

# 10 The Deputy's Spotlight

May  
2022

## Who am I at a glance?

My name is Deputy Noel Sevilla but I want all my students and faculty to call me "Deputy Noel." I've been with Santa Rosa Sheriff's Office since 2018 and the WBMS school resource officer since the 2018-19 school year.

My law enforcement career started in 1993. Before moving to Santa Rosa County in 2018, I retired as a sergeant from a police agency in the mid-Atlantic region.

I'm able to build a great rapport with the students because I've coached for 15 years in several sports including baseball, softball, basketball, soccer and martial arts. Coaches are mentors and it's important to me to make those kind of connections with my students. In my free time, I still coach with the Miracle League, umpire baseball and referee basketball.

*"Making Connections & Building Relationships"*



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## Escape the Vape Update May: Mental Health Awareness Month

Just a quick update on "Escape the Vape." If you recall from last month's issue, *Escape the Vape* is an interactive educational presentation on the dangers of vaping. I went to every school in Santa Rosa County and gave the presentation to over 2200 Santa Rosa County School District 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The program targeted 6<sup>th</sup> graders, many of them who have never seen a vape or exposed to a vape. The goal was to educate them on the dangers and health risks of vaping before they were exposed.

There were three parts of the program: presentation, display and the poster contest. We just concluded the poster contest and the winner was selected by the school district. The winners of the poster contest will be recognized at the school board meeting on May 12. WBMS Eva Hammer is one of the three finalist. The other two finalist are students from Avalon MS and Gulf Breeze MS.



People with mental health issues are actually very common. In 2020, about: 1 in 5 adults experienced a mental health issue. 1 in 6 young people experienced a major depressive episode. 1 in 20 live with a serious mental illness, such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or major depression. Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States. It is the 2nd leading cause of death for people ages 10-24. It accounted for the loss almost 46,000 lives last year alone, nearly double than homicide. (mentalhealth.gov)

**May is Mental Health Awareness Month.** The key word is *awareness*. Most of us are fortunate to live a "normal life" but what is "normal?" It's not until you meet someone who has a mental illness when we realize there are those who can't live their life "normal" due to a disease. The tide is turning when we realize we need to be more compassionate. School staff and law enforcement receive more Adolescent Mental Health training to help recognize those with mental health issues or those who are in crisis. Please be more compassionate and understanding. **End the Stigma.**



# FEATURED STORY

# SWAT

## STUDENTS WORKING AGAINST TOBACCO

One of the major topics that has recently plagued our schools and society is the use of tobacco and vaping. Even more serious, is the major increase of vaping by teens between the grades of 6-12.

As a school resource officer, I've made it a mission to educate students in Santa Rosa County School District about the health risks of tobacco and vaping. I've done this by creating a program called "Escape the Vape" where I've gave the presentation to every 6<sup>th</sup> grader. Studies have shown tobacco education is a direct deterrent to vaping or smoking tobacco.

My next mission is tobacco education as a force multiplier. Exactly what does that mean?

*Escape the Vape* teamed up with the SRC Health Department and their Florida Tobacco Program called **S.W.A.T.** which stands for Students Working Against Tobacco.

**S.W.A.T.** is exactly what it sounds like, students getting other students to say "no" to tobacco and other nicotine products like vaping, smoking or chewing tobacco.

**S.W.A.T.** is a student run club and now at Woodlawn Beach Middle School (WBMS). Just like any club, there are members and elected officers but, the major difference in **S.W.A.T.** is it's student led and student run. I'm only a mentor. Students will be educating students about tobacco health risks.

The second purpose of **S.W.A.T.** is to create student leaders in the community. The members become leaders in their community, and it's elected members learn to be student leaders in the club.

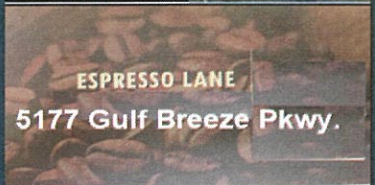
What is unique about WBMS is the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade will return next year. However, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders are split up into 2 groups, students going to Gulf Breeze HS and students going to Navarre HS in the fall. The goal is for them to start a club in HS and be leaders in their school.



# CLASSIFIEDS



Located off Highway 98 and Woodlawn Way (1715 Woodlawn Way Gulf Breeze, FL) a family friendly patio feature several food trucks along the



## This Month's Q&A Tips from Deputy Noel

**Q: If I see someone vaping in the bathroom or another student with a vape, who should I tell?**

**A:** Great question!! It easy to use the P3 app to make an anonymous call. Fill in the blanks and note on the app who you saw, where you saw them and what time. Or, you can come to the office to tell the Dean. Or tell a teacher.

### Santa Rosa SpeakOut

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**Reasons to call SpeakOut:**

WEAPONS AT SCHOOL  
DRUGS  
GANG ACTIVITY  
BOMB THREATS  
GRAFFITI  
FIGHTING  
BULLYING

DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY

THEFT  
STATEMENTS TO HARM SELF OR OTHERS

REMAIN ANONYMOUS - YOUR NAME IS NEVER ASKED



**437-STOP**

DOWNLOAD THE 'P3 TIPS' APP BY ANDERSON SOFTWARE



Join us for a...

# SAFE Celebration!

We're so excited about the new SAFE Program, we're having a party! Come meet our first responders, and have some food and fun! We will also have a photographer there and you can enroll your family for this amazing program!



**When: Saturday, May 14th, 11:00-1:00**  
**Where: Tiger Point Community Center**  
**Cost: FREE for families with special needs**



[www.emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org](http://www.emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org)



[www.santarosasheriff.org/safe-program](http://www.santarosasheriff.org/safe-program)



850-396-1008



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# Angels in the Outfield

## 2nd Annual Softball Tournament

### A Community Fight for Suicide Awareness.

Donate using Venmo



venmo

Opening Ceremony May 13 at 6pm  
At Tiger Point Park

Games start Saturday morning

Coed Teams age 12 & up

REGISTRATION: March 1 - May 1

Individual: \$40

Team Register: min 10 to max 14 players

Divisions: Majors and Minors

Majors Minimum: 4 girls per team.

Minors Minimum: 4 girls per team and 4 youth per team.

Details about teams will be provided closer to tournament.

May  
13-15



This tournament is hosted by Tiger Point Community Outreach to help bring suicide awareness to our community, especially with our youth. This fundraiser consists of the tournament and family fun activities including a silent auction. Please invite your friends to join to have fun and bring more awareness.

Register At:

<https://playpass.com/tiger-point-community-outreach-OA2N7VR>

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SCAN ME