

PORT ST. JOE

## Commission addresses budget, Gulf Pines

By Tim Croft  
Star News Editor

Tuesday night was one of mixed math for the Port St. Joe City Commission.

Commissioners gave final direction to staff regarding the tentative 2011-12 budget, including a recommendation that water and sewer rates rise less than projected over the next several years.

Commissioners also got a hard look at the latest figures for acquiring the Gulf Pines Hospital property, which provided significant pause for purchasing the property unless, as Commissioner Lorinda Ginnell said, "magic" occurs with the numbers by next week's Friday deadline.

The commission will hold its first public hearing on the budget at 5:01 p.m. ET on Sept. 15 at City Hall. At the same meeting, commissioners must make a decision on taking title to the Gulf Pines property or give up a claim to the land.

The proposed budget for next year includes no increase in the millage rate for the fourth consecutive year. Since the 2008-09 fiscal year, the city has reduced personnel expenses by 24 percent and operating expenses by 16 percent.

Commissioners leaned toward reducing a proposed increase in water rates to be implemented next month from 8 percent to 5 percent and on sewer from 6 percent to 4.5 percent.

The proposed increases were those called for in a rate study undertaken last year, but commissioners, taking into account ongoing issues with water quality and the city's improved fiscal position, favored reducing the proposed rates and maintaining 5 percent and 4.5 percent annual rate increases through 2015-16.

Commissioners also approved a staff recommendation for a 2 percent Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) salary increase for employees as well as a \$750 one-time salary bump. "We've asked a lot of our employees the last three years," Mayor Mel Magidson said, adding that employees had not seen a pay increase in four years. "While we have the ability, I'd like to see us (provide the COLA and one-time increases)."

The city is also switching from United Health Care for employee health insurance back to Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Deductibles are the same, but costs to the city will be slightly

higher. The vast majority of employees have their insurance fully paid by the city's \$700 contribution. As for Gulf Pines, the latest figures, with county property taxes and other items needed to improve the property for development, continue to move, City Attorney Tom Gibson said, "in the wrong direction."

The city is looking at a potential shortfall of roughly \$130,000, at minimum, to satisfy tax liens, demolish the building, and survey and plat the land to put it on the market, based on projections from real estate agents of what the

2.2 acres would bring at market. Commissioner Rex Buzzett said he pushed the city to gain possession of the property from a bankruptcy proceeding to: 1) get the hospital torn down and property on the tax rolls and 2) because 15-20 neighbors of the former hospital have been looking at a "derelict eyesore" for more than five years.

"We can't afford to do anything about it now, but I will continue to push the city (to gain possession of the property, tear down the hospital and get the property on the rolls)," Buzzett said.

Commissioner Rex Buzzett said he pushed the city to gain possession of the property from a bankruptcy proceeding to: 1) get the hospital torn down and property on the tax rolls and 2) because 15-20 neighbors of the former hospital have been looking at a "derelict eyesore" for more than five years.

"We can't afford to do anything about it now, but I will continue to push the city (to gain possession of the property, tear down the hospital and get the property on the rolls)," Buzzett said.

Commissioner Rex Buzzett said he pushed the city to gain possession of the property from a bankruptcy proceeding to: 1) get the hospital torn down and property on the tax rolls and 2) because 15-20 neighbors of the former hospital have been looking at a "derelict eyesore" for more than five years.

## Women up front

Beach Blast brings Semper Fi Sisters to Gulf County

By Tim Croft  
Star News Editor

They are coming back and they are bringing friends.

The Semper Fi Sisters will hold their third annual Beach Blast Oct. 12-16, with headquarters on Indian Pass, and for the second consecutive year the event is attracting additional military moms, grandmothers, sisters, wives, girlfriends and fiancés.

In addition, several of the Wounded Warriors who enjoyed a weekend of fun this spring during what has become the annual Wounded Warrior Weekend in Gulf County, will join the Semper FIs, along with the sisters with loved ones from other branches of the military deployed overseas.

The Turtle Beach Inn and four to five surrounding houses on Indian Pass will serve as base camp for the Sisters and their brood.

"We have more than 57 ladies from out of the county confirmed so far," said Brenda Garth, the local queen of the Semper Fi Sisters, event organizer and mother to sons and a daughter in the service. "There are more new people coming for the first time than we have ladies returning. We are taking over Indian Pass.

"And this year we are going to have ladies representing the Navy, the Marines, of course, the Army and the Air Force. We will have also have Gold Star moms (those who have lost sons to war) and some of the Wounded Warriors from this spring. They wanted to be a part of this."

In fact, the event has grown had such a rapid rate Garth can barely wrap her head around it. Two years ago, 12 ladies, all Semper Fi Sisters with loved ones deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan with the Marines, comprised the Beach Blast contingent.

Last year the number was up to 29 women who traveled to Gulf County for a chance to leave the



PHOTOS BY TIM CROFT | The Star

In three years the Beach Blast has grown from 12 ladies to more than 60 confirmed for next month's Blast. Last year, the Beach Blast brought 29 ladies from outside of Gulf County to the community. Below, A highlight of the Beach Blast is the "presence" of loved ones, fashioned from photos, a clothes hanger and some camouflage uniforms.

tension of everyday life for the family of one who is deployed behind for a weekend. This year, the number is already over 60 and growing.

"This is the least I can do to support the troops that are over there for us," Garth said. "This is not about politics, it's not about war. It's about love. Love of our country, love of our sons and daughters in harm's way and love of those who answered the call before.

"This is a chance to bring women together for a release from the daily tensions you have when a loved one is deployed in Iraq or Afghanistan. They can come here and get support and they are not judged."

The women range from  
**See WOMEN A3**

## Appeals court reverses MB land use decision

By Tim Croft  
Star News Editor

An appellate court unanimously reversed a lower court decision and sent a Mexico Beach land-use case back to the circuit court last week.

The three-judge panel from the First District Court of Appeals of Florida, citing "substantial due process issues," reversed a circuit court decision to dismiss action brought by Mexico Beach residents Joe and Mary Bush concerning a lot split application denied by the city council.

The case has spanned two years and cost the city at least \$60,000 in attorney fees.

In a seven-page opinion written by Judge J. Van Nortwick and filed Aug. 31, the judges ruled that the lower court failed to address due process issues raised by the Bushes and remanded the case back to circuit court.

By failing to address the due process claims, the judges noted, the circuit court "did not engage" in the required review, mandated by case law, for cases involving what amount to quasi-judicial hearings, as with the

See **LAND USE A2**

## Dual enrollment numbers climb

By Tim Croft  
Star News Editor

Dual enrollment numbers continue an upward arc at the county public high schools.

High school students in increasing numbers are taking advantage of dual enrollment opportunities as a head start toward college degrees while working from the familiar surroundings of their home schools.

So far this year, 159 students are dual-enrolled in one of three models offered by Gulf District Schools, an increase of 18 students over last year, and continuing a trend that has seen dual enrollment double in the past four years.

The strides have come so far so fast that one Wewahitchka High senior, Bryce Gerber, is on track to graduate in the spring with his high school diploma and a two-year associate degree.

"With the technology available, it seemed to me we should do more for our kids with dual enrollment," said Sara Joe Wooten, district assistant

See **ENROLLMENT A2**



## LAND USE from page A1

Bush case against the Mexico Beach city council on the lot split application.

Among the criteria that must be considered, the judges noted, was whether procedural due process was accorded the plaintiffs.

The Bushes filed the lot split application in September 2009, contending that when they divided their lot into two lots in 2005 they had met all requirements under the city's land use regulations.

The Bushes' assertion was based on the city comprehensive plan which stated that "a development shall be considered consistent with the adopted Comprehensive Plan if the development conforms to the provisions set forth in the City of Mexico Beach Land Development Code."

The Planning and Zoning Board voted unanimously to deny the application following a hearing in October 2009 and the city council was to take up the application in a public hearing later that month, but tabled the application for future consideration.

Over the ensuing six

months the Bushes sought but were unable to obtain a hearing before the city council on their application and alleged that during this time other property owners presented and obtained approval and acceptance of the division of parcels for sale or development, Van Nortwick's opinion details.

The Bushes sought relief in circuit court, which issued an order to the city to show cause. A final hearing on the application was scheduled for April 13, 2010. Again, the application was tabled to provide time for the city to retain an attorney.

That attorney, David Theriaque of Theriaque & Spain of Tallahassee, has received payment for services in excess of \$60,000 from the city since May 2010, according to an accounts payable summary from the city.

As noted by the appellate court, while the Bushes' application was pending the city council was considering the adoption of new land development regulations that in part addressed the subdivision of property and required neighborhood consistency when lots

are subdivided.

The new ordinance was adopted by the council on April 13, 2010 and the following month the council unanimously denied, without discussion, the Bushes application. In doing so, the council found that the application failed to comply with the new ordinance and two policies in the Future Land Use Element of the comprehensive plan, the appellate opinion detailed.

In both courts the Bushes contended that the newly-passed ordinance cannot be applied to their application and they had not been advised the city was relying on future land use policies nor given any opportunity to argue in support of their application, Van Nortwick wrote.

Further, the Bushes asserted that the city manager had stated during a public meeting that the changes to the LDR would not impact their application.

The Bushes sought review from the circuit court based on due process violations and asserting they never received the quasi-judicial hearing before the

city council to which they were entitled.

The circuit court found that the Bushes' complaint was not timely filed and while there may have been due process claims, "any relief this Court could afford the (Bushes) would be of no practical purpose and would not affect the underlying validity of the City Council's Final Order denying the Lot Split Application."

"We cannot agree," Van Nortwick wrote.

The appellate judges said that while consistency issues, as the city argues, must be raised, the judges noted that "the Bushes have raised much more than consistency issues." Because the Bushes' assertions were beyond the scope of simple "consistency," in particular issues of due process, they were entitled to review by the appellate court.

The appellate judges sent the case back to the circuit court and stated "if the Bushes prevail on their contentions before the circuit court, the final order of the City Council would be quashed and would have no force and effect."

## ENROLLMENT from page A1

superintendent of instruction. "We are in a rural area, but why can't we?"

This semester, online courses are offered in English at both high schools and in digital design at Port St. Joe High.

There are also two-way interactive classes — in which high school students effectively sit in on classes at Gulf Coast State College through distance learning — in Western civilization, algebra and biology, the latter a new offering this year.

There are also students dual-enrolled at the Gulf Coast State College campus in Panama City or the Gulf/Franklin Center in marine biology, meteorology and government.

"We have saved parents over \$19,000 this semester in tuition and the cost of textbooks," Wooten said.

"Dual enrollment saves time and money for students and parents," she added. "All of these courses are offered on-site at each high school. It saves tuition, textbooks, extraneous money for college — there are lots of little things you don't think about when you think dual enrollment."

The district has long had an articulation agreement, or dual enrollment agreement, with Gulf Coast State College, formerly Gulf Coast Community College.

Wooten said Dr. Cheryl Flax-Hyman, who serves as liaison between the college and Gulf District Schools, has been instrumental in the program's success.

"She works with me, and whatever we need, she makes it work for us," Wooten said.

The district has also received nearly \$2 million in

grant dollars to enhance technology in the district — both high schools, for example, now have Wi-Fi capabilities — and GCSC has also provided grant money to bolster technology for distance learning.

The Gulf Coast Workforce Board, which has a vested interest in producing a skilled workforce through the schools, has provided grant funding to broaden dual enrollment opportunities.

Another key for the district is that the two-way interactive distance courses taught through GCSC — three times a week during second period, students are piped in to a classroom at the college — is the presence of certified teachers in each subject area at the high school.

Those teachers follow along with the college lesson plans and provide tutoring and additional assistance for students in the college-level classes.

"What makes our program work is we put a certified teacher in each classroom," Wooten said. "These are certified teachers who can help students. Our success rate in these classes is really, really high."

Another key element of the program is its impact on school grades under the state's grading formula.

Beginning last school year, 50 percent of high school grades are based on results from the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test — taken only by ninth- and 10th-graders — and 50 percent is based on participation and success rates from such things as dual enrollment and advanced placement classes.

**MEDICARE PLANS**  
**AFFORDABLE COVERAGE**  
**TO SAVE YOU MONEY**  
**TOP QUALITY COMPANY**  
**TUCKER LIFE-HEALTH INSURANCE, INC.**  
**RATED A+ BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU**



**Ross E. Tucker, Agent since 1981**  
 Chartered Life Underwriter  
 Registered Health Underwriter  
**850-570-9734**  
**800-226-7005**  
[www.tuckerlifehealth.com](http://www.tuckerlifehealth.com)

**Cut N Up**  
**FAMILY HAIR CARE**  
 (850) 227-2200  
 147 W. Hwy 98 • Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
 M-F 9-7, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 12-5

**TANNING, WAXING, EAR PIERCING,  
 FEATHERS, FASHION EXTENSIONS  
 & UP DO'S.**

**BRING A FRIEND & MENTION THIS  
 AD & RECEIVE 10% OFF A SERVICE.**

No Appointment Necessary  
 Walk-ins Welcome

**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**  
**CHEESE BURGER**



**Steamer's**  
 HOT DOGS  
 ICE CREAM & FROZEN YOGURT  
 CORNER OF 2ND AND REID AVE.  
 PORT ST. JOE  
 OPEN DAILY 11-8:30, SUNDAY 1-8

With this coupon, when you buy a cheeseburger, we'll give you another, the same size, FREE.  
 Expires September 14, 2011

LICENSE#RG0058632 & INSURED

**CREST**  
 ENTERPRISES AND LAND DEVELOPMENT, INC.

- NEW CONSTRUCTION/REMODELING
- SITE WORK
- DEMOLITION
- DIRT AND ROCK HAULING SERVICES
- LAND CLEARING
- TRACTOR WORK

Crest Enterprises and Land Development, Inc. a locally owned and operated business with more than 20 years working in the construction field, prides itself on offering quality services at competitive prices.

**CALL TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE!**

MOSES J. MEDINA 850.527.0441 MMEDINA@CRESTENTERPRISES.COM

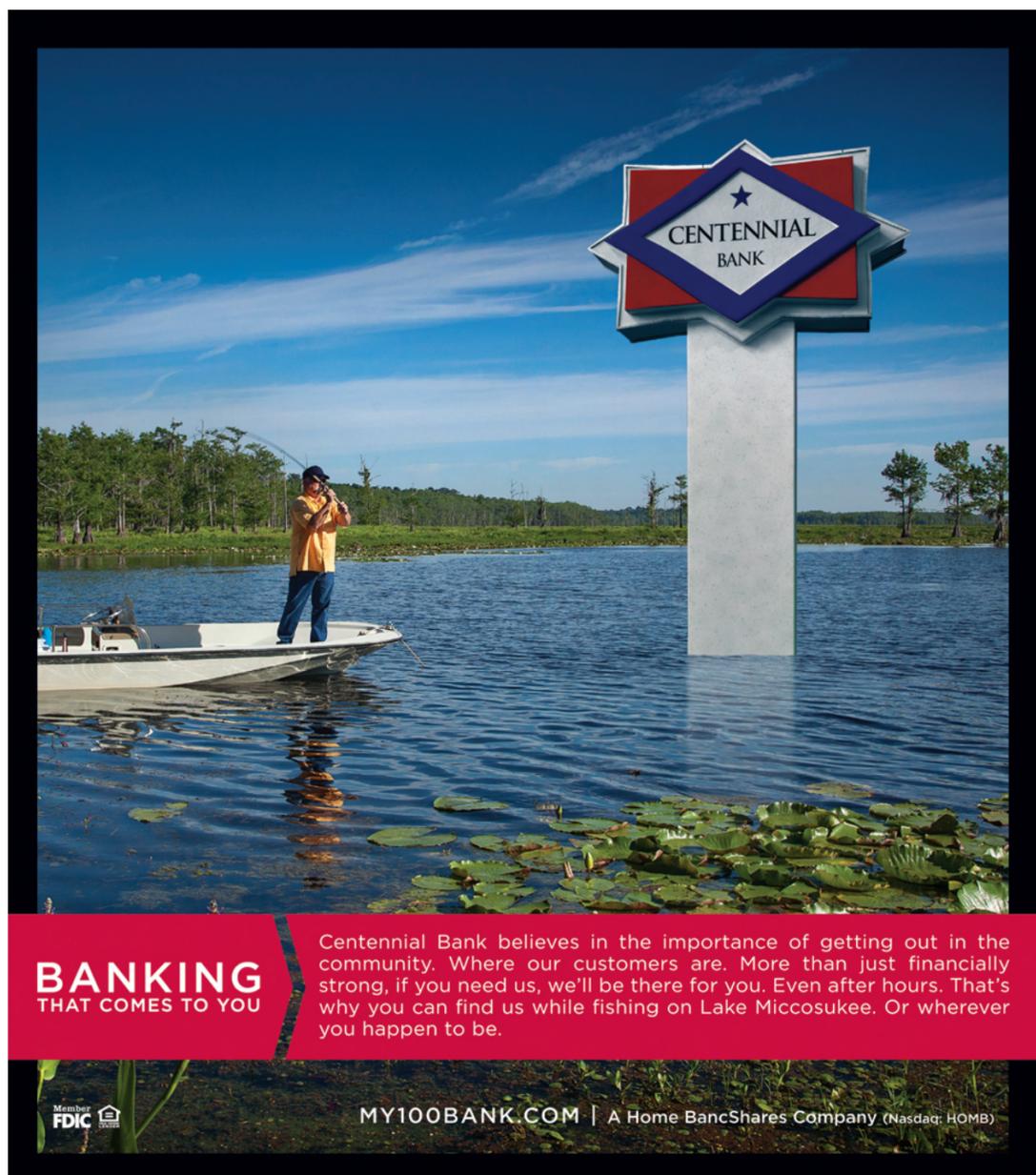
**Robert C. Bruner**  
**Attorney**

**Personal & Business Bankruptcy**

Over 30 Years Legal Experience

Office located at:  
 19 Island Drive, Eastpoint, FL  
**850-670-3030**

"We are a debt relief agency. We can help people file bankruptcy relief under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code."  
 "The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience."

**BANKING THAT COMES TO YOU**

Centennial Bank believes in the importance of getting out in the community. Where our customers are. More than just financially strong, if you need us, we'll be there for you. Even after hours. That's why you can find us while fishing on Lake Miccosukee. Or wherever you happen to be.

Member FDIC

MY100BANK.COM | A Home BancShares Company (Nasdaq: HOMB)

**deal of the day**  
 NEVER MISS A DEAL



\$25 TRIPLE  
 \$12 TODAY'S DEAL  
 \$13 HOT SAUCE

**BUY NOW**

08:24:05  
 TIME LEFT TO BUY

451  
 DEALS SOLD

**THE DEAL IS ON!**

**Sign up now for a free account and receive a**  
**\$5 DEAL CREDIT!**  
 towards your deal purchase.  
 Expires October 12, 2011

**SEE IT SHARE IT BUY IT**

NewsHerald.com/Dealoftheday now offers you up to 70% off from your favorite local services, retailers and restaurants Monday, through Friday. When you see something you like, share it with your friends. Sign up now so you never miss a deal!

NewsHerald.com/Dealoftheday

**NEWSHERALD.com**  
 PANAMA CITY

**Some of the many items needed for shipping to troops:**

**FOOD, SNACKS AND DRINKS:**

Beef Jerky/Slim Jims  
 Coffee (Ground or whole; instant or drip. Ground is preferred)  
 Powder Drink Mix (Gatorade, Kool-Aid, Crystal Light)  
 Sunflower seeds and pumpkin seeds  
 Tuna and chicken salad (in foil pouches, or ready-to-eat kits (no cans)  
 Protein powder and protein bars  
 Hot Chocolate packets, Herbal teas  
 Hard Pretzels / Cheetos / Fritos / Chex Mix / Wheat Thins / Ritz  
 Hard Candy (must be individually wrapped in large bags)  
 Granola Bars / Power Bars / Cereal Bars / Cliff Bars  
 Fig Newtons, Oreos, Nutter Butters, Cheese & Crackers - Small Packs  
 Trail Mix, Dried Fruit, Granola, Fruit Roll-Ups / Fruit By The Foot / Fruit Gummies  
 Nuts: Peanuts, Mixed Nuts (salted preferred)  
 Microwave food (Popcorn, Chef-Boy-R-Dee, Mac'n'Cheese...)  
 Cookies / Girl Scout Cookies (with chocolate: Oct. - Feb. only)  
 Rice Krispie Treats (Store-bought only)  
 Little Debbie's® & Hostess® cake products  
 Oatmeal Packs (Instant: just add water)  
 Cereal (Small, individual boxes)  
 Condiments, Spices; Sugar; Salad Dressing (no glass jars)  
 Caffeinated gum or candy (to stay alert)  
**CHOCOLATE PRODUCTS**  
 accepted from OCTOBER through MARCH (it will melt in high temperatures!)

**ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS:**

Batteries: (AA, AAA, C & 9 Volt are the most requested)  
 DVD Movies (new or used - recent releases only, please!)  
 Xbox Games, PSP, PS2 & PS3 Games (new or used)  
 iTunes® Gift Cards  
 Computer Flash Drives & Thumb

Drives  
 Portable CD players  
 Head phones / Ear Buds  
 Electronic handheld games  
 Pens but ONLY Stic Pens, do NOT send with clickers or movable parts  
 small note pads or small notebooks  
 Stationery & Envelopes; blank cards to send home  
 Double-sided tape,  
 Small, Pocket Calendars  
 Game Books: (Crossword Puzzles / Word Search Books / Math Puzzle books / MAD LIBS / Logic Problems / Sudoku)  
 Yo-Yo's, Dominoes, Playing Cards (new), Poker Chips & Mats, Dice  
 Board games (UNO, Othello, Checkers - travel size is great, too!)  
 Frisbees / Hackey sacks  
 Music CDs, or Sports DVD of basketball games, football or baseball games  
 Sports, Hunting, Fishing Magazines & Books  
**HYGIENE**  
 Baby wipes  
 Hand sanitizer wipes (liquid tends to make mud on dirty hands)  
 Body Wash, Liquid Soap, Facial Cleanser  
 Shampoo /Conditioner (travel size)  
 Hair Gel (for female troops to pull hair back)  
 Combs / Brushes / Bobby Pins (in original packaging, please)  
 Deodorant (travel size)  
 Razors (disposable or "Intuition" or "Mach 3" types)  
 Shaving Cream in Tubes / Shaving Soap (No CANS of Shaving Cream, please!)  
 Lip balm / Chap Stick / Carmex / Blistex  
 Foot Powder (medicated Gold Bond is one often used)  
 Tissues (individual packs; travel size only)  
 Hand & Body Lotion / Moisturizer (travel size)  
 Bug Spray / DEET / Skin-So-Soft  
 Mouthwash (travel size)  
 Toothpaste & Toothbrushes & Dental Floss  
 Breath Mints / Breath Strips

Lozenges / Cough Drops  
 Loufa Sponges / Buff Puffs / Washcloths  
 Nail files / Emery Boards / Nail Clippers  
 Feminine Hygiene Products (Panty Liners & Tampons)  
 Q-tips - also used to clean guns!  
 Cotton Balls  
 Band-aids, Gauze Pads, First Aid Kits / Ace bandages, Icy Hot or Bengay cream  
 Moleskin  
 Shoe Insole Cushions (gel kind is best)  
 Tylenol, Motrin, Advil or Aspirin  
 Packets (individual unopened packages only)  
 Eye Drops (i.e. Visine)  
 Nasal Spray  
 Vitamins (multi-vitamins are always needed! Original containers UNOPENED)  
**OTHER:** T-SHIRTS: Cotton green & tan under shirts - new (Sizes: M, L & XL)  
 Long Sleeve T-shirts also  
 Disposable Hand warmers and Foot warmers (in the wintertime)  
 Laundry Detergent, Trial Paks or Individual Paks  
 Bounce Dryer Sheets (used to put in boots, between clothes & sometimes to deter bugs)  
 Air Fresheners (standalone-not plug-in. Car types are also good)  
 SOCKS: Black, Olive Green & White (cotton or wool)  
 Small toys (Beanie babies) & school supplies for Iraqi & Afghan children  
 Patriotic knick-knacks, USA flags, flags from your state, bandanas, baseball hats, football jerseys, banners to tack on their walls or tents.  
 Black or Green duct tape, small tool kits, dust masks, carpentry tools, Fly swatters, fly paper, mosquito netting, bug repellent in plastic pump bottles only (NO AEROSOL CANS, PLEASE!)  
 Gun cleaning supplies (lube) such as Militec-1 & CLP  
 Fleece Blankets  
 Winter Hats in black, tan or green are always welcome!  
 Small survival Mirrors

**WOMEN** from page A1

those with loved ones just entering or exiting basic training to those who have had loved ones deployed to war zones and wounded and killed in war.

"They all bring something to the table," Garth said. "This allows them to remember. It's a constant remembrance, a constant journey. It's a support system."  
 "This is about the need for others to not feel alone. And to share. When I am reaching my hand up to receive guidance from a mom who has lost a son or had one wounded, I'm also reaching back to help those women who have a loved one just entering basic training."

One night last year, several of the women spent an evening on the roof of a house in Indian Pass, staring at the stars and kibitzing until 3 a.m. There was also the ocean boat cruise enjoyed by a number of women. And, Garth noted, there are those who just want to curl up on the beach with a good book.

The event is a sponsor of the Blast on the Bay Songwriters' Festival which will coincide with the Beach Blast 2011.

Last year, a group

of the Semper Fi Sisters made an appearance at one performance wearing pink hats adorned by flashing tiaras.

And, of course, there is the pirate in front of the Piggly Wiggly who has now appeared in personal photographs throughout the Semper Fi Sisters' network.

"Before we got together some of us met at boot camp," said Paula Lowry of Riverdale, Ga., who attended the first Beach Blast. "When your son or daughter slaps you in the face with this, you feel like you are on an island with all these emotions. You have this lonely feeling. We were baptized as sisters by fear; pain and this hopeless feeling."

"To be able to come down and laugh, enjoy the scenery and the wonderful strangers who treated us so wonderfully, it was incredible."

Pat Krawec of Taunton, Mass., noted, "Our children enlisted; we were drafted."

And for a brief weekend, the women can bask in the Oorah Sisterhood.

"We had a wonderful time," Krawec said. "Your community was so warm and generous to all of us. It was incredible to see the

patriotism and support for our troops in Port St. Joe.

"In the community as a whole down there they support the military. I'd like to see that in other places, support like that."

That community support is needed again this year. "I need the community to donate, donate, donate," Garth said.

Items are needed for the care packages assembled on the final day of the Beach Blast - last year the women sent more than 350 care packages to troops in war zones overseas - and for postage to do all that shipping.

"We'll pack as many boxes as we have items for and ship as many as we have money for," Garth said. "The Post Office is excited and so helpful with all this."

Drop off points for items are Harold's Auto Parts on State Highway 71 in Wewahitchka and The Star newspaper in Port St. Joe, in the Port Shopping Center by the Piggly Wiggly.

Donations for postage or other items can also be mailed to Semper Fi Sisters, P.O. Box 1022, Port St. Joe, FL 32457. Garth says those deployed overseas to submit the name, unit and address to her.



**Farnsley & Johnston**  
 Wealth Management Consultants, LLC

*What Sets Us Apart.....*

- Experience Generating Retirement Income
- Client's Interests Always Come First
- Fee-Based Investment Management
- Estate Planning and Trust Management Services
- Consultative Approach to Working Together

850-227-3336 [www.Farnsley.com](http://www.Farnsley.com)

Office Locations:  
 Atlanta, GA Port St. Joe, FL

Securities offered through Triad Advisors, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Farnsley & Johnston Wealth Management Consultants, LLC, A Registered Investment Advisor.



**The SANDMAN Sandblasting**

We are now offering sandblasting services at SIGN DE-SIGN.

We can blast anything large or small. We can remove rust, paint, graffiti, or dirt off your boat, cars, outdoor furniture, bikes, ATV's trailers and much more. DON'T TRASH IT, BLAST IT!

**Full Service Sandblasters**  
 20 Jefferson Street 850-323-1541  
 Eastpoint, FL 32328 Free Estimates



**POJO LIVE MUSIC FEST**

**SEPT 16-17 2011**

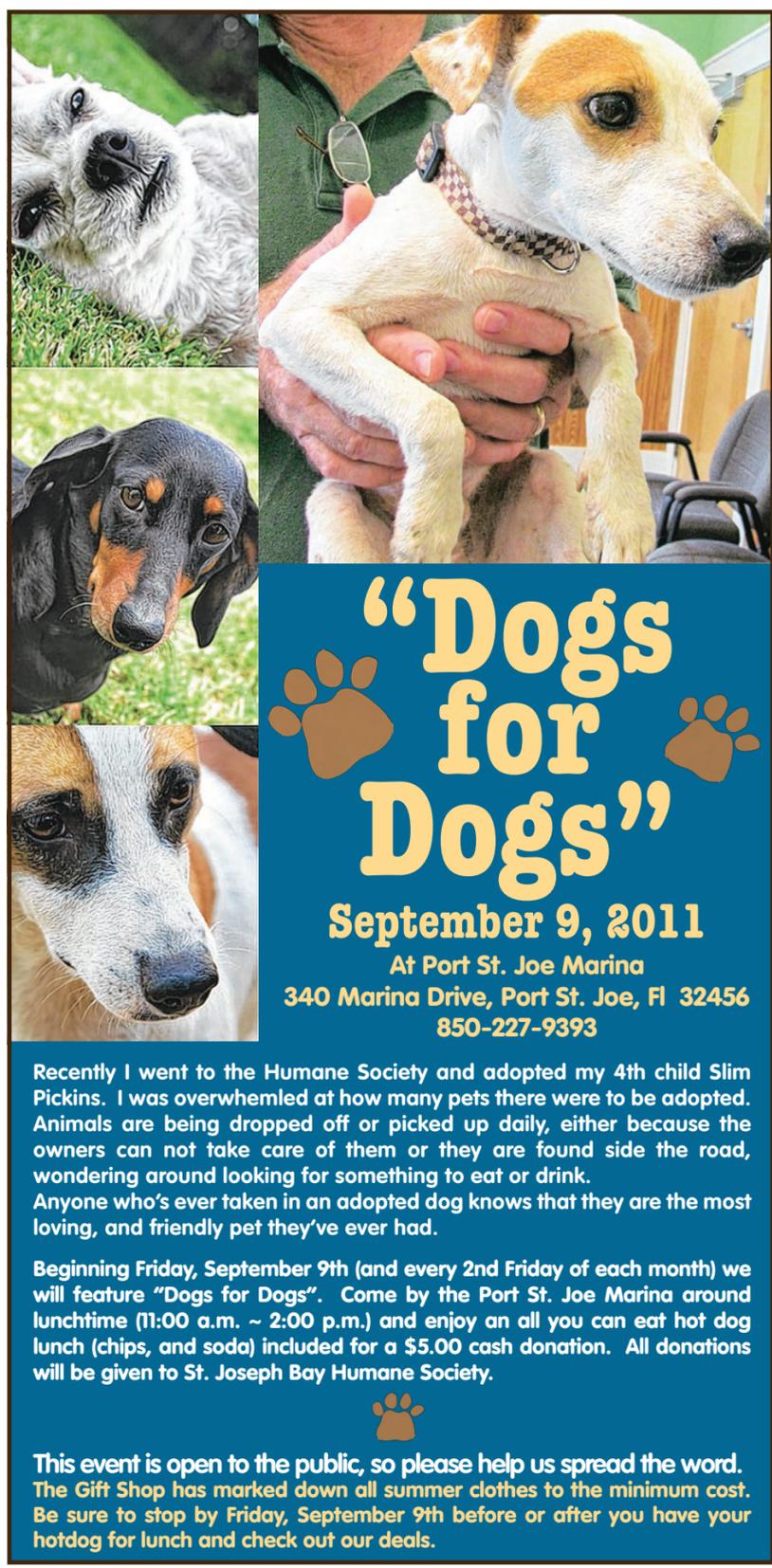
**FREE ST. JOE BEACH VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FLORIDA**

**AT THE BEACH! 2 STAGES. CONSTANT MUSIC**

**ALO**

HONEY ISLAND SWAMP BAND :: MATT COSTA  
 BOB SCHNEIDER :: THE SHEEPDOGS :: SPIRITUAL REZ  
 MISHKA :: MICHAEL TOLCHER :: SARAH MAC BAND  
 THOMAS WYNN & THE BELIEVERS :: BO SPRING BAND  
 CURRY BROTHERS :: BUDDY HAMM :: GREG WOOD

**PoJoLive.com** For more information, call 850-229-7800 



**"Dogs for Dogs"**

**September 9, 2011**

At Port St. Joe Marina  
 340 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
 850-227-9393

Recently I went to the Humane Society and adopted my 4th child Slim Pickins. I was overwhelmed at how many pets there were to be adopted. Animals are being dropped off or picked up daily, either because the owners can not take care of them or they are found side the road, wondering around looking for something to eat or drink. Anyone who's ever taken in an adopted dog knows that they are the most loving, and friendly pet they've ever had.

Beginning Friday, September 9th (and every 2nd Friday of each month) we will feature "Dogs for Dogs". Come by the Port St. Joe Marina around lunchtime (11:00 a.m. ~ 2:00 p.m.) and enjoy an all you can eat hot dog lunch (chips, and soda) included for a \$5.00 cash donation. All donations will be given to St. Joseph Bay Humane Society.



This event is open to the public, so please help us spread the word. The Gift Shop has marked down all summer clothes to the minimum cost. Be sure to stop by Friday, September 9th before or after you have your hotdog for lunch and check out our deals.

# Me, myself and Irene

Virginia had an interesting week last week, experiencing both an earthquake and a hurricane. Both of these events scared me and when I find humor in them, please don't think that I don't understand how deadly and devastating earthquakes and hurricanes can be.

I do understand, because I've experienced firsthand Hurricane Isabel in Williamsburg, Va., in 2003 and many deadly tornadoes in Alabama, including being less than a mile away from the 1989 tornado that killed 21 people in Huntsville.

That being said, it really has been an interesting time for a fellow who does what I do for a living. An earthquake measuring 5.8 was experienced in Virginia on Aug. 23 while I was sitting in my office. At first, I wasn't sure what it was. Above me, it sounded like a helicopter or something malfunctioning on the roof top. Then the chalkboards in my office (I have many) started to shake and my computer screens wobbled.

This concerned me. It felt like a ride at an amusement park, where the floor was about to drop out from under my feet. My wind up monkey clanked his cymbals one time, it scared me, but then it was over. Outside my office in the hallway, everyone seemed to say at the same time, "That was an earthquake."

It gave us something to talk about. We had the weekend to look forward to. Hurricane Irene was headed toward us and at the time, she seemed really mad.

All my friends and co-workers were getting ready. Having experienced Isabel in 2003, I was going to do my best to be prepared. It is not fun going through a real hurricane; however it can be fun preparing (if you let it be).

Everyone has their hurricane preparedness list. Looking at my list, I was quite proud. I had water, food for a month, flashlights, lanterns, batteries, charged cell

phones, plenty of gas, charcoal and a radio that you can crank (thanks to my Mama).

I wouldn't find propane until Saturday, but I did find it. Hurricane Irene was scheduled to hit us



**CRANKS MY TRACTOR**  
BN Heard

on late Saturday afternoon and evening, so I was in good shape.

The stores were selling out of everything you needed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning. The hardware store had batteries and lanterns coming in by the truckload and they were being sold as fast as they were being unloaded.

The shelves at the grocery stores were empty and everyone was in a panic.

On Thursday evening, I was getting my batteries and flashlights and such together. I was lining them all up on the ping pong table. I was proud of myself.

My younger daughter was following me around at about midnight (school hadn't started back in Virginia) telling me that she couldn't find the hot glue gun. Of course, I didn't use the hot glue gun last and didn't know where it was. However, it was very important to her; she was making a bulletin board birthday gift for a friend she was going to see Friday morning. She had waited until the last minute, because she had been practicing field hockey. Having worn a skirt (in the father/daughter game) and played field hockey, I understood. I also tend to wait until the last minute to do some things.

We looked and looked for the glue gun, my daughter followed me around to make sure I was looking, but we couldn't find it.

At about 1:30 a.m. on Friday morning, I decided to go to Walmart, about 20 minutes away. My daughter needed the hot glue gun; I wanted her to have it. There was one problem; everyone was still looking for food, water, flashlights, batteries, lanterns, candles and all the things they needed to be ready for Hurricane Irene.

See IRENE A5

The Semper Fi Sisters are a reminder. A reminder that 9/11 is hardly over.

The Semper Fi Sisters return next month to the postcard paradise we call home to relax, gab and generally forget, at least for a few days, the heightened potential for one of the women to get that knock on the door that anyone would dread telling them



**TIM CROFT**  
Star news editor

a loved one is not coming home.

Actually, this group has become much more than the Semper Fi Sisters. Over the past three years, their annual gathering in Gulf County, called the Beach Blast, has broadened from a dozen or so Marine moms to wives, girlfriends, sisters, aunts and grandmothers of enlisted men of all branches.

The Marine moms have opened their arms just as the community opened its arms to them, welcoming those with loved ones in the Army, Air Force and Navy.

But at this time when the country is reminded 24/7 on stations around the television dial that 10 years ago America suffered the worst attack on native soil in history, these moms, aunts, wives, sisters and grandmothers can relate that story far more personally than the talking heads.

They will remind that 10 years after America lost nearly 4,000 lives that number has tripled in the wars that followed 9/11, leaving aside a count of the wounded and maimed.

They can remind that 10 years after the country was deeply scarred at its symbolic core, downtown Manhattan, the country's business district, and the Pentagon, the country's defense headquarters, men and women still come home with scars borne of battle with no promise of healing in 10 years, 20 years.

They are a reminder that while no one with memory of that fall day when sunshine turned to ash, dust

and blood will ever forget, this circle of life and death that has been the cost of the freedoms on which this country was founded and which we enjoy today is a bill paid in blood.

For many of a certain generation, all that really separates 9/11 from Pearl Harbor of seven decades ago is the technology of media.

In 1941 the country could not tune in as Katie Couric, Ann Curry and Matt Lauer tried to explain to viewers what was happening as planes bombed and laid waste to the country's largest naval installation.

Pearl Harbor, in fact, was located in some exotic locale that would not become a part of a state until nearly 20 years would go by.

But the iconic black and white photograph of the U.S.S. Arizona engulfed in flames and smoke as thousands were buried in a watery grave, the grainy newsreel images of that carnage is, for many of a certain generation, just as stark and real a reminder of what a dangerous world it can be in which to hold on to those freedoms.

And Gulf County has lived this legacy, a legacy of which a chapter, a jarring and reality-shaking chapter indeed, is being recognized this week.

As the monuments at the county courthouse and Port St. Joe city hall attest, the county has sent its young off to fight and die since wars and Gulf County were first linked together in the 20th Century.

Clifford Sims Parkway, that section of U.S. Highway 98 that threads through the Port St. Joe city limits, memorializes the actions of an African-American all but lost and forgotten in his hometown while living but revered in death for throwing his body onto a grenade to save others.

On Sunday, by coincidence, Capt. Dave Maddox, who served in the Navy and the Coast Guard, patrolling local waters for a time, will turn 90 years young, one of the remaining of the Greatest Generation.

A local resident served with valor and distinction at one of the most

horrendous battles of the Vietnam War and two county residents were on the last helicopter out of South Vietnam when it fell after 50,000 American lives were expended in attempting to preserve it.

A local high school coach and teacher, a reservist no less, is now entering at least his fourth deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Not that any of these folks readily speak about their experiences; for them and their families there is no need for television specials or limited edition commemorative volumes about the anniversary of that dark day 10 years ago because the swirling emotions of lives cut short in an instant, of family upheaval that will span far beyond a decade, is part of life.

It is an ongoing saga.

In his book "Where Men Win Glory" author Jon Krakauer describes the journey of Pat Tillman from millionaire NFL star to Army Ranger killed by friendly fire in Afghanistan.

While in the end it is a book that angers in telling how the military hid the truth of Tillman's death from his family and the country, it is also a book that exhilarates in the thoughts, as reflected through his journals, that roiled Tillman in the days after 9/11 as he pondered leaving behind his glory days before fans to more glorious days for his country.

He had not earned his charmed life, he wrote; he owed something.

The Semper Fi Sisters will arrive next month as a reminder of how that debt is being paid, every day, by so many brave men and women whose courage only those who have experienced battle can fully appreciate.

And as a reminder that the legacy of 9/11, the image of 9/11 that ought to be remembered as much this week as images of burning buildings and ash-covered streets is that of the everyday men and women in uniform who sacrifice so much each and every day, and have for 10 long years.

## Keyboard KLATTERINGS

# Remembering that horrible day

# 'Oh, say can you see'

Leon would "whup on me" on slow days. He was five years older, much bigger and understood the family pecking (no pun intended, although come to think of it, he pecked on me some, too) order. In the fairly tranquil pace of the late 1950's we grew up thinking a little pushing and shoving was a natural way of life. He did the pushing and shoving ... I suffered the consequences. It was internal strife at its finest! It whiled away the hours, broke the tedium and entertained us before television reached our little neck of the woods. It was all in the family.

When those guys from out on the Como Road pushed me down and was making off with my Western Flyer, Leon showed up out of nowhere. He whacked the one who had actually hit me so hard I swear his eyes went crossed and stayed that way through half of the fifth grade! He extracted my bike from the tall guy by jerking both handlebars and the front fender through his rib cage. He lifted the third guy off the ground with one hand, pulled him up close and whispered, pre Clint Eastwood like, "Don't ever touch him again."

Them three young hooligans got the message. And so did I!

Leon could push me around, that apparently was some God given commandment pertaining to "first born". Or maybe it

was his constitutional right. It might have just been a Carroll County law, I don't know. He could distribute punishment, retribution

and/or justice about like he saw fit. BUT I was not fair game for any Tom, Dick or Harry that wanted my marbles, my hula hoop or my 1958 Mickey Mantle All Star baseball card.



**HUNKER DOWN**  
Kesley Colbert

On September 11, 2001, some outsiders stepped into America. I don't need to remind you of the tragedy. There are reporters out there that are far more articulate than me to rekindle your spirit as it relates to that frightening event. There is no way I could put something of that catastrophic magnitude in perspective anyway. But for some reason this morning Leon and those Como outlaws keep rolling over in my mind.

On the Monday before the attack on the World Trade Center, America was grumbling about gas prices, arguing over whether Joey ought to marry one of his "Friends" and still shaking our heads over the 2000 presidential race. That hotly contested and highly divisive campaign between Bush and Al Gore had half the country crying over the approaching global warming. The other half, naturally, was celebrating.

We woke up on the 11th enthralled in our own little worlds. The universe revolved around each one of us! America went to bed that night with a

whole different attitude. We were not Democrats or Republicans, Catholic or Protestant, Northerners or Southerners, rich or poor ... we were all in the same boat!

America went to loving our neighbors, feeling each other's pain and reaching out before the Red Cross sent the dun notice. People stuck American flags in their front yards voluntarily! "God Bless America" was sung at ball games. Folks started asking if they could help, and really meant it. We all were amazed, touched and influenced by those firefighters running INTO a burning, crumbling, falling down building, in hopes they could find someone to help.

I remember how I swelled with pride as Leon chased off those numskulls from down the road. They got what they deserved. Hooray for the good guys! You can't beat family. Those little licks he would give me forgotten, I counted them as love taps. He was my brother. I appreciated his very being! It was wonderful to be alive, an American, a child of God.

Sadly, this country followed one tragedy with another one. I can't remember exactly when we started being Republicans and Democrats again. I'm sure it was before the 2004 or 2008 elections. I don't see half as many flags unfurling as we did in the immediate aftermath of 9/11. The Red Cross has to beg for blood again. I can understand Pearl Harbor. We are admonished to remember

it, but there's not many folks left that actually were sitting around their radios on that fateful Sunday afternoon to hear it first hand. It's a vibrant and commanding reminder of what can happen. But it is, after all, history now.

The attack on the World Trade Center is not history! If you think that, you are living in a dream world. The threat is real and it continues. I believe Democrats have more in common with Republicans than they do with third world terrorist bent on taking over America. I think most congressmen believe that, they just don't act like it sometimes.

I would love to love my neighbors without anyone having to die first. I want to sing "God Bless America" when all is right. I want my grandchildren's biggest concerns to be long check out lines and who got thrown off "American Idol."

It borders on the ridiculous that we have to be dodging bullets before we can get together on something in this country.

Of course, I'm not really surprised. Leon's magnanimous rescue out on the Como Road lasted until we got back in sight of the house. He pounded me a little for being so stupid to wander that far off by myself. I resented his size and bullying. I vowed I'd grow up soon and get even. My short attention span had distanced his salvation of only an hour before.

I hope America's short attention span doesn't get us in the end.

Respectfully,  
Kes

## THE STAR

USPS 518-880

Published every Thursday at 135 W. U.S. 98  
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

**VP/Publisher:** Karen Hanes

**Editor:** Tim Croft

Circulation: 1-800-345-8688

POSTMASTER: PERIODICAL RATE  
Send address change to: POSTAGE PAID AT  
The Star PORT ST. JOE, FL 32457  
P.O. Box 308 WEEKLY PUBLISHING  
Port St. Joe, FL 32457-0308  
Phone 850-227-1278

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN ADVANCE  
IN COUNTY

\$24.15 year — \$15.75 six months

OUT OF COUNTY

\$34.65 year — \$21 six months

Home delivery subscribers may be charged a higher rate for holiday editions.

### TO ALL ADVERTISERS

In case of error or omissions in advertisements, the publishers do not hold themselves liable for damage further than the amount received for such advertisement.

The spoken word is given scant attention; the printed word is thoughtfully weighed. The spoken word barely asserts; the printed word thoroughly convinces. The spoken word is lost; the printed word remains.

# Machines to enrich uranium moved to a secret site

By Ed McAteer  
Contributing Writer

Iran has long sought to become the undisputed leader in its region, largely through aggressive and ambitious military development.

Iran's weapons program is of enormous concern to the U.S. It isn't only former Soviet weapons and weapons-usable nuclear material that Iran is getting its hands on—it has also actively recruited former Soviet atomic scientists. Communist China has also supplied the Iranians with nuclear technology.

It is clear Iran wants its own production capability. Under the guise of creating a civilian energy program, it is pushing to bring home whole facilities like uranium-conversion facilities—spending far more each year on nuclear hardware than would be required for mere domestic energy production.

It now has two nuclear power plants. Iranian diplomats state that they were built only for energy. But nobody believes that, since their country is glutted with oil.

Iranian state television reported on Aug. 21 that Iran is moving its centrifuges to a secret site inside a mountain near Iran's Fordo plant near the city of Qom. The Fordo plant was built in secret, and its existence was only revealed to the world in September 2009.

Last month, Iran also announced that it was starting to use a new centrifuge that could enrich uranium five to six times faster than the old type. This past Sunday, the head of Iran's nuclear program, Fereydon Abbasi Davani, told state television that Iran was negotiating with Russia about the construction of new nuclear plants.

In recent years, the Islamic republic has announced its intentions to build research

nuclear reactors and uranium enrichment facilities as well as 10 to 20 nuclear power plants to eventually produce 20,000 megawatts of electricity.

Iran is still under four UN Security Council sanctions and one-sided measures imposed by the United States and the European Union over its refusal to abandon its uranium enrichment program, a process that can be used to make both nuclear fuel and the highly enriched uranium needed for a nuclear bomb.

Using the Fordo plant provides greater protection for Iran's uranium-purifying centrifuges against any U.S. and Israeli air strikes. This means Iran can move more quickly toward building a nuclear bomb. On the other hand, do they have one already?

Notice this quote from the European newspaper over a decade ago, in a front page article titled "Iran Has N-Bomb": "Iran has obtained at least two

nuclear warheads out of a batch officially listed as 'missing' from the newly independent republic of Kazakhstan, formerly part of the Soviet Union." This article said the Russians sent a top-secret report to the CIA disclosing that several nuclear warheads vanished from a just-closed nuclear base in Kazakhstan.

"Two of the nuclear weapons were smuggled across the border from Kazakhstan into Iran last year and are now under the control of Reza Amrollahi, the head of the Iranian Organization for Atomic Energy. Amrollahi is also in charge of recruiting former Soviet atomic scientists who have sharpened the West's anxiety over Iran's efforts to build an Islamic bomb."

Iran is now working hard to become self-sufficient in its missile production. In July 2000, Iran announced a successful test of its own Shahab-3 missile, which has a range of over 800

miles. Contacts within the Iranian regime claimed that the Shahab-4, with a range of 1,300 miles, was successfully tested in the summer of 2002. This missile uses Russian technology.

Robert Walpole, a National Intelligence Council official, told the Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee on proliferation that "The probability that a missile with a weapon of mass destruction would be used against U.S. forces or interests [or Europe's, I might add] is higher today than during most of the Cold War, and will continue to grow."

In other words, in the hands of a country like Iran, this terrifying arsenal won't sit idle for long. We must awaken to the unparalleled nuclear holocaust just ahead of us. Iran's history shows that they are adept at using those means at their disposal to meet their objectives.

Ed McAteer is a resident of Port St. Joe.

## Relations in Florida since 9/11 better, but still work to be done

By Dr. Donna Elam  
Chair, Florida Commission on Human Relations

For Florida and our nation, the 10th anniversary of 9/11 serves as an appropriate time to reflect on where we stand in our dealings with one another.

As Chair of the Florida Commission on Human Relations, I believe we must recognize that how Americans treat each other sets the tone for how the rest of the world treats us Americans.

Our country has wrestled with an internal conflict since it was founded. On the one hand, we stand proudly as a nation of immigrants, a so-called "melting pot"

that embraces people of all types and blends them into something uniquely American. On the other hand, throughout our national history we have endured staggering divisions along lines of race, ethnicity, culture, nationality and more.

So how are we doing? Have the aftershocks of 9/11 brought us closer together? Or have they driven us even further apart?

For the past 20 years, the Florida Attorney General's Office has issued an annual report detailing hate crimes reported to the state by Florida law enforcement agencies. The most recent assessment, for 2009, shows the fewest hate crimes in the history of the report. But when we step back from that positive one-year snapshot and instead look at the bigger picture, what emerges is

a pattern not of declining antagonisms but of changing targets.

Not surprisingly, the period immediately following the 9/11 attacks saw a dramatic spike in hate crime incidents in Florida, particularly those based on religion or national origin. Since that terrible day 10 years ago, the percentage of reported hate crimes based on the victim's religion has grown

by more than one-fifth and the share based on ethnicity or national origin has jumped by more than two-thirds. Over the same time period, the share of hate crimes based on a victim's race or color has fallen 24 percent.

Let's take time to reflect on the loss of life, the families left behind and our collective responsibility for sustaining and maintaining peace in our world.

## IRENE from page A4

Two in the morning at a Walmart, could be fun.

As with any Walmart, an older gentleman in a blue vest welcomed me and everyone else looking for hurricane stuff into the store. He was repeating his rehearsed speech over and over again to all of the people entering the store at 2 a.m. The older blue-vested gentleman said something like, "welcome to Walmart, we are out of batteries, out of flashlights, out of lanterns, there is some water over there (he pointed) etc."

I caught him in between repetitions of his "out of" speech. A small crowd of people gathered around, probably thinking I knew where to get propane or D cell batteries. I asked the Walmart greeter, "Do you have hot glue guns, and if you do, where are they?"

The elderly bespectacled, blue-vested, friendly gentleman paused and thought. I had caught him by surprise. The small crowd got closer to see what his response was. After a minute, he directed me to the arts and crafts area in the rear of the store.

I walked slowly at first. After realizing that the small crowd was following me, I sped up. I had them, I had my hook in them and I had them. This was fun; at least it was for me

at 2 a.m. in the Walmart.

Another employee took me to the aisle with the hot glue guns. At that point, the crowd was hovering around the ends of the aisles. The employee who was helping me was very nice and we discussed the hurricane and everything the store had sold out, and when they had more trucks coming in.

"I sure am happy you have hot glue guns," I loudly told him. We then discussed the benefits of corded versus cordless hot glue guns. I chose the corded one (because it was cheaper).

After slowly walking away toward the front of the store, I turned and watched the poor fellow get swamped by the crowd of folks who had been following me, undoubtedly they were asking why they needed hot glue guns, why that fellow got a corded one, and what was he doing with it, etc.

My daughter finished the bulletin board birthday gift the next morning, she was happy.

I had a good time at the Walmart in the wee hours of the morning.

Thank you Irene.

You can find Cranks My Tractor stories on Amazon for the Kindle and at [www.CranksMyTractor.com](http://www.CranksMyTractor.com).

Free Estimates

Competitive Pricing

## C&J Pressure Washing, LLC

Concrete • Patios • Driveways  
Houses (1-3 Story Homes)

H (850) 827-1865 • C (850) 227-4218

## PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and

Development Review Board (PDRB) meeting on

Monday, September 19, 2011 at 8:45 a.m. EST, and

at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)

meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at 6:00

p.m. EST. Both public hearings will be held in

the BOCC Meeting Room at the Robert M. Moore

Administration Building, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr.

Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida. The public hearings

will be to discuss and act on the following:

1. Variance Application - by Emile & Gail

Iverstine - for Parcel ID # 06269-135R -

Located in Section 19, Township 9 South,

Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida -

Encroachment into side and road setback

for ECL affected lot.

2. Open Discussion

3. Staff

The public is encouraged to attend and be heard on these matters. Information prior to the meeting can be viewed at the Planning and Building Department at 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Room 312.

2011-68

THE BUTLER AGENCY

Locally owned and operated to meet all your insurance needs

a division of COASTAL INSURANCE

850.670.1200

43 ISLAND DRIVE • EASTPOINT, FLORIDA  
dbutler@coastalcoverage.com



Denise Butler  
Agent



Animal Hospital of Port St. Joe  
24-Emergency Service For Our Current Clients

The Place For Your Pet!

- Quality Internal Medicine
- Soft Tissue/Orthopedic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Clean and Spacious Facility

Albert Byas, D.V.M.

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri  
8:00 AM - 5:30 PM  
Afternoon Appointments Available  
Drs. Hours By Appt.

300 Long Ave  
PSJ, FL 32456  
850-229-6009



## SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

Send your letters to :

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

P.O. Box 308  
Port St. Joe, FL 32457

Fax: 850-227-7212

Email: [tcroft@starfl.com](mailto:tcroft@starfl.com)

Comments from our readers in the form of letters to the editor or a guest column are solicited and encouraged. A newspaper's editorial page should be a forum where differing ideas and opinions are exchanged. All letters and guest columns must be signed and should include the address and phone number of the author. The street address and phone number are for verification and will not be published. Letters must be in good taste and The Star reserves the right to edit letters for correctness and style.

## Hooked on Outdoors

The weekly reports from our new cement piers are as follows ...

**The City Pier:** A few king mackerel late in the evening, Spanish mackerel and bluefish through out much of the day. There is all the live bait you could possibly use around the pier so take along a sibiki rig or a gold hook rig and a livewell.

**On the M.B. Miller pier:** Large schools of redfish along with a few cobia. Some schools of cobia as large as 10-15 fish have been spotted, but most people fishing now are tourists and they are not equipped to catch fish of this size.



Scott Lindsey  
Outdoor Writer  
[captainslindsey@knology.net](mailto:captainslindsey@knology.net)

The June grass still is too thick to fish from the beach although more and more pompano are being seen from boats. At the jetties some divers have reported whiting as large as 3 pounds. Here again I don't know how you would ever be able to fish for them on the bottom due to the grass.

In the pass in St. Andrew Bay the bull reds rule the day. Try to catch it on an outgoing tide and look for the crabs swimming on top in the floating ell grass. Most of the redfish are too big to keep, so do not stick a gaff into them to get them onboard. If they are so big they require gaffing they are too big to keep. Remember they must be returned to the water unharmed if they are more than 27 inches long. Don't forget to pinch their tails when you measure them to get the legal length.

It is the beginning of September, and that means the bigger king mackerel will start showing up from the far west. These smoker kings will start making their run back to the east which around here will last until the middle of November or when the water cools to the point they are uncomfortable and they leave.

In St. Joe Bay the scallops are getting bigger and bigger. Since school is open you should have it to yourself until the weekend comes. Most people I've talked to are getting the bigger ones in deep water. I feel uncomfortable in deep water catching scallops, but that is just one of the demons I wrestle with when I'm around an area known to have big bull sharks. That is why I stay in knee-to-waist-deep water.

Go out this weekend and have a good time.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TAMPA BAY WATCH

## Scallop season runs late this year

By Frank Sargeant  
[franksargeant@bellsouth.net](mailto:franksargeant@bellsouth.net)

For those who love to chase the tasty shellfish, it always seems to take forever for the opening of the scallop season to arrive — then it's over before you know it.

This year, forever will last a little longer than usual. The season opened July 1 and will continue to Sept. 25, 15 days longer than in past seasons, in an effort to stimulate the economy of small coastal ports affected by last year's oil spill.

Open waters extend from the Pasco/Hernando county line to the Mexico Beach Canal and so far this season the harvest has been good. Some of the largest scallops of the year will be captured in the last few weeks. The shellfish are fast-growers and those harvested in early July are significantly smaller than those taken in September.

The prime scalloping area in the Panhandle is St. Joe Bay, where clear water and lots of eel grass provide ideal habitat for the swimming shellfish. They're also abundant on the flats off Steinhatchee and Suwannee as well as at Homosassa and Crystal River.

Scallops are an annual "crop." They hatch live spawn and die in a single year, like most types of shrimp, and so the annual take by recreational divers is thought to have minimal impact. The tiny larvae develop into shellfish up to three inches across by July and August of each year and thousands of Florida families turn out to pursue these strange little animals, the only shellfish that can "swim."

Unlike most shellfish that affix themselves to the bottom, bay scallops can swim by clapping their shells together. Admittedly, it's a slow, crazy dance, but they do manage to move from place to place and with the help of the tides can sometimes travel for miles.

Bay scallops only survive where there is clear water and abundant grass. Fortunately, waters of the eastern Panhandle and Big Bend area have plenty of both, and thus plenty of scallops. The shellfish are typically found in water from 4-to-10 feet deep over turtle grass, the long-leaved greenery that sprouts abundantly from the bottom in the open areas.

Because they're lethargic swimmers, scallops are easy for a snorkeler to capture by



hand and they're a favorite target for young swimmers. Many families plan their annual summer vacation with the kids for the opening of the scallop season.

Once things get rolling, finding the scallops is simply a matter of looking for the fleet. Where the shellfish are abundant there will be dozens of boats drifting over them.

On days when other boats are scarce, you can usually find the shellfish by motoring slowly and looking for them on the bottom. The shells are white to gray-white and easily seen against the grass.

Scalloping is a relatively safe activity, but one danger is that divers may get too far from an anchored boat and then not be able to swim back against the tide. To avoid the issue, many put divers out behind a drifting boat. The boat and the divers progress across the flat at about the same rate, and one adult remains in the boat ready to pick up any divers who need a lift.

The favorite scalloping ports include Steinhatchee, Crystal River, Homosassa and Bayport. Guides who specialize in scallop

trips are available at all these locations, for those just getting started.

A saltwater license is required to harvest scallops and the limit is two gallons whole or a half-pint, shucked, per harvester, up to 10 gallons whole and a half-gallon shucked per boat.

The only part of a scallop considered edible is the adductor muscle, the white piece of flesh that opens and closes the shell. Cleaning the catch is a bit of an issue.

All the workings of the creature must be scooped away, leaving only the muscle, which is then severed from the shell halves with a teaspoon or an oyster knife. Some have made use of shop vacuums to clean out the entrails, which is fast, but which leaves a very smelly mess in the vacuum.

Once the meat is processed, it can be used in all sorts of delicious recipes, but the best is simply to drop the bits briefly into a pan of sizzling butter, scoop them out and drain. It's one of the real delicacies of the sea.

For details on scalloping, visit [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com).

### FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



#### Freshwater

As the storms and winds move on out of town, fishing should improve over the next few days. Heavy rains mean swift water catfishing. Setting bush hooks in the river for channel cats should be very productive this week.

#### Inshore

Scallop season continues until Sept. 27, and we still have good reports from Pig Island and in Scallop Cove. Most of the bigger shells are now in 6 to 10 feet of water, and a boat is a must. With the high surf and strong winds from the last weekend.

#### Offshore

Gag grouper season will reopen Sept. 16, and many anglers are eager to get back to fishing. Inshore wrecks and bridge rubble sites should see good fish early on. Live bait such as small pinfish and even finger mullet will get you in the action.



Bradford Whited, right, was all smiles after a group harvested this 10-foot alligator during his first hunt in Bay County.

SPECIAL TO THE STAR



Corner of Marina Drive next to Piggly Wiggly  
Port St. Joe, FL [www.BWOfish.com](http://www.BWOfish.com)  
"Everything for your Outdoor Adventure"

**Walter Green**  
SWIMWEAR APPAREL ACCESSORIES  
151 WEST HIGHWAY 98, P.S.J  
**ALL SWIMWEAR  
UP TO 50% OFF  
REGULAR PRICE  
COME SEE US!**



TIM CROFT | The Star

Walt Bowers (left) takes a pitch on a night during which he rushed for 163 yards and two touchdowns.

## Port St. Joe edges Wewahitchka

By Tim Croft  
Star News Editor

For the first eight minutes of last Friday's regular-season opener against county rival Port St. Joe momentum was tinted entirely in Gator red.

By the time Wewahitchka reclaimed that edge it was too late.

Senior Walt Bowers rushed for 163 yards and freshman Jarkiece Davis added 119 yards and the Tiger Sharks needed every inch of their more than 450 yards of total offense to overcome a scrappy Gator team and the scintillating play of Theryl Brown for a 34-26 win.

"It is hard to believe you can walk away from a win feeling this bad," said Port St. Joe coach Vern Barth. "I am very frustrated. We played well in spurts but we have not figured out how to put a full game together."

"We just had too many mistakes. At least they are fixable."

Wewahitchka took control on the opening kickoff which Brown – who rushed for 263 yards and three touchdowns on 32 carries and scored all 26 Gator points – returned 85 yards for a touchdown.

After Port St. Joe – which had 10 penalties and five turnovers to mitigate the Tiger Sharks' offensive out-

put – fumbled an exchange on the next series, the Gators recovered at their 28.

Brown, subbing at quarterback for starter Justin Flowers who suffered a hairline arm fracture in last week's Kickoff Classic at Blountstown, sprinted off left tackle for 72 yards to make the score 12-0 after Wewahitchka failed twice to convert extra-point running plays.

But after forcing a Tiger Shark punt on the ensuing series and driving toward midfield, the Gators fumbled away the ball and momentum for the next two quarters.

During that span Port St. Joe scored 34 consecutive points, Davis starting things with a 31-yard sprint with three minutes left in the opening quarter and completing the outburst with a 48-yard dash around right end to make 34-12 with less than 14 seconds remaining in the third period.

In between, Bowers carried for two touchdowns and Rummelo Zaccaro another, the Tiger Sharks up 28-12 at intermission.

The Tiger Sharks finished the first half with more than 300 yards rushing and finished with at least 28 rushing yards from five players.

Three minutes after Davis' second touchdown,

however, Austin Guffey seized momentum back for Wewahitchka when he picked off a Trevor Lang pass in the flat with the Tiger Sharks knocking at the Wewahitchka 15.

Guffey returned the pick to the 26 and behind Brown, who carried seven times on a nine-play drive, the Gators pushed in a touchdown, with Brown running for the two points to bring the Gators within 34-20.

Three plays later a fumbled exchange by the Tiger Sharks was recovered by Wewahitchka's Ben Hayward at midfield. Brown rushed six times in the eight plays the Gators needed to score, but a failed extra point conversion and subsequent onside kick sealed the win for Port St. Joe.

Brown played nearly the entire game nursing an arm contusion suffered early in the second quarter.

"That's what we've got to have, the kids not giving up and fighting back like that," said Wewahitchka coach Dennis Kizziah. "I'm proud of this bunch."

"Theryl Brown, that is one heck-uv-a player; if we just had one or two more like him. I thought we kind of wore them out at the end."

Port St. Joe hosts Bozeman on Friday while Wewahitchka hosts Vernon.



Front Row Kneeling: Trace Mears, Clint Rester, Ryles Burch, Kellen Speights  
Second Row Standing: Waylon Crumpler, Davis Varnes, Trace Horne, McLane Baxter, Caden Mercer, Gage Medina, Alex Strickland  
Back Row: Coach Michael Baxter, Coach Adam Mercer, Coach Stacy Strickland.  
Not Pictured: Head Coach Emory Horne

## Benders traveling team wins Dothan tournament

Star Staff Report

The Benders, an 8-and-under traveling baseball team recently competed in the "Back to School Blow-out Tournament" in Dothan, Ala.

The team, which includes three players and one coach from Port St. Joe, finished the two-day tournament with a record of 5-0 and claimed the tournament championship.

The Benders opened play on Saturday with a 19-7 win over the Wiregrass Cardinals. Later on Satur-

day, the Benders beat the Lynn Haven Dolphins 13-5.

Three wins on Sunday earned the Benders the championship. The first was a rematch with the Wiregrass Cardinals and the Benders again outslugged the Cardinals in a 13-4 win. The next game was a rematch with Lynn Haven and again the offense was in full swing for The Benders as they won 17-5.

The Benders completely dominated the title game against the host Dothan Aces, winning 17-2.

The Benders are com-

prised of kids from around the Panhandle, including Port St. Joe and Franklin County.

In the photo, Clint Rester of Franklin County is second from the left in the front row.

Davis Varnes of Port St. Joe is in the second row, second from left; Gage Medina of Port St. Joe is in the second row, sixth from left (with his mouth open); and Alex Strickland of Port St. Joe is in the second row, on the end at the right.

Coach Stacy Strickland of Port St. Joe is third from the left in the third row.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AMENDING THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BASED ON THE CITY'S ADOPTED EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Commission, of the City of Wewahitchka will hold a public hearing to adopt Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan based on the recommendations from the City's adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Report. These Amendments include amending the Future Land Use; Traffic Circulation; Housing; Infrastructure; Conservation; Recreation and Open Space; Intergovernmental Coordination; Capital Improvements and Public School Facilities Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. This hearing is for the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BASED ON THE CITY'S ADOPTED EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT, AND UPDATED DATA AND ANALYSIS, WHICH INCLUDE AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT OF THE FUTURE LAND USE; TRAFFIC CIRCULATION; HOUSING; INFRASTRUCTURE; CONSERVATION; RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE; INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION; PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES; AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENTS OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE EXISTING GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANDATES SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 163, FLORIDA STATUTES; AUTHORIZING TRANSMITTAL OF THESE AMENDMENTS TO THE APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, AND OTHER APPLICABLE AGENCIES FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT AS REQUIRED BY FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER PROVISION, A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The City Commission public hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, September 26, 2011. These hearings will be held at the City of Wewahitchka, City Hall, located at 109 South 2nd Street, Wewahitchka, Florida 32465.

A copy of the proposed Amendments shall be available for inspection on weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays, at the Office of the City Clerk, 318 South 7th Street, Wewahitchka, Florida 32465. Interested parties may appear at the hearing and be heard with respect to the proposed Amendments.

If a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the city commission with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, that person will need a record of the proceedings, and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Anyone requiring reasonable accommodations for this meeting as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the City Clerk at least three business days prior to the meeting at 850-639-2605.

The proposed EAR-based Comprehensive Plan Amendments shall apply to all property within the incorporated areas of the City of Wewahitchka.

Honorable Phillip Gaskin, Mayor  
Connie Parrish, City Clerk

## NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA

The City of Wewahitchka has declared the following items as surplus and will accept sealed bids for the purchase of these items. Minimum bid for any vehicle is \$150.00.

1. sewer plant aerators (2)
2. 1989 Chevy Van
3. 1989 Ford Pick Up
4. 1978 Ford E70 "bread van"
5. 1985 Dodge Pick Up
6. 1983 Ford Pick Up
7. 1984 Ford Van
8. 1978 Chevy Step Van

Bids must be marked "SEALED BID – SURPLUS EQUIPMENT" and must be received by the City Clerk prior to 12 noon (CT) Monday, September 26, 2011, at the City Annex, 318 South 7 Street, Wewahitchka, FL 32465. Items may be inspected at the City sewer plant during regular business hours Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM (CT) by appointment. Please call 850-639-2605. Bids will be opened during the regular City Commission meeting on Monday September 26, 2011, at 6:30 PM (CT).

CITY CLERK CONNIE PARRISH  
The City of Wewahitchka is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# Beach Blast Triathlon/Duathlon this weekend

By Valerie Garman  
Star Staff Writer

The gulf will be packed Saturday morning with 250 sets of flailing arms and kicking legs as athletes begin the Beach Blast Sprint Olympic Triathlon and Duathlon in the waters at St. Joe Beach across from Beacon Hill Park in Port St. Joe.

Athletes will swim, bike and run their way to the finish line in a 30-mile endurance test, held bi-annually at Beacon Hill Park.

"All of them are in good

shape," said race director Olga Cemore, a manager at the Panama City Health Club. "There will be some first timers, but they must be training five days a week at least."

Cemore expects more than 250 participants from all over the world.

The full "Olympic Race" triathlon begins at 7 a.m. CT with a 0.7 mile swim on St. Joe Beach. Athletes will then cross Highway 98 to Beacon Hill Park and suit up for the 25 mile bike ride which will take them down Highway 98 to County 386. The

race closes with a 6.2 mile run.

The event provides options other than the full triathlon for athletes of different skill levels.

The race is offered in a shorter "Sprint Race" version where participants will swim 0.35 miles, bike 15 miles and run 3 miles, as opposed to the regular triathlon where participants swim 0.7 miles, bike 25 miles and run 6.2 miles.

A duathlon option is also offered, where participants will run, bike, and run again, for those who

may be uncomfortable with the swimming leg of the race.

"A lot of people are scared of the water," said Cemore, who also noted that the swimming portion is the hardest of the three for most athletes. "It's not easy. It's much different than the pool."

Cemore recommends all participants test out ocean swimming before entering a triathlon. Ocean currents can make the swimming more difficult, but mostly it's the overcrowded waters that make swimming a challenge.

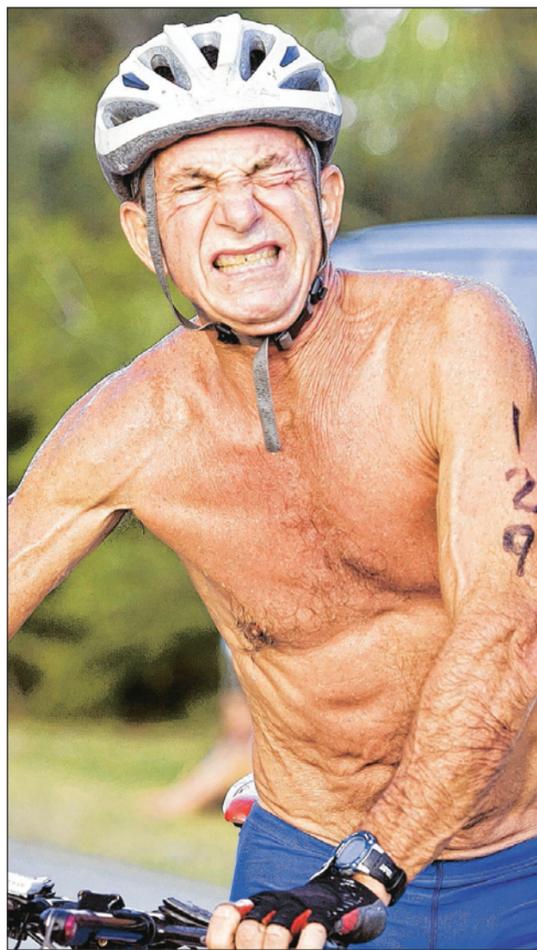
"You kick, you get kicked," Cemore said. "You elbow people, and you get elbowed."

The duathlon is also broken down into "Spring Race" and "Olympic Race" distances.

Cemore said offering the duathlon helps attract more people, and also offers another option if surf conditions are rough or dangerous.

"If the water is not friendly, it gives us the option to switch to the duathlon," she said.

In her years as race director for the event, Cemore said she has only had to cancel the race once — in 2007, when bad weather in the days before



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BILL FAUTH

The agony of the competition is written all over the face of this competitor during the 2010 triathlon.



Contestants line up for the swim portion of the 2010 triathlon/duathlon.

## VARIANCE NOTICE

The City of Port St. Joe Planning and Development Review Board will hold a Meeting to discuss a Request for a Variance on October 11, 2011, 4:00 EST, at the City Fire Station 402 Williams Ave. for Lester Dale Parrott located at 509 3rd Street, Parcel #04696-000R. The reason for the request is a proposed 10x20 Carport to be built on the South-West side of the property. The proposed plans can be reviewed at the Building Department located at 1002 10th St. and can be reached for questions at (850)229-1093.

**All persons are invited to attend this meeting. Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Planning and Development Review Board with respect to any matter considered at said meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The Planning and Review Board of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida will not provide a verbatim record of this meeting.**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**, persons needing special accommodations to participate in these proceedings should contact Jim Anderson, City Clerk, City of Port St. Joe, at City Hall, (850)229-8261

## PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held at the City Commission Regular Meeting on Tuesday October 4, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. EST. The Hearing will be held in the Centennial Building at 2201 Centennial Dr., Port St. Joe, Fl. 32456. The Public Hearing will be to discuss and act on the following:

**Development Order Request** for 521 Premier Dr. Northwest Florida Renewable Energy Center, LLC. Parcel #:

**04269-002R**

S 25 & 36 T 7 R 11 47.501 AC M/L 4 PARCELS; 1768 FF ON US CANAL ORB 87/820 FR ST JOE LD & DEV, ALSO 150 FF ON US CANAL FR CITY IN ORB 88/550; ORB 87/1092 BEING 2.144 AC M/L FR CITY & ORB 148/434-436 FR GULF CO. FL ORB 306/151 CA FR ST JOE TIMBERLAND CO LLC ORB 306/154 FR MATERIAL TRANSFER INC MAP 49A

Interested persons may attend and be heard at the public hearing or provide comments to the Planning and Development Review Board, 305 Cecil Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. Transactions of the public hearing will not be recorded. Persons wishing to appeal any decision made during the hearing will need a record of the proceeding and should ensure a verbatim record is made, including the testimony on which the appeal is based. Information prior to the meeting can be viewed at Building Department at 1002 10th Street, Port St. Joe, Fl. 32456.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**, persons needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact Jim Anderson, City Clerk at (850)229-8261 Ext 113.

forced her into an abrupt decision to cancel.

"It rained like hell all day the day before and all night," Cemore said. "But Saturday morning you would have never known there was a storm."

Cemore hopes to never have to cancel the race again.

"You just never know (about the weather)," she said. "We did the race in the rain a few years before, and no one seemed to care."

The race is a joint effort between Cemore, the Gulf County Tourist Development Council, the Mexico Beach Community Development Council and a group of dedicated volunteers.

"I'm in contact with the TDC, and we had to work hard on permits," Cemore said. "It's gotten easier over the years. Everybody does their part and helps

out."

Cemore said the event would not be able to exist without volunteer support.

"It really doesn't matter if you have 100 (participants) or 250, you have to have volunteers for safety," Cemore said. "Those are super important people. We love our volunteers."

Cemore said anyone thinking of participating in a triathlon or duathlon should "just try it."

"You've got to train for the distance and you've got to be able to run what's required," she said.

Cemore said more than 50 percent of race participants come back to race again.

"This is a good event," Cemore said. "It has grown and brought people to the community. They come to the area and stay longer."

## WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Sep 8	82°	69°	0 %
Fri, Sep 9	82°	69°	10 %
Sat, Sep 10	84°	74°	40 %
Sun, Sep 11	84°	74°	40 %
Mon, Sep 12	85°	73°	30 %
Tues, Sep 13	85°	74°	30 %
Wed, Sep 14	87°	75°	60 %

## TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

To find the tides of the following areas, subtract the indicated times from these given for APALACHICOLA:

	HIGH	LOW
Cat Point	Minus 0:40	Minus 1:17
East Pass	Minus 0:27	Minus 0:27

To find the tides of the following areas, subtract the indicated times from those given for CARRABELLE:

	HIGH	LOW
Bald Point	Minus 9:16	Minus 0:03

### St. Joseph Bay

9/8 Thu	07:42AM	1.9	H	05:35PM	0.3	L
9/9 Fri	08:41AM	1.8	H	05:49PM	0.4	L
9/10 Sat	09:36AM	1.6	H	05:43PM	0.7	L
9/11 Sun	10:36AM	1.3	H	05:18PM	0.9	L
	11:41PM	1.1	H			
9/12 Mon	04:41AM	0.9	L	11:48AM	1.2	H
	04:34PM	1.0	L	11:17PM	1.3	H
9/13 Tue	06:04AM	0.8	L	01:42PM	1.1	H
	03:09PM	1.0	L	11:16PM	1.4	H
9/14 Wed	07:07AM	0.7	L	11:29PM	1.6	H

### Apalachicola Bay, West Pass

9/8 Thu	03:14AM	1.3	H	07:19AM	1.3	L
	12:32PM	1.6	H	08:50PM	0.3	L
9/9 Fri	03:31AM	1.4	H	08:17AM	1.2	L
	01:48PM	1.6	H	09:28PM	0.4	L
9/10 Sat	03:47AM	1.4	H	09:04AM	1.0	L
	02:47PM	1.6	H	10:00PM	0.5	L
9/11 Sun	03:59AM	1.4	H	09:45AM	0.9	L
	03:37PM	1.6	H	10:25PM	0.7	L
9/12 Mon	04:09AM	1.4	H	10:22AM	0.7	L
	04:22PM	1.5	H	10:45PM	0.8	L
9/13 Tue	04:19AM	1.5	H	10:56AM	0.6	L
	05:06PM	1.5	H	11:01PM	0.9	L
9/14 Wed	04:31AM	1.6	H	11:27AM	0.5	L
	05:51PM	1.5	H	11:16PM	1.0	L

Sponsor the WEEKLY ALMANAC  
Call Today! **227-7847**



VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

Clif Smith in his office at The Bridge at Bay St. Joe, where he works as the facility's full-time chaplain.

## 'They come here to live'

### The Bridge at Bay St. Joe provides aid for those with dementia

By Valerie Garman  
Star Staff Writer

He stopped counting at 240. It was Clif Smith's third tour in Vietnam, and his duty that morning was to count the incoming bombs from the deck of the Navy missile destroyer. "I was getting ready to become a dead 23-year-old," Smith said. "I prayed and I said, 'God, save me from this mess,' and God showed up." Smith keeps his dog tags on his key chain and an old photo dated 1972 in his office, taken on the Navy ship when he returned from Vietnam alive, with a young brunette named Bettie who he says his faith reunited him with by chance. Smith and Bettie, high school sweethearts from a Central Florida high school, were reunited across the country in California, where Smith was preparing to ship off to war and Bettie was employed 45 minutes away at Disney Land. They will be married 41 years this December. Smith, a born-again Christian, said his faith was with him, too, when his 11-

year-old son's pancreas shut down and his blood sugar spiked to 600. His son is now grown with children. Fate was also the reason he was in that grocery store in Chipley when he ran into an old friend, the chaplain from the North Florida Rehab Center in Graceland. At the time, he was working in the men's suit department at Dillard's in Panama City and seeking a meaningful career change. His ticket was there in that grocery store. He believes God led him to his current position as chaplain at the Bridge at Bay St. Joe nursing care residence, where he acts as a spiritual comfort in the lives of many residents, but also as a friend. "I look back on my 63 years, and I think, 'God brought me here,'" Smith said.

**Chaplain**

One of the largest employers in Gulf County, the Bridge at Bay St. Joe employs 160 and houses 108 residents. It is one of 73 Signature HealthCARE Communities, employing 12,000 and housing 8,000 in the Southeastern U.S., and one of only nine facilities partnered with Serenity Health Care. Smith is one of only five full-time, paid chaplains in

Florida. E. Joseph Steier III, president and CEO of Signature HealthCARE, founded the company with a dedication to bringing faith to the workplace. Steier chronicled his pilgrimage to Israel in the book "My God! Our God?" after witnessing the divine healing of his son. "He asked God to intervene, and God intervened by showing up," Smith said. "Human beings have spiritual needs that need to be met." Even those who don't consider themselves spiritual can be comforted. "I've had family members that came here to watch their loved ones die in a week's time," Smith said. "One person said to me, 'Thank you for your comfort.'" Every morning, Smith gets up at 4 a.m. and drives 70 miles from Sunny Hills to Port St. Joe to bond with residents at the nursing home. One resident with Alzheimer's who used to be an opera singer often accompanies Smith in his office while he plays his Josh Groban CD. "We just sit here and put that CD in," Smith said. "That part of his brain that was music is still music." Smith recalled bonding with another male resident who didn't like preachers. Smith described the man as

a "typical Panhandle good 'ol boy," one who loves to hunt, fish, drink and smoke. "I got to spend a lot of time with him, and one day his wife asked him, 'Why do you love brother Clif so much?'" Smith said. "He said, 'He makes me feel safe, he makes me feel secure, he makes me feel loved.'" In his three years at the Bridge at Bay St. Joe, Smith has realized chaplain is not his only title. "I'm not always chaplain. My name is Clif Smith, and I'm happy to be your friend," he said. "So what happens? We begin to bond. I meet you at your point of need."

**Dementia**

The Bridge at Bay St. Joe is a nursing home specializing in care of residents with dementia and Alzheimer's. "We bridge the terrible, terrible gap between traditional long-term care and specialized long-term dementia care," Smith said. Smith compared dementia, in the news recently with the announcement that legendary women's basketball coach Pat Summitt of the University of Tennessee has been diagnosed by early-onset dementia, to holding a slinky.

See BRIDGE B8

## Dine United tonight

Event a boost for the economy and a community's most vulnerable citizens

By Tim Croft  
Star News Editor

Fill yourself up with helping others tonight. Tonight's fourth annual Dine United event will kick off the United Way's annual community campaign, which each year drops the green flag during the first week of September. Though the number of participating restaurants has dropped, the concept of eat, drink and give is as tangible as ever as the United Way amps up its community campaign for another successful year. How successful? In 2006, the Gulf County United Way campaign raised \$38,000. The following year, the amount grew to \$56,000, where it remained in 2008. "That is a 44 percent increase in tough times," said Ron Sharpe, United Way community development coordinator for the six-county region that includes Bay, Gulf, Jackson, Calhoun, Liberty and Washington counties. "Of all of our six counties, Gulf was the only one to show an increase." With the loss of Arizona Chemical and its employee campaign, the Gulf County campaign took a dip to \$41,126 in 2009 but rebounded to \$49,421 in 2010 and continues a saga that has seen Gulf County outperform surrounding counties with its campaign in three of the past four years, Sharpe said. "Gulf County continues to carry its own," Sharpe said. Dine United was created two years ago as a fun way to kick off the annual campaign.

See UNITED B8

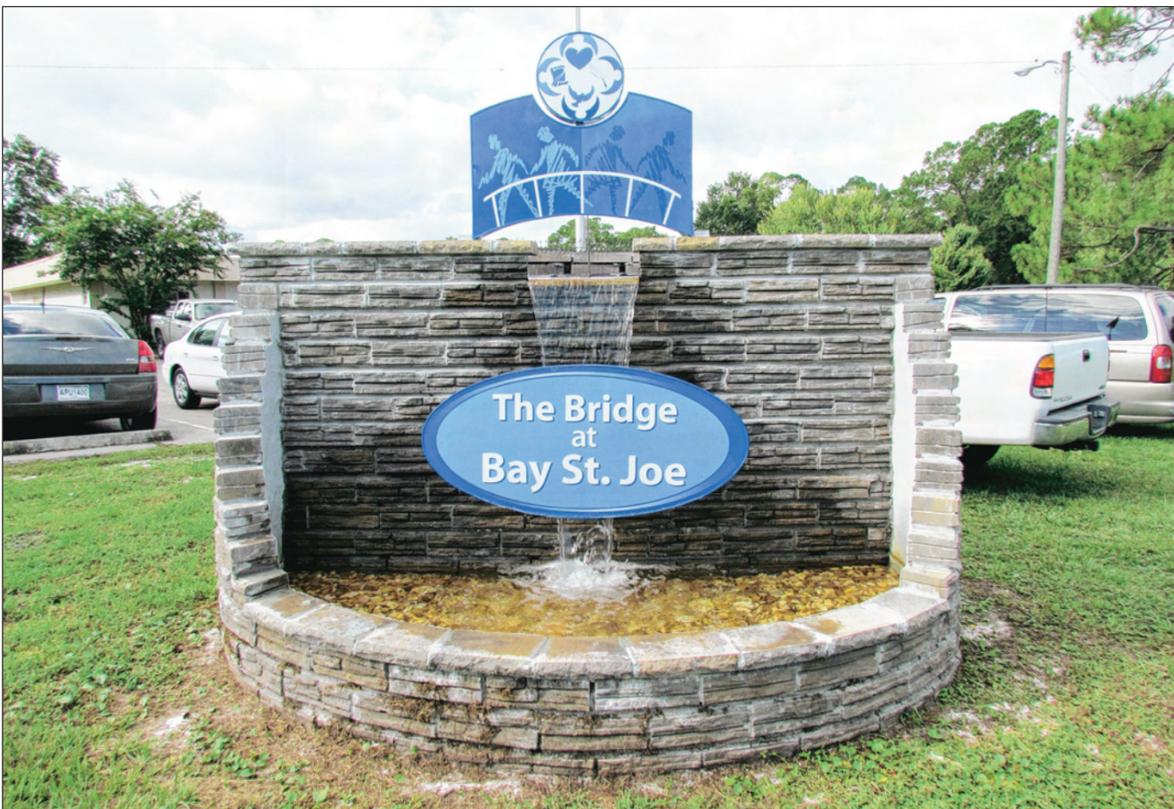
## DINE UNITED

- The following restaurants will be participating:
- Subway (Wewahitchka and Port St. Joe locations)
  - The Thirsty Goat
  - Killer Seafood
  - Sunset Coastal Grill
  - Boon Docks
  - Dockside Cafe

## Downtown merchants to meet about possible committee

Star Staff Report

The group of downtown merchants that has been meeting for the last several weeks would like to hold a meeting to discuss the structure of a formal organization/committee and the goals and/or mission of that organization. All interested downtown merchants are encouraged to attend the organizational meeting, which will take place at 4 p.m. ET Monday, Sept. 12, at 308 Williams Ave., in the office building next to Donamelia's. The boundaries of "downtown" have not been defined, nor has what is a "merchant." That is part of the agenda for the proposed meeting. If you are interested and are unsure if you are downtown merchant, please come and take part in the discussion. Everyone who is interested is invited and encouraged to attend. Please notify your fellow business owners and encourage each to participate. For an organized effort to succeed, there must be involvement by all and a consensus about how to proceed. There has been a concerted effort to notify everyone, but please pass the word along incase email addresses are incorrect or unknown. If you have an agenda item, please email it to [adavis@statecraft.us](mailto:adavis@statecraft.us) by Friday, Sept. 9. Agendas will be emailed out by 8 a.m. the day of the meeting. Please bring your printed copy. If possible, please RSVP so that adequate seating can be provided.



The Bridge at Bay St. Joe facility, located at the corner of Long Avenue and Ninth Street in Port St. Joe, is a faith-based nursing facility specializing in long-term dementia care.

## Reunions

### Wewahitchka High School All Class Reunion 2011

An All Class Reunion for Wewahitchka High School will be held Saturday, Oct. 1. Everyone in the community is invited, so make plans to come enjoy seeing old friends and catching up with one another. The reunion will be held at the Honeyville Community Center in Honeyville beginning at 2 p.m. CT. If you would like to attend, please send a check for \$10 (per person) to Dianne (Lester) Semmes, 1730 CR 386 North, Wewahitchka, FL 32465. There will be a

photographer taking individual, group and miscellaneous pictures during the reunion. If you would like a copy of the CD, there will be a sign-up sheet, and you will need to pay the \$10 fee up front. If you need more information or would like to assist in any way, please contact Dianne at 639-5345 (home), 227-6425 (cell) or Wewamama@yahoo.com. Food and beverages will be provided, but donations of desserts are requested. The deadline for

checks is Sept. 26.

### Class of 1980 end of summer reunion party

The Port St. Joe High School Class of 1980 and friends are invited to attend a reunion party Sept. 9 and 10. Any graduate of Port St. Joe High School from around the year 1980 is invited.

The party will be a two-day event,

beginning Friday at Mango Marley's from 6-8:30 p.m. ET. The party will then move to the Lookout Lounge for some late-night fun. On Saturday, there will be a beach party from noon to 5 p.m. ET at Toucan's in Mexico Beach, and later, the group will gather for dinner at Boondocks at 7 p.m. ET.

For more information on the reunion party, visit PSJclassof1980.webstarts.com or contact Buddy

Nachtsheim at 850-814-0754 or mtnachtshaim@gmail.com.



## So easy to preserve: Canning class offered

### Star Staff Report

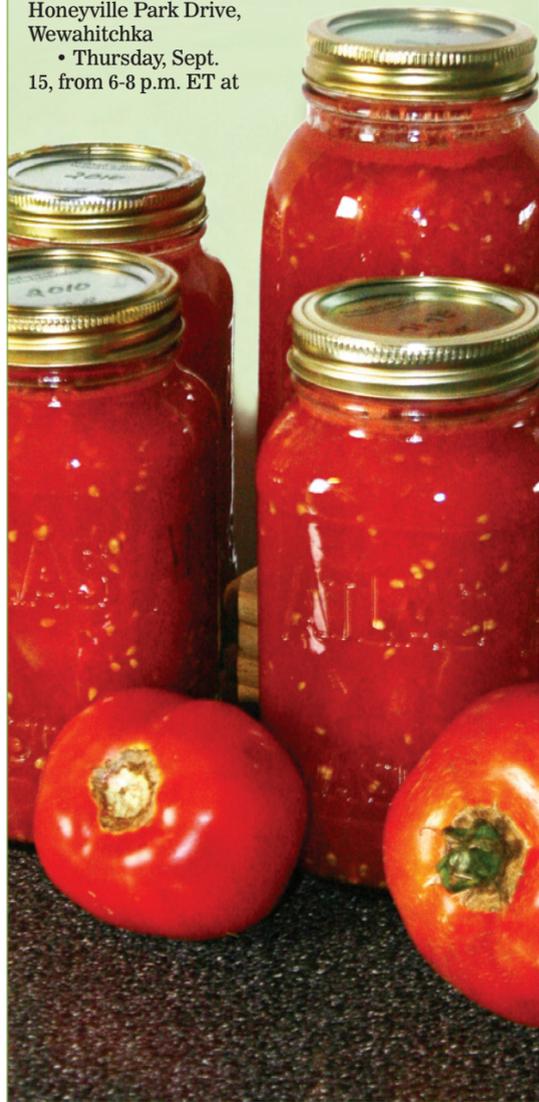
A free canning class will be presented by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Gulf County Extension Office. RSVP to 850-639-3200 or 850-229-2909 by Sept. 12.

The classes will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, Sept. 13, from 6-8 p.m. CT at the Honeyville Community Center, 240 Honeyville Park Drive, Wewahitchka
- Thursday, Sept. 15, from 6-8 p.m. ET at

the Gulf County Senior Citizens Association Building, 120 Library Drive, Port St. Joe.

What will you learn? Why to preserve foods, how food preservation methods work, safe canning methods, what foods to can in a water-bath canner, what foods to can in a pressure-cooker canner, equipment, procedures, materials to keep food safe and much more.



## Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to meet Sept. 14

### Star Staff Report

The Apalachee Regional Planning Council announces a public meeting to which all people are invited. The Gulf County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board will meet Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. ET at the Gulf County Transportation Office, 122 Water Plant Road in Port St. Joe.

In addition to regular business, the agenda includes an update to the TD Service Plan and the Annual Operating Report. A time for public comments will be afforded to anyone wishing to address the board.

If anyone decides to appeal any decision made by the board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding

is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.

For more information or a copy of the agenda, or if you require special accommodations at the meeting because of a disability or physical impairment, contact Vanita Anderson at the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, 20776 Central Ave. E., Suite 1, Blountstown, FL 32424, 850-674-4571.

## Anniversary



### Kosins celebrate 50 years of marriage

Don and Judy Kosin of Port St. Joe are celebrating 50 years of marriage.

They were wed Sept. 9, 1961, at the Sesquicentennial Chapel on the campus of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Thank you, Mom and Dad, for exemplifying a Christ-centered marriage.

We are blessed to have you in our lives.

With all our love, Beth and Matt, Joe and Sarah, David and Denise.

Hugs and kisses to Grammie and Granddaddy

— Love, Matthew and Caleb, Mac and Jay  
1 Cor. 13:13

## Birthday



### Dave Maddox

The family of Dave Maddox requests the pleasure of your company at his 90th Birthday

Celebration on Sunday, Sept. 11, from 3-6 p.m. ET at The Maddox Home, 601 17th St., Port St. Joe.

## Wedding

### White, Jenkins to wed

It is with joy that we invite you to share in a celebration of love as we, Taneisha V. White and Travis R. Jenkins, Sr., exchange our marriage vows.

The beginning of our new life together will occur at 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011, at New Life Christian Center, 504 Sixth St. in Port St. Joe.

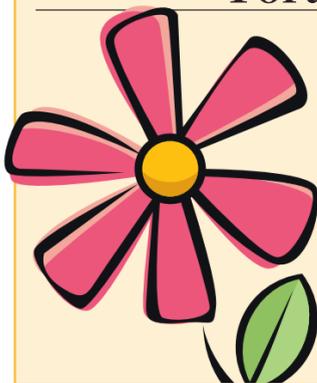
## Port St. Joe Garden Club NEWS

### Star Staff Report

On Aug. 18, the Port St. Joe Garden Club visited the Green Gate Olive Grove. Don Mueller, owner of the grove, gave an interesting and informative talk on olive growing. After the talk, the club picked olives and brought them home for curing.

Sherrie Bowen won the Port St. Joe Garden Club drawing for a year's membership in the club.

The next meeting of the Port St. Joe Garden Club will be today at the Garden Center, 216 Eighth St., at noon ET. The meeting will be a covered-dish luncheon to kick off the new year of programs. The club will learn paper folding of origami flowers.



## PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society

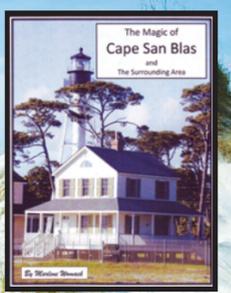


### MEET DALLAS!

LAST CHANCE!!!! PLEASE HELP!!!! This is the beautiful and unusual Dallas. She is an American Bulldog Lab Mix. Dallas is approx. 1 year old. She is a well behaved and sweet girl. Dallas is willing to please and just wants to be loved. Not only is she sweet, she is very unusually marked. Dallas would love a forever home. If you can give her a home, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are unable to adopt at this time, perhaps you could foster or make a Donation. PLEASE HELP US! If you are not able to adopt a pet then please help us save a life by sponsoring one today just Contact Melody at 227-1103 or Shelter Mom Melissa at 625-5676 for more information on how to help! You may also find more information about our other dogs and cats we have here on our website at www.SJBHumaneSociety.org. Our hours for the shelter are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am-4 pm! Also Faith's Thrift Hut is in great need of donations also and all the proceeds go directly to support the animals in our care! Faith's Thrift Hut Has Expanded! We now have more furniture & appliances. Plus lots of other great thrift store treasures. The hours for the store are Thursday-Saturday from 10 am-3 pm. Volunteers are always welcome at both our store and our shelter! Our store and shelter location is 1007 Tenth Street in Port St. Joe! Hope to see you all there soon!

### "The Magic of Cape San Blas and the Surrounding Area"

Books available at:  
No Name Bookstore,  
Bluwater Outriggers,  
Area Bookstores,  
Cape San Blas Lighthouse Gift Shop  
\*\*Available Online\*\*



### KEITH L. JONES, CPA

AUDIT, ACCOUNTING, TAX & CONSULTING SERVICES



America Counts on CPAs

202 Marina Drive, Suite 303 • Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
850-229-1040 PH • 850-229-1050 FX  
keith@keithjonescpa.com • www.keithjonescpa.com

MEMBER: AMERICAN AND FLORIDA INSTITUTES OF CPAs

# Shark TALK

By Marcell Johnson and Troy Williams

## General information

The varsity cheerleaders would like to thank the local businesses that have supported their program by buying ads for their 5th annual ad shirt. In these rough economic times, they have sold more ads this year than ever before. This is just a testament to the amazing businesses of Port St. Joe,

Apalachicola, Cape San Blas and The Beaches, and the great support for the children in our community. Thanks!

- Ad shirts are still on sale for \$15. Contact Mrs. Smallwood or one of the cheerleaders to purchase one.
- You can still register your child, pre-K through sixth grade, for the Youth Cheer Camp on Sept. 10 from 7:30 a.m. to noon ET; fee is \$25.
- Free after-school

tutoring with Ms. Pittman and Mrs. Ethridge through Gulf Coast State College/Franklin Center every day between 3-5 p.m. ET.

- Fall photographs for students and faculty continue today. Also, they will do senior portrait makeups and retakes.

## Patriot Day

- The 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on America falls on a Sunday. Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High



School will remember the innocent people who lost their lives on that fateful day with a school assembly today during fifth period.

## Clubs

- Mu Alpha Theta meeting today; \$15 dues are to be turned in for membership.

## Sports news

- Jr. high football game today at home: Sharks vs. Wewa at 7 p.m. ET.
- Sr. high football game Friday, Sept. 9, at home: Sharks vs. Bozeman at 7:30 p.m. ET.
- Jr. and Sr. high volleyball game Sept. 13 at West Gadsden High, 6/7 p.m.
- Fall sports pictures Sept. 15: groups and individual

# The Lion's TALE

The first weeks of school have come and gone. It is amazing to see how our students grow and change from year to year. It is also very exciting to see new little faces with backpacks as big as their little bodies. The bright smiles and their enthusiasm for school will make any teacher work himself or herself to the bone.

The Faith Christian School staff works as a team to produce Christ-centered students who are wise, healthy and well-adjusted. Every staff member works independently within the team, using his or her God-given talents and tools to attain this goal.

It is not too late to enroll for the 2011-12 school year. Open slots



SPECIAL TO THE TIMES



are still available in all grades. Please call the office at 229-6707 for more information. (Scholarships are

available.) Yearbooks are here. If you have not received your yearbook for the 2010-2011 year, just stop by the front office to pick it up. The yearbook editor, Janice Evans, and her staff have once again presented a fabulous book of memories.

# Education BRIEFS

## Education Encore at Gulf/Franklin Campus

On Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 1 p.m. ET in Room A 101, registration will open for Education Encore classes at the Gulf/Franklin Campus. Education Encore provides noncredit enrichment classes for active adults on a variety of topics: computers, exercise, art, drawing, photography, religion, writing, Spanish, home repair, story crafting, history, etc.

The goal of Education Encore is to provide a fun learning environment that offers diversity, insight and wisdom in which adults explore new ideas.

Classes will be held on six consecutive Wednesdays from Sept. 21 through Oct. 26. The fee for participants is \$66 for the six-week program, which includes three classes on each of the six Wednesdays.

To browse the selection of classes offered, visit [www.gulfcoast.edu/EducationEncore](http://www.gulfcoast.edu/EducationEncore), or for more information, call 872-3823 or email Jim Barr at [jbarr@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:jbarr@gulfcoast.edu).

continue your education or pursue a longtime interest. You are never too old to learn.

## Corrections class scheduled

A corrections class is scheduled for Oct. 3 at the Gulf Coast State College, Gulf/Franklin Campus in Port St. Joe. According to sources within the Department of Corrections, only applicants who have completed the class and passed the state board exam are currently being considered for employment as correctional officers. But the institutions in our area are beginning to hire officers following a lengthy hiring freeze and are running out of qualified applicants. The previous class was canceled because of a lack of enrollment, but we are continuing our efforts to encourage citizens who wish to pursue a career with good benefits to contact us. For more information, call 227-9670, ext. 5507 or 5511, for more details.

— Star Staff Reports

## THE HAUGHTY HERON Wine Club

Now Accepting New Members

**WINE TASTINGS**

**EDUCATION**

**MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

**MEMBER PARTIES**

Please call for details (850) 381-0700

117 Sailors Cove, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 (850) 229-3463

WINE SPIRITS ENTERTAINMENT BEER WINE SPIRITS

## LOOKOUT LOUNGE & DISCOUNT PACKAGE

Upcoming Events!!

ENTERTAINMENT BEER WINE SPIRITS ENTERTAINMENT BEER WINE SPIRITS ENTERTAINMENT BEER
ENTERTAINMENT BEER WINE SPIRITS ENTERTAINMENT BEER WINE SPIRITS ENTERTAINMENT BEER

**THURSDAY 9 PM ET**  
**RANDY STARK ON THE POOP DECK**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9 PM ET**  
**RANDY STARK WITH ART LONG ON SAX ON THE POOP DECK**  
**KARAOKE & DANCING IN THE CROWS NEST**

**SUNDAY POT LUCK 7 PM ET**  
**BARRY HENSON**

**OPEN AT 11AM ET - 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
**WWW.LOOKOUTLOUNGE.COM**  
9454 HWY 98 BEACON HILL AT THE MEXICO BEACH CITY LIMITS (850) 647-2971

NOBODY PROTECTS YOU FROM MAYHEM LIKE ALLSTATE

I can help you get the coverage you need. People who switched to Allstate saved money and got more protection. Which means they're better prepared for the mayhem that can happen everywhere. So don't wait! Call me today.

**Cindy S Traylor**  
**(850) 639 5077**  
Gaskin-Graddy Insurance Agency, Inc.  
156 2ND ST/POB 157  
WEWAHITCKA

Coverage and savings based on policy features selected and are subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Fire And Casualty Insurance Company; Northbrook, IL. © 2010 Allstate Insurance Company

"Southern Cooking at its Best"

**Best Food for Best Prices**  
**Local Seafood & Steaks**  
on  
**THURSDAY & FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
**6 - 8:30**

Shrimp Fried or Grilled w/ 2 Sides \$10.95  
8 oz. Ribeye w/ 2 sides \$11.95  
8oz. & 16oz. Black Angus (Hand Cut) Ribeyes  
Fish Basket w/ 2 sides \$9.95  
8 oz. Burgers w/FF \$9.95

Hours:  
Breakfast • 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. \$6.00  
Lunch • 11:00 - 2:00 \$6.99  
Thursday & Friday Night • 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
236 Reid Ave (850) 229.7121

SAVE 40%

## KINCAID UPHOLSTERY

Sofa, Sectionals and Sleepers in Your Choice of Fabric

## HARRISON HOUSE FURNITURE

EST. 1979 Best of Bay 2011 A+ Rating by the BBB  
11 Harrison Ave. Downtown Panama City Closed Sun. & Mon.  
Great designs at 850-763-4918

## Lung Disease Specialist

### Rob Garver, MD

**NOW BCBS-FL IN-NETWORK PROVIDER**

Now Seeing Patients in Port St. Joe

**Qualifications:**

- Board Certified in Pulmonary Disease, and Critical Care Medicine
- Castle Connolly Best Doctor List 2005-2011

**Expertise in:**

- Shortness of breath
- Coughs
- Wheezing
- Asthma/COPD
- Lung Cancer
- Abnormal X-rays

**Now Accepting Appointments**

**Call Toll Free 888-681-5864**

For more info [www.seclung.com](http://www.seclung.com)

# FAITH

This business invites you to visit the church of your choice this week.

**COMFORTER FUNERAL HOME**  
W. P. "Rocky" Comforter  
L.F.D.  
(850) 227-1818

## The Christian CONSCIENCE

### The rich man and Lazarus

Beginning in Luke 16:19, there is an account of an unnamed rich man (Church history says his name was Dives) and a beggar named Lazarus. There have been endless debates about whether this is a parable or not. This passage, was told to a group of pharisees, and contains the name, Abraham, whom the Pharisees claimed as their ancestor; and the beggar, Lazarus, whom the Pharisees probably knew. Since it was told, about the time Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead, it is probably a real account about real people. It goes like this:

"There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades (another name for hell) he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off and Lazarus in his bosom."

"Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue;

for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you, there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

"Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"

Whether a parable, or not, Jesus telling us, that the way we live, has serious consequences. Picture yourself, in hell, in torments, with no hope of escape, and no way of warning your relatives and friends. Maybe today is the day for you to stop trusting in religious ceremonies, and ask God to make you into what He wants you to be, and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit every day!

Questions or comments are invited. Send to us at one of the addresses below:

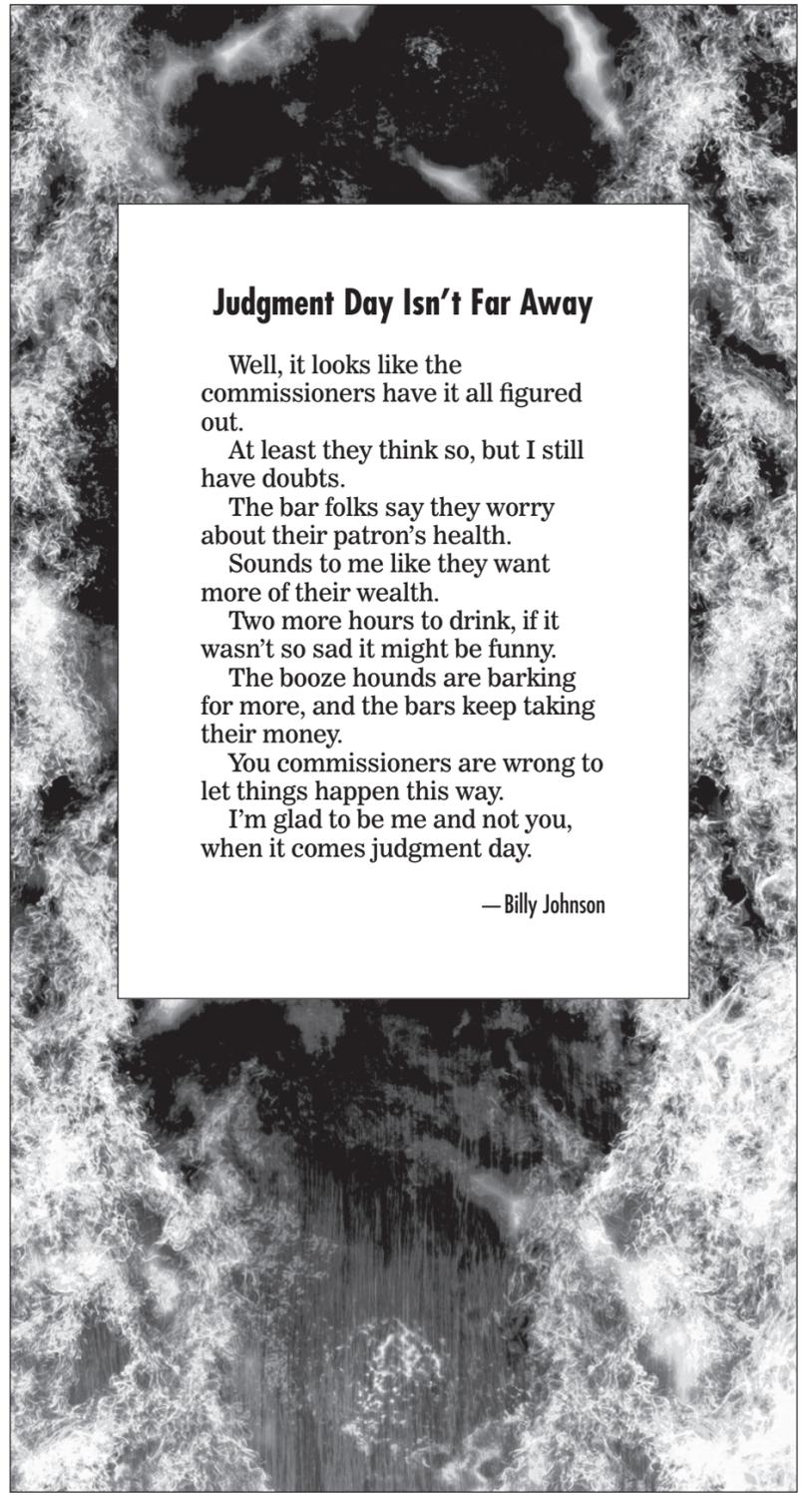
Are you concerned

about your eternal destiny? At the Mexico Beach Christian Worship Center, you get vital teachings from a trustworthy Bible, every Sunday morning. We don't pass an offering plate, pressure you to give money, or pressure you to join. We believe in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and we believe that Jesus was God in human flesh.

Check us out this Sunday! For the spring and summer seasons, our services begin, with a time of greeting and fellowship, at 9:45 a.m. CT on Sunday. Our worship begins at 10 a.m. For those interested, we have midweek ministry, helping people on an individual basis. Inquire for more information. Come early on Sunday morning so that you can meet us informally and join in the praise and worship music led by T.J. On Sunday morning we worship at the Mexico Beach Civic Center on 105 N. 31st Street. The Civic Center is located behind the Beach Walk Gift Shop, behind Parker Realty, just off U.S. Highway 98 in the western end of Mexico Beach. Look for the white building with the dark green roof.

God Bless,  
Pastor Tim Morrill

Mexico Beach Christian Worship Center  
Box 13337, Mexico Beach, 32410  
tim1@jesusanswers.com  
On Facebook, look for Tim Morrill  
www.mexicobeachcwc.com



### Judgment Day Isn't Far Away

Well, it looks like the commissioners have it all figured out.

At least they think so, but I still have doubts.

The bar folks say they worry about their patron's health.

Sounds to me like they want more of their wealth.

Two more hours to drink, if it wasn't so sad it might be funny.

The booze hounds are barking for more, and the bars keep taking their money.

You commissioners are wrong to let things happen this way.

I'm glad to be me and not you, when it comes judgment day.

— Billy Johnson

**First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach**  
111 North 22nd Street • Mexico Beach, FL 32410  
**Sunday Worship Services:**  
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship  
9:45 a.m. CST Bible Study  
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
**Open Hearts. Open minds. Open doors.**  
The people of Mexico Beach United Methodist Church  
Nursery Provided  
Rev. Jerry Arhelger, Pastor • Church/Office: 648-8820

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Constitution and Monument Port St. Joe  
(850) 227-1724  
Sunday:  
Contemporary Service 9:00 a.m. ET  
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. ET  
Traditional Worship: 11:00 a.m. ET  
Wednesday:  
Youth: 5:30 p.m. ET  
Choir: 7:00 p.m. ET  
Rev. Mac Fulcher  
Pastor  
Ann Comforter Music Director  
Jeremy Dixon Youth Minister  
Deborah Loyless  
Director of Children Ministries

**First Baptist Church**  
102 THIRD STREET • PORT ST. JOE  
Jeff Pinder Pastor  
Buddy Caswell, Minister of Music & Education  
Bobby Alexander, Minister to Students  
**New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church**  
Sunday  
Sunday School ..... 9:00 am  
Worship Service..... 10:30 am  
Sunday Night Awana .... 5 pm - 7 pm  
Youth Groups ..... 5:30 pm  
www.fbpcpsj.org  
Wednesday  
Wednesday Night Supper..... 5:00 - 6:15 pm  
Children's Choir ..... 5:45 - 6:10 pm  
Nursery ..... 6:00 - 7:30 pm  
AWANA's ..... 6:15 - 7:30 pm  
Surrender Student Ministry ..... 6:15 - 7:30 pm  
The Unshakable Truth Journey..... 6:15 - 7:30 pm  
Celebration Choir Rehearsal ..... 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
Prayer Meeting ..... 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
"Praise Band" ..... 7:30 - 9:00 pm  
(Rehearsal in Sanctuary)

**Faith Bible Church**  
www.faithbiblepsj.net  
801 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Port St. Joe, FL. (850) 229-6707  
9:45 AM..... Sunday School  
10:30 AM..... Fellowship Breakfast  
11:00 AM ..... Worship  
6:00 PM ..... Worship  
**Home of Faith Christian School**  
www.faithchristianpsj.net

**Family Life Church**  
A Spirit Filled  
Outreach Oriented  
Word of Faith Church  
Pastors Andrew & Cathy Rutherford  
Welcome you to worship with us:  
Sunday 10:30am  
Sunday Night Prayer 6pm  
Wednesday 7pm  
HOME OF THE  
POWERHOUSE  
YOUTH MINISTRIES  
www.familylifechurch.net  
323 Reid Ave ~ Downtown Port St. Joe, FL ~ 850-229-5433

"Our Church can be your home"  
**First Church of the Nazarene**  
2420 Long Avenue • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456  
(850) 229-9596  
Give unto the Lord the glory due His name, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.  
Psalm 29:2  
Sunday School..... 10 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening Service ..... 7 p.m.

Jesus is Lord and He is waiting  
FOR YOU AT:  
**Highland View Baptist Church**  
382 Ling Street - Highland View  
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456  
(850)227-1306  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service 5:00 & 6:00 p.m.  
Discipleship Training 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Prayer 7:00 p.m.  
Pastor Josh Fidler

**SOUTHERLAND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME**  
507 10th Street • Port St. Joe  
(850) 229-8111

**oakgrove church**  
613 Madison Street PSJ, FL 32456 (850) 227-1837  
Schedule of Worship Services  
Sunday  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM  
Wednesday  
Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 PM  
Elective Adult Classes 6:00 PM  
Children & Youth Ministry 6:00 PM  
Nursery provided for all services

**First Presbyterian Church**  
508 Sixteenth Street  
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456  
**850-227-1756**  
Rev. Drucilla Tyler  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Sunday School 11:00 AM

**St. Peter's Church, ACC**  
(Traditional Services 1928 BCP)  
Morning Prayer & Holy Communion  
Sunday.....10:00 A.M.  
Community Healing Service 6:00 P.M.  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of Every Month  
The Rev. Dr. D. Pete Windham, Priest  
The Rev. Lou Little, Deacon  
Services Temporarily at Senior Citizens Center,  
120 Library Drive  
"An Unchanging Faith In A Changing World"

TO KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN  
Come worship with us!  
Rector Father Tommy Dwyer  
**ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
800 22ND STREET, PORT ST. JOE  
8:00 and 11:00 a.m. (EST) • Sunday School 9:45  
www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org

## OBITUARIES

### Charles E. O'Bryan, Jr.

Charles E. O'Bryan, Jr., age 54 of Tallahassee, passed away Sunday, August 28, 2011. Funeral Services were held at 1 p.m. ET on Thursday, September 1, 2011, at Beggs Funeral Home with burial at Oakfield Cemetery in Monticello, FL. Family received friends from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday in the Chapel.

Charles was an avid outdoorsman. He loved hunting, riding in the woods and, above all, family and friends. He worked in the construction industry as a sub-contractor. He could fix or build anything and never saw the need to throw anything away. He had a quirky sense of humor that will be missed

greatly. He had a love and appreciation for animals, especially his well trained cat, Sammy.

He is survived by his loving wife, Susan E. O'Bryan; four daughters, Jennifer N. Dareing (Bruce), Kimberly R. and Rebecca L. O'Bryan, and Christina Lee; four grandchildren, Cassidy, Elany, Ryan, and Ethan of Polk County; his parents, Charles E. and Martha Hysmith O'Bryan; and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

Beggs Funeral Home  
Apalachee Parkway  
Chapel  
(850) 942-2929  
beggsapalachee@embarqmail.com  
website:  
beggsfuneralhomes.com

### Emma "Mae" Plair

Mae Plair, 77, of Blountstown, left this world on Saturday, September 3, 2011, at Bay Medical Center, from an accidental injury she received the day before. Mae was born in South Carolina, but had spent most of her adult life in Port St. Joe and Blountstown.

She was preceded in death by a loving and devoted husband, Ralph E. Plair; her parents Walter and Gladys Hyatt; a daughter Diane Sheldon and an adopted daughter Cindi Judkins.

Survivors include her daughters, Peggy Whitfield-Plair Atkinson and husband Colby, with their children, Zachary and Wesley Whitfield, Brittany and Chris Ferrell and Dustyn Atkinson, all of Blountstown; Ruthie Rhodes and her late husband Dewayne Rhodes, with their child, Kayla Rhodes, all of Port St. Joe; one son, Michael Sheldon and wife Sandy, with their children, Heidi, Spencer, Amanda, Chad and Tyler, all of Owasso, Michigan.

Services will be held at 11 am (CT)/12 Noon (ET),

on September 8, 2011 at Abe Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church, in Blountstown, with the services conducted by the Rev. Michael Morris and the Rev. David Nichols. There will be no graveside services. Family will receive friends at the home of her daughter in Port St. Joe at 125 Gulf Coast Circle on Wednesday, Sept. 7 from 4-6 p.m. (CT)/5-7 p.m. (ET) and before the service on Thursday, Sept. 8 in Blountstown at Abe Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church.

A very special thanks the family would like to give to Dr. Skipper, Calhoun EMS Medic Aaron Carter, EMT Andy Waldroff, CLH Nurse Crystal Arnold and all the Staff involved with the care of our mother/grandmother for these two days at Calhoun/Liberty Hospital and EMS Director Phillip Hill and his staff, Calhoun County Sheriff's Office, Nettle Ridge Fire Dept. and Bay Medical Center ER.

All services are under the direction of the Comforter Funeral Home.

### Joseph John Katynsky

Joseph John Katynsky, 88, passed away on August 27, 2011.

Born in Johnstown, PA, he was a long time resident of Wewahitchka and a decorated WWII veteran of the USAF with 26 years of service. Well known for his many years at Tyndall AFB in personnel, he also served in Korea, Iceland and Europe. He was one of the earliest members of Tyndall Federal Credit Union, a former restaurant owner and building

contractor. "Papa Joe" was an accomplished chef and enjoyed retirement on the river with his many plants and animals.

Survivors include his beloved wife, Donna, of Wewahitchka; daughter Deborah Riddle and husband James; grandson Christopher Howell and wife Angie; grandsons Matthew Howell and JP Riddle; and his great-grandchild and namesake, Cameron Joseph Howell, all of the Panama City area.

### Patricia Hogeland

Patricia Hogeland, 65, passed away in Kinard, where she wanted to be at home with her kids on Sunday night, August 28, 2011.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Lena Findley and three brothers, Billy, Jhon, and Wayne Findley.

She is survived by her sons, Jerald, and Tommy and wife Vickie, of Kinard, FL; a daughter, Teri Herring and husband Leslie of Brierfield, AL; nine grandchildren,

Melissa, Joey, Ritn, Kirstie, Kenny Bo, Leann, Allen, Chris, and Cody; ten great-grandchildren, Emily, Wyatt, Joey, Jr., Ashley, Kayla, Kristen, Ashley, Hope, Tori and Alane.

Graveside funeral services were held Wednesday, August 31, 2011 at 10 a.m. CT at Buckhorn Cemetery in Wewahitchka with the Rev. Joey Smith officiating.

All services were under the direction of Comforter Funeral Home.

### Riley D. Dennis

Riley Dennis, (1938-2011) age 73 of Pensacola, passed away Friday, Aug. 26, 2011. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend. Riley served his country in the U.S. Army and served his customers like family at Pensacola Honda where he worked for the past 17 years.

His fondest memories include fishing and golfing with his close friend Terry in Okeechobee, spending time with his family, and spending time in the World, committing to memory Psalm 91. Riley loved his Heavenly Father most of all.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Viola, and father, Samuel Jackson Dennis, and brother, Frank Dennis.

Survivors include his wife of 41 years, Carolyn Brewton Dennis; two children, Lisa Schroeder

(Michael), and Ryan Dennis (Tammie); five grandchildren, Kyle, Nicole, Blake, Derek and Tyler; two brothers, Bill Dennis and Bob Dennis (Patty); sister, Audrey Anderson (Paul); stepmother, Eloise Keels; sister-in-law, Jean Dennis; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A special thanks goes to the nursing staff at Sacred Heart Surgical ICU for their special care of our loved one.

Funeral services were held Aug. 29 at Fail Chapel Funeral Home in Pensacola. Interment followed in Pensacola Memorial Gardens.

Pallbearers were Terry Gross, Richard Holifield, Bob Winn, Jerry Taylor, Bruce Morgan and Keith Dethlefs.

Condolences may be placed online at fcffhs.com.

## Faith BRIEFS

### Highland View Baptist Homecoming

The Highland View Baptist Church will celebrate 60 years of ministry with its 31st Annual Homecoming at 10:30 a.m. ET on Sept. 11. There will be special music presentations and Brother Larry DeMoss, former interim pastor, will be bringing the morning message. A covered-dish lunch will be served at noon. Everyone is invited to attend. The church is located at 382 Ling Street.



School followed by a special 11 a.m. morning worship service with Evangelist Barbara Bell of Panama City as the guest speaker. A special invitation by the Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church membership is extended to everyone to come and be a part of this great day of blessings from God. The church is located in Port St. Joe on Avenue D.

### Anniversary Celebration

The Thompson Temple First Born Church of the Living God invites you to a celebration honoring the anniversary of Bishop Frank Hogans Jr. The celebration will be held at the church, located at 222 Avenue E in Port St. Joe, on Sept. 11 at 11:30 a.m. ET. We invite you and desire your prayers!

### Annual Women's Day at Victory Temple First Born Holiness

Victory Temple First Born Holiness Church in Port St. Joe will celebrate its Annual Women's Day at 11:30 a.m. ET on Sunday, Sept. 11. The speaker will be Missionary Pinkie Bolden-Patterson and the theme is "If the Hats Could Speak." We invite you to come on this Annual Women's Day and help us enjoy Jesus. Your presence will be well appreciated. Come and be blessed.

### Annual Women's Day at Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church

Annual Women's Day will be celebrated at Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church on the 3rd Sunday, Sept. 18. The day will begin at 10 a.m. ET with Church

### City Wide Mission Fruit Harvest Program

The City Wide Missionary Society of Port St. Joe will sponsor its Annual Fruit Harvest Worship Services on Thursday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. ET at the Victory Temple First Born Holiness Church located at 315 Martin Luther King Blvd. Foreign Mission service will be the highlight of this year's program and will feature Mr. Marty Riley's recent mission trip to Brazil.

Marty, a member of First Baptist Church located here in Port St. Joe, will share his experiences in the mission field through pictorial presentations and personal observations. This program is opened to everyone to attend and support the work of the City Wide Missionary Society. An offering will be taken.

### New Horizon AA

The New Horizon AA Group's new schedule is Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. EST or 10 a.m. CST; call 639-3600.

# Trades & Services



**Xtreme Clean**  
PROFESSIONAL FLOOR CARE, INC.  
Residential and Commercial Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning  
Serving the entire Gulf Coast area  
Ceramic Tile and Grout Cleaning  
RVs - Cars - Trucks - Vans  
24 Hour Emergency Water Extraction



229-1324  
Ceramic Tile and Grout Cleaning  
RVs - Cars - Trucks - Vans  
24 Hour Emergency Water Extraction

**HOWARD and SONS**  
PILE DRIVING FOUNDATION/PILING REPAIR DOCK/MARINE WORK MOORING BOUYS  
OFFICE: 850.227.1709  
FAX: 850.762.2552 CELL: 850.527.5725  
HOWARD227@FAIRPOINT.NET

**Tony Poloronis & Sons, Inc.**  
Michael & Anthony  
State Certified Electrician ES12000204 & Finish Carpentry RG006883  
850-229-6751 850-227-5666  
Electrical & Finish Carpentry

**JOE'S LAWN CARE**  
NO JOB TOO BIG!! SINCE 2002, DOING BUSINESS IN THIS COMMUNITY  
LAWN CARE, TREE & PALM TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL, DEBRIS AND JUNK REMOVAL, or whatever your yard needs are  
CALL JOE @ 850-670-5478  
E-MAIL @ joes\_lawn@yahoo.com

**Robert Pelc Mowing Service**  
Yard Cleanup  
Affordable Lawn Care  
227-5374

**Greg's Handyman Service & Lawn Maintenance**  
From A to Z  
PO Box 364  
Port St. Joe, FL 32457  
850-340-0756

**GET YOUR AD IN**  
227-7847

**GET YOUR AD IN CALL TODAY!**  
227-7847 **Trades & Services**



**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**  
6130

**Eagle Landing Spacious Townhome - Available**  
Beautiful and spacious 3 br, 2 bath townhome located in Jones Homestead, Eagle Landing subdivision. Close to shopping, downtown, new hospital and St. Joseph's Bay. \$750 per month \$750 security/ damage deposit. Gulf Coast Property Services at (850) 229-2706 for more information and a tour of this well-kept townhome.  
Text FL74618 to 56654

**HOUSE RENTALS**  
6140

**NEW TODAY!**  
1, 2, & 3 bedroom long term rentals available in Mexico Beach. Please call 850-348-0262 Text FL75507 to 56654

3 br home with 150 ft boat dock, deep water, year round, Call (850) 348-7774

**Bayview Home @ Indian Pass.** 4 br, 3 ba, 2 acres, large storage and Boat shed. \$1200 mo + \$1200 dep. \$200 pet fee. In the St. Joe school district. Call 850-229-1065 or 850-227-5025

Would like to Swap my home in a N. Georgia Mountain City, for a home in this area. No money owed, Call 478-252-4636

**HOME FOR SALE**  
7100

**NEW TODAY!**  
3 br, 2 ba home priced to sell. 85K negotiable. within 1 mi of 3 schools Central heat & air. 2105 long Avenue, PSJ. Call 850-697-2768 for appt. Buyer to pay closing costs!  
Text FL75911 to 56654

**LOTS AND ACREAGE**  
7150

**Price Reduced**  
FSBO: 5.5 acres White City, FL. Nice property, minutes to Intercoastal Water Way. Convenient to beaches, reasonable offers considered. call 904-626-1482

**UNFURNISHED HOUSE RENTAL**  
**3 bedrm 2 bath on Indian Lagoon.**  
**1 year lease, \$900.00**  
**First & Security**  
**850-866-1269**

**Your land or family land is all you need to buy a new home.**  
Call **850-682-3344**

**Port St. Joe Commercial For Lease**  
**Retail / Office Space**

**308 Reid Avenue**  
Suite A +/- 1100 sf; \$1100 mo mod gross  
**401 Reid Avenue**  
+/- 5,400sf: Move in ready; Inquire for terms  
**101 Reid Avenue**  
Seven office suites avail starting at \$400 mo plus pro rata CAM  
**103 Reid Avenue**  
Great office/retail location ready for occupancy; \$10 psf mod gross  
**190 Williams Avenue**  
Stand alone building located at the corner of Williams and 1st Street; On-site parking; \$10 psf mod gross

**Warehouse / Flex Space**

**110 Trade Circle West**  
+/- 2500-7500sf suites, 14ft roll-up doors, dock high loading; inquire for terms  
**2790 Hwy 98**  
+/- 5,640 sf : Office / Warehouse; \$8 psf mod gross; Property also available for sale; Inquire for terms; 17 separate storage units available

**For Sale UNDER CONTRACT**

**306 Williams Avenue**  
+/- 2400 sf office/retail  
**Loggerhead Restaurant**  
Cape San Blas, +/-3000sf, FFE incl., .47 ac, on site-parking, sewer, asking \$350,000. Short Sale  
**256 Hatfield Street, Eastpoint, FL**  
+/- 7,500 sf : 16' inside clearance; Dual 12' roll-up doors; \$150,000  
**60 Island Drive, Eastpoint, FL**  
+/-19,620sf: Fully climate controlled office & retail show space; located on primary SGI access corridor; \$675,000  
**516 1st Street**  
+/-11,400 sf office/warehouse : .09 acres; Four roll up and/or high clearance entryways; \$515,000  
**320 Marina Drive**  
Corner lot entry to Marina Cove : .14 acres; High visibility site; Call for details  
**407 Reid Ave**  
+/- 4,988 sf : 100% leased multi tenant bldg; On-site parking; \$399,000  
**317 Monument Ave**  
+/- 4,431 sf : Hwy 98 frontage w/ On-site parking; \$499,000  
**401 Reid Avenue**  
+/- 5,400 sf : Retail space; \$225,000; Avail for lease; Inquire for terms  
**260 Marina Drive**  
+/- 3,200 sf : Multi tenant building in Marina Cove; New Construction w/ ample parking; Also avail for lease; Inquire for details; \$345,000  
**PSJ Commerce Park**  
+/- 6.5 acre site : \$119,900; owner financing available  
**Hwy 98 Retail / Office Vacant Lots**  
Two lots avail w/ frontage on Hwy 98; 30' x 80' each; \$69,900 per lot

Marketed Exclusively by:  
**850-229-6373**



Park your car in Classified and see it take off in the fast lane!

**Sea Crest Real Estate**  
108 S. E. AVE. A  
CARRABELLE, FLORIDA 32322  
850-697-9604 850-323-0444  
www.seacrestre.com

**RENTALS**

2 BR 1 BA MOBILE HOME	
Fenced Yard	\$500
3 BR 1 BA UNFURNISHED APARTMENT	
Clean, W/D, Includes, Water, End Unit	\$565
2 BR 2 BA MOBILE HOME	
2 Lots	\$500
3 BR 3 BA FURNISHED CONDO	
Long Term, Pool	\$850
2 BA 1 BA FURNISHED APARTMENT	
Den & Living Area	\$550
3 BR 2 BA FURNISHED CONDO	
Boat & Car Parking	\$850 WKLY
3 BR 3 BA FURNISHED CONDO	
Pool, Downtown	\$700 WKLY
2 BR 1 BA APARTMENT	
Water View, Water Included, End Unit	\$500
3 BR 1 BA FURNISHED APARTMENT	
Pet Friendly, Wkly & Monthly Rates	

**Classified can!**  
If you're ready to move up or are just starting out Classified can help you open the door to home ownership. We've got properties at every price, with locations all over town! And if you're planning to sell, Classified can introduce you to the market's best prospects.

**America's**  
**MINI-STORAGE AND OFFICE COMPLEX**

- Climate Controlled Units
- Lease Warehouse Space
- Lease Office Space
- Watercraft and RV Storage

★ Now Available ★ 10 x 30 Storage Units  
**850-229-8014**  
★www.AMERICAMINISTORAGEANDOFFICE.com★

The Key to Savings Start here in Classifieds.

**MINI STORAGE In Port St. Joe**  
**229-6200**  
**814-7400**

**CALL OUR NEW NUMBERS NOW**

**HELP IS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY**



**To Place Your Classified ad in**



**Call Our New Numbers Now!**

Call:  
**850-747-5020**

Toll Free:  
**800-345-8688**

Fax:  
**850-747-5044**

Email:  
**thestar@pcnh.com**  
**thetimes@pcnh.com**



**CALL OUR NEW NUMBERS NOW**

# BRIDGE from page B1

At one point, the slinky is balanced, but with a slight tilt, all of a sudden, perceptions of time are greatly thrown off.

Smith gave an example: Say your grandma has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, he said, and you ask, "Grandma, do you remember when we used to go to Panama City Beach in the summer?"

Grandma just looks at you and smiles and doesn't respond.

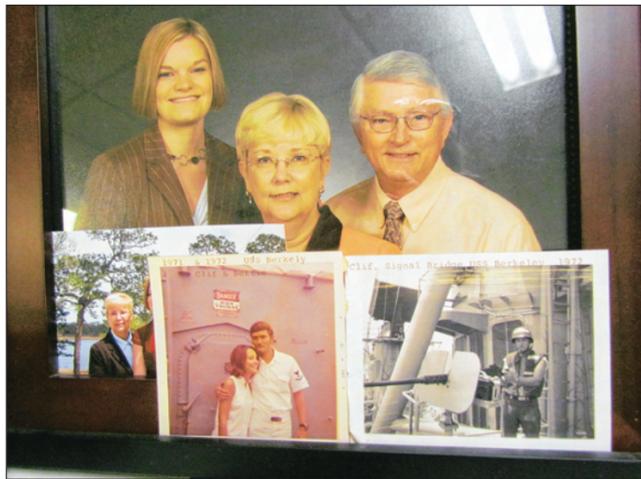
"In my opinion, I think grandma has the answer," he said. "We don't necessarily know what grandma is thinking."

He said chances are the next time you're at the grocery store, you'll pass someone who has pre-dementia. They'll know they came for beans, but will stand in the bean aisle for a while trying to remember what kind. When this person gets in the car to drive home, he or she will drive west over the bridge to St. Joe Beach, even though they need to go home to Apalachicola.

Or say your grandmother has Alzheimer's and she's a wanderer. She might go outside in her pajamas one morning and just start walking and end up lost with no recollection of how she got there.

"We're able to hear one another, see one another," Smith said. "It's the command central that makes that possible. They're obviously firing very well. (With Alzheimer's) the synapses in the brain become disconnected and plaque over."

Smith said much like a cellphone has a receptor that allows it to send and receive



VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

Two photos dated 1972 stand in the foreground of a more recent family photo in Clif Smith's office. At left, he and his wife, Bettie, embrace on the deck of the USS Berkeley, and at right, Smith works the signal bridge on the USS Berkeley.

calls, the brain is also full of receptors that send receive signals from the sensory organs.

Alzheimer's and dementia obscure the sensory receptors, much like a dead zone obscures a cellphone's ability to send and receive calls.

"With Alzheimer's you can't take a shot and be made well; you can't take a pill and be made well," Smith said.

The nursing home is broken up into four different halls. The first three halls house residents that aren't necessarily challenged but might have dementias. The fourth hall is designed for residents who need special care, who might

be suffering from progressed dementia or Alzheimer's and need extra care and direction.

The special care hall is not at all a lockdown facility, Smith said. He would gladly move his office down there if the option was presented.

When a voice comes over Smith's walkie-talkie summoning Dr. Strong and team, it could mean a confrontation has happened with a dementia patient and someone is needed to intervene. On occasion, dementia patients might wander into each other's rooms on accident and cause a disturbance.

"It doesn't happen often, but

it could happen any moment," he said.

On Aug. 31, Smith and other representatives from the Bridge at Bay St. Joe conducted a demonstration for employees at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Panama City. The demonstration aimed to create how elderly dementia patients see, hear and feel. Participants put on colored goggles to obscure their vision, ear buds producing static noises and gloves filled with popcorn seeds to reduce dexterity.

They were then asked to perform everyday activities like writing and folding clothes.

"One employee broke down and cried, because she got to experience some dementia and she didn't like it," Smith said. "We're in a dark place, and we're threatened by it."

## Like home

The Bridge at Bay St. Joe aims to provide residents with a sense of homeliness in their surroundings.

Last year, the company renovated its facilities, replacing the floors with a demure wood laminate with white moldings.

"The company spent a half million dollars last year, making this a more comfortable place for dementia patients," Smith said.

Many of the room doors are adorned with wreaths or flowers. The hallways are labeled like streets. Happy Lane and Victory Lane intersect near the nurse's station.

"When I come here, I don't come to work in a nursing home

building," Smith said. "I come to work in your grandmother's home."

Smith said they used to shine the floors really well, but they don't anymore because "your grandmother has Alzheimer's, and she thinks it's water."

Plaques in the dining hall honor outstanding residents in a "Hall of Fame," recognizing the lifetime achievements and civic duties of residents who have made great contributions in their lifetimes.

Smith said one of his primary duties as chaplain is to educate family members about dementias and help them to understand what their loved one is going through.

Visiting family members will often become frustrated when they aren't recognized or even addressed, he said. His job is to tone down the discouragement and keep them coming back.

Smith went through it himself when his stepfather, once a skilled craftsman, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

"What made me uncomfortable was not knowing if I was doing everything I could do," he said.

In his three years as chaplain, Smith has learned that a nursing home is not a place to be feared.

"The people in Port St. Joe need to not be afraid of this building," Smith said. "Death is just as important a consideration as living."

He said the people of Port St. Joe need to come for a tour.

"People don't come here to die, they come here to live."

# UNITED from page B1

The event injects money into the local economy and bolsters the coffers of the United Way, which in turn injects the money back into the community.

"This is a concept I came up with two years ago," Sharpe said. "What better way? You go out for something to eat, you support the businesses which need the support, you support the largest nonprofit agency in the country and the money goes directly back into the community."

"The money contributed will be used to assist the elderly, children and others in need in your community. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a nice meal with your family and help your community at the same time. The needs are greater than ever given the economy."

Of the \$56,000 raised during the community campaign in 2008, more than \$52,000, or 95 cents on the dollar, was donated back into the community, a ratio that has played out each year.

"It is amazing what a dollar can do," Sharpe said.

The local United Way receives funds in three categories.

Those who donate to the United Way can earmark those funds for specific agencies approved under the United Way umbrella.

The statewide campaign also will bring in funds specified in similar fashion, donations given for specific agencies serving the community.

"A good thing about a

United Way campaign is you can designate where you want your money to go," Sharpe said. "Think about this. You live here, but you may have a loved one in Miami being served by a United Way approved agency that you can designate to receive your donation."

Funds not specifically earmarked are pooled into the community grant fund, which provides grants to agencies and organizations that apply for funding from the United Way.

A committee of local residents reviews the grant applications and decides on recipients and amounts.

North Florida Child Development Inc., Gulf County Senior Citizens, Gulf County ARC & Gulf Transportation were among the organizations that received funding from the United Way in recent years.

In addition, funds were provided to organizations such as the American Red Cross, which has offered

assistance for countless emergencies, such as a house fire or flooding, in the community, and Life Management, which has offices in Gulf County.

"Whether they are in Gulf County or not, all these agencies touch the lives of Gulf County citizens," Sharpe said, looking at a spreadsheet of the area agencies that received money from the Gulf County campaign.

"There are no borders." This year, seven local restaurants have agreed to donate 10 percent of their sales on Sept. 8 to the Dine United event in Gulf County.

Sharpe noted that some restaurant owners don't bother with the 10 percent; they will cut a check that often amounts to more than 10 percent of what the restaurant will make on Sept. 8.

"We didn't put pressure on them," Sharpe said. "Our goal is to drive traffic to them and benefit the United Way at the same time. If we can just get citizens to go out and thank the restaurants, show that they appreciate what the restaurants are doing, that makes it a win."

The main purpose of the effort, Sharpe said, is straightforward.

"It is all about raising awareness, education, about the United Way and the agencies we serve," Sharpe said.

For more information, go to [www.unitedwaynwf.org](http://www.unitedwaynwf.org).

## PLAY & WIN with The News Herald's

POWERED BY ATHLON SPORTS

### COLLEGE FOOTBALL EXPERTS CLUB

THE ULTIMATE COLLEGE FOOTBALL PICK 'EM GAME

---

# YOU COULD WIN THE GRAND PRIZE BOWL GAME

EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME  
 ★★ TRIP FOR TWO! ★★

Prize must be made by Thursday by NOON

FIRST AND SECOND PLACE PRIZES AWARDED WEEKLY!  
 SCORE AWESOME AUTOGRAPHED COLLEGE COLLECTIBLES!

LOGO ONTO: [news Herald.collegeexpertsclub.com](http://news Herald.collegeexpertsclub.com)

AND PLAY TODAY!

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. Open only to legal residents of 50 United States and District of Columbia age 18 and older at time of entry. See Official Rules for registration and eligibility requirements. ARV of grand prize is \$6000. Chance of winning a prize depends on the number of eligible entries received. All portions of this contest are subject to the official rules located at [news Herald.collegeexpertsclub.com](http://news Herald.collegeexpertsclub.com)

## The 2nd Annual Women's Work-Life Symposium

Featuring Dr. Tererai Trent, Oprah Winfrey's Favorite Guest of All Time!



**Friday, September 23**  
**8 am to 5 pm**  
**FSU PC Holley Center**

Call the Beach Chamber to Register:  
**(850) 235-1159**

FDIC insurance on deposits up to \$50 million. We can do that.

THE CDARS® CD

When you're depositing major sums of money in a CD, you'll need FDIC insurance beyond the standard amount. Our CDARS CD provides you with the security of FDIC insurance on deposits up to \$50 million.<sup>1</sup> Plus, with terms ranging from 3 months to 3 years, you can choose the CD term that best fits your needs. \$10,000 minimum to open.

The CDARS CD, a smart and secure solution for major deposits.

Aaron Farnsley, AIF®, CFP®, MBA  
 Farnsley & Johnston  
 505 Reid Avenue  
 Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
 850.227.3336  
[aaron.farnsley@farnsley.com](mailto:aaron.farnsley@farnsley.com)

1. Limits apply. Funds may be submitted for placement only after a depositor enters into a CDARS Deposit Placement Agreement with us. The agreement contains important information and conditions regarding the placement of funds by us. CDs are placed each week on Thursday or the next business day thereafter. Early withdrawal penalties apply. A minimum deposit of \$10,000 is required to open the CD. CDARS and Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service are registered service marks of Promontory Interfinancial Network, LLC. Published rates and APYs are not applicable to CDs in excess of \$5 million; please call for a rate quote.

EverBank's relationship with your Investment Professional is through a joint marketing agreement for the sale of banking products only. Otherwise, there is no affiliation. EverBank is an Equal Housing Lender and Member FDIC. © 2010 EverBank. All rights reserved. 10EAP0093.5

