



MBARA participates in pilot program, **B1**

## Christmas going coastal

### Christmas on the Coast celebration begins Friday

By WES LOCHER  
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wlocher@starfl.com

The Christmas decorations are up, and it's time to get into the holiday spirit.

The two-day Christmas on the Coast celebration is this weekend as downtown Port St. Joe is transformed into a winter wonderland.

The 13th annual event, put on by the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce, kicks off at 5 p.m. ET Friday at City Commons Park, next to City Hall.

Santa Claus will be seated in the gazebo, and boys and girls will be able to visit for a photo and to whisper any last-minute gift ideas into his ear.

For \$5, horse-drawn carriages will take riders for a stroll around downtown Port St. Joe, and Reid Avenue businesses will be open late for patrons to get started on



FILE PHOTOS

Christmas on the Coast will be Dec. 6-7 in downtown Port St. Joe. Events will include a Christmas parade, farmer's market, chili cook-off, live music and more.

their holiday shopping.

To further spread Christmas cheer, local musicians will be playing holiday tunes at various places along Reid.

On Saturday, the celebration

continues when the Christmas Salt-Air Farmer's Market begins at 9 a.m. ET at City Commons Park.

"We have 35 vendors lined up," said Salt-Air organizer

John Parker. "They'll have anything from produce to jewelry to Tupperware to holistic oils."

Entertainment during the

See **COASTAL A3**

#### CHRISTMAS ON THE COAST EVENTS

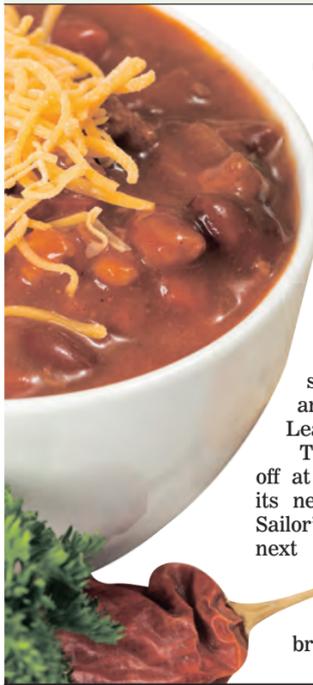
**FRIDAY, DEC. 6**  
5 p.m.\* at City Commons Park: Photos with Santa Claus, horse-drawn carriage rides

**SATURDAY, DEC. 7**  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at City Commons Park: Christmas Salt-Air Farmer's Market  
11 a.m. to Noon:

Thirty Three plays at City Commons  
**Noon at Sailor's Cove:** Junior Service League Chili Cook-off with music by Konkrete

Soul  
1-2 p.m. at City Commons: Diane Peavy plays  
3-4 p.m. at City Commons: Greg Wood

plays  
6 p.m. on Reid Avenue: Christmas parade  
\*All times ET.



## Chilly weather and chili beans

By WES LOCHER  
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wlocher@starfl.com

Thanksgiving is behind us and Port St. Joe is gearing up for a staple of the holiday season: the fourth annual Junior Service League Chili Cook-off.

The event will kick off at noon Saturday in its new location in the Sailor's Cove parking lot, next to the Haughty Heron.

The cook-off will bring together 20 lo-

cal teams to battle it out for the title of "Best Chili in Port St. Joe."

Held amid the Christmas on the Coast celebration, each team will pick a name, set up a table and attempt to wow attendees with their recipes. Last year's event brought 13 teams to the challenge, but this year, the JSL wanted to go bigger.

"Our goal was 15 teams, and 20 have already signed up," said JSL member and event organizer Kaci Rhodes. "That's awesome!"

Each team will be assigned a secret number, and a panel of judges will



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The fourth annual Junior Service League Chili Cook-off will be Saturday in the Sailor's Cove parking lot.

conduct a blind taste test on each group's concoction. First-, second- and third-place prizes will be awarded based on taste, texture and appearance.

See **CHILI A3**

## Americus ditch discussion pops up again for BOCC

By WES LOCHER  
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wlocher@starfl.com

It was strictly business for the Board of County Commissioners during last week's meeting.

St. Joe Beach property owner Tom Graney went before the BOCC to talk about the ongoing problems with the Americus ditch project.

"It's not functioning properly," Graney said of the \$1.2 million project installed more than six years ago.

Graney said District 3 Com-

missioner Joanna Bryan had brought findings on the project to the last meeting, but her fellow commissioners had ignored them.

"By not discussing it, now you must deal with it," Graney said. "The pipe doesn't stay in the ground."

Graney requested that engineers who installed the pipe come before the board to explain why it requires constant repairs and why the project ended up costing more than originally projected.

Since work on the pipe sys-

tem was completed in 2008, the site has undergone almost 150 repairs, averaging three a month.

Graney went on to accuse the board of violating a Florida statute when they first awarded the bid.

According to Florida law, contractors must be prequalified with the Department of Transportation to bid on road, bridge or public transportation construction projects greater than \$250,000.

"The bidder was clearly unqualified," Graney said. "Some-

thing is wrong with the bid process."

He encouraged commissioners to figure out how to fix the existing problems before they began popping up elsewhere in the county as additional drainage is added to accommodate new residents.

After having his speaking time extended twice, Graney looked to the board for a response.

Chairman Tan Smiley said he had spoken with two residents on Americus who said the pipe

See **DITCH A8**

## Bed tax numbers raise TDC questions

By TIM CROFT  
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tcroft@starfl.com

By all accounts, the month of October was a strong one for tourism in Gulf County.

Save one account: the bottom line on bed tax revenue.

The Tourist Development Council saw bed tax numbers fall by almost 12 percent in October after two months of increases of more than 26 percent.

The decrease was in contrast to most visual evidence.

"Our October was pretty good, at both properties," said David Warriner, chairman of the TDC advisory council and president of Tapper & Company, which owns the Port Inn and Mainstay Suites.

Other collectors echoed that, one saying it was their "best October ever."

But TDC executive director Jennifer Jenkins said in researching how the bed tax numbers could fall so dramatically while by all appearances business was good, she found a potential glitch in how the county allows collectors to report income and taxes.

Jenkins said she was informed by Tax Collector Shirley Jenkins that all collectors of bed tax have the choice of reporting by month or by quarter.

Collectors simply check a box for whether they wish to report monthly or quarterly.

"If October was a really good month, there are some

See **TDC A8**

## Food pantry donation divides commission

By TIM CROFT  
227-7827 | @PSJ\_Star  
tcroft@starfl.com

Port St. Joe city commissioners agreed unanimously Tuesday on a waiver policy on utility bills, but the good feelings led to indigestion over a donation to a local food pantry.

Commissioner William Thursday motioned to follow the lead of the Board of County Commissioners, which donated \$1,000, and donate \$500 to the food pantry operating out of the North Port St. Joe Resource Center.

The money would come from scrap metal sold by Public Works staff with the intent of funding an appreciation dinner for employees.

See **COMMISSION A8**

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Real Estate Ad deadline is Thursday 11 a.m. ET  
Legal ad deadline is Friday 11 a.m. ET  
Display ad deadline is Friday 11 a.m. ET 227-1278  
Classified deadline is Monday 5 p.m. ET 747-5020

**ANNUAL LEGISLATION DELEGATION MEETING**



WES LOCHER | The Star

State Sen. Bill Montford (D-Tallahassee) and District 7 state Rep. Halsey Beshears (R-Monticello) held their annual Gulf County Legislative Delegation meeting on Monday. Director Marsha Lindeman gave the duo an update on Department of Health programs in Gulf and Franklin counties while Pat Hardman of the Coastal Community Association asked for the State 30-A exit egress to be reinstated. County Commissioners Ward McDaniel, Warren Yeager and Tan Smiley also took the opportunity to voice concerns. McDaniel asked the Senator to support the Port of Port St. Joe in every capacity, Yeager asked Montford to avoid unfunded mandates where possible and Smiley reiterated the need for affordable apartments in the community.

**\$24 million broadband expansion nearly done**

Project bringing high-speed Web to rural areas

By VALERIE GARMAN  
Halifax Media

**PANAMA CITY** — Rural Northwest Florida soon will be home to a broadband network capable of handling 1,000 times the capacity of existing Internet service in the area.

Funded by the 2009 federal stimulus package, the \$24 million project will bring broadband Internet access to eight underserved counties in the Panhandle, including Calhoun, Gulf, Franklin, Holmes, Jackson, Washington, Liberty and Gadsden counties.

Slated for an end-of-the-year completion, the project also will provide coverage for the south-central Florida counties of DeSoto, Hardee, Glades, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee and the community of Immokalee.

Known as the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA), the initiative is a partnership between Opportunity Florida and the Florida Rural Heartland Economic Development Initiative, agencies that serve areas of critical economic concern in the state.

Jim Brook, executive director of Opportunity Florida representing the rural Panhandle, said one of the main goals is to provide

cost-effective, high-speed Internet directly to “community anchor institutions,” such as public schools, libraries, local governments and emergency services.

“It will provide additional capacity, at hopefully affordable rates,” Brook said.

According to data from the FRBA, only 39 percent of these rural areas have access to broadband service, yet they represent about 20 percent of Florida’s land mass. The “middle mile” broadband network will extend the current Internet backbone to local Internet service providers (ISPs) that serve households and small businesses in these communities.

Brook said the backhaul network is required to meet capacity requirements of up to 200 megabytes per second.

“Traditionally, the end result to the residential consumer would be provided by independent ISPs that traditionally sell at the last mile,” Brook said. “It provides a scalable, and in many cases, less costly capacity.”

Brook said the intention is not to compete with current providers, but simply to increase capacity.

“This was not a system that was put in place to replace existing services,” Brook said. “We’re not only willing, but we’re obligated to negotiate with existing providers.”

Once the project is completed, service will be sold at a lowest reasonable cost through a network operator, Brook said, which is in the final stages of negotiation.

Within the \$4.7 trillion stimulus package, \$7.2 billion was designated for broadband infrastructure projects in rural areas across the country.

To qualify for grants, companies must show they can provide broadband service to areas that meet any of the following: where 90 percent of households have no broadband access, 50 percent have inadequate broadband coverage at speeds of less than three megabytes per second, or areas where service is available, but less than 40 percent of the population subscribes.

“This was a system that was primarily developed to provide additional capacity and capacity needed to community anchor institutions,” Brook said. “It’s trying to equalize the country in terms of access to technology,” Brook said.

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**Countywide Holiday Events**

- Dec. 6 - Island Lights, St. George Island
- Dec. 7 - Holiday Fresh Market, Apalachicola
- Dec. 7 - Ilse Newell Concert Series - PSJ
- Dec. 8 - Ilse Newell Concert Series - Apalachicola
- Dec. 13 - Eastpoint Christmas Celebration
- Dec. 14 - Holiday on the Harbor Boat Parade

Visit [SaltyFlorida.com](http://SaltyFlorida.com) for a complete list of events and activities.

**Apalachicola Christmas Celebration**  
Nov. 28-29 & Dec. 7  
Historic Downtown Apalachicola

Apalachicola Area Historical Society Presents

*Ilse Newell*

**CONCERT SERIES**

**Bay Area Choral Society**  
**Holiday Favorites**  
December 7 & 8 Port St. Joe/Apalachicola

*Carrabelle*

**Carrabelle Boat Parade of Lights**

*Dec. 14th*

**VARIANCE NOTICE**

The City of Port Saint Joe Planning and Development Review Board will hold a Meeting to discuss a Request for a Variance on December 10, 2013, 4:00 EST at City Hall at 305 Cecil Costin Sr. Blvd. Port Sr Joe, FL for Nathan Peters, III located at 413 Hodrick Street, Parcel# 05816-000.R. The reason for the request is Per Section 3.04 (1) F of the Land Development Regulations. The proposed plans can be reviewed at the Building Department located at 1002 10th St. and can be reached for questions at (850) 229-1093.

All persons are invited to attend this meeting. Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Planning and Development Board with respect to any matter considered at said meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. The Planning and Review Board of the City of Port St Joe, Florida will not provide a verbatim record of this meeting.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing special accommodations to participate in these proceedings should contact Charlotte Pierce, City of St. Joe, at City Hall (850) 229-8261

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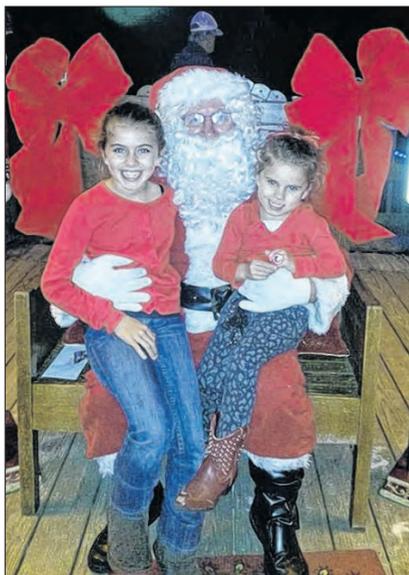
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**Attention:**  
Effective 12/17/2013  
**Weems Medical Center West in Apalachicola Will Be Open**  
Tuesday thru Friday from 8am to 5pm



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

During Mexico Beach's annual tree lighting ceremony, the golf cart parade challenged residents to create their own four-wheeled sleighs. **At right**, Santa met with more than 80 children.



# Christmas arrives in Mexico Beach

Star Staff Report

The city of Mexico Beach rang in the holiday season by lighting the tree at Sunset Park on Sunday.

The tree was lit by Mr. and Mrs. Bubba Harmon and family, lifelong residents of Mexico Beach.

After the tree lighting, Pastor Jerry Arhelger from the First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach gave an invocation and led the crowd in sing-along Christmas classics.

The ceremony was followed by the annual golf cart parade, which cruised down U.S. 98, ending at the park. The carts, decorated with bright Christmas lights, giant presents, dancing reindeer and festive

snowmen, were followed by Santa on his red fire truck.

Community Development Council executive director Kimberly Shoaf said it was the largest crowd to date.

Santa met with more than 80 children while revelers sipped on hot cocoa and munched on cookies.

Shoaf extended a thank you to Wiley Petty and the staff of the El Governor Motel for transforming Sunset Park into the beautiful Christmas winter wonderland.

"It's so nice to have a community that comes together to celebrate the holiday season," Shoaf said. "I hope residents and visitors will stop by and make Sunset Park their Christmas card backdrop."

## COASTAL from page A1

Farmer's Market will include bands Thirty-Three at 11 a.m., Diane Peavy at 1 p.m. and Greg Wood at 3 p.m. until the market ends at 4 p.m.

At noon, the Junior Service League's fourth annual Chili Cook-off will begin at Sailor's Cove in the Haughty Heron parking lot, and the title of "Best Chili in Port St. Joe" will be chased by 20

teams. (See related article.)

All funds raised from the event will go toward community service works of the JSL including the purchase of clothing and school supplies for area children. Live music will be provided by Konkrete Soul, a bounce house will be setup for the kids and beverages will be served for adults.

At 5 p.m. ET, Reid Av-

enue will be closed to traffic in anticipation of the annual Christmas parade, which will begin at 6 p.m.

The parade will feature more than 50 holiday-themed floats and will shepherd Santa Claus into town. Floats will be judged and prizes awarded in the categories of school and nonprofit, family and friends and businesses.

"It's truly a hometown

parade," Chamber Director Paula Pickett said. "It shows great community spirit."

What Gulf County lacks in snow, it makes up for in community cheer.

Those interested in registering for a booth at the Christmas Farmer's Market can call John Parker at 404-906-2637. The fee is \$10, and vendors must supply their own table.

## CHILI from page A1

A spirit award also will be given to the team who decorates their table with the most eye-catching setup.

During the event, tickets can be purchased for \$1 each to be spent toward a cup or bowl any team's chili, along with cookies, brownies and various beverages.

The team with the most tickets at the end of the day will receive the People's Choice award.

Rhodes was nominated by the JSL committee to organize the cook-off and was responsible for acquiring beer licenses, advertising, picking promotional posters and gathering sponsors for the event.

She attended the cook-off for the first time last year and enjoyed it so much, she couldn't wait to helm the next installment.

"It was wonderful," Rhodes said of the 2012 event. "I really enjoyed sampling each team's chili."

Rhodes joined the JSL last year and has helped with the annual Easter Egg Hunt and bartended at local fundraisers. Though she sees the cook-off as a hometown tradition, she doesn't lose sight of the JSL's goal for the event.

"Our mission is to help kids," Rhodes said. "The money goes back to the community."

In the past, Rhodes has been part of an event that took 50 local kids to Sears to purchase clothes for the holiday season. Guidance counselors at Wewahitchka and Port St. Joe schools each chose 25 students based on need and those kids were taken to the department store and given \$100 to buy necessities.

This year's shopping trip will take the children to Kohl's in Panama City.

"I have a passion for helping kids," Rhodes said of her choice to join the JSL. "When I knew they were heavily involved, I had to join."

During a previous holiday, Rhodes tried to purchase clothes for children in the community, but because she organized the project alone, the logistics quickly became overwhelming. She saw the positives of teaming up with a local group in the community.

"We can do more with more people," Rhodes said.

All funds raised from the teams, tasters, sponsors and 50/50 raffle go towards supporting the community service work the JSL performs in Gulf County.

In addition to gallons of tasty chili, live music at the event will be provided by Konkrete Soul, a bounce house will keep the kids entertained and adult refreshments will be available for purchase.

Team registration forms can be picked up at the Welcome Center, Haughty Heron, Persnickety and A&A Homecare in Wewahitchka or by contacting any member of the Junior Service League.

"It's a good time of year, and a busy day for our area," Rhodes said. "I hope people will help support the League so that we can give back to the community."

## DAVID RICH'S

Hwy 71, Wewahitchka, FL, Open at 6 am CT



## CARRABELLE

Hwy 98 & 7th St., Carrabelle, FL, Open at 7 am ET

# SUPER SATURDAY

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## 'Sailing into Area 51'

Don't worry, I'm not into Science Fiction and I haven't taken to writing about it. Some folks find it odd that a fellow who has spent most of his life working in the aerospace world is not interested in such things as Martians and flying saucers.



**CRANKS MY TRACTOR**  
BN Heard

I really am not. However, I am approaching or "sailing into" another birthday and I try to find humor and meaning as I go through life and hoping my children and friends do the same.

Being a mathematician by education, I do find it entertaining to study what people think about certain numbers and their significance. Again, I will note that I just find it fun and I don't pick lottery numbers based on the significance of numbers.

That being said, I still had to look into the significance of the number 51 this year. Of course, like every other number it is very important (to some people).

In studying the Pyramid's mysterious design, the number 51 is worthy of attention. The slope angle is 51 degrees, 51 minutes. In addition, the Kings Chamber is situated on the 51st masonry course of the Pyramid.

Somehow folks associate the number 51 with a code for the Earth. Okay, that's pretty cool. However, when you consider that Stonehenge, Avebury and Silbury Hill are all located on the 51st parallel, it gets a little scary. These folks think that these prehistoric monuments represent the Sun, Earth and Moon.

You've probably heard of Stonehenge. Avebury is also an arrangement of three stone circles from prehistoric times. Silbury Hill is a mound of chalk in the same area from a long long time ago.

Maybe the fellows who built all these monuments were just bored or having some sort of contest. I really don't think the Martians did it.

I'll just handle 51 in my own way.

My Daddy was in the Navy and he taught us the basic terms associated with boats, knots and Fletcher Class Destroyers. It was interesting for me as a little boy when he would point to a gun on a Revell plastic model of the USS The Sullivans and say, "this was my gun."

My Daddy sat under a gun and fired it when he needed to fire it. He taught me about knots and the square knot is about the only one I remember. I know the "bow" was the front of the ship and the "stern" was the back-end of the ship. I also know if you are looking toward the front of the ship, the "port side" is the left and the "starboard side" is the right.

These terms are important in understanding what I am about to describe because I don't want to use inappropriate words.

With less than a week before my birthday, I have had a couple of notable "sailing experiences." The first happened over the weekend when I was getting to sleep late for a change. It was nice.

As I woke up, I found a small black dog cuddled up to me in the bed. She is a very loving dog and likes the pack feeling when sleeping. I do not mind sleeping with this dog, it's nice to have someone or something or a small black dog to wake up in your arms.

She is a dog; she does not care what you are. Anyway, it seemed she had cuddled up to me with her stern in my face. It is somewhat startling to wake up with the stern end of a dog in your face, but at least she was there. Stonehenge did not cross my mind.

Later in the day, I took my two teenagers and some of their friends to some sort of music concert a few hours away. It was something my son

See **CRANKS A5**

## Ode To Camelot

I really hadn't thought about it in years. You get caught up with family, earning your keep, trying to get by each day, living..... you sometimes lose perspective of the bigger picture. The recent wave of news coverage made it all come back, rolling over me as if the fifty years had been a few days. And I wasn't especially enamored with John F. Kennedy.



**HUNKER DOWN**  
Kesley Colbert

Of course, at sixteen, if he didn't play football with us, live out on our end of Stonewall Street or have a "presentable" sister that was of a dateable age, we weren't paying much attention. The biggest thing I remember as he was campaigning for the presidency was his religion. I don't reckon any of us had ever seen a Catholic. Seems silly now; but I remember more debates around town about his religion than taxes, foreign policy or who his vice-president might be. Some up at the City Café believed the Pope would be running the country if JFK was elected. The recent flashbacks to the Kennedy era and his brief time as president didn't dwell on how divided the south was over this issue. Maybe that is just as well. And it turned out to be a moot point. That, I think, is an oft missed quality of the man.

The regulars at the Café also allowed that the Kennedys were rich beyond belief and they were simply trying to buy the

office. That was another hot "talking point" of the political season. But shucks, that didn't sway us much either way. Back then we measured a man by his works, not his bank account. Being from Hyannis Port, Massachusetts, would normally have worked against him, but his opponent was from California.....so that was about a wash!

We did watch in 1960 the much ballyhooed national televised debates between the aspiring candidates. They were in black and white. I don't remember any of the questions. Nor do I remember one answer. It was pretty grainy on our small TV, Buddy, at school on Monday, did point out that Richard Nixon looked like a crook as he kept cutting his eyes over at Kennedy.

I do remember being impressed with the "ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country" line in his inaugural speech. That was the first statement from a president that I ever rolled over in my young mind. It was a pretty good one to start with.....

all noted the difference between the popular; but aging Ike, and the youthful and energetic Kennedy. We weren't sure where the New Frontier was going to take us but we all realized here was truly a changing of the guard.

I don't think I'd even

heard of Vietnam when Kennedy was elected. I certainly didn't understand the confusion and embarrassment over the Bay of Pigs fiasco which occurred early in his watch. I never thought about joining the Peace Corps which he promoted tirelessly. And the construction of the Berlin Wall seemed like a crazy side show of the Cold War to us.

To be brutally honest here, I was more impressed with my new driver's license and the freedom it afforded me, than the rights of East Berliners that I didn't know. I didn't keep up with who JFK appointed as Secretary of State or Attorney General. We were more into how to beat Huntingdon on Friday night than what movie stars were dropping in on the Kennedys or what dress Jackie was wearing to the latest state dinner.

We did hold our breaths, and then cheer, as our President backed down the Castro government, and to a much larger extent, the Soviet Union over the Cuban Missile crisis. That was a close one! We cheered again when Kennedy stood by the Brandenburg Gate in the summer of 1963 and invited any in the world who thought they could work with the communists, "Let them come to Berlin". Wow, not bad for a guy who Nixon had repeatedly warned us was weak on international affairs!

I was sitting with John

Ingram and Larry Ridinger in study hall up on the third floor of the old high school. Coach Smith came on the loud speaker, "I have something serious to tell you." He had our immediate attention because he didn't blow into the microphone and say "can I have your attention, can I have your attention" like he normally did. "I don't want anyone to panic. The President of the United States has just been shot in Dallas."

Stunned wasn't the word as we looked at each other. Neither was disbelief or astonishment. It simply couldn't have happened! No way on earth! As we raced toward the TV in the auditorium people were stone silent. And many were crying; including Walter Cronkite when he gave us the definitive news.

I don't know about Camelot, nirvana, Shangri-la.....but I can tell you, it had been a pretty good time to be an American!

The change wasn't immediate; or perceptible at the moment. But it came. The sadness of the event still lingers. The confusion of the Warren Report and a hundred conspiracy theories and the political and social unrest of what was left of the sixties are still being felt to this day.

We lost our innocence. I watched and read very little of the recent coverage of that fateful day. I lived through it once. That was enough!

Respectfully,  
Kes

## Raise the minimum wage

By **LAWRENCE S. WITNER**  
Special to The Star

Some 47 million Americans live in poverty, and a key reason is the decline of the minimum wage.

First established under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, the nationwide minimum wage was designed to lift millions of American workers out of poverty and to stimulate the economy. Unfortunately, however, it was not indexed to inflation, and big businesses — hostile from the start — fought, often successfully, to prevent congressional action to raise it. As a result, over the past forty years, the purchasing power of the minimum wage has fallen sharply. If Congress had kept the minimum wage in pace with inflation over this period, it would today be \$10.74. But, in fact, it is \$7.25 — about two-thirds of its previous purchasing power.

A major consequence is that increasing numbers of workers and their families live in poverty. The annual salary of a full-time American worker employed at \$7.25 per hour is \$15,080 — less than the official federal government poverty level for a family of two. The poverty level for a family of four is \$23,550 — considerably beyond what a minimum-wage worker earns.

At the same time, the rich have grown far richer. Between 1968 and 2012, as the minimum wage declined in value, the top 1 percent of households doubled their share of the nation's income. The typical CEO of a big business received a 16 percent raise in 2012 — to \$15.1 million. That year, the pay of Wal-Mart's CEO, Mike Duke, rose 14 percent, to \$20.7 million. By contrast, Wal-Mart — the largest employer in the United States — pays its sales associates an average wage of \$8.81 an hour. It is much the same story at McDonald's, which employs large numbers of the nation's low wage workers. In 2012, the CEO of McDonald's was paid \$27.7 million. Although his income roughly tripled in 2012, the income of McDonald's fast food workers remained abysmal. Thanks to this pattern, the United

*The major objection trumpeted by the corporations and their apologists is that raising the minimum wage would lead to a loss of jobs. But sophisticated studies by economists have reported little or no effect on employment of raising the minimum wage.*

States now has the most unequal distribution of income in the industrialized world.

Another consequence of keeping the minimum wage low is that, by under-paying workers, corporations are shifting the real costs of doing business to the general public. According to a study released this October by the University of California and the University of Illinois, 52 percent of America's fast food workers receive assistance from public programs like food stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Medicaid thanks to their poverty-level wages. As a result, taxpayers are contributing \$7 billion per year to pick up the cost of supporting these fast-food workers. The study estimates that public assistance to McDonald's workers alone amounts to \$1.2 billion a year — the equivalent of one-fifth of that corporation's annual profits. Taxpayers are also paying enormous amounts to support the impoverished employees of Wal-Mart and other giant companies.

Many people have recognized the negative consequences of letting the minimum wage dwindle to insignificance. Twenty states and the District of Columbia have raised their minimum wages higher than the \$7.25 federal rate.

Congress is currently considering the Fair Minimum Wage Act that would gradually raise the minimum wage to \$10.10 in three steps and then index it to the cost of living. In addition, more than 120 cities across the United States have adopted "living wage" ordinances that require employers benefitting from publicly funded service contracts or economic development subsidies to pay wages higher than the state or federal minimums. Taking matters into their own hands, desperate workers in low-wage establishments, such as Wal-Mart, McDonald's, Burger King, and Wendy's have begun staging walkouts, demanding higher wages. This August, workers protested at nearly 1,000 fast-food restaurants in more than fifty cities, demanding \$15 per hour. Polls also show that the overwhelming majority of the American people support raising the minimum wage.

So why not do it? The major objection trumpeted by the corporations and their apologists is that raising the minimum wage would lead to a loss of jobs. But sophisticated studies by economists have reported little or no effect on employment of raising the minimum wage. Summarizing the studies earlier this year, Paul Krugman — the Nobel Prize-winning economist — declared: "The great preponderance of the evidence ... points to little if any negative effect of minimum wage increases on employment."

Why is this the case? One reason is that, with a higher wage, workers stay on the job longer, thus increasing labor efficiency and decreasing the cost of recruitment and retraining. Another is that two-thirds of minimum wage workers are employed by large businesses, which can easily afford higher wages (though they'd rather not pay them). Wal-Mart, for example, had \$469 billion in sales and \$17 billion in profits in 2012.

The number of jobs, however, is not really the crucial issue. What is the crucial issue is the kind of jobs.

See **RAISE A5**

### THE STAR

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# Remember the managers

By Courtney Cummings  
Special to The Star

When celebrating the successes and accomplishments of the 2013 Tiger Shark football season, it might be easy to overlook the contributions of a key group of young men.

Young men that tolerated the smothering humidity and heat of August as well as the bitter cold winds of November and never played a single down in a game this season. These young men worked hard and provided essential support to every coach and player on the team.

Angel Padilla, a senior, who works with his fellow managers to set-up the field on game day, keep the team hydrated, and do any other job the coaches need, said that his most important job might just be keep-

ing up with quarterback and kicker Drew Lacour's kicking shoe.

"The best is when they announce my name at the games and walking out with the team during the pep rallies," says Javion "String Bean" Jones, a manager since 2010.

He added that he also enjoys his job because he gets to be a part of the team, however, keeping up with the officials during the games can be challenging!

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Fellow manager, Lance Duhan added, "Being a manager is fun."

Lance's words seem to sum up the feelings of the rest of the management crew which also includes brothers Chance and Jacob Pittman.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

**Above:** Lance Duhan, Javion "String Bean" Jones, Chance Pittman, and Jacob Pittman.

**Right:** Angel Padilla



# Gene Raffield Football says thank you

Star Staff Report

The Gene Raffield Football League has completed another successful season with both the Dolphins and Jaguars finishing with winning records.

These special young men could not have done their thing without some very special others, the companies and organizations that were the spon-

sors of the League.

Football is not only a difficult game.

It is an expensive game. Without those you see listed below, the Gene Raffield Football League could not exist. These folks deserve your support like they supported the youth of Port St. Joe.

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Pictured: Bernard Jacob, chairman, Gulf Power Foundation; John Ed McDanal, district manager, Gulf Power Company; Stan Connally, president/CEO, Gulf Power Company.

**“**

**The College of Applied Studies is going to have a long-term impact on workforce development in this region. Supporting this initiative is an investment in the future and we're glad to be a part of that.**

Stan Connally  
President/CEO, Gulf Power Company

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**THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIVERSITY**  
*Endowment for Tomorrow's Jobs*

**FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY PANAMA CITY**

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

The new College of Applied Studies at FSU Panama City was approved by the FSU Board of Trustees in June 2010 and allows the campus to more easily respond to workforce needs in our area. We invite you to support *The Campaign for Our Community's University* by helping us build an endowment for tomorrow's jobs. Our goal is to establish a \$5 million endowment for the College of Applied Studies by 2017, which will allow FSU Panama City to establish student scholarships, implement new degree programs and provide new equipment and technology.

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## Oysters get even better in cooler weather

By Tom Baird  
Special to The Star

If you like oysters, this is a great time of year. Many people say that oysters are at their most delicious in cool weather months and when harvested from cold water. We are all familiar with oysters, those tasty, ugly mollusks whose harvest supports a significant portion of the livelihood and economy of our neighbors in Franklin County. We are all familiar with the water wars between Alabama, Georgia and Florida and the effect of the diminished natural flow of the Chattahoochee-Flint-Apalachicola river system on the ecology of Apalachicola Bay. We condemn the lack of water conservation efforts of metropolitan Atlanta, the bureaucracy of the Corps of Engineers, the massive loss of water to evaporation behind multiple dams on

the rivers, and sympathize with hardworking oystermen and their families for the loss of productivity of Apalachicola Bay. (Historically, Franklin County harvests more than 90 percent of Florida's oysters and 10 percent of the nationwide supply). Yet as we enjoy a plate of chilled raw oysters, or a platter of delectable fried oysters, do we ever consider the importance of the oyster to the economy of the sea?

Oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) create a mollusk reef or oyster reef. These oyster bars or "beds" become a haven for other sea life and retain nutrients on which the whole system depends. Oysters are filter feeders. Once attached to a suitable object, they consume material and planktonic organisms suspended in the water column and are nonselective. The most important foods to oysters



are microscopic algae cells, bacteria and detritus - decomposing organic matter. For this reason, oysters are easily contaminated by pollutants in the water because they concentrate them as they feed.

In Florida, a marketable oyster is generally two to three years old, however, under good conditions, an Apalachicola Bay oyster can be of marketable size in less than two years. To grow best, oysters need a good water flow, proper salinity and temperature and, of course, a suitable place of attachment. Good circulation not only aids in dispersing their larvae to new locations, but assures wastes are carried away and plenty of nutrients brought to their door.

Oysters tolerate a wide range of salinities, but permanent communities do best in a range of 10 - 20 parts per thousand. (Open Gulf salinity is about 35 - 36 parts per thousand.) Since St. Joseph Bay is highly saline (there is little freshwater input), we don't have oyster reefs in the bay. Live oysters can be found in St. Joseph Bay however, usually attached to an old wooden piling and mainly in the southeast corner of

the bay where there is occasional freshwater input. Apalachicola Bay is ideal with freshwater input from Florida's largest river. Oysters also have wide temperature tolerances, but best growth occurs between 77-79 degrees Fahrenheit.

Oysters spawn during warm months in Florida, generally from April through October and individuals may spawn several times during a season. The advent of warm water temperatures will stimulate a few oysters to spawn. This in turn triggers spawning in the rest, maximizing the number of egg and sperm in the water and the likelihood of fertilization.

The fertilized egg develops into a larva that drifts in the current for two to three weeks. Settling and attachment occurs when mature larvae contact a suitable hard object, like a seawall, old boat hull, piling, or another oyster. The larvae, called spat, will readily attach to other oyster shells and soon an oyster clump grows into an oyster reef or oyster bar. Oyster bars grow perpendicular to the direction of the current. The resulting dam enables oysters to filter food from the flowing water more

efficiently.

The oyster reef becomes a habitat for other sea life and as more larval oysters attach and grow, the oyster reef becomes an oasis of solid substrate in the middle of a muddy plain that would be otherwise unsuitable for other species that also require a solid base for attachment. Some examples of other organisms that inhabit an oyster bar include the stone crab (*Menippe mercenaria*), barnacles (*Balanus* spp.), the Atlantic slipper shell (*Crepidula fornicata*), anemones, serpulid worms, and the hooked mussel (*Brachiodontes reourus*).

Doubtless as you dined on a platter of raw oysters, you have noticed a tiny mussel or two still attached to an oyster shell.

All this life on the oyster reef attracts fish that come to pick off a tasty crab or worm, and bigger fish to feed on the smaller fish.

In this way, an oyster bar increases the richness and diversity of life in a bay.

The oyster reefs also alter the flushing rates and sediment transport out of the marshes and estuaries.

Without the oysters to impede the flow, currents pull valuable nutrients

away. In studies at the University of Georgia's Marine Institute on Sapelo Island, it was found that more than eight tons of sediment can be dropped by an acre of oysters in just 11 days.

The nutrients that the oysters concentrate are returned to the bays by the animals that seek refuge and feed on the detritus around the oyster bars.

Whether you love the unique taste of oysters in your Thanksgiving dressing or never touch the animal, there are oyster bars that are important to you.

They are the oyster bars in the neighboring bays and they are an important part of the whole system that brings seafood to your table and clean water to your beaches.

Although our oysters of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts do not produce pearls like the Pacific oyster, the importance of oysters to the health of the sea is more valuable than pearls are to queens.

Tom Baird has been a fisheries biologist, high school and community college teacher (oceanography and microbiology), director of a science and environmental center, teacher of science and principal in Pinellas County as well as an educational consultant. He retired from the Florida Department of Education and he and his wife divide their time between Tallahassee and Cape San Blas.

### FISH REPORT

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#### Inshore/Bay

Most local creeks and streams are still holding good amounts of bream and now some crappie. The crappie bite should improve this week due to the cold weather and rain.

#### Offshore/Bottom

Trout and flounder are holding around the creek run-offs in the I.C.W. canal in St. Joe. Neap tides have allowed more bait fish to move up in the canal, in turn bringing the trout and game fish to follow. Flounder are being caught in good number in these waters this week as well.

### WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Nov. 28	61°	45°	0 %
Fri, Nov. 29	60°	48°	0 %
Sat, Nov. 30	64°	53°	10 %
Sun, Dec. 1	63°	55°	10 %
Mon, Dec. 2	69°	48°	0 %
Tues, Dec. 3	68°	47°	0 %
Wed, Dec. 4	68°	47°	0 %

### TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

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

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

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

### ST. JOSEPH BAY

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
28	Th	641pm 1.2		259am 0.3	
29	Fr	655pm 1.3		335am 0.1	
30	Sa	722pm 1.6		421am -0.2	
1	Su	758pm 1.8		512am -0.4	
2	Mo	839pm 1.9		605am -0.6	
3	Tu	924pm 1.9		700am -0.7	
4	We	1012pm 1.9		754am -0.7	
5	Th	1102pm 1.7		846am -0.7	
6	Fr	1154pm 1.4		932am -0.4	
7	Sa			1009am -0.2	

### APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
28	Th	1245pm 1.0	1129pm 1.5	638am 0.2	536pm 0.7
29	Fr	210pm 1.1		727am 0.0	634pm 0.9
30	Sa	1203am 1.5	320pm 1.2	813am -0.2	727pm 1.0
1	Su	255pm 2.1	1152pm 2.6	644am -0.6	602pm 1.8
2	Mo	349pm 2.2		728am -0.8	647pm 1.8
3	Tu	1234am 2.7	436pm 2.2	813am -1.0	732pm 1.9
4	We	120am 2.7	519pm 2.1	858am -1.0	821pm 1.8
5	Th	210am 2.7	558pm 2.1	944am -0.8	916pm 1.6
6	Fr	305am 2.6	633pm 2.1	1030am -0.6	1021pm 1.4
7	Sa	407am 2.2	705pm 1.9	1117am -0.3	1137pm 1.3

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## Muhly Grass shimmers in the fall

One of the loveliest sights in our area is the purple muhly grass shimmering on the dunes in the fall. I can remember when a sea of the stuff greeted you when you arrived on St. George Island.

You can still enjoy those shimmering purple flowers although the wild population is greatly reduced.

Muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*), is a native to Florida and

is a fall favorite for Florida landscapes. This native grass forms clumps of very fine blue-green foliage that explodes

with color in October and adds texture to the garden all year long. It grows to heights of 2-3 feet with a spread of 2-3 feet.

Muhly Grass is exceptionally drought tolerant but tolerates periodic flooding during the warm months so it is good for wetlands. It prefers full sun to part shade and does best in average to dry soil where there is very good drainage. This plant does not tolerate winter wetness well. This is a great plant for xeriscapes. Muhly Grass is rated



LOIS SWOBODA | Halifax Media

Muhly grass displayed as a specimen clump at the home of Heather Mapp.

hardy in USDA Zones 6-11.

Best of all this plant requires almost no perpetual maintenance as long as its basic watering needs are met and, it is usually free of pests and disease.

You should cut back dormant growth in winter before new growth begins to emerge in early spring.

In addition to its attractive appearance and popularity as an ornamental grass, Purple Muhly Grass is also important to a variety of wildlife.

It is used for shelter or nesting site for some species of birds and mammals. It is also highly attractive to several species of ladybugs that help control pests in areas where Purple Muhly Grass is planted or naturally

occurs. Muhly grass is unpalatable to deer so it can be useful where deer munching on the landscape are a problem.

Muhly is also referred to as sweetgrass and was used to weave baskets in the coastal Carolinas for generations.

Visitors my still occasionally encounter a booth displaying these baskets on the roadside.

Muhly baskets have an attractive fresh odor and a pale green patina.

Native Americans also used it to scent their personal ornaments.

A hybrid form called 'Pink Flamingos' has shown up in the nursery trade the last couple of years.

It is said to be a hybrid. It forms a three to four foot mound with distinctly

spear-shaped plumes and is spectacular in late fall.

The genus *Muhlenbergia* is named for Gotthilf Heinrich Ernst Muhlenberg (1753-1815), who was a German-educated Lutheran minister and the first president of Franklin College, now Franklin and Marshall College in Pennsylvania.

He is most famous for his work in the field of botany but was also an accomplished chemist and mineralogist.

He is credited with classifying and naming 150 species of plants in his 1785 work Index Flora Lancastriensis, which led to great advances in the study of plants and earned him the distinction as Americas first outstanding botanist.



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**Above:** Lance Duhon, Javion "String Bean" Jones, Chance Pittman, and Jacob Pittman.



**Right:** Angel Padilla

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**TDC** from page A1

collectors who won't report that until December," Jenkins said. She said that factor, in part, would help explain months in which the numbers spiked by 20 percent or more, January and September. That reporting schedule does not erase a year in which bed tax revenue increased by more than 14 percent and revenue topped \$1 million for the first time, but Jenkins said it could affect the marketing efforts for her team. Jenkins has honed a marketing program for the coming year, which is highly targeted by region and by season and month. "My biggest concern is our marketing, which has been targeted to the numbers," Warriner said. Jenkins and Warriner, with assistance from County Commissioner Warren Yeager, will sit down with

the Tax Collector's Office staff on feasible ways to address the issue. Yeager agreed bed tax collectors should report by the month. "We need those numbers right so we can strategize," he said.

**Special funding**

The TDC advisory board agreed to provide up to \$3,000 in special funding to No Worries Vacation Rentals to support events to entertain winter tourists. Jenkins noted that No Worries has put on a series of events at WindMark Beach in past years, and Debbie Jasinski said the company wished to do more to "entertain" guests and expand the events beyond WindMark. Among those events would be breakfasts, an Appreciation Day, an

arts and crafts bazaar and a night of country line dancing. "It would enhance the tourism for something to do, and we'd like them to stay here," Jasinski said, noting the winter tourists tend to be active folks. The council also agreed to special funding of no more than \$4,000 to support the Forgotten Coast Plein Air Paint Out this year with an eye toward the 10th anniversary of the event in 2015. Gulf County will host Student Art Day, the opening luncheon and closing night event. "That will help us bring the level of these events higher than we have in the past," said Natalie Shoaf of the Forgotten Coast Cultural Coalition, which sponsors the plein air event, which has become "a regional event."



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**COMMISSION** from page A1

Commissioners Phil McCroan and Bo Patterson both expressed support, but that was the only support on the podium. Mayor Mel Magidson said regardless of the source of the money, government's role did not include actions citizens should be taking. "The county gave and that is fine, but I don't think it is good use of taxpayer money," Magidson said. "I don't think the purpose of government is to give taxpayer money for this."

*"The county gave and that is fine, but I don't think it is good use of taxpayer money. I don't think the purpose of government is to give taxpayer money for this. This is an individual's choice."*

**Mayor Mel Magidson**

Magidson noted that he had been part of a local food drive by the county Republican Party that had resulted in cash donations of \$315 and three truckloads of bags of groceries going to the food pantry. On the same day, the local Boy Scouts also donated two truckloads of groceries. "This is an individual's choice" to donate to the pantry, Magidson said. Public Works director John Grantland also noted that the intent of selling the scrap metal was to provide an event for employees, and now commissioners were taking money from that pot. Port St. Joe resident John Parker addressed commissioners by warning of the slippery slope they were about to traverse. "You are giving to one organization, which is worthy," Parker said. "How many other organizations, just as worthy, will come up and ask for money?" The discussion revisited the recent donation of \$10,000 to the Port of

Port St. Joe with Patterson and McCroan each saying they had heard plenty of negative from constituents about their vote and the donation. "We shouldn't have given that money to the port," Patterson said. Magidson noted the port is a public entity and that the donation to the port was about economic development and jobs. "I have an issue with this coming from any public funds," Magidson said of the food pantry dollars. But he and Commissioner Rex Buzzett were outvoted 3-2, and the Commission approved the donation.

The most important aspect considering recent debates over the issue is that any bill that can be confirmed to be more than eight times the six-month average will be adjusted to reflect that six-month average. Thursbay, who had pushed for the changes, said it was in line with what commissioners sought. "I think staff has been working with people for years ... but I think it is better if we have this policy," Buzzett said.

**Golf cart crossing**

A Florida Department of Transportation permit to create a golf cart crossing at Reid Avenue and State 71 is pending approval from the local district and should be in the hands of city staff by next week, said Clay Smallwood of Preble Rish Engineers. Smallwood said the city would have to meet several conditions — pertaining to signage, any crash statistics after one year and a traffic count over one year — but the agency had OK'ed the crossing.

**Utility waiver policy**

Commissioners, on their second try, approved a written policy for staff to follow in considering a waiver of a utility bill. In pertinent part, city staff will not consider any waiver unless the bill for a month is twice the average of the previous six months. The policy also gives staff additional flexibility in considering issues over at least two billing periods.

**DITCH** from page A1

system wasn't perfect, but it was better than what they had, referring to the standing water that existed previously. "No one made a fuss like you are today," Smiley said to Graney. Commissioner Ward McDaniel asked Graney not to focus on the bid process that happened six years ago, before most of the BOCC members were elected, and encouraged him to have a positive attitude toward the situation. "You're trying to pass the buck on a previous board," McDaniel said. "Yes, we've got some problems. Issues developed in during the process." Before he stepped away from the podium, Graney encouraged commissioners to either stop the growth of Gulf County or be able to plan for it. He worried about the ditch's effects on drainage if the area had a repeat of last summer's rainfall, which brought the area 25 inches in

30 days. Graney agreed public education was necessary to stop the flooding and asked the residents of Gulf County to stop pouring concrete driveways as it doesn't allow water to drain properly. He also asked his fellow citizens to be mindful of their water use and said during the summer downpours, he still saw sprinklers on in some yards around St. Joe Beach. Before adjourning, the topic switched to the Economic Development Alliance and the resignation of director Barry Sellers, whose last day was Nov. 29. Neal Wade, executive director of the Bay County EDA, will oversee operations, according to Commissioner Warren Yeager, and the commissioners voted to make Tourist Development Council executive director Jennifer Jenkins the point of contact. The EDA planned to give \$4,500 to the Port Authority to get through

May of next year though Commissioner Carmen McLemore asked what would happen with the remainder of Sellers' budget since he'd only been paid about \$20,000 of an \$80,000 salary. McLemore didn't want the EDA to spend it but rather have it as a surplus in case of emergency. County attorney Jeremy Novak said the county had a contract with the EDA, and without Sellers employed, they still had a contractual obligation to the group. "Once they get the port going, they're not going to need it," Yeager told McLemore alluding to the EDA funding from the BOCC. "I'm more encouraged now than I've ever been." McLemore expressed his frustration and told his fellow commissioners they can't keep throwing money into a bucket and not get a return. Yeager asked McLemore to give it a little more time.



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- THURSDAY - 7PM • JACE SMITH
- FRIDAY - 9PM • THE FLABBERGASTED BAND
- SATURDAY - 9PM • REGGAE AMBASSADORS
- SUNDAY - 5PM • RANDYSTARK

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**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

The Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Florida Regional Housing Authority will hold a Special Meeting on December 17, 2013, at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 2725 Graves Road, Tallahassee, Florida. Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. E.S.T. The meeting will be open to the public.



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Office Open by Appointment throughout the week.  
Staffed every Thursday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.  
(No appointment necessary on Thursdays.)

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## Creating 'unity amongst the community'

### Mexico Beach resident finds community garden

By WES LOCHER  
229-7843 | @PSJ\_Star  
wlocher@starfl.com

April Wisdom lives in what she called the "fruit desert."

The Mexico Beach resident aimed to change her own perceptions of the area by founding a community garden at the Under the Palms Park on 7th Street that would connect locals and bring fresh food

into the community.

"It's hard to find fresh produce," Wisdom said. "And there are zero organic options available here."

Wisdom's project was given the green light by the Mexico Beach City Council in October when she presented the idea, needing only the land and for the city to pay the water bill.

Her reasoning was simple: Mexico Beach is home to a large number of apart-

ments and condos, most of which don't have a yard. Even when they do, Florida's soil and the strong Gulf winds make growing produce difficult.

By day, Wisdom is the head of the health promotions department in the 325th Medical Group at Tyndall Air Force Base.

She said that her professional background played a huge role in starting the venture.

"Many children don't know that their food is made in a factory," Wisdom said. "We take the food system for granted and the

food system is broken.

"The food system in America has led to hamburgers being cheaper than salads. Supporting a community garden is one way to reverse that."

In addition to nutrition benefits that come with growing and consuming fresh produce, Wisdom is interested in the environmental and social benefits as well.

"People want a reason to get out and meet others," Wisdom said. "The goal is to build unity amongst the



WES LOCHER | The Star

A community garden has opened at Under the Palms Park in Mexico Beach.

See GARDEN B5



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The super reefs are built to attract amberjack, red snapper, grouper and pelagic fish.

### SUPER REEFS

### MBARA to deploy large reefs to create complex ecosystems

By WES LOCHER  
229-7843 | @PSJ\_Star  
wlocher@starfl.com

What does the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association do once it has deployed artificial reefs at more than 150 locations in the Gulf creating hundreds of viable fishing locations?

The organization creates super reefs, of course.

MBARA President Bob Cox recently applied for a \$95,000 supplemental grant from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission that would allow the volunteer organization to deploy six new super reefs.

Cox asked for \$75,000 from FWC with \$20,000 from MBARA in matching funds.

"This experimental project will be the first of its kind in Florida," Cox said. "It's expected to add habitat complexity and



The Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association plans to deploy six new 'super reefs' at four sites in the Gulf.

See REEF B5

Gulf/Franklin County Relay for Life  
**Winter Vendor Bender**  
for Hope

We gathered together a wonderful selection of unique vendors ready to help you with your Christmas gift list.

Be entered in our Raffle for the chance to win 1 of over 25 gift baskets to be given away that day at the event.

Door will open at 10 am Sunday, Dec. 8th at Village Center, Windmark Beach  
\$3 admission - 100% of the proceeds from the door go to Relay for Life  
Raffle drawings will begin @ 3 pm. You do not need to be present to win.

We have several vendors offering beautiful handmade items along with some of your favorite Direct Selling Companies.

Some of our Vendors:  
Usborne Books - Tastefully Simple - Sentsy - Designs By Dorann  
Jewelry By 2 B's - Pampered Chef - Mary Kay - Jewel Kade - Tupperware  
Gold Canyon - Premier Design - Nerium - Vault Jeans - Designs By Drew  
Origami Owl - Princess House - Passion - DoTerra - Pink Zebra - Avocare  
Thirty-One - Beauty Control - Avon - Celebrating Home  
Along with several Crafts and Home Made vendors.

More vendors being added daily.

Come support Relay for Life... as we continue to make sure that "No One Fights Alone!"

For more information contact:  
Kim Kurnitsky ~ 850.227.4093  
Connie Lamberson ~ 850.899.7791  
Christy Taunton ~ 850.774.2206

Hope

## Winter Vendor Bender for Hope Support Gulf/Franklin County Relay for Life

Special to The Star

your favorite direct selling companies.

The organizers of the Gulf/Franklin County Relay for Life have gathered together a wonderful selection of unique vendors ready to help with your Christmas gift list. Be entered in our raffle for the chance to win one of 25 gift baskets to be given away at the Winter Vendor Bender for Hope.

Doors will open at 10 a.m. ET on Sunday, Dec. 8 at Village Center in Windmark Beach. Admission is \$3 and 100 percent of the proceeds from the door go to supporting upcoming Relay for Life events.

Raffle drawings will begin at 3 p.m. ET. You do not need to be present to win.

We have several vendors offering beautiful handmade items along with some of

Some of our Vendors will include Usborne Books, Tastefully Simple, Sentsy, Designs By Dorann, Jewelry By 2 B's, Pampered Chef, Mary Kay, Jewel Kade, Tupperware Gold Canyon, Premier Design, Nerium, Vault Jeans, Designs By Drew, Origami Owl, Princess House, Passion, DoTerra, Pink Zebra, Advocate, Thirty-One, Beauty Control, Avon, Celebrating Home and several Crafts and homemade vendors.

Come support Relay for Life as we continue to make sure "No One Fights Alone!"

For more information, contact Kim Kurnitsky at 227-4093, Connie Lamberson at 899-7791 or Christy Taunton at 774-2206.



**Trivia Fun**  
Wilson Casey  
WC@TriviaGuy.com

"Trivia Fun" with Wilson Casey, Guinness World Record Holder from Woodruff, S.C., is published in more than 500 newspapers across the country and is a weekly feature in The Star.

1) Reportedly where is Dimmitt's Auto Salvage that really uses the red pickup

truck from older TV's "Sanford and Son"?  
CA, NV, IN, FL

2) Whom did Bjorn Born defeat in the finals on winning his first imbledon?  
Nastase, Vilas, Orantes, Connors

3) When did the last eyewitness to Lincoln's assassination pass away?  
1890, 1904, 1938, 1956

4) What golf club was invented by Gene

Sarazen?  
Putter, 1-wood, 6-iron, Sand wedge

5) Who was the first Chinese to win the Nobel Prize in Literature?  
Nicholas Tse, Jia Dao, Gao Xingjian, Stanley Ho

6) In Greek mythology what goddess cuts the thread of life?  
Herculia, Atropos, Lacheis, Randama

7) What was the horse's name of

President John Tyler?  
Ladystone, Cottonmouth, Sentry, The General

8) Where is the (Rotten) Sneakers "Hall of Fumes"?  
Milwaukee, Madison, Montpelier, Miami

9) What rock group was originally "The New Yardbirds"?  
Led Zeppelin, ELO, Steppenwolf, Toto

10) Who was the first pole vaulter to clear 17 feet?  
Pennel, Stones, Funnel,

Duvall

11) What did Woodrow Wilson denounce as "The arrogance of wealth"?  
Inside toilet, 2 suits, Electricity, Automobile

12) From the 1920s none of Notre Dame's famed "Four Horsemen" weighed more than?  
170, 185, 200, 215

13) On what Bay is the world's first nuclear-powered lighthouse?

Chesapeake, Hudson, San Francisco, Monterey

14) In 1935 the first beer sold in cans was put on sale in what city?  
Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, Richmond

ANSWERS

1) IN. 2) Nastase. 3) 1956. 4) Sand wedge. 5) Gao Xingjian. 6) Atropos. 7) The General. 8) Montpelier. 9) Led Zeppelin. 10) Pennel. 11) Automobile. 12) 170. 13) Chesapeake. 14) Richmond.



# Volunteers deliver 725 Thanksgiving dinners

Star Staff Report

Thanks to the 125 volunteers listed below who worked so tirelessly and so well together to prepare, heat, assemble, pack and deliver delicious dinners, 725 Thanksgiving meals were delivered throughout Gulf County and Mexico Beach last Thursday.

The volunteers began at daybreak and a steady stream of men, women and children, operating as a well-oiled machine pumped by good hearts, continued until all 725 dinners were out the door and Oak Grove Church was thoroughly cleaned.

As Jerry Stokoe said, "God really blessed this wonderful gathering. Love was in the air."

The volunteers were: Jim and Bunnie Ginnie, Jerry and Lyd Stokoe, Matt Mills, Boyd and Mitzi Bulger, Curtis Brown, Ilamue Brown, Chaz Wright, Cheryl Howell, Mary Kelly, Terry Shaever, John Nesemeier, Sam James, Jackie and Bobby Pollock, Abby Cozine, Bill Van der Tulip, Fisher Van der Tulip, Patricia Watson, Amy Keith, Nancy Blake, Gretchen Balogh, Denny Hughes, Tom Todd, Paul and Bonnie Durham;

Stacy Anelisa and Johnathan Taylor; Dianne Prerett, Grace and Lee Lawton, Tim and Debbie Croft, Phil Dodson, Corey Phelps, Donna Masseo, Joe and Sylvia Whaley, Joel Rogers, Steve and Suzi Kelly, Danna Kelly, Danica Kelly and Mareu Johnson, David Brogdon, Ruby Hodge, Carol Dow, Jimmy Johnson, Tim and Crystal DuPuy, Fred Willis, Bob Lyles, Rich and Liz Brenner, Donna and Kenny Wood, Phillip and Ty Robinson, Sandie, Jacob and Reid Kennedy;

Noah, Rylene and Ellie Wich, Kylie Skoda, Joseph Kerigan and Christian

Pickett, Sharon Asher, Pat Blaschum, Ann Ballard, Mr. and Mrs. Bill McGee, Linda Bailey, Curtis and Mae Brown, Eddie Martin and Mattison Mills.

A wonderful and delicious buffet dinner was served to local residents at the Washington Improvement Group Building in Port St. Joe by volunteers Tamlyn Smith, Dan and Regina Washabaugh and Johanna White who served as hosts and hostesses for the event.

The building was cleaned by the great crew of Rich Brenner, Bob Lyles, Branden Lyles, Joyce Moore and Janice Atkinson.

## Wewa receives new flag/pole

Special to The Star

Joint efforts of the GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club, Inc., the City of Wewahitchka, VFW Chapter 8285 and Fisher's Hardware resulted in the City of Wewahitchka obtaining a new flag pole, American flag, the State of Florida flag, and spotlight. The new flags and flag pole were erected in the "V" next to the Sheriff's substation in Wewahitchka.

Pictured are Bob

Shipman, VFW Chapter 8285; Patsy Whitfield, Teresa Lykins, Tunnie Miller, Betty Holloway, Dianne Semmes, Pat Stripling, and Carolyn Watson of the GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club, Inc.; Sheriff Mike Harrison; Tom Semmes, VFW Chapter 8285; City Commissioner Bob Pettis, and Ms. Nellie Wade. A special thanks goes to Ralph Fisher and employees of Fisher Hardware for installing the flag pole and the foundation.

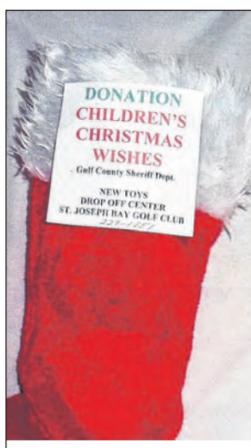
## Sheriff's Christmas stockings are back

Special to The Star

The little red Christmas Stockings are back in area stores again this year. Money collected from these Christmas Stockings will go to the Gulf County Sheriff's Department Christmas Wishes for Children.

The Sheriff's Department finds out what the children in need in Gulf County want for Christmas, then with the new toy drive and money donated the Sheriff's Department, tries to make those wishes come true.

You can find these red Christmas Stockings in Port St. Joe at the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club, No Name Cafe, Coastal Cabin, Pepper's, Port St. Joe Marina, Piggly Wiggly, Centennial Bank, Half Hitch Tackle, Ace Hardware, and Buy Rite Drugs, The Scallop Cove on the Cape has a stocking and they are



the IGA, Buy Rite Drugs, and Dixie Dandy in Wewahitchka.

The Sheriff's Department is also doing a new toy drive. You can find drop off places at the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club, South Gulf County Fire Department, Gulf 2 Bay Construction, Port St. Joe Marina, Bay Breeze Antiques, Piggly Wiggly and Dollar General Market.

## Anniversary



## Dawsons to celebrate 40 years of marriage

Mr. and Mrs. Darion Dawson, Sr. would like to extend an invitation to everyone in celebrating their 40 years of marriage.

The Renewing of their Wedding Vows will be 4 p.m. ET Saturday, Dec. 7 at New Bethel A.M.E. Church, 146 Avenue C in Port St. Joe.

## Sacred Heart Medical Group welcomes plastic surgeon

Special to The Star

Sacred Heart Medical Group is pleased to announce Dr. Tong Duong, a board-certified plastic surgeon, has joined the Sacred Heart physicians' group. He began seeing patients in Suite 203 of the medical office building at Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf Dec. 3.

Dr. Duong has practiced plastic surgery since 1990 and will continue providing services in Panama City at the "Plastic Surgery Institute and Spa" when not in residence at Sacred Heart.

Dr. Duong will provide services varying from facelifts, eye lid tucks and rhinoplasty to post-cancer reconstructions. Dr. Duong has interests across multiple disciplines, having graduated with a



DR. ONG DUONG

bachelor of science in engineering, a master in business administration, and a doctorate in medicine. Dr. Duong earned his medical degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical

Science in Little Rock. After medical school, Dr. Duong completed a general surgery residency at Shands Jacksonville Medical Center and a plastic surgery residency at Tulane Medical School in New Orleans. Dr. Duong also had a fellowship in cosmetic surgery at Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia and an apprentice with the late well-known aesthetic plastic surgeon Dr. Bernard Kaye.

If you are interested in receiving more information or to set up an appointment, call 229-5661.

## VFW Post and Auxiliaries support PSJHS activities

Special to The Star

Commander Rodney Herring and Ladies Auxiliary President Ginny Seefeldt were pleased to present to the Port St. Joe High School Band Master, Mitch Bouington, and Soccer Coach Gary Hindley donation checks respectively in the amount of \$700 to support these activities. The donation also came from the Men's Auxiliary of the Post. Also on hand to receive the donations were Natalie Shoaf, Parent Support Band and Boyd Pickett, Parent Support Soccer.

John C. Gainous VFW Post 10069 is proud to be able to support worthwhile activities in our community.



# PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society

Cosmo is a 30lb 2yr Corgie/Lab Mix. He is a sweet, shy and loving little guy. He walks well on a leash and loves to be petted. Cosmo is very attentive and wants to be with people. He will sit with a treat and is willing to learn. If you are looking for a nice family dog, this is the boy for you. He even likes kitties.

Foster homes give our great pets the attention and socialization they crave. We provide all supplies needed.

We need volunteers to help with maintenance around the shelter. Towels and bedding are always welcome. Pet carriers and crates. Donations of kitty litter is in great demand as well as puppy toys. Monetary donations are always welcome. Any donation no matter how small will be greatly appreciated.

If you are unable to adopt at this time, perhaps you could foster or make a Donation. All pets adopted from SJBHS will be current on vaccinations and spayed/neutered. Please do not hesitate to email townsend.hsdirector@gmail.com or adoptbystjoe@gmail.com or call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103 and ask for Melody or Debbie! Online applications and pet photos are available at www.sjbhumane.org Adoption fees include our cost of spay/neuter and current vaccinations.

Our hours for the shelter are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am-4 pm!

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

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

[www.sjbhumane.org](http://www.sjbhumane.org)

See Your Business Name and Info Here for ONLY \$15 per week \$60 per month

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Marcia Knapke 227-7847

# Real Estate Picks

## Best Values on the Forgotten Coast

Our local real estate experts have identified what they feel are the best values around and are offering them to you in Real Estate Picks! (In this section), Discover the best real estate values in Mexico Beach, Port St. Joe, Apalachicola, Cape San Blas, St. George Island, Carrabelle and surrounding areas.

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Only steps from the beach, this beautiful Gulf front home with 55' of Gulf frontage awaits you. Oversized windows stretch across the entire Gulf front wall, exposing the top floor great room to unbelievable views. 10' ceilings, impressive crown molding, wainscoting, 16"x16" tile floors throughout including stairs, screened porch, and sun deck off living area. Spacious kitchen features tile countertops and backsplashes, 12' ceramic tile breakfast bar, and a layout that maximizes the views. Master bedroom opens to a covered deck overlooking the Gulf.

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# High School High Tech holds Career Fair

Special to The Star

The High School High Tech of Gulf County program had a Career Fair at Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School late last month. The students spent time with each of the business representatives, learning what was required educationally, the scope of the opportunities in different fields, what skills or aptitudes may be required, and what financial opportunities exist in many different fields. There was an emphasis on high tech jobs and also employment opportunities that the students expressed an interest in. The businesses that were represented were:

FairPoint Communications staff gave the students information on the variety of career opportunities right here in Port St. Joe with around 63 different types and levels of jobs available. FairPoint has worked with HSHT students for over five years and are strong supporters and mentors. Thank you to Susan Machemer, Human Resources, Donna White, Administrative Assistant, Sandy Reeves, Sales Account Executive and Jimmy Alford, Business Services Technician.

Nancy Anderson, a Nurse Practitioner who is currently working in a Sacred Heart satellite primary care office in Wehatchka, represented the medical field. Ms. Anderson explained the difference between RN, FNP and LPN's. She stressed the importance of caregivers requiring communication skills.

Kerigan Marketing Associates, Inc. founded by Port St. Joe's Jack Ker-



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Front row, left to right: Alex Henderson, Jack Kerigan, Nancy Anderson, Susan Macmehere, Donna White, Sandy Reeves, Jimmy Alford; back row: Shenoya Fennell, John Keigans, Katie Noble, Howard Townsend, Joseph Price, Carl Sheline, Jack Riley, Jarkeice Davis, Nikeria Fenn and Melissa Behee.

igan, has earned over 100 ADDY awards creating TV commercials, radio spots, websites, logos and online advertising. Mr. Kerigan discussed the type of jobs that marketing requires concept development, graphic design and web design among others.

Alex Henderson, the owner of Monumental Fabrication discussed how important math is when designing and building spiral staircases.

High School High Tech students who participated were: Shenoya Fennell, Corey Williams, Joseph Price, John Keigans, Carl Sheline, Howard Townsend, Katie Noble, Nikeia Fenn, Jarkeice Davis, Deontae George and Jak Riley.

The students expressed their appreciation to all the presenters and were pleased with the amount

of information they received regarding career opportunities and what will be required to reach their career goals.

Allison Chase, Program Director, for the ABLE Trust, which provides partial funding for the High School High Tech Program in Gulf County through Dyslexia Research Institute in Tallahassee presented Port St. Joe's High School Principal, Jeremy Knapp with an award which recognized HSHT in Port St. Joe by the ABLE Trust as the #1 High School High Tech program in the State of Florida for 2013.

Chase bragged on the success of the Port St. Joe program, stating that even though small and rural, it was one of the most outstanding in Florida. Without our local business partner's participation,

the program could not be successful.

Melissa Behee spoke to the group about becoming more involved, how the students are worked with all year and have to "earn" the right to participate in the paid internships during the summer through citizenship, community service, involvement in school activities etc.

One of the immediate community service projects for the HSHT students is to participate in the Gulf County Sheriff Toy Drive and play Santa's Helpers to sort the toys that are collected.

Should you like to become involved as a mentor or business partner with the High School High Tech Program of Gulf County, please contact Melissa Behee, Program Director at melissabehee@gmail.com.



Special to The Star

**Band of Gold:** Come join in the wonder as the Port St. Joe Band of Gold provides "Music of the Season" in a concert at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 10.

The concert will be held in the school's Commons and all are invited to enjoy the talents of these fine young musicians.

**Junior News:** Attention all juniors, pay your \$20 Junior dues by Dec. 19 and be entered in a drawing for a pair of IP to be given away the day before Christmas break!

See Mrs. Courtney Cummings or Mrs. Reina Nixon for more information.

**Art Class:** Members of Mrs. Hodges' art class that are going on the New York City trip will be selling Chick-fil-A sandwich meals for \$6 during the Christmas parade!

All of the money raised goes directly to help the students pay for their trip to New York City in March.

Come out and support this great effort!!

**Junior Beta Club:** The Jr. Beta club is organizing their first service project.

The project is to collect toys for the Ronald McDonald House.

The students will be collecting new toys (in packaging or with a tag) from Dec. 2 to Jan. 31. Suggestions are: Coloring book/crayons, sport balls, puzzles, games, stuffed animals, dolls, etc.

Donations can be dropped off in the big red box located in the front office of Port St. Joe Junior-

Senior High.

We would like to invite everyone to join in.

The Beta Club national motto is "Let us lead by serving others".

They will be announcing their induction ceremony soon.

With 36 active members, the club is ready to put their motto into practice.

Please support their efforts.

**Project Graduation:** Project Graduation is selling BBQ Keg Grill raffle tickets 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20.

The drawing will take place 4-5 p.m. ET on Dec. 7 at Christmas on the Coast in Downtown Port St. Joe. We will have the grill set up on Reid Avenue that day and be selling raffle tickets right up until the drawing.

**Sports Update:** Basketball and Soccer are in full swing. Support Shark Cagers as they travel to Wewa to take on the Gators this Thursday, Dec. 5.

Varsity girls start at 5 p.m. with JV and varsity boys at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. respectively. Friday night's contests are against Rutherford at home, same times and Saturday against Sneads starting with the Girls at 3:30 p.m.

Soccer travels to Rocky Bayou on Friday, Dec. 6 with the girls kicking off at 5 p.m. and the boys following at 7 p.m.

Saturday finds both teams home with the Girls facing Mosley B at 1 p.m. and the Boys facing Godby at 3 p.m.

Come out and support all Tiger Shark sports.

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**DID YOU KNOW that studies show:**

- Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the US.
- One person dies from melanoma every hour.
- An estimated 9,480 people will die of melanoma in 2013.
- An estimated 3,170 deaths from non-melanoma skin cancers will occur in the US in 2013.
- One or more blistering sunburn in childhood or adolescence more than doubles a person's chance of developing melanoma later in life.

SKIN CANCER can be present without you knowing it. CALL today for a skin cancer screening.

ALL MAJOR INSURANCE ACCEPTED

Mon- Tue • Thurs & Fri  
9 am - 6 pm  
Wed & Sat  
9 am - 2pm

**NOW, DID YOU KNOW?**

- To schedule a time monthly to examine your skin, especially if you have a family history or a weak immune system.
- Document and monitor any suspicious areas, especially if it is asymmetry; one half does not match the other.
- Contact your Dr. immediately if a mole itches, bleeds or exhibits changes.
- Protect your little one's future and health today. Always use sunscreen.

VINCENT IVERS, M.D.  
301 Twentieth Street | Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
850-227-7070 | www.iversmd.com

Coastal Foot and Ankle Clinic

is proud to announce the

## 12th Annual SHOE DRIVE

is now underway.  
Help those in need.

It's time to go through your closets for those unwanted pairs of shoes, in reasonable condition. You can bring the shoes to Coastal Foot and Ankle Clinic located at 221 HWY 98. Donations will go to Franklin's Promise and will be distributed at the Community Service Center (Old Apalachicola High School) at 192 14th Street in Apalachicola. Distribution will be December 3rd and 17th from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

You can call 653-FEET (3338) for more information.



## FOURTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND GOLF TOURNAMENT

St. Joseph Bay Golf Club  
700 Country Club Road, Port St. Joe, Florida

## JINGLE BELL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, December 14, 2013 ~ 12:00 EST  
Tournament Format: Individual play with handicap from your normal tee  
\$10.00 off Tournament Entry Fee if you bring a NEW TOY  
Members: \$45    Non-Members: \$55

For more information, call  
St. Joseph Bay Country Club: 850-227-1751  
or  
Barb Van Treese: 850-227-9837

**1st Place: \$200**  
**2nd Place: \$100**  
**3rd Place: \$50**  
With minimum of 28 players



## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Do your Christmas shopping for unique handmade gifts made by local artists. Spruce up your home or office with great decorations at our Indoor and Outdoor Booths:

- Jewelry \* Pottery
- Original Art \* Hand-Stitched Items
- Specialty Breads, Jams, Jellies
- Holiday Decorations
- Fresh Produce 'New'

Everything is Handmade





Friday, December 13: 9:00-5:00  
Saturday, December 14: 9:00-3:00



Toy Drop-Off Locations:  
St. Joseph Bay Golf Club  
South Gulf County Fire Department



All proceeds go to Children Christmas Wishes program by the Gulf County Sheriff's Department.

Sponsored by: Gulf County Sheriff's Department, Gulf 2 Bay Development & Construction and Gulf Country Tourist Development Council

# FAITH

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

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

## THE FIRST THANKSGIVING



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The annual Thanksgiving presentation was performed by the first and second grades on Tuesday, Nov. 26 at Faith Christian School. Parents and students enjoyed the play called The First Thanksgiving. After the play all of the classes at FCS celebrated their thankfulness with a feast! Thank you to all the parent volunteers who make the holiday season great fun.

## Obituary

### Susan Cooksey Dodson

Susan Cooksey Dodson passed away Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013. Susan was born in Tallahassee, Fla., March 2, 1950.

Susan is survived by her husband of 43 years, Wally; one son, Walt Dodson (Kristen); two daughters, Ashley Savary (Chris), and Alison Dodson; and one grandson Jacob Dodson. She is also survived by two sisters, Pat Patterson (Jerry) of Crawfordville and Judy Owens (Steve) of Port St. Joe; and one brother Doug Cooksey (Barbie) of Tallahassee; as well as five nephews; four nieces; and nine double first cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, Douglas and Marian Cooksey.

Susan was a class officer of Leon High School, Class of 1968, and enjoyed planning high school reunions with her former classmates.

She was a co-owner of Forest Realty with close friend Doris Crosby; past president of the Crawford-

ville Women's Club; a former first lady of the Florida Bankers Association; past board member of Big Bend Hospice; and a member of the Christ Church Anglican.

Susan enjoyed riding her bike, walking on the beach, climbing lighthouses and watching bird's visit her birdhouses. Susan loved her "YaYa's" and "Soul Sisters".

A memorial service was to be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 27 at Christ Church Anglican, 3383 Coastal Hwy, Crawfordville, Florida 32327. The family received friends Tuesday, Nov. 26 at Christ Church Anglican of Crawfordville.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to United Way of the Big Bend, 307 E. 7th Ave, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the family with their arrangements, Harvey-Young Chapel in Crawfordville, 850-926-3333 or www.bevisfh.com.

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

**New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
Sunday School ..... 9:00 am	Dinner.....5:00 - 6:00 pm
Worship Service..... 10:30 am	AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm
Choir..... 6:00 pm	Surrender Student Ministry.....6:15 - 7:30 pm
	Prayer/Bible Study.....6:15 - 7:30 pm
	Nursery.....6:00 - 7:30 pm

www.fbcpsj.org

## Be Ready

*Jesus came to Earth to save the lost.  
The only one that could pay the cost.  
He's gone to prepare believers*

*a place.  
If you believe you'll be saved by grace.  
He said go and tell, that others  
might know.*

*If they accept Jesus they can also go.  
He said he'll be back, but only God  
knows when.*

*The main thing to do is be ready,  
my friend.*

Billy Johnson

## Reputation of Christians considered at Lifetree Café

Special to The Star

The reputation of Christians will be explored at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9 at Lifetree Café.

The program, titled "What People Really Think of Christians... and Why" features a filmed interview with Gabe Lyons, author of the bestselling book "UnChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks About Christianity and Why It Matters."

"Christians are sometimes viewed as hypocritical or judgmental," said Lifetree representative Craig Cable. "We'll dis-

cuss whether that reputation is deserved."

Admission to the 60-minute event is free.

Snacks and beverages are available.

Lifetree Café is located at 1602 U.S. Highway 98 in Mexico Beach across from the 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 emailed to lwlifetreecafe@fairpoint.net.

**living water**  
church at the beach

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY - 8:00 AM - Worship at Sunset Park (on the sand)  
10:00 AM - Bible Study at 1602 Highway 98

MONDAY - 7:00 PM - Lifetree Café. Join the Conversation

WEDNESDAY - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Open House Coffee & Conversation

THURSDAY - 6:30 PM Mixed Bible Study

To contact worship leader: (850) 648.1151 or lwcpastor@fairpoint.net

1602 Hwy 98, Mexico Beach, FL  
(850) 648.1151 www.livingwateratthebeach.com

**Long Avenue**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY:**  
Sunday School - 9:15  
Morning Worship - 10:30  
Evening Worship - 5:00

**WEDNESDAY:**  
Family Dinner - 5:30  
Prayer Meeting - 6:30  
Student Ministry - 6:30  
Children's Ministry / Choir - 6:30  
Adult Choir - 7:30

1601 Long Ave Port St Joe, FL 32456  
(850) 229-8691

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE**

1001 Constitution Dr.  
850.227.1724  
www.psjumc.org

**Sunday Schedule**  
9:00AM EST - Worship on the Water, "under the sails" on St. Joseph Bay.  
11:00AM EST - Sanctuary Service with Special Children's time.

Dr. Geoffrey Lentz, Pastor  
Bobbi Lassiter, Minister to Families  
Ann Comforter, Director of Music

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

**New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
Sunday School ..... 9:00 am	Dinner.....5:00 - 6:00 pm
Worship Service..... 10:30 am	AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm
Choir..... 6:00 pm	Surrender Student Ministry.....6:15 - 7:30 pm
	Prayer/Bible Study.....6:15 - 7:30 pm
	Nursery.....6:00 - 7:30 pm

www.fbcpsj.org

**Faith Bible Church**  
www.faithbiblepsj.net  
801 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Port St. Joe, Fl. (850) 229-6707

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

**Home of Faith Christian School**  
www.faithchristianpsj.net

*"Our Church can be your home"*  
**First Church of the Nazarene**  
2420 Long Avenue • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456  
(850) 229-9596

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

Sunday School..... 10 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6 p.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 11 a.m. Wednesday Evening Service ..... 7 p.m.

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

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

TOUCHING LIVES  
WITH THE LOVE  
OF JESUS

www.familylifechurch.net  
323 Reid Ave ~ Downtown Port St. Joe, FL ~ 850-229-5433

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

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

The Rev. Lou Little, Priest  
Services Temporarily at Senior Citizens Center,  
120 Library Drive  
"An Unchanging Faith In A Changing World"

**oak grove church**  
613 Madison Street PSJ, FL 32456 (850) 227-1837

**Schedule of Worship Services**

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

Nursery provided for all services

*You're Always Welcome at*

**HIGHLAND VIEW BAPTIST**  
The Church where the Sun Always Shines

382 Ling Street  
Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
(850) 227-1306  
Pastor Josh Fidler

**Service Times**

Sunday School.....	9:45 am
Worship Service.....	11:00 am
Discipleship Training.....	5:00 pm
Evening Worship.....	6:00 pm
Wednesday Night.....	7:00 pm

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

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

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

NURSERY PROVIDED  
Rev. Jerry Arhelger, Pastor • Church/Office: 648-8820

**SOUTHERLAND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME**  
507 10th Street • Port St. Joe  
(850) 229-8111

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

www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org



WES LOCHER | The Star

Project leader April Wisdom aims to see the gardens help the community both environmentally and socially.

## GARDEN from page B1

community. "When people have a sense of what is bigger than oneself. Participating in the community garden not only helps the planet by providing organic produce for the members and their families and cutting the traditional commute of produce by many, many miles, but it gives members a direct relationship with their food."

When she went before the city council she explained community gardens have also been proven to raise property values.

Since the project received approval, eight raised beds have been constructed in the park and all eight have been leased. Wisdom plans to complete construction on four more beds before the New Year and aims to eventually have 27 beds for rent.

Initial construction was

funded through community donations and Wisdom plans to add a community shed and shared gardening tools in the future.

Each 8-foot-by-4-foot bed costs \$115 to build and beds are rented for \$50 per year.

In the short time since the project was approved by the council, Wisdom has received great support from the community.

"My neighbors saw the council meeting on TV, and the next time they saw me, they said 'You're the garden woman!'" laughed Wisdom.

Wisdom said she's met a lot of people in the community the same way, but conversation has helped spread the word bringing together those interested in gardening, snowbirds who want to grow produce while vacationing and even widows who enjoy spending time outside with others.

Bed rentals are not limited to Mexico Beach residents, but for those outside the city with green thumbs, Wisdom stressed the importance of being able to tend to a garden every one to two days.

From initial idea to council approval, the process took about three months. Wisdom drew her inspiration from other successful community gardens in densely populated areas. Even nearby cities, including Apalachicola, Panama City and Destin, have had much success with them.

"Members can raise hundreds of dollars' worth of produce for \$50 a year, keep gardening alive and improving their health all at once," Wisdom said.

Those interested in renting a plot will need to file an application and pay a \$50 fee that covers their gardening for a year. Call Wisdom at 227-8920.

## REEF from page B1

diversity for species that prefer habitats higher in the water column."

The planned super reefs, constructed by Walter Marine in Orange Beach, Ala., are 17-25 feet tall and weigh 16-18 tons each.

Each reef will be constructed from one cubic yard of concrete and covered in Florida limestone. The coarse, porous surface is made of shell fragments and makes it easy for marine animals to attach.

At the top of each reef, 10 feet of exposed reef will attract fish that hunt in higher parts of the water, leading to a more active ecosystem.

"The super reefs are something different than what we've put down in the past," Cox said.

In the past, the organization has focused on limestone and grouper reefs, but the super reefs will combine both in one structure. Cox aims to deploy the reefs at four different locations in the Gulf, each

14 nautical miles from the Mexico Beach Canal.

Some sites are planned to receive one reef while two will be dropped in others.

MBARA members will monitor the sea life that forms around them and collect data that will be shared with the FWC regarding the types of fish attracted and whether two reefs in one area yielded a stronger ecosystem than a single reef.

Cox said the MBARA sought areas for the reefs that would not interfere with shrimp nets, which are dragged along the ocean floor. A large reef in the area could spell disaster for shrimpers' nets and endanger their ships.

Each of the sites is about 90 feet deep and one nautical mile wide.

The sites were permitted in 2006, and Cox feels like the super reefs will be the best choice to fill them.

Fish like amberjack, red snapper, grouper and pelagics prefer taller struc-

tures and would be attracted to the super reefs.

In addition to bringing new fishing options to the Gulf, Cox believes it will help build eco-tourism.

"Many people come to the area to spearfish or simply to dive the reefs and watch the wild life," Cox said.

He said that the reefs attract tropical fish and divers can often catch glimpses of angel or butterfly fish.

"These reefs will give the ecosystems more complexity," Cox said. "We love choice, so the more choices for fish the better."

Cox plans for the super reefs to be the next to be deployed, whether through this grant or another next year and is excited to create another thriving location for area fishermen.

Recently, the FWC received an unexpected \$500,000 from the Legislature making supplemental grants possible. Cox expects an award decision on additional funding Dec. 22.

# TRADES & SERVICES

## Xtreme Clean

### PROFESSIONAL FLOOR CARE, INC.

Residential and Commercial Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning

Serving the entire Gulf Coast area  
Ceramic Tile and Grout Cleaning  
RVs - Cars - Trucks - Vans  
24 Hour Emergency Water Extraction

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**TRADES & SERVICES**

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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100	
<p>1100-1170 ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>1100 - Legal Advertising 1110 - Classified Notices 1120 - Public Notices/Announcements 1125 - Carpools &amp; Rideshare 1130 - Adoptions 1140 - Happy Ads 1150 - Personals 1160 - Lost 1170 - Found</p> <p><b>LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100</b></p> <p>96529S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO.: 232008CA000276 CAAXMX</p> <p>SUNTRUST BANK, Plaintiff,</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>DARRELL HAMANN, et al., Defendants.</p> <p><b>NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE</b></p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure filed October 29, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 232008CA000276 CAAXMX of the Circuit Court of the FOURTEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Port St. Joe, Florida, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd. Front Lobby, Port St. Joe, FL. 32456 in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 12th day of December, 2013 at 11:00 A.M. ET on the following described property as set forth in</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:</p> <p>Lot 9, East Bay Plantation, according to the official plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 37, of the public records of Gulf County, Florida.</p> <p>Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.</p> <p>Dated this 19th day of November, 2013.</p> <p>Rebecca Norris As Clerk of the Court</p> <p>By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk</p> <p>If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 (fax 850-747-5717) at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court if or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711.</p> <p><b>96623S</b></p> <p>IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 23-2012-CA-000118</p> <p>WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>STEPHEN HELMS</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>A/K/A STEPHEN BENNETT HELMS, et al, Defendant(s).</p> <p><b>NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE</b></p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated November 14, 2013 and entered in Case No. 23-2012-CA-000118 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for GULF County, Florida where-in WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, is the Plaintiff and STEPHEN HELMS A/K/A STEPHEN BENNETT HELMS; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF STEPHEN HELMS A/K/A STEPHEN BENNETT HELMS; BRANDI N. JONES A/K/A BRANDI HELMS; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; are the Defendants, the Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at LOBBY OF THE GULF COUNTY COURTHOUSE at 11:00AM ET, on the 19th day of December, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:</p> <p>LOT 2, BLOCK B: A PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 36, THENCE GO SOUTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 20.22 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY LINE OF BRIAN SETTERICH ROAD (HAVING A 70 FOOT WIDE RIGHT OF WAY); THENCE GO SOUTH 88 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY LINE OF A DISTANCE OF 448.35 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING CONTINUE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY LINE GO NORTH 01 DEGREE 21 MINUTES 11 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 246.10 FEET; THENCE GO NORTH 88 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 177.00 FEET; THENCE GO SOUTH 01 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 246.10 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.</p> <p>A/K/A LOT 2, BLOCK B, CRESTWOOD ACRES, UNRECORDED</p> <p>A/K/A 221 BRYAN SETTERICH, FL 32465-3103</p> <p>Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>(60) days after the sale. WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on November 22, 2013.</p> <p>Rebecca Norris Clerk of Circuit Court</p> <p>By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk</p> <p><b>**See Americans with Disabilities Act</b> If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711.</p> <p>ADA Coordinator P.O. Box 1089 Panama City, FL 32402 Phone: 850-747-5338 Fax: (850) 747-5717 Hearing Impaired: Dial 711 Email: ADARequest@jud14.courts.org F12002310 Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 2013</p> <p><b>96627S</b></p> <p><b>NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED</b></p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Marilyn Schmacher the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:</p> <p>Tax Sale Certificate No. 561 Application No.</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>2013-52 Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010 R.E. No: 02428-000R</p> <p>Description of Property: COMMENCE AT THE SE. Corner of Lot 59, Block "K" Alderson's Addition, according to the Plat thereof on file in Plat Book 1, Page 1, in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida, thence run East (Bearing Base) along the North right of way line of Henry Avenue for 290 feet; thence North 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds East for 157.75 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continue North 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds East for 157.75 feet, to the Southern right of way line of Chipola Avenue (River Road), thence North 88 Degrees 19 Minutes 07 Seconds East along said right of way line for 130.00 feet; thence South 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds West for 157.50 feet; thence West for 130.00 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING.</p> <p>Name in which assessed: Vera Mae Armstrong</p> <p>All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM, E.T., Wednesday, the 8th day of January, 2014. Dated this 3rd day of December, 2013.</p> <p>REBECCA L NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA</p> <p>By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>96629S <b>NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED</b></p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Marilyn Schmacher the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:</p> <p>Tax Sale Certificate No. 514 Application No. 2013-51 Date of Issuance: May 25, 2011 R.E. No: 02428-050R</p> <p>Description of Property: COMMENCE AT THE SE. Corner of Lot 59, Block "K" Alderson's Addition, according to the Plat thereof on file in Plat Book 1, Page 1, in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida, thence run East (Bearing Base) along the North right of way line of Henry Avenue for 290 feet; thence North 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds East for 315.50 feet to the Southern right of way line of Chipola Avenue (River Avenue); thence North 88 Degrees 19 Minutes 07 Seconds East along said right of way line for 130.00 feet for the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continue North 88 Degrees 19 Minutes 07 Seconds East, along said right of way line 115.08 feet; thence South 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds West for 157.50 feet; thence West for 115.00 feet, thence North 157.50 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING.</p> <p>Name in which assessed: Steve Brinkmeier &amp; Christine Brinkmeier</p> <p>All of said property being in Gulf County,</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM, E.T., Wednesday, the 8th day of January, 2014. Dated this 3rd day of December, 2013.</p> <p>REBECCA L NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA</p> <p>By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013</p> <p><b>96631S</b></p> <p><b>NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED</b></p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that PPF Holdings III Ltd. the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:</p> <p>Tax Sale Certificate No. 1027 Application No. 2013-50 Date of Issuance: May 25, 2011 R.E. No: 03624-500R</p> <p>Description of Property: Parcel A</p> <p>Beginning at the Northwest corner of Lot 17, Block 8, Beacon Hill Subdivision as per plat thereof recorded in plat book 1, page 2, of the public records of Gulf County, Florida; thence S 43°13'00" E along the Northeastly line run S 46°42'44" W for 125.00 feet; thence leaving said Northeastly line run S 46°42'44" W for 125.00 feet to the platted Southwestly line of said Block 8; thence</p>	<p>1100</p> <p>continue S 46°42'44" W for 43.00 feet to the Northeastly right of line of U.S. Highway No. 98 (State Road No. 30); thence N43°13'00" W along said Northeastly right of way line for 22.85 feet; thence leaving said Northeastly right of way line for 22.85 feet; thence leaving said Northeastly right of way line run N 46°42'44" E for 43.00 feet to the platted Southwestly line of said Block 8; thence continue N 46°42'44" E for 125.00 feet to the POB. Containing 0.088 acres more or less.</p> <p>Name in which assessed: Tommy Durrell Montford</p> <p>All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM, E.T., Wednesday, the 8th day of January, 2014. Dated this 3rd day of December, 2013.</p> <p>REBECCA L NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA</p> <p>By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013</p> <p><b>96633S</b></p> <p><b>NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED</b></p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that PPF Holdings III Ltd. the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. 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