

2A | SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2019 | TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

## Local News

## Democrat's Portman moves to USA TODAY

Becomes enterprise editor for the nationwide paper

Bill Costerrell  
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Since her arrival more than a decade ago, Jennifer Portman has been in the thick of nearly every big news story to hit Tallahassee.

She exposed a botched police sting operation that led to the killing of confidential informant Rachel Hoffman. She cracked open the mysterious disappearance of Mike Williams and helped uncover the truth about his murder as a demise. She marshaled coverage of stories ranging from the FBI investigation into public corruption in Gordon's Runway and the snake that ate her beloved birds.

Now, the Tallahassee Democrat's news director is moving on, taking a new role on a bigger stage as a national enterprise editor for USA TODAY. She will remain based in Tallahassee.

Portman, 49, has been with the paper since 2005, when Gannett acquired the Democrat. She spent 10 years as a projects and investigative reporter and became news director — what they used to call a managing editor, back before newspapers went so heavily online — in September 2015.

Editor William Hatfield praised Portman as an "unparalleled journalist" whose shoes will be hard to fill. A nationwide search to fill the news director position is underway.

"For a journalist, there can be no higher pinnacle than seeing justice after 15 years pursuing it on behalf of your community. Her work with Mike Williams could easily embody the best traits in any good journalist. The story began with curiosity, followed by empathy, transformed into watchdogged persistence and ended with the coda of a guilty verdict," Hatfield said.

"The best part about today's news is it remains a part of the unique Tallahassee tapestry. She'll still be leading out amazing investigations and riveting



News Editor of the Tallahassee Democrat Jennifer Portman ponders the latest news at her desk on Aug. 9.

ALCA DRYDEN/TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

"Leaving the Democrat is bittersweet. I love this newsroom and love this community. ... But I'm excited by the opportunity to bring my passion for journalism and storytelling to a bigger stage without having to leave my town."

**Jennifer Portman,**  
Democrat editor who is moving to USA TODAY

reads, sometimes from our office on Magnolia. But now her work will change lives across the nation."

She starts her new role Aug. 26, supervising a national health care team, along with reporters in Boston, Atlanta and elsewhere.

"Leaving the Democrat is bittersweet. I love this newsroom and love this community," Portman said. "Telling Tallahassee's stories has been an incredible privilege, and the connections I've made through my work and life here run deep. But I'm excited by the opportunity to bring my passion for journalism and storytelling to a bigger stage without having to leave my town."

A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, with a master's degree from Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism, Portman spent nearly a decade at the News Leader in Springfield, Mo., as a city hall and editorial writer. She also covered the Delaware statehouse for a year at the Wilmington News-Journal.

In her career, Portman has amassed a war chest of individual awards and supervised award-winning team coverage by the Democrat. This year the newspaper took home the gold medal for public service and 15 first, second and third place awards in the Florida Society of News Editors' annual contest — one of its best showings in years.

## Soldier killed in Niger ambush receives posthumous medal

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — The family of a U.S. soldier killed during a 2017 ambush in the African nation of Niger has received his Silver Star Medal.

Maj. Gen. John Deedick presented the award Friday to the family of Army Sgt. LaDavi Johnson during a ceremony at Miami Gardens City Hall. Johnson was one of four U.S. soldiers killed in the ambush and ensuing firefight.

They were on a mission to capture or kill a high-level Islamic State group leader in West Africa on Oct. 4, 2017, when they were attacked by more than 300 extremists.

The Army has approved nine awards for valor, including four awarded posthumously to Johnson and the other soldiers killed.

The Silver Star Medal is the U.S. military's third-highest personal decoration for valor in combat.

## BRIEFS

## Mom arrested for leaving girl in hot car for 3 hours

FORT LAUDERDALE — Police said a woman intentionally left a toddler strapped to a car seat for three hours while she went grocery shopping in the middle of the day. Officials said the child suffered from febrile seizures but recovered at a children's hospital.

Fort Lauderdale police arrested 32-year-old Shantell Mitchell on one count of aggravated child abuse. Mitchell told detectives she forgot about her child when she went shopping Tuesday, but an investigation led to her arrest Thursday.

The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported surveillance footage showed Mitchell got out of the car and opened a door in the back seat where the child sat. Prosecutors said she manually locked the door. Tuesday's temperatures reached the 90s.

Mitchell tried to cool the girl down upon returning. A supermarket employee called 911.

## Officials: Man dumps dirt on girlfriend with tractor

CRESTVIEW — Authorities said a man used a front-end loader to dump a bucket full of dirt on a car with his girlfriend inside.

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office said 20-year-old Hunter Mills was charged with felony criminal mischief. The sheriff's office said Mills invited his girlfriend to a dirt pit in Crestview, where he worked. Officials said the girlfriend arrived in a white sedan owned by another person, and after he asked her a question, he used a front-end loader to dump a mountain of dirt on the car. She wasn't injured, but dirt filled up the air vents and console be-

cause a window was open.

An attorney for Mills was not listed in jail records related to Thursday's arrest.

## Orlando soccer coach charged with molesting 9-year-old boy

ORLANDO — A soccer coach is facing accusations he molested a 9-year-old boy before and during practice.

Authorities said 22-year-old Hugo Daniel Jimenez-Ramirez picked the boy up at his Orlando home to take him to a sporting goods store to buy knee pads before heading to a soccer field. Local news outlets report the boy told detectives the coach touched his genitals over his clothing while driving to the store and then to practice. The boy also said the man looked down the boy's pants during a bridge exercise.

The boy called his mother to pick him up and reported what happened. Jimenez-Ramirez was arrested Thursday. Records showed he was charged with lewd and lascivious molestation.

Jimenez-Ramirez is being held at the Okaloosa County Jail. Records don't list his attorney.

## Man found dead in truck after crashing into canal

WELLINGTON — Authorities said a man was found dead after his pickup truck went into a canal.

The Palm Beach Post reported that the body of 43-year-old Joseph Anthony Deaouche Jr. was recovered from the Wellington canal Friday morning.

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue crews responded after reports of a truck partially submerged in a canal. Deputies weren't sure how long Deaouche had been in the water before the truck was reported.

Associated Press

## Florida Lottery

Results are for tickets sold only in Florida

**FLORIDA LOTTO**  
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 14 ..... 7-10-30-35-53 (2X)  
6 of 6: \$12 million (0)  
5 of 6: \$1,100 (20) 5 of 6 + 1: \$1,100 (21)  
2 of 6: \$173 (1,060) 3 of 6: \$45 (1,017)  
2 plays: \$220 (1) 1 play: \$110 (1)

**POWERBALL**  
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 14 ..... 10-13-30-31-40 PB: 10 (2X)  
5 of 5: \$138 million (0)  
5 of 5 + 1: \$11 million (0)  
4 of 5: \$1,100 (20) 4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)  
3 of 5: \$100 (200) 3 of 5 + 1: \$11,000 (20)  
2 of 5: \$17,000 (1) 2 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)

**MEGA MILLIONS**  
FRIDAY, AUG. 16 ..... 4-10-30-35-40 PB: 10 (2X)  
5 of 5: \$170 million (0) 5 of 5 + 1: \$11 million (0)  
4 of 5: \$1,100 (20) 4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)  
3 of 5: \$100 (200) 3 of 5 + 1: \$11,000 (20)  
2 of 5: \$17,000 (1) 2 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)

**Georgia Lottery results:** Visit [gallottery.com](http://gallottery.com) or call 1-800-425-8259.

**Florida Lottery results:** Visit [flalottery.com](http://flalottery.com) or call 850-921-7529.

**JACKPOT TRIPLE PLAY**  
FRIDAY, AUG. 16 ..... 7-10-30-35-53 (2X)  
6 of 6: \$12 million (0) 5 of 6: \$1,100 (20)  
5 of 6 + 1: \$1,100 (21) 5 of 6 + 1: \$1,100 (21)  
2 of 6: \$173 (1,060) 3 of 6: \$45 (1,017)  
2 plays: \$220 (1) 1 play: \$110 (1)

**FANTASY 5**  
FRIDAY, AUG. 16 ..... 7-10-30-35-53 (2X)  
5 of 5: \$12,000 (0) 4 of 5: \$1,100 (20)  
4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21) 4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)  
3 of 5: \$100 (200) 3 of 5 + 1: \$11,000 (20)  
2 of 5: \$17,000 (1) 2 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)

**PICK 2, 3, 4, 5**  
SATURDAY, AUG. 17 MIDDAY  
5 of 5: \$12,000 (0) 4 of 5: \$1,100 (20)  
4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21) 4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)  
3 of 5: \$100 (200) 3 of 5 + 1: \$11,000 (20)  
2 of 5: \$17,000 (1) 2 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)

**CASHALIFE**  
FRIDAY, AUG. 16 ..... 30-35-30-30-30-30-30  
5 of 5: \$12,000 (0) 4 of 5: \$1,100 (20)  
4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21) 4 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)  
3 of 5: \$100 (200) 3 of 5 + 1: \$11,000 (20)  
2 of 5: \$17,000 (1) 2 of 5 + 1: \$1,100 (21)

**Georgia Lottery results:** Visit [gallottery.com](http://gallottery.com) or call 1-800-425-8259.

**Florida Lottery results:** Visit [flalottery.com](http://flalottery.com) or call 850-921-7529.

## Tallahassee Democrat.

## Customer service

To view important information online related to your subscription, visit [www.newspapers.com/tallahassee](http://www.newspapers.com/tallahassee). You can also manage your subscription at [account.tallahassee.com](http://account.tallahassee.com). Contact the Tallahassee Democrat for questions or to report issues via email at [subscriptions@tallahassee.com](mailto:subscriptions@tallahassee.com) or by phone at 1-800-959-2271.

## Operating hours are:

1 Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
1 Saturday: 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for technical support only  
1 Sunday & holidays: 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

## Full access subscriptions

Subscribe and save today by visiting [tallahassee.com/subscribe](http://tallahassee.com/subscribe). Subscribers below are billed per month and include access to [tallahassee.com](http://tallahassee.com), tablet and smartphone apps and the e-edition, a digital replica of the print edition.

1 Delivery of the Monday through Sunday print edition: \$15.00\*

1 Delivery of the Wednesday through Sunday print edition: \$44.00\*

1 Delivery of the Friday through Sunday print edition: \$37.00\*

1 Delivery of the Sunday print edition: \$1.00\*

\*New subscribers only.

## Corrections and clarifications

Our goal is to promptly correct errors. Email us at [accuracy@tallahassee.com](mailto:accuracy@tallahassee.com) or call 850-959-2148. Describe the error, where you saw it, the date, page number, or the URL.

## Contact us

Customer Service ..... 1-800-959-2271  
Newsroom ..... 850-599-2170  
Advertising ..... 850-471-6544  
Circulation ..... 850-599-2144

## Postal information

Tallahassee Democrat, USPS #533-106, ISSN #0738-9182, is published Monday through Sunday at 277 N. Magnolia Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Periodicals postage paid at Tallahassee, FL, 32301. Postmaster: Send address changes to Customer Service, PO Box 94280, Albuquerque, NM 87189-9500.