

Fireworks dispute settled

By **TIM CROFT**

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The Fourth of July fireworks show will go on as scheduled in Port St. Joe thanks to more than \$5,000 in donations from the community.

Not that it did much for simmering tensions between the Board of County Commissioners and the

Port St. Joe City Commission.

Dana Boyer, a member of the Port St. Joe Downtown Merchants Association who had been helping spearhead a community celebration of Independence Day, said during a special meeting Friday that after the BOCC meeting Tuesday she, and a host of members of the community, went to work.

Boyer, who helped establish years ago the annual fundraising

that underwrites the Mexico Beach fireworks, said she took it upon herself to address statements from the BOCC that the county would move the fireworks to a county park if the city did not chip in \$5,000.

The BOCC and Gulf County Tourist Development Council had pledged \$5,000 each toward the fireworks. The city, citing a tight budget and difficult economic

times, decided it could not afford to match those contributions.

The BOCC voted June 12 to move the fireworks if the city did not pony up the funds by Friday.

Boyer took the challenge and ran.

"I did this on my own," Boyer said. "I didn't have time to be authorized by a specific group. I had 2½ days."

The result was contributions

from various sectors of the community. City commissioners, County Commissioner Tan Smiley and city attorney Tom Gibson donated \$100 each.

Private individuals and businesses pledged anywhere from \$10 to \$1,000, the latter coming from Preble Rish Engineers, Boyer said.

See **FIREWORKS A7**

Lot split case sent back to council

By **VALERIE GARMAN**

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Three years and more than \$60,000 in attorney fees later, a Mexico Beach lot split case is back where it started.

What started as a simple lot split application submitted in 2009 has turned into a legal nightmare for the city and for property owners Joe and Mary Bush.

The Bushes applied for a lot split variance in September 2009, contending they had met all requirements under the city's land use regulations when they divided their lot in 2005.

Following rejection from the city planning board, the city council tabled the application for future consideration and continued to put it on the back burner for the next six months, despite the Bushes request for a public hearing.

In the meantime, the council approved a new land development code on April 13, 2010, which partly addressed the subdivision of property and required stricter neighborhood consistency. One month later, the application was denied by the council.

The Bushes then took legal action, bringing their case to the circuit court, appellate court, and back to the circuit court again.

Most recently, a court order signed by circuit Judge James B. Fensom on June 7 nullified the decision made by the Mexico Beach City Council in May 2010 to deny the petitioner's request for a residential lot division and subsequent "Final order Denying Request for Lot Split." The order will send the request right back to the city council where it started.

The case was heard in the Bay County Circuit Court after an appellate court decision in August 2011 that reversed a lower court decision in the land-use case.

See **LOT SPLIT A2**

BOUNTIFUL BLUEBERRIES

By **VALERIE GARMAN**

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Dan Christie's blueberry bushes are tough enough to survive hurricanes.

After Hurricane Opal in 1995, Christie remembers the seven rows of berry bushes nestled behind his stilted house in Simmons Bayou swimming in 22 inches of saltwater.

"The water turned the plants white, and they didn't bear fruit that year," Christie said. "But amazingly they survived."

Every summer when the berries become ripe, Christie's 1-acre backyard becomes "Bayou Blueberries" when he opens it to the public for blueberry picking.

Port St. Joe resident Ken Kennington was spotted picking blueberries with his son, Morgan, and 10-year-old nephew, Bobby Gay, on Tuesday afternoon.

Kennington said he recently went blueberry picking with his niece, who whipped up some fresh pies and cobblers with the fruit this past weekend.

"She baked some for Father's Day and they turned out great," he said, as he scoured a blueberry bush for the darkest fruits.

See **BLUEBERRIES A2**



VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

Bobby Gay, 10, picks a ripe one at Bayou Blueberries on Tuesday afternoon. Bayou Blueberries on CR 30-A in Port St. Joe has been in operation since the late '80s.

Barnes eyes post as harbor master

Special to The Star

Jerry Barnes has announced his intent to seek the office of Gulf County harbor master.

Barnes served on the Port St. Joe City Commission for two years and the Gulf County Commission for eight years. He said he believes

this experience equips him to serve the people of Gulf County as harbor master.

Formerly a governor-appointed position, the county harbor master is responsible for managing vessel movements, security and general oversight of the port.

Barnes has been a resident of Gulf County for 57 years. He graduated from Port St. Joe High School in 1961 and was employed with Arizona Chemical for 42 years, retiring in 2005.

He is the son of the late Frank and Lorell Barnes, both longtime residents of Port St. Joe. He was married to the late Elaine Wood Barnes for 46 years until her death in 2008. They have

See **BARNES A3**

BOCC votes against cuts to library, commodities program

By **VALERIE GARMAN**

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It's about \$200,000 down and \$300,000 to go for the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners.

The board debated potential revenue sources and budget cuts at a June 12 workshop to cope with the 6 percent drop in property values looming for the next fiscal year, which will leave the county with an estimated \$500,000 deficit.

During their last budget work-

shop, the BOCC took a firm stance against raising the millage, and decided to instead explore ways to whittle down the budget and garner more revenue for the county.

Commissioners voted in favor of decreasing the budget by \$334,451 and moving forward with \$59,250 worth of potential revenue sources. With budget increases estimated at \$147,856 or more for the upcoming fiscal year, Commissioners still need to come up with about \$300,000 in savings.

County Administrator Don Butler described the above numbers

as "still in the rough" since the county does not know at this time the amount of cash that will be carried forward and the amount of state revenue sharing, which may be down.

Of the proposed cuts presented by the county budget committee, commissioners voted against cutting \$50,000 from the library budget, and also against turning over the county commodities program to a non-profit, which would garner \$19,574 in savings.

Commissioners voted in favor of turning over parks and recre-

ation responsibilities to the Gulf County Tourism Development Council, which will save the county \$25,000 annually.

Other approved budget decreases include \$50,000 from the county courthouse maintenance budget, \$4,500 in funding from the Honeyville Community Center, the discontinuation of the county's Coastal Fitness Program for \$3,000 in savings, \$22,875 in fuel decreases, \$150,000 from public works attrition losses, \$22,000 in

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BLUEBERRIES

from page A1

The pies were so tasty, Kennington came back for more. Bayou Blueberries is in off of CR 30-A in Port St. Joe and is open for berry picking. Pickers are welcome anytime during daylight hours, and Christie said berries should be available for picking through July 4.

Bayou Blueberries runs on an honor system; pickers are instructed by a laminated flier to pick as many berries as they would like, weigh their berries and drop their money, \$2.50 per pound, in the adjacent box.

Christie, the chief deputy at the Gulf County Property Appraiser's office, isn't home most of the day and leaves payment discretion to the patrons of his berry patch.

"That's a testimony to the general honesty of the public," Christie said. "Only in Gulf County; it's like Mayberry."

Judging by the money in the box, Christie thinks there has been a pretty good turnout of pickers so far this season.

But Christie isn't in the U-Pick berry business for the money.

"It's not anything to make money," he said. "It's just something cool to do."

In previous years, Christie donated all of the money made from the berry operation to the Christian Charity "Voice of the Martyrs"

Christie said his blueberry plants produce fruit at different times each year, with June usually marking the peak of the season, but it isn't unusual to have early varieties and late varieties.

Christie has a background in the plant nursery business and admits his blueberry patch is not picture-perfect this summer, and is open to suggestions on bird management.

He said he is tired scarecrows, pie pans and every bird deflection in the book.

With the help of Gulf County Extension Agent Roy Lee Carter, Christie finally came to the conclusion he just has to plant enough for the birds and the people.

"Hundreds of birds flock there in streams," Christie said. "I tell people they fly in and walk out."



Bobby Gay, 10, shows off his bucket of fresh blueberries.

VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

LOT SPLIT

from A1

"The Mexico Beach City Council turned us down without us being able to present (our case) to them," Joe Bush said. "We did not receive due process with the council."

The appellate court reversed the case back to circuit court based on the Bushes claim of lack of due process.

The case will be brought back to Mexico Beach for a quasi-judicial hearing, where council members will have the power to approve or disapprove the lot split, said Mexico Beach City Manager Chris Hubbard.

The quasi-judicial hearing will be a public hearing before the Mexico Beach City Council, Hubbard said, but will run as more of a court proceeding than a regular city council meeting, set forth with more rigid requirements.

Hubbard said the hearing has not been scheduled but will be advertised and open to the public.

Bush said he has no intention of presenting his lot split request to the council again.

"I've done my part; I've fought this for five years," he said. "We just went through five years of court for nothing. We're right back where we started. The taxpayers' money is going down the drain again."

Bush said he is not backing down, and his next step would be to talk to his attorney.

"I've done everything I was supposed to do correctly," he said "It's just a waste of time and a waste of money."

Setting it STRAIGHT

A typo in last week's column "A Birds Eye View of St. Vincent" resulted in the wrong telephone number being published for contacting the turtle adoption program. The correct phone number is 229-6735 not 229-7635.

The story on candidate qualifying included the wrong date for this year's General Election. It is Nov. 6, not Nov. 8.

Information provided on the band playing during the community celebration of the Fourth of July was incorrect. The band is George, Cletus and Tom.

The Star regrets the errors.

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BARNES from page A1

two children: Keith and his wife, Lynn McGill Hendricks Barnes, and Karen and her husband, Phil McCroan. They also have seven grandchildren: Blake and Brett Barnes; Justin, Jesse and Haley McCroan; Shannon Hendricks Kiser and Krystal Hendricks. Jerry is married to Deborah Brumbaugh Barnes and has two stepchildren, Eric and Evan Brumbaugh.

Barnes has been a member of First Baptist Church for the past 34 years, where he served as deacon for more than 20 years.

He taught Sunday school, chaired the deacons and served on various committees including budget, personnel, music search, Lord's Supper and security. Barnes also has been actively involved in various community organizations.

He is a volunteer at the Food Pantry and the Gulf Coast Workforce Board in partnership with the Washington Improvement Group and the Christian Community Development Fund.

Barnes said he wants the people of Gulf County to know he will work hard as harbor master. He said he believes his honesty and integrity are characteristics that will keep the job of harbor master respected.

Barnes asks for your support in the upcoming election this August and invites any questions or concerns. He can be reached at 340-0510.

BOCC from page A1

unemployment payments and \$5,476 in life management payments.

A \$16,600 cut from the Economic Development Council fund was also approved, but Butler said it will require additional discussion because an interlocal agreement with Port St. Joe.

Other cuts that are under review include cutting funding for Wewahitchka's T.L. James Park for a savings of \$13,671, decreasing the number of county polling places to one per district and elimination of roadside debris pick-up for a savings of \$50,000 annually.

Commissioner Warren Yeager asked the budget committee to come back to the board with recommendations for mandatory garbage and roadside pick-up for county residents, with

an outlay of costs for contracting with a private-sector company.

"Calhoun County has mandatory pick-up; we're behind the times on this," Yeager said.

Yeager and Commissioner Bill Williams failed on a motion to move the county to mandatory garbage pick-up a few years back.

"Negotiations with waste management need to be a priority," Williams said. "And it needs to be done quick."

The commission approved \$59,250 in potential revenue sources including

\$25,000 for an increase in building department fees, which haven't been raised in more than 10 years. The county hopes to also garner \$30,000 in payments from Bay County for runs the Gulf County Emergency Management team makes to Mexico Beach. Commissioners also approved charging "dry run" fees for unnecessary calls to the county ambulance service, which would bring in roughly \$4,250.

Commissioners voted against a 5-cent local option gas sales tax, which could bring in \$140,000 in revenue annually.

Still up for review is an increase landfill fees.

The county currently charges \$35 per ton of garbage deposited at the landfill. The budget committee proposed doubling the fee to \$70.

"Obviously that (\$35 fee) doesn't pay for the landfill," said Commissioner Warren Yeager, who asked for a review on how much surrounding counties charge in landfill fees.

Yeager made a motion to increase the fee based on the average of what surrounding counties charged and the motion passed unanimously.

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VOTE FOR



Dear Voters,

I am writing this letter seeking your vote and support as your Gulf County Property Appraiser. When I decided to run for this position, I first prayed to ask God if this is the path I needed to take in my life for my family. I reached out to friends and family as well as from my two sons to make sure I had their unwavering support. Based on those prayers and the overwhelming support I received, the decision to run for Gulf County Property Appraiser came easy, as I have always had a strong desire and willingness to serve the great people of Gulf County.

My decision was also based on my qualifications and experience. My experience includes working with people as a friend, appraiser or consultant plus assistance with real estate, property appraisal, estate issues and taxes therefore qualifying me to deal with our local property issues. By serving as Special Magistrate for several counties in the Panhandle I had the opportunity to hear the requests for fair assessments and a fair taxation system. I am requesting your support in this campaign in order to assist the people of Gulf County with any real estate issues. I will work for fairness and the promotion of conservative ideas.

Over the past several years many have had to face difficult times in real estate and employment. While living in Gulf County I have had to accept assignments outside the county to meet my obligations. I continue to perform appraisals in and around our county plus special assignments wherever there is work. I worked for two years at the Okaloosa County Property Appraiser's Office as Director of Appraisals which required driving over four hours each day from Gulf County to Fort Walton Beach. Other employment included projects in Alabama and Texas which required driving over 25 hours each week so I could continue to raise my children, Trey, 16 years old and Luke, 12 years old here in Gulf County while they attended school in Wewahitchka. As stated above, I am not afraid of work or tackling issues nor afraid to stand up for what is right while being a vocal advocate for the people of Gulf County in regards to their property appraiser's office.

I am a Republican candidate running for property appraiser. Since I have republican opposition, only those registered as a Republican can vote for me in the primary election on August 14, 2012. In order to make it to the general election, I will need your vote, support, and hard work to make it happen. This campaign is not a campaign for Jamie Lester; it is a campaign for the people of Gulf County. This election is about representing everyone in Gulf County with creative ideas. And of commitment to achieve positive results.

Once you have reviewed the credentials throughout this campaign, ask yourself:

Do you want someone with experience and qualifications? Or someone who just needs a job?

Do you want someone who has a proven record and background?

Do you want someone who is knowledgeable on a vast array of property issues?

Do you want someone who is not afraid to stand up for fairness?

Do you want someone that you can talk to and get results?

If you answer yes to all of the above then the choice is clear, Vote for Jamie Lester for Gulf County Property Appraiser.

I thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me on my cell at 850-814-8102 or call my office at 850-639-4200, I look forward to visiting and talking with you.

Sincerely,

James E. "Jamie" Lester
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Opinion

So you are still picking cotton

Father's Day comes and goes; this was my twelfth without my Daddy. As strange as it sounds, I seem to get closer to him as the years go by. Maybe, it's that I find him more each day. I find him exactly where I knew I would.

I find him in me.

My Father's Day cards were wonderful. My children are as precious to me, as I am sure yours are to you. Someday, when I have time, I'm going to come up with a line of Father's Day cards that all end with, "Happy Father's Day Daddy." Maybe, that's my way to fortune and fame.

I don't want to be a father, or a "dad;" I want to be a Daddy. That is what my Daddy was.

Whatever the situation, I still feel Daddy's arm sweeping me behind him and him saying, "Don't worry." We had a few tough situations, where I could have easily worried or easily been scared. However, I don't think I'll ever find anyone who would tell you any different. If he was in front of you, they weren't getting to you.

I'm the middle son of three boys, I saw it all. Sometimes it wasn't pretty; he did what he had to do. He knew only one way to get things — to work.

On the wall of my office, there is a letter he sent home to his mother while serving in the Navy. Her address was, "Route One, Wedowee, Alabama." He was nineteen years-old and serving on the USS the Sullivans, a Fletcher class destroyer.

The Korean War was going on, but Daddy didn't say a word about it. He talked about football and his Randolph County Tigers maybe getting a shot at the County Championship. He was apologetic that he couldn't make it to the games, noting all he could do was "think about them."

He talked about the letters he had gotten from home and how happy they made him. However, Daddy did say that his baby sister hadn't sent anything lately and that it sure would be nice to get a "few lines" from her. Also, he said to tell his baby brother that he still hadn't gotten him anything for his birthday, but "...maybe I can before long."

By his tone and his reference to other events, it was obvious that the money situation was tough back home.

In one paragraph, Daddy notes to his mother, "So you are still picking cotton are you, you will keep picking until your head starts giving you more trouble and you won't be able to do nothing."



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
BN Heard

What else could she do?

Just keep picking other people's cotton...

Daddy always said, "You do what you have to do." Some folks say that; some folks know what it means to have to do it.

I never really knew my Daddy's relationship with his father. He didn't talk much about it and Daddy's father died before I ever knew him. In the letter, Daddy seemed to understand that his father was not really able to work, but was trying. I can only think that it was health related.

Daddy shot straight. After explaining to his mother, "...it looks like we have to do something," he went on to say, "... what you get, you get it yourself."

It was heartbreaking, reading the words of a nineteen year-old who was taking on more responsibility than he probably should have had to take on. At the same time, it makes me proud to know that Daddy was what he was, well before I was around.

Young people still do it every day. They work and raise their siblings, sometimes their own children, when they are much too young to have to worry about such things.

What choices do they have? They can quit, they can beg or they can "keep picking cotton."

Fortunately, I never have had to make such tough decisions and I never had to pick cotton. I will say that on this Father's Day, I'm proud to say that I had a Daddy who did have to make tough decisions and he did. He did it with a smile on his face and a swagger in his step that said, "You can't beat me."

At 19, in his letter, he told his mother not to worry, just like he told me.

I didn't. He signed his name with an airplane looking,

The real Rock of Gibraltar

My hometown has asked me to speak at something they call "Nights on Broadway". We're not talking New York City here. McKenzie, Tennessee's Broadway starts up in front of Bailey Moore Wrinkle's old hardware store and runs down past where they used to hold the animals on Mule Day. It bisects the very heart of our little city.



HUNKER DOWN
Kesley Colbert

I'm still pondering on the invitation. But I reckon Buddy Wiggleton and Reggie Lawrence had to work and LaRenda Bradfield must be a little under the weather.

This is the same town that kicked me out in 1965. Oh, they "held" me in school there for twelve long arduous years before giving me the boot. They crammed that Blue Bird reading class down my throat, made me conjugate verbs against my will, forced those logarithms on me and demanded I get up close and personal with Shakespeare, Poe and Edna St. Vincent Millay. And then, just when I thought I was figuring out life down at the end of North Stonewall Street, Mr. Warren stood up and told our graduating class to "go forth and find your dreams".

My dreams pretty much started and ended down on Stonewall where the blacktop gave out. I learned to ride a bike so I could get to town faster. Or zip over to the baseball field across from the pajama factory. We shot tin cans off fence posts. We chased Indians, Germans, martians and each other from one end of the "big ditch" to the other. Every person in town

shared life with me back in those days.

What a time to be young and taking it all in. I had a real girl friend. Everyone up at the Dixie Coffee Cup called me by my first name. Mr. Kennon would give me slices of hoop cheese while Mother bought groceries. Mr. Tommie Hill paid me to pump gas into his customer's cars. I thought life

couldn't get much better... The end of summer after graduation found me two hundred miles from the house, abandoned on a college campus where old professors and wide-eyed freshman not only didn't know my name, they couldn't pronounce it even when I spelled it out for them. By Thanksgiving and the first snow storm I was beyond lost and lonely. I would have quit but I thought of Miss Carolyn and Miss Barbara Clark, Coach Givens and Clella Mae Carter. Gosh, they had put so much time in me. They believed in me! I was not about to go home in the middle of the year and tell them I couldn't make it.

I gritted my teeth and figured it wasn't as tough as a Coach Camp basketball practice. My goodness gracious, nothing on earth was as difficult as what he would put you through. I squared my shoulders and walked into class like I belonged there. I learned not because I suddenly had a rash of smartness. I persevered because so many people in a sleepy little village in West Tennessee had poured so much of themselves

into me. Professors noted a change. The college coaches commented on my new alertness. I didn't bother with explaining that failing wasn't an option where I came from.

The glitz and glamour of college life never beckoned. Mr. Ed Wiley had been quietly warning us for years in Sunday School class about just such stuff. Oh, I tried some things and marveled at some things, but listen, I never even approached the deep end, you don't have any idea how persistent Mr. Wiley was. Besides, Mr. Dwayne Melton would have ridden that big horse over if he thought I was about to mess up. There were dozens of people keeping track. You just thought you were passing through McKenzie those first eighteen years.

A lifetime of fitting in with others was never a problem. Pam Collins, Bobby Brewer, Ricky Hale, Charlotte Melton, Pam Garret, John IngramI could go down the whole list. We'd been "working things" out and "getting along" since Dr. Holmes birthed us all. We'd hunker down in the back of Frank's Dairy Bar and talk about life, loves, adventures, the future ...all the things I have found myself in the middle of since moving away. I hope just one of them appreciates me half as much as I am thankful for each and every one of them. Gosh, the Necco Wafers we tossed at each other in the darkness of the old Park Theatre. And it's a wonder someone didn't get killed sliding down that hill on Forrest Avenue. I've seen fights

break out while choosing up side over at the pajama factory field. We honed our social graces together.

Marriage was easy for me. I grew up around Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Mitchum. What a couple. They didn't hold hands and tell me about the love they shared. It wasn't necessary, they had so much love for each other it splashed over on "that middle Colbert boy". Golly, how much I learned from them.

When I had sons of my own my mind dialed up immediately not only my Dad, but oh, so many fathers from my childhood days. Those memories were special, but the training and the thought processes developed in those formative years have been invaluable.

I don't know what I could possibly tell a crowd of folks in McKenzie today that would be pertinent or educational about my time there. I have effectively been away now for forty-seven years. Mark me down in the "has been" column. But also let it be noted how fortunate I was. I came along at exactly the right moment in exactly the right place and the result was a life that shaped up and played out way better than I ever deserved. I count it a special gain that a little village took such a liken to a young wet-behind-the-ears whippersnapper like me. And I'm living proof that the old maxim rings truer today than ever before: You can take the boy out of McKenzie ...but you can't take McKenzie out of the boy.

Respectfully,
Kes

RESTORE fines focused on oyster reef restoration

Special to The Star

After a comprehensive investigation into the hiring potential of 130 nationwide firms involved in the oyster reef restoration industry, the Duke University Center on Globalization, Governance & Competitiveness recently released a report, "Restoring Gulf Oyster Reefs: Opportunities for Innovation," finding that oyster reef restoration projects could provide quadruple economic returns for Gulf Coast states.

The study comes as Congress is in the final stages of considering passage of the RESTORE the Gulf Coast States Act. The legislation would ensure billions of dollars in penalties for the 2010 Gulf oil disaster would be returned to the region and dedicated to gulf restoration. This legislation, along with billions of dollars from the ongoing Natural Resource Damage Assessment for the disaster, could be used to repair the damaged Gulf ecosystem and jumpstart the gulf economy.

"America's oyster reefs are a hidden jewel that provide quadruple economic returns," said Shawn D. Stokes, research analyst for the center. "They maximize the return on investment in coastal restoration by boosting industries vital to the U.S. economy, supporting the nation's largest fishing industries, stabilizing and protecting the valuable Gulf Coast and filtering water to provide clean, safe, beautiful areas for recreation and tourism industries — in addition to creating jobs in a new emerging industry for oyster reef restoration."

Among its key findings, the study identified 130 firms directly (including oyster harvesting) and indirectly (such as materials and construction) involved with oyster reef industry and concluded that incorporating innovative oyster reef designs into the Gulf Coast states' oil spill restoration efforts would provide new job opportunities in the Gulf and 17 other states. More than 80 percent of the identified employment locations are based in the five Gulf states, and 68 percent of the firms qualify as small

businesses by sales, according to Small Business Administration guidelines. Many of these firms are small, innovative startup companies striving to be at the forefront of the emerging oyster reef industry. Healthy oyster reefs, as nurseries for fish, are vital to the 200,000 jobs in the region's \$2.4 billion fishing industry.

"Investments in oyster reefs help small businesses like ours create jobs, build innovative products and support our local economy," said Stephen Addington, co-owner of Gulf Coast Aggregates near Carrabelle. "Restoration is not only good for small businesses, it is vital for the economy here in the panhandle — now and in the future."

"Our products can immediately be put to work in restoring the wetlands of Louisiana and in building oyster reefs that help our local economy thrive. With final passage of the RESTORE Act and the new projects it would fund, we can create needed jobs and help ensure a healthy future for our oysters," said Stephanie Victory, president & CEO of HESCO Bastion USA.

Specifically, the study notes that:

- * Increasing oyster production will generate revenue for the commercial oyster industry and create thousands of jobs in seafood processing. Oyster shuckers and seafood processors hold 30 to 50 percent of seafood industry-related jobs across the Gulf.

- * One acre of oyster reef increases fisheries catch values by \$4,200 a year by providing nooks and crannies of habitat for dozens of marine resident species.

- * Each individual oyster filters up to 1.5 gallons of water per hour, removing excess nitrogen that contributes to marine dead zones, providing a service that avoids the need for expensive wastewater treatment plants to provide the same service.

- * Each acre of oyster reef provides \$6,500 in denitrification services annually.

- * Oyster reefs stabilize bottom sediments, reduce wave energy, prevent erosion and fortify wetlands to serve as horizontal levees that provide \$23 billion worth

of storm protection annually to Gulf Coast businesses and communities as well as the oil and gas pipeline infrastructure offshore, which ensures economic and energy security for the United States.

The study also serves as a follow-up to an earlier Duke University study released in December, which determined that using Clean Water Act penalties from the 2010 oil disaster could create jobs that would benefit at least 140 businesses with nearly 400 employee locations in 37 states, including more than 260 in the Gulf Coast and 60 in Florida. Two-thirds of these companies also qualify as small businesses, and all would benefit from the dedication of Gulf oil spill fines to gulf restoration funding, as through the RESTORE Act.

State-specific initiatives that are already under way include:

- * In Alabama, a broad coalition of organizations has initiated the "100-1000 Restore Coastal Alabama" plan that sets out to build 100 linear miles of oyster reefs.

- * In Louisiana, the Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act agency is experimenting with a variety of oyster reef restoration designs as part of their regular coastal restoration demonstration projects to fortify against erosion from hurricane and storm waves.

- * In Florida, most of the restoration projects are funded by the Department of Environmental Protection and are sub-tidal oyster cultch reefs designed to improve biodiversity, increase fishery production and provide shoreline protection.

- * In Mississippi, The Nature Conservancy recently received two grant awards to build 35 acres of new oyster reef in a large area north of the east/west CSX rail line that prohibits commercial harvest of shellfish.

- * In Texas, the Parks and Wildlife Department has worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to install subtidal cultch reefs to boost marine fisheries production.

The study was made possible by support from the Walton Family Foundation.

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Improving financial literacy, here and abroad

By JASON ALDERMAN

Would you be surprised to learn that parents in many poorer countries often spend considerably more time talking with their children about money management than in wealthier countries like the United States? I was.

That's just one interesting nugget revealed at the sixth annual Financial Literacy and Education Summit recently hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and Visa Inc. Renowned U.S. and international financial experts tackled the theme, "International Solutions to Improving Financial Literacy," sharing successes and challenges

faced in their own countries, as well as presenting new research that explores ways that financial knowledge and behavior can be improved.

Janet Bodner, editor of Kiplinger's Personal Finance, shared findings from the 2012 Global Financial Barometer, a new study cosponsored by Kiplinger's and Visa. Some global 25,500 participants were asked about their personal financial habits and opinions. Assessing that data, the Barometer ranked the financial literacy levels of people in 28 countries. Among the more interesting findings:

- Brazil topped the list as having the most financially literate people, followed by Mexico, Australia, the U.S.

and Canada.

- 68 percent of survey respondents had fewer than three months' worth of emergency reserves to fund basic needs during an unexpected financial event like job loss.

- 25 percent of high-income respondents had less than three months of living expenses in savings. In the U.S., for example, the average person had only 2.9 months of expenses saved.

- Mexico and Brazil topped the list of places that parents talk to their kids ages 5-17 about money most often, with Mexicans talking to their kids at least 41.7 days a year and Brazilians 38.1. American families were in the middle of the pack at about 25.8 days out of the year.

- When asked at what age governments should require schools to teach financial literacy, U.S. respondents ranked near the bottom at 11.9 years. By comparison, more than half of Brazilians surveyed believe such education should begin before age 9.

- In over half the countries, a majority believe that teens and young adults do not understand financial basics, such as budgeting, savings, debt and spending responsibly.

Bodner noted that these results add to our body of knowledge about financial literacy. "You first have to identify what the problems are in your particular country, city or school, and then determine what is

effective in handling those situations," she said. A more detailed summary of the Barometer's key findings can be found at www.practicalmoneyskills.com/barometer.

William Walstad, an Economics professor at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, presented another interesting study which showed that people who scored poorly on a financial literacy test but were confident in their money-management abilities exhibited similar abilities to manage credit cards as did those with stronger test skills; while those who had high test scores but lacked confidence displayed much more negative credit behavior. Walstad said these findings suggest

that building confidence has a strong role to play in financial education.

Bottom line: The panelists agreed that all of the countries represented share many of the same challenges for boosting financial literacy including gaining wide access for programs to be tested, evaluating their results, and the fact that each has very diverse populations with different needs at different periods in their lives.

To watch a free webcast of the Summit, visit www.practicalmoneyskills.com.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Volunteering in Gulf County

Dear Editor

This is response to the article on volunteering that appeared in the June 14 edition of The Star.

I think John and Carlene Parker symbolize what volunteering is all about in Gulf County and they have been recognized for it but not enough. They appear at every government function and attentively listen to the good, bad and different regardless of the political spins placed on them by various Commissioners. They freely give of themselves for many activities as an example to all of us and yet it seems that anyone who isn't born here is referred to as a "Blow In". This is a ridiculous effort to divide the old existing families from the new arrivals who bring with them the hope and possibility to continue this wonderful way of life to a dying community. The new families do not want to destroy anything; we moved here because of the way it is and want to protect it.

When my family and I moved here 11 years ago we all volunteered for anything and everything possible. We had no local favorite politicians or political positions. All we knew was that this was heaven compared to Atlanta where crime was rampant, traffic was horrific and the pace of life sped past you so fast that you did not realize 30 years had slipped away. What first attracted us to Gulf County was

the environment but we knew that beauty is only skin deep so before we decided to take the plunge, we attended the First United Methodist Church and met some of the Elders of the community. We were embraced immediately and made to feel special like you would when visiting your grandparents. We meet amazing people like Elsie Griffin, Jim Guilford and George Core who had stories to tell that were beyond amazing. I felt we found our home, the place where we wanted to finish raising our children and one day turn our toes up as others before us. Almost immediately, our children all volunteered for local projects through the Church like painting houses in need of work and my wife and I joined civic groups and organizations to contribute what we could to improve our community to help maintain the caring culture of a small town we discovered and were enjoying. So, it is the people of Gulf County that is why we stayed, why we volunteered and why we still care to this very day.

If you volunteer and expect some trophy or fanfare by those you helped, then you have the wrong idea about volunteering. A volunteer is a unique person who wants to give what they can in talent, time or funds because they care and it is the right thing to do. We must all give back and the recent article in the paper about volunteering is so appropriate at this time.

A long time ago, all elected officials were considered volunteers and expected no compensation. They

cared for our country in way much different than today's "Career Politicians" and without any hidden agenda's to promote them personally. Look around you today, these people are hard to find and on the endangered species list. This brings me to tell you that now I have confidently selected a political position which I feel strongly about, motivated only by experiences that I encountered while innocently volunteering in our community.

It seems that a few like to make decisions for all to insure their personal business is protected. They thrive on control, spins and hold people's principles hostage that work for them somewhat akin to the Paper Mill control that use to be here. It is almost as if the intimidation to everyone who had a job and was afraid to speak out oozed from the paper mill into the hands of a few local controlling (born and raised here) citizens. All one has to do is look at where Gulf County is compared to other counties: schools, population, employment, income and opportunities for our children and grandchildren. If they call us "Blow Ins" then they must be "Blow Outs".

Look, I do not care if you are a Democrat, Republican, Independent or what. Vote for who you want but do not make the mistake of re-electing any County Commissioners. The existing County Commissioners have not helped us in any way. Here is one huge obvious (among many) example; Remember the oil spill? Remember they all voted to protect us and sue BP? What happened next shows their loyalty to the people. All of a sudden, the suit

was removed, Commissioners started working for BP Contractors - like County Commissioner Carmen McLemore who was paid \$11,400 per week (verified on his state financial disclosure paperwork filed with Ethics Commission). You should ask the Commissioners, "Why did Franklin County receive twice as much from BP settlement than Gulf County and we were closer and sustained more damage?"

Do not forget what they have done to us. Disgraceful. Let's get people in control that want to do the right thing for all of us and not just for themselves.

Jim Garth
Port St. Joe

June Grass on our beach is a problem

Dear Editor:

How can a small town like Mexico Beach afford to keep its beach in pristine condition, including raking the June Grass on a regular basis? Over in St. Joe Beach, the grass is everywhere. It smells, attracts biting flies, and is quite an eyesore to many. There is a tractor and sand rake sitting idle at the firehouse. With all of the money from BP handed out to promote tourism, why have our politicians neglected this situation? One of the best attractions for our area is the beach. It is time for action. Instead of buying gift cards that magically disappear, how about using resources to rake the grass?

Kevin Welch, Broker-Owner
Pelican Walk Real Estate, Inc.

Lobbyists' Nirvana

Fellow Gulf Countians,

Currently much light is being shed on an organization called the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). This organization is nothing but a lobbyists' nirvana. So what is it and who belongs to ALEC?

ALEC claims to be an organization dedicated to the advancement of free market and limited government principles through a public-private partnership between state legislators and corporations. Can you detect an odor here yet?

ALEC promotes conservative agendas such as hostility to collective bargaining, minority voter suppression and the weakening of environmental laws. So just who exactly runs this lobbying group?

The ALEC Board of Directors consists of 26 U.S. Senators and State Representatives, 24 of whom are Republicans. The 22-member Private Enterprise Board consists of some of the largest corporations in this country: Koch Companies, Johnson & Johnson, American Bail Corp., State Farm, Kraft, Reynolds American, AT&T, Exxon Mobil, Peabody Energy and the list goes on and on.

You can easily guess what these corporations want of our elected officials: undue influence. In 2011 Florida lawmaker Rachel Burgin (R-Riverview), introduced an ALEC bill to cut corporate taxes that read "whereas it is the mission of the American Legislative Exchange Council to advance . . ." Burgin swiftly withdrew the bill after consulting with the Board and submitted it again without the ALEC language; however, there was no doubt as to where it came from.

What's interesting is that many of the corporate influence peddling members of ALEC are now bailing out because the kitchen is getting hot. Coca Cola, Kraft, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, McDonald's, Proctor & Gamble and, very recently, WalMart.

This is just another example of both parties being unduly influenced by big money. We have the Supreme Court to thank for that with their Citizens United (is that an oxymoron or what) decision.

Local residents may not know the name of the Florida state chair of ALEC but, hold your breath, why it's our own Jimmy Patronis.

Respectfully,
Tom Knoche
Port Saint Joe

CRANKS from page A1

"Love, Albert."

My godmother Phyllis called me to wish me a Happy Father's Day and to remind me that every day was "Our Father's" day.

She then told me, "Thank Him 7 times and do it 7 times a day." Daddy had this thing about the number 7. I told Phyllis this and asked her why she brought it up. She didn't

know why, she only told me about the number 7 meaning "complete."

We discussed numbers in the Bible, and then talked about bedbugs and chiggers. When we were finished, she told me she loved me and I told her I loved her.

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

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Send your letters to :

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PHOTOS BY DAVID ADLERSTEIN | The Times

From left are Jostyn Tipton, professional dancer Scott Benson and, in "Shopping for Shoes," Jackie Collinsworth, Amber Henning, Erin White and Brooke Moore.

TOEING from page A1

the standard for choreographed smoothness, with those of the young girls.

Prancing around in shopping bags, the opening number "You Better Shop Around" set the stage for what was to come.

Interspersed with the numbers were senior solos by Montez Walker, who earned a \$200 scholarship for his newfound study with Nobles, and by Erin White, a Port St. Joe High School grad who completed 14 years of study with Nobles and received a \$2,000 scholarship.

June Gray, who has studied 29 years with her daughter, offered a delightful number, "Totes," complete with umbrella. Linda Griffin, who has danced with Nobles for 17 years, offered a

solo of her own. And of course, the older high school girls, all dressed in white, again performed Nobles' signature homage to divine inspiration "Amazing Grace."

Professional choreographer and dancer Scott Benson delighted the audience with a whirlwind number, in which he shared the stage with White, Walker and several of the other dancers he instructed during the year at several guest appearances.

One delightful moment in the afternoon show was a number "Western Wear," in which guest appearances on the stage were made by Superintendent Nina Marks, County Commissioner Noah Lockley and his challenger Valentina Webb, School Board

member Teresa Ann Martin, sheriff's candidate Cliff Carroll and school board candidate Pamela Shiver.

Nobles also presented awards at the conclusion of the recital to Debby Ruffner for 26 years; Rita Theis for 25; Linda Maloy for 23, Bonnie Smith for 22; Griffin for 17; and Patricia Perryman for 12.

Younger girls receiving awards were Holly Chambers, for 11 years; Ella Friedman for six; and Meredith Alford, Eve Bond, Emily Gay, Mackenzie King, Shaylee Martina, Gracyn Paul, Olivia Poloronis and Kylee Smith, each for three.

On June 13-16, several students came away winners in the Platinum National Dance Competition at the Marina Civic

Center in Panama City. The dancers were among 365 acts presented during the four-day dance marathon.

Two top overall awards were earned by White and Walker with a hip-hop number choreographed and danced by the two in the Senior Duet Trio Division. The awards included Top Overall, Platinum, and they were in the top three out of 26 acts competing for grand champion in Best of the Beach.

The legendary Hot Flashes dancing group won top overall in Adult Jazz Division with a number called "Trouble," which also won them a Platinum award. Dancers in the group

include Wanda Barfield, Gray, Maloy, Nobles, Ruffner, Theis and White dancing for Patricia Perryman.

Gray did a song and dance number to "It Had to be You," winning a Platinum Award.

Pam Nobles Dance Studio encourages students to enter local, district and national competitions. The studio is proud of the achievements of its students and appreciates the help of encouragement of parents and the community. Nobles has accompanied dancers all over the country, where they have won numerous awards over her 31 years of teaching dance and baton.

DAVIS from page A1

Millender, who has worked for the county for more than 10 years, first at the landfill, was questioned about whether she had the necessary certifications for the post.

A notary public, she has completed several FEMA emergency management courses and supervisory training at Florida State University, but she is not TREEO-certified.

"It doesn't take a certificate to run the landfill," she said, noting Johnson allowed his certification to

lapse some time ago. Millender said she had never been given the opportunity to complete TREEO certification.

After both interviews, County Attorney Michael Shuler said, based on the advertised requirements for the position, Millender was not qualified to take the director's job because she lacked TREEO certification, did not have a class A commercial driver's license and, because she was a woman, could not supervise male inmates in Florida.

Shuler called Lucy Turner, the county's consulting labor attorney, during the meeting. He said she agreed commissioners could not consider an underqualified

candidate for the position. Shuler said the county could be sued for doing so.

After receiving this advice from Shuler and Turner, commissioners voted 4-1 to promote Davis to the director's position, with Commissioner Cheryl Sanders opposed. Commissioners voted to increase Davis' salary from \$40,800 to \$45,800, with Chairman Pinki Jackel and Sanders opposed.

Jackel argued that an increase to \$45,000 was more appropriate, especially given improved retirement package that comes with the director's position.

When asked what improvements he proposed if given the director's position, Davis said he hopes to step up the recycling

program and increase attention to parks and boat ramps. He said he looks to the public for suggestions to make county services better.

Davis said his biggest challenge is "having the board behind me. I would like to have an open relationship with all you directors. If you feel there's something going on that you don't like, just call me."

When asked what his weaknesses were, Davis said, "I think I've overcome them. Years back, Mr. Johnson told me where my weaknesses were."

Commissioners will now seek an assistant director for the department. Shuler has provided commissioners with a detailed written job description.

WILDFIRES from page A1

on site for its duration. In all, 24 acres of forest belonging to The St. Joe Company burned.

Davis praised the teamwork of everyone who responded to the emergency. "We have had really good support from the highway patrol, local fire departments, Transfield and The St Joe Company," he said. Transfield Services is the firm under contract to maintain state roads in the county.

Davis said the Forest Service doesn't charge for accidental fires like lightning strikes but does charge a suppression fee for fires purposely or accidentally set by people. "It adds up fast," he said, cautioning everyone to

"At least we're back on the right track.

Forty percent of our annual rainfall comes in June through August, and we're off to a good start."

Tim Barry
NOAA forecaster

be diligent when burning.

Todd Schroeder, wildfire mitigation specialist for the Forest Service, said this week the Lake Morality fire is "all wrapped up."

He said he is concerned about the drought and that, in spite of last week's rain, conditions favorable to wildfire could rapidly return in windy weather.

Tim Barry, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecaster in Tallahassee, said Apalachicola has received almost 9 inches of rain so far this month, more than three times the monthly average of 2.65 inches.

But, he cautioned, the area is still about 3 inches below average for the year.

"Last year was a very dry year, and we tend to forget that," he said. "Tallahassee had the second driest year on record. The drought goes back beyond Jan. 1. It would take a tropical system, or a couple, to make up for last year, and that would not be beneficial."

Barry said lightning is the leading cause of wildfires in Florida, second only to fires ignited purposely or accidentally by human beings.

"At least we're back on the right track," he said. "Forty percent of our annual rainfall comes in June through August, and we're off to a good start."

Barry said there will be a better chance of widespread rainfall beginning Friday.

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FIREWORKS from page A1

"We might not agree with everything, but they've given a lot back to the community," Boyer said of Preble Rish.

As of midday Friday, Boyer had collected \$5,950 with more due to come in later Friday. She estimated the final total would approach \$7,000.

"This truly represents a broad range of the community," Boyer said. "The response was great and a lot of individuals stepped up. It makes the fireworks belong to the entire community."

Boyer added that the input she had received during her efforts was that folks wanted to see the city contribute something.

Commissioner Lorinda Gingell said the city never budgeted for the fireworks because in 2011 it was determined that the TDC and Gulf County Chamber of Commerce would fund the show.

However, both agencies went through sea changes in the past year — new boards, new directors — and she understood "that some events might have been lost track of" in the process.

City Commissioner Bill Kennedy said that although the city was strapped, with a very tight budget, he would suggest the city contribute \$500.

The motion passed unanimously, but City Commissioner Rex Buzzett said his vote was "for the people of Port St. Joe, not any threat from the county."

Earlier in the meeting, Buzzett expressed his anger concerning comments made by county commissioners on Tuesday night when, in particular, BOCC chairman Commissioner Bill Williams questioned the leadership provided by city commissioners.

Buzzett called the BOCC motion to move the



fireworks the most "vengeful, spiteful" action he had seen the BOCC take toward the city. He said the BOCC was acting like a bully and trying to intimidate the city and make commissioners look bad.

"They are trying to make us look like the bad guys when we are being careful with tax dollars," Buzzett said. "It would look really bad if we donated \$5,000 now because they tried to intimidate us. I can't say enough how upset I am with those guys."

Mayor Mel Magidson, who pushed to pass Kennedy's motion and adjourn the meeting because he was "getting tired of trying to bite my tongue," said the city didn't have the \$5,000.

"We just didn't feel like we could just blow up \$5,000 in these times," Magidson said. "And citizens in the

city are also paying county taxes so they are paying for this twice."

Williams, in attendance, said he disagreed with Buzzett and there was nothing vindictive in the BOCC action. Williams said the county did not have the general liability insurance needed for the show — having never staged fireworks — and therefore was in a difficult position.

"This is the best thing that could happen," Williams said of the resolution of the dispute. "I commend the merchants and the individuals who donated and I think the city should contribute."

Though issues remain to be resolved — finalizing the location and a contractor — the meeting ended with the Fourth of July fireworks in Port St. Joe back in launch position.

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AGENDA for Annual Meeting

Date:
June 30, 2012

Time:
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM EST

Place of Meeting:
St. Joseph's Bay Golf Club

Guests

Gulf County Elected Officials & EDC, TDC, Port Authority, SGCFD

Candidates

Meet & Greet 11AM EST

- Call to Order
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- Treasurer's Report

Official Updates & Reports

- Taxes & Appraisals
- Economic Development in Gulf Co.
- Port Authority
- Tourist Development Council
- Gulf County Schools
- Gulf County Courts
- County Budget
- Beach Restoration - FEMA
- CBRA progress
- Recycling
- Sign Ordinance
- Fire Department
- Sheriff Nugent Report
- Widening of SR 30A-Dot
- Lighthouse Dilemma
- Other business

- Election of the 2012-2013 Board
- Adjournment

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Summer is here!

Photos special to The Star

Top: A measurement shows that this mole crab is barely 2 centimeters long.
Above: A close-up of the tiny, colorful coquina clams.

Let's go on a beach safari

By JESSICA THERRIault
Special to The Star

Not everyone has a green backyard with bushes and trees. Florida is a peninsula, with the longest coastline of all states in the continental United States. Most of Florida's nearly 19 million residents live less than 60 miles from the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico, making the beach, sand and saltwater their "backyards."

So let's go on a summer backyard beach safari!

Begin your treasure hunt by shelling. Take a walk along the water's edge, and you'll discover hundreds of varieties of shells hurled onto the beach by waves that roll or crash onto the shore.

Seashells were once living organisms. The shell is the hard, protective outer part of an animal, usually a mollusk. Mollusks are animals like scallops, snails, clams and oysters. These creatures make their own shell. When the animal dies or gets eaten by another creature, the empty shell stays empty or becomes a home to other sea critters, like hermit crabs.

Shelling provides hours

of fun while looking for that one-of-a-kind, colorful treasure. Before you keep a shell, make sure there is nothing living in it. Otherwise, you need a special license to keep it.

Another activity is digging in the sand for coquinas (pronounced "Ko-KEE-nahs") and mole crabs. It's easy to spend hours getting lost in the color and movement of coquinas and the squirms of mole crabs. Coquinas are tiny clams that live just below the surface of the sand where the waves roll in. Tides carry and deposit them along the shoreline, where they feed on microscopic organisms in the sand. They are a dazzling sight with wonderful colors, like tiny jewels. Sometimes you don't need to dig because incoming waves will unearth them. Watch as they furiously dig, seeking cover and food as each wave rolls back out to sea.

Mole crabs are small and do not look like a typical crab, nor do they look like a mole. They are fast and will bury themselves quickly in an effort to hide. To find one, dig gently in sand near the water, just as if you are looking for

coquinas.

As you dig, they may bury deeper into the sand, but if you can get underneath one, then you can scoop it up. They may tickle you but don't worry. They do not bite. Be gentle, because they are soft and fragile. When you are finished observing the crab gently place it back into the soft, wet sand.

Bird-watching is another fun activity. Gulls live on the beach and are known to swoop in to steal your food! Pesky as they might be, they are still fun to watch. Other birds to watch at the beach are pelicans. Pelicans glide just above the water's surface, and then SPLOOSH! They dive into the water head-first to grab a fishy meal.

It's also fun to look for bird tracks in the wet sand. Can you identify the tracks you find? Do not chase the birds to make them fly. Simply watch and admire their behavior.

While on your safari, be sure to wear sunscreen so you can avoid sunburn, and have fun this summer!

For more information, contact Jessica Therriault at Jessica.Therriault@MyFWC.com.

Warm weather means active alligators, crocodiles

Special to The Star

As the weather has heated up, so too have Florida's alligator and crocodile activities, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) reminds Floridians and visitors to be cautious when having fun in and around water.

Florida is home to two native crocodilians: the American alligator, which is found in all 67 counties; and the American crocodile, which may be found

in coastal areas of the Keys and in southeast and southwest Florida. Both species have shared Florida's waters with people for centuries.

The FWC recommends keeping pets away from the water. There are other precautionary measures people should take to reduce the chances for conflicts with alligators and crocodiles, and they are available in the Living with Alligators brochure at MyFWC.com/Alligator and the Living with Croco-

diles brochure at MyFWC.com/Crocodile.

The FWC advises, if you have concerns with an alligator or crocodile that poses a threat to you, your pets or property, call the FWC's Nuisance Alligator Hotline at 866-FWC-GATOR (392-4286).

Alligators and crocodiles are an important part of Florida's heritage and play a valuable role in the ecosystems where they live. For more information on alligators and crocodiles, visit MyFWC.com/Alligator.

Are some boaters reducing our fish stock, ruining what we catch?

By Rudy Socha
Special to The Star

I know who screwed up your favorite fishing hole and why the fish you catch may taste a little funny.

Everyone has seen them, the recreational boats that have three smokers aboard going out for a day of beer and fishing. Upon return, there are no empty beverage containers, cigarette butts, or single use plastic bags. They consumed the goods and disposed of the waste. Unfortunately, they disposed of it while on-site, not that littering is acceptable anywhere.

Most boaters feel that the ocean is a massive body of water, and it is, but the problem is most boaters travel the same routes, hang out at the same popular fishing holes, and litter the same area. This causes bottom carpeting. The food chain in any area starts with the bugs and seaweed living on the bottom. What happens is the bottom becomes covered with the cans and bottles and the exposed sea or lake floor of mud and seaweed is reduced. If you have 20 littering boats at your favorite fishing hole drinking and littering two 12 packs for 100 days during the year, they would have littered 24,000 beverage containers. This means each year they carpet 28,000 square feet of the bottom terrain. Think about the cumulative 10 year affect on the bottom structure and what fishing in this area would be like if that litter was not there.

Aside from littering the bottom with beer and beverage bottles, cigarette butts are one of the worst items to flick overboard. Feeder and surface fish will have eaten them before the end of the day. Their digestive juices extract the chemicals from the plastic in the filter and deposit these cancer causing agents into the muscle and fat tissue of the fish you are catching and grilling up at home.

The bulk of the carcinogens in every cigarette is collected in the filter. Each filter contains 69 known carcinogens. Some of these filter-trapped carcinogens never enter a smokers bloodstream, but when you start eating these cancer causing agents, they enter your system and will have an accumulated effect on you.

There are several other items that inadvertently end up in the water whenever they are brought aboard a boat. The single use plastic bags containing all the items you picked up on your way to the

marina always seems to catch air and set sail as soon as you use the last item in the bag. The other item that ends up in the water is Styrofoam lids from coolers. Everyone at one time or another has bought one of these cheap coolers because they needed more cooler space or forgot to bring one of the coolers from home.

Here are some easy solutions for boaters to prevent your favorite fishing hole from continuing to become trashed:

- It is important to educate other fishermen and make them aware of the real impact of their actions. Their litter sinks to the bottom and is unseen and perceived as not having any effect.
- Take binoculars on your trip. If the fish are not biting, start watching the other boats, especially if they are catching fish and you are not. You may be able to figure out what they are doing right in addition to spotting a litterer.
- Spread the word. Tell everyone which boat is out in your favorite fishing spot trashing the place.
- Fishing tournaments should do a declared beverage count when leaving the dock. Any boat returning without their empties should be disqualified.
- Do not take plastic bags on board. Dump the stuff on the boat and find a place to stash all of your goodies.
- Use an empty beverage container as your ashtray. It will trap and keep the butts until you reach the docks.
- For the Styrofoam containers, use the duct tape fix. Tape a beverage or similar weight object to the top of the lid and you will not have the lid blowing off your boat allowing you to reuse the cooler.

Increased regulation is not the answer. I believe education and peer pressure by fishermen who care about their sport can significantly reduce this problem. If all of this accumulated trash stayed on top of the water in favorite fishing holes instead of carpeting the bottom, this problem would have been corrected a long time ago since it would be such an eyesore to the community surrounding it. Fishermen love the environment and can appreciate fishing in a pristine area filled with fish.

Rudy Socha is a fisherman and CEO of Wounded Nature - Working Veterans. They are a 501c3 nonprofit focused on cleaning up coastal areas utilizing veterans living aboard houseboats. You can find out more about them by visiting www.woundednature.org.

Report mink sightings to FWC

Special to The Star

They're rarely seen in the wild but they do exist in Florida. They're mink.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) biologists are asking for the public's help in locating these small, fast, semi-aquatic creatures.

Because their size and behavior keeps them out of sight, understanding where mink are in Florida, and how many mink live in the state, is extremely challenging to biologists.

"If members of the public report their sightings of these elusive animals, it would be invaluable to our research," said Jesse Boulterice, FWC biologist in Lake City. "The more people we have looking for mink, the more information we can gather."

Fisherman, boaters and other water recreationists are asked to be particularly watchful for mink and report any sightings. These sightings will be used to identify areas where mink are more common in Florida and help biologists pinpoint locations to focus mink research.

The Everglades mink is listed in Florida as a threatened species.

The FWC has created an online database for anyone to report sightings of mink in Florida at <https://public.myfwc.com/hsc/mink>. The database link includes pictures.

Mink are typically found near, in and around sources of water, although they can also be found on dry land.

"They have a long sleek body, thick tail, small ears and small eyes," Boulterice said. "Mink are between 1 and 2.5 feet long and weigh up to 4 pounds. These animals are dark-chocolate brown to black in color and

sometimes have a patch of white along the chin and throat."

Mink can be confused with otters. Otters look and behave similar to mink but are much larger in size (10-30 pounds). Weasels are also similar to mink, but are smaller and have brown fur along their backs and yellow along the entire belly.

Being strictly carnivorous, mink forage in and along the edges of water, eating fish, frogs, crayfish, crabs and even muskrat and other small mammals. Historically, mink were hunted and used to make mink-fur apparel.

FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Inshore

St. Joe Bay's water is clearing up this week. After the hi winds and storms from last few weeks, fishing has returned to normal. Good trout catches are being reported at the Fire tower site and around pig Island. Some flounder have been caught under the George Tapper bridge and in the St. Joe Marina.

Offshore

Most offshore anglers are trying to deal with the roughest seas that many anglers can remember for the month of June. We are at the half way mark with less than 20 days left in the season. Great sized snapper are in the 60-120ft range out of Mexico Beach and on the "Wings" out of Indian Pass. Most inshore numbers are holding few or smaller fish right now.

2012 BWO ONLINE FISHING RODEO

JUNE FEATURE FISH: Stop in and register or go online at www.BWOfish.com RED SNAPPER

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

WEWA SUBWAY TEAM PLACES FIRST IN COUNTY TOURNAMENT



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

After the championship game against the Lynn Haven Rays on May 29, the Wewa Subway 14U baseball team finished their season by placing first in the sophomore division of the Dizzy Dean County Tournament. Wewa Subway's season record against Port St. Joe and other teams from Bay County was 9 and 1. Players in the front row are Kaleb Shiver, Caleb Clary, Buddy Wood, Charlie Laird, Chipper Wood and Austin Malcom. Back row includes Connor Mills, Cody Mills, Chance Harper, Chipper Gainnie, Peter Setterich, Cameron Jones and Cameron Lister, Manager Tony Muina and assistant coaches Kelan Setterich and Randy Harper.

PSJ clinches district tourney

Special to The Star

The Port St. Joe Ozone All-stars took the victory June 13 in the District 4 Ozone All-star Tournament.

The tournament play for Port St. Joe began Friday night, June 8 against Wewahitchka, where Wewa took the game, 15-5, with three homers scoring 8 points to start off the game. Port St. Joe came back Sunday afternoon after rain cancelled Saturday night's play against Callaway with a win of 28-5 with Matthew Costin starting off on the mound.

With Wewa overtaking Callaway on Monday, Callaway was eliminated from the tournament leaving the title between Wewa and St. Joe.

Tuesday night found Elijah Hester on the mound for a six-inning battle. Wewa took the loss after Hester struck out the last batter for Wewa in the bottom of the sixth inning, closing out the game for a PSJ victory of 7-6.

Travis Morrison hit Port St. Joe's single homerun of the tournament during this game.

The championship game was played Wednesday between St. Joe and Wewa with Blake Wood on the mound for an outstanding six innings. Port St. Joe took the championship with a victory over Wewa of 11-4.

With this win, the PSJ Ozone All-stars will advance to the State Championship Tournament in Sebring, Fla., beginning July 6.

Donations to help the team go to the State Tournament can be made to the Port St. Joe Ozone All-stars at Centennial Bank in Port St. Joe.

Donations are greatly appreciated.

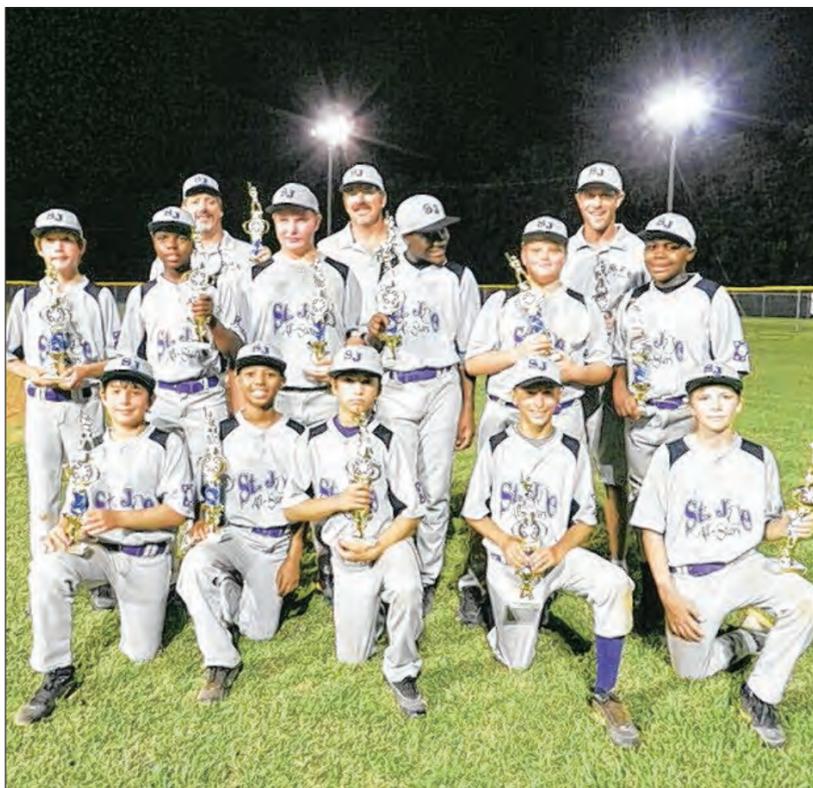


PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Appearing in photo front row, from left, are Blake Wood, Cameron Harmon, Ethan LaFontaine, Bryce Johnston and Elijah Hester; second row, Matthew Costin, Kendre' Gant, Brandon Brant, Trey Sanders, Travis Morrison, Gene Quinn; back row, assistant coach Charles Costin, manager Henry Hester and assistant coach Brad Johnston. Not pictured is Brooks Kennington.

School hosts junior summer cheer camp

Special to The Star

The Port St. Joe Junior/Senior High School varsity cheerleaders will be hosting a Cheer Camp for all children ages 3 through the fifth grade. Registration is \$35. The camp will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET July 16-18 at Oak Grove Assembly of God Church. There will be Pep Rally at 11:30 a.m. July 18 to showcase the skills learned.

Youth will learn motion and jumps technique, two cheers, two chants, sideline dance and Xtreme routine. Snacks will be provided but each child will be responsible for a packed lunch.

Registrations forms may be picked up and/or turned in to the school office or to any varsity cheerleader. T-shirts will be given to those registered by July 1. For any questions, email Lindsay Williams at lwilliams@gulf.k12.fl.us.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, June 21	87°	73°	10 %
Fri, June 22	87°	75°	10 %
Sat, June 23	88°	77°	20 %
Sun, June 24	89°	77°	20 %
Mon, June 25	89°	76°	10 %
Tues, June 26	87°	77°	30 %
Wed, June 27	88°	77°	0 %

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
21	Th	1104am 1.8		925pm -0.3	
22	Fr	1138am 1.7		946pm -0.2	
23	Sa	1211pm 1.6		1000pm 0.0	
24	Su	1244pm 1.3		1003pm 0.2	
25	Mo	105pm 1.0		946pm 0.3	
26	Tu	629am 1.0		838pm 0.6	
27	We	552am 1.2		305pm 0.3	
28	Th	558am 1.4		347pm 0.0	
29	Fr	628am 1.7		442pm -0.2	
30	Sa	712am 1.9		541pm -0.4	
1	Fr	735am 1.7		516pm -0.2	
2	Sa	810am 1.9		616pm -0.4	
3	Su	855am 2.0		720pm -0.6	
4	Mo	946am 2.1		823pm -0.6	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
21	Th	707am 1.3	406pm 1.5	1115am 1.2	
22	Fr	729am 1.3	454pm 1.4	1210am -0.2	1159am 1.2
23	Sa	752am 1.3	546pm 1.3	1237am -0.1	1248pm 1.1
24	Su	815am 1.3	645pm 1.2	107am 0.0	144pm 0.9
25	Mo	840am 1.3	758pm 1.0	139am 0.2	251pm 0.8
26	Tu	906am 1.4	930pm 1.0	213am 0.4	407pm 0.6
27	We	936am 1.4	1130pm 0.9	250am 0.6	526pm 0.4
28	Th	1010am 1.5		328am 0.9	640pm 0.1
29	Fr	201am 1.0	1050am 1.6	411am 1.0	745pm -0.1
30	Sa	1136am 1.6		843pm -0.3	
1	Fr	254am 1.0	1221pm 1.5	649am 1.1	845pm -0.2
2	Sa	416am 1.2	100pm 1.6	748am 1.2	936pm -0.4
3	Su	521am 1.3	143pm 1.6	843am 1.3	1026pm -0.5
4	Mo	613am 1.3	230pm 1.6	934am 1.4	1114pm -0.5

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



July 4th Advertising Deadlines

Display Advertising Schedule

July 5th Issue- Space Reservation and Ad Copy Submittal Deadline

June 28th, 2012 3:00pm

Final Ad Approval July 2nd, 12:00pm

FOURTH OF JULY SPADEA

Business Card \$30.00
2 col x 1" mod - Actual Size: 3.22" x 2"

1/4 Page \$225.00
3 col x 5" mod - Actual Size: 4.89" x 10"

1/2 Page \$400.00
6 col x 5" mod - Actual Size: 9.9" x 10"

Full Page (back) \$750.00
6 col x 10" mod - Actual Size: 9.9" x 20"

PREMIUM POSITIONS

Front Page Bottom \$175.00
3 col x 2.5" mod - Actual Size: 4.89" x 5"

INSIDE Page 2 \$450.00
3 col x 10" mod - Actual Size: 4.89" x 20"

Contact Joel or Kari to reserve your space today
jreed@starfl.com kfortune@starfl.com
(850) 227-7847 (850) 370-6090

LEGAL NOTICE

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

Medical Benefits Settlement

Providing Benefits to Clean-Up Workers and Certain Gulf Coast Residents

If you have a medical claim related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, you could get benefits from a class action settlement with BP Exploration & Production Inc. and BP America Production Company ("BP"). Go to DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com for more information, including information on how to file a claim.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE MEDICAL BENEFITS SETTLEMENT?

The Medical Class includes (1) clean-up workers and (2) certain people who resided in specific geographic areas in coastal and wetlands areas along the Gulf Coast during specific periods in 2010. The website DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com has detailed descriptions and maps to help you determine whether a geographic location may be included in one of these zones. Additionally, you can call 1-866-992-6174 or e-mail info@DeepwaterHorizonMedicalSettlement.com to find out if a geographic location is included.

WHAT DOES THE MEDICAL BENEFITS SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The benefits of the Medical Benefits Settlement include: (1) payments to qualifying people for certain acute (short-term) and chronic (ongoing) medical conditions occurring after exposure to oil or chemical dispersants; (2) provision of periodic medical examinations to qualifying people; and (3) creation of a Gulf Region Health Outreach Program, consisting of projects to strengthen the healthcare system. Benefits (1) and (2) will be provided only after the Court grants final approval and any appeals are resolved.

HOW TO GET BENEFITS FROM THE MEDICAL BENEFITS SETTLEMENT

You need to submit a Claim Form to request benefits. You can get a copy of the Claim Form by visiting the website or by calling 1-866-992-6174. Claims can be submitted by mail. If you have questions about how

to file your claim, you should call the toll-free number for assistance.

The deadline for filing a Claim Form is one year after the Medical Benefits Settlement becomes effective (that is, after the Court grants "final approval" and any appeals are resolved). The exact date of the claim filing deadline will be posted on the website. It is highly recommended that Medical Class Members complete and submit their claim forms promptly. Please read the Economic and Property Damages Settlement notice because you may also be eligible for a payment from that settlement.

YOUR OTHER OPTIONS

If you do not want to be legally bound by the Medical Benefits Settlement, you must Opt Out or exclude yourself by **October 1, 2012** or you won't be able to sue BP over certain medical claims. If you stay in the Medical Benefits Settlement, you may object to it by **August 31, 2012**. The Detailed Notice explains how to exclude yourself or object.

The Court will hold a hearing on **November 8, 2012** to consider whether to approve the Medical Benefits Settlement. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. Class Counsel will ask the Court to consider an award of fees, costs, and expenses of 6% of the value of the benefits actually provided under the Medical Benefits Settlement Agreement. Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses under the Medical Benefits Settlement Agreement and the Economic and Property Damages Settlement Agreement jointly cannot exceed \$600 million. Class members' payments will not be reduced if the Court approves the payment of Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses because BP will separately pay these attorney fees, costs, and expenses.

Economic and Property Damages Settlement

Providing Money to Individuals and Businesses

If you have economic loss or property damage because of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, you could get money from a class action settlement with BP Exploration & Production Inc. and BP America Production Company ("BP"). Go to DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com for more information, including information on how to file a claim.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE ECONOMIC & PROPERTY DAMAGES SETTLEMENT?

The Economic and Property Damages ("E&PD") Settlement Class includes people, businesses, and other entities in the states of Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, and certain counties in Texas and Florida, that were harmed by the oil spill. The website DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com has detailed descriptions and maps to help you determine whether a geographic location may be included in the E&PD Settlement. Additionally, you can call 1-866-992-6174 or e-mail questions@DeepwaterHorizonEconomicSettlement.com to find out if a geographic location is included.

WHAT DOES THE ECONOMIC & PROPERTY DAMAGES SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The E&PD Settlement makes payments for the following types of claims: (1) Seafood Compensation, (2) Economic Damage, (3) Loss of Subsistence, (4) Vessel Physical Damage, (5) Vessels of Opportunity Charter Payment, (6) Coastal Real Property Damage, (7) Wetlands Real Property Damage, and (8) Real Property Sales Damage. There is no limit on the total dollar amount of the E&PD Settlement; all qualified claims will be paid.

HOW TO GET BENEFITS FROM THE ECONOMIC & PROPERTY DAMAGES SETTLEMENT

You need to submit a Claim Form to request a payment. You can get a copy of the various Claim Forms by visiting the website or by calling 1-866-992-6174. Claims can be submitted online or by mail. If you have questions about how to file your claim, you should call the toll-free

number for assistance.

The deadline to submit most E&PD claims will be April 22, 2014 or six months after the E&PD Settlement becomes effective (that is, after the Court grants "final approval" and any appeals are resolved), whichever is later. There will be an earlier deadline to submit E&PD Seafood Compensation claims. The earlier deadline to submit Seafood Compensation claims will be 30 days after final approval of the Settlement by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana (regardless of appeals). Actual claim filing deadlines will be posted on the website as they become available. Valid claims will be paid as they are approved, beginning shortly after the Court-Supervised Settlement Program commences. It is highly recommended that E&PD Settlement Class Members complete and submit their claim forms promptly. Please read the Medical Benefits Settlement notice because you may also be eligible for benefits from that settlement.

YOUR OTHER OPTIONS

If you do not want to be legally bound by the E&PD Settlement, you must Opt Out or exclude yourself by **October 1, 2012** or you won't be able to sue BP over certain economic and property damage claims. If you stay in the E&PD Settlement, you may object to it by **August 31, 2012**. The Detailed Notice explains how to exclude yourself or object.

The Court will hold a hearing on **November 8, 2012** to consider whether to approve the E&PD Settlement. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. The Court will also consider Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses including an interim payment of \$75 million and additional awards equal to 6% of class claims and benefits paid. Class Counsel fees, costs and expenses under the Economic and Property Damages Settlement Agreement and the Medical Benefits Settlement Agreement jointly cannot exceed \$600 million. Class members' payments will not be reduced if the Court approves the payment of Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses because BP will separately pay these attorney fees, costs, and expenses.

Author Michael Lister to host book signing

By VALERIE GARMAN

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vgarman@starfl.com



MICHAEL LISTER

Apalachicola Riverkeepers, a non-profit organization that strives to protect the area's natural water source.

For Lister, who is on the board for the Riverkeepers, it's about protecting the North Florida environ-

ment that serves as the backdrop for his novels. "The environmental issues in this area are so important to me," he said. "I grew up here and my family has been here for several generations."

ment that serves as the backdrop for his novels.

"The environmental issues in this area are so important to me," he said. "I grew up here and my family has been here for several generations."

Lister's latest novel "Burnt Offerings" is a "serial killer thriller" that tells the story of an exacting and methodical killer whose weapon is fire, and only a wounded Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent and a retired Florida State religion professor have a chance at stopping him.

Lister said reviewers have cited

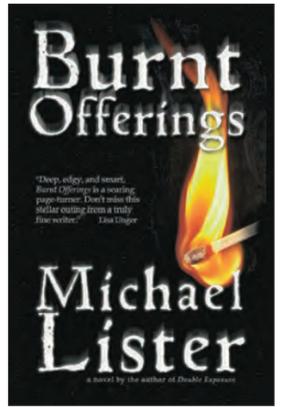
the book as multilayered, grisly, gripping and suspenseful, but most frequently "intense."

In the novel, Lister uses several points of view to tell the story, which leaves readers seeing through the eyes of the FDLE agent, the professor and the killer himself.

"Many, many scenes are from the killer's point of view," Lister said. "That way the readers get to see inside the mind of the killer."

The novel is set in a fictitious version of the Apalachicola area called "Bayshore" near the barrier

See **LISTER B5**



Photos by **BILL AND MARCIA BOOTHE** | NatureinFocus.com

A panorama of the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserves.

College names director

Loretta Costin to take over Gulf/Franklin Center on Monday

Special to The Star

With a background that combines Career and Technical Education with the geography of Gulf and Franklin counties, Loretta Costin is ready to move Gulf Coast State College's Gulf/Franklin Campus to the foreground of everything residents of those two counties need in higher education.

"I've seen this campus grow from the beginning. Now I'm proud to be a part of it, and I'm thrilled to be at home," said Costin, a Port St. Joe resident and the new director of the Gulf/Franklin Campus in Port St. Joe. Costin takes over June 25, and she's ready to expand Gulf Coast throughout the area.

"I want to reach out and talk with people in both counties, understand their goals and learn what else the college can do to meet their needs." Costin wants to discuss GCSC's part in the futures of every entity from the school districts to the chambers of commerce. "This college provides such a great resource for this area, and there's always more we can do."

Costin is focusing her efforts in three key areas, and she'll be working to get more people on campus and the campus more in the minds of many demographics.

"I want to make sure that high school graduates know what we offer and that adults understand too, so that we can expand and meet the needs of these two groups," Costin said.

Third, she's looking forward to being part of the ongoing solution for economic development and post-secondary programs at the Gulf/Franklin Campus. She knows well how to combine all the forces for success, having most recently served as Chief of Staff to the Commissioner of Education in the Florida Department of Education, where she oversaw all operational aspects of the agency's 85 employees and a budget of more than \$500 million.

"Loretta will be a great addition to Gulf Coast State College, especially with her significant experience in education at the state level and her love of Gulf and Franklin counties," said GCSC President Dr. Jim Kerley.

See **DIRECTOR B5**

Hidden sanctuary

St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve aims to protect nature and raise awareness

By VALERIE GARMAN

229-7843 | @valeriegarman
vgarman@starfl.com

Hidden in the 5,019 acres of the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve are 24 species of threatened and endangered plants, 20 known archaeological and historical sites, 18 natural ecological communities and 13 species of rare birds.

The preserve provides a sanctuary for so many different species, a barrage of recreational opportunities in Gulf County and yet remains somehow hidden from public view.

In a meeting held at the Buffer Preserve Center in Port St. Joe last week, a room full of state officials, volunteers and area residents explored ways to better protect the future of those valuable 5,019 acres and raise awareness about what the preserve has to offer.

"The preserve was acquired for you, the citizens of Florida," said Preserve Manager Matt Green. "We're here for you, the public of Florida."

The meeting, organized

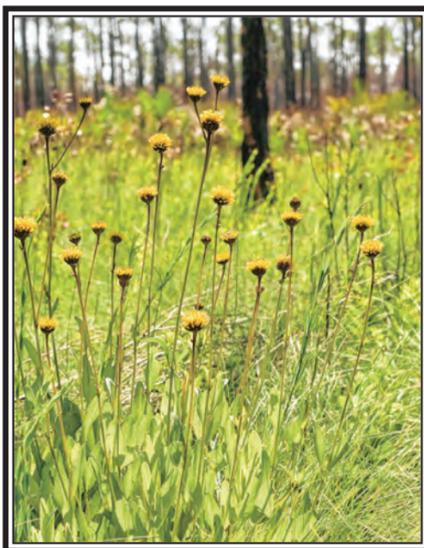
by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, was held to present and receive input from the public on the draft management plan, which once adopted will guide the buffer preserve through its next decade of management.

Green presented a list of seven goals for the preserve for the next 10 years, focused on restoring the area's natural hydrology, biodiversity and imperiled species, controlling invasive species, increasing protection of archaeological sites, expanding recreational access, and promoting coastal stewardship and scientific research.

"Outreach is something I firmly believe in," said Green, who hopes to reach out to area schools and garner educational interest in the community. "I want people to come to the preserve to learn how to build bird houses, to come learn about turpentine farms, to come learn to identify stars."

Green said one of the main goals for the preserve in the next decade is to ex-

See **PRESERVE B5**



VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

Highland View gardener Bill Lynch holds a fresh yellow squash he picked that morning.

Start the summer with squash by the bucketful

Star Staff Report

Despite the dry season, local gardener Bill Lynch is harvesting veggies by the bucketful.

In late May, Lynch procured 10 buckets of yellow squash from his Highland View garden.

Lynch, 85, suffered a heart attack in 1999 and is grateful for every day he can spend in his garden.

"You have to start all over like a little baby — learn to walk and everything," Lynch said. "But I'm still here. The Lord's been good to me."

Lynch distributes the fruits and vegetables he harvests to the elderly people and close friends in his neighborhood.

"I just plant that stuff and raise it for my good friends," he said.

Summer Break Spot program feeds kids for free

Star Staff Report

With summer here, it's time to think about keeping children healthy while school is out. The Gulf Coast Workforce Board

will provide free nutritionally balanced meals to children during the summer through the Summer Break Spot program.

Meals will be served through Aug. 3 at the Washington Gym

Complex, 414 E. Kenny St. in Port St. Joe. Lunch will be served from noon to 1 p.m. ET with a snack to follow from 2-2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed July 4-6 in observance of

Independence Day). Gulf County children under the age of 18 regardless of race, color, sex, disability, age or national origin may come to eat. For more information,

contact the Gulf Coast Workforce Board at 913-3285. For more information about the national Summer Food Service Program, visit www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/summer.

Sponsored flags to show area patriotism

Special to The Star

The GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club Inc., in partnership with the Wewahitchka VFW Chapter 8285, invites everyone to show their patriotism by sponsoring an American flag that will be flown on the light poles on State Road 71 in downtown Wewahitchka. The flags will be flown for 10 days for Veterans Day. Fifty-two flags have been put in place, but about 75 have been sold. The remainder will be put up soon. The goal is to put up as many flags as possible to show patriotism and support to our military services.

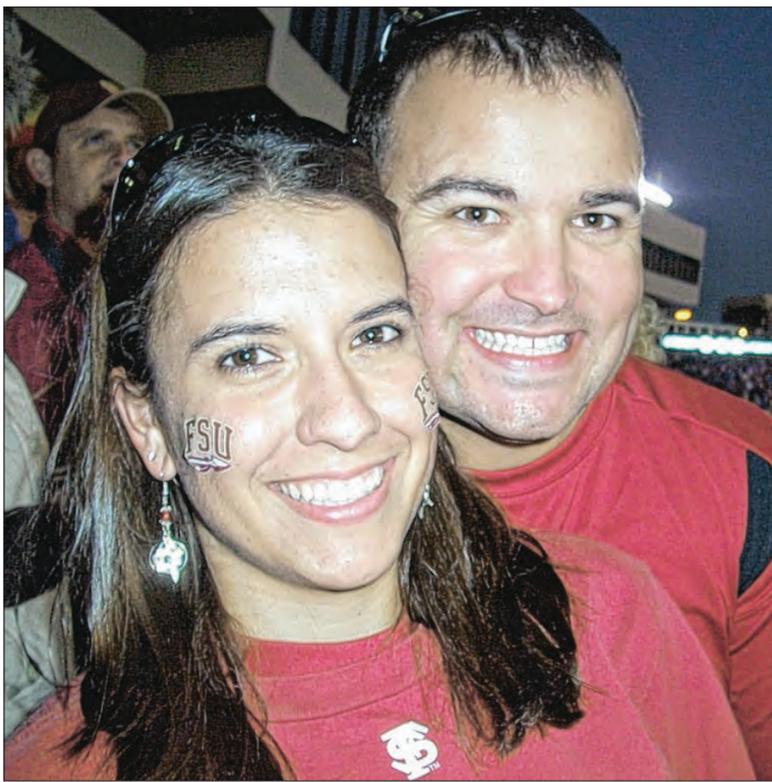
The group would like to thank Ralph Fisher and employees of Fisher's Hardware for placing the flags.

Flags can be purchased for \$35, which will cover the cost of the 3- by 5-foot American-made American flag, a rod and brackets to hang it, and an engraved plaque. The sponsor will have the option of either placing their name or business on the plaque or it can be in memory of a military veteran or active duty member of the Armed Forces or a loved one. Please specify this when ordering your flag.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for this project, make your \$35 check payable to GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club Inc. Send your check to P.O. Box 94, GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club Inc., Wewahitchka, FL 32465.

For more information, call Patty Fisher at 639-9794. You may order as many flags as you like.

Engagement



Simmons, Hall engaged

Heather L. Simmons and Nicholas A. Hall together with their families and friends are pleased to announce their engagement and forthcoming marriage.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Florida State University-Panama City with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. She is the daughter

of Wade and Cathy Simmons of Wewahitchka.

The groom-elect is employed with the Bay County Sheriff's Office as a K-9 deputy. He is the son of Glen and Sonjia Hall of Wewahitchka.

A summer 2013 wedding date is expected.

Food donations benefit seniors

Star Staff Report

Gulf County Senior Citizens, at 120 Library Drive in Port St. Joe, asks for donations for low-income seniors of non-perishable foods such as juice, canned tuna and chicken, soup or vegetables.

Small inexpensive bingo prizes are always needed for clients who love to play bingo several times a week.

The group provides a hot, nutritious noon meal Monday through Friday to seniors 60 and over.

Transportation may be available to meal sites.

Anyone interested in coming in Port St. Joe or Wewahitchka for meals and activities or who would like to donate any of the items listed above may call Debbie at 229-8466.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Hi, My name is Ryder and I live at the humane society with my brothers, sisters and lots of kitties and puppies. All of us love to play with the kids that come to visit and the ladies that take care of us are very sweet and we love them. But we all want a forever home to call our very own. If you can give us a safe and loving home, please contact our caretakers. We promise to love you forever!

Remember, "June is Adopt a Cat Month" We also need volunteers to help around the shelter. Donations of kitty litter is in great demand as well as puppy toys.

Any donation no matter how small will be greatly appreciated. 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 call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103 and ask for Melody or Debbie! Online applications and pet photos are available at www.sjbhumane.org

Adoption fees include our cost of spay/neuter and current vaccinations.

Our hours for the shelter are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am-4 pm! 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 hours for the store are Thursday-Saturday from 10 am-3 pm. Volunteers are always welcome at both our store and our shelter! Our store and shelter location is 1007 Tenth Street in Port St. Joe! Hope to see you all there soon!

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

Volunteer advocates needed to aid elders

Special to The Star

Florida's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its corps of dedicated advocates who protect the rights of elders who live in nursing homes, assisted living

facilities and adult family care homes. The program's local councils are seeking additional volunteers to identify, investigate and resolve residents' concerns. Special training and certification is provided.

Those interested in protecting the

health, safety, welfare and rights of long-term care facility residents — who often have no one else to advocate for them — are encouraged to call toll-free 888-831-0404 or visit the program's website at <http://ombudsman.myflorida.com>.

(Pd. Pol. Ad.)

RE-ELECT
LINDA WOOD
SCHOOL BOARD, DISTRICT 3
"IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS"

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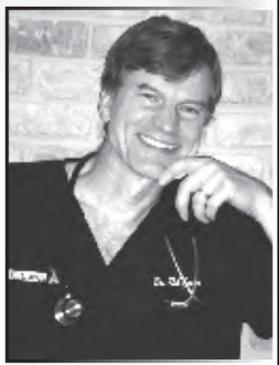
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FAITH

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L.F.D.
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Obituaries

Mary Alice Lyons

Mary Alice Lyons, 88, died June 15 in Panama City at Gulf Coast Medical Center.

Mrs. Lyons was born in Milton, Florida to the late W.E. Hinote and Alice Pendleton Hinote. She was married to Cecil H. Lyons for 53 years before his death in 1995.

Mary Alice enjoyed playing golf at the St. Joseph Bay Country Club, playing Yahtzee and dominoes with her friends and she devoted her life to her family and friends especially her

children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is also preceded in death by two brothers, Jewel and Terry Hinote; and two sisters, Selma Gandy and Naomi Griffin.

Her survivors include one son, Cecil H. Lyons, Jr. and his wife Beth of Port St. Joe; two daughters, Marnie Valent and her husband Gerry of Miami and Catherine Collier and her husband Phil of Port St. Joe; grandchildren Cecil H. Lyons III, Holly Porter

and her husband Ron, Michael Mock and his wife Carla, Chris Mock and his wife Joni and Shanna Watson and her husband Bryan; great-grandchildren, Justin Lyons, Haley, Kamron and Regan Porter, Colton Johnson and Harleigh Mock, Brody and Isla Mock and Brynleigh Watson; a sister, Ruth Casey and her husband Norman; two brothers, David Hinote and Harold Hinote and wife Gail; numerous nieces and nephews and a host

of friends.

Funeral services for Mrs. Lyons were at 11 a.m. ET Monday, June 18 at the First United Methodist Church in Port St. Joe with the Reverend Mac Fulcher officiating, with interment at Holly Hill Cemetery following.

Condolences can be made or viewed on our website www.southerlandfamily.com

Services were arranged by Southerland Family Funeral Home, 100 E. 19th St., Panama City, FL 32405, 785-8532.

Mary Louise Law Marshall

1932-2012

Mary Louise Law Marshall peacefully departed her family on the sunny morning of June 9, 2012.

"Mary Lou" was born in Tarkio, Mo. on July 23, 1932 to Mabel Law as her only child. She was a four-year National Honor Society graduate and valedictorian of her Tarkio High School class.



MARY LOUISE LAW MARSHALL

She was accepted to and graduated from Washington University School of Nursing in St. Louis, Mo. During her career of nursing in Cape Girardeau, Mo., she met her sweetheart, Harold D. Marshall, Sr. of Morehouse, Mo. They were married June 1, 1955 at the First Baptist Church of Holly Springs, Miss.

As the first nursing home administrator and

a geriatric specialist of Beaulieu Nursing Home in Newnan, Ga., she played an important role in providing quality care for the elderly and teaching geriatrics. Mary Lou served as a member of the Nursing Home Licensing Board for the State of Georgia under two governors before she retired to Port St. Joe, Fla.

Mary Lou is survived by her husband of 57 years, Harold D. Marshall, Sr.; daughter, Marci Marshall

Duncan of Bradenton, Fla.; daughter, Linda Marshall Estes of Okeechobee, Fla.; son, Harold D. Marshall, Jr. of Port St. Joe, Fla.; and granddaughter, Stephanie Duncan Okuley of Tampa, Fla.

In lieu of flowers please send private donations to the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org.

Services were arranged by Kent Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 2403 Harrison Ave., Panama City

Do you feel called to be a leader?

Joshua needed God's presence to succeed as the leader of the Jews.

But then, so does every leader, while each is paying their dues.

Younger ones need it more so, while trying to learn to lead.

Many times they want to push, but in some cases fail to succeed.

If you don't wait for the Lord to lead, you'll probably spin your wheels my friend.

I know because I've seen it happen, over and over again.

Don't try to get ahead of God, that will not take place.

If you try, there's a pretty good chance you'll fall flat on your face.

If you read the Word, and be obedient to God in all you do.

I don't see a reason in the world that you can't be a leader too.

Billy Johnson

Faith BRIEFS

Revival services at Philadelphia Primitive

Revival Services will be at 7:30 p.m. July 9-13 at Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church. The Elder Keith Cloud of Gretna will be the evangelist for the week.

Pastor Jessie Hawkins and the Philadelphia Church congregation extend a cordial invitation to the Port St. Joe and other communities, to come and be blessed through the power of God's holy word. The Church is on Avenue D in Port St. Joe.

SCHOOL NEWS

Faith Christian School enrollment open for 2012-13 school year

Special to The Star

Faith Christian School K4 students read! FCS students learn to read with an introduction to phonics. Developing a strong foundation with the FCS curriculum creates a bridge that helps students obtain

a better understanding of written language. Phonics can help students break down words with certain sounds, and children that can "sound out" a word have an enormous advantage when reading. This skill branches into all academics, and gives



The Lion's Tale

students the tools to succeed.

Every child deserves the opportunity to

become a good reader. Open enrollment for new students has begun for the 2012-2013 school year. Class sizes are limited so early registration is recommended. Call 229-6707 or visit www.FaithChristianPSJ.net for more information.



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(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

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)

Sunday
Sunday School..... 9:00 am
Worship Service..... 10:30 am
Youth Groups..... 5:30 pm

www.fbcpjsj.org

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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 9 - 11 AM
MONDAY: LIFE TREE CAFE 7 PM
WEDNESDAY: MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 8 AM & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5 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

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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.

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Word of Faith Church

Pastors Andrew & Cathy Rutherford
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Sunday Night Prayer 6pm
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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
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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 Ljng Street - Highland View
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456
(850)227-1306

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 5:00 & 6:00 p.m.
Discipleship Training 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Josh Fidler

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

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PRESERVE from page B1

pand recreational access to the park where appropriate.

While the park already offers parking areas and biking and walking trails, Green said they hope to expand those trails in the future and also incorporate overnight camp sites and paddling trails in the bay.

Preservation and protection of the land was also an important issue Green discussed, focusing on the preserve's many natural aspects that are unique to the area.

He said the preserve has such an abundance of rare plant species because it has remained in its natural state, and the historical sites are also important to protect because they provide valuable information on earlier cultures.

Further research will be promoted in the future to aid in the preservation of the buffer preserve land.

"We want to promote

research that's going to sustain the area," Green said. "And the research we have, we need to continue to share it."

Pam Phillips, a public information officer for the Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (CAMA) said these public meetings are held so the DEP can incorporate public feedback into the draft management plan.

"We don't have any real hot spots," Phillips said. "People just want to make sure we're protecting the area. The comments have all been very positive."

Phillips said promoting awareness of the area can help increase tourism, ecotourism in particular, in the area.

"We're related a lot to the economic drivers and the tourism industry in the area," Phillips said. "We want a healthy economy and a healthy environment — they go hand in hand."

DIRECTOR from page B1

Costin's experience as Vice Chancellor for the Florida's Division of Workforce Education involved working with business and industry to develop program standards for career and technical education, adult education and registered apprenticeship programs. As Chancellor for the Division of Career and Adult Education at DOE, she was responsible for working with business and industry leaders to ensure Florida has the skilled workforce

needed to grow and diversify its economy.

The local economy is just one area where GCSC can make a unique contribution. "Any time the Port Authority or the economic development folks are meeting with an industry or business interested in relocating, the college needs to be at the table, because whenever a company is looking at an area, they want to know if there are talented people and an educated workforce."

LISTER from page B1

island of "Pine Key," which is loosely based on St. George Island.

"It's pretty subtle," Lister said of the connection. "It is a fictitious town, but it is based on Apalachicola."

Growing up in Wewahatchka, Lister spent many summers and weekends visiting relatives in Apalachicola and on St. George Island. It's an area he knows well, and he wanted to capture both the environmental and personal aspects of in "Burnt Offerings."

"It's definitely the environment, but it's also the people," Lister said. "I do try to capture the people of

the area — their jobs, their attitudes."

Lister's older novels also will be for sale at tomorrow's signing. All of his books are available in e-book format on Amazon.com and on audio book from Audible.com.

He is set to release another novel, "Split Sacrifice", this Halloween.

Lister said he hopes tomorrow's book signing will help support the effort to protect the area's natural waterways and the environment he paints with his words.

"North Florida is what I love and North Florida is what I write about," he said.

Lighthouse Utilities Company Inc.
P.O. Box # 428
Port St. Joe, FL 32457-0428
(850) 227-7427

2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

This report will be mailed to customers only upon request and is also available at 2010 County Road C-30 upon request.

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is ground water from 2 wells that draw from the Floridan Aquifer. Our water is aerated to remove minerals and gases then chlorinated for disinfection purposes.

In 2011, the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system and a search of the data sources indicated no potential sources of contamination near our wells. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at www.dep.state.fl.us/swapp.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact James R. Simmons @ 850-227-7427. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

Lighthouse Utilities Co., Inc. routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2011. Data obtained before January 1, 2011, and presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

In the table below, you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE): An important part of the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR). The IDSE is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Water systems will use results from the IDSE, in conjunction with their Stage 1 DBPR compliance monitoring data, to select compliance monitoring locations for the Stage 2 DBPR.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

"ND" means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/l}$) — one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) — one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

Picocurie per liter (pCi/L) - measure of the radioactivity in water.

This report shows our water quality results and what they mean.

2011 Data Table

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Highest Monthly Percentage/Number	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria	1-12/2011	N	1	0		For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: presence of coliform bacteria in 1 sample collected during a month. Naturally present in the environment

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	12/2009	N	4.5	1.9 - 4.5	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	12/2009	N	1.2	1.1 - 1.2	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	AL Exceeded Y/N	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
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Lead and Copper (Tap Water)							
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	6-9/2011	N	0.019	0 of 20	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Inorganic Contaminants							
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Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	11/2011	N	0.031	0.03-0.031	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	11/2011	N	0.8	0.77-0.8	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum levels between 0.7 and 1.3 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	11/2011	N	12	11-12	N/A	160	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil

Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1-12/2011	N	1.13	0.63-1.26	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAAs) (ppb)	08/2011	N	0.54	0.53-0.55	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/2011	N	13.4	ND-26.8	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:
(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Lighthouse Utilities Co., Inc. is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

We at Lighthouse Utilities Company Inc. would like you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

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Bahiagrass an economical lawn grass

Bahiagrass is a popular, low-maintenance lawn grass that does well with limited water and fertilizer inputs.

Although bahiagrass does not produce a carpet-like, dense lawn like some other warm-season lawn grasses, it does provide a good, low-maintenance lawn where slightly reduced visual quality is acceptable.

Before I go any further, I need to say that if you live along the coast, you'd be better off growing another kind of lawn grass.

Bahiagrass is not tolerant to salt spray, so it doesn't grow well in coastal Florida.

Bahiagrass needs a fairly acidic soil with a pH range of 5.5 to 6.2. If you try to grow bahiagrass in alkaline soil, the minor elements in the soil will be tied up in forms that are unavailable to the grass.



ROY LEE CARTER
County extension director

If your bahiagrass isn't getting enough of the minor elements, it may turn yellow.

There are three varieties of bahiagrass sold for home lawns: Argentine, common and Pensacola.

Argentine is considered the best variety for lawns. Its leaves are dark green, long, narrow and closely-spaced, so it produces a very dense sod with good color.

Argentine responds well to fertilization, and it's the most disease resistant bahia variety.

Pensacola is the second best bahiagrass for lawns. It's also a long, narrow-leaved grass.

Pensacola is the grass you see most often along roadsides in Florida.

Common bahia is the poorest type available. Because of its coarse texture and wide spacing, it produces thin, loose sod, so it isn't recommended for

use as a lawn grass.

One of the nice things about bahiagrass is that it can be planted from seed or by sod.

Seed is easier and less expensive than sod, but of course, it also takes longer for your lawn to become established.

The best time to seed a bahia lawn is from April to June, just before the rainy season. Planting at this time will give your bahiagrass a head start and a full season's growth before the cold weather comes. Spring and summer are also the best time to sod your lawn.

The fact that bahiagrass does grow from seed can be a disadvantage.

Bahiagrass produces tall unsightly seed heads in the lawn from May through November.

These seed stalks make mowing more difficult, and to have an attractive lawn, you need to mow more often.

As I said earlier, bahiagrass is the most tolerant of all the

Florida lawn grasses to insects, diseases and nematodes.

However, it is plagued by the mole cricket. The mole cricket is a burrowing insect that damages roots.

In summary, bahiagrass is an ideal selection if you live away from the coastal area of our county.

It can withstand heavy traffic and prolonged drought with damage.

Bahiagrass can be grown from seed or sod and makes a dense, deep-rooted lawn grass.

It also has fair shade tolerance and can withstand cold temperature.

My information was provided by extension turf grass specialist Dr. Brian Unruh of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, located at the Jay REC.

For more information on bahiagrass lawns, contact the Gulf County Extension Service at 639-3200, 229-2909 or visit our website: <http://gulf.ifas.ufl.edu>.

"Right now we're serving about 500 individual riders each year, but we'd like to expand that if we could."

Kathy Balentine
Gulf County transportation director

Gulf County taking new riders

Star Staff Report

The Gulf County Public Transportation Department, located at the Gulf County ARC Building on Industrial Road, is now accepting new riders.

Gulf County Public Transportation provides free transport for Medicaid patients in the county and those who do not otherwise have access to their own form of transportation.

"We transport county residents to doctor's appointments, social security offices, grocery stores when they can't get there themselves," Gulf Transportation Director Kathy Balentine said. "We want to prioritize the medical trips, but we're definitely also able to provide those other trips."

She said the transportation service makes a trip to Panama City at least once every day, with trips to dialysis centers in Port St. Joe and Panama City three times per week. The service is also available to make longer medical trips. The ARC has a fleet of 12 vehicles, most of which are wheelchair-accessible.

"We want to get the word out to anybody in need," Balentine said. "Right now we're serving about 500 individual riders each year, but we'd like to expand that if we could."

The Gulf County Association of Retarded Citizens was developed in 1976 to serve the developmentally disabled adults in the community. The ARC was designated the community transportation hub in 1990.

For more information, please contact the Gulf County Transportation Department at 229-6550. Those interested in becoming a new rider must first complete an eligibility application. Medicaid patients are automatically eligible.



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87394S PUBLIC NOTICE

On May 15, 2012, an application was filed with the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C., requesting its consent to the assignment of license of Station WPBH(FM), Port St. Joe, Florida (93.5 MHz), from the Aloha Station Trust, LLC to Omni Broadcasting, LLC.

The sole member of the Assignor, the Aloha Station Trust, LLC, is Jeanette Tully.

The officers, directors, and members owning more than a 10% interest in the Assignee, Omni Broadcasting, LLC, are Ron H. Hale, Jr., James F. Hale, and Jennifer F. Hale.

A copy of the application is on file for public inspection at 1834 Lisenby Avenue, Panama City, Florida, during normal business hours.

May 31, 2012
June 7, 14, 21, 2012

87538S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Wells Fargo Bank OBO Tax Liens 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:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 482
Application No. 2012-25
Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010
R.E. No. 01888-180R

Description of Property:

Commence at a 4" square concrete monument marking the Southwest Corner of Oak Gardens Unit II, according to the official map or plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 20, in the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida; thence North 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 43 Seconds West along the West boundary line of Oak Gardens Unit II, 10.00 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 05 Minutes 48 Seconds West, along the Northerly right of way boundary line of Pidgeon Street, 114.00 feet for the POINT OF BEGINNING. From said Point of Beginning, continue South 89 Degrees 05 Minutes 48 Seconds West, 50.00 feet; thence leaving said right of way boundary line, North 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 43 Seconds West, 105.00 feet; thence North 89 Degrees 05 Minutes 48 Seconds East, 50.00 feet; thence South 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 43 Seconds East, 105.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Said parcel having an area of 0.12 acres, more or less.

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Name in which assessed: Taunton Development 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 18th day of July, 2012. Dated this 12th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2012

87540S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Wells Fargo Bank OBO Tax Liens 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:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 349
Application No. 2012-26
Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010
R.E. No. 01511-060R

Description of Property:

Commence at the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 2, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida; thence run North 89 degrees 50 minutes 50 seconds West, along the Northerly Boundary line of said Section 2, for a distance of 492.15 feet; thence leaving said Northerly Boundary line of Section 2, run South 00 degrees 28 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 37.58 feet to the approximate Southerly Right-of-Way line of Kate Glass Road per County maintenance and occupation for the POINT OF BEGINNING. From said Point of Beginning, thence continue South 00 degrees 28 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 218.00 feet; thence run North 89 degrees 31 minutes 02 seconds West for a distance of 100.00 feet; thence run North 00 degrees 28 minutes 57 seconds East for a distance of 218.00 feet to the aforesaid approximate Southerly Right-of-Way line of Kate Glass Road per County maintenance and occupation; thence run South 89 degrees 31 minutes 02 seconds East along said approximate Southerly Right-of-Way line, for a distance of 100.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Said lands lying in and being a portion of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 2, Township 4 South, Range 10

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West, Gulf County, Florida and having an area of 0.500 Acres, more or less.

Name in which assessed: Harold C Lester & Robin L. Lester.

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 18th day of July, 2012. Dated this 12th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2012

87542S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Wells Fargo Bank OBO Tax Liens 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:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 1351
Application No. 2012-27
Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010
R.E. No. 05444-010R

Description of Property:

Lot 6, Block 89, according to the Official map of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, recorded in the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Steven P. Kerigan

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 18th day of July, 2012. Dated this 12th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2012

87544S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Wells Fargo Bank OBO Tax Liens 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

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names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 1035
Application No. 2012-28
Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010
R.E. No. 03451-015R

Description of Property:

Lot 3, Block B of Wetappo Creek Estates, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 7, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Gary D. McPherson & Jaronia McPherson

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 18th day of July, 2012. Dated this 12th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2012

87711S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Visionary Distributors LC, 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: 319
Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009
Application No: 2012-21
R.E. No. 01785-010R

Description of Property:

COMMENCING at the NW. Corner of the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 23, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, thence run East 402 feet to the South side of Old Panama City Wewahitchka Public Road; thence run 316.8 feet, more or less, Southeast along the Southern boundary line of said Public Road, for POINT OF BEGINNING, thence running due South to an Iron Pipe, which iron pipe is 135 yards South of the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence run East 85 yards, thence run South 85 yards, thence run North 85 yards to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Containing 1 1/2 acres, more or less. And being in the NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 23, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2012

87713S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nicole Seybold, 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: 290
Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009
Application No: 2012-22
R.E. No. 01570-100R

Description of Property:

A portion of Section 11, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: COMMENCE at the NW. Corner of said Section 11, thence along the North line of said Section 11, South 89 Degrees 57 Minutes 59 Seconds East for 1016.06 feet to a point on the Southwesterly R/W line of Stone Mill Creek Road, said point being on the arc of a non-tangent curve concave to the NE; thence Southeast along said Southwesterly R/W line along the arc of said curve, having a radius of 768.00 feet, a central angle of 02 De-

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LESS AND EXCEPT: That Deeded to Odell Jones, as per Deed recorded in O. R. Book 81, Page 524, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida. (Now owned by Augusta C. Russ, as per Deed recorded in O. R. Book 361, Page 256, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida, Having a Parcel ID#01785-002R).

PARCEL NO. II: COMMENCE at the NW. Corner of NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 23, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, thence run East 402 feet, to the Old Panama City Wewahitchka Public Road, thence in a Southeastly direction along the Southerly side of said Public Road 647.4 feet, thence run South 250 feet, for a POINT OF BEGINNING, thence West 75 feet, thence South 237 1/2 feet, thence East 75 feet, thence North 237 1/2 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. All in the NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 23, Township 4 South, Range 10 West.

Name in which assessed: Gwendolyn Jackson

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 11th day of July, 2012.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2012

87715S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nicole Seybold, the holder of the following 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: 25
Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009
Application No: 2012-23
R.E. No. 00334-048R

Description of Property:

The South 1/2 of Lot 5, Block 5, of Howard Creek Properties, an unrecorded Subdivision of the West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, lying South of State Road No. S-387; Also described as follows: COMMENCE at the Southeast Corner of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, thence North 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds West for 140 feet; thence South 09 Degrees 09 Minutes 25 Seconds West for 75 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds East for 140 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

ALSO:

The North 1/2 of the East 1/2 of Lot #6, Block 5, Howard Creek Properties, an unrecorded Subdivision of that portion of the West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, lying South of State Road No. S-387; Also described as follows: COMMENCE at the Southeast Corner of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, thence North 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds West for 140 feet; thence South 09 Degrees 09 Minutes 25 Seconds West for 75 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds East for 140 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

ALSO:

A non-exclusive perpetual easement on, over and across the following description: A portion of Section 11, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: COMMENCE at the NW. Corner of said Section 11, thence along the North line of said Section 11, South 89 Degrees 57 Minutes 59 Seconds East for 1016.06 feet to a point on the Southwesterly R/W line of Stone Mill Creek Road, said point being on the arc of a non-tangent curve concave to the NE; thence Southeast along said Southwesterly R/W line along the arc of said curve, having a radius of 768.00 feet, a central angle of 02 De-

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greens 21 Minutes 18 Seconds, an arc distance of 31.57 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING (chord to said curve bears South 70 Degrees 58 Minutes 50 Seconds East for 31.57 feet) thence continue Southeastly along said R/W line along the arc of said curve, having a radius of 768.00 feet, through a central angle of 13 Degrees 24 Minutes 43 Seconds, an arc distance of 179.77 feet (chord to said curve bears South 78 Degrees 51 Minutes 51 Seconds East for 179.36 feet), thence leaving said R/W line North 89 Degrees 37 Minutes 01 Second West for 153.17 feet; thence South 13 Degrees 25 Minutes 03 Seconds West for 481.14 feet; thence North 46 Degrees 34 Minutes 57 Seconds West for 34.64 feet, thence North 13 Degrees 25 Minutes 03 Seconds East for 491.22 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Name in which assessed: AT & T Wireless Services of Florida, 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 11th day of July, 2012.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2012

87717S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nicole Seybold, the holder of the following 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: 25
Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009
Application No: 2012-23
R.E. No. 00334-048R

Description of Property:

The South 1/2 of Lot 5, Block 5, of Howard Creek Properties, an unrecorded Subdivision of the West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, lying South of State Road No. S-387; Also described as follows: COMMENCE at the Southeast Corner of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, thence North 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds West for 140 feet; thence South 09 Degrees 09 Minutes 25 Seconds West for 75 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds East for 140 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

ALSO:

The North 1/2 of the East 1/2 of Lot #6, Block 5, Howard Creek Properties, an unrecorded Subdivision of that portion of the West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, lying South of State Road No. S-387; Also described as follows: COMMENCE at the Southeast Corner of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 8 West, Gulf County, Florida, thence North 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds West for 140 feet; thence South 09 Degrees 09 Minutes 25 Seconds West for 75 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds East for 140 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

ALSO:

A non-exclusive perpetual easement on, over and across the following description: A portion of Section 11, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: COMMENCE at the NW. Corner of said Section 11, thence along the North line of said Section 11, South 89 Degrees 57 Minutes 59 Seconds East for 1016.06 feet to a point on the Southwesterly R/W line of Stone Mill Creek Road, said point being on the arc of a non-tangent curve concave to the NE; thence Southeast along said Southwesterly R/W line along the arc of said curve, having a radius of 768.00 feet, a central angle of 02 De-

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Florida, thence North 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds West along the South line of said Section 5 for 20 feet; thence North 0 Degrees 09 Minutes 25 Seconds East parallel with the East line of said, SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 for 175 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence continue North 0 Degrees 09 Minutes 25 Seconds East for 75 feet; thence North 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds West for 140 feet, thence South 0 Degrees 09 Minutes 25 Seconds West for 75 feet, thence South 89 Degrees 51 Minutes 35 Seconds East for 140 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Name in which assessed: James E. Watford, Jr.

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 11th day of July, 2012.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2012

87719S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nicole Seybold, the holder of the following 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: 797
Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009
Application No: 2012-24
R.E. No. 03391-011R

Description of Property:

COMMENCE at the Northwest Corner of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 32, Township 5 South, Range 11 West, and running South along 40 line for 120 feet; thence turn right and run West for 350 feet to County Road, thence turn left and run South for 120 feet along right of way of County Road; thence run East for 350 feet to the West line of the SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of said Section, thence run North for 120 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING

Name in which assessed: Valerie Dadds

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 11th day of July, 2012.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2012.

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

BY: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk
June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2012

87795S PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

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

The City of Port St. Joe is requesting sealed bids through June 29, 2012 at 3:00 PM, ET, from qualified Information Technology Companies to conduct Computer Hardware and Software Services for all City Computer Systems as needed.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

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 internet proxy and certification in CJS Security & Awareness Testing. A Certificate of Liability Insurance of \$1,000,000 for General Liability must also be included in the bid proposal. All previous bidders must re-submit a bid proposal to qualify.

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/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 may be addressed to: Charlotte Pierce, City Clerk
City of Port St. Joe
(850)229-8261 Ext 129
June 14, 21, 2012

87799S PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS

CITY OF PORT ST. JOE
SEWER GRINDER PUMP STATIONS
JUNE 2012

This project includes supplying grinder pumps stations for the City's low pressure sewage system. The grinder stations will be purchased by the City for a set unit price in multiples of 5. This contract price shall be in effect for two years.

Contract Documents and Specifications can be obtained at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, (850)229-8261 or by visiting the City's web site at www.cityofportstjoe.com. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes.

Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time, on July 13, 2012 at City of Port St. Joe, City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 and will be opened and read publicly immediately thereafter. All bids shall be submitted in an envelope clearly marked "Sealed Bid-City of Port St. Joe Sewer Grinder Pump Stations June 2012". The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to reject any and all bids. All bids shall be firm for a period of 60 days after opening. June 14, 21, 2012

87847S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

CENTENNIAL BANK, An Arkansas banking corporation, successor in interest to Bayside Savings Bank, Plaintiff,

vs.

S & M PROPERTIES, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, MICHAEL L. BUR

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100

REBECCA NORRIS, CLERK June 21, 2012
87911S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 12-27-PR
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARIE BETTY CHISHOLM Deceased.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the estate of MARIE BETTY CHISHOLM, deceased, whose date of death was May 2, 2012 is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is June 21, 2012.

Personal Representatives: Michael Chisholm 1106 Long Avenue Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Attorney for Personal Representative: Charles A. Costin FL Bar No. 699070 P O Box 98 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 (850)-227-1159 June 21, 28, 2012

87913S NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09, FLORIDA STATUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of Right Time Nutrition located at 302-A Reid Ave. in the County of GULF, in the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456intends to register the said name with the Divisions of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.

Dated at Port St. Joe, Florida, this 15th day of June, 2012.

CLMESSER INVESTMENTS, LLC June 21, 2012

87926S PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Commission would like to announce the board will have only one meeting a month which is on the 4th Monday of every month. June 21, 2012

87931S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEEN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO.: 2302011 CA 00311 CA

FLAGSTAR BANK FSB, Plaintiff,

vs.

DENNIS R. PARRISH; AMY L. PARRISH; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2, et al. Defendant.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 12, 2012 and entered in 2302011 CA 00311 CA of the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Florida, wherein FLAGSTAR BANK FSB, is the Plaintiff and DENNIS R. PARRISH; AMY L. PARRISH; UNKNOWN

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100

TENANT #1: UNKNOWN TENANT #2 are the Defendant(s). Benny Lister as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Front Lobby, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456, at 11:00 A.M. ET on July 12, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

PARCEL 1 BEGINNING AT THE SW CORNER OF THE SW ¼ OF THE NE ¼ OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST AND RUN NORTH 140 FEET IN C.W. ALDERSENS ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF WEWAHITCHKA; THENCE RUN EAST 105 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 140 FEET; THENCE RUN WEST 105 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL 2 NORTH 11 FEET OF THE WEST 105 FEET OF THE NW ¼ OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST, LESS ROAD RIGHT OF WAY. SAID LAND BEING AND LYING IN THE COUNTY OF GULF, FLORIDA.

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 within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 15th day of June, 2012.

Rebecca L. Norris As Clerk of the Court

By: B.A. Baxter As Deputy Clerk June 21, 28, 2012

These tiny ads sell, hire, rent and inform for thousands of families each week. Let a little Classified ad do a big job for you. Emerald Coast Marketplace 747-5020

HELP WANTED
4100

Personal Representatives: Michael Chisholm 1106 Long Avenue Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Attorney for Personal Representative: Charles A. Costin FL Bar No. 699070 P O Box 98 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 (850)-227-1159 June 21, 28, 2012

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CLASSIFIED NOTICES
1110

Publisher's Notice
"SCAM"
To avoid possible scams, it is recommended that consumers should verify caller information when receiving calls regarding credit card payments. Consumers should also contact the local company themselves instead of giving this information to individuals who are contacting them directly.

3100-3350 MERCHANDISE

GARAGE/YARD SALES
3230

Port St. Joe-121 Bellamy Cir. Saturday June 23rd 7:30am - ? Estate/Garage Sale Furniture, dishes, pots/pans, lamps. Mens suite 44s, mens shirts and jackets size L, mens pants 38w-29l and other misc items

Wewahitchka 215 Charles Ave, White City, June 22nd & June 23rd. 8:00 - 4:00 . HUGE 4-FAMILY YARD SALE Furniture, appliances, grill, books, collectibles, new belly rings, linens, antiques dolls & more. Rain cancels. Text FL13903 to 56654

Port St. Joe, 506 8th St. Fri & Sat, 8-4 Yard Sale Blue Willow dishes, pictures, handcarved fishing lures, ashtrays, lots more! Text 14164 to 56654

HELP WANTED
4100

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MISCELLANEOUS
3300

CASH PAID for unexpired, sealed DIABETIC TEST STRIPS- up to \$25/Box! Shipping prepaid. (888) 883-8835

4100-4130 EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED
4100

Hospitality

RESORT VACATION PROPERTIES Accepting applications

*Full-time front desk clerk 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

OPS Dental Assistant

The Gulf County Health Dept, an EO/AA/VP Employer, has one opening for a full-time, OPS Dental Assistant (No Benefits Assigned). Starting Salary: \$10.50 - \$12.00 hourly, based on experience. Fingerprinting and Emergency Duties Required. Dental Assistant Certification or Expanded Duties Required. For more info, contact Lesia McDaniel at (850) 227-1276, ext. 149. Electronic applications only for this position; refer to Requisition Number 64923165. Closing date 07/06/12. Apply at: peoplefirst.myflorida.com for assistance, contact: People First at 877-562-7287 Web-Id 34214105 Text FL14105 to 56654

HELP WANTED
4100

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HELP WANTED
4100

PURISTINE CLEANERS NEEDED Lots of Work and Good Pay * Must have Own Vehicle * Must have Own Supplies **CALL 850.227.3806**

JOB NOTICE

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

Utility Service Worker - Public Works Department 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 position will close on June 29, 2012. The entry level salary for a Utility Service Worker will be \$12.08 per hr. The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace.

JOB NOTICE

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

Full time Police Officer 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 position will close on June 29, 2012. The entry level salary for a Police Officer will be \$15.50 per hr. not including benefits. The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace.

JOB NOTICE

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

Interactive Sales Manager Are you passionate about providing the best media solutions to your customers? Florida's Freedom Interactive Newspapers, is seeking a Hands-on Interactive Sales Manager with a track record of driving revenue in multiplatform environments. You will be responsible for coaching, mentoring and developing your sales team with the goal of aggressively increasing revenue.

Included within your sphere of responsibility are the following: Developing new revenue streams, setting sales goals, field coaching and managing sales performance - making this a very "hands on" leadership role. The Interactive Sales Manager will foster an attitude of exceptional customer service and provide motivation, leadership and fresh ideas to the selling process.

Position Requirements: *Proven sales experience in digital products *Experience developing and leading a high performing sales team *Vision and passion to drive growth in interactive sales *Strong analytical ability to budget forecast and effectively utilize market research

The successful candidate will lead cross-selling efforts in print and digital solutions and must possess a demonstrated expertise with the Internet. A college degree in advertising or marketing is preferred but not required. Sales Experience and previous media management experience is preferred.

Florida Freedom offers an excellent benefit package including health, dental, vision and life insurance, 401(k) plan, vacation and sick leave. This role offers a chance to live and work along Florida's Emerald Coast encompassing 24 miles of pristine white-sand beaches stretching along the Gulf of Mexico. If this sounds like the right mix of challenge and opportunity, please e-mail your resume or contact me at either of the following addresses: E-Mail: sfeith@notes.freedom.com <http://www.facebook.com/#!/skfeith> http://www.linkedin.com/profile/view?id=19999098&trk=tab_pro <https://twitter.com/#!/skfeith>

For more information about our organization please go to: freedom.com/careers Web ID#: 34211062

HELP WANTED
4100

Classified Advertising works hard ... filling the employment needs of area business firms, helping people to meet their prospective employers, helping people buy and sell all kinds of goods and services, and much more! Nothing works harder than the Classifieds! 747-5020

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HELP WANTED
4100

Medical/Health
WEEMS MEMORIAL
Weems Memorial Is now hiring for the following positions:
Licensed Lab Tech Admin Asst. PT Registration Clerk EMT Paramedic RN LPN Applications are available at: www.weemsmemorial.com & may be submitted to Ginny Griner, WMH HR Director, ggriner@weemsmemorial.com By mail to: PO Box 580, Apalachicola, FL 32320, or FAXED to (850)-653-1879 Web ID 34213452

HELP WANTED
4100

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HELP WANTED
6100

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

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

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, UNFURNISHED APT. Lanark, Remodeled, Inc. Water\$425

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, UNFURNISHED APT. Lanark\$400

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, MOBILE HOME Fenced Yard\$500

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, UNFURNISHED Doublewide.....\$700

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, WATER VIEW HOME Unfurnished, Lawn Inc.....\$800

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, UNFURNISHED APT. Small Porch\$375

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, MOBILE HOME Large Yard\$500

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS
6100

Personal Representatives: Michael Chisholm 1106 Long Avenue Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Attorney for Personal Representative: Charles A. Costin FL Bar No. 699070 P O Box 98 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 (850)-227-1159 June 21, 28, 2012

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