

NEWS LEADER



75¢

AMELIA ISLAND • FERNANDINA BEACH • YULEE • NASSAU COUNTY

FRIDAY, November 20, 2009 / 22 PAGES, 2 SECTIONS • fbnewsleader.com

NEW BALLROOM AT THE RITZ



The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island has completed construction on a \$22 million ballroom expansion, which brings a modern aesthetic, state-of-the-art design and 11,000 square feet of additional meeting space to the property, making it one of the largest conference hotels in the region.

Story, 3A

SUBMITTED

Fernandina is falling down

'We must move forward' to save post office

ANGELA DAUGHERTY
News-Leader

City commissioners agreed Tuesday to approve a revised letter of intent to purchase the historic post office on Centre Street. It provides for the city to negotiate an agreement for sale of the building within three months.

City Manager Michael Czymbor told commissioners that conducting a study of the building's condition and determining detailed costs of renovation would be the most practical next step.

Local attorney Arthur "Buddy" Jacobs, who has been negotiating with the U.S. Postal Service on behalf of the city, said the revised letter deleted a reference to the post office continuing to use a specified 4,100 square feet after the city buys the building, though it retains a 100-year lease for that purpose.

"The (revised) letter of intent does not require the post office to go to the postal service," Jacobs said at the

meeting. "These are details to be worked out later ... this is not a contract of sale."

Commissioners approved an original non-binding letter of intent in April, but the postal service balked at specifics.

Residents who support and are leery of the city's acquisition of the building spoke passionately of their concerns at the meeting.

"There's been a lot of debate lately," said downtown resident Chuck Hall. "What are we going to do with the post office if we get it? ... I say we go ahead and do our best to get the building, then figure out what to do with it."

Donna Paz Kaufman of Friends of the Library – which sponsored a

POST Continued on 3A

'Beer, nicotine all that's holding up' log cabin

ANGELA DAUGHERTY
News-Leader

City Building Official Bob Sasser has determined that the log cabin on South 11th Street, long used by the local American Legion, should be demolished.

The city-owned building, constructed of logs that it was said were donated by Rayonier, is "slowly imploding," Sasser told city commissioners Tuesday. A combination of failures, Sasser said, including

termites in every log, means the historic building cannot be saved. While nobody contacted could pinpoint the building's exact age, it was estimated it has been used by American Legion Post 54 since about 1940. The post dedicated a new building on South Third Street on Veterans

Day. An inspection revealed that the log cabin's roof is "saddlebacking" because of internal joist or support failures, the main supporting log has moved six inches, and a wall is pulling away from the chimney.

Sasser said the logs that comprise the building were most likely not treated for wood-destroying organisms, and the tenants repaired the building with expanding foam. "The termites have had a field day," Sasser said.

Asked if the building could be moved, Sasser said, "I can't see the building even being jacked up. It wouldn't even get off the lot."

George Jernigan of the Fernandina Pirates Club – which at one time expressed interest in the building – said he was disappointed the building was not usable.

"We had dreams but it's not going to happen," Jernigan said. "The logs were donated by Rayonier and lasted

LOG Continued on 3A

Pick a card – any card will do

RYAN SMITH
News-Leader

Jerus Spry can perform minor miracles. From unraveling hopeless knots to transforming a playing card from one suit to another – while it's in someone else's hand – the 30-year-old Fernandina Beach resident earns his keep by making the impossible possible.

Spry has been a professional magician, off and on, since childhood. He first took the stage at the age of 12 in his native Thailand.

"My grandpa was in the Rotary Club, and I used to go to meetings with him," Spry said. "... This gentleman was a professional magician, and he did a show for the other club members one year and I happened to see it. Every month when I went to the meeting, I would bug him. Finally, he showed me a card trick that was pretty tough for beginners, and I had it down in about an hour. He said, 'You know what? If you really like this stuff, why don't you come to my house next weekend and I'll show you some stuff.'"

The magician was impressed with Spry's aptitude, and decided to incorporate the youth into his act.

"His act was normally about a 10- to 15-minute act," Spry recalled. "He incorporated me as an opener. He picked a trick for me to do, ... I would come out for about three or four minutes and get things going."

"I was doing that up until I was about 14. It was real work for me," he added. "It was four or five hours



Jerus Spry performs an illusion for Carolina Trujillo of Tampa and Fernando Alvarez of Fort Lauderdale at Amelia Island Coffee and Ice Cream. Spry began performing professionally at age 12 in his native Thailand.

of practicing every day for two or three months before I even got on stage. That's how I learned professionalism, being on time, what to do when things go wrong."

In 1995, Spry's family moved to Jacksonville.

"I lost contact with magic when I came to America," he said. "But to me, magic never left me. Like every boy and girl, I went through a magic phase and a soccer phase. I'm just one of those who never got out of the magic phase."

Still, it took about a year before the bug bit him again.

"One day when I was about 16, my aunt showed me in the paper a guy who was offering a magic class. I

MAGIC Continued on 3A

Wreck snarls routines

JASON YURGARTIS
News-Leader

Traffic was snarled and about 6,300 FPU customers on the north end of Amelia Island experienced an extended power outage Thursday morning after a car hit a power pole on South Eighth Street.

Power was out for most residents and businesses north of Sadler Road. Bleary-eyed residents stumbled out of their homes looking for coffee, which they found on Sadler at the Flash Foods, Hall's Beach Store, Kofé Haus and Starbuck's, where the line wound out the door. There were no breakfast sandwiches to be had at McDonald's on Eighth Street, but Krystal's on Sadler was jam-packed with customers.

South of Sadler, on 14th Street, Amelia Island Parkway and A1A, traffic backed up for miles as workers tried to get onto the island for their jobs. Eighth Street was closed at the Parkway, forcing a detour and causing traffic delays beyond the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Yulee.

Power was restored about 9:30 a.m., more than eight hours after the outage, and traffic began to ease as the road was opened about that time.

Peter William Dwinnell Jr., 29, of Yulee was charged with DUI after his vehicle swerved off the road and hit a power pole in front of Sonny's Bar-B-Q just after 1 a.m., Nassau County Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer Angela Spears said. Spears could not confirm that the broken pole also hit a tractor-trailer on Eighth

POWER Continued on 3A

Lenders court resort

MICHAEL PARNELL
News-Leader

A federal judge approved Thursday a temporary financing scheme to keep Amelia Island Plantation running while its future is decided in court. That means the company would make payroll today and begin to pay bills for new services.

The judge approved a short-term financing plan that includes local investors who live on the Plantation and Prudential Financial Services Inc., which has \$29 million worth of mortgages on Plantation property. Prudential would be debtor-in-possession and put up the money needed to operate the resort while a reorganization plan is finalized and then implemented.

Chief Judge Paul M. Glenn of U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida heard testimony this week from the various parties, including a session Thursday.

Amelia Island Plantation Vice President Richard Goldman said both plans before the judge would keep the resort operating by providing \$3.5 million in short-term financing. "Based on very conservative projections, \$5 million gets us at least to the end of (2010)," Goldman said.

In any event, the company will be back in court in 60 days. The judge then would begin consideration of which long-term plan of reorganization to accept.

That could be a plan put forward by Prudential, or one offered by Red Maple, which was formed by 22 Plantation residents that committed more than \$20 million to assure the resort's future, a combination of their plans or a plan offered by another party. MetLife, for example, another financial services company, has expressed interest in purchasing some of the

RESORT Continued on 4A



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Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
11/20	11/21	11/22	11/23	11/24
76/58	72/64	75/56	71/54	73/55

LOOKING BACK**50 YEARS AGO**

Judge Edwin L. Jones ruled against Nassau General Hospital in its bid to recover \$28,810 in lost funds from former superintendent Mrs. P. Eagan.

November 19, 1959

25 YEARS AGO

A fire caused about

\$75,000 damage at Fernandina Beach Junior High School.

November 21, 1984

10 YEARS AGO

Lewis Faison, 85, of Fernandina Beach died Nov. 15, leaving a legacy of service and community spirit.

November 24, 1999

Today's Weather**Local 5-Day Forecast**

Fri 11/20	Sat 11/21	Sun 11/22	Mon 11/23	Tue 11/24
76/58	72/64	75/56	71/54	73/55
Partly cloudy skies. High 76F. Winds NNE at 5 to 10 mph.	Thunder-showers. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 60s.	Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	Considerable cloudiness. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	Mostly cloudy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.
Sunrise: 6:57 AM Sunset: 5:27 PM	Sunrise: 6:58 AM Sunset: 5:26 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 5:26 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 5:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 5:26 PM

Florida At A Glance**Area Cities**

City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.
Clearwater	79	62 pt sunny	Ocala	81	59 pt sunny
Crestview	69	46 pt sunny	Orlando	81	64 pt sunny
Daytona Beach	78	62 pt sunny	Panama City	72	55 pt sunny
Fort Lauderdale	83	71 pt sunny	Pensacola	70	54 pt sunny
Fort Myers	83	63 pt sunny	Plant City	83	62 pt sunny
Gainesville	79	57 pt sunny	Pompano Beach	83	70 pt sunny
Hollywood	85	70 pt sunny	Port Charlotte	83	63 pt sunny
Jacksonville	77	62 pt sunny	Saint Augustine	76	62 pt sunny
Key West	79	74 pt sunny	Saint Petersburg	76	64 pt sunny
Lady Lake	81	60 pt sunny	Sarasota	80	64 pt sunny
Lake City	76	56 pt sunny	Tallahassee	74	53 mst sunny
Madison	76	54 pt sunny	Tampa	80	63 pt sunny
Melbourne	81	65 pt sunny	Titusville	80	64 pt sunny
Miami	83	72 pt sunny	Venice	82	65 pt sunny
N Smyrna Beach	79	64 pt sunny	W Palm Beach	82	69 pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.
Atlanta	67	43 sunny	Minneapolis	53	33 pt sunny
Boston	59	42 rain	New York	58	43 rain
Chicago	51	39 cloudy	Phoenix	75	51 sunny
Dallas	61	47 rain	San Francisco	58	41 rain
Denver	54	31 sunny	Seattle	48	40 rain
Houston	65	51 t-storm	St. Louis	59	47 pt sunny
Los Angeles	69	49 pt sunny	Washington, DC	62	43 pt sunny
Miami	83	72 pt sunny			

Moon Phases

New Nov 16				

UV Index

Fri 11/20	Sat 11/21	Sun 11/22	Mon 11/23	Tue 11/24
4	3	3	3	3

The UV Index is measured on a 0-11 number scale. 0 with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Mail in Nassau County \$36.00
Mail out of Nassau County \$63.00

NEWS DEADLINES**Community News:**

Monday, 5 p.m.

Letters to the editor:

Monday, 12 p.m.

Church Notes:

Monday, 5 p.m.

People and Places:

Thursday, 3 p.m.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES**WEDNESDAY NEWS-LEADER**

Classified Ads: Monday, 5 p.m.*

Classified Display: Friday, 3 p.m.

Legal Notices: Friday, noon

Retail Advertising: Friday, 3 p.m.

FRIDAY NEWS-LEADER

Classified Ads: Wednesday, 5:00 p.m.

Classified Display: Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Retail Advertising: Tuesday, 3 p.m.

* Monday holidays will move the Classified deadline to Friday at 5 p.m.

CNI

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FRIDAY, November 20, 2009 NEWS News-Leader

Strategies for healthy holiday eating

low-fat buttermilk and add a vegetable that can be easily mashed, such as turnips or green onion. Olive oil and dried or fresh herbs liven up roasted potatoes with minimal calories.

• Commonly known as "cocktail franks" or "pigs in a blanket," bite-sized hot dogs are always a popular appetizer but laden with sodium and fat. Instead, snack on mini quiches for a tasty dose of protein that keeps you full.

• Steer clear of crab cakes, which are typically breaded and deep-fried. Enjoy pieces of steamed or boiled shrimp dipped in cocktail sauce for a calorie-light alternative.

• Swap potato chips and dip for the equally satisfying crunch of veggies. Dip into hummus or salsa for a low-calorie, flavorful topping.

• For a sweet snack, enjoy an apple baked with cinnamon and nutmeg instead of an overly-indulgent caramel apple.

• Pecan pie contains high amounts of sugar and fat – up to 800 calories per slice. Choose pumpkin pie for a rich, creamy dessert and make it even healthier by using evaporated skim milk and egg substitute.

OBITUARIES**Angel Food notice**

Angel Food Ministries announces that the coupon codes for November do not expire until the end of the month. Customers can still use these codes to place orders for December. The current coupon codes are "Turkey5," which gives 5 percent off the "Signature Box" of Angel Food, and "NOVSP2," which gives 5 percent off the "Special Meat Box #2." For information visit www.angelfood-ministries.com.

'Can-Can' drive

The Optimist Club of Fernandina Beach will hold its annual Can-Can Food Drive Nov. 21 at Food Lion and Winn Dixie from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., as well as area neighborhoods. Donations will go to the Barnabas Center. Call Matt at 624-6400 for large donations.

For information about the Optimist Club of Fernandina Beach – Friends of Youth, call President John Crow at 261-5625 or come as a guest to a meeting, held each Wednesday from noon-1 p.m. at Sliders'.

Blood drives

The Blood Alliance will hold community blood drives Nov. 21 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Kmart and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Publix in Fernandina Beach. For an appointment to donate visit www.thebloodalliance.com.

Stress relief

The Council on Aging has partnered with Maria Murphy, MA, LPC, LM HC prov., to present "Holiday Stress Relief for Caregivers" Dec. 3 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Fernandina Beach Senior Center (across from Baptist Medical Center Nassau). Free adult day care available with pre-registration. Space is limited. To register, call Debra Dombrowski at 261-0701, ext. 113 or Maria Murphy at 261-7022.

Recreation meeting

The Nassau County Recreation Commission will meet Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. at the County Building, 45195 Mussel White Road, Callahan. The public is invited. Call 548-4689.

Festive Recycling'

Join the city of Fernandina Beach for "Festive Recycling" from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 5 at Eighth and Lime streets.

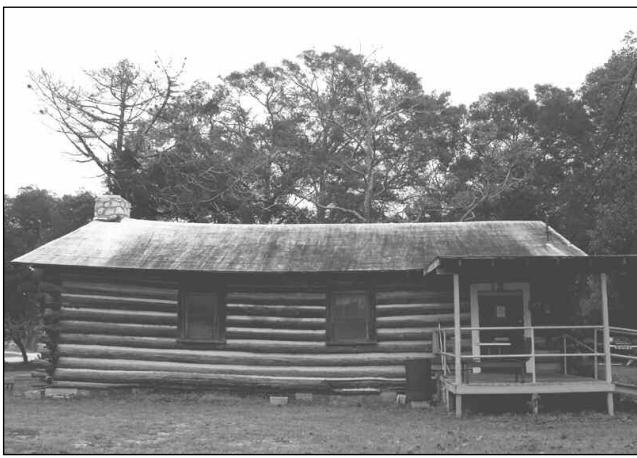
Recycled for free are: glass, flares, pesticides and fertilizer, paint and paint thinners, aerosols, corrosives, propane tanks, pool chemicals, automotive batteries, number 1 and 2 plastic, aluminum cans, fluorescent bulbs, electronics and appliances, tires (limit 4), household cleaners, hazardous chemicals, cardboard, medications, gasoline and diesel fuel and waste oil and filters. Paper shredding services will be available from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

• Consisting of heavy cream, eggs, milk and sugar, egg nog is a classic holiday beverage. But even without the addition of alcohol, this drink can still spell disaster for those who are watching their weight. Try homemade hot chocolate and leave off the whipped cream to taste sensibly.

With these simple tradeoffs and a bit of discipline, you will be able to celebrate the season without feeling deprived – but just as satisfied.

TOPS Club Inc. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), the original, non-profit weight-loss education and support organization, was established more than 61 years ago to champion weight-loss support and success. Founded and headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis., TOPS promotes successful weight management with a philosophy that combines healthy eating, regular exercise, wellness education and support from others at weekly chapter meetings.

Visitors are welcome to attend their first TOPS meeting free of



ANGELA DAUGHERTY/NEWS-LEADER

The log cabin in Central Park, home to American Legion Post 54 since about 1940, has deteriorated so much that it will have to be torn down, city commissioners were told Tuesday.

LOG *Continued from 1A*

50 years ... the building does need to be safely removed," Jernigan also said the club "would like the opportunity to look into that lot, along the same lines as the log cabin." The log cabin occupies a corner of the city's Central Park.

Suanne Thamm, chair of the Historic District Council, said the council was "saddened" by the loss of the building, for which they had been seeking national register status.

"We did not know it had deteriorated to that extent," Thamm said. But, she said, since the building is not located in the historic district, it does not have any legal protection. Thamm suggested the city should take better care of its historic structures such as the railroad depot downtown and the Peck Community Center.

"How could a historic building be allowed to deteriorate to this point?" Thamm asked. "It's beer and nicotine that's holding the building up right now." Thamm also suggested the city appoint a historic building supervisor. "We have got to be good stewards of what the city owns," she said.

City Manager Michael Czymbor conceded that the city had not been a good steward of its historical treasures, but he also noted that Thamm had recommended a historical survey of the area around the cabin prior to demolition.

Mayor Susan Steger said she remembered her mother taking her into the log cabin as a young girl when it was being used as a voting location.

Sasser said the only part of the building that could possibly be salvaged was the chimney.

adaughtry@fbnewsleader.com

School Principal Cindy Olson said everything at the school remained on schedule, but due to the power outage.

Thursday's turkey dinner school lunch was rescheduled for today. Dwinnell was treated at Baptist Medical Center Nassau following the crash, Spears said. He is being held at the Nassau County Jail without bond, according to the Sheriff's Office website.

Local businesses were affected by the power outage. An employee at Nassau Health Foods said the store opened late due to concerns about frozen and refrigerated food, but those items were unaffected.

Southside Elementary

jyurgartis@fbnewsleader.com



Dwinnell

POWER

Continued from 1A

Street nor could she say what kind of vehicle Dwinnell was driving.

The impact caused the pole to break in several places, wiping out a transmission line that serves the entire north end of the island, said Louie Johnson, engineering manager at Florida Public Utilities.

"We had to replace the pole," Johnson said. "It created a fault that nearly burned the line."

Local businesses were affected by the power outage. An employee at Nassau Health Foods said the store opened late due to concerns about frozen and refrigerated food, but those items were unaffected.

Southside Elementary

Reporter Ryan Smith and Editor Michael Parnell contributed to this story.

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B&B Monuments

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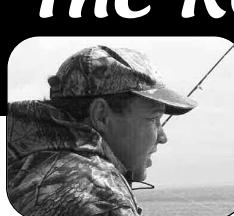
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BBQ Dinner \$7
Plates 7ea.

Buy your tickets
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261-4555
or contact Stevenson Collison
at 225-3131

POST *Continued from 1A*

study of the post office and other downtown historic buildings – said there had been a lot of progress toward acquiring the post office over the last three years.

"Here we stand at the fork in the road," Kaufman said. "We've learned that this is an important anchor to the downtown ... The building continues its decay. We hear about the cost of renovation, but don't hear about the cost of doing nothing."

So far, the city has sponsored two assessments of the post office building, both by Universal Engineering Services. A lead-based-paint assessment found that over half the 200 samples taken throughout the building were in the "positive" category for lead.

And in an air-quality assessment, samples indicated the presence of "elevated to extremely elevated mold concentrations within the structure." One particular mold spore found in the building has been linked to "sick building syndrome." Most of the mold growth is in the basement, according to the study.

Bruce Malcolm, former mayor and chair of the Historic District Council, said the issue of the post office has been "close to my heart for a long time."

"To lose (the post office) would be to lose a big chunk of downtown," Malcolm said. "The beach is not the biggest attraction (in Fernandina Beach). The historic district is the single biggest attraction. To taint it would be a tragedy."

But resident Lynn Williams suggested that before "rushing ahead" in an "impetuous fashion," the city should get some estimates of what a renovation would cost.

"Let's get representatives to negotiate with (the Postal Service) openly," Williams said.

Jan Cote-Merow also urged the city to proceed cautiously in the current economic environment.

Susan Siegmund of the Amelia Island/Fernandina Beach Restoration Foundation said she agreed with Williams that a study should be done "above-board with public participation." She said her group

might put money toward a feasibility study. According to a memo from Czymbor, the city has already set aside matching funds of \$15,000 for a feasibility study by a qualified architectural firm that has yet to be chosen.

"This is the kind of building that doesn't come your way again," said Jacobs. "It will be your building; the main thing is to save it. I hope you take it and get it done ... the money is there, it's available. We'll find the money."

Jacobs also said that, although there weren't any structural concerns with the building, it was necessary to "seal the envelope," or shore up the building so no more damage can occur. "With very little expense, the city can maintain it," he said.

"Unless the commission has the political will to move forward, it will cost more than we anticipate," said Suanne Thamm, chair of the Historic District Council.

Czymbor encouraged the idea of assessing the condition of the post office before anything else is done. There are still questions, he said, about handicapped accessibility, sources of funding and possible adaptation to a municipal building, as well as the possibility of other uses besides a new City Hall.

He also wrote in a memo to commissioners that he would have city staff and community representatives look into potential funding sources.

"It's an exquisite structure that suffers from lack of maintenance," said City Engineer Glenn Semanisin. He added that there are numerous problems with the building, including cracked windows, a leaky roof and very high levels of mold in the basement.

"We know where the money is not coming from," said Commissioner Tim Poynter, "and that's from the post office. They lost \$3.8 billion in the last fiscal year."

"This is an unbelievable opportunity," Poynter said. "We have no choice. The building is sitting on Centre Street and it's going to fall down. You can never negotiate when you don't own the damn property. There's no question here, we must move forward."

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2012 PG-13 (12:20), 3:40, 7:00, 10:20
Blind Side PG-13 (1:10), 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
Planet 51 PG (12:05), (2:30), *5:00, 7:25, 9:45
New Moon PG-13 (1:00), 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
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MAGIC *Continued from 1A*

signed up for it and was introduced to what's called close-up magic."

Even with Spry's experience performing stage illusions, close-up magic was a whole other ballgame. The illusionist doesn't have the comfort of distance – he's performing within feet or even inches of his audience. However, Spry took to the form and parlayed it into an entertaining repertoire of tricks.

While he was learning the art of magic, Spry was also learning the art of cooking. After attending culinary school at Florida State College at Jacksonville, he moved to Fernandina to cook for The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island and later the Kabuki Japanese Steakhouse. While he cooked for a living, Spry began to perform professionally again.

"Most of my gigs are weddings," he said. "I also work two restaurants in Jacksonville – Grape in St. Johns Towne Centre and Boston Restaurant at River City Centre."

Spry roams the dining rooms on Friday nights, entertaining diners.

"It's been very successful for both restaurants. They get return customers who like me, and those customers tell other people," he said. "A magician is not only a way to say, 'Thank you for coming out.' When you have a fifteen-minute wait, I'll entertain you."

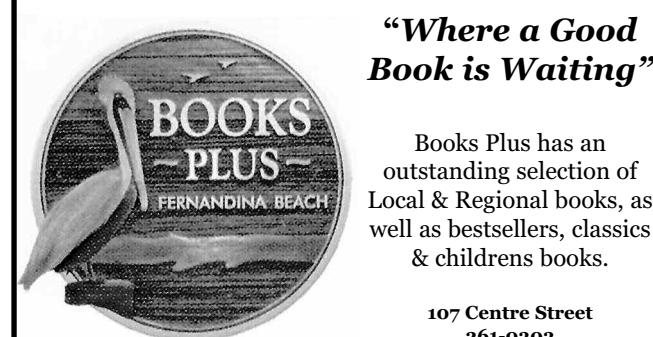
"Tuesdays and Wednesdays I work at different country clubs," he added. "(Members) can tell their families, 'Guess what – it's Tuesday night. Let's go eat at the club. They have a magician there.'"

The sleight of hand and misdirection involved in illusion take constant practice, Spry said.

"What's fascinating about magic is that my job as a magician is to create the impossible," he said. "When you're an adult, you think you know this and this and this – you have all the answers. The magic is that moment that makes you feel like a kid – that split-second where you forget everything."

"I don't do it to prove that I can fool you; I do it for those five or six split-seconds where your life is enhanced."

For information call 962-1397 or e-mail sprygymagic@yahoo.com.



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Who does Amelia Island Co. owe?

Top 20 unsecured creditors

Valleycrest Golf Course Maintenance, Calabasas, Calif.\$830,799
Foley & Lardner LLP, Jacksonville	....\$594,472
Nichols, Gudbranson & Cooper, Cleveland	....\$587,216
Sysco/Gulf-Atlantic Services, Jacksonville	....\$544,634
Heritage Paper Co., Jacksonville	....\$242,562
Bachara Construction Law Group, Jacksonville	....\$204,311
Amelia Island Plantation Community Association	....\$175,912
Florida Public Utilities, Fernandina Beach	....\$163,381
TPG Hospitality Advisory Services, Tampa	....\$150,671
Connecticut General Life Inc., Pittsburgh	....\$123,316
Comcast, Fernandina Beach	....\$110,024
Thermaserve Inc., Jacksonville	....\$107,138
KPMG LLP, Dallas	....\$105,470
Siemens Corp., New Jersey	....\$100,000
Comcast, Jacksonville	....\$82,688
Fahlgren, Tampa	....\$78,179
Microsoft Licensing GP, Dallas	....\$69,074
Martin Coffee Co., Jacksonville	....\$65,919
Coastal Living, Chicago	....\$60,674
Southern Living, Chicago	....\$52,378

Source: U.S. Bankruptcy Court records

RESORT

Continued from 1A

the resort's facilities.

Company management would retain control during bankruptcy proceedings. Longtime Amelia Island Co. President Jack Healan remains at the helm, though Goldman is leaving to accept a job Dec. 1 at the St. Augustine Convention and Visitors Bureau. Norman Bray, longtime vice president alongside Healan, is retiring before the end of the year.

Prudential has the biggest financial stake in the outcome of the proceedings. It initially balked at assuming a lead role in Chapter 11, preferring a liquidation of assets through Chapter 7 of federal bankruptcy

code, but offered its own debtor-in-possession plan this week after Red Maple Investors did so last Friday.

Other large secured creditors owed significant sums are National Bank of South Carolina, which financed the Amelia River golf course project, and Compass Bank, which financed the spa and shops on the Plantation.

There are numerous unsecured creditors, who likely will be paid only a percentage of what they are owed. The largest is Valleycrest Golf Course Maintenance of Calabasas, Calif., which is owed \$830,799.

Others include Sysco food services of Jacksonville, owed \$544,634, Florida Public Utilities

Co. of Fernandina Beach, \$163,381, and Comcast of Fernandina Beach, \$110,024.

Amelia Island Co. employs about 825 people, down from a high of more than 1,100, and has a biweekly payroll of about \$750,000.

The 1,350-acre resort is owned by the Cooper family trust. Richard L. Cooper, an Ohio businessman who died last year at 82, purchased the property from the Sea Pines Co. in 1978. Sea Pines Co., which developed Hilton Head Island, S.C., originally bought 3,000 acres on the south end of Amelia Island that was proposed for a strip mine, but the project went bankrupt before it could be developed.

mparnell@fbnewsleader.com

Ritz opens \$22 million ballroom

The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island has completed construction on a \$22 million ballroom expansion. The new facility adds 11,000 square feet to the property.

"This project was a critical component of our master plan to improve the guest experience, maintain relevance in an increasingly competitive marketplace and provide greater value to our clients and our community," said Ritz General Manager Katharine Monahan. "Despite the recent economic

challenges faced by the travel industry, we are incredibly optimistic about the impact this development will have on the long-term success of our resort."

The expansion increases the total available conference space to 35,000 square feet, including two sizeable function areas and a variety of smaller meeting rooms. The addition of the new ballroom will allow the hotel to fulfill the needs of larger conference groups, while accommodating increased demand for

destination weddings and social engagements.

The Talbot Ballroom, named as a nod to a neighboring barrier island, reflects the natural environs in design as well as décor.

The new ballroom is the capstone development in the ongoing physical evolution of the resort. In 2006, the hotel constructed a 27,500-square-foot full-service spa, opened the award-winning restaurant Salt, and launched the OurSpace teen zone.

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Beaujolais Nouveau Festival

Thursday, November 19 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Celebrate the arrival of the Beaujolais Nouveau as we unveil the new Talbot Ballroom. Since 1991, the annual festival has served as the symbolic start of the holiday season.

\$89 per person

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Wednesday, November 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Music, refreshments, Santa Claus and a spectacular fireworks display.

Complimentary

Holiday Character Dinner

Wednesday, November 25 at 6:30 p.m.

Santa Claus and his elves invite you to dinner.

\$49 per adult, \$25 per child ages 5 to 12

Thanksgiving Dinners

Thursday, November 26

Enjoy a variety of holiday dining options at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, including an opportunity to savor a delicious meal from the comfort of your own home.

Thanksgiving Feast

A traditional feast in The Ritz-Carlton Ballroom

from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Thanksgiving in Café 4750

A delicious buffet in the seaside café from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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Saturday, December 12, 2009

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parade will begin at 10:00 am followed by a festival offering food, arts and crafts, live music and entertainment for all ages.

Pictures will be taken with Santa in the Winter Wonderland throughout the day.

If you are interested in participating in the parade or in providing entertainment, please call Connie at (904) 225-2516

If you or your organization would like to reserve a booth, please call Julie at (904) 225-5237

3rd Annual Amelia Island Museum of History

Holiday Home Tour

In Historic Fernandina Beach
December 4 & 5, 2009
10:00 am until 4:00 pm

Visit five private homes & enjoy an elegant Victorian Tea at the historic Bailey House

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Before 12/4/09
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Schoolteacher pleads not guilty

JASON YURGARTIS
News-Leader



Sheriff's Office. During that time, Turner bought the victim a cell phone, jewelry and was in the process of buying her a ring, police said.

Turner was arrested at his parents' Jacksonville home Oct. 29, after police executed arrest and search warrants at his Amelia Island home, but found it cleaned out. He is currently being held at the Nassau County Jail.

The original charges concerned activities that allegedly took place at Turner's condominium home on First Coast Highway, which is in the county's jurisdiction. New charges were filed earlier this month for crimes that "reportedly occurred within the jurisdiction of Fernandina Beach," city police said.

"As far as we know, (the alleged crimes) didn't happen at (Fernandina Beach High School)," Police Capt. David Bishop said. However, he would not comment specifically as to where the alleged crimes took place, saying only that they happened within city jurisdiction.

A trial date has not been set, but a pre-trial hearing is scheduled for Dec. 3. Assistant State Attorney Wesley White, director of the Nassau County State Attorney's Office, said he wasn't sure who would prosecute the case on behalf of the state, but it's likely to be him or Assistant State Attorney Doug Dorsey, or both.

"This is a high-profile case," White said. "It will get the attention of the director and division chief."

Turner allegedly was involved in a relationship with the victim for the past two years, and that relationship turned sexual more than a year ago, according to the Nassau County

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County sues critic; court says no

RYAN SMITH
News-Leader



Weintraub Boyle

The Nassau County Fourth Circuit Court has denied an attempt by the county to collect attorney's fees related to last year's lawsuit attempting to halt a planned unit development in the Marsh Lakes community.

The suit, filed by Marsh Lakes resident Robert Weintraub, was dismissed in December by Judge Brian J. Davis for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

On Dec. 31, the county filed suit seeking almost \$30,000 in attorney's fees from Weintraub, Marsh Lakes Investors, LLC, and ABC Liquors, Inc. – which built a store in the PUD Weintraub sought to halt – also joined the county's suit, bringing the total sought from Weintraub to about \$50,000.

Court paperwork filed by County Attorney David A. Hallman claimed Weintraub had filed suit "to harass, cause delay and expense as retaliation against the county issuing site plan approvals for the development of properties of which development had been approved decades ago by the county."

However, Weintraub's attorney, Deborah Andrews, argued that the county's countersuit was a "SLAPP action" – a "strategic lawsuit against public participation," or legal action filed as retaliation for the original lawsuit.

"The Defendants seek to punish Mr. Weintraub for exercising his First Amendment right to free speech and constitutional right of access to courts, and seeks to deter him from taking action in the future, so that there is no effective oversight of government," Andrews wrote in a Sept. 30 response to Hallman's filing.

"There was really no basis for the suit," Weintraub said. "They were just trying to intimidate me. I ran up \$40,000 just defending myself, and that's part of their strategy to keep people from filing suit against

the county in the future – but it won't work."

County Commissioner Mike Boyle, however, said retaliation had nothing to do with the county's decision to seek fees.

"It was not meant to be retaliatory at all," he said. "In my mind – and I'm only one of the five – the purpose that I saw was to serve notice to the general public, not just Mr. Weintraub, that suits against the county should have a strong and reasonable foundation. I don't believe that one did."

"The fact was, that everybody that bought in Marsh Lakes, in the covenant they signed when they purchased their home, was aware that (a commercial center could be built) at any time. To me it's frivolous to say you don't know or you forgot."

Part of the county's rationale for seeking attorney's fees was that Weintraub knew his suit would fail. In his Oct. 23 ruling, however, Davis held

that reasonable people could disagree on the application of the statutes in question. Therefore, Davis wrote, Weintraub's original suit was not frivolous.

But neither, Boyle insisted, was the county's decision to seek compensation.

"The reality is, that's taxpayer money, and we have an obligation to try and protect taxpayer money," he said. "... I think we have an obligation to the rest of the citizens. If not, we could be having these suits every other week."

However, Weintraub is involved in another suit against the county, this one over the county's attempt to change zoning on Crane Island from conservation to residential. He said he wouldn't stop taking legal action against the government if he feels it is warranted.

"They were just firing a warning shot across my bow," he said. "But if the county continues to violate the law and I could get public support, I would sue the county again."

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Easter is a little early this year

Fernandina is getting ready to celebrate Easter a little early this year. *Fernandina's Finest Easter*, the fourth in the Wilson Mystery Series, is finally printed and on the shelves at Books Plus. While I have worked on the first three books of the Wilson mysteries, this is the first book that carries my solo byline.

The story begins when Sue Nell Borden, who's come back home after her fiance's death, finds a puppy on her porch one Easter morning. Little does she know that this cute retriever is a very remarkable canine, but the local veterinarian discovers the pup's amazing secret. He quickly realizes that it's going to take both him and the dog – as well as some sleuthing by Fernandina's Finest – to save Sue Nell.

Meanwhile, Sergeant Jon Stewart, working for the newly promoted Captain Wilson, is chasing whoever is vandalizing downtown stores. Soon the sergeant begins to wonder if these homegrown thugs are in cahoots with a sinister stranger who's come



CITY SIDEBAR

Cara Curtin

It's a good read, if I do say so myself, and contains the mix of homicide and history that this series is known for. Thanks to the Amelia Island Museum of History, as well as several friends who helped me with my research, I have featured the Bailey House, Villa Las Palmas and the Tabby House in the story. I also included a little bit about the history of Memorial United Methodist Church and Trinity Methodist Church.

As I worked on the manuscript during the past year or so, I became aware that a number of people are unfamiliar with the Gerbing name and don't know about Gus

to town for no good reason. Can Stewart – along with the vet, the dog and other unlikely cohorts – stop this murderer before he takes aim on Sue Nell and her pup?

Gerbings contribution to both horticulture and Amelia Island. So, with the help of Mrs. Jane Philips and her daughter Jane Philips Collins, I created a mythical descendant of Gus Gerbing so I could include that fine gentleman's story in my own tale.

More than one of us in the Writers and Poets Society has lamented that we would have done things a little differently if we'd known that *Murder in Fernandina* was going to be the foundation of this series. David Tuttle was our lead writer, and he patiently led 10 of us through the long process from inception to publication. *Murder* had been on the shelves only a short time in 2004 when our readers began to ask us questions we'd left unanswered in this first book. David wrote *The Leopard of Fernandina* in 2005 to tie up those loose

ends, and I edited it for him. We soon discovered that we worked well together, so we teamed up to write *Fernandina's Lost Island*, released in 2007.

It was during this collaboration that each of us came up with our own plot to follow Lieutenant Wilson on his next adventure.

We planned to write separate books, but promised to help each other with the creative process. I started *Fernandina's Finest Easter* shortly after *Lost Island* appeared, and David began his own writing project.

It was a great blow when David died as I approached the halfway mark in my manuscript. I was counting on him to help me tell Sue Nell's story. I also wanted David to tell me more about the hilarious adventures of Shorty Livingstone. It was not to be.

The bright spot in this sad tale is that David bequeathed me his manuscript for *The Pelican of Fernandina*. Even as *Fernandina's Finest Easter* begins to dawn, I am beginning to dream of Pelicans.



HEATHER A. PERRY/NEWS-LEADER

Kay Ellen Brock, a Nassau County school bus driver for 18 years, says her job has taught her patience.

▼ MAY I HELP YOU? 'One of the best'

HEATHER A. PERRY
News-Leader

maintains discipline, and is concerned for students' welfare and safety.

A school bus driver for 18 years, Brock went through the 40-hour state school bus driver training as well as required in-service training each year.

She enjoys working with the children and takes pride in making sure all of her riders are safe on their journey to and from school.

"I don't have too many issues with my bus route," said Brock. "I have learned how to deal with schools and parents by keeping the communication lines open."

"I tell the kids, you respect me and I'll respect you. For the most part, they're a pretty good bunch."

Maintaining order on the bus is just one task on a list that includes keeping track of all students, inspecting the bus before its two daily runs, and taking students on field trips as required.

When not driving the bus, Brock teaches preschool at the Amelia Island Parent Cooperative Preschool.

Leisure time finds her spending time with daughters Summer, Autumn and Jamie as well as the four-footed members of the family, dogs Gunner, Lori and Moon and cats Abel and Dear.

Originally from Tennessee, Brock has lived in Nassau County for 30 years.

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THE BEAUTIFUL BEACHES of the Atlantic are less than 300 ft from your back door. This spacious 3BR/2BA home is light and bright with a study that could also be used as a 6th bedroom or office. The large kitchen and dining area overlook the ocean. Over 3000 sq ft, close to shopping, recreation, restaurants and all the great things Amelia Island has to offer. \$649,000 MLS#50614

LOVELY BRICK HOME, 1st Miles to the Beach. Formal dining room, spacious kitchen with breakfast nook. Split BR. Large master suite with garden tub and shower. The sunroom is enclosed with windows. Beautiful low maintenance landscaping and irrigation system. The backyard is fenced. \$298,500 MLS#49880

STUNNING HOME in a wonderful setting overlooking lake, very open plan, great room, w/ fireplace, study, 3BR/2BA, split BR design, 10' ceilings, Anderson fr. Door, granite counter tops, tile floors, new HVAC. Immaculate Gated Community, swimming pool, tennis, yacht club membership avail. Lowest price for such a gorgeous home. \$379,000 MLS#48423

SPOUSIAS - 4 BR /3BA, oaks in Lancelord Creek Plantation. Nested amidst the oaks on a very large lot. A large living room opens to the sunroom. The gourmet kitchen features granite counters and stainless steel appliances. The master suite is on the first floor and the other bedrooms are on the second floor. The sunroom opens to screened in ground pool. Covered front porch. \$549,000 MLS# 50371

BESTLY REMODELED 2 BR / 2 BA condo in gated Amelia Island Plantation on the south end of Amelia Island. Tile flooring, granite counters in kitchen, screened porch nestled under shading oaks. Swimming pool. Excellent investment in an established vacation resort. \$339,000 MLS#50142

Lovely 3 BR / 2 BA central to everything on Amelia Island. Remodeled with tile in living areas, laminate in bedrooms. Built-ins in dining area and updated baths. Located in a great neighborhood. Quiet setting with nice landscaping and large backyard. Heated and cooled garage and county taxes. \$265,000 MLS#49258

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A moving story

So I moved recently. I quit my lodgings on the beach for a place a little less – how do I put this – overflowing with roommates and dogs, and I am quickly rediscovering the joys and woes of living alone.

See, when I first came to Fernandina Beach a year and a half ago, I had literally one weekend in which to secure living quarters before reporting to work. One could argue that I didn't plan that well. Yes, one could argue that, but one would be extremely petty to do so. At any rate, with time so short I took the first option I found – namely, answering a “roommate wanted” ad in this very paper.

Now, roommates can be great, but there comes a time in one's life (Thursday, usually) when one begins to feel that one is too old to continue living like a college freshman. Having reached that time in my own personal life, I struck out on my own and acquired a spacious apartment.

This has been a boon to me, as I can kick back on my couch – a couch I never have to share – and stretch my legs without encountering someone else's dog. I can open the cabinets with the assurance that the food contained therein will always be mine. Any objectionable young people who appear in my home will be there because I invited them, not because they're a roommate's obnoxious college chums. And of course, I can now watch “Commando” anytime I please without worrying that a less cultured roommate will deride it as garbage.

Things are not all sunshine and roses and Arnold Schwarzenegger bloodbaths, however. There's something about living alone that I had forgotten during my time in the roommate wilderness: When you're on your own, the only stuff in your house will be the stuff that you, personally, own.

Having divested myself of a lot of this stuff when I moved in with roommates, I now find myself tragically short on essentials.

The couch that I don't have to share with anyone, for instance, is a recent acquisition. For the first few days in my new place, I sat on the floor. I came very close to buying some soup last week before remembering that I no longer possessed a pot, a bowl or a can opener. Also, I have no microwave.

True, in my kitchen is a large, roughly cube-shaped appliance that my mother assures me can be used to heat food, but I am entirely unfamiliar with its operation. All I know is that I opened the door and looked in, and it's very, very dark in there.

It's not that I am without any essentials.

For instance, I have a large, inflatable rubber raft in my guestroom closet. How I came to possess a large rubber raft while not owning, say, a toaster, is a story that involves a keg party, Wal-Mart, New Zealand, an amateur portrait photographer and a magazine editor. I will not elaborate further, except to say ducks were also involved.

Surprisingly enough, the raft has not really come in handy in my new place. Lord knows I tried to figure out a way to put it to use on the night I moved in. Failing that, I ended up sitting on the floor of my empty living room, eating a salami sandwich from a paper towel and drinking warm Coke from a plastic cup.

It was the best night at home I'd had in years.

Ryan Smith is a reporter at the News-Leader. E-mail him at rsmith@fbnewsleader.com.

LETTERS WELCOME

Send letters by e-mail to: mparnell@fbnewsleader.com or mail letters to: Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 766, Fernandina Beach, FL 32035. On line at fbnewsleader.com

VIEWPOINT/ROBERT P. HANKS/AMELIA ISLAND PLANTATION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Plantation ‘is a very special place’

Editor's note: This letter, dated Nov. 18, was sent to all Amelia Island Plantation property owners.

Fellow Community Members:

We are all aware of the economic challenges which face us globally, nationally, locally, individually and in our Community. We are indeed in difficult times. The story of Amelia Island Plantation, with its unsettled and uncertain circumstances, is well understood and is still being written.

Our Community has three major stakeholders. Each performs a different function. The Company sells real estate and runs a resort and conference center. The Club brings its members together for recreational and social activities. The Community Association serves like a small municipality. It has a security department, maintains common properties, parks, roads, dunes and drainage and operates a property owners' clubhouse.

The state of the Community Association is good. Our finances are strong. Generally, revenues are being received on time. Expenses

have been reexamined and adjusted throughout 2009 and are under control. We are living within a conservative budget. We have a plan for the future.

Our 2009 and 2010 budgets are both in excess of \$3 million. Well over half of each of these budgets is spent on security and common properties. Nearly 30 percent of our revenue comes from assessments from the Company. Our 2010 budget includes cost cutting, deferral of capital expenditures, as well as an assessment increase of \$100. This proposed budget is based on a number of assumptions. It assumes no revenue flow from the Company in 2010. With the expectation of delayed revenues, expenses have also been deferred. Budget cuts and deferrals have been

made using the priorities of maintaining our quality of life and protecting our investments.

We believe that these budget issues are temporary and short-term. And, we believe that when revenues flow again in a normal way, expenses and capital investments will proceed in a normal way and we'll be back to business as usual.

I am optimistic and believe we must face challenges with a positive outlook. We have successfully navigated rough waters before. We will again. Amelia Island Plantation has been and is a very special place. I am confident that when the waters calm, our Community will continue to be that same special place, with all the same wonderful qualities that drew us here and with a hope for a future as promising as its past.

We must all continue to work to achieve our Common Vision that Amelia Island Plantation be a “superior resort and residential Community.” Together we can make it happen.

Robert P. Hanks is president of the Amelia Island Plantation Community Association.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Go fly a kite?

I took the long way home Friday afternoon and was rewarded with a spectacle the likes of which I've never seen in my life. Traveling east-bound on Sadler, the road straightens out and makes a beeline for the ocean. Some distance from the end I couldn't help but notice a kite high up in the air in the vicinity of the beach. Curiosity assumed command of my attention because it appeared to be a dog with a cape flowing from its shoulders in the superhero genre.

As I approached the roundabout, others began to reveal themselves. There were fish, red snapper, mahi mahi, even a big tarpon. “What in the world is this?” I said to myself. Then came the big stuff – I mean really big. They looked like full-fledged parachutes. I could just imagine a little kid with his heels dug into the sand struggling to keep from being carried up into the sky and out of sight. I parked the car, got out, approached the beach and was struck with a wonder to the eyes.

This kite was nine and a half feet in diameter at the front, tapering down to about three feet at the end with 60 feet in between. It was spinning counter clockwise displaying every color in the rainbow and sporting at least a dozen 20 to 30 foot streaming tails equal in brilliance. There were other configurations: a five foot tie-dyed pajama bear, an eight-foot superhero bear complete with a cape and a big peace sign on his chest, but the one that really took the cake was the “Titan.”

This thing was gargantuan! Jet-black with bright yellow trim, it sported twin 150-foot windsock tails that swayed about in tandem. Two hundred square feet of main body cast a large shadow upon the ground. Rated for a 30-mile per hour wind, it required about a 3/8 inch, 1,250-pound test, braided nylon line made fast to a telephone pole to hold it down. That “kite” could carry away a full-grown man.

All were owned by a fellow named Richard, along with his wife who had taken to kite-flying as a hobby in a most enthusiastic manner. The two largest ones retail for \$1,100 each. He said she wanted one called a Chinese dragon that was 250 feet in length and cost over \$6,000. I tried to remember the last time I flew a kite. As I recall, it cost 10 cents and came without the string. This gave me a whole new take on the old saying “go fly a kite.”

Richard Moser
Fernandina Beach

Kudos to ER

Two weeks ago I was in the emergency room at Baptist Nassau.



Everyone there from the receptionists to the nurses to the ER doctor (Dr. Forbaugh) was extremely kind, pleasant and forthcoming with all information I needed.

Thank you for making my emergency room experience as pleasant as possible. You did an excellent job!

Kathy Keller
Fernandina Beach

Who's the mob?

Just a few corrections to the Viewpoint (“Property rights, ‘mob rule’ in Old Town,” Nov. 18):

“The lots were for sale for five years and no one in Old Town came forward to buy.”

1. The lots were considered unbuildable by the state when sold to the current owners in 2003 for \$10,000.

2. The asking price is \$150,000.

“My mother wanted to park as closely as possible to the front door.”

3. This parking area is right at the junction of two streets and would endanger both the life of the driver and of other vehicles.

4. Old Town Guideline 3.53.2 states driveways are not permitted on the frontage corner of any corner for safety reasons.

“Professor Michael Harrison said the house would be a blight on the city for a 100 years or more.”

5. Actually the other Professor Harrison said, “The home to be built on lot 8 will, for 100 years or more, occupy a prominent position at the

entrance to OT – a uniquely historic area.”

6. The other Professor Harrison also interrupted when the writer of Viewpoint repeatedly referred to the proposed house as a 1,200-square-foot house, and as he was not corrected by the Historic District Council, she sought to provide the correct information.

“There were no violations.”

7. Those who attended the city commission meeting heard listed 15 violations that were clearly stated in the Land Development Code but which were “interpreted” or ignored by Community Development staff.

“Mob rule in Old Town.”

8. There are 44 homes in Old Town. There are 17 rental units. A petition was signed by more than 20 concerned property owners who are concerned to see the Land Development Code and the Old Town Guidelines being ignored by the city manager and Community Development staff.

Maybe there is mob rule in Fernandina but it is not in Old Town.

Jennifer Harrison

Old Town

Skip the turkey

Last week, a failed vice presidential candidate claimed that animals belong right next to the mashed potatoes. This week, our president is pardoning two turkeys. It's food for thought.

Each of us has the presidential

power to pardon a turkey this Thanksgiving. It shows our compassion for an innocent animal, as well as our concern for our family's and our planet's health. It's a most fitting way to give thanks for our own life, health and happiness.

The 270 million turkeys abused and slaughtered in the U.S. each year have nothing to give thanks for. They breathe toxic fumes in crowded sheds. Their beaks and toes are severed. At the slaughterhouse, workers cut their throats and dump them into boiling water, sometimes while still conscious.

Consumers too pay heavy price. Turkey flesh is laced with cholesterol and saturated fats that elevate the risk of heart disease, stroke and cancer. Careful adherence to government warning labels is required to avoid food poisoning. Turkey excrements pollute our water supplies.

This Thanksgiving, I won't be calling the Poultry Hot Line, or staying awake wondering how that turkey lived and died. I will be joining millions of other Americans in observing this joyful family holiday with nonviolent healthful products of the earth's bounty: vegetables, fruits, and grains.

A visit to my local supermarket or health food store and an Internet search on vegan Thanksgiving will provide me more recipes and delicious turkey alternatives than I can possibly use.

Robyn Potter

Fernandina Beach

Fastest-growing cancer in U.S.

Malignant melanoma has been the fastest growing cancer in America for the past 20 years. Currently, it's ranked eighth among occurrence of cancers in this country and accounts for nearly 2 percent of all cancer deaths, according to www.About.com, but is moving up the line.

It's just like me to want to be part of the in-crowd but this time I wish I'd been more selective.

I went in to get a mole checked that was a little suspicious and found out it was stage two, level four malignant melanoma. At first, I didn't know what any of those things meant but understood somehow that anything other than one was bad and four was really, really bad. Like anyone who finds out they have cancer, I now know exactly what all of those levels and stages mean from treatment to likely outcome.

I won't leave you hanging and will just tell you that all tests came back saying nothing had spread. That is very good news, particularly with skin cancer. If it had spread my survival rate would have jumped down to 50 percent or lower.

However, there's time for more Americans, young and old to do something early about this disease and stop the spread. First, we have to stop worshipping the sun at such a close proximity. Sure, this is America and we love to hang

out, and baby-boomers like me did so without regard when we were children. Back in the freewheeling '60's and '70's we slathered on cocoa butter and laid out on sand, which is like greasing up and then lying on top of a million little mirrors.

Some beachgoers even held those silver cardboard trays up to their face for added measure.

The tricky thing though about any kind of cancer is it takes years to develop so all of those really poor decisions we made back then are just now coming due after we've reformed. That means body checks for suspicious moles are in order and right now. Malignant melanoma is also one of the fastest moving cancers. Waiting can have dire consequences.

There are no other symptoms besides the visual until it's gone too far. But the good news is, because this cancer starts on the surface, our skin, we can see it in its earliest stages. Use this weapon and make an appointment.

Skin cancer when caught early is easily dealt with by removal of the tissue. But, unfor-

tunately it is the fastest growing cancer in America that is without any real protocols for chemotherapy or radiation. In other words, catch it early or else. It is the disease that killed Maureen Reagan, Ronald Reagan's daughter, in 2001 when she was only 60 years old.

Go to www.tiffanysmelanomafoundation.org and see a quick list of famous people who recently died from this disease. The site is emphasizing who dies from skin cancer

because too many people still assume that it's less deadly than all other forms of cancer. I got a lot of that myself.

The site was set up by the family of Tiffany Weirbach, a beautiful 24-year-old woman who died from skin cancer. She apparently loved flying so much she named her dog Cessna and was fond of riding Honda sport bikes. It goes without saying that her loss has left a hole in a lot of lives.

It's another typical trait of ours that we put off tasks that we don't really like. Going early and getting checked over every square inch of your body can save your life. In the meantime, treat the sun with the respect that it deserves. Avoid tanning beds, wear sunscreen even when driving, and don't attempt to tan the skin, especially of your children. It's not worth what might come next. Go get checked every one.

Martha@caglecartoons.com



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ADVENTURES

...

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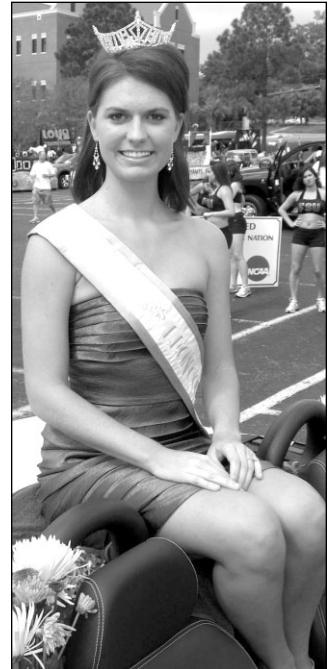
...

MORE

ADVENTURES

COMMUNITY

HOMECOMING ROYALTY



Cason Bledsoe, Florida State University senior and reigning Miss Leon County, rides in FSU's homecoming parade. A member of Alpha Gamma Delta and president of FSU's equestrian team, she is frequently on the dean's list. She is working towards a degree in family and child sciences with a minor in education and aspires to design an equestrian program for troubled children and teens. Bledsoe is the daughter of Emma Mills Bledsoe of Fernandina Beach and the granddaughter of Alice and the late Walter Mills, formerly of Fernandina Beach.

Much to do this winter at Callahan First Baptist



ing, Libby Sutton.

The Florida Baptist Mobile Dental Unit was in our area Sept. 28 through Oct. 2. It was located at First Baptist Church, Callahan this year. The unit was equipped to do fillings and remove teeth.

In order to qualify for these services, you had to make an appointment at First Baptist Callahan. If you are in need of services or know someone who is and want more information, contact the Northeast Florida Baptist Association office at 225-5941.

Ten Great Dates to Energize Your Marriage. Reclaim the spark, connection and creativity you felt when you were first dating in your marriage. Upcoming dates are Dec. 4 and Dec. 18. Childcare will be provided by reservations. Contact Doug Hodges at doug@callahanfbc.org or (904) 879-0488 to make reservations, or if you need more information.

Singles Fellowship was hosted by Jane Murphy Oct. 16. See Sunday bulletin for details.

On Oct. 28 Children's Choir at ABC traveled to Osprey Village to sing for the residents.

The annual Pig Pickin' at Amelia was enjoyed Nov. 7. Nov. 26 is Thanksgiving Day. Thank you, Lord, for many blessings.

Operation Christmas Child Collection Week was Nov. 9-13. Our goal was 85 boxes. This helps bring the joy of Christmas to children around the world by filling up a shoe box. Yulee Baptist Church is having pastor search committee meetings at the association office and their church. Pray for this important office to be filled with God's choice.

Northeast Florida news taken from our *Florida Baptist Witness*: Dunns Creek Baptist Church honored Pastor Dave Molmberg on his 20th anniversary Oct. 3. The surprise roast was accomplished with the help of his wife, Sherif.

Irene Weller read several interesting and amusing papers. We just laughed a lot and enjoyed each one. We also received a blessing from some stories that others read.

At 11:30 a.m., Pastor Dwayne gave thanks for our food. We were dismissed to enjoy yet another meal. With good pork roast and pork barbecue prepared by Joe and Bonnie Merritt, along with the good that was contributed by all people that attended. As always, the food was delicious, but this time, it was just the best ever.

Keep in mind we meet the first Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. and would be delighted to have you join us there. Come, bring a covered dish or two and a friend or two. You will receive a blessing.

Pastor Neil Helton would also like to express gratitude to all for decorating (Wow, it was beautiful), the setup, takedown or had or had anything to do with making that evening the wonderful success that it was.

The community is invited to experience a 1940s Christmas homecoming Dec. 11 and 13 at 7 p.m. at Amelia Baptist Church. This musical includes a seven-member drama cast and 45 singers from five area churches, accompanied by a 13-piece instrumental ensemble. We will have special recognition of our war veterans. No admission. For children through age 4, childcare is available with reservations. Call 261-9527.

Women's Ministry, Amelia, save the date Jan. 30 for

Ladies Night Out. June Grose was hostess for the Hazel Allen Circle Oct. 13. Sixteen members were present. Thelma Lewis gave the program. She had written a jingle honoring LeJean Allan, the former chairman of the circle. June presented LeJean and Thelma gifts. After the business meeting, songs were sung. June served a lovely luncheon, which she had prepared. June Darby is the new circle chairman.

Prayer Threads met Oct. 21 in the Family Life Center 102-103. Prayer Threads is a group of ladies who meet to pray and sew together biweekly at Callahan First Baptist Church. The group sews items for our clown hospital ministry. This ministry needs more toys and prayer shawls. No skills necessary.

They are happy to teach crocheting, sewing or crafting. You may want to bring a lunch bag. If you would like to participate but aren't crafty, they can use donations of small individually wrapped chocolate bars, fiber fill for stuffing or other sewing supplies. Any questions should be directed to Sherry Spaulding at (904) 879-5543.

I hope many of you who know Bobby Hart read the nice article in the *Times-Union* Nov. 8 about Veterans Day, "A Family's Medals." I read all the letters he wrote to the *Nassau County Record* when he was serving in Iraq a few years ago, tears streaming down my face many times. I had the pleasure of knowing him before he left.

The late Robert Hart, Bobby's father, temporarily dropped out of high school during WWII, joined the army and landed on the beaches of Normandy on the third day of the D-Day invasion. He came away with two bronze stars, apparently for bravery on the battlefield.

His son, Bobby, earned a bronze star for meritorious service in a war zone with the Army reserves a few years ago in Iraq.

And Bobby's son, Dustin, a captain in the Air Force, returned in July from Afghanistan, where he too, earned a bronze star for meritorious service.

How rare is that? The bronze star is one of the four highest medals given by the military. Bob Buehn, the city of Jacksonville's military liaison, puts it in perspective. Buehn served in the military 30 years. But, until now, he had never heard of three generations of any family earning one. Maybe nobody should be surprised.

The Harts, after all, are a military family. Both of Dustin's grandfathers were in the military; so were all five great-uncles. But his father was never supposed to go and, but for an act of God, Dustin would never have enlisted. He wouldn't have been alive to do it.

Bobby Hart says his uncles wanted him to join after high school, but he had no interest. "I didn't want to get my hair cut," he quips, stroking his bald head. He changed his mind a few years ago.

Dustin, on the other hand, dreamed his entire life of serving in the military. Then, fate intervened.

While attending the University of Florida and preparing to enter the Air Force flight school, he paused one day to watch a paintball game. A stray paintball pellet slammed into his eye, detaching the retina.

When Bobby got out, he came to surprise me one day with roses and a big bear hug.

Three Harts, all related, all military men, all bronze star winners.

"May our Great Heavenly Father continue to watch over us and keep us in His loving care."

WEDDINGS/ENGAGEMENTS

Jones-Hamrick

Anna Lynne Jones and Joseph Stewart Hamrick, both of Fernandina Beach, will be married at 5 p.m. Jan. 23, 2010, in Jesup, Ga., with Wayne Shelton officiating. The reception will follow at 910 Ski Lake Drive, Jesup.



Miss Jones, Mr. Hamrick



Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman

groom is the son of David and Jan Kauffman of Fernandina Beach.

MILITARY NEWS

■ Navy Seaman Apprentice Melissa D. Jackson, daughter of Lisa Jackson of Yulee and Melvin D. Jackson of Jacksonville, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Jackson completed a variety of training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is

"Battle Stations," an exercise that gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

Jackson is a 2005 graduate of Mandarin High School of Jacksonville.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2009

8am - 11am (some stores longer)

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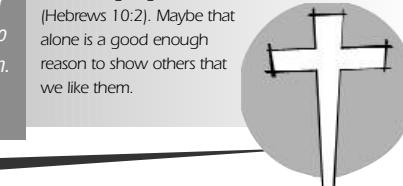
I am fearfully and wonderfully made, Psalm 139:14

Show People That You Like Them



How do we show people that we like them? Are we friendly and helpful to those with whom we come in contact with each day? Do we greet strangers with a smile and a friendly word, or are we too busy with our own life that we don't get involved unless it can benefit us in some way? And although we may sometimes be a little hesitant to speak to someone because we are unsure of their reaction, most people are indeed quite friendly. Often, a simple personal comment such as, "I like your jacket," or "nice shirt" is all we need to say to show someone that we like something about them. Recently, I saw a gentleman at a filling station and I asked him how he liked his new car. He quickly replied that he really liked it and he was glad he had bought it. Although we only talked for a few minutes, it was nice talking to a stranger and I think perhaps we both felt better when we parted. The Bible tells us that we should be kind to strangers because we never know when we may be entertaining angels (Hebrews 10:2). Maybe that alone is a good enough reason to show others that we like them.

- R.S.V. Matthew 5:16



DON'T LITTER SPAY ~ NEUTER

A Public Service Announcement by The News-Leader

RELIGION

A stick, a crowd and a bit of wisdom

"What on earth is going on?" my friend said as he rounded the corner and saw the crowd. There, standing in the middle of the road, were several of his neighbors, one of which was holding a stick. As my friend got closer, the reason became clear. Now please understand, my friend is as easy going a guy as you'll ever meet, but the idea of someone using a large stick to solve a neighborhood problem was more than he could bear. So, he decided to intervene.

As his truck door closed and he walked toward the crowd, all he could think about was how he would approach the problem. Thankfully, he knew some things that the guy holding the stick didn't. For instance, large turtles blocking the road don't respond well when poked at. I did



PULPIT NOTES

*Pastor
Rob Goyette*

If it hadn't been for my friend's wise approach from the turtle's backside, and his willingness to lift him up and relocate him to the other side of the road, there's

mention the fact that the problem was a turtle, didn't I? Well, that's what it was and at that moment he was hunkered down and going nowhere. With his head just barely visible and legs drawn up into his shell, the concerned neighbors and frightened turtle were at a stand-off.

Now perhaps you're saying, "Pastor Rob must be running out of ideas for his articles; this one, like his turtle, is going nowhere." Well, if you want the truth, I shot most of my idea arrows about a year and half ago. Since then, I just take it week by week. Somehow, I think God enjoys it that way. It keeps me leaning on Him. Either way, the day I wrote this article, I saw a turtle crossing the

road and thought about my friend's story and then about you and me.

Isn't it interesting how two parties wanting the exact same thing can find themselves at an impasse? Think about it. All the turtle was looking for was to get where he was going, the same thing those driving through the neighborhood wanted. And, who would have thought, the answer to the problem was all in the angle from which it was approached. I don't know about you, but the few times I've tried using the stick method -metaphorically speaking of course - things have never worked out. Even though I'm sure the neighbors were trying to help the turtle by preventing him from being run over, the stick approach somehow didn't communicate that message very

well.

The point; effective conflict resolution begins when one party is willing to lift the other party up - not by carrying a big stick. Like my friend who understood the defensive posture the turtle had assumed, and as a result chose a different and more productive method, so we are wise if we do the same. At a time when so many people find themselves relationally stuck, perhaps it's time to try a different approach.

"Happy is the man that finds wisdom, and the man that gets understanding. Her ways (wisdom) are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace." (Proverbs 3:13, 17)

*Robert L. Goyette is pastor of Living Waters World Outreach Center
rgoy@livingwatersoutreach.org*

RELIGION NOTES

Bus ministry

Blackrock Baptist Church has started a bus ministry in the Yulee area, for children and their families, including a fantastic learning experience in Sunday School followed by children's church and more exciting games. Adults go to regular worship. The route covers every house between I-95 in Yulee and the Shave Bridge. The bus runs on Sunday mornings.

Sunday School starts at 9:15 a.m. Worship services start at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 96362 Blackrock Road in Yulee. For information, call 261-6220.

Sounds of Christmas

Bell ringing for The Salvation Army Hope House begins today at four area locations and will expand to nine just after Thanksgiving. Organizers are still in need of bell ringers both on the island and in Yulee. If you, your club, group or ministry can donate just two hours of your time showing the love of Jesus with your smile and a joyful "Merry Christmas" greeting, the Salvation Army needs you. Call Mary Moore or Susan Lane at 321-0435 to schedule.

Shabbat service

The Jewish Community of Amelia Island will hold a Shabbat Service at the home of Deborah and Ronald Price at 6:30 p.m. tonight. For further information contact Deborah Price at (904) 310-6060 or DEB203@aol.com.

Men's conference

The Men's Department of Greater Fernandina Beach Church of God, 305 S. Fourth St., will celebrate its annual Men's

Conference Weekend beginning today at 7:30 p.m., with a prayer breakfast Saturday at 9 a.m. and ending Sunday at 11:30 a.m. All men are welcome to share in the event.

Clothes giveaway

Harbor Shores Ministries is a non-profit organization that is accepting tax-deductible donations to help local community needs.

On Nov. 21 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., members will give away clothing at Harbor Shores Apostolic Church in Victoria's Place Shopping Center, across A1A from Super Wal-Mart in Yulee. Participants may also register for one of several turkeys to be given away.

To donate clothes or items for the action center, call 225-0963.

Love Ministry

The Love Ministry invites the community to hear Co-Pastor Tiffany Donley of Yah Weh Deliverance Ministries in Callahan. Meet at Covenant Community Church, 528 S. Eighth St., Nov. 21 at 10 a.m.

Celtic service

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave., continues to offer a Celtic Service the fourth Sunday of the month, filled with music, candlelight and opportunities for contemplation and meditation. The next service is Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. The community is welcome. Call 261-4293.

Church meeting

In pursuit of its 2010 particularization,

RELIGION Continued on 11A

THANKSGIVING EVENTS

Canned goods drive

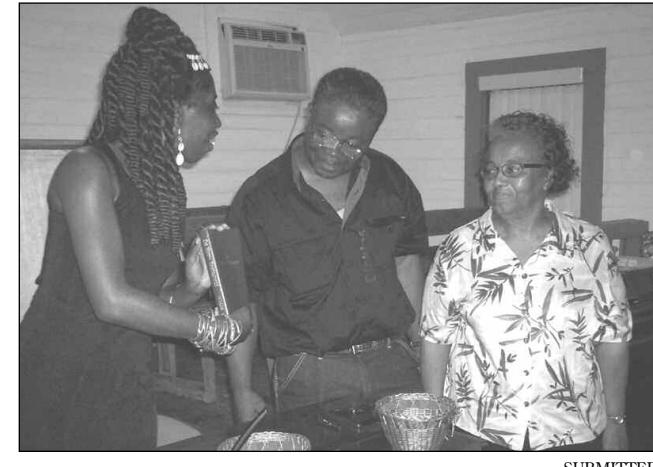
Grace Community Church is collecting canned goods and turkeys for distribution the week of Thanksgiving. If you are a family or know of a family that is in need and could use a food care package for Thanksgiving, contact the church at 491-0363 or office@gracenasau.com. You may also contact the church to make a canned good or cash for turkeys donation.

Community service

Memorial United Methodist Church will hold a Community Thanksgiving Service on Nov. 24 at 7 p.m. at 601 Centre St. The message, "Giving Thanks in All Things," will be delivered by Dr. Doug Ganyo, associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church. The interdenominational service is sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance of Nassau County. All are welcome.

Mount Olive celebration

The Mount Olive Historical Restoration Society



SUBMITTED

Queen Quet, chieftess of the Gullah/Geechee Nation, presents a New Testament Bible, Gullah translation to William Jefferson and his mother Laura Rhodes, descendants of the founders of Little Mount Olive in Nassauville. A service of Thanksgiving will be held Nov. 28.

invites the community to join the Hooper family of Nassauville in a Thanksgiving praise service and history presentation on Nov. 28 at 4 p.m. at Little Mount Olive Baptist Church on Old Nassauville Road. Following the service, the society will present part three of its series on the Rural Black History of

Nassau County with a discussion on rural education in the early 20th century. All who wish to join the worship and share their memories of rural education are welcome. The program is presented in cooperation with the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Committee of Northeast Florida. For information call (904) 502-1992.

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- In Jesus Christ His Son who saved us

- In the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us

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Morning Prayer 4th Sunday of each month 10:00 am

Rev J. Michael Bowhay, Rector

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First Baptist Church

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Fernandina Beach, FL

904-261-3617

www.FBFirst.net

Rev. Jeff Overton, Sr Pastor

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601 Centre Street

261-5769

Brett Opalinski, Pastor

Hollie Tapley, Associate Pastor

Traditional Family Worship

8:30am + 11:00am

Contemporary Worship

9:45am in Maxwell Hall

AROUND SCHOOL

CLASS NOTES

Father-daughter ball

Faith Christian Academy presents its 10th Annual Father/Daughter Ball at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island Grand Ballroom on Feb. 6, 2010 from 7-10 p.m. This year's theme is "Cinderella." Tickets are \$85 for father and daughter and \$40 for each additional daughter and include a gift bag and memory book. There will be hors d'oeuvres, live music featuring Les DeMerle and professional photography. Fathers and daughters of all ages are welcome. Seating is limited.

For tickets visit Faith Christian Academy, 96282 Brady Point Road, Fernandina Beach, or call 321-2137.

Art for kids

The Island Art Association will offer Children's Art Nov. 21 from 10-11 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. for ages 8 to 12. Mommy & Me classes will be held Nov. 23 from 10-11 a.m. for ages 2 to 5. A caregiver must accompany children.

Classes are taught by Diane Hamburg or Amber McHugh. Materials are provided. Call the gallery at 261-7020 to reserve a place. Class size is limited. The gallery is located at 18 N. Second St. Visit www.islandart.org.

Kinderstudios

The dance students of Kinderstudios, located at 1897 Island Walk Way, will perform Nov. 25 at 6 p.m. at the lighting of the Christmas tree at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island; Nov. 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the lighting of the Christmas tree in downtown Fernandina Beach; and Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. during the lighted holiday parade.

Santa Claus will visit Kinderstudios on Dec. 12 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Students will enjoy hot chocolate, cookies and a gifts exchange. For information e-mail Alexandra Carroll at Alexandra.kindermusik@comcast.net.

Free supplies

A school supplies giveaway for Nassau County teachers and paraprofessionals will be held Dec. 1 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at School House Supplies at ARC/Nassau, 86051 Hamilton St. (off US 17 north in Yulee).

Participants may fill three bags with supplies for their classrooms. Bring your own or ARC can supply the bags (no rolling bags please). For information call Rhonda Barcus at 225-9355. Please bring ID to show you are an educator.

Student art contest

All students from pre-K through 12th grade are invited to participate in this year's Micah's Place Art Contest in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This year's theme is "Creating a World of Kindness." Deadline is Dec. 1. Prizes will

be awarded in age categories at a ceremony in January. For more information call 491-6364, ext. 108, or visit www.micahsplace.org/calendar.

Foundation lunch

The Fernandina Beach High School Foundation Holiday Luncheon featuring Chef Williams Castleberry and the FBHS culinary students will be held at noon Dec. 6 at the Fernandina Beach Woman's Club, 201 Jean Lafitte Blvd. Sponsorship levels begin at \$40. Call Alison Douglas at 491-8069 by Nov. 25 to RSVP. The foundation supports the school, its students and faculty.

Christmas Spectacular'

Kinderstudios presents its fourth annual "Christmas Spectacular" musical production for the community on Dec. 19 at the Fernandina Beach Middle School auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5. For information e-mail Alexandra Carroll at Alexandra.kindermusik@comcast.net.

Computer giveaway

Jacksonville/Fernandina Beach oncologist Dr. Scot Ackerman is giving away two free computers to two local youngsters that do a "good deed" in their community. Ackerman is holding a "Do A Good Deed Contest" now until the middle of December. To be eligible the child must be 18 years or under and write a detailed essay about the "good deed" they have done in their community.

The winners of the "Do a Good Deed Contest" will receive a free computer in December at Ackerman's office (10881 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville/1340 South 18th St., Suite 103, Medical Office Building A, Fernandina Beach).

Nassau County contestants should send their essays to 1340 South 18th St., Suite 103, Medical Office Building A, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034, ATTN: "Do a Good Deed Contest" - or call 277-2700.

Weekend courses

Weekend classes for the spring semester are being offered at both North Campus and Nassau Center; choose from many general education credit courses that lead to an Associate in Arts degree. Friday and Saturday offerings in English, math, science, and social science disciplines will jumpstart your progress in one semester.

For a complete schedule of Friday and Saturday courses visit www.fscj.edu. Classes begin in January. Academic advising and financial aid assistance are available. Contact the North Campus at (904) 766-6761 or the Nassau Center at 548-4432.

Marching band earns 'Superior' rating



SUBMITTED
A member of the Mighty Marching Pirate Band.

The Fernandina Beach Mighty Marching Pirate Band received a Superior rating Nov. 7 at the Florida Bandmasters, District Evaluation at Fletcher High School in Jacksonville. A Superior rating is the highest rating a band can receive.

This is not the first award for the Mighty Marching Pirates for the 2009-10 marching season. The band received Best in Class in a Florida Marching Band Coalition competition in Gainesville at Santa Fe High School on Oct. 31.

The Mighty Marching Pirate Band proceeded to compete in finals for the second time this year. The first trip to finals came on Oct. 10 at the "Echoes of Excellence" competition held at Middleburg High School. This opportunity

The Mighty Marching Pirate Band will travel to St. Petersburg to complete in the Florida Marching Band Coalition State Finals Competition on Saturday.

came after receiving one of the Top 10 highest score from all the bands participating.

The Mighty Marching Pirate Band will travel to St. Petersburg to compete in the Florida Marching Band Coalition State Finals Competition on Saturday.

Fernandina Beach High School Mighty Marching Pirate Band has been under the direction of Johnny Robinson for the past 23 years. Robinson has been assisted by Mary Sikes, Assistant Director - Head of Operations for the last 21 years.

SCHOOL PICTURES



SUBMITTED

Raising funds for autism

"Team Joel Pace Piano" took part in the "2009 Walk Now for Autism" on Nov. 8. The piano students and friends walked in support of piano student Jack Summers. Teams from all over the area took part and raised more than \$40,000 to support autism education and resources locally. For more information about local autism resources, visit www.joelpacepiano.vpweb.com for links to their sites.



Relay for Life

Amelia Island Montessori School participated in Relay for Life on Nov. 7 and 8, the annual event to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. This year's Relay for Life was held at Main Beach in Fernandina Beach.

SUBMITTED

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RELIGION

Continued from 9A
 Grace Community Church will hold a congregational meeting Nov. 22, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship service to nominate men to become elders, to elect a pastoral committee and report on finances. Interested parties are invited. For information, reach Pastor Dave Bradsher at 491-0363 or pastor@gracenas.sau.com.

Pastor appreciation

On Nov. 22 at 3 p.m. Impact Your World Church will celebrate Pastor Kelvin Thompson during a special Pastor Appreciation Program at the Full Service School, 86207 Felmor Road, Yulee. Everyone is invited. For more information contact the church office at 261-9072.

'Grateful hearts'

Do you need an opportunity

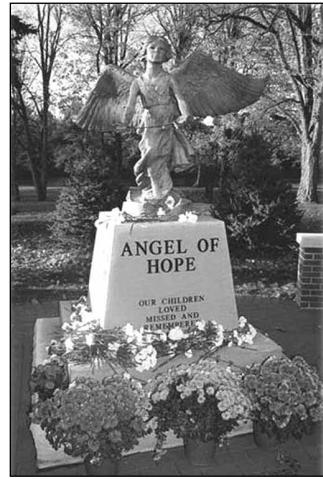
'Angel of Hope' service Dec. 6

The annual Bereaved Parent Candlelight Memorial Service will be held Sunday, Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. at the Angel of Hope Statue in St. Peter's Episcopal Church Cemetery on North Eighth Street and then proceeding at 5:30 p.m. to St. Peter's sanctuary for the memorial service.

On Dec. 3, 2006 the Fernandina Beach Bereaved Parent Support Group's Angel of Hope statue was dedicated in the cemetery. It joins nearly 100 Angel of Hope Statues in other communities across the country.

The statue honors the lives of children who have "gone too soon" from this world and serves as a place of hope and healing for parents, families and friends dealing with the tragic loss of a child. The angel's face is that of a child, its arms raised, as a child waiting to be lifted. In its wing is inscribed the word "hope."

To honor the children's memories, memorial bricks engraved with their names are being placed around the base of the Angel of Hope statue. Memorial bricks may be purchased for a \$100 donation. All bricks are 4 by 8 inches, with three lines for engraving - 15 characters per line, including



SUBMITTED
Fernandina's Angel of Hope, in St. Peter's Episcopal Church Cemetery.

spacing. For information e-mail kelly3152@bellsouth.net.

The Dec. 6 service is provided by the Bereaved Parent Support Group, Inc., a non-profit, non-denominational organization for parents and families that have experienced the death of a child. The service honors their children and celebrates their lives. To reserve an angel for your child and for more information, call 261-5981.

ty before the hustle and bustle of the holiday season to reflect on all that you are thankful for, and give thanks through prayer and singing? Providence Presbyterian is offering a time for those "With Grateful Hearts" to join others at the church Nov. 22

at 6 p.m. to express thanks in creative ways.

The church is located at 96537 Parliament Dr., Suite C, off Nassauville Road. Call 432-8118.

Worship and lunch

Join Salvation Army Hope

House each Tuesday at noon for its Weekly Worship Service and Fellowship Lunch.

All are welcome the week of Thanksgiving to thank the Lord for the many and diverse blessings He has showered upon us individually, as a community and as a nation. Come share something you are grateful for.

A fellowship lunch will be served about 1 p.m. following the service. For information call 321-0435 or stop by the Hope House, 410 South Date St.

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE PERMIT

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of its intent to issue a permit to City of Fernandina Beach, John Mandrick, 1180 S 5th St, Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034 to operate an existing 3.50 million gallon per day (MGD) annual average daily flow (AADF) permitted capacity domestic wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) consisting of an influent treatment unit, effluent and sludge handling units, and two parallel treatment trains as follows: (1) a 2.50 MGD AADF permitted capacity oxidation ditch treatment train, and (2) a 1.00 MGD AADF permitted capacity contact stabilization treatment train. All of the raw wastewater from the influent pumping station is directed to a pretreatment unit and a flow splitter box for separation to the two treatment trains. The oxidation ditch treatment train consists of an aeration basin anoxic basin, a secondary clarifier, and a chlorine contact chamber. The contact stabilization treatment train consists of a contact tank, a return activated sludge stabilization tank, a secondary clarifier, and a chlorine contact chamber. The flows from the two treatment trains are combined in an effluent gravity sewer and conveyed to a dechlorination chamber and Parshall flume. The treated effluent is then discharged to the Amelia River. Waste activated sludge is treated in two aerobic digesters that operate in series. Treated residuals are dewatered with a rotary press and then hauled to Camden County Landfill for disposal. The permit also authorizes the removal of the contact stabilization treatment train from service, conversion of the stabilization tank into a third digester, removal of the existing mechanical screen from service, installation of a second backup manual bar screen, installation of a new mechanical screening device upstream of the influent pumps, and construction and operation a new 2.50 MGD AADF design capacity oxidation ditch treatment train. The facility is located at latitude 30°39'32.68" N, longitude 81°27'50.66" W on 1007 S 5th St, Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034-4011 in Nassau County.

The intent to issue and application file are available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's Northeast District Office, 7825 Baymeadows Way, Suite B200, Jacksonville, Florida 32256-7557, at phone number (904)807-3300.

The Department will issue the permit with the attached conditions unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, within fourteen days of receipt of notice. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Under Rule 62-110.106(4), Florida Administrative Code, a person may request an extension of the time for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. The request must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel before the end of the time period for filing a petition for an administrative hearing.

Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, must be filed within fourteen days of publication of the notice or within fourteen days of receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, however, also allows that any person who has asked the Department for notice of agency action may file a petition within fourteen days of receipt of such notice, regardless of the date of publication.

The petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition or request for an extension of time within fourteen days of receipt of notice shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information, as indicated in Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code:

- (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
- (b) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the determination;
- (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the Department's decision;
- (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action;
- (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action; and
- (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the Department to take with respect to the Department's proposed action.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Department's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Department have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

In addition to requesting an administrative hearing, any petitioner may elect to pursue mediation. The election may be accomplished by filing with the Department a mediation agreement with all parties to the proceeding (i.e., the applicant, the Department, and any person who has filed a timely and sufficient petition for a hearing). The agreement must contain all the information required by Rule 28-106.404, Florida Administrative Code. The agreement must be received by the Clerk in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, within ten days after the deadline for filing a petition, as set forth above. Choosing mediation will not adversely affect the right to a hearing if mediation does not result in a settlement.

As provided in Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, the timely agreement of all parties to mediate will toll the time limitations imposed by Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, for holding an administrative hearing and issuing a final order. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the mediation must be concluded within sixty days of the execution of the agreement. If mediation results in settlement of the administrative dispute, the Department must enter a final order incorporating the agreement of the parties. Persons seeking to protect their substantial interests that would be affected by such a modified final decision must file their petitions within fourteen days of receipt of this notice, or they shall be deemed to have waived their right to a proceeding under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. If mediation terminates without settlement of the dispute, the Department shall notify all parties in writing that the administrative hearing processes under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, remain available for disposition of the dispute, and the notice will specify the deadlines that then will apply for challenging the agency action and electing remedies under those two statutes.

Garden Show launches website

The Amelia Island Garden Show is pleased to announce that its website, www.ameliaislandgarden.com, is now available. General information about the show, the schedule of demonstrations and information about the exhibitors, the Butterfly Encounter and the Raptor Experience are detailed.

Those who would like to receive a monthly e-mail newsletter can send a request to info@fernandinafarmersmarket.com.

The inaugural Amelia Island Garden Show hosted by the Fernandina Farmers Market will roll out nature's brightest colors for two days on March 6 and 7 in Central Park. With growers and nurseries from around the state, the show will feature a full assortment of flowers, plants, trees and palms, orchids, bonsai, water pond accessories, native plants, butterfly-friendly plants, shrubs and garden accessories.

Get on-site expert advice about how to "green" your home, yard and garden and



Ina's Plants, a vendor at the Fernandina Farmers Market, will be among the exhibitors at the Amelia Island Garden Show, March 6 and 7, 2010.

enjoy the presentations and demonstrations from sustainable gardening to grafting techniques at the "Ask the Expert" booth. There will be live music and the vendors of the Fernandina Farmers Market will offer their produce and expanded menu of prepared foods.

The Amelia Island Garden Show sponsors include Amelia

Island Convention & Visitors Bureau, the *News-Leader*, Coca-Cola, Amelia Hotel at the Beach and Keep Nassau Beautiful.

The Fernandina Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Seventh and Centre streets. Call 491-4872 or visit www.fernandinafarmersmarket.com.

Nature walk

Our Greenway leads a nature walk on Egans Creek Greenway every third Saturday of the month. The next walk is Nov. 21 at 9 a.m. The walks explore the flora and fauna of the Greenway. Bring water, sun protection, insect repellent, comfortable walking shoes and optionally field guides and binoculars.

Meet in the parking lot at the entrance to the Greenway behind the Atlantic Avenue Recreation Center at 2500 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach. Walks depart promptly at 9 a.m., maintain a leisurely pace and proceed to Jasmine Street. They are free and open to the public. For information call 277-7350 or visit www.ourgreenway.org.

Beach cleanup

Talbot Islands State Parks need your help to clean up the parks. Volunteer your time to help protect this pristine landscape at 9 a.m. Nov.

28 at Amelia Island State Park on Heckscher Drive.

Take a leisurely walk around the southern point of Amelia Island while cleaning up the beach. Garbage bags and gloves will be provided. Remember to bring water and sunscreen.

For information, call the Talbot Islands Ranger Station at (904) 251-2320. For more information about Florida State Parks, visit www.floridastateparks.org.

Sprinkler demonstration

Nassau County Fire Rescue will host a demonstration of a room with a sprinkler system versus one without, side-by-side, to show the effectiveness of a residential fire sprinkler system. In conjunction with Simplex/Grinnell, two mock-up living rooms will be set on fire Dec. 5 at noon in The Home Depot parking lot on A1A in Yulee.

Right whale celebration

A celebration for the critically endangered North Atlantic right whales' annual return to the coast of the Southeast U.S. will be held along the shores of the only known right whale calving area at the beginning of their calving season.

Many activities will take place at Sea Walk Pavilion in Jacksonville on Dec. 5 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., including a silent auction, kids' activities and exhibitions from many local organizations. Join a beach cleanup at 9 a.m. or the beach run at 3 p.m. Live music by Florida-based The Hip Abduction and Hours Eastly will be playing all afternoon.

This family oriented festival will inform and inspire the community to learn about right whales, their habitat and conservation needs. For more information visit www.rightwhalefestival.org.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



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DOMESTIC DESIGNS



Cindy Crow

Buddy Boyd

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY- 38 YEARS

Buddy Boyd and Cindy Crow opened Domestic Designs Roofing, Inc. ("Domestic Designs") in Fernandina Beach in early 2001 following careers in the construction and legal industries. Growing up in Texas, Buddy began building custom homes in 1984 while Cindy practiced law. Following his custom home building in Texas, Buddy extended his construction experience through jobs in civil engineering, production and custom home construction and commercial and residential roofing sales. Cindy practiced litigation with an emphasis in construction and insurance law. In 2001, they opened Domestic Designs Roofing, Inc. ("Domestic Designs") to concentrate solely on residential and commercial roofing and have never looked back. In 2002, Buddy's dad, Walter Boyd, joined the company to sell roofing installations in Nassau county.

Buddy holds licenses from the state of Florida as both a Certified Roofing Contractor and a General Contractor and is OSHA certified. The company is licensed and insured.

Since 2001, Domestic Designs has met the roofing needs for new and existing homeowners and commercial businesses in Nassau, Duval, St. Johns, Clay and Baker counties. The company's 5 crews install shingle, metal, tile and flat roofs as well as provide inspection, repair, additional installation and cleaning services for both residential and commercial customers.

A full service company, Domestic Designs works with homeowners and builders everyday to provide the highest quality, warranted roofing services at the lowest costs and least inconvenience. "Everyone's needs are different. I enjoy working with individual homeowners and builders to solve their specific problems and meet their needs. I understand that any type of home or business construction can be challenging so it is our goal to provide every client with the most cost effective and least intrusive solutions. In today's fast-paced and economically challenging environment, you cannot expect anything less," said Boyd.

The company offers a wide variety of products including GAF/Elk, CertainTeed, Owens-Corning, Monier, Hanson and American Tile all of whom offer a complete line of warranties.

With last year's changes to the state of Florida's wind mitigation roofing requirements, there are many new savings opportunities for residential and commercial owners. "We offer clients several roofing options to save money on their homeowners' and wind insurance policies," said Boyd.

"We work closely with local insurance agents and have seen that many owners today are unaware of the savings opportunities available to them through policy discounts related to roofing modifications. We can evaluate, with owners, their individual needs and available options."

Additionally, Domestic Designs now partners with a certified solar technology and installation firm to provide energy efficient roofing solutions that reduce your carbon footprint and utility expense. "We are excited about the unlimited opportunities we now offer in alternative energy resources and costs savings," said Boyd.

To discuss your roofing needs or to simply learn more about potential roofing modifications, related to insurance savings or energy efficient roofing solutions, call Buddy Boyd at 904-321-0248 or 904-753-1438 or Walter Boyd at 904-591-6277. They look forward to working with you.

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SWIMMERS IN POSTSEASON



Fernandina Beach High School swimmer Patrick Croft swam to a 12th-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke at the regional swim meet.



Amber Wolfe, Corinne Priest, Aly Kaywork and Shannon Philo, above, and diver Owyn Porter, right, qualified for the state meet.



Josh Reeve placed 15th in breaststroke for FBHS.

Pirate swimmers advance to state

Five swimmers and a diver from the Fernandina Beach high school swim team swam in the 1A state final swim meet in Orlando Saturday.

Aly Kaywork, qualifying for the finals in the 50-yard freestyle, finished 14th overall in the state. Corinne Priest finished 23rd in the 100-yard free.

The relay team, consisting of Kaywork, Shannon Philo, Amber Wolfe, Kaylyn Chauncey and Priest qualified for finals in the 200- and 400-yard freestyle. The 200 relay team finished 14th and the 400 team finished 15th.

Owyn Porter, although new to the sport of competitive diving,

finished 18th in the state.

In all, FBHS had 13 swimmers and diver Porter qualified for the regional swim meet in Tallahassee the week before.

Patrick Croft represented the school in the 100-yard backstroke, finishing 12th in the state. Corinne Priest finished 23rd in the 100-yard free.

The girls team, finishing fourth in the region, placed in three separate relays. The medley relay, consisting of Michelle Manson, Kristin Manson, Brittany Crane, Wolfe, Rachel Taylor and Kacey Guenther, placed achieved personal best times.

Priest placed fourth in the region in the 100-yard freestyle, qualifying her for the state swim meet in that event.

Kaywork also placed regionally in two of her individual events, finishing ninth in the 100-yard free and fourth in the 50 freestyle, qualifying her for the state meet.

Porter, the sole diver for the Pirates swim team, qualified for the state swim meet and placed fourth overall in the region.

400 freestyle relays finished third in the region.

The swimmers of the two relays — Kaywork, Philo, Chauncey and Priest — qualified for the state swim meet.

Kaywork also placed regionally in two of her individual events, finishing ninth in the 100-yard free and fourth in the 50 freestyle, qualifying her for the state meet.

Priest placed fourth in the region in the 100-yard freestyle, qualifying her for the state swim meet in that event.

Porter, the sole diver for the Pirates swim team, qualified for the state swim meet and placed fourth overall in the region.

County soccer championships Saturday

Fernandina Beach Middle School is hosting the county championships Saturday at Pirate Field.

Yulee and Callahan's teams play in the first round. Winners take on FBMS in the championships games; girls at noon and boys at 1:30 p.m.

The FBMS boys (4-1) defeated Yulee 3-0 Tuesday.

"Our defense played very well, only allowing one shot on goal the entire match," FBMS

Coach Stuart Hamer said.

Justin Going scored a pair of goals and Clay Hewett had one. Ellis Bruchman had an assist.

On Nov. 12, FBMS blanked Callahan 8-0.

"I am very impressed with the progress we have made as a team," Hamer said.

Going had two goals, Andre Gianinni had two, Topher Daniel McCranie, Phillip Tolldorf, Hector Vanlennep, Kane and Bruchman.

The Fernandina Beach High School girls soccer team is 2-3 on the season. The Lady Pirates lost 4-0 to Episcopal Tuesday.

The Lady Pirates' wins came over Yulee (8-0) and University Christian (8-0). FBMS played at Clay County Wednesday.

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SPORTS SHORTS

Surf contest Sunday

The First Coast District of the Eastern Surfing Association will hold its next competition at 8 a.m. Nov. 22 on the beach near Slider's restaurant at the corner of Sadler Road and South Fletcher Avenue. Trophies and T-shirts for members will be given out. The contest will be a double-points event to help surfers attain extra points to help make it to the regionals in New Smyrna in the spring.

Register for soccer

Amelia Island Youth Soccer is registering players online for the spring season. Visit www.aiysoccer.com. All new players will have to mail a copy of their birth certificate to 32034 Atlantic View Drive, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034 to complete the registration process. Call Raquel at 753-0602.

Weekly bike ride

Club 14 Fitness is hosting a weekly Saturday morning bike ride open to the community. The ride is designed with B and C cyclists in mind. Meet at Club 14 Fitness in the 8 Flags Shopping Center by the movie theatre every Saturday at 8 a.m. and ride to Fort Clinch state park (with \$2 park entry fee). Participants have the option of one or two loops. Helmets required. Call Club 14 Fitness at 206-4414 or visit www.club14fitness.com.

Turkey Trot

The 2009 Turkey Trot 5K and kids one-mile Fun Run are Nov. 26 at the Amelia Island Plantation Verandah parking lot. The 5K starts at 8 a.m. and the kids run begins at 9 a.m. Pre-registration is \$25 for adults, \$15 for kids.

Pre-registration ends at 1 p.m. Nov. 25. All pre-registered participants receive a T-shirt. Race day registration is from 7-7:45 a.m. Registration forms can be found at the Health & Fitness Center or ameliaislandrunners.com.

Awards will be given to the top three male and female winners of each age category and overall winners. Proceeds benefit the Nassau Humane Society. For information, contact Cori or the Health & Fitness Center at 277-5193.

Train now for 26.2 with Donna

Yoga is starting the walk/run training for the Run 26.2 with Donna for Breast Cancer in February. The group will meet regularly Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. at Main Beach or Peters Point. Training is free and open to all regardless of age, sex or fitness level. The group walks/runs as "Team Nirvana."

Call 415-9642 or visit www.eteamz.com/teamnirvana1 for information.

Challenger Bowling

Nassau Challenger Bowling League for the physically and mentally challenged meets the second Saturday of the month from 3-5 p.m. at the Strikers Family Bowling Center on US 17 in Yulee. Call Melinda Willard, 261-3136.

Walk/run under the lights

Next week's community run and walk sponsored by Amelia Island Runners will be held a day earlier than usual, on Nov. 24, because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

The public is invited to run or walk under the lights at the Fernandina Beach High School track from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to everyone and free water and Gatorade will be provided. Runners and walkers can participate at their own pace, individually or with AIR members and friends. The track is inside the football stadium at 435 Citrona Drive.

The lighted track runs are being offered in cooperation with the Nassau County school system as a service to runners and walkers in this area. Amelia Island Runners is paying for electricity use and related costs.

Track runs are planned roughly once a week, depending on availability. Dates will be posted on the club's website, www.AmeliaIslandRunners.com.

2009-10 SCHEDULES

YULEE HIGH SCHOOL	Dec. 15 BOLLES*	6:00	Jan. 28 at Baker HILLIARD	6:00
Wrestling	Dec. 18 ST. JOHNS CO. DAY	6:00 (V)	Jan. 29 at Hilliard	6:00
Nov. 21 Bishop Snyder Duals	Jan. 7 at Bishop Snyder	6:00 (V)		
Dec. 4-5 Bishop Snyder Duals	Jan. 8 at Episcopat*	6:00 (V)		
Dec. 4-5 F-5 Breakaway IBT	Jan. 8 at Ribault	6:00 (V)		
Dec. 9 Fletcher Tri Duel	Jan. 14 YULEE	6:00 (V)		
Dec. 11-12 Mat Classic at St. Joseph's	Jan. 19 at West Nassau	6:00 (V)		
Dec. 12 Fletcher JV tournament	Jan. 21 at Bolles	6:00 (V)		
Dec. 16 COUNTY (seniors)	Jan. 25 at Trinity	6:00 (V)		
Dec. 19 Holiday Duels at Camden	Jan. 26 BAKER COUNTY	6:00 (V)		
Jan. 8-9 Terry Parker IBT	Feb. 6 District 3-3A at Ribault	6:00 (V)		
Jan. 13 Andrew Jackson Tri Duel	* District	6:00 (V)		
Jan. 22-23 Five Star at Raines				
Jan. 29-30 Camden quad duel				
Feb. 6 District at Raines				
Feb. 12-13 Region				
Feb. 19-20 State at Lakeland				
FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL				
Girls Soccer				
Nov. 23 WEST NASSAU	6:00			
Nov. 24 at Nease	6:00			
Dec. 4-5 Timberwolf Classic, Tallahassee	6:00			
Dec. 8 at Bolles	7:00			
Dec. 10 UNIVERSITY CHRIST.	7:00			
Dec. 14 at West Nassau	5:30			
Dec. 15 NEASE	6:00			
Dec. 17 at Yulee	6:00			
Jan. 4 EAGLE'S VIEW	5:30			
Jan. 13 STANTON	6:00			
Jan. 15 at Bishop Kenny	6:00			
Jan. 20-23 District 3-3A at Bolles	6:00			
FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL				
Boys Soccer				
Nov. 23 at Barram Trail	7:00 (V)			
Nov. 27 T-Day Tournament, Patton	7:00 (V)			
Dec. 1 BOLLES*	5:30/7:20			
Dec. 3 at Yulee	5:30/7:20			
Dec. 4 at Keystone Heights	7:20 (V)			
Dec. 5 FRO. COAST. CHR.	7:20 (V)			
Dec. 9 VILLENEUVE	5:30/7:20			
Dec. 11 at Bishop Snyder	6:00			
Dec. 14 EPISCOPAL	5:30/7:20			
Jan. 5 CLAY	5:30/7:20			
Jan. 11 at Stanton	6:00			
Jan. 14 at Orange Park	6:30 (V)			
Jan. 21 WOLFSON	5:30/7:20			
Jan. 28-30 District 3-3A at Episcopal	6:00			
Feb. 6 District 3-1A	6:00			
FERNANDINA BEACH HIGH SCHOOL				
Boys Basketball				
Nov. 23 Preseason at Providence				
Nov. 24 BISHOP SNYDER	6:00			
Nov. 27 ST. FRANCIS	6:00			
Nov. 30 HILLIARD	6:00			
Dec. 4 at Bishop Kenny	6:00			
Dec. 8 at Yulee*	4:30/7:30			
Dec. 11 WEST NASSAU	6:00			
Dec. 14 BAPTISTON COUNTY	6:00			
Dec. 17 at Yulee	6:00			
Dec. 19 at Glynn Academy tourney				
Dec. 29 at University Christian	6:00			
Jan. 2 at Trinity	6:00			
Jan. 5 RIBAUT*	6:00			
Jan. 7 at Providence	6:00			
Jan. 8 BOLLES*	6:00			
Jan. 12 at Episcopat*	6:00			
Jan. 15 YULEE	6:00			
Jan. 19 TRINITY	6:00			
Jan. 22 BAPTISTON	6:00			
Jan. 26 at Bolles	6:00			
Jan. 28-29 Johnny T. Smith at WNH	6:00			
Feb. 2 at Bishop Snyder	6:00			
Feb. 4 PROVIDENCE	6:00			
Feb				



PHOTOS BY TERRY LACOSS/SPECIAL

Andrew Hammond, left, doubled up on schooling bass while fishing in a small Northeast Florida lake. Sailfishing can be excellent at the Big Ledge during the fall fishing season and their migration south for the winter. However, wahoo, like this one landed by Tyler Kennedy, right, are common catches at the Big Ledge during the fall and winter fishing seasons.

Big Ledge has its share of sailfish

Big news in the fishing world in recent days includes the big sailfish bite taking place off Northeast Florida at the Big Ledge. The "Double Trouble" sport fishing boat, captained by John Hulsey, reported seeing 44 sailfish in their trolling spread during two days of fishing. Twenty of the sails were hooked up and released while fishing out of St. Augustine.

While it makes good sense if you have a trailer to tow your boat to St. Augustine, launch your boat at the public boat ramp on A1A close to the inlet. The Big Ledge is located some 50 miles offshore from St. Augustine and some 70 miles offshore of Amelia Island. Weather may be a factor this weekend.

Bass fishing is excellent in many of the small lakes in Northeast Florida, where schooling bass are feeding in open water on both large



ON THE WATER
TERRY
LACOSS

schools of shiners and shad. Look for excellent action while casting a small topwater plug, including the Rebel "Pop-R" or a floating Rapala in the silver and black color patterns.

Roy Vecchio recently launched his kayak into Texas' Brazos River when a small rattlesnake tried to climb into his kayak. Vecchio beat the snake on the head with his paddle and then hooked it through the bottom of the mouth out through the top of the head with a 1/4-ounce rubber skirted bass jig. The jig/snake combo was then cast close to a deadfall in the river where an eight-

pound bass swallowed the snake and jig.

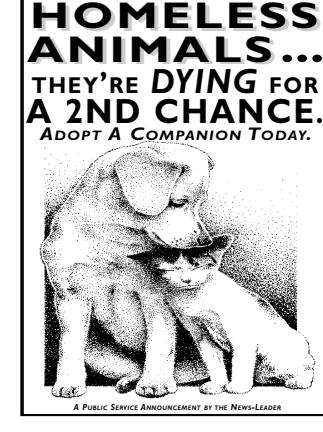
Tides this weekend will find a flood tide arriving at 11:37 a.m. and a low tide at 5:41 p.m. at the entrance of the Amelia River.

Look for sea trout weighing four pounds to take live mullet fished deep with the aid of a float or simply free-lined into a deep hole during the first of the incoming tide. Live shrimp fished under a float is also a deadly technique for taking sea trout during the flooding tide. When the tide floods, work a Storm "Chug Bug" topwater plug over flooded oysterbars and close to marsh points and creek mouths.

Redfish and flounder should be on a good bite during the afternoon falling tide while fishing with a live finger mullet rigged to a 1/4-ounce jig. Work the live bait and jig combo slowly close to oysterbars, rocky shorelines and

the deep sides of boat docks. Be sure to save a few fish fillets for Thanksgiving Day.

The News-Leader encourages local anglers to submit photographs of their catches. E-mail photos to bjones@flnewsleader.com, mail them to P.O. Box 766, Fernandina Beach, FL 32035, or drop them by the office at 511 Ash St. in Fernandina Beach. Call Beth Jones at 261-3696.



New boating laws in effect Jan. 1

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and other law enforcement agencies are alerting Floridians of new laws and enhancements to existing laws that deal with boating under the influence, boating safety education, waterway markers, possession of gasoline on a vessel and destruction of coral.

The enhanced penalty for DUI is the same as it is for driving under the influence. The blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.20 that was a violation in the past has changed to 0.15.

Beginning Jan. 1, any boater born on or after Jan. 1, 1988, will be required to take an approved boating safety course and possess an FWC-issued boating safety identification card. And if they purchase a boat they have 90 days to obtain a boating safety ID card.

Another prohibited activity is placement and use of a waterway marker that does not conform to the U.S. Aids to Navigation System nor have an FWC permit. It's also unlawful for boaters to moor to government-placed waterway markers or lawfully

placed waterway markers except in emergency situations or with written consent of the marker's owner.

It is illegal to possess or operate a vessel with nonconforming or unapproved gasoline containers or to transport gasoline in an unventilated or improperly ventilated compartment. Laws regarding titling, numbering and registration now apply to any vessel operated, used or stored on state waters except vessels lawfully stored at a dock or marina.

For information, visit MyFWC.com/Boating.

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**Yulee Open Sweepstakes - Drawing for one \$1,500 Mortgage Payment will be on 12/02/09. Come in to Yulee or Amelia Island branches to register and for copy of Official Sweepstakes rules. Or call 904.321.2337 for rules and how to send in registration to FFBF Yulee Sweepstakes, PO Box 2029, Lake City, FL 32056. No purchase or obligation necessary in order to win. Must be a Florida resident, live or work in Nassau County, Florida, and be 18 years of age as of 09/01/09. See mortgage loan prize requirements in Official Sweepstakes rules.

OUTDOOR BRIEFS

Hunt Nassau WMA

Hunt the Nassau Wildlife Management Area in Nassau County during this hunting season. Nassau WMA is 13,892 acres near Callahan. Users must have a Nassau recreational use permit to hunt on this area. Nassau WMA is a still-hunt area only, but hunters may use bird dogs during the migratory bird and waterfowl hunting seasons.

For those willing to pay \$385, Nassau WMA provides hunting opportunities during eight months of the year. General gun season is through Jan. 10, 2010; small game is from Jan. 11 through March 7, 2010; spring turkey season runs from March 20 through April 25, 2010; and trapping can be done from Jan. 11 through March 1, 2010.

To apply for a permit, visit MyFWC.com.

Recreational use permits are designed to provide more revenue to landowners in the WMA system. Money set aside by the FWC to compensate those landowners for hunting use on their lands was not sufficient to compete with private hunting leases. Rather than have WMAs drop out of the system, the FWC offers recreational use permits. Fees collected from these permits supplement the compensation for private landowners, keeping their lands open to public hunting.

Except for hunting, permit holders and their spouses

or dependent children may participate in other activities on designated WMAs. Only permit holders and one dependent child (under age 16) may hunt. If spouses or more than one dependent child (under age 16) wish to hunt, they must purchase a recreational use permit. Recreational use permits also include a management area permit when hunting public lands not in the recreational use program.

Recreational use permits do not apply to other recreational use program areas. Once permits are issued, they can be renewed annually for two additional years, essentially making them a three-year permit. Permit renewals are mailed May 1. Eligible applicants have until May 31 to renew for the next season. Permits not renewed by May 31 will be forfeited.

Permits are issued individually on a first-come, first-served basis in June. Submit an application at www.wildlifelicense.com or take a completed worksheet to a tax collector's office or any license agent. Worksheets are available online at MyFWC.com, at FWC regional offices and tax collectors' offices.

Bassmasters meet

Nassau Bassmasters meets the third Thursday in Yulee. Membership is open to anyone at least 16 years old. Call Bob Schlag at (912) 729-2282 or Billy Kittrell at 225-0267.

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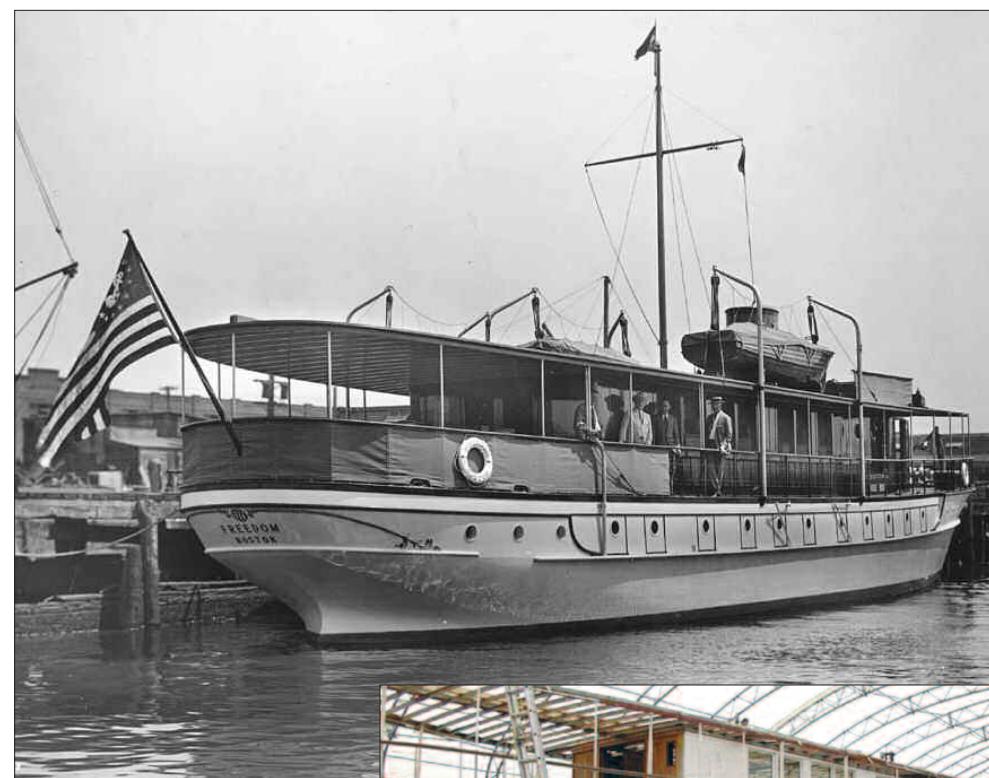
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B Section



Freedom rises

Salvaged ship has Fernandina ties

ANGELA DAUGHERTY
News Leader

Freedom, a 104-foot wooden Trumy Mathis built in 1926, may be stopping at the Fernandina harbor marina next week for a brief visit, on the way to a winter port in Fort Lauderdale.

Designed by John Trumy and built by Mathis Yacht Building of Camden, N.J., Freedom was originally built for Aubert Fay of Boston, and named for the country's 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

The yacht is also the "sister ship" of the famous presidential yacht Sequoia, and as it turns out she has ties to the area through local resident Perry Laspina, whose brother was briefly an owner of the boat.

According to Laspina, in her

Freedom's specs	
Designer: John Trumy	
Builder: Mathis Yacht Building, Camden, N.J.	
Year built: 1926	
Hull material: wood	
LOA: 104 feet	
Beam: 20 feet	
Draft: 5 feet	
Engines: Twin 526 hp John Deere	
Fuel tank: 1,350 gallons	
Water: 1,200 gallons	
Features: Naiad zero speed 4 fin stabilizers, two John Deere 55 kw generators, Northern Lights 55 kw generator, Westmar bow thruster	
Amenities: Five double state-rooms, crew of four	
Owner: Yacht Freedom, LLC	

illustrious 83 years Freedom has been about as low as a wooden boat can get, but a recent five-year, \$6 million restoration has brought her back to peak form.

Laspina's connection to the boat began with his friendship with Ashley Howes, who owned the boat from 1981 until his death in 2001.

Laspina says he and his brother, Martin Zidtowicki, met Howes through a mutual friend in 1979. At that time the boat was named Sunset, a name that Jessie May Woolworth Donahue, daughter of F.W. Woolworth, had given the boat in 1933. The yacht went through several wealthy owners before Howes bought it in 1981.

Santa Claus will arrive at 2 p.m. at the Fernandina Harbor Marina aboard the Ye Olde Pirate charter boat and all are invited to welcome him to town. Santa and Mrs. Claus will make their way over to the

104-foot Trumy Mathis Freedom shortly after launching in 1926, top right, and undergoing a complete restoration at the International Yacht Restoration School in Newport, R.I., above and top left. The restoration took five years and cost \$6.5 million. The interior of the yacht has been meticulously restored to its former beauty, above left.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALISON LANGLEY

In the early 1980s, Laspina says, Howe leased Freedom to a man who ended up using the boat to smuggle 300 Cuban refugees and \$250,000 in cash out of Cuba. The U.S. Coast Guard impounded the yacht in Key West, and it

SHIP Continued on 6B

Santa, annual PJ party set for Thanksgiving weekend

Kick off the holiday shopping season in downtown Fernandina Beach during the Thanksgiving weekend.

The popular Pajama Party Sale & Contest, held annually on the Friday after Thanksgiving, will begin at 8 a.m. on Nov. 27. Shoppers are encouraged to dress in their favorite pajamas, fuzzy slippers and other assorted sleepwear and stroll along Centre Street and throughout downtown Fernandina Beach, exploring the eclectic shops, local attractions and eateries.

Pajama-clad shoppers will enjoy deals and discounts, along with fresh juice, coffee and pastries to fuel their shopping spirit. Shoppers who wish to be eligible for "Best Dressed Individual Shopper in Pajamas" and "Best Dressed Shopping Group in Pajamas" must wear their pajamas and have a free photo taken at the judges' booth in the 100 block of Centre Street. Free contest photo registration ends at 11 a.m., but most shopping specials will be available all day.

A full day of entertainment

leads up to the official city of Fernandina Beach Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 28 at 6 p.m., at the foot of Centre Street. Starting at noon, carolers, choirs, dancers and singers will entertain visitors throughout the afternoon with the sights and sounds of the Christmas holiday season.

Santa Claus will arrive at 2 p.m. at the Fernandina Harbor Marina aboard the Ye Olde Pirate charter boat and all are invited to welcome him to town. Santa and Mrs. Claus will make their way over to the

Train Depot at the foot of Centre Street to meet and take pictures with the kids of the community until 5 p.m. Photos with pets will also be available.

Entertainment and activities are hosted by the city of Fernandina Beach, Historic Fernandina Business Association and Shiny Badges Ball, Inc.

For more information contact Sandy Price at 206-0756 or e-mail sprice@bellsouth.net.

For information on other seasonal events, see the Holiday Happenings calendar page 6B.

CROSSWORD, SUDOKU
OUT AND ABOUT
MUSIC NOTES • CLASSIFIEDS
HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009
NEWS-LEADER / FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA

Cute-sounding wines can be dead serious

ROBERT M. WEINTRAUB
For the News Leader

Wine connoisseurs are usually serious about wine. So serious that we often get looks from people who seem to be thinking "get a life!" I must confess that I often get so serious about wine that I miss out on the fun.

Take the current trend of Australian wine makers to give their wines cute-sounding names, such as "Kilroy Was Here," "Duck Duck Goose," "Dark Chocolate Box" and "Cupcake." Normally I would dismiss such wines as not being serious. Am I wrong? It turns out these

humorously named wines are dead serious.

I bumped into a friend at Harris Teeter where there is a corner display of

Cupcake wines for \$9. She said the chard was so good it got an 88 rating from *Wine Spectator* magazine and a Second Street Fernandina bistro is selling it for \$9 a glass. As I respect this woman's opinion on wine I bought a bottle of Cupcake chardonnay and, yes, it's as good as you would like a California chard to be.

Cupcake chard is a complex wine, characterized by aromas of fruit intertwined with creamy oak, vanilla and a long soft finish. Cupcake Vineyards is in Monterey County right on the Pacific Ocean where cool foggy nights slow the growing process. This increases the grape's sugars, which creates a good balance with the chardonnay grape's normal acidity.

Cupcake chard is a soft and creamy wine in the American style, with a touch of apple, vanilla and spice in the taste. Great as an aperitif and good with shellfish and all-flavored fish dishes.

Harris Teeter also has Cupcake's sauvignon blanc that received a 90-point rating from both *Wine Enthusiast* and Patterson's Tasting Panel. The sb is from New Zealand; there aren't many quality Kiwi sauvignon blanc's around for \$9. Cupcake's riesling is also part of the display; we haven't tried it yet, but it comes from Yakima Valley in Washington where some world-class rieslings have been vinted.

With my interest piqued in cute Ausie wine, I stopped into Amelia Liquors to browse their shelves where I found a couple that normally I would scoff at, but both turned out to be serious wines worthy of recommending.

Chocolate Box Dark sounds like a dessert wine, but it is a serious 100 percent shiraz from a single vineyard owned by the Rocland Estate in Barossa Valley, a small family owned winery established in 1999. *Wine Enthusiast* gave it a 90-point rating, making this wine well worth the \$18 price. It has generous aromas of blackberries, anise and espresso. The palate shows vanillin oak and spice flavors; soft tannins round off this wine, which has a long finish. It is ideal with strong-flavored meat.

WINE Continued on 2B

OFF & ON THE ISLAND

GRANT & LEE ON AMELIA

The Amelia Island Museum of History invites the public to its next 3rd Friday on 3rd Street presentation tonight at 5:30 p.m. This month's program features local historian Jim Longacre

discussing Grant and Lee on Amelia Island. Two great men in American history, Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee, both spent time on our island.

Longacre will compare and contrast these great men, discussing what brought them to Amelia Island and their very different reasons for coming. Admission is free for museum members and \$5 for non-members. For information contact Alex at 261-7378, ext. 102.

CHAMBER SINGERS

The Island Chamber Singers, under the direction of Jane Lindberg, present their fall concert tonight at 8 p.m. and Nov. 22 at 3 p.m. at Amelia Plantation Chapel, 36 Bowman Road.

The concert, "Music of a Kingly Nature" features the Coronation Anthems of Handel and the Coronation Mass of Mozart. The choir will be accompanied by strings, trumpets, timpani and



organ.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$5 for students and children 5 and under

are admitted free. Purchase tickets at Gateway Chamber of Commerce, Welcome Center on Centre Street, from any Island Chamber Singer or at the door. Visit www.IslandChamberSingers.com or call Springer Controls at 225-0575.



BENEFIT ROCK CONCERT

The Nassau Humane Society will host "Cat Scratch Fever," a benefit rock concert hosted by the Musicians League on Nov. 21 from 7-10 p.m. at the Atlantic Avenue Recreation Center.

Tickets are \$10 and on sale at Redbones Dog Bakery and the Nassau Humane Society Dog Park. Purchase tickets online at www.nassauhumane.org/events. Visit www.MusiciansLeague.com for information.



INNS TOUR

The Amelia Island Bed and Breakfast Association Holiday Cookie Tour begins at 1 p.m. Nov. 21 at any one of the following tour locations: Addison on Amelia, Fairbanks House, Florida House Inn, Williams House, Elizabeth Point Lodge and the Fernandina Beach branch library.

Tickets are \$20 and available at the library, any of the inns, or at the door. Adding to the holiday spirit, ticket holders can enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride between the library and Addison on Amelia.

Admire the decorations at each inn, sample a delicious cookie and take the secret recipe home with you. Innkeepers at each of the Victorian-era bed and breakfasts and the 1890's Nantucket-style lodge on the ocean have decorated for the season and, along with volunteer docents provided by the Friends of the Library, are happy to provide information about their inns.

A portion of the proceeds from ticket and cookbook sales will be donated to the Friends of the Library.



OUT AND ABOUT

SPECIAL EVENTS

Faith Christian Academy presents its 10th Annual **Father/Daughter Ball** at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island Grand Ballroom on **Feb. 6, 2010 from 7-10 p.m.** This year's theme is "Cinderella." Tickets are \$85 for father and daughter and \$40 for each additional daughter and include a gift bag and memory book. There will be hors d'oeuvres, live music featuring Les DeMerle and professional photography. Fathers and daughters of all ages are welcome. Seating is limited. For tickets visit Faith Christian Academy, 96282 Brady Point Road, Fernandina Beach, or call 321-2137.

A bridge club for seniors will meet Mondays and **Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. at the Peck Center**, 511 South 11th St., Fernandina Beach. The club is free and no partner is necessary. Equipment is furnished. For more information, call 277-7350.

Amelia Community Theatre presents "Educating Rita," directed by Charles Horton and featuring Gillian Johnson and Geoffrey King, at **8 p.m. tonight and Nov. 21**.

A professor, whose disillusioned outlook on life drives him to drink and bury himself in his books, begins to tutor a young hairdresser with surprising results. This British comedy has been described by the London Times as "painfully funny and passionately serious."

Tickets are \$17 adults and \$10 students and available at the theater, 209 Cedar St., 261-6749 or www.amelialcomunitytheatre.org.

Enjoy the city of **Fernandina Beach's Fall BBQ Competition** Nov. 21 at Central Park. Each team will be provided 50 pounds of Boston butt for the pork category and/or 50 pounds of leg quarters for the chicken category. A small sample will be presented for judging at 2:30 p.m.

p.m. and the rest will be for the public to enjoy at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for the public, sides and beverages included. Enjoy yard games and view the cooking stations beginning at 1 p.m. For information call Jay at 277-7350 or e-mail jrobertson@fbfl.org.

Rescuing Animals in Nassau will hold a **sidewalk sale Nov. 21 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.** at Eileen's Arts and Antiques, corner of Seventh and Centre streets in downtown Fernandina Beach, including holiday and gift items. All proceeds benefit the animals in RAIN's care and its programs.

A multi-family yard sale to benefit the **Susan G. Komen breast cancer fund** will be held from **8 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 21 and 22 at 86361 Evergreen Place in Hickory Village, Yulee.**

The Terpsichorean Dance Club's next dance is **Nov. 21 at The Woman's Club**, 201 Jean Lafitte Blvd., from 7-11 p.m. The theme is "Celebrate Fall." Hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks will be served. Guest fee is \$35 per couple. "Face For Radio" will provide music. Special guests will be dance instructors Jerry and Mary Gardner. BYOB and setups will be provided. For information contact Carolyn or Dave Ashcraft at 261-9717.

Indigo Alley, 316 Centre St., Fernandina Beach, will host **Tail Waggin' Wednesday**, a pet-friendly happy hour, from 6-7:30 p.m. **Nov. 25**. Call 261-7222, e-mail IndigoAlley@gmail.com or visit www.IndigoAlley.com.

The Chambers Farm Family Powwow will be held **Nov. 26-29 in Ft. McCoy**. There will be gourd dancing, inter-tribal dancing, and native food and vendors. All native singers and dancers welcome. Admission is free. Chambers Farm is located off I-75 between Gainesville and Ocala. This is a family-oriented event. No drugs, alcohol or firearms. Bring your own chairs. Free parking. Free camping. For more information call (513) 464-1746 or visit www.chambersfarm.org or www.myspace.com/chambersfarmpowwow.

Gerri's Corner and Women in Nassau helping Women in Need (WIN WIN) are sponsoring a **grand prize drawing celebration Dec. 1** to announce the winners of four prize packages valued at \$495-1,930 being raffled to raise money for Gerri's Corner. Tickets are \$7 each or \$30 for five. Donations are tax-deductible and go directly to Gerri's Corner, a cancer resource center for women.

The celebration starts at 5 p.m. with refreshments at Divine Finds and Heron's

Swim & Sport in the Palmetto Walk Shopping Center.

Starting at 5:30 p.m. a winner

will be drawn every 30 minutes.

Grand prize tickets may be

viewed and raffle tickets pur-

chased at Fifi's Fine Resale

on South Eighth Street,

Centre Street Treasures

downtown and at Divine

Finds.

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The Coalition for the Reduction/Elimination of Ethnic Disparities in Health (CREED) will host its second annual **Board of Directors**

MUSIC NOTES

Surflineup

The Surf Restaurant and Bar, 3199 S. Fletcher Ave., presents Gary Keniston, 6-10 p.m. tonight; Richard Stratton 6-10 p.m. Nov. 21; Ace Winn 5-9 p.m. Nov. 23; and Stevie "Fingerzz" 5-9 p.m. Nov. 24. Call 261-5711.

CD release party

The Les DeMerle Band will host a CD release party and concert tonight and Nov. 21 from 8:30 p.m.-midnight at the Martini Bar at Ocean 60, 60 Ocean Blvd., Atlantic Beach. The band will perform music from its new CD on Origin Records, Gypsy Rendezvous, Volume One. Enjoy a diverse jazz repertoire and fine arrangements for listening and dining.

For reservations visit www.ocean60.com or call (904) 247-0060. Visit www.Origin-Records.com to hear sound clips from the new CD.

Concert gala

ARIAS (Amelia Residents In Action for the Symphony) once again brings the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra to Amelia Island for a special dinner and concert program. The annual Black Tie Fundraiser Dinner and Concert gala is Nov. 22 at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island. Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and an auction. The concert is at 8 p.m. Contact Bill Gingrich, 277-7094, or e-mail wggging@aol.com.

Indigo Alley

Indigo Alley, 316 Centre St., offers a com-

munity drum circle Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m. and Island Tribe dancers every third Monday from 7-9 p.m.; live jazz jam the first and third Tuesday of the month; John Kaminski playing live from 7-10 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday; Swing Shift, a free dance class and dancing featuring swing and funk music, Wednesdays from 8-11 p.m.; In the Round, local musicians playing live and open mike night, Thursdays from 7-11 p.m.; Latin Lounge on Fridays from 8 p.m.-midnight with free salsa and merengue classes and dancing; and live music Saturdays from 7-11 p.m.

Call 261-7222, e-mail IndigoAlley@gmail.com or visit www.IndigoAlley.com.

Instrument Zoo

ARIAS (Amelia Residents in Action for the Symphony) is organizing its Instrument Zoo program.

During January-March, ARIAS will present the program to more than 800 fourth graders in six Nassau County schools. This involves approximately 20 different mornings, each staffed by 14 volunteers to help the students learn hands-on about each of 30 or so instruments.

Each volunteer ideally gives six mornings of two hours plus travel time to the program over the three-month period. You do not need to know how to play an instrument – an all-you-need-to-know workshop is held in early January.

Both men and women are welcome. To sign up, call Sandy Shaw at 261-6498, or Rachel Smith at 491-3829.

ART/GALLERIES

The Nouveau Art Juried Show, Island Festivals, continues at the Island Art Association Gallery until Dec. 6. Susi Sax will be featured artist for December and January. The gallery is located at 18 N. Second St. Call 261-7020 or visit www.islandart.org.

A new show at the First Coast Community Bank on 14th Street will be on display until mid-February. The artists displaying their work, include Jackie Humes, Sherry Ferber, Bill Kinney and Joan Durden.

Artist Susi Sax is offering stained glass classes with a holiday theme. For information call 321-1330.

The Island Art Association will offer Children's Art Nov. 21 from 10-11 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. for ages 8 to 12. Mommy & Me classes will be held Nov. 23 from 10-11 a.m. for ages 2 to 5. Children must be accompanied by a caregiver.

Classes are taught by either Diane Hamburg or Amber McHugh. Materials are provided. Call the gallery at 261-7020 to reserve a place. Class size is limited. The gallery is located at 18 N. Second St. Visit www.islandart.org.

A Jewelry Making 101/Earrings class

will be held at the Learning Community of North Florida.

Learn to develop unique jewelry designs using a variety of materials. Meets four Mondays, Nov. 23 and 30 and Dec. 7 and 14; 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (904) 430-0120 to register or register online at www.tlcnf.com.

A fused glass jewelry workshop will be held Nov. 28 from 9 a.m.-noon at Designs On Gallery, 11 N. Third St., Fernandina Beach. Learn the fundamentals of glass fusing and create one-of-a-kind jewelry to wear or give as gift. No prior experience is necessary. Fee is \$75 and includes materials for three pendants and firing. Contact Cecilia at 583-7723 to register.

Eight Flag Needlepointers are hosting a workshop with master teacher Joan Thomasson March 5-7, 2010, on Amelia Island. Thomasson will teach "Marigolds and Moorish Tiles" stitched on 24-count congress cloth. The cost of the program includes all materials and lunch on Friday and Saturday; \$220 for chapter members; \$300 for non-members. Registration deadline is Dec. 15.

Space is limited. For information or to register contact Linda Kurtz at lmkurtz@bell-south.net.

Watercolor Art workshops with William Maurer are forming for all levels, Fridays from 9:30 a.m.-noon at the Florida House Inn. Call 261-8276.

Kathy Hardin and Bill Maurer will offer an Art Workshop one Saturday a month starting in January for all levels and mediums Call 261-8276.

Hardin is registering students for January acrylic painting instruction, all levels. Call her for a syllabus of information or e-mail kathi.h@comcast.net or call 261-8276.

Drive, which also produces wines called "Dead Letter Office," "Postmistress" and "Morse Code." (There is no report on why the Longbottom family is so obsessed with the postal system.) This wine over-delivers for the price: it has a red/black color with a scarlet rim; you might say it looks purple. It offers an enticing, fruity nose with aromas of cassis and berries. Full-bodied, ripe and layered with flavor – berries, cinnamon and a hint of dark chocolate – the tannins are full yet soft, combined with gentle acidity to produce a lingering finish.

When you sample it, you will notice a lot of oak on the nose, and the tannins may be a bit strong for some. However, on the palate the Pillar Red is spectacular. Pair it with soft cheese, such as brie or blue, and taste the tannins melt out of the finish.

So let's have some fun! I'm about to open a bottle of Molly Decker's "Two Left Feet," another Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, makes it a "Best Buy."

Pillar Box Red is from the South Australia Padthaway vineyards known as Henry's

• • •

Phantasia South's \$5 Jewelry Sale will be held from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Baptist Medical Center Nassau Conference Room, 1250 South 18th St., Fernandina Beach, sponsored by the auxiliary.

In addition to jewelry will be watches for children, women and men, fashion accessories such as purses and belts as well as small gifts at the affordable price of \$5 plus tax for each item. For more information call 321-2267.

• • •

Do something different – exciting team trivia with Maggie the Trivia Meister on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Crab Trap in downtown Fernandina Beach. Enjoy a special trivia menu and drinks,

• • •

Performances will be in ACT's new theater from April 8-24, and rehearsals begin in January. Toni D'Amico is the director and Jill Dillingham is musical director.

For information contact ACT at 261-6749.

SUDOKU

1	2	3	4
3	2	4	5
6	7	8	9
9			7
4	5	6	9
	7		4
6	7	9	1
5	8	6	9

Fill in the squares so that each row, column and 3-by-3 box contain the numbers 1 through 9. Solution will appear in the Friday B-section.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009
Sudoku Difficult
Puzzle #1630D

5	8	1	6	7	2	9	3	4
2	4	9	3	8	5	7	6	1
6	3	7	9	1	4	2	5	8
1	5	4	7	2	9	3	8	6
7	2	3	5	6	8	4	1	9
9	6	8	1	4	3	5	2	7
3	7	2	8	9	1	6	4	5
8	9	5	4	3	6	1	7	2
4	1	6	2	5	7	8	9	3

WINE Continued from 1B dishes, such as a jambalaya with andouille/spinach sausage.

The wine is so named because the vintner wanted to be sure his wife always has chocolate around the house! She loves the real thing but they have small children and they watch the sweets. Rocland Estate also makes a sauvignon blanc called White Chocolate.

The second oddly named Australian wine I discovered is Pillar Box Red named after the free-standing mail boxes at one time common in Britain and the British Commonwealth (tall, round or octagonal cast iron columns with a mail slot and often painted red). This wine is a blend of 50 percent shiraz, 42 percent cabernet sauvignon and 8

CLASSIFIED

3B

NEWS-LEADER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009

To Place An Ad, Call (904) 261-3696. The Classified Ad Deadline for Wednesdays is 5:00 p.m. Monday and for Fridays is 5:00 p.m. Wednesday

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS		204 Work Wanted	403 Financial-Home/Property	606 Photo Equipment & Sales	619 Business Equipment	800 REAL ESTATE		813 Investment Property	858 Condos-Unfurnished
101 Card of Thanks	205 Live-in Help	404 Money To Loan	607 Antiques-Collectibles	620 Coal-Wood-Fuel	801 Wanted to Buy or Rent	814 West Nassau County	859 Homes-Furnished	860 Homes-Unfurnished	861 Vacation Rentals
102 Lost & Found	206 Child Care	500 FARM & ANIMAL	608 Produce	621 Garden/Lawn Equipment	802 Mobile Homes	815 Kingsland/St. Marys	862 Bed & Breakfast	863 Office	864 Commercial/Retail
103 In Memoriam	207 Business Opportunity	501 Equipment	609 Appliances	622 Plants/Seeds/Fertilizer	803 Mobile Home Lots	816 Camden County	865 Warehouse	901 TRANSPORTATION	902 Automobiles
104 Personals	300 EDUCATION	502 Livestock & Supplies	610 Air Conditioners/Heaters	623 Swap/Trade	804 Amelia Island Homes	817 Other Areas	903 Vans	904 Motorcycles	905 Commercial
105 Public Notice	301 Schools & Instruction	503 Pets/Supplies	611 Home Furnishings	624 Wanted to Buy	805 Beaches	850 RENTALS	906 Condos-Furnished	907 Apartments-Furnished	908 Commercial
106 Happy Card	302 Diet/Exercise	504 Services	612 Musical Instruments	625 Free Items	806 Waterfront	851 Roommate Wanted	909 Apartments-Unfurnished	910 Motorcycles	911 Commercial
107 Special Occasion	303 Hobbies/Crafts	600 MERCHANDISE	613 Television-Radio-Stereo	700 RECREATION	807 Condominiums	852 Mobile Homes	912 Automobiles	913 Vans	914 Commercial
108 Gift Shops	305 Tutoring	601 Garage Sales	614 Jewelry/Watches	701 Boats & Trailers	808 Off Island/Yulee	853 Mobile Home Lots	915 Trucks	916 Vans	917 Commercial
200 EMPLOYMENT	306 Lessons/Classes	602 Articles for Sale	615 Building Materials	702 Boat Supplies/Dockage	809 Lots	854 Room	918 Automobiles	919 Vans	920 Commercial
201 Help Wanted	400 FINANCIAL	603 Miscellaneous	616 Storage/Warehouses	703 Sports Equipment Sales	810 Farms & Acreage	855 Apartments-Furnished	921 Automobiles	922 Vans	923 Commercial
202 Sales-Business	401 Mortgage Bought/Sold	604 Bicycles	617 Machinery-Tools-Equip.	704 Recreation Vehicles	811 Commercial/Retail	856 Apartments-Unfurnished	924 Automobiles	925 Vans	926 Commercial
203 Hotel/Restaurant	402 Stocks & Bonds	605 Computers-Supplies	618 Auctions	705 Computers & Supplies	812 Property Exchange	857 Condos-Furnished	927 Automobiles	928 Vans	929 Commercial

THE NEWS-LEADER SERVICE DIRECTORY IS LOCATED BELOW

ANNOUNCEMENTS**102 Lost & Found**

LOST BLUE & GOLD MACAW - Answers to Knucklehead. Call Gail (904) 225-9940. Alene Rd. vicinity.

If You Have Lost Your Pet - please check the Nassau Humane Society facility located at 671 Airport Rd. next to the airport. (904)321-1647 & the Nassau County Animal Shelter 86078 License Rd. in Yulee next to the drivers license building (904)491-7440.

LOST PRESCRIPTION GLASSES - Calvin Klein frames, dark blue aqua inside. Call (904)556-3219.

104 Personals

Advertisement in Over 100 Papers throughout Florida - Advertising Networks of Florida. Put us to work for You! (866)742-1373 www.florida-classifieds.com. ANF

105 Public Notice

All Real Estate Advertised Herein - is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or the intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

The News-Leader will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

If you believe that you may have been discriminated against in connection with purchase, rental or financing of housing, call the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development - HUD - 1(800)669-9777, or for the hearing impaired 1(800)927-9275.

EMPLOYMENT**201 Help Wanted**

LOCAL CAR DEALERSHIP - seeks one qualified Salesperson. Must be self-motivated, personable, honest and needing to work. Some experience preferred, will train. Send resume and references to: P.O. Box 766-P, Fernandina Beach, FL 32035.

PTL OTR DRIVERS - New pay pkg. Great miles. Up to 46cpm. 12 mos exp req'd. No felon or DUI past 5 yrs. (877)740-6262. www.ptl-inc.com. ANF

HOUSEKEEPER: Greyfield Inn - Cumberland Island. In residence position, dining experience required. \$24,500 per annum. Apply 6 North 2nd Street, Suite 300, Fernandina Beach or call 261-6408 for application.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT - for Amelia Island Orthopedic Surgery Office. Part-time, Wed. & Sat. mornings & Fri. afternoon. Medical Office Exp. required. Fax resume 904-261-7644

AUTO DETAILER POSITION Skills & exp in fine auto detailing. Must have good attitude, references and transportation. Part-time. \$6/hr. Call 904-548-0979, appt.

201 Help Wanted

ADVANCED HOMECARE - needs RNs in Nassau Co. to provide home care. FT/per visit oppy. Excellent \$\$, Fax 470-4799 call 470-5000. Tom

ARTISTIC FLORIST POSITIONS: Florist Design Positions - open part-time and full time. Experience in professional Florist required. Apply by e-mail artisticflorist@bellsouth.net

BARISTS, SERVERS, AND SOUS CHEF Espresso Cafe in Amelia Island

See our ad in Amelia Islander magazine. Fax resume to (904)491-9810

LOOKING FOR A MASSAGE THERAPIST & ESTHETICIAN - Please send resume to P.O. Box 766-C, Fernandina Beach, FL 32035.

HOTEL FRONT DESK CLERK - Night audit & daytime positions open. Experience required. Apply at Holiday Inn Express, 76071 Sidney Pl., Yulee.

Earn \$\$\$ Helping MDs! Process medical claims from home. Call the Federal Trade Commission to find out how to spot medical billing scams. 1(877)FTC-HELP. A message from the News-Leader and the FTC.

LAMB DAY CARE - now hiring a 3-year old teacher. CDA must. Apply in person at 601 Centre St.

COMMERCIAL SPECIALIST Support position available in the loan operations department of First Coast Community Bank. Prefer 1+ years commercial loan documentation and basic knowledge of financial statements. For complete job description and information on submitting a resume, please visit the Career Opportunities link on our website at www.fcibank.com. First Coast Community Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer supporting Diversity in the workplace. M/F/D/V

ALL CASH VENDING - Do you earn \$800/day? 25 local machines & candy \$9,995. (888)629-9968 BO2000033. Call us: We will not be undersold! ANF

SERVICE CENTER MANAGER At Financial Institution Servicing Camden County

Plan, organize and supervise branch activities and operations of a financial facility with six branch associates. Oversee the organizational financial, operational, service, growth plans, and operational risk controls. Primary emphasis in consumer loans, administrative and supervisory skills.

Five (5) years of financial experience, to include lending and branch management. Two-year college degree or equivalent in Business Administration, Management, or Finance.

Excellent verbal and written communication skills required, with the ability to lead others in achieving financial goals.

Drug-free workplace, EOE
Please submit resume and references to:
Financejobs2009@gmail.com, or mail to:

HR Manager
P.O. Box 3140
Kingsland, GA 31548

EMPLOYMENT**204 Work Wanted**

CARPET REPAIRS - and restretching and installing. Over 35 years experience. Call (904)753-1243.

MASTER ELECTRICIAN - 45 yrs experience. Low prices, work guaranteed. Small jobs welcomed. 10% discount with ad. Call Tom (904)491-9992.

WE BUY JUNK CARS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT - We'll pick up. (904)879-1535 or (904)237-5293

CHIMNEY SWEEP

Don't burn your house down because of an unsafe fireplace. Call Lighthouse Chimney Sweeps **261-8163** for a safe winter.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

In observance of Thanksgiving, the News-Leader will be closed on Thursday, November 26th. Our deadline for classified line ads for the Friday, November 27th edition will be Tuesday, November 24th at 5pm.

207 Business Opportunities

HOST A GOLD PARTY - in your house. We supply refreshments & know how. Instant money making opportunity. 583-6152

ALL CASH VENDING - Do you earn \$800/day? 25 local machines & candy \$9,995. (888)629-9968 BO2000033. Call us: We will not be undersold! ANF

BIG PLANS - being held up by the economy? Turn court settlement, annuity, or lottery winnings into the cash you need. Call Chris (816)582-1193 or chris@yourcashout.com. ANF

FOR SALE

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Please submit resume and references to:
Financejobs2009@gmail.com, or mail to:

HR Manager
P.O. Box 3140
Kingsland, GA 31548

EDUCATION**301 Schools & Instruction**

ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE - from home. Medical, business, paralegal, accounting, criminal justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial aid if qualified. (888)237-1399, www.CenturaOnline.com. ANF

BECOME DIETARY MGR. (avg annual salary \$40,374) in 8 month online program offered by Tennessee Technology Center at Elizabeth. Details www.ttcelizabethton.edu, (888)986-2368 or email patricia.roark@ttc-elizabethton.edu. ANF

306 Lessons/Classes

ARTISTS WANTED - Seeking working Artists who are interested in Sharing Studio Space in an established Gallery located in downtown Fernandina. All interested please call - (904)261-7039.

FINANCIAL

403 Finance Home/Property

BIG PLANS - being held up by the economy? Turn court settlement, annuity, or lottery winnings into the cash you need. Call Chris (816)582-1193 or chris@yourcashout.com. ANF

FOR SALE

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Drug-free workplace, EOE
Please submit resume and references to:
Financejobs2009@gmail.com, or mail to:

HR Manager
P.O. Box 3140
Kingsland, GA 31548

FARMS & ANIMALS**503 Pets/Supplies**

ABANDONED - Free to a good home, 2 beautiful black male cats, neutered, must go together. (904)491-8187

CHOCOLATE POINT SIAMESE CAT - Shy, Free to good home. Shots neutered. Call 491-8186.

FREE TO GOOD HOME - Adult cat. Spayed & all shots. Call (904)225-5905.

MERCHANDISE

601 Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE - Fr. 11/20, 9am-4pm & Sat. 11/21, 8am-1pm. No Early Birds! \$5.00 off. Last items. Boys, baby items, clothes, toys, stroller, Ladies clothes, hh items, small furn., pictures, knick-knacks

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WON'T LAST! A-127 Amelia Surf & Racquet. 2 bedroom 2 bath 2 balconies \$409,900

REDUCED

NORTH 14TH STREET 4BR/1.5BA block home on island, needs TLC. \$129,000 MLS #47266

S. 12TH ST. Affordable cottage style homes on island. 2 bedroom, 2 bath \$139,900 MLS #50059 & #50066

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT RENTALS

ON ISLAND	ON ISLAND, Cont.
• 2618 Delorean, 3BR/2BA, w/ screened back porch, 2 car garage. Avail. Dec. 1 \$1100/mo.	• 338-C S. Tarpon Ave., 1BR/1 BA 2 blocks to ocean. \$500/mo.
• 536-A N. Fletcher, 2BR/2BA, 2 blocks from beach. \$975/mo.	• 340-B Tarpon, 2BR/2BA, 1 blk from beach \$850/mo Avail Dec. 1st
• 536-B N. Fletcher, 2BR/2BA, 2 blocks from beach. \$850/mo.	• 86356 Calloway Dr. 3BR/1BA block home \$725/mo.
• 531 S. 8th Street, upstairs apt. 2BR/1BA \$550/mo.	• 5142 Barbara's Place, 3BR/2BA, \$950/mo. Avail Dec. 1st
	• 35 Teal Court (Townhome in Marsh Lakes), 3BR/2.5BA, 2 car garage, \$1295/mo. Avail Dec. 1st
OFF ISLAND	
• 1841 Fletcher Dr. 3BR/1BA	

11TH ST. 2 homes under construction, affordable, on island 3 bedroom 2 bath \$149,900. MLS #50109.

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SINGLE FAMILY HOMES - ON ISLAND

• 95069 Reserve Court - 4BR/2BA Beautiful home with covered patio and well maintained lawn. Home has separate dining and fireplace in living room. **\$1595**

• 4701 Rigging Drive (Golf Side South) - 3BR/2BA Located in prestigious gated community where amenities include a community swimming pool and easy access to the beach, Ritz Carlton and Golf Club of Amelia just across the street. **\$1795**

• 1933 Sycamore Lane - 3BR/2BA - This home is charming country living at its best. Located in Shady Point Plantation on three acres of land with beautiful trees all around. Sit back and relax warm evenings in the Florida room or cozy up by the fireplace on the cold winter nights. Either way this one is a charmer! **\$1495**

• 829 Mary St. - 3BR/3BA including mother-in-law suite on first floor. Walk to the beach from this 3-story home on large corner lot. Approx. 2,300 sq.ft. living space and over 1340 sq.ft. of exterior decks on 3 sides of the house with ocean views. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces in living room and master bedroom. Two car garage. Water and lawn maintenance included. **\$1795**

• 4941 Windward Place (Windward Cove) - 3BR/2BA on South end of the island, close to the beach. Open family room with built-in and wood laminate flooring throughout. Large master bath with garden tub. Two car garage. Two car garage. **\$1395**

• 1930 Highland Drive - 3BR/2BA Custom built home in great neighborhood. In beach front. Open kitchen, breakfast bar, and built in bench seating. Screened porch and fenced backyard. Two car garage. **\$1395**

• 1542 Lisa Avenue - 2BR/2BA Fully furnished home on the North end of Amelia Island. Stainless steel appliances. Open floor plan, ceiling fans, tile floors. Two car garage. **\$1450**

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES - OFF ISLAND

• 87073 Raddin Road, Yulee - 3BR/2BA Modular home with large partially fenced yard. Interior features fireplace, washer/dryer, island bar, bonus room. **\$995**

CONDOS/TOWNHOMES/APARTMENTS

• 966 Chad Street - 3BR/2BA Townhome close to schools, shopping. Bright open floor plan with loft area. Vaulted great room, separate dining. **\$975**

• 2040 Village Lane - 3BR/2BA Centrally located townhouse on cul-de-sac, close to schools and shopping. Features gas fireplace, 2 car garage, washer/dryer, and enclosed sunroom. **\$1250**

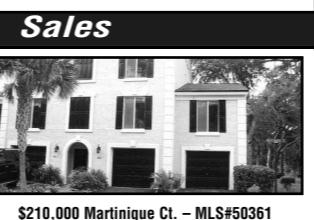
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\$699,000 - Sandpiper Loop - MLS#49621
4BR/4BA, 2,693 s.f. Townhome
Nip Galphin - 277-6597



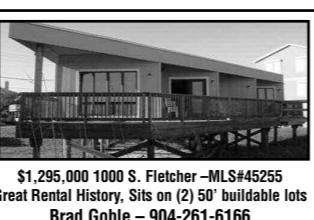
\$340,000 - Reserve Court - MLS#48982
4BR/2BA in Reserve at Old Bluff
Nip Galphin - 277-6597



\$210,000 Martinique Ct. - MLS#50361
2BR/2BA - In The Colony
Nip Galphin - 277-6597



\$495,000 - Fernandina Cay - MLS# 43544
3BR/3BA - Great Ocean View
Nip Galphin - 277-6597



\$1,295,000 1000 S. Fletcher -MLS#45255
Great Rental History, Sits on (2) 50' buildable lots
Brad Goble - 904-261-6166



\$177,000 - Timber Creek PLantation - MLS#50131
2,307 sq.ft. Brick/Stucco, SS Appliances,
Brad Goble - 261-6166



275,000 - MLS#49508
2600 S.F. - across from the Belts River
Call me or your agent quickly!
Brad Goble - 904-261-6166



\$510,000 - Starboard Landing - MLS# 43365
4BR/3BA - 2578sf - In Seaside Subdivision
Nip Galphin - 277-6597



\$150,000 - Cartesian Pointe - MLS#50160
1,928 sq.ft. Can close before Nov. 30.
Brad Goble - 261-6166

• Lancelot Lot • \$122,000 Package \$321,000 #45603 • Brad Goble - 261-6166

• Barrington Lot • \$122,000 Package \$321,000 #46502 • Brad Goble - 261-6166

• Beech Street • Commercial Lot \$159,000 #46502 • Brad Goble - 261-6166

• 1735 Clinch Dr. 3.2 acres \$599,000 #49568 • Nip Galphin - 277-6597

• S. Fletcher Lot 50 X 100 \$425,000 Brad Goble 261-6166

• 3208 S. Fletcher, 95x400, R-3, MLS#49357, \$450,000 Nip Galphin 277-6597

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009 CLASSIFIEDS News-Leader

602 Articles for Sale

EARLY CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Thanksgiving Holiday
In observance of Thanksgiving, the News-Leader will be closed on Thursday, November 26th. Our deadline for classified line ads for the Friday, November 27th edition will be Tuesday, November 24th at 5pm.

WHITEWASH - \$5-PC. QUEEN BEDROOM SET - \$450/OBO. Call (904) 4167.

TIS THE SEASON - Decorations for Thanksgiving, Christmas - indoors & out. Call for appt. (904)310-6155.

Drastically Reduced Cosmetic Sale - Open House 11/14, 21 & 28, 12-4pm or call for personal appt. 87188 Raddin Rd., Chester area. (904)225-7500.

LITTLE TYKES SPiRAL BOUNCER - New in box, inflatable bouncer w/slide. Retails for \$500, asking \$250/OBO. (904)491-3520

YARD SALE - Fri. 11/20 & Sat. 11/21 - 9am-1pm. Sale at corner of 7th & Centre (near Eileen's Art & Antiques Store). All proceeds benefit rescuing animals in Nassau.

ANTIQUES FURNITURE, JEWELRY, silver, crockery, project pieces. Coins & collectibles. Fri. & Sat., 8am-2pm. 1704 Broome St. All items good quality and best offer.

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ANTIQUES FURNITURE, JEWELRY, silver, crockery, project pieces. Coins & collectibles. Fri

852 Mobile Homes

3BR/2BA MOBILE HOME - in Blackrock Rd. area. \$700/mo. + \$400 sec. dep. (904)753-1691

3BR/2BA DOUBLEWIDE - Available 12/1. \$600/mo. + \$600 deposit. Call (904)583-2576, leave message & I will return your call.

3BR/2BA DOUBLEWIDE - on one acre. \$850/mo. + \$800 deposit. (904)753-2155

2BR-2BA - Beautiful new decor. \$500-\$675/mo. Includes water, lawn, Possible RTO. (904)315-1757 or 613-6250

3/2 DWMH - off Radio Rd. Fenced backyard. Some pets OK. \$825/mo. + deposit. (904)206-3423

DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME - 3BR/2BA on 1 acre. Great location. \$850/mo. + dep. Call (904)321-7454.

2/1 MOBILE HOME - Chester Rd. \$625/mo. + deposit. (904)206-3423

On Island - 2/1 SWMH in park starting \$165 wk/\$660 mo. + dep. Utilities available. Also, At Beach - effc. apt., \$145 wk incl util/cable. 261-5034

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STATIONERY RV FOR RENT - Weekly & monthly rates. (904)225-5577

BLACKROCK AREA - 2BR/1BA in small, very quiet trailer park. Water, garbage, sewer & lawn service provided. \$550/mo. + \$500 dep. 261-4686

854 Rooms

ROOM FOR RENT - for single. 5 minutes from beach. Private bath, private entrance. \$100/wk. + \$200 dep. Call 10am-6pm, (904)624-5084 anytime.

855 Apartments Furnished

2 APTS. - Fully furnished. A.I., gated, all utilities, beach access. Short term rental. No smoking. \$750 & \$1,050/mo. (904)206-1071 or 321-4262

At Beach - Remodeled effc \$145 wk, incl. util/cable. Also **On Island** - 2&3BR SWMH in park starting \$165 wk/\$660 mo. + dep. 261-5034

ACROSS FROM OCEAN - 57 S. Fletcher Ave. 2BR/2BA completely furnished. Washer/dryer, d/w, disposal, TV, ceiling fans. \$875/mo. + utilities. Deposit \$875. Call (904)277-7622 to schedule walk through.

OCEANVIEW BEAUTIFUL APT FOR RENT

Beautiful ocean views. Furnished. 2BR, Spacious, all Brand-new appliances, Hardwood floors. \$750/month. (904)277-3050.

631 TARPON AVE. - Fernandina Shores. 2/2, furnished, pool, tennis courts, clubhouse, steps to the beach. \$895. Nick Deonas Realty, Inc. (904)277-0006

856 Apartments Unfurnished

DUPLEX - Side A. 3BR/2BA, pool, ocean view. \$1200/mo. (904)753-0256

2012 #2 BRIDAL RD. - 2BR/1BA patio apartment. Quiet neighborhood. \$700/mo. + deposit. Available now. Call Jody (904)583-9397.

2BR/1BA DUPLEX APT. - Historic district, lrg. screened deck. Pet okay. \$650/mo. + utilities. 335-0335 or 556-6853

856 Apartments Unfurnished

Affordable Living - for eligible low-income persons/families. 1 & 2 bedrooms. Rent based on income. Apply at Post Oak Apts. 996 Citrona Dr., Fernandina Beach; (904)277-7817. Handicap Accessible apartments available. Equal Housing Opportunity.

For Rent - 2BR/1.5BA townhouse apt. Newly rebuilt, CH8A, stove, refrig., d/w, carpet. \$750/mo. + dep. & ref. \$200. Call (904)261-3035

ARTIST'S APT. - with retail space available. \$900 includes utilities. 505 S. 9th St. (904)321-3404

1BR/1BA SPACIOUS STUDIO - 10' ceiling, CH8A, W/D hookups, very nice. \$725 includes all utilities. (904)556-9581

NORTH BEACH AREA - Quiet. 2BR/1.5 duplex, upstairs, ocean view. \$800/mo. + 1/2 utilities. Call (904)206-2281.

925 TARPON - North Pointe, 2BR/2.5BA, close to beach, pool, covered parking. \$850/mo. Nick Deonas Realty, Inc. (904)277-0006

2734B 1ST AVE. - 2BR/1.5BA townhome. Close to beach. \$800/mo. + deposit. Available now. Call Jody (904)583-9397.

2BR/1BA - Unit A, 402 S. 11th St. \$750/mo. (904)753-0256

CLOSE TO QUIET NORTH BEACH & Fort Clinch Parks. 2/1 remodeled, electric, heat pump, tile floors, oak cabinets, 1132 N. Fletcher downstairs. Lease \$725/mo. + utilities. \$700 deposit. (904)261-7168

ENJOY FANTASTIC SUNSETS - Riverfront Loft Apt. in Old Town, Fort Clinch Park. 2/1, stainless steel appliances, CH8A, W/D conn. Svcs. pets only. No smk. \$875/mo. Wtr. svc. incl. 737 N. Fletcher. 261-4127

ROOM FOR RENT - Fernandina. Furnished court, pool. Svc animals only. Utils incl. \$600/wk., \$1100/mo. (904)310-6493

28R/2BA - on Amelia Island Plantation. \$1200/mo. for 6 months. Call AMELIA RENTALS (904)261-9129.

POOLVIEW BEAUTIFUL CONDO FOR RENT

Amelia Landings. 1F. Top floor. Beautiful view of pool, lagoon and tennis courts. Furnished. 2BR/2BA. Washer/dryer. All appliances. Nicely furnished. \$850/month. (904)277-3050.

1BR/1BA - Amelia Woods. Beautifully furnished. Vaulted ceilings. \$840/mo. Call (770)789-2965 for details. Also listed for sale - Century 21.

858 Condos-Unfurnished

LUXURY CONDO - 2BR/2BA, garage, pool, gated community, ground level. The Villas at Summer Beach. Unfurnished. \$1150/mo + util. 277-3206

FERNANDINA SHORES - 2BR/2BA ground floor, pool, tennis, clubhouse, dishwasher. Year lease, ref's, deposit. Avail November. \$950/mo. 261-5630

1/2 MONTH FREE - The Palms at Amelia 2BR/2BA starting at \$825/mo. Newly rebuilt, CH8A, stove, refrig., d/w, carpet. \$750/mo. + dep. & ref. \$200. Call (904)277-1983

3BR/2BA - \$1395/mo. + utilities. Short term or long term, or weekly. Pets OK with a fee. (904)552-8601

3165 S. FLETCHER - (Sea Castles) 3/2,5, washer/dryer, garage, community pool, steps to beach. \$895 nick Deonas Realty, Inc. (904)277-0006

THE COLONY - 2BR/2BA, bonus room, garage. W/D, pool, tennis courts. \$900/mo. Available 12/1/09. Call (904)557-1507.

3/3.5 SUMMER BEACH VILLA - includes lawn care, cable, w/d, fireplace, screen porch, granite, tile grout, 2100sf, walk to beach. \$1400/mo. Pet dep. (912)682-8118

CONDOS FOR RENT HOTLINE - Ask about our FREE RENT SPECIAL, Darlington Realty, Inc. (904)261-8030.

2BR/2BA - Close to beach, 1200 sq. ft., tile floors, recent renovation, washer/dryer. Pet considered. \$950/mo. Call (904)430-7802.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL AMELIA LAKES

1 & 2 Bed Luxury Condos in gated, waterfront community. Resort-style pool, tennis, community, 24-hr fit ctr, 2-car garage, Garden tubs, walk-in closets & lots of upgrades! Call Jessica (904)415-6969. Starting at \$799/mo. www.amelialakes.com jessica@amelialakes.com

859 Homes-Furnished

2BR/2BA WATERFRONT PROPERTY

for rent. \$1000/mo. Call (904)502-0406.

860 Homes-Unfurnished

Bank Foreclosures - 3BR only \$199/mo. Buy 5BR only \$225/mo. 5% down 30 years at 8% apr. For listings (800)366-9783 ext 5853. ANF

1711 PARK AVE. - Amelia Park. 2115sf, 3BR/2BA, pool, privacy fence, 2-car garage. \$1800/mo. w/pool & lawn svc. Call for more details 323-9890 or 225-6084.

4BR/2BA BLOCK HOME - Yulee, Callaway Dr. CH8A, updated kit. w/d, storage garage with w/d. \$800/mo. + dep. 225-9890 or 225-6084.

1711 PARK AVE. - Amelia Park. 2115sf, 3BR/2BA, pool, privacy fence, 2-car garage. \$1800/mo. w/pool & lawn svc. Call for more details 323-9890 or 225-6084.

3379 SUNNY PARKE CIR. - Flora Park. 4/2, 2300 sq. ft. Sleep, frdg, DW, microwave, FP, water softener, sprinkler system. Must see. \$1395. Nick Deonas Realty, Inc. 277-0006

YULEE - 4BR/2BA, 1854sf. \$1,100/mo. Call Don Brown Realty (904)225-5510 or (904)571-7177.

860 Homes-Unfurnished

2BR/1BA - All new appliances. W/D, Wimbrel Ln, off Philips Manor near Ritz Carlton & Peters Point beach access. Call (904)556-4491.

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FOR RENT - Nice little house. 3BR/2BA located on Gum St. Newly remodeled. Call (904)753-1346.

NICE 3BR/2BA HOME - on Island. \$895. Lots of trees and garage. (904)277-8171.

ON THE ISLAND - 3BR/2BA, 3630 1st Ave. Garage, large back deck, near the beach. \$1200/mo. + \$100 dep. (386)961-8672 or (866)606-8443.

YULEE COTTAGE - 2BR/1BA, completely refurbished, CH8A, tile bath. \$750/mo. 1st & last + \$700 security. Call (904)465-0511.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE - in the historic district downtown. Lots of traffic. Some utilities are included. Please phone (904)261-8249 to preview these offices.

OFFICE SPACE - includes utilities & janitor. Small \$125, medium \$225, large \$350, & office suites avail. Jasmine Office Center. Call Mack (904)583-0058.

TURKEY CLASS A OFFICE SPACE - in Gateway To Amelia complex available for professional service firm on an office sharing basis. If interested contact Sue Armstrong at (904)277-2788.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE - in the historic district downtown. Lots of traffic. Some utilities are included. Please phone (904)261-8249 to preview these offices.

402 Centre St. 1000-9000SF 1 North St (Swan Bldg) 155-170SF

501 Centre St (Maxwell Bldg) 120-190SF

Atlantic Ave @ 14th St 500-2100SF

117 S. 9th St. 2100SF

1405 Park Ave 918SF

Gulfport R/E Svc (904)277-6597

EXECUTIVE OFFICE SPACE - to rent or lease. Prestigious Gateway to Amelia location. (904)556-6234

860 Homes-Unfurnished

3BR/2BA - w/garage & screened porch. Villages of Marsh Lakes. \$1100/mo. 1st & security required. (904)753-0379.

861 Vacation Rentals

OCEANVIEW 3BR/2BA and 2BR/1BA. Call (904)261-4066. C.H. Lasserre, Realtor, for special rates.

863 Office

OFFICE SPACE - for rent. Office within an office. Desk, chair, bookcase, utilities included, & some extras. 753-4077

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT - Desk, chair, bookcase, chair, all utilities, & some extras. \$500/mo. 753-4077

Office Space - includes utilities & janitor. Small \$125, medium \$225, large \$350, & office suites avail. Jasmine Office Center. Call Mack (904)583-0058.

TRANSPORTATION

901 Automobiles

2002 VW JETTA - Turbo, 64,000 miles, 4-door, silver, leather, sunroof, 6 player CD. \$6,800/OBO. (904)415-0371 or (904)415-3160.

FSBO - Classic 2dr. Eldorado '91 Cadillac \$950. '97 Saturn \$1900. '91 Dodge PU \$2500 & '85 2dr S10 Blazer \$1200. All good running condition. 261-5034

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Toy drive

Maurices at The Shoppes at Amelia Concourse, 463721 SR 200, Yulee, is holding a toy drive to benefit Toys for Tots through Dec. 10. Customers can drop off their donations during store hours, Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-10 p.m., and Sunday noon-7 p.m. Items needed include new unwrapped toys. Donors will receive a coupon for 20 percent off one regular-priced item for each donation, limit 10 per person.

Alternative gift market

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave., hosts its ninth annual Alternative Gift Market Nov. 21 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and Nov. 22 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Breakfast will be offered both days.

This is an opportunity to purchase handmade gifts that benefit women and children in developing countries from around the world. Among the groups this year are Ten Thousand Villages, MayaWorks, Siwok, African Team Ministries, Heifer Project, Bonga Ethiopian School Project, Breast Cancer Awareness and Hospice, First Coast Freedom Playground, Nepal Clinic, Nature's Cork and Micah's Place.

For more information call St. Peter's office at 261-4293.

Kinderstudios

The dance students of Kinderstudios, located at 1897 Island Walk Way, will perform Nov. 25 at 6 p.m. at the lighting of the Christmas tree at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island; Nov. 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the lighting of the Christmas tree in downtown Fernandina Beach; and Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. during the lighted holiday parade.

Santa Claus will visit Kinderstudios on Dec. 12 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Students will enjoy hot chocolate, cookies and a gift exchange. For information e-mail Alexandra Carroll at alexandra.kindermusik@comcast.net.

Holiday Celebration'

Amelia Island Plantation will light up the holiday season with the annual Holiday Celebration Nov. 27 from 5-9 p.m. in The Spa & Shops at Amelia Island Plantation to benefit Take Stock in Children.

Enjoy hot chocolate, hot apple cider, holiday cookies, horse and carriage rides, live entertainment, carousel rides and pictures with Santa Claus. The cost is \$5 per person, which includes a \$1 donation to Take Stock in Children. Tickets are available at Harrison's Mercantile, Resort To Home and Amelia's Signature Shop. Children 4 and under are free. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. For information call 866-213-8045 or visit www.aipfl.com.

Light Up a Life

Take Stock in Children presents Light Up A Life from 6-9 p.m. Dec. 3 at the Amelia Inn Conference Center on Amelia Island Plantation. Enjoy an evening of fine wine, a splendid buffet and a silent auction of unusual items. Advance tickets are \$50 and available at First Coast Community Bank, the News-Leader, Nassau County Record, Café Karib, Resort to Home and the Ocean Clubhouse at Amelia Island Plantation. Or charge by phone at 548-4432 (Florida State College). Tickets will be \$60 at the door.

Christmas Glow

The Annual Christmas Glow sponsored by the Woman's Club of Fernandina Beach will be held Dec. 4 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Woman's Club Clubhouse at 201 Jean Lafitte Blvd. (behind the Atlantic Avenue Recreation Center). Just follow the luminaries to the clubhouse. There will be face painting, entertainment, and visits with Santa. Chili, hot dogs, chips and colas will be served for a fee. Cookies and punch will be free. This is the Woman's Club's gift to the community. Please come and



SUBMITTED

Christmas homecoming

"A 1940's Christmas Homecoming" tells the story in drama and music of a young soldier trying to get home from the war for Christmas in 1944. Cheering Eddie on is a 45-voice chorus and 13-piece swing band in a USO Club setting depicting the World War II era. "A 1940's Christmas Homecoming" will be presented at Amelia Baptist Church at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11 and Sunday, Dec. 13. Admission is free. Childcare for children from birth to age 4 is available with reservations. For information call the church office at 261-9527. Amelia Baptist Church is located at 961167 Buccaneer Trail where it intersects with South Fletcher Avenue at the yellow caution light.

Holiday music

The Amelia Community Theatre Guild presents "An Evening of Holiday Music" at 8 p.m. on Dec. 3 and 4 at 209 Cedar St. Right, members of the Sine Nomine Choir who will perform for the event, under the direction of Jill Dillingham, Mary Williams and Nanette Autry. Adult tickets are \$15; student tickets are \$10. There also will be holiday refreshments and a holiday reading by Ron Kurtz and Judy Tipton. Call 261-6749.

SUBMITTED

bring a friend. All ages are invited. For information call 261-4885.

Homes tour

Tour five of Amelia Island's loveliest, private homes, all professionally decorated, in Fernandina Beach's historic district during the Amelia Island Museum of History's third annual celebration of the holiday season, Dec. 4 and 5. New in 2009 will be an authentic Victorian Tea in the Bailey House. Homes will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; tea will be served at 2, 3 and 4 p.m. Tour tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 on tour days. Tea tickets are \$15 and space is limited. To purchase tickets and for more information, visit www.ameliamuseum.org or call 261-7378, ext. 100. Proceeds will continue the work on major renovations.

Craft show

The 14th Annual Christmas Craft Show will take place from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 5 in the Atlantic Avenue Recreation Center's main auditorium. There will be Christmas gift, ornaments, wreaths and other handmade crafts available. Admission is free. For more information, call 716-7668.

Parade of Paws

Redbones Dog Bakery and Boutique will host its 10th Annual "Parade of Paws" in downtown Fernandina Beach on Dec. 5.

Pre-register now at Redbones. Late registration will begin on-site at 10 a.m. in the Citizens Bank parking lot, Eighth and Centre streets.

Minimum donation is \$10 and all proceeds benefit the Nassau

Humane Society. Lineup begins at 10:30 a.m. and the parade starts at 11 a.m. Prizes and trophies will be awarded for best holiday outfit, the dog that most looks like its owner, and cutest personality. Following the parade at Redbones enjoy free doggie treats, pictures and special guest, chocolatier Kendall Taylor, who will sell her home-made chocolate candies with sales donated to the Nassau Humane Society. Fairy Tails Mobile Grooming is offering 20 percent off in November to parade participants and will donate a portion of the proceeds to the Nassau Humane Society. After the parade, Fairy Tails will offer free nail trimming and touchups on face, feet, tail and tummies.

For more information, visit www.redbonesbakery.com or call 321-0020.

Pet photos

The annual Pet Photos with Santa is Dec. 5 starting at 10 a.m. at Bark Avenue Pet Boutique, 97 Amelia Village Circle. Cost is \$20 per photo and appointments are required. Photographer is Holly Allain, who is donating her time. Proceeds benefit Project Chance, which supplies guide dogs to children with autism in Northeast Florida. To schedule an appointment, call the store at 261-2275.

Holiday classes

The Learning Community of North Florida classes for the holidays include: Holiday Wreaths and Garlands - Dec. 5, 11 a.m.; Holiday Party Appetizers - Dec. 5, 1:30 p.m.; Holiday Brunch - Dec. 6, 11 a.m.;

Holiday Wine and Cheese Party - Dec. 9, 3:30 p.m.; Gourmet Dipped Apples - Dec. 9, 6 p.m.; Easy Edible Holiday Gifts - Dec. 12, 11 a.m.; Holiday Pies and Cakes - Dec. 13, 11 a.m.; Holiday Candle Making - Dec. 10, 3 p.m.; Christmas Cookies - Dec. 19, 1 p.m.; Holiday Pet Treats - Dec. 19, 3:30 p.m. For more information or to register, visit www.lclf.com or call (904) 430-0120.

Holiday encampment

The Fort Clinch State Park Union Holiday Encampment Dec. 5-6 will feature re-enactors decorating the fort for Christmas. Volunteers in Civil War-era costumes place fresh greenery on the mantle, decorate a period Christmas tree and portray daily life as it was in the winter of 1864. The ladies string berries and popcorn while fires burn in the fireplaces and soldiers answer questions about what it is like to be stationed at Fort Clinch.

The event will take place from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m.-noon on Sunday. For details call 277-7274, or visit www.floridastateparks.org/fortclinch.

Foundation lunch

The Fernandina Beach High School Foundation Holiday Luncheon featuring Chef Williams Castleberry and the FBHS culinary students will be held at noon Dec. 6 at the Fernandina Beach Woman's Club, 201 Jean Lafitte Blvd. Sponsorship levels begin at \$40. Call Alison Douglas at 491-8069 by Nov. 25 to RSVP.

The foundation supports the school, its students and faculty.

Alhambra resurrects holiday classic

For the News-Leader

Three months ago it was assumed the nation's oldest professional dinner theater was closing its doors forever. This week, the new ownership group, led by Jacksonville native Craig Smith, announced its own "Christmas Miracle." Creative Director Tod Booth will combine forces again with Alhambra veteran Tony Triano, reprising his role as Scrooge, as the Alhambra finishes a tumultuous 2009 season with a three-week run of Charles Dickens' classic, "Christmas Carole."

This holiday favorite has been an Alhambra Christmas tradition for 22 years. It brings to life one of literature's most famous penny-pinchers, Ebenezer Scrooge. Whether patrons celebrate Christmas, or just like a good ghost story, "Christmas Carole" is fun for the entire

family. Christmas Carole invites theater-goers to a memorable musical voyage to Victorian England to find out how a miserly skinflint discovers the true meaning of Christmas in a most unusual way.

"I am so excited that we can open the Alhambra for this holiday classic," said Managing Partner Craig Smith. "In August this theater was about to close forever. With a lot of teamwork and hustle and, yes, maybe even a miracle or two, we are going to open the doors for 'Christmas Carole.' It would have been a shame for Jacksonville not to have a live version of this classic story. We're all thrilled we'll be open for business in time."

This is not the grand opening or even a real preview of what the new owners have in store for the theater, but Smith is confident even the subtle upgrades in what

Holiday tea

Enjoy a Holiday Tea and the reading of Dylan Thomas' "A Child's Christmas in Wales" on Dec. 8 at 3:30 p.m. at Elizabeth Pointe Lodge on South Fletcher Avenue.

Tickets are \$25 for Friends of the Library members and \$30 for non-members and available at the Fernandina Beach library. Ticket includes tea and one copy of the book.

Lighted parades

The Lighted Holiday Land Parade & Fernandina Harbor Marina Holiday Lighted Boat Parade will be held Dec. 12 beginning at 6 p.m.

The parade along Centre Street is presented by America's Youth. Parade applications are now available for pickup at the Northeast Florida Community Action Agency at the Peck Center and at the Chamber of Commerce at Gateway Boulevard in Fernandina Beach. Entry is free.

The Fernandina Harbor Marina Holiday Lighted Boat Parade will follow the land parade, presented by the Historic Fernandina Business Association, beginning in the harbor at the foot of Centre and Ash streets. Bring your chairs and blankets to view the parade downtown, then move to the boardwalk at the marina to see the lighted boats.

For more information about the boat parade contact Sandy Price at 206-0756 or e-mail sprice@bell-south.net.

Yulee Holiday Festival

The 5th Annual Yulee Holiday Festival and Parade will be held at the Yulee Sports Complex on Goodbread Drive in Yulee on Saturday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The parade will begin at 10 a.m., with the theme "Through a Child's Eyes," followed by a festival offering food, art and craft vendors, live music and entertainment for all ages. Pictures will be taken with Santa in the Winter Wonderland throughout the day.

If you are interested in participating in the parade or in providing entertainment, please call Connie at 225-2516. If you or your organization would like reserve a booth, please call Julie at 225-5237.

Christmas Spectacular'

Kinderstudios presents its fourth annual "Christmas Spectacular" musical production for the community on Dec. 19 at the Fernandina Beach Middle School auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

For information e-mail Alexandra Carroll at alexandra.kindermusik@comcast.net. Kinderstudios is located at 1897 Island Walk Way, Fernandina Beach.

Hospice calendar

Community Hospice of Northeast Florida has the perfect holiday gift for dog lovers - the 2010 Community Hospice Volunteer Pet Therapy Calendar.

This year's calendar contains full color photographs of 16 of the 51 active pet therapy teams and provides "personal information" about each dog. The calendars are \$15 each, or two for \$20. Proceeds benefit the patients and families of Community Hospice.

To order call Chris Whitney at (904) 407-7063 or visit community-hospice.com.

OUT OF TOWN

Community Nutcracker

The Florida Theatre, 128 East Forsyth St., Jacksonville presents the holiday classic "Community Nutcracker" Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Dreams Come True. Contact the box office at (904) 355-2787.

SHIP *Continued from 1B*

stayed there for three years, during which time everything of value was stripped from the vessel.

Howe spent those years fighting the federal government to get the boat back, says Laspina.

"He was in and out of federal courts continuously for a year and a half to two years," says Laspina. "He had paperwork proving he had leased the vessel out, with no connection with illegal activity." In the end, Howes got the yacht back but did not pursue compensation for the stolen items, Laspina says.

Later the boat was relocated to Haulover Marina in North Miami. That's when Laspina and his brother began helping Howes put the yacht back together.

"Martin, I and Jason (Rowe) worked on the yacht," says Laspina, "for several years at the Haulover." "Ashley put the money up, and we supplied the labor," says Laspina. "A lot of the repairs were just Band-Aids,

not proper repairs." During that time, says Laspina, Howe had his office on the yacht and even lived on it for quite a while.

"We used to go to the Columbus Day Regatta at Elliott Key for the whole weekend," says Laspina. "We always had the largest vessel there. We did it for five or six years straight, we loaded it up with food and beer and headed for the sailing regatta."

"My brother was obsessed with ownership of the yacht," says Laspina, "and he said to Ashley, 'Whatever happens to you, I want you to give me the yacht.'

When Howes died in 2001, says Laspina, Howes' brother and nephew came forward and said the yacht belonged to them, not realizing the condition it was in.

"Martin said, 'If you want it you can have it,'" says Laspina. "Three months later, the marina wanted it out before it sank and blocked the whole marina." Later, Howes' brother called Zidlowiecki and told him he

could have the derelict yacht.

Zidlowiecki realized it needed to be overhauled and began to do some investigating. Eventually he found Earl McMillen, the yacht's present owner, who found the yacht "hanging on for dear life" at a marina in Palatka. The yacht was towed to Savannah, and from there towed on a barge to Newport, R.I., arriving in 2002.

Freedom underwent a complete restoration at the International Yacht Restoration School in Newport, beginning in August 2004. Estimated at \$3.5 million, the restoration eventually cost \$6.5 million. McMillen financed the restoration by assembling a group of partners who each bought an interest in the yacht.

Freedom was relaunched May 9, 2009 in Portsmouth, R.I., and might be stopping for an afternoon at the Fernandina Beach marina next week, on her way to her winter home port in Fort Lauderdale.

adaughtry@fbnewsleader.com

he calls, "the middle of phase one" will be a noticeable change. While patrons will see a significant physical improvement with new paint and carpet, a fresh design for the foyer, more comfortable chairs and new plates and flatware, they will also sample a sneak peek into what the owners have in mind for the new menu. Executive Chef Matthew Medure will be demonstrating the culinary flare that has made him one of the most critically acclaimed chefs in the country with his first turn behind the stove in the Alhambra's kitchen.

Tickets start at \$42, which includes dinner and the show. They are currently on sale at the Alhambra Theatre box office or by calling (904) 641-1212. The show will run Dec. 4-24.

Group rates are available, with discounts available for schools and houses of worship.