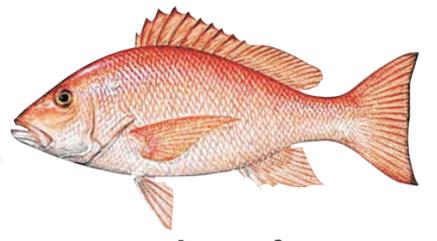


THE STAR



Six more days of snapper for Gulf anglers | B1

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YEAR 74, NUMBER 39

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50¢

Director: TDC at 'launching point'

By VALERIE GARMAN
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With bed tax collections on the rise and area hotels and vacation rentals booked solid, Gulf County Tourism Development Council Director Jennifer Jenkins sees an exciting launch stage rising for the agency.

"We are just at a great place to do really great things together," Jenkins said. "I feel like we're at a really good launch stage."

The TDC reported a 20.86 percent increase in bed tax collections for May over the previous year, a number Jenkins said she finds very encouraging.

"Our May numbers are up over last year just shy of \$20,000,"

Jenkins said. "I've been speaking to our lodging partners, and they're full. We have people coming in from all over."

Jenkins has been on board with the TDC for about a month and is working to develop a unified brand for Gulf County and market the brand around three major goals: increased occupancy, increased visitor spending

and development of long-term loyal customers.

Because people take the time to choose their vacation homes based on family make up and interests, Jenkins said she considers Gulf County a luxury product, much different than a stamp-out commodity destination that sells vacation packages based majorly on price.

"There are a lot of places — luxury places — that have branded themselves," Jenkins said. "It would be a different story if we were a commodity product."

Jenkins said one of her goals is to have the Gulf County Welcome Center open seven days a week by the end of the season. Ideally,

See TDC A10

Franklin County accident kills 1

By TIM CROFT
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A Highland View man was killed last Thursday morning when a pickup truck crossed the center line on the John Gorrie Bridge in Franklin County and struck the truck he was driving in the opposite lane.

John Parker was killed in the accident. His mother, Agnes H. Parker, of Port St. Joe was critically injured. She died from her injuries Sunday in a Tallahassee hospital.

According to a report completed by Florida Highway Patrol crash investigator Sgt. Aaron Stephens and FHP homicide investigator Cpl. Scotty Lolley, the collision occurred at 11:40 a.m. ET on the bridge 1 mile west of Bay Shore Drive.

A 2003 Dodge Pickup, driven by Robert Creamer, 62, of Eastpoint, was

See ACCIDENT A2

Election books close Monday

By TIM CROFT
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An easy prediction is that this will be a busy election season in Gulf County.

And Supervisor of Elections Linda Griffin is seeking to make voters and her office as prepared as possible.

With the Aug. 14 primary fast approaching, the voter registration book will close at 5 p.m. ET Monday.

Voters cannot register to vote or switch parties after that date, and Griffin encourages all eligible voters in the county to ensure their voter registration is current.

See ELECTION A2

INTO THE WILD



By TIM CROFT
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Basa got back to the water this past Sunday.

With dozens looking on, researchers from Gulf World in Panama City Beach released Basa, a loggerhead sea turtle, back into the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico after a three-month rehab at Gulf World.

After some initial confusion — all the feet in the sand along the waterline seemed to befuddle Basa for a time — the turtle dove beneath the surf and could be seen flapping his flippers as he pushed into deeper waters.

"He, she is good to go," said Secret Holmes-Douglas, director of the Gulf World Marine Institute. At 75 centimeters across the shell, Basa is a teenager in the turtle world and is too young to determine gender.

"He has been tagged (in two ways) so we can track him if he does come back."

Basa's trip to Gulf World and back to the gulf waters is a saga unto itself. The 70-pound turtle was discovered distressed in the water during the March 30 open house at St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge.

The first to spy Basa — loggerheads are a threatened species — near the Indian Pass boat ramp believed the object might be a log. Soon, however, it was evident it was Basa, raising a flipper as if a drowning man raising an arm for help.

David Moody and Shelly Staies, staff biologists at St. Vincent, went out in a boat to retrieve Basa, carefully navigating the turtle to shore.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife

See INTO THE WILD A6

Photo by TIM CROFT | The Star

Staff with Gulf World Marine Institute and volunteers carefully move the 70-pound Basa to the shoreline.

Government budgets to feel pinch from property values

By TIM CROFT
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Local governments will need to tighten the belt again this year because of sliding property values, but the upside is the bottom appears to be close.

Taxable property values in the county will fall for a sixth-straight year, though the slide of just more than 7 percent continues a slowing

trend that began last year.

Going back to at least 1982, county property values had not dropped in any single year until 2007, two years after the height of the real estate bubble when property values exploded past \$2 billion with a 55 percent increase in 2005.

However, after dropping by more than 20 percent in both 2009 and 2010, the decline has steadied somewhat.

This year's decline represents 7.16 percent of the Board of County Commissioner's ad valorem revenue, based on current millage rates. Commissioners have indicated during early budget meetings that they are disinclined to raise the millage rate.

Gulf County Schools, which by law do not permit certain exemptions allowed by the county, will see revenue slide by 7.21 percent,

based on current taxing rates.

The city maintained more ground, losing 5.36 percent in property value while the City of Wewahitchka declined by just 3.98 percent.

Looking at the two Municipal Services Taxing Units that fund the local share of the bond for beach renourishment spotlights the area where the property

See BUDGETS A2



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Opinion	A4-A5	School News.....	B3
Letters to the Editor	A5	Faith.....	B4
Outdoors	A8	Obituaries.....	B4-B5
Sports.....	A9	Classifieds.....	B7-B8

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BUDGETS from page A1

values declined the most: gulf-front interior lots.

Gulf-front property in the county lost just 1.23 percent, but the value of gulf interior lots dropped 13.5 percent.

"We lost quite a bit at the beach interior and that is what happens," said Gulf County Property Appraiser Kesley Colbert. "The beach goes up a lot and when things come down it goes down a lot."

Colbert and his office finalized the property roll by July 1 to comply with Department of Revenue mandates. The property roll is essentially a historical marker, establishing what the market reflects — based on sales of like properties in the county — as of Jan. 1.

"We are really historians," Colbert said. "It's part of the system. Because of the law we are always in arrears to the market. We are always six months behind the market. We are doing the same thing we did in 2005, and back then everybody was happy."

When prices are moving up, as was historically the case for decades, that system works to the advantage of the property owner who can, over those six months, see the value of property move higher on the market than the county assessment.

"We've had so many short-sales and bank sales they've become the market. It makes the job difficult because there is a lack of arm's-length sales. It has been a difficult year."

Kesley Colbert
Gulf County property appraiser

When the market declines, however, property owners can be in retreat on value compared to assessment for a given year.

Further, when there is a lack of sales, market-driven "arm's-length" sales, the task of the appraiser becomes more difficult, as the DOR has recognized. Where once appraisers were not permitted to consider short-sales or bank-sales in lieu of foreclosure, those kinds of transactions have become that market.

"We've had so many short-sales and bank sales they've become the market," Colbert said. "It makes the job difficult because there is a lack of arm's-length sales. It has been a difficult year."

"But the state has recognized (bank and short sales) need to be considered."

Colbert said the DOR could ignore short and bank sales when they those transactions represented one or two out of 50 sales. But when 40 out of 50 sales involved short or bank sales, "they have to recognize them. They are driving the market."

The Board of County Commissioners and Coastal Community Association lobbied state lawmakers to allow the use of bank and short sales. The DOR has allowed those sales in parts of South Florida in recent years. For the first time, this year Colbert and his office were allowed to use such sales in assessing the property rolls.

"I can't sell my property for any more than the bank sold the property next door for in foreclosure," said Dr. Pat Hardman, a local developer, resident and

president of the CCA.

So, statewide, the market is in large measure being driven by the fallout from the real estate bubble and crash.

And in large measure, Colbert noted, Gulf County is subject to the same trends roiling national and international markets, be it the banking crisis in Europe or strife in the Middle East or natural and man-made catastrophes at home.

"We are in a situation that is more global than Port St. Joe, Gulf County or Northwest Florida," Colbert said. "We are tied to the markets. We are still in that 'let's-be-cautious' period."

"This year is very similar to last year; we are treading water. We are just holding on looking at the national trends. I think we can see the bottom. I think we are closer to it than last year."

Colbert also aimed to put to rest a discussion that has taken place in county budget meetings concerning the percentage of residents in the county who pay property tax.

Colbert and staff assess 17,527 properties in the county; 1,211, or just 6.9 percent, are not taxable and the vast majority of those properties are owned by government, local, state and federal.

ACCIDENT from page A1

headed east from Apalachicola when it crossed into the westbound lane and struck the left front of a 1988 Dodge Pickup, driven by Parker, 65. After impact, the right rear of Parker's truck struck the concrete barrier wall on the north shoulder.

Parker died in the collision. His mother was rushed to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital with critical injuries.

Creamer, in serious condition, was taken to Bay Medical Center.

All three individuals were wearing their seatbelts.

Parker served in the U.S. Air Force and was highly decorated from his service in Vietnam, earning 14 awards and commendations. He was active in the VFW John C. Gainous Post 10069, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Those who knew him knew of his love of antique cars, fishing and the outdoors.

A memorial service will be Saturday in Sunset Memory Gardens in Americus, Ga. Those who wish may make donations to Forgotten Coast Wounded Warriors, P. O. Box 1022, Port Saint Joe, FL, 32457.

Times city editor David Adlerstein contributed to this report



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ELECTION from page A1

People will be able to change their address up to election day, but they can not register to vote or switch party affiliation after Monday.

Even with an address change, Griffin encourages voters to call her office before casting a ballot to make any changes on their registration.

"It will be easier for them and easier for the poll workers if they do it before election day," Griffin said. "And it is easier just to call us; let us do all the work and they can stay at home."

Any in-county move can be taken care of by phone; if a voter has moved in from out-of-county or out-of-state they must fill out a new voter registration in person.

Griffin said her office is working through the rolls to ensure proper addresses. A recent mailout required under law due to state redistricting resulted in a fair number of returns, indicating a percentage of voters have moved, in or out of the county.

Eligible voters may register at Griffin's office in the 400 block of Long Avenue in Port St. Joe.

In addition, voters are encouraged to update their signatures at Griffin's office. This is particularly important for those voting absentee.

Voters can request an absentee ballot at any time. The first mailing of absentee ballots went out Tuesday. Griffin said there will be subsequent mail-outs as requests come in. You can request an absentee ballot up to election day.

Griffin also urges absentee voters that their request for a ballot is current as expiration terms have changed.

"We've had people request absentee ballots since January," Griffin said. "If they know they are going to vote absentee, a lot of people go ahead and get it out of the way early. That's the easiest way to vote."

Early voting for the primary will begin Aug. 4.

This year's ballot is packed, with more than 30 candidates qualifying for county offices and federal and state legislative seats in play.

"This will be a busy year," Griffin said.

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Port St. Joe Commission suspends portion of sign ordinance

By VALERIE GARMAN

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The Port St. Joe Commission juggled the importance of advertising for area merchants with the potential for "sign pollution" at its July 3 meeting.

The discussion ended with a vote to suspend a portion of the city's sign ordinance that says Reid Avenue businesses cannot place sandwich board signs on Highway 98 sidewalks. The suspension will last through Labor Day weekend.

Commissioner Bo Patterson brought up the issue, and said business owners on Reid Avenue are struggling to capture business from travelers on U.S. Highway 98.

Under the current sign ordinance, Reid Avenue businesses cannot advertise on Highway 98 because off-premises signs are prohibited.

"People coming through town don't know Reid is there," Patterson said. "They know when they put their signs out on Highway 98, their business increases. For our merchants — and there are several here today — we want them to survive."

Darren McDaniel, owner of Steamer's Hotdogs on Reid Avenue, addressed the commission about the issue and said the strict sign ordinance has forced him out of business.

He said Steamers will close its doors this October.

"We're closing the doors Oct. 1 and it's a direct result of that sign ordinance," McDaniel said. "It's tough to make a living here."

McDaniel reported a 22 percent fall in business since he got a letter from the city about the sign ordinance. During the off-season, McDaniel said he had to lay off four employees to make it through.

"No one walks on Reid Avenue," McDaniel said. "There are beautiful sidewalks."

Mayor Mel Magidson said the commission needs to go back and review the city's sign ordinance, but if every business on Reid Avenue wants to put up a sandwich board it would be a big problem.

George Boyer of Boyer Signs presented the commission with options for more effective signage to help point out the downtown businesses. Boyer suggested condensing the information on existing signs and coming up with briefer "Downtown" signs to place along the perimeters of Reid Avenue to point out the area's shopping and dining options.

"We need to follow up and do these," Magidson said of Boyer's presentation.

"We need to balance the goal of clutter versus information to where the businesses are," said

Magidson, who noted the commission needs to avoid allowing "sign pollution" like Front Beach Road in Panama City Beach.

The commission voted 5-0 to allow sandwich boards, nothing larger than 30 by 36 inches, to be placed by Reid Avenue business owners on Highway 98 through Sept. 3.

Patterson directed the commissioners to think about what they can do to get some signage on Highway 98 to help the merchants.

In other business, the Port St. Joe Commission:

- Voted to hire Kenny Wood as a part-time maintenance contractor for the city. Wood will construct a maintenance plan for the city's water plant facility and will be paid \$40 per hour. His workload is not to exceed 16 hours, or \$640, per month for six months.

- Hired Bluemanta of Port St. Joe as the city's technology service provider despite a recommendation from City Manager Jim Anderson to go with TJ's Networking Group out of Panama City. The commission voted 5-0 to contract with Bluemanta.

- Discussed charging for access to the city's boat ramp in the future by either charging per launch or requiring boaters to purchase a permit to use the ramp. "The government can't provide everything anymore," Magidson said.

Busy season arrives for Gulf County Mosquito Control

By VALERIE GARMAN

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Gulf County Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran said the next couple weeks are going to be rough.

"Any year we have a storm like we just had, we'll see a spike (in mosquito activity) for a little while," Cothran said. "There's been a quantifiable increase — enough to justify more spray."

Cothran said heavy rainfall in late June due to Tropical Storm Debby prompted a need for increased spraying and water treatment to kill both adult mosquitoes and their larvae.

"We're working against a time clock here," Cothran said. "Within 15 minutes of being covered with water (mosquito eggs) can hatch."

After Debby dumped nearly 10 inches of rain in most parts of the county and combined with an existing spike in the mosquito population, it created the perfect recipe for mosquito production, he said.

The standing water in many areas remained weeks after the storm, Cothran said, providing the blood suckers with easy nesting access. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water.

Cothran reported houses in Indian Pass still with flooded yards early last week.

"The best thing homeowners can do is go outside and assess their property and dump out all of the standing water," said Cothran,

who noted that standing water from flooding can be treated by the mosquito control.

"Mosquitoes can go through their life cycle within about seven days," he said. "The eggs that were covered in water during the storm are probably getting ready to hatch off now."

Cothran said summer usually calls for lower mosquito populations in the area, with spikes typically in the spring and the worst populations in the fall.

Despite a mid-summer mosquito spike, Cothran is still trying to work within the limited county budget. He said cuts in the last few years to the mosquito control department budget have caused some difficulties in increasing spray as needed.

Cothran said he has crews normally spray from sunset to 11 p.m. and from 3 a.m. until sunrise during peak mosquito times.

"Anytime we have something like this, it adds something different to the scope of our regular year," Cothran said. "It's just a balancing act."

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Opinion

Keyboard KLATTERINGS

'Bubba's brother'

His name was Hilton, but folks called him "Bubba." I'm sure he was a typical little brother. I have one and I'd do anything for him and he knows it.

I've never lost a sibling, but I can't imagine how tough it would be to lose one when they were young. Bubba was 11

years-old when he passed away. It was a freak accident. He was playing in the yard and stepped on a dog bone and died of tetanus three days later. It was 1947, these kind of things happened.

The pain to the family was incredible. Again, I can't even pretend to imagine. It hit Bubba's brother hard. Some folks say that his introverted personality was partly due to losing his younger brother. If that was the case, I sure would understand it.

Bubba's brother went on with life. He got married young and became one of the best at his trade. He gave back much more than he took. Bubba's brother was successful at the most important parts in this life — helping others.

One of the things that Bubba's brother did was start a boy's ranch that served as a refuge for at-risk and troubled teenage boys throughout the state. Maybe this was a tribute to Bubba, I am really not sure.

My Mama had the pleasure of meeting Bubba's brother on a few occasions. She told me the story many times before she passed away. I always asked the same question, "What was he like?" Mama always answered the question the same way. She said, "He wore a starched white shirt, all the girls made over him and he sure could play the piano." Mama would go on to say that all of the sorority girls would circle around the piano and listen to him play and ooh and ah.

In all of the conversations about Bubba's brother, Mama always ended them the same way. She would say, "He was such a gentleman."

He definitely made an

impression on Mama and a lot of the girls at Auburn University.



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I heard the story countless times and loved it every time she told it. She got this starry look in her eyes when she told it, like the teenager she was in the early 1950s.

Recently, I was sitting at a restaurant in Sandestin, Florida, eating breakfast.

Two couples sat down at the table directly across the aisle from us.

I wish I could have seen my face. I'm sure I had a smile bigger than Dallas on it.

No one knew him. He was just sitting there with his wife and the other couple. In my mind, I said to myself, "Dog gone it Mama, there is Bubba's brother." I could have reached out and touched him.

Never having met this man, I was still sure it was him. I told my children that I was going over to talk to him. As they always do, they begged me not to. They didn't realize it was Bubba's brother; they just thought it was an opportunity for me to embarrass them in public.

We finished eating and I walked over to the table. Bubba's brother looked up at me with a puzzled look and then a smile. I asked him if I could ask him a question. He said, "Sure."

I asked him, "My Mama always talked about a fellow who would come down to Auburn and play the piano for the sorority girls. Was that you?"

Bubba's brother started laughing. He said, "That was about 60 years ago." Before he had a chance to say anything else, his wife chimed in, "Oh he was the one, and I was there." She said it with a big smile on her face.

She ought to know, they've been married for 58 years. I asked his wife, "Wasn't that dangerous?"

She laughed and agreed it was.

We made small talk about my family and I introduced them. They

See **BUBBA A5**

When John Parker of Highland View walked in this office, you stood at attention.

When an email arrived from him, you took notice because at the bottom of that email, his sign-off, his signature, was in bold lettering, "I AM COMMANDO."



TIM CROFT
Star news editor

From time to time, there would be a letter in the basket of incoming copy and at the bottom, that "I AM COMMANDO" caused an immediate glance. Those letters and emails were unique.

Mr. Parker — I had too much respect to call him by any other name — had a way with words that was, shall we say, his own.

His un-textbook punctuation, his capitalizing long stretches within sentences — emphasizing what to him were the most important aspects of what he was trying to say — he was special to this paper and to his community.

Mr. Parker lost his life last week in a tragic automobile accident. An oncoming vehicle, according to the Florida Highway Patrol, crossed the center line and smashed into the left front of Mr. Parker's truck, killing him and critically injuring his mother, who passed several days later.

He loved his mother like any mother would hope their son would love them as they entered their golden years.

Mr. Parker was no spring chicken. In his 60s, he generally carried a two- or three-day stubble flecked salt and pepper — as with me, more of the salt than pepper — with glasses and a military-style ball cap that nestled on hair you guessed he might not have cared about brushing that morning.

Despite the modest appearance, he was a man to pay attention to: tall, erect, out-spoken, opinionated,

and, yes, a bit of a contrarian.

He had no problem letting me know when he thought a story or column or editorial had run off the rails. There was always a twinkle in his eyes, a slight smile creasing his face as if saying, "Now, you know better than that."

I won't try to provide some great insight into Mr. Parker's life; I did not know him much outside the paper and the VFW Post 10069 of which he was so proud and fond.

I knew he was a decorated veteran, a former special ops soldier who had answered the call and showed up valiantly when his country beckoned.

He was deeply proud of that service, deeply proud of the man it made him and deeply proud of the cache that service provided — he was a man who defended the right of citizens to speak freely about their community and the issues the community faced and he willingly and frequently exercised that right.

To him it was a fundamental right which carried no negotiation. He was a proud American, a proud veteran, and that provided him a voice. And he loved to voice his love for his community and was something of a watchdog, a citizen who wished to hold the powers that be accountable.

It was indeed personal for Mr. Parker because his sense of community, his pride in community, was something he carried with the same honor he wore his military service.

He did not cotton fools gladly. He did not abide elected officials who seemed out for themselves, whether that official legislated in Washington, Tallahassee or Gulf County.

No real surprise, then, that Mr. Parker was an active and vocal member in a Political Action Committee formed to seek improvement in Gulf County and its government.

Mr. Parker believed there was plenty to improve and he wrote

countless letters to the paper over the years on topics ranging from his distaste for single-member districts to what he saw as inept spending of his tax dollars.

And his letters, some of them could be charitably labeled diatribes, were welcome because of the source — as much Mr. Parker's brain as his heart. He cared so much about his community that it was almost as if this was another form of combat for him, a combat of ideas and words and beliefs and values.

And it was an engagement in which he did not know surrender.

That is a shining example of a life lived, engaged with community in the most fundamental and passionate ways, a man to be listened to, respected, not because you agreed with his viewpoint — we had spirited discussions about the biomass plant, for example — but because his views came from a place of genuine concern for the world in which he lived.

Communities can ill afford to lose such advocates.

That was what Mr. Parker was more than anything, an advocate for what was good about the community and for improving it, whether that was improving government or the environment or basic quality of life.

There are others who knew and loved Mr. Parker who can provide more eloquent epitaphs. There are others who could speak to what Mr. Parker was and what he represented in their own lives.

But anyone engaged in the community, advocating for the community and ways to improve that community, well when those voices are lost, it diminishes that community just a bit.

The loss of Mr. Parker is such a case.

May he rest in peace. And may the void left by the silencing of his voice, that voice that raised community to the highest rung, be filled by others of similar passion.

I should have married Kitty Wells

People, I can see my mistake. NOW! It wasn't so clear back in 1974. As a matter of fact it seemed like the perfectly logical thing to do at the time.

Cathy was nice, good looking and her granddaddy had all that money. And I figured her being six and a half....well, almost seven years younger than me was just an added bonus.

The age difference has never been a stumbling block....until now! We married the year she graduated from college. The only problem we had back then was she had been studying Chaucer, statistical equations and Egyptian hieroglyphics instead of Betty Crocker, ironing and Erma Bombeck. But I'm not here today to tell you about that first stack of pancakes or the beanie weenie casserole. We're talking that seven year gap problem this morning.

And I will admit her youthfulness brought such joy and laughter to our marriage. I marveled everyday at her boundless energy and her wanderlust for the simple, even mundane things of ordinary life. Of course, her taste in music, movies and growing up memories ran about seven years behind mine. She had never heard of Faron Young or seen "Blackboard Jungle". She thought Kitty Wells was a place a cat went to get water! She was big on Robert Redford and she could evermore

wear you out talking about a bunch of Monkees taking that "Last Train to Clarksville."

She probably related to our sons a little better than I did. Josh and Jess declare to this day that there was no "probably" about it! I've always figured it was a simple case of being young enough to figure out what in the



HUNKER DOWN
Keskley Colbert

heck they were mumbling about over the peanut butter toast and Cocoa Puffs.

I thought the idea of marrying someone younger was so she'd be around to take care of me in my old age. She could take the dog out for a walk. Or wrap a blanket around my shoulders on those cold winter nights. Or maybe slip a little diet coke in my Geritol. Or point out my reading glasses were on top of my head when I went to searching for them.

I even kidded her that I was going to trade her in for two twenty year olds when she reached forty. She'd throw her head back and roar with laughter over that one. Through gales of hilarity she'd give me the old "don't bite off more than you can chew" speech. By the time she was forty, I was closing in on fifty, and I didn't own a yacht, a golf course overlooking Carmel Bay or a third home in Tahiti, the twenty year olds were definitely looking in another direction.....

The truth is I never even noticed the age

difference. We'd joke about it some but it never was a concern for either of us. Well, let me think here a second. When someone would call the house and ask to speak to my daughter... that chapped me a little. Or we would be at a restaurant and the waitress would place three menus before us and declare, "Do you want to order now or wait for your wife to return from the ladies room?" Or we'd get in line at the Golden Corral and the cashier would automatically give me the senior discount while she charged Cathy the full amount. She wouldn't even ask to see an I. D. for goodness sakes!

It didn't help any that I aged rather quickly and Cathy seemed to just stay the same year after year after year. You look at us today and that gap seems a lot wider than seven years. I think she started taking Geritol Complete when she was eleven.

Here's where I discovered the mistake. And it's a whopper! I'm about to be sixty-six. I'm fixing to start collecting at least some of that Social Security money I've been paying into the federal government since 1963. If I understand this plan, I'm just going to sit at the house and they mail it right to the front door. Shucks, if back in 1974 I'd a'married a girl seven years OLDER than me, her "rocking chair" money would have been rolling in for years now!

I'm mad at Merrill Lynch, Charles Schwab and my high school guidance counselor for not

pointing this out to me in 1965. Shucks, I could have gotten a major jump on my estate planning! I would have even walked out to the mailbox and collected her check for her. The fact that Cathy's well-to-do grandfather selfishly spent all of his money before he died didn't help matters one bit.

And listen, if I had married an older girl, and I can live for another few months the checks would be doubled! Forget that trading Cathy in for two twenties. That's made for TV movie hogwash. I should have opted for a sixty year old! And here's the real downturn, Cathy is a young 58 now. I will be too old for the money to do me any good, if and when, she makes it to Social Security age.

The blanket around your shoulders is a nice comfort....but I'd rather have the thousand bucks!

Something else suddenly popped into my mind. Cathy DID marry someone seven years older than her! You don't suppose she thought this thing out back in college? Those Vanderbilt University people aren't stupid, you know. It seems like she majored in economics. I bet she spent her library time reading P. T. Barnum and L. Ron Hubbard. When I turned forty she didn't say one word about trading me in for something different. She's been figuring all along on going out to the mailbox and picking up MY check!

You talk about being baby boomed ...
Respectfully,
Kes

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The 4th of July — an American's perspective

Dear Editor:

As I sat on the beach during the 4th of July watching the 20 miles of fireworks stretching along the beach from Port St. Joe toward Panama City, I suddenly recalled the lyrics from an old song, "Life is a Cabaret." I have been humming it ever since. Anyone know how to stop the loop?

Here were thousands of people watching and shooting off fireworks in honor of an event most of them do not understand, do not support and do not subscribe to. I wonder why?

The American Revolution had nothing to do with personal freedom or liberty.

The Revolutionary War was about freeing the 13 American Colonies from English rule.

The Founding Fathers would have considered a revolution to gain individual freedom illegal

and immoral. They wrote the Declaration of Independence to clarify who was revolting against what and why.

Only about 40 percent of the colonists actually supported the American Revolution. Fortunately, that 40 percent contained all the smart guys and leaders. After the Revolution, each of the Colonies tried to become independent nations. That turned out to be a disaster. So in 1790+/-, they gathered to organize as a single country that could survive and thrive.

In order to do that they had to agree on mutually acceptable goals for their new nation. They wrote a "where can we agree on the values and aspirations of our new Nation ... dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal" statement.

They wrote a Mission Statement. A Mission Statement is the "where are we going and why" core of any successful action strategy.

The Founding Fathers'

Mission Statement is the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution, which lists 6 Goals for the new United States of America — "We the People of the United States in order to form a more perfect Union (1), establish Justice (2), insure domestic Tranquility (3), provide for the common defence (4), promote the general Welfare (5), and secure the Blessings (6) of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

"Secure the 'Blessings' of Liberty" is usually defined as all citizens having equal options and opportunities to become whatever they want to become, not personal liberty. It may be of interest to note that "Posterity" (children) is capitalized. This is where the rubber meets the road. The indigenous residents of Gulf County don't seem to care about passing the "Blessings" of Liberty on to their children.

More than 80 percent of the

graduates of GCSD don't learn to read well enough to, "secure the Blessings of Liberty" in the tech-driven, competitive workplace of the 21st Century.

The reading programs currently being used at GCSD violate most of the physiology-based science developed during the past 30 years regarding how students learn and think. That science has been validated by a Nobel Prize and National Science Awards. GCSD would rather fail its students, literally and figuratively, than use science-based teaching techniques.

I suspect the students at GCSD could successfully sue GCSD in Federal Court and obtain damages from Florida DOE and GCSD for violating their Rights under the 13th Amendment.

Behavior testifies to Beliefs. Florida and Gulf County indigenous residents do not seem to support or subscribe to the Goals of the U.S. Constitution. Apparently, they

don't want to be Americans. We know the Gulf County Cracker-Christians (a.k.a., "good old boys") aren't Americans. The superintendents, administrators, and faculty members of GCSD do not seem to aspire to be Americans.

So, the celebration of the 4th of July in Gulf County is strictly for "blow-ins" and tourists.

We thank you Gulf County. It was a good show.

The U.S. Constitution is the Bible of American Christians. Mitt Romney is right, it was "inspired by God." It is the only document created by the hand of man worth dying for.

To find out how the U.S. Constitution can help you deliver the "Blessings of Liberty" to yourself and to your children, come to the Community Room, Port St. Joe Public Library, Monday, July 16, at 5 p.m. John Comer will be there for an open Q&A. It is the American way.

John M. Comer
Port St. Joe

Golf course underutilized asset

Dear Editor:

We have a wonderful outdoor activity venue in Gulf County that unfortunately gets very little overall support from our local community. I'm speaking of the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club at 700 Country Club Road in Gulf County.

Of course, with the present economic downturn and the lack of jobs in our area, we could expect to see less activity. However, many who could

afford membership, or at least come out and play golf, swim in our wonderful pool, eat at our snack bar, or enjoy a cocktail in our bar, just fail to take advantage of these opportunities. We often hear "I didn't know I could come out and do these things if I wasn't a member."

Too many people either do not know or fail to remember that WE ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC — MEMBERSHIP NOT NECESSARY.

We have the only golf course and swimming pool open to the public

in Gulf County. Many vacationers come to Gulf County to golf at our course. This brings a lot of other money into the community (housing, food, gas and restaurants, to name a few). It would be a serious blow to our overall community if this venue would have to close due to lack of support from our own community.

The St. Joseph Bay Golf Club plays an important role in bringing golf and other activities to all who wish to take advantage of these opportunities at a very affordable price. Our course helps our

community in many ways. We have a commitment to preserving recreational open space, generating low cost outdoor recreation for ALL citizens (young & old) and visitors, and help promote other residential and commercial development. Strong communities always have golf courses. We employ workers, which aids our local economy. In addition, we offer swim lessons, water aerobics, & golf lessons. (NOTE: the latest Water Aerobics and Swim Lessons had to be canceled due to lack of interest.) Therefore, our

course is very important to our community's overall economic wellbeing, and reciprocity would be greatly appreciated.

Golf courses today face growing challenges from many sides. The failure rate has grown dramatically across the nation. It takes a lot of money to keep a golf course maintained. Presently, the course is in wonderful condition, better than it has been in years. But, our budget is tight.

We want to encourage you to come out, see what all we have to offer, and support our fine club.

Hit a bucket of balls on our range, or play 9 or 18 holes. We have groups you can join, or golf with someone of your choice. We also offer a great venue for wedding parties, swim parties, fundraising events, card groups, business meetings, and the like. We can also cater these events.

If we lose this great venue, it would be a serious blow to our entire area. Please help us to preserve this community asset.

Dan Van Treese, President
St. Joseph Bay Golf Club

Open space for democracy

Dear Editor:

Does Florida have a forum for democracy? Can the people of our

state have places to meet and express what will and will not work for them in the Affordable Health Care Act? Or is it the prerogative of Governor Scott to make these decisions without

consulting them?

We are now paying federal income taxes that support Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. These programs benefit all of us. Do the governing bodies of this

state want to hear what a broad spectrum of the population thinks about this issue?

Can we listen to what others say without getting angry? I often spend time with those who think

like me and do not listen to people with different ideas. Do you think that our government does this also?

"Our strength lies in our imagination and paying attention to what

sustains life rather than what destroys it." (From Terry Tempest Williams)

Nancy Luther
135 South Higgins
St. Port St. Joe, FL 32456

BUBBA from page A4

took turns waving at Bubba's brother as I wrote their names down for him and his wife.

Bubba's brother said he would send them all something in the mail. "Mama, that's pretty awesome," I said to myself.

Bubba's brother worked for a man who once said, "The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have."

Bubba's brother did a lot with what he had. Bubba would have been proud.

You see, Bubba's brother is Bryan Bartlett Starr, or "Bart" Starr, winner of five NFL championships, MVP of Super Bowls I and II, NFL MVP in 1966 and inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame

in 1973. His football resume is second to none.

I was more interested in verifying the piano playing Mama always told me about.

He did.

Coach Vince Lombardi was the coach of the Green Bay Packers who made the statement about doing well with what we have.

Bart Starr did just that.

Bart Starr rarely played in his senior season at Alabama in 1955. The University of Alabama had a new football coach (J. B. "Ears" Whitworth) who wanted to start over with a group of younger players.

The basketball coach at Alabama had a friend with the Green Bay Packers. He (basketball coach Johnny

Dees) recommended Bart Starr as a prospect.

The Packers were under the impression that Starr was a Phi Beta Kappa and would learn quickly. My son asked me what Phi Beta Kappa means. I told him it meant, "He was smart."

In the 17th round of the 1956 draft, the Green Bay Packers made Starr the

199th player selected.

What a steal — Drafting one of the greatest quarterbacks ever to play in the NFL in the 17th round.

It was a good breakfast. It was a special encounter. It verified Mama's story.

Mr. Starr insisted on sending autographed pictures to all of my

children and my daughter's boyfriend who will be a freshman at the University of Alabama in the fall. His wife, Cherry, said, "Consider it done."

I remember when Mama died, I knew the thing I would miss the most was her stories. It seems everywhere I turn, I still hear Mama telling them.

They may not be out loud, but they are in my mind and heart, and I still talk to her.

I know exactly what I would tell her about Bubba's brother. He was such a gentleman.

Find more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

Send your letters to :

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TIM CROFT | The Star

With a little nudge in the right direction, Basa is off into the warm gulf waters.

INTO THE WILD from page A1

Commission was contacted, and Basa was draped in towels to remain moist during the trip to Gulf World, which responds to turtle rescues from St. Marks to Fort Walton Beach and to dolphins in distress across a region only slightly smaller.

Basa was transported to Panama City Beach by Don Stoneberger and Kathy Strand, new residents to Port St. Joe, who bypassed the open house to provide for Basa.

They drove, without air conditioning on the advice of professionals on scene, to Gulf World where Basa joined by two other loggerheads rescued during the same week.

"She was pretty bad off," Holmes-Douglas said. "She had gastrointestinal impaction and pneumonia. She was emaciated and dehydrated. She was a sick turtle."

There also was a wound to the back of the neck. Although originally thought to be bad — blood was evident when Basa was first brought to shore — Holmes-Douglas said there was no blood when the turtle arrived at Gulf World and the wound was the least of Basa's problems.

During the next three months, Basa received nutrient-rich fish oil by feeding tube and a round of antibiotics, making a full recovery, as Holmes-Douglas noted as the truck from Gulf World pulled up near Money Bayou on Sunday.

"She's been pretty active," Holmes-Douglas said of the ride over. "She's ready."

The South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department



LOIS SWOBODA | The Times

Basa as he looked on the day of his rescue on March 30. The loggerhead was dehydrated, malnourished and suffering from pneumonia when rescued by staff and volunteers at St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge.

provided a big assist Sunday, deploying the truck used to carry the healthy turtle back to the shoreline. The Gulf World Marine Institute has a long list of success stories in bringing sea turtles and distressed dolphins back to health and back to the wild, but a new non-profit formed under the wing of the Institute aims to do even more.

Spawned from the cold-stun event of several years ago that resulted in the rescue and rehabilitation of some 1,800 turtles, most found in St. Joseph Bay, a group of volunteers and staff at Gulf World Marine Institute began to lay the groundwork to fund and organize response to such events.

"Without community support it makes (handling those sort of events) very difficult," Holmes-Douglas said. "This is a community that cares. It is really important to have that kind of

support."

The non-profit officially will launch next month. The board of directors includes Ron Hardy, president and a co-owner of Gulf World, Gulf County residents Julia Cunningham and Dewey Blaylock, secretary and treasurer, respectively, Cheryl Young, a resident of Atlanta and Gulf County, Pam George, marketing director at Gulf World, Mike Hill of Panama City and Dr. Forest Townsend.

Blaylock has a marine biology degree and teaches at Gulf Coast State College, and Townsend is a respected veterinarian and works with dolphins, turtles and other marine life.

"Community involvement is key," George said. "The response to the cold-stun was unbelievable. We'd just like to organize that involvement. There will be a lot of education and outreach. People want to be involved."



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It's a great day to be a Republican!!!

Jim McKnight
Chairman

Gulf County ARREST LOG

The Gulf County Sheriff's Office will be conducting vehicle safety checkpoints and DUI check points during the month of August 2012. The check points will be held throughout the county to include Highway 98 near St. Joe Beach, Highway 98 and Garrison Ave, C-30 Simmons Bayou, Highway 71 North of White City, Highway 22 and Highway 22A, Highway 71 and Westarm Creek, Highway 71 Dalkeith Area and Highway 71 near the Calhoun line.

On July 2, Wesley D. Arnold, IV, 26, was arrested for a series of burglaries that occurred on Cape San Blas. Arnold was seen going through a car at a residence near the entrance to the State Park. Deputies located him at a nearby restaurant and placed him under

arrest; he was charged with three counts of burglary to a conveyance and one count of burglary to a dwelling. He is suspect to several other burglaries that occurred in the area; anyone with information concerning these burglaries is asked to call the sheriff's office at 227-1115 or Crimestoppers at 785-TIPS.

On July 5, Dustin Allen Beatty, 22, turned himself in at the sheriff's office on warrants for possession of a controlled substance and manufacture of a controlled substance. The warrants are from a search warrant served on Beatty's residence in February. It was believed he fled to South Florida. Shortly after being on the Wheel of Justice he turned himself in.

On July 5, Austin Harrison Beene, 20, was

arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and driving on a suspended license; he refused to take a breath test.

On July 5, Mary M. Hernandez, 43, was arrested on charges of burglary to a conveyance and uttering a forged instrument. It is alleged that she broke into a car parked at a local convenience store and cashed several checks at Walmart in Panama City. Investigators were able to get video from Wal-Mart that was played on local television; information leading to her identity was gather from the video being played on TV.

Dr. Joseph Heflin to share 'Who Sees You When You Are in the Hospital'

Star Staff Report

PORT ST. JOE — Dr. Joseph Heflin will speak on "Who Sees You When You Are in the Hospital" at 10 a.m. ET on July 24 at the Gulf Franklin Center of Gulf Coast State College.

Dr. Heflin will present on what to expect when visiting the hospital and who will be providing your care. The discussion will also include coverage of meningitis and encephalitis risks for the summer. A question and answer time for additional questions will be available after the seminar.

Pre-registration is requested for the

seminar, which is sponsored by Sacred Heart's Senior Spirit membership program. Call Paulina Pendarvis at 229-5603 to register.

Dr. Heflin is a board-certified internal medicine specialist who completed residency training and has practiced medicine in since 1989.

Sacred Heart SENIORSpirit is a free program for persons 55 and older.

Benefits include free screenings, seminars, special in-patient benefits such as three free guest meal tickets per hospital stay, a monthly calendar of events detailing all SENIORSpirit events, and discounted pre-paid lab coupon program.

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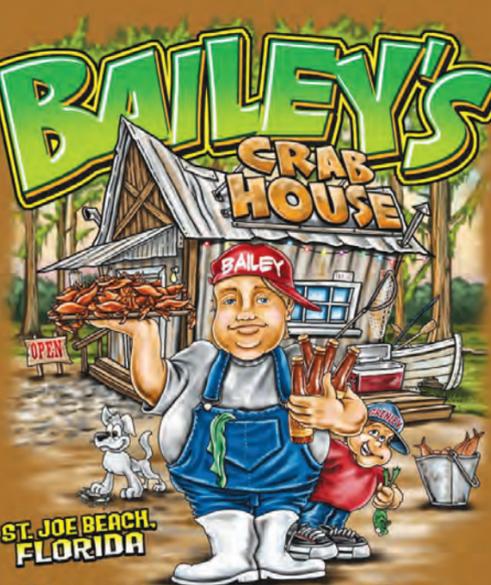
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Free hunter safety Internet-completion course in Gulf county

Special to The Star

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is offering a free hunter safety Internet-completion course in Gulf County.

The course is at the Gulf Correctional Institution, 500 Ike Steele Road in Wewahitchka. Instruction is from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. CT on Saturday, July 21.

Students must complete the Internet course before coming to class and bring a copy of the final report from the online portion of the course. The final report form does not have to be notarized.

An adult must accompany children

under the age of 16 at all times. Students are encouraged to bring a pencil and paper with them to take notes.

The hunter safety course is required for people born on or after June 1, 1975, to purchase a Florida hunting license. The FWC course satisfies hunter safety training requirements for all other states and Canadian provinces.

People interested in attending this course can register online and obtain information about future hunter safety classes at MyFWC.com/HunterSafety or by calling hunter safety coordinator George Warthen at the FWC's regional office in Panama City at 850-265-3676.

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION HUNTER SAFETY COURSE

When: Saturday, July 21, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: 500 Ike Steel Road Wewahitchka, FL

12-year-old wins fishing tournament

Blake Shuler wins adult division in Gaskin Park Tournament

Star Staff Report

A new record was set at the eighth annual Gaskin Park Flathead Catfish Tournament in Wewahitchka the last weekend in June – the winner of the adult division was 12-year-old Blake Shuler of Bristol.

Shuler beat 70 other anglers to win the top prize and became the youngest winner in the history of the Gaskin Park Tournament.

Shuler landed a 35.03-pound flathead catfish on the Chipola/Apalachicola River, knocking Henry Hamlin, also of Bristol, into second place (\$500) with a 34.16-pound flathead, clinching the win for Shuler.

But it gets better – Shuler also won third place with a flathead weighing 33.31 pounds. Then Blake went out and did it again by placing fifth with a flathead of 29.78 pounds.

There's more – Shuler also took home the prize for most pounds of flathead during the tournament (125.48 pounds from six fish), edging out another long-time fisherman, Jamie Lee, who had 12 flatheads weighing a total of 100.32 pounds. Shuler's total winnings were \$1,850.00.

Gary Brown of Enterprise, Ala., was staying at the Dead Lakes campground just north of Wewahitchka. He had never fished for flathead and took fourth place (\$300) with a 30.53 pound flathead. Brown usually fishes for bass, but he got interested in the flathead when he saw one earlier in the week caught by Ray McManus of Tampa, Fla., and decided he needed to try something new.

Some folks think Shuler is a very

quiet, shy young man, and officials joked with him about having to speak up when he took the lie detector test as required in the rules for the tournament. According to Russell Burch, test administrator, "It took a little while to get him talking but once he did then you knew he really caught that fish!"

The Gaskin Park Flathead Catfish Tournament is the second of four in the Apalachicola Flathead Catfish Tournament Trail for 2012.

The tournaments take place on the Apalachicola and Chipola rivers in the Bristol/Wewahitchka area of the Florida panhandle every year from April to September and fishermen come from all over Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Tennessee to tackle a great freshwater sport catfish.

The tournaments run for 20 hours from Friday at 4 p.m. CT to Saturday at noon CT with anglers bringing their catches to the scales all night long. The leaderboard can change every few minutes as the fish come in.

All fish must be at least 14 inches and alive to be weighed. In addition to the monetary prizes, the winning fishermen receive trophies. All entries in the tournament receive tickets for a chance at various door

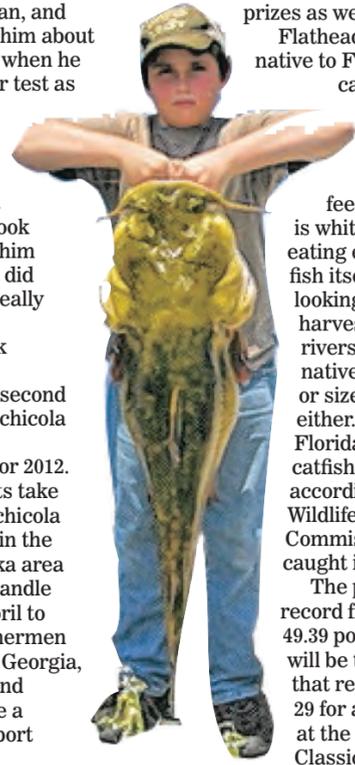
prizes as well.

Flathead catfish are not native to Florida and can be caught using live bream as they are a predatory catfish rather than a bottom feeder. The meat is white and excellent eating even though the fish itself is pretty ugly looking. Flatheads are harvested from the rivers since they are not native. There are no bag or size limits in Florida either. The present Florida record flathead catfish is 51.05 pounds, according to the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission, and was caught in October 2011.

The previous Florida record from 2004 was 49.39 pounds. Anglers will be trying to break that record Sept. 28 and 29 for a \$50,000 prize at the Florida Catfish Classic tournament in Wewahitchka, the fourth leg of the fishing series.

The next tournament in the Trail is the second annual Gator Classic Aug 24-25, benefiting Project Graduation for Wewahitchka High School.

For registration forms, contact Dennis Peak at 850-340-1029, visit the tournament website at www.FloridaCatfishClassic.com or contact Wewa Employees Club at 850-639-2605.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Above: Blake Shuler, left, won the Gaskin Park Flathead Catfish Tournament after snagging a 35.03-pound flathead. At right is Henry Hamlin, who won second with a fish weighing 34.16 pounds.

Below: Blake Shuler, left, took first, third and fifth places, as well as the prize for most pounds caught during the tournament, earning \$1,850. Hamlin, center, took home \$500 and Gary Brown, right, won fourth and \$300.



WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, July 12	88°	75°	40 %
Fri, July 13	87°	76°	50 %
Sat, July 14	85°	76°	60 %
Sun, July 15	85°	76°	40 %
Mon, July 16	86°	75°	60 %
Tues, July 17	86°	76°	60 %
Wed, July 11	87°	77°	60 %

TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

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

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

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

ST. JOSEPH BAY

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
12	Th	534am 1.4		422pm 0.1	
13	Fr	610am 1.6		501pm 0.0	
14	Sa	653am 1.7		544pm -0.1	
15	Su	739am 1.8		625pm -0.2	
16	Mo	824am 1.8		702pm -0.2	
17	Tu	906am 1.9		734pm -0.2	
18	We	945am 1.9		800pm -0.2	
19	Th	1023am 1.8		822pm -0.1	
20	Fr	1101am 1.7		838pm 0.0	
21	Sa	1143am 1.6		846pm 0.2	
22	Su	1230pm 1.3		841pm 0.4	
23	Mo	130pm 1.0		810pm 0.6	
24	Tu	355am 1.0	327pm 0.7	1053am 0.6	630pm 0.6
25	We	352am 1.2		117pm 0.4	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
12	Th	942am 1.5		258am 1.0	635pm 0.2
13	Fr	1023am 1.5		733pm 0.1	
14	Sa	1109am 1.5		825pm 0.0	
15	Su	426am 1.2	1201pm 1.5	652am 1.3	910pm -0.1
16	Mo	452am 1.2	1254pm 1.5	802am 1.3	950pm -0.1
17	Tu	518am 1.3	146pm 1.6	856am 1.3	1024pm -0.1
18	We	540am 1.3	235pm 1.6	941am 1.3	1055pm -0.1
19	Th	600am 1.3	322pm 1.6	1021am 1.2	1122pm -0.1
20	Fr	618am 1.3	410pm 1.5	1100am 1.1	1147pm 0.0
21	Sa	634am 1.3	500pm 1.5	1141am 1.0	
22	Su	652am 1.4	555pm 1.4	1212am 0.1	1226pm 0.9
23	Mo	712am 1.4	657pm 1.2	1238am 0.3	118pm 0.7
24	Tu	735am 1.5	813pm 1.1	105am 0.5	220pm 0.6
25	We	803am 1.5	951pm 1.0	133am 0.7	336pm 0.5

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

FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Freshwater

Freshwater conditions have settled back to normal after two weeks of rainwater run-off from Tropical Storm Debby. Many anglers are reporting good catfish catches in the brothers and surrounding sloughs. Depot creek has had several good days of shellcraker and small bass on worms and crickets. Lake Wimico still the best bet for anglers this week in search of freshwater action.

Inshore/offshore

Scallop fever is upon us once again in St. Joe Bay. Early reports from hunters are reporting low numbers so far this year. These scallops run in cycles, so this week, and certainly as the season goes on, we may find better ones. There are only a few days left in the 2012 red snapper season, and time is running out. Most good reports from snapper this week are from the 140-200 ft range. This should continue though out the season. Gag grouper is back on the menu as well this month, so get them both while you can.

2012 BWO ONLINE FISHING RODEO
SPONSORED BY PENN AND STAR RODS

JULY FEATURE FISH: GAG GROUPE
Stop in and register or go online at www.BWOfish.com

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NEW Salt Life, Guy Harvey Jewelry, Life is Good!
20% off Long Sleeve Columbia Bonehead Men's Shirts

PSJHS football seeking sponsors

Star Staff Report

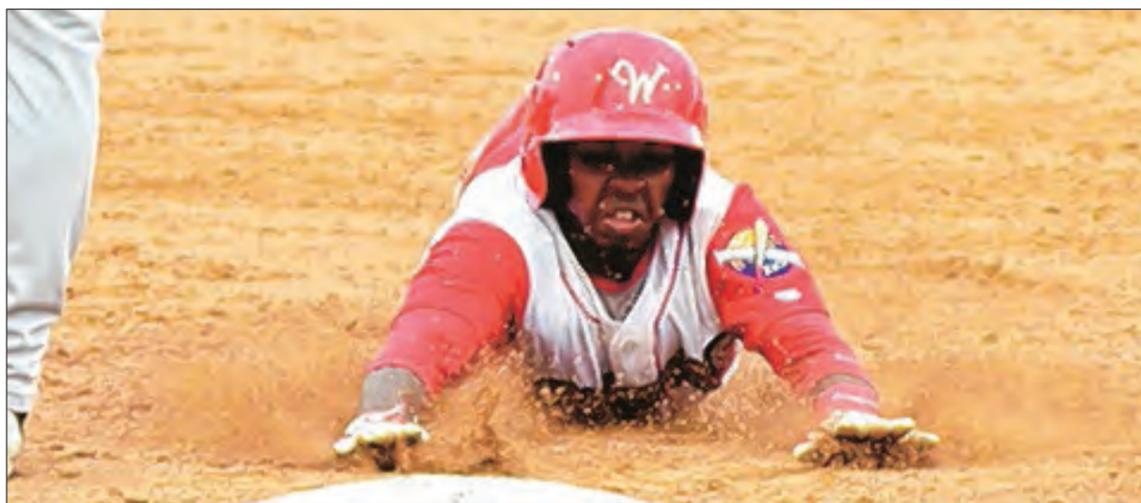
The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High football team is seeking sponsorship from local businesses, organizations and families. Show support to the talented young players this 2012 season by purchasing a field banner.

The options are endless with a colorful 3- by 5-foot banner. Select the logo, layout, message and colors, and the banner will be displayed in a highly visible location at Shark Field. The cost of a 2012 football sponsorship is \$150. Since the banners are weather-resistant, with UV protection, this also is an investment for the future.

In the following seasons, sponsors will have the option to renew their sponsorship for only \$100. Don't own a business? That's okay. Display a message of encouragement to a special athlete in your life.

The school and football program thanks all sponsors for taking advantage of this opportunity to spread a message and support the athletes.

Contact Chuck Gannon at 227-6951 or email jdaily@gulf.k12.fl.us.



WILLIAMSPORT CROSSCUTTERS |
Special to the Star
Roman Quinn is quickly establishing himself as a prospect to watch in the Philadelphia Phillies organization.

PSJ's Quinn making mark in minors

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

Roman Quinn has wasted little time making an impact in professional baseball.

Quinn, a 2011 graduate of Port St. Joe High School, has sped onto the scene in the Philadelphia Phillies minor league system, showing off his speed and versatility in his first 20 games as a professional.

Because he signed late last summer after being the Phillies second-round pick in the 2011 amateur draft, 66th overall, Quinn is starting his pro career this summer in Williamsport, Pa., playing for the Crosscutters in short-season A ball.

Through 20 games, Quinn is hitting .264 with an on-base percentage of .360 and an OPS, combined on-base and slugging percentage, of .716.

He has 23 hits, including three doubles and three triples, has

scored 16 runs and stolen eight bases in nine attempts.

To the Crosscutter faithful and local media, he has become, according to Trevor Turner, who writes for the team, "the Human Highlight Reel."

Turner recounted a recent game. "Roman Quinn leads off the seventh inning. His team is up by three, but the visiting Auburn Doubledays have started to gain some momentum.

"Quinn lays down a bunt. A footrace to first later, he's safe. No surprise there, but the action isn't over. Forced to rush the play, the pitcher's throw goes into the outfield.

"Open curtain.

"For the crowd at Historic Bowman Field, the show has just begun. In a blink of an eye, Quinn is at second base and wants more. Kids in the stands are jumping up and down, shouting in excitement. These are the situations that Roman Quinn relishes, and Cutters skipper Andy Tracy isn't

slowing him down.

"He puts his head down and digs for third. The grandstand roars. Headfirst slide, safe!

"Easily."

As detailed in Turner's story, Quinn's formula is simple: If the ball is on the ground, chances are good he is destined to get on base.

"It boosts my average my about 20 points," Quinn told Turner. "I can hit a routine grounder to the shortstop and beat it out. I look forward to it.

"God gave me this ability for a reason. Got to use it."

Quinn plays shortstop, a position he occasionally played in high school, though most of his prep play was in centerfield. Quinn also has continued the transition he began during summer ball in high school, converting from a purely right-handed hitter to a switch-hitter.

The Phillies project Quinn as the prototypical leadoff hitter with his blend of speed and instincts to get on base.

A coordinator in the Phillies organization called him "as exciting a prospect I've seen in 50 years."

There are growing pains. Quinn talked to Turner about the mental struggles and daily grind of a baseball season. He also ranks among the league leaders in errors and has struggled hitting left-handed pitching.

But, again, as his nickname speaks to, there are highlights. One is described by Turner:

"In just the third game of his career at shortstop, a ground ball is hit up the middle. Quinn makes the long run over to cut the ball off. But the ball hits second base and takes a high hop into the air. Suddenly, Quinn has to adjust. He cuts over to the other side of the bag, snatches the ball, spins 360 degrees and makes a perfect throw to first.

"Roman Quinn does things that very few prospects can. And Williamsport can't wait to see what he does next."

"Dogs for Dogs"
July 13, 2012
Every Second Friday of the Month
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
At Port St. Joe Marina
340 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, FL 32456
850-227-9393

We have so many wonderful faces and personalities to choose from. Adopting is easy and inexpensive. In return you will get years of companionship, love, and lots and lots of memories. Be sure to come by the Port St. Joe Marina around lunchtime (11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) and enjoy a hot dog or chili dog (max. 2 hot dogs) lunch, (chips, and soda included for a \$5.00 cash donation. All proceeds will be given to the Humane Society.

There's a New Veterinarian in Town!

Apalachicola Bay Animal Clinic
Dr. Fulmer, D.V.M.
Breakfast

Dr. Hobson Fulmer
of Apalachicola Bay Animal Clinic
Welcomes Our New Associate:

Dr. John Duncan
Along with Dr. Fulmer,
Dr. Duncan will be seeing patients for small animal medicine and surgery.

Please call for an appointment or come by to meet him.

850-670-8306
Clinic hours: Monday-Friday 8am - 6 pm
187 Highway 98, Eastpoint

Complete small animal medicine and surgery, wellness programs, laser surgery, diagnostic ultrasound, flea and heartworm prevention, pet supplies, superior senior pet care, periodontal therapy featuring digital dental radiology, spay and neuter programs for pets, shelter and feral cats, complete in house laboratory facilities, highly trained professional caring staff, boarding, after hour's emergency care

Serving Franklin and Gulf Counties for 30 years

TDC from page A1

Jenkins would like to see the Welcome Center as an informational hub for tourists; someplace they visit before even checking in to their hotel or rental home.

She noted they have some work to do.

"However we do it, we need to focus on a unified brand," Jenkins said. "For me, marketing is creating awareness, garnering qualified leads and turning them into long-term visitation."

Jenkins held a Sponsorship and Special Funding workshop Monday to review the TDC's

overhaul of what previously was known as the "grant program" for funding of area events.

The new program will receive funding request applications once a year, and all applications for the 2012-2013 fiscal year are due before 4 p.m. EDT July 20. The TDC marketing committee will score each application and submit recommendations for funding at the Aug. 14 Gulf County Commission meeting.

The new sponsorship process will require event coordinators to report the success of the event

by tracking the number of out-of-county visitors the event attracts along with economic impact projections for occupancy and visitor spending.

"One of the things we're trying to do this year, we want to set some benchmarks," Jenkins said.

TDC Marketing Committee Chairwoman Alyson Gerlach said that although a 5,000-person event might be a great event for the area, it might not be a great event for the TDC. By keeping track of the numbers, Gerlach

said the board can see whether or not an event is growing and becoming successful.

The sponsorship process will also dictate how the funding can be spent. It calls for no less than 50 percent of TDC funding received to go to marketing of the event at least 60 miles away, and requires the Gulf County logo on all event materials to show partnership. Sponsorship money cannot be used for any prizes or travel expenses.

"Keeping it strictly for marketing and advertising is the

right thing to do," Jenkins said. "We're not in the event business, but we are in the marketing and planning business so I think we can align there."

Jenkins said she wants to see the TDC focus on sponsoring fewer, better-quality events than in previous years.

"I believe in successes, but I also believe in being clear about the things that don't work because this is a benchmark year," Jenkins said. "(Events) need to be designed for our visitor, outside a 60-mile radius."



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Political Advertisement paid for and approved by Tim McFarland for County Judge

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GULF COUNTY

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FORUM

**WHEN: 7:00 PM EST
MONDAY JULY 16**

**WHERE : CAPITAL CITY BANK
504 Monument Ave. Port St. Joe**

All Candidates invited — To Speak !!

Meet them

Hear their qualifications

Hear their issues

Bring your questions

All voters invited

See you there

Membership Communication Committee
Watch for our new website coming soon at
www.gulfgop.com

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(Pd.Pol.Ad.)

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- State of Florida & Alabama Certified General Appraiser
- Former FL Supreme Court Cert. Cty Court Mediator
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EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS

- Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia – MBA (Masters Degree Business Administration)
- University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida – B.A. Degree (Public Admin/Political Sci.)
- American Society of Appraisers – ASA Designation (Advanced course work in Real Estate Appraisals)
- Appraisal Institute – SRA Designation (Advanced course work and testing in Real Estate Appraising)
- International Association of Assessing Officers – CFE Designation

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Alabama State Certified General Appraiser - License #G00746
Former Florida State Certified Residential Appraiser - License #RD001087
Florida Licensed Real Estate Broker - License #0532115
Former Florida Licensed Real Estate Appraiser Instructor
Former Florida Supreme Court Certified County Court Mediator #20480CF
Former Florida Supreme Court Certified Family Court Mediator #20480CF
Many graduate level courses and appraisal courses through the years

POSITIONS & EXPERIENCE

President – J. Lester Company (Real Estate Appraisal and Real Estate Consulting Services)
Special Magistrate – Bay, Oskaloosa, Leon Counties, etc. / Mediator 14th Judicial Circuit
President – Diversified Broadband Services, Inc. & President of North Florida Subs, Inc.
Former Director of Appraisals – Okaloosa County Property Appraiser
Former Appraiser/Supervisor – Bay County Property Appraiser

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Jamie has always believed in compassion with understanding and his community involvement is evident. He has helped raise money and supported projects of the local VFW Post in Wewahatchka. He has been the entertainment chairman for the American Cancer Society for the Relay for Life. He is past president of the Port St. Joe Kiwanis.

REPUBLICAN PARTY INVOLVEMENT

Past President of the Seminole County Young Republicans
Past President of College Republicans for the University of Central Florida.
Chairman and Co-Chairman for a variety of republican candidates in past state wide elections.

LOBBYING AND WORKING FOR THE PEOPLE

- Lobbied State Government for a 5 year average level of assessment (No more spiked property values in a year)
- Lobbied State Government for a spending cap at the local level and state level.
- Lobbied State Government for a \$25,000 exemption on tangible personal property for business owners.
- Created an Assessment Methodology on a volume discount for multiple lot ownership
- Created a valuation method assessment methodology for those affected by the Chinese drywall issue.
- Worked to protect the local fishing industry by working to implement the legislation on working water front properties from increased assessments and not value them on highest and best use.

JAMIE LESTER

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Jamie Lester, Republican, for Property Appraiser



A BOOMING SUCCESS

PSJ Merchants Association's Fourth of July a 'wonderful collage of the people of Port St. Joe'

Star Staff Report

Last Wednesday, the Port St. Joe Merchants Association hosted an authentic home-town Fourth of July event in the Historic Downtown District. More than 1,000 folks shopped up and down Reid Avenue, watched the parade and milled around the City Commons throughout the afternoon. The Cruise-In Car Show and special Salt Air Farmers Market were on hand, with locals adding lemonade stands, face-painting and booths featuring the handmade wares from local artisans. Local and regional politicians rented table space and entered golf carts into the parade, adding a wonderful energy as well as lots of balloons, fans and handouts.

"Despite the heat, car owners displayed their vintage and new vehicles," said Dana Boyer of the Merchants Association. "Everything from a 1965 original Shelby from Tallahassee to Model Ts from St. Joe Beach and a 1978 Dodge Sportsman B Series Pop Up Camper from Mexico Beach were on display for the crowds pleasure. The Port St. Joe car owners are ever faithful and abandoned family plans to participate in this event."

Events at the Commons included a watermelon seed spitting contest, hot dog eating contest, and apple pie baking contest.

About 30 adults and children vied to spit watermelon seeds the farthest. Keith Nixon was the winner after an impressive 22-foot, 6-inch effort. The hot

See **BOOMING B7**



VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

Deckhand Curtis Cain lays out the red snapper caught by a charter group on the Mexico Beach city docks last week.

6 more days for snapper

Season extension 'doesn't make up for the days we've lost'

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

For area fishermen, Tropical Storm Debby was just the icing on the cake for an already botched snapper season.

Upon request from Rep. Steve Southerland, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

See **SNAPPER B7**

PSJRA gets \$200,000 grant for streetscape

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency announced last week that a \$210,000 streetscape project in the heart of the North Port St. Joe community will take place during the 2012-13 fiscal year thanks to a USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant.

The PSJRA effort, which began as a straight-forward grant application, transformed into inspirational and intensive collaboration between the North Port St. Joe business community and the redevelopment agency.

"We needed to convince USDA

See **PSJRA B6**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Star Staff Report

Each month, The Star will publish a list of volunteer opportunities for those in the community.

We'll let Trish Petrie of Turtle Beach Inn and so many civic organizations provide the rationale, as she did last month.

"This country was started by men and women who were willing to give their time and use their skills to build a nation where they could have better life. They were volunteers. Today so many people expect so many things to be done for them and so much to be provided for them. We need to take a step back and participate with our time to help get this country back

See **VOLUNTEER B6**

PHOTOS BY TIM CROFT | The Star

FIREWORKS PHOTO COURTESY OF DON HUIE | Special to The Star

Daylily varieties abound in Florida

Daylilies are among the most popular and attractive perennials grown in Florida. Varieties of daylilies can be grown throughout the state, and the plants do very well with just minimum of care. They are available in a wide range of colors, from oranges and yellows to pinks and purples.

Raising daylilies is fairly simple, but first you have to make sure you choose the right varieties for your area of the state. Daylilies are classified into three groups according to their growth habits: deciduous, semi evergreen and evergreen. My information was provided by Emeritus Urban Horticulture



ROY LEE CARTER
County extension director

Specialist Dr. Robert Black, of the University of Florida's Institute and Agricultural Science.

As you might expect, the deciduous daylily varieties die back in the winter. They do very well in our area. On the other hand, the evergreen varieties generally grow best in areas with mild winters. They are better suited for the southern part of Florida.

Daylilies may be planted any time of year, but they usually do best if they are planted right after flowering. Once they are established, these lilies need only minimum care.

Proper planting bed preparation is a critical factor

in raising daylilies. They are replanted only every five to 10 years, so the flower bed must have a soil of good quality.

The lilies grow best on a well-drained soil with good aeration and good water holding capacity. Sandy soils usually provide the necessary aeration, but they don't hold water very well. On the other hand, clay soils have good water holding properties, but they don't provide the aeration lilies need. If your soil is sandy, you need to add two to four inches of peat moss and work it into a depth of six to eight inches. If your soil has a great deal of clay in it, you might want to add about an inch of perlite or similar materials to increase aeration.

Before planting, the flower bed should be fertilized with an 8-8-8 or 10-10-10 mixture, at the rate of 2½ pounds per 100 square feet. An inch or so of water should be applied once or twice weekly until the plants are well established. Twice each year, refertilize with the same 2½ pounds of 8-8-8 per 100 square feet. Apply the fertilizer evenly, keeping it off the foliage.

Because of an extensive root system, daylilies can survive dry conditions quite well. But, during periods of prolonged drought, you must apply after to a depth on 12 inches to moisten the soil. Also, daylilies planted in full sun will need more water than those planted in shaded areas.

Daylilies have a tendency to become crowded, and when this happens, flower production is reduced. If crowding occurs, you must divide the plants by digging them up and severing the rhizome between the fans of leaves with a sharp knife. Cut the leaves back to within 4 to 6 inches of the crown and replant the divisions.

Daylilies can be planted in a variety of ways to enhance your landscape, in informal groupings, in small groups in the space between shrubberies or in front of a fence or wall which serves as a background.

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

Sacred Heart Hospital gift shop announces summer hours

Special to The Star

PORT ST. JOE — Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf gift shop hours has changed. With the exception of national holidays, the gift shop will be open for the summer from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.

The Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf gift shop is operated by a volunteer guild. The guild was formally established in March 2010 as an auxiliary organization to support Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf.

Not to be confused with the more than 100 volunteers who donate their time to assist patients and visitors at the hospital each week, guild members provide helping hands of support and fundraising activities that help bring new health care programs and services to our community. The

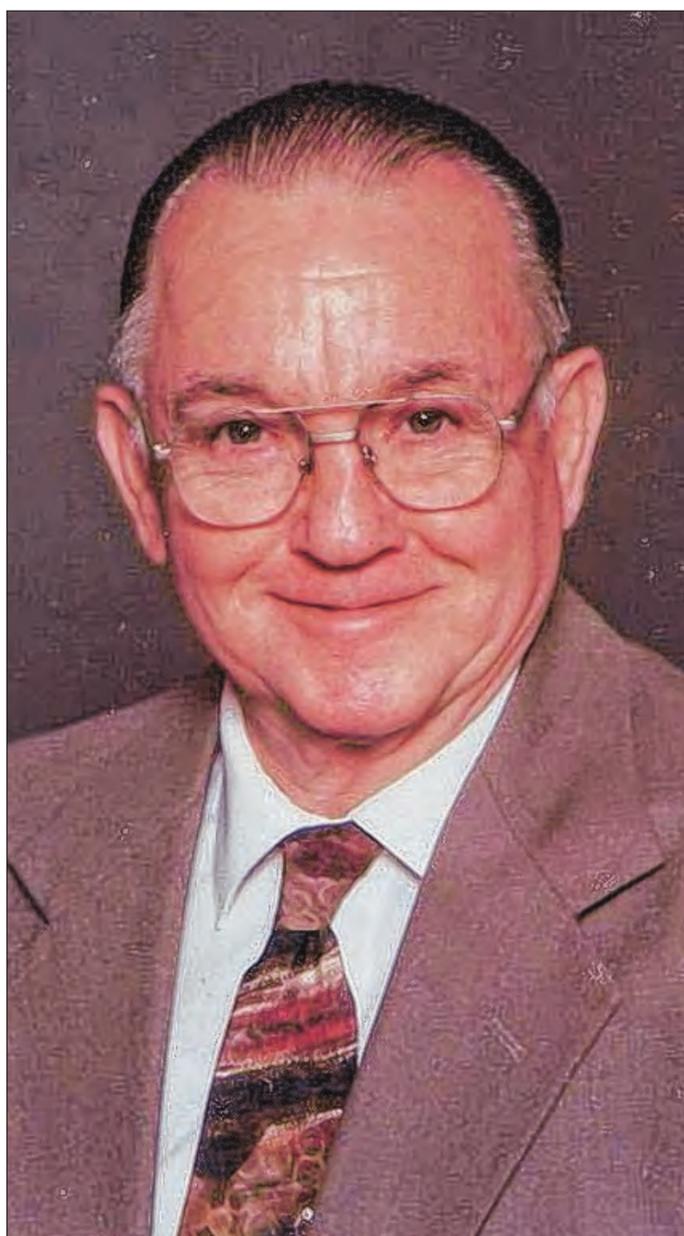
Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf Guild includes 50 members.

With a new slate of officers in place and ready to take the helm in July, the Guild is reaching out to the community to assist in making an impact for all of our health care needs. Although community service is always appreciated, you don't need to volunteer at the hospital to be a guild member. By joining the guild your membership dues will make a positive difference throughout our community.

Funds raised through membership dues, gift shop sales and other fundraising activities support the hospital's future growth and medical needs of our friends and family.

Yearly membership dues are \$20, and you can become a lifetime member for \$100. To become a member, call 850-229-5762.

Birthday



Happy 80th Birthday Carl McClamma!

Love,
your family

Program to help smokers quit

Special to The Star

PORT ST. JOE — Florida Area Health Education Centers Network will provide a free quit smoking program at Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf beginning at 5:30 p.m. ET July 17. The program was designed by ex-smokers for those who want to quit. The program includes free nicotine replacement therapy for class participants. To register, call 1-877-QUIT-NOW-6 (1-877-848-6696) or Brigitta Nuccio at 482-6500, or email bnuccio@bigbendahec.org.

About Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf

Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf opened in 2010 to serve residents of Gulf, Franklin and Bay counties. The 19-bed facility in Port St. Joe features 24-hour emergency services, inpatient services, surgical services, a full complement of diagnostic and laboratory services, and a helipad to be used by Sacred Heart's regional air ambulance service to provide rapid transport for trauma or critically ill patients. The hospital is operated by Sacred Heart Health System based in Pensacola and a part of Ascension Health, the nation's largest system of Catholic, not-for-profit health care facilities. For more information about Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf, visit online at www.sacredheartonthegulf.org, find them on Facebook or call 229-5600.

Society BRIEFS

Star Staff Report

Amateur radio license exams

Ham it up, get on the air. Get your first time ham radio license or upgrade your present license. The Gulf Amateur Radio Society will be sponsoring amateur radio license exams at 10 a.m. ET Saturday, Aug. 11 at the EOC Building in Port St. Joe.

If assistance in obtaining a ham license is needed or for registration and exam details contact C.H. Tillis at 648-8251.

2012 Raffield Family Reunion

The 2012 Raffield Family Reunion is at 9:30 a.m. ET July 21 at the Gulf County Senior Center, 120 Library Drive in Port St. Joe. Bring a covered dish, a dessert or drinks to ensure there is plenty for all.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Kitten and Puppy season is upon us and we have an abundance. Please consider one of our fully vetted pets for you next addition to your furry family. Even if you cannot adopt, you can help in other ways: Foster homes give our great pets the attention and socialization they crave. We provide all supplies needed. We need volunteers to help with maintenance around the shelter. Towels and bedding are always welcome. Pet carriers and crates. Donations of kitty litter is in great demand as well as puppy toys. Monetary donations are always welcome. 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.hs@director@gmail.com or adoptbaystjoe@gmail.com or call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103 and ask for Melody or Debbie! Online applications and pet photos are available at www.sjbhmanesociety.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

LUNG AND SLEEP DISORDERS

DR. ROB GARVER

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Students offer 'The Emperor's New Clothes'

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

Students from the 21st Century Summer Enrichment Program at Port St. Joe Elementary School recently performed a production of "The Emperor's New Clothes" for the public, parents and friends at the school auditorium.

The students provided a bit of a modern twist, including music, to the

ages-old story about a vain emperor and his pursuit of new threads.

The emperor was played by Colby Quinn. Also performing, in some cases more than one part, were Eva Varnes, Davis Varnes, Chloe Jones, Aaliyah, Alyssa and Aly Strickland, Haley Hardy, Shad Tracey, Lacey Linton and Drew Jones.

The play was directed by elementary school teachers Mrs. Player and Mrs. Hoffman.



TIM CROFT | The Star



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HS/HT students hold luncheon for summer internship employers

Special to The Star

Eleven students from Port St Joe High School's High School High Tech program participated in summer internships to gain "hands-on" skills in the work place. St Joe business partners provided job training in real work situations and mentoring. The Kiwanis Club of Port St Joe and the Lion's Club of Port St Joe each sponsored one of the students. For some of the students, it was their first exposure to actually holding down a paying job. For others it was their second or third year working with different business partners.

Mary Branch worked with Gulf County Humane Society; Torey Williams with Fairpoint Communications; Corey Williams with North Florida Child Development; Carl Sheline with St Joseph Bay Golf Club; Analisa Childress with CVS; Tyler McGuffin with CVS; Nikki Fenn with Chamber of Commerce; Rayanna Smith with Fairpoint Communications; Arnisha Harris with Gulf County Administration Office; Cameron Pryor with Gulf County Chamber of Commerce; and Aaron Braden with Gulf County Emergency Operations Center. (The last three are working through the Workforce).

At the luncheon held at St Joseph Bay Golf Club the business partners and students exchanged stories about their experiences and what they had learned. Many got rave job reviews by the mentors who were present and as a result earned a \$100 bonus. They had to have been at work and on time every day, dressed appropriately, carry out any



assignment properly and improve as an employee during their time as an intern to qualify for the bonus. The students gave the mentors even higher praise for taking the time to work with them and allow them the work experience.

Rayanna Smith earned enough points to join the ranks of many of the other High School High Tech students who earned a refurbished laptop computer this year. Students earn points throughout the year for citizenship, participation in all HS/HT events and meetings, community service, job shadowing and summer internships.

Juanise Griffin has served as the activities director this spring, and the students gave her a parting

gift and a thank you for all she did to make their summer internship successful.

High School High Tech is a program through Dyslexia Research Institute, partially funded through the Able Trust and Vocational Rehabilitation. It provides high school students in Port St Joe with the opportunity to explore jobs and/or post-secondary education. HSHT links youth to a broad range of educational opportunities, work readiness and career development.

For more information on how an employer or student can become involved this fall, contact Lynn Haugh, the activities director for the Port St Joe HSHT program, at lynncaese@gmail.com and 850-647-9861.

Port St. Joe's Parker earns Troy University honors

Special to The Star

Troy University announced its honor students for spring semester, Dr. Earl Ingram, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, said.

Full-time undergraduate students who earned a 4.0 grade point average for the spring semester are recognized on the Chancellor's List, the university's honor roll. Full-time undergraduate students who earned a grade point average of 3.65

or higher on a 4.0 scale are recognized on the Provost's List.

Port St. Joe High School graduate Krista Parker was named to the Provost's List.

Troy University offers associate's, bachelor's, master's and education specialist degrees, preparing students in the fields of fine arts, communication, business, education, sciences and the humanities, applied science, nursing and allied health sciences.

Career Day at PSJES

Special to The Star

It is never too early for children to start thinking about and preparing for their future.

Students in grades three through six at Port St. Joe Elementary had the occasion to learn about career opportunities during an assembly where community members explained the responsibilities of their jobs and the preparation necessary for employment in their respective fields.

The school would like to recognize and thank the following people for giving of their time to speak with our students.

- Roy Lee Carter—Gulf County Extension Director
- Mark Cothran and Austin Horton—nuisance gator trappers
- Bryce Thomas, Neal Goodson and Brian Goddin—Florida Forest Service
- Ross Bowman—dive instructor
- Matthew Herring—Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- Tim Register—Office of State's Attorney
- Houston Whitfield—director of Gulf County EMS
- Megan Gannon—student at University of Florida

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The application deadline is July 20, 2012.

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5:30

p.m./C.T.

Panama City Campus
Social Sciences Building
Room 113

THE LION'S TALE

Special to The Star

Faith Christian School believes that for education to be true, Jesus Christ and the reality of the Bible must be included and acknowledged. We believe in nurturing students' hearts, souls and minds with challenging, Christ-centered curriculum and personal attention.

When you visit the campus, you will notice the improvements of the property. This is another sign of the dedication of parents that believe in the importance of the ministry of Faith Christian School. Thank you to those that volunteer their time, energy and resources.

Open House for pre-school, elementary, and

middle school students is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET on Friday, August 10. This is a great opportunity to meet the teachers, examine the curriculum, and learn the policies and procedures for the new school year, including the new dress code improvements. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

School will begin at 8 a.m. ET on Monday, Aug. 13.

Faith Christian School is still enrolling students for the upcoming school year. Visit the campus Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., call 850-229-6707, or visit www.FaithChristianPSJ.net for more information.

Honor God daily

Do you have a home, a nice soft bed, and pillows on which to lay your head?
Do you have a TV, probably more than one?
Do you have children, maybe a daughter or a son?
Maybe you have two, or three, maybe even four.
If you have, you've been blessed that much more.
How about a truck, do you have a car too?
If so, look how much the Lord has blessed you.
Is there food on your table, and in the freezer too?
Look again, how He's blessed you.
If you have don't have to hid, and can worship where you please.
Now is the time to get on your knees.
You must live in America the land of the free,
Where people die daily for you and me.
We need to honor God in all we do.
Praise His name for what He's done for me and for you.

Billy Johnson

Youth group fish fry to benefit camp trip

Star Staff Report

The Youth Group of Port St. Joe's First United Methodist Church will be hosting a fish fry, Friday, July 13, in Frank Pate Park with all proceeds going to support their

upcoming Summer Camp Trip to North Carolina.

The event runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET with servings including fried Basa, baked beans, cole slaw, and bread for just \$7 per plate and is open to the public.

Tickets are available from all Methodist Youth, by calling the church at 227-1724, or just stop by the event on Friday at the corner of U.S. Highway 98 and State Highway 71 in Frank Pate Park. Please come by and support a great cause.

Obituaries

Genevieve Pearl Horne

Genevieve Pearl Horne (Granny), 70, of Crawfordville, passed away Thursday, June 28, 2012, in Crawfordville. She was born in Keokuk, Iowa, and was a resident of Crawfordville for 12 years. She was manager and enforcer at Lee's Liquor. She was a member of Wakulla Springs Baptist Church.

Memorial services were held 7:30 p.m. ET on July 9, 2012, at Bevis Funeral Home, Harvey-Young Chapel in Crawfordville. Friends gathered at the Skybox following the service for a celebration of Genevieve's life.

Granny was a proud mother and grandmother. She was filled with spirit and loyalty. She was a hard worker and compassionate to those around her. She loved the Seminoles and was adamant in wearing her garnet and gold every

game day. She never missed a NASCAR

race and was undoubtedly Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s No. 1 fan. She lived every day to the fullest and will be truly missed.

She was survived by her husband, Kenneth Horne; a son, Ricky Joe Shepherd; four daughters, Teresa Lynn Anton, June Marie Lee, Dona Sue Jones and Jennifer Bronson; a brother, Dale Winters; 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Contributions can be made to Big Bend Hospice 1723 Mahan Center Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 3208 in memory of Jenny Horne (Granny).

Bevis Funeral Home, Harvey-Young Chapel is assisting with arrangements.
Bevis Funeral Home
Harvey-Young Chapel
Crawfordville, Florida
850-926-3333



GENEVIEVE PEARL HORNE

Sarah Frances Wright

At the golden age of 73, Sarah Frances Wright of Perry, Fla., (resident of Port St. Joe, Fla., for the past 12 years) left from her daughter's home on Saturday, July 7, 2012, to be one of God's angels at 2 p.m. following a period of declining strength and health.

Sarah started life at home in Colbert, Ga., on Aug. 8 1939.

Throughout her life, she was a hard worker and cared very deeply for her family. Sarah was a regular at the library due to her love of books. Her favorite thing to do was go fishing. When she wasn't fishing, she was dreaming of fishing. She had a fascination with police stories, whether it was on TV or over the police scanner. She became active in her church, Southside Baptist in Perry, Fla., and then became a member of the M&G group of Long Avenue Baptist Church in Port St. Joe, Fla., where her impact on people's lives continued. Humorous stories abound

by all that she encountered, especially those in the M&G group. She will mostly be remembered by everyone for her love of food! When anyone would visit, stranger or not, she always offered to feed them. Her fridge was their fridge and she never met a stranger.

Sarah was a widow and is survived by two children, Debbie and her husband, Donnie Barnes, of Port St. Joe, Fla., Dennis Ivester and his wife, Connie Ivester, of Port St. Joe, Fla.; and five grandchildren, Danielle, Mrs. Billy Atherton of Enon, Ohio, Brandi Barnes, Brandon Barnes, Cecelia Ivester and Clifton LeGrone.

The family will receive friends at Comforter Funeral Home in Port St. Joe, Fla., on Thursday, July 12, from 5-7 p.m. EST.

Those who wish may make a donation to Covenant Hospice, 107 West 19th Street Panama City, FL 32405 in memory of Sarah Frances Wright.
Comforter Funeral Home
601 Long Avenue
Port Saint Joe, FL 32456

John V. Gilmore Sr.

John V. Gilmore Sr., age 85, passed away on Friday, June 29, 2012, from natural causes. In his youth, he served during World War II as a U.S. Marine later settling down to raise his family in Central Florida and the Florida Keys as a professional auto

painter. He later retired to Northwest Florida to be with family, spending much of his time tending his garden of fruit trees and sharing his kindness with the nearby community.

He is survived by his wife of more than 60 years, Ruby Gilmore;

his youngest son, Greg Gilmore; a grandson Jonathan Gilmore; and two great-grandchildren, Noah and Matthew Gilmore. He was preceded in death by his oldest son, John V Gilmore Jr.

Services were held at 10 a.m. ET on Tuesday,

July 3, 2012, at Oak Grove Assembly of God in Port St Joe followed by a graveside memorial at Holly Hill Cemetery conducted by Southerland Funeral Home.

More obituaries B5

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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 - 6:10 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..... 6:30 - 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

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

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Psalm 29:2

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Sunday Morning Worship..... 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship..... 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Service..... 7 p.m.

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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

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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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8:00 and 11:00 a.m. (EST) • Sunday School 9:45

www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org



The plight of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse

Special to the Star

As the St. Joseph Historical Society undertakes a campaign to raise more than \$300,000 to move the Cape San Blas Lighthouse, these first two photos taken this past week and provided to the paper by Debbie Hooper

at jobbay.com show the current threat of erosion to the road leading to the lighthouse and the lighthouse grounds.

The third photo was taken by the Coast Guard in the 1960's. Some of that ground around the lighthouse and keepers quarters hasn't been seen since.

Obituaries

John E. Parker

John E. Parker, 65, of Highland View, Fla., passed away Thursday, July 5, 2012, in Apalachicola as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He served in the U.S. Air Force and trained in Hurlbut Field in Fort Walton Beach. He served in Vietnam where he was awarded the Special Weapons Load Medal, Air Combat Award, Republic of Vietnam Service Medal, Presidential Wing Citation, and numerous other awards, totaling 14. He held the rank of SSgt., and turned down promotions to Tech Sgt. to return home for early

discharge in 1970. He was very active in the John C. Gainous Post 10069, Veterans of Foreign Wars and also the American Legion. He was also involved in community activities.

He attended South Georgia Technical College as a student in automotive and graduated with a 4.0 GPA.

He also earned a degree from Georgia Southwestern College. He served as an automotive instructor at South Georgia Tech for 24 years, and was Advisor of the Year while teaching there.

Agnes Hansen Parker

Agnes Hansen Parker, 97, of Highland View, Fla., passed away Sunday, July 9, 2012, in Tallahassee as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. She was a wonderful mother and homemaker who, when younger, did her own oil changes and roof repairs, who was a fabulous cook and seamstress and was an avid gardener. Mrs. Parker had been a resident of Americus, Ga., until moving to Highland View in 2004. She was of the Baptist faith, loved to travel and was devoted to her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, "Doc" and her son John.

Survivors include her daughter, Carol Wilcox and husband, Monte of Leesburg, Ga.; three grandchildren, Cheryl

Wilcox Laurent, Monte Wilcox Jr. and Marshall R. Wilcox; eight great-grandchildren, Elizabeth Small, Jennifer Hansen, Amelia Hansen, Michael Wilcox, Christopher Wilcox, Madison Wilcox, Kaitlyn Wilcox and Macy Jade Wilcox; three great-grandchildren, Parker John Small, Porter Imes and Peyton Imes; a niece, Barbara Hansen Bruce; and special friends, Clifton and Peggy Osborne.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 14, 2012, in Sunset Memory Gardens in Americus, Ga. Those who wish may make donations to Forgotten Coast Wounded Warriors, P.O. Box 1022, Port St. Joe, FL 32457. Local services were provided by Comforter Funeral Home.

Mr. Parker collected antique cars, loved antique car shows and fishing and was an avid outdoorsman.

He was preceded in death by his father, "Doc."

His mother, Agnes Hansen Parker, died shortly after him.

Survivors include his sister, Carol Wilcox and husband, Monte of Leesburg, Ga.; his niece, Cheryl Wilcox Laurent; his nephews, Monte Wilcox Jr. and Marshall R. Wilcox; his great-nieces and great-nephews, Elizabeth Small, Jennifer Hansen, Amelia Hansen, Michael Wilcox, Christopher Wilcox,

Madison Wilcox, Kaitlyn Wilcox and Macy Jade Wilcox; three great-great-nieces and nephews, Parker John Small, Porter Imes and Peyton Imes; a cousin, Barbara Hansen Bruce; and special friends, Clifton and Peggy Osborne.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 14, 2012, in Sunset Memory Gardens in Americus, Ga. Those who wish may make donations to Forgotten Coast Wounded Warriors, P.O. Box 1022, Port St. Joe, FL 32457.

Local services were provided by the Comforter Funeral Home.

Clarence Frank Rammacher

Clarence Frank Rammacher, 89, of Panama City, passed away Sunday, July 8, 2012, at a local nursing home. Mr. Rammacher was born April 18, 1923, in Ionia Michigan to John and Rose Rammacher. He retired from Gulf Power after 33 years of service. He has lived in the local area for six years moving from Howard Creek. Mr. Rammacher was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in World War II. He is preceded in death by two sons Bobby and Billy Gibson; and step daughter, Cecile Robinson. Mr. Rammacher is survived by his wife, Lois Jean Rammacher; son, Steve Gibson; step-daughter, Martha

Copeland; brother, John Rammacher; 16 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life will be 12 p.m. noon EST, Thursday, July 12, 2012, at Oak Grove Assembly of God Church in Port St. Joe with Brother James Wiley and Brother Dave Fernandez officiating. The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to service.

Condolences may be submitted or viewed at www.southerlandfamily.com.

Southerland Family Funeral Home
100 East 19th Street
Panama City, FL 32405

James Ryan Counts

James Ryan Counts, age 50 of Jonesborough, Tenn., passed away Sunday July 1, 2012, in Greeneville, Tenn.

Jim was born July 24, 1961, to William "Sunny" Counts and the late Loyce Counts.

Jim was a native of Port St Joe before moving to Gaskin, Fla., where he graduated at Paxton High.

He served 11 years in the U.S. Air Force and has been an engineer for CSX Railroad for the past 18 years.

Jim is survived by three daughters, Ashley,

Megan and Sarah of Jonesborough, Tenn.; his father, Sonny Counts, of Panama City, Fla.; three sisters, Susan and Charles Applewhite of Marianna, Fla., Teresa and Mike Lowry of Port St. Joe, Fla., Laura and Steven Wells of Panama City, Fla.; his nephew, Barrett Lowry of Houston, Texas; and niece Kristie Whitaker of Panama City, Fla.

A memorial service will be held at 12 p.m. ET on July 14 at Magnolia Cemetery in Apalachicola, Fla.

starfl.com



PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) meeting on Monday, July 16, 2012 at 8:45 a.m. EST, and at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. EST. Both public hearings will be held in the BOCC Meeting Room at the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida. The public hearings will be to discuss and act on the following:

- Variance Application - Michael Dodson - Parcel ID # 04546-004R- Located in Section 26, Township 7 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida - encroachment of mobile home into road setback 10.2'.
- Non-Residential Development - Castaway Campground RV Park - Thad Williams - Parcel ID #03552-000R - Located in Section 30, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida - development of a 40 unit RV Park
- Development Policy, Ordinances, Comprehensive Plan and LDR Revisions
 - Comprehensive Plan Amendments
 - Occupational License
 - Construction without permit and variance fines
- Public and Open Discussion

The public is encouraged to attend and be heard on these matters. Information prior to the meeting can be viewed at the Planning Department at 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Room 311.



(2012.68)

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AUGUST 2ND - PANAMA REDD

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PSJRA from page B1

that this commercial district contained viable and sustainable businesses," said PSJRA executive director Gail Alsobrook. "The business owners, with a great deal of help and coordination from Gulf County Commissioner Tan Smiley, really stepped up to the plate and provided us with all the information we needed to reach that goal. Much of the credit for this award goes directly to them."

This streetscape project will provide new sidewalks, green space, parking and stormwater upgrades along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. from Avenue A to Avenue D. A commitment of \$10,000 in local Tax Increment Financing funds by the PSJRA was leveraged to bring in \$200,000 in outside dollars into Gulf County, Port St. Joe and the promising business community along Martin Luther King Boulevard, Alsobrook said.

In the June 25 award letter, USDA State Director Richard A. Machek wrote, "We are pleased that Rural Business Service is able to assist with the infrastructure that is essential in supporting the growth of existing businesses and the attraction of new businesses as part of the redevelopment and revitalization of the North



TIM CROFT | The Star

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency director Gail Alsobrook and County Commissioner Tan Smiley helped guide the effort to secure grant funding for sidewalks along the business section of North Port St. Joe.

Port St. Joe neighborhood business district."

Smiley was involved with the grant application from the beginning, assisting the PSJRA to gather all the data and confidential documentation (tax returns, etc.) from the businesses and individuals required to establish a compelling case for the

grant's approval.

Amos Pittman gathered 25 letters of support. When it looked like the application might not get a full approval, Smiley, former County Commissioner Nathan Peters, Jr. and the PSJRA worked together to make sure every business possible was

included and that their information was presented properly, effectively and confidentially.

Alsobrook also directed praise to Preble-Rish Engineers, which provided the technical and navigational support.

"Clay Smallwood and Clay Kennedy, who are naturally very competent

"We needed to convince USDA that this commercial district contained viable and sustainable businesses. The business owners, with a great deal of help and coordination from Gulf County Commissioner Tan Smiley, really stepped up to the plate and provided us with all the information we needed to reach that goal. Much of the credit for this award goes directly to them."

PSJRA executive director Gail Alsobrook

and responsive, were both even more impressive and proactive under the shifting conditions and urgency that the circumstances demanded. They are valued partners," Alsobrook said.

The businesses that added to the success included Troy White of TEW Video; Raymond Driesbach of Driesbach Cleaners; Charles and Brenda Givens of Korner Stop & Go; Billy Quinn, Jr., of B & C Autonet; Courtney Lenox of Nana's Treats; Amy Rogers of Gulf County United Community Development Corporation; Chris Byrd of Byrd House Restaurant; and Curtis Lewis of C & L Professional Cleaning and

Vision Builders.

Port St. Joe Mayor Mel Magidson, city attorney Tom Gibson, City Manager Jim Anderson and City Clerk Charlotte Pierce also remained vigilant and responsive in reviewing and signing documents, Alsobrook said.

"The genuine collaboration demonstrated by everyone involved was truly inspirational," Alsobrook said, "and my own appreciation is heartfelt. I look forward to working with the community toward the goal of the Friends of North Port St. Joe's 2006 Strategic Plan: 'Keep what we have, upgrade it, improve it - we are here to stay.'"

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VOLUNTEER from page B1

on the right track.

"With all the problems with the economy and balancing budgets, there will continue to be a reduction in the services and the benefits that federal, state and local governments will be able to provide. It is time for a resurgence of volunteering. It will be up to us "the people who care about our communities, our parks, our arts, our natural resources, to give our time and use our skills to preserve what is important to us. This country cannot continue to operate with an attitude of entitlement and spending beyond our budget."

Starting in August, The Star will run this a column called "Volunteer Opportunities" on the front page of the Community section. It will list volunteer needs and who to contact if you can help. Contact the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce, Petrie or Tim Croft at tcroft@starfl.com to provide listings.

Here are a few to get the ball rolling:

* Volunteers are needed to assist greeting guests

and doing office duties at the St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge office in Apalachicola. Introduce visitors to displays and information about St. Vincent Island. Call 653-8808 and ask for Charlotte if you can help on Mondays and/or Wednesdays.

* Able-bodied volunteers are needed to help with outdoor work on St. Vincent Island. You need to be able to tolerate heat and sweat, but the island and wildlife are amazing. Call Shelley at 527-8535 if you can help.

* The Gulf County Chamber of Commerce is looking for volunteers for its 16th annual Florida Scallop and Music Festival on Aug. 3-4. We need volunteers mainly for our entrance gates and merchandise booth. Volunteers need to be able to handle money/give change and work a two-hour shift. You will receive an event T-shirt and a pass into the festival. Call Michelle at the Chamber to sign yourself or your group up! 850.227.1223 or email michelle@gulfchamber.org.

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BOOMING from page B1

dog winner, Steve Wich, consumed six Steamers dogs in five minutes, with second-place Brantley Lake missing out by a mere quarter of a dog.

A panel of esteemed judges awarded first place to Erika Norton for her delicious and festive apple pie, with a close second to Leslie Wentzell and third place to Susan Barrier.

Judges for the apple pie competition were retired businessmen Charlie Norton, Dave Maddox, Dave May, Tom Parker and Star editor Tim Croft. All pies were numbered, so the judges had no idea who baked the pie they were judging, ensuring there were no conflicts of interest.

The parade was also home-grown, with Deputy Rusty Burch at the lead, followed by the ROTC Color Guard, VFW and Uncle Sam himself (an ongoing thanks to Harry Lee Smith, who makes an appearance every Fourth of July). The Port St. Joe cheerleaders handed out candy. Politicians, businesses and residents decorated about 20 golf carts, with Randy and Fay Scheeter winning first place, a perpetual trophy of a life-size Uncle Sam. Between individual children and entire families, 17 entered the contest for the best-decorated bicycle, with first place going to Ryan Watterson, second to the Highman family and third place to Beth Bauer and her group.

The Merchants Association succeeded in providing an old-fashioned event, one that showcased the authentic Southern charm and hospitality of Port St. Joe. Comments heard around town included "Just wonderful," "It was fun and good," and "We have never seen anything so sweet and real." On attendee summed it up as a "wonderful collage of the people of Port St. Joe." The association also

succeeded in bringing business to Reid Avenue, and the businesses who remained open described better-than-average to exceptional sales.

The association would like to thank those who contributed money, goods, or services to the event: A Design by Dorann, A. Watson Construction, Gail Alsobrook, America's Mini Storage, Beach Properties, Beachcomber III, Bluewater Outriggers, Bow Wow Beach, Centennial Bank, Dana Boyer, Buy Rite, Rene Carrol, CVS, F&B Builders, Gamma's Attic, Gracie's, Hitz 108 Radio, Joseph's Cottage, MiMi's, No Name Café, John and Carlene Parker, Persnickety, Barbara Radcliff, Radio Shack, Ramsey's Printing, The Star Newspaper, Steamers Hot Dogs, Subway, and Sunset Coastal Grill. Thanks to Mayor Mel Magidson and Chamber of Commerce President Guerry Magidson who shared duties as Master of Ceremonies, the Boyer Band who provided live music, and Chief Barnes and the PSJ Police Department who kept us all safe. Thanks also to the City of Port St. Joe Public Works for the splendid coordination and cleanup.

The PSJ Merchants Association hopes this will become an annual event, and though it might increase in scope, may it always embody the authentic character of Port St. Joe and pay tribute to this special holiday. May we always honor those who sacrificed for the freedom we enjoy. As we have all heard and would do well to remember: Freedom is never free.

The mission of the Port St. Joe Merchants Association is to increase awareness and profits for all businesses in the Port St. Joe downtown area through collective marketing campaigns and collaborative projects with local agencies to reach the local and tourist markets.



Deckhand Curtis Cain tosses a red snapper off of the charter boat Miss Mary after a trip last week.

VALERIE GARMAN | The Star

SNAPPER from page B1

Fisheries Service announced last week it will extend red snapper season by six days, through July 17, to help make up for lost time in the already short 40-day season.

Mexico Beach Charter Captain Chip Blackburn said he has lost 274 hours of work since June 1 because of inclement weather in what should be his busiest time of year.

Blackburn charges \$110 per hour for charter trips, for a total of about \$30,000 in lost wages this snapper season. Though six extra days will help, it won't make up completely for missed days, he said.

"We were lucky to get six days, but it doesn't make up for the days we've lost," said Blackburn, who captains the charter boat Miss Mary out of Mexico Beach. "I'm really shocked that we got any days at all."

Those extra six days booked almost instantly for Blackburn. "Most of the calls we get, particularly in the summer months, are for red snapper," Blackburn said. "We've always had a big snapper fishery — this area's renowned for it."

High demand for snapper season means plenty of work for through July 17 if the weather holds up.

"We'll be running 16 hours a

day for those six days," he said. "We've had more people calling than we've got slots for."

Blackburn returned from a charter trip last Monday afternoon with a full load of snapper. The limit is two per person, and the crew had a 33-pounder in the mix. He said his charter trips usually can catch their snapper quota in about 10 minutes.

"I've been fishing here since the '60s, and that's about as good as it gets," said Glen Shivers, a St. Joe Beach resident who joined Blackburn on a charter trip last week.

Snapper season began June 1, and Blackburn said those first 30 days produced "barely fishable" conditions in the Gulf. Strong winds from the east canceled many trips in early June, and Tropical Storm Debby knocked off even more days later in the month.

Blackburn said the limited seasons often force anglers into weather conditions they shouldn't be out in. He admitted to fishing a few days that he shouldn't have this season.

"(Anglers) will go out in conditions they shouldn't because they're forced into this derby-style fishery," Blackburn said. "We had a couple days when we really shouldn't have gone."

In his years as a charter captain, Blackburn has seen snapper season go from a full year to six months to only 40 days, and quotas drop from six per person to four and then four to two.

"This has nothing to do with the health of the fisheries," Blackburn said of the limited seasons. "The (snapper) fishery, at one point it was stressed, but it's not stressed anymore — I can't even tell you how many snapper we've got out there."

Southerland's letter to Dr. Roy Crabtree, NOAA Fisheries southeast regional administrator, asked for a 21-day extension of snapper season through the end of July.

"I certainly would have liked more, but we're pleased with what we got," Southerland said. "Right now we're just happy with the days we got because it will help the local economy."

Southerland cited a crippling impact from Tropical Storm Debby adding to an already insufficient snapper season for charter boat captains and recreational anglers alike.

"(Fishing) is the American pastime," Southerland said. "I'm going to be fighting for the American recreational fisherman's right to take their kids out on the water."

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- 1120 - Public Notices/Announcements
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87806S
NOTICE OF ACTION

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN RE: The license to practice nursing of

Dana M. Hewlett, R.N.
P.O. Box 1323
Port St. Joe Florida
32457

CASE NO.: 2011-10928

LICENSE NO.: R.N. 9210333

The Department of Health has filed an Administrative Complaint against you, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting, Casey Cowan, Assistant General Counsel, Prosecution Services Unit, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C65, Tallahassee Florida 32399-3265, (850) 245-4640

If no contact has been made by you concerning the above by August 23, 2012, the matter of the Administrative Complaint will be presented at an ensuing meeting of the Board of Nursing an informal proceeding.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending this notice not later than seven days prior

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to the proceeding at the address given on the notice. Telephone: (850) 245-4640, 1-800-955-8771(TDD) or 1-800-955-8770(V), via Florida Relay Service. July 12, 19, 26, Aug 2, 2012

88031S

NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS

BID #1112-23

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any person, company, or corporation interested in providing the following landscaping service:

Landscaping of the approaches to the White City Bridge

The original and three (3) copies of the bid must be submitted to the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Room 147, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 by the Response Deadline (July 27, 2012 at 4:30 P.M., E.T.). Indicate on the envelope that this is Sealed Bid #1112-23.

Completion date for this project will be 80 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder. Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$100.00 per day.

Plans/Drawings can be obtained from the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, 229-6112, or online at www.gulfcountyfl.gov.

Bids must be submitted to the Gulf County Clerk's Office at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, by 4:30

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p.m., E.T., on Friday, July 27, 2012. Bids will be opened at this same location on Monday, July 30, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., E.T.

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners has implemented a Local Bidders Preference Policy for any interested in bidding as a local bidder must follow the requirements of Resolution 2009-02 which may be obtained from the Clerk's Office at the above address. The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners also reserves the right to reject any or all bids deemed in the best interest of the County.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
William C. Williams, Chairman
ATTEST:
Rebecca Norris, Clerk
July 5, 12, 2012

88147S
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No.: 12-29-PR

IN RE: ESTATE OF WARREN THOMAS WEATHINGTON Deceased.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the estate of WARREN THOMAS WEATHINGTON, deceased, whose date of death was April 21, 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.

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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 July 5, 2012.

Personal Representatives:
Carl Weathington
512 S. Ride
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Attorney for Personal Representative:
Charles A. Costin
FL Bar No. 699070
P O Box 98
Port St. Joe, FL 32457
(850)-227-1159
July 12, 19, 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.

ADOPTIONS

1130

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LOST

1160

LOST: in PSJ, Juniper Dr area. Male cat, 11 years old. Black, with white on his belly and white whiskers. No collar. Answers to "Smummy." **REWARD** Please call (850) 319-6102

2100-2150

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- 3260 - Health & Fitness
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- 3280 - Machinery/Equipment
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- 3310 - Musical Instruments
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GARAGE/YARD SALES

3230

Port St. Joe- 1002 Ave A, Saturday 7am-??

Garage Sale
Lots of misc household items, lawn items, appliances, and computer equipment & more!

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Port St. Joe
510 8th St.
Sat 7/14 8am-2pm

Multi Family Yard Sale
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GUNS

3240

Hunting Lease Member Wanted near Port St. Joe. 2,100 Acres. Deer and Turkey, etc. Member fee \$500. For details: 850-227-5052

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EMPLOYMENT

4100 - Help Wanted
4130 - Employment Information

HELP WANTED

4100

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\$33,500 5 Acres near Crystal Lake on Amos Hayes Rd, property has well septic and power pole. Current survey is available. About 1.5 acres of the property is cleared. 850-271-5761 and leave a message.

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Retail / Office Space - 260 Marina Drive
2nd floor office suite; +/-750sf; \$750 per month gross; move in ready
143 Acklins Island Drive-Cape San Blas
+/- 1000sf; \$10 psf mod gross; high visibility on Cape San Blas Road ; available May 1st
212 Hwy 98-Town Centre Building
1st, 2nd, 3rd floor suites avail; +/-1700-2250sf; \$6.75-\$8.75psf mod gross
202 Marina Drive
Centennial Bank Bldg 2nd & 3rd Floor Spaces Avail; +/-491-5,000sf; \$12 psf mod gross
316 & 318 Reid Avenue
Office /Retail; +/- 3,600sf; Can be subdivided; \$1250 per month
103 Reid Avenue
Great office/retail location ready for occupancy; \$10 psf mod gross
219 Reid Avenue
Office/Retail; +/-5400 sf; sub dividable \$7 psf mod gross
101 Reid Avenue
Seven office suites avail starting at \$400 mo plus pro rata CAM
235 W. Gulf Beach Drive - St. George Island
Office/Retail; +/-800sf-1800;\$14psfmod gross
401 Cecil G Costin
Office; +/-2,000sf-5,250sf; high level of finish; move in ready, ask rate \$9.00psf-\$13.00psf mod-gross

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110 Trade Circle West
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For Sale

217 W. River Road - Wewahitchka
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223 Monument Avenue
Four city lots fronting Hwy 98; \$375,000
Loggerhead Restaurant
Cape San Blas, +/-3000sf, FFE incl., .47 ac, on site-parking, sewer, asking \$350,000. Short Sale
516 1st Street
+/-11,400 sf office/warehouse : .09 acres; Four roll up and/or high clearance entryways; \$395,000
320 Marina Drive
Corner lot entry to Marina Cove : .14 acres; High visibility site; Call for details
Marina Cove
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Office/Retail; +/-5,335sf multi-tenant bldg St. George Island; Also avail for lease; \$399,000
529 Cecil G Costin
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Email Resume to Clara Landry at clara@psjmarina.com or drop off at 340 Marina Dr. Port St. Joe, FL 32456

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HELP WANTED 4100

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FRY COOK, COUNTER HELP & ICE CREAM SCOOPERS NEEDED APPLY: Steamer's Hot Dogs

112 Reid Ave, Port St. Joe, FL

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EASTERN SHIPBUILDING GROUP

an aggressive leader in the Marine Industry, located in Panama City, FL has the following opportunities for skilled craftsmen:

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Competitive wages DOE, and a comprehensive benefits package including: Company paid health, dental, and life insurance, 401(k), attendance & safety bonuses. Normal work week to include overtime.

Qualified craftsmen should apply in person: Mon-Fri, 8am-12pm - 1pm- 4:30 pm

HUMAN RESOURCES (2 Locations):
13300 Allanton Rd., Panama City, FL 32404 and
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Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf

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Physician Office Manager II - Job ID#4904
Manages the daily operations of the assigned practice site. Four years of experience working in a physician office setting required. Two years of experience in a leadership role required. Bachelor's degree required. Equivalent work experience (6 yrs) may be considered in lieu of degree.

Medical Assistant - Job ID#4909
Assists with the examination and treatment of patients under the direction of a physician. Previous experience working in a physician office or clinic setting preferred. High School or Equivalent required. Completion of an accredited Medical Assistant Program required.

Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf
3801 E Hwy 98
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Apply online at www.sacred-heart.org/gulf

If you have any questions about opportunities with Sacred Heart Systems please visit our organizational website at www.sacred-heart.org/gulf

Sacred Heart Medical Group

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