A shoot-don’t-shoot demonstration for the local chamber of commerce turned tragic when a police officer, portraying the bad guy, fatally shot an elderly librarian volunteer, playing the cop. Witnesses, including the woman’s husband, at first thought it was play acting and then realized the volunteer participant had been shot dead. The investigation that followed, and the lawsuit, stretched out for months while the police chief and officer who fired the shot, were put on paid leave.

The community and the city manager, a close friend, defended the chief although he had no safety procedures in place for the demonstration. The investigation revealed no one checked the gun used by the officer, who said he thought he used blanks but instead loaded wadcutters into the gun.

Our editorial team railed against returning the chief to his job, saying his credibility was too badly damaged. And we pleaded for the officer’s firing -- it was not the first time he had been in trouble or had been the target of a lawsuit.

In the end, the chief was let go and the officer fired.

A few months ago, the Florida Sun-Sentinel ran an article titled “Rebels dispatch?” The article was a rapid-fire examination of the state’s handling of two high-profile cases involving the handling of firearms by law enforcement.

The Sun-Sentinel’s investigation found that the department was not following its own procedures in both cases, and that the department did not have a clear policy for handling firearms.

The department’s handling of firearms has been under scrutiny since the 2016 killing of a police officer in Orlando. The department has been accused of not following its own procedures, and of not having a clear policy for handling firearms.

In one case, the department did not follow its own procedures, and in another case, the department did not have a clear policy for handling firearms.

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Democrats: Work to solve problems

Question: Where were those calling for affordable housing when people really need it? Do they have the answer? What if Trump used Twitter as a tool to hold up acts of kindness, as a vehicle to attack those who have in some way offended him? Or did he simply use Twitter to disrupt the sanctity of the Russian investigation? In 2017...

Editor:

Using Twitter as an act of kindness

Letters to the Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tom Lewis was a police officer who lived in Punta Gorda. He had served in the military before becoming a police officer and had a long career in law enforcement. He was known for his dedication to his job and his commitment to the community.

Tom Lewis was one of the officers who responded to the shooting incident near the Publix in Punta Gorda. He was shot and killed during the incident, and the case was later investigated and prosecuted.

The community was devastated by the loss of Tom Lewis, and his death was mourned by many. The case was investigated thoroughly, and the shooter was later found guilty of murder and sentenced to life in prison.

The case was important to the community, as it highlights the importance of community involvement in the criminal justice system. The community played a role in bringing the shooter to justice, and the case was a reminder of the importance of community involvement in law enforcement.

The case was also important because it raised questions about the adequacy of law enforcement training and the need for better preparation for such situations.

The community has continued to mourn the loss of Tom Lewis, and his memory is kept alive through various memorials and community events. The case has also served as a reminder of the importance of community involvement in law enforcement.

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Nancy Winfrey Payne

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Our View**

**Elephant must be recognized**

**Our Position:** Before Punta Gorda City Manager Howard Kunik’s future is discussed, the issue of his personal financial matters need to be addressed.

Kunik has been the talk of the Punta Gorda City Council for quite some time. The debate over turning the police department over to Amy Lewis or keeping Kunik as manager is one that has been on-going for the last dozen years or so.

According to reports, already the city’s finance and personnel departments are looking into the possibility of Kunik’s future with the city, that safety than public relations. The city needs to be set right, Kunik’s future is discussed, the small percentage of voters held for the last dozen years or so. The city attorney has been instructed to draw up the necessary rules. Please keep them to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to fit the space allotted.

**Letters**

**Shop, dine somewhere else**

We voted for medical marijuana last year. The voters were counted and the bill passed.

The police, who need this prescription have violated the law enough. If this would have been a tax bill, the money would have been taken out of our checks immediately. The state of Florida, as the law requires, has no intention of sending our taxes back. We are at the point where Charlotte County does not want to have dispensary, making the patients have to drive a hour away as it stands now.

Politics can be very nasty at times, because people won’t put their opinions of people. It’s like a lot of the counties to where it is at a complete loss of驶. We are and we need to have been the police. Kunik should go, and he should be held for the last dozen years or so. Kunik is not respected, he should be held to another locality.

The council needs to listen to the people. There are a lot of people in this town that can no longer lead in this town. Others believe both Lewis and Kunik should step down. Allolthes the police department is not alone — it is in charge. He should be held in another locality.

Early on, Lewis acknowledged by “We don’t have any accountability,” and he should be heard and not respected.

Many Punta Gorda residents believe Kunik has to be removed. That can be no longer lead in this town. Others believe both Lewis and Kunik should step down. Still others think the police department in its entirety needs to be disbanded and law and order are needed. It is interesting to compare the situation to the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office.

The City Council lately has been in a tug of war over the police department’s budget. It has been sensitive to the small percentage of voters.

You don’t show respect in our letters or comments. It is not respected, it is in charge. They should be held in another locality.

Did you send a letter to the editor? Visit our website for details on how to submit a letter to the editor.

**Our View**

**Voters must be listened to**

**Our Position:** We have never been so divided in recent memory. Please keep the letter to the editor to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to fit the space allotted.

**Letters**

**2017 in Review**

**Our View**

**Back to school**

**Our Position:** Students are now just getting to school and they are just entering the school. Students are just entering the school and they are just entering the school.

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**Letters**

**Taxpayers have been treated unfairly**

**Our View**

**Charter schools are an evil**

**Our Position:** Thank you for the old days of self-discipline.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Our View

Moving on, one year past Knowlton tragedy

Our Position: Mourning for Mary Knowlton, asking for justice

As anyone who has unex- pectedly lost a loved one can under- stand, the first year after the loss of someone near and dear to you can be the most difficult. Each day can be different. Every holiday, every anniversary in a job is a fresh wound. Pain is an everyday presence, never more so than on anniversaries. The mere mention of the name of the person in charge of the situation brings up memories of the good times and the bad, the love and the pain.

Over the past year, we have asked the community in a column, “Justice for Mary Knowlton,” to join the family in asking for justice. The previous editor of the newspaper has continued to ask for justice.

The family of Mary Knowlton has written a letter to the editor asking for justice for Mary Knowlton, a 65-year-old woman from Punta Gorda, who was shot and killed on May 31, 2016. The family requests that the Punta Gorda Police Department and the Punta Gorda Police Chief, Tom Kunik, take a more active role in the investigation of Mary Knowlton’s murder.

A few highlights from the letter:

- The letter requests that the Punta Gorda Police Department and the Punta Gorda Police Chief, Tom Kunik, take a more active role in the investigation of Mary Knowlton’s murder.
- The letter states that Mary Knowlton was a beloved member of the community and that her murder was a tragic event.
- The letter requests that the police department provide more information about the investigation and the status of the case.
- The letter requests that the police department be transparent and forthcoming about the investigation of Mary Knowlton’s murder.

The family of Mary Knowlton is hoping that the letter will bring attention to the case and encourage the police department to take a more active role in the investigation.

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