

**SUMMER 2018 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND  
LEASEHOLDERS NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN**

Page 1 of 8 pages

**OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.**



P.O. Box 4323

Ft Walton Beach, FL 32549

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Next Meeting: **LOCATION:** Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Meeting Room **TIME:** 7:00 p.m. **DATE: Monday, Sept 10, 2018.**  
**PARKING:** Please park behind the Fire Station next to the water tank

**IN THIS NEWSLETTER**

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- ◆ Wuzzle Puzzles
- ◆ Okaloosa Island Fire Department Responses for May & June 2018
- ◆ Island Rainfall Reports for June & July 2018
- ◆ Architectural Committee Reports for June & July 2018
- ◆ This Month in History - August
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- ◆ Blast from the Past
- ◆ Santa Rosa Sound Minimum Wake Zone Status – **Dave Hancock**
- ◆ Rejuvenation of Accessway No. 2 – Boat Basin Area – **Kathy Foster**
- ◆ Snorkel Reefs Coming to Okaloosa Island Beaches Next Year
- ◆ Management of Okaloosa Island Beach Vendors – **Paula Hudson**
- ◆ Free Okaloosa Island Area Zoning Maps Will be Available at the Sept 10 Meeting
- ◆ Okaloosa: Island Path Contract May be Awarded in Fall 2019 – **Tony Judnich**, Northwest Florida Daily News



# The OIL Lantern

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND  
LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc

**SUMMER**  
JULY

P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549  
Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116  
Association Website: [www.oilaweb.com](http://www.oilaweb.com)

**EDITION**  
AUGUST



## JULY-AUGUST 2018

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – Dave Hancock

Have been honored to be asked to serve as the next Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association (OILA). Will do everything possible to carry out my duties and represent Okaloosa Island to the County Commissioners.

Hope that everyone has seen the changes taking place to improve Okaloosa Island for both residents and visitors. The long awaited beach accessway facilities are nearing completion, Okaloosa county will build three artificial reefs for snorkeling and other watersports off Okaloosa Island, and the bridge to bridge pathway progress some of the more visible of the numerous activities going on.

How did this happen? For several years OILA carried out a policy of working closely with Okaloosa County Commissioners and the Tourist Development Council (TDC). We are blessed to have Ms. Carolyn Ketchel as the County Commissioner representing Okaloosa Island. She cannot be a better advocate for us and has worked tirelessly with the other Commissioners to get things done and secure funds for the Island. And the new TDC Director – Ms. Jennifer Adams - has breathed new life into the TDC by initiating and funding several projects for the Island. OILA representatives constantly communicate with these two ladies, provide support when needed, and in return they ask for OILA input on many critical issues. Above all OILA does not fight with them! You get more results by working together than by being at each other's throats. A perfect example of working together is the old boat basin. Okaloosa County is making plans to use that property to provide sound access to residents and visitors; the TDC will share the decision making with OILA for this project.

At the September 10 OILA meeting would like to repeat a strategy that has been effective in the past – select projects or problems for the coming year that OILA can focus on. We can concentrate our efforts and get results.

Again thanks for the honor. Feel free to contact me on any problem or issues.



## LAKE OKALOOSA?

From July 27 to August 2, the Island received 6.5 inches of rain. The photo to the left was taken on August 3. The location of this body of water is in the Sound Side of Beach Access No. 5 (located between Pelican and Sailfish Drives). Thanks to the Okaloosa County Parks Department cleaning up all the Sound Side accesses; we can now see our "lakes".

**JOIN THE LEASEHOLDERS! LET YOUR OPINIONS BE HEARD!**

**FOR A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
CLICK ON THE ASSOCIATION'S  
WEBPAGE:**

[WWW.OILAWEB.COM](http://WWW.OILAWEB.COM) -- OR

**CONTACT JIM SIMPSON AT (850) 585-2116 OR BY EMAIL AT  
[SANLEANNA@COX.NET](mailto:SANLEANNA@COX.NET)**

**ISLAND RAINFALL FOR JUNE 2018:  
5.0 Inches; FOR JULY 2018: 5.1 Inches**



June 5..... <b>0.2</b> inches	June 15..... <b>2.3</b> inches
June 10..... <b>0.4</b> inches	June 16..... <b>0.6</b> inches
June 12..... <b>0.5</b> inches	June 28..... <b>0.2</b> inches
June 14..... <b>0.8</b> inches	
July 1..... <b>0.8</b> inches	July 22..... <b>0.1</b> inches
July 7..... <b>0.7</b> inches	July 27..... <b>1.3</b> inches
July 7..... <b>0.1</b> inches	July 29..... <b>0.6</b> inches
July 8..... <b>0.3</b> inches	July 30..... <b>0.7</b> inches
	July 31 ..... <b>0.5</b> inches

Average Rainfall for June..... **4.0** inches  
 Variance to Average.....**+ 1.0** inches  
 July Avg Rainfall.....**8.5** inches  
 Variance to Average..... **- 3.4** inches

Aug Avg Rainfall.....**7.2** inches  
 Aug Record High.....**103° F** (1980)  
 Aug Record Low .....**59° F** (1989)  
 Aug Avg Water Temperature.....**85° F**

Sept Avg Rainfall.....**7.2** inches  
 Sept Record High.....**102° F** (1954)  
 Sept Record Low .....**37° F** (1967)  
 Sept Avg Water Temperature..... **85° F**

Year to Date to Variance .....**- 6.0** inches  
 Year to Date Rainfall.....**29.5** inches  
 Avg Annual Rainfall .....**65.1** inches

**OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT RESPONDS TO:**

**118 CALLS IN THE MONTH OF MAY 2018**



Fire Calls.....**3**  
 EMS/Rescue/MVA.....**64**  
 False Alarms & Alarm  
 Activations.....**17**  
 Other.....**34**



**(120 calls were responded to in May 2017)**

**179 CALLS IN THE MONTH OF JUNE 2018**

Fire Calls.....**2**  
 EMS/Rescue/MVA.....**94**  
 False Alarms & Alarm  
 Activations.....**17**  
 Other.....**66**

**(133 calls were responded to in June 2017)**

**Santa Rosa Sound Minimum Wake Zone Status**

-by Dave Hancock

The last status report on the Mimimum Wake Zone extension for Santa Rosa Sound stated that Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) was preparing to send a report with their recommendations to Okaloosa County Officials. As of this writing that has not happened. Part of reason is that FWC has a lot on their plate. The other and probably more significant



reason is that development on the ground are over taking the FWC. For example reworking the old boat basin site for use by canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards will require a minimum wake designation there, which will require an extension of the existing zone to the west. And the FWC has been informed of conceptual plans to develop the sound assess ways on Okaloosa Island for more public access which will also require no wake designations there. Asked the TDC last week if they had any intelligence on the issue – they believe it is only a matter of time. OILA, the TDC, and Okaloosa County need to keep pressure on the TDC

**TRIVIA CORNER**

- Between 1900 and 1920, Tug of War was an Olympic event.
- The Code of Hammurabi decreed that bartenders who watered down beer would be executed.
- Before choosing the name “Chiefs” ownership considered calling the team the Kansas City Mules.
- In 19<sup>th</sup> century Britain, opium for babies was marketed under the Name “Quietness”

## UPGRADES TO BEACH ACCESSES NO's 4, 5 AND 6 MAKING PROGRESS

The improvements to Okaloosa Island Beach Accesses No. 4, 5 and 6 are moving along. Below are photos of Beach Access No. 5 taken on August 3, 2018. Also, Beach Accesses No. 4 and 5 are open for use by the public. The paved parking lots are open for use and the bathrooms and showers are operational. Trivia fact: At one time the 7 public beach accesses on Okaloosa Island were referred to as "The Seven Sisters".



BEACH ACCESS  
NO. 5  
Located between  
Island Echos and  
Emerald Isle Condos.



### BLAST FROM THE PAST: PHOTO OF THE 1970 PRESENTATION OF THE PLANS TO THE OKALOOSA ISLAND AUTHORITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EL MATADOR CONDOMINIUM



Ron Trumble, Project Director (left) and Consulting Architect Roy Ricks, present plans for the 300-unit condominium project to be built by U.R.S. Incorporated, at the western end of the island.

### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY "AUGUST"

#### August 2, 1939 - Albert

Einstein wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning the possibility of atomic weapons. "A single bomb of this type carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory."

**August 13, 1881** - Film pioneer Cecil B. DeMille (1881-1959) was born in Ashfield, Massachusetts. He produced over 70 major films including *Cleopatra*, *The Ten Commandments*, and *The Greatest Show on Earth*.

**August 16, 1977** - Elvis Presley was pronounced dead at the Memphis Baptist Hospital at 3:30 p.m., at age 42.

**August 19, 1946** - Bill Clinton, the 42nd U.S. President was born in Hope, Arkansas, August 19, 1946. He was the first President elected who was not alive during World War II.

**August 29, 1991** - Following the unsuccessful coup of August 19-21, the Soviet Communist Party was suspended, thus ending the institution that ruled Soviet Russia for nearly 75 years.

**August 26, 1883** - One of the most catastrophic volcanic eruptions in recorded history occurred on the Indonesian island of Krakatoa. Explosions were heard 2,000 miles away. Tidal waves 120 ft. high killed 36,000 persons on nearby islands, while five cubic miles of earth were blasted into the air up to a height of 50 miles.

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## REJUVENATION OF ACCESSWAY #2 - BOAT BASIN AREA – by Kathy Foster

We are excited to share news of the rejuvenation/improvement of Accessway #2. This public land on the northside of Santa Rosa Boulevard has been utilized as a boat basin, with the only access from Cobia Avenue. Recently OILA board members (past & present) Dave Miller, Paula Hudson and Kathy Foster met with TDD Director Jennifer Adams, Coastal Management Coordinator Jim Trifilio and Engineers Michael Dombrowski and Katie Hutschenreuter to discuss possibilities. Great ideas were tossed around – nothing is finalized – and everyone recognized the need to clean up and develop this area for greater use by the community. We anticipate a public workshop will be held to generate even more concepts and hope that you will attend and share your ideas



## Management of Okaloosa Island Beach Vendors – Paula Hudson, Vice-President, Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association.

Over the last few months your OILA Board has received numerous complaints regarding the beach vendors on public beaches. In response, your board contacted Okaloosa County because they manage the beach vendors and we wish everyone to be respectful of all parties involved in the contracts. We received the following response about the use of Okaloosa Island's public beaches by vendors and the public

- (1) Beach vendors are not authorized to set up in the 7 beach access ways on Santa Rosa Blvd. The county has not issued any Qualified Beach Vendor Certificates (QBVC) for those areas. **PLEASE NOTE:** If a beach goer wishes to utilize and pay for a beach vendor's setup in one of the access ways, the vendor is allowed to provide that service only.
- (2) QBVC holders are to be reminded that they have been permitted to set up and operate their commercial business on the county beaches in specific areas on Okaloosa Island. Neither they nor the upland property owner own those beaches. The general public has the right to use any of those public beaches. We have asked the QBVC holders to please leave open some waterfront areas for the general public to use. It is very frustrating for beach vendors to have the entire waterfront area covered with setups while many of the setups are not being utilized. We have asked beach vendors to provide setups as people come down to the beach and request them.
- (3) No QBVC beach vendor can prohibit 'private equipment' on any county property. Any such signage will be removed by county staff and/or law enforcement.

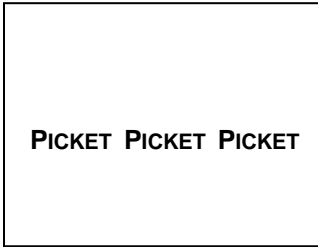
**PLEASE NOTE:** The following is a list of private property owner locations on Okaloosa Island who own property all the way to the waterline:

- Hilton Garden Inn
- Holiday Inn Resort
- Ramada Beach Resort
- Destin West Gulfside
- Gulfarium
- Four Points Sheraton
- Seaspray Condominiums

## 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. The answers are available on the following page of this newsletter.

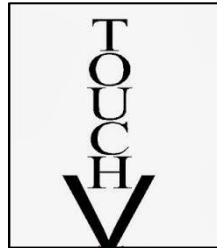
Wuzzle No. 1



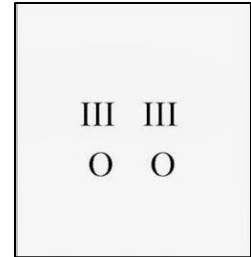
Wuzzle No. 2



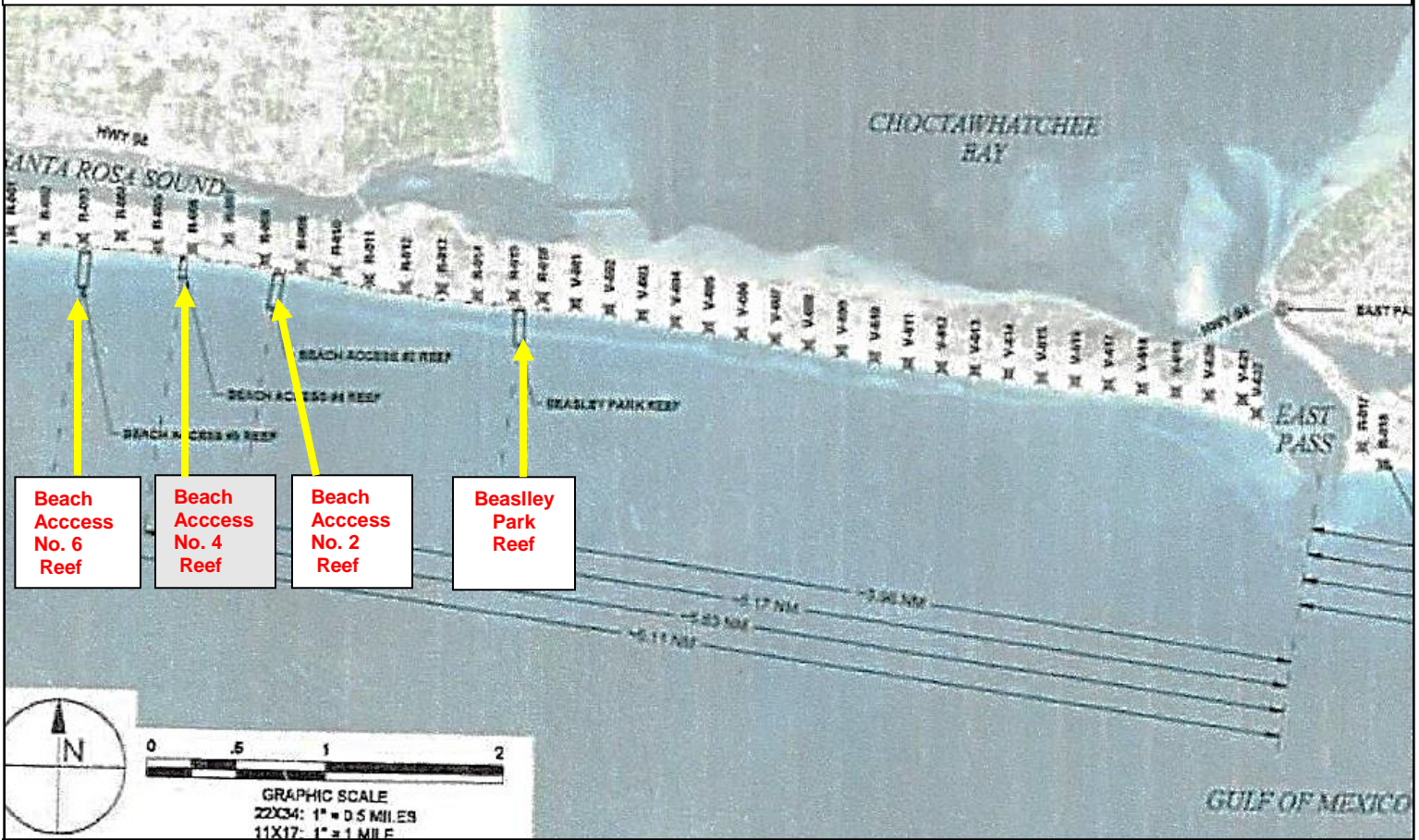
Wuzzle No. 3



Wuzzle No. 4



## Snorkel Reefs Coming to Okaloosa Island Beaches Next Year



Okaloosa County has received grants from the BP Restore Fund and the Florida Wildlife Commission to construct eight artificial reefs **Four of these reefs will be installed on Okaloosa Island** and four on the Destin Beach. On Okaloosa Island, submerged reefs will be built at Beach Accesses 2, 4 and 6 and one off of Beasley Park. The reefs at beach access 4 and Beasley Park will be installed in the Spring of 2019. Beach accesses 2 and 6 will be installed in the Fall of 2019. The reefs will be constructed of lime stone and concrete, will be 8 to 25 feet out from the shore and 3 to 4 feet wide. Also, they will be attached to pilings 15 to 16 deep to prevent movement.





**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR JUNE & JULY 2018** for permits submitted to Them for consideration. The following information provided by the Architectural Committee. **SPECIAL NOTICES: 1) The Committee meets every Thursday from 9:00 am to 9:30 am at the Tourist Development Center building. 2) ASK BEFORE YOU ACT.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lot(s)</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Owner/Address</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>In Compliance and Approved?</u>
June 14	387	7	Roy Troutman 710 Sailfish Dr	Remove & Replace Existing Garage Door and Roof	Yes
July 5	386	7	Ralph Gottier 708 Sailfish Dr	Removal of Storm Debris	Yes
July 12	458	8	Brent Carlson 888 Tarpon Dr	Install Electric Service Pole	Yes

**OKALOOSA: ISLAND PATH CONTRACT MAY BE AWARDED IN FALL 2019\***

**Northwest Florida Daily News**

By TONY JUDNICH

Posted Jun 27, 2018 at 5:36 PM Updated Jun 27, 2018 at 5:36 PM

OKALOOSA ISLAND — A contract for the construction of Okaloosa County’s proposed multi-use path for bicyclists and pedestrians on Okaloosa Island might be awarded in the fall of 2019, according to Greg Kisela, deputy county administrator of operations.

At Tuesday’s county Tourist Development Council meeting, Kisela discussed a variety of pre-construction tasks that still must be completed.

The 12-foot-wide, approximately 4.3-mile-long path would stretch along U.S. Highway 98 from Pier Road, east of the Brooks Bridge to the Marler Bridge. It would serve as a portion of the state’s planned Great Northwest Coast Regional Connector, which would run from the Florida-Alabama line to south of Tallahassee.

Kisela said the county’s conceptual designs for the path are about 30 percent complete. The county also still needs to secure funding and environmental permitting for the project and is working with Eglin Air Force Base and the Florida Department of Transportation to determine whether the path could run along the north or south side of U.S. 98.

“We’re not asking you to fund anything today” for the \$3 million to \$4 million project, Kisela told the TDC. Traffic moves along U.S. Highway 98 on Okaloosa Island where a trail could be a part of the Great Northwest Coastal Trail Corridor.

He said the county later could pursue state and federal grants that might, along with potential county bed tax money, help pay for the path’s construction.

Members of the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association, along with County Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel, also support the path.

Ketchel, whose district includes Okaloosa Island, said after Tuesday’s meeting that the TDC and commission will consider county funding assistance after the designs are completed and Eglin’s approval is secured.

The path “will increase tourism and it will save lives,” she said. “It will be much safer than riding along the highway now.”

\*Editor’s Note – the information in this article written by Mr. Tony Judnich was extracted from his article (same title) published on June 27, 2018 in the Northwest Florida Daily News. Permisson from the NWFDN was granted to print this article (as extracted) in the OIL Lantern, the Newsletter of the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association.

**TRIVIA CRAWLERS**

- The word “gorilla” is derived from a Greek word meaning, “A tribe of hairy women.”
- In 2006 someone tried to sell New Zealand on eBay. The price got up to \$3,000 before eBay shut it down.
- In Japan, crooked teeth are considered cute and attractive.
- A Swedish woman lost her wedding ring, and found it 16 years later- growing on a carrot in her garden.
- Donald duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn’t wear pants.