



WELCOME ATTENTION

Columnist Ray McNulty, in London for the Olympics, says Ann Romney is helping increase coverage of equestrian dressage events. 1C



SHE'S GOLDEN

U.S. gymnast Gabby Douglas wins the women's all-around competition. 1C



St. Lucie News Tribune

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Slain teen's mother planning march

■ Kisha Armstrong's son, Toriell Roberts, was Fort Pierce's first murder victim of the year

By Elliott Jones
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FORT PIERCE — The mother of the city's first murder victim of the year is organizing a march Saturday to call for an end of violence in the city.

Kisha Armstrong and her family and friends will walk on sidewalks along Avenue D with signs saying, "Put the guns down," Arm-

strong said Thursday.

On Sunday night she was walking with her son Toriell Roberts, 18, when he was gunned down along North 14th Street. She held him in her arms as she phoned 911, pleading for help and for her son not to die. He died there on the roadside at 8:50 p.m.

"Stop the violence," Armstrong said. "We just want justice to prevail."

The 33-year-old mother and her

son, a Westwood High School senior, were going through a residential neighborhood, en route to her boyfriend's house, when they passed a group of four youths in the 600 block of North 14th Street. One of them fired a handgun, hitting Roberts.

Police haven't made an arrest and continue asking for the community's help in solving the crime, said police spokesman Sgt. Dennis McWilliams. Police don't know if the shooting has any connection to the others in the city this year.

In the meantime, Armstrong and others are focusing on making

INSIDE

Plans for the march, plus police still seeking information. 8A

sure such a shooting doesn't occur again. Family members have been gathering nightly at their homes in Fort Pierce, and they are having a carwash and bake sale Friday night and Saturday morning to raise money to aid their efforts. The money is for posters and other supplies.

The march is to start at 5:30 p.m.

See MARCH, 8A



SQUEEZE MORE OUT OF SUMMER

Columnist Tyler Treadway has picked out some great local events to help you squeeze the most fun out of summer you can. WEEKEND, 1D

CROWDER VS. WEST

Coming Saturday in our opinion pages, Robert Crowder and Allen West, GOP candidates for the new U.S. House District 18 seat, tell you in their own words why they should be elected. COMING SATURDAY



FILMS SO BAD, THEY'RE GOOD

Swede Fest Palm Beach celebrates so-called "swedes," no-budget remakes of popular movies. WEEKEND, 1D



FATHER, SON CONQUER LIFE'S CURVEBALLS

Former major league catcher Ed Hearn and his 17-year-old son, Cody, both have overcome serious health scares, but it's their love of the outdoors that helps strengthen their bond. SPORTS, 1C

PSL High's band camp tunes up



Kendall Spurr, 14, a freshman in the Port St. Lucie High School marching band, rehearses "Ninkou Latora" on the chimes Thursday inside the school auditorium. "It's a lot of fun, you make a lot of friends. that's why it's cool to be in the band," Spurr said.

Story and photos by Eric Hasert
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PORT ST. LUCIE — The sound of music filled the air as members of the Port St. Lucie High School marching band began rehearsing Thursday in a two-week band camp for the upcoming football season.

Band members filled their practice room while the drum line and percussion went to separate rooms inside the school to escape the searing temperatures outside. Eleven girls from the color guard filled the gym with twirling flags while working on their routines for their fall marching season show under the direction of color guard instructor Monica Miller.

"Just a great group of kids, we're very excited about our show," said John McGallagher, band director for Port St. Lucie High School.

This year's marching band will feature between 80 to 85 students who will be performing in all the home games and countywide games this season with their first



Corwin O'Neal, 14, a freshman in the Port St. Lucie High School marching band, performs Thursday on her mellophone alongside her bandmates.

performance at a preseason game Aug. 24.

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Firefighter-soldier receives warm welcome home

■ Army Sgt. 1st Class Mark Tatasciore back from Afghanistan deployment

By James Kirley
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Mark Tatasciore is a Martin County firefighter/EMT.

PORT ST. LUCIE — Martin County firefighter and Army Sgt. 1st Class Mark Tatasciore says he "just kind of decompressed" during his first night home here, after a 14-month deployment in Afghanistan.

But the reception he received on landing at Palm Beach International Airport on Wednes-

day evening was "like a dream come true," said the 31-year-old soldier. His wife, Megan, and other family and friends were joined by about 60 Martin County Fire Res-

cue workers who drove to the airport to welcome him home.

"I pray that any soldier or sailor who comes home from a war zone gets the same kind of reception that I got," Tatasciore said Thursday.

Nor did the family's 6-year-old golden retriever, Maximus, forget his master after more than a year's absence.

"He's like a little kid," Tatasciore said. "He made

me feel like I'd never been gone."

But he was gone, first for four months of pre-deployment training in Texas and California, followed by 10 months at Bagram air base in Afghanistan.

There, Tatasciore said, his job was delivering logistics support — "beans and bullets," he called it — to soldiers in the field, while the base

See WELCOME, 8A

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Sgt. 1st Class Mark Tatasciore

See AGENCY, 8A

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