

Greenwich High School  
Wreadin Writin n Wreminiscin

Weekly Wreader

18 March 2005



Master ??? Pantas



Vincent **PANTAS** . Washington Crossing . PA  
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Hi everyone, Meet our new Grandson.. Master ??? Pantas. He arrived at 8:21 am this morning.  
He is 21 inches long with dark hair and blue eyes. Baby, Karen, Lee and Jamie are just fine. 3/4/5 is his birthday; very cool. Love to all, Vincent and Marijean PS - stay tuned for the answer to ???



## Dining out with Kelley and Ted



Kelley P. **KAUFMAN** . Boca Raton . FL.  
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Three of us had a mini-reunion last week at our usual Florida Hangout. Mom's Kitchen seems to be "the place". After 44 years, Laurie Montemar (Benard) and I got together here in FL. She has a sister living about an hour's drive north of Boca Raton.

For lunch Laurie, her husband Ray, Ted and I went to visit George Lamonica. George was at his usual post, behind the cash register and busy as hell. Laurie, George and I went to Julian Curtis grammar school and GHS together. I guess that all together we have known each other at least 56 years. That's quite a long time.

Laurie **MONTEMAR** Benard . Pleasant Prairie . WI  
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George **LAMONICA** . Ft. Lauderdale . FL  
[Mom's Kitchen](#)

# T own E nds D eer S harp-shooting

Editor's Note: This is the tail end of a long, long, long, set of stories about the sharp-shooters that were hired by Greenwich. The special interest is the "locations" where the shooting occurred. The Pinetum, the Golf Course and the Babcock Preserve.

By Hoa Nguyen Staff Writer  
The Greenwich Time

18 March 2005

KATONAH, N.Y. -- Greenwich's sharp-shooting program ended Tuesday night and about the only trace left of the 80 deer shot are the 39 crates of stew and chop meat sitting in Mike Amato's freezer. The 46-year-old second-generation butcher and half-dozen workers took turns staying up nights and working days to process the venison, the product of four nights' worth of sharp-shooting in Greenwich.

The deer were shot as part of a program to control overpopulation on town-owned property this year. Yesterday, Greenwich officials announced hired sharpshooters had killed 42 deer at the Pomerance-Montgomery Pinetum Park, 26 at the Griffith E. Harris Memorial Golf Course and 12 at the Babcock Preserve. "It went very smoothly," First Selectman Jim Lash said. "We really didn't have any problems. It was conducted safely."

The cost of the program, which was not available yesterday because the hours spent sharp-shooting had not yet been tallied, is expected to fall short of the budgeted \$47,000. Officials said their next step would be to monitor the deer population and promote hunting on private land as a second step to managing herd size. Lash said officials have not ruled out using sharp-shooting in future years.

"All in all, we're satisfied with this as a first-year effort," he said. Overabundant deer are considered a nuisance because they host Lyme-disease-carrying ticks, are involved in car accidents and devour too much vegetation, denuding forests and out-competing other wildlife for food, conservation officials said.

The deer meat sitting in Amato's freezer will be donated to the Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County. Amato's meat-processing operation is run out of a family farm and butchering shop his father bought in 1949, following World War II as a way to leave his job as a baker in New York City and move to the country.

"Over the years, my father retired and it just wasn't feasible to keep the farm going," Amato said. Instead of closing down everything, he kept the butchering business, which serves many nearby hunters, especially from Greenwich. "It's my job," he said, adding that he sometimes thinks about what might have happened had he gone to college and gotten an office job. "I mean the blood and guts part isn't the greatest thing in the world."

As part of his work with Greenwich, Amato said he stayed up nights, sometimes for two deliveries of deer carcasses, once at about 11 p.m. and another at dawn. Because the deer were not field-dressed in Greenwich, he and his crew had to work immediately to skin the animals, quarter them and trim the carcasses so that the meat could be promptly refrigerated.

After a day or so in the refrigerator, Amato would chop the meat into pieces that can be used in stews and then grind the rest for use in hamburgers or meatloaf. Amato and his crew also put aside the deer skin, which will be donated to a Veterans of Foreign Wars group that will clean, stretch and salt the skin before selling them to a tannery for use in leather products. The proceeds are then used to help fund VFW activities, Amato said.

The rest of the deer carcass is disposed of by a garbage truck business with which Amato contracts. Yesterday, about the only thing that remained of the processing activity were the frozen meat and the deer skins waiting to be picked up.

Amato said he has gotten at least one visitor who was upset that he was processing deer meat for Greenwich, but although he's sorry that his work offends people, he didn't make the decision to kill the animals. "This is what I do, I cut up animals," Amato said. "I don't think it's wrong."

## It's Been a While

It's been a while since I got up on my Soap Box and called for "submittals" for the Newsletter. Just in case you haven't noticed, it has been at least three weeks since the last issue of WW-N-W reached the "inbox" nearest you. Admittedly I could publish a letter each week and fill it with drivel, but the general consensus amongst my readership, is that most people want to "catch up on what their old friends from GHS are doing. Of course, you can sit there and think, that you haven't done anything of importance, especially something that anyone would ever want to read about. And I will have to disagree with you. There are few opportunities in life for you to be "in the newspaper". When you get your "butt" in trouble, when you are famous (or infamous), a public servant or your "obit". I have to include another opportunity, and that would be appearing in public (or private) with one of the Hiltons or the Olsens.

We used to feature a cartoon strip, penned by REM (Kent KC Remington) called Webber n Button, but sadly, our "resource" the Alachua County Humane Society has not updated their webpage since 27 December 2004. The cartoon shown is the premier "toon" dating back to 24 November 2003.



AlachuaHumane.org/comics

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I could spend some time boring you all with the "Wonderful World of Architecture", but I doubt that would be of interest to many. Look closely at those past 43 Years and come up with a little something that you might want to share with an old friend and spread it out over the 250 others that receive this newsletter.