

Records: TDC overhaul a work in progress

By VALERIE GARMAN
229-7843 | @valeriegarman
vgarman@starfl.com

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners has taken one step forward and two steps back with the Gulf County Tourism Development Council.

In the past few months, the board has wiped the slate clean for the TDC in the hopes of cultivating an agency that follows procedures

and reports to the BOCC regularly. However, public records, including emails, MOUs, contracts and finance records reviewed by The Star, show the TDC still floundering with organizational issues and unpaid invoices and operating with no strategy or guidelines during a transitional period.

After the termination of executive director Tim Kerigan in mid-February, the TDC entered the area's peak tourism season

with no director, an event planner seen by TDC staff as unreliable and a halted marketing plan.

Although an interim director began work for the TDC in late February, the contract was terminated about one month later.

Interim director Gail Alsobrook was let go March 28, and the executive director position will remain vacant for an undetermined amount of time, according to County Administrator Don

Butler.

While in the midst of developing an application process for TDC sponsorships, outlining a six-month operational plan and helping to revamp internal policies and procedures, Alsobrook received a letter of termination citing the county's decision to move toward the next phase of administration.

However, Butler said the job search for a new TDC executive

director is open and will remain open until the county finds someone it is "comfortable with."

Butler said Alsobrook was let go because the county could not afford to pay her \$50 an hour part-time salary, although the director's position, when filled, will pay anywhere from \$45,000 to \$80,000 a year.

"She didn't get fired; she came

See TDC A3

MBARA DEPLOYS NEW ARTIFICIAL REEFS



Photo by VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

THAT SINKING FEELING

By VALERIE GARMAN
229-7843 | @valeriegarman
vgarman@starfl.com

If you sink it, they will come.

Last week, members of the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association set out to sea with the goal of luring more fish into the Gulf waters off Mexico Beach through the deployment of 18 new artificial reefs.

Members watched from their boats as the massive barge "Marantha" hauled 75 prefabricated reef module structures out to sea and plopped them over the edge of the ship one by one.

The groups of basic concrete structures sitting at the Gulf's floor will soon transform into moving ecosystems of colorful marine life.

MBARA member and avid diver Carol Cox knows once one fish moves in, the others follow.

Cox observed a crab burrowing under an artificial reef module last week within minutes of its deployment.

Within days, brown scud begin to converge, Cox said, and within a month, the reef will develop



CAROL COX | Special to The Star

MBARA President Bob Cox and FWC representatives John Dodrill and Bill Horn oversee reef deployments in the Gulf of Mexico last week. **At top**, the barge "Marantha" deploys a Florida limestone reef off Bell Shoals in the Gulf of Mexico on April 4.

growth and a house a variety of fish.

Within four months, the reef will attract a huge variety of marine life including gag grouper, cobia and snapper.

"It only takes a few months," Cox said. "That reef will probably be drawing cobia in no time at all

— it's a very live area — normally within a day the cigar minnows somehow find it."

Cox said it only takes five years for an artificial reef to develop fully.

MBARA President Bob Cox

See SINKING A6

Kenny Peak announces for BOCC District 1

Special to The Star

Kenny Peak announced this week that he is a candidate for the Board of County Commissioners in District 1. Peak will run as a Republican.

"I am a lifelong resident of Gulf County," Peak said. "I am a taxpayer and property owner and a business owner."

As the owner/operator of Carpet Country for 27 years, Peak said he has experience "handling business and money, and I have learned to work with people."

He said he also believes being a taxpaying property owner should be a qualification for



KENNY PEAK

See PEAK A2

Bidwell running for school superintendent

Special to The Star

Jay Bidwell this week announced his candidacy for Gulf County superintendent of schools. Bidwell, a lifelong resident of Gulf County, is the son of retired Gulf County educators David and Betty Bidwell of Wewahitchka. His wife, April, is a fifth-grade teacher at Wewahitchka Elementary School. April and Jay have three sons, Andrew, who graduated from Wewahitchka High in 2011, and who now attends Gulf Coast State College, Jakob and Jonah, who attend county schools.



JAY BIDWELL

See BIDWELL A7

McCroan eyes seat on PSJ Commission

Special to The Star

Phil McCroan announced this week his candidacy for the office of Port St. Joe City Commissioner Group Three.

McCroan was born and raised in Port St. Joe, where he resides. He is a 1985 graduate of Port St. Joe High School. McCroan attended Gulf Coast Community College and Haney Vo-Tech. He has been married to the former Karen Barnes for the past 27 years. They have two sons, Justin McCroan and



PHIL McCROAN

See McCROAN A7

Neighbors help push Gulf Pines process forward

By TIM CROFT
227-7827 | @PSJ_Star
tcroft@starfl.com

Neighbors of the old, decaying Gulf Pines Hospital site are ponying up some dollars to fuel the city's charge to bring the property to market.

Residents of the neighborhood around the hospital

have agreed to pay for an appraisal of the property which is necessary as part of application to the Internal Revenue Service to waive its tax lien against the property.

The city has title of the property — but is still in position to walk away if the price to clear, clean, plat and sell the two-plus acre parcel ultimately proves too steep

— and is attempting to negotiate a waiver of at least a portion of the existing federal tax obligation.

However, for the IRS to consider such an application, the property must be appraised, city attorney Tom Gibson said. That appraisal, he added, would cost about \$3,000.

"I have a group of citizens

in the area around the hospital willing to pay for that appraisal," said Commissioner Rex Buzzett, who lives across the street from the hospital and has been working diligently to eliminate the eyesore and safety hazard.

"They are willing to do that on the condition that they are

See GULF PINES A2



Subscribe to The Star
800-345-8688
For your hometown paper delivered to your home!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Opinion	A4-A5	School News	B3
Letters to the Editor	A5	Faith	B5
Outdoors	A8	Obituaries	B5
Sports	A9	Classifieds	B7-B8

Real Estate Ad deadline is Thursday 11 a.m. ET
Legal ad deadline is Friday 11 a.m. ET
Display ad deadline is Friday 11 a.m. ET 227-1278
Classified deadline is Monday 5 p.m. ET 747-5020

GULF PINES from page A1

paid back, at no interest, when the first lot is sold.”

The hope is that by negotiating a reduce obligation to the IRS, possibly eliminating the debt altogether, the numbers will align more closely between the cost of bringing the property to market and eventual sale of the property.

“I think it is a good move,” Kennedy said of moving ahead the appraisal without public funds being expended. “It’s a move to proceed.”

Commissioners have been looking at a gap of \$100,000-\$200,000, but eliminating the IRS lien of \$75,000 and seeking competitive bids on specific pieces of the demolition and rehab of the property could render the sale a break-even proposition, at the least.

Above all, commissioners are attempting to address a decrepit property that had issues, exterior and interior, before the state shut the hospital down more than seven years ago. The property, other than efforts such as the city recently tearing down the sign, has gone mostly unattended for several years.

“We need to get moving on that,” Mayor Mel Magidson said. “We’ve been dealing with this for a long time.”

CDBG funding for water line replacement

Commissioners held the first of two mandated public hearings regarding an application for a \$650,000 Community Development Block Grant to replace aging water pipes on the north end of Port St. Joe.

The city is seeking the funds as part of its initial phase of replacing some 20 miles of aging pipe in the water distribution system.

The north end of town was identified as the only area of town to which a CDBG would apply and the funding would supplement a loan/grant package from the State Revolving Fund for the first phase.

Bruce Ballister with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, which coordinates the grant application, said he was 70 percent to completion of the required survey of residents in the designated area and the city would know later in the summer the prospects for winning the grant.

The grant would help replace pipes along Avenues A, B, C, D and part of Avenue A, between Peters and Battle Streets.

“This is a good project,” Ballister said. “This would change the water quality for the residents in that area.”

Golf cart right-of-way

The goal of creating crossings for golf carts across U.S. Highway 98 and State Highway 71 has hit a snag delivered by the Florida Department of Transportation.

After FDOT staff visited the city concerning the proposal — which aims to provide access to downtown for those driving street legal golf carts — late last year and provided recommendations for crossing spots, the FDOT has informed the city it must undertake a traffic study to justify any crossing.

Such a study would cost nearly \$5,000, Anderson told commissioners and the city would have to undertake such a study for each crossing. In addition, Anderson said, no other similar crossing of a highway has been allowed in Florida.

The only one currently under consideration is one at Pier Park in Panama City Beach, which would cross U.S. Highway 98.

Commissioners, citing a lack of funds to pay for even one study, decided to table the issue until a resolution of the Pier Park application and consider options left in the aftermath.

Lamar Faison Fields

Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton has notified commissioners that the school

district would be interested in exploring a lease or other arrangement for Lamar Faison Fields, which Port St. Joe High School uses as its soccer complex.

Issues concerning the deed under which the St. Joe Company donated the land to the city would have to be addressed and commissioners said any deal would be contingent on maintaining public access to the complex.

However, commissioners and Norton believe the district better able to handle maintenance of the fields, which are adjacent to Shark Stadium, and commissioners hope to realize a cost-savings by transferring the responsibility to the district.

“We will move forward and try to come up with an agreement,” Anderson said.

City clerk position

Commissioners unanimously approved hiring interim city clerk Charlotte Pierce to the permanent position. Pierce was the recommendation — from among more than 40 applicants — of the Gulf Coast Workforce Board, which reviewed the applications.

The city clerk position opened when former clerk Jim Anderson was hired as the new city manager following the retirement earlier this year of Charlie Weston.

NEW GARBAGE PICKUP SCHEDULE

Waste Pro, the city’s waste carrier, has changed its pickup schedule effective this week. Trucks will be in the area on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with most city residents seeing new pickup days.

Mondays – Residents in WindMark Beach and from the Highland View Bridge to Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd. (State Road 71), including all of North Port St. Joe, downtown Port St. Joe from Williams to Woodward Avenues, will have their residential garbage picked up. Be sure to have containers by the road prior to Monday morning. This will also include all commercial customers, except those having just one pickup per week. Those customers will be picked up on Wednesday.

Wednesdays – Residents between State Road 71 (Cecil G. Costin) and the Gulf/Franklin Center, including Westcott, Hunter and Bellamy Circles, all of Ward Ridge, Madison Street, Heritage Lane, Cabell Drive, Allen Memorial and Gautier from Monument to U.S. 98, the old Gulf Pines Hospital area, Elm, Mimosa and Constitution to Twentieth Street. Please be sure to have containers by road prior to Wednesday morning. All one-day commercial pickups will also be Wednesday morning.

Fridays – The bulk of the south end of the city will be picked up. This includes residents between U.S. 98 and Woodward Avenue from Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd. to Twenty-Second Street, including streets Six through Twenty-Second to Allen Memorial, Long Avenue to Allen Memorial, McClelland to Nineteenth Street, Palm Blvd., the alleys to Allen Memorial, Forest Park, Cypress Juniper to Twenty-Second, Monument Avenue, Yaupon Street and Sunset Circle. Be sure to have containers by the road before Friday morning.

PEAK from page A1

holding a job such as county commissioner since the BOCC sets tax policy.

Peak said his focus is on growth for the future of the county.

“We need new jobs. Our kids are moving off because we don’t have places for them to work. We have to also shop at home. We need to keep existing businesses in business. We have to do something for existing businesses while we are bringing new businesses to the county,” Peak said.

Peak said he also troubled by the spending of the BOCC, wondering how the dollars commissioners

brought in while the real estate market was bringing double-digit percentage increases to the tax base each year were spent.

“Services go down, but taxes go up,” Peak said. “What happened to all that money? How was it spent? This county is a jewel in the rough. We are not as far along as we should be.

“We went from boom to bust. What happened? Where did it go? We should be in a good position, but we are not.”

As a businessman, Peak said, he has had to make concessions to the rocky economy of the past

few years.

“I haven’t seen the same changes in spending habits in the county,” Peak said.

The county, Peak said, remains divided north and south and that divide does not nurture growth or prospects for existing businesses. Peak knows the divide, he said, living in District 1 while operating a business in another district.

“This is all Gulf County,” Peak said. “That is my priority. I’d like to close that gap. I want to promote all of Gulf County, north and south.”

Peak said he is a strong supporter of the fishermen of the county, from those who ply the rivers, lakes and streams in the county to those who fish offshore to make a living for the families.

Peak said he also supports term limits, believing two terms and eight years sufficient to get something done on the BOCC.

“After two terms and you haven’t done anything to make the county a better place, get out of the way and let someone else get in the saddle,” Peak said. “I believe in accountability. I consider myself a reputable busi-

nessman. There are certain ethics you go by. There ought to be accountability to what you do in elected office.”

Peak has been married 29 years to his wife, Cheryl. They have a son, Ken, and a daughter, Morgan. Ken is married to Melissa, and they have one daughter, McKenna.

“I want to be your County Commissioner from District 1,” Peak said. “I believe it is time for new leadership in this county. I think I offer proven leadership we haven’t seen.”

Peak can be reached at 227-7241.



Thanks all Partners, Sponsors, Contributors and Friends.
We sincerely appreciate your donations and support to
Faith Christian School Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction.

Ace Hardware, Port St. Joe	Appraisal Group of North Florida
Big Fish Construction	Boardwalk Realty of NW Florida, Inc
Burke & Co.	Bayside Florist and Gifts
Bow Wow Beach Shop	Centennial Bank
Charles Costin Attorney at Law	Coastal Realty Group
Creative Visions	Game on Hunting and Fishing Adventures
Gulf Coast Real Estate Group	High Cotton Affairs
MainStay Suites	Dr. Frank D. May
Mize Plumbing	Mel Magidson Attorney at Law
Port Inn	Portside Trading Co.
Preble Rish	Seahorse Water Safari
Sarmiento Family	Southern Vacation Rentals
98 Real Estate Group	Ace Hardware, Apalachicola
Bo Knows Pest Control	Coastal Fitness and Wellness Center
Dr. Campbell	Emerson Heating and Cooling
Farnsley and Johnson	Gulf County Chiropractic
Piggly Wiggly	St. Joe Jumpin’ Beanz
St. Joe Music Co.	The Artery
The Funky Mermaid	The Fuss Boutique
Wood’s Fisheries	Carpet Country
Aline’s Beauty Salon	Baywash
Beach Properties Real Estate	BJ Mulherin
Bluewater Outriggers	Boondocks Restaurant
Captain Anderson’s III	Dockside Café
Emerald Coast Dance Studio	Happy Ours
Jeff Wood, Advocare	Jim Norton, Superintendent Gulf County Schools
Joseph’s Cottage	Judi Rinehart
Persnickety	Phil Lanford
Sister’s Restaurant	St. Joe Marina
St. Joe Nursery	St. Joseph Country Club
Walter Green	WonderWorks
Kayla Dailey	Cheryl Johnson
Cindi Fernandez	Cooper’s Hair Salon
Debbie Burch	Dena Sapp, Boxwood
Fit as A Fittle	Stephanie Barfield
Gloria Thompson	Sunset Coastal Grill
Half Hitch Tackle	Joe Mama’s
Katherine Player	Kylie Skoda
Lena Hunt	Ramseys’
Sassy Nails	Smiley’s Auto Detailing
Steamers Hot Dogs	Sue Ramsey
The Patricks	Triple Tails Seafood
Cut ‘n Up	Red Top Café
Chuck and Haley Smith	Designs by Doran
Robert Whittle	Hayden Newman
Bob and Jana Rinehart	Long Avenue Baptist Church
First United Methodist Church	PSJ Junior Service League
Oak Grove Community Church	Subway
Hungry Howies	Mc Donalds
Faith Bible Church	

Faith Christian School is a direct ministry of Faith Bible Church. FCS serves Preschool through 8th Grade, as well as providing an Umbrella for home-schoolers.



It’s a great day to be a Republican!

The Republican Primary season is in full swing with the national, state and local races taking shape. It is important that all Republicans register to vote, follow the development of each race, and vote in the August primary to put our best candidate forward.

U.S. SENATE Former Senator George LeMieux
Representative Connie Mack IV

U.S. HOUSE Congressman Steve Southerland is currently unopposed in the Republican Primary. We will prepare to support him in the general election.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE – Gulf County is now part of a “newly redistricted” District 7 with no incumbent. Several Republicans have announced or intend to run - more to follow on this Office.

STATE ATTORNEY Glenn Hess*
Jim Appleman

GULF COUNTY COMMISSION – Races are setting up as follows:

District 1	Kenny Peak Dirk Sylvester
District 3	Commissioner Bill Williams* (not filed) Joanna Bryan
District 5	Commissioner Warren Yeager* Barbara Radcliff

Presently, no other County race requires a primary selection process but we will keep you updated as the races develop.

*Incumbent

We must gain majority control of the U.S. Senate and we must retain majority control of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Florida House of Representatives.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 16th at 7:00 p.m. (eastern) at the Capital City Bank Building in Port St. Joe.

See You There!
Your Republican Membership Communication Committee

Membership Communication Committee
Joanna Bryan, Chairman
JOANNA812000@yahoo.com
Watch for our new website coming soon at
www.gulfgop.com

TDC from page A1

in and did her job," Butler said. "She was a credible person that could do the work."

Alsobrook signed an independent contractor's agreement on March 1, taking over the general and administrative tasks of the TDC. The scope of work also included reviewing the TDC's financial status based on a recent audit report, and sorting through paid and unpaid invoices, budgets, contracts and accounts.

The contract was not signed by BOCC Chairman Bill Williams until March 20, eight days before Alsobrook's termination, public records show.

Alsobrook was introduced as interim director at the BOCC's regular meeting Feb. 28, and Williams noted she would help bring

public trust and direction to the recently-appointed TDC board.

"This is a very stressed period of time for the TDC and the county," Williams said at a Feb. 28 meeting. "It's very important we brought someone in."

Alsobrook also inherited oversight of TDC events, working with independent contractor Amber Davis of Statecraft LLC, the live-in girlfriend of Williams, on events such as "St. Paddy's Day by the Bay" to which Alsobrook began immediately questioning the logistics.

Email correspondence between Davis, Alsobrook and Butler regarding the St. Paddy's Day event show Davis scrambling to secure additional funding and organize important features days before the event was scheduled.

While the BOCC approved a \$2,500 contract to hire the band FL-GA Line on Feb. 14 to perform at the St. Paddy's Day event, Davis failed to disclose the additional \$5,700 expense required for stage and lighting.

Davis's request for the additional \$5,700 was denied on March 9 after a meeting with Butler, Alsobrook, County Attorney Jeremy Novak and Commissioner and TDC board member Warren Yeager.

Also denied was an additional \$4,999 to hire a professional sand sculptor at the Sandcastles on St. Joseph

event, which was eventually cancelled.

Davis later submitted a \$2,100 contract from a different sound, stage and lighting vendor, which was reviewed by Novak and approved by Butler.

A letter from Davis to Butler on March 13, four days before the event, directed Butler to move an additional \$1,507 from BP funds into the event budget.

"As required by the contract with FL-GA Line authorized by the BOCC on 2.8.12, sound lighting and stage equipment must be provided," Davis wrote. "As adjustments have been

made in order to make this event as successful as possible, it will be necessary for the TDC to move BP funds from the 'marketing' line item and into the 'events' line item."

Davis also included a form for Butler to sign authorizing Kellee Novak, assistant TDC director and wife of the county attorney, to transfer funds.

The \$1,507 budget increase was approved.

Davis also scrambled days before the event for approval to purchase more than \$1,200 in Visa gift cards to award as cash prizes for the "Best Butt on the Bay"

cook-off held at the Haughty Heron.

Davis refused to use more than \$1,300 in local merchandise gift cards left over from Statecraft's September scallop drop event and insisted on cash prizes because it had already been advertised.

The goal for participation in the cook-off was 25, but only two local teams competed, and it is unclear how many gift cards were awarded. Davis promised to turn in signed affidavits from those receiving prizes to the office of the Clerk of

See TDC A10

THE SPECIALTY MEDICAL CENTER
Commitment to Excellence

PATIENT'S CHOICE AWARD 2011

On behalf of my staff and I, we would like to thank all our loyal patients for the honor of being selected for the multiple awards that we have received over the last 12 months; including voted most compassionate Dr. and Patients' Choice Award. It is a great honor and we will continue to strive for the very best medical care for our patients.

VINCENT IVERS, M.D.
301 Twentieth Street
Port St. Joe, FL 32456
850-227-7070
www.iversmd.com

PATIENTS' CHOICE
RATED & AWARDED BY PATIENTS

KEITH L. JONES, CPA
AUDIT, ACCOUNTING, TAX & CONSULTING SERVICES

CPA
America Counts on CPAs

Helping Clients Keep More Of What They Earn

- All Tax Services
- Financial Statements
- Outsourced Accounting
 - QuickBooks
- IRS Problem Resolution
 - Payroll Set-Up
- Business Formation
- Management Consulting
 - Business Plans
- Retirement Planning

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 CPA'S

THE BUTLER AGENCY
Locally owned and operated
Home • Business • Auto • Health • Workers Comp

a division of **COASTAL INSURANCE**

850.670.1200
43 ISLAND DRIVE • EASTPOINT, FLORIDA
dbutler@coastalcoverage.com

Denise Butler
Agent

Florida Panhandle

LIGHTHOUSE Challenge!

APRIL 21-22 2012

Climb Five Historic Lighthouses In Two Days!

**CAPE ST. GEORGE . CROOKED RIVER
ST. MARKS . CAPE SAN BLAS . PENSACOLA**

CALL 850-927-7745 FOR INFO OR VISIT ONLINE
PANHANDLELIGHTHOUSECHALLENGE.COM

Franklin COUNTY FLORIDA
Gulf COUNTY
VISIT PENSACOLA
Member FDIC

Funded in part by the Franklin County TDC (anaturalescape.com), Gulf County TDC (visitgulfcounty.com), the Pensacola Bay Area CVB (visitPensacola.com) and the Florida Lighthouse Association (floridalighthouses.org)

Vision Bank

Vision Bank is now Centennial Bank.

BANKING THAT COMES TO YOU

More than just financially strong, Centennial Bank offers the same friendly, community-focused service you've come to trust in the Panhandle. Now there's just more of it. With free instant-issue debit cards, free ATMs nationwide, and over 35 convenient locations. We think you'll find it's banking that comes to you.

CENTENNIAL BANK

Member FDIC
MY100BANK.COM
A Home BancShares Company (NASDAQ: HOMB)

Double rainbows and tractors

While waiting in line to pay for a bunch of tennis balls for my daughter, a little boy being held by his mother seemed to be in need of a game of peek-a-boo. I've never been one to turn such opportunities down. The line was slow, so we played for a little while. My teenage son was getting a little embarrassed.

That made it even more fun.

The little boy had to have been about 2 years old. I had never seen these folks before. As a matter of fact, I was a long way from home. The little fellow had blonde corn silk hair, a toothy grin and a wonderful laugh.

After a while, his mother asked him, "Who are you playing with?"

Out of nowhere, the little boy answered his mother, "Ole Tractor Man." It caught me by surprise. They recognize me in the Piggly Wiggly in Port St. Joe, Fla., as "the Tractor Guy," but this was another state and a 2-year-old.

I told the little boy's mother, "I am the tractor man." I left the "ole" out. Then I asked her, "How did he know that?" The lady was confused, she said, "He likes tractors." To that, I said, "So do I."

I let it go. The little boy seemed happy, I was happy, the lady was confused. Now I can honestly say, "They know me in the Piggly Wiggly in Port St. Joe, Fla., and daycares in Alabama."

My travels in the next few days took me across farming fields in north Alabama in search of a good barbecue. I found it at the "Old Greenbrier Restaurant" in Madison, Ala. They know the difference between inside and outside meat; they know how to cook it and they treat you well.

The Old Greenbrier also has wonderful "white sauce."

The slaw at the Old Greenbrier Restaurant is "vinegary," the way I like it. The hushpuppies aren't that pretty, but they sure are good. After you're finished, you can get a self serve ice cream cone for a quarter. You can't beat that with a stick.

In making my way to the restaurant, my children and I ran into a thunderstorm, which produced one of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen — a "double

rainbow." We didn't go crazy like that fellow "Hungry Bear" did a couple of years ago when he saw one.

Hungry Bear's video of a double rainbow went "viral" on the internet and landed him on a late night talk show. He got a little excited (he went berserk); it seemed to be a life changing event for him.

My children and I just started screaming at each other and hanging out the windows of the car taking pictures. It was a great experience — seeing my teenage children excited.

As we continued to drive, we could see the end of the rainbow in a field we were headed toward. There wasn't a pot of gold there — but there was a tractor. That was cool and I have to say it — it cranked my tractor.

A couple of days earlier, I was recognized by a two year-old waiting in line at the sporting goods store to pay for tennis balls and now I had found a tractor at the end of the rainbow. To top it off, I got to eat great barbecue in a cinderblock building with straight back wooden chairs. This was the good stuff.

What does it all mean? I found a place on the internet that said, "Double Rainbows are considered symbolic of transformations in your life. The material world is represented by the first rainbow while the second rainbow is the spiritual world."

No, I'm not into that. I understand that a double rainbow is created when the ray of sunlight bounces twice off the back interior surface of raindrops/moisture before re-emerging into the air and the second reflection inverts the order of the colors.

I can live with that explanation.

All I know is that a double rainbow is pretty cool, there's a tractor at the end of my rainbow and that they serve good barbecue at the Old Greenbrier Restaurant.

Oh, I also know that little boys like tractors and the women at the Piggly Wiggly in Port St. Joe know who I am.

Life is as simple as you let it be.

You can find more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
BN Heard

Keyboard KLATTERINGS

Lack of conflict resolution

That the Gulf County Tourist Development Council remains mired in dysfunction should be of little surprise.

As highlighted by the front page story from Star Staff Writer Valerie Garman, the TDC remains a briar patch of conflicts, inconsistent decision-making and laissez faire spending of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

That the ousting of Tim Kerigan did not change the "culture" that county commissioners vehemently condemned in a series of meetings (public floggings) is no great shock, since the audit of TDC operations placed much of the problem in the Board of County Commissioners meeting room.

But bed tax collectors, and taxpayers in general, are ill-served by having this chaos in the midst of tourist season, and an argument can be made that current BOCC actions could have ramifications for the future.

The problematic issue, in the long-term, could be the double standard by which contractors are being treated, and paid, by the county.

And, it is important to make that distinction, because over the past two months the county administration, the BOCC in the lead, has taken charge of writing this yarn.

Given the nearly complete control the BOCC is now exercising, one wonders what role the TDC board and an advisory council established to help bridge the gap between directors — a gap widened when the interim director was recently terminated barely a month after being contracted — even plays.

The advisory council was certainly caught off guard by the interim director's abrupt termination since no members indicated they had any input on the decision.

Secondly, with the BOCC now micro-managing, at least in theory, every aspect of TDC operations, particularly spending, what's the point of the board, expanded or not?

But from this corner it would appear that the commissioners are setting up a pretty good lawsuit given the uneven yardsticks by

which they are measuring the performance of contractors.

Commissioners have spent the past few months combing through invoices from Kerigan Marketing and finding a host of reasons to deny billed services.

There might be reasonable rationale for some denials, but others seem head-scratchers.

Kerigan Marketing has had invoices rejected because they did not balance to the penny and the hoops the company has had to leap through in documenting services are ones not required of another independent contractor, Statecraft, LLC, the lead event coordinator for the TDC.

Yes, Kerigan was working for most of a year with a contract that was not signed. There is also heartburn over who and how approval was offered for some of these services.

Legitimate points, if they were applied to all contractors.

But as the front page story highlights, Statecraft does not have a sterling record in those areas.

Serious deficiencies spotlighted in the audit — a lack of adhering to county policies and procedures and expenditures rife with personal conflict, have hardly disappeared just because Tim Kerigan walked the plank as scapegoat for the failures of he and others, including those up the food chain.

With Statecraft, in contrast to Kerigan Marketing, there also appear to be no contracts, only Memorandums of Understanding.

At least Kerigan Marketing can point to an actual contract. Where the blame lies for that contract not being signed and sealed seems beside the point now in light of the circumstances surrounding the TDC interim director's contract.

That contract was entered into, according to BOCC minutes, in late February. However, the chairman of the BOCC did not sign the contract for nearly a month and did so only days before her job was terminated.

There are a host of theories that might fit what occurred given the conflicted relationships involved, but at the bottom line, the county has treated Kerigan Marketing far

differently than it has Statecraft.

And by denying payment for services rendered — and the interim director, during her brief tenure, assembled proper documentation on a host of services and forwarded them to the county where those invoices sit dormant — while hinging payment on a double standard of documentation seems actionable.

The BOCC, if and when that litigation comes, will be defended at taxpayer expense.

The county should follow the recommendation of the interim director and pay invoices that can be properly documented and seek a settlement on disputed charges.

Otherwise they are messing with a local business, and jobs, without legitimate reason, begging to be sued.

A broader issue for bed tax collectors is what to make of the chaos that has enveloped the TDC for much of a year. This is an organization established under Florida law and funded by bed tax collectors with a stake in tourism.

This is their TDC, tourists fund it. But commissioners have used the actions of a select few to paint the entire process with same brush and to assume the reins, during tourist season, instead of setting policy and ensuring TDC adherence, as the audit cried out for.

This entire episode is little more than the 2010 BP disaster spillage.

Then, commissioners went to work or secured work for relatives with BP at outrageous salaries after threatening, and then retreating, a lawsuit against the oil giant.

While some lost their livelihood or had claims ignored, commissioners recouped tens of thousands of dollars for travel and other commission expenses while collecting hefty paychecks working full-time for BP.

Now, with conflicted personal relationships at the nexus for irrationality surrounding the TDC, with thousands of dollars in the mix, commissioners seem just as tone deaf to perceptions.

What the oil spill revealed two years ago remains, unfortunately, a painful reality two years later — the line between public and personal service is too easily blurred.



TIM CROFT
Star news editor

Miss Velna Gray would roll over

The fun part about this story writing business is you don't always have to know what you are doing

or be an authority on every subject (or any subject for that matter), be original with each premise, or even have a story for goodness sakes! Sometimes you can just "take off" and see where you land. Today's effort is just such the case.

I thought the Supreme Court was the highest court in the land. I have believed since junior high that they were equal with the other two branches of our central government. Miss Velna Gray Paschall taught very carefully that they were appointed for life so there would be no political pull on them whatsoever. They did not have to fear for their jobs. They did not have to look over their shoulders or answer to anybody in congress, the Continental Army, any delegation from France, China or the United Arab Emirates. They most especially, according to Miss Velna Gray, didn't have to cater to any United States President, living or dead — even the one that appointed them. They were set apart as an independent entity so they could be ... well, independent!

They were assumed to be smart. And well versed in the law. They were set up to be a check and balance on the other branches of government to see that those guys acted in the best interest of our country and that nobody overstepped the constitutional boundaries carefully laid out by our

founding fathers. You talk about an important job!

I don't think you had to be good looking to hold this

office. Or belong to any country club or the PTA. Making headlines shouldn't be their main focus or getting themselves interviewed by "Sixty Minutes." We don't need to know their wants, needs

or favorite NFL team. It doesn't matter what state they hail from, the color of their skin, man or woman or whether they were raised Catholic, Presbyterian, Southern Baptist or foot stomping Good Will Holy Rollers. They can be short or tall, thick or thin. Here's what we're looking for. They need to be dead level honest. And they need to be exactly as independent as the biggest, meanest and most ferocious lion in the pride.

You would like the senior senator from your home state to be on the up and up. It would be nice if everyone we elected had our best interest at heart. An honest police chief would certainly be a benefit to any community; so would the local newspaper editor. And wouldn't it be nice if your golf partner counted every stroke. But if we had to pick one place where we absolutely, positively had to have our most honest people, the U.S. Supreme Court ought to be at the head of the list.

The problem I'm having is the recent review by the Court over the correctness, legality, right or wrongness of the latest edition of the

Health Care Bill. And for the purpose of this story

I don't give a fiddling rip about the Health Bill itself. This is way bigger than that! Even before the Court finished hearing the oral arguments and way before they sat down with nobody else in the room to vote on what they had heard and how they were "leaning", the speculation was running rampant from CNN to David Letterman that the Republican appointed judges were going one way on the bill and the Democratic "placed" contingent was going the other way.

Folks, that ain't right. You can't tell me that they accidentally voted straight party lines. If it's true, that is about the most independent voting I've ever heard tell of. And I feel a little short changed in the justice business. I have believed all my life that they stopped being Democrats or Republicans when they put those robes on. I don't mind a liberal view or a conservative show of hands. But that austere body that we trust with our "final decision" should be above all of that. It is legal, or it is not legal! Is it fair or unfair! I can't believe those questions seem to always come down to a 5 to 4 vote. Something smells like that three day visitor Benjamin Franklin made famous.

You can say I am a naive idiot. Or that it is way more complicated than I'm making it out to be. But I ask you, is it naive or stupid to want, and expect, the system to work like it was intended? What is complicated about being

honest?

And I think that is all we want. Just be honest. Vote on the merits of each individual case, based solely on the MERITS of each individual case. You don't have to vote "with me" on every situation. Shucks, I don't know enough about jurisprudence, the Bill of Rights, unlawful search and seizure, the 14th Amendment or whether they can charge state sales tax on purchases made through eBay to render any verdicts. That's why we are depending on them.

Don Denkinger, the first base umpire in the 1985 World Series, made possibly the worst call in the history of Major League Baseball. It unquestionably cost the St. Louis Cardinals the World Series. I was mad, upset, went half crazy, kicked my TV over, tore the paper off the walls, threw my chair out a window, but I did not then, or now, believe that he purposely made the wrong call. He didn't cheat. He didn't pull for one side or the other. He wasn't putting down the safe sign because he thought the commissioner of baseball would be pleased. It never crossed my mind that he was indeed, an American League umpire. He just missed that one close play. He got a blue jillion right in his career. That's a pretty good record I'd say.

I'm just thinking that a Supreme Court Justice ought to be at least on par with a major league umpire. Maybe our whole system would take on a new tone.

Respectfully,
Kes

THE STAR

USPS 518-880

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

Publisher: Rick Martin

Editor: Tim Croft

Circulation: 1-800-345-8688

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Star
P.O. Box 308
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.

Letters to the EDITOR

Look at the facts on CBRA; we want fair treatment

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to last week's opinion piece "Southerland talk does not match actions" by Jay Liles (Page A5, April 5 Star).

Mr. Liles was given a lot of newspaper space to attack Steve Southerland and took one small issue and totally distorted it. I see that Mr. Liles is a political science major, and I see this over and over with politicians where they spout out one side of an issue to support their agenda. Mr. Liles wants to portray this issue as using the government to help the wealthy and people asking for special treatment.

The issue is much bigger than that; it is more about fairness. I live on Cape San Blas, and I can tell you that most people that live and have property here are not wealthy. As for the argument that the people who live on Cape San Blas and Indian Pass want a special subsidy, that is false. The property owners at Cape San Blas and Indian Pass are not asking for a special subsidy, we only ask for fairness and to be treated like all other coastal areas across this country.

Let's look at the facts. When the Coastal Barrier Resources Act was passed in 1983, it was supposed to apply to barrier islands that were not already developed and was supposed to slow down or eliminate the development on those islands. However, there was already infrastructure in place, and subdivisions established in both areas, and it was a mistake to include these two areas in CRBA. St. George Island at the time was also supposed to be included

in this law, but somehow was removed. Does Mr. Liles now propose to add St. George Island and remove FEMA funds from that island? Is he willing to remove FEMA funds from helping Panama City Beach and Destin?

Mr. Liles, if this is about the wealthy, are you proposing to eliminate FEMA flood coverage for wealthy people who own property on the Atlantic Ocean, along the rivers of this country, on the Pacific Ocean? Again, we only want equal treatment, not special treatment.

There are a lot of federal subsidies that need to be eliminated, but let's apply it across the board and for everyone. Let's not let politicians pick and choose the winners. I would suggest that if Mr. Liles wants to be our congressman that he should develop a sense of fairness and look at both sides of the argument, and I certainly do not see this in his writings.

We finally have a congressman who listens to the people in his district, unlike our previous congressman who let Nancy Pelosi control him. We need more people like Steve Southerland and Col. Allen West in congress. We don't need to go backward now. As for me, I will continue to support Steve Southerland because I know that he is a man of principle and will do what is right for the people of our district. By the way, when I was growing up in the panhandle, my parents and grandparents were Democrats, and we used to have conservative Democrats. Can someone tell me what happened to the conservatives in the Democratic Party?

Preston Russ
Port St. Joe

Thanks for making fish fry a success

Dear Editor:

American Legion Post 116 would like to thank all of those who made our Good Friday Fish Fry a huge success.

Special thanks to our members and friends for volunteering their time in preparation, cooking, serving and clean up. We are grateful for our contributors and all those in the community who came out to support this event. Their donations have made it possible for the Legion to contribute a scholarship to the Port St. Joe NJROTC and other worthwhile causes. We look forward to making this an annual event.

American Legion Post 116

Making Gulf County a competitive community

Dear Editor:

Ben Franklin said, "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance."

A collection of comments and reports in "The Star" during the past few weeks brought Ben Franklin to mind:

The advocacy of "class warfare" in Gulf County by Jay Liles. The inappropriate support for the CBRA-designation on Cape San Blas that violates the U.S. Rule of Law. The disintegrating water treatment plant in Port St. Joe. The lack of a review and public discussion of the lease arrangement between the St. Joe Company and Eastern Shipbuilding for the facilities at Port St. Joe. The fishing rights controversy. The poor quality of GCSD (based on national standards) that is denying Gulf County graduates the option or opportunity to

participate in the U.S. workforce of the 21st century.

The problem is obvious. Gulf County is a rudderless ship. There is no strategic master plan for Gulf County. There is no effective political management process in Gulf County. In BOCC's defense, the BOCC is really a legislative body. Legislators represent their constituents. In a community as commercially diverse as Gulf County, that is a good plan. However, someone needs to represent the whole community. That is why the U.S. has a Congress (legislative) and a president (executive). The BOCC can adapt its own version of the U.S. political management model, while adopting a commercial ecosystem perspective for Gulf County.

An ecosystem, in economic terms, is the sum of the commercial activities in a community that create the residents' lifestyle, options and opportunities. Someone said that the economy of Florida depends on three things: tourism, the U.S. military and fishing. Gulf County is getting the short end of the stick. Gulf County needs to find its own shtick.

Communities that recognize Socrates' dictum "The wise man knows — what is good for his community is good for him" prosper. A community's economic prospects depend on the collaborative efforts among the community's special interests. Gulf County's special interests are now pursuing their own special interests without regard for how their interest affects the best interests of the community. The result: average annual household income in Florida — considerably below average in the U.S. That does

not have to be!

Gulf County is an almost perfect example of a community that could become commercially self-sustaining, while supporting the best residential lifestyle in Florida. Gulf County can do that by building a functioning commercial ecosystem.

One solution to Gulf County's lack of a functioning commercial ecosystem is for the BOCC to create a unifying "executive" position to balance the legislative perspectives of the BOCC. An effective "executive" could get the diverse interests in Gulf County to pull together to build a better tomorrow, rather than pulling their community apart as they are doing today.

The "executive" position could be part-time for someone with "big picture" perspectives, who is from the construction or manufacturing industries or an ex-military officer. A candidate from the corporate world should have attained an EVP or above position, had a discretionary budget and whose annual performance review was based on the comparative and competitive capabilities of his unit. A Gulf County executive should understand commercial ecosystems and be able guide the development of a Gulf County strategic master plan, while instigating appropriate MBO-based project management techniques into county operations.

Gulf County has the right stuff to build a prosperous, self-sustaining, commercial ecosystem. Gulf County can create a prosperous community that is greater than the sum of its special interests. The time to start is now while there is still time for Gulf County to catch up.

John Comer
Creating Jobs In Florida
Port St. Joe

Nature-based tourism can benefit environment

By TOM NORDLIE
Special to The Star

When nature lovers book vacations in the great outdoors, they want their dollars to help preserve the places they visit, and a University of Florida study suggests that often happens.

Research in Costa Rica, one of the world's top destinations for nature-based tourism, showed that successful tour businesses usually invested in environmental protection and maintenance, and tour businesses of all sizes circulated money throughout local economies.

The findings could help Florida's fledgling nature-based tourism industry increase its appeal to potential customers, said author Taylor Stein, an associate professor with UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

The study appears in the current issue of the journal Environmental Conservation.

"Letting customers know is the key," said Stein, of UF's School of Forest Resources and Conservation. "If you think part of your market will appreciate your efforts to preserve the environment, tell them what you're doing."

Though Florida is best known for tourist destinations that aren't off the beaten path — think theme parks, golf courses and beaches — Stein says the Sunshine State is becoming more conservation-oriented nonetheless.

"It used to be that you didn't see hotels bragging about the fact that they don't wash the bath towels every day of your stay," he said. "But now, it's rare not to see these signs in most hotels. If that makes customers happier, the hotels will do it."

Helping customers feel "greener" about their vacations was a key goal for larger businesses involved in the UF study, which surveyed tour operators and travel



THOMAS WRIGHT | UF/IFAS

Taylor Stein interviews a hiker on the Florida Trail.

agencies in six parts of Costa Rica.

The larger, more commercially successful operators indicated that they provided environmental education

to visitors, supported conservation initiatives, recycled waste and used environmentally friendly equipment.

Regardless of size, most of the businesses

reported employing local residents, purchasing supplies locally and using local lodging.

In Florida, nature-based tourism was the fastest-growing sector of the state's tourism industry in the 1990s, and may still be. Stein said there hasn't been much definitive research on the subject lately.

But most Florida counties hope to market their natural attractions, he said. And at least one is working to position itself as a top destination for nature-based tourism. That's Brevard County, located on the Atlantic coast and home to the Merritt Island National

Wildlife Refuge, Sebastian Inlet State Park and several other notable attractions.

"That's a pretty big deal for Florida," Stein said. "We're not used to saying 'come to our forests, come to our springs.'"

Stein authored the study with graduate student Lisa Seales. His latest project focuses on ways to market the Florida National Scenic Trail, which covers 1,400 miles from the westernmost part of the Panhandle to the southern tip of peninsular Florida.

Tom Nordlie is a writer for the University of Florida News Desk.

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

Send your letters to :

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
P.O. Box 308
Port St. Joe, FL 32457Fax: 850-227-7212
Email: 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.

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
AppointmentsCall Toll Free
888-681-5864For more info
www.seclung.com

FRIEDMAN FINANCIAL
ADVISORS, INC.

INVESTMENTS
RETIREMENT AND ESTATE PLANNING
TAX PREPARATION
FINANCIAL CONSULTING
ANNUITIES • INSURANCE

Mark W. Friedman, CPA/PFS
171 Highway 98 West, Suite A, Eastpoint, FL 32328
www.friedman-financial.com
850.670.1253 mark@friedman-financial.com

Registered Representative of INVEST Financial Corporation, member FINRA/SIPC. INVEST and its affiliated insurance agencies offer securities, advisory services, and certain insurance products and are not affiliated with Friedman Financial. INVEST does not offer tax or legal advice.

SINKING from page A1

said the organization chose four different reef designs to allow for greater reef diversity and complexity for greater habitat recruitment for their most recent deployment.

Those designs include the pyramid-shaped Florida limestone reef, the layered cake-like ecosystem reef, the rectangular grouper reef and the "grouper cube" designed by University of Florida researcher Bill Lindberg.

Lindberg's cube aims to replenish the Gulf's gag grouper population by providing young grouper with the protective shelter they need to grow to adulthood.

This is the first time the MBARA has deployed the Lindberg module, which is being tested extensively in other parts of the state as a way to provide habitat for intermediate-sized grouper as they transition from seagrass beds to deeper parts of the Gulf.

Bob and Carol Cox spent the majority of last week on the water, marking reef locations and supervising the deployments to make sure the right materials were sunk in the right places and inside the permitted locations.

They were joined on the wa-



VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

An artificial reef in remembrance of John and Darlene Cox is deployed on April 4.

ter by representatives from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Jon Dodrill and Bill Horn, who work with the

FWC's artificial reef program.

Two the deployed reefs are memorial reefs on Bell Shoals.

"More and more, we are

finding greater public interest in memorial reefs and burial at sea." (Bob) Cox said. "And the MBARA helps make this happen with our artificial reef program."

The John Thompson reef is a large memorial consisting of 20 prefabricated reef structures. The MBARA is testing a new artificial reef concept on the John Thompson memorial reef through the installation of three "ecosystem" structures on 15-foot pilings to provide greater reef stability during strong storms.

"We anticipate the pilings will make the structures less susceptible to being buried by shift sands," Cox said.

The second memorial reef is a smaller structure constructed in remembrance Cox's grandparents John and Darlene Cox.

Bob and Carol Cox saw the memorial project through from start to finish, driving to Orange Beach to mix their grandparents' ashes into the reef structure and decorating it with sea shells their grandparents collected.

"With our grandparents, we mixed their ashes into the concrete mold, decorated the reef with seashells our grandparents

collected, and put a plaque on it to commemorate their lives," (Carol) Cox said.

The scallop shells on the reef paid tribute to memories from summers spent scalloping in the bay.

"(Darlene) would stay on the boat and kind of keep an eye on everybody," Carol remembered. "She helped clean the scallops and she sure loved to eat them. It was one of her favorite dishes."

Carol dove the memorial reef on Sunday and there were already a few fish hanging around.

The other 16 reefs deployed last week were built in the Tower, Bridge Rubble and North permit sites, and were funded by a \$60,000 grant from FWC and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Sportfish Restoration Program. The MBARA also contributed \$20,380 to the project. Overall, the entire cost of the 18 reefs was about \$107,000.

MBARA is a non-profit organization chartered to raise funds to build and monitor artificial reefs, and deploys reefs once a year in the Gulf of Mexico. The MBARA was formed in 1997 and has since deployed more than 150 artificial reefs.



Moving in the right direction.

Whether you're buying your first home or just need room to grow, our customized approach to mortgage lending can get you moving. Call us today or apply online at www.ccbg.com.

- ▶ Conventional/FHA/VA*
- ▶ Lot Loans | Refinancing
- ▶ Adjustable & Fixed Rate
- ▶ USDA Rural Housing
- ▶ Affordable Housing*
- ▶ Construction/Perm. Financing



Scan this code with your smartphone to view current rates and calculate monthly payments. Requires mobile scanner app.



Capital City Bank
More than your bank. Your banker.



DENNIS NIELSEN
850.509.4836

MEMBER FDIC All products are subject to credit and property approval. Program terms and conditions subject to change without notice. Not all products are available in all markets or for all amounts. Other restrictions and limitations may apply. *Loans are not made or originated by the FHA, VA, HUD or any other governmental entity.

SMART LENSESSM

Can produce clear vision without glasses, at all distances

"Freedom from Eye Glasses, Now a reality for many."

FREE EYE EXAM

FOR NEW PATIENTS 59 AND OLDER
This certificate is good for a complete Medical Eye Exam with

Todd Robinson, M.D.
Board Certified Eye Physician and Surgeon.

The exam includes a prescription for eye glasses and tests for Glaucoma, Cataracts and other eye diseases.

FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT CALL:
850-763-6666

ELIGIBILITY: U.S. Citizens living in the Florida Panhandle, 59 years and older, not presently under our care. Coupon Expires: 4-30-12

CODE: PJ00



Todd Robinson, M.D.
Board Certified Eye Physician and Cataract Surgeon



Darren Payne, M.D.
Board Certified Eye Physician and Cataract Surgeon



Lee Mullis, M.D.
Board Certified Eye Physician and Cataract Surgeon

"WE WELCOME NEW PATIENTS, CALL TODAY FOR YOUR PRIORITY APPOINTMENT"

1600 Jenks Ave. • Panama City, FL
(850) 763-6666 • 1-800-227-5704
www.mulliseye.com

NO HIDDEN CHARGES: It is our policy that the patient and any other person responsible for payments has the right to refuse to pay, cancel payment or be reimbursed by payment or any other service, examination or treatment which is performed as a result of and within 72 hours of responding to the advertisement for the free, discounted fee or reduced fee service, examination or treatment.

Cut Your Mowing Time In Half.



FREEDOM Z
Made in the USA by SCAG

The speed and maneuverability of the Freedom Z can help you cut your mowing time in half when compared to ordinary yard tractors. Spend time doing the things you really want to do, not mowing the lawn. Not only will you save time, but your lawn will be the envy of the neighborhood!

Contact your local Scag dealer today!

ST. JOE RENT-ALL
706 E. 1st Street PSJ
(850)227-2112



www.FreedomZmower.com

APRIL 18-22 AT PIER PARK - PANAMA CITY BEACH - FLORIDA

SEABREEZE JAZZ FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY RESORTQUEST BY WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS

BRIAN COLBERTSON

MATT MARSHAK

MINDY ABAIR

DAVID PACK

VINCENT INGALA

MAYSA

BRIAN SIMPSON

RICK BRAUN

SHILTS

ERIC DARIUS

ALEXANDER ZONJIC

URBAN JAZZ COALITION

JEFF GOLUB

JEFF LORBER

PHIL PERRY

STREET CORNER RENAISSANCE

FOUR 80 EAST

R&R

FOURPLAY

DOWN TO THE BONE

CHRIS GEITH

PHIL PERRY

RENAISSANCE

FOUR 80 EAST

RICHARD ELLIOT

DAVE KOZ

JAZZ IN PINK

CINDY BRADLEY

ALTHEA RENE

KAREN BRIGGS

GAIL JHONSON

MARIEA ANTOINETTE

TROMBONE SHORTY

NICK COLIONNE

OUR SPONSORS



BIDWELL from page A1

After graduating from Wewahitchka High in 1984, Bidwell attended Gulf Coast Community College, where he earned an associate's degree. He then transferred to the University of West Florida in Pensacola, earning his bachelor's degree in 1989. Later, Jay returned to graduate school at West Florida, finishing his master's degree in educational leadership in 2007. In the summer of that same year, Bidwell passed the Florida Educational Leadership Exam earning state certification in Educational Leadership.

For the past 22 years, Bidwell has been a teacher at Wewahitchka High. During that time he has taught a number of subjects, including Spanish, English, mathematics, social studies and physical education. He also taught a variety of classes at the middle school level for several years. His peers voted Jay the Wewahitchka High Teacher of the Year in both the 2008 and 2010 school years.

In addition to teaching, Bidwell has been the cross-country and track coach at Wewahitchka High for many of the past 22 years. His teams have won numerous district titles and in 1995 his cross-country team won the Florida 2A State Championship. Bidwell has been named both the Florida 2A Cross-Country Coach of the Year and the All Big Bend Cross-Country Coach of the Year. This past school year, Jay added the coaching duties for the varsity boys' basketball team to his resume as well. Both Jay and April also are active in the Baptist Church's Upward Basketball program, serving as referees and coaches.

Operating a cost-effective system is a must during these tough economic times and Bidwell believes that his practical experience in the classroom and in the extra-curricular system will allow him to balance the school system budget without detrimental cuts

to those elements which are essential to providing an excellent education for the students of Gulf County.

"I have been on the front lines of our educational system for many years, in both the academic and athletic domains, and it is this hands-on experience that will provide me the ability to make the correct financial decisions for our students, for our taxpayers and for our entire educational system," Bidwell said.

Jay is convinced that his involvement in the classroom over the past 22 years also provides him with the type of educational expertise needed in the next superintendent.

"Over the years, I have continually worked on developing my teaching skills. I have observed many great teachers and I feel that I have a strong grasp of what our system needs in a teacher. My greatest asset will be my commitment to recruiting and retaining

great teachers for Gulf County's schools. Also, I have the knowledge to lead our teachers to reach their full potential as instructors," Bidwell said.

In addition, Bidwell says that improving teacher morale is a key for our schools. "A teacher with high morale is a more productive instructor and as administrators it is our responsibility to ensure that employees want to come to work every day to give the maximum effort for our children."

"The bottom line is that our school leadership must make decisions designed to improve our schools," Bidwell said. "April and I have two children in this educational system, so it is important to us, in a personal way, that our schools become the very best they can be. If elected, this is the standard to which I will hold myself, not only for my own children, but for all students in Gulf County."

McCROAN from page A1

Jesse McCroan; and one daughter, Haley McCroan.

He has been a licensed air conditioning contractor for almost 20 years and presently owns and operates Philco Air Conditioning and Refrigeration with his sons. McCroan is a member of First Baptist Church. He was a past officer in Dixie Youth Baseball and was a coach for more than 10 years.

McCroan's platform for Port St. Joe is to create jobs and to pursue affordable living for all residents.




GULF COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY MONTHLY MEETING

Capital City Bank
Upstairs Meeting Room
April 16, 2012
7:00 PM EDT

All interested Republicans are invited.

IN CONCERT



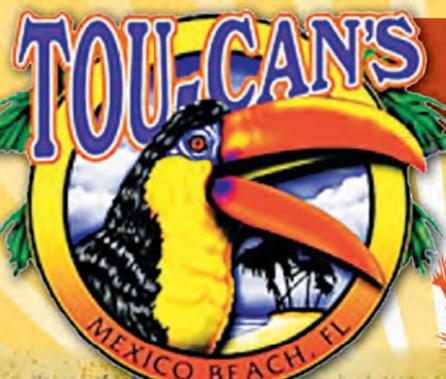
NAOMI THE SEGOS

DATE — Saturday, April 21, 2012

TIME — 7PM EST.

PLACE — Howard Creek Baptist Church

WWW.NAOMISEGOSINGS.COM



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 11AM-CLOSE
719 Hwy 98, Mexico Beach
(850) 648-8207




FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT 9 PM

TIKI BAR

HAPPY HOUR

FRI, SAT & SUN FROM 4 TO 7

WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY BRADY

THE ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8:00 A.M.

DJ & KARAOKE WEDNESDAY THRU SUNDAY!



"Dogs for Dogs"

April 13, 2012

Every Second Friday of the Month
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
At Port St. Joe Marina
340 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456
850-227-9393

We have so many wonderful faces and personalities to choose from. Adopting is easy and inexpensive. In return you will get years of companionship, love, and lots and lots of memories.

Be sure to come by the Port St. Joe Marina around lunchtime (11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) and enjoy a hot dog or chili dog (max. 2 hot dogs) lunch, (chips, and soda included for a \$5.00 cash donation. All proceeds will be given to the Humane Society.

A surprise rescue at the St. Vincent's Open House

By LOIS SWOBODA
653-1819 | @ApalachTimes
lswoboda@starfl.com

Numbers were down but there was added excitement at this year's open house on St. Vincent Island.

It was a lovely day for outdoor activity on Friday, March 30 when volunteers welcomed over 225 guests to the island.

Shelley Stiaes, director of St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge, said she believed the numbers were down a little from past years both because this year's celebration was held on Friday instead of Saturday and because rocky weather was predicted for the afternoon.

The storm held off until after the last visitor had left for the evening and brave souls who journeyed to St. Vincent were treated to a cool breeze that kept the insects at bay.

There was music by perpetual favorite Cletis Heaps of Port St. Joe perform-

ing with Gerald Smith and John Miick and food courtesy of the Supporters of St. Vincent.

As always, there were wagon tours of the refuge. One group had a minor adventure when their transportation was temporarily stalled.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office in Panama City sent biologists Adam Kaeser and Sandy Pursifull with a display on endangered species.

In a telephone interview, Pursifull said it was her first St. Vincent open house and she enjoyed it very much. Pursifull said she hopes to return next year.

Eric Lovestrang led bird walks and manned a booth for the Apalachicola National Estuarine Reserve.

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge and the Apalachicola Riverkeeper had educational booths as well.

An interesting footnote to this year's event was the rescue of a distressed sea turtle spotted by volunteers



PHOTOS BY LOIS SWOBODA | Florida Freedom
A turtle rescued during the St. Vincent Open House.

manning the mainland dock for the barge that ferried day-trippers to the island.

Lynda Smith spotted something in the water to the west of her post and recognized that it was a sea turtle listing strongly to one side.

St. Vincent staffers Stiaes and David Moody were able to drag the 70-pound turtle ashore where a pair of new residents to Port St. Joe,

Don Stoneburger and Kathy Strnad, who had come for the open house, volunteered to give it a ride to Gulf World in Panama City for medical care.

On Friday, April 6, Secret Holmes-Douglas, who works with animal rescue at the marine park, said the turtle is a sub-adult loggerhead of indeterminate sex.

Although rescuers feared the animal had suffered a



Mary Shaw of Mexico Beach and Ellen Harris of Howard Creek learn about whooping cranes from St. Marks volunteer Christine Barnes.

head injury, Holmes-Douglas said the damage was old and minor. She said park veterinarian Lynda Skaggs took x-rays and determined the turtle was suffering from pneumonia.

She said the turtle is now taking a course of antibiotics and is recovering and eating well.

"We have two others in the same condition," she said.



Landy and Nancy Luther roast a mean weenie!



Caring for orphaned birds

By CHRIS BEATTY
Special to The Star

April is the time of year that starts the beginning of baby season. Baby season will run from April to September.

If you find a young bird alone on the ground or otherwise away from its nest, you must first determine if it is in need of assistance. Many songbird fledglings leave the nest several days before they can fly easily, and the parent birds are still caring for them and watching for their safety.

A fledgling will have almost fully formed feathers though the wings and tail may be short. It will be able to fly or hop short distances.

Fledglings do not require any intervention unless you see the cat or dog watching or chasing it. Then pick it up and put it in a nearby bush or shrub out of harm's way. Please contain the dog or cat. They may need to be kept inside for several days. Since most birds have no significant sense of smell, moving a baby bird to safety or returning it to its nest will not cause its parents to abandon it.

A hatchling is much younger and needs assistance. Hatchlings may appear bald or only have tufts of feathers; they are much smaller and do not have as much energy as fledglings. If you find a baby bird with little or no feathers and you know where the nest is, then return the bird to its nest. If the nest has been destroyed, you can construct a makeshift nest

using a small berry basket (like the one strawberries come in) where water can go through. Line the container with material from the old nest if available, or dry grass or leaves. Wire your nest to a branch about six feet off the ground out of reach of children or predators. Wire it securely in a branch fork near the old nest if it's still there. If you use a different container, please make sure it drains well by putting little holes in the bottom of the container or rainwater will collect and drown the birds.

The best chance for survival for a baby animal is for it to be raised by its own parent(s). Parents can teach their young things we cannot.

If the baby bird appears sick or injured in any way it will need assistance of a rehabilitation center.

It is illegal to keep wild birds in captivity even if you plan to release them. Always seek the assistance of a knowledgeable rehabilitator.

Even well-intentioned people who try to raise baby birds can harm them, since young birds require specialized diets and the company of their own kind.

In addition, birds eat a lot and very often to maintain their high body temperature and fast metabolism. This is especially true of baby birds. Some may consume almost their own body weight daily. Some young birds double in size each week and must be fed at least every 20-30 minutes. This makes it imperative that orphaned birds are brought to a rehabilitation

facility immediately after being found.

Do not attempt to feed or water to the baby birds if you are not trained in the technique of feeding.

Best container to keep the bird in is a small cardboard box/shoe box with some tiny holes for air to get through.

Put the bird in a dark warm place. You can use a heating pad under it if you keep the setting on low. Keep the bird where it is quiet, stress-free, and away from children or pets.

Chris Beatty is the Director of the Florida Wild Mammal Association.

FWMA was established in 1994 to rescue, rehabilitate, and release the sick, injured and orphaned wildlife.

It is supported entirely by donations and grants and has been a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

FWMA offers educational demonstrations for local schools.

You can donate to FWMA at any time. FWMA always needs bleach, paper towels, fruit cocktail, birdseed, nuts, pelican fish (pinfish, finger mullet, thread herring, butterfish), fresh fruit and vegetables, Pedigree wet and dry dog food, Friskies wet and dry cat food, Dawn dish liquid and gift cards from local grocers to give FWMA flexibility in purchasing when needed items are not on hand.

They will also gladly accept cash donations. For more information, visit their website at www.wakulawildlife.org/.

Sturgeon examined for oil effects

By TOM McLAUGHLIN
315-4435 | @TomMnwfdn
tmclaughlin@nwfddailynews.com

MILTON — Gulf sturgeon have their own idea about where to spend a summer vacation.

And it seems quite a few of the splendid fish, notorious for launching themselves like prehistoric missiles from the water, have developed a hankering for a place called Cooper's Basin in the Blackwater River a few miles north of Milton.

Cooper's Basin is where U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists met Thursday with plans to interrupt the sturgeon party long enough to gather some much needed information.

Sturgeon fact sheet. »
View a slideshow of the wildlife officials in action. »

Assisted by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the federal team arrived with the goal of pulling 20 sturgeon from the water to check them for possible exposure to oil or dispersants introduced into the Gulf of Mexico as a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

"The oil and dispersant covered a lot of what is considered important habitat for sturgeon," said project leader Glenn Constant.

Sturgeon, which can be traced back 200 million years, are anadromous, meaning that they spend part of their lives in saltwater and another part in freshwater rivers.

Gulf sturgeon, considered a threatened species, are known to frequent nine coastal rivers.

Seven of those rivers run through Florida, including the Blackwater, Yellow, Choctawhatchee and Apalachicola in Northwest Florida.

Cooper's Basin in the Blackwater may hold the most cooperative sturgeon.

Biologists Adam Kaeser, Catherine Phillips and Frank Parauka had rounded up 11 of the 20 fish they wanted to look at well before noon Thursday.

"Not every river is like

this one," Kaeser said. "This area has a holding area and that area is special. It holds over 100 fish at any one time. This is a small area with a lot of fish."

Scientists are seeking to measure "physiological indicators of potential injury," to sturgeon, "including mortality estimates and behavioral changes of adult sturgeon," according to a news release outlining the project.

Data collection started on the Blackwater and other rivers before the oil spill. Scientists collected fish as they migrated in the fall from the rivers to the Gulf and saltwater bays, tagged them and gathered information about them.

That gave the scientists a baseline they are now working to flesh out.

The fish captured Thursday were tagged twice. They were photographed, had blood drawn for testing and had a small piece of fin snipped off for genetic sampling. They were measured, weighed and then released.

The biologists are particularly interested in finding fish that were tagged in the fall of 2010 and 2011, according to Karen Herrington with U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

Those fish are valuable because they could have spent time in water affected by the oil spill since the last time they were studied.

"We go after our numbers (the 20 total catch) and then we target specific fish," Herrington said.

Tagged fish in the water can be located by using

tracking devices.

On Thursday, Herrington and Elsa Haubold with the FWC were able to get a bead on sturgeons numbered 46436, 45725 and 30565.

Sturgeon No. 30565 was a beast when it was tagged in 2011. It was 6 feet long and weighed 37 kilograms, or 81 pounds.

The fish tagged and tested Thursday were no slouches, either. One topped out at 80 pounds and all but one measured the requisite 52 inches to qualify for analysis.

In addition to determining what impact the oil spill has had on the Gulf sturgeon — and perhaps what BP should pay to mitigate damage — the biologists hope other information will emerge.

One item for study might be what brings so many sturgeon into the Blackwater River and, in particular, to Cooper's Basin.

"People that live on the basin enjoy a show every summer," Kaeser said.

Sturgeon are not believed to spawn in the Blackwater, and they're certainly not there to eat.

Sturgeon do not eat at all during their summer trips into freshwater, said the FWC's Haubold.

She believes the fish may be attracted to the basin's deep water or perhaps simply as a place to rest after a stressful six months in salt water.

"Everybody needs a summer vacation," Haubold said.

FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Freshwater

April is proving to be a great month for freshwater fishing. Hot air temperature are warming up the water early this year, and the fish have taken notice. Lake Wimico has had great bass and shellcracker reports this past week, with most anglers using spinnerbaits and crankbaits. The catfish bite has slowed down, but is still worth the time, if the water is rising.

Inshore | Offshore

St. Joe Bay is back to normal as far as the fishing goes. Good flounder and trout reports have been coming in daily with most anglers using live shrimp and Ly's. Blacks Island and Eagle harbor seem to be the hot spots for inshore fishing. Large schools of redfish have been on the move at Town's beach and close to Presnells channel.



GARMIN ETRIX VENTURE HC
REG \$169.99
\$109.99
WOW!!
LIMITED STOCK, NO RAIN CHECKS PLEASE!!



"Your Hunting Headquarters"
Corner of Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL
(next to Piggly Wiggly) www.BWOfish.com

Vaulting for gold

By **TIM CROFT**
227-7827 | @PSJ_Star
tcroft@starfl.com

Port St. Joe High School senior Megan Walker has just one goal left to accomplish in her prep career — state gold.

The Mississippi State track and field signee in the pole vault begins her push toward a gold medal at the state Class 1A meet today as the district meet is held in Bay County.

Next weekend, the Region 1-1A meet will be held and the following weekend, again in Jacksonville, will be the state meet, at which Walker will surely be one of the favorites.

In her three previous trips to state, Walker has finished second, fourth and second.

“The gold medal is the goal, but what I’m just going to be trying to do at district and regional is (vault a personal best),” Walker said. “My heights right now are higher than they were last year at this time, so I feel good.”

Last year in the run-up to state Walker was jumping 11-feet-6. She would jump near 12-feet at state, but fell to a vault that skied to 12-6.

“This year I’ve been clearing 12 feet on a pretty consistent basis,” Walker said.

At the Capital City Classic in Tallahassee two weeks ago, Walker vaulted 12-1 to take first place. The only one of eight meets she has lost this season came this past weekend when she finished fourth in the Pepsi Invitational Relays in Jacksonville.

“It all depends each meet on how you are feeling, how much you are comfortable,” Walker said. “I just didn’t jump that well that day.”

She continues to progress with the weight of her pole. She moved to a heavier weight pole for this season but is already progressing, from a 130-pound to a 135-pound pole, this season.



Walker is jumping consistently higher than one year ago, in large part due to moving to a heavier pole.

“I am on the longer pole and I need to go even heavier now,” Walker said. “Right now I am not getting enough power.”

Think of it this way. The key to the vault is the pole bending and propelling the vaulter toward the bar. If the pole is insufficient to a skill set — Walker is fast and lithe — a heavier pole is needed to provide the lift, rather than a roll as she pivots in the vault box.

In short, it is all about compression, the willingness of the vaulter to be completely upside-down 11-12 feet in the air and the power of the pole to “shoot” the vaulter up.

“I’m trying to move to the heavier pole for district, region and state,” Walker said. “That is my goal.”

Walker said she has been aided in preparation this season by the presence of another vaulter on the Port St. Joe team, Nicole Endres.

While Endres may not have the height of Walker and therefore is not necessarily challenging or pushing Walker in practice, another set of eyes and ears is nice during the tedious routine of

ing out three and walking one.

Price also drove in two runs and Jaden Rouse had an RBI while Tori Lanter was 2 for 4 and Tara Walding 1 for 2 with a walk for Wewahitchka.

The Lady Gators host East Gadsden tonight and begin District 1-1A play on Monday against Graceville at tournament host Cottdendale.

Sarmiento in the 3,200. Bryce Chauncey was second in the 400 hurdles and Jason Haire was third in the 800 for Wewahitchka.

For the Lady Gators, Doni Lanier continued her fine season with a first in the 300 hurdles and first in the 100 hurdles.

Faith Owens won the discus, Vanna Pippen was second and Ashlyn Paul was fifth, and Owens finished fourth at 1,600 meters. Scout Flowers won the 400 and 200 meter dashes. Kailyn Vann was second, Megan Whittingham third and Paul fifth in the 1,600, and Alexa Allison was third in the 200 meters. Vann also took fourth in the 800 meters.

up game tonight. The Tiger Sharks are at county rival Wewahitchka on Friday.

Against Blountstown, Howze was dominant, scattering four hits while allowing two earned runs, striking out five and walking one.

Tyler Worley drove in two runs while going 1 for 4 and Trevor Lang was 2 for 4 to lead the Tiger Shark attack. Ricky Pennington was 2 for 3.



TIM CROFT | The Star

Megan Walker, who signed with Mississippi State in February, is seeking her first state gold medal in the pole vault as the track and field postseason begins this week.

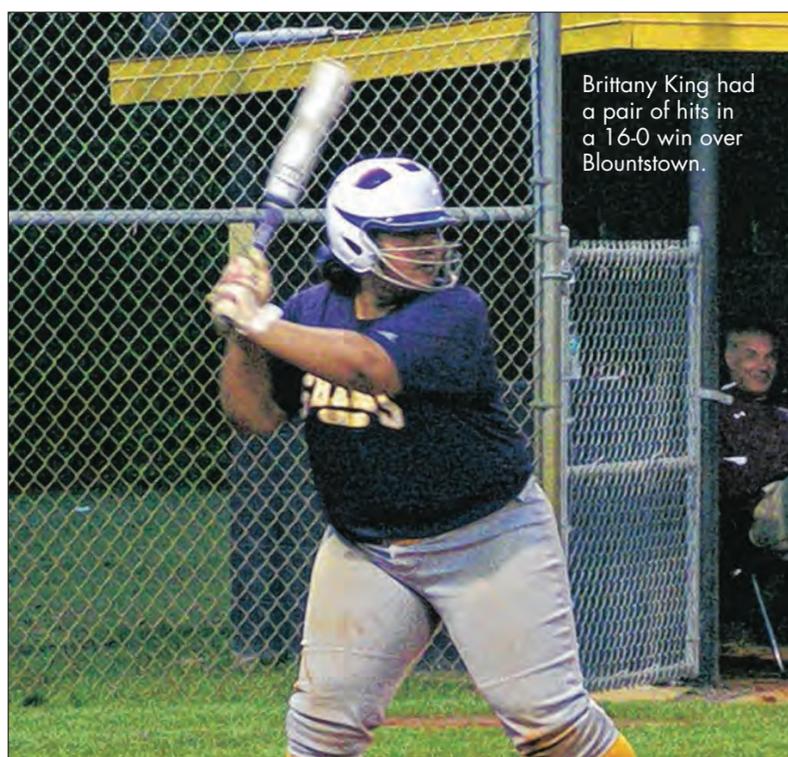
practice. “It’s fun to have people to talk to and not get bored,” Walker said. “It helps a lot.”

Walker is also looking beyond the state meet.

She said she talks by phone to her future coaches at Mississippi State on a weekly basis, running over her practice and meet routines, gleaned hints on what to work on, such as maintaining an upright spine and ensuring her chin remains out during the vault.

But for the next three weeks, the focus is on the elusive state gold medal — Walker has won two national AAU age-group titles during summer months during her middle- and high-school years, but never the state Class 1A meet.

“I just need to keep doing the things I’ve been doing and working on in practice,” Walker said. “If I do that, I’ll be alright.”



Brittany King had a pair of hits in a 16-0 win over Blountstown.

Lady Sharks, on roll, prep for district play

Star Staff Report
The Port St. Joe High School softball team won a pair of games last week, running its record to 17-5 with District 4-1A play ahead next week.

The Lady Sharks traveled to Blountstown early in the week and trounced the Lady Tigers 16-0 in their final district tilt.

MaKayla Ramsey, who would end the week with her 15th victory, started and pitched all five innings of the game ended on the run rule.

Ramsey faced 15 batters, allowing two hits and issuing no walks while striking out four.

Katie Lacour was 4 for 5 and Kelsey Miles was 3 for 4 with a triple to lead the Port St. Joe attack.

Katie Gardner, Chris-

tian Laine, and Brittany King had two hits apiece. Haley Wood, Ramsey, Stephanie Brinkmeier, Shannon Pridgeon, Callie Fleshren, Miranda Gref, and Lexie McGhee each had a hit as the Lady Sharks pounded out 20 hits in five innings.

Two nights later, Port St. Joe hosted Metcalf High from Edmondson, KY on Senior Night.

Gardner and Lacour, the lone seniors on the team and playing their final game, provided the offensive spark in the 2-1 Port St. Joe win.

Gardner hit her fourth home run of the year, a “bomb,” Coach Jim Belin said, to right-center field in the bottom of the fourth inning to put Port St. Joe up 1-0.

Metcalf tied the game at 1-1 in the fifth inning but Port St. Joe responded in the bottom of the sixth.

With one out Lacour singled and advanced to second on a passed ball. Wood laid down a bunt single to advance Lacour and Gardner, on a checked-swing, hit a fielder’s choice to first base, scoring Lacour.

Ramsey pitched seven innings, allowing four hits and an earned run while walking three and striking out seven.

Port St. Joe plays Rutherford and Bay High this week before beginning district tournament play in Blountstown on Tuesday.

Port St. Joe will play Bozeman in a semifinal on Tuesday. The championship game will be Friday night in Blountstown.

GATORS FALL TO PONCE DE LEON

Star Staff Report

The Lady Gators of Wewahitchka fell to 8-11 for the season after a 7-4 loss to Ponce de Leon last week.

Ashleigh Price started on the mound for Wewahitchka and pitched four innings, striking out three and walking one.

Jessica Smith came on in relief and finished up, tossing three innings and striking out three and walking one.

WHS TRACK TEAMS SWEEP BRISTOL

Star Staff Report

Both the boys and girls track teams from Wewahitchka High School took first place honors during a meet at Liberty County just before the Easter break.

For the boys, Elijah Sarmiento won the 1,600 and 3,200 meter runs and Weston Sarmiento took first in the 300 hurdles and second in the 110 meter hurdles. Also winning for the Gators was Shaquille Scott in the 400 meters and Jakob Bidwell was right behind in second.

Michael Bryan finished second to Elijah Sarmiento in the 1,600 meters, with Colby Gay fourth and Gay finished second behind

TIGER SHARKS DOMINATE

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe High School baseball team, behind the pitching of Austin Howze, downed Blountstown 8-3 in the team’s only action the past week.

The Tiger Sharks are 10-8 overall and 6-4 in District 4-1A play.

Port St. Joe hosted Liberty County on Tuesday on Senior Night and travel to Blountstown for a make-

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Apr 12	74°	54°	0 %
Fri, Apr 13	75°	62°	0 %
Sat, Apr 14	78°	65°	10 %
Sun, Apr 15	78°	66°	10 %
Mon, Apr 16	79°	69°	0 %
Tues, Apr 17	80°	68°	30 %
Wed, Apr 18	80°	64°	40 %

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

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
12	Th	246pm 1.7		1256am -0.3	
13	Fr	353pm 1.4		153am -0.2	
14	Sa	505pm 1.2		233am -0.1	
15	Su	634pm 1.0		254am 0.1	
16	Mo	1058am 0.8	830pm 0.8	251am 0.3	244pm 0.7
17	Tu	941am 0.9	1119pm 0.7	218am 0.6	425pm 0.4
18	We	920am 1.1		1240am 0.6	520pm 0.2
19	Th	922am 1.2		604pm 0.1	
20	Fr	935am 1.4		644pm 0.0	
21	Sa	956am 1.6		726pm -0.1	
22	Su	1024am 1.6		815pm -0.1	
23	Mo	1057am 1.7		911pm -0.1	
24	Tu	1135am 1.7		1013pm -0.1	
25	We	1216pm 1.7		1111pm -0.1	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
12	Th	1102am 1.0	722pm 1.3	316am -0.1	215pm 1.1
13	Fr	1201pm 1.0	841pm 1.2	431am 0.0	404pm 1.1
14	Sa	1242pm 1.1	1026pm 1.1	541am 0.1	545pm 0.9
15	Su	113pm 1.1		641am 0.3	659pm 0.7
16	Mo	1221am 1.0	138pm 1.1	732am 0.4	756pm 0.5
17	Tu	155am 1.0	200pm 1.2	816am 0.5	844pm 0.3
18	We	304am 1.1	218pm 1.2	852am 0.7	925pm 0.2
19	Th	400am 1.1	234pm 1.3	923am 0.8	1003pm 0.0
20	Fr	447am 1.1	252pm 1.3	950am 0.9	1037pm 0.0
21	Sa	530am 1.2	313pm 1.4	1014am 1.0	1109pm -0.1
22	Su	611am 1.2	338pm 1.4	1037am 1.1	1138pm -0.1
23	Mo	651am 1.2	407pm 1.4	1104am 1.1	
24	Tu	733am 1.2	442pm 1.4	1208am -0.1	1136am 1.1
25	We	818am 1.2	521pm 1.4	1240am -0.1	1215pm 1.1

Sponsor the WEEKLY ALMANAC
Call Today! 227-7847

SPRING REBATE SAVINGS EVENT

\$200 MAIL-IN REBATE*

Take your lawn mowing to the next level with a Snapper NXT®

Offer Valid 3/1/12 to 4/30/12

See dealer for details www.snapper.com

MATCHING DEALER REBATE
Total Rebate \$400
ST. JOE RENT-ALL
706 E. 1st Street - Port St. Joe
(850) 227-2112

Rebate is eligible only on new in-stock Snapper NXT® ride-on models (2690889, 2690890, 2690846, 2690847, 2690848, 2690943, 2690942, 2690848 and 2690944). Qualifying product must be purchased between 3/1/12 and 4/30/12. Total rebate is in the amount of \$200 and will be issued in the form of a check by mail. Please submit a completed mail-in rebate certificate, original or copy of purchase receipt dated between 3/1/12 and 4/30/12, to The Advertising Checking Bureau, Inc. (ACB). Mail-in rebate certificates are available at the selling dealer and www.snapper.com. Submissions must be postmarked by 5/30/12. Rebate checks will be mailed in 6-8 weeks of receipt by The Advertising Checking Bureau, Inc. (ACB). Offer valid only in U.S. and Canada. Briggs & Stratton and The Advertising Checking Bureau, Inc. (ACB) is not responsible for lost, late, incomplete, damaged, misdirected, illegible or postage-due request/mail. No facsimiles or mechanical reproductions are accepted. Void where prohibited, taxed or restricted.

TDC from page A3

Courts the Monday following the event, but no affidavits have been received.

By contract, the final event report was to be submitted by March 22, within five days of the event, but Davis had yet to turn in the final event reports to the TDC or county clerk's office when a public records request was submitted to the Clerk's office the first week of April.

An email from Davis on March 22 assured Alsobrook she would meet with her to review the reports on the St. Paddy's Day event on March 28, the same day Alsobrook was let go from her position as interim director.

Davis canceled the meeting that morning.

Although the TDC hired Davis as an event planner, many events approved by the TDC board have been scrapped due to similar poor planning, and Davis already has collected portions of the planning fees for the events.

According to checks obtained through the Clerk's office, Statecraft has been paid \$11,062.50 for event planning dating back to last September, and there is a balance of \$6,162.50 still owed on the account.

The total reaches \$17,225 for event planning from September 2011 through April 2012, outlined in seven broad MOUs for seven new events to be planned by Statecraft before April 30.

Thus far, only three of the events have occurred, with no sign of others to come before the end of the month.

The events outlined in the MOUs include the St. Paddy's Day by the Bay event, Cupid's Chase on St. Joe Beach (a Valentine's Day run that never occurred), last weekend's Cape San Blas 5K Rabbit Run, the Sandcastles on St. Joseph Bay contest (previously scheduled for March 31 and cancelled), a Springtime Worship on the Water event (no indica-

tion if this will happen), a tagged redfish and trout tournament (initially scheduled for this coming weekend but later cancelled), last September's golden scallop hunt and assistance with the PoJo Music Festival.

Three of the events outlined have yet to be organized although they were originally scheduled to be completed before the end of April, as spelled out in the MOUs.

Dates for the Sandcastles of St. Joseph event and Tagged Redfish and Trout tournament were advertised on the TDC event calendar, with links leading visitors to a dead-ended search for how to register for the advertised contests, which were never fully developed.

A March 22 email from welcome center office manager Crystal Follin to Alsobrook and Novak expressed frustration due to poor communication between Statecraft and the TDC.

Although the Welcome Center was advertised in flyers and web links as the contact for more information on Statecraft-planned events, Follin wrote that she received no updates from Davis despite several requests for event flyers and further information.

Follin, who is responsible for taking calls and greeting visitors at the Gulf County Welcome Center, indicated that she received a number of calls inquiring about registration and further information about the upcoming events, but could not tell the visitors any more than what they had already seen on the TDC website.

Follin's email stated she ultimately removed the web links from the TDC web site posted by Statecraft because they were giving false information and advertising events that never came to fruition.

The link for the "Tagged Redfish and Trout" tournament cited the welcome center and two area businesses as registration points, but when contacted, the busi-

Dates for the Sandcastles of St. Joseph event and Tagged Redfish and Trout tournament were advertised on the TDC event calendar, with links leading visitors to a dead-ended search for how to register for the advertised contests, which were never fully developed.

nesses had never even heard of the event.

"It is not the TDC's responsibility to handle registrations, that is why we hired an event planner," Follin wrote in the same email. "I contacted both Bluewater Outriggers and Half-hitch tackle to see if they had registration forms or any info there, and both replied they had no forms and have not been contacted. Half Hitch has not yet even heard of the event and while appreciating the thought, considered it 'quite the assumption' for it to be announced to register there without their permission."

Davis originally signed three MOUs in mid-August 2011, outlining \$24,300 in event planning between August 2011 and April 2012.

Like the MOUs currently in place, each payment to Davis was broken down into separate installments of less than \$5,000, under the threshold for verbal bids needed for services costing \$5,000 to \$10,000, and legal advertisements needed for services or positions paying more than \$10,000.

Tim Kerigan, TDC executive director at the time, signed the MOUs without any formal vote by the TDC board or approval from the BOCC.

The TDC board reexamined Davis's MOUs at its Oct. 6 board meeting after a Star article and accompanying editorial published Sept. 29 questioned the working relationship between Statecraft and the TDC. The board voted on a series of events proposed by

Statecraft, and Kerigan later entered into seven new MOUs with Davis on Oct. 16, one for each event to be planned, replacing all previous agreements.

The Sept. 29 story also raised questions about the process in which the TDC operates under, and the BOCC soon followed suit.

The disregard for county policy was an issue Williams called an "immediate emergency" back in October and demanded TDC executive director Tim Kerigan "put the house back in order."

Williams presented several invoices for extraneous expenditures supporting events such as the PoJo Live Music Festival and Ghosts on the Coast and called for a full financial audit of the TDC.

Upon completion of the audit, executive director Tim Kerigan was immediately suspended from his position, followed by his termination Feb. 14.

The audit revealed a lack of internal control on several levels, from the executive director to the TDC board to the BOCC and Clerk of Courts.

As a result of the audit, commissioners essentially started at square one, requiring all TDC board members to resign and reapply, ridding the organization of an executive director, interim executive director and marketing services provider in a matter of months.

In January, the BOCC froze the TDC's marketing agreement with Kerigan Marketing, an agency that had been operating with-

out a contract since 2010, and is owned by Tim Kerigan's brother, Jack Kerigan.

"You spent \$225,000 with your brother," Williams said to Tim Kerigan at the Jan. 10 BOCC meeting. "We cannot operate as if there's a contract. There is no contract. We have no legal recourse to pay this bill."

Williams cited the relationship as a conflict of interest, and requested the board go back to the bidding process to hire a marketing director. The BOCC offered no further back-up plan for marketing Gulf County.

Three bids were received from companies in Pensacola, Coral Gables and Miami. Kerigan Marketing did not enter a bid.

In Alsobrook's TDC executive exit report, she writes "Despite a committed effort by (myself) and the county administrator to resolve a breach of confidence between the TDC, BOCC, county administration and the previous marketing consultant, Kerigan Marketing declined to provide a bid for consideration. It would appear that the successful momentum generated with Kerigan Marketing's 'Visit Gulf County' campaign may suffer significantly without their continued participation."

Alsobrook worked with Butler in sifting through a backlog of outstanding TDC invoices, the majority from Kerigan Marketing, but once the pile was manageable she was no longer needed in the position, Butler said.

Nearly \$200,000 in Kerigan Marketing contracts were scrutinized, with \$40,000 in invoices flagged for lacking proper documentation.

Alsobrook's report cites Kerigan Marketing as the firm of record since the inception of the TDC, yet with no contract on record it was a working relationship that created culpability for both the county and marketing firm.



Robert "Butch" Nessly and Karen Baker of Port St. Joe, FL along with their children KT and RC Nessly, and Alex and Ryan Baker, would like to announce their engagement and upcoming marriage On April 20th 6:30 pm ET. Butch and Karen will exchange vows on St. Joe Beach across from Beacon Hill Park. Open to all friends & family. No local invitations will be sent.



Early Education

Each child is unique, however, each needs to master skills that will be needed in order to be able to learn in group situations such as classrooms. VPK provides the ideal opportunity to do this. A trained child care instructor will take each child at their present stage of development and prepare them for new experiences and instructions so that as they enter kindergarten they will be ready to learn and will be familiar with classroom settings and have the confidence needed to enjoy themselves as they start in their new school.

Children learn many skills and other important things at home but learning to function in a group is very different and difficult for most children. Some of the areas needing mastering are:

- Noise of usually 10 other children talking, playing and learning
- Sharing with classmates
- Waiting your turn
- Going to the bathroom and always washing your hands with soap-germs
- Taking proper care of books, toys, and play items
- Listening to someone read stories then answering questions
- Speaking in front of a group
- Buttoning, snapping, zipping, their own clothes and how to tie shoes

The familiarity and use of classrooms items and equipment:

- How to use chalk boards and erasers
- Manipulative items fun while developing motor skills
- Doing dramatic plays is usually the favorite activity as it develops their social skills
- Science items and facts. Hands on items
- Learn to do puzzles and identify shapes such as squares, triangles, rectangles and circles
- Construction projects with blocks, logs and legos
- How to use and enjoy the class library
- Art projects. How to use various mediums and the names of colors, paints etc.
- How to cut and paste pictures
- The fun of water play, and other projects

Children who have become accustomed to these areas of development will then be able to concentrate on gaining the cognitive skills and general knowledge they need to solve problems and learn the ABC's and the 123's and how to identify and write them. They will learn to print their names and read about 20 sight words. Parents will be pleasantly surprised when their child points to stop signs or works while shopping in stores.

When elementary school teachers were asked what is the most important thing they would have the Early Education instructors teach-- they all said "to follow instructions". This is an important ingredient in the program.

In the Early Education program at Kid's Corner Inc. in Wewahitchka, the children take home their completed work each day. The child's completed work shows the parents their improvement and development over time. At graduation, from the Early Education program, parents hear songs, poems and demonstration of their child's skills and development. The happy children are ready to continue in the next level of their education.

COASTAL Pool & SPA

COMMERCIAL * RESIDENTIAL
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MGR.

SPRING PROMOTION
NEW CUSTOMERS 1/2 OFF 2 MONTHS
GULF COUNTY AND MEXICO BEACH



(850) 247.8956

www.coastalpoolandspa.com



NEW HOURS
FOR WEEMS MEDICAL CENTER EAST

Monday to Friday 8am-6pm



Saturday 8am-4pm

Beginning April 2, 2012



Primary Care and Urgent Care

110 NE 5TH STREET

CARRABELLE, FL

850-697-2345

Students explore the shore

By VALERIE GARMAN
229-7843 | @valeriegarman-
vgarman@starfl.com

Port St. Joe High School's marine science classes have been doing the book learning long enough.

Last week, students had the opportunity to apply what they've learned in their own backyards.

"Knowledge only carries

so far — it's the application," said PSJHS science teacher Scott Lamberson, who guided his three marine science classes on walks along the shoreline to observe a wealth of marine life last week.

"They go to the beach a lot but they're not looking at in through educational eyes, they're looking at it through leisure eyes,"

Lamberson said. "It's a chance to get out here in it — we've already got the head knowledge."

Students applied their head knowledge as they observed marine ecosystems along Windmark Beach on April 2 during a low tide walk.

Highlights from the walk included a group of bat rays that swam alongside the

class in the shallows, and observation of marine egg cases and sponges along the shore, one student explained.

The class continued the day with a tour of Raffield Fisheries.

Lamberson has been bringing his classes to tour the plant for about 10 years.

See SHORE B4



VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

Scott Lamberson's marine science class at Port St. Joe High School conducted a "low tide walk" on Windmark Beach April 2 to observe the marine life near the shore.

Awe-inspiring aerial



COURTESY OF DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM

Local photographer Debbie Hooper won a People's Choice Award at an international aerial photography conference for this photo titled "Are you OK?"

Debbie Hooper soars at aerial photography conference

By TIM CROFT
227-7827 | @PSJ_Star
tcroft@starfl.com

Last year, Debbie Hooper's work earned her kudos from at least one judge at the Professional Aerial Photography Association (PAPA) international conference.

This year, the people weighed in.

Hooper's photo "Are you OK?" won a People's Choice award in the "Air to Air" category during the conference — a four-day cruise to Key West and Cozumel, Mexico — and Hooper also was named a PAPA Master Aerial Photographer.

The People's Choice award comes on the heels of the Judge's Choice plaque Hooper won during last year's conference, her first such award.

The awards are distinguished by the voters. At each conference, a panel of four judges ranks each photo in each category based on a host of criteria, such as impact, composition and technique, among others.

Each judge also is permitted to select one photo from each category as their choice, or Judge's Choice, for recognition.

On the other hand, the People's Choice won by Hooper this year is a result of votes from all those in attendance at the conference.

"In a way it was more rewarding to get the People's Choice," Hooper said. "It's affirmation of what I'm doing. It says I'm OK."

Comments about the photo from voters, Hooper said, included, "It's perfect" to "great positioning" to "told a great story."

She was told the photo — taken from a



Another example of Hooper's aerial work, "A Pilot's Wing Dream" of a large home recently finished between Panama City Beach and Destin.

helicopter of another helicopter maneuvering Progress Energy linemen atop a huge power line stanchion — was also "unique" with a "pleasing manner of flow."

Those hosannahs, along with the valued critique of experts in the field, is one reason Hooper said she benefits from the PAPA national conference.

"I wouldn't be where I am without these conferences," Hooper said. "This is all continuing education. I challenge myself every year to be better."

The award shot was from a "last-minute" shoot for Progress Energy. Hooper and her husband, Jon, were scheduled

for another assignment, but this one came up. The two needed to shoot their typical mix of photos, video and stills.

However, the only helicopter they could find had just two seats. So, Hooper, had to strap all three cameras around her neck and take off with a Barbie Rise, a pilot out of Lakeland for the Bartow shoot.

Fortunately for Hooper, Rise was a former photo-journalist — she still flies television breaking news copters — who knew exactly how and where to hover for Hooper to secure quality shots.

"I did the video, did the wide angle and

See AERIAL B4

GCEC to hold annual meeting

Special to The Star

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative will hold its 64th Annual Members' Meeting Saturday, April 14 at its headquarter office, at 722 West Highway 22 in Wewahitchka. The purpose of the meeting is to communicate information about the Cooperative, including the financial reports and overall business status, as well as serve as a social event for the entire membership.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. CST with each registered member receiving a \$10 credit on his or her electric bill. Members will be given the opportunity to win prizes throughout the day, including the grand prizes, which are 10 \$100 credits to an electric bill. There also will be plenty of refreshments provided by GCEC and booths offering valuable information for the duration of the meeting.

Beginning at 9:15 a.m., entertainment will be provided by The Back Forty band. There will also be a bounce house for the children. The business portion of the Annual Meeting will begin at 11 a.m.

"I invite all of our members to come and take part in our Annual Meeting, not only to be present for the business portion of the meeting, but also to enjoy food, prizes and entertainment," Gulf Coast Electric CEO/General Manager Michael White said.

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative is part of the Touchstone Energy national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives providing high standards of service to customers large and small. GCEC serves approximately 20,500 meters in Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Jackson, Walton and Washington counties and in the municipalities of Wewahitchka, Ebro, White City, Lynn Haven, Fountain and Southport.



COURTESY OF FLORIDA STATE ARCHIVES

Edna and George Patton at home

Florida pioneers: A tribute to the families of Gulf County

By Beverly Mount-Douds
Special to The Star

Editor's note: This is the third of a series of articles about some of the historical figures that made Gulf County. This article recounts the life of George Patton's wife, Edna.

Mrs. Edna came here

with her husband from Virginia, one of our pioneer families; they built their home among the stately oaks and helped build Port St. Joe. Her husband, George, later had the distinction of being the first Forester in the state of Florida.

With utter dedication our honoree ardently worked to

help build the Methodist Church. They had been no resident minister then, few roads, little means of transportation, but this dainty character often walked through partial sand beds about 1.5 miles to her church, carefully changed from walking shoes to heels and cheerfully entered to worship. For 20-odd years

she served as secretary of the Sunday School. She organized a "Parsonage Aide Society" that later became the "Ladies Aide" and still later the "Missionary Society." Of course she served in whatever capacity she was needed most, be it president or cook or both.

See TRIBUTE B6

Birthday



Kate Husband celebrates 1st birthday

Our baby girl is 1 year old! Kate Husband, daughter of Jack and Christy Husband, little sister of Wyatt Husband, of Wewahitchka, celebrated her 1st birthday on March 23. We love you Kate Annabelle! Love, Mommy, Daddy, and Wyatt

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Come by and meet all of our beautiful puppies and kittens during our Open House April 14th. Adoption fees will be waived to approved adopters for sponsored pets. Please complete your application in advance on our website. Come join the fun and games. Bring the whole family. Visit our unique kissing booth. "Free fun for everyone."

If you are unable to adopt at this time, perhaps you could foster or make a Donation. All pets adopted from SJBHS will be current on vaccinations and spayed/neutered. Please do not hesitate to email townsend.hsdirector@gmail.com or adoptbaystjoe@gmail.com or call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103 and ask for Melody or Debbie! Online applications are available at www.sjbhumanesociety.org. Adoption fees include our cost of spay/neuter and current vaccinations.

Shelter hours are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am-4 pm! Come by and see our new outside enclosure for our great kitties. Faith's Thrift Hut is always in need of donations also, and all the proceeds go directly to support the animals in our care! The store hours 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!

If you are missing a pet or want to adopt a new pet, please check with your local Humane Society or Shelter. "Like" us on Facebook: St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Making sure it's secure.™

- Uncompromised Commitment to Compliance
- On-Time, Efficient and Discreet
- Reliable, Professional Service
- Customized Cost - Effective Solutions
- Proven Track Record

1-850-309-1996 | shredit.com

Engagement



Robert Nessly, Karen Baker to wed

Robert "Butch" Nessly and Karen Baker of Port St. Joe, along with their children KT and RC Nessly, and Alex and Ryan Baker, would like to announce their engagement and upcoming marriage at 6:30 p.m. ET on April 20. Butch and Karen will exchange vows on St. Joe Beach across from Beacon Hill Park. The wedding is open to all friends and family. No local invitations will be sent.

Proper mowing an asset to your lawn

No matter what kind of grass you're growing, mowing can make or break your lawn. Mowing too low weakens the grass and encourages the sod to thin out. Mowing too high gives the lawn a ragged look and may lead to thatch build-up. To help you prevent both problems, I'll talk about proper mowing, cutting the grass at the right height and mowing often enough to keep it healthy and attractive. My information was provided by Extension Turf Specialist Dr. Brian Unruh of the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Lawn grasses make food for themselves through process call photosynthesis. They need a good healthy leaf surface to do this. If the lawn is mowed too low, too much of this leaf surface is lost and the grass is unable to produce enough food to maintain itself. The grass literally starves. When this happens, the sod becomes very thin, weeds can invade the lawn and the grass is more susceptible to insects and pests.

However, not all lawn grasses



ROY LEE CARTER
County extension director

should be mowed at the same height.

For example, a fine-leaved Bermuda grass can be cut as low as a-half-an-inch. But a coarse textured grass, such as Bahia, or St. Augustine, would be practically destroyed by such a close cutting. It's important for you to know how low the particular grass you're growing can be cut without damage to the lawn. If you're not sure, talk to your local County Extension agent.

How often you need to mow depends on how fast your grass grows. During the summer, when climatic conditions encourage rapid growth of lawn grasses, they need to be mowed more often. Winter growth, on the other hand, is slower, so the lawn needs fewer cuttings.

A grass that's fertilized heavily will need to be cut more often than grass receiving only minimal fertilization. Lawn grass species determine mowing frequency. To a large extent, a grass which naturally grows quickly, like Bermuda, will need more frequent mowing than a slower grower, like Zoysia.

A general rule about mowing: how often you need to mow is best determined by the amount of growth since the last cutting, rather than the number of days which have elapsed. You should mow often enough so that not more than one-fourth to one-third of the total leaf surface is removed at any given mowing. In other words, leave twice as much leaf surface as you cut off.

Finally establish good mowing practices. Always use a sharpened, well adjusted mower. Dull mowers do a tremendous amount of damage. Avoid mowing the grass when it's wet. Dry grass cuts easily and doesn't clog the mower. It's a good idea to attach a bag to your mower that will catch clippings. If clippings are allowed to accumulate on the lawn, they may smother the grass, lead to build-up of thatch, and invite insects and diseases. Finally, never drastically change the height of the grass. If the lawn has been allowed to grow too long, you should gradually lower the mowing height on successive cuttings.

For more information on Mowing Your Lawn, call the Gulf County Extension Service at 639-3200 or 229-2909 or visit <http://gulf.ifas.ufl.edu>.

COST CUTTERS LAWN SERVICE
Affordably Addressing All Your Lawn Care Needs
Licensed & Insured
Serving from Mexico Beach to the Cape.
Full Service Lawn Care Starting at \$29
CALL:
Art Sigman 850.628.0694 or Ken Daves: 850.899.0468
asigman@mchsi.com

Be Prepared to Save a Life...
Learn CPR in 20 Minutes
Free Seminar, Thurs., April 26, 11:00 a.m.
Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf
Sponsored by American Heart Association.
Call (850) 229-5603 or (877) 416-1620 to register.

Sisters' RESTAURANT & CATERING
THURSDAY & FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIALS
6:00 - 8:30
CAROLYN'S FAMOUS SEAFOOD PLATTER: \$14.95
GULF SHRIMP, SCALLOPS, CRAB CLAWS & FISH
POPCORN SHRIMP: \$9.95
CHICKEN FINGERS: \$9.95
BURGERS: WITH FF \$9.95
TROPICAL SALAD WITH SHRIMP OR CHICKEN: \$12.95
GRILLED CHICKEN: \$9.95
11 OZ RIBEYE: \$11.95
Above orders served with:
FF, BAKED POTATO, SALAD AND BREAD
AWARD WINNING DESSERTS
HOURS:
Breakfast • 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. \$6.00
Lunch • 11:00 - 2:00 \$6.99 - \$7.99
Thursday & Friday Night • 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
236 Reid Ave (850) 229.7121

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."


SHARK TALK

By TerriLee Beamon

General information

• **YEARBOOK:** Reserve your copy before they are all gone. There are only a limited number of yearbooks ordered. April 27 is the deadline to order the yearbook with personalization. There is never a guarantee that there will be extra copies for sale when they arrive. This year only happens once. The yearbook is a great way to share the events of the school year with your son or daughter. Don't miss out on everything they've experienced. To reserve your copy, visit our school webpage at <http://psjhs-gcs-fl.schoolloop.com>.

• **SENIOR ADS:** The yearbook staff is now offering the opportunity to "personalize" the yearbook in a very special way with a recognition ad. Space is available to tell your student how proud you are! Regardless of the occasion, your ad provides a great way to recognize a student or event in a special and unique way. To reserve your space, download an ad form and a template from our

webpage at <http://psjhs-gcs-fl.schoolloop.com> or call Mr. Taylor at the school. Deadline: April 30.

• **SENIOR SLIDE SHOW:** Ms. Barbee is now accepting baby pictures for the senior slide show. Please turn yours in directly to her in the Media Center. Pictures should be in a ziplock bag, if possible, with student's name on the bag in indelible ink. No more than two photos per student for slide show. Digital is the preferred format; however, we do have the ability to scan photographs.

• **NJROTC:** On March 30, the NJROTC visited the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center in Panama City. Forty cadets experienced first-hand one of the elite diving training facilities in the world. The tour included briefings by the commanding officer, Cmdr. Michael Egan, Master Diver Command Master Chief Mark Leet and many more. The experience was capped off with a trip to the Seashore General Mess, where the cadets experienced real Navy Chow.

Congratulations to the NJROTC Academic Team, who ranked in the top 25

percent of all NJROTC Teams taking the NJROTC National Academic Test in March. Results are in and Port St Joe Ranked 435th out of 1,700 teams competing. The team included leader Cadet Nicolas Dickinson and cadets LeAnna Collins, Ryan Baker, Javarri Beachum, and Bryce Godwin. Congratulations, cadets!

• **PROM:** Prom is scheduled for 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, April 21. The prom theme this year is Viva Las Vegas. The Senior Walk will be at 11:30 p.m., and the prom will be over at midnight. This year, several parents are hosting an "After the Prom" party, which will take place in the Centennial Building immediately following the prom.

• **JERSEYS:** Coach Gannon is selling last year's white game jersey for \$40; white and purple game jerseys from 2000-2001 for \$20; and white (No Pain No Gain) T-shirts for \$10. See Mrs. Taylor in the school office to purchase one of these.

• **LADY TIGER SHARK VOLLEYBALL CAMP:** The Port St Joe High School Lady Tiger Sharks will host a volleyball camp for younger girls. The camp is designed to allow players to learn the fundamentals of bump passing, overhead passing, and serving. Campers will learn from the Port St. Joe High School coaching

staff and players how playing and competing the right way is always fun. The camp is designed for girls going into the fourth through eighth grades in fall 2012. The camp will be at the PSJ High School gymnasium. We will have stations for the young players to rotate through and finish the day on Friday with an afternoon tournament. We will provide snacks and drinks on Monday through Thursday, plus on Friday we will have a pizza lunch. After lunch on Friday, we will play as many games as we can before 3 p.m.

• **What to bring:** Your own kneepads. We will provide water, snacks, volleyballs, etc.

• **Dates and Times:** June 4-7, 9 a.m. to noon.; June 8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• **Fee:** \$35

• **Deadline for registration:** May 15

Please register early so we can order T-shirts for the girls. Registration forms are available in the high school front office or at <http://psjhs-gcs-fl.schoolloop.com>, and check the News section of the main page. For more information, contact W. Taylor at 229-8251 or by email at wtaylor@gulf.k12.fl.us (email is preferred).

• **JUNIORS:** Attention all parents of PSJHS juniors (Class of 2013): Prom week is April 16-20. We need your help! If you would like to help decorate for the 2012 prom, we will be

meeting in the afternoons from Monday through Friday, to assemble decorations and transform the Centennial Building into a magical ballroom. Also, we need juniors and their parents to volunteer to contribute an appetizer or dessert for prom. If you can help decorate or wish to contribute to the refreshments, please notify Kim McFarland, Junior Class Advisor, at kmcfarland@gulf.k12.fl.us or call the high school and leave your contact information. Any help you can lend us would be most appreciated.

• **CHEERLEADING:** Practice for cheerleader tryouts will be Monday, April 30-Friday, May 4 from 3-4:30 ET. Each athlete must have a current health physical, signed parent consent, cheerleading policies and procedures in order to practice on Monday. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the front office beginning Monday, April 16, 2012.

COMING UP

• **Today:** FCAT Math Retakes, 8 a.m.

• **Friday:** Wild Adventures Theme Park (NJROTC/Band). All Day; Gold Cards issued at 8 a.m.

• **Saturday:** ACT at PSJ, 8 a.m.; Odyssey of the Mind state competition, 9 a.m.

• **Monday:** FCAT Reading Session 1 Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 8 a.m.

• **Tuesday:** FCAT Session 2 Grade 7, 8, 9, 10, 8 a.m.

• **April 18:** FCAT Math

Grades 7, 8 at 8 a.m.; Chemistry Field Trip 4th-7th periods at 11 a.m.

• **April 19:** Physics Field Trip 4th-7th periods at 11 a.m.

Sports

• Megan Walker broke the state girl's pole vaulting record this past weekend, was the Capital City Most Outstanding Field Event winner and the Channel 13 Student Athlete of the Week. Great job, Megan! You make us PROUD!

COMING UP

• **Friday:** Baseball - varsity only at Wewa at 7 p.m.; softball- Varsity Only-at Bay at 7 p.m.

• **Monday:** Softball-District Tournament Play In Game-5:00pm

• **Tuesday:** Softball-district tournament semifinals-5 p.m.; baseball-varsity only-at Arnold-7 p.m.

• **April 19:** Softball- District Final Game - 6 p.m.; baseball- varsity only - at Vernon-7 p.m.

Clubs

• **Today:** Junior Executive Board Meeting at 11:50 a.m.

• **Friday:** FCA Meeting during Junior High lunch in Room 309

• **Tuesday:** SWAT Meeting - Jr. High at 10:45 a.m.; National Honor Society Meeting at 11:50 a.m.

• **April 19:** Junior Executive Board Meeting at 11:50 a.m.

BOOK BUDDIES AT WES



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Ms. Nancy Brockman's fourth-grade class and Ms. Anna McFarland's Kindergarten class are "BOOK BUDDIES." We love to read at WES and it shows!



WES STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



Left to right, back row: Donald Bronson, fourth grade; Tyler Skipper, fifth grade; Hannah Watts, kindergarten; Trenton Pynes, first grade; and Brook Haddock, sixth grade.

Middle row, left to right: Avery Davis, first grade; Von Sheely, third grade.

Kneeling: Dakota Askew, second grade. Bus students of the week: Anna Kelsoe, Nevaeh Carpenter and Brianna Rhoades.

DAZZLING DOLPHINS



Pre-Kindergarten: Jolie Bibeault, kindergarten: Dakota Tousignant, first grade: Jackson Buckner, second grade: Antonio Rolax, third grade: Lanecia Larry, fourth grade: Madison Taylor, fifth grade: Hannah Anderson, sixth grade: Celeste Childes.

Bus riders of the week: Zoey Hamm, Katie Dykes, J. J. Foster, Desirae Dew, Kayden Jackson and Delaney Ingalls.

THE LION'S TALE



Congratulations to all FCS students on Academic Honor Roll

Special to The Star

All A's include: Carter Costin, K5; Mazie Hodges, K5; Alex Taylor, K5; Magnolia Sarmiento, first grade; Shelby Causey, second grade; Catherine Bouington, fourth grade; and Elijah Sarmiento, seventh grade.

All A's and B's include: Riley McGuffin, K5; Emma

Grace Burke, first grade; Donovan Cumbie, first grade; Halee Whicker, first grade; Kristen Bouington, second grade; Theron Smith, second grade; Jacob Davis, third grade; Farren Newman, third grade; Mary Kate Wood, fourth grade; J.J. Laine, fifth grade; and Matthew Costin, sixth grade.



RAISING DOLLARS FOR LEUKEMIA



Star Staff Report

Congratulations to the Port St. Joe Elementary School student body. The school was selected as one of the top fund-raisers to benefit leukemia in the state of Florida. Every student received a "Youth for Leukemia" yellow bracelet. Pictured here are students from the school's Bridges class showing off their bracelets. Port St. Joe Elementary School students care about each other and they show it!

'PLANET JANITORS' REACH 1 TON

The "Planet Janitors" at Port St. Joe Elementary School have reached their goal of one ton of recyclable materials. Students at the school now have collected 2,082.33 pounds, and they are continuing to collect. Funded through a mini-grant from the Gulf Education Foundation, the "Planet Janitors" program is aiming to teach students about the value of their planet and recycling.

SPECIAL TO THE STAR



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

Obituaries

Marie "Meme" Bennett

1933-2012
Marie Bennett, 78, was born on August 16, 1933 in Caryville, Florida to the late Joshua and Belleann Davis. She passed away on Monday morning, April 9, 2012 at the Bridge at Bay St. Joe Nursing Home. She was preceded in death by two husbands, Sammie Manning and James Bennett, seven sisters and four brothers. She is survived by her children, Elder Chester Davis (Freddie Mae), Johnese Exum, Marcus Manning, Darius Chambers (Antoinette), Lynn Driesbach (Raymond),



MARIE BENNETT

all of Port St. Joe, Sabrina Johnson of Panama City, Florida and Lenny Wilson (Beverly) of Atlanta, GA; numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews and many loving friends.

Visitation will be held from 6-8 p.m. ET on Friday, April 14, 2012 at the Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church on Avenue D in Port St. Joe. Funeral services will be at 9 a.m. ET on Saturday, April 15, 2012 at Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church. Russell Wright, Sr. Mortuary
1547 Lisenby Avenue
Panama City, Florida
850-640-2077

Murdic Harcus

Murdic Harcus, age 80, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday April 5, 2012 at his home in White City with his family gathered around him. He retired from AlliedGeneral Chemical in Port St. Joe in 1997. Survivors include his beloved wife of 61 years, Evelyn; one daughter, Elwanda Hammond; two sons, Donnie and wife Donna, and Dennis; five grandchildren, Leanna Roberts, Michael Hammond, Donald Wade, Jeremy Harcus and

Heather Henderson; five great-grandchildren, Gauge Combs, Emily and Kayla Roberts, Andrew Harcus and Lilly Henderson; one sister, Maurice Padgett; and one brother, Malvin Harcus and wife Vera. The family received friends on Sunday, April 8 at White City Baptist Church. Funeral services were held Monday, April 9 at the church and interment followed at Buckhorn Cemetery in Wewahitchka, Fla.

Mrs. Janet Bueno Tuthill, 87, of Port St. Joe, passed away Monday, April 2, 2012 at a local hospital. Janet Bueno Tuthill, professionally known as Delora Bueno, was born in Iowa. Her family moved to Brazil when Delora was young, and she was raised there until she was 19. In 1944, she enrolled in the prestigious Juilliard School of Music in New York City where she earned a degree in Voice and Piano. In 1950, she married



JANET BUENO TUTHILL

Mrs. Janet Bueno Tuthill

Samuel Taylor Tuthill, and had two daughters, Sylvia and Sandra. From then on, she had a prominent career as a stage singer, musical entertainer, and teacher, both in the United States and Brazil. Delora paved numerous different ventures such as being the musical star for the Cherry Blossom Festival in 1951 in Washington, D.C., sharing the stage with Paul Whiteman, and the Chiquita Banana spokesperson in New York City. In 2006, she moved back to the United States and continued to entertain at the Beacon Hill Retirement Center. She will always be remembered for her love for music, and her willingness to give

pleasure to others through her musical talent. Mrs. Tuthill is survived by her two daughters: Sylvia B. Tuthill-Aguirre and husband David of Port St. Joe and Sandra B. Tuthill Stanicia and husband Sergio of Sao Paulo, Brazil; three grandchildren: Alessandra Muniz, Gustavo Muniz, and Sergio Stanicia; three great-grandchildren: Daphne Baptista, Tallis Assi, and Gracie Muniz; and step-grandson, Michael Aguirre. Memorial service will be at a later date. Southerland Family Funeral Home
507 10th Street
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Rena DeRochemont

Rena deRochemont, 63, of Gainesville, FL, passed away on Monday, April 2, 2012 at E.T. York Hospice Care Center in Gainesville ending a courageous nine year battle with melanoma. She was born on November 2, 1948 in Milledgeville, GA and graduated from Port St. Joe (FL) High School in 1966. Rena enjoyed living in the Gainesville area since 1974 and it was here that she met her soul mate, Bob, at National Vacuum in 1987. Rena was later employed at National Vacuum where she had many responsibilities. Rena was a beautiful, charming individual who truly celebrated life. She had a fantastic sense of humor that remained with her until the end. She was a loving wife, mother, and a great friend to everyone who was lucky enough to have met her. She was passionate about photography and scrapbooking, but loved nothing more than



RENA DeROCHEMONT

spending time with her husband, her family, and especially her grandchildren. She also loved riding her bicycle, motorcycle, and working out. Rena is survived by her husband, Bob deRochemont, her three daughters: Wendy Wynn Roberson, Amy Wynn Driggers - husband Stacey, Jenny Wynn Simmons - husband Aaron, and son Ted Wynn; her grandchildren: Jered, Jesse and Travis Roberson, Jordan Heath, Jillian and Jenna Driggers, Hunter Simmons, and Rob deRochemont. She is also survived by two sisters: Jolene Henley and Kay Lovett - husband Denny. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. ET on Sunday, April 15 at Milam Funeral Home, with a visitation one hour prior. Arrangements under the care of Milam Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 311 S. Main St., Gainesville, FL 32601.

Tranum H. McLemore

Tranum H. McLemore, 35, of Bristol, passed away Wednesday, April 4, 2012. He was a native of Wewahitchka. Tranum was born February 21, 1977 in Panama City to Klenton and Penny McLemore. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Tranum enjoyed hunting, fishing, and baseball. He graduated from Wewahitchka High School in 1996 and Florida State University in 2001. Tranum was a Physical Ed Teacher for Blountstown Middle School where he coached football, basketball, and baseball. He took great pride in impacting the young lives of those he taught and wanted to make a difference. Tranum was a loving husband and father. He is preceded in death by his grandfather, Thomas Howell McDaniel; brother Sterling McLemore. Tranum is survived by his wife, Winter



TRANUM H. McLEMORE

McLemore, three beautiful daughters: Autumn, AubriAna, and Aubrynn. He is also survived by his father, Klenton McLemore and mother Penny McLemore (Charles Mayhann), his brothers: Robert Knowles, Lee, Will, Davis, Klenton, Mitchell, and Scott McLemore; grandmother, Minnie Ola Pridgeon McDaniel; and numerous family members. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. CST, Saturday, April 7, 2012 at the First United Methodist Church of Wewahitchka with Pastor Jeremy Pridgeon officiating. Interment followed at Jehu Cemetery. The family received friends at the church one hour prior to service. Condolences may be submitted or viewed at www.southerlandfamily.com. Southerland Family Funeral Home
507 Tenth Street
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Find more news at
starfl.com

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:
Children: 6:15 p.m. ET
Youth: 6:15 p.m. ET
Choir: 7:00 p.m. ET

Rev. Mac Fulcher
Pastor
Ann Comforter
Music Director
Deborah Tuttle
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
Youth Groups 5:30 pm

Wednesday
Wednesday Night Supper..... 5:00 - 6:15 pm
Children's Choir..... 5:45 - 6:16 pm
Nursery..... 6:00 - 7:30 pm
AWANA..... 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)

www.fbcpsj.org

living water
church at the beach

SUNDAY : WORSHIP AT SUNSET PARK 8 AM
11 AM ON THE 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
SUNDAY: BIBLE CLASS 9:30 AM
SATURDAY : COFFEE TIME 8 - 11 AM
MONDAY : LIFE TREE CAFE 7 PM

1602 Hwy 98, Mexico Beach, FL
(850) 890.1424 www.livingwateratthebeach.com

Faith Bible Church
www.faithbiblepsj.net
801 20th Street, Port St. Joe, Fl. (850) 229-6707

9:45 AM..... Sunday School
10:30 AM..... Fellowship Breakfast
10:45 AM..... Worship
6:00 PM..... Worship

Home of Faith Christian School
www.faithchristianpsj.net

"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.

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

St. Peter's Church, ACC
(Traditional Services 1928 BCP)

Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
Sunday.....10:00 A.M.

The Rev. Lou Little, Priest
Services Temporarily at Senior Citizens Center,
120 Library Drive
"An Unchanging Faith In A Changing World"

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

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

Pastor Josh Fidler

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.

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

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

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

TRIBUTE from page B1

Some years ago, Port St. Joe had a "Federated Woman's Club." Its organizer? Our devoted civic leader. Edna Patton once served as president of the Woman's Club, president of the Missionary Society, and adequately cared for the school teachers who boarded at her house all at the same time.

This individual with such varied interest and limitless energy was one of the founders of the Port St. Joe Parent Teachers Association, and helped to ably lead it during its tottering, formative years. She loved

children and they loved her. She tells them nature stories, showed them birds in her yard, odd natural shrubs and flowers. Of course she worked for better schools and happier children.

Mrs. Edna was a Charter member of the Garden Club and ardently worked in any capacity to bring more beauty to our city. Not only did she work in organizations, worked to landscape such grounds as the grammar school, high school, original hospital grounds and many other public grounds, as well as yards of her friends. But her work was not only

mental — she labored physically. She dug, planted, watered these original hospital grounds and after the third successive day Dr. Ward told her he had a hospital room reserved for her and expected her as a patient by nightfall. She smiled, cheerfully worked on and helped finish the job while many of the younger women groaningly went home, completely exhausted.

Yes, she was a hard worker, a powerful organizer; she was a gentle, petite lady, she knew how to handle people, she could pour oil on troubled waters. She could be a slave at 2 p.m. and a queen at 9 p.m. In fact, at the May Day Festival in the 30's she was queen and indeed she was both poised and pretty. To our town she has contributed loving Christian leadership, able civic organization, and added lasting beauty with the trees she's planted, the plans she's made, the flowers she's left blooming.

The City Commission of

Port St. Joe unanimously passed Resolution No. 320 on Aug. 15, 1961, to name a park "Patton Park" in honor of Mrs. Edna Patton, whose life in Port St. Joe proved that she believes "a thing of beauty is a joy forever."

That my friends is living Christianity.

Last week after our first story came out I got several calls about the Patton story. One call was from the grandson of Ned Patton, which would make him the great-grandson of George Patton. In our phone call the caller told me that Mr. Ned has passed away in Jacksonville, FL., just the month before (Feb. 2012) which would make him at the age of 100/101. I wish I had written this story just a little earlier. Thank you caller for your interest in our story, if you read this one please call me AGAIN, I did not get your name or number, and I am so sorry that I was very busy with customers when you called.

The Port St. Joe City Commission resolution creating Patton Park in honor of Edna Patton and family RESOLUTION NO. 320

WHEREAS, the family of George A. Patton were among the earlier settlers in the area of Port St. Joe and contributed to the early development of said city; and WHEREAS, Mrs. George A. Patton contributed of her energies and talents in garden and other organizations interested in the aesthetic beautification of the city; and WHEREAS, the City Commission of the city of Port St. Joe deems it fitting and proper to honor Mrs. George A. Patton and her family by designating and naming the park adjacent to the Municipal Hospital as "PATTON PARK" "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA:

That the Park adjacent to the Municipal Hospital of the City of Port St. Joe, be, and it is hereby designated and named "PATTON PARK," and hereafter shall be known by such name.

That appropriate signs be erected to accomplish the above purpose.

That a certified copy of this resolution be furnished to Mrs. George A. Patton.

PASSED and ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, held at the City Hall on August 15, 1961.

SEAL: J.L. Sharit, MAYOR - COMMISSIONER
ATTEST: R.W. Henderson - CITY CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) meeting on Monday, April 16, 2012 at 8:45 a.m. ET, and at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. ET. 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 - Allen & Gay Worley - Parcel ID #03756-005R - Located in Section 31, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida -5.9' encroachment into the 25' road setback for DEP CCCL permitting.
2. Review and Discussion of Proposed Gulf County Sign Ordinance
3. Public and Open Discussion
4. Staff Reports - LDR - Comment and Discussion on current proposed amendments
5. PDRB Sunshine Law Training to follow the conclusion of the PDRB noticed Meeting

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

Allen & Gay Worley



(2012-24)

WANTED

Help round-up the following notorious Household Hazardous Wastes



PAINT OIL SOLVENT

AND GANG MEMBERS: Fuel, Batteries, Antifreeze, Lead, Arsenic, Silver, Cleaners, Fluorescent Lamps, Mercury Containing Devices, Pesticides, Herbicides, Home Computers, Printers, Scanners, (and other pollutants).

If you find these villains hiding-out in your home round 'em up and bring 'em in.



Gulf County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days

April 28 - Gulf County Courthouse
9 AM - 12 PM Eastern Time

Conditionally-Exempt Small Quantity Generators (Small Businesses, Schools, Growers, and Etc.) will be accepted at a reduced rate. Call Gulf County Solid Waste, 850-227-1401, for a drop-off time.

REWARD

Put Hazardous Waste in its place. Keep Gulf County Beautiful!
For more information, please call the Gulf County Solid Waste Department at 850-227-1401

Trades & Services



J.J.'s Tree Service, LLC
Stump Grinder
Licensed & Insured Call John @ (850) 899-8432

JOES LAWN CARE
FULL LAWN MAINTENANCE AND TREE TRIMMING
WITH REMOVAL OF ALL DEBRIS AND JUNK
NEW CUSTOMERS 10% DISCOUNT FROM YOUR PREVIOUS LAWN CARE PROVIDER
WITH STATEMENT OF THE COST
FIRST CUT FREE WITH VERBAL COMMITMENT TO AT LEAST 12 MONTHS OF SERVICE.
PLEASE CALL JOE @ 850-323-0741

INCOME TAX HELP
Bob Gilbert
• Local • Experienced
• Quick • Pick-up/delivery
• Reasonable Rates
Call (850) 227-5325
bobgilbert54@gmail.com
220 Stanley Drive, Wewahitchka 32465
PTIN#P00091774

Tony Poloronis & Sons, Inc.
Michael & Anthony
State Certified Electrician ESI2000204 & Finish Carpentry RG006883
850-229-6751 850-227-5666
Electrical & Finish Carpentry

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

GET YOUR AD IN Trades & Services 227-7847

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

Dri-Brite
850-229-9663
Steam Cleaning & Remediation
24 Hour Water Extraction
IICRC Certified Technicians
Mold Remediation, Tile & Grout Cleaning, Air Duct Cleaning, Carpet & Upholstery
Licensed & Insured

15 Years of Service!



COVERING MILTON TO APALACHICOLA

emerald coast marketplace

YOUR FLORIDA FREEDOM CLASSIFIED CONNECTION

850-747-5020
800-345-8688

visit us online at
emeraldcoastmarketplace.com

Real Estate • New & Pre-Owned Automotive • Classifieds • Job Search partnered with Monster™



86616 PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Port St. Joe has been asked to consider approving a Lot Split Application from Applicant: John Timmons, Property Owner: George Boyer, Parcel # 04649-000R consists of lots 20, 22 & 24, Block 3 Unit 1. Please contact City Hall at (850)229-8261 with questions or concerns on or before 4/27/12. April 12, 19, 2012

86275 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Plymouth Park Tax Services, LLC, the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No. 959

Application No. 2012-04

Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009

R.E. No. 03801-053R

Description of Property: A parcel of land lying and being in Section 31, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida, and being more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING at the Southeast Corner of Lot 5, Block "B" Integras Rehabilitation Phase II, a Subdivision, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 2, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida (Point also being on the North Right of Way Line of Kaelyn Lane, as recorded in Official Records Book 287, Page 918, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida) and run thence North 89 Degrees 48 Minutes 25 Seconds East, along said North Right of Way Line, for a distance of 324.53 feet; thence North 00 Degrees 11 Minutes 35 Seconds West, along the West Right of Way Line of said Kaelyn Lane, for a distance of 85.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence leaving said West Right of Way Line, run South 89 Degrees 48 Minutes 25 Seconds West, for a distance of 237.00 feet; thence North 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 00 Seconds West, for a distance of 156.89 feet; thence North 18 Degrees 11 Minutes 20 Seconds East, for a distance of 28.00 feet; thence North 09 Degrees 13 Minutes 48 Seconds East, for a distance of 58.42 feet; thence North 70 Degrees 25 Minutes 07 Seconds East, for a distance of 42.04 feet; thence North 23 Degrees 02 Minutes 43 Seconds East, for a distance of 42.69 feet; thence North 76 Degrees 09 Minutes 48 Seconds East, for a distance of 53.61 feet; thence North 46 Degrees 22 Minutes 04 Seconds East, for a distance of 58.06 feet; thence North 87 Degrees 36 Minutes 25 Seconds East, for a distance of 47.42 feet; thence South 65 Degrees 00 Minutes 23 Seconds East, for a distance of 33.09 feet; thence South 00 Degrees 11 Minutes 35 Seconds East, for a distance of 43.26 feet to a point on the aforesaid Right of Way Line of Kaelyn Lane, point being on a non tangent curve, concave to the East, thence Southerly along said Right of Way Line and Curve, with a radius of 50.00 feet, through a central angle of 168 Degrees 27 Minutes 47 Seconds, for an arc distance of 147.01 feet (Chord of said Arc being South 05 Degrees



34 Minutes 32 Seconds West, 99.49 feet); thence South 00 Degrees 11 Minutes 35 Seconds East, along the West Right of Way Line of said Kaelyn Lane, for a distance of 192.32 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Containing 1.569 acres, more or less.

(LEGAL DESCRIPTION AS RECORDED IN O. R. BOOK 516, Page 957, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA).

Name in which assessed: Integras Therapy & Wellness Ctrs, Inc.

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM E.T., Wednesday, the 25th day of April, 2012.

Dated this 20th day of March, 2012

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2012

86570S IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA PANAMA CITY DIVISION CASE NO. 5:11-cv-00341-RS-GRJ

CENTENNIAL BANK, Plaintiff,

vs. GARY L. SMITH, Defendant.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under and by virtue of the Final Judgment of Foreclosure rendered in the above-styled case on March 22, 2012, in the United States District Court For The Northern District Of Florida, in favor of the Plaintiff, the undersigned, appointed in that certain Order Appointing Special Master rendered March 30, 2012, will on the 11th day of May, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, in the lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil Costin Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest bidder, the following described property, situated, lying and being in Gulf County, Florida:

Real Property

Lots 2 and 20, Block 9 of YON'S ADDITION TO BEACON HILL, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 1, Page(s) 45, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Personal Property

All rights, easements, appurtenances, royalties, mineral rights, oil and gas rights, crops, timber, all diversion payments or third party payments made to crop producers, and all existing and future improvements, structure, fixtures and replacements that may now, or at anytime in the future, be part of the real property described above. All water wells, water, ditches, reservoirs, reservoir sites and dams located on the real estate and all riparian and water rights associated with the property, however established.

For additional information concerning the above property contact: STEPHEN A. PITRE, ESQUIRE, Post Office Box 13010, Pensacola, Florida 32591-3010 or (850) 434-9200.

All sales are subject to confirmation of the court. Method of payment is by postal money order or certified check made payable



ble to Jeffrey P. Whitton, Esquire, Esquire Account. Ten (10) Percent of High/Acceptable bid or cashier's check will be accepted with the balance due within 48 hours. No cash will be accepted.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim with the Clerk of the Court within 60 days after the sale.

In accordance with the AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Jeffrey P. Whitton, Esquire, Post Office Box 1956, Panama City, FL 32402 or (850) 769-7040 not later than seven days prior to the sale to ensure that reasonable accommodations are available.

DATED this 4th day of April 2012.

SPECIAL MASTER:

JEFFREY P. WHITTON, Esquire Florida Bar No. 329509 565 Harrison Ave. Post Office Box 1956 Panama City, FL 32402 Email: whittonpc@comcast.net Phone: 850-769-7040 Fax 850-769-3014 April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2012

86604S REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS

Pursuant to Sections 1013.45 (1) c, 255.103 and 287.055, Florida Statutes, the State of Florida's Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act, and the State Requirements for Educational Facilities 1999, the School Board of Gulf County will consider contracting with a Construction Manager to provide professional services for:

Port St. Joe Elementary School Additions and Renovations

Port St. Joe High School Renovations

The scope of work will include pre-construction and construction services for the project.

Business entities interested in providing Construction Management at Risk services to the Gulf County School Board are hereby notified that eight (8) copies of qualification statements for providing the required services must be delivered by 2:00 PM, local time, April 27, 2012 to the reception desk of the Gulf County School Board. It is the sole responsibility of the respondents to assure delivery to the appropriate party. The owner cannot accept responsibility for incorrect delivery, regardless of reason. No submittals will be accepted after the time stipulated above. Qualifications submittal will not be accepted via facsimile.

To request a copy of the Instructions for Proposers, and in order to receive notice of supplemental information, responses, addenda, or clarification(s) regarding the RFQ, firms must register via E-mail to glayfield@gulf.k12.fl.us or via facsimile letter to (850) 229-8371. Only firms formally registered per above will be notified.

A pre-submittal meeting will be held to review the requirements of the Request for Proposals at 1:00 PM., local time, at Gulf County School Board meeting room on April 13, 2012.

A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair



of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, for CATEGORY TWO for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

Contractors are subject to the provisions of the Jessica Lunsford Act (F.S. 1012.465) - Background Screening Requirements for Certain Non-Instructional School District Employees and Contractors. Non-instructional school district employees or contractual personnel who are permitted access on school grounds when students are present, or who have access to or control of school funds must meet Level 2 screening requirements as described in S. 1012.32. Contractual personnel shall include any vendor, individual, or entity under contract with a school or the School Board.

The Gulf County School Board reserves the right to waive any informality in the selection process and to reject any or all Statements of Qualifications.

86614S NOTICE OF SALE

Under Florida State Law "Self-Service Storage Facility Act" 83.801.83.809, Gulf South Self Storage, located at 746 4th Street, Port St. Joe, FL will dispose of or sell to the highest bidder for cash the contents of the following units, No. 22 & No. 113. Items to be sold include miscellaneous florist supplies, tools and household goods. Time and date of sale will be April 20th, 2012 at 10:00AM, EDT. Contents may be redeemed by owners prior to sale for cash by contacting owner at Tel. No. 850-814-7400. April 12, 19, 2012

86622S REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

City of Port St. Joe, Florida RFP No. 2012-02

The City of Port St. Joe is requesting sealed bids through April 27, 2012 at 3:00 PM, ET, from qualified Information Technology Companies to conduct Computer Hardware and Software Services.

The preferred Company will be knowledgeable in local and state governmental regulations, Dell Hardware, MUNIS Software, VMware Esxi 3 & 4, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows Terminal Server 2008 R2, Linux Enterprises 5, Postfix & Dovecot Mail Server, Enterasys Expedition series routers, Layer 3 managed network switching, CC Proxy in internet proxy and certification in CJS Security & Awareness Testing.

Statements of proposals with an original signature and 3 copies should be submitted to:

City of Port St. Joe 305 Cecil Costin Sr., Blvd Port St. Joe, FL. 32456

Bids must be clearly marked "RFP #2012-02 Information Technology Services."

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid in their judgment will be in their best interest. All bids shall remain firm for a period of sixty days after the opening.

Questions regarding this solicitation or a more detailed description of the project may be addressed to:



Charlotte Pierce, City Clerk City of Port St. Joe (850)229-8261 Ext 129 April 12, 19, 2012

86709S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Huff Group Properties, LLC the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No. 1400

Application No. 2012-03

Year of Issuance: 2009

R.E. No. 06274-275R

Description of Property: Lot 15, in Block C, according to the Plat of Treasure Bay, as recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 32, in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Charles Sam Jones III and Kelly McCoy Jones

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM E.T., Wednesday, the 2nd day of May, 2012.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2012

86755S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jerry M. Pybus Family Trust, the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said Tax Certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 510

Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009

Application No: 2012-06

R.E. No. 02684-038R

Description of Property: Lot H, Sunnywood Estates Unit 2, as recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 17, of the Official Records of Gulf County, Florida, on file in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court. (SAID LOT AS SHOWN NOT INCLUDED IN PLAT).

Name in which assessed: Mary Ann Jamerson

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM E.T., Wednesday, the 9th day of May, 2012.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2012.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2012

86767S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jerry M. Pybus Family Trust, the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said Tax Certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 580

Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009

Application No: 2012-07

R.E. No. 03083-400R

Description of Property: Lot 40, Palm Breeze Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 46, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida

Name in which assessed: Charlotte M. (Rouse) Seabrooks

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM E.T., Wednesday, the 9th day of May, 2012.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2012.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2012

86769S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jerry M. Pybus Family Trust, the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said Tax Certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate Number: 244

Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009

Application No: 2012-05

R.E. No. 01517-033R

Description of Property: COMMENCE at a St. Joe Paper Company Concrete Monument marking the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 3, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, thence North 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds West along the North boundary line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 3, 1149.76 feet to a found 1/2" diameter iron rod and cap, stamped L.B. 6596 on the Westerly right of way boundary line of North Dianna Street (a County maintained road having a 60 foot wide right of way); thence departing the North boundary line of said Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, South 03 Degrees 11 Minutes 12 Seconds West along said Westerly right of way boundary line, 20.02 feet; thence departing said Westerly right of way boundary line, North 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds West, 114.93 feet; thence North 04 Degrees 12 Minutes 12 Seconds East 20.04 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds East, 114.58 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Name in which assessed: Vicki Carol Beatty

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM E.T., Wednesday, the 9th day of May, 2012.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2012.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2012

86777S PUBLIC NOTICE

Hwy 22 Storage 1249 Hwy 22, Wewahitchka, FL

#00 Frank Sexton #48 Jason Lowery #96 Molly Griffen

will be open for sale on April 16, 2012 at 8:30 A.M. if payments are not brought up to date. April 5, 12, 2012

86893S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bill F. McCormick, the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said Tax Certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:



Seconds East, 115.00 feet to a set 1/2" diameter iron rod and cap, stamped L.B. 7556; thence South 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds East, 180.37 feet to a set 1/2" diameter iron rod and cap, stamped L.B. 7556; thence South 04 Degrees 12 Minutes 12 Seconds West 124.61 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH A NON-EXCLUSIVE 20 FOOT WIDE EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS OVER, UPON AND ACROSS THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY: COMMENCE at a St. Joe Paper Company Concrete Monument marking the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 3, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida; thence North 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds West along the North boundary line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 3, 1149.76 feet to a found 1/2" diameter iron rod and cap, stamped L.B. 6596 on the Westerly right of way boundary line of North Dianna Street (a County maintained road having a 60 foot wide right of way); thence departing the North boundary line of said Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, South 03 Degrees 11 Minutes 12 Seconds West along the Westerly right of way boundary line of North Dianna Street, 68.83 feet for the POINT OF BEGINNING. From said POINT OF BEGINNING, continue South 03 Degrees 11 Minutes 12 Seconds West along said Westerly right of way boundary line, 20.02 feet; thence departing said Westerly right of way boundary line, North 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds West, 114.93 feet; thence North 04 Degrees 12 Minutes 12 Seconds East 20.04 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds East, 114.58 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Name in which assessed: Charlotte M. (Rouse) Seabrooks

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM E.T., Wednesday, the 9th day of May, 2012.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2012.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2012

86795S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bill F. McCormick, the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said Tax Certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: 144

Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009

Application No: 2012-09

R.E. No. 00796-000R

Description of Property: Lot Six (6), Block Two (2), Corrective Replat Riverside Park Subdivision, according to an official plat thereof on file in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida, recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 38, of the Official Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Lot 8, Block 2, Corrective Replat, Riverside Park Subdivision, according to Official file in the Office of Clerk of Circuit Court in Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Kenneth R. Goodell

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM E.T., Wednesday, the 16th day of May, 2012.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2012.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2012

86897S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bill F. McCormick, the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said Tax Certificate for a Tax Deed to be issued thereon. The Parcel number, Certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: 1008

Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009

Application No: 2012-08

Description of Property: COMMENCE at a St. Joe Paper Company Concrete Monument marking the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 3, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, thence North 89 Degrees 29 Minutes 37 Seconds West along the North boundary line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 3, 1149.76 feet to a found 1/2" diameter iron rod and cap, stamped L.B. 0732; thence departing said Westerly right of way boundary line, North 85 Degrees 29 Minutes 00 Seconds West, 116.74 feet to a set 1/2" diameter iron rod and cap, stamped L.B. 7556 for the POINT OF BEGINNING. From said POINT OF BEGINNING continue North 85 Degrees 29 Minutes 00 Seconds West, 180.00 feet to a found 1/2" diameter iron rod and cap, stamped L.B. 0732; thence North 04 Degrees 12 Minutes 12



GARAGE/YARD SALES
3230

NEW TODAY

Mexcio Beach 408 California Dr. Sat. April 14th 8am - 12pm
Moving Sale
Furniture, movies, and to much to list.
Text FL04728 to 56654

HELP WANTED
4100

NEW TODAY

Port St. Joe- 1007 10th Street, April 13th and 14th, 10 am to 3 pm
Face Thrift Hut Tent Sale
Text FL04344 to 56654

GOOD THINGS TO EAT
3250

Sweatmore Strawberry Ranch
OPEN MAR 22nd 8AM
Weather Permitting
Mon-Sat 8am-7pm
Sunday 8am-5pm
850-722-4819

HELP WANTED
4100-4130

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

4100 - Help Wanted
4130 - Employment Information

HELP WANTED
4100

NEW TODAY

Bldg Const/Trades

JOB NOTICE

The City of Port St. Joe (pop. 3445) is accepting applications for the following positions:

Operator Trainee/ or Licensed Operators, Water Treatment Plant

Please submit an application and cover letter along with five references to The City of Port St. Joe, Attn. Charlotte Pierce, POB 278, Port St. Joe, FL 32457. Applications and a full job description can be found on our website cityofportstjoe.com. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Pierce at (850)229-8261. The Position will close on April 27, 2012. The entry level salary for an operator trainee will be \$12.08 per hr. All other licensed operators will be based on qualifications. The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace.
Web ID#: 34204960

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Mgmt

Deputy Director

The Apalachicola Riverkeeper, a non-profit corporation and 501(c)(3) public charity, is seeking a Part-Time Deputy Director. Details at www.apalachicola-riverkeeper.org/deputy_director0.aspx.
Web ID#: 34204232
Text FL04232 to 56654

HELP WANTED
4100

Food Svs/Hospitality

The Water Street Hotel

Full Service Cook. Apply at Water Street Hotel 329 Water Street, Apalachicola

HELP WANTED
4100

Food Svs/Hospitality

The Water Street Hotel

Is recruiting hospitality minded people in key positions. Applicants should be well groomed, pleasant, computer savvy, willing to work a variety of shifts and positions, and be drug free. Resume's may be submitted to or applications obtained from the Hotel front desk. Competitive wages. EOE. 329 water street, Apalachicola

North Florida Child Development, Inc.

is seeking **Teachers/Substitutes** for our 0-5 year old classrooms at our Gulf County Centers

Prefer a minimum of a CDA (FCCPC)

Pickup Applications at the Center

Or send resumes to smcgill@floridachildren.org

South Gulf County
153 Redfish Street
Port St. Joe, FL
Terri Bird, Center Manager
(850) 229-6415

North Gulf County
131 West River Road
Wewahitchka, FL
Jana Miller, Center Manager
(850) 639-6520

DFWP/M-F/7-5/EOE

HELP WANTED
4100

NEW TODAY

Logistics/Transport

Driver Wanted

Gulf County ARC and Transportation is accepting applications for a part-time driver. Hours vary depending upon need. Must possess a valid driver's license and be capable of lifting. Applicants must pass a physical, drug test, and background screening before hire. Applications may be picked up at our office at 122 Water Plant Road, Port St. Joe, Florida. Closing date for receiving applications will be April 20, 2012, 4:00 EST. Please call 229-6550 for more information. Gulf County ARC and Transportation is an Equal Opportunity Employer and maintains a Drug-Free workplace.
Web ID#: 34204707

HELP WANTED
4100

FRY COOK, COUNTER HELP & ICE CREAM SCOOPERS NEEDED

APPLY: Steamer's Hot Dogs

112 Reid Ave, Port St. Joe, FL

HELP WANTED
4100

HELP WANTED
4100

NEW TODAY

Logistics/Transport

Director, Gulf-Franklin Campus (Port St. Joe)

Through strong leadership, oversee the operations of the Gulf-Franklin Campus and work with college offices & the community to coordinate program and course offerings along with student services. Qualifications: Master's degree required; experience in higher education or educational administration desirable. Salary range starts at \$50k/year, based on degree and experience.
Apply by 4/27/12.

Reporter/Videographer

To report college news and events such as a network affiliate news reporter does; serve as the anchor, reporter & producer for college shows and news broadcasts; develop & script interesting news stories & human interest segments. Qualifications: HS diploma/equivalent & 1 yr. exp. in ENG/videography/editing, more requirements online. Range starts at \$9.71/hour. Previous applicants are still considered and don't need to reapply.
Apply by 4/27/12.

Women & minorities are strongly encouraged to apply. Application (must be completed) & additional info:
www.gulfcoast.edu/hr

GCSC is an EA/EO/DFW/Net employer. GCSC Equity Officer 850.872.3866

JOB NOTICE

The City of Port St. Joe (pop. 3445) is accepting applications for the following positions:

Operator Trainee/ or Licensed Operator, Waste Water Treatment Plant

Please submit an application to The City of Port St. Joe, Attn. Charlotte Pierce, POB 278, Port St. Joe, FL 32457. Applications and a full job description can be found on our website cityofportstjoe.com. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Pierce at (850)229-8261. The Positions will close on March 27, 2012. The entry level salary for an operator trainee will be \$12.08 per hr. All other licensed operators will be based on qualifications. The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace.

HELP WANTED
4100

Hospitality

RESORT VACATION PROPERTIES

Accepting Applications
*Full-time reservationist w/great benefits.
*Part-time seasonal housecleaning inspectors.
Both positions require weekend work. Apply in person 9-5 weekdays at 123 W Gulf Beach Dr, St. George Island

HELP WANTED
4100

Medical/Health

WEEMS MEMORIAL Weems Memorial

Is now hiring for the following positions:

- Dietary Aide
- EMT
- Med Tech
- Lab Tech
- RN

Applications are available at: www.weemsmemorial.com & may be submitted to Ginny Griner, WMH HR Director, gggriner@weemsmemorial.com
By mail to: PO Box 580, Apalachicola, FL 32320, or FAXED to (850)-653-1879
Web ID 34203836

HELP WANTED
4100

Medical/Health

Caring People

and CNAs needed. Join a team of people who make a difference in the lives of the elderly. Provide non medical companionship, in home help & personal care for the elderly. Must be flexible. PT leading to FT positions available in Apalachicola, Mexico Beach and Port St. Joe areas.
Home Instead Senior Care
Call Mon-Thur 9-3pm 850-640-1223 or toll free 1-866-301-1919
Web ID#: 34204310
Text FL04310 to 56654

HELP WANTED
4100

Medical/Health

Spot Advertising works!

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

HELP WANTED
4100

Medical/Health

Sea Crest Real Estate
108 S. E. AVE. A
CARRABELLE, FLORIDA 32322
850-697-9604 850-323-0444
www.seacrestre.com
www.firstfinest.com/carrabelle
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND RENTALS RENTALS

3 BR 2BA, UNFURNISHED HOUSE
Beautiful Bay View\$800

2 BR MOBILE HOME UNFURNISHED
Country, Private\$600

1 BR FURNISHED CONDO
Nice, Includes Utilities.....\$910

1 BR RIVER CONDO, BOAT SLIP
3 Night Minimum\$105 Plus Daily

3 BR 1 BA, FURNISHED HOUSE
Monthly Rate, Carrabelle.....\$850

1 BR 1BA, UNFURNISHED APT
Lanark, Remodeled, Inc Water\$475

2 BR 1BA UNFURNISHED APT
Lanark\$450

1 BR, SUN ROOM/DAY BED
Furnished, Lanark, Inc Utilities\$650

OFFICE SPACE
Hwy 98 Frontage, Carrabelle.....\$550 Plus Utilities

HELP WANTED
4100

Logistics/Transport

Now Hiring Captains and Mates

Retail help needed. Commission based, flexible schedule, part time. Shipwright Wood Boat builder with experience. Call (850) 274-1321 or send email augusta.west@ammfl.org.
Web ID#: 34201917

HELP WANTED
4100

Logistics/Transport

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

6100-6200

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

Choice Commercial Space coming available on Reid Ave. Corner of 3rd, adjacent to Mulberry Square. Currently successful pet store.
Call Patrick 850-527-6090 or Randy 251-978-2538

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

APARTMENT RENTALS
6110

For Rent Duplex

2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath, Large Kitchen & Family Room, Elevator, Swimming Pool, Game Room, T.V., Ice Machine, Laundry Room. Fully Furnished, includes Elec Power & Water, garbage pickup. \$1,100 month. + \$300 dep. Location: C30 2 mi East pass Raw Bar on left. 770-639-6203

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

APARTMENT RENTALS
6110

White City Clean 3/2 House!

2 Blk from boat ramp, quiet, long term, \$650 + Dep. Call 850-270-8757. Text FL03874 to 56654

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

MOBILE HOME/LOT RENTALS
6170

Port St. Joe- Small Furnished 1br 1ba travel trailer on private lot, 2 blocks from the beach. \$100/week or \$350/mo. Includes utils. Small pet okay. Call 941-720-4941

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

APARTMENT RENTALS
6110

White City- 3br, 2ba big decks, big yard two block from boat ramp \$650/mo. 527-6822

HELP WANTED
4100

Business/Commercial

COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

POWERED BY MONSTER'S **6sense** SEARCH TECHNOLOGY

TO HIS FRIENDS, HE'S IN MAINTENANCE.
TO THE LANDLORD, HE'S A MAGICIAN WHO MAKES PROBLEMS DISAPPEAR.

Great employees are the lifeblood of any great company. Finding them is the hard part, and finding the time is even harder. With Power Resume Search, you'll save both time and effort. It uses Monster's 6Sense search technology to deliver the best-qualified candidates - sorted, ranked and compared side-by-side. You get better matches to your job opportunities with unprecedented efficiency. So you can make the right person for your job magically appear.

emeraldcoastJobs.com | **monster**

Find the right person for your job today at emeraldcoastjobs.com

Port St. Joe Commercial For Lease Retail / Office Space

143 Acklins Island Drive-Cape San Blas
+/- 1000sf; \$10 psf mod gross; high visibility on Cape San Blas Road ; available May 1st

212 Hwy 98-Town Centre Building
1st, 2nd, 3rd floor suites avail; +/-1700-2250sf; \$6.75-\$8.75psf mod gross

202 Marina Drive
Centennial Bank Bldg 2nd & 3rd Floor Spaces Avail;
+/-491-5,000sf; \$12 psf mod gross

316 & 318 Reid Avenue
Office /Retail; +/- 1,700sf; Can be subdivided; \$13.25psf

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

219 Reid Avenue
Office/Retail; +/-5400 sf; subdividable \$7 psf mod gross (former Goodwill)

235 W. Gulf Beach Drive
Office/Retail; +/-800sf-1800;\$14psfmod gross

407 Reid Avenue
+/-905sf; move in ready; \$14psf 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

223 Monument Avenue
Four city lots fronting Hwy 98; \$375,000

407 Reid Avenue
+/- 4988 sf; 100% leased multi tenant bldg; On-site parking; \$349,500

401 Reid Avenue
+/- 5400 sf; Retail space; \$165,000; Avail for lease; Inquire for terms

Loggerhead Restaurant
Cape San Blas, +/-3000sf, FFE incl., .47 ac, on site-parking, sewer, asking \$350,000. Short Sale

516 1st Street
+/-11,400 sf office/warehouse : .09 acres; Four roll up and/or high clearance entryways; \$395,000

320 Marina Drive
Corner lot entry to Marina Cove : .14 acres; High visibility site; Call for details

Marina Cove
Lots 12, 13, & 14; \$375,000

PSJ Commerce Park
+/- 6.5 acre site : \$119,900; owner financing available

235 W. Gulf Beach Drive
Office/Retail; +/-5,335sf multi-tenant bldg St. George Island; Also avail for lease; \$399,000

Marketed Exclusively by:
850-229-6373

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE
7120

MULTI UNIT BUILDING

Fully Occupied
5400 total sq ft

Downtown
Reid Ave
\$249,900

Call:
850.527.2560

LOTS AND ACREAGE
7150

NEW TODAY

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

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE
7160

NEW TODAY

Zone 3: 1995 Cavalier 16x80' Mobile home. 3 bed, 2 ba. \$10,000 obo
Call: 850-653-2222

MOVING/STORAGE 9512

MOVING/STORAGE 9512

MOVING/STORAGE 9512

MOVING/STORAGE 9512

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

The Key to Savings Start here in Classifieds.

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.AMICAMINISTORAGEANDOFFICE.COM★