



Don't forget to change your clock this weekend

Small voter turnout OKs school levy

By TIM CROFT
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Gulf County voters provided four more years for Gulf District Schools on Tuesday.

On a day in which one of five registered voters went to the polls, voters approved continuing for another four years the one mill additional operating levy first approved by voters four years ago.

That levy was due to sunset during the current fiscal year.

A mill is equal to \$1 for every \$1,000 in taxable personal property.

\$1.3 MILLION

The approximate value of the additional mill for the year

The outcome was 54.88 percent of the vote, or 972 votes, in favor of the levy with 45 percent, 799 votes, voting against continuing the additional mill.

The turnout was light. Supervisor of Elections John Hanlon had predicted early in the day that the one-question ballot would draw between 12-20

percent of the vote.

The percentage was 19.36, or 1,771 of the county's 9,149 registered voters.

"I wouldn't say we received a mandate, but we got a nod from the voters to continue the path established for the high standard delivery of education that our children can get from Gulf County schools," said Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton.

"I respect the process and these are tight economic times, but the positive effects of this vote will be felt in the very near future. I can assure the voters

that we will not raise the (Local Capital Improvement) millage the board could have raised by one mill and I commend the voters for providing this alternative means of support."

The district still faces budget cuts.

Norton and financial officer Sissy Worley have said the district will face a budget shortfall of roughly \$500,000, necessitating some cuts.

But the levy was seen as a way to avert drastic cutbacks that would have resulted if the district did not receive the additional

mill, worth roughly \$1.3 million this year.

The district has seen the value of the mill shrink the past four years, realizing about \$4 million less over the past four years than projected when the district first went before voters in 2009.

In addition, declining enrollment — 400 students in the past decade — and the per-pupil funding each student carries under the state's funding formula for public schools had feasted on the district's bottom line.

See **LEVY A8**

Bigger problems

Flood damage minimal; mosquitos become health risk



WES LOCHER | The Star

A resident on Lake Grove road is inconvenienced by flood waters.

By WES LOCHER
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Emergency Management Director, Marshall Nelson, announced to the Gulf County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday that the Emergency

Operations Center had lowered its response level to three, and indicated they'd be monitoring individual flooding situations while they assessed damage in affected areas.

While more than 150 residents were inconvenienced by the rising water around

their homes, at the time of the meeting it was reported that fewer than 10 homes in Gulf County had experienced water damage, though preliminary assessments would continue throughout the week.

The bigger concern was damage from flash flooding

on local roads.

Mark Cothran, Director of Gulf County Mosquito Control said that the new problem were the mosquitos that currently infested the flood waters in the area.

See **MOSQUITOS A2**

PSJ approves filmmaker for lighthouse documentary

By TIM CROFT
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The city of Port St. Joe has its documentary filmmaker; now commissioners need a path forward on saving the Cape San Blas Lighthouse.

Commissioners on Tuesday approved a recommendation from the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency to award a contract to create a documentary film on the relocation of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse to Lisa Curry, a Port St. Joe native living in Los Angeles.

There were five bids to fill the bill on a \$125,000 grant the city was awarded by BP to create a documentary on the saving of the lighthouse. Curry, PSJRA executive director Gail Alsobrook said, was selected based on several factors.

One, was the "wealth of experience" Curry and partner Clayton Long brought to the project, Alsobrook said.

"I have seen her credentials and they are quite impressive," said Mayor Mel Magidson.

In addition, Curry was born and raised in Port St. Joe, the oldest child of Drs. Tom and Betty Curry of Shoreline Medical.

She was a stellar student at Port St. Joe High School and while a senior wrote an award-winning essay about her community and the symbolism of the railroad tracks that at the time still divided the north and south sides of the city.

"They have a passion for this project," Alsobrook said. "They really want it to be great."

Alsobrook added that Curry and Long recognized the depth of the local talent that would be at their disposal and the value those individuals and businesses — several of whom also bid on the project — could bring to the project.

See **DOCUMENTARY A8**

Small business solutions found in Port St. Joe

By WES LOCHER
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Three years ago Bill Deeson started his business, Deeson AC and Heating, in Mexico Beach and one year ago he went to the Gulf County Small Business Development Center to seek its advice.

His only regret was that he wished he had gone sooner.

The Small Business Development Center has a very simple goal for the community: it wants to help local entrepreneurs start, grow and stay in business.

"I recommend talking with them before you start your business," said Deeson adding,

"They'll hook you up."

The SBDC has a very simple goal for the community: it wants

to help local entrepreneurs start, grow and stay in business.

Founded in 1976, with eight centers, the U.S. SBDC now has 1,100 across the country with 40 offices in Florida alone.

In 2011 it helped 83 new businesses get their start, created and retained 409 jobs in the region, increased sales revenue by \$2.9 million and awarded \$5.2 million in government contracts.

The SBDC offers many free counseling services for new businesses or those who have been established for a while.

Companies like Deeson's that choose to sit down one-on-one with a certified business analyst will receive assistance putting together their business plan, creating organizational structures,

See **BUSINESS A8**



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The 'coolest' company in Port St. Joe

By WES LOCHER
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"This is the best tasting ice you'll ever have," said former U.S. Marine, Mike Hobson.

When he began building his custom ice machines by hand in 2005, he never dreamed that he had would soon be stumbling into a new career.

Hobson's local company, Polarmatic, ranks number two out of the four leading ice vending systems on the market today.

What truly sets Polarmatic apart from the competition is the ice itself.

Most store ice has been melted and refrozen numerous times before it reaches the consumer, but with Hobson's design, the ice is always frozen and kept at the perfect temperature of 23 degrees right up until the bag lands in the consumer's hands.

When ice melts it begins to absorb the smells and flavors of everything around it and its Hobson's goal to have the freshest ice on the market.

Hobson wanted to move his company somewhere that he'd



WES LOCHER | The Star

Polarmatic's first ice machine in Port St. Joe is open at Smiley's Detailing.

be able to provide jobs to a local economy.

Having lived in Port St. Joe in the 1980s, he had fond memories and decided that Gulf County was the perfect place.

In 2009 Polarmatic received its design patent and Hobson and his

wife packed up and relocated to the Constitution City from Moultrie, Georgia.

By February 2010 the Polarmatic factory was opened on First Street with 11 employees on payroll.

An automation specialist for

paper mills by day, Hobson decided to put his skillset to work in the ice business after a church friend suggested the idea.

Three prototypes and three years later he sold his first machine.

To date, the company has sold over 150 ice machines to far-flung locales such as North Dakota, Texas, and the Virgin Islands.

Not forgetting about the Sunshine State, Polarmatic's units can be found in Callaway, coming soon in Eastpoint and now open in Port St. Joe near Smiley's Detailing.

To make the best product possible, Hobson brought all production in-house, from assembly to electronics programming, service, sales, and even graphic design which allows Polarmatic to give each machine a custom look according to the customer's wants and needs.

To build the machines, many parts are purchased locally from shops like Ramsey's Printing, Johnnie's Trim Shop, and Mize Plumbing Services and Supplies, Hobson said.

It's a true family business.

While Mike considers himself the ideas man, his wife Michelle

is the company's Corporate Secretary.

Their son, Makale, a high school senior, wires all of the computer control panels by hand.

Even though it's technical and often complicated, Makale likes seeing his hard work along the side of the road. "It's cool when I see them. I helped put it out there," he said.

John Pritchard, the quality and engineering manager oversees the company's modular vehicles and remains constantly in awe of the machines.

"None of the other ice machines are built like this," he said.

In April of 2013 Polarmatic will roll out a new website and marketing plan and they're currently exploring deals with the U.S. Army and potential customers as far away as Spain and Italy.

Hobson sees his machines as a way to help the world.

In times of disaster or crisis when ice and water is desperately needed, he'd like to be able to roll a Polarmatic ice machine up to the area and be able to wheel it back out once the problem has been solved.

MOSQUITOS from page A1

"There are thousands of mosquitos in the water," said Cothran as he showed video footage of the infestation from Lake Grove Road in Wewahitchka. "This is a public health risk."

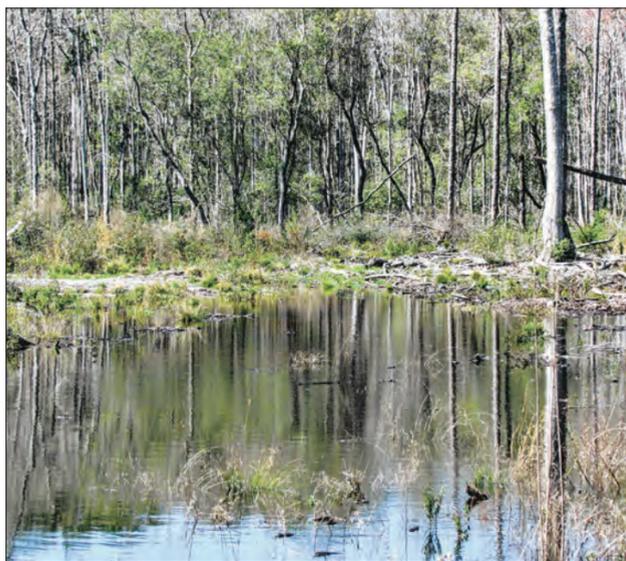
Cothran asked that locals do their part to slow down the bugs and follow the Five D's of Mosquito Control—Drain all standing water, avoid dawn and dusk, dress in long sleeves and pants and defend yourself by using appropriate bug spray.

Commissioners Carmen McLemore, Joanna Bryan and Tan Smiley, who oversaw the meeting, put into motion a local state of emergency for the county until the mosquito population had diminished.

"We'll get through it," said McLemore.



Left: Lake Grove Road suffered a wash out last week due to flash flooding.



PHOTOS BY WES LOCHER | The Star

Right: Flood waters along Lake Grove Road are now home to a mosquito infestation.

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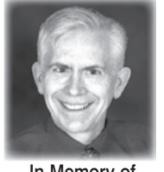
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Humane Society pushes free spay/neuter program

By TIM CROFT
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The St. Joseph Humane Society is working against unwanted pregnancies among the four-legged population.

The Humane Society was recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from Pet Smart Charities targeting spay and neutering of dogs in the 32456 zip code.

"The purpose of the grant is to make the biggest impact," said Melody Townsend, director of the Humane Society. "The purpose is to make a large dent in a

targeted area."

Sandi Christy, president of the Humane Society's board, emphasized that the grant money will supplement the organization's existing free spay/neuter program and also noted that the targeted zip code includes Mexico Beach and a bulk of the south end of Gulf County.

The grant will pay for the surgeries to spay and neuter dogs and to come up with a plan to address animal over-population in that zip code, Townsend said.

The vets on board for the effort are Dr. Hobson Fulmer and Dr. Albert Biaz.

"We've got a year to spend it and we are really focused on the areas of Oak Grove, Highland View and North Port St. Joe," Townsend said.

Townsend said the grant was important because rural communities rarely have the resources to undertake such a program.

Most of similar grants target more urban or heavily populated areas, but "(Pet Smart Charities) were impressed with our pitch to them."

As for a long-term address of spay and neuter needs, Townsend said the grant provides the ability for the humane society to get

out in the community to educate people on the need to spay and neuter pets.

"We are hoping to go into churches," Townsend said. "We want to just educate people."

Giving an unwanted or surprise litter away, Townsend said, does not address the problem as there is no telling where those dogs will end up and whether those offspring will be spayed or neutered.

Passing on the problem, Townsend noted, does not address the problem.

"What happens to their offspring?" she said.

MORE INFO

To download an application form to spay or neuter a dog in the 32456 zip code, visit sjbhumanesociety.org or fax the SJBHS at 227-1191. Application forms can also be picked up at the Humane Society shelter on 10th Street in Port St. Joe or at Bow Wow Beach downtown.

For additional information call the SJBHS at 227-1103.



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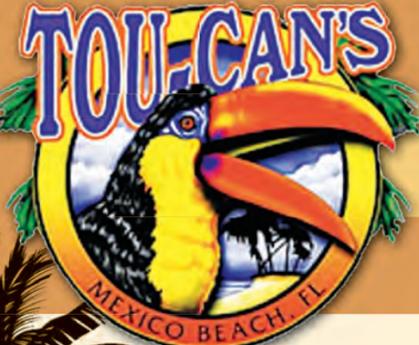
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NEW MENU ITEMS & NEW WINE LIST

'Phyllisology'

As many of you know, I have a "godmother" named Phyllis who lives in Gary, Indiana. I have never seen her, but I talk to her on the phone three or four times a week.

That's the way it started; she called me by mistake a couple of years ago.

At the time, I was visiting relatives in the South driving around my hometown in Alabama. We talked about her dialing the wrong number and I pulled off the road into a parking lot and continued the conversation for about 30 minutes that first time.

Since then, we have continued to talk. If I go for a few days without calling her, she will call and pretend to be mad. I enjoy talking to her; I even enjoy it when she pretends to be mad at me. When my mother passed away, Phyllis decided to be my godmother. Phyllis turned 92 at the beginning of February.

In the past couple of years, I have learned that Phyllis has grandsons who played in the NFL, a brother in New York who she needs me "to preach at" every once in a while and a new great granddaughter living pretty close to where I live.

Recently, she called me while I was in the classroom, teaching one of the college mathematics courses I enjoy teaching. One of my rules in the classroom has to do with no cell phones, texting, etc. My students understand that Phyllis is the exception.

If she calls, I will answer the phone. I never know if it will be the last time I hear her voice. On this day, I put my cell phone on the speaker and let her talk to my students. She was very kind and called them all, "Sweetie Pies."

All of them told her, "Hello."

She often gets mixed up and thinks that I am teaching young children. The students I am teaching are understanding and enjoy hearing her talk.

The first time my students hear her, I can see the look in their faces and what they are asking - "Your godmother is an African-American living in Gary, Indiana?"

Why not? Like a lot of older folks, Phyllis sometimes repeats herself and her stories. I don't mind. I consider it a blessing. I don't even mind when she starts in on her preaching, because in all honesty it is impressive

what she knows. Phyllis always tells me that a lot of her relatives don't like her calling because she is preaching and talking about the Bible all the time.

After telling everyone hello and calling them sweetie pies, Phyllis told me she would call back later in the afternoon. She knows what time I drive home and how long my commute is. Phyllis probably has it either written down or marked on the clock.

Again, that is just fine by me. Later in the afternoon on my commute home, my phone rang and the big fancy "P" showed up on the screen of my cell phone. It was Phyllis. I put it on the hands-free speaker thing and let her roll. In other words, sometimes I just listen. The value of "just listening" is something that should never be underestimated.

On this afternoon, I got a lesson in Entomology and Zoology, or more specifically, "bugs and animals."

For the past two years, it seems they have been trying to rid Phyllis' complex/home of bugs. Phyllis calls them "chinchies" or bed bugs. They bite her and worry her continuously. It is concerning.

However, it sounds like they have pretty much taken her apartment apart trying to kill them all. On this afternoon, she told me that they even pulled up the floor:

I can't imagine, but I get a pretty vivid picture.

What does Phyllis say about this?

She says, "Our God is wonderful isn't he?"

Can you believe that? She really does. She goes on to defend the chinchies saying that the construction people built the apartment complex on top of their home and they have nowhere else to go.

Whatever it is, bad, terrible or worse (the Chicago Bulls losing), Phyllis finds good in it. She loves the Bulls and will call me late at night and tell me what channel they are playing on. I'm not much on the NBA, but I always thank her.

After the bugs, she started talking about deer and how many she used to see in Virginia when she would come to visit. Again, she said the reason was that we took their home and "they have no place

See CRANKS A5



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Keyboard KLATTERINGS

Books, babes and Boyer

There is always at least a little time for the fun stuff.

And, as I have often found, when fun stuff arrives it often comes wrapped in lessons about passion for community and civic



TIM CROFT
Star news editor

stewardship that are hiding in plain sight.

Last week offered up several examples. One would be the Reid Avenue Bunco Babes.

Less than three years ago this group of local ladies with a love for a particular dice game decided to roll for books.

The idea was to attract as many Bunco players as possible to a day of cubes and food.

Everybody would pay a small amount for the fun and the money collected would be donated to the Friends of the Port St. Joe Library.

At the time, I had no idea what Bunco was beyond what Sgt. Friday taught me during his frequent excursions with the Bunco squad on Dagnet.

In order not to date myself too much, let's say I learned this while watching reruns of Dagnet.

In any case, until meeting with the Reid Avenue Babes the concept of Bunco conjured up all manners of vice.

As for the game, I hadn't a clue and still don't. Anything more complicated that checkers is beyond me.

But the library was certainly in need.

This community asset was having its budget slashed as governments constrained on spending and so many perks of the library, magazines, newspapers, books on CD, entertainment DVDs, depended on the margin between fully-funded and cash shortfalls.

That is where the Friends of the Library come in.

The Bunco Babes decided they could assist the library's mission

with planned play-dates and hoped that the concept would find suitable traction.

Many times, such noble ideas die over time due to lack of attention; we have certainly seen our share.

But nearly \$10,000 and six fundraisers later, the Reid Avenue Bunco Babes are going strong.

With nary a desire for the spotlight - just try getting them all to pose for one photo.

The library has more offerings, can allow visitors to check out more books on CD or DVDs, favorites among snowbirds, than ever before.

In turn, the library, despite cutting hours as a result of those budget shortfalls, has become even more of an asset, with membership, computer use, books on loan and other numbers on an upward arc.

The Reid Avenue Bunco Babes have become bricks to the foundation of the Port St. Joe Public Library, their twice-a-year fundraisers the mortar to constructing a better, more useful library.

At this juncture, it would be impossible to move on without a mention of Cathy Colbert and the Friends of the Port St. Joe Public Library.

Colbert is a tireless advocate of the library and her community, a smiling presence whether in the classroom - where she continues to teach even after passing retirement age - or in the community.

She is a picture of grace, charm and a marvel of thanks whenever the Bunco Babes come around with their checks, unfailing in her generosity towards the Babes' efforts and ability to work so tirelessly for the library.

And among the ranks of those Bunco Babes is Dana Boyer, named the Volunteer of the Year by the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce last week.

Calling Boyer the Volunteer of the Year, however, seems almost like saying Elvis had pretty hair.

Last year, with the Board of County Commissioners and Port St. Joe City Commission in a bit of kerfuffle regarding paying for the annual Fourth of July fireworks show in the city, Boyer took the baton and sped ahead.

She began a private-sector fundraising campaign and even in a tight economy her efforts secured more than \$6,000 in contributions. A fireworks display that is a community staple was transformed from a dud to cracker jack.

Last fall, the annual Ghosts on the Coast Halloween celebration was endangered, with the Chamber and many small businesses wondering whether the expense and energy of the event was worthwhile.

Boyer was undaunted. Ghosts on the Coast, she said, was a tradition, something residents marked on their calendars each year.

And Boyer defines that old maxim about wills and ways.

She solicited support among the small-business community and launched a campaign for candy donations so those businesses would not feel they were bearing the brunt of the expense for an event from which others derived so much.

No seeking of public or personal glory, no desire for honorifics or monetary gain.

Just a passion to improve the community, to maintain the fabric of that community wherever fraying appeared, to continue the traditions that help define that community.

There is a popular cliché characterizing governmental actions that benefit multiple parties, agreements that carry mutual satisfaction of goals reached.

In folks like the Reid Avenue Bunco Babes, Cathy Colbert and Dana Boyer the community is fortunate to have people who see, in almost any situation, a win-win direction.

Leon was not the fourth man!

I was just finishing up a talk over at that big church in Panama City Beach about that fourth man

in the fire when an older gentleman sitting towards

the back raised his hand. Now, I figured he wanted some clarification as to exactly how many "dissidents" King Nebuchadnezzar had ordered tossed into the fiery furnace. Perhaps he was going to ask

me how those three bound men got untied amongst all the heat. Lord, I was hoping he wasn't wanting me to spell Shadrach, Meshach or Abednego! It crossed my mind as I recognized him that he might want to know if this was a literal story or some form of Christian hyperbole, or parable, aimed at teaching the brethren the importance of standing firm. At the very least he would expect some sure 'nuff Ecclesiastical explanation as to the presence and pertinence of the fourth man. You know how those Baptist can be at times.....

He cleared his throat and fairly shouted, "Is Leon a real person and are those stories you write about him absolutely true?"

My notes fell off the podium. I heard a murmur go through the choir behind me. The pastor turned as red as a fresh pulled rhubarb. The pianist, who had retaken her seat in anticipation of my concluding statements,

accidentally hit a b flat. The whole congregation leaned forward so as not to miss my answer.

I have been asked that question a thousand

times over the years. It has come up at Lions Club meetings, talks before the Historical Society, at VFW breakfasts, once at a Florida Property Appraiser's Convention and numerous times coming out of restaurants, running onto the football field or standing in the paint department at the hardware store. I reckon this was the first time I had been confronted from the pulpit.

I looked that big fellow right in the eye and said, "Sir, Leon is as real as that fourth man in the fire!"

Folks have from time to time read my little stories and commented on my vivid imagination; or my flair for spinning a yarn. I appreciate their thoughts but they miss the point entirely. I don't make this stuff up! Imagination has nothing to do with it! I'm not smart enough nor do I have the ability to make something out of nothing!

Leon is as real as rain. I grew up, as I have often stated, out at the end of North Stonewall Street in McKenzie, Tennessee. LaRenda Bradfield is real. Miss Carolyn Blades was my first grade teacher. Miss Polly Rucker taught her high school English. David Paschall ran over me

so many times in football I have his helmet marks to this day permanently indented in my chest.

We ate hamburgers at the City Café. We bought our kites, candy corn and Valentine cards at the Ben Franklin Store. We spent hours trying to catch the gold fish in the city square pond. I got Smiley Burnette's autograph in 1958 where the McKenzie Banner's office is today. We bought cherry cokes and malted milkshakes at John Motherall's drugstore. We escaped the humdrum of life at the Park Theatre chasing bad guys across the screen with Roy, Hoppy and Gene. We played baseball in the open lot between Ricky Hale and Jimmy Mabry's houses. That field is still there... it has just shrunk some over time.

It was a normal "mid America" life from a generation ago. There were thousands of towns, city squares, malt shops and movie theaters just like ours. I hope it doesn't offend anyone that I just happen to believe mine was the best! Nobody, and I mean NOBODY, had a better childhood than we did!

Leon was a big part of it. As his younger brother I knew him better than most. That could be a good thing... but then again, that could cost you, too. If he wanted to play "Stalag 17" he would make me go up on the roof with a flashlight to "be" the German sentry. It was a two story house

and I had to crawl out an upstairs window onto the small porch roof and then jump and catch the ledge of the upper roof and pull myself up over the edge to reach the top. I'd then sprawl out on the roof peak overlooking the side yard, trying to shine the light on Leon, Joe Gooch or Jackie Burns as runaway prisoners. If Leon tired of this game, he'd throw walnuts or dirt clods at me to see if he could knock me off the roof.

Leon was living "outside the box" even before there was such a thing. As a matter of fact, he couldn't even see the box from where he was enjoying life. If you could think of it, he would try it! If it seemed impossible or made no real practical sense he would be off and running before you could say Jack Sprat! I have simply made a semi-living for a while now recording those thrilling days of yesteryear.

I might embellish a story here and there for effect. I don't know if you'd say that was invoking literary license, good creative writing or expressing my poetic freedom. Daddy would say it was flat out lying. It wouldn't matter that I was his middle son.

But, even Dad would tell you, Leon is real. The town is real. The people are real. And the memories are real.

And I thank God every day for them.

Respectfully,
Kes

THE STAR

USPS 518-880

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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.

The run ends but the road never does

By ED MCATEER
Contributing Writer

How can you get what you want from life if you do not know what it is that you want?

Over the past years, I have observed a problem within our society in it seems to be that a great many people feel lost, confused, and are without a sense of purpose. They have no direction in their lives and seem to be floating about aimlessly. Going from relationship to relationship, job to job, day to day, seeking happiness in material possessions, and always wanting more but doing less to achieve.

In the United States, young people today, in general, are less likely to practice organized religion than older generations, and they are more probable to be skeptical about religious institutions. A recent study at a major university looked

at 1,385 people aged 18 to 25 and found that more than half of those in the study said that they did not pray regularly before a meal. Two-thirds said that they never had discussed religion with friends, attended religious services, or read religious material. Twenty-five percent of those studied did not identify themselves as religious practitioners.

Unlike generations that have gone before them, they are much more pampered, nurtured and programmed with a slew of activities since they were toddlers, that make them both high-performance and high-maintenance. They seem to believe in their own self-worth and do not really care that much for others or what others think of them. This is a dramatic generational turn around.

What is it they long for but cannot find? They seem to give up to easy

and embellish no kind of satisfaction for a life purpose. Everything must be now, without any conscience of having patience for tomorrow or what will come along down the road. Troubling to me is they seem to be okay with this attitude.

If you (or someone you know) are unhappy with life... could it be because you do not have a direction or sense of purpose in life? Is it because you wake up in the morning with no goal to work towards, idly hoping that fortune will send something good your way?

You may very well have many dreams and desires, but without knowing exactly what you want, you are not going to be able to work towards it. While it may come as a surprise to you, it is, in fact, no wonder that you are not successful or making progress towards reaching those goals if you do not know

what you want.

Every single action you take and every bit of energy you spend should be contributing towards achieving your goals in life. Either your schoolwork, job, or business should be a medium towards achieving your goal, or it should be the goal itself. Working in a job that is a stepping-stone towards neither your goal nor your end-goal is a waste of your life.

Do you realize that any relationship that causes stress, anger, or sadness is a relationship that is delaying you from reaching your goals and thus should be ended as quickly as possible? Even your diet and exercise schedule should contribute towards you reaching your goals. Eating junk food is bad for your system and will result in disease and lack of energy, thus it is holding you back, and it is a habit

that should be abandoned.

You may ask yourself what the point of having goals is. I mean, we are all going to die and nothing we do really matters, right? That is exactly why it does matter. You have one short life on this earth and there are no do-overs, so make this life count.

The kind of goals I am referring to are things that you want from life. It does not have to be a material gain or even some sort of measurable achievement. A goal can be something as simple as living a life full of love and happiness with friends and family. A goal is something that makes your life worth living.

I believe when you always do what you have always done, you will always get what you have always gotten. If you want something you have never had, then you have to do something you have never done. Do not worry about

how far you still have to go, instead look at it as how far you have already gotten. Never give up on the brink of your miracle. Miracles happen every day.

The past is history; the future is a mystery and right now is a gift, which is why they call it the "present". You have no idea what tomorrow will bring, so be thankful for every single moment that you are alive. Be grateful for your family, friends, and the local veterans who fought to give you the freedom you experience.

Be grateful for the food you eat, for the fact that you have a warm, dry place to sleep with a roof over your head. Millions of people do not. May you live all the days of your life. Soak up every single drop of life you can, because all you will ever have is this moment, right now.

Ed McAteer lives in Port St. Joe

America should maintain a presence in the Middle East

By BRANDON TODD
Contributing Writer

In the last decade, the United States has been militarily occupying the Middle East in Iraq and Afghanistan in an attempt to combat terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah, Haqqani, Hamas and most importantly Al Qaeda.

We have already withdrawn from Iraq, and now America is on the verge of entirely withdrawing forces from the Middle East out of Afghanistan. The big question is should America maintain a presence in the Middle East?

Yes we should. Our primary goal in the region is to prevent terrorist networks from taking over. It is also vital that we defend our major ally in the region; Israel.

It is in the National Security interest of the U.S to maintain both an overt and covert presence in the Middle East. If we fail to eliminate terrorists, fight Al-Qaeda, and protect our allies, then we will not truly win the War on Terror. Our main ally in the region, Israel, is surrounded by several aggressive Islamic nations, and multiple radical terrorist organizations who actively preach Anti-Semitism,

Anti-Americanism, and want nothing more than to see the destruction of Israel and America.

I commend the Obama Administration of its tenacity as far as taking out so many leaders and affiliates of the various terrorist organizations attempting to harm America, but I honestly think it will harm this country if our soldiers, and operatives withdraw from the region.

Intervention is necessary in that part of the world to not only protect Israel, but also to prevent terrorism here on our own soil. The Middle East is a cesspool of chaos, but America should maintain a presence. In the long run terrorist organizations must be defeated and we can do so by continuing to occupy the region. Withdrawal from the region is not a good idea.

Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt are radical Islamic regimes where Sharia is the constitution. These Islamic nations, along with a few more, are on the verge of having nuclear weapons. Do we really want to withdraw our presence from a nuclear capable, Anti-American Middle East where terrorist organizations have such a powerful influence? Of course

not. We need to stop Iran's nuclear program immediately and we can't do that through diplomacy and sanctions alone, but we can do that by continuing our occupation of the Middle East and taking military action against Iran if need be.

The Obama Administration claims that we will be completely withdrawn from Afghanistan in 2014. American forces were fully withdrawn from Iraq in 2011, and it is still in chaos. We need to rethink our withdrawal plans. If we prematurely withdraw from Afghanistan, the Taliban could takeover. If the Taliban takeover Afghanistan then they will once again grant Al Qaeda and other terrorist organizations a safe haven, and the entire Middle East could fall like dominos, and we will be back at square one.

If we continue our occupation past 2014 the Middle East will be less likely to be overrun by terrorist organizations. If we had not invaded the Middle East after the events of September 11 and occupied the region as long as we have, then Al-Qaeda would have taken control of the Middle East and united the region with Anti-Americanism.

I, like many other Americans,

do want to see our troops come home. They deserve too. But, I also realize the importance of America maintaining a heavy military presence in that part of the world, and if we withdraw to soon then we risk losing the great gains we have made.

We must understand that the point of our occupation of the Middle East was not to achieve any type of victory. The strategy has been to gather enough intelligence, put enough boots on the ground, and do enough drone strikes to destabilize and establish democracy in the region, to prevent it from harboring terrorists and doing us or our allies further harm. Truthfully, I think we have done a great job under President Obama in that regard, but our job is far from finished.

The Benghazi massacre committed by Al-Qaeda affiliated terrorists shows the need for continued US presence in the Middle East. I am still, like many other American's, very angry about the assassination of Ambassador Chris Stevens and the three other American's in Benghazi on 9/11/2012.

I am also disappointed at how the Obama Administration

handled the Benghazi massacre. I do know this though; those American's assassinated in Benghazi will not be forgotten and they will be avenged. Their deaths were not in vain, but rather they show the need for America to maintain its presence in the region. Also the attacks upon Israel by Hamas show the need for US presence in the region.

Overall, because of our intervention the Middle East, Al-Qaeda has been greatly weakened. The terrorist organizations dream of a united Anti-American Islamic Empire will never see the light of the day. If America maintains a presence in the Middle East we will defeat Al-Qaeda and other terrorist networks, we can prevent Iran from creating a nuclear weapon, we can protect Israel, and we can make the world safe for democracy once again.

We should not give up on the War on Terror. We must stand up in the face of evil and fight it, no matter how long it takes or how complicated it may be. America will prevail.

Brandon Todd lives in Howard Creek

Prepare now for natural disasters

By JASON ALDERMAN
Special to The Star

Natural disasters are inevitable, unpreventable and often come without warning. No part of the world seems to be spared, whether it's a hurricane, earthquake, tornado, drought or flood. Even though such catastrophes can't always be predicted, their likely aftermaths often can, including property loss, power or water service disruption, scarcity of food and supplies or overtaxed relief organizations.

Superstorm Sandy was a powerful reminder of why it's vital to develop a family disaster plan. By planning ahead and knowing what you might need under dire circumstances, you can save yourselves a lot of time, money and grief.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers great suggestions for developing a family emergency plan, building an emergency supply kit, and learning what to do before, during and after emergencies – even a plan for family pets (www.fema.gov).



JASON ALDERMAN

Once your physical safety has been assured, you'll inevitably need to access important financial and legal records, whether to file insurance claims, apply for loans or simply withdraw cash. Taking these few steps now will make accessing such information much easier when the time comes:

Create a log of all account numbers, toll-free emergency numbers, contact information and passwords for your bank and credit card accounts, loans, insurance policies, utilities and other important accounts. Update it regularly and save copies in secure, offsite locations such as a safety deposit box or with a trusted friend living in another area. You can also email the list to yourself in an encrypted, password-protected file, save it on a CD or USB drive, or use a cloud-based storage service like Dropbox that will let you access it from any Internet connection.

Make PDF copies of tax returns, insurance policies and legal documents and

save offsite in the same manner as above, in case your files or computer are destroyed by fire or flood. Also make digital copies of invaluable family photos, documents and memorabilia that money can't replace.

Document your possessions. If you should ever need to file an insurance claim or claim a tax deduction for lost, stolen or damaged property, it'll be much easier if you have an inventory of everything you own – photos or videotape are even better. A few available tools:

The IRS' Casualty, Theft and Loss Workbook (IRS Publication 584) includes a worksheet for cataloging and estimating the value of your possessions.

The Insurance Information Institute maintains a free, secure online home inventory software application that lets you access your home inventory, anywhere, anytime (www.iii.org).

Your insurance company's website likely contains a downloadable inventory form.

Make sure you fully understand what is and

isn't covered by your insurance policies for natural disasters. You may need additional coverage for damage associated with hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes and other weather conditions. Also:

Document any damage with photos or video before you start cleanup or repairs.

Keep track of expenses you incur to prevent further damage, for temporary housing or to move your possessions for safekeeping, as they may be reimbursable under your insurance claim.

Don't delay submitting your claim, since insurers often settle claims in the order filed.

FEMA provides information on how you might be able to get government assistance before, during and after a disaster at www.disasterassistance.gov.

Bottom line: Develop a family emergency plan now and make sure everyone knows what to do when disaster strikes.

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

CRANKS from page A4

else to go."

I try to explain to her that we need to make difficult decisions on the bugs and the deer; but she's 92 and I'm not going to argue with her.

Phyllis then went into about a 20 minute dissertation on deer having hooks on their heads (antlers). She wanted me to understand that deer weren't born with those "hooks" on their heads. Of course, I made the mistake of asking her, "Why not?" She explained to me that the hooks/horns would tear the deer mommas' stomachs up and they couldn't get out. It was fascinating, her logic was sound. I knew that deer weren't born with antlers, but Phyllis just has a way with words.

Later that evening, I decided to do a little "Hook Research" on deer antlers.

There were a few things that I found very interesting. Most deer hunters probably know these things, but they are fascinating.

Deer antlers are not "horns" like sheep, goats and cows have. Horns are typically not shed, antlers are.

The annual antler cycle is controlled by the length

of a day. The deer's brain tells it how many periods of light and dark it has seen and the bucks produce testosterone and you have the "antler cycle." Tests have shown with the light/day periods are altered, bucks are unable to shed their antlers.

One of the most interesting things I found about was the impact that an injury to the back leg of a buck has to subsequent antler development on the opposite site. In other words, the next time you see a deer with a normal antler/rack on the right and a twisted or stunted antler/rack on the left, check its back right leg for injury.

For some reason, after a buck has a serious injury to a hind limb, it will cause the opposite antler to be abnormal and stunted. The cause for this is unknown, perhaps I will ask Phyllis. It was noted that this "stunting effect" will persist even after the hind leg heals.

I will continue to study Phyllis or "Phyllisology" while I can; I learn a lot of interesting things.

You can find more stories on Phyllis and other things that crank my tractor at www.CranksMyTractor.com.

'TRAP TIME'

Fast moving, lipless crankbaits

By FRANK SARGEANT
franksargeant@charter.net

Early spring is sort of the official kickoff of what might be called "Trap Time" in Florida's Panhandle, the time when lipless crankbaits become the go-to lure for most guides, pros and expert anglers anywhere spring comes a month early.

The trigger is the budding growth of hydrilla and other underwater weeds on many lakes. In summer the plants often grow in vast, solid mats all the way to the surface, making it impossible to fish with anything but a weedless-rig soft plastic — slow and tedious.

But winter causes these big mats to die back, and the dead vegetation then washes away with wind and waves. They never disappear in Florida lakes, but they're considerably reduced.

Though the weeds are decimated, the bass they harbored never go far away, and as soon as the first new shoots start out of the bottom in late winter and early spring, the fish are back in these locations. But now, the ideal lure for rapidly finding and catching the fish is a fast-moving lipless crankbait. It's quick, it's easy — and it's fun.

Lipless crankbaits basically are slabs of hard plastic, apparently originated by Bill Lewis in the 1960s — and the name of his invention, the Rat-L-Trap, has become almost generic for this type of lure though there now are dozens of imitations. (Lewis reportedly named the lure for the clattery old station wagon he used to drive the roads of the South delivering his lures to tackle

dealers.)

When the lure is cranked steadily, the flattened head causes it to vibrate rapidly. And rattles inside the lure set up a racket that actually can be heard above the surface as well as below. Fish apparently are attracted by both the sight and sound; the lures have caught millions of bass over the past 40 years.

Rat-L-Traps are available in seven sizes from 1/8 ounce to 3.5 ounces — the 1/4 to 3/4 ounce versions are preferred for bass fishing. Chrome colors always are good choices, but many anglers also do well with lures finished in various shades of red at some lakes, for whatever reason. (Wes Higgins, company president, tells me a new color, "Cali-Craw" might be the secret weapon this spring — it's got the favored reddish hues laid over a chrome base, giving both flash and that attractive "wounded crawfish" coloration.)

No-brainers

The great thing about lipless crankers is that they are truly no-brainer lures; throw them out on points and creek bends, reel them back fast enough to feel the vibration and you'll catch fish, especially if fished around shad schools or breaking bass. (If you need to get deeper, choose the larger, heavier models — the retrieve speed can be maintained while the lure stays deep because of the extra weight.) The compact shape and high density make it possible to throw them great distances, reaching way out to schoolers you see



at the surface.

But there are ways to make them even more effective.

One is "ripping" the lure, allowing it to sink just enough to tick the sprouting weeds, then snatching it forward hard enough to shake the weeds from the hooks each time you feel a snag, then letting it fall again. The dart and flash of the lures often triggers strikes from fish that could pass up a steady retrieve, with the strikes typically coming on the fall or just after you start cranking again. Bumping stumps, rocks and logs is similarly effective. Crank until you hit something, hesitate just a second, then crank some more, often the strike comes just after the movement starts again.

And because of the shape of the

lures, they are good for "skipping" under low-hanging docks. The lower and wider the dock the better, and the farther underneath you can scoot them, the more often you'll get bit.

Most anglers use a 6:1 or faster reel to work trap-style baits; slower ratios make it too tough to keep up the speed that works best. Mono or fluoro lines testing 15 to 20 pounds are favored. They give a bit of stretch on the fight, and for these easily-tossed lures, that can help in getting fish to the boat. Braid, which works great in some applications, is not what you want for lipless crankbaits, it pulls the hooks frequently.

Rods with fairly soft tips are favored for the same reason, "fast" rods tend to pull the hooks on these lures too often.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Mar. 07	59°	44°	0 %
Fri, Mar. 08	64°	51°	0 %
Sat, Mar. 09	67°	55°	0 %
Sun, Mar. 10	70°	60°	0 %
Mon, Mar. 11	71°	59°	10 %
Tues, Mar. 12	72°	56°	60 %
Wed, Mar. 13	73°	59°	10 %

TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

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

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

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

ST. JOSEPH BAY

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
7	Th	628pm 1.3		343am -0.6	
8	Fr	738pm 1.2		423am -0.4	
9	Sa	847pm 1.1		452am -0.2	
10	Su	1057pm 0.9		605am 0.0	
11	Mo	1151am 0.4		553am 0.2	441pm 0.2
12	Tu	1218am 0.7	1129am 0.7	510am 0.4	618pm 0.1
13	We	1136am 0.9		737pm 0.0	
14	Th	1157am 1.0		851pm 0.0	
15	Fr	1227pm 1.1		1010pm -0.1	
16	Sa	105pm 1.2		1138pm -0.1	
17	Su	150pm 1.2			
18	Mo	243pm 1.2		102am -0.1	
19	Tu	343pm 1.2		208am -0.1	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
7	Th	111pm 1.8	1012pm 2.1	502am -0.3	427pm 1.4
8	Fr	134pm 1.8	1138pm 2.1	555am -0.3	533pm 1.3
9	Sa	155pm 1.9		640am -0.2	625pm 1.0
10	Su	148am 2.2	312pm 1.9	818am 0.0	810pm 0.6
11	Mo	247am 2.2	328pm 1.9	850am 0.2	851pm 0.5
12	Tu	338am 2.1	342pm 2.1	917am 0.5	930pm 0.2
13	We	427am 2.1	359pm 2.1	940am 0.6	1008pm 0.2
14	Th	515am 1.9	419pm 2.2	1000am 1.0	1046pm 0.0
15	Fr	605am 1.9	443pm 2.2	1023am 1.1	1126pm 0.0
16	Sa	659am 1.8	513pm 2.4	1049am 1.3	
17	Su	801am 1.8	550pm 2.2	1213am 0.0	1122am 1.4
18	Mo	915am 1.8	636pm 2.2	113am 0.2	1208pm 1.4
19	Tu	1037am 1.8	730pm 2.1	227am 0.2	121pm 1.6

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Boats need love, too!

Restoring the luster and the shine to dried out gelcoats

By RICHARD HANTZ
Contributing Writer

There is a point when the condition, finish on your boat cannot be restored by polishing and waxing. In fact, applying wax to a dried out gelcoat finish will look worse than when you started.

If your boat lacks luster, that is no reflection or shine, the finish has dried out and the top layer of gelcoat must be removed through the sanding process.

Caution: you can go too far and do more harm than good.

Step one: Wash your boat with detergent soap, using a Scotch-brite pad, available at an auto supply store. We suggest you place the pad in a bucket of water and allow to soak overnight before using.

Step two: Begin wet sanding, using a spray bottle with water and a few drops of dish washing detergent thoroughly moisten an area about two to three feet in diameter. Using a 600 grit, wet/dry sandpaper, begin sanding in a back

and forth direction applying light pressure. Continue sanding area until you feel a uniform lack of resistance. Move on, one section at a time, overlapping areas, until you have sanded the entire boat.

Step three: Repeat sanding process, this time using a 1,200 grit wet/dry paper.

Step four: Compound buffing, using 3M super-duty compound, which is liquid sandpaper, and a seven inch polisher/sander, begin buffing and watch the luster and shine reappear.

Step five: Polish and wax.

Note: We use 8 x 11 sheets of sandpaper, cut in half and wrap around a sponge to make it easier to grasp.

Polisher/sander: There are many brands available. The less expensive are less powerful and require more effort to restore the shine. Be prepared to spend \$150-\$200 for a quality polisher and use a cotton/muslin buffing pad instead of foam.

Archaeology Month events

Star Staff Report
March is Archaeology Month. St. Joseph Peninsula State Park teams up with the Florida Public Archaeology Network each March to present a program to educate the public. This year the park has also teamed with the St. Joseph Bay Buffer Preserve.

Christopher Hunt, a University of South Florida graduate research assistant, will present an archaeology lecture, "A Forgotten Community: Archaeological Documentation of Old St. Joe" from 6-7 p.m. ET, Friday, March 29, at the St. Joseph Bay Buffer Preserve Center, located at 3915 State 30-A in Port

St. Joe. The following day, Saturday, March 30, will be Archaeology Day, with two events scheduled.

The first is 10 a.m. until noon ET, at St. Joseph Peninsula State Park, 8899 Cape San Blas Road in Port St. Joe. The second is 2-4 p.m. ET, at the Constitution Convention Museum State Park, 200 Allen Memorial Way in Port St. Joe.

At both of these events folks can have artifacts identified, learn about archaeology in your area, pick up information and learn about upcoming events.

These events are free and open to the public.

For more information call 595-0050, ext. 103.

FISH REPORT

SPONSORED BY



Freshwater:

As the flood waters start to drain this week, most area streams and lakes are still full to the brim. Trot lines and bush hooks are a great way to take advantage of the catfish in the swift water.

Inshore:

Flounder continue to be moving back closer to shore this week. Good reports from the Mexico beach canal, pier, and under the George Tapper bridge in St. Joe are still coming in. Trout and red fish will be on the run from all the freshwater coming down stream this week and holding in deeper holes and ledges in the bay.

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PLAY BALL

Wewahitchka downs Tiger Sharks

Star Staff Report

Defensive miscues proved Port St. Joe's undoing as the Tiger Shark baseball team fell to county rival Wewahitchka last Friday 6-3 in Wewahitchka.

Austin Clayton started and went the distance, allowing just two earned runs and 10 hits while striking out seven and walking one.

"Austin pitched well enough for us to win," said Port St. Joe coach Chuck Gannon. "But when you commit six errors it's tough to win a close game."

Rashard Ranie started and went four innings for the Gators. He allowed five hits, one earned run and struck out one.

Jay Shiver came on in relief and pitched three innings, allowing no earned runs and while striking out four and earning the win.

Tyler Worley paced the Tiger Shark offense, going 2 for 4, while Will Ramsey was 2 for 3.

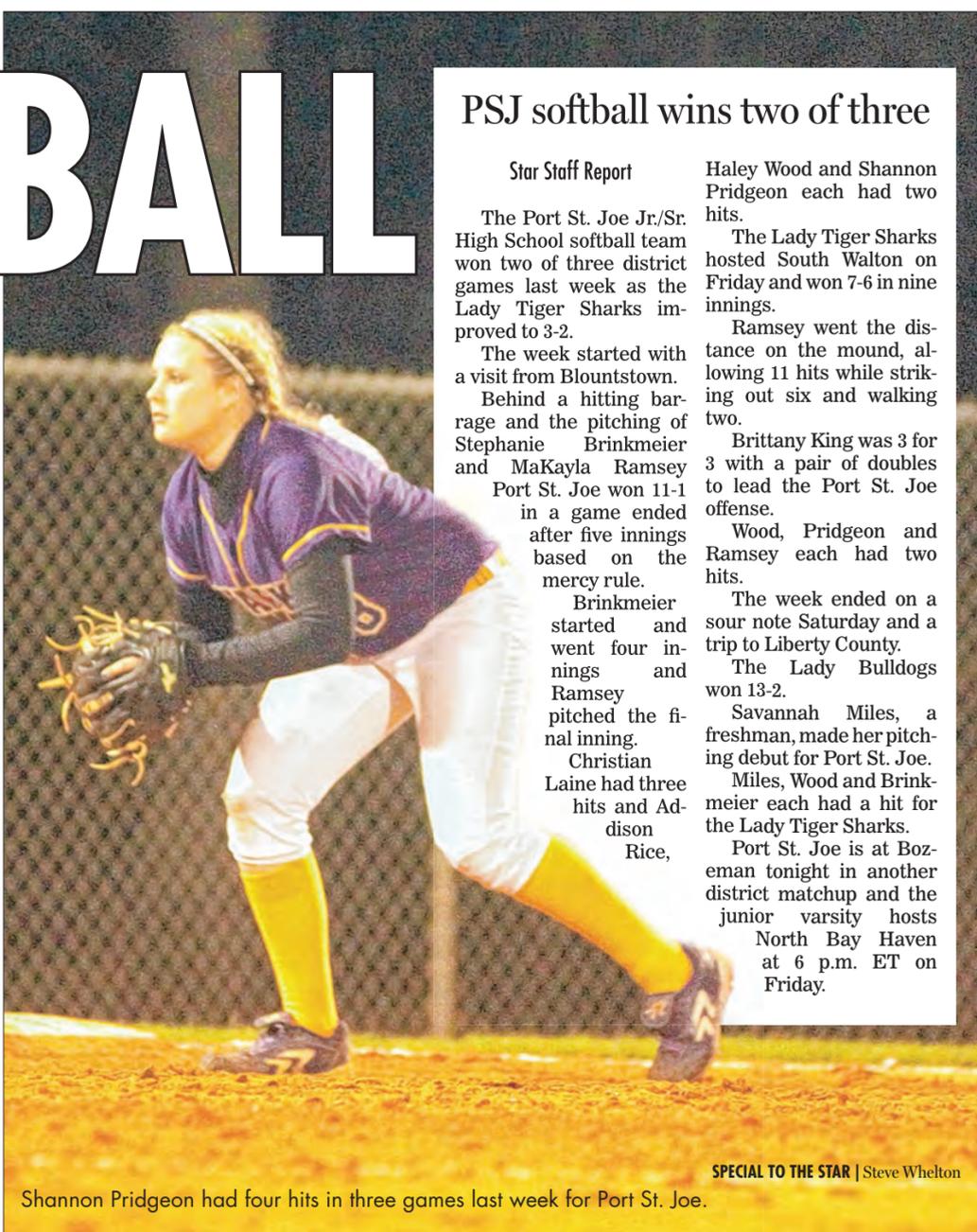
Bryan Harris was 2 for 3 for Wewahitchka and scored a run and Ranie was 2 for 4 with a triple, double, run-scored and two runs batted in.

The day before the two county rivals played, Franklin County one-hit Wewahitchka during a 13-0 win.

Port St. Joe is 2-3 and headed into a stretch of three district games this week.

They were at West Gadsden on Tuesday, play at Blountstown at 7:30 p.m. ET tonight in a makeup game and host Blountstown at 7 p.m. ET on Friday. The junior varsity plays Blountstown at 5 p.m. ET on Friday.

Wewahitchka was at Franklin County on Tuesday. During next week's Spring Break, Port St. Joe will be at Altha on Monday and host a pair of Mississippi high schools on Tuesday and Thursday, with junior varsity playing at 5 p.m. ET each day followed by the varsity at 7 p.m. ET.



Shannon Pridgeon had four hits in three games last week for Port St. Joe.

SPECIAL TO THE STAR | Steve Whelton

PSJ softball wins two of three

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School softball team won two of three district games last week as the Lady Tiger Sharks improved to 3-2.

The week started with a visit from Blountstown.

Behind a hitting barrage and the pitching of Stephanie Brinkmeier and MaKayla Ramsey Port St. Joe won 11-1 in a game ended after five innings based on the mercy rule.

Brinkmeier started and went four innings and Ramsey pitched the final inning.

Christian Laine had three hits and Addison Rice,

Haley Wood and Shannon Pridgeon each had two hits.

The Lady Tiger Sharks hosted South Walton on Friday and won 7-6 in nine innings.

Ramsey went the distance on the mound, allowing 11 hits while striking out six and walking two.

Brittany King was 3 for 3 with a pair of doubles to lead the Port St. Joe offense.

Wood, Pridgeon and Ramsey each had two hits.

The week ended on a sour note Saturday and a trip to Liberty County.

The Lady Bulldogs won 13-2.

Savannah Miles, a freshman, made her pitching debut for Port St. Joe.

Miles, Wood and Brinkmeier each had a hit for the Lady Tiger Sharks.

Port St. Joe is at Bozeman tonight in another district matchup and the junior varsity hosts North Bay Haven at 6 p.m. ET on Friday.

Port St. Joe competes at Chiles Invitational

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School track team competed in the 13th Annual Chiles Invitational Track Meet in Tallahassee over the past weekend.

The meet was Port St. Joe's first of the season and they competed against nine other schools, the Tiger Sharks the lone Class 1A school.

The Port St. Joe girls finished sixth. Nicole Enders won the pole vault, with Celeste Chiles third and Celeste Thursbay fourth. Dantasia Welch finished second in the triple jump and, along with teammates Maliyah McNair, Synolia Fennell, and Jamrion Larry, finished fifth in the 4 by 100 relay.

Maya Robbins was third in the 100 and 200 meters. McNair was sixth in the 300 meter hurdles and the Port St. Joe team of Damari Cutler, Destiny Gadson, Zykeriah Pittman, and Ziya Fedd was fourth in the 4 by 400 relay.

The Sprint Medley team of Cutler, Pittman, Gadson, and Geona Koce finished fourth and Michell Pryor placed fourth in the shot put and fifth in the discus.

Westover High (GA) won the meet, with Tallahassee Leon second, Gainesville High third, the host school fourth and Tallahassee Lincoln fifth.

Port St. Joe beat Thomas County (GA) Central, Marianna, Community Christian, and Brooks County (GA).



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Celeste Chiles, a seventh-grader, took third in the pole vault.

The Port St. Joe boys finished eighth. N'Namdi Davis scored all the Tiger Shark points, winning the triple jump and 200 meters, placing third in the long jump and fourth in the 100 meters.

The Port St. Joe teams will compete in the Ram Relays at Rutherford High School this Saturday.

Lady Gators lose two close ones

Star Staff Report

Graceville held off host Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School in 12 innings on the softball diamond last Thursday in a game during which the Lady Gators pounded out 15 hits.

Naomi Parker started for the Lady Gators and faced 45 batters in the 9-5 loss, striking out seven and walking two. She was the losing pitcher for not for

lack of effort.

Ashleigh Price pitched the final innings, walking one of the four batters she faced.

Parker was 4 for 6 at the plate and Jessica Smith was also 4 for 6 to lead the Lady Gator attack.

Price had two hits and a run-scoring sacrifice fly. Kristen Stephens and Brianna Bailey also had two hits in five at-bats with run-scoring sacrifice flies.

The Lady Gators are

at home to Vernon tonight and play at Blountstown on Friday.

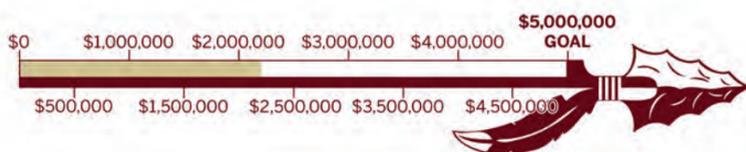
On Monday, Wewahitchka lost 4-3 in seven innings at Cottondale, the hosts scoring the winning run in the bottom of the seventh after the Lady Gators took a 3-1 lead in the top half.

Price as 3 for 3 with a triple, Bailey and Cecily Hale had run-scoring singles, Sam Hoover had a hit and Jessica Smith a hit and RBI.

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To learn how you can support our community's university, contact Mary Beth Lovingood at (850) 770-2108 or mblovingood@pc.fsu.edu.



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
PANAMA CITY

PSJRA workshop on sidewalk project

By WES LOCHER
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The neighborhood of North Port St. Joe will soon see sidewalks replaced along Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. between Avenues A and D.

In a town hall meeting at the Washington Improvement Group building last week, Gail Alsobrook, executive director of the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency reported that the city was awarded a Rural Business Enterprise Grant for \$200,000 to complete the project.

In addition to replacing the

sidewalks and adding additional parking spaces, storm water drain improvements would also be added to avoid future flooding on the road.

The "green" technology planned to help make the storm drains work more efficiently will require little maintenance after installation.

"This project is important to the economic development of a local commercial corridor," said Alsobrook.

Clay Smallwood with Preble Rish Engineers showed plans for the new sidewalks to those in attendance.

In addition to more parking, curbs will be made handicap accessible and crosswalk lines will be painted.

A project two years in the making, Smallwood said he expects to have the final designs by April.

Some water lines in the area will also be replaced during the project.

Port St. Joe Mayor Mel Magidson asked everyone for patience during the replacement of sidewalks.

"You have to break some eggs to make an omelet," he said. "We have to make a mess before it gets better."



Clay Smallwood shows plans for the North Port St. Joe sidewalk project.

WES LOCHER | The Star

LEVY from page A1

Despite that, district officials argued in the run-up to Tuesday's election, the district remains a high-performing and honor roll district, with one of the highest graduation rates in the state, among the lowest dropout rates and an exploding number of high school students in college

dual-enrolled courses. "We turn out some pretty good kids," said School Board member Billy Quinn, Jr.

Norton and the School Board had warned that should the levy not pass it would have a dramatic impact on staffing, with the cuts equal to 20 percent of

the workforce, academic offerings and extracurricular activities.

"This is about those little ones," said board member Linda Wood.

The board also agreed to promises made four years ago to continue to maintain the lowest LCI millage in the state - LCI, the only

component of funding over which the board has say, is for bricks and mortars and can not be used for operating expenses - among other cost-cutting measures.

It remains unclear where and how the district will meet the currently projected budget shortfall of \$500,000.

DOCUMENTARY from page A1

"They see that we have a great deal of local talent and intend to use that talent as much as possible," Alsobrook said.

On another aspect of the relocation of the lighthouse, Preble Ris Engineers, which

has offered to serve as project manager free of charge, will provide a full scope of work to commissioners at their next meeting, said Clay Smallwood, III.

Smallwood said the company undertook consider-

able research to put together a proper scope of work to bring to commissioners and the work had not yet been completed.

Pipe replacement

The first phase to replace some 20 miles of aging water pipe should be fully completed in the next two weeks, Smallwood said.

The pipe, eight miles in the initial phase, is in the ground and patching of roadways should be completed this week with preparation for grassing next week.

The city is examining - right now materials for a section of Marvin Avenue to be replaced by Public Works staff is being bid - ways to reduce the cost of subsequent phases of the project by performing the work in-house.

The Marvin Avenue section is a test project to examine whether the city could perform major portions of phase two work in-house to save significant money in contracting costs.

Meanwhile, Public Works director John Grantland said the year's first round of uni-directional flushing was moving to St. Joe Beach and onto Overstreet, which would complete the cycle.

City staff will move back into the city proper to begin the next round later this year.

An eight-month water study aimed at pinpointing the cause of water discoloration plaguing the city the past few years is nearing the first major milestone, Smallwood said, the creation of a gap analysis identifying areas for collecting samples.

BUSINESS from page A1

getting funding, and developing effective marketing plans.

This applies both to companies within Gulf County and those looking to begin operations within the community.

"Everything you need structurally, we help build," said Quen Lamb, who joined the SBDC in November 2011 and covers five counties including Gulf.

Lamb works with the local Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Councils to find the best opportunities for businesses and assists in the planning of local workshops.

The seminars and workshops are available for those who simply seek start-up advice and the SBDC's affiliation with Gulf Coast State College has proven invaluable, giving locals the ability to learn from presenters who have real world experience to share.

In addition to start-up documents and government contracts it also teaches specialty courses as needed, including QuickBooks basics and the business of import/export.

Workshop schedules

are posted both in the Gulf Coast State College schedule and online.

"Our teachers have a wealth of business background," said Lamb who has an extensive background in the medical business including ownership, management, marketing and sales. "We're here to counsel, advise and assist."

In addition to his work with the SBDC, Lamb has established an office for the Veteran's Business Outreach Center program in Port St. Joe which provides additional services specifically for military veterans.

Lamb welcomes the added responsibilities, making note that he simply wants to assist new business owners to "fulfill dreams of being in business for themselves."

"It never hurts to get free advice," said Deeson. "Local people need to take advantage of it."

Businesses interested in finding out how the SBDC can help them start or grow their companies can go online and fill out an application.

A representative will call within 48 hours to schedule an appointment.

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Second annual Shells & Tales this weekend

By WES LOCHER

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They will be telling tales this weekend at the Gulf Franklin campus of Gulf Coast State College.

The second annual Shells & Tales event brings the magic of storytelling March 8-9.

The event gets under way 4 p.m. ET Friday when Panama City humorist Pat Nease and Tallahassee's Robyn A. Rennick will host a workshop Friday to cover storytelling basics.

The course in public speaking is meant to remind attendees that everyone has a story to tell and provide the basic skills to help take theirs to

the next level.

On Saturday a 6 p.m. ET cheese-and-wine event will be held to feature local storytellers and live music.

Nease's journey to become what she refers to as a "professional liar" started in her youth when she told silly stories to her younger brother.

From there Nease went onto teaching and found stories to be an amazing way to develop comprehension in the classroom.

She cleverly used her method of storytelling to teach her students the state capitals.

"Using stories, children held onto the information I taught," Nease said.

Outside of Florida, there's been a large interest in storytelling events, some drawing attendance of more

than 10,000 people, Nease said.

Nease is on a mission to bring that same passion to Northwest Florida.

"The hunger is there for stories. The audience is growing," she said. She's not wrong.

In fact, last year's Shells & Tales was standing-room-only by the time it was over.

Coastal Community Association Treasurer Brooks Jones, who was instrumental in the organization of this year's Shells & Tales, said the event is unique.

"It's something that makes this area special," he said.

Proceeds from the event benefit the CCA, St. Joseph Peninsula State Park and the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society.



WES LOCHER | The Star

Fourth-graders at Port St. Joe Elementary School recently competed to be part of this year's Shells and Tales.

Chamber celebrates 77 YEARS



TIM CROFT | The Star

County Judge Tim McFarland swears in new Chamber officers Dwight Van Lierop, Barbara Radcliff, Trish Petrie and Zach Childs.

New officers sworn in, Dana Boyer is Volunteer of Year

By TIM CROFT

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From red paper clips to the tears of Dana Boyer, the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce held its 77th annual dinner last week.

The red paper clips came from the keynote speaker and Boyer's tears streamed after she was named the chamber's Volunteer of the Year as the Chamber celebrated a year of change and progress.

"I am so honored," Boyer said after being named the Volunteer of the Year and walking a gauntlet of hugs to the Centennial Building stage. "To be recognized by your

fellow businesses, that is a real honor. I would not be able to do anything without them.

"Also, I would not be able to do anything without (husband) George Boyer. This is just such an honor for us."

Boyer was recognized, specifically, for her work on two events.

When Fourth of July fireworks were threatened with cancellation because of money, Boyer undertook a private sector fundraising campaign that secured more than \$6,000 for the celebratory fireworks show.

In the fall, Boyer was crucial in realizing the continuation of Ghosts on the Coast for Halloween, including a candy drive.

Boyer's award was the last on a night during which about 200 attendees feasted on food from Sunset Coastal Grille, enjoyed their favorite beverage and saluted a year of forward progress.

Board president Guerry Magidson along with board members Dave Ashbrook, Steve Newman and Johanna White will leave the board. Magidson noted that the Chamber had added members, expanded its reach more fully to Wewahitchka and by year's end had become a free-standing Chamber with economic development under a new organization.

See CHAMBER B5

Sacred Heart on the Gulf celebrates 3rd anniversary

Star Staff Report

Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf will celebrate the third anniversary of the hospital's opening on March 15. A public open house will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET.

The event will include:

- Health screenings will be provided by the Mission in Motion bus;
- Northwest Florida Blood Services will be holding a blood drive;
- Hospital and Women's Center tours from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. ET;
- A Heritage Room display for the history of The Daughters of Charity;
- Bone density heel scan screening;
- Blood drive with Northwest Florida Blood Services, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET;
- Birthday cake to celebrate the anniversary.

March 15 also is the celebration of St. Louise de Marillac, one of the founders of the Daughters of Charity. A service celebrating the feast day of St. Louise de Marillac will be held at 10 a.m. ET in the hospital chapel. The Daughters of Charity are the founders of the Sacred Heart Hospital System.

All are welcome to attend.

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

Bunco Babes cash in for library

By TIM CROFT

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The numbers continue to come up for the Reid Avenue Bunco Babes.

And that means the Friends of the Port St. Joe Public Library are the winners.

The Reid Avenue Bunco Babes handed over a check for \$1,426 last week to the

Friends of the Port St. Joe Public Library, bringing the total raised by the Babes and their Bunco in less than three years to \$9,055.

"This Bunco group is such a community-minded organization," said Cathy Colbert, president of the Friends of the Port St. Joe Public Library. "These ladies have been great to

See BUNCO B5



TIM CROFT | The Star

The Reid Avenue Bunco Babes have donated about \$10,000 to the Friends of the Port St. Joe Public Library in less than three years.

Centennial TRIVIA

Pelican Pete has a Centennial Stumper for You!



Question: By an act of the Florida State Legislature the new town was named Port St. Joe in order to distinguish it from the "Old" City of St. Joseph. When did this occur?

ANSWER ON PAGE B6

DAZZLING DOLPHINS



Front row: Alejandro Fonseca, Carson Hendricks, Karli Moore
Back row: Erica Ramsey, Katie Dykes, Jaliyah Martinez, Caitlin White

Shark TALK

Special to The Star

NJROTC News — 60 cadets and guests attended this year's Military Ball on March 1 at the Tyndall Air Force Base Heritage Club. Travelling in long yellow stretch limos, the cadets and guests were treated to tradition, ceremony and a wonderful time. The highlight of the evening was the Commander's Waltz where all cadets, having learned to waltz in class, tripped the light fantastic.

The Drill Competition scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 23 at FAMU was cancelled because of rain. The NJROTC is planning trip to the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center for an orientation visit, FAMU for a college campus visit and Gulf High School in New Port Richey for an Athletic Competition.



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 — Thank you to Mr. Damien Byrd for his wonderful perspective at this year's Black History Month celebration held on Feb. 28. A special thanks to all the students who made this event so memorable and to Mrs. Rachel Crews whose labor of love made it all possible.

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.

Spring Break — Port St Joe Junior Senior High School's Spring Break will be March 11-15.

Parents are asked to check with individual coaches for their practice/game schedule during that period. Classes will resume on Monday, March 18.

Child Find Pre-K screening

Star Staff Report

Gulf County Schools and FDLRS/PAEC will co-sponsor a free Child Find Pre-K Screening on Tuesday, March 19 in Wewahitchka and Thursday, March 21 in Port St. Joe. Each child will be screened in the areas of: learning, speech, social, vision and hearing for the purpose of identifying children with disabilities. Children ages 3-4 that are suspected to have a disability and are not enrolled in Headstart or public school are eligible to participate. Parent or guardians must call 866-277-6616 to schedule an appointment.

THE LION'S TALE



Special to The Star

Faith Christian Middle School students participated in the seventh annual Learning Fair. This fair allows participants to choose from subjects such as literature, Bible, history, and science. Weeks of research are gathered, and the final product includes an in-depth written report, a backboard and handmade model to help demonstrate the students' findings, and a verbal presentation to three esteemed judges. The winner from the fourth- through the eighth-grade category was Catherine Bouington with her study of the history of Mount St. Helens. All of the students did a great job!

Thank you to Tommy Pitts, Mike Patrick and Hiram Nix for judging. Reminder: Faith Christian School is now taking enrollment applications for the 2013-2014 school year. Call 850-229-6707 to reserve your star student's place now.



VFW to host St. Patty's Day Dinner to benefit Relay for Life

Star Staff Report

The Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 10069 in Highland View will be serving up its annual corned beef and cabbage dinner, including carrots, onions, break and scrumptious desserts

prepared by the Ladies Auxility at 6 p.m. ET on Saturday, March 16.

The evening's festivities include Karaoke by Wanda, a special St. Patty's Day Basket raffled and other surprises. Donation for dinner is \$10. Remember, the dinner service

begins at 6 p.m. and will continue until the food is gone. Take-outs will be available.

All proceeds of the entire event will be donated to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Wear your green and join the Ladies Auxiliary for this worthwhile cause.

Sacred Heart offers yoga program

Star Staff Report

Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf continues the yoga programs with new dates through May. Classes will be available in Port St Joe and Wewahitchka, at no charge

The Port St. Joe classes will be offered beginning March 7 in Sacred Heart Hospital's Conference Room at 5:30 and 6:45 p.m. ET. The classes will last approximately an hour. The early class will be "chair yoga," a gentle form of yoga that

uses chairs for poses and support. The 6:45 p.m. class will be traditional practice. Class dates are Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28, April (no class on April 4) 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16 and 23.

The Wewahitchka classes are at the Wewahitchka Senior Citizen Center thanks to the Gulf County Senior Center program. Classes are on Monday evenings and are ongoing through May 20 (with the exception of March 11).

For more information or to register for this free program, call 229-5603.

Senior service day at PSJ Senior Center

Star Staff report

The Area Agency on Aging for North Florida from Tallahassee will be at the Port St. Joe Senior Center from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. ET on Tuesday,

March 12. Representatives will be on hand to assist with Medicare health insurance information and Medicare questions and to give information on Emergency Energy Assistance for the Elderly Program. Audibel will be

doing free hearing screenings and there will be free amplified telephone distribution for people hard of hearing.

The public is invited to attend. Please call Debbie at 229-8466 for additional information.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society JOY!

Meet Joy, a Boxer/Hound mix. Joy walks well on her leash and is very attentive. She knows the command of sit and will roll over for belly rubs. Joy gets along well with other like-minded dogs but does not care for the attention of cats. This girl would make a great dog for an active family. This pet qualifies for a "Pets for Patriots" supported adoption. www.petsforpatriots.org

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.sjbhumane.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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Real Estate Picks

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DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION ESSAYS

Forgotten patriots who supported the American struggle for independence

By Catherine Marie Bouington
Fifth grade
Faith Christian School

Margaret Cochran Corbin

Margaret was born Nov. 12, 1751 in Pennsylvania. Five years later, a terrible Indian raid killed her Scottish-Irish father Robert Cochran, and captured her mother Sarah. Fortunately, Margaret and her brother were visiting their uncle at the time of the raid. Her uncle adopted and raised them.

At the age of 21, Margaret married John Corbin, but they never had children. John decided to go to war to help the United States, so he enlisted under Captain Thomas Proctor. His troop was the Pennsylvania Artillery Continental Line. Margaret followed and therefore was given the name, camp follower. She and other wives cooked, did laundry, and nursed wounded soldiers. When she went to help her husband in the battlefield, she had good aim with the cannons; she cleaned, loaded and fired them. Because of this, she got the attention of Cochran's company. Later, John died because of a gunshot by the Hessian troops. Margaret was also shot in the war. She received first aid, but she did not fully recover and she could not use her left arm for the rest of her life. Eventually the British captured the fort, and they allowed the wounded soldiers to go free. The Hessian doctors examined the wounded and found that Margaret was the only woman there. It is surprising that she did not bleed to death or die of gangrene, because her wounds were so severe.

Margaret was known as a rough and tough woman. She drank too much and hung around with male soldiers. The Philadelphia Society of Women wanted to make a monument in her honor, but when they met her they found she was drunk and impoverished, so they cancelled the memorial to the first heroine of the Battle of New York. In 1779, she became the first woman to receive a military pension from the United States. She received thirty dollars a month from the state of Pennsylvania. The state also sent someone to help her take care of herself since she was a wounded soldier in the Revolutionary War.

On July 6, 1782, she remarried a fellow injured soldier in spite of her

conditions. He was more of a burden than a relief to Margaret. But he died a year later. Margaret also died in 1880, just before her fiftieth birthday. She was only one of two Revolutionary War soldiers buried in Old Cadet's Cemetery.

Margaret Corbin was forgotten for about 150 years, but her actions should be remembered. She showed the world not to be afraid to fight for freedom, and she set a good example to stand up for what you believe is right. It is important to remember this heroine's bravery and patriotism and also to follow her footsteps.

How did the faith and courage of Christopher Columbus give to mankind a new world?

By Amy Rachelyn Butler
11th grade
Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School

Flashback to Aug. 3, 1492, Christopher Columbus and his crewmen left Spain aboard the Santa Maria, along with the Pinta and Nina at the sides. He wanted to find a westward route to Asia, instead he found America. By finding America, he set in motion a widespread transfer of people, plants, animals, diseases and cultures, known as the Columbian Exchange. Christopher Columbus' courage and faith had everything to do with him finding America, which is what most people do not realize about Christopher Columbus and his voyages.

To begin with, Christopher Columbus lived in a religious age. He was Catholic, and well-known for the passion he had for his faith. He was engaged in all aspects of the Catholic faith; masses, penances, pilgrimages, retreats and the reading of the Bible. His son Ferdinand said, "He was so strict in matters of religion that for fasting and saying prayers he might have been taken for a member of a religious order." When he went on a voyage, he and his crew prayed together daily and would close every day singing the Salve Regina (Hail, Holy Queen). The reason he named his ship the Santa Maria is because it means Holy Mary. The most important part of their journeys was not to get a source of income to reconstruct their deprived country, but to spread the Catholic faith to Asia and any lands they encountered on the way there.

Moreover, Columbus was not insensitive to the riches that could be gained



TIM CROFT | The Star

From left, Jimmy Cummings, with parents Jim and Courtney Cummings, Amy Butler and mother Kathie Butler and Catherine Bouington and her mother, Angela. Cummings, Butler and Bouington were winners in the annual DAR essay contest.

with direct trade with Asia, but it was the aspiration to broaden the Catholic faith to the new world that he desired. In other words, he wanted to share the Gospel with those who had never heard of Christ. In his writings, it explains that his ultimate goal was to spread Christianity throughout Asia. He had very little respect for the religions of the natives of other islands. He wanted them to be Catholic; he wanted the world to be Catholic and he would start with his first voyage to the new world. After thirty-six days of sailing upon the Santa Maria, Columbus and his crewmen set food on the present day Bahamas, and claimed it for Spain. In his eyes, there was nothing wrong with establishing colonies and bringing natives under the rule of the European power. With our views today, this is wrong in dozens of different ways and would not be allowed. The view of the fifteen hundreds is very far-fetched from what we believe today, so what Columbus was doing was not unusual for his time period.

Furthermore, what is faith if there is no courage to back it up? Christopher Columbus had the type of courage that should be honored; he was dedicated and passionate when it came to his faith and his country. He was rejected many times for a three-ship voyage of discovery, which would stop most people from pursuing their idea, but his courage and determination allowed him to continue to ask and wait for an acceptance. When the Spanish army captured the last Muslim stronghold in their war with the Muslims in January of 1492, the monarchs approved and financed his mission to set sail for a westward route to Asia. Numerous critics told him that he had misjudged the size of the earth and he could not reach Asia westward because of the immense

distance. Many were apathetic with Columbus and his voyages and tried to persuade him against going on any additional voyages. He ignored what people had to say and continued to believe in himself and his ideas. Although the critics were right about him underestimating the size of the earth, because of the belief he had in himself, he found America, and many other islands. But, he thought he had reached Asia and reported back to the royal court with the news. Without realizing it, Columbus started what is called the Columbian Exchange. America may not have ever become as diverse as it currently is and we have Christopher Columbus to thank for this.

In conclusion, if it was not for Christopher Columbus' faith and courage, America would not be what it is today. Today, America is diverse and extraordinary; Christopher Columbus is a huge contributor to what America came out to be. When he set sail in 1492, he was going out into a vast unknown. He had no idea what kind of obstacles he would face on his journey, he had no idea what was out in the ocean, regardless, he went and discovered the new world. His devotion to his faith led him to finding America and his bravery inspired the exploration era, which led to several more discoveries. He sends out a clear message, to believe in yourself and your faith; with those beliefs anything is possible.

Forgotten patriots who supported American struggle for independence

By Jimmy Kirk Cummings
Eighth grade
Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School

The journey to American Independence

involved hardships and struggles. These struggles were shared by every American citizen, both free and slave. Many of our nation's greatest heroes went without the recognition and appreciation they deserved, one particular group was African Americans. African Americans like Salem Poor, provided military, patriotic and public services in support of the American Revolution.

It was a hard time for African Americans. Most of them were slaves and the few that were free did not have the same rights as the white men did. They were not able to vote, there were fewer jobs available for them, and they were treated unjustly. During the revolutionary war, loyalist slave owners would give their slaves to the British to fight with them, and American colonist slave owners would send their slaves to fight for the colonial army. They did not have the ability to choose who they were going to fight for. Despite all of this, the African Americans played a huge role in the fight for our independence.

Salem Poor was one of the unsung African American heroes of the American Revolution. Although Poor was born a slave, he was able to buy his freedom in 1769 for 27 pounds. He later married a free black woman named Nancy and together they had a son. Despite cultural oppressions, Poor was able to fight for his country and help win her independence from England. As a free man, he enlisted in the Massachusetts militia and when the revolutionary war broke out, Poor fought alongside his fellow Americans in Boston, Massachusetts. Then on June 17, 1775, Poor, who at the time was about twenty-eight, fought in the battle of Bunker Hill. In this battle, Poor is credited

with killing the British Lieutenant Colonel James Abercrombie. The death of their military leader lowered the morale of the remaining British soldiers and they were easily defeated. Salem Poor can be credited with this victory over the British, because of his bravery and skill led to the death of one of their leaders and ultimately the defeat of the British troops at Bunker Hill. That same month, General George Washington issued an order that black soldiers could no longer serve in the military, however, the ones that were already fighting were allowed to finish their tour of duty. Washington later reversed this order towards the end of 1775. Poor took this opportunity to re-enlist. He then fought in the battle of White Plains in New York. In 1776, Poor spent his winter with Washington's forces in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. On December 5, 1775, fourteen Massachusetts army officers signed a petition stating that Poor behaved like an experienced officer, as well as a brave and gallant soldier. They suggested that Poor should be given the honor of military recognition, but there is no record that he ever received a citation for his bravery or his service to the United States of America.

By the end of the war about seven thousand African Americans had served on the American side during the revolution. These men and the other groups of minorities that gave their support during the war are the reason we have this free country, the one we call home, and yet they are remembered by none. Is this the way we should treat them? No! The unsung heroes and forgotten patriots of the war deserve to be honored. Their bravery and military, patriotic and public services are the reason we are not ruled by a power-hungry tyrant today. Instead, we are a country of our own; a country governed by the people for the people.

Tom Brokaw has said that, "Heroes are people who rise to the occasion and slip quietly away." As a nation we should not be content to just let our nation's heroes slip away. We need to recognize them for their sacrifices and thank them for our freedom. We can show our gratitude to them by never forgetting who they are and what they have done and by making sure that future generations know them by name and honor them as the heroes they are.

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Gun control discussed at Lifetree Café

Special to The Star

The topic of gun control will be explored at Lifetree Café 7 p.m. CT on Monday, March 11.

The Lifetree event, titled "Inside the Gun Debate: To hunt? To defend? To assault?" features filmed interviews with Tom Mauser, whose son died at Columbine High School, and Michael Lang, a concealed weapon firearms instructor.

Lifetree representative Craig Cable said participants will have the opportunity to hear various viewpoints and to offer their own. "This is a community forum for

This Lifetree program is being offered at Lifetree Café locations across the country as a means to inform citizens and find answers to the questions surrounding gun issues.

open discussion," Cable said.

This Lifetree program is being offered at Lifetree Café locations across the country as a means to inform citizens and find answers to the questions surrounding gun issues, Cable said.

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

1602 U.S. Highway 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.

Obituary

Chris Purswell "Knowles"

Chris Purswell "Knowles", 19, passed away March 1, 2013. Chris was born May 2, 1993 to Shannon Knowles and Mike Purswell and graduated from Jackson County High School in 2011. Chris was a big-hearted, loving child, always laughing or trying to make someone laugh. He loved to sing.

He is survived by his mom, Shannon Knowles and stepdad, Shaun Hill; his father, Mike Purswell; his brother, Joshua Knowles and Kheyndra; grandparents, Jim and Connie Knowles; great-uncle Mickey Hooker; grandmother Irene Melvin; step-

grandparents, Barbara and Hays Hill; his aunts Crystal Knowles and Dana Knowles; his uncle David Knowles, and cousins, family and friends.

His funeral service was on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 1 p.m. C.S.T. at Honeyville Methodist Church, conducted by David Taunton.

Interment followed in the family plot in Roberts Cemetery. The family received friends at the church for an hour prior to the service.

All services are under the direction of the Comforter Funeral Home Wewahitchka Branch Chapel.

In MEMORY

In loving memory of Ruby Mae Baker

03-18-29 to 03-01-02

Although we have lost you,
you are not gone,
for in our hearts you still live on.
The twinkle in your eyes are
the stars at night,
your smile is the sun shining
big and bright.
The wind in our face is your
gentle kiss,

the birds sing softly, like the
voice we miss.
When we see a rainbow
above,
We know what you are
showing us your love.

Forever loved and missed by your
husband Luther and children Jafar,
Douglas, Arzator and family.



RUBY MAE BAKER

Card of THANKS

Underwood family Card of Thanks

During the illness and passing of my husband you reached out to me, when I was in need. You came by my side and held me as I cried. You held out your hand, telling me, "I understand." You gave me new hope, when I felt I could not cope. You cheered my heart when you made me laugh. You showed me love when life got really tough. At my point of need you blessed me with the love of Jesus.

Thank you,
Evelyn and the Underwood family

Sin had its price

Not much has changed in the
last two thousand years.

God is so good to us that we
get spoiled, then chastisement
brings on tears.

The Bible tells the story from
beginning to end.

How He blesses us so, yet, we
slip right back to sin.

I know sin is in our lives each
day,

but I think some folks get car-
ried away.

A man said on TV last week he
was born gay and going to stay
that way.

I wondered then if he had ever
read the Bible to see what God
had to say.

Politicians and actors are in
the news most every day.

Some live in adultery and

some go either way.

Many times, Christians get
caught up in this life too.

If you happen to be in this
position, you should know what
to do.

Forgiveness is only a prayer
away.

To avoid chastisement, do it
today.

Billy Johnson

Faith BRIEF

'Jam for the Lamb' at New Bethel AME

New Bethel AME presents the second edition of "Jam for the Lamb" gospel showcase at 6 p.m. ET Saturday, March 16. The event, offering the best gospel in Gulf County, will be hosted by Rev. Lawrence E. Gantt a.k.a. The Horn

Blowing Preacher. The "Jam for the Lamb" will feature some of the most talented gospel artists in and around Gulf County, both youth and adult. For more information call Gantt at 832-8452 or Essie Vann at 814-4886. The church is at 146 Avenue C in Port St. Joe.

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

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

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Pastor

Ann Comforter
Music Director

First Baptist Church
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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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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 CAFÉ 7 PM (CST)
TUESDAY: MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM (CST)
THURSDAY: WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5 PM (CST)

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

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Psalm 29:2

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

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Wednesday
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Evening Worship..... 6:00 pm
Wednesday Night..... 7:00 pm

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9:45 a.m. CST Bible Study
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CHAMBER from page B1

Magidson said site visits by potential new businesses had increased during the past year and the Chamber is on solid footing heading into 2013.

"I want to thank all the board members for all their work this year," Magidson said.

The "Business of the Year" was awarded to Goodwill Industries of the Big Bend Inc.

The charitable non-profit provides job training, education and employment to people with disabilities and other barriers to employment, said Brooke Lochore, vice president for public relations with the Tallahassee office of Goodwill Industries of the Big Bend Inc.

The Port St. Joe Goodwill store is a success story within the organization, which covers 22 counties.

The Port St. Joe store has been Store of the Year for the organization two consecutive years.

In 2010, the store and staff realized an 18 percent increase in sales and in 2011 the increase was 21 percent.

Given the store's success, Lochore said, the store was relocated from the 200 block of Reid Avenue to U.S. Highway 98, providing greater visibility.

"This new location is larger and right on the highway," Lochore said. "We have more visibility and we feel that has helped Goodwill continue its growth."

In 2012, the Port St. Joe had an increase of 38 percent in sales and 10 percent increase in donors.

The move to a new location also allowed the store to hire more employees and open a full-time staffed Career Training Center providing a host of free services to anyone in the community.

Those services include job placement, job readiness training, job clubs, computer skills, GED preparation, QuickBooks training and job counseling and referral services.

The center will offer hospitality and Certified Nursing Assistance training this year.

"All these services are free thanks to the community for donating and shopping at Goodwill," Lochore said.

On the business side of last week's dinner, the Chamber also welcomed in new board members Zach Childs, Trish Petrie, Barbara Radcliff and Dwight Van Lierop.

The keynoted speaker was Kyle MacDonald who conquered some microphone issues to



Photos by TIM CROFT | The Star

Dana Boyer of Boyer's Signs was named Volunteer of the Year.



Kyle MacDonald, a.k.a. The Red Paperclip Guy, provided the keynoted address, dealing how he traded a red paper clip online as the first in a series of trades that ultimately netted him a house.



The Port St. Joe Goodwill Industries store and staff were named "Business of the Year" during the chamber dinner.

provide an overview of a project he undertook which started with one red paperclip, also the title of his book.

MacDonald posted the paper clip on a website for

trade and through a series of trades — during which MacDonald jumped to a door knob, a generator, a snowmobile, a year's free rent and a day with rocker Alice Cooper, among

other items — MacDonald ultimately wound up with a house.

"If you have a dream, a plan and desire, you can do anything you want," MacDonald said.

9th annual Irish dinner

Special to The Star

The St. Joseph Catholic Church will hold its 9th Annual St. Patrick's Irish Dinner on Saturday, March 16. The dinner will take place in the Church Hall, 202 20th Street, Port St. Joe.

The dinner is \$10 a ticket and will include corned beef, new potatoes, cabbage, carrots, onions, homemade soda bread or rolls, dessert, and tea, coffee or lemonade. There will be two seatings that evening, one at 5 p.m. EST and the second at 6:30 p.m. EST. Tickets for the first seating usually sell out, so please get you tickets early for your preferred seating.

Back by popular demand, we are selling the whole-cooked corned beef briskets. The brisket will be 3-3 1/2 pounds cooked weight for \$20. We need these to be pre-ordered so we know how

many to cook. You can pick them up the day before the dinner March 15 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Take outs will be available again this year and you can pick them up at the front door ticket sales during either seating. Just look for the signs.

Entertainment again this year will be Toni Minichello on the accordion and Marty Jarosz will be our MC. Come and sing Irish songs, eat good food and have an enjoyable evening.

You can purchase tickets after each mass Saturday evening or Sunday morning or the church office will have them available on Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Phone number is 227-1417. Also you can get tickets at the No Name Café Books and More or The Laundry Basket.

For more information or to buy tickets call Barb or Dan Van Treese 227-9837.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) meeting on Monday, March 18, 2013 at 8:45 a.m. EST, and at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, March 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:

- Resume Tabled 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.
- Preliminary Plat Application for a Minor Subdivision - Timothy H. Jarrett - Parcel ID # 06345-120R - Located in Section 36, Township 8 South, Range 12 West, Gulf County, Florida - development of a four (4) lot subdivision.
- Variance Application - Kathleen Gingrass - Parcel ID # 03798-016R - Located in Section 31, Township 6 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida - encroachment into side setback with deck.
- County Development Regulations and Policies
- 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.



Ad #2013-47

BUNCO from page B1

the library. We can not thank them enough."

The Reid Avenue Bunco Babes, who get together for frequent games of the popular dice game, decided in the spring of 2010 to organize a tournament to benefit the library.

The money goes to the Friends, a non-profit with the goal to compliment to the library's core mission, during a time when public funding for libraries has been slashed around the region and state.

The Friends organization has flexibility in how it spends the money, provided it is not for core bricks and mortar improvements that fall under the library's operating budget.

The Friends buy books, periodicals, newspapers, computer software and DVDs the library could not otherwise afford.

For example, the latest donation from the Reid Avenue Bunco Babes — who two weeks ago held their sixth library fundraiser in less than three years — is earmarked for additional books, books on CD and for DVDs.

"It used to be that we had a limit

on our DVDs and our books on CDs," Colbert said, noting that both items are popular with snowbirds. "Now because of the Bunco Babes anybody can check out twice as many DVDs or CDs as they did before, four instead of just two.

"This is invaluable for us. The snowbirds love (books on CD and DVDs) and the snowbirds are very important to us."

Despite a tighter operational budget, which has necessitated the closing of the library on Saturdays, the Port St. Joe Public Library remains a popular community asset.

Memberships and visits are up, the use of the computers at the library is up and many use the free Wi-Fi available at the library.

On a recent weekday, several youngsters were at the computers working on class assignments to compensate for not having a computer at home.

In part, that uptick in use was a product of an outreach program during which the library distributed brochures about its offerings to locals and tourists.

"They marketed the library this year and it made a difference," said Dana Boyer, one of the Reid Avenue Bunco Babes.

The most recent fundraiser was held again at The Fish House Restaurant.

Owner Eric Spilde opens on Sunday for the events, donates the bar receipts and donates anything above food cost back to the effort to support the library.

"It is amazing he is so generous," Colbert said. "I don't know how we can thank him."

Carlene Parker, another Bunco Babe, added, "And he acts like he likes it."

For the Reid Avenue Bunco Babes, the library fundraisers add some spice to their competition, which over the past two years has included a host of tourists and snowbirds as well as Bunco groups from beyond Gulf County.

"It's fun," said Nancy Swider of the Bunco Babes. "We believe in the library. It's been a big part of our lives."



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Wildlife food plot field day

Star Staff Report

The University of Florida IFAS center is putting on a Wildlife Food Plot Field Day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT Saturday at the North Florida Research and Education Center in Quincy.

The event cost is \$10 and pre-registration is required by noon on Friday.

To pre-register go online to http: nrfecfoodplot.eventbrite.com or call 850-875-7100.

Visit the local testing of food plot materials, management and temporary deterrents. There will be discussions on those subjects and more as well as part of a holistic approach to managing habitat for game species. There will talks on cost share assistance, learn how to age deer, identify native plants valuable for

game species and get your antlers scored according to the Florida Buck Registry.

Lunch and door prizes included. The event will go on rain or shine.

The research center is at 155 Research Road in Quincy. From I-10 take Exit 181 (SR 267) and go north approximately one-quarter of a mile. The center is on the left at Research Road.

Trivia ANSWER



Question: By an act of the Florida State Legislature the new town was named Port St. Joe in order to distinguish it from the "Old" City of St. Joseph. When did this occur?

3/21/1910

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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 and thence run South 00 degrees 20 minutes 46 seconds West along the West line of said Section 20, a distance of 1923.07 feet to a point on the Southerly right-of-way boundary of County Road No. 30, said point lying on the North, thence run Northeasterly along said right-of-way boundary and along said curve with a radius of 2346.20 feet thru a central of 08 degrees 02 minutes 06 seconds for an arc distance of 329.02 feet, the chord of said arc being North 74 degrees 20 minutes 50 seconds East 328.75 feet, thence run South 00 degrees 20 minutes 46 seconds East 392.39 feet to a point on the Florida Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) Coastal Construction Control Line, as record in Gulf County Public Records, February 5, 1986, thence run South 82 degrees 39 minutes 37 seconds East along said Coastal Construction Control Line 394.62 feet to the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning thence run South 00 degrees 01 minutes 25 seconds West 537.10 feet to the approximate mean highwater line of the Gulf of Mexico, thence run South 79 degrees 19 minutes 49 seconds East along said approximate mean highwater line 76.33 feet, thence run North 00 degrees 01 minutes 25 seconds East 541.57 feet to a point on said D.N.R. Coastal Construction Control Line 75.56 feet to the Point of Beginning. Dated this 22nd day of February, 2013.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale. Rebecca Norris Clerk of Court By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk David Bakalar, PA. ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF 2901 STIRLING ROAD, SUITE 208 FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33312 (954)965-9101 File# 09-00800 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 office of the Court Administrator, GULF COUNTY Courthouse, at within two (2) working days of your receipt of this Notice of Sale; 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) for hearing impaired or 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service. March 7, 14, 2013 90340S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 12 144 CA INNOVATIONS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, vs. MARK STEVENS, CHRISTY L. STEVENS F/K/A CHRISTY MYRICK, PANHANDLE EDUCATORS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION AND DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY-INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, Defendants. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida, will on the 21st day of March, 2013, at 11:00 am, ET, at the front lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Blvd, Port St. Joe, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry, one by one, to the highest bidder for cash, the property located in Gulf County, Florida, as follows: LOTS 10 AND 12 OF BLOCK 6, CORRECTIVE REPLAT OF RIVERSIDE PARK UNIT NO. 1 AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 38, PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA. LESS AND EXCEPT A 49' MORE OR LESS STRIP ALONG THE EASTERN BOUNDARY OF SAID LOTS RUNNING ALONG AN EXISTING CHAIN LINK FENCE. pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 19, 2013, in the above-styled cause, pending in said Court. 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 22nd day of February, 2013. Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk of Circuit Court By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk James E. Sorenson, Esquire D. Tyler Van Leuven, Esquire Post Office Box 4128 Tallahassee, FL 32315-4128

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 creservice@wggdlaw.com (E-Service Address) Attorneys for Plaintiff March 7, 14, 2013 90360S PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) gives notice that it proposes to approve a No Further Action Proposal with Institutional Controls or with Engineering and Institutional Controls and issue a Site Rehabilitation Completion Order with controls for a contaminated site. The St. Joe Company is seeking this order in reference to FDEP Site ID # B F 2 3 0 2 0 1 0 0 2 , Former Port St. Joe Kraft Paper Mill Site at U.S. 98 and intends to restrict exposure to contamination in the following manner: groundwater and land use restrictions on entire property with engineering caps on referenced locations. Complete copies of the No Further Action Proposal, the draft restrictive covenant, and the FDEP's preliminary evaluation are available for public inspection during normal business hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at FDEP, 160 W. Government Street, Suite 308, Pensacola, Florida, 32502. Local governments with jurisdiction over the property subject to the Institutional Control, and residents of

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 any property subject to the Institutional Control have 30 days from publication of this notice to provide comments to the FDEP. Such comments must be sent to FDEP, Sally Cooley, 160 W. Government Street, Suite 308, Pensacola, Florida, 32502. March 7, 2013 90366S PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL The Gulf Coast Workforce Board announces the availability of a Request for Proposal (RFP) titled "Workforce Center Sign". The purpose of the RFP is to seek proposals from qualified vendors to provide signage replacing the existing Workforce Center sign and accompanying tenant signs located at the corner of Highway 231 and 19th Street in Panama City, Florida. The intent is to enter into a contract with a single prime contractor. Bidder will submit proposals for two scenarios as outlined in the RFP. Proposals will be due by 4 pm, Wednesday March 15, 2013. To obtain information, contact: Workforce Center Amanda Bawn, Communications Coordinator 625 Highway 231 Panama City, FL 32405 850-872-4340 x180 abawn@gcwb.org Minority businesses are encouraged to apply. The Gulf Coast Workforce Board is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Program and auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. March 7, 2013

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 90384S UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA PANAMA CITY DIVISION CASE NO.: 5:12-cv-155-RS-EMT SE PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC, Plaintiff, v. IOLA HOLDINGS, LLC, WILLIAM J. RISH, RALPH P. RISH, KARA MARIE JOHNSON, OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF SUNSET VILLAGE, INC., PNC BANK, and CENTENNIAL BANK, Defendants. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under and by virtue of a Final Judgment of Foreclosure rendered in the above-styled case on January 11, 2013, by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, in favor of the Plaintiff, the undersigned, appointed in said decree, will on the 16th day of April, 2013 at 12:00 P.M. (Noon) (Eastern Standard Time), at the front door of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Port St. Joe, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest bidder, the following described property, situated, lying and being in Gulf County, Florida: Lots 59, 65, 83 and 87, Sunset Village Subdivision, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 19, Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 For additional information concerning the above property contact: William J. Podolsky, III, Esquire, Phelps Dunbar LLP, 100 South Ashley Drive, Suite 1900, Tampa, Florida 33602 or (813) 472-7550. All sales are subject to confirmation of the court. Method of payment is by postal money order or certified check made payable to the U.S. Marshal Service. Ten (10) percent of High/Acceptable bid in certified check or cashier's check (NO CASH) will be accepted with the balance due within 48 hours. No cash will be accepted. EDWARD M. SPOONER United States Marshal Northern District of Florida Dated: 02-27-2013 By: Glenn A. Miller U.S. Marshal's Service March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2013 90386S UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA PANAMA CITY DIVISION CASE NO.: 5:12-cv-00142-RS-GRJ SE PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC, Plaintiff, v. WHITE CITY PARTNERS, LLC; WILLIAM J. RISH, JR.; MICHAEL HAMMOND, Defendants. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under and by virtue of a Final Judgment of Foreclosure rendered in the above-styled case on

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100 January 11, 2013, by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, in favor of the Plaintiff, the undersigned, appointed in said decree, will on the 16th day of April, 2013 at 12:00 P.M. (Noon) (Eastern Standard Time), at the front door of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Port St. Joe, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest bidder, the following described property, situated, lying and being in Gulf County, Florida: Commence at the Southwest corner of Section 11, Township 7 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida, and extend a line East along the South line of said Section 11 for 49.8 degrees 10' East, for 2,340.0 feet; thence South 63 degrees 50' East, for 1,110.0 feet; thence South 26 degrees 39' West for 33.0 feet to the Point of Beginning; from this POB extend a line South 63 degrees 50' East for 400.0 feet; thence South 26 degrees 39' West, for 635.8 feet; thence North 63 degrees 31'40" West, for 152.0 feet; thence South 26 degrees 10'20" West, for 5.0 feet; thence North 63 degrees 31'40" West, for 248.0 feet; thence North 26 degrees 39' East, for 638.7 feet for Point of Beginning. The above description embraces a portion of Plots F and G of Wimico Subdivision as filed in Plat Book 1, Page 31, Public Records of Gulf County, Florida; together with an unsubdivided parcel of land lying adjacent thereto.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

State and local laws concerning licensing registration and regulation of contractors doing business to the State of Florida. March 7, 2013

ADOPTIONS 1130

Adopt: Athletic, Creative, Loving Lawyer & Doctor yearn to be doting Dad & At Home Mom. Expenses Paid *Ben & Amy* FLBar42311 1800-522-0045

FOUND 1170

Found White House Cat wandered to our home in White City if anyone is missing this cat Call 850-827-2776

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

MERCHANDISE 3100-3350

ANTIQUES 3100

Antique Wicker Sofa, Rocker and Arm Chair. \$1,500 Firm. Serious Inquires Only 850-769-1821

GARAGE/YARD SALES 3230

Port Saint Joe Beach, 8176 Hwy 98, Subdvn. Summer Place, Saturday Mar 9th, 8am - 12 Multi Family Sale!! Lots of items: Appliances Too!!

NEW TODAY Port St. Joe 2001 Marvin Ave. March 8th & 9th, 8am until 7. Estate Sale

NEW TODAY Port St. Joe, 1205 Constitution Dr (Hwy 98) Saturday 9th 8am-? Multi Family Yard Sale Furniture, Home Decor, Clothing for all ages, Jewelry and much more!

NEW TODAY Port St. Joe, 306 16th St. Thur. & Fri 9a-2pm Antiques, Jewelry, Tools, Extra Large Fishing Net, Art, Pictures, Glassware, Ceramics, Beam Bottles, and Much Misc

PSJ: 511 7th St, Saturday, March 9th, 8am til 12Noon EST 3 Family Yard Sale Furniture, Household Items, Blankets, Sheets, Kitchen Items, Dishes, Cookware, and More!

GUNS 3240

GUN SHOW Santa Rosa County Auditorium: Milton Fl Mar 16th & 17th 8a-5p. Concealed Weapons Classes. (850) 957-4952 or (850) 261-8407 General Admission: \$6 Text FL40762 to 56654

MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT 3280

Lincoln DC Portable Welder, 6 cylinder Continental engine, A/C aux. power, trailer mounted with toolbox, Good Condition, \$2800 Call 850-899-8695

HELP WANTED 4100-4130 EMPLOYMENT

Food Svc/Hospitality Housekeeping Saturday cleaning for Vacation Rental Homes on Cape San Blas. To apply: Call for appointment. 850-270-7736 Web ID# 34241417 Text FL41417 to 56654

HELP WANTED 4100

Hospitality Housekeeping 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

Other RE Sales Agent Opening for Experienced Licensed Agent. Call Parker Realty of Mexico Beach 850-648-5777 Web ID#34243264 Text FL43264 to 56654

Dockside Cafe & Raw Bar @ PSJ Marina **Seasonal Bonus - Top Pay!** NOW HIRING EXPERIENCED: Kitchen Managers/Cooks Bartenders/Managers Servers/Bussers Shuckers Dishwashers

APPLY 3:00 PM- 5:00 PM ONLY MON. THRU FRI. steamersdocksideofsea@yahoo.com

RESORT VACATION PROPERTIES

is looking for dependable employees with good customer service & teamwork skills. Great benefits for full time employees. Weekend work required FT Maintenance Technician General maintenance experience, good driving history FT Inspectors & PT Inspectors Must have reliable transportation. Apply 9-5 weekdays at 123 W Gulf Beach Dr, St. George Island

BARTENDER/THERAPIST NEEDED

The Port Inn/Thirsty Goat is now accepting applications for a part time bartender. The ideal candidate will have a thorough knowledge of liquors, beers, wines, and mixology techniques, but we are willing to train the right person.

If you have an eye for detail, the highest desire to deliver superior service, and can play well with others, we would love to hear from you!

Apply in person at the address below. E.O.E. DFWP Port Inn 501 Monument Ave. Port St. Joe, FL 32456

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Housekeeping Saturday cleaning for Vacation Rental Homes on Cape San Blas. To apply: Call for appointment. 850-270-7736 Web ID# 34241417 Text FL41417 to 56654

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HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED

The MainStay Suites and Port Inn are now accepting applications for housekeepers. Candidates must be able to work weekends and holidays, dependability is a must! If you have an eye for detail and a passion for service, we want you! Please apply in person at the address below. Make beds, make friends, make money. Inquire about benefits package. E.O.E. D.F.W.P. Port Inn 501 Monument Ave. Port St. Joe Fl, 32456

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HOUSE RENTALS 6140

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

Year Round Rental. 3br 2ba . 3.5 miles from the beach 3873 Hwy 386. \$850/mo + First/ Last/ Security Call(850) 348-7774

HOUSE RENTALS 6110

Need Roommate or Cheap 1Br/1Ba in town 850-899-2247 850-229-8560

HOUSE RENTALS 6140

2Br/2Ba with attached separate 1Br/1Ba suite, Gulf View w/easy beach access, Newly Remodeled, Granite Counter Tops, W/D included, Micro, Outside Shower, \$1450 mo + \$1000 dep, 1yr lease, Call 850-265-4813

HOUSE RENTALS 6140

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 Real Estate 7190 - Out-of-Town Real Estate 7200 - Timeshare

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE 7160

2001 Fleetwood 14' x 68' mobile home for sale to be moved by buyer, Asking \$9,500, NADA appraisal OBO; Call 850-247-9450 to set up appointment

TRUCKS 8130

8100 - Antique & Collectibles 8110 - Cars 8120 - Sports Utility Vehicles 8130 - Trucks 8140 - Vans 8150 - Commercial 8160 - Motorcycles 8170 - Auto Parts & Accessories 8210 - Boats 8220 - Personal Watercraft 8230 - Sailboats 8240 - Boat & Marine Supplies 8245 - Boat Slips & Docks 8310 - Aircraft/Aviation 8320 - ATV/Off Road Vehicles 8330 - Campers & Trailers 8340 - Motorhomes

TRUCKS 8130

NEW TODAY Ford Ranger, 1994. Only 39,000 miles. In good condition. Asking \$2,800. Call (850) 227-1620 Text FL44001 to 56654

TRUCKS 8130

NEW TODAY Ford Ranger, 1994. Only 39,000 miles. In good condition. Asking \$2,800. Call (850) 227-1620 Text FL44001 to 56654

HOME FOR SALE 7100

North Florida Child Development, Inc. - Is seeking - Teachers/Substitutes for our 0-5 year old classrooms at our Gulf County Centers Prefer a minimum of a CDA (FCCPC) Pickup Applications at the Centers Or send resumes to: smcgill@floridachildren.org

South Gulf County Early Learning Center 176 Field of Dreams Ave. Port St. Joe, FL Debra Anderson, Center Mgr. (850) 229-6415 North Gulf County Early Child Development Ctr 131 West River Road Wewahitcha, FL Gina Crane, Center Mgr. (850) 639-6520 DFWP/M-F/6-6/EOE C14GU0134 C14GU0624

MORE THAN A JOB... A FUTURE! LONG TERM WORK EASTERN SHIPBUILDING GROUP an aggressive leader in the Marine Industry, located in Panama City, FL has the following opportunities for skilled craftsmen: PIPEFITTERS • PIPE WELDERS X-RAY WELDERS • PAINTERS/SANDBLASTERS INDUSTRIAL MARINE ELECTRICIANS

Competitive wages DOE, and a comprehensive benefits package including: Company paid health, dental, and life insurance, 401(k), attendance & safety bonuses. Normal work week to include overtime. Qualified craftsmen should apply in person: Mon-Fri, 8am-12pm - 1pm- 4:30 pm HUMAN RESOURCES (2 Locations): 13300 Allanton Rd., Panama City, FL 32404 and 134 S. East Ave., Panama City, FL 32401 Applications are also accepted at our East Ave Office - Saturdays, 8am-12pm. (850) 522-7400, ext. 2285, 2322, or 2302 Fax: (850) 874-0208 EOE/Drug Free Workplace

JOB NOTICE

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners is accepting applications for three (3) PART-TIME MOSQUITO SPRAYERS with no benefits. Hours of work will be determined on an as-needed basis. Applications and a complete job description are available in our HR office or at www.gulfcounty-fl.gov. EOE Application deadline is Thursday, March 14th at 5:00 p.m. E.T. For more information, please contact Brett Lowry, Deputy Administrator at 850-229-5335 Gulf County enforces a Drug-Free Workplace Policy and is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer. 2013.39

SEACREST REAL ESTATE, INC. IS NOW Sandy Beach PROPERTIES 108 S. E. AVE. A CARRABELLE, FLORIDA 32322 Contact Randi Dempsey (850) 697-5300 or (850) 653-7282 www.seacrestre.com www.firstfitness.com/carrabelle PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND RENTALS RENTALS 2 BR / 1 BA FURNISHED.....\$550 3 BR / 3 BA UNFURNISHED CONDO W/ POOL\$850 3 BR / 2 BA UNFURNISHED CONDO W/ POOL AND 10X15 STORAGE UNIT.....\$950 3 BR / 2 BA FURNISHED CONDO W/ POOL NIGHTLY / \$150 | WEEKLY / \$850 3 BR / 2 UNFURNISHED TRAILOR.....\$500 OFFICE BUILDING FOR RENT 1500 SQ. FT. / 2 LOTS, (HWY 98 FRONTAGE).....\$650

Classified can!

If you're ready to move up or are just starting out Classified can help you open the door to home ownership. We've got properties at every price, with locations all over town! And if you're planning to sell, Classified can introduce you to the market's best prospects.

HOME FOR SALE 7100

AUCTION 13 Gulf Coast Residential & Commercial Lots Online Bidding Available Tuesday, March 26th at 2:00 p.m.

2884 U.S. Hwy. 98 E, Carrabelle - Waterfront 3 BR/2 BA Home w/Dock U.S. Hwy. 98 E - Nice Gulf View Lot 3149 U.S. Hwy. 98 E, Carrabelle - Gulf View 3 BR/2 BA Home U.S. Hwy 98 E, Carrabelle, FL - (2) Comm. Bldgs. 3153 U.S. Hwy. 98 E, Carrabelle - Nice Gulf View Lot 202 NE 7th St., Carrabelle - 6,400 ± SF Metal Bldg. 2390 U.S. Hwy. 98 E, Carrabelle - 0.8 ± Acres Waterfront Lot NE 7th Street, Carrabelle - Commercial Lot U.S. Hwy. 98 E, Carrabelle - 1 ± Acre Waterfront Lot 3157 U.S. Hwy. 98 E, Carrabelle - 2 BR/2 BA Home & 1BR/1 BA Cottage U.S. Hwy 98 E, Carrabelle, FL - 9,576 ± SF Comm. Bldg. 57 Seventh St, Apalachicola, FL - Triplex, (3) 1 BR/1 BA Units

Open House: Sunday, March 17th 2-5 p.m.

Auction Site: St. James Bay Golf Resort 151 Laughing Gull Ln, Carrabelle, FL For Complete Details Visit RowellAuctions.com



Rowell Auctions, Inc. 800-323-8388 A MarkNet Alliance Member • GAL AU-C002594 • 10% Buyer's Premium



RowellAuctions.com

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CALL OUR NEW NUMBERS NOW HELP IS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY To Place Your Classified ad in THE STAR APALACHICOLA & CARRABELLE TIMES Call: 850-747-5020 Toll Free: 800-345-8688 Fax: 850-747-5044 Email: thestar@pcnh.com thetimes@pcnh.com CALL OUR NEW NUMBERS NOW