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## Army the armadillo finds treasure



Army the armadillo is still a baby. He is very brave in regard to a photographer on the grounds of *The Ink Pad*.

### Story, Photos and Video

By Jeff M. Hardison © June 7, 2018 at 8:08 p.m.

LEVY COUNTY -- Army the baby armadillo made another daylight foraging trip through The Ink Pad property on Thursday morning (June 7).



To put the armadillo's size into perspective he is about six inches long, not counting his tail.

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<https://youtu.be/Rf2g3kCvlt0>

This eight-second video shows Army -- the cute baby armadillo -- as he waddles around the area. He is a relatively quick critter, and some people think he is adorable.



Tomatoes and peppers are a treasure.

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**These photos show the deer tongue that can be dried and mixed with tobacco to smoke, or the leaves can be smoked on their own.**



**A patch of deer tongue.**

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**This is a deer tongue plant pulled up - roots and all.**



**A few of the items discovered by searching with a metal detector and digging on June 7 are seen here. They include a nail, a piece of glass and melted aluminum.**

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Army the armadillo found things to eat in the ground. Sharon Hardison asked if Army was a female. That answer is unknown right now. If the animal is a female armadillo, then her name might be spelled Armi.

Earlier that morning, treasure hunter Jeff M. Hardison found a tiny shard of glass, a piece of yellow plastic, some melted aluminum and a thin piece of iron wire.

Other treasures harvested thereabouts by Hardison that morning were several small tomatoes and a couple of hot peppers.

"One thing I learned in my treasure hunting adventure this morning," Hardison said, "is that my steel-toed boots cause the metal detector to make a sound. After some number of holes and research, it dawned upon me about the cause of the metal-detector going off when it was near my boots.

"Here's another tip for treasure hunters," Hardison said. "Once the detector tells you there is metal in the ground, do not put the metal-tipped post-hole digger too close to where it went off, or you will not be able to find the metal treasure."

Hardison said his crop of tomatoes and various peppers are not a cash crop, but the harvest will yield dining enjoyment for a select few.

Another potential cash crop on the grounds however is deer tongue, or rabbit tobacco (tab-backy) or Aztec tobacco.

"The thing is," Hardison said, "I have this crop that I don't want to harvest dry and sell. I just want to pull it out of the ground by the roots and kill it. I can't bring myself to selling something that people can smoke -- even if they do enjoy the effect from nicotine. It is probably unhealthy to smoke dried deer tongue, the plant's leaves that is, not the animal's tongue -- although I'm very much against smoking that form of deer tongue too."

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## **Baby armadillo visits *The Ink Pad* Needles the cat says 'Hello'**



**Needles says 'Hello' to Army as seen in this still photo taken from the video.**

**Story, Photos and Video By Jeff M. Hardison © June 5, 2018 at 8:48 a.m.  
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**LEVY COUNTY** -- Needles the cat had completed his evening meal and was being directed to a coyote-free location Monday (June 4), when he was observed going into a hunting stance.

<https://youtu.be/XDqjgzYWaoM>

**In these two video clips filmed from a cell phone screen, Needles the community cat of the unrecorded subdivision in Levy County named Jemlands greets his new friend Army the baby armadillo with one little meow after getting a close look at him. (it can be heard for people who have audio with the video.) The second part of the clip shows the baby armadillo making his way across a short stretch of *The Ink Pad* property relatively quickly.**

**In this still shot taken from the video, the point where the two animals go their separate ways is captured.**

Despite being called by the human to leave the other animal alone, the somewhat feral cat stalked what looked like a small squirrel at first take.

This "squirrel" however, did not seem to hear the warnings directed to it by the

human either as the man's means to prevent a cat-squirrel fight.

Needles, so-named because he blends in with the pine needles in the area where he lives as a relatively wild cat who is somewhat trained, had discovered a new friend. The baby armadillo - Army - had found his way onto *The Ink Pad* property. *The Ink Pad* property is land which houses the *Code Orange Office* – headquarters for *HardisonInk.com*.

After a quick "Hello" both animals went their merry ways. Needles departed from the short confab by sauntering over to a porch where he could sleep without much likelihood of coyotes or other creatures eating him; and Army continued scooting along quickly and seemingly blindly as he sought a place to eat, drink and perform other baby armadillo activities.

