



Banquet fuels community service, **B1**

County restores EDC, alters operations

By TIM CROFT
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Back to the future. A narrowly divided Board of County Commissioners agreed to move the Economic Development Council out from under the board's umbrella and to tweak the operational model for at least the next two years.

Commissioners also agreed to restore pledged funding from the county of \$80,000 per year and to leave EDC executive di-

Commissioners also agreed to restore pledged funding from the county of \$80,000 per year and to leave EDC executive director Barry Sellers as an employee separate from the BOCC and Chamber of Commerce.

rector Barry Sellers as an employee separate from the BOCC and Chamber of Commerce, reporting to a five-member board

yet to be selected and approved. Commissioners Joanna Bryan, Ward McDaniel and Tan Smiley approved the move; Commis-

sioners Warren Yeager and Carmen McLemore dissented.

The BOCC had late last year voted to move the EDC under the umbrella of the BOCC. That was less than two years into a five-year plan that consolidated the Chamber and EDC and also brought in Sellers after a nationwide search for an EDC director.

At the time, the board appointed county administrator Don Butler as the point of contact for economic development.

Chamber president Guerry

Magidson urged commissioners to reconsider that decision and asked that the board restore the EDC as an agency outside of the BOCC and Chamber and fully restore promised funding at \$80,000 a year from the county.

He added that a new five-member board comprised of business people in the community would be selected to oversee EDC activities and said several folks from the community had agreed to sit on that board.

See **EDC A8**

Bowl of New Orleans

Mexico Beach to host annual gumbo festival

By TIM CROFT
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Gumbo time arrives at 10 a.m. CT on Saturday in Mexico Beach.

The 15th annual Mexico Beach Gumbo Cook-off will take place Saturday at Sunset Park with plenty of gumbo and Brunswick stew for the tasting, purchasing and just plain savoring.

"We have 23 teams signed up and I am hoping to wrangle some new ones before Saturday," said Kimberly Shoaf, executive director of the Mexico Beach Community Development Corporation. "We have seven new entrants and that is very exciting. I love the new entries."

In addition to the gumbo, the subject of intense judging for the top three finishers, there will be plenty of Brunswick stew, so good it has a category of awards all its own.

In addition, Shoaf said, there will be barbecue sandwiches, sausage sandwiches and hot dogs for sale as well as beer and wine to whet the whistle.

The event organizers sell tickets for the feasts and refreshers.

One dollar buys one ticket, good enough for a taster's cup of any gumbo or stew. Four tickets provide enough for a small eating cup and eight tickets a large bowl of the gumbo or stew of your choice.

The entertainment will be provided by Rockin' Randall, a locally known musician, accompanied by everyone's favorite saxophonist Art Long.

"It is going to be crazy," Shoaf said of the Cook-Off. "It is going to be fun."

The Gumbo Cook-Off is offered with a splash of Mardi Gras. Beads of many colors adorn the booths and those cooking are encouraged to get in the spirit of New Orleans at the height of Mardi Gras.

"We have tons of beads to give away," Shoaf said. "We have people who really embrace Mardi Gras and that is always fun."

See **GUMBO A2**



PHOTOS BY TIM CROFT | The Star

Top: If it is gumbo time in Mexico Beach, that also means a taste of the Mardi Gras spirit. **Above:** Thousands gather every year to celebrate Mardi Gras and gumbo at Sunset Park in Mexico Beach.

Grant for water pipes awarded to Port St. Joe

By TIM CROFT
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The neighborhood of North Port St. Joe will begin to see water line replacement in the near future.

The city of Port St. Joe has been awarded a \$650,000 Community Development Block Grant that will fund water line replacement along Avenues B-D between Battle Street and U.S. Highway 98.

In effect, the grant allows the city to complete phase one of the replacement of some 20 miles of aging water distribution pipe which is believed the primary culprit in the city's ongoing issues with discolored water.

The CDBG grant was sought last year as a method to pay for one portion of the first phase — and save the city costs of tapping into loans/grants from the State Revolving Fund — of water line replacement.

See **GRANT A6**

City puts primary focus on relocation of lighthouse

By TIM CROFT
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Lighthouse first; bay front park next.

Port St. Joe city commissioners decided last week to "pigeonhole" plans for a bay front park to concentrate on the relocation of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse.

Commissioner Rex Buzzett made the motion, saying that discussions about the park plans had stirred a "hornet's nest" and that the city needed to focus on undertaking the relocation of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse.

See **LIGHTHOUSE A7**

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Annual SEA Art Walk is Saturday

Star Staff Report

The Society of Expressive Artist (SEA) presents the second annual SEA Art Walk along U.S. Highway 98 in Mexico Beach.

The event will be held in conjunction with the Mexico Beach Gumbo Cook-off.

Twenty-five local artists will be exhibiting their work at businesses along Highway 98. Take a leisurely stroll down the sidewalk and you see how much talent our area has to offer.

Art work will include jewelry, pottery, paintings (oil, watercolor, acrylics, encaustics), fabric arts, photography and more.

Each business will host many artists so be sure to stop by them all.

Businesses hosting artists are the Driftwood Inn, The Grove, Emerald Coast Jewelry, About Beach, Shoreline Styles, The Fish House and Beachwalk.

The entire walk from the El Governor to 31st Street is less than seven tenths of a mile.

In the event of rain, the businesses have graciously offered interior alternatives, just look for the SEA Art Walk signs.

The Society of Expressive Artists presents the 2nd Annual SEA Art Walk in Mexico Beach, Florida Saturday, February 16th, 2013

Local artists will be exhibiting their work at the businesses listed below in conjunction with the Mexico Beach Gumbo Cook-off. Come down, enjoy our beaches and join us for a wonderful day in the sun.

Eat, drink, be merry and enjoy art

sea.us.net@gmail.com

distance from El Governor to Beachwalk approx. 7/10 mile

Businesses along Highway 98:

- Beachwalk 3102 Hwy 98
- The Fish House 3006 Hwy 98
- Emerald Coast Jewelry & About Beach 2802 Hwy 98
- The Grove 2700 Hwy 98
- Shoreline Styles 2904 Hwy 98
- Driftwood Inn 2105 Hwy 98
- Sunset Park Gumbo Cook-off
- El Governor 1701 Hwy 98

GUMBO from page A1

The Gumbo Cook-Off is, along with fall's Art and Wine Festival, the largest fundraiser of the year for the Mexico Beach Special Events Committee.

Net proceeds from the two events help fund the city's Fourth of July Fireworks each year.

The Gumbo Cook-Off has more than secured its share of the fireworks haul.

"When we started out the event couldn't even fill the grass area at Sunset Park and there were six entrants and three of those were people on the Special Events committee just out cooking," Shoaf said. "As it has grown the fireworks have grown."

This year, the Gumbo Cook-Off is being held on the same day as the SEA Art Walk in Mexico Beach (see related article above).

The SEA Art walk will have a number of local artists featuring their work up and down U.S. Highway 98. That event starts at noon and Shoaf said folks could have some gumbo and beer at Sunset Park, walk down the highway and view the art and come back for more stomach-filling goodies.

"They are really complimentary events," Shoaf said. "They enhance our event and we enhance theirs. It will be a fun day to be in Mexico Beach."



In addition to gumbo, folks can sample Brunswick stew, sausage sandwiches, barbecue and hot dogs.

TIM CROFT | The Star

Public Information Meeting

The Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority (NFTCA) will conduct a series of four (4) Public Information Meetings for the purpose of presenting data and analysis for projects being considered for inclusion in its 2013 Master Plan. All interested persons are invited to attend.

The public meetings will be held in an open house format from 6:00-8:00 pm and will include a formal presentation at 6:30 p.m. Staff will be available to address questions throughout the meeting.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Alicia Stephen, HDR Engineering, Inc., Senior Administrative Manager, phone: (850) 429-8905, or via email at Alicia.Stephen@hdrinc.com at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service, 1(800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

- Tuesday, February 19, 2013**
TIME: 6:00pm to 8:00pm (CST)
PENSACOLA CIVIC CENTER, Room C-1
201 East Gregory Street
Pensacola, FL 32502
- Tuesday, February 19, 2013**
TIME: 6:00pm to 8:00pm (EST)
GULF COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
Robert Moore Administration Building, Room 302
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard,
Port St. Joe, FL 32456
- Thursday, February 21, 2013**
TIME: 6:00pm to 8:00pm (CST)
CITY OF DESTIN ANNEX
4100 Indian Bayou Trail
Destin, FL 32541
- Thursday, February 21, 2013**
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Hope Center provides update

By TIM CROFT
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Matt Scoggins promised Port St. Joe commissioners more than a year ago that he would provide yearly updates on the progress of the Gulf Coast Hope Center.

And, as Port St. Joe Mayor Mel Magidson noted, Scoggins continued to be true to his word.

Scoggins and the Rev. Joe Atkinson, the director of the Gulf Coast Hope Center, appeared before commissioners last week to map out the progress of the past year to 14 months since the Hope Center, to considerable controversy regarding location and services, first opened.

Scoggins and Atkinson noted that true to pledges provided to commissioners when the Commission was considering a permit for the Hope Center there was no shelter housing individuals overnight and no kitchen providing meals at the Hope Center.

Instead, Atkinson noted, the Hope Center had performed as promised, seeing people in need, helping them where possible and referring those individuals to appropriate agencies.

"We have been able to come out and provide services to the needy in the community," Atkinson said. "We have been true to our word. We did not set up a shelter; we do not feed people."

Instead, Atkinson said, there was assistance in providing furniture to a woman forced from her home by domestic violence. Center staff had been able to help a veteran living in the woods get the mental and physical health assistance he needed and he was now in housing.

There was a refrigerator for an elderly couple on a fixed income and as-



STAR FILE PHOTO

Matt Scoggins gave Port St. Joe commissioners an update last week on the progress of Gulf Coast Hope Center.

assistance with utility bills for the needy. "We are very proud of what we've been able to accomplish," Atkinson said.

Transients come through the area, Scoggins said, but they are helped on their way to an appropriate agency in Panama City or Tallahassee.

And, Scoggins said, there are still plenty of folks who come to his Five Star Auto Collision shop in need of help with utility bills, gas bills or money for groceries.

As of Jan. 23, the Hope Center had seen 113 clients, served 54, referred another 31 out for additional assistance and due to a lack of funding were unable to assist 28 people.

The services provided thus far equal \$21,081.26 in value, included \$7,254 provided directly through the Hope Center.

The average value of services provided by the Hope Center, per client, was \$134.33, and the average value of

services per client referred out by the Hope Center was \$446.04.

Scoggins said he is currently expanding his Five Star business and the result will be additional space for the Hope Center, including a storage area Scoggins would like to keep stocked with items such as furniture and appliances in the event of, say, a fire which burns a family from their home.

"We want to have enough on hand to help people in our community," Scoggins said.

He emphasized that despite its controversial beginnings, the Gulf Coast Hope Center had been an extension of his ministry which had avoided the many pitfalls critics were concerned about given its affiliation with the Panama City Rescue Mission.

"You gave me your word and you kept your word," Magidson said. "That's a big deal these days. The city appreciates what you have been doing."



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Commissioners OK election timeline for Port St. Joe

Mexico Beach mayor earns new term

By TIM CROFT
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Port St. Joe commissioners approved the timeline for the city's next round of elections this spring.

Election Day will be Tuesday, May 14 and the registration books are now open at the Supervisor of Elections Office at 401 Long Avenue in Port St. Joe.

All registered voters are encouraged to ensure their voter registration information is correct and new residents of the county need to register no later than 5 p.m. ET on Monday, April 15, when the registration books close.

Candidate qualifying begins at noon Wednesday, March 27, and continue for one week until noon Wednesday, April 3.

Three seats will be contested this year; Mayor/Commissioner held by Mel Magidson, Group I held by Commissioner Bill Kennedy and Group II currently held by Commissioner Bo Patterson.

Early voting will begin May 4, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET, each day through May 11, except Sunday, May 5, when there will be no voting.

On both Saturdays, May 4 and May 11, early voting will be held during those hours.

All early voting will take place at the Supervisor of Elections Office.

Absentee ballots may be requested now and will be mailed once they are received from the printer.

Early voting will begin May 4, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET, each day through May 11, except Sunday, May 5, when there will be no voting.

Polls will open on Election Day at 7 a.m. ET and will close on 7 p.m. ET.

Mexico Beach

Mexico Beach Mayor Al Cathey was re-elected to another term when he drew no challengers during candidate qualifying which ended last week in Bay County.

The Bay County Super Tuesday for all municipal elections is April 16.

Lanny Howell, the incumbent in Group 2 on the Mexico Beach City Council, will face a challenge from Jeff Tendler and Mary Blackburn will challenge incumbent Jack Mullen for the Group 3 seat.

The registration books close March 18 and voters are urged to ensure they have registered and all information on their voting registration is correct.

Early voting will begin April 8 and continue through April 12, the hours each day 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. CT.

Election Day polling hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CT.

Residents of PORT ST. JOE

Are you willing to have City Commissioners spend your tax dollars to move Cape San Blas Lighthouse to Port St. Joe?

How much will it cost?

In commission meetings, planning workshops, and statements to news media, city officials said the cost for moving the Cape San Blas Lighthouse and cottages will be \$300,000 to \$325,000. YET, city officials filed a Restore Act Grant requesting \$982,200 for the move.

What happens if Restore Act Grant money is not awarded?

City officials say they will go after other grants and private donations. Yet, to date, Save the Cape San Blas Lighthouse website shows only \$36,106 has been raised against the initial goal of \$325,000. It is likely city officials have to use your tax dollars to cover any shortage.

Why bring the Lighthouse to Port St. Joe?

City officials say relocating Cape San Blas Lighthouse to Port St. Joe will benefit everyone by increasing tourist visits. Gulf County's Tourist Development Council research DOES NOT SUPPORT the assumption that tourism will be increased by a significant amount.

Who will pay future maintenance and insurance expenses?

In best case scenario, \$40,000 is required to cover annual insurance and maintenance costs. After visitor fee receipts and donations, your tax dollars will likely make up any shortages.

Is there anything I can do to stop this use of my tax dollars?

Yes! If your elected city officials have not asked your opinion about moving the Cape San Blas Lighthouse to Port St. Joe, you can let them know there are higher priority needs in the city than having your tax dollars used to move the Cape San Blas Lighthouse to Port St. Joe.

Port St. Joe's elected officials:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Melvin C. Magidson Jr. - Mayor/Commissioner | (850) 227-7800 (850) 227-7800 mmagidson@psj.fl.gov |
| Bill Kennedy - Commissioner, Group I | (850) 227-2191 (850) 227-2191 psj.bkennedy@gmail.com |
| Bo Patterson - Commissioner, Group II | (850) 340-0260 (850) 340-0260 bpatterson@psj.fl.gov |
| Phil McCroan - Commissioner, Group III | (850) 229-6907 (850) 229-6907 pmccroan@psj.fl.gov |
| Rex Buzzett - Commissioner, Group IV: | (850) 227-5089 (850) 227-5089 buzzrx101@hotmail.com |

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Just because you hear the music...

More than 100 years ago, a Russian physiologist started studying his dog or "a dog." A physiologist studies the functions of living organisms and how they link. Dogs can teach us a lot.

Ivan Pavlov studied the salivation of dogs, which sounds kind of messy. He figured out that dogs didn't "learn" to salivate when they saw food; it was a reaction that was hard-wired into their brain. Through his research, Pavlov discovered dogs would begin salivating when they saw or heard anything associated with food.

In his experiment, Pavlov rang a bell every time he gave the dog food. After doing this for a while, he tried just ringing the bell, and of course the dog started drooling all over the place. This slobbering to the bell was and still is called a "conditioned response."

The bottom line was the dog heard the bell and started thinking about what it meant. He couldn't control himself and starting watering at the mouth.

Having dogs, I understand this. The pantry door opens and one of my dogs bolts down the stairs. Dogs can hear the pantry door hinges from outside, even if you have just sprayed WD-40 all over them.

People are the same way. My standard poodle, Doolittle, is somewhat of a physiologist. Pavlov had his dog, Doolittle has his man. My dog has me conditioned. Anytime he rings or "bangs the bowl" with his paw, I come running to feed him.

You understand this if you've been around dogs. What's interesting is my other little dog will come get Doolittle if she is hungry. She communicates with him and bosses him around. He rings the bowl for her, I put out the food and he watches as she eats.

It is educational to watch a 15 pound female poodle telling a 95 pound male poodle what to do. It is one of those moments that you call your teenaged son into the kitchen and ask him, "Do you understand?"

I won't go there. What do sounds and music mean to you?

When I hear the distinctive music of the ice cream truck, it makes me want to immediately run to the street and wave money. I associate the music not only with my favorite ice cream truck treat (The Choco Taco), but also with happy children. I hear

the music, I see the truck and I want to climb inside and pass out ice cream sandwiches and popsicles and rocket pops (while eating Choco Tacos).

When we're sitting in a meeting or around a group of people and we hear a cell phone ring, we all reach for our cell phones. If we are at church and a cell phone goes off, we all quickly hit the off button on our phones and start looking around with the "It's not mine" look.

These are conditioned responses.

While driving, if we hear a siren, we check our speed and the rearview mirror at the same time. After we conclude the situation is not about us, we are relieved and get out of the way.

Other sounds may be meaningful to you. If you've ever heard the sound of cicadas once, you won't ever forget it. Sounds bring back memories. When you hear the sound, you stop and you think and you have a feeling.

The feeling may be so good that you start drooling like Pavlov's dog.

When we hear some songs, we want to stand up or we are conditioned to stand up. When we hear the "Bridal Chorus" or "Here Comes the Bride," we stand up expecting to see the bride walking down the aisle. When we hear "Hail to the Chief," we stand up and expect to see a President. "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" lets us know that it's the middle of the seventh inning and we should stand up, sing and brush the peanut shells out of our laps.

Music goes a little bit further. Music can take you away. It can take you back to another time; let

See **MUSIC A5**



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
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Keyboard KLATTERINGS Taking the high road

We need to all work together. That was stated, almost verbatim, at two government meetings the past week and on different subjects, but the theme was the same: We must move beyond the arguing and onto the business of the people.

Port St. Joe and the Board of County Commissioners, in particular, along with the quasi-agencies and agencies they represent must learn to play well together.

PSJ city commissioners said they would set aside their focus on a proposed new bay front park in order to concentrate solely on moving the Cape San Blas Lighthouse to the city.

The president of the Chamber of Commerce implored unity with the BOCC as the struggle to bring jobs to a community badly in need of them continues.

The city's decision was predictable as it is going to need help moving that lighthouse within the next six months.

The task seems an enormously burdensome one from the feds in tough economic times.

Given that the city is advertising for a general contractor while trying to secure a financial rainmaker of sorts, well, the sands are quickly slipping away.

And while there are strong opponents of the move of the lighthouse, passionate folks with passionate arguments, the reality is the federal government made a decision and the county has to deal with it, pros and cons.

The relocation of the lighthouse seems monumental anyway for two taxing authorities pleading poverty most of the year, but if it is to be accomplished in six months all hands must be on deck.

The ability to raise funds to underwrite the relocation, be it at Salinas Park or the city of Port St. Joe, was always going to be more

difficult if the feds' decision cleaved a fissure between county and city.

If the lighthouse is to be preserved as an icon for the community, providing a significant revenue stream while enhancing the beauty and economy of the area, there is scant time for debate.

The decision, whether one believes it right or wrong, has been made. Now it is up to the community to make something of the lighthouse.

And the county can insist on being next in line and critics can argue, but a broader question is what will be the fallout, the reflection on the BOCC which said it would support the move, if bickering renders the lighthouse either to the ocean or back to the feds, who could decide none of this is worth the hassle.

The feds could fairly say, if the people in Gulf County can't decide, why should we care?

The Chamber president was speaking of togetherness while discussing with the BOCC the future of the Economic Development Council.

And, finally, some sense entered the room as a narrowly split BOCC decided to give the director, Barry Sellers, and a newly-configured EDC board, at least another 18 months to two years with promised fundings.

Even though there is not an economic development expert, including the one who recently spoke to the Port Authority, who would not attest that economic development takes time.

Far more than the six months Commissioner Carmen McLemore was willing to provide, which ought to say all that needs to be said about vision for the county.

The EDC has been undermined for a decade by the inability of all parties, public and private partners, to stay on the same page, share the spotlight and praise and move on a common plane toward bringing jobs to the community.

As Commissioner Tan Smiley has said several times and Commissioner Joanna Bryan expressed this week, there have been too many starts and

stops, too many different directions and too many hands in the pie for a viable economic development plan, let alone agency, to congeal.

Of course, as it was pointed out this week, putting pledges in writing is the way to go because the lack of written documentation of promises made two, four or five years ago seem easily forgotten, disproving the long held maxim that a man's word is his bond.

But if the BOCC is serious about injecting stability into the EDC, it must prove it in the coming years. Only then can it expect public and private partners to take notice and be willing, at some level, to wipe the slate clean.

It was said recently that economic development and education go hand in hand.

There is a fair argument to be made that the upheaval of economic development, the divisions that have long plagued the city and the county have an impact on a public school system that is again asking voters for help.

BOCC members like to brag about shaving \$4-\$5 million from their budget in recent years, but in the past four years the school district's budget has plunged by a similar amount, if not more.

Supporting two community schools – and there seems little stomach for consolidation – brings a certain bill that declining enrollment, a direct result of the lack of jobs in the community, can not sustain.

And the school district can't raise gas taxes, offer bonds for road money or any other mechanism other than requesting the assistance of voters. Think how the BOCC would handle that issue each year.

There has been no greater victim of the incompetent approach to economic development in the county over the past decade than the public schools.

So borrow a line from a school board meeting, if the city and county and other stakeholders need a reason to work together — do it for the kids.

Some caterpillars slower than others

There were several things about our annual church Valentine Banquet that I didn't like. First and foremost, it was mandatory. I thought at

the time it was one of the Ten Commandments. Or, at the very least, it officially was entombed in the Bill of Rights. I didn't know the Baptist had a Creed back then, but I'm sure "Valentine attending" was listed down there between baptism and singing "Up from the Grave He Arose" on Easter Sunday.

It was in the basement; the drab concrete walls not exactly reminding one of a table for two over looking the Seine or the Eiffel Tower. The worst part was they folded up the ping pong table and shoved it against the back wall for a whole week so it wouldn't hold up the decorations or be in the way the night of the banquet. Plus, Mom always headed up the food committee or the set up committee or the welcome committee. Guess who she always gleefully "enlisted" as her first assistant? And last, but not least, there were girls involved with this thing.

I was developing an unwholesome attitude about the whole cupid, red hearts, "Be Mine Forever" process.

It really started back in the first grade. Miss Carolyn insisted on each

person giving every other student a Valentine card. She was mighty set on no one being left out. I'd just go down the rows placing a card on everyone's desk.

It wasn't a big deal. Except an assorted pack of fifty Valentine cards up at the Ben Franklin store cost 59 cents. Do you realize how much candy corn I could have bought for the same price.

By the third grade, I was not so comfortable handing Joe Galloway a heart covered epistle bearing the inscription, "Forever Yours." Pam Collins could beat me up. I was afraid if I gave her the wrong card, it would make her mad enough to box me about the head and shoulders. Vicki Fields would outrun me at recess. You can't believe how that hurt my pride, and Miss Belle insisted she get a card just like the rest. Jane Hill folded up her Valentine and slipped it to me when no one was looking with a hand written addition, "Do you love me? Check yes or no." Good gracious alive!

The little, winged fat guy with the bow and arrows was growing more complicated with each passing season.

The church banquet was for sixth grade through junior high. Can you possibly think of a more awkward age? We had to "dress up" and sit four to a table, two girls

and two boys. Obviously, our good Baptist deacons weren't concentrating as much as they should have been on outreach and widow helping if they found time to put this scheme into play.

Every boy showed up in black pants, white shirt and back narrow tie. Every girl wore a white gown. I reckon that was a dress code right out of Ecclesiastes. I remember the cold roast beef, the green beans and the mashed potatoes. I remember the speaker frantically trying to get us to smile and enjoy the evening. Thankfully, I do not remember any of the conversation. That might have been because, mercifully, there wasn't any.

I asked Leon after that first banquet about the true meaning of Valentine's. "It's a metamorphous." He answered like that made perfect sense to him. I needed real help, and he's talking about caterpillars turning into butterflies!

The last basement banquet I attended I was a little disappointed Mom was not on the program committee. I was hoping to get seated with Ruth Ann Wiley. She was really nice. But I don't think she even knew I existed. She was a good friend of Pam's but, much to my chagrin, she had never beaten on me. She had the nicest hair and eyes, for a girl. I can't believe I'd never before realized the possibilities of one of these meals. Sitting

with Ruth Ann would be more fun than playing ping pong. I wasn't so lucky on this night. But she was just one table over, and, with my hand up, the theme for this Valentine Banquet was "Beneath the Eiffel Tower." It didn't help. Ruth Ann dodged every arrow I sent her way.

And the next year, in the middle of a Valentine's party over at Ann Carol McCaleb's house, I slipped a card to Jane Hill with a hand written note asking her to check yes or no. It fell on "deaf" eyes. She had apparently forgotten her third-grade advances.

Life can be complicated to a fare-the-well.

I was buying into the Valentine's theme after the infamous horses had exited the barn. I was too old for the church banquet. We'd outgrown the mass exchanging of cards, and the high school teachers were more interested in Shakespeare and square roots than they were our social lives.

But somehow, in spite of ourselves, the cards worked. Those elementary kids of so long ago turned out to truly "Be Mine Forever." What special, life-long friends! They let me write about them with a smile. They appreciate that I don't "tell all I know." They give me story ideas and grammatical help.

We "metamorphoused" together.
Respectfully,
Kes

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

Diversifying is key with investments

Ever wonder why Mom-and-Pop stores sell wildly unrelated products side by side, such as umbrellas and sunglasses, or Halloween candy and screwdrivers? Customers probably would never buy these items on the same shopping trip, right?

That's exactly the point. By diversifying their product offerings, vendors reduce the risk of losing sales on any given day, since people don't usually buy umbrellas on sunny days or sunglasses when it rains.

The same diversification principle also applies in the investment world, where it is referred to as asset allocation. By spreading your assets across different investment classes (stock mutual funds, bonds, money market securities, real estate, cash, etc.), if one category tanks temporarily you might be at least partially protected by others.

You must weigh several factors when determining how best to allocate your assets:

Risk tolerance.
This refers to your appetite for risking the loss of some or all of your original investment in exchange for greater potential rewards. Although higher-risk investments (like stocks) are potentially more profitable over the long haul, they're also at greater risk for short-term losses. Ask yourself, would you lose sleep investing in funds that might lose money or fluctuate wildly in value for several years; or will you comfortably risk temporary losses in exchange for potentially greater returns?

Time horizon.
This is the expected length of time you'll be investing for a particular financial goal. If you are decades away from retirement, you may be comfortable with riskier, more volatile investments. But if your retirement looms, or you'll soon need to tap college savings, you might not want to risk sudden downturns that could gut your balance in the short term.

Diversification within risk categories is also important. From a diversification standpoint it's not prudent to invest in only a few stocks. That's why mutual funds are so popular: They pool money from many investors and buy a broad spectrum of securities. Thus, if one company in the fund does poorly, the overall impact on your account is lessened.

Many people don't have the expertise — or time — to build a diversified investment portfolio with the proper asset mix. That's why most 401(k) plans and brokerages offer portfolios with varying risk profiles, from extremely conservative (e.g., mostly treasury bills or money market funds) to very aggressive (stock in smaller businesses or in developing countries).

Typically, each portfolio is comprised of various investments that combined reach the appropriate risk level. For example, one moderately conservative portfolio offered by Schwab consists of 50 percent interest-bearing bond funds, 40 percent stocks and 10 percent cash equivalents. Usually, the more aggressive the portfolio, the higher percentage of stocks it contains (i.e., higher risk/higher reward).

Another possibility is the so-called "targeted maturity" or lifecycle funds offered by many 401(k) plans and brokerages. With these, you choose the fund closest to your planned retirement date and the fund manager picks an appropriate investment mixture. As retirement approaches the fund is continually "rebalanced" to become more conservative.

Although convenient, this one-size-fits-all approach may not suit your individual needs; for example, you may want to invest more — or less — aggressively, or may not like some of the funds included.

These may seem like complicated concepts, but the Security and Exchange Commission's publication, "Beginner's Guide to Asset Allocation, Diversification and Rebalancing," does a good job explaining them (www.sec.gov).

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



JASON ALDERMAN

Living by example

Dear Editor:
Upon leaving one of the local government buildings on Jan. 22, I approached at Port St. Joe government official with the issues I had addressed in a letter that was published in the local newspaper, The Port St. Joe Star, in October 2012, pertaining to the slogan "We Breathe Water." I also mentioned the RESTORE Act that could be put to better use for all citizens in Port St. Joe and the Gulf County areas, other than the proposed construction of fishing piers and boat ramps. To my knowledge, in all the years I have owned property in Gulf County, traffic has never been backed up with tourists on Highway 98 waiting to put a boat in the water or people trying to get a place on the dock or shoreline to fish. The response from the paid government officials was not only defensive, but to me as a Florida resident and taxpayer of Gulf County, offensive and shocking, "Why don't you go back to New Jersey!"

Being a North Florida born and raised Floridian myself, the daughter of Regina Buzzett Misiaveg, a North Florida born, bred and educated mother, and the daughter of an immigrant farmer, Charles Joseph Misiaveg Sr., born in Lithuania and raised in Chicago, I was taught by their examples: integrity and strength of character. The harassing and bullying by the local government officials will not make me leave my home in Gulf County, nor will these hostile acts mute my freedom of speech.

Perhaps, these intimidating tactics worked for the Port St. Joe and Gulf County government officials previously, to avoid having their decisions questioned or challenged but these hideously rude methods will not for many. The unsolicited recommendation for me to "Go back to New Jersey" is an

offensive outburst.

As a Marine Corps widow, I have a complete understanding of unity within community and caring for your own. It was appalling to read that local government officials want to have a citizen stripped of their right to vote; beyond unconscionable or imaginable. Couldn't the time and energy wasted on this issue and telling people to return from whence they came before relocating to Port St. Joe and Gulf County areas be put to better use?

I am a teacher. Having taught high school, it was my job every day to sell a product now one really wanted but was mandatory. A local culinary arts program would give the students incentive to be selected for a program other than one required for graduation. Couldn't some of the RESTORE Act funds be used for developing a high school culinary program in an existing new building having a state-of-the-art kitchen? This would be a high school course that would not only be of interest to high school students but provide them with an occupation when graduating, and a place for all of us to dine during lunchtime, supporting the program both monetarily and with community interest.

Upon the death of my husband, becoming a single mother of two teenage daughters, I have utmost respect for single parents and grandparents bearing the sole responsibility of raising children. Couldn't some of the RESTORE Act funds be used for an existing community center to fund a much needed after school program?

If paid, government officials cannot stand being questioned or are intimidated by the innovative and creative visions and ideas that others have for Port St. Joe, Gulf County or anywhere in the United States of America, then they should not have placed their name on an election ballot. No one made them run for office.

Having learning over the years that dying with dignity is not about how we die, but the way have chosen to live, doesn't restore man to give back, to reconstruct, to renew, to revive? As a Gulf County resident beginning the last trimester of my life, I will continue to honor the standards, teachings and expectations of my parents, Regina and Charles Misiaveg, and to carry on the core beliefs of my grandfathers, Joseph Misiaveg and W. D. Buzzett, by conveying the voices of those that have been silenced by various circumstances within the Port St. Joe and Gulf County areas.

Respectfully,
Katherine Misiaveg Shimonis
Citizen and Gulf County taxpayer

A deal on water?

Dear Editor:
I have had a summer cottage at Beacon Hill since 1976. I had my own well until having access to Mexico Beach water at which time I connected. In 2009, our Gulf County Commission and the city of Port St. Joe decided to require that Beacon Hill residents change to Port St. Joe's water system.

I am not in the cottage in the winter and the minimum cost in 2009 was \$10; also, you could drink the water.

In 2012, the minimum cost increased to \$22.97 and the water is not drinkable. This represents an increase in three years of 129 percent — what a deal. We would have been better off staying with the Mexico Beach system; at least the water was drinkable.

Ben Pridgeon
Beacon Hill

PS. Someone is responsible for allowing a 129 percent increase on the minimum water, which is zero gallons.

MUSIC from page A4

you see someone you once knew or perhaps just make you happy. Albert Einstein thought that music was the key to his becoming the genius he was. His performance in school was pitiful until his parents bought him a violin. The violin was his "tool" or calculator in deciphering various difficult equations.

The music helped him make sense of it all.

If it worked for Einstein, maybe music can do other things. As we know, it can and does. Researchers have conducted various studies to prove that music not only influences our emotions, but also stimulates our memories. They hook things up to your brain and watch what happens when certain songs and sounds are played.

The research probably involved some sort of colander helmet they put on your head with a lot of wires leading to a Batcave type panel with blinking colorful lights and computer monitors.

Thinking about Batman makes me think about the theme song to the original Batman television show of the 1960's. I hear the theme song and I want to find a beach towel and a safety pin and put my cape on. It makes me feel happy, younger and maybe a little foolish (with the beach towel cape).

You hear those television show themes and they take you back to a different time, place or simply make

you want to sit on the sofa and laugh (or cry).

Think about your favorites. I love the themes from The Andy Griffith Show, Hawaii Five-0, Gilligan's Island and Cheers. Hearing the Cheers theme makes you want to sing along and go to a place "where everybody knows your name."

Some theme songs make us think of our children or being a child. The Flintstones, The Jetsons and Speed Racer all remind me of my childhood. I will sing along with the Mister Rogers Neighborhood theme song and when I hear it I want to put on a red cardigan and blue deck shoes.

On the other hand, when I hear the theme to Barney or Sesame Street, I want to pull my hair. I'm not sure why, it's just a conditioned response. To this day, I have not been able to, nor will I ever be able to sit through more than 60 seconds of Sesame Street. I just can't. We all have our preferences.

My favorite theme songs were from the western television shows and movies.

Bonanza, The Big Valley, Rawhide, The Rifleman and High Chaparral all just make my blood pump. When I hear the theme to The Big Valley, I run to the television hoping to get a glimpse of "Audra Barkley." You may think she is Linda Evans, but she's not. She is Audra

Barkley. The way she tilted her head was just too much for a little boy. Audra will never age.

Why? Why did I start thinking about all of this?

The other morning, I heard the theme to The Magnificent Seven coming from the den. I got excited. I ran into the den hoping to see Yul Brynner, Steve McQueen, Charles Bronson, James Coburn and the other three fellows who made up THE Magnificent Seven. The movie from 1960 is one of my favorite westerns. The theme by Elmer Bernstein gets me pumped up and wanting to put on a simulated leather holster belt and find my cap pistol.

My heart sunk. It was a sequel with the same theme song. It was about the "Magnificent Seven," but not THE Magnificent Seven.

My conditioned response was rewarded with disappointment. Pavlov rang the bell, I salivated — but I didn't get fed. I had to put my cap pistol back in the wooden toy box and put my cowboy boots back in the closet.

This goes to show you that "Just because you hear the music," sometimes you don't get what you were expecting.

Read more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.

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

NOTICE OF GULF COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD REFERENDUM ELECTION – MARCH 5, 2013

AT THE REQUEST OF THE GULF COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, THE GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAS CALLED FOR THE HOLDING OF A SPECIAL REFERENDUM ELECTION. THE ELECTORS IN GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA WILL DETERMINE IF THE GULF COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S AD VALOREM MILLAGE SHALL BE INCREASED BY A TOTAL OF ONE MILL, BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING FOUR YEARS ON JUNE 30, 2017, FOR NECESSARY OPERATING EXPENSES AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 1011.71(9) INCLUDING FUNDS TO PROVIDE FOR TEACHERS AND CLASSROOMS.

THE DATE OF THE REFERENDUM ELECTION IS MARCH 5, 2013. ALL POLLING PLACES WILL BE OPEN ON ELECTION DAY 7 TO 7(ET) 6 TO 6 (CT). ABSENTEE BALLOTS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE. CONTACT THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICE TO CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR ABSENTEE REQUEST OR TO PLACE A NEW REQUEST. EARLY VOTING WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS SPECIAL ELECTION.

ALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE ELECTIONS OFFICE NO LATER THAN ELECTION DAY, MARCH 5, 2013 BY 7:00 pm (ET)

John M. Hanlon, Supervisor of Elections, Gulf County (850)-229-6117

Estate preservation will be focus of upcoming workshop

Special to The Star

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is hosting a free educational workshop on estate preservation. Called "Estate Strategy Essentials" the 45-minute workshop will be at 2 p.m. CST, Sunday, Feb. 24, at Living Water Church at 1602 U.S. Highway 98 in Mexico Beach. The workshop is presented by Juan Andrada,

financial representative with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in Panama City.

The Estate Strategy Essentials workshop helps participants understand the essential elements of any good estate strategy: wills, durable/financial powers of attorney, living wills/medical powers of attorney. As a result of attending the workshop, attendees will be better prepared

to take action to protect their estates and pass them on according to their wishes.

"Having proper estate planning documents in place such as wills, trusts and powers of attorney can save families a great deal of financial and emotional stress," Andradasaid. "This workshop offers tools to help people make smart, informed decisions about protecting their estates a

according to their wishes." To register, call Jennifer Browning at 615-0015 or email Jennifer.Browning@Thrivent.com. Reservation deadline is Feb. 22.

Refreshments will be served during the workshop.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and its respective associates and employees cannot provide legal, accounting, or tax advice

or services. Work with your Thrivent Financial representative, and as appropriate your attorney and/or tax professional for additional information.

Thrivent Financial is a not-for-profit, Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping about 2.5 million members achieve financial security and give back to their communities.

GRANT from page A1

Due to the age of pipes and financial demographics, the area of North Port St. Joe was seen as a prime candidate for a CDBG to underwrite the work.

"This is big," Mayor Mel Magidson said.

The award comes as the contractor is winding up work on the opening phase, which was the replacement of roughly eight miles of pipe. There are some dry connections still to be made, said engineer Clay Smallwood with Preble Rish Engineers, but

the contractor is wrapping up the work in the coming weeks.

The city will embark on the second phase later this spring.

The first phase came in with the city saving roughly \$95,000 and that will be used for a pilot project of sorts for the Public Works Department.

Part of the next phase of line replacement is replacing a section of line along Marvin Avenue and John Grantland, director of Public Works, said he and his

crew could accomplish the replacement of that section to test how much of subsequent work might be done in-house to save money.

"We'd like the opportunity to show we can do the work and save some money," Grantland said. "Our skill set has changed that we know and are confident we can do this and save money."

Water pilot study

After a meeting with CDM Smith, the company

which designed the city's water plant, city staff and a professor at Virginia Tech, which will monitor and test results, a water study is underway.

The goal of the eight month study is to isolate the cause of the city's red water and to determine a course of action in addressing the problem.

The study will involve taking water samples from throughout the distribution area on a continuing basis, testing from plant to home or business, and sending the

samples to Virginia Tech for analysis.

The hope is that by the end of the study the city will have a chemical addition protocol that will address the discoloration of water in the most cost-effective way.

Flushing program

This year's initial uni-directional flushing of the water distribution system has moved throughout much of the city proper out to Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf, Grantland said.

He said crews should be finished with North Port St. Joe and Highland View by this week and move up to White City.

"It's been a better process than last year," Grantland said. "We saw a big difference."

He cautioned that the flushing will cause upset in the lines and anybody impacted by sudden discoloration should call City Hall or Public Works to report the problem so crews can come out and thoroughly flush the area.

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Sacred Heart, 102.7 to host a radiothon

Special to The Star

The 15th annual Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart/Children's Miracle Network Radiothon is March 6-8. The live broadcast via Your Country 102.7 WXBM is a culmination of community fundraising efforts to help provide sick and injured children along the Gulf Coast with quality, compassionate care, regardless of their ability to pay.

Your Country 102.7 WXBM personalities, including Marty White, Lindsey Marie, Lynn West and Ryan Andrew will be on the air Wednesday, March 6, from 2-7 p.m.; Thursday, March 7, and Friday, March 8, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. to encourage their listeners to pledge donations to Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart. Young

patients and parents of children treated at Sacred Heart will be interviewed on the air about their experiences, along with the doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals at the hospital. To make a donation during Radiothon, please call 416-KIDS (5437.)

One-hundred percent of funds raised through Radiothon will help patients continue to receive care at Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart, Northwest Florida's only pediatric hospital. It provides a range of children's services in partnership with Nemours Children's Clinic, which provides many pediatric specialists to the region.

Anyone wishing to learn more about how to support the needs of Children's Hospital can call Sacred Heart Foundation at 850-416-4660.

LIGHTHOUSE from page A1

The last of the federal paperwork required to convey the lighthouse to the city, which was awarded the lighthouse by the U.S. Department of the Interior in December, should be completed this week, said city manager Jim Anderson.

That would drop the flag on a six-month window within which the city will be required to move the lighthouse, Anderson said.

"Time is of the essence, we need to get moving," said Mayor Mel Magidson.

Buzzett said the debates over the bay front park plans — the planning began before the city was awarded the lighthouse at which time the park became the destination for relocation — had stirred up controversy and what had been lost was the effort to "preserve that historic site and get it moved."

Buzzett said the city should put aside work on the park plans at this time in order to focus on the estimated \$1 million tab for bringing down, moving and then re-erecting the lighthouse.

The city has placed a pre-proposal for \$1 million to move the lighthouse in front of the county's RESTORE Act committee but whether the county even receives any RESTORE funding in six

months is a question.

"We need to concentrate on moving the lighthouse," Buzzett said. "We got off track a little bit."

He said the issue was creating a city/county fissure.

"We need to work together," Buzzett said of executing the relocation of the lighthouse.

The county also applied for ownership of the lighthouse and ancillary buildings, but the city, the only other applicant, received the award.

The Board of County Commissioners wrote a letter to the Dept. of Interior saying it would support the agency's award and work with the city, but requested that if the city was unable to pull off the move, the county be considered next in line.

Buzzett said commissioners should approve the location of George Core Park — elements of which will be part of the new bay front park — and proceed with securing permits.

Gail Alsobrook said the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency, which secured the park planning grant and the design team as well as shouldering much of the weight for the city's application for the lighthouse, still had steps to satisfy the grant.

To stop that process, she said, could put the city on the hook to repay

the \$20,000 park planning grant.

"If we don't comply with the grant requirements ... we could have to pay the money back," Alsobrook said.

Alsobrook also noted that a focus group selected by commissioners to serve as a "sounding board" for the PSJRA in reference to the Bay Park plans "seemed of one mind" in support of most elements of the park.

But Buzzett said all that was "moot" unless the city moved the lighthouse and said the PSJRA should continue on its work on the park on a parallel path while the city focuses on the lighthouse move.

"The PSJRA can work internally and the city can step back from Bay Park consideration until the lighthouse is moved," Magidson said.

In addition, commissioners determined they would proceed with seeking Requests for Qualifications for a general contractor as well as consider a Request for Proposals to secure an entity to run point on fundraising.

"We need to find somebody who is highly qualified to raise funds," Anderson said.

Commissioners motioned to advertise immediately to receive qualifications for a general contractor and point for fundraising.

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Digging?

If you are planning to install a pool, fence or any other construction that requires digging on your property the law requires that you call Sunshine State One Call at 811 before digging. This will ensure that all underground utilities have been located. Check with your contractor before excavation because, as a home owner, you may be responsible for making that call.

What Should You Know About Gas Odor?

Natural gas doesn't normally have an odor. A substance is added by your natural gas company to give natural gas a "rotten-egg" smell should it escape. Become familiar with the smell. Should you detect this odor, it does not positively tell you that there is a gas leak: but this is sufficient reason for you to call your gas company and have them investigate.

What Can You Do To Reduce The Possibility Of An Accident?

First keep the emergency phone number of your gas company handy. A good place to write this number is in the front of your

phonebook along with other emergency telephone numbers such as fire, police, etc. Other things which should be done to improve safety as well as conserve energy are:

1. Teach children that they are not to play with any appliances in the home.
2. Clean the burners and have them checked for proper adjustment periodically.
3. Repairs, installations and removal of appliances are jobs for qualified persons. Use only qualified people to do this work.
4. If lighting of an appliance is required. ALWAYS light match and hold at ignition point of burner before you turn on the gas.
5. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for operation and care of gas appliances.
6. Never take a chance. If you think you smell gas, call your gas company.

What Should Be Done If The Smell Of Gas Is Believed To Be Present?

There are many possible conditions which could be encountered, thus it

isn't possible to give specific instructions for every situation: The following examples provide general instructions which should assist:

1. If a slight odor is detected in a localized area or room of a building-do not use a match or other flame in the area; call the gas company immediately.
2. If a strong odor is detected in a building or other confined space-do not operate electrical switches, light matches or use an open flame; however, do open windows and doors to ventilate the area (caution: don't turn on exhaust fans) leave the building and call the gas company.
3. If a strong odor is detected in a building and/or a hissing sound is heard-do not operate electrical switches, lights or other devices: do evacuate the building leaving exit doors open on your way out, warn persons to stay clear of the building and call the fire department and gas company immediately from another location.
4. If the odor of gas is detected outside (in the yard, at the sidewalk, etc.)-immediately call the gas company.

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EDC from page A1

There was some discussion regarding the pledges made between the BOCC and consolidated Chamber/EDC, but county attorney Jeremy Novak noted that nothing had been put down in writing, though Smiley acknowledged a "gentlemen's agreement" concerning the time span and dollar amount.

The consolidated model was created in 2011 after commissioners ceased a five-year plan with the previously-constructed EDC barely two years into the pledge. The BOCC has altered the EDC operational model five times in the past 13 years.

"I have watched this (consolidation) process go on ... and it clearly did not work," Bryan said. "When the board decided to consolidate the agencies, they provided no clear direction. The Chamber spent money and identified a talented individual in Barry Sellers.

"You have taken his right wrist and tied it to his left ankle and told him to do his job. I do not believe government should be in economic development."

Magidson said the upheaval at the EDC has

"If our goal here in Gulf County is jobs, you need to give Barry another shot and more time."

Quen Lamb
business analyst from Port St. Joe

"We have all struggled with figuring out how to bring jobs to Gulf County."

Warren Yeager
county commissioner

made both potential private partners and companies looking to relocate to Gulf County "leery because of the way business is done in Gulf County and we have to change that."

Yeager said economic development was difficult throughout the state and argued that the government must have a place in the equation, if for no other reason than taxpayer money was being used to fund the effort.

Bryan agreed that government has a role, but mistakes had been made by the BOCC and government should leave to the business experts the role of economic development.

Yeager, who led the push for a consolidated model while commission

chair, said he favored keeping the EDC under the county umbrella and noted that there "really wasn't an EDC right now."

"We have all struggled with figuring out how to bring jobs to Gulf County," Yeager said.

McLemore said his commitment would be for six months and no more and if results were not forthcoming, corrective action was needed.

Quen Lamb, a business analyst from Port St. Joe, said that economic development takes time and Sellers needed the full support of the board and community to make it happen. Lamb said he has worked with Sellers on several projects in recent months and said Sellers is

the man for the job.

"If our goal here in Gulf County is jobs, you need to give Barry another shot and more time," Lamb said.

Smiley said he was basing his decision on those in the county without jobs, who are desperate to see economic development.

"We need to make this commitment now," Bryan said. "We have wasted too much time."

Magidson added, "In Gulf County we need jobs, we need businesses. We need to work together and quit fighting."

New positions

The BOCC, with Bryan dissenting, agreed to move ahead with hiring

two employees.

One would serve as a consultant to Butler during discussions with a company considering locating in Gulf County. Butler said for unexpressed reasons the company had not contacted the Port Authority or Sellers — the project would involve land along the Intracoastal Canal and dredging of the canal — and he wanted a consultant to help him determine the bona fides of the company.

Bryan said Sellers could be an asset in those discussions and was fully qualified to serve as that consultant.

She said this was another example of the BOCC's inconsistency on economic development.

"We show we have no continuity," Bryan said. "We move in different directions on economic development. Private partners are afraid to invest in economic development.

"We need to make use of the assets we have available. We don't need to move in different directions."

She also opposed the decision because Butler offered no specifics on how the consultant would

be paid or for how long.

The other position was one discussed by the board previously, an employee to essentially work across all departments, particularly as several key employees reach retirement in the next two to five years.

Bryan said the county had more pressing issues — a landfill that without expansion could be in danger of closing in five years and economic development — and suggested now was not the time to "expand" government.

"We need to make due with what we have," Bryan said, adding that no salary was attached to the job specifications. "In better times we could use this position.

"I have to wonder what the plan is. We have a lot of issues that are pressing.

Yeager said the new position was designed to make county government more efficient and argued the position will pay for itself in a few years.

"I'm for reducing government in people's lives, but I see this as reducing costs," Yeager said.

Both positions were approved 4-1, Bryan dissenting.

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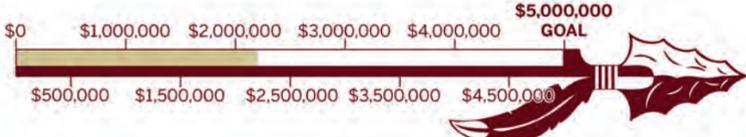
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Gulf Coast Electric Coop welcomes back Lowery

Special to the Star

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative is pleased to welcome Tomica Lowery back to its staff. Tomica previously worked in the Wewahitchka head-quarter office and is currently working in the Panama City office as a cashier/receptionist.



TOMICA LOWERY

In addition to working full-time at Gulf Coast Electric, Tomica is also a student at Gulf Coast State

College, seeking an associate in science degree in early childhood education.

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative is part of the Touchstone Energy national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives providing high standards of service to members large and small. About 75 employees serve more than 20,000 meters and 2,500 miles of line in Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Jackson, Walton and Washington counties and in the municipalities of Wewahitchka, Ebro, Lynn Haven, White City, Fountain and Southport.

Mexico Beach book being compiled



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Star Staff Report

Beverly Mount-Douds, along with Al Cathey and Cathey Parker Hobbs, are putting together a book on the history of Mexico Beach and are searching for old photos of the Patio, Mexico Beach Skating Rink, the Surf Restaurant, Lois' Brown Hut and any other early landmarks (such as the "Marianna Hill") and points of interest would be greatly appreciated. Comforth's "The Pa-

tio" is the little building in the background to the right in this photo. If you have a photo with this building, please share it.

Please include name, contact information, the approximate date the photo was taken and a brief description of the image.

The deadline to submit photos is March 1. If you have any questions or comments please contact Al Cathey at 227-8623, Cathey Parker Hobbs at 227-5319 or Mount-Douds 229-1094.

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Fourth-grade teacher downs huge buck with a bow

By STAN KIRKLAND
Florida Fish & Wildlife
Conservation Commission

By her own account, 24-year-old Marissa Ballard is a "girly girl." The Grand Ridge native says she likes to wear nice clothes and go on dates with her husband, Dusty.

Marissa, who stands 5-feet, 5-inches, weighs 105 pounds and is a fourth-grade teacher at Sneads Elementary School, is an accomplished archery hunter.

This season she showed she can hold her own with her male counterparts when she downed a huge typical 10-pointer in Jackson County that scored 130-2/8 Boone and Crockett (B&C) inches. It was her fourth deer in four years of hunting.

She killed the buck Oct. 27 while hunting with her father, Allen Chason, on property they lease.

Marissa's buck has been entered into the Florida Buck Registry, a measuring program for the bigger bucks taken in Florida. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission maintains the registry.

Sometime this spring the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marissa Ballard poses with the 10-point buck she took down with a bow late last year.

rack will be re-measured for the Pope and Young (P&Y) Club, which is the yardstick for all bow-killed big game animals in North America. There are several qualifications to make the P&Y registry for typical whitetails, including scoring 125 B&C inches or above.

Assuming Marissa's Jackson County buck is accepted by P&Y, she will be only the 22nd hunter to have accomplished this feat in Florida.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

| Date | High | Low | % Precip |
|---------------|------|-----|----------|
| Thu, Feb. 14 | 63° | 47° | 10 % |
| Fri, Feb. 15 | 67° | 42° | 10 % |
| Sat, Feb. 16 | 59° | 40° | 0 % |
| Sun, Feb. 17 | 59° | 46° | 0 % |
| Mon, Feb. 18 | 65° | 51° | 0 % |
| Tues, Feb. 19 | 71° | 55° | 60 % |
| Wed, Feb. 20 | 69° | 56° | 20 % |

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 |
|------|-----|------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| 14 | Th | 207am 0.2 | 1257pm 0.7 | 343am 0.1 | 955pm 0.0 |
| 15 | Fr | 125pm 0.9 | | 1154pm -0.1 | |
| 16 | Sa | 205pm 0.9 | | | |
| 17 | Su | 255pm 1.0 | | 115am -0.2 | |
| 18 | Mo | 353pm 1.1 | | 216am -0.3 | |
| 19 | Tu | 455pm 1.1 | | 306am -0.4 | |
| 20 | We | 555pm 1.1 | | 348am -0.4 | |
| 21 | Th | 649pm 1.1 | | 424am -0.4 | |
| 22 | Fr | 739pm 1.1 | | 452am -0.4 | |
| 23 | Sa | 828pm 1.1 | | 515am -0.3 | |
| 24 | Su | 920pm 1.0 | | 531am -0.2 | |
| 25 | Mo | 1017pm 0.8 | | 540am -0.1 | |
| 26 | Tu | 1208pm 0.3 | 1126pm 0.7 | 538am 0.1 | 347pm 0.2 |

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

| Date | Day | High Tide | High Tide | Low Tide | Low Tide |
|------|-----|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 14 | Th | 558am 0.9 | 542pm 1.1 | 1201am 0.1 | 1146am 0.3 |
| 15 | Fr | 659am 0.8 | 608pm 1.1 | 1251am 0.0 | 1208pm 0.5 |
| 16 | Sa | 812am 0.7 | 641pm 1.1 | 149am 0.0 | 1233pm 0.6 |
| 17 | Su | 946am 0.7 | 720pm 1.1 | 300am 0.0 | 104pm 0.7 |
| 18 | Mo | 1149am 0.7 | 810pm 1.1 | 419am 0.0 | 154pm 0.7 |
| 19 | Tu | 118pm 0.8 | 913pm 1.0 | 532am -0.1 | 351pm 0.8 |
| 20 | We | 158pm 0.9 | 1026pm 1.0 | 632am -0.2 | 536pm 0.9 |
| 21 | Th | 228pm 1.0 | 1138pm 1.0 | 722am -0.2 | 647pm 0.8 |
| 22 | Fr | 253pm 1.0 | | 804am -0.2 | 739pm 0.7 |
| 23 | Sa | 1242am 1.1 | 314pm 1.0 | 840am -0.2 | 822pm 0.6 |
| 24 | Su | 137am 1.1 | 332pm 1.0 | 910am -0.2 | 859pm 0.5 |
| 25 | Mo | 227am 1.1 | 347pm 1.0 | 936am -0.1 | 934pm 0.4 |
| 26 | Tu | 316am 1.1 | 403pm 1.0 | 1001am 0.0 | 1009pm 0.3 |

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FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Freshwater

As the rain moves out this week, the local creeks and rivers will be on the rise, and many reports are showing high water marks for the weekend. This increase should have the catfish biting very well. A few bream and bass are being caught this week before the rain in Lake Wimico and the Jackson River system.

Inshore

Whiting have been the local staple for some time now. Good reports from Mexico Beach and on the Cape are seeing lots of fish in the 2 pound range. Flounder are making their way back to our waters from offshore back to the bays and nearshore wrecks. Good reports came from the Mexico Beach canal this past week, so spring time fishing is close!



PHOTOS BY TINA HARBUCK | The Log

First-time Gulf fisherman Ron Scott of Ontario shows off a triggerfish he caught while fishing aboard the Swoop on Wednesday. He landed the huge triggerfish on his first cast.

'My lucky day'

First time Gulf fishermen strike big

Whether it was beginners luck or skill, they got their fish.

On Wednesday, a couple of Destin's party boats went out for a day of fishing and brought back quite a haul.

The **Swoop**, at HarborWalk Marina, with Capt. Chad Mott at the helm came in with 38 people and several stringers loaded with triggerfish, mingo, white snapper and lane snapper. And for some it was their first trip out on the Gulf of Mexico.

"This was my lucky day," said first-timer Ron Scott of Ontario.

Scott landed a humongous triggerfish that weighed more than 7 pounds.

"I caught it on my first cast," he said. "It was excellent fishing."

Steve Cormany of Fort Wayne, Ind., another first-timer, hauled in a big lane snapper.

"I had a good time," Cormany said. "I even baited my own hook."

The group was fishing about

17 miles out in 160- to 180-feet of water.

Capt. Reid Phillips and his crew on the **Destin Princess**, which docks at Fishing Fleet Marina, went out about 20 miles and pulled in their share of fish.

"It was a little slow at first," Phillips said. "We caught a lot of red snapper that we had to let go."

But the fishing picked up and they hauled in about 500-plus pounds of fish. In the mix were mingo, white snapper, lane snapper, triggerfish and amberine.

"We wound up with 10 to 12 lane snapper," Phillips said. "It taste just like a red snapper." The difference is, anglers can keep a lane snapper as opposed to a red snapper. The fate of the red snapper season is in limbo right now.

But the lane snapper, "It's a bonus fish," Phillips said.

Pulling in one of those bonus fish was Jim Strebral of Iowa.

Strebral was a first-timer on the **Destin Princess**.

"This is what you call beginners luck," he said. He was fishing along with his buddies Wayne Laing and Jim Steinbrech, also from Iowa.

It was also Bob Cooper of Kentucky's first time on the **Princess**.

"It was a great trip," he said. He filled his stringer with mingo, white snapper and triggerfish.

There was another threesome that was quite proud of their catch. First-time fishermen Wendell Wray and Steve Myers along with Terry Lovelace — all from Illinois — had quite the stringer. The group tried to go last year when they were in Destin, but they got stormed out.

However, on Wednesday, they had a "great time. I think I'll do it again," Myers said.

So call it luck or skill — the only thing that matters at the end of the day for these fishermen is they got their fish.

See you at the docks.



TINA HARBUCK
Fish Flash



Left: This group of Iowa anglers pulled in a good stringer filled with mingo, white snapper, amberine and lane snapper while fishing aboard the **Destin Princess** with Capt. Reid Phillips. Standing from left are Wayne Laing, Jim Steinbrech and Jim Strebral. **Right:** Steve Cormany of Indiana pulled in a lane snapper fishing aboard the **Swoop**. The first-time angler said he even baited his own hook.





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WHS's Malcolm, Sarmiento win district wrestling titles

Star Staff Report

Austin Malcolm and Weston Sarmiento won individual titles as the Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School Gators wrestling team took fifth in the District 1-1A tournament at Wewahitchka Feb. 2.

Malcolm, a freshman who entered the tournament 32-11, won the 106-pound weight class. Sarmiento, a senior who carried a 26-13 record into the

tournament, won the 132-pound weight class.

The Gators also has five other wrestlers finish in the top four in their respective divisions, advancing to the Region 1 meet.

Josh Epps, 26-10 on the season, took second at 145 pounds.

Jackson Vines at 120, Elijah Sarmiento at 126, Bubba Brogdon at 182 and 285-pounder Jarod Melvin all took fourth place in their divisions.

Wewahitchka finished behind just one other school classified in 1A in all sports in the final team standings.

Panama City Beach Arnold won the meet followed by Marianna, Rutherford, South Walton and Wewahitchka. Arnold finished nearly 40 points ahead of Marianna. Wewahitchka was less than eight points out of fourth.

The Gators beat Bozeman, Bay and Rocky Bayou.



The Gators finished fifth while hosting the District 1-1A tournament.

PSJ's Worley signs with Faulkner University

By **TIM CROFT**

227-7827 | @PSJ_Star
tcroft@starfl.com

Over and over again last week, as he prepared to sign a scholarship to play football at the next level, Tyler Worley heard about how Faulkner University's gain would be Port St. Joe's loss.

And as coach after coach talked of his surprise and happiness to be present when Worley signed his letter of intent to the NAIA college located in Montgomery, AL, the foundation of that sentiment was clear.

Here, in Worley, was a young man who had matured in more ways than physical, who had worked his way behind that desk to sign on the dotted line with parents, coaches, teammates and classmates in attendance.

His high school position coach Kesley Colbert summed it up.

"As good a football player as he is, Tyler Worley is a better person," Colbert said.

Worley himself said he rarely gave playing college football much of a thought for most of his high school career.

His coaches, they said uniformly, didn't necessarily picture it either.

Worley was undersized, particularly for the line, standing little more than 5-foot-9, if that, and weighing 160 pounds soaking wet when he entered high school.

But, his coaches said, Worley had two things you couldn't teach: he didn't quit and he was coachable, learning and buying into the discipline and dedication needed to improve, his Pee Wee coach Chris Butts said.

Colbert said the freshman lineman on the scout team was hardly impressive, hardly a star in waiting, save for his attitude.

Colbert told a story of a young Worley making a play during practice during which he made up for any error of X's and O's by sheer enthusiasm, coming over to the sideline with a grin and asking how he'd done.

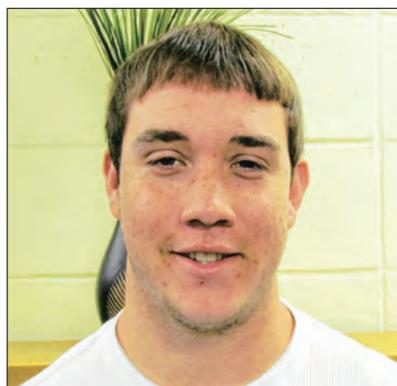
That love of the competition drove Worley and he improved.

As Colbert said, improving from "absolutely horrible" to "terrible" during his freshman year on the scout team.

But as he grew, Colbert added, the light bulb went off.

"It kind of transcends football, you see a young man grow up, you see a young man understand about team," Colbert said. "It's not just about football, but about believing in yourself and putting everything into it."

"I enjoyed working with Tyler because he never got discouraged. You could see him grow week to week, month to month. He became a football player. You see a



TYLER WORLEY

young man grow up, you see a young man understand about team."

And Worley was also growing into his body. By National Signing Day last week he stood 6-2 and weighed 220 pounds, what Colbert called "the mainstay" of the Tiger Sharks line the past season.

Port St. Joe coach Chuck Gannon noted that in January 2012 Worley began to realize there was a horizon for his football career beyond high school.

He was one of eight players, Gannon said, to rededicate themselves to the weight room, showing up for every session as Gannon took the reins of the football program.

"Tyler bought in that he could play college football," said Port St. Joe assistant coach Tracy Browning.

Gannon added, "He did a tremendous job, but he got better and as he did he started to believe in himself."

Then midway through his senior season a letter arrived in the mail for Worley.

The letter came from Faulkner University.

"They asked me to take a visit and I went up on Homecoming weekend," Worley said. "They had a nice facility and great coaches. I'm very excited. I never thought I'd get the chance to play college ball."

All the pieces fell into place and last week Worley, the scrappy kid who few envisioned playing college football just two years ago, was college bound.

Gannon said one of the advantages heading to Faulkner is that it fields a junior varsity team, allowing Worley a chance to become fully acclimated to college life and football for one year.

Worley said he was looking forward to a year on the junior varsity and said the goal now was to "just keep working hard in the weight room, get bigger and stronger."

"Faulkner is getting a good one and it is a great opportunity for him," Gannon said.

Lady Shark softball season opens Friday

The Port St. Joe High School softball season will open Friday night in Marianna. The JV game will begin at 5 p.m. ET followed by the varsity game at 7 p.m.

"Currently there are 36 players in the program that are in grades 7-12," said Coach Jim Belin. "We have been practicing hard but the girls' basketball team has yet to come out because of playoffs and cheerleaders have come a few times. We have only two seniors, both of which are injured at this time so the team is really young."

"We will be competitive but it will take a little time due to moving people into new positions and inexperience at pitching."

Currently last year's standout pitcher MaKayla Ramsey is recovering from arm surgery.

There will be 22 varsity games, 12 JV games, and six Junior High games on slate for this year's



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Left, Haley Wood has moved from second base to shortstop this season. Right, freshman Hal'leigh Keels will be at second base.

season.

Juniors Kelsey Miles will be behind the plate, with junior Brittany King at first, Christian Laine, Lexie McGhee, along with Allie Stripling will round out the outfield. Sophomores Shannon Pridgeon will hold down third, Haley Wood has moved from second to short, Addison Rice will start in center. Sophomore Stephanie Brinkmeier will start on the mound

for the Lady Sharks.

Freshman Hal'leigh Keels will be at second, while newcomer Kathleen Rish will be a courtesy runner as well as an oncoming outfielder. Senior Miranda Gref has a shoulder injury and is currently being treated. It will be over a week before the teams play at home.

"But, we hope that fans will come out and support the team," Belin said.

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100% of Proceeds Benefiting Lions Club Community Services

Live Entertainment • Auction • Raffles
25 Guns Ruffled & Auctioned • Cash Drawing
• Special Items for the Ladies and Kids ••

WIN UP TO \$8000 CASH
Through Ticketed Fundraiser

Port St. Joe Centennial Building February 21, 2013 Thursday Evening

5:00pm - Social and Registration
6:30pm - Norton's Special Steak Dinner
7:30pm - Auctions, Raffles, Entertainment and more

For Additional Info or Ordering Tickets Call:
850-227-1133, 227-1124, 527-1338, 227-7767
Sponsor Tables Available

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM:
Ramseys' Printing & Office Products,
Hannon Insurance in Port St. Joe,
Micheal Hammond or any Lions Club Member.

TICKETS \$50 ADVANCE / \$60 AT DOOR

SPORTS Briefs

From staff reports

Chipley downs Lady Gators

The Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School softball team opened the regular season with a 10-0 loss to Chipley.

Naomi Parker started on the mound and pitched two innings, allowing a walk and striking out one. Brianna Bailey pitched the third and fourth innings and also walked one and struck out one. Ashleigh Price pitched the fifth inning of the game ended on the mercy rule and also struck out one and walked one.

Samantha Hoover had a triple and double to lead the Lady Gators. Parker had a single, Jessica

Smith a triple and Kristen Stephens a single.

Wewahitchka hosted Franklin County on Tuesday and travel to Altha today.

Tiger Sharks open season with win

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School baseball team hosted West Gadsden in the season-opener on Monday and blanked the Panthers 12-0.

Tucker Smith had a pair of hits to lead the offense and Bryce Godwin was the winning pitcher.

The Tiger Sharks hosted Freeport on Tuesday and host Wewahitchka at 5 p.m. ET on Friday. Games scheduled against

Graceville on Tuesday have been moved to Graceville.

Dixie Youth Baseball registration

The Port St. Joe Dixie Youth Baseball League will be holding registration for the upcoming season on Saturday, Feb. 9, Tuesday, Feb. 12, and Saturday, Feb. 16 at the STAC house located on 8th Street. Saturday times are from 9 a.m. until 12 noon and Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. ET. The league is open to all children ages 5 - 12 (cannot turn 13 on or before April 30). First time players in the league must provide a copy of their birth certificates and turn it in to the league. The cost of registration is \$60.



THE FUTURE OF
GULF COUNTY
 DEPENDS ON
OUR SCHOOLS

Gulf County Schools have earned the prestigious designation as an *Academically High Performing School District* for the 8th consecutive year by the Florida Department of Education. We are one of only a few districts in the state to achieve this award.

Our schools and district staff are committed to excellence at all levels.

Academically High Performing School District

LEARN MORE AT:
www.facebook.com/gulfcountyschools

GREAT WORK GULF!



'Red paperclip guy' to speak at Chamber dinner

Star Staff Report

The Gulf County Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual dinner Feb. 28 and the guest speaker has been named.

Kyle MacDonald will be the keynote speaker. MacDonald is also known as the "red paperclip guy."

The Chamber board had tried hard to find someone exciting and who has a great story to tell, and Chamber director Paula Pickett believes they did.

"Hopefully our membership

will feel entertained and motivated by what Kyle has to say," Pickett said. "MacDonald's theme of trading up is what I am trying to instill at the Chamber. We are trading up and things are really beginning to come together for us and our membership is growing as a result."

With a renewed focus on supporting its members through service and a strong business plan The Chamber is excited about this upcoming year, Pickett said.

Dinner will be served, awards and worthy recognitions will be

given as per usual, but what attendees will notice is a change in the air and new found focus at The Gulf County Chamber of Commerce.

In 2005, MacDonald posted a picture of a red paperclip on his blog and in the barter section of Craigslist, and asked if anyone wanted to make a trade for something bigger or better.

A few days later, he traded the paperclip for a pen shaped like a fish.

He then traded the pen for a doorknob, and over the course of

the following year bartered his way all the way up to a house.

Originally from British Columbia, Canada, MacDonald has spoken to thousands all over the world about the lessons that he learned from trading a red paperclip to a house.

He has been interviewed by 20/20, The Today Show, Good Morning America, MSNBC, BBC, CBS, CNN, City TV, Global, USA Today, Maclean's, The New York Times, The New York Post, In Touch Magazine, VH1, MTV, The National Examiner, Reader's Digest,

The Los Angeles Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The Toronto Star.

Running with the idea of taking one small item and attempting to trade it for something bigger and more substantial, MacDonald has become renowned for his off-beat and inspirational ideas and goals.

Tickets are currently available to members through contacting the Chamber's office at 227-1223 or paula@gulfchamber.org. So if you are not a member, now is a great time to join!

In the community for the community



FILE PHOTOS | The Star

At least 25 guns will be auctioned during next week's Sportsman's Banquet at the Centennial Building in Port St. Joe.

Sportsman's banquet fuels Lions Club community mission

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

In the community for the community - that is the mantra for the annual Sportsman's Banquet sponsored by the Lions Club.

The sixth annual edition of the events rolls in Thursday, Feb. 21, with plenty of good food, a heaping helping of fun, prizes and, for one lucky winner, a bucketful of cash to take home.

But the real fun comes when the Lions Club gets to spend the proceeds, 100 percent of which is poured back into the



The heart of every Sportsman's Banquet is Charlie Norton's "famous" ribeye steaks.

See **BANQUET B6**



Last year's Sportsman's Banquet raised more than \$15,000 for community service projects.

Black History Month program

Star Staff Report

In recognition of (Cultural Enrichment) Black History Month, the annual Black History Program hosted by Port St. Joe Junior/Senior High School is scheduled for 9 a.m. ET Thursday Feb. 28 in the Marion Craig Coliseum (Gym).

The Keynote Speaker is Damien Byrd, a 1995 honor graduate of Port St. Joe High School.

He has a degree in Economics from Florida A&M University.

Currently, he is serving as the Gulf Coast Operations Regional Manager, for GradImages a Division of the Event Photography Group.

As regional manager, he is responsible for 125 freelance photographers and all external activities in a nine state region for the nation's largest graduation photography firm.

His 150 plus client list reads like a who's who among the Southeast's premier colleges and universities.

With such clients as Florida State University, Georgia Tech, University of Georgia, University of Mississippi, Vanderbilt, University of Tennessee and Port St. Joe High School just to name a few.

Damien is a self-proclaimed "tech guru" from a young age. Later in life realized that he owned his first personal computer before the local telephone company did.

Shamelessly admits to having more working laptops currently connected to his home network than televisions.

Damien enjoys taking



DAMIEN BYRD

photographs of just about anything that moves or doesn't for that matter.

Traveling is also a passion that he indulges in quite frequently be it for work or for pleasure.

He feels that his broad exposure to the United States and World has helped him grow tremendously.

As well to understand that we are now truly living in a global economy and in a figurative sense the world is becoming flat.

In addition, we will honor the memories of the former African American Gulf County Educators. The public is cordially invited to join students for this momentous occasion, so please note your calendar to attend.

For more information please contact Rachel Smith-Crews at Port St. Joe Junior /Senior High School @ 850-229-8251, ext 136.

Centennial TRIVIA

Pelican Pete has a Centennial Stumper for You!



What did the promoters of early Port St. Joe and Madison Avenue Advertising have in common?



ANSWER ON PAGE B7

Benefit dinner aids family in need

Star staff report

The El Governor Motel is sponsoring a benefit to help a family in need of financial support because of long-term illness with both Debbie White, a longtime employee

of the El Governor, and her husband, Fred, fighting terminal cancer.

The event will be 4-6 p.m. CT Feb. 23. There will be a complete pulled-pork dinner served with tickets \$10 per person. Local bands will kickoff the evening of

fun and dancing 5 p.m.-until.

Raffle tickets are available for \$5 each or three for \$10 with numerous prizes, including charter fishing trips, gift certificates to many restaurants, rods and reels, art work, couples massages and more being

donated every day. You need not be present to win.

There also will be a 50/50 raffle with tickets \$2 each or three for \$5. You need not be present to win.

Purchase tickets before the benefit at El Governor or

Lookout Lounge. Tickets also will be available at the door. All meals will be to-go boxes.

All proceeds going to benefit the White family.

Anyone wishing to donate for the raffle may drop off items at the El Governor.



VFW recognized for support of Legacy Run

Star staff report

Mike Kirchoff, shown above left, presented a plaque of appreciation to Rick Armstrong, commander of the John C. Gainous Post 10069 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Kirchoff, who is a representative of National American Legion

Commander Jim E. Koutz, and the American Legion Riders, expressed the gratitude of the National Commander to Port St. Joe's Gainous Post for its sponsorship and contribution to the Riders' Legacy Scholarship Run.

Each August, a group of American Legion Riders, depart from the National

Legion Headquarters in Indianapolis and ride to the Legionnaire's national convention, collecting contributions for the Legacy Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Legacy Scholarship is to provide supplemental finances for children of any serviceman who has fallen in the line of

duty since 9/11. The citizens of Port St. Joe have been strong supporters of the Scholarship Run for several years.

The John C. Gainous VFW Post 10069 is in Highland View and invites all qualified combat veterans to visit the Post and apply for membership. The Post is open every day and meets on second Tuesdays.

Society BRIEFS

Star staff reports

Seniors FIT exercise class at Senior Center

The Port St. Joe Senior Center will host Seniors FIT class at 11:30 a.m. ET Feb. 21. Hosted by aerobics instructor Ann Shefferly, the demonstration is 30 minutes long and free. It is a low-impact class that uses a chair and is especially designed for the 55-plus adult. For more information, call Debbie at 229-8466.

Red Hat Chit Chat

The Beach Belle Red Hats will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. CT Tuesday at Gracie O'Malleys.

RSVP by Saturday to Janetm@medicombb.net or call Janet at 648-4979.

Flowers named to dean's list

Wawahitchka High School alum Justin Flowers was named to the dean's list for the fall semester 2012 at Thomas University.

Dean's list students must attend full-time and have a GPA of 3.5 to 3.99.

Thomas University, established in 1950, is a private not-for-profit university of 1,125 students in Thomasville, Ga. TU awards associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees in traditional classroom settings and online.

American Legion Post 116 regular meeting

American Legion Post 116 will meet at 4 p.m. ET Feb. 28 at VFW Post 10069, Trout Avenue in Highland View. This will be a general business meeting with discussion of the fish fry benefit March 1 at the VFW and our Good Friday fish fry fundraiser at Veterans Memorial Park. All members are urged to attend.

Eligibility for membership and benefits can be found at www.legion.org. All eligible veterans are invited to join.

Birthday



Happy 50th Birthday, PawPaw!!
Love,
Zora, Baylee, Debbie, Adam, Brit, Dusty, Julia,
Nannie & Papa!

Library hosts Winter Program Series

Star staff report

The Corrine Costin Gibson/Gulf County Library has announced its Winter Program Series.

All three free programs will be in the Alfred I/DuPont Florida History-Genealogy Center at the Corrine Costin Gibson/Gulf County Library in Port St. Joe.

The series kicks off at 2 p.m. ET today with "Courting and Marriage in the Olden Days." Presented by

Ann Robbins, head of circulation and literacy at the Bay County Public Library, this program explains how love and courting has changed in America from the 1600s to modern times. A display of antiques will become discussion pieces.

The second program, at 2 p.m. Feb. 21, will be "Genealogy: How to Get Started using your Library." Presented by Rebecca Saunders, head of genealogy and local history with the Bay County Public Library,

this program will explain how to use Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest databases and other resources to research family history.

The final program, at 2 p.m. March 7, is titled "Bone Mizell: Florida Cracker Cowhunter." Presented by Robbins, the life of Bone Mizell described the typical life of the men of Florida during the late 1880s.

For more information about the series, call 229-8879.

PET OF THE WEEK
St. Joseph Bay Humane Society

EDWARD!

Meet Edward, a very friendly and outgoing cat. He is cuddly and loving to everyone he meets. He is very friendly with dogs and other kitties. Edward has a cute half-tail and loves to show it off. He has a brother named Jacob that would love a new home also. Both of these guys would make a great family pets.

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

Our hours for the shelter are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am-4 pm! Faith's Thrift Hut is always in need of donations also, and all the proceeds go directly to support the animals in our care! The hours for the store are Thursday-Saturday from 10 am-3 pm. Volunteers are always welcome at both our store and our shelter! Our store and shelter location is 1007 Tenth Street in Port St. Joe! Hope to see you all there soon!

If you are missing a pet or want to adopt a new pet, please check with your local Humane Society or Shelter.

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Fried Shrimp
Served with choice of two sides..... \$10.99

8 oz. Ribeye Steak
Served with choice of two sides..... \$11.99

LUNCH SPECIAL DAILY
Meat and choice of 3 Sides
\$7.99

HOURS OF OPERATION:
Monday - Friday
\$6.00 Breakfast • 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. ET
\$6.99 - \$7.99 Lunch • 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. ET
Friday Night Dinner Service • 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. ET

236 Reid Ave • (850) 229.7121



Special to The Star

Yearbook news: The final date to pre-order your 2012-2013 yearbook is Feb. 28. No extra books are ordered. Please don't miss out on this opportunity to purchase your yearbook. You can order online at www.jostens.com or from the link provided at the school's main webpage. You may also order at the school in Coach Taylor's room. Remember, Feb. 28 is the last day to order.

Senior recognition: The final date to order a yearbook recognition ad for your senior is Feb. 28. Ad forms and templates may be picked up in Coach Taylor's class. All forms and pictures need to be turned in no later than Feb. 28.

FAFSA seminar: Guidance will have a financial aid workshop from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, in Computer Lab 103. Senior parents are encouraged to attend this important training session. Please bring a copy of your current IRS tax form and Social Security Numbers for parents and students.

NJROTC news: Congratulations to our NJROTC Cadets who receive a grade of "Outstanding" on their recent Area Managers Inspection. The inspecting officer stated, "The readiness condition of Port St Joe NJROTC is very high, and the unit morale is outstanding. The cadets I inspected were truly an impressive bunch. Their dedication and loyalty to the Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment was readily apparent. Haircuts, uniforms, drill routines and every individual's comportment were outstanding."

NJROTC will travel to FAMU Feb. 23 for a drill competition. Go, Shark Company.

Art: On Feb. 6-7, Mrs. Julie Hodges, our art instructor, and art students Caitlin Godwin and Sophie Harrison attended and extremely informative seminar on "Art and Health for Rural Communities" as part of the University of Florida Arts In Medicine program. Established in 1996, the UF Center for Arts in Medicine has become the most comprehensive education and research center for the arts in health care in the nation. Our students were exposed to a myriad of topics relating to this exceptional program and came back with a new understanding on how something they love can provide comfort and relief for others.

PARENT INFO

FCAT Write: FCAT Write 2.0 for 8th and 10th graders will be Tuesday, Feb. 26.

Shark Bites: Any parent or guardian interested in receiving "Shark Bites," our weekly schedule of events, please email LCDR Marty Jarosz at mjarosz@gulf.k12.fl.us and we will put you on the list.

Black history celebration: Our Black History Month celebration will be 9 a.m. ET Feb. 28 in the gym. All are invited to attend.

Football: Spring football begins May 1. All interested students need to have a completed or updated sports physical to be eligible to practice. See Coach Gannon for more details. Physical forms may be picked up in the main office.

Prom Fashion Show: Students will model the latest in prom apparel at this year's Prom Fashion Show, at 2:15 p.m. ET Friday, Feb. 15, in the gym.

President's Day: There will be no classes on Monday, Feb. 18, as we join the nation in celebrating President's Day. Classes will resume Tuesday, Feb. 19.

DAZZLING DOLPHINS



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Front row: Bella Ray, Juveryona Daniels, Paisley White. Back row: Gavin Haddock, Ashton Norton, Philip Riley, Lily Wockenfuss

WHS students recognized at science fair

Star Staff Report

Two Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School students recently were honored during the Three Rivers Regional Science Fair in Panama City.

Shelby Wood, who won first place in the WHS science fair last year, competed at the regional level and was selected to compete in the state competition. Wood also won first place in this year's WHS fair and competed in the regional fair. She won third overall in the biological sciences category and one special award: Olive Leaves for Excellence in Science. Shelby is a senior.

Cordale Green is a newcomer and a sophomore. He won second place in the WHS fair. Green traveled to the regional fair and won second overall in the physical sciences category and three special awards: The United States Army



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Cordale Green and Shelby Wood won honors at the Three Rivers Regional Science Fair.

Award, The Office of Naval Research Naval Science Award and the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International Emerald Coast Chapter Award for demonstrating exceptional understanding of unmanned systems of scientific or engineering

principles.

Both students have been selected as delegates for the state fair. Only seven senior high students were selected to represent Three Rivers, and two were from Gulf County.

The state competition will be March 26-28 in Lakeland.

Kidz Klinik offers dental exams

PANAMA CITY — The dental hygiene program at Gulf Coast State College will host the annual Kidz Klinik event Feb. 18-21 at the college's dental clinic in celebration of National Children's Dental Health Month. The Gulf Coast chapter of the Student American Dental Hygienist's Association is organizing the event and is inviting children ages 3-12 to participate in a complimentary dental hygiene appointment. The free appointment includes a dental exam, cleaning, oral hygiene instruction and any necessary X-rays. Children and parents will receive information on tooth decay prevention, when to expect changes from primary to permanent teeth, dental sealants and proper brushing and flossing techniques.

The purpose of Kidz Klinik is to raise awareness about oral health and provide an opportunity for children in the community to receive dental treatment at no cost to their families. The event is designed to provide a fun, positive environment for children to

learn how to care for their teeth and receive necessary dental treatment without feeling intimidated.

"Basic prevention is the key to reducing chronic dental disease, and we are so pleased to be able to offer this service to the community," said Laura Justice, dental programs coordinator. "Early childhood decay has been linked to complications with permanent teeth, as well as missed school days and poor performance in school. Developing good oral health habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits can contribute to a lifetime of good oral and general health."

To participate in this event, call Debbie Pringle at 872-3833. Appointments will be scheduled based on availability, and a parent or guardian must accompany the child during the entire visit.

Sponsors of Kidz Klinik include Off the Wall Screen Printing and Embroidery, Colgate, Golden Corral, Applebee's and Ideal Dentistry; Drs. Reese Harrison & Norton.



The Lion's Tale

Special to The Star

On March 1, Faith Christian School will celebrate its 12th annual spaghetti dinner and auction. This is an enjoyable event and a great time to see old friends, bid on valuable merchandise and have an amazing meal. At the cost of only \$6 per plate, the dinner includes spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert and tea. Dinner is served from 5:30-7 p.m. Look for a FCS student to get your ticket, or purchase them at the door.

Local businesses are generously supporting this endeavor. Some items up for auction include specialty cakes, antiques, unique items from local artists, beach vacation rentals and gift certificates. The silent auction will



begin at 5:30 p.m., and the live auction will begin at 7 p.m.

In other FCS news, now

is the time to enroll for the 2013-2014 school year. Call 229-6707 for a registration packet.



For Mexico Beach City Council, Group 2

Phone: 850-728-1885 | Email: JeffTandlerCityCouncil@gmail.com

BACKGROUND

- Local resident 8 years
- Local business owner, The Grove
- Education BS/MS
- Over 30 years managerial experience, including budgeting, personnel, and strategic planning
- Current member of Mexico Beach Planning & Zoning Board

ISSUES

- I believe the current City Council lacks leadership and engages in the reckless spending of our hard-earned money, while our property taxes continue to rise.
- I want the city to stop making news for its problems and to bring sensible solutions back to Mexico Beach.

For more information, please visit my website at:

www.JeffTandlerCityCouncil.weebly.com

Please join me for a Meet-and-Greet at the Fish House, Monday, Feb. 18th @ 5:30

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND REMEMBER TO VOTE ON APRIL 16TH

Political Advertisement paid for and approved by Jeff Tandler for City Council, Group 2

School BRIEF

Advising for active military, veterans available at Gulf/Franklin campus

Special to The Star

Pam Hiller, veterans/military affairs liaison for Gulf Coast State College, will be at the Gulf/Franklin Campus in Port

St. Joe on Tuesday, Feb. 19. She will be available to assist active duty, guard/reserve, veterans and their dependents who might be eligible for VA educational benefits.

Advising will be 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. EST on a walk-in basis with no appointments required. For more information, call Hiller at 769-1551, ext. 3341, or Loretta Costin, GFC director, at 227-9670.

Lifetree to explore art of listening

Special to The Star

Storytelling and listening will be explored at Lifetree Café 7 p.m. CT Monday, Feb. 18.

The program, "The Art of Listening: An Act of Love," features an exclusive film of NPR's StoryCorps founder, David Isay. StoryCorps has collected and archived more than 40,000 interviews from almost 80,000 participants.

"It's an important moment in peoples' lives to have someone who matters ask who they are, what they've learned and how they



want to be remembered," Isay said. Participants will discover practical tools for connecting deeply with others.

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Snacks and beverages are available.

Lifetree Café is at 1602 U.S. 98 in Mexico Beach, across from El Governor Motel.

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 lwlifetreecafe@fairpoint.net.

Card of THANKS

Nelson family

The Nelson family wishes to personally thank our many friends for all the expressions of love, kindness and support shown during the loss of our mother, Lucille Nelson. We will never forget all the cards, flowers, food and prayers you have shown our family. A special thank you to The Bridge at Bay St. Joe nurses and staff for the care and concern you gave to Lucille during her time with you. May God Bless and Keep You,

The Nelson family

Faith BRIEFS

Jam for the Lamb at New Bethel

New Bethel AME church family, under the leadership of the Rev. Lawrence Gantt will present the Jam For The Lamb Gospel Music and Performing Arts Extravaganza at 6 p.m. ET Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15-16, at New Bethel AME Church. The newly combined Port St. Joe Youth Choir and their musician, Jr. Deacon Quinnten Williams, will perform opening selections. Other special guests scheduled to perform are local churches and out-of-town professional vocal

groups, praise and worship teams, praise dancers, instrumentalists, Christian comedians and Christian rappers. The church is at the Corner of Avenue C and U.S. 98. We welcome the public to attend.

Victory Temple 'Old Fashioned Service'

Victory Temple Holiness Church invites everyone to their "Old Fashioned Service" at noon ET Sunday, Feb. 17. The speaker will be Evangelist Pinkey Patterson. Come out and be blessed.



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Protect them with biblical answers.



FREE ANSWERS CONFERENCE

February 16-17, 2013

First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe
PORT ST. JOE, FL

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Amazing power of words

Words can kill or they can heal.

They can lie or even steal.

Words can help you be rejected.

They can in turn, make you respected.

Lord, take the words I say each day touch someone's life for good.

Help me as I witness, to say the things I should.

If asked a question, help me think before I speak.

That the answer might come forth, for which they truly seek.

Help me Lord, when I hear gossip not to add or take away.

Then I can't be guilty, of adding fuel to what they say.

If someone wants to quarrel, help me keep my tongue at bay.

You know I'll need your help then, so help me Lord I pray.

We all, at one time or another, need wisdom from above.

Help us Lord each time we stumble, fill us with your Godly love.

Billy Johnson

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Word of Faith Church

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Welcome you to worship with us:
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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

Dr. Geoffrey Lentz
Pastor

Ann Comforter
Music Director

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

Dinner.....5:00 - 6:00 pm
AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm
Surrender Student Ministry.....6:15 - 7:30 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.....10:00 am
Discipleship Training.....5:00 pm
Evening Worship.....6:00 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 Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship6 p.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 (CST)
10:30 AM (CST) ON THE 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
SUNDAY: BIBLE CLASS 9:30 AM (CST)
MONDAY : LIFE TREE CAFE 7 PM (CST)
TUESDAY: MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM (CST)
THURSDAY: WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5 PM (CST)

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(850) 648.1151 www.livingwateratthebeach.com

First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach
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Sunday Worship Services:
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m. CST Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

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Obituaries

Jean Elaine Quaranta

Jean Elaine Quaranta, 85, of Port St. Joe passed away Sunday, February 3, 2013. She was born in Cleveland Ohio.



JEAN ELAINE QUARANTA

Jean was the beloved matriarch of the Quaranta family. Married for 59 years to Charles Quaranta, they had five children. Her greatest times in life were when her family, and anyone else who got dragged in, would be gathered around the table, eating, laughing, and taking lots of pictures. She knew no strangers and talked to everyone like she'd known them for years.

Jean worked for Manatee Pediatrics in Bradenton, FL for 17 years until she retired and moved to Port St. Joe in 1992. Her love of children was evident and Grandma was always willing to babysit. She volunteered with the South Gulf County Vol. Fire Dept., enjoyed the beaches, lots of family gatherings, and the beautiful sunsets from her balcony.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Quaranta; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Survivors include

her children and their spouses: Gloria Schoelles and husband Richie, Bill Quaranta, Patti Quaranta, Chuck Quaranta, and Jayne Bamburg; 15 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild; brother, Jack Warren of Ester, FL and a sister Jeri Bass of Bradenton, FL.

A memorial service will be held in her memory at the Oak Grove Church on February 16, 2013 at 11 a.m. ET.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society, 1007 10th Street, Port Saint Joe, FL 32456. Services provided by Comforter Funeral Home.

Mary Evelyn Smith

Mrs. Mary Evelyn Smith of Port St. Joe went home to be with the Lord, February 3, 2013. She was 89, born on August 29, 1924.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Lena Shepard Stafford; her husband Edgar L. Smith of Port St. Joe; her brother, Wilburn Stafford; her sister, Muriel Harris; a sister-in-law; seven brothers-in-law; her special father- and mother-in-law, John Henry and Ethel Smith of Port St. Joe.

Survivors include her

daughter, Patsy Haddan and husband Don of Slocomb, AL; her son, Gerald Smith of Port St. Joe; her grandchildren, Jeff Haddan and wife Crystal of Milton, FL, Patrice Bowen of Pace, FL, Chris Smith and wife Crystal of Panama City; her great-grandchildren, Harleigh, Haddan and Harrison Sims of Slocomb, AL; one very special surviving sister, Jo Hammond of Port St. Joe; three nieces, Sheila, Nelda, Kathy; three nephews, Tony, Terry, and Mike; four surviving

sisters-in-law; one brother-in-law; also former special daughter-in-law, Carol Smith of Panama City; several great- and great-great nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be her grandsons, and honorary pallbearers will be her granddaughters and great-granddaughters.

The funeral service was held at 2 p.m. E.S.T. on Wednesday, February 6, 2013, at the graveside in Holly Hill Cemetery, interment followed.

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

Frances Ann (Franny) Green

Franny Green passed away suddenly Feb. 4, 2013 at age 63. She is survived by her husband Elmer Green of Port St. Joe and her two sons: Kevin of Panama City and John of Allentown, PA; her sisters Edith Haynes, Plymouth, MA, Elsie Pagel, Canton, MA; Ruth Burri, Walpole, Core, W. VA; her brothers Herbert James, Quincy, MA and Robert James, Jackson, MS.

She was born and raised in Boston, MA to Harry and Blanch James on

Sept. 15, 1949. Franny was married in Tacoma, WA on Mar. 3, 1977 to Elmer Green. Elmer was in the Air Force and then they were stationed in Alaska, Idaho, Washington State and Illinois before settling in Port St. Joe in 1995.

She was a beloved member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, Post #10069, Port St. Joe, FL serving at one time as Treasurer and Poppy Chairman.

Franny loved her family, her Ladies Auxiliary friends and everyone that she knew loved her as well.

She was an avid reader, a good friend to all that knew her, and most of all devoted to her family.

A memorial service will be held on March 9, 2013 at the VFW Post #10069 in Highland View at 1 p.m. Eastern Time.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests a donation in Franny's name to the Friends of the Library, Gulf Co. Public Library, 110 Library Dr., Port St. Joe, FL 32456.

Services are provided by Comforter Funeral Home.

Robert Nelson Murray

1946 - 2013

Robert Nelson Murray, 66, of Wewahitchka, died Monday, February 4, 2013. Memorialization is

by cremation. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Heritage Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Rebecca Joy Woodham

Rebecca Joy Woodham, age 31, passed away on Jan. 14, 2013. She is survived by her parents, Lawrence and Trish

Woodham; siblings Scott and Wendy Woodham of Gulf County; and daughter Gwyn Finlay of Panama City Beach.

OBITUARIES

Submit obituaries to news@starfl.com. View obituaries and sign the guestbooks at www.starfl.com.



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ATTENTION CERTIFIED OR REGISTERED BUILDING, RESIDENTIAL AND GENERAL CONTRACTORS

Gulf County has been awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to provide Housing Rehabilitation assistance for a minimum of ten (10) single-family housing units throughout the unincorporated areas of the County. In conjunction with the CDBG Program, the County has committed additional funding from the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program to provide additional Housing Rehabilitation assistance for approved single-family housing units throughout the County. Gulf County is currently accepting applications from Certified or Registered Building, Residential and General Contractors that are interested in participating in the County's CDBG and SHIP Programs. Minority and women-owned businesses are encouraged to participate. The County has made the application available at the following location:

Gulf County Grant Coordinator's Office
Robert Moore Administration Building
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Room #312
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Additionally, the applications are available online on the County's website at <http://www.gulfcounty-fl.gov>, or you may request an application or additional information by contacting either Towan Kopinsky at (850) 229-6144 or Jeffrey C. Winter at (904) 264-6203. **Upon completion, applications must be submitted to Towan Kopinsky, Grant Coordinator, at the Robert Moore Administration Building, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Room #312, Port St. Joe, FL 32456.**

ALL CONTRACTOR APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN 2:00 P.M., E.T. ON MARCH 11, 2013.

Gulf County is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Handicapped Accessible and Fair Housing Jurisdiction. (2013.12)

ATTENTION RESIDENTS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG) - HOUSING REHABILITATION

Gulf County has been awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to provide Housing Rehabilitation assistance for a minimum of ten (10) single-family housing units throughout the unincorporated areas of the County. Gulf County is currently accepting applications from residents of the County that are interested in participating in the County's CDBG Program. If you are interested in obtaining an application, the County has made the CDBG applications available at the following locations:

Gulf County Grant Coordinator's Office
Robert Moore Administration Building, Room 312
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Port St. Joe Medical Clinic
2475 Garrison Avenue
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Wewahitchka Medical Clinic
807 West Highway 22
Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Gulf County Public Library
110 Library Drive
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Charles Whitehead Public Library
314 North 2nd Street
Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Additionally, the applications are available online on the County's website at <http://www.gulfcounty-fl.gov>, or you may request an application or additional information by contacting either Towan Kopinsky at (850) 229-6144 or Jeffrey C. Winter at (904) 264-6203. **Upon completion, applications must be submitted to Towan Kopinsky, Grant Coordinator, at the Robert Moore Administration Building, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Room 312, Port St. Joe, FL 32456.**

CDBG PROGRAM APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN 2:00 P.M., E.T. ON MARCH 11, 2013.

STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP (SHIP) FUNDING

In conjunction with the CDBG Program, the County has committed additional funding from the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program to provide additional Housing Rehabilitation assistance for approved single-family housing units throughout the County. Applications for the SHIP Program **WILL NOT** be made available until the Homeowner Application Workshops to be conducted on March 4, 2013, at the times and location described below. These Homeowner Application Workshops will include a general presentation on the CDBG and SHIP Programs and applications, followed by individual sessions with residents requiring assistance with the applications.

If you are unable to attend either workshop, the SHIP applications will be available **AFTER** March 4, 2013 in the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, Room 301 (SHIP Office) or Room 312 (Grants Office), 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The hours of operation for these offices are Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., E.T. **Completed S.H.I.P. applications may only be submitted from March 18-March 21, 2013, between the hours of 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., E.T., in the rooms listed above.** For additional information regarding the County's SHIP Program, please contact Brett Lowry at (850) 229-5335.

HOMEOWNER APPLICATION WORKSHOPS

Residents interested in obtaining additional information regarding the County's CDBG and SHIP Programs or requiring assistance with the applications are encouraged to attend either of the two (2) Homeowner Application Workshops to be conducted on March 4, 2013. The Homeowner Application Workshops will be conducted in the Board of County Commissioners' Chambers at the Robert Moore Administration Building, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The County's Homeowner Application Workshops will include a general presentation on the CDBG and SHIP Programs and applications, followed by individual sessions with residents requiring assistance with the applications. For your convenience, there will be two Homeowner Application Workshops conducted on March 4, 2013, one from 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m., E.T. and one from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., E.T. Should you have any questions regarding these workshops, please contact Brett Lowry at (850) 229-5335 or Towan Kopinsky at (850) 229-6144.

Fair Housing presentations will be conducted during both workshops.

Gulf County is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Handicapped Accessible and Fair Housing Jurisdiction. (2013.14)

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2013

*All meetings are scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m., ET, at District Headquarters, 81 Water Management Drive, Havana, FL 32333, unless otherwise indicated.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| January 10, 2013 | September 12, 2013 |
| February 14, 2013 | • Governing Board 4:00 P.M. ET |
| March 14, 2013 | • Budget Public Hearing 5:05 P.M. ET |
| April 11, 2013 | September 26, 2013 |
| May 9, 2013 | • Budget Public Hearing 5:05 P.M. ET |
| June 13, 2013 | October 10, 2013 |
| July 11, 2013 | November 14, 2013 |
| August 8, 2013 | December 12, 2013 |

BANQUET from page B1

community through a number of outlets.

"The Sportsman's Banquet gives us the opportunity to meet our community service needs," said Lions Club member Willie Ramsey.

"We can also do something the community enjoys; most everybody who lives here loves the outdoors. We purchase most all that we need, including raffle items, in our service area.

"And then on top of that, some lucky people walk away with items that allow them to further enjoy the outdoors."

The Sportsman's Banquet, to be held at the Centennial Building in Port St. Joe with social hour and appetizers at 5 p.m. and dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. ET, has allowed the Lions Club of Port St. Joe to broaden its community outreach.

Every year for the past

several years the club, in partnership with the Eye Center, provides eye exams for local fourth-graders.

In cases of real need, the club will also assist with the purchase of glasses.

The club has recently added hearing screenings to the eye exams.

In addition, the club has an endowed scholarship for deserving high school seniors, contributes to Christmas for Kids and El-

ders and the Gulf County Sheriff Office's Christmas Wishes program.

"One thing we do each year is each member brings a gift to our Christmas party," Ramsey said. "Those go to the Christmas programs we support."

Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf was the recipient of a 10-year, \$50,000 donation from the club that Lions Club members paid off several years early.

Further, through the

years the club has donated to the American Cancer Society, the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Gulf Education Foundation, Supporters of St. Vincent Island National Wildlife Refuge, the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society, Gulf Coast State College's Gulf/Franklin Campus, the Wewahitchka Ministerial Association and many more organizations.

The last Sportsman's Banquet raised more than \$15,000.

"We contribute to Odyssey of the Mind at the schools and that is an investment in our children who will become our community," Ramsey said. "We look at non-profit organizations and where there is a need that is out of the ordinary and we try to help."

An excellent example would be last year's murder of Everett Gant in what authorities labeled a hate crime.

The day after the shooting, the Lions Club established and seeded a bank account to help the Gant family defray medical costs.

"There you are talking about businessmen who saw that as a black eye on the community," Ramsey said.

"They knew that is not our community and they wanted to show that - this is not what our community is about."

The Sportsman's Banquet originated from what was an annual event to support Ducks Unlimited. But what Lions Club members envisioned was an event that would bring money directly into the community, not only in the costs of putting the night on, but also in handling proceeds from the banquet.

"We can bring money into our community and continue the Lions Club mission to the community," Ramsey said.

After enjoying Chef Charlie Norton's "famous, no-man-left-hungry" rib-eye steaks, joined on dinner plates by salad, potato and rolls and Sister's Restaurant's "almost equally famous" banana pudding, the raffles and auction ratchet up the excitement.

Over \$20,000 worth of contributions and prizes will be distributed to the guests through live auctions and raffles.

One winner could win up to \$8,000, the amount linked to the number of tickets sold.

The items include at least 25 shotguns, hunting rifles and pistols, along with numerous other outdoor products. There will also be items available for women and children. Tickets for the event are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door.

They can be purchased at Hannon Insurance and Ramsey's Printing and Office Products in Port St. Joe and from any Lions Club member.

Additional information or ticket purchases can be made by calling 227-1133, 227-7767 or 527-1338.

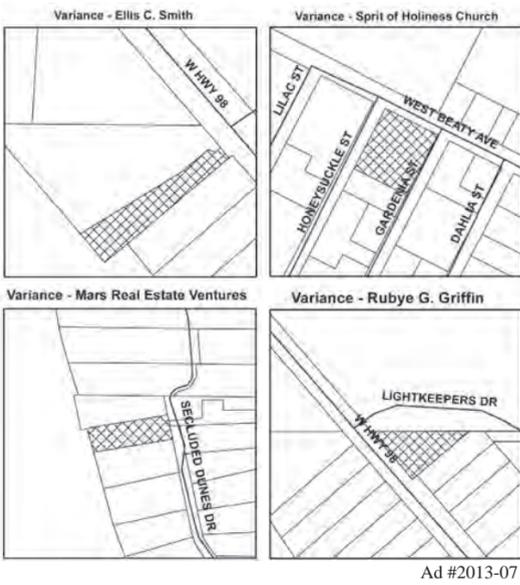
"This is a lot of fun and beneficial to the community," Ramsey said. "Every dime is spent here and this is about helping in the community and that is what the Lions Club is about."

PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) meeting on Monday, February 18, 2013 at 8:45 a.m. EST, and at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. EST. Both public hearings will be held in the BOCC Meeting Room at the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida. The public hearings will be to discuss and act on the following:

1. Variance Application - Ellis C. Smith - Parcel ID # 03806-085R - Located in Section 31, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida - encroachment into road setback to within 10' of ROW.
2. Variance Application - Sprit of Holiness Church - Parcel ID #02892-000R - Located in Section 11, Township 7 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, encroachment into road setback.
3. Variance Application - Mars Real Estate Ventures, LLC - Parcel ID #06345-810R - Located in Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 12 West, Gulf County, Florida, encroachment into road setback.
4. Variance Application - Rubye G. Griffin - Parcel ID #03806-005R - Located in Section 31, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida, encroachment into road setback.
5. County Development Regulations and Policies
6. Staff, Public and Open Discussion

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



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For additional advertising information in the official program of the 2013 Home & Garden Expo, contact The News Herald at 850-747-5000

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Growing potatoes in the home garden

The potato is one of America's most popular vegetables. Americans eat an average of 125 pounds of potatoes per person each year. *Solanum tuberosum*, the scientific name for the potato, also called the Irish potato, is a cool season crop. It is grown commercially in Florida in the winter and spring months when the days are warm and the nights are cool.

Commercial farms supply much of the county in the winter and spring with what is commonly referred to as "new" potatoes.

The same "new" potato flavor can be achieved in the home garden by following just a few growing recommendations.

One cannot truly appreciate the taste of a good potato until you grow and prepare it on your own. A recently grown and harvested potato tastes very different from one that has been in storage or on a grocery shelf for up to 6 months or more, and it is a very satisfying discovery to make.

My information on home grown potatoes was provided by Dr. James M. White and Dr. Stephen Olson with IFAS of the University of Florida. Fresh market/table varieties recommended for our area are: Red LaSoda, Larouge, Lachipper, Yuron Gold and Goldrush.

To grow a healthy potato crop, the soil must be properly prepared prior to planting. Since potatoes prefer a loose, well-drained, slightly acidic soil except in areas with a high water table where periodic flooding occurs.

Potatoes do not grow well in flooded conditions and care must be taken to ensure that excess water in the root zone is drained. To do this, beds should be formed about the level of the soil at least 10 to 12" to ensure that plants are above any standing water.

Potato plants are heavy feeders and require adequate nutrition throughout the growing season. In order to determine what kind and quantity of



ROY LEE CARTER
County extension director

nutrients should be applied to the soil, the nutrient status of the soil should be tested by a qualified laboratory.

If you have questions, contact your County Extension Office Personnel for local fertilization recommendations.

Your county agent can help you interpret soil test results and determine what nutrients are deficient in the soil.

Nitrogen and potassium are typically applied in at least two applications during the season. Half of the fertilizer should be applied at planting and the remainder applied during the season.

The potato tuber is the plant "part" planted to grow a new potato plant. When the tuber is planted it is called a "seed" potato. Only certified seed potatoes should be planted in the home garden. Certification insures that the seed tuber is free of diseases. Certified seed can be obtained from a number of

reputable garden supply stores. Do not purchase potatoes from the grocery store to plant in the home garden.

These may carry harmful potato discuss that will hurt the growth of your crop.

Potato tuber shave buds known as eyes on the skin surface from which new plants grow or sprout. Tubers are ready to cut into seed pieces when one or more of the eyes begin to sprout. Seed potatoes should be cut so that each piece is about the size of an egg with at least one eye per see piece. Cut seed pieces should heal-over before planting.

To heal a cut tuber, leave the tuber in a cool (60-65 degrees Fahrenheit) dark, well-ventilated, humid place for one or two days. Seed pieces can be planted directly after cutting but the risk of rot before sprouting is increased.

Plants should be spaced at about 6-8" within the row with at least 36" between rows.

Seed pieces should be planted 4" below the soil surface. Seed

pieces should be planted with the cut side down and eyes (or sprout) facing up.

Hilling is the act of adding soil to top of the potato row. Since the seed piece was only planted 4" below the soil surface, there is the possibility that new potatoes will push up above the soil surface. These exposed tubers turn green in the sun and will be inedible.

To prevent sun-burned tubers from forming, add about two or three inches of additional soil on the potato row when the sprout emerges from the soil.

Moderate soil moisture levels should be maintained throughout the season.

Care must be taken not to over water because potato roots do not grow well in conditions with too much water. Over watering promotes root and tuber decay. Insects, diseases, and nematodes are common problems on Bermuda grass.

For more information on potato production, contact the Gulf County Extension Service at 639-3200 or <http://gulf.ifas.ufl.edu>.

Beekeeping in the Panhandle

Star Staff Report

The University of Florida/IFAS will sponsor Beekeeping in the Panhandle, an interactive video class to be held at the local County Extension Offices.

The Gulf County Extension Office is located at 232 Lake Avenue in Wewahitchka.

The phone number is

639-3200.

The deadline for registration is Feb. 8 and the fee, \$25 per person, \$40 for a family, covers course materials and refreshments.

The schedule of classes, which will be held 6-8 p.m. CT, 7-9 p.m. ET on Monday evenings:

Feb. 18 - Queen and Package Bee Production; Feb. 25 - Nutrition/Immunity in Honey Bees; March 4 - IPM for Disease/Pest Control; and March 11 - History and Theory of Honey Production.

The cost of the Field Day and Trade Show is \$15 per person, \$10 for additional family members.

For more information or to register call the Gulf County Extension Office at 639-3200.

The deadline for registration is Feb. 8 and the fee, \$25 per person, \$40 for a family, covers course materials and refreshments.

The schedule of classes, which will be held 6-8 p.m. CT, 7-9 p.m. ET on Monday evenings:

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The cost of the Field Day and Trade Show is \$15 per person, \$10 for additional family members.

For more information or to register call the Gulf County Extension Office at 639-3200.

Turf and garden program

Special to The Star

The Gulf County Extension Service will be hosting a four-week Turf and Gardening Program, an interactive Video Course. Classes will be held on Tuesday

evenings from 6-8 p.m. CT at the Gulf County Extension Office located at 232 E. Lake Ave. in Wewahitchka.

Class will start on Tuesday, Feb. 26. The cost of the course is \$25 per person or \$40 for

a family which covers course material and refreshments.

The course schedule is as follows: Feb. 26 - pH, soil types, soil testing; March 5 - Fertilization; March 12 - Weed control; March 19 - Irrigation.

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| <p>1100-1170 ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>1100 - Legal Advertising 1110 - Classified Notices 1120 - Public Notices/Announcements 1125 - Carpools & Rideshare 1130 - Adoptions 1140 - Happy Ads 1150 - Personals 1160 - Lost 1170 - Found</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>Will be up for sale on February 22, 2013, 8:30 A.M. if payments are not brought up to date. February 7, 14, 2013</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>5TH STREET, PORT ST. JOE, FL 32456, 11:00 AM on the 7th day of March, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>ida 33309 Phone: (954)453-0365 Fax: (954) 771-6052 Toll Free: 1-800-441-2438 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516 eservice@clegalgroup.com February 14, 21, 2013</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>Chairman Attest: /s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk February 14, 21, 2013</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 24, 2013 and entered in 232007CA 000471CAXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Florida, wherein NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, F/K/A CENTEX HOME EQUITY COMPANY, LLC, is the Plaintiff and VICKERS, THOMAS L; SABRINA VICKERS; LEWIS D. MILES; JOHN DOE; JANE DOE are the Defendant(s). Benny Lister as the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the higher and best bidder for cash, the Front Lobby, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456, at 11:00 AM on March 7, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>IMPORTANT If you are a person with a disability who needs any 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 ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711. ADA Coordinator P.O. Box 1089, Panama City, Florida 32402. Phone: 850-747-5338 Fax: (850) 747-5717, Hearing Impaired: Dial 711, Email: ADARquest@jud14.flcourts.org</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>mary Administration has been entered in the estate of Charlie Ross Strange, deceased, File Number 13-04PR, by the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456; that the decedent's date of death was October 23, 2012; that the total value of the estate is \$5,351.00 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:</p> | <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>Mel C. Magidson Jr. Attorney FL Bar No: 261629 P.O. Box 340 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 (850) 227-7800 Fax: (850) 227-7878 E-Mail: mmagidson@glcom.net February 14, 21, 2013</p> |
| <p>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</p> <p>92233 PUBLIC NOTICE George E. Weems Memorial Hospital is seeking proposals from qualified Proposers for an electronic health records (EHR) system consisting of licensed software, hardware, and services, including, but not limited to, implementation, support, training, and other professional services (collectively referred to as "EHR System"). The Request for Proposal documentation can be obtained from the Hospital's website: http://www.weemsmemorial.com/p/news.asp. Proposals must be received NLT 4:00 PM EST on Friday, March 1, 2013. Proposals received after this date will be not be considered. All packages must be sealed and clearly state "RFP# WMH-2013-EHR" and delivered to 135 Avenue G, Apalachicola, Florida 32320. Please contact Chuck Edwards at 850-527-7537 or cedwards@weemsmemorial.com for additional information. February 14, 21, 2013</p> | <p>90144S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION: CASE NO.: 08-00476</p> | <p>LOTS 8, 10, AND 12, BLOCK 56, CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL MAP THEREOF ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA.</p> | <p>February 21, 2013 PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS BID #1213-08</p> | <p>Drug-Free Workplace Policy (as modified 10-10-06) Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act Policy (as modified 11-08-11) Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (as modified 02-12-13) These policies are on file with the Gulf County Clerk of Circuit Court, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456.</p> | <p>Submitted by: Robertson, Anschutz & Schneid, P.L.L.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 3010 N. Military Trail, Suite 300 Boca Raton, FL 33431 561-241-6901 Fax: 561-241-9181 February 14, 21, 2013</p> | <p>Allie E. Strange PO Box 355 Wewahitchka, Florida 32465</p> | <p>ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT: All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.</p> | <p>PORT ST. JOE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR Custom Design and Construction of a Timber Deck at Billy Joe Rish Memorial Parking Lot RFQ 2013-02 The Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency is requesting proposals for the custom design and construction of a timber deck at the Billy Joe Rish Memorial Parking Lot, located in Port St. Joe, Florida. The construction of this deck will ultimately support a structure similar to the City Commons Gazebo. The PSJRA will receive sealed qualifications from any qualified and properly licensed company or corporation interested in providing qualifications for the following project: Timber Deck at Billy Joe Rish Memorial Parking Lot. Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m. Eastern time on Friday, March 1, 2013. Submit three (3) copies to Gail Alsobrook, PSJRA, 150 Captain Fred's Place, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. Proposals shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, and RFQ number 2013-02. Proposals will be publicly opened and acknowledged at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin, Sr.,</p> |
| <p>92233 PUBLIC NOTICE George E. Weems Memorial Hospital is seeking proposals from qualified Proposers for an electronic health records (EHR) system consisting of licensed software, hardware, and services, including, but not limited to, implementation, support, training, and other professional services (collectively referred to as "EHR System"). The Request for Proposal documentation can be obtained from the Hospital's website: http://www.weemsmemorial.com/p/news.asp. Proposals must be received NLT 4:00 PM EST on Friday, March 1, 2013. Proposals received after this date will be not be considered. All packages must be sealed and clearly state "RFP# WMH-2013-EHR" and delivered to 135 Avenue G, Apalachicola, Florida 32320. Please contact Chuck Edwards at 850-527-7537 or cedwards@weemsmemorial.com for additional information. February 14, 21, 2013</p> | <p>RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Resetting Foreclosure Sale dated the 5th day of February, 2013, and entered in Case No. 08-00476, of the Circuit Court of the 14th Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR STRUCTURED ASSET INVESTMENT LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-4, Plaintiff, vs. ERNEST REESE ANTLEY; SARA M. ANTLEY; UNKNOWN TENANT(S); IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.</p> | <p>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. If you are a person with a disability who needs any 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 ADA Coordinator by mail at P.O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711.</p> | <p>Please place YOUR COMPANY NAME, SEALED BID, and the BID NUMBER on the outside of your envelope, and provide three copies of your proposal. Bids must be submitted to and specifications may be obtained from 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, February 22, 2013. Bids will be opened at this same location on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., E.T.</p> | <p>Gulf County is an Equal Employment Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer. Tynalin Smiley, Chairman February 14, 2013</p> | <p>92253S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA TOGETHER WITH A GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO.: 232007CA 000471CAXXXX Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale. Dated this 6th day of February, 2013. Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk of the Court By: BA Baxter As Deputy Clerk</p> | <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration) TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE: You are hereby notified that an Order of Sum-</p> | <p>Person Giving Notice: Allie E. Strange PO Box 355 Wewahitchka, Florida 32465 Attorney for Person Giving Notice:</p> | <p>REBECCA NORRIS Clerk Of The Circuit Court By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk Submitted by: Choice Legal Group, PA. 1800 NW 49th Street, Suite 120 Fort Lauderdale, Florida /s/ Tynalin Smiley,</p> |
| <p>90060S PUBLIC NOTICE Hwy 22 Storage 1249 Hwy 22, Wewahitchka, FL #41 Karen Chancey #52 Keresa Roberts #66 Kathie Sarlento</p> | <p>1000 COURT HOUSE, 1000</p> | <p>REBECCA NORRIS Clerk Of The Circuit Court By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk Submitted by: Choice Legal Group, PA. 1800 NW 49th Street, Suite 120 Fort Lauderdale, Florida</p> | <p>BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA /s/ Tynalin Smiley,</p> | <p>NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY</p> | <p>NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY</p> | <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration) TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE: You are hereby notified that an Order of Sum-</p> | <p>Person Giving Notice: Allie E. Strange PO Box 355 Wewahitchka, Florida 32465 Attorney for Person Giving Notice:</p> | <p>REBECCA NORRIS Clerk Of The Circuit Court By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk Submitted by: Choice Legal Group, PA. 1800 NW 49th Street, Suite 120 Fort Lauderdale, Florida</p> |

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 on March 1, 2013 at 3:05 PM EST, in the City Commission Chamber.

The complete RFQ Solicitation, Plans, and Specifications can be downloaded from the Port St. Joe Redevelopment website at www.PSJRA.com. Proposals of Qualifications will be evaluated by the PSJRA and ultimately approved by the City Commission. The PSJRA and/or City have the right to reject any or all proposals. February 14, 21, 2013

92299S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case No. 23-2008-CA-000491

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR TRUCAP GRANTOR TRUST 2010-2, Plaintiff,

vs.

TED B. SPARLING, JR.; LISA M. SPARLING; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; TENANT #1, TENANT #2, TENANT #3 AND TENANT #4 THE NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS TO ACCOUNT FOR PARTIES IN POSSESSION, Defendants

AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the final judgment/order entered in the above noted case, that I will sell the following property situated in Gulf County, Florida described as:

LOT 9 AND THE EAST 1/2 OF LOT 7, BLOCK 46, CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 19, PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA.

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder for cash, at the Courthouse Lobby, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456, at 11:00 A.M. ET on March 7, 2013. The highest bidder shall immediately post with the Clerk, a deposit equal to five percent (5%) of the final bid. The deposit must be cash or cashier's check payable to the Clerk of the Court. Final payment must be made on or before 5:00 P.M. ET, on the date of the sale by cash or cashier's check.

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.

Rebecca Norris CLERK OF COURT

BA Baxter Deputy Clerk February 14, 21, 2013

92301S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case No.: 2011-CA-000420

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-2, Plaintiff,

vs.

William Chris Harwood a/k/a William C. Harwood and Johanna Michelle Grissom a/k/a Johanna M. Grissom; Note Tracker Corporate; Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated February 7, 2013 entered in Civil Case No. 2011-CA-000420 of the Circuit Court of the 14th Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Florida, wherein Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-2, Plaintiff and William Chris Harwood a/k/a William C. Harwood and Johanna Michelle Grissom a/k/a Johanna M. Grissom are defendant(s), I, Clerk of Court, REBECCA L. NORRIS, will sell to the highest and

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

best bidder for cash AT THE FRONT DESK OF THE GULF COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LOCATED AT 1000 5TH STREET, PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, AT 11:00 A.M. on March 7, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4, SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, THENCE RUN SOUTH 00-01-37 WEST, 82.98 FEET, TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH R/W OF A COUNTY ROAD, THENCE RUN SOUTH 87-3250 WEST, 420.28 FEET TO THE POB; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00-02-30 WEST, 270 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 87-32-50 WEST, 165 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 00-02-30 EAST, 270 FEET; THENCE NORTH 87-32-50 EAST BACK TO THE POB.

MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY A RECENT SURVEY PREPARED BY EDWIN G. BROWN AND ASSOCIATES, INC., BEARING THE DATE OF NOV. 11, 2004, UNDER JOB NO. 04-728PSC:25959 AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEASTLY CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 37 SECONDS WEST 82.98 FEET TO A POINT LYING ON THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF BRYAN SETTE-RICH ROAD; THENCE RUN ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY SOUTH 87 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 50 SECONDS WEST 420.28 FEET TO A ROD AND CAP FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING AND LEAVING SAID RIGHT OF WAY RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST 269.92 FEET TO A ROD AND CAP; THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST 164.96 FEET TO A ROD AND CAP; THENCE NORTH 02 DEGREES 07 SECONDS EAST 269.96 FEET TO A ROD AND CAP LYING ON SAID SOUTHERLY LIGHT OF WAY; THENCE RUN ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY NORTH 88 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST 164.99 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

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.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any 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 ADA Coordinator by mail at P.O. Box 1089; Panama City, FL 32402 at (850) 747-5338, at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, call 711.

REBECCA L. NORRIS Clerk of Circuit Court Gulf County, Florida

BA Baxter Deputy Clerk of Court

Submitted By: ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF: SHAPIRO, FISHMAN & GACHE, LLP 2424 North Federal Highway, Suite 360 Boca Raton, Florida 33431 (561) 998-6700 (561) 998-6707 10-207790 FC01 W50 February 14, 21, 2013

ADOPTIONS 1130

Adopt: Active educated couple year to share LOVE of outdoors, music, each other w/baby *Dirk & Claudia* Expenses Paid FKBar42311 1800-522-0045



PETS & ANIMALS 2100-2150

2100 - Pets 2110 - Pets: Free to Good Home 2120 - Pet Supplies 2130 - Farm Animals/Supplies 2140 - Pets/Livestock Wanted 2150 - Pet Memorials

PETS 2100

Extra Mile Pet Sitting Home visits/overnight in the comfort of your pets home. Gulf & Bay County Diana 227-5770 Dan 227-8225 extramilepetsitting.com



3100-3350 MERCHANDISE

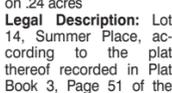
3100 - Antiques 3110 - Appliances 3120 - Arts & Crafts 3130 - Auctions 3140 - Baby Items 3150 - Building Supplies 3160 - Business Equipment 3170 - Collectibles 3180 - Computers 3190 - Electronics 3200 - Firewood 3210 - Free Pass It On 3220 - Furniture 3230 - Garage/Yard Sales 3240 - Guns 3250 - Good Things to Eat 3260 - Health & Fitness 3270 - Jewelry/Clothing 3280 - Machinery/Equipment 3290 - Medical Equipment 3300 - Miscellaneous 3310 - Musical Instruments 3320 - Plants & Shrubs/Supplies 3330 - Restaurant/Hotel 3340 - Sporting Goods 3350 - Tickets (Buy & Sell)

AUCTIONS 3130

Internal Revenue Service Public Auction

Under the authority in Internal Revenue Code section 6331, the property described below has been seized for nonpayment of internal revenue taxes due from Thomas F. Wikerson AKA Ferrell Wikerson. The property will be sold at public auction as provided by Internal Revenue Code section 6335 and related regulations. Date of Sale: March 14th, 2013 Time of Sale: 10:00 AM Location of Sale: 8119 Americus Avenue Port Saint Joe, FL 32456 Only the right, title, and interest of Thomas F. Wikerson AKA Ferrell Wikerson in and to the property will be offered for sale. If requested, the Internal Revenue Service will furnish information about possible encumbrances, which may be useful in determining the value of the interest being sold. Description of Property: A single family residential property 3/3 built in 2001 living area 1,786 gross area 4,118 on .24 acres Legal Description: Lot 14, Summer Place, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 51 of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida. APN# 03806-770R Payment Terms: 20% payment required on acceptance of highest bid within one hour and the remaining funds due by April 4th, 2013. All payments must be by cash, certified check, cashier's or treasurer's check or by a United States postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. Make check or money order payable to the United States Treasury. For more information, please contact Sharon W. Sullivan Internal Revenue Service 7850 SW 6th CT MS 5780 Plantation, FL 33324 Tel (954)740-2421 or e m a i l Sharon.W.Sullivan@irs.gov or visit our website www.irsauctions.gov

Freezer 22 cubic foot Upright freezer, in excellent condition. \$125. (850) 229-8072



HELP WANTED 4100

Church Secretary

Methodist Church Port St. Joe, approx. 30 hrs a week, to manage office, Mon-Fri. Send resume to Dr Lentz at goffreylentz@me.com Hospitality Part Time weekend help needed for all positions, apply in person, 4693 Cape San Blas Rd or 1200 Hwy 98 Mexico Beach

HELP WANTED 4100

NOW HIRING

Scallop Cove, 4310 Cape San Blas Road, is looking for Full Time Permanent Positions as well as Summer Help. Must be dependable, honest and have the ability to get to and from work. Starting pay is \$8.00/hour with increased pay for work performance after 90 day period. Responsibilities include retail sales, cashier, stocking, customer service, deli food prep, among other things. Must be able to work well with others and have a great attitude with the general public. COME IN AND GET AN APPLICATION AND ASK FOR MELISSIA OR JILL We are also looking for individuals to work March and April only to handle spring break.

GARAGE/YARD SALES 3230

NEW TODAY St Joe Beach 8111 Alabama Ave, Saturday 8am-1pm; Multi Family Prom Dress(sz 20w Never Worn), Clothing, Jewelry, Housewares, Baby Items, and Etc.

JEWELRY/CLOTHING 3270

NEW TODAY Mimi's Upscale Resale

200 Reid Ave Taking new consigners. Juniors, Womens, Mens and Kids. Spring and Summer clothing. Call for an appointment 850-229-6464

MISCELLANEOUS 3300

Bargain's New Merchandise Liquidation Store, In Hickory Plaza, Prices 25-75% Below Retail! Mention Ad for Additional 10% OFF! 414 S. Tyndall Pkwy 850-215-2755

Cash Management System Royal Alpha 710 ML Exc cond. Barely used. \$150. 850-229-8072 Text FL40365 to 56654

Freezer 22 cubic foot Upright freezer, in excellent condition. \$125. (850) 229-8072



HELP WANTED 4100

Other JOB NOTICE The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners is accepting applications for a Central Service Director Applications and a complete job description are available in our HR office or at www.gulfcounty-fl.gov Application deadline is Thursday, February 28th at 5:00p.m. E.T. For more information, please contact Brett Lowry or Lynn Lanier, Deputy Administrator at 850-229-6106. Gulf County enforces a Drug-Free Workplace Policy and is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Web-Id 34240730 Text FL40730 to 56554



REAL ESTATE FOR RENT 6100-6200

6100 - Business/Commercial 6110 - Apartments 6120 - Beach Rentals 6130 - Condo/Townhouse 6140 - House Rentals 6150 - Roommate Wanted 6160 - Rooms for Rent 6170 - Mobile Home/Lot 6180 - Out-of-Town Rentals 6190 - Timeshare Rentals 6200 - Vacation Rentals

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS 6100

NEW TODAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE 7100-7200

Mexico Beach, 2100 sq ft prime commercial space, Hwy 98 frontage, ample parking, rent neg., Call Jason 850-340-1237

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

HOUSE RENTALS 6140

Port St Joe Beach, 4 Br/ 2 Ba, 2 car Garage, one block from the beach. No Pets. \$950/month. (850) 544-2218

NEW TODAY PSJ 3db 1ba home w/ storage building for boat, large yard, great views. \$850/ month 770-654-1328

NEW TODAY PSJ, 3 br, 1 ba, all brick 404 Battles Street, corner lot - large yard. W/D incl \$650/mo + dep. 301-265-5368

St George Island Beach Front 3 Br, 2 Ba \$1500 mo + \$1500 deposit. Call Pets upon approval 816-698-2405

NEW TODAY St Joe Beach 3 br, 2 BA, gar, 20 mins from Tyndall Air Force Base, community pool, beach, tennis courts, playground, 1 blk from beach. \$1,100 month + dep - discounts for military 850-441-3775

Year Round Rental. 3br 2ba w/ deep water dock 1st/ last + sec/ deposit \$750 Call (850) 348-7774

NEW TODAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE 7100-7200

7100 - Homes 7105 - Open House 7110 - Beach Home/Property 7120 - Commercial 7130 - Condo/Townhouse 7140 - Farms & Ranches 7150 - Lots and Acreage 7160 - Mobile Homes/Lots 7170 - Waterfront Property 7180 - Investment Property 7190 - Out-of-Town Real Estate 7200 - Timeshare

LOTS AND ACREAGE 7150

Wewa, Lot 3, wooded lot, great campsite or for home, Paid \$17k, Best Deal ever \$9k. No owner financing. (850) 348-6606/ or janice50 griffin@yahoo.com

NEW TODAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE 7100-7200

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MOVING/STORAGE 9512

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