can one admire the handcrafted snowflakes & Christmas decorations thoughtfully placed by our volunteers?

Part of what really makes this community exceptional, is the sublime public land on Okaloosa Island.

Recently, the U.S. Department of Interior announced that in 2029-2030 it is proposing to offer oil and gas drilling leases in the eastern section of the Gulf that has previously been off-limits. Several Florida congressmen, including Jimmy Patronis and Neal Dunn, have sent a letter to President Trump urging him to withdraw this area from the proposal.

Okaloosa County Commissioners also unanimously approved sending a letter to the President and legislators opposing oil drilling in the Eastern Gulf. The letter, which Commissioner Ketchel read aloud during last month's BCC meeting, outlines the issues of protecting the environment, the economy, and military readiness, said Ketchel who serves on the Defense Strategic Initiative board. She stated that Eglin "would not stay" if there was drilling since it would "completely ruin the mission field." Additionally, the risk of drilling and a potential disaster, like the 2010 BP oil spill, is not worth it. "Any disruption to the Gulf from oil drilling would risk significant environmental damage, which would have a detrimental effect on tourism and local livelihoods," Commissioner Ketchel stated that "Oil drilling and exploration are incompatible with the unique and sensitive nature of the test range. Any such activities would pose a serious risk to both our national security and our local economy."

OILA is committed to the preservation of public lands for ours—and future generations—to enjoy! We will continue to closely watch as this situation develops. It is my hope that the decision to allow leases in the eastern Gulf is swiftly reversed. As we're not holding a December members' meeting—on behalf of the Board of Directors we hope that you are able to enjoy the holidays with loved ones & that the New Year brings you joy and happiness.

To the American People:

Christmas is not a time or a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and good will, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas. If we think on these things, there will be born in us a Savior and over us will shine a star sending its gleam of hope to the world.

Calvin Coolidge 1927

OILA, One Neighborhood—Stronger Together

ISLAND FOOD PANTRY DRIVE FOR 2025 - DECEMBER 6 TO DECEMBER 20

**STARTING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 THE FIRE
DEPARTMENT WILL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS.
JUST DROP YOUR DONATION OFF IN THE FRONT
ENTRANCE LOBBY!**



**BRING DONATIONS OF NON-PERISHABLE* FOODS AND TOILETRY
ITEMS TO THE OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE STATION DROP OFF SITE.**

**DONATIONS CAN BE MADE 24 HOURS A DAY FROM: SATURDAY,
DEC 6 THROUGH SATURDAY, DEC 20**



*** IN ADDITION TO CANNED FOOD,
NON-PERISHABLES INCLUDE CEREAL, OATMEAL,
GRITS AND PAPER PRODUCTS (DIAPERS, TOILET
PAPER, PAPER TOWELS)**

THIS YEAR'S GOAL IS 600 POUNDS!



**NOVEMBER 2025
RAINFALL
0.1 INCHES**

November 30.....0.1 inches

Nov Avg Rainfall.....**4.1** inches
Variance to Average.....- **4.0** inches

Dec Avg Rainfall**4.8** inches
Dec Record High.....**84° F** (1968)
Dec Record Low.....**8° F** (1962)
Dec Avg Water Temperature **64° F**

Avg Rainfall for January.....**5.0** inches
January Record High.....**80° F** (1957)
January Record Low**4° F** (1985)
Jan Avg Water Temperature....**64° F**

YTD Variance- **31.4** inches
Year to Date Rainfall.....**30.1** inches
Avg Annual Rainfall**65.1** inches



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT NOVEMBER 2025:

The OILA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) received and reviewed the following during the month of October 2025 and upon review and adherence to the OILA Covenants, has approved the following project(s):

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Lot(s)</u> | <u>Block</u> | <u>Owner/POC/Address</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>In-Compliance & Approved</u> |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 11/24 | 175 | 4 | B. Bradford 439 Cardinal Ave | Shed | Yes |

Special Notes: The OILA ARC instructions for your project are located on the OILA website:

<http://www.OILAweb.com/ArchitectureReview.html>

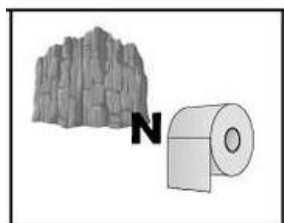
Please read and follow the instructions for submission of an OILA ARC application:

- OILA ARC review package:
 - Completed OILA ARC application,
 - Survey plat of the property,
 - Overlaid illustration of the project on a copy of the survey plat.
 - Other supporting documents* (drawings, plans, specifications, etc.) (*If these are large files, they can be submitted separately). (Combine the files into one file for submission to the ARC, either in MS Word or Adobe PDF format.)
- Email the completed ARC application file to the OILA ARC for review at OILAARC@yahoo.com.
The ARC applications will be reviewed in the order they are received and the review will be completed within 2 weeks of a completed application. (Note: The ARC no longer holds meetings in-person/zoom meetings the 1st and 3rd Thursday's of the month).

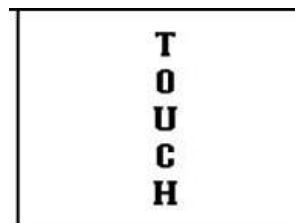
WUZZLE PUZZLES - What is a Wuzzle Puzzle? It is a puzzle consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures, or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, etc. Are you ready to take the challenge and figure out the "disguised" meaning of these wuzzles? Good luck.



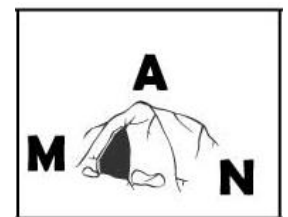
Wuzzle No. 1



Wuzzle No. 2



Wuzzle No. 3



Wuzzle No. 4



Members of the Santa Rosa Blvd Christmas Decorating Team (left to right) Dennis & Ella Dusone, Nancy Hunt and Kathy Foster Start the Decorating of the 82 Palm Trees in the Medians on the Boulevard.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY: DECEMBER

December 2, 1942 - Physicists led by Enrie Fermi carried out the world's first successful nuclear chain reaction at the University of Chicago.



December 13, 1642 – New Zealand was discovered by Dutch navigator Abel Tasman of the Dutch East Indies Company.

December 21, 1846 – Anesthesia was used for the first time in Britain during an operation at University College Hospital in London performed by Robert Liston who amputated the leg of a servant.

December 22, 1952 - The first Corvette, a production-ready prototype, is completed.



December 23, 1888 – Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh cut off his left ear during a fit of depression.

December 29, 1845 - Texas joined the Union.



OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES FIREFIGHTER AND PARAMEDIC **JOURDAN PERRIN**

Age: 35 – Married

Years of service: 10 years of service at a local fire department with 15 years as a lifeguard for Destin beach safety

Birth Place: Columbus, Georgia

Achievements: Attend Choctaw High School, excelling in academics, basketball, and golf, graduating 2008. Attended Northwest Florida State College Fire and EMT program shortly after and acquiring a job at a local department. Then graduated from NWFSC's Paramedic school in 2025.

General Information: During Jourdan's childhood they moved around because of her father's work. He was a charter pilot, and she has fond memories of flying with him as his copilot in her child seat. Then settled down in her family's hometown of FWB in 2005 to be the 3rd generation to graduate from Choctaw. She was active in sports and spent her free time outside near the water, fishing, freediving, and surfing. Ironically, becoming a lifeguard and competing national for Destin beach safety. Now of days she spends her free time golfing, fishing, playing with her extensive submarine model collection, and camping with family.

WHAT IS THE LONGEST RUNNING SERIES ON TV? As of October 2023, "The Simpsons" holds the record for the most seasons of any scripted television show, with an astounding 34 seasons and counting. Premiering on December 17, 1989, this iconic animated series created by Matt Groening has become a cornerstone of American pop culture. The show follows the lives of the Simpson family—Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa, and Maggie—who reside in the fictional town of Springfield.



THE FIRST GROCERY STORE SHOPPING CART

Sylvan Goldman, an American businessman and owner of the Humpty Dumpty supermarket chain in Oklahoma City, introduced the first shopping cart on June 4, 1937. The original cart was constructed with a metal frame, featuring two wire baskets stacked on top of each other, and was based on the design of wooden folding chair. It included wheels for easy maneuverability. Prior to the introduction of the carts, shoppers used handheld baskets to shop or gave a list of what they wanted to a store clerk who gather up their order and boxed it for them.





ISLAND GARDEN CLUB DECEMBER 10 CHRISTMAS PARTY:

The Island Garden Club will gather at El Matador Condominiums on Wednesday, December 10 at 11:30 a.m. to celebrate the holiday with a Crazy Christmas Clothing Contest, Chubby Checker \$10 Gift Exchange (it has a twist), Games with prizes, and always some Surprises!

Join us on January 14, 2026, for a presentation on native gardening with Master Gardener Dave Gordon.

Kathy Foster, IGC President
fosterpk@gnt.net - 850-244-4490

WUZZLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

Wuzzle No. 1



DOUBLE AGENT

Wuzzle No. 3



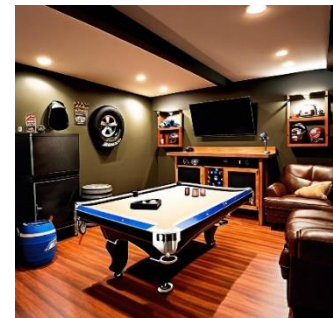
TOUCHDOWN!

Wuzzle No. 2



ROCK AND ROLL

Wuzzle No. 4



MAN CAVE