



Fire Fest plants roots of fire safety **B1**

PSJ commissioners balk on Eastern waiver

By TIM CROFT
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Port St. Joe commissioners wavered Tuesday night on whether to grant a waiver of \$74,000 in utility impact fees for Eastern Shipbuilding as the company proposes to expand its operation onto the old paper mill site.

Though two commissioners, Rex Buzzett and Bo Patterson, sounded ready to approve the request, no formal motion was brought and commissioners decided to schedule a special meet-

ing in the next two weeks to give Eastern Shipbuilding Group an answer.

A representative with Eastern Shipbuilding could not comment on how the delay might impact the move of Eastern to Gulf County - Eastern is scheduled to bring the first hull for outfitting early next year.

He would only say that the company was trying to expedite the processes it had to go through to come to Gulf County and this was one of those processes.

"It will have to be (okay), won't it?" Mack Woods said when asked

if putting off approval was okay from Eastern's viewpoint.

The debate among commissioners centered on the intended use of impact fees and how the city has applied them in the past.

City attorney Tom Gibson wrote in a letter that the city had set a precedent for what Eastern was asking, which was to tap existing lines that once fed the paper mill and pay for whatever the meters read.

Gibson wrote that the city had established a precedent in a previous situation where one entity "demolished users of more wa-

ter and sewer capacity than the applicant would use" and "we would waive the facility charges" or impact fees.

Gibson wrote given that the city was justified in waiving the fees.

Gibson was absent from the meeting and could not provide information on that precedent.

Commissioners Phil McCroan and Bill Kennedy recalled the city's recent action pertaining to First Baptist Church, which paid more than \$30,000 in impact fees when it built a new family hall and parking lot.

Kennedy said Oak Grove Church had done the same, built a new facility and paid impact fees.

"I want to be consistent," Kennedy said. "We are not being consistent. I want the jobs like anybody. I want to be fair. We have to be fair and consistent."

Kennedy said that he would like the city to adopt a policy setting forth when and if such incentives might be offered for a company moving into the city. He said he would not hold up Eastern for

See **WAIVER A7**

WEEKEND BASH

SFS packing party, Songwriters Festival, Rocktoberfest top weekend events

By TIM CROFT
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Randi Klepner has a vision.

As the aunt of a Marine corporal deployed twice in the past two years, Klepner, from Long Island, envisions what receiving a "Box of Love" care package from the Semper Fi Sisters must look like among the members of her nephew's unit.

"I see sixth-graders around the playground trading," Klepner said with a chuckle. "One is saying, 'I got peanut butter again - want to trade?' That's how I envision it. I said that over the phone to my nephew and he just laughed."

"The joy that it brings them, it is like Christmas."

The Semper Fi Sisters, the women representing the loved ones of servicemen and women of all branches of the military, will be at it again this Saturday when they seek to pack more than 1,000 "Boxes of Love" to be shipped to deployed soldiers.

The public can donate at any local branch of Centennial Bank, Harold's Auto Parts in Wewahitchka and The Star Newspaper in Port St. Joe. You also can visit www.sempersisters.com.

See **BASH A2**



TIM CROFT | The Star

Saturday's packing party of 1,000 Boxes of Love at the Centennial Building in Port St. Joe will serve as the finale to the Semper Fi Sisters Beach Blast this weekend.

BLAST ON THE BAY SONGWRITERS' FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Friday

Sunset Coastal Grill
6 p.m. - "Hits and Grins" with Lisa Shaffer, Steve Dean, and Bill Whyte

Provisions
6 p.m. - Jerry Salley and Erin Enderlin

The Thirsty Goat
6:30 p.m. - Will Rambeaux, Little Feather, Sam Brooker, Aaron Spraggs

8:30 p.m. - Charlie Black, Dana Hunt Black, Casey Black, Erin Enderlin

10:30 p.m. - Walt Aldridge, Sonny Lemaire, Tim Buppert, Jim Parker

Mango Marley's
7 p.m. (CT) - Steve Leslie, Abigail Rose, Brett Jones

9 p.m. (CT) - Chas Sandford, Jesse Rice, Pete Sallis, Riley Weston

Saturday

Dockside Café, the Port St. Joe Marina
2 p.m. - Songwriters' Workshop; discussion and Question/Answer session from a panel of talented writers

Lookout Lounge
5 p.m. - Walt Aldridge, Sonny Lemaire, Tim Buppert, Jim Parker

7 p.m. - Charlie Black, Dana Hunt Black, Casey Black, Erin Enderlin

Haughty Heron
7 p.m. - Steve Leslie, Abigail Rose, Jerry Salley

9 p.m. - Walt Aldridge, Sonny Lemaire, Tim Buppert, Jim Parker

Toucan's
6:30 p.m. (CT) - Will Rambeaux, Little Feather, Sam Brooker, Aaron Spraggs

8:30 p.m. (CT) - "Hits and

Grins" Lisa Shaffer, Steve Dean, Bill Whyte
10:30 p.m. (CT) - Chas Sandford, Jesse Rice, Pete Sallis, Riley Weston

Sunday

Indian Pass Raw Bar
2 p.m. - Steve Leslie, Abigail Rose, Jerry Salley

3:30 p.m. - Will Rambeaux, Little Feather, Sam Brooker, Aaron Spraggs

5 p.m. - Charlie Black, Dana Hunt Black, Casey Black

6:30 p.m. - Chas Sandford, Jesse Rice, Pete Sallis, Riley Weston

8 p.m. - "Hits and Grins" with Lisa Shaffer, Steve Dean, Bill Whyte

* ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON THE SCHEDULE. TIMES AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND APPROXIMATE, CHECK BACK OFTEN FOR UPDATES TO THE SCHEDULE.

Early voting gets under way next week

By TIM CROFT
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The Nov. 6 general election is in full swing.

With reports that hundreds of thousands have cast absentee ballots statewide, Supervisor of Elections Linda Griffin said her office has been plenty busy.

"We are steady taking absentee requests," Griffin said. "Every day the phone is ringing steady. I think what it is is that more people are caring about getting their vote in."

Early voting for the Nov. 6 general election gets underway next week.

Most voters should receive sample ballots in the mail by that time. Griffin said her office must wait until the registration book closed before sending a certified roll to the state for review.

That review generally takes two or three days, Griffin said, and then sample ballots go to the vendors.

"My vendor knows I like my voters to get those sample ballots before early voting begins," Griffin said.

Early voting begins Oct. 27 and continues through Nov. 3.

Early voting locations are Griffin's office in Port St. Joe and the Charles Whitehead Public Library on Second Street in Wewahitchka.

On the two Saturdays, voting hours will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET, or 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. CT.

On Sunday, Oct. 28, voting hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. CT.

On each weekday during early voting, Monday through Friday, voting hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT.

Griffin emphasized voters bring required photo identification for early voting.

The deadline to request a mailed absentee bailout is 5 p.m. ET Oct. 31. Voters must call Griffin's office at 229-6117 or visit 401 Long Ave. in Port St. Joe to make a request for a mailed absentee ballot.

One note on mailed absentees, Griffin said.

The ballot is long, with federal, state and local offices, judge retentions and

See **ELECTION A7**

Southerland on RESTORE: 'Counties can do this'



STEVE SOUTHERLAND

By TIM CROFT
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Think not just good, but great. That is what Congressman Steve Southerland urged commissioners from Gulf, Franklin and Wakulla counties during an informational meeting last Thursday

INSIDE | A8

What is the RESTORE Act?

at Apalachicola City Hall pertaining to the RESTORE Act.

Southerland urged commissioners to be broad-based and transparent and to be co-

hesive, not only in spending the billions in BP fine money potentially coming to eight counties along the Northwest Florida coast, but also in rebuffing attempts by the executive branch to change the dynamics of how those fines will be collected.

"The process (in RESTORE) will test you, but

there is a fair and equitable way for all citizens on the Gulf Coast to benefit from these funds," Southerland said.

Southerland spoke to commissioners from the three counties about what was contained in the bill passed with bipartisan support in the

See **SOUTHERLAND A9**

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Display ad deadline is Friday 11 a.m. ET **227-1278**
Classified deadline is Monday 5 p.m. ET **747-5020**

BASH from page A1

The Saturday packing party at the Centennial Building in Port St. Joe — the public is invited to attend and participate between noon and 3 p.m. ET, with the Semper Fi Sister marketplace open and raffles throughout — is the exclamation point on the Fourth Annual Beach Blast that brings the Semper Fi Sisters to Gulf County again.

The group has expanded, along with the volume of their packing.

The first year two dozen military spouses, aunts, sisters, mothers and grandmothers packed about three dozen boxes. The next year the numbers grew to almost 40 sisters packing more than 350 boxes; last year the sisters packed an incredible 750 boxes.

Klepner recalled talking to Glenn Silva, who had attended the Wounded Warrior Weekend last year and watched the packing party with a look, Klepner said, of awe and wonderment.

“I told him how did he think those boxes got to him?” Klepner said of the 18-year Marine veteran wounded in Iraq. “Did you think somebody just reached up and pulled one down and sent it to you?”

Anyone showing up Saturday afternoon, including some of the songwriters from the Blast on the Bay Songwriters Festival, will see the precision drills needed to load 700 boxes — let alone 1,000.

See BASH A3



TIM CROFT | The Star

Sunday's Indian Pass Raw Bar concert draws huge crowds to the final concert in the Blast on the Bay Songwriters' Festival.

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- **Gulf County Chamber of Commerce** - Member
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PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The assembly line churns between noon and 3 p.m. ET on Saturday at the Centennial Building.



Little Feather will be one of the performers during the Blast on the Bay



This gnome was sent in each Boxes of Love care package last year

BASH from page A2

Klepner is "Auntie Randi" primarily because during the past three SFS Beach Blasts, Klepner, a professional organizer and event planner, has become the guru of the goodies to be sent to the troops. She leads the organization of boxes, items to be packed and the resulting assembly line Henry Ford would admire.

"For us to be able to bring such happiness to them there is no amount of money you could put to it let alone an adjective," Klepner said. "This is a labor of love. In your head you can see those happy faces."

"We really do very little to make them so happy."

This year's Beach Blast also includes a blood drive on Friday at WindMark Beach. You can make an appointment by going to www.nfbsdonor.org and enter code W6018 for military moms retreat and just show up — one pint saves three lives.

Blast on the Bay Songwriters Festival

For another year, the Semper Fi Sisters Beach Blast will have a link to the annual Blast on the Bay Songwriters Festival, which brings almost two dozen songwriters/performers to region.

The link with Semper Fi Sisters — the two events are co-sponsors of the other, the sisters assist at some performance venues and several songwriters will perform during the Saturday SFS packing party — is one of mutual admiration.

The two events have grown together, founded in the same year.

"They are great girls and we love playing for them and supporting them," said Will Rambeaux, a Nashville-based songwriter. "In every era there are young people who put on that uniform to save the rest of our (rear ends). I wasn't in the military myself, but I have come to really appreciate those who serve."

The festival includes performances at a number of venues around the area, from Toucan's to the Indian Pass Raw Bar.

The venues are part of the charm, Rambeaux said.

"They are so different, so unique," he said while filming on the set of a Nashville television show. "It's such a relaxed vibe. The venues are smaller and so intimate."

The best part for music lovers, the performances are all free.

"There would be no way any of the venues could pay the cost of having some of these people perform," event organizer Jason Bogans said.

Additionally, there is something special in the festival atmosphere that Rambeaux and Lisa Shaffer, a Nashville-based performer and songwriter, both noted.

Part of it comes at 2 p.m. ET Saturday at

Dockside Café and the songwriters' workshop, a chance to bounce off ideas and interact with the public and fans.

The other aspect is, Rambeaux noted, getting to hear performers not often heard and, Shaffer said, the chance to hear more than just the song.

"When I see a songwriter perform a song I've heard maybe on the radio there is a little bit of magic," Shaffer said by phone from Nashville. "It's like there is a realness there, an honesty, that is just so special."

"You get to hear where did that song come from. You hear the back story."

Rambeaux also noted that among the growing circuit of songwriter festivals, Blast on the Bay and Gulf County are unique.

"We love it down there," Rambeaux said. "These kinds of festivals are growing and Port St. Joe is what I'd call a boutique festival. We keep it small, because we like it that way. The community, the venues, has their charms. We love it."

Rocktoberfest

The American Legion Post 116 will be presenting Rocktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 20 behind Emerson Heating and Cooling at 109 Trade Circle W.

The event benefits the Clifford Sims Veterans Nursing Home in Bay County, named for Gulf County's only Medal of Honor recipient.

The performances begin at 4 p.m. ET, and the music will last until 11:30 p.m. ET.

The lineup includes the Jacobs Brock Brews Band, the Gulf County reunion of Southern Satisfaction, Heartbeat City and Top Dead Center.

Food will be prepared by Ronnie Butler.

Bring your chairs, and no coolers will be allowed.

"We are hoping we get 1,000 people this year," co-organizer Jim Emerson said. "It has grown every year."

A suggested donation of \$10 is being asked. All proceeds to benefit the Sims Veterans Nursing Home.

For more information, call 229-8378.



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EXPERIENCE THAT COUNTS

Paid by John Hanlon, Rep., for Supervisor of Elections

Opinion

'Poll Dancer' Sinking my teeth into homecoming

These folks on television are always trying to sell you something — some program or DVD that will make you thinner, stronger and better looking.

Commercials promise to take away that spare tire from around your waist, improve your love life and keep your eggs from sticking to your frying pan.

The first and last time I was sold on this type of advertising was by Charles Atlas. Charles promised to keep sand-kicking bullies away from me on the beach. Mr. Atlas advertised in Boys' Life, the official magazine of the Boys Scouts of America.

Being in the Boys' Life advertisements, I thought Charles' program had to be good and it more than likely had to have a merit badge associated with it. The badge was probably a foot kicking up sand or possibly a skinny looking ribcage.

You know I'm kidding about the merit badges. I loved Scouts and although I didn't stay in past the age of 12 or 13, I think I learned a lot of cool things. My fellow scientists and engineers still spend a significant amount of time discussing the aerodynamics of the perfect pinewood derby car.

We are running out of children who need "racing advice" and waiting on our grandchildren.

Where was I going with all of this? Let me tell you. Somewhere along the way, "pole dancing" started being sold as an exercise workout regime. The way I see it, some fellow was caught in some shady night club where the original intent of pole dancing was being exhibited.

In his lame attempts to justify his need to watch this pole dancing, the fellow told his girlfriend or wife, "It's not what it looks like, and you have to understand pole dancing is actually a sport that requires significant strength, flexibility and endurance."

Of course, the lady didn't buy it at the time. However, after dropping the fellow with the thing for the sport of pole dancing, she thought about it (women make the best of men's excuses for things like this). The lady got some more ladies together and they started making DVDs promoting pole dancing as an exercise program.

The DVDs worked out really well for them. The fellows, who didn't learn from the Charles Atlas course advertised in Boys' Life, ordered these pole

dancing exercise programs for their wives and girlfriends. I'm not really sure how it worked out for them. As noted, I learned my lesson the first time.

I didn't go to the beach that much, I will be forever puzzled why I was worried about a fellow kicking sand in my face.

Recently, I had a long weekend alone at home. It's the political season; therefore the phone was ringing off the hook. There was

no one home to scream, "Don't answer the phone." With caller id, a lot of folks don't bother to answer the phone when a number is calling they don't recognize. With cable companies now offering phone service, a lot of these companies have a feature that shows the phone number calling you, right on your television screen.

This is great. I was watching television. I was alone. I needed entertainment. I wanted to answer the phone.

I did. I've spent close to 20 years teaching college level statistics. Every term, I do my best to undo what society has told people about the subject. People say, "You can't trust statistics," "Statistics lie," and "Statistics are deceptive."

Like I tell my students, "Statistics, when done properly, do not lie." All of those quotes and bad press you hear about statistics, just replace the word statistics with "some people." You can't trust "some people," "Some people" lie, and "Some people are deceptive."

After preaching what I know to be the truth for all these years, I guess it just got to me.

I'm not sure how many polling phone calls I got on this weekend, but I do know one thing for sure. I was given the opportunity to be anyone I wanted to be.

Phone call after phone call, they started to sound the same. "Enter 1 if you are a female; enter 2 if you are a male." "Enter 1 if your ancestors came over on the Mayflower; enter 2 if you are unsure." "Enter 1 if you are a Republican and you brush your teeth in the car; Enter 2 if you are a Democrat and use an electric razor."

I had the opportunity to be everything I would never get to be. I even got to be a soccer mom. "Do you consider yourself to be a soccer mom?" Of course I do. My kids never played

See **CRANKS A5**



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
BN Heard



HUNKER DOWN
Kesley Colbert

"Homecoming" Coach Carroll Smith shifted his scowl from one side of his face to the other as he did when he had some words of admonition headed in our direction, "is for pencil necks." Nobody moved. Or blinked. Or looked down. Practice hadn't even started. And he was already mad! It was the Monday of homecoming week. Pam, Ruth Ann and a few others had been lining up float workers at lunch. But I really hadn't given it any thought, until now ... "We are going to focus on nothing but the football game! Is that perfectly clear?" It wasn't so much a question, as a command. And Coach was just getting started. "Homecoming was invented by flower stores and hair dressers. We don't care about the dance, the floats or who's on the court. None of that eyewash is going to help us on Friday night. We're going to start getting ready right now to take a bite out of the Bulldogs!" Everyone shouted an enthusiastic "yes sir" in unison and moved into rows for the opening calisthenics.

It was my junior year. And Coach didn't have to worry about me and the dance. I'd never been to a homecoming dance. Mostly that was because I couldn't dance. Or maybe I was just too shy to ask anyone. Or, to be dead level honest, it could have been my looks that was holding me back. Thinking on it from 49 years after the fact, it was a clear cut combination of all three.

I had worked on the sophomore float the year before. Of course, I wore a disguise and had laid out an escape route in case coach's old beat up car turned into the feed store parking lot. The float work actually turned out to be pretty boring. We mostly spent the better part of four nights stuffing white tissue paper into the endless reams of chicken wire that surrounded a flat bedded wagon Hollis Mayo had commandeered from somewhere.

Giant boxes of Tide, Cheer and Oxydol laundry detergent above the caption urging our team to "clean up the Blue Devils" was only good for third place.

The homecoming court always took on a life of itself. People, you just think Obama and Romney are doing a little backbiting, over the top advertising and taking less than civil potshots at each other. Senior high girls that had never spoken to me in my life would seek me out and strike up a conversation before school; they'd buy my lunch, carry my books to class and remind me that they once dated my older brother.

Shoot, some took to calling me at night to let me know that I had always been one of their favorites ... They would somehow manage to get around to the upcoming vote, usually quickly pointing out that "it didn't matter if they won or not." Course, they couldn't talk long, they had two hundred and fifteen other underclassmen to call that night.

Since the floats were a lot of work (and off limits to the football players) and I wasn't the only guy in our group who couldn't dance we went looking for alternate ways to enjoy the Homecoming festivities. We didn't have to go far. The park bench up on the city square gave us an unrestricted view of Maxine's Golden Coiffeurs Beauty Shop. Late Thursday afternoon would find the eager court flocking in to get their "bouffant" for the next day. Ladies hair at this juncture of our lives in the mid sixties basically fell into three categories: big, bigger and biggest.

We'd gather up with a NuGrape and some peanuts and marvel at the transformations. Maxine's sister, Rose, who usually waited tables at the City Café, would come in to help with the extra traffic. Maudie arrived with her hair slicked down and tied back. It would take about two hours.

Charlotte, Graylene, Donna and a host of others drifted in shortly thereafter. We had to mark down when each entered. You couldn't hardly tell who was who when they came filing out.

Maudie didn't look like Maudie when she reappeared. Folks, her hair was sticking straight out in every direction. I'm telling you, Maxine had a machine that would blow up each individual hair. Either that or Rose was forcing the girls hands into an electrical outlet. A gust of wind picked Maudie off the ground. Her mother ran over to grab her and help her to the car. They couldn't get her hair through the door. We were going crazy across the street as Mrs. Mallard tied her to the top of the car.

Charlotte had even more hair. Which meant a bigger bouffant. We were thinking birds could nest in that thing when Mr. Melton brought the horse around. Charlotte wasn't going to chance an automobile. It was the first time I ever heard the term "the eagle has landed". And listen, don't worry about that hair falling or bouncing out of place as Charlotte rode back to the house. Maxine undoubtedly used some kind of super glue-cement combination of hair spray.

We were all worried about Donna. She didn't weigh much. There was a chance she'd be lifted up like a hot air balloon. She reached for the light pole and missed! Buddy and Ricky Gene sprinted across the street and grabbed her by a rising left foot. I was a little disappointed; I was thinking Mary Poppins here.

Thankfully, we didn't lose anyone in the parade the next afternoon. Squeaky said that was because the girls were all tied into the convertibles. I missed the crowning of the queen that night entirely. I was deep in the bowels of the locker room, trying to spit out some of that Bulldog.

Respectfully,
Kes

Letter to the Editor

'We breathe water'

Dear Editor:

No better slogan could be chosen than "We Breathe Water" to brand Port St. Joe and Gulf County, since we cannot drink the water coming out of our faucets from our impure public water supply, swim in the Gulf of Mexico on selected day when there is a high bacteria content, nor even get to the water on particular days due to copious amounts of debris on our beaches; yes, a novel idea, when all else fails let us try breathing water.

Scientifically, drowning results in the breathing of water and defined by the World Health Organization in 2005: "Drowning is the process of experiencing respiratory impairment from submersion/immersion in liquid."

Isn't that exactly what has and is happening in Port St. Joe and Gulf County; drowning by the lack of innovative planning and poor planning by our city and county government officials?

Our city and county officials have been submersed for years and day-by-day sinking. Instead of wanting to market St. Joe Company, why did you allow them to level the red brick building? It was a perfect building and a prime location to anchor the CVS on one end and the Dollar General on the other; housing shops, boutiques, art galleries, restaurants and art studios; making it an attraction instead of a subtraction.

Changing the term from tourist to visitor is a moot point. There is nothing

to visit. Right now, if it were not for the triangle of CVS, McDonald's and the Dollar General super store, people would not even blink when passing through. Reid Avenue has no foot traffic as exhibited when the non-profit, for profit Goodwill Store moved to U.S. 98. Their corporate executives did their demographic work.

Why did you allow the re-routing of U.S. 98 so St. Joe Company could sell their land as beachfront, without asking in return for some gift to the people of Gulf County and Port St. Joe? For instance, having St. Joe Company establish, build and fund for a certain period of time until sustainable, an occupational and technical school that citizens could attend in order to educate and prepare themselves for another occupation after the closing of the paper mill.

What is up with our public water system that you paid a gazillion dollars to fix? You can publically state the water is untainted, but when brown, lumpy particles come out of the faucet there is no other word for it than nasty. And, we, the public are paying for this water; an insult to our intelligence not to mention what could be happening when drinking and bathing in this water.

The only assets remaining are the bodies of water and the land which surrounds them. Why don't you at least start by cleaning up Port St. Joe Beach; one of the first impressions a person receives when entering Gulf County?

And last, but certainly not least, when calls are made by citizens to any of the city and county government entities,

Government officials are presumed to be vessels of the people. Have the paid government officials of Port St. Joe and Gulf County become hostages to their egos; having their egos supersede the oath taken to serve the people, by ignoring what is and not preparing for the unforeseen? Pre-planning and service to the public are not original ideas. Even Noah was informed that breathing water would ultimately cause death creating a plan prior to the flood, building an ark and bringing in the animals two by two.

to rectify an existing problem, the answer is always the same: "We do not know when the water line can be fixed, or the hole in your driveway we jack-hammered or the water leak that has undermined your sidewalk or the beaches will be cleaned or etc., etc., etc. These jobs are contracted out." I love the response

when asking to speak directly to the contractor, "Oh that would be against the law to give out their number." Really? Yet, fulfilling your services that are paid for by the citizens is not? Just what are the citizens and taxpayers of Port St. Joe and Gulf County getting, other than a hard time adding to our existing economic climate?

Government officials are presumed to be vessels of the people. Have the paid government officials of Port St. Joe and Gulf County become hostages to their egos; having their egos supersede the oath

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"We Breathe Water": No three words have been truer or so descriptive of Port St. Joe and Gulf County. We are under water gasping for air. Our community has been dying slowly and painfully because of the lack of life-saving skills of innovative planning, proper management, and the creation of a hospitable environment; essential needs for a community to survive and for its continued growth.

Katherine Misiaveg Shimonis
Citizen and taxpayer of
Gulf County

THE STAR

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ode to the lighthouse

Dear Editor:

This is just one of hundreds of emails that have streamed in since the announcement that the Cape San Blas Lighthouse will be closed to the public for the foreseeable future. "Was sad to hear the

news, but we could see it coming. I have wonderful memories from back in Dec 1953 thru Feb 1955 when I was assigned to Cape San Blas. It was my first permanent assignment after joining the U.S. Air Force.

We had 21 Air Force personnel assigned to the Air Force LORAN station (one of which was Ralph Rooney) and just

to the north of us was the Coast Guard station and light house. Both units had a great group of men assigned.

The best thing that happened to me while at CSB, was that I met a beautiful young lady in Port St Joe that became my lovely wife in March 1956 after I returned from a year in Iceland. We have been back to the Cape many times over the years when we would camp at St Joseph State Park. We could see the Gulf slowly devouring our wonderful Cape San Blas. Then, in the last few years the devouring sped up to where it is today.

Thanks to our Lord and Cape San Blas for the wonderful memories.

Thank you Ms. Beverly (Mount-Douds) for what you have done to try and preserve a bit of history. You worked hard and gave of yourself in so many ways. My wife Carole and I have been privileged to have met you and to have visited with you a couple of times over the last few years.

We are praying that the two houses and the lighthouse can be moved before the Gulf devours them as it has all the other buildings that used to be there.

Many, many thanks Beverly. (aka Lighthouse lady) Also many thanks go to all the volunteers that helped Beverly. Thanks to each and every one of you.

Orvin W. Bergman
Msgt USAF (Ret)
Fort Valley, Ga

Troy University says thanks

Dear Editor:

Troy University of Panama City would like to send its gratitude and utmost appreciation to all the wonderful people that had a part in "Adopt an Alumni".

"Adopt an Alumni" was an effort put together by Troy to take care of two alumni who happen to also be active duty military. Buck Watford and Terry Thompson were the

recipients of this effort.

A special thanks goes out to Pam Watford for leading the effort through the school system. Through her persistence and effort she was able to get the entire elementary, middle, and high school involved. One particular effort stands out: Marty Jarosz and the NJROTC donated their half of the 50/50 raffle from the Blountstown versus Port St. Joe football game to the efforts. The proceeds raised were over \$200!

Janice Adkison, Sharon Hoffman, Krystal Terry, Kristal Smallwood and many other teachers personally set out boxes for their classrooms to take donations. Everything from snacks, to book, to bibles, to movies was donated to the two men. Many of the students also wrote heartwarming letters to the soldier.

Troy hopes we didn't leave anyone out, so this letter is to anyone that donated anything at all and we say thank you one more time. This could not have been possible without

the help of the community. We are hoping to expand the efforts throughout the Panhandle and use Port St. Joe as the prime example of how this should be done!

Matthew Wright
TROY Recruiter

Kudos for public servants

Dear Editor:

I find it interesting that so many people can find fault and offer no positive input to local government, yet wouldn't take the job in a New York minute. I've been there and it is a thankless job. Those who serve do so out of a feeling of responsibility and love for their community. I have nothing but kudos for those men and women who spend numerous hours serving their community for little pay, a lot of stress, and with very little understanding from the community they serve as to what the job entails.

Sandie Yarbrough
Mexico Beach

CRANKS from page A4

soccer; I wanted to know what it felt like.

The nice thing about all of these polling phone calls was that they were providing me with free entertainment. I didn't have to call an 800 number; go to a website, send in \$29.95 plus shipping and handling or wait for Charles Atlas' brochure in the mail.

As a matter of fact, on this weekend, I got to feel more American. I got to be young (18-21), I got to be female, I got to have various ethnic backgrounds and all levels of income.

Please note when you

see the sudden rise in the polls for candidates from places you don't expect, the statistics do not lie, however the "some people" answering the phone just might.

I'm a "poll dancer" and you can be too. You don't even have to send me \$29.95 plus shipping and handling.

I do vote and I'm proud to live in a country where I have that right and the right to find free entertainment on weekends when my family is not at home.

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www.sacredheartonthegulf.org



Fired Mexico Beach code enforcement officer wants job back

By CHRIS OLWELL
747-5070
colwell@pcnh.com

MEXICO BEACH — During a special meeting of the Mexico Beach City Council last week, Councilman Jack Mullin suggested that the goal of disciplining city employees who need discipline should be rehabilitation.

The council had convened to discuss inflammatory posts on a Facebook page run by City Administrator Chris Hubbard, and it voted 3-2 in

favor of adding a letter of reprimand to Hubbard's file. But before the vote, the council opened up the meeting for comment from the citizens in attendance, and Don Freigo jumped at the chance to speak.

"I can be rehabilitated, and I'd like my job back," Freigo said.

Until recently, Freigo was a code enforcement officer for the city. Hubbard fired him Oct. 4 after an altercation with a citizen at City Hall.

On Oct. 3, Freigo was

working and he spotted a political sign that he considered rare — a Mexico Beach citizen supporting Barack Obama's re-election campaign. Freigo said he commented to the resident that he thought it was only such sign he'd seen in Mexico Beach.

The resident's significant other showed up at City Hall a little while later to confront Freigo about the comment, and a shouting match ensued. According to a written report on the incident that was in Freigo's file, Freigo

and the resident were toe-to-toe in the lobby shouting when the resident cussed Freigo and invited him outside.

"I'm not going to be f-bombed," Freigo explained.

There were several city employees who witnessed the dispute, and several wrote reports indicating they believed the confrontation had all the potential to turn physical.

A police captain witnessed the scene and intervened. He separated the two men and went outside with both of them to calm them down. The resident was calm by the time Freigo drove away, he reported.

Freigo, a former police officer, said he was only trying to get the resident outside and de-escalate the situation. He was fired the next morning.

City policy prohibits "fighting or malicious behavior while on city property." Any employee who violates the policy is subject to "disciplinary action up to and including termination."

Freigo said there appears to be a double standard when it comes employee discipline. While he was fired, Hubbard was merely reprimanded for the Facebook page, which Mayor Al Cathey said cast the city in a bad light.

"I was never written

up and given anything to sign. I was never given a suspension. I was just terminated," Freigo said. "I can curtail my anger."

Hubbard said Freigo is a generally pleasant guy to work with, but if you disagree with him or challenge him he can be confrontational. Freigo admitted he can be confrontational. Hubbard said he's talked to Freigo in the past about aggression toward residents.

Freigo has not been offered rehabilitation. The city has a grievance board he could appeal, but he's not optimistic about his chances of success, he said.



National Mammography Day

Friday, October 19th

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Thank you again-

Special Events for Mexico Beach

ELECTION from page A1

11 proposed amendments to the state's Constitution included.

The ballot is two pages, front and back. Because of its size, to mail back the ballot will cost 65 cents instead of the normal 45 cent postage. Voters casting by mailed ballot are urged to ensure the proper postage is on the ballot when mailed back.

After Oct. 31, voters will still be able to request absentee ballots from Griffin's office, but the ballot must be picked up by a designee with a signed letter from the voter.

To learn more about the constitutional amendments from an objective viewpoint, visit www.vote.gulf.com and follow the link on the main page.

Griffin and her staff urge voters to ensure that all information on their voting registration is correct. If you have moved into the county or within the county, please ensure that your address change is reflected on your voter registration.

If there is a signature change or any other change, stop by or call Griffin's office.

Griffin said it was best to sort through any discrepancies on a voter registration before Election Day, which given the size of the ballot figures to be a busy one.

WAIVER from page A1

the drafting of such a policy, but wanted to see a process put in place.

"Let's make a policy; I want us to remain fair," Kennedy said.

Buzzett said Kennedy was "comparing apples and oranges."

Buzzett noted that Eastern was bringing as many as 200 jobs to the community.

"Job creation makes the difference here," Buzzett said. "You have to look at the job creation. We need to think long and hard about it."

Commissioner Bo Patterson said he was ready to vote and could not completely understand any underlying resistance.

"All I've heard since I've been on this board is jobs, jobs, jobs," Patterson said. "I see no reason to put this off."

Patterson seemed to mull a formal motion until Mayor

Mel Magidson said if he desired to make sure he had the needed three votes.

City manager Jim Anderson said that the impact fees were put in place to allow the city infrastructure improvements with growth.

Had the city been collecting such fees for the past few decades it would not be staring at nearly \$20 million in long-term debt, as that brought by the replacement of 20 miles of pipe in the water distribution system, Anderson said.

Barry Sellers, executive director of the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development Council, said such incentives typically are discussed and provided on the front end. He encouraged the city to set a policy, but said in this instance the situation was akin to "putting the horse behind the cart."

"(Eastern has) been good

team players," Sellers said. "We do want to bring jobs into the city. Many places have incentives and I think we should. (Eastern) should have probably gotten all the incentives in on the front end, but we are trying to get them on the back end."

"In theory, I am not in favor of incentives; in theory. But that is the world we live in. Without them you die."

Mayor Mel Magidson also noted that other counties and cities provide an array of incentives to prospective businesses.

And Woods emphasized that Eastern would be tapping an existing 10-inch line on the mill site, would be using less water and sewer than the paper mill did and that Eastern contractors would be installing the meter, leaving little work for the city to actually perform.

Director of Public Works John Grantland agreed, telling commissioners the work for his department would be minimal.

"The line is there, they will pay for the meter; I think we should waive the fee to have a lot of jobs," Buzzett said.

Magidson said his sense from the board was a preference to wait until Gibson was in town - later this week - to further explain the precedent he cited in his letter to commissioners and to take the issue up at a special meeting within the next two weeks.

"We are just trying to be fair," Magidson said. "There is no indication this is a deal-breaker. But Eastern deserves an answer. We do not want to muck up this process."

Kennedy added, "Nobody is going to stop Eastern Shipbuilding. We are being responsible."

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Graduated from Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy, 1994
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What is the RESTORE Act?

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

A major reason for Congressman Steve Southerland's informational meeting last week at Apalachicola City Hall was to explain the basics of the RESTORE Act, which aims to provide a process for the distribution of BP fines that are estimated to be \$5 billion to \$20 billion.

When those funds will be available is unknown. Southerland said he hoped a federal judge would hand down a ruling in the case, and fine total, sometime in early 2013.

Under the bill, the RESTORE Act established four funds, which Southerland provided a handout on and also explained.

Those four pots of funds established under RESTORE are:

- 35 percent will go directly to impacted counties from funds divided in equal shares to the five Gulf Coast States, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida and Texas. The money can be spent on environmental



TIM CROFT | The Star

Congressman Steve Southerland spoke to area county commissioners last week about the RESTORE Act and its process of disbursing BP fine money to impacted states and counties.

projects, job creation and training, flood protection, tourism promotion and infrastructure such as ports. For Florida: 75 percent will go directly to the eight affected counties, including Gulf and Franklin counties, with 25 percent to all other Florida counties.

"Every state had input

on where they wanted their funds to go," Southerland said. "We saw that the majority of those funds should go to impacted counties."

This pot of funds also puts on the onus on counties to provide project proposals to the Department of Treasury for approval and to provide a report to

Congress 12 months after money disbursement to demonstrate how the money was spent.

Southerland noted to the commissioners at the meeting that if there was to be controversy in their county over how RESTORE funds would be spent, the first pot would be the focus.

He also noted, of importance to Gulf County, that the bill allows spending on infrastructure such as ports and projects such as beach restoration.

"This bill provides local autonomy, local authority, local flexibility over these funds," Southerland said. "But I caution you, to whom much is given, much is expected."

- 30 percent will go to a Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, with the funds to be used for the development and implementation of a comprehensive restoration plan, created by a federal/state Gulf Coast Restoration Council with all Gulf States represented on the Council. (The five Gulf States' governors and six federal officials from the Interior, Commerce, Agriculture departments, the Army, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Coast Guard.) Funds will be spent on big ecosystem projects with broad

impact. The council sunsets once funds are completely expended.

"I'm proud of this bill because it takes care of the bays, the estuaries, I grew up with," Southerland said. "This is a golden opportunity to do the right thing at the right time."

Southerland noted county and state projects might have overlap and said counties should be aware of state plans when crafting the process for moving forward on county projects.

For example, dredging of a particular pass or channel may be part of a state plan and should therefore not be a request from the county.

- 30 percent will be disbursed on an Impact Driven Formula to the Gulf Coast States according to plans submitted by the Gulf Coast States and approved by the Council. Thirty percent of the money will be allocated to states based on a formula that approximates how badly each was damaged by the oil spill. (Formula based on average oiled shoreline, proximity to the spill, and average population in coastal counties, with a minimum of 5 percent.) States can spend the money on environmental projects, job creation and training, flood

protection and tourism promotion.

"Louisiana had more environmental damage and economic damage," Southerland said. "Florida suffered economic damage. We were alarmed at the number of vacations that were canceled. The purpose of RESTORE was not to grow government. This was meant to restore economically and environmentally."

- 5 percent of the fine funds establish Gulf Coast Centers of Excellence — 2.5 percent of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund to be allocated to the States for research within the Gulf Coast region and 2.5 fisheries habitat.

"We still don't know what is going to happen in the future," Southerland said. "We don't know the full ramifications of the spill. This money is to go to the unknowns."

In part, the bill mandates that these funds are used for data collection of fisheries and other habitat along the Gulf Coast.

"This bill mandates (the federal government) collect good data and make good, solid decisions based on what that data says," Southerland said, noting ever-shortening seasons and bag limits for a host of fish species.

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SOUTHERLAND from page A1

both houses of Congress that aims, Southerland said, to "restore" states affected environmentally and economically by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon explosion and spill.

The bill is unique in Florida in that 75 percent of the largest pot of fine dollars, so-called "Pot One" which will account for 35 percent of total fines paid (see sidebar, Page A8), will be sent directly to the eight affected counties in Northwest Florida between Escambia and Wakulla.

The final decisions on how those funds will be spent will be made by each county's Board of County Commissioners.

"I urge you to make decisions not for you, not for your children, but for your grandchildren," Southerland said. "Do the right thing. Come together as communities. Focus on single major goals. Don't just think good, think great. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

"But to whom much is given, much is expected."

Southerland urged every county to establish a "broad-based" advisory committee to work through ideas and goals and provide

input. Gulf County has established such a committee, which is meeting weekly, but Franklin County has yet to establish one.

"We are trying to get ahead of the curve so when the dollars do start flowing we are ready to move the process forward," Gulf County Commissioner Warren Yeager said.

Apalachicola is pressing other municipalities to join in a resolution urging more input from the cities in decisions on projects that impact them.

Southerland said the input from all stakeholders, particularly the public, was crucial, not just for local success of projects but also when the Department of Treasury assesses projects under criteria that have yet to be established.

The Department of Treasury, Southerland said, would have final say on what projects receive funding. The rules must be established within 180 days of the signing of the RESTORE Act on Dec. 31.

Under the process, once a proposal is forwarded to Treasury, approved and a check cut, the county must report to Congress in 12 months on how that money was spent and whether it was spent for the purpose intended.

"Why would county commissioners take all the liability themselves?" Southerland said. "Commissioners should spread the risk. The public should be involved. You must make sure everyone has input."

"I think the counties

can do this."

Southerland said counties must join together to rebuff attempts by Department of Justice to assess BP fines — estimated, Southerland said, at \$5 billion to \$20 billion and which should be assessed by a federal judge sometime in 2013 — under the National Resources Damage Assessment instead of under the Clean Water Act, which would render moot the provisions of the RESTORE Act.

All funds — the

RESTORE Act divides the fine money between environmental and economic restoration— would thereby be paid for environmental impacts; no money would be earmarked for economic recovery from the spill, Southerland said.

Southerland said the president signed the bill in June. Southerland considered any attempt to undermine it unconstitutional.

"I can't see (the president) arguing against a bill that has his name on it," Southerland said.



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Dr. Cardet will have office hours on Thursday mornings and provide treatment at Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf on Thursday afternoons. **For more information on Dr. Cardet, or to make an appointment call 850-914-7060.**

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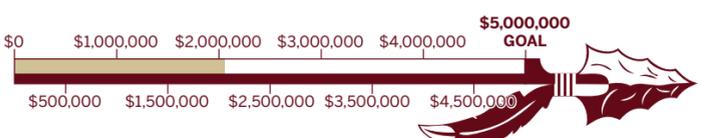


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Publisher, The News Herald

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EDUCATION

- Bachelors Science Criminology, Florida State University
- Law Enforcement Standards 1987 Gulf Coast Community College Career
- 1987-1990 Deputy Sheriff, Gulf County Sheriff's Office
- 1990-1995 Port St. Joe Police Department Sergeant Shift Supervisor
- 1995-2007 Gulf County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy
- 2007-Present - Sheriff, Gulf County
- Brought D.A.R.E. back to our Schools
- Established Drug and Alcohol Education Programs in our Schools:
 - Ghostout Program, Mock Car Crashes, Renee Napier Megan's Story*
- Established the Teen Driver Challenge
- Established First Community Policing Deputy to provide educational programs in Schools and the Community.

As your Sheriff, I will continue to work diligently and enthusiastically to ensure our streets and communities are safe for all Gulf County residents. It has been my privilege to serve the people of Gulf County for the past 25 years as a Law Enforcement Officer and Sheriff the last five years. I look forward to continuing to serve as your Sheriff and would appreciate your vote.

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A whale of a fish tale

Georgia fishermen get friendly with giant shark

By **LOIS SWOBODA**
653-1819 | @ApalachTimes
lswo boda@starfl.com

Three fishermen visiting from South Georgia shared a once-in-a-lifetime experience two weeks ago when they filmed the biggest one that got away.

Joe Bendis, who along with Brad Riner and Wendell Stone are frequent visitors to Franklin County, said he house-sits a trailer in Lanark Village and frequently brings down his 25-foot fishing boat, the Celestial Crab, to spend time on the water with family and friends.

On Sept. 29, Bendis, Stone and Riner were about 30 miles offshore and Bendis was struggling to unhook a shark without losing a finger when Riner told him a whale shark had come to the back of the boat.

At first, Bendis thought it was a joke.

"I never expected to see a whale shark," he said. "It's a first for all of us. It was very surprising."

The big fish remained nearby as Bendis succeeded in unhooking his catch and all three men rushed



FIND IT ONLINE

See video of the whale shark encounter at www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NHcOOR5F_U.

to the stern to view the rare creature.

But it submerged fairly quickly, and because their cellphones were stowed in a waterproof bag, none of the men got pictures of the monster fish, Bendis said.

They fired up the engine and attempted to return to the exact place of the original sighting and, to everyone's amazement, when they reached the spot and allowed the engine to idle, the whale shark resurfaced.

"We were all scrambling for phones," Bendis said.

The shark, at least 30 feet long, seemed attracted to the boat's engine and hung close to it in the water. Bendis retrieved his GoPro camera, which was in a waterproof container, and began filming underwater although he could not be sure what he was filming.

Bendis said the giant fish "came up to the dive platform, and Brad and I both touched it. Wendell Stone tried to touch him, but didn't quite make it.

"We been given grief for not going in the water with it, but when this is happening, it's not the first thing on your mind," he said.

All told, the experience lasted from about 3:45 to 4:45 p.m., with the shark returning to the Celestial Crab at least six times. Bendis said.

"It was definitely boat-related," he said. "He seemed to come back when the boat idled. If we moved, he would come back."

Bendis and his friends were thrilled with their hour-long interaction with one of the rarest creatures on the planet.

"I wish I could share this with every member of the fishing community," Bendis said. "The only thing that would have made it better was if Celeste and the kids had been there. I just hope people understand what gentle giants these creatures are and that no harm ever comes from them."

Celeste Bendis, a master's student in Tallahassee, said she regrets having opted out of the fishing trip to study. "I'd have been in the water with it!" she said.

The Celestial Crab is named both for Celeste and for Joe Bendis, who was born under the Zodiac sign of cancer.

Bendis, Riner and Stone immediately began to communicate their rare adventure to the world.

"Brad had a cellphone, and when we were coming up the Carrabelle River, he had already posted to the Internet," Bendis said.

Little did they expect their story would resonate around the world. Within 24 hours, friends and relatives



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

This video still shows the whale shark that approached Joe Bendis' fishing boat about 30 miles offshore from Carrabelle.

began to call to tell the men they saw the video on television in points as far removed as Chicago and California.

"I think people are tired of hearing about murders and politics and Syria and Afghanistan," Bendis said. "I think they want a feel-good story. It's such a big, ugly, cute animal."

The three fishermen went online and found a website maintained by researchers at the University of Southern Mississippi requesting information about whale shark sightings.

Bendis said researchers were able to conclude the whale shark was a male. The research group maintains a database of whale sharks in the Gulf, identifying individuals using the pattern of spots on the fish's left side. Unfortunately, Bendis' GoPro pictures show the shark's right side, so it's unclear if

ner are educators, so they immediately recognized the whale shark and were not afraid of the enormous fish.

Master waterman Joe Barber of Carrabelle and Apalachicola called their experience amazing. He said in 90 years spent on and around the Gulf, he has encountered a whale shark only twice.

On the first occasion, he was fishing offshore when he and a crew member spotted the enormous animal surfacing just a few feet from their boat.

"We sat down and waited to see what it would do," he said, recalling stories of fish bumping boats and capsizing them. But, the whale shark proved not to be aggressive and soon disappeared below the surface of the Gulf.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Oct. 18	81°	64°	30 %
Fri, Oct. 19	78°	57°	10 %
Sat, Oct. 20	78°	58°	0 %
Sun, Oct. 21	78°	63°	0 %
Mon, Oct. 22	80°	64°	0 %
Tues, Oct. 23	80°	63°	0 %
Wed, Oct. 24	80°	66°	10 %

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
18	Th			9:46am 0.0	
19	Fr	12:12am 2.2		11:11am -0.1	
20	Sa	11:2am 2.1		12:24pm 0.0	
21	Su	2:15am 2.0		1:21pm 0.0	
22	Mo	3:21am 1.8		2:02pm 0.2	
23	Tu	4:35am 1.6		2:23pm 0.4	
24	We	6:12am 1.3	10:08pm 1.1	2:19pm 0.7	
25	Th	8:28am 1.0	9:02pm 1.2	2:43am 0.9	1:37pm 0.9
26	Fr	8:46pm 1.4		4:13am 0.7	
27	Sa	8:53pm 1.6		5:08am 0.4	
28	Su	9:10pm 1.8		5:52am 0.3	
29	Mo	9:35pm 1.8		6:34am 0.2	
30	Tu	10:05pm 1.9		7:17am 0.1	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
18	Th	4:25am 1.7	8:06pm 1.4	12:33pm -0.1	1:15pm 1.4
19	Fr	5:07am 1.7	9:15pm 1.3	1:33pm 0.0	
20	Sa	5:56am 1.6	10:26pm 1.3	12:34am 1.4	2:42pm 0.1
21	Su	6:55am 1.6	11:25pm 1.3	1:42am 1.4	3:56pm 0.2
22	Mo	8:13am 1.4		3:27am 1.3	5:07pm 0.3
23	Tu	12:08am 1.3	9:56am 1.3	5:12am 1.2	6:11pm 0.5
24	We	12:41am 1.3	11:55am 1.2	6:31am 0.9	7:05pm 0.6
25	Th	1:08am 1.3	1:36pm 1.2	7:32am 0.7	7:51pm 0.7
26	Fr	1:31am 1.3	2:50pm 1.3	8:22am 0.5	8:31pm 0.9
27	Sa	1:51am 1.4	3:49pm 1.3	9:06am 0.3	9:05pm 1.0
28	Su	2:09am 1.4	4:39pm 1.3	9:46am 0.1	9:34pm 1.1
29	Mo	2:29am 1.5	5:22pm 1.3	10:22am 0.1	10:00pm 1.2
30	Tu	2:51am 1.5	6:02pm 1.3	10:55am 0.0	10:25pm 1.2

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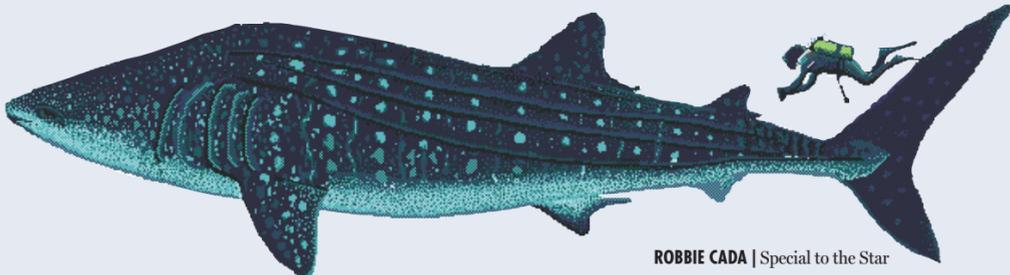


Inshore/Bay

As the cooler air settles in this week, St. Joe Bay should respond with good redfish and trout catches. This month has been great for the inshore angler so far, and we hope that trend will last throughout the month. Good reports from Town's Beach and Eagle Harbor are the talk of the town.

Offshore/Bottom

Gag grouper season will close Oct. 31, so now is the time for your last offshore bottom trips for gag grouper. Reports have been good on the live or hard bottom 20-40 miles offshore. Large schools of Spanish mackerel are close to shore over the past few days in and around St. Joe Bay. There are good reports of large kingfish being caught at the "oil docks" or sea wall in St. Joe Marina.



ROBBIE CADA | Special to the Star

ABOUT WHALE SHARKS

According to the Florida Museum of Natural History Ichthyology Department, the whale shark (Rhincodon typus) is the largest member of the shark family and the largest vertebrate that is not a mammal. Individuals approaching 60 feet in length have been observed. Tipping the scales at 20 tons, they approach the larger dinosaurs in mass and date back to the Jurassic era.

Scientists only became aware of the existence of this rare creature in 1828. Before the mid-1980s, there were fewer than 350 confirmed reports of whale sharks worldwide.

With few defenses other than size and thick skin, the whale shark is listed by the World Conservation Union in the Red List of Threatened Species.

Like some whales, the whale shark is a filter feeder and consumes mostly

microscopic algae, though it will also devour small fish.

Whale sharks are widely distributed in tropical and warm temperate seas, usually between latitudes 30 degrees north and 35 degrees south. They are thought to prefer surface sea-water temperatures of 70 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Whale sharks are known to inhabit both deep and shallow coastal waters and lagoons of coral atolls and reefs.

They have approximately 3,000 tiny teeth that are not used while feeding. The whale shark sieves prey items as small as one millimeter through the fine mesh of the "gill-rakers." They are able to open their mouth over 3 feet wide to optimize feeding and are occasionally sighted hanging vertically in the water allowing baitfish and other

concentrated food items to be sucked in.

Highly migratory, satellite tracking of whale sharks in waters off the United States and in the South China Sea reveals these animals travel thousands of miles. These migrations can take years to complete.

The most significant threat to this species appears to be humans. In India alone, as many as 1,000 whale sharks were believed killed in 1999 and 2000. Their habit of swimming at the surface makes them particularly susceptible to fishing. The fins of whale sharks once sold for high prices on the Asian market, although demand has declined. There is still a market for whale shark meat in several countries including Taiwan and China.

— By Lois Swoboda

SPECIAL TO THE STAR

This video still shows the whale shark that approached Joe Bendis' fishing boat about 30 miles offshore from Carrabelle.



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Port St. Joe pummels Rocky Bayou

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

Rocky Bayou Christian ran onto rocky ground last Friday night at Shark Field.

The host Class 1A Tiger Sharks dominated every phase of the game en route to their third straight victory, a 42-10 beat-down of the independent Knights (2-5).

Port St. Joe (4-2) held Rocky Bayou to less than 150 total yards while 13 different Tiger Sharks racked up just more than 300 yards of total offense for the Tiger Sharks, who took control of the game during a four-minute period when they had the scoreboard spinning like a pinball game.

"We have played some really physical teams the first part of the season, and give Rocky Bayou credit — they played hard and did a good job — but it was nice to have a game where we had a chance to play a lot of kids and some of the young players got to see action," said Port St. Joe coach Chuck Gannon.

"We have had a really good week of practice. This is a great group to coach. They work hard and understand what we have to do to be suc-



WAYNE TAYLOR | Special to The Star

Natron Lee scored a first quarter touchdown and led the Tiger Sharks in rushing with 62 yards.

cessful. We are improving every week, which is what you want."

The entire first half was played in the Rocky Bayou end of the field, and Port St. Joe took full advantage of it from its opening possession.

A short punt allowed the Tiger Sharks to begin on offense at the Knight 39, and just six plays later, Dusty Richter (59 rushing yards) picked up a dropped lateral wide

right and sprinted down the sideline to score from the Rocky Bayou 18.

The teams traded possession until, with 2:56 left in the period, a low snap went past Rocky Bayou quarterback Tyler Paskell and Jarkeice Davis recovered the ball at the 6. Davis barreled up the middle for those yards on the next play, Justin Hites

See FOOTBALL A12

Sports SHORTS

From Staff Reports

Lady Gators fall to Liberty County

The Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School volleyball team fell in four games at Liberty County to drop its record to 10-5. Liberty County took the first two games, 10-25 and 7-25, before the Lady Gators rallied to win game three 25-20. Liberty County took the fourth game 25-13 to finish the match.

The Lady Gators finish the regular season at 6 p.m. ET tonight at Port St. Joe for the Lady Tiger Sharks annual Dig Pink Event benefiting breast cancer research. Wewahitchka will compete in the district tournament next week.

PSJ's Pryor named to midseason All-American team

Port St. Joe alum Calvin Pryor was named by college football writer



CALVIN PRYOR

Phil Steele to the fourth team on Steele's mid-season All American team. The Florida Gators placed six players on Steele's four-deep All American team, including two who join Pryor, a true sophomore, on the fourth team.

Pryor was the only player from the University of Louisville, undefeated and ranked No. 15 in the country, named to any of Steele's teams.

In five games this season Pryor, the Cardinals starting free safety, is Louisville's leading tackler with 38. He also has an interception and four forced fumbles.

Pryor earned a starting role for Louisville midway through the season in 2011 and has started every game since.

Wewahitchka cross country competes at Dolphin Dash

The Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School cross country teams competed in the Dolphin Dash at Lynn Haven Mosley last weekend.

The boys' team was led by senior Josh Epps, followed by Shaquille Scott, Micah Lister, Elijah Sarmiento, Jason Haire, Tony Buckley-Paige, Colby Gay, Weston Sarmiento, Jonah Bidwell and Josh Daulton.

Sha Mario Cole led the Lady Gators followed by Ashleigh Price, McKenna Waters, Brittany Griffin, Rylee Waters and Emily Roberts.

The team traveled to a meet at Sneads on Monday and will be at Marianna on Saturday.

PSJ volleyball falls at Franklin County

Star Staff Report

The Lady Seahawks of Franklin County handed the Lady Tiger Sharks a tough loss last Tuesday night. Port St. Joe traveled to East-point and played a tough match. After being down 2-0 in games, the Lady Tiger Sharks came back to win the next two games to force a fifth and final game. Franklin County won the final game to win the match.

This was the final match of district play, and Port St Joe will travel to Blountstown on Tuesday, Oct. 23, for the district playoffs. Unofficially, Port St Joe should play West Gadsden at 3 p.m. and if victorious will probably play Blountstown at 7 p.m.

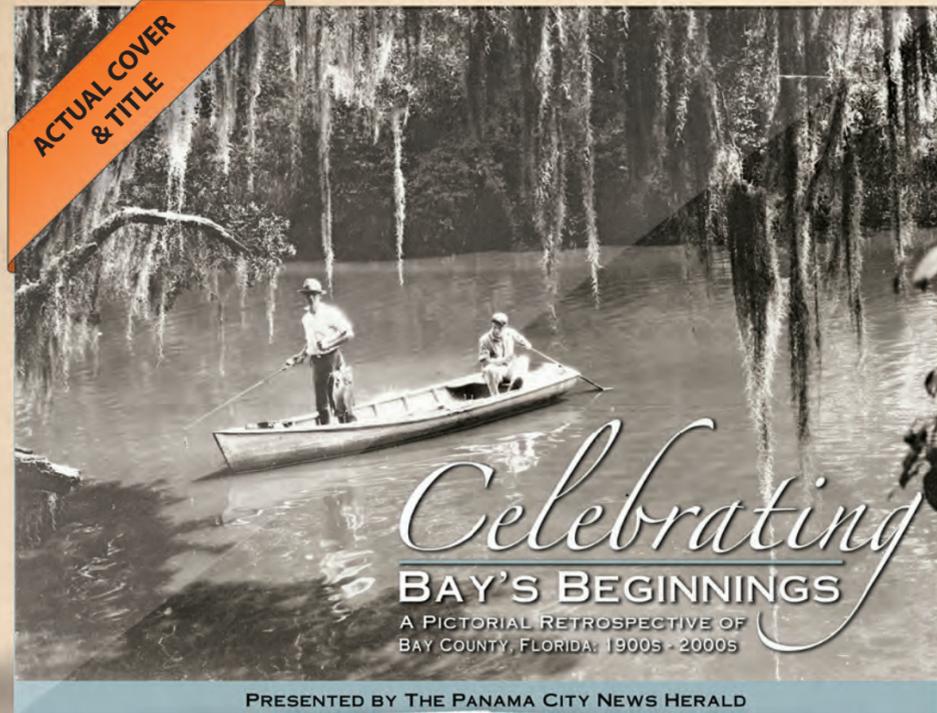
Nicole Endres, Haley Wood and Janel Kerigan were 100 percent from the serving line this season while Callie Fleshren had 13 assists on 63 attempts. Addison Rice, Callie Fle-

shren, Haley Wood and Nicole Endres all had six kills each.

Tonight is Dig Pink: Come to "The Dome" and support breast cancer research. Tonight's match will be against Wewahitchka. It is the final regular-season match and is also senior night. All gate receipts will be donated to breast cancer research. Come out and cheer on your favorite team and help the fight against breast cancer!

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Dolphins, Jaguars top Liberty County

Star Staff Report

The Gene Raffield Football League Dolphins and Jaguars of Port St. Joe traveled to Liberty County last Saturday and came home with two more wins. The Dolphins won a tough defensive battle 8-0. The Jaguars led 24-0 at the end of the first quarter and dominated Liberty County with a 32-0 final score.

Early on, Jasmine Thomas ran the first offensive snap off right tackle and went all the way to the house for an apparent TD. The play was brought back for an illegal shift. Two plays later, Thomas went off left tackle behind a block by Brandon Brant, broke two tackles in the Bulldog secondary and scored the touchdown. Bryce Register ran a crunch play for the 2-point

conversion.

On the next Jag possession, Ethan "Freight Train" Lafontaine took a pitch from Register, sprinted around left end and outran the Bulldog pursuers to pay dirt. Another Register run added the conversion. Roman Harrison scored the next time the Jags had the ball with a tackle-breaking 42 yard scamper to the end zone. Register again made the conversion good.

The last touchdown came in the second half from 14 yards out as Cameron Harmon showed his speed. Jonnolan Treglown bulled in for the extra two points.

The Dolphin game featured great defense by both teams. It appeared the Dolphins would score first when fullback Josh Farmer broke one from the Bulldog 43. Less

than a yard from the goal line, he was caught by a Liberty County defender and fumbled into the end zone. The ball was recovered by Liberty County and came out to the 20.

The Dolphins would not be denied. Two possessions later they had a great drive with runs of 24 and 15 yards by Brennon Foxworth. Then, from the Bulldog 15, showing a combination of power and speed, Farmer smashed into pay dirt for six points. Quarterback Max Cargill made the conversion on a keeper for the game's final score.

This Saturday, Gene Raffield Football will return to Shark Stadium for the first of only two home games. Starting at 10 a.m. EST, the Jaguars play the first game against Chattahoochee. The Dolphin game will follow.

FOOTBALL from page A11

missed the kick, and it was 13-0.

On the Knights' next play from scrimmage, Levi Derry fumbled and Dallas Burke recovered at the 17 for Port St. Joe. Natron Lee (a game-high 62 rushing yards) covered that on the following play, and Hites made it 20-0.

Three plays later, a Rocky Bayou fumble on the snap exchange resulted in Port St. Joe taking over at the Knight 21. Love scored from the 12 three plays later, and Hites made it 27-0.

On the ensuing possession, the Knights went nowhere from their 20, and another short punt followed.

On the following play, Port St. Joe's Jak Riley found open space down the left sideline on a pitch play for a 34-yard touchdown, completing a span of four minutes during which the Tiger Sharks scored four touchdowns while executing just six offensive plays from scrimmage.

Drew Kilpatrick got Rocky

Bayou on the board with a 22-yard field goal with 5:31 left in the half, finishing a drive that saw the Knights earn their first down and cross midfield for the first time.

But minutes later, Davis tackled Paskell in the end zone after yet another low snap for a safety, and the halftime score was 36-3.

Rocky Bayou was held to minus rushing yards for the half while Port St. Joe racked up 167 rushing yards and 183 yards total.

Port St. Joe started the second half at its 44 and needed just three plays before Davis bolted right, reversed left and dashed 25 yards for a touchdown, Hites adding the Tiger Sharks final points.

With the clock running continuously in the fourth quarter, the Knights drove 69 yards for a touchdown, Paskell hitting Nathan McCullough on a 9-yard post pattern.

Port St. Joe hosts Tallahassee FAMU at 7:30 p.m. ET Friday.

(Pd.Pol.Ad.)

MIKE HAGEN
STRENGTH TEAM
Breaking Barriers...
Building Lives

FRIDAY – OCTOBER 19

Frank Pate Park – Port St. Joe 3:30 p.m. est
Lake Alice Park – Wewahitchka 5:00 p.m. cst

Brought to you compliments of the
Mike Harrison for Sheriff Campaign

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Mike Harrison, Republican for Sheriff

(Pd.Pol.Ad.)

Serving in this office
for the past 31 years
I have had the privilege
of meeting and helping
the people of Gulf County.

Vote
DAN CHRISTIE for
GULF COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

"Dan Christie has served as the Chief Deputy in the Property Appraiser's office for the last 31 years. He is without question the most qualified person for the office. Dan's integrity, fairness and honesty are beyond reproach and I respectfully request that we continue to allow Dan to work for us." — *Kesley Colbert, Gulf County Property Appraiser*

Call me at 227-1681 or learn more at www.VoteDanChristie.com

I humbly ask for your vote to continue
to serve you as your Property Appraiser.

(Pd.Pol.Ad.)

Elect
JAY BIDWELL
for SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A vote for Jay Bidwell is a vote for experience!

In the Gulf County School System helping children reach their potential is our business. Only one candidate has the necessary experience to do the job. Jay Bidwell has been on the front lines of the educational field for more than two decades.

- **Jay Bidwell is experienced.**
He has more than 22 years experience as a teacher, more than 20 years experience as a coach and more than 19 years experience as a parent. Jay is the only candidate with extensive experience serving the children of Gulf County.
- **Jay Bidwell is qualified.**
He is the only candidate who is certified in educational leadership. This certification requires a Master's degree in the field of educational leadership with classes in school finance, law, ethics, management, technology, assessment, etc. and a passing score on the Florida Educational Leadership Exam. Certification in educational leadership is required by law for all school principals in the state of Florida (Florida Administrative Rule 6A-4.0083) and for more than 50 consecutive years all superintendents in Gulf County have been certified in educational leadership (with the exception of the current superintendent).

The students of Gulf County deserve a superintendent who is experienced and qualified!

Please vote for and elect Jay Bidwell as Gulf County's Superintendent of Schools on November 6th.

850-639-2949 • jaybidwellforsupt@fairpoint.net

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Jay Bidwell, Democrat, for Superintendent of Schools

Visit
GULF COUNTY.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

2013 Co-operative Partner Program

The Gulf County Tourist Development Council (GCTDC) will continue to foster and grow the Co-operative Partner Program to help broaden awareness and consistently present a unified brand. In 2012, 68 partners participated in our co-operative program, and our goal is to provide additional partner opportunities to unify with the Gulf County brand and broaden our collective message to new and existing visitors. The GCTDC proposes the following opportunities for 2013:

Bronze Partner - \$100 Welcome Center Collateral	Silver Partner - \$225 Welcome Center Collateral Website Link
Gold Partner - \$350 Welcome Center Collateral Website Link Visitor Guide Directory Ad	Platinum Partner - \$550 ! NEW ! Welcome Center Collateral Website Link Visitor Guide ¼ Page Ad*

*This opportunity will be limited and based on the entire layout of the guide, first come, first served.

To secure your participation in any of these programs and complete the Partner Commitment Form, please contact Michelle Perrin, GCTDC Marketing Manager at 850-229-7800 or michelle@visitgulf.com no later than 5:00 p.m., E.T. on Monday, October 22, 2012. All payment and materials to be advertised are due by October 31, 2012.

(2012.96)

St. Joe Foundation grants \$1 million to SHH

Star Staff Report

The St. Joe Community Foundation Inc. recently donated \$1 million to the Sacred Heart Foundation for use by the Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf in Port St. Joe. This donation demonstrates the Foundation's ongoing commitment to Sacred Heart hospitals in the region, which provide much-needed health care services for North Florida residents and visitors. The foundation has donated \$3.5 million to Sacred Heart Hospital in Gulf County.

"Working with Port St. Joe leadership, The St. Joe Community Foundation helped make the dream of a hospital in the Port St. Joe community a reality when it opened in 2010," said Jorge Gonzalez, a member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees. "The Foundation's recent \$1 million grant demonstrates the Foundation's ongoing commitment to ensuring quality health care is provided to children and adults in Northwest Florida and the surrounding area."

"Last year, Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf had more than 8,000 emer-

gency room visits and provided more than \$3.8 million in uncompensated care for the community," said Roger Hall, president of Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf. "With the support of the St. Joe Community Foundation, we are able to continue our mission to provide high quality, compassionate health care for all, regardless of ability to pay."

The St. Joe Co. created the foundation in 1999 to invest in community initiatives that improve the quality of life of the residents in Northwest Florida.



TIM CROFT | The Star

Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf received a \$1 million grant from the St. Joe Community Foundation.



FIRE FEST



Event plants roots of fire safety

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

Brad Price had a simple mission last week during National Fire Safety Week.

The Gulf County fire coordinator wanted the inaugural Fire Fest, held at each elementary school, to drive home two central points: smoke detectors save lives and stop-drop-roll.

The Fire Fest, the first of what Price hopes becomes an annual event to coincide with Fire Safety Month, provided an introduction to the dangers of fire and steps to safety for elementary school children.

After a short video, the students were allowed to look over the equipment, spray the fire hose and experience being junior firemen.

"They are just buzzing away," Price said. "It's a good deal. When you impress them like that, they take that home."

"The kids had a good time and took it home with them. We try to target the elementary students because they will take it home and bug their parents about it. We are trying to get the entire family to think about fire safety."

The main lesson for home concerns smoke detectors,

See FIRE FEST B6

PHOTOS BY MELISSA LAWSON AND JENNIFER GUFFEY | Special to The Star

The inaugural Fire Fest was held at each elementary school to drive home two central themes: smoke detectors save lives and stop-drop-roll.

Relay for Life hosts Jail for Bail

Star Staff Report

Deputies with the Gulf County Sheriff's Office helped roundup county residents found guilty of supporting Relay for Life in Wewahitchka.

The 2013 Relay for Life Event will take place April 19-20 at the Wewahitchka High School football field.

The roundup of supporters was for Jail for Bail, a fundraiser by which supporters are "arrested" and forced to call or request bail money, with all money generated benefiting Relay for Life.

A special thanks to the Deputies Huggins and Burkett.

Supporters of Relay arrested last week included: Lori Price,

Dr. Michael Barnes, Kenny Peak, State Attorney Glenn Hess, Carmen McLemore, Mike Harrison, Debbie Baxley, Jay Bidwell, Sharon Gaskin, Dr. David Lister, Sheriff Joe Nugent, Kesley Colbert, Jim Norton, John Hanlon, Judge Tim McFarland, Wyvonne Pickett Griffin and Becky Norris.

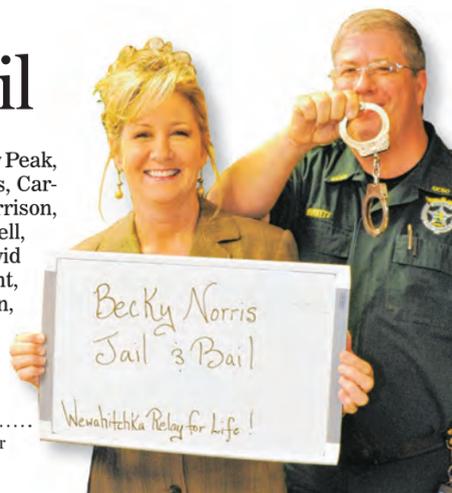


PHOTO BY ANITRA MAYHANN | Special to The Star

Becky Norris poses for a mugshot during Jail for Bail.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

This year's Queen of Bling, Virginia Harrison.

Denim and Diamonds raises \$16,000

Star Staff Report

Hospice supporters pulled out their best-fitting blue jeans, kicked up their boots and shined up their diamonds to attend the Second Annual Denim and Diamonds to benefit Covenant Hospice. After a night of dancing, bidding on auction items and enjoying delicious food, the non-profit had a reason to celebrate. The event raised more than \$16,000 net revenue Sept. 16 at the Centennial Building for Gulf County hospice patients and their family members.

"Gulf County is a generous community with strong hospice supporters," Development Manager Nansia Anderson said. "The care provided by our clinical staff is a direct reflection of the success of the event."

The 2012 event had several new additions including a live auction with auctioneer Jim Emerson, live music provided by the band Southern Satisfaction, sound provided by St. Joe Music Co. and a diamond necklace donated from David Scott Fine Jewelry for the prize drawing.

Walt Williams from The Coast 105.1 radio station returned as the event emcee and guided guests through the evening. Once again, guests mingled through the auctions and enjoyed dinner provided by Paul Gants BBQ and Tarpon Docks Seafood. Complimentary beer and wine, donated from The Port Fine Wine & Spirits, was included in the \$25 ticket price. Ladies also were encouraged to sport their favorite diamond jewelry (real or fake) to compete for the Queen of Bling title. Contestants were given a mason jar and asked to solicit for votes from other guests. At the end of

See DIAMONDS B6

Locks of LOVE



Brodie Phelps donated 14 inches of her hair to Locks of Love. Thank you from Kandi Rollins, Owner of Kandi Kountry Kuts.

EUGENE RAFFIELD TURNS 50



He was born in the old Gulf Pines Hospital on Oct. 13, 1962 and Eugene Raffield wanted a photo with his mother, Imogene, in front of the former hospital to celebrate this milestone. "A lot of babies were born in this building and I know it won't be here much longer," Raffield said. Happy 50th Eugene.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



MANDIE!
Meet the beautiful and sweet Mandie an American Foxhound. Mandie was rescued from a less than ideal situation but she has made a wonderful recovery. Mandie is a little shy when she first meets new people but

warms up quickly. She walks well on her leash and is very smart and willing to learn. All Mandie needs to make her life complete is a forever home. If you cannot give Mandie a forever home, perhaps you could sponsor her.

REMBER TO MARK YOU CALENDERS FOR 'BOW WOW BASH 2012, OCT. 27th. Tickets can be purchased at the Shelter or see a SJBHS board member or volunteer.

Please do not hesitate to email townsend.hsdirector@gmail.com or adoptbaystjoe@gmail.com or call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103 and ask for Melody or Debbie! Online applications are available at www.sjbhumaneociety.org Adoption fees include our cost of spay/neuter and current vaccinations. We are now proud partners with www.petsforpatriots.org

Our hours for the shelter are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am-4 pm! Our shelter location is 1007 Tenth Street in Port St. Joe! Shop at Faith's Thrift Hut 10-3 Thursday - Saturday. Collectables, Clothing, Books, Electronics and more.

IF YOU ARE MISSING A PET, PLEASE CHECK WITH US!
FACEBOOK: St. Joseph Bay Humane Society

NOTICE

The St. Joseph Bay Humane Society will hold its annual meeting November 1, 2012, at 4:30 pm at the South Gulf County Fire Station, #1 on Cape San Blas.

For more information, contact the Humane Society at 850-227-1103 or go to www.sjbhumaneociety.org

Amateur radio license exams

Star Staff Report

Ham it up and 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 on Saturday, Nov. 10 at the EOC Building in Port St. Joe.

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

Dr. Oksanen office closing

Star Staff Report

The office of Dr. Owen D. Oksanen M.D. closed permanently on Friday, Oct. 5. Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf will be in charge of all

medical records. They have a new physician's office that opened Oct. 15. All medical records will be available through Sacred Heart if you prefer to select another new physician.

Salvation Army Christmas Assistance

Star Staff Report

Representatives from the Salvation Army will be accepting applications for children 12-and-under in Port St. Joe and in Wewahitchka on the dates and times listed: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET on Oct. 23 at the STAC House at 610 Eighth Street in Port St. Joe; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT on Oct. 24 at 314 N. 2nd Street in Wewahitchka.

Applicants must provide the following information: Identification,

picture I.D. for applicant and all adults in household, birth certificate for all children 12 and under, guardians must prove custody of any child under age 12, grandchildren and/or any minors living with you, rent receipt, light bill, gas bill, telephone or cellphone bill, cable bill, car payment, other expenses you have, proof of your expenses, recent pay stub, Social Security check/letter, child support, retirement pension or any other income you have.

Quaranta crowned PSJHS Homecoming Queen



COURTESY OF WAYNE TAYLOR

Jada Quaranta was crowned the 2012 Homecoming Queen for Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School last Friday. Quaranta was crowned by last year's queen, Emerald Muniz.

LOOKOUT LOUNGE & DISCOUNT PACKAGE
Blast on the Bay Songwriters Festival - This Weekend -
 Hope Everyone Comes Out to This Great Event and Enjoys As Many Shows As Possible. They Will All Be Awesome!!
 Come Enjoy 2 of the Best Shows in The Best Listening Room of the Event.
• IN THE CROW'S NEST •
Saturday, October 20th
5 PM ET
 Walt Aldridge, Sonny Lemaire, Tim Buppert & Jim Parker
7 PM ET
 Charlie Black, Dana Hunt Black, Casey Black & Erin Enderlin
 4th Annual Songwriters Festival
 OPEN DAILY AT 11C PACKAGE STORE & LOUNGE
 GREAT SELECTION OF ALL YOUR FAVORITE BEER, WINE & SPIRITS
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DAZZLING DOLPHINS



Port St. Joe Elementary School

The Dazzling Dolphins hold the Pennies for Patients boxes. Port St. Joe Elementary's Philanthropic Project of Pennies for Patients is underway. Students bring in pennies to donate to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for Children who have cancer.

Front row: David Kouljanov, Chloe Harper, Santana Causey, Tanner Fogle.
Back row: Brittany Hanson, Michael Amerson, Brooklyn Sheppard, Eli Filder.

SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Wewahitchka Elementary School

Kindergarten: Caiden Parrish, Bethany Jenkins, Keersten Easter, Parker Lemieux, Donald Brake, Jalynn Sims; First grade: Caytlin Myers, Casey May, Cheyenne Causey, Katlyn Kemp, Joshua Nunery, Justin Nunery, David McLemore, David Rich, Ryan Price, Preston Stacey; Second grade: Traveler John, Alex Goodson, Shurrell Jackson, Landon Lanier and Sadie Calereso; Third grade: Hilton Sewell and Matthew Hall; Fourth grade: Keegan Calhoun, Jala Moulds, Andrew Simmons, Zachary Sullivan and Tamiah Rouse; Fifth grade: Trevor Forehand, Chad Gray, Kaelin Mullen, Kaeleb Mullen and Brianna Hicks; Sixth grade: Tyler Skipper, Ashten Lolley, Chelsea Wallen, Cody Lee, Jonathan Harvey and Krystal Adkison.



By Megan Hubbard and Lindsay Furr

Dig Pink tonight: Port St Joe Volleyball is sponsoring their 4th Annual Dig Pink event tonight at Port St Joe Jr./Sr. High School. The match is the final regular season match and is also Senior Night. Port St. Joe will be matched against the Lady Gators of Wewahitchka. All money collected at the gate will be donated to the Side Out Foundation for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research. Regardless of which team you support, come out and support this important cause that has touched so many lives right here in our county. Help us reach our goal of \$1,200 for this charity. As always, thank you for your support of our sports programs!

NJROTC: On Oct. 18-20, the NJROTC has been invited to visit the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville. Our NJROTC unit will be exploring and touring the Naval base on Friday. The next day we will watch the air show and their exhibits. We are all extremely excited to attend these events and to get this gracious opportunity.

A Big Thank You goes out to the John C Gainous VFW Post 10069 and its Auxiliaries for their outstanding support of our NJROTC Program. The VFW is donating \$500 per quarter to help defray the costs of future NJROTC field trips and competitions while the Lady's Auxiliary is selling unique bath spices and donating half of their proceeds to the NJROTC. The Post will also be hosting a wonderful breakfast in support of the NJROTC on November 18th at the VFW. There will be more details to come. See you there!

Homecoming: This year's Homecoming Queen is... Jada Quaranta! Best wishes to Jada and a very well done to ALL the ladies. Congratulations to the SGA and all who made this year's Homecoming Week Celebration an outstanding success. Spirits were high, fun was had by all, and our football team capped it off with a win. Congratulations also go out to all Alumni of Port St Joe Junior-Senior High for your continued support of the educational goals of our great school.

Football: Last Friday night, our Tiger Sharks had a 42-10 win over Rocky Bayou. This Friday, come out and support the Tiger Shark football team when they play Florida A&M High in their final home game of the season at Shark Stadium. Game time is 7:30 p.m. ET. Seniors from the football team, the cheerleading squad, the Band of Gold and the NJROTC will be honored in a pre-game celebration. Congratulation Seniors! Don't forget to bring a nonperishable food item for our local food pantry. You never look as good as when you are helping others.

Seniors: The second Senior Trip payment of \$75 is due on or before Nov. 1. Turn in your dues as soon as possible, you don't want to miss this trip!

Denim & Diamonds

BENEFITING COVENANT HOSPICE

Raised a Net of over \$16,500!
 Covenant Hospice would like to say

THANK YOU

★ To ALL of our great SPONSORS ★

INKIND Donors ★ VOLUNTEERS

Ticket OUTLETS ★ Ticket PURCHASERS



All proceeds from this event benefit the unfunded patient care and special programs of Covenant Hospice in Gulf County.



FAITH

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

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

Life's purpose, other questions to be explored at Lifetree Café

Star Staff Report

Questions about life's purpose and divine intervention will be explored at Lifetree Café at 7 p.m. CT on Monday, Oct. 22.

The program, titled "Does God Have a Plan for You? One Woman's Quest to Save 300 Babies" features an exclusive filmed interview with Operation Baby Lift volunteer LeAnn Thieman. In the final days of the Vietnam War, Thieman and other volunteers extracted hundreds of at-risk babies from Vietnamese orphanages.

"Operation Baby Lift didn't go as predicted," Lifetree representative Craig Cable said. "Some wonder if God had a plan that played out when a plane of volunteers and babies crashed after takeoff."

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Snacks and beverages are available. Lifetree Café is located at 1602 U.S. Highway 98 in Mexico Beach across from El Governor Hotel.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting. Questions about Lifetree may be directed to Gary Grubb at 334-806-5667 or lwlife@treecafe@fairpoint.net.

Fifth annual St. Joseph Men's Club spaghetti dinner set for Nov. 3

Star Staff Report

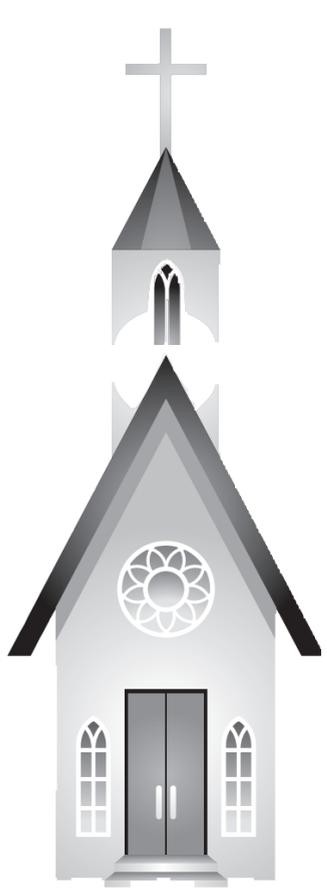
A fabulous spaghetti dinner, entertainment, sing-along fun, door prizes and a cash bar featuring Italian beer and wine await you at the fifth annual St. Joseph Catholic Church Men's Club Spaghetti Dinner. The dinner will be held 5-7 p.m. ET Saturday, Nov. 3 at the church hall. The hall is located just east of the church (20th and Monument Avenue) on 20th Street in Port St. Joe.

In addition to the spaghetti dinner, you will get a salad, garlic bread and delicious desserts. You will enjoy Italian accordionist Tony Minichello and vocalist and sing-along leader Marty Jarosz. You may win one of the many door prizes as well.

Tickets at \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 5-12. Four year olds and younger will be admitted free of charge. Get your tickets from any Men's Club member; by stopping by the church hall office (227-1417), at Hannon Insurance or by calling Men's Club president Dan Van Treese at 227-8138.

Get your tickets early — only 192 will be sold. You can also get dinners to go, if you wish.

Read the Word and live it



Have you touched anyone for Jesus, about the state of their soul?

If you don't know, you should, that this is every Christian's goal.

Before you witness very much, you have to know what to say.

You can tell what happened to you, and the word of God will show you the way.

Commit your life to learning the scripture, each and every day.

Many times your daily walk with tell others, more than what you say.

So feast on the word, and live it day by day.

This will draw others to Jesus, and help keep Satan at bay.

Billy Johnson

Faith BRIEFS

Fall Festival at New Harvest Fellowship

New Harvest Fellowship Assembly of God Church, located at 1800 N. State 71 in Wewahitchka, will host a Fall Festival from 5-8 p.m. CT on Saturday, Oct. 20. There will be games, food, fun and a bonfire. For more information call 639-4867.

Fall Festival, Touch-A-Truck

It's time again for the 8th Annual Fall Festival and Touch-A-Truck at Long Avenue Baptist Church. We would like to invite

the community to join with us for an evening of fun and fellowship to benefit the children and the elderly of Gulf County during the Christmas season. The event will be held at Long Avenue Baptist Church located at 1601 Long Avenue from 5-7 p.m. ET on Sunday, Oct. 28. Admission is a bag of non-perishable food and/or a NEW toy, the rest is on us! There will be fire trucks, ambulances, police cars, dump trucks, and more for kids of all ages to climb on, learn how they work, sound the horns and generally have some fun. The Fall Festival will feature a cake

walk, games, hot dogs, a chili cook off, popcorn, fall fun and prizes.

For more information or to lend a vehicle please contact the church office at 229-8691.

Pre-celebration of pastor appreciation at Church of God in Christ

The public is invited to come and be part of the pre-celebration of our pastor's appreciation at Church of God in Christ in Port St. Joe. The services are: 7:30 p.m. ET Oct. 25, Supt. David Woods' "And for

your faithfulness" community-wide service; 7:30 p.m. ET Oct. 26, continuation of the community-wide service with Pastor Johnny Jenkins speaker; Culminating in appreciation services in Chipley Oct. 27-28 at Yes, Lord Church of God in Christ.

Fall Festival at First Baptist

First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe will host a Fall Festival from 5 p.m. until on Saturday, Oct. 27. There will be food, prizes, games and entertainment. Everyone is invited.

New Bethel Women/Men annual observance

New Bethel Baptist Church will celebrate its annual Women/Men Observance at 11 a.m. ET on Sunday, Oct. 21. Chairperson is Evangelist Jennifer Bailey.

New Bethel Baptist Church Harvest Evening Musical

New Bethel Baptist Church will host a Harvest Evening Musical at 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, Nov. 17. The colors are harvest colors. Chairperson is Sister Bonita Smith.

Family Life Church
A Spirit Filled Outreach Oriented Word of Faith Church

Pastors Andrew & Cathy Rutherford
Welcome you to worship with us:
Sunday 10:30am
Sunday Night Prayer 6pm
Wednesday 6pm

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Sunday:
Contemporary Service 9:00 a.m. ET
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. ET
Traditional Worship: 11:00 a.m. ET

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

Rev. Mac Fulcher
Pastor
Ann Comforter
Music Director
Deborah Tuttle
Director of Children Ministries

First Baptist Church
102 THIRD STREET • PORT ST. JOE
Jeff Pinder Pastor
Buddy Caswell, Minister of Music & Education
Bobby Alexander, Minister to Students

New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church

Wednesday

Sunday	Dinner.....5:00 - 6:00 pm
Sunday School..... 9:00 am	AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm
Worship Service..... 10:30 am	Surrender Student Ministry.....6:15 - 7:30 pm
Youth Groups..... 5:30 pm	Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 - 7:30 pm
	Read the Bible for Life Class.....6:15 - 7:30 pm
	Nursery.....6:00 - 7:30 pm

www.fbcpsj.org

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Service Times

382 Ling Street Port St. Joe, FL 32456 (850) 227-1506 Pastor Josh Fidler	Sunday School.....9:45 am Worship Service.....11:30 am Discipleship Training.....5:30 pm Evening Worship.....6:30 pm Wednesday Night.....7:00 pm
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

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

Home of Faith Christian School
www.faithchristianpsj.net

"Our Church can be your home"

First Church of the Nazarene
2420 Long Avenue • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456
(850) 229-9596

Give unto the Lord the glory due His name, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
Psalm 29:2

Sunday School..... 10 a.m.	Sunday Evening Worship6 p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.	Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.

TO KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

Come worship with us!
Rector Father Tommy Dwyer

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

800 22ND STREET, PORT ST. JOE
8:00 and 11:00 a.m. (EST) • Sunday School 9:45

www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org

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

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

The Rev. Lou Little, Priest
Services Temporarily at Senior Citizens Center,
120 Library Drive

"An Unchanging Faith In A Changing World"

oakgrove church
613 Madison Street PSJ, FL 32456 (850) 227-1837

Schedule of Worship Services

Sunday	Sunday School 9:00 AM	Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM
Wednesday	Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 PM	Elective Adult Classes 6:00 PM
	Children & Youth Ministry 6:00 PM	

Nursery provided for all services

living water church at the beach

SUNDAY : WORSHIP AT SUNSET PARK 8 AM
10:30 AM ON THE 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
SUNDAY: BIBLE CLASS 9:30 AM
SATURDAY : COFFEE TIME 9 - 11 AM
MONDAY : LIFE TREE CAFÉ 7 PM
WEDNESDAY: MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 8 AM & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5 PM

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

First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach
111 North 22nd Street • Mexico Beach, FL 32410

Sunday Worship Services:
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m CST Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

Open Hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of Mexico Beach United Methodist Church

Nursery Provided
Rev. Jerry Arhelger, Pastor • Church/Office: 648-8820

SOUTHERLAND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME

507 10th Street • Port St. Joe
(850) 229-8111

Downtown Books to hold Lister book signing



MICHAEL LISTER

Star Staff Report

From 1-3 p.m. ET on Saturday, Oct. 20, Wewahitchka author Michael Lister will be signing and reading from his newly released fifth John Jordan Mystery, "Blood Sacrifice." "Blood Sacrifice" is the

fifth entry in Lister's popular and acclaimed mystery series featuring ex-cop turned prison chaplain John Jordan.

Publisher's Weekly said of "Blood Sacrifice," "Lister's strong fifth book featuring cop-turned-prison-chaplain John Jordan

takes Jordan to the small Florida Panhandle town of Bridgeport, to undergo counseling at St. Ann's Abbey. Well-handled plot twists complement one of today's more psychologically complex religious detectives."

Following a particularly

brutal and costly case, John Jordan goes to a secluded retreat center and encounters one of the most bewildering and haunting cases of his career — the suspicious death of a young woman undergoing an exorcism.

"Blood Sacrifice" is an

exciting entry into what bestseller Michael Connelly calls one of the most unique series in contemporary crime fiction.

Lister will also be signing his other books including "Meaning Every Moment," "The Big Goodbye," and "Burnt Offerings."

Obituaries

Joel Marion Barbee Jr.

Joel Marion Barbee Jr. was born on Aug. 15, 1968, and passed away Oct. 10, 2012. Joey, as he was known to his family and friends, was a life-long resident of Port St. Joe. He attended Tom P. Haney Vocational



JOEL BARBEE JR.

football.

Technical Institute, earning a certificate as an electrician's assistant. He was also skilled at many other trades. Joey enjoyed playing the guitar and singing and watching Florida

Joey was preceded in death by his mother, Melba Barbee. He is survived by his father, Joel Barbee Sr. and his sister and brother-in-law, Stacy and John Stomp, all of Port St. Joe. A graveside service will be held at Holly Hill Cemetery in the near future for family and close friends.

Bernard L. (Bernie) Keller

Bernard L. (Bernie) Keller of Wewahitchka passed away at his home on Oct. 10.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Jane, (E.J.), son Michael Keller of Victoria, Canada, step-daughter Emily Benner of Wewahitchka and sister Bernadette Joiner of

Danville, Ga., many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Bernie led a long, happy, creative life and will be missed by his family and many friends.

A graveside memorial service was held at 3 p.m. CT on Saturday, Oct. 13, at

Buckhorn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions made in his memory to Emerald Coast Hospice will be greatly appreciated.

Services are provided by Comforter Funeral Home Wewahitchka Branch Chapel.

James Edward (Jim) Marlow

James Edward (Jim) Marlow, 74, of Jacksonville, Fla., went to be home with the Lord on Oct. 4, 2012. He served the Lord faithfully in music, teaching and leadership positions in several churches spanning 50 years. A service was held at 2 p.m. ET on Monday, Oct. 8, 2012 in the Hobson Auditorium, First Baptist Church 124 W. Ashley St. Jacksonville, Fla., with Dr.

Jim Whitmire officiating. Burial followed at Oaklawn Cemetery.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Mrs. Jean Marlow of Jacksonville, his son Timothy (Shelley) Marlow of St. Augustine, Fla.; and three grandchildren; Mckensie, Luke and Jake Marlow all of St. Augustine, Fla.; a sister Lynn Cobble of Knoxville, Tenn.; two brothers Robert

Marlow of Knoxville, Tenn., and Kenneth Marlow of Ainsworth, Iowa. Jim graduated from Port St. Joe High School in the Class of 1956. A visitation was held one hour prior to the funeral service. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of George H. Hewell and Son Funeral Home. Please Sign the Guestbook at Jacksonville. com

David Bruton Wingate

David Bruton Wingate died Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2012, in Port St. Joe, Fla., at the age of 77. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Arlene Bergstrom Wingate. David was born Jan. 30, 1935, in Charlotte, N.C. He was raised in Mt. Gilead, N.C. by his mother, Fannie Louisa Bruton, (a piano teacher) and father, Dr. George Clarence Wingate. He received his bachelors, masters and academic work for his doctorate at the Julliard School of Music in New York City. He then taught voice at the FSU School of Music from 1966-2003. David spent his professional life performing nationally and internationally in



DAVID WINGATE

numerous opera and musical productions. He toured with the Robert Shaw Chorale, sang with major orchestras, performed oratorios, served as choir director for many churches and

performed as a soloist with the High Holy Days with Richard Tucker in Chicago.

Other survivors include four children, John (Dana), Asheville, N.C.; Peter, Tallahassee; Tianne, Tallahassee; David Daniel, Munich, Germany; four grandchildren, Ali, Strom, Jack and Cameron; Boots Wingate (cousin) and family of Albany, Ga.; special niece Rebecca (Marc) Cabassa, Gulf Breeze, Fla.; David Armon Bruton (cousin), Chapel

Hill, N.C.; William Bruton (cousin) Mt. Gilead, N.C.; Joseph Bruton (cousin), Maryland, many sister and brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews and many colleagues and students. He is preceded in death by one son, David Bruton Wingate Jr. and one brother, George C. Wingate.

He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Apalachicola, Fla., and was cared for by the dedicated staff at Bridge at Bay St. Joe in Port St. Joe, Fla. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. ET on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Apalachicola, Fla. Memorial contributions may be made to the FSU School of Music, the Julliard School of Music or the Trinity Music Fund.

Auction, golf tournament to support Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum

A two-day salute to American's veterans at St. Joseph Bay Golf Club

Special to The Star

As part of a full weekend event, a reception will be held 6 p.m. ET Friday, Nov. 9 with hors d'oeuvres, and beer and wine, for a \$10 entry fee. A cash bar for

spirits will also be available, and live music by "George Boyer & Cletus Heaps". A Silent Auction will take place with auction items including items such as Limited Edition Prints of historic military and cultural events, and area hotel stays. Some of the items can be seen at CampGordonJohnston.com or stjoebaygolf.com.

A benefit golf tournament will then be held Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, with proceeds to support the Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum and the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club. The club is open to the public and the tournament will be a four-player, scramble format, kicking off at 12:30 p.m. ET with a short ceremony to honor America's veterans and a 1 p.m. shotgun start. A meal and awards ceremony will follow. Cash prizes for the tournament include \$400 to the first-place team, \$350 for second place, and \$200 for third place. A Hole-In-One Challenge will offer a \$10,000 cash

prize.

The Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum has been honored by Smithsonian Magazine for six straight years and is dedicated to preserving the memories of the amphibious soldiers who trained at the camp, which is located in Carrabelle. The museum houses over 10,000 square feet of artifacts, vehicles, photos, memorabilia and memories of the soldiers, sailors, and other military, as well as civilian, personnel who trained at the camp during the WWII years.

Hole sponsorships are available and tournament registration information can be found at www.stjoebaygolf.com, or by calling 227-1751.

Special Lodging Packages are available starting at \$69.99/single, \$89.99/double. Call the Mainstay Suites at 229-6246 for a reservation.

The event is being supported by the Gulf County Tourist Development Council.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE

FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27th 5:00 PM UNTIL

ADMISSION: A CAN GOOD FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

Food, Prizes, Games & Entertainment

Ya'll Come! Everyone is Invited!

5th Annual St. Joseph Catholic Church Men's Club Spaghetti Dinner

A fabulous spaghetti dinner, entertainment, sing-along fun, door prizes, and a cash bar featuring Italian Beer and Wine await you at the 5th Annual SJCC Men's Club Spaghetti Dinner.

The dinner will be held on Saturday, November 3rd, 5 - 7 PM ET, at the church hall. The hall is located just east of the church (20th & Monument Ave.) on 20th Street in Port St. Joe.

In addition to the Spaghetti Dinner, you will get a salad, garlic bread, and delicious desserts. You will enjoy Italian Accordionist, Tony Minichello and Vocalist and Sing-Along Leader, Marty Jarosz. You may win one of the many door prizes as well.

The ticket prices are \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children ages 5-12. Four-year-olds and younger will be admitted free of charge. Get your tickets from any Men's Club Member, by stopping by the church hall office (227-1417), at Hannon Insurance, or by calling Men's Club President, Dan Van Treese at 227-8138.

Get your tickets early - only 192 will be sold. You can also get Spaghetti Dinners to go, if you wish.



FIRE FEST

from page B1

Price said. They should be checked once a month and batteries changed with the seasons, at least twice a year.

"That is the main thing we try to convey, smoke detectors save lives," Price said. "If we can get that one thing through, we have accomplished something."

The essential personal fire safety drill of stop, drop and roll also was taught to the students, who also received packets of fire safety tips and prizes.

"Whatever we can do to get this out to the public, that's what we want to do," Price said. "If we can save one life, then it is worth it."

Participating in the Fire Fest at Port St. Joe Elementary were the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department, the Beaches Volunteer Fire Department, the Highland View Volunteer Fire Department and the Division of Forestry.

Participating in the first Fire Fest at Wewahitchka Elementary School were the Wewahitchka City Volunteer Fire Department, the Wetappo Creek Volunteer Fire Department, the Stone Mill Creek Volunteer Fire Department, the Division of Forestry and Tyndall AFB fire crews.



DIAMONDS

from page B1

the evening, retired educator and member of United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe Virginia Harrison was crowned Queen of Bling 2012.

About Covenant Hospice

Covenant Hospice is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing comprehensive, compassionate services to patients and loved ones during times of life-limiting illnesses. The focus of Covenant Hospice is to enable its patients to live as fully and comfortably as possible, to provide dignified palliative care, to assist patients' loved ones in coping with end-of-life issues and the eventual death of the patient, and to improve care for all patients at the end of their lives by example and education.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- 1110 - Classified Notices
- 1120 - Public Notices/Announcements
- 1125 - Carpools & Rideshare
- 1130 - Adoptions
- 1140 - Happy Ads
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- 1160 - Lost
- 1170 - Found

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

89172S
NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AMERICA'S MINI STORAGE AND OFFICE, INC., INTENDS TO DISPOSE OF OR OFFER FOR SALE THE PERSONAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED BELOW TO ENFORCE A LIEN IMPOSED ON SAID PROPERTY UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT STATUTES SECTION 83.801-83.89. AMERICA'S MINI STORAGE AND OFFICE, INC., WILL DISPOSE OF SAID PROPERTY NO LATER THAN THE DATE OF NOVEMBER 2, 2012. PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT 141 COMMERCE DRIVE, PORT ST. JOE,

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

FL. GULF COUNTY.
SALE DATE: Friday, 11/2/2012 9:00 a.m.
David and Sara O'Barr
477 Pondersora Pines Apt. 7
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

89196S
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gulf Coast Workforce Board is seeking Public Comment on the 2012-2016 Local Workforce Services Plan, as required by the Workforce Investment Act. Plan copies are available at the Board office; please call 850-913-3285 to arrange to see the plan or you may request the plan electronically from dwilliams@gcwb.org. All comments must be submitted in writing within 30 days of this posting.
October 18, 2012

90013S
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS
BID NO. 1112-28
The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

ers will receive bids from any person, company or corporation interested in providing the following:
Sale of House - 6909 Highway 71 White City (MUST BE RELOCATED)
Proposals must be turned in to the Gulf County Clerk's Office at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd. Room 148, Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456, by 4:30 p.m., E.T., on Friday, October 19, 2012. The website www.gulfcounty-fl.gov also will have specifications. Interested parties should contact Michael Hammond for additional information at (850) 227-1124.
Please indicate on the envelope YOUR COMPANY NAME, that this is a SEALED BID and include the BID NUMBER. Bids will be opened at the above location on Monday, December 22, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., E.T.

Attest:
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1/s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
1/s/ William C. Williams, III, Chairman
October 11, 18, 2012

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

90057S
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No.: 12-29-PR

IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBERT LEE HOLLAND Deceased.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the estate of ROBERT LEE HOLLAND, deceased, whose date of death was Oct 17, 2012 is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION

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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 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 October 11, 2012.

Personal Representatives:
JOANN HOLLAND WRIGHT
3202 St. Clair Drive Phenix City, AL 36867
Attorney for Personal Representative:

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

Charles A. Costin
FL Bar No. 699070
P O Box 98
Port St. Joe, FL 32457
(850)-227-1159
October 11, 18, 2012

90109S
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 2012-38-PR

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PEGGY SUE LEWIS HAMMOND Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PEGGY SUE LEWIS HAMMOND, deceased, whose date of death was August 22, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. Rm. 148, Port St. Joe FL 32456. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 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 FOREVER BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is October 11, 2012.
Personal Representative:

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

James Ashley Padgett III and Natalie M. Hammond a/k/a Natalie Franks

TRAPPE & DUSSEAULT, PA.
Attorney for Personal Representative:
STAN TRAPP, Esquire
FL Bar No. 176562
P.O. Box 2526
Panama City, FL 32402
850-769-6139
October 11, 18, 2012

90157S
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA
Case No. 11-269CA

FIRST STATE BANK OF BLAKELY, Plaintiff,

vs.
JERRY J. GLEATON, JR.; LUCIA ANN GLEATON; CENTENNIAL BANK, as successor by merger to APALACHICOLA STATE BANK, a Division of Coastal Community Bank; and SURFSIDE ESTATES OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE OF FORECLO-

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

SURE SALE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Consent Order Granting Final Judgment of Foreclosure, dated the 21st day of August, 2012, and the Order Canceling and Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale, dated the 24th day of September, 2012, entered in Case No. 11-269CA, of the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Florida, where-in FIRST STATE BANK OF BLAKELY is the Plaintiff, and JERRY J. GLEATON, JR., LUCIA ANN GLEATON, CENTENNIAL BANK, as successor by merger to APALACHICOLA STATE BANK, a Division of Coastal Community Bank, and SURFSIDE ESTATES OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC. are the Defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell by public sale at 11:00 a.m. ET, on the 25th day of October, 2012, at the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property in GULF COUNTY, Florida, as set forth in said Consent Order Granting Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to-wit:

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

Lot 29: Begin at the intersection of the West line of Government Lot 1, Section 22, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida and the South R/W line of County Road No. 30-E (having a 100 foot R/W); thence East along said South R/W line which is a curve concave to the South and having a radius of 2242.01 feet, for an arc distance of 122.46 feet, said arc having a chord of 122.45 feet bearing N81°11'37"E to the West R/W line of Moonrise Avenue n/k/a Polaris Drive; thence S00°51'50"W along said West R/W line for 90.22 feet; thence leaving said West R/W line S81°11'37"W for 122.45 feet to the West line of said Government Lot 1; thence N00°51'45"E along said West line for 90.22 feet to the Point of Beginning. Lot 35: Commence at the intersection of the West line of Government Lot 1, Section 22, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida and the South R/W line of County Road No. 30-E (having a 100 foot R/W); thence S00°51'45"W along said West line for 541.32 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence N81°11'37"E for 122.44 feet to the West R/W line of Moonrise Avenue, n/k/a Polaris Drive; thence S00°51'50"W along said West R/W line for 90.22 feet to the North R/W line of Gulf Drive; thence S81°11'37"W along said North R/W line and the Westerly extension thereof for 122.44 feet to the West line of said Government Lot 1; thence N00°51'45"E along said West line for 90.22 feet to the Point of Beginning. Lot 43: Commence at the intersection of the South R/W line of County Road No. 30-E (having a 100 foot R/W) and the West R/W line of Beach Avenue n/k/a Pebble Beach Avenue (having a 66 foot R/W); thence S00°51'50"W along said West R/W line for 649.82 feet to the South R/W line of Gulf Drive; thence S83°30'17"W along said South R/W line for 203.80 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence leaving said South R/W line S00°51'50"W for 236.15 feet; thence S84°19'02"W for 50.86 feet; thence N00°51'50"E for 235.41 feet to said South R/W line; thence N83°30'17"E along said South R/W line for 50.95 feet to the Point of Beginning. LESS AND EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING: ACCESS PARCEL THROUGH LOT 35, SURFSIDE ESTATES PHASE II: A portion of Lot 35, Surfside Estates Phase II, as recorded in Plat Book 3, Pages 46 and 47, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Begin at the Southeast corner of said Lot 35; thence along the South line of said Lot 35, S80°20'12"W, 82.61 feet; thence leaving said South line N03°43'57"W, 32.88 feet; thence N83°32'15"E, 84.55 feet to a point on the East line of said Lot 35; thence along said East line S00°51'50"W, 28.46 feet to the Point of Beginning. ALSO LESS AND EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING: Any portion of the following lots that may lie within the above descriptions: Lots 31 and 44, Surfside Estates, Phase II, as recorded in Plat Book 3, Pages 46 and 47, in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Gulf County, Florida. ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER(S) AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE SALE. Dated this 3rd day of October, 2012. Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk of Court. By: Barbara Baxter Deputy Clerk. REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATIONS BY PERSON WITH DISABILITIES: If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Gulf County Clerk of Courts 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Room 148, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, (850) 229-6112, at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the appearance is less than seven (7) days. October 11, 18, 2012

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

90221S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION Case No.: 2009-CA-302 CIT SMALL BUSINESS LENDING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. TAUNTON TRUSS, INC., a Florida corporation; DAVID L. TAUNTON; ABIGAIL J. TAUNTON; TAUNTON DEVELOPMENT, INC., a Florida corporation; DANIEL TAUNTON; KRISTI TAUNTON; MARTHA FOWLER; SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. (MERS), as nominee for SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC.; ALFA FINANCIAL CORPORATION D/B/A OFC CAPITAL; OFC CAPITAL CORPORATION; MID-COUNTRY BANK; CITICORP LEASING, INC.; CAPITAL CITY BANK; TENNESSEE COMMERCE BANK; CENTRAL LEASING CORPORATION; and WESTERN FINANCE & LEASE INC. Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Motion of Plaintiff, CIT Small Business Lending Corporation, to Schedule Foreclosure Sale entered in the above-styled cause, in the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, in and for Gulf County, Florida, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, will sell the following real property and personal property, situated in Gulf County, Florida, and more particularly described as follows: Parcel I: Commencing at an iron rod marking the Southeast corner of South-east Quarter of Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida; thence South 89°05'50" West (assumed) 647.27 feet to a point on the East right of way line of State Road No. 71 said point being 33.0 feet from and at right angle to the centerline of said State Road; thence North 04°46'43" East along the Easterly line of an existing ditch 168.00 feet to an iron pipe for the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence North 05°11'45" West, 48.96 feet; thence North 08°04'27" West along the Easterly line of an existing ditch 46.68 feet to a point on the Easterly right of way line curve of said State Road No. 71, said point being 33.0 feet from and radial to the centerline of said State Road; said curve having a radius of 1651.42 feet and being concave Westerly; thence Northerly along the arc of said curve through a central angle of 20°35'55" for 593.71 feet said arc being subtended by a chord bearing and distance of North 10°14'30" West, 590.52 feet; thence leaving said right of way line curve North 89°05'50" East, 784.10 feet. Thence South 44°34'00" West, 343.36 feet; thence South 40°43'09" West, 471.08 feet; thence South 46°07'04" West, 124.53 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; containing 5.536 acres, more or less and being subject to a drainage easement across the following portion thereof: Commence at an iron rod marking the Southeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida; thence North 05°11'45" West, 48.96 feet; thence North 73°12'44" East, 31.22 feet; thence North 46°07'04" East, 65.00 feet; thence North 40°43'09" East, 470.75 feet; thence North 44°34'09" East, 319.77 feet; thence North 89°05'50" East, 34.22 feet to an iron pipe, thence South 44°34'00" West, 343.36 feet; thence South 40°43'09" West, 471.08 feet; thence South 46°07'04" West, 124.53 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Description by recent survey: Commence at a 4 inch by 4 inch concrete monument (no identification) marking the Southeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of

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the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, as shown on the Florida Department of Transportation, right of way map as prepared by David H. Melvin, Inc. with a final date of January 13, 1999 (map no. 2190041, sheet 1 of 9); thence run South 88°53'21" West along the South boundary of the said Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24 for 622.82 feet to the Easterly right of way of State Road No. 71; thence Northerly along said Easterly right of way as follows: North 00°47'33" East for 75.63 feet; thence South 89°12'28" East for 3.28 feet; thence North 06°49'25" East for 62.45 feet; thence North 00°47'33" East for 29.89 feet to a set one half inch iron rod and cap LB0732 for the POINT OF BEGINNING; from said POINT OF BEGINNING continue North 00°47'33" East along said Easterly right of way for 50.49 feet; thence North 89°12'28" West along said Easterly right of way for 9.84 feet; thence North 00°47'33" East along said Easterly right of way for 15.90 feet to a point of curve to the left; thence along said right of way and curve with a radius of 1665.27 feet; through a central angle of 21°23'44", for an arc distance of 621.85 feet, (chord of said arc bearing North 09°54'20" West, 618.24 feet to a set one half inch iron rod and cap LB0732; thence leaving said Easterly right of way run thence North 89°00'45" East for 751.97 feet to a found 1 and 1/4 inch iron pipe; thence South 44°28'55" West for 343.36 feet to a set one half inch iron rod and cap LB0732; thence South 40°38'04" West for 471.08 feet to a set one half inch iron rod and cap LB0732; thence South 46°02'21" East for 123.95 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; containing 5.502 acres, more or less. Subject to a drainage easement across the following portion thereof: Commence at a 4 inch by 4 inch concrete monument (no identification) marking the Southeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, as shown on the Florida Department of Transportation, right of way map as prepared by David H. Melvin, Inc. with a final date of January 13, 1999, (map no. 2190041, sheet 1 of 9); thence run South 88°53'21" West along the South boundary of the said Southeast Quarter of Section 24 for 622.82 feet to the Easterly right of way of State Road No. 71; thence Northerly along said Easterly right of way as follows: North 00°47'33" East for 75.63 feet; thence North 89°12'28" East for 3.28 feet; thence North 06°49'25" East for 62.45 feet; thence North 00°47'33" East for 29.89 feet to a set one half inch iron rod and cap LB0732 for the POINT OF BEGINNING; from said POINT OF BEGINNING continue North 00°47'33" East along said Easterly right of way for 50.08 feet; thence North 73°07'39" East for 25.35 feet; thence North 46°01'59" East for 65.00 feet; thence North 40°38'04" East for 470.75 feet; thence North 44°29'04" East for 219.77 feet; thence North 89°00'45" East for 34.22 feet to a found 1 and 1/4 inch iron rod pipe; thence South 44°28'55" West for 343.36 feet to a set one half inch iron rod and cap LB0732; thence South 40°38'04" West for 471.08 feet to a set one half inch iron rod and cap LB0732; thence South 46°02'21" East for 123.95 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Parcel II: Lots 1, 2 and the North 29 feet of Lot 3 in Section 24, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, according to the Higgins and Hollinger Plat of the Town of Wewahatchka, Florida and on file in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court of Gulf County, Florida. Together with: All of the following property whether now owned or hereafter acquired and wheresoever located as well as the proceeds and products thereof: All equipment and machinery, including power-driven machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures now owned or hereafter acquired, together with all replacements thereof, all attachments, accessories, parts, equip-

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ment and tools belonging thereto or for use in connection therewith. All inventory, raw materials, work in progress, and supplies now owned or hereinafter acquired. All contract rights and general intangibles now in force or hereafter acquired. Including, without limitation: Alpine Timber Mill, M/N 620 PRO SSD, S/N M86TROSSDAC0740. Floor Truss Machine, M/N 47, S/N 748-018. Fork Lift Truck Komatos, M/N FG4OZT-7, S/N 102992A. Roller System, M/N 705, S/N 705A02006. Five Fork Lift, M/N MC81159, S/N 4549. Roller Press/Apline, M/N 214H, S/N 1451. Komatsu Fork Lift, M/N 4OZT77, S/N 102475A. Air Compressor, M/N 1WD74, S/N R0004173. Panel Assembly Unit, M/N 1085-2211-280-2212-125. Gantry Table-Alpine. Saw-Alpine Automill, M/N 344-B, S/N 344B0020008. Kaeser Fork Lift, M/N 2001, S/N 1071. Less and Except: Roof Truss Assembly: M/Tek 102' Wkg Lg RoofGlider gantry, (2) heads, (14) steel top tables, jiggling & aisle pads, S/N 052005208359.1b, M/N 82700; (13) receivers SYSTEM PRICE, 2005, Good Condition, (0) power, (0) idler conveyors, (0) FRP 460 volt]. Cutting equipment: Alpine ALS saw, S/N 276C05027-000, M/N 276C, 2005, Good Condition. Wall Panel Equipment: IBS wall panel line with (7) plant terminals/stands & hub, [No guns included], 12'-3" x 16 Ft. Framing table/light bar, [With auto stops, tool laser, beam seat tilt option], 12'-3" x 16 Ft. Sheath/ Square table with multi-tool bridge, S/N 2000, 2001 & 2002, [With multi-tool bridge, router bridge, stitch tool], 10' x 10' Ft. Component table /nailer & ejectors, S/N 2003, 2005 & 2006, [With auto stops, 40 ft. of rollers], 13 Ft. Tilt table, S/N 1997, 1998 & 1999, [20 ft. of skate wheel conveyor], Super chop saw w/16" Tiger stop, SYSTEM PRICE, 2005, Good Condition, [Pro if separate, 10 HP 24" blade - 15' in/10' auto conv. 13" wide]. And Less and Except: Used Caterpillar Wheel Loader 980C, S/N: 63X002885, with cab, air conditioning heater, general purpose budget, with cutting edge, 26.5 x 25 tires, parts & operating manuals with new paint & decals. all at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, in the courthouse lobby located at Gulf County Clerk of Courts, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, at 11:00 a.m., on November 8, 2012. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Pursuant to Florida Statute 45.031(2), this notice shall be published twice, once a week for two consecutive weeks, with the last publication being at least 5 days prior to the sale. Witness my hand and the official seal of this Court on October 3, 2012. REBECCA L. NORRIS, Clerk of Circuit Court. By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk October 11, 18, 2012. 90289S PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS BID NO. 1112-28 The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will receive bids from any person, company or corporation interested in providing the following: Sale of House - 6909 Highway 71 White City (MUST BE RELOCATED) Proposals must be turned in to the Gulf County Clerk's Office at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd, Room 148, Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456, by 4:30 p.m., E.T., on Friday, October 19, 2012. The website www.gulfcounty-fl.gov also will have specifications. Interested parties should contact Michael Hammond for additional information at (850) 227-1124. Please indicate on the envelope YOUR COMPANY NAME, that this

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is a SEALED BID and include the BID NUMBER. Bids will be opened at the above location on Monday, October 22, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., E.T. Attest: /s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA /s/ William C. Williams, III, Chairman October 18, 2012 90295S PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2012 GENERAL ELECTION CANVASSING BOARD The Canvassing Board will meet at 10:00 AM EST on October 25, 2012 at the Supervisor of Elections Office, 401 Long Ave, Port St. Joe, Florida. The Canvassing Board will meet to canvass the absentee ballots for the November 6, 2012 General Election and to receive queries from the public about absentee ballots. Absentee ballots for the November 6, 2012 General Election received prior to October 25, will be available for public inspection until 10:00 AM EST on October 25, 2012 at the Gulf County Elections Office, 401 Long Ave, Port St. Joe, Florida. Ballots received from October 25 through November 5, will be available for public inspection until November 5 at 2:00 PM EST when the canvassing board will reconvene. Ballots received in after November 5 will be available for inspection at the times they are received in. Counting of the Absentee Ballots will not begin until the canvassing board reconvenes at 5:00 PM EST on November 6, 2012. At 7:00 PM EST all remaining absentee ballots will be canvassed and at that time all absentee Ballots will be tabulated. These meetings are open to the public. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. NOTE: Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Linda Griffin Gulf County Supervisor of Elections 401 Long Ave Port St. Joe, FL 32456 October 18, 2012 90413S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No.: 11-480-CA CENTENNIAL BANK, an Arkansas banking corporation, as successor to Coastal Community Bank, Plaintiff, vs. JERRY PEEK a/k/a JERRY L. PEEK Defendant. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated September 21, 2012, entered in Case No. 11-480-CA, in the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida, in and for Gulf County, Florida, where-in CENTENNIAL BANK, an Arkansas banking corporation, as successor to Coastal Community Bank, is Plaintiff, and JERRY PEEK a/k/a JERRY L. PEEK is Defendant, I will see to the highest and best bidder for cash, at 1000

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Cecil G. Costin, Jr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 at 11:00 a.m., (Eastern Time), on November 8, 2012, the following described Property situated in Gulf County, Florida: The South 75 feet of Lot 2, Block 1 of KENTUCKY LANDING SUBDIVISION UNIT ONE, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page(s) 35, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida. Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale. WITNESS my hand and the official seal of this Honorable Court, on this 12th day of October, 2012. In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding at Telephone 850/229-6112. REBECCA L. NORRIS Clerk of Circuit Court By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk October 18, 25, 2012 ADOPTIONS 1130 *Adopt*: Active young TV Producer & Attorney, home-cooking, beaches, sports await precious baby. Expenses paid *FLBar42311* *800-552-0045* *Adopt*: Actor & Filmmaker, LOVE awaits first baby. Matt & Kristi *Expenses paid* *FLBar42311* *800-552-0045* PETS 2100 YORKIE AKC Female Puppy Adorable, 12 weeks old. She is Health Certified & has her 1st shots. \$400 850-774-1229 These tiny ads sell, hire, rent and inform for thousands of families each week. Let a little Classified ad do a big job for you. Emerald Coast Marketplace 747-5020

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Job offer on hold? How to seal deal

By **CAROLINE M.L. POTTER**
Monster Contributing Writer

It takes a lot of steps to get a job offer. Your network has to yield a connection. Your resume has to earn an interview. And your performance in the interview has to be impressive enough to produce an offer. But what happens when you have cleared every one of these hurdles only to learn your impending offer now is on indefinite hold?

Read on to find out why offers get shelved — temporarily or permanently — and what, if any, due diligence you can do to activate an offer.

It's not you

Don't take it personally if your job offer is postponed. There are dozens of reasons for a delay. "The important thing is to not make assumptions as to why the communication has abruptly stopped short of the actual offer," says careers and resume expert Lauren Milligan of ResuMayDay. "It could have nothing to do with you. Perhaps a major company initiative went south, requiring everyone's attention to this specific project. Perhaps your

internal contact won the lottery and now they're scrambling to replace her."

Consider, too, that an internal candidate might have thrown her hat in the ring at the last minute, temporarily derailing your offer. "In this case, a potential employer isn't going to give you much information beyond that they have to put it on hold," says Judi Perkins, the How-To Job Coach.

Remember that it's not a reflection of your qualifications, but, rather, that the company might give preference to current employees.

Try to determine what it is

Rethink if you actually want to join this company. "Putting an offer on hold is usually a sign of a softening balance sheet," says staffing expert David Lewis of Express Employment Professionals and author of "The Emerging Leader."

Jeanne Knight, a former HR executive turned career and job search coach, concurs. "Offers typically go on hold because the company has decided their financial situation is not as positive as they thought it would



be, dictating that most, if not all, of their open positions be put on hold until the picture looks brighter," she says.

Executive career coach Beth Ross tells clients to ask their contact at the company for plausible reasons for the delay.

Lewis recommends asking several specific questions about the hold on the offer. "First, ask if

the person making the offer is the person responsible for deciding to put the offer on hold," she says. "If not, ask who decided to put the offer on hold (and, therefore, could decide to unfreeze the offer). And, finally, ask when you can meet this person and show her that you are worth hiring regardless of a blanket hiring freeze."

Decide what to do next

Even if you know the reason an offer has been temporarily tabled, Lewis urges job seekers not to get complacent about their job search.

"More than 50 percent of the time, in my experience, the offer will not rematerialize in the next 30 days," he says.

Says Ross: "If it is indeed your dream job, you may elect to wait, but you should work with the company on a timetable that seems reasonable. Trying to nail this down might uncover what level of trust is there for both parties."

If you decide to continue to pursue a position that's on hold, Milligan says you have two tasks ahead of you: First, when leaving voice mails or emails, keep your tone breezy, cheery and upbeat. And second, forge ahead with your job search.

"In other words, hope for the best and prepare for more interviews elsewhere," she says.

Perkins adds, "The more time that goes by with nothing happening, the greater the likelihood that your offer isn't going to become an actual job."

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