



Postcards for the troops, **B1**

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50¢

County receives almost \$3 million

Deepwater Horizon money to be used toward recreational projects

By **TIM CROFT**
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Gulf County is beginning to see some of that long-promised money from BP after the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Last week in Panama City, Florida Department of

Environmental Protection Secretary Herschel Vinyard officially announced additional restoration and recreational use projects which had been funded under the Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) umbrella.

Gulf County received

just under \$3 million to fund five projects. Until last week, the projects funded under NRDA environmental parameters had been focused in Escambia County.

The Gulf County projects are:

- Highland View boat ramp; \$176,550;
- Indian Pass boat ramp;

\$176,550;

- Beacon Hill Veterans' Memorial Park improvements; \$588,500;

- WindMark Beach Fishing Pier improvements; \$1.77 million;

- Frank Pate Park Boat Ramp; \$806,972.

"These grants are really good for economic devel-

opment and for tourism," said Jennifer Jenkins, executive director of the Gulf County Tourist Development Council.

"Obviously, the improvements are big for us as 30 percent of our visitors come here to access the water. Ramps and parks, that's what people want.

These grants aligned with our research perfectly."

The major funding is for the construction of a new public-access fishing pier at WindMark Beach, addressing a strong desire in the community for improved access to the beaches and

See **DEEPWATER A8**

CHRISTMAS ON THE COAST



PHOTOS BY **WES LOCHER** | The Star

Those in the parade on Friday treated the audience to candy and cold drinks. **At right**, Santa set up shop at City Commons Park last Friday to hear gift ideas. **At center**, The Artery opened their doors for their annual Christmas sale and open house.

Coastal cheer

Christmas on the Coast rings in the holiday season for Port St. Joe

By **WES LOCHER**
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Holiday cheer was officially brought to Port St. Joe last weekend during the 13th annual Christmas on the Coast.

The festivities began on Friday night at City Commons Park, where Santa Claus was in the gazebo, ready and waiting for children to make gift requests.

Horse-drawn carriage rides were available for \$5 that took riders on a scenic tour of downtown Port St. Joe.

Not to be left out of the holiday spirit, The Artery Studio featured 19 different artists during its Artful Gifts sale and annual open house.

Revelers enjoyed holiday-themed artwork, snacks and conversation.

On Saturday, the final Salt-Air Farmer's Market of the season took over City Commons Park with more than 20 vendors selling fresh pro-

duce, homemade crafts and stocking stuffers.

Event organizer John Parker said he was surprised that the best weather they'd had all season happened to coincide with a Christmas-themed event.

Throughout the market, live music filled the air courtesy of local Christian-rock band Thirty Three and musicians Diane Peavy and Greg Wood.

Simultaneously, the annual Chili Cook-off presented by the Junior Service League was held in the Sailor's Cove parking lot and welcomed 25 teams who competed for the title of "Best Chili in Port St. Joe."

Almost \$5,000 was raised from the event, which will help fund

See **CHEER A5**



DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM

The team from Sunset Coastal Grill took home third place in the annual chili cook-off.

BOCC positions for alternative revenue

By **TIM CROFT**
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For several years, the Board of County Commissioners has examined alternative revenue streams to address essential services.

Come Tuesday, commissioners will provide themselves flexibility to seriously consider those alternatives in 2014 when they hold a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. ET in the BOCC meeting room.

During that hearing, the board will consider a resolution that would put commissioners in position to pass during 2014 any measure to create a taxing mechanism for several pressing issues: mandatory garbage and the landfill, beach nourishment, road paving or stormwater problems, county administrator Don Butler said.

The resolution, which must be passed

by Jan. 1 or by March 1 provided approval from the tax collector and property appraiser, would put in place the process for creating a Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) or Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU).

The difference is in the levying.

An MSBU is based on a uniform fee — each property owner pays the same amount for a benefit, for example to have mandatory garbage pickup.

The MSTU is assessed on property value.

The local bonding mechanism for the beach nourishment project during the prior decade was through a series of MSTUs, with owners of Gulf-front property assessed a higher rate based on value than owners of inland property.

The resolution would provide commissioners, who already have a voter referendum on mandatory

See **REVENUE A5**

Resident urges unity for entire city

By **TIM CROFT**
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Linda Tschudi came before the Port St. Joe City Commission last week with a straightforward request: Ensure that commissioners focus on the entire city, not just the south, not just the north.

Tschudi was there to express frustration with two projects, or lack of progress on such projects.

One is for streetlights and sidewalks on Dr. David Langston Drive, a cause dear to Tschudi's heart as the late Langston was her brother.

As was explained to Tschudi, the city and the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency are applying for grants — one it was said during last week's meeting was near approval — to put in street lights.

The Florida Department of Transportation has side-

walks on Langston Drive — the lone connector of the north and south neighborhoods once divided by railroad tracks — among projects on its district five-year plan, though Clay Smallwood with Preble Rish Engineers said it would be at least two years before funding was available.

The other target of Tschudi's dismay was the ongoing delay on installation of water and sewer pipes in the neighborhood of North Port St. Joe.

"My water is chocolate brown," she said. "What about our tax money? What do we get for our tax money? We can only take so much."

City commissioners carved out the area of North Port St. Joe in the first phase of water pipe replacement — the city is targeting some 20 miles of aged pipes in stages — because

See **UNITY A8**

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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**

TDC maps beach ambassador program

By TIM CROFT
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The one percent was no solution.

Having spent months examining ways to improve the conditions and safety on the county's beaches, the Tourist Development Council advisory board got a look at a pilot program for 2014.

The program will not involve an increase in bed taxes.

That proposal had come primarily out of the Board of County Commissioners which perceived the additional revenue generated as an augment to the Gulf County Sheriff's Office budget and in turn an enhanced law enforcement presence in the beaches.

That discussion was driven by several factors, most prominently an increase in petty crime in the tourist corridors and the overall condition of the beaches, particularly as it involved trash and the detritus of a vacation.

The central focus of debate was economic: could the GCSO increase its presence on the beaches given current budget constraints and if not where would funds to increase that presence come.

The BOCC proposed a 1 percent increase in bed taxes; the TDC advisory board was sharply split.

"Obviously the one cent was a dividing issue," said TDC executive director Jennifer Jenkins.

And the revenue from the one cent could only be spent for narrow purposes — one of which would be a beach safety program — but Jenkins said as she, county attorney Jeremy Novak

"It (beach ambassador program) is really about brand management," Jenkins said. "It is a way of talking to people. It is Hospitality 101."

Jennifer Jenkins
TDC executive director

and Sheriff Mike Harrison researched the proposal reality became apparent.

"All the research we did we found the one cent was not really a fit for us," Jenkins said. "But we do have issues on the beach that we have to address."

Hence what Jenkins is calling the "Beach Ambassador" program which she put to her advisory board to positive feedback last week.

Under the program, Jenkins would hire and train three part-time employees to be a presence on the beaches on St. Joseph Peninsula, Indian Pass and St. Joe Beach.

"They are to see and be seen," Jenkins said.

Working with other organizations, most especially the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department and the GCSO, the employees will be part code enforcement officer, Jenkins said, but primarily "brand" ambassadors, enhancing the image of Gulf County as a place to come and enjoy the water and, if desired, the solitude.

"It is really about brand management," Jenkins said. "It is a way of talking to people. It is Hospitality 101."

On the code enforcement side, if the "ambassador" sees someone driving on the beach sans permit they can gently tell the driver that they can visit the

Welcome Center — which will sell beach driving permits this year — or the Tax Collector's Office to obtain a permit.

The ambassador can provide directions.

If they see an individual out on the beach with a beer bottle, they can greet the tourist while letting them know plastic would be better and is county law.

Same for pets — an "ambassador" can admire the pet, one-on-one with the owner, while reminding of leash laws.

Lastly, Jenkins said, these "ambassadors" will assist as the county moves toward more of a Leave No Trace model, encouraging folks to pick up and pack up their things for the night after a day in the sun.

This is where code enforcement and hospitality intertwine.

"They can talk to them face to face and just give them the information with a smile," Jenkins said. "That is how Gulf County is."

The "ambassadors" will also be county employees who can keep the TDC and BOCC abreast of how the new beach cleaning contractor is performing and can, in short, be extra eyes to nip potential problems before they might escalate.

"Beach safety will really be enhanced," Jenkins said.

The "ambassadors" can also serve as walking infor-



FILE PHOTO

A "Beach Ambassador" program aims to enhance a visitor's stay with information and code enforcement with a hospitality touch.

mational kiosks, providing visitors with information about local landmarks and businesses, essential contacts, the environment and species that call this slice home and all things Gulf County sun and water.

The foundation of the program will be folding all ordinances that pertain to the beaches and tour-

ist activities in one ordinance. Beach driving and leash laws are separate, for example.

Should there be campfires on the beach?

The aim is to have one overriding ordinance to provide a mandate for "ambassadors" for the code enforcement side.

There will be new and

updated signage, Jenkins told the advisory board, and "put it all together into one comprehensive program."

That program, she added, would become a partner "tool kit" that will turn into what amounts to a "grass roots branding campaign."

And the lone investment, she said, would be on equipment and training.

Holiday Deadlines

The Star and Times wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday season! To allow our staff to enjoy the holiday with their families, the following early deadlines have been set. Please reserve your space early. We appreciate your business and look forward to working with you next year!

Christmas Week

Wednesday, December 18th by 2 pm

Santa Letters

Wednesday, December 18th by 2 pm

New Year's Week

Monday, December 30th by 2 pm



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.



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Commission of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, at its meeting on the 7th day of January, 2014, at 6:00 P.M., EST, in the regular Commission meeting room at the Municipal Building, Port St. Joe, Florida, will have the 2nd reading and consider for final adoption an Ordinance with the following title:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; AMENDING THE FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN; ADOPTING THE UPDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE YEAR WORK PLAN; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Copies of the Ordinance are available for public inspection at City of Port St. Joe City hall, located at 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr., Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida.

Interested persons may attend and be heard at the public hearing or provide comments in writing to the City Commissioners, City of Port St. Joe City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida. Transactions of the public hearing will not be recorded. Persons wishing to appeal any decision made during the hearing will need a record of the proceeding and should ensure a verbatim record is made, including the testimony on which the appeal is based. Any person who wishes to attend and requires assistance may call the City Clerk's Office at (850) 229-8261, Ext. 114.

CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

BY: S/ _____
MEL MAGIDSON, JR
Mayor-Commissioner

Attest: S/ _____
Charlotte M. Pierce
City Clerk

Mexico Beach councilmember resigns

By WES LOCHER
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Five becomes four. At the end of last week's pre-agenda workshop, Mexico Beach Councilman Lanny Hall announced he'd be resigning at the beginning of January.

Howell told the council and those in attendance that he and his wife would be relocating to Arkansas in order to spend more time with their grandchildren.

"I've enjoyed it," said Howell of his four years on the council. "It was a hard decision, but family comes first."

Howell said that he and his wife plan to become snowbirds and will spend their winters in Mexico Beach.

Mayor Al Cathey expressed his remorse at hearing Howell's resignation but took the opportunity to wish him the best.

The remaining councilmembers provided words of encouragement to Howell and quickly moved to discussion of how a replacement would be found.

The new member of the council will be appointed by the current members.

Mexico Beach residents interested in the position should submit a letter of interest to city hall

no later than Dec. 31.

At some point in January, a special meeting will be held to speak with candidates and find the best fit.

Another week goes by and the Historic Parker House still stands empty and burnt.

After obtaining a second evaluation of the building's foundation from Nova Engineering, the results of which echoed the opinion of the council that it was unsafe to rebuild upon, the council awaits the final decision from the insurance company.

The council hopes to receive an extra \$87,000 in funds to pay for damages to the foundation from a fire two years ago, but hasn't received any money in the past two years.

"They promised us an answer back as soon as they can," said Councilman Jack Mullen, who was spearheading the communication with the insurance company.

Mullen said that the insurance company had sent Nova's assessment to their own engineers for further investigation, but that he expected an answer in the next few weeks.

"They sent the claim to their engineers for review," Cathey said. "That seems to be the case for the last 14 months."

Councilwoman Tanya Castro



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Council continues to examine options for Parker House.

asked Mullen if they could give the insurance company a deadline for their response and a final decision, but Mullen said that he didn't feel like they were on a level bargaining field with the company.

Mullen said that if the insurance company decided not to reimburse the city for the foundation, it would have to cover the expenses of removal.

Members of the community who were present expressed their desire to see progress made on the new city hall and Castro agreed that the council should make a decision and move forward.

"I'm not saying that we walk away from the money," Castro said. "But I'm also not saying we walk away and do nothing."

All members of the council

agreed that they want to see progress on replacing the burnt-out building with a new city hall. Cathey encouraged Mullen to touch base with the insurance company if he hadn't heard anything by the first of the year.

"We do keep in contact," Mullen said. "The citizens are not happy. They're tired of looking at it. They want some action."

PSJE gym floor upgrade approved by school board

By WES LOCHER
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At the final school board meeting of 2013, the bid for the new gymnasium floor at Port St. Joe Elementary School was accepted in a unanimous vote.

After receiving three bids, the board went with RAM Enterprises, who will

complete the project for \$114,657 and are already prequalified to work in the district.

The project is expected to take approximately six weeks and is slated to begin over Christmas break while students are off.

Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton reiterated that the money for the project doesn't come from

the taxpayers, but rather a "pot of money" made up of license tag renewal funds that nets the board approximately \$15,000 each year. The money needs to be used every five years or lost.

Projects eligible for the funds must also have been on both a five-year work plan and a project priority list. The funds can-

not be used for landscaping or competition-based facilities.

"We'd be close to losing half of the money if there wasn't something on the list," said Norton. "We're getting a quality gym floor."

During a workshop held last month, Hank Blackman of RAM Enterprises in Montgomery, Ala. presented specifications to the

board that would not only address the moisture issues that had caused the gymnasium floor to warp, but also bring the floor up to date with current standards.

Blackman analyzed the existing floor and revealed that stagnant air had made its way between the sub-floor and maple floor and disintegrated the vapor barrier.

To avoid future moisture issues, the maintenance team will install several fans in the crawlspace under the floors to circulate air if the temperatures increase.

"The previous floor lasted 50-60 years," Norton said. "We shouldn't have to address it again unless there's a major catastrophe."

Carrabelle

Dec. 14th
CARRABELLE
Boat Parade
of lights
HOLIDAY on the HARBOR

Kick off the Holiday Season on the Coast
Join in the Fun - Put Your Boat in the Parade!
Boat Parade at Dusk
Event Hosted by Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce and City of Carrabelle

carrabellechamber.org - 697.2585

Franklin COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Countywide Holiday Events

Dec. 13 - Eastpoint Christmas Celebration
Dec. 14 - Holiday on the Harbor Boat Parade

Visit Saltyflorida.com for a complete list of events and activities.

Franklin COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Start your holiday unspending spree.

Get **GREAT RATES** and make **NO PAYMENTS** for **THREE MONTHS** with a Tyndall auto loan!

Get a Tyndall auto loan (or refinance your existing loan) by December 31st and make **no payments for three months**. With year-end dealer incentives, now is a great time to unwrap a new set of wheels. By the time your first payment rolls around, your holiday bills could be history. And if you've been extra good, that big tax refund might already be in your account!

Tyndall FEDERAL CREDIT UNION **T Y N D A L L . O R G**

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Subject to completed application and approval. Qualifying interest rate, term, and loan-to-value (LTV) are based on creditworthiness, including credit score. Ask for your specific rate. For auto loans opened between October 7, 2013 and December 31, 2013, the first payment may be deferred for 90 days from the date of loan disbursement. Older vehicles that are not eligible for the current promotional rate are also not eligible for the deferred payment option, as they are Personal Secured Loans. Offer does not apply to existing Tyndall loans. Offer subject to change without notice. Member eligibility required: an initial \$1 non-refundable membership fee will apply.

Being a dog person

If you are a “dog person,” chances are you understand dogs and their desire to get to ride in cars and hang their heads out of windows or up through the sun roof. My dogs have always loved getting to ride in the car.

They seem to enjoy the riding part, and when I come to a stop or slow down; they seem to get a little excited. The dogs are hoping for a new adventure, a new smell or a new patch of uncharted grass I suppose.

There are dog experts who like to discuss the various reasons they think dogs enjoy car rides so much. Some of these experts think that it is the “hunter” aspect and dogs associate the ride in the car with going on a hunt.

Honestly, I think dogs just like looking out the car window at interesting things and taking naps. That makes sense to me. That’s what I enjoy.

The other morning, I dropped my car off to be serviced. My car has more than 200,000 miles, but it also has a lot of memories. These memories include baseball teams, muddy and snowy shoes and boots, and dogs riding happily in my car.

My car seems to be nearing the end of its life. It has served me well.

As I rode away from dropping off my car, I panicked.

I realized I had left my dog in the back of my car. What would they think of me?

I don’t know and honestly I didn’t care.

You see, the dog I left in my car was my first dog. He was one heck of dog.

Was...

Yes, I know, it sounds strange, but then when you think about it, there is a good reason.

My first dog was a big black Standard Poodle — his name was “Baldwin.” Baldwin simply means “bold friend.”

And that is exactly what he was...

Baldwin guarded the house, he guarded the children and he loved riding in the car.

In the back of my worn out car is a box, with a bag in it. The sealed bag contains Baldwin’s remains.

Folks put ashes on the mantle, in fancy boxes and bottles — I figured I would put him where he enjoyed being. In my opinion, it would be riding in the car with me.



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
BN Heard

I loved my dog and he loved me. I think I will just let him ride with me until it’s my time to go and I’ll take him with me.

On a happier note, I got a call from home the other afternoon. My family was yelling and screaming with joy.

“What on earth is going on?” I asked.

“You won’t believe it!” they said.

It seems my current dog, who is walking on all fours, still getting into the trash and piling up on the sofa like a 16 year-old boy, had done something spectacular.

I asked them, “Well, what did he do?”

They said it together, still sounding like they had just finished running around the house a few hundred times, “He raised his leg and wet on a bush.”

I dropped the phone. Then I picked it up.

I asked them, “Are you kidding me?”

They of course said, “No, he really did.”

Now I was getting excited... I asked, “Did you take a picture?”

They did not take a picture, I guess they were too excited and not prepared for this yard-changing event.

You see, my current dog, “Doolittle,” is also a black Standard Poodle. The veterinarian classifies him as a “Giant Standard Poodle” because of his size — he’s very large and weighs close to 100 pounds.

As big as he is and as old as he is (6+ years), he had never raised his leg like this before.

I do not know why, some dogs are just late figuring things out I guess.

However, I am proud to say he has figured it out.

If you are a dog person, you understand why I continue to let my first dog ride in the car and you also understand my excitement about my current dog enjoying our yard a little more.

Find more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.

Toy Story: the prequel

“X Box One, Lego Super Heroes, Kindle Fire HD...” My eight year old grandson was speaking a language of which I was not familiar. It sounded more like Buck Rodgers dialogue than a Christmas wish list to me. He punctuated this enigmatic catalog with, “these are the best Christmas toys ever!”



HUNKER DOWN
Kesley Colbert

What was my wife always telling me, “Seize the moment!” I sat Luke down to gently correct him a mite, “army men, son, ARMY MEN!” I didn’t want to miss a teaching moment. And every child should understand and appreciate the virtues of those near ’bout indestructible little green fighting figurines.

There were Christmases when that was all we got. And you talk about a blessing! David Mark and I lined them up across the braided rug and attacked the Japanese dug in on Iwo Jima; we scaled the beaches at Normandy, we retook the Philippines, we captured the “Bridge over the river Kwai” in tact. We knew when to move the riflemen, lying on their bellies, forward. We brought up the bazooka guys just in the nick of time. And we always saved the grenade throwers for the last big push. I figure we won every battle

fought during World War II a hundred times, or so. We awarded the ones that displayed great bravery and we held elaborate ceremonies to bury our dead with full military honors.

And that was only the beginning.

We traded them on occasion. The flame thrower was worth two of those men with their rifles held high over their heads like they were crossing a river. Most of the others were about an even swap, except for the guy kneeling with the machine gun. He was kinda like a Mickey Mantle baseball card; he was not for sale, barter, swap, trade or loan out!

When we tired of shooting Germans, we played hide and go seek with the men. We lined them up side by side and tumbled them down like dominoes. We stacked them up on each other and built giant pyramids. We taped them together at times and hung a “string” of them off the arm of the couch. We talked to them, encouraged them, gave them the ole “take one for our country” speech when we sent them on a desperate mission. If we tired of these games, we’d hide behind the dining room table and the big chair in the living room and threw them at each other. You talk about a war!

With no TV to draw in the pictures, our games were limited only by our imagination. If we could think of it, we tried it. We held them underwater to see how long they could survive. We cut on them with a kitchen knife.

When we tired of the “paint by number” kits, we camouflaged them in white and sent them into the Battle of the Bulge. We laid them on the railroad tracks to see how tough they really were. When Leon, with his shoes in his hands, was quietly slipping in past curfew after a date with one of the Houston sisters, we’d have army men strategically placed across the hall floor. He’d wake up the whole house dancing off of those things!

As we grew older, they matured right along with us. We learned to mix sulfur, potassium nitrate and charcoal into a crude form of gunpowder. Those faithful army men lined up and volunteered to be blown away. We meticulously placed the soldier looking though the binoculars and the guy with the rifle over his head on the concrete side porch, piled the explosives up to their knees, and lit the fuse. Whoosh! A lot of those volunteers lived through it only to be “blown up” again.

They can’t make a toy today with that much loyalty and dedication.

One Christmas we got a Red Ryder BB gun. We quickly tired of shooting at

the cedar tree, the mailbox and each other. We set up our army men in the bank of the ditch that ran along the road in front of Aunt Jessie Killebrew’s house. We backed across the road, laid down in the opposite ditch, and went to picking off the soldiers one by one! We’d dig our spent BBs out of the dirt, reset the men, and fight till dark called us home.

We buried a time capsule — a mason jar filled with our most prized possessions — in that field behind the house. Included with the magnet, frog skeleton and Stan Musial baseball card was the kneeling machine gun man. You can’t pay a toy a higher tribute than that!

The week after Mom died I was rummaging around in the attic and came across the chard remains of the little green army man with the rifle held above his head. The tears carried me back to a braided rug, the warmth of a winter’s fire and a time and place that surrounded me with love. I wouldn’t trade nothing in the world for that childhood!

I set the lone soldier gently back in his place. I thought of the explosions and bullets he’d taken on my behalf. And here he stood, after all the years, silently defending the house to the very end.

Let’s see one of those X Box One machines do that!
Respectfully
Kes

Letters to the EDITOR



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Thanks for removing sign

Dear Editor,
On behalf of the owners and residents of Beacon Hill, we would like to extend our thanks to District 3 County Commissioner Joanna Bryan for her assistance in getting the dilapidated sign at Beacon Hill Park removed. Our sincere gratitude also to the BOCC staff and the Public Works Department for the successful removal efforts. The elimination of the rusted wreck is a holiday gift to all who have endured the eyesore for years. The view from the Veteran’s Memorial is vastly improved. Thank you for helping us turn around our park in Beacon Hill for all to enjoy.
Sincerely,

Jennifer Corbin
Beacon Hill

Gulf County GOP thanks all for food drive

Dear Editor,
The Republican Party “Stock the Food Pantry” drive in November was incredibly successful. County residents were in the spirit and very generous. Six truck/carloads of pre-bagged grocery staples were delivered

to the Pantry. Gift cards for perishable items purchased with cash donations.

Special thanks also to Boy Scout Troop 47 who supported the event at the Dollar General Store.

Our greatest thanks and a special salute however must go to Mr. George Duren and the employees of the “Piggly Wiggly.” They spent many hours stocking selected items in pre-packed \$5 and \$10 bags of the needed items. This made donating very simple. Their attitude was positive, helpful, and very inspiring throughout the campaign. Thank you! You are a great asset to our community.

The event was so successful that the Gulf County Republican Party is working the logistics of holding the drive quarterly. Party volunteers enjoyed the experience, and are enthusiastic about future opportunities to support our neighbors.

The Gulf County Republican Party

Travelers leave with great impression of PSJ

Dear Editor,
Last week we spent Thanksgiving in the Panhandle with family. We decided to take the

scenic way home to Bradenton, via Highway 98. We stopped and enjoyed ourselves along the way, and by the time we got to Port St. Joe, the sun was down and we were still seven hours from home. We stopped at your McDonalds and when we went to start up again, our car wouldn’t start. A wonderful young lady at McDonald’s, Jessie, took our rescue on as her mission! She was like the Port St. Joe hospitality committee, Chamber of Commerce and Yellow Pages all wrapped into one lovely guardian angel! She could not have been any nicer and helpful! She got us connected with BJ’s Garage, Mr. Dixson’s Taxi, and would have gotten us a tow truck if we hadn’t already called one. She was so nice and helpful. BJ was also great and opened up his shop on Saturday afternoon to fix our car, even though he was supposed to be off for the holiday weekend! The folks in your town are so nice. It is wonderful small towns like yours that make this country great! We enjoyed spending the night and plan to come back to stay on purpose next year!

Brenda Hudson
Bradenton

THE STAR

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



WES LOCHER | The Star

Horse-drawn carriage rides offered a scenic stroll through downtown Port St. Joe.



DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM

Floats consisted of cars, trucks, golf carts and even the four-legged variety.

CHEER from page A1

community service works of the JSL, which include the purchase of clothing and school supplies for area children.

"It was our biggest year yet," event organizer Kaci Rhodes said. "I would say we had maybe 250-300 people in attendance throughout the day."

Before the event, judges had a blind taste test and graded each chili on taste, texture and appearance.

First place and official bragging rights went to Monumental Chili, which banked \$100 cash for the win. Second place and winner of \$75 was Beachcombers III, and third place went to Sunset Coastal Grill, along with a \$50 prize.

The team spirit award was reserved for the team that best decorated its area for the event. Team Chili Chili Bang Bang won \$50 for their spirit and promptly donated it back to the JSL.

At the end of the day, team Chillin' at the Dunes possessed the most tickets, meaning most bowls of chili sold, and received the People's Choice Award. They also donated their winnings to the JSL.

"This Chili Cook-off wouldn't have been a success if it weren't for the help of my co-chair Jessica Brock and JSL president Michelle Perrin," Rhodes said. "It was a great location, and everyone seemed to have a great day. Thank you for everyone's support to our league; it is greatly appreciated."

Live music for the event was provided by Konkrete Soul on the Haughty Heron stage.

As dusk rolled over downtown Port St. Joe, holiday lights supplied by the Mer-



COURTESY OF JOE MIZERECK | Special to The Star

Konkrete Soul kept the Chili Cook-off crowd moving.

chant's Association illuminated the trees up and down Reid Avenue in preparation for the annual Christmas parade.

"The goal this year was to get more businesses involved," said Chamber of Commerce director Paula Pickett. "We were successful in that. Last year we had three businesses, and this year there were 14 who participated."

More than 50 floats spread holiday cheer and candy as they coasted down the street. Holiday lights shone and Christmas tunes blared as the Port St. Joe school band, followed by the Boy Scouts, myriad classic cars and golf carts of every shape and size.

Pickett extended a warm thank you to Jimmy Rogers

and the city staff who hung lights and put up holiday decorations around Port St. Joe.

"We always have a list of things we need, and Jimmy makes us all happy," Pickett said.

Rogers even drove Santa Claus' sleigh as the jolly old elf made his grand entrance at the end of the parade, officially ushering in the Christmas season.

"The event went off smoothly and was a true community effort," Pickett said. "The local merchants held extended store hours with fantastic deals, and they're showing us that there are plenty of places to buy Christmas presents locally."

"The chili cook-off was a fantastic time, and it will just get bigger and better."



DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM



SPECIAL TO THE STAR



WES LOCHER | The Star

TOP RIGHT: Santa came into town on the final float, bringing plenty of Christmas cheer along. **CENTER:** Santa visited Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf earlier in the day to spend time with patients. **BOTTOM:** The annual Christmas parade took over Reid Avenue with more than 50 floats, including the Florida Forest Service.

REVENUE from page A1

garbage assessment scheduled for November 2014 — or not.

"I think it fits in our looking for added sources of revenue," said Commissioner Warren Yeager, who added that he would only favor the additional revenue if balanced by a reduction of county property taxes.

Yeager long has stated a desire to place less of a burden on ad valorem taxpayers and more on the users of services.

Commissioner Ward McDaniel related a story about winemakers and wine drinkers and how those who drink the wine don't stomp the grapes.

"It is time some of those tasting the wine stomp some of the grapes," McDaniel said. "We should at least draft it and have it on hand."

County attorney Jeremy Novak and Butler noted that the resolution would only map the process and intent. It would be up to commissioners to formally pursue any option with due diligence and public input required.

"The resolution will lay out the steps to be taken," Novak said. "There will be plenty of time for addition-

al public input." Commissioners have considered a variety of ways to raise additional revenue in a time of declining property values and rising costs associated with the landfill and law enforcement.

Those have included additional gas taxes, increases in bed taxes and service fees.

None has found consensus among at least three commissioners.

BEACON HILL SIGN

The old Beacon Villa sign at the entrance to Beacon Hill Park Veterans' Memorial Park finally came down last week, much to the relief of residents (see Page A5) and District 3 Commissioner Joanna Bryan.

"It was quite a project," Bryan said. "I've had a lot of calls thanking us for bringing that eyesore down."

The sign is to be stored at the Public Works yard and can only be reclaimed by owner Bill Williams after he reimburses the county for the costs of removal.

AMERICUS DITCH

Butler said he had two recent meetings with Rish Engineers Inc. President/CEO Ralph Rish

about the ditch project and reported to commissioners that Rish would craft a plan of action for submittal to the BOCC.

Butler said the plan should be "forthcoming" in a matter of days, and he would bring the matter back to the board at its next meeting in January.

AGENDA/ INFORMATION PACKET

Commissioners approved a policy for information to be included in the bi-weekly Information Packet that accompanies each agenda, essentially establishing a work flow from public through staff to commissioners as final arbiters of what stays or goes.

The Information Packet will continue to be provided to the public with the agenda.

However, those items will no longer be sent out through the Clerk of Courts email blast list, Clerk Becky Norris said.

Because the files can be voluminous and are already posted on the county website, Norris said beginning in January, her office no longer will be disseminating the agenda and information packet by email.

INVITATION TO BID

PROJECT: SCIPPIO CREEK BOAT BASIN IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATION: APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA

PSBI, Lic. #CGC1516731, the Construction Manager, invites your firm to submit a sealed bid for the above referenced project in accordance with the plans, specifications, bid packages and other applicable documents.

BID PACKAGES

- BP# 3 - Concrete
- BP# 4 - Masonry
- BP# 13.1 - Dock & Piling Construction

DRAWINGS & BID PACKAGES: Drawings & Bid packages are available from the Construction Manager. Please call Jon Savoy or Jane Scott at the Construction Manager's office, (1979 Maryland Circle, Tallahassee, Florida 32303) at (850) 576-7189 or e-mail jonsavoy@psbionline.com or janescott@psbionline.com

BID SECURITY AND BOND REQUIREMENTS: Bid Bond and Performance Bond required for all packages over \$100,000.00

BID OPENING: Sealed bids shall be received & publicly read aloud on the following date and location:

Date:	December 20, 2013
Time:	2:00 P.M.
Location:	City of Apalachicola City Commission Chambers 1 Bay Avenue, Apalachicola, Florida 32320

- This project is a Federally Funded project and must comply with the US Department of Labor, Federal Davis-Bacon Act regarding the "Prevailing Wage Rates" for Franklin County, Florida
- The U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration is providing partial funding for this project (EDA Investment No. 04-79-06355).
- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Community Development Block Grant program is providing partial funding for this project (CDBG Contract No: 11DB-4N-02-29-02-E 12).
- The Construction Manager reserves the right to waive any irregularities and to reject any and all bids in the best interest of the owner.

1118007

Floundering around

Christmas comes early when the flounder run is on

By FRANK SARGEANT
franksargeant@charternet

You don't see a lot of Crimson Tide hats on the charter boat skippers along the endless docks in Destin; this is Seminole Country, and with FSU seemingly headed toward a titanic clash with 'Bama in January, the garnet and gold is everywhere here.

Except on the head of Capt. Mike Parker, Birmingham, Ala., native and angler extraordinaire. Parker's hat seems held together with salt spray and fish slime, but you can still see the script A and the checkerboard pattern in faded glory. But these days he's a Floridian in all but college football.

Parker and his wife, Capt. Marguerite Parker, have been running his Silver King charter service for more than a decade here, out of what is arguably the world's largest charter boat harbor, just east of the Destin/Fort Walton Beach bridge on U.S. 98.

I joined Capt. Mike for a four-hour flounder charter on a visit there last week, right on time for the annual run of these tasty flatfish.

"The fish come out of Choctawhatchee Bay on the first cold fronts of fall and stay on the nearshore reefs until at least Christmas," Parker said. "A couple of good anglers can put a limit in the boat anytime we get reasonable weather during that period."

Flounder are bottom fish, thus their doormat design; they lie on the bottom partially covered with sand until a minnow or shrimp comes too near, then lunge out and devour it, locking down with a set of inward slanted teeth that are very difficult to escape for potential prey — or for the thumb of an unwary angler trying to remove a hook!

Where to look

The flounders here — most are southern flounder but with a mix of smaller gulf flounder as well — come out of the bays into the Gulf to spawn anywhere between Mobile Bay and Apalachicola Bay when water temperature drops in fall, typically in late October, continuing to late December. The fish come in waves on the fronts, and where there are none today there might be dozens or hundreds tomorrow.

They mostly gather near the passes, as well as on nearshore reefs at depths of 40 to 100 feet — rarely any farther offshore. Fortunately, the deep water is close in along Panhandle beaches, so gaining access is no problem for those with boats seaworthy enough to get them safely through



Capt. Marguerite and Mike Parker show off flounder caught aboard their charter boat the Silver King.

the inlets.

The most abundant schools are found near the passes because that's where the fish come from, and where they'll return in spring. Some anglers do well by simply drifting the buoy line on falling water. And it's possible to pick up enough for dinner by fishing from the inlet jetties — the fish sometimes hang on the sand just off the rocks, as well as at the point where the jetty falls away into the dredged portion of the pass.

Southern flounder get big, to 20 pounds and more than 30 inches long. Gulf flounder max out around 6 pounds and 25 inches. But most anglers catch fish 13 to 16 inches, pan-sized but not trophy-sized. That's fine with Mike Parker.

"A 15-inch flounder is about the best eating there is in the Gulf," he said. "And you don't have to mess with filleting it; just cut off the head and clean out the body cavity, scale it and you're ready to coat it with breadcrumbs and pan-fry; the skin lifts off when you're done and the meat then comes away clean from the bones." This cleaning method also works great if you oven-broil the fish — just score the skin on the "up" side, drizzle a bit of melted butter over it and broil until the tail turns up toward the heat — super tasty and pretty healthy, too.

Fishing technique

Most anglers use a sliding weight above a swivel, with a 2- to 3-foot leader running to a 1/0 Kahle style semi-circle hook. The barb of these hooks is turned inward, which helps to keep the lip-hooked baitfish from flipping off. The weight is varied, from as little as

1 ounce nearshore or in slow current to as much as 4 ounces in deep water and strong currents — you use the least that will give a firm feel for bottom.

Light spinning tackle is generally adequate — the same stuff you'd use for trout or sheephead inside the bays, with braided line of 10 to 15 pound test. The braid gives a much better feel for the soft take of the flounder and also gives a better hook-set.

The universal bait is bull minnows, which are known as gulf killifish by biologists. Most baitshops here stock the minnows during flounder season, selling them at about \$4.50 per dozen. They're about 3 inches long and very hardy. Lots of people want these, and the supply is limited — you have to get to most shops early if you want a good supply.

It's possible to catch killifish in standard bait

traps with a funnel-type lid — they'll swim in for both fresh shrimp and cut mullet baits. They can also be seined or castnetted in tidal creeks and around oyster bars. They readily stay alive in a standard baitwell, and you can even keep a couple dozen alive in a flow-through portable bucket.

They're far tougher than shrimp, stay on the hook despite bait-stealers like pinfish and lizardfish, and can live for days in the livewell if not put to use. They are flounder candy — a flounder might turn down almost any other bait, but it will never pass up a lively killifish.

The fishing tactic is simple: Just drift with the outgoing tide in the flow of the inlets, with the bait dragging bottom. The flounder will take it from there. The bite will be familiar to you if you've done any freshwater bass

fishing.

At other times, though, the bait just seems to get "heavy" — there's a resistance there but no other action until you set the hook. One good tip from Mike Parker is this: "Watch the rod tip. Sometimes it will start bouncing and twitching even though you don't feel anything in the handle. When the tip bounces, set the hook with a steady, upward sweep — not too hard or you may tear the hook out, but just get good pressure and help the hook dig in."

Where you catch one you might catch a dozen on that same 50-foot stretch of bottom, so it

pays to motor back uptide and re-drift a productive spot. And if you miss a fish, just drop the bait right back to the bottom — if the bait was not knocked off, the flounder might well come right back and get hooked.

The fight of the average 12- to 16-inch flounder is not notable, but you're not here for the battle, you're here for dinner.

To put the larger ones in the boat, it's essential to have a long-handled landing net — they're frequently lightly hooked, and some will surely flip off at the last moment if you don't put the net under them.

Biologists say the flounder stay in the Gulf pretty much throughout the winter, but the prime fishing time is definitely the months leading up to the New Year — after that, slower metabolism and a scattering out of the schools makes fishing slower. The fish return to the bays in March and April, where they settle on channel edges, in sloughs and anywhere they might run into killifish on a regular basis.

The limit is 10 daily over 12 inches long. Both southern flounder and gulf flounder are included in the daily bag — there's no separate bag for each species, so no need to be able to tell them apart. (It ain't easy.) No license is needed if you fish with a guide or from a pay-entry pier, or if you're a Florida resident over 65.

For more information, call 850-837-2028 or visit www.fishingdestin.com.

FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Inshore

As cooler weather sets in, local area fishing should heat up. The trout bite should improve as old man winter sets in and is here to stay. Good local areas are going to be in the Intercoastal Waterway Canal. Deep holes around Black's Island and deeper waters around Eagle Harbor. The metal channel markers will be holding large number of sea bass and whiting as the cold weather persists.

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 numbers in these waters this week as well.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Dec. 12	57°	51°	10 %
Fri, Dec. 13	65°	59°	20 %
Sat, Dec. 14	67°	60°	70 %
Sun, Dec. 15	65°	45°	- %
Mon, Dec. 16	65°	45°	- %
Tues, Dec. 17	65°	45°	- %
Wed, Dec. 18	65°	44°	- %

TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

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

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

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

ST. JOSEPH BAY

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
12	Th	6:20pm 1.2		3:38am -0.1	
13	Fr	6:49pm 1.4		4:24am -0.3	
14	Sa	7:22pm 1.6		5:07am -0.4	
15	Su	7:55pm 1.6		5:46am -0.6	
16	Mo	8:28pm 1.6		6:23am -0.6	
17	Tu	9:01pm 1.4		6:56am -0.6	
18	We	9:33pm 1.4		7:26am -0.6	
19	Th	10:05pm 1.3		7:53am -0.4	
20	Fr	10:36pm 1.1		8:18am -0.4	
21	Sa	11:07pm 1.0		8:38am -0.3	

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
12	Th	12:43pm 1.6	9:53pm 2.2	4:39am -0.2	3:40pm 1.3
13	Fr	1:56pm 1.6	10:30pm 2.2	5:33am -0.5	4:37pm 1.4
14	Sa	2:46pm 1.8	11:08pm 2.2	6:21am -0.6	5:29pm 1.6
15	Su	3:25pm 1.9	11:47pm 2.2	7:04am -0.8	6:15pm 1.6
16	Mo	3:56pm 1.9		7:42am -0.8	6:58pm 1.6
17	Tu	12:26am 2.2	4:22pm 1.9	8:16am -0.8	7:38pm 1.6
18	We	1:07am 2.2	4:45pm 1.9	8:45am -0.6	8:17pm 1.4
19	Th	1:49am 2.2	5:06pm 1.9	9:11am -0.6	8:57pm 1.3
20	Fr	2:33am 2.1	5:27pm 1.9	9:35am -0.5	9:40pm 1.3
21	Sa	3:19am 1.9	5:50pm 1.9	9:58am -0.3	10:28pm 1.1

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Mixed week for PSJ booters

Star Staff Report

A split with Mayo Lafayette and identical ties with Rocky Bayou defined the week on the pitch for the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School soccer teams.

The girls are 3-2-1 overall for the season, 0-1-1 in District 1-1A.

The Tiger Sharks are 2-3-1 overall and 0-1-1 in the district.

Mayo

In the first games back after Thanksgiving, the Lady Tiger Sharks registered a win while the boys were routed by Lafayette Mayo.

The Lady Sharks won 4-2.

The score was knotted at 2-2 at intermission before

sophomore Kathleen Rish tallied two goals in the second half to put the game away for host Port St. Joe.

Rish has a team-leading six goals on the season.

Senior Lexie McGhee scored her fifth on a penalty kick in the first half — McGhee has converted all three penalty kicks she has had this season. Junior midfielder Haley Wood added her first goal in the opening half.

Eighth-grader Celeste Chiles was in goal, facing just five shots and making three saves in lowering her goals against average to 1.80.

As for the boys, Coach Gary Hindley said, "It was another

story entirely."

The boys were shellacked 8-1 as they fell behind quickly and never got into a competitive structure until well into the second half.

Senior captain Drew Lacour finally broke through for a goal in the 53rd minute, his third, with an assist from younger brother Jacob Lacour.

Mayo outshot PSJ, 30-5.

Goalkeeper Tyler Alford, played 70 minutes in goal and faced 25 Mayo shots, made 10 saves and gave up seven goals.

Sophomore Matt Rocha saw only two minutes in goal before being injured and faced only two shots, making two saves including one on a Mayo penalty kick.

Seventh-grader Joel Bogaert replaced Rocha and saw eight minutes of action, facing three shots and making one save while allowing one goal.

Rocky Bayou

Port St. Joe traveled to Niceville last Friday for district contests against Rocky Bayou.

Both games ended in a 1-1 tie.

McGhee scored on a Penalty Kick in the 70th minute to tie the score, netting her team-leading sixth goal.

The Lady Tiger Sharks outshot Rocky Bayou 18-8, while Chiles recorded five saves.

The Tiger Sharks also tied 1-1

with Rocky Bayou.

With less than a minute to play in regulation, Rocky tied the score on a distant shot that squeezed by Alford, for the tying tally.

Drew Lacour put the Tiger Sharks up 1-0 with an early second half goal, his team leading fourth on the year, on an assist by defender Sawyer Raffield.

Alford made eight saves on 13 Rocky Bayou shots, while Port St. Joe had 10 shots.

The boys and girls played West Gadsden Tuesday and host Tallahassee John Paul II tonight (4 p.m. ET for the girls and 7 p.m. ET for the boys and travel to Franklin County for games at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. ET on Saturday.

GATORS HOST BAY HIGH FOR WRESTLING MEET



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School wrestling hosted Bay High School in their first-ever home dual match in front of the student body on Friday. At 138 pounds, Burley Parker's clutch 59-second defensive pin was the deciding factor in the Gators 36-30 victory over the Tornadoes. Other notable victories of the day were at 126 pounds by Blake Kemp and 138 pounds by Elijah Sarmiento. The Gators' next wrestling event is the Capital City Classic at Chiles High School in Tallahassee Dec. 13-14.

Tiger Sharks raise record to 4-1

Star Staff Report

Last Saturday's trip to Sneads was a gut-check for the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School boys' basketball team.

After being drilled 66-37 at home by Springfield Rutherford the night before, the Tiger Sharks (4-1) rebounded with a 55-41 victory over Sneads.

"That was a character win for us," said Port St. Joe coach Derek Kurnitsky. "I think we are better than we played against Rutherford. It just wasn't our night. But that was big to go on the road up to Sneads and win.

"We are off to a good start," Kurnitsky said. "We

"That was a character win for us."

Port St. Joe coach Derek Kurnitsky

have a long way to go. We have had only four practices with all our players."

The Tiger Sharks host South Walton Friday night and are at Franklin County on Saturday.

The past week began with a 63-40 win over host Wewahitchka.

The Tiger Sharks were led by T.J. Williams

who scored a game-high 26 points.

Chad Quinn had 13 points, Sergio Clemons added 10, Kyran Batson had seven, Aaron Paul four and Jarkeice Davis two.

Williams led Port St. Joe with 15 against Rutherford, with Clemons adding 11. Quinn had six, Batson and Marcel Johnson two points apiece and Luke Galloway had one.

Williams paced the attack again against Sneads with 29 points.

Quinn had eight, Marquez Johnson and Galloway four and Marcell Johnson, Davis and Batson each added two points.

Griggs to play, Gannon coach North-South game

Star Staff Report

Dewayne Griggs has been chosen to play for the North squad in the annual Florida Athletic Coaches Association All-Star Classic to be played at 4 p.m. ET Saturday, Dec. 21.

Griggs and former standout Calvin Pryor are the only two Port St. Joe players in the past two decades to receive the honor of selection to the All-Star Classic.

Port St. Joe Coach Chuck Gannon, who in his final season with the Tiger Sharks led them to an 8-4 record, will coach the defensive backs/secondary for the North team.

The head coach for the North squad is former Port St. Joe coach and current Niceville Coach John Hicks.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Dewayne Griggs will play in the FACA All-Star Classic next week.

Christmas break soccer camp

Star Staff Report

All pro soccer will once again be hosting two separate area soccer camps over the Christmas holiday break. A morning camp, sponsored by the Gulf County Soccer Boosters Association and will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. ET on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 27-28 at the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School soccer complex. Separate instruction will be available for both field players and goalkeepers. Ages are from 5-17 for field and

12-17 for keepers. Former professional player and coach and present coach of the successful Port St. Joe boys and girls programs, Gary Hindley, is the lead instructor. Noted goalkeeper Coach Don Maples will be in charge of Goalkeeper instruction. Several other local and licensed coaches will also instruct.

The second camp, sponsored by the Callaway Soccer Organization, will be held those same dates, with an additional

combined final session for both camps held on 2-4:30 p.m. CT Sunday, Dec. 29 at the Callaway Sports Complex. Coach Hindley and Coach Maples will be there also to instruct. Spaces will be limited. Area coaches are invited to watch any or all instructional sessions.

Additional information or to register an individual or an entire team for either camp, you can reach Coach Hindley at 850-276-6353 or email him at gjhallpro@aol.com

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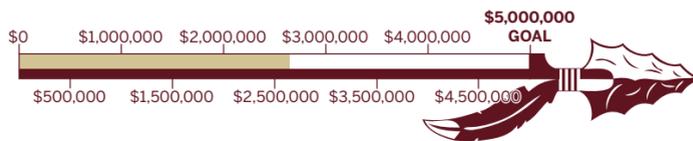
Pictured: Bernard Jacob, chairman, Gulf Power Foundation; John Ed McDanal, district manager, Gulf Power Company; Stan Connally, president/CEO, Gulf Power Company.

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 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.

DEEPWATER from page A1

waters off the WindMark Beach development.

The dollars for the Indian Pass Boat Ramp are to be used to repair and enhance the existing ramp and to replace existing access and termination piers at Indian Pass.

"These projects are a great win for Gulf County," said County Commissioner Warren Yeager, who added that none of the funds are through the RESTORE Act process. "This is a good start. These are some good projects."

Improvements to Beacon Hill Veterans' Memorial Park would include the construction of pavilions, restrooms, a nature trail, parking area and a small amphitheater.

"Those improvements will be great," Jenkins said. "That is a beautiful property and a great location. Now with that old sign down (the former Beacon Villa sign), that property looks even better."

The Highland View boat ramp, considered one of the more challenging ramps to launch from because of currents, will see the replacement of existing access and termination piers as well as repairs to enhance the existing ramp.

The project also will include improved parking.

"We are very blessed to have four projects in the county funded, and there are three in District 3," County Commissioner Joanna Bryan said.

For the city of Port St. Joe, the dollars for improvement to Frank Pate Park could not arrive at a better time.

The city has been looking at options for funding improvements to what is possibly the most used boat ramp in the county, even considering fees for usage.

"We've been talking about wanting to do some-



WES LOCHER | The Star

The Frank Pate Park boat ramp in Port St. Joe was one of four county projects funded through BP fines.

thing there for a few years," Mayor Mel Magidson said. "We'd like to increase the dockage and extend the ramp. This is a good thing for us. Hopefully we can do it up right."

Magidson added that the limit on "dirt" in the area all but precludes the ability to make drastic improvements for parking around the ramp.

"Frank Pate Park is the hub of everything; that is a nice grant," Jenkins said.

State Rep. Halsey Beshears, R-Monticello, whose district includes Gulf County, was in Panama City for the announcement last week. He said he was pleased with the boat ramp, dock and pier upgrades.

"All of them are great," he said of projects.

Jenkins also noted two regional projects that will affect Gulf County.

One is the Florida Seagrass Recovery Project, which primarily will be located in St. Joseph Bay Aquatic Preserve, with potential additional sites in Franklin and Bay counties.

The project would begin with a survey and mapping of seagrass scarring in the aquatic preserves. Next would be placement of sediment tubes across two acres of seagrass pro-

pellor scars and finally the placement of bird stakes in the project area to facilitate restoration, according to the staff in State Sen. Bill Montford's office.

Area signage, buoys where necessary, boater outreach and education and brochures about best practices for protecting seagrass habitats also will be part of the project.

There is also \$11 million for the creation and restoration of artificial reefs along the shoreline of the impacted Florida counties.

The project will include near-shore reefs and shallower snorkeling reefs.

"Not everybody comes to the water to fish," Jenkins said. "All these projects are great for Gulf County."

The funding for projects last week comes as part of a 2011 BP settlement, which yielded \$1 billion for early restoration projects. The dollars to be expended after last week's announcement were part of phase III of early restoration projects.

The state already announced \$58 million in phase III projects in May, but then got extra money, which now totals \$88 million, with 28 proposed projects benefiting Florida's eight counties most affected by the oil spill.



For practical purposes, the replacement of water and sewer lines is linked to the replacement of sidewalks along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. which has led to further delays in seeing the pipe replacement begin.

WES LOCHER | The Star

UNITY from page A1

the project in that area likely qualified for a Community Development Block Grant because of a variety of factors.

That part of the first phase was funded by CDBG — the city has a loan/grant package from the State Revolving Fund for the majority of the citywide work — and the city has applied in the next CDBG cycle to complete the replacement of pipes in North Port St. Joe.

In addition, because of the duplication of efforts involved, the pipe replacement project was linked to another grant-funded project, this by the USDA, to replace sidewalks along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

And a series of delays — governmental red tape with two agencies involved, the shutdown of the federal government, contracting bids that came in originally over grant amounts — have led to the project being moved back again and again.

Commissioner Bo Patterson repeatedly has reflected the sentiments of constituents by expressing frustration with the lack of progress, even a start date for construction, for the water line replacement.

What originally was supposed to be accomplished in the summer was pushed back to November and now likely will not begin before the first of the year.

The delays have come while much of the city residential proper on the south side has had pipes replaced as commissioners and staff express that the water and solving the issues are priority one.

"Our streets are caving in, and our water is bad," Tschudi said. "Let's be fair

and equal to everybody. Let's beautify the whole city.

"We are always going to be separate because of this north and south thinking."

Mayor Mel Magidson said commissioners had hoped pipe replacement might alleviate much of the issues with discolored water, which studies indicate is a combination of iron and manganese in the distribution system.

"We don't have our hands around this problem," Magidson said.

Staff from the city and contractor CDM Smith, which designed the city's new surface water plant, are waiting on the final round of preliminary testing by Virginia Tech University to determine if there is a short-term solution to discoloration issues.

Once that phase of testing is complete, commissioners expect to hold a workshop with David Kozan of CDM Smith to discuss potential tweaks to the treatment of water in the system.

Virginia Tech is in the midst of a broader pilot study of the distribution system.

On another front, Larry McClamma, supervisor at the water plant, said that after a thorough review of various guides to the systems that operate the plant, staff found it was possibly injecting a certain chemical in the wrong place in the process, affecting manganese levels.

He said staff would change injection sites this week with hopes of seeing some effect on water color.

"It may not be significant, but every little bit helps," city manager Jim Anderson said.

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PSJRA seals deck at memorial parking lot

By WES LOCHER
229-7843 | @PSJ_Star
wlocher@starfl.com

Last year, the William J. "Billy Joe" Rish Memorial Parking Lot was dedicated by the city of Port St. Joe and the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency and last Thursday saw construction completed and sealant applied on a new deck for the premises.

Gail Alsobrook, executive director of the PSJRA, sees the parking lot as a gateway to Port St. Joe's downtown shopping area and plans to install signage on the deck to advertise local merchants.

"Over 12,000 road trips go by here each day," Alsobrook said. "It's all about helping businesses. (The parking lot) is large enough

"It's all about helping businesses. (The parking lot) is large enough that people driving by will see it and know they need to stop and shop."

Gail Alsobrook
executive director of the PSJRA

that people driving by will see it and know they need to stop and shop."

The parking lot is located at the southeast corner of U.S. 98 and Fourth Street, where the offices of Rish, Gibson stood for over 40 years.

Renovation of the parking lot took approximately two and a half years to complete and is only the first phase of redevelopment for

the surrounding area.

Alsobrook detailed plans to construct several aesthetically-pleasing buildings on the block in order to station local businesses on U.S. 98.

"People don't want to see a dirt parking lot, they want to see beautiful buildings" Alsobrook said. "It's fun for the community."

See PSJRA B5



WES LOCHER | The Star

Gail Alsobrook, executive director of the PSJRA, seals the deck at the Rish Memorial Parking Lot with the assistance of some volunteers.

SEND SOME LOVE

Spreading holiday cheer through art

By WES LOCHER
229-7843 | @PSJ_Star
wlocher@starfl.com

Students at Port St. Joe schools are sending out the holiday spirit.

Last week, art classes at Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School focused on creating holiday greeting cards that will be sent to members of the U.S. Military serving abroad as well as spread cheer in the community.

More than 400 cards were created, each written and drawn by students in grades K-3 or 8-12.

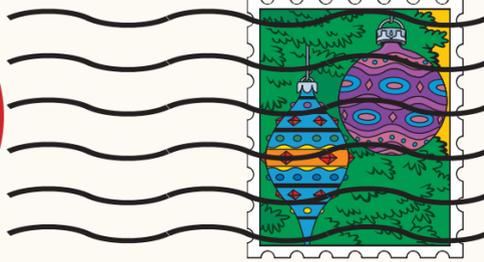
"We took one week out of the year to do something for someone else," said art teacher Julie Hodges, who has led holiday-themed projects the past eight years.

Of the 400 cards, 225 will be split between Samantha Nicodemus, sister of PSJ student Kyle Nicodemus, who is stationed in Japan and Terry Thompson, Jr., currently serving in Afghanistan.

Nicodemus and Thompson will then share the cards among their fellow troops.

"We're doing something nice for people who can't be home for the holidays," Hodges said.

On Monday, Hodges, along with sev-



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

ABOVE: Art students Sophia Harrison, Ilianna Maestri, Jessie Eberhart, Morgan Butts, and Alayna Godwin handed out postcards at The Bridge at Bay St. Joe nursing home. **LEFT:** More than 400 holiday postcards were created by art students in Port St. Joe and delivered to soldiers overseas and elderly in the community.



eral members of the recently-formed National Art Honor Society visited The Bridge at Bay St. Joe nursing home where they delivered the remaining 175 cards to residents.

"Everyone was so thankful," Hodges said. "It makes everyone feel good... the giver and the receiver."

Special needs students in The Bridges program also joined Hodges' class and created their own holiday cards alongside her students and also had a chance to work with clay, oil paints and

pastels.

For Hodges, the feedback that she gets from the families of the folks serving overseas or even from locals as the postcards are handed out is what keeps the project on her syllabus each year.

Prior to shipping the postcards to the troops, Hodges sat down to read each card for quality assurance purposes.

"I read every single one," Hodges said. "The students wrote beautiful letters."

Wewa's Lister's annual holiday book giveaway

Special to The Star

Florida mystery author Michael Lister has been giving away copies of his books annually for 16 years now, but this is the first year he stopped to total up just how many books he has gifted to readers over the decade and a half of doing it.

"I was really surprised," Lister said. "Pleasantly surprised, but very surprised. I've just been so busy with the giveaway each year I never stopped to add up how many we'd actually given away. Seeing just how high that number is makes me very proud—about as proud as anything in my writing career."

Lister began the tradition back in 1997 when his first novel, "Power in the Blood" was published by Pineapple Press.

"That seems like so long ago now," Lister said. "But I can still remember how excited I was to have had a book published. I was so grateful I just wanted to share it with others."

See LISTER B5



Trivia Fun
Wilson Casey
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"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) Studies have shown that what color scheme in the kitchen makes cooks more

creative?
White, Green, Blue, Yellow

2) What were the first and middle names of "Doc" Holiday?

Ben Franklin, John Henry, Jake Earl, Thomas Wyatt

3) From the comic strip, what's the name of Li'l Abner's pig?

Salomey, Sam, Sutter, Simpleton

4) What type of gentleman is a caballero, one who is?

In church, Tipping big, Giving up seat, On

horseback

5) It was not until what date that divorce became legal in Ireland?

1954, 1969, 1986, 1997

6) How many self-portraits were painted by Rembrandt van Rijn?

1, 11, 62, 202

7) Regarding the egg itself, what makes turkey eggs so rubbery when cooked?

Less air, No yolks, Less water, So small

8) Which old movie cowboy used a 15-foot bullwhip as his main weapon?

Tom Mix, Lash La Rue, Gene Autry, William Boyd

9) Boysenberries are a cross between blackberries and which other?

Cranberries, Strawberries, Raspberries, Blueberries

10) Which of these lived past the ending of World War II?

W. C. Fields, Thomas Edison, F. Scott Fitzgerald,

Woodrow Wilson

11) From folklore what's nearby if a candle flame suddenly turns blue?

Cat, Extraterrestrial, Ghost, Witch

12) During an hour-long coffee break, friends will statistically touch each other how many times if in conversation?

2, 4, 6, 8

13) What was the last name of Joan and Jane, TV's original

"Doublemint Twins"?
Holliday, Foster, Boyd, Wofford

14) Who was "The dirty little coward" who shot and killed Jesse James?

Bob Ford, Dick Liddell, Clell Miller, Jim Cummins

ANSWERS

1) Green. 2) John Henry. 3) Salomey. 4) On horseback. 5) 1997. 6) 62. 7) Less water. 8) Lash La Rue. 9) Raspberries. 10) W. C. Fields. 11) Ghost. 12) 2. 13) Boyd. 14) Bob Ford.

Volunteers needed for Christmas dinner

Star Staff Report

The Christmas Dinner committee is asking for those kind, caring and dedicated volunteers to come to the Oak Grove Church on Christmas Eve. The preparation starts at noon ET. We will be slicing, panning and storing 50 turkeys packaging 800 slices of cake and making all of the final preparations for the Christmas Day dinner.

The wonderful men and women volunteers will heat up the food package box and deliver 800 dinners to all of the identified needy people in Gulf County and Mexico Beach.

Anyone interested in helping on Christmas Day is asked to come to the Oak Grove Church by 8:30 a.m. ET. This is a good way to see how our youth are getting involved and learning how important being a volunteer is.

Thank YOU

Special to The Star

Thanks to Thanksgiving dinner sponsors

The organizers for the Thanksgiving dinner for the needy of Gulf County thank the following wonderful sponsors for the Thanksgiving and upcoming Christmas dinners:

Duren's Piggly Wiggly, Oak Grove Church, Hannon Insurance, First United Methodist Church, First United Methodist Church Care Closet, First United Methodist Church Men's Group, Rich and Liz Brenner, Dan and Gayle Moon, Sacred Heart's Dietary Department, Prophet Billy Dixon, Sunset Coastal Grill, John C. Gainous VFW Post 10069 and the Washington Improvement Group.

Thank you volunteer drivers

Thanks to the following volunteers that delivered the delicious Thanksgiving dinners throughout all of Gulf County and Mexico Beach this past Thanksgiving Day morning:

Billy Dixon, Joel Rogers, Bob Sutton, Rick Harrell, Austin Webb and Chase McCullough, Leonard and Loretta Costin, Jamie Mayhann, Diana Taunton, Tim and Crystal Dupuy, Mary Kelly and family, Shirley Williams, Tommy and Ruth Sauls, Fred Willis, Ruby Hodge, Jerry Refore, Grady Booth, Ron and Carolyn Groleau, Roy and Fran Smith, Temple and Sharon Watson, Carol Dow, Scott Gainey, Erica Bruckner, Charles Givens, Troy White, Charles Beachum and the gang (Getting to a New Generation members), Marquez, Deontae, Lauren, Caitlin, Cristan, Crighton and Braden.

Drivers and the people all over the county have been saying how much they enjoyed the dinner and the thoughtfulness of our committee members who planned this wonderful dinner and the compassion shown to all.

Be wise in Christmas tree selection, care

Buying a fresh tree is probably the most important piece of advice we can offer. There are a couple of reasons why a fresh tree is important. Obviously, a fresh tree will



ROY LEE CARTER
County extension director

last and look better longer. Old, dried-out trees are unattractive, and they are fire hazards as well.

Since most of us include electric lights in our tree decorations,

it's easy to see that a dried-out tree becomes very dangerous.

There are several ways to determine a tree's freshness. Bend the needles; if the tree is fresh, the needles will be supple and springy. If the tree is old, the needles will snap and break off. Bounce the tree's stump on the ground to see how many needles fall. It's normal for a fresh tree to drop a few needles. But, if bouncing produces a shower of needles, put the tree back and select another. Before buying, also feel the bottom of the stump. The sap of a fresh tree is sticky. On an old stump, it's hard and caked. A fresh tree also should have a pleasant fragrance, one that will last through the Christmas season.

The tree you select should have a good green color, be full and bushy, and have sturdy branches. Strength of branches is more a matter of the tree type than the tree's age or condition. White pine and red cedar trees are well suited to the Florida climate. But, unfortunately, they both have fairly weak boughs that won't hold decorations very well. Firs, spruces, Virginia and Scotch pines on the other hand, usually have very firm branches.

Since firs, spruces and Scotch pines don't grow naturally in Florida; they have to be imported from Northern states. So, they usually cost a lot more than



either white pines or red cedars. In addition to lower prices, Florida-grown trees have another advantage. If you can get living trees balled in burlap, they can be added to the landscape after the Christmas season is over.

The key to maintaining a fresh Christmas tree throughout the holiday season is giving the tree

proper care from the time it is purchased until it is disposed of. Before you setup your tree, make a fresh, straight cut across the base of the tree and place the tree in a tree stand that hold at least two quarts of water. Be sure you keep the stand filled at all times. It's surprising how quickly a good-sized tree can take up a quart of water.

Check the water level at least once a day.

Place your tree in the coolest part of the room. Keep it away from things like fireplaces, heaters, air ducts and even TV sets. The heat from these can cause the tree needles to dry out and drop off very quickly.

Proper Christmas tree care is only part of the story. There are certain safety rules you should follow carefully. Never use candles or anything with an open flame on or near the tree. If you're using electric lights, check them over very carefully for loose connections and worn wires. Don't overload your electrical circuits. If you must use an extension cord, run it out of the way of foot traffic, and be sure it's heavy enough for the current load. Always turn the tree lights off when you leave home or go to bed.

Buying and caring for your Christmas tree might not be the weightiest problem on your mind as we move into the Christmas season. But, if you plan to have a natural Christmas tree in your home this year, you'll need to give some thought to both subjects. Keep in mind that a fresh tree with good shape and sturdy branches usually will make the best tree for displaying and decorating. Make sure you keep the tree in the collect possible place and that you water it every day. Take the time to properly care for your Christmas tree, and it will reward your efforts with radiant beauty throughout the holiday season.

My information on purchasing and caring for Christmas trees was provided by Emeritus Extension Horticulture Specialist Dr. Robert Black, of The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

For more information on Christmas tree care, contact your local extension service at 639-3200 or rlcarter@ufl.edu.

Panhandle Piecemakers give thanks for meeting place



Special to The Star

The Panhandle Piecemaker's Quilt Club gave thanks to St. James Episcopal Church and Father Thomas Dwyer for generously letting the quilt club to meet at the church. The club made a quilt for the church to raffile for their outreach program.

Each club member made two blocks, and it was then assembled and quilted. The design

is triangle squares in colorful, happy fabrics.

Panhandle Piecemaker's Quilt Club appreciates the willingness of the St. James Episcopal Church to accommodate them and their meetings. The club meets at 7 p.m. ET second and fourth Thursdays of each month. New members are welcome and encouraged.

For more information, contact President June Davis at 229-1089.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Jacks is a 30lb 1yr Manchester Terrier/Mix. He walks well on a leash and very attentive. He accepts the attention of most dogs and is very outgoing and playful. Jacks would do well with an active family. He may be housebroken according to his rescuers and he keeps his kennel clean and tidy.

If you are unable to adopt at this time, perhaps you could foster or make a Donation. All pets adopted from SJBHS will be current on vaccinations and spayed/neutered. Please do not hesitate to email

townsend.hsdirector@gmail.com or adoptbaystjoe@gmail.com or call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103 and ask for Melody or Debbie! Applications are available at www.sjbhumane.org We require all potential adopters to complete an application form. Adoption fees include our cost of spay/neuter and current vaccinations.

Our hours for the shelter are Tuesday-Sat 10-4.

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 on Sat Dec 14th for our annual Christmas Sale. www.sjbhumane.org

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

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SWAT BOARD MEETS WITH SURGEON GENERAL

The executive board of Students Working Against Tobacco at Port St. Joe Elementary School met with Florida Surgeon General Dr. John Armstrong during his visit to the county last week.



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Some teachers make impressions

A tribute to Tommy Knox, the man, the myth, the legend

By SAWYER RAFFIELD
Special to The Star

My welding teacher has many different characteristics about him. He seems like the kind of person that everyone would be afraid of. He has the skin complexion of a tomato and the temper of a grouchy old woman. He is about 5-foot-nothing with hair that looks like dirty snow. His bright white mustache travels down to his chin, making it look like an upside down U. The wrinkles around his face let people know he has been on this earth many years. His saggy blue jeans and dark-colored green welding shirt make him always look like he is ready to work. The holes in his jeans let you know that he has had long days of hard work. His boots, covered in ash and dust from the welding shop, are almost worn out from him using the same pair every day. He waddles around in his small boots like a penguin waddles in the snow.

His short and round shape would make him seem like a jolly old man like Santa Claus. Yet, a person could not be more wrong. His snide remarks and smoker's voice seem to crawl into your soul and make you feel like a lesser human being when you mess up a project. Even though he can be pretty mean, he still can be really funny. The way his squinty eyes seem to jolt about all the time, and the way he stands when he gets ready to say something lets you know that something offensive, but funny is about to come out of his mouth. His coughing and raspy laugh fills the whole room after the joke has been told. It almost sounds like an asthmatic is in desperate need of his inhaler. One day he acts as though he cannot stand you, but the next day you are like his best friend. Every single day is different with our welding teacher. You never know what kind of mood he will be in. He is Tommy Knox, the man nobody will ever understand.

Sawyer Raffield is a senior at Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School.

READING BUDDIES



SPECIAL TO THE STAR



The third-, fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade classes have begun a "Reading Buddy" program for the first- and second-grade students at Faith Christian School. Our

"Reading Buddy" program seeks to foster a love of reading by allowing older students to mentor and inspire younger readers. The first stories have emphasized vocabulary, comprehension skills and the main idea. Future stories will focus on cause and effect, problem solving, as well as comprehension. The program has been so well received that other preschool buddies will soon be added to the program.

DAZZLING DOLPHINS



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

This week's Dazzling Dolphins at Port St. Joe Elementary School are, front row, Stratton Levins and William Marshall. Middle row: Raelynn Hardy, Branden Givens, Chase Dykes and Cameron Roberts. Back row: India Gant, Bailey Lake, Terri Phillips and Zoe Gerlach.



Special to The Star

Junior News

Attention, all juniors: Pay your \$20 Junior Dues by Dec. 19 to be entered in a drawing the day before Christmas break! See Mrs. Courtney Cummings or Mrs. Reina Nixon for more information.

Junior Beta Club

The Junior Beta Club is organizing its 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) until Jan. 31. Suggestions are coloring books/crayons, sport balls, puzzles, games, stuffed animals, dolls, etc. Donations can be dropped off in the big red box 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.

Sports schedule

Dec. 12: 4 p.m. girls soccer at John Paul II, 6 p.m. boys soccer at John Paul II, 6 p.m. girls basketball at West Gadsden
Dec. 13: 4:30 p.m. girls basketball vs. South Walton, 6 p.m. boys JV basketball vs. South Walton, 7:30 p.m. boys

varsity basketball vs. South Walton

Dec. 14: 4 p.m. girls soccer at Franklin County, 6 p.m. boys soccer at Franklin County, 6 p.m. girls basketball at Franklin County

Dec. 17: 5 p.m. girls varsity basketball vs. Bozeman, 6 p.m. JV basketball vs. Bozeman, 6 p.m. girls soccer at Freeport, 7:30 p.m. varsity basketball vs. Bozeman, 8 p.m. boys soccer at Freeport

Dec. 18: 2:30 p.m. girls basketball at Mosley. Come out and support our Tiger Shark sports teams!

Semester exam schedule

The Port St. Joe Senior High Final Exam Schedule is posted. Testing will commence Wednesday, Dec. 18 and continue through noon Friday, Dec. 20. Following are the exams scheduled for each day: Wednesday, 2nd and 5th periods; Thursday, 3rd and 6th periods; Friday, 1st, 4th and 7th periods. GO SHARKS!

Christmas holiday

All Gulf County schools be closed for the Christmas Holiday from Monday, Dec. 23, through Monday, Jan. 6, 2014. Students will report to a full day of school on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2014. The last day for students in 2013 will be Friday, Dec. 20, with an early release at noon. Lunch will not be served.

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FAITH

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

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Thursday, December 12, 2013

www.starfl.com

Page B4

CARD OF THANKS

Smith family

Thank you so much for cards, phone calls, flowers and prayers during Charlie's illness and going home. We love and appreciate you.

Linda, John, Zac, Haleigh and Hannah Smith

FAITH BRIEFS

Special to The Star

Santa and singing

First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe will have Breakfast with Santa from 9:30-11 a.m. ET Saturday, Dec. 14, with pancakes, story time, pictures with Santa and Christmas cheer. There also will be a Christmas Cookie and Candy Sale at the same time with the proceeds providing food vouchers for needy children from PSJ Elementary School.

At 6 p.m. Sunday, the Chancel Choir will present its Christmas concert. The Children's Choir will also be singing.

Afterward, please join us for refreshments.

Overcoming hardship at Lifetree Café

Practical solutions for overcoming hardship will be discussed at 7 p.m. CT on Monday, Dec. 16, at Lifetree Café.

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

Questions about Lifetree may be directed to Gary Grubb at 334-806-5667 or lwlifetreecafe@fairpoint.net.

OBITUARIES

Kylar Hamilton, Jr.

Kylar Hamilton, Jr. was born on Oct. 21, 1941, to Kylar Hamilton, Sr., and Martha Reed Lenox.

He was educated at George Washington High School; upon completion, he enlisted in the United States Army. After serving a tour in the Vietnam War, Kylar returned home. He became employed with the city of Port St. Joe and made a life with Helen Barnes Hamilton.

Kylar was a very loving and kind person. If he saw you five times a day, he would smile big and speak every time. He loved his Karate and Western movies.

Kylar departed this life on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013, at Sacred Heart on the Gulf in Port St. Joe, Fla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Kylar Hamilton, Sr., (Gertrude) and Martha Reed Lenox (Walter); three sons, Andrean Hamilton, Tyrone Hamilton and Greg Farmer; and one brother, Isaac "Rabbit" Nixon.

Kylar leaves to cherish his memories five daughters, Loretta Watson of Jacob, Fla., Mary

Hamilton (Pellzie) of St. Petersburg, Fla., Sylvia Weatherspoon (Harold) of Pensacola, Fla., Valerie James (Rodney) of Port St. Joe and Keesha Hamilton of Port St. Joe; five sons, James Hamilton of Port St. Joe, Kylar Freddie Hamilton of Garland, Texas, Carlos Morris of Apalachicola, Collins Hamilton (Talisha) of Albany, Ga., and Torrez Hamilton of Panama City; daughter-in-law, Pauline Farmer of Apalachicola; one brother, Kelvin Rouse of Port St. Joe; one sister, Meredith Rouse of Port St. Joe; 27 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; a host of aunts, uncles, nephews and cousins; two very special friends, Melvin Brown, who was like a son to him, and Annie Ruth "Cuffie" McNabb, his classmate.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. ET Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013, at New Bethel A.M.E. Church. Interment followed in Forest Hill Cemetery.

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

Drema Vann Hess



DREMA VANN HESS

Drema Vann Hess of Port Saint Joe went to be with the Lord on Dec. 6, 2013. Heaven is in full celebration in receiving her Spirit at the young age of 60. Jesus was ready to have his angel back home as she left us unexpectedly.

She was born in Besoco, W.Va. Her family left that area when she was young and settled in to Dearborn, Mich. She relocated to Port St. Joe 30 years ago. If you asked her where she was from, the resounding answer was always "Florida."

This Angel of God touched so many with her Passion and Love for her family, friends and senior citizens. She spent her entire professional career as an LPN, spreading her Love for and knowledge of the elderly and sharing her well known orange pound cakes, banana pudding and spaghetti dinners for her Nursing home families. Her last message found by her children after death defines her as a Mother: "To my children...If I had to choose between loving you and breathing...I would use my last breath to tell you...I LOVE YOU."

She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Dorothy Whitt; brothers

Larry and Jerry Whitt; son Mark Hess; and great-grandchild Isaac. Her oldest brother, Fred Whitt, and sister-in-law Sandy Whitt still reside in Michigan, along with three nieces and four nephews.

She left behind her best friend and self-proclaimed sister Shirley Dixon of Port St. Joe. She is survived by her children: Jomila Saleh, Kellie Saleh (Mark), Trina Thursby (Brad) and Keith Saleh (Lisa).

Grandchildren include Codee and John Richter, Christopher Smith, Jacob and Logan Thursby, Megan Saleh and Lexi Holland, Maegen Connors and Adrienne Croom. Great Grandchildren include Dylan 11, Makayan 6, Weston 3, Nicholas 2, and Kelsi 1.

The family held a memorial service in her honor at Long Avenue Baptist Church of Port St. Joe on Tuesday. They have requested that donations be made in her name to the American Heart Association in lieu of flowers. Prayers for strength during this time of bereavement are welcomed and much appreciated.

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

Barbara Sue Barnes Eubanks

Barbara Sue Barnes Eubanks, 76, of Wewahitchka passed away at her home surrounded by her family on Sunday, Dec. 8, 2013. Barbara was born in Newark, Ohio, on Dec. 19, 1936.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, Elvin Ray Barnes and Lenora Maude Young Barnes; her oldest son, Dennis Ray Wills; her sister Carlene Sarles; and her brother Lynn Delahoussaye.

Barbara is survived by her husband of 44 years, Jesse Eubanks, Jr.; children, Walter Wills, Deborah Elia, Gregory Wills, Berry Eubanks and wife, Jennifer, and

Michael Eubanks; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren; sisters, Patricia Forehand and Sharon Broussard; and numerous other family members.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. today, Dec. 12, 2013, at Glad Tidings Assembly of God Church in Wewahitchka, Fla. The family will receive friends one hour prior to service. Visitation was Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013, at the family home at 253 Eubanks Drive, Wewahitchka, from 5-8 p.m.

Services are under the directions of the Comforter Funeral Home Wewahitchka Branch Chapel.

Patricia Ann Vines

Mrs. Patricia Ann Vines, 67, of Overstreet, Fla., passed away Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013, in Panama City, Fla. Born in Alabama, she had been a resident here since 1996 and was an ordained minister, preaching in many churches around the area. She was a very loving person, she loved her God, and was a good wife and mother.

Survivors include her husband, Jerry Vines of Overstreet; one daughter, Pamela Byrum and husband, Nathan, of Woodstock, Ala.; three grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; two stepdaughters, Lynn Adams and husband, Sammy, of Texas and Tracy Rice of Louisiana; one stepson, Jeremy Vines, and wife, Joyce Ann, of Mississippi; eight

stepgrandchildren; eight stepgreat-grandchildren; three brothers, Wayne Nicholson and wife, Carol, of Mississippi, Larry Jo Nicholson and wife, Donna, of Alabama and Douglas Nicholson and wife, Agnes, of Alabama; one sister, Jan Walters and husband Michael of Mississippi; and a cousin, Angie Ferry of Port Saint Joe.

A visitation was held for her on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013 at the Comforter Funeral Home from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. CST. Afterward, she will be taken to Bessemer Brown Service Funeral Home in Bessemer, Ala., for funeral services.

Donations may be made in her memory to Covenant Hospice.

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

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

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

Sunday	Wednesday
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

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

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(850) 229-8691

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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

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

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

Home of Faith Christian School
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(850) 229-9596

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

Sunday School.....10 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship6 p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship11 a.m. Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.

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A Spirit Filled Outreach Oriented Word of Faith Church

Pastors Andrew & Cathy Rutherford
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Sunday Night Prayer 6pm
Wednesday 6pm

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

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

The Rev. Lou Little, Priest
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oakgrove church

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Schedule of Worship Services

Sunday
Sunday School 9:00 AM
Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM

Wednesday
Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 PM
Elective Adult Classes 6:00 PM
Children & Youth Ministry 6:00 PM

Nursery provided for all services

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Pastor Josh Fidler

Service Times
Sunday School.....9:45 am
Worship Service.....10:00 am
Discipleship Training..... 5:00 pm
Evening Worship.....6:00 pm
Wednesday Night.....7:00 pm

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

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

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Green best management practices class

Star Staff Report

The University of Florida Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences and the Gulf County Extension Service will partner to present a Green Industries Best Management Practices course on Dec.

18 at the Extension Office at 232 E. Lake Avenue in Wewahitchka.

To register call 639-3200; register by Dec. 16 and pay \$20.

Introduction and pre-test are at 8 a.m. CT and the post-test is 2:45-3:30 p.m. CT.

This is an Educational Program Workshop and participants receive FDEP/IFAS certificates and Pesticide CEUs.

This workshop is designed to provide training in Best Management Practices (BMPs) for anyone working in the lawn, land-

scape, pest control or municipal grounds areas.

Best Management Practices are focused on reducing non-point source pollution resulting from fertilization or pesticide application.

At the end of the training participants will be

given a post-test to determine knowledge learned. If the post-test is successfully completed, participants will be mailed a Green Industries BMP certificate of completion.

Some cities and counties require this certification before bidding on

jobs or having commercial customers.

Be sure to turn in the post-test, evaluation and Training Record by the end of the day.

If participants also need pesticide CEUs, get the signed CEU attendance before leaving for the day.

PSJRA from page B1

Alsobrook, along with several volunteers, covered the deck with sealant to add water protection to the wood, and she plans on hiring a designer to add decorations in the near future.

The deck covers a stormwater pond and will serve as a gateway into the shopping district.

Owner of The Port Liquor Store Boyd Pickett assisted with applying the sealant.

"I'm glad to see it come to fruition," he said. "It helps the aesthetics of the community and brings in

business.

"This whole corridor looks so much better."

Pickett plans to relocate his store into one of the new buildings along U.S. 98 once they are erected.

The land for the parking lot was purchased from the Rish estate by the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency and subsequently deeded to the City of Port St. Joe. The construction of the parking lot was funded through a grant from a USDA Rural Business and the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency.

LISTER from page B1

This year Lister's Annual Holiday Book Giveaway has a theme: The 12 Days of Free Books Christmas. There's even a video of the song on his website and Youtube.

From Dec. 13 through Dec. 24 the 12 Days of Christmas will include special copies of all his books absolutely free.

"Giving has always been essential to me," Lister said. "Life is a gift. Everything we have in life is a gift. And gifts are meant to be given. Few things in life feel as good as giving a gift to someone open to receive it. And books are some of my favorite gifts—both to give and receive."

Lister's free Kindle ebooks will be available worldwide on Amazon.com from Dec. 13 through the 24th. He will also be giving away and signing his books in person at the following places:

- A Dickens of a Christmas in Downtown Panama City in front of Books by the

Sea on Friday, Dec. 13 from 5-8 p.m. CT.

- The Purple Grape in St. Andrews on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 4-6 p.m. CT.

- The Marina Civic Center in Downtown Panama City on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. CT.

You can also order books and contact Michael through his website www.MichaelLister.com

Get a copy for yourself or one to give to someone on your list while supplies last.

"My goal is to reach 100,000 copies this year," Lister said. "That means I have to give away 25,000 books between now and Christmas. It's ambitious but possible. We'll see. Who knows? We may just go over it."

Lister's latest novel, "Separation Anxiety," is a spiritual sequel to "Double Exposure." His next novel, "Rivers to Blood," the 6th in his award-winning John Jordan mystery series, will be released in March 2014.

Managing stress during the holidays

By HEIDI LISS RADUNOVICH, PH.D.
Special to The Star

1. PLAN AHEAD AND GET ORGANIZED:

Many of us are so busy with our daily lives that we often don't feel as though we have time to plan ahead for the holidays. Taking care of things ahead of time, such as shopping for gifts and completing holiday cards, reduces your workload as you near the holidays, but many people don't have that option.

Here are some ways to plan and get organized:

Even if your time for doing things in advance is limited, doing things a few minutes every day can help save time and reduce stress as the holidays approach. For example, having lists of what to buy and from where can prevent multiple trips to the same store. Ultimately, taking a small amount of time now for planning can mean a big savings in time and stress in the future.

Create lists of everything that needs to be done and bought, and create a schedule for the coming weeks to break down what you will do and when. It can be reassuring to see that you can manage all of the work that needs to be done. If your schedule shows that you will be unable to finish everything in time, however, then skip the lower priority items on your list.

Set a budget for your Christmas shopping, and plan how much you can spend for each person on your list. If you keep your spending limited to what you can afford, then you'll feel much less stressed later.

2. SET REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS:

Many of the images we see in movies and on TV can lead us to believe that a "perfect" holiday is realistic, and we may feel pressured to expect too much from ourselves, others, and the holiday itself. Rather than expecting your holiday to be "perfect," focus on the real meaning of the season. The ultimate goal is to enjoy quality time with the people you care about.

Here are some ways to keep your expectations in check:

Remember that life is full of things that go wrong, and anticipating perfection can lead to disappointment. Instead, expect that things won't be perfect, and view the problems that occur as an opportunity for a good story in the future.

Remind yourself that it is ok if people don't always get along, if there are travel delays, or if the décor or food options aren't perfect.

Focus on enjoying the positive moments as much as possible.

Finally, take time to really think about what events you will attend (or host) and for how long, keeping in mind that sometimes less is more. Trying to attend every party or spend every possible moment with family might not always be the best plan, and it can leave you stressed and unhappy.

3. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF:

When we're feeling stressed we're much more likely to neglect our needs, but that is when we need to take care of ourselves the most. Making sure we eat healthy foods, exercise, get plenty of rest, and relax helps bolster us and renews our physical and emotional resources.

Here are some ways to take care of yourself during the holidays:

Minimize indulgence. During the holidays, it is tempting to eat too much unhealthy food, drink too much alcohol, skip the exercise, and stay up too late. Although a little indulgence is ok, forgetting to take care of ourselves day after day leaves us physically and emotionally drained and unable to handle the stressors that will come our way.

If you enjoy trying all the different goodies at a party, make sure to just try a little bit of each. Focus on the healthier foods, such as vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and lean meats. You may also want to ask yourself if you are truly hungry or simply eating because food is available.

If you are up late one night because of a party or gift-wrapping

session, make sure you go to bed early the next night.

Increase your physical activity by walking after meals and taking stairs rather than elevators. Even walking in the mall can be a great source of exercise.

Finally, take some time for yourself, even if it's only a few minutes while you're lying in bed in the morning. Hot baths or showers are relaxing, and reading can be a great escape. Some people also find meditation helpful. There may even be seasonal rituals that help you feel centered and relaxed, such as singing or lighting candles. Everyone is different, so you will need to figure out what activity provides a good way for you to take a break and decompress.

Making sure we eat healthy foods, exercise, get plenty of rest, and relax helps bolster us and renews our physical and emotional resources.

4. MANAGE YOUR THOUGHTS:

The way you think about things can have a big impact on how stressful an event is for you. If you experience the same event as someone else, but you both have different thoughts about it, then that can affect the way you feel. Once we are upset, it can be hard to think of things differently, but trying to take another perspective can help. For example, if a clerk at the airport is rude, rather than taking it personally, you could think that maybe this person is having a bad day. Finally, reframing the difficulties in a more positive way can help us have a sense of gratitude. For example, even though it's annoying to get a flat tire when you're getting ready to leave, it's better than it happening on the road or highway where it could cause an accident. Remember that the better you're able to manage your thoughts, the more you'll enjoy yourself.

Submitted by Melanie G. Taylor, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development / Family & Consumer Sciences, UF/IFAS Extension Gulf County



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UPCOMING EVENTS

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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† OF COUNSEL

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The City of Wewahitchka announces a time change for the December Regular Meeting.

The meeting time will be at 7:00 am CT instead of 6:30 pm CT. Any question, please call City Hall @ 850-639-2605 8am - 4pm.

-In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this Institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, and familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). -This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.

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THE PORT ST. JOE STAR



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

LEFT: From left, Bob Swenk, Chairman of the Board is pictured with successful adult clients who were recognized during the program. Welfare Transition program participant Tiffany Garrison; Workforce Training Center at Haney Technical Center participant Payton Davidson of A Superior Air Conditioning; Veteran Roderick Hills of Chenega; Veteran Scott McDonald of Engility. Also pictured, Kimberly Bodine, Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Workforce Board. **RIGHT:** John Reeves of Gulf County was elected to Executive Committee of Gulf Coast Workforce Board.

Workforce Board holds annual meeting, election of officers

Special to The Star

On Nov. 12, the Gulf Coast Workforce Board (GCWB) celebrated 17 years of providing workforce services to the region at its annual meeting and luncheon at Gulf Coast State College's Advanced Technology Center.

Kimberly Bodine, Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Workforce Board announced, "This is the last time an annual meeting would be held for the Gulf Coast Workforce Board, because in 2014, we will adopt a new identity, CareerSource Gulf Coast."

At the meeting, Executive Director Kim Bodine also reviewed the local workforce system performance over the last year which included:

- Assisting 1,016 employees recruit and hire workers
- Serving 60,336 walk-ins at the Workforce Center
- Connecting 7,243 individuals to employment
- Providing in demand training and employment services to 1,166 adults, dislocated workers, and youth under the Workforce Investment Act
- Helping 131 families transition from welfare to

self sufficiency

"We owe our great performance to our hardworking staff, our dedicated volunteer board members and our service providers," said Bodine.

The service providers for the Gulf Coast Workforce Board include Bay District Schools, Bay STARS; Friends of the Franklin County Library, TIGERS Program; Gulf Coast State College, Workforce Center; and Royal American Management, Welfare Transition, Food Stamp Employment and Training Program.

Individuals who par-

ticipated in programs operated by service providers as well as by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board, along with their case managers, were recognized.

Successful clients recognized during the program included Food Stamp Program participant Tiffany Garrison; Workforce Training Center at Haney Technical Center participant Payton Davidson of A Superior Air Conditioning; Veteran Roderick Hills of Chenega; Veteran Scott McDonald of Engility; Kayla Warren of the Bay County Stars program; and Miranda Pilger of the Franklin Coun-

ty Tigers Program. Success story videos were shown at the meeting, and can be accessed at the Workforce Center's You Tube channel <http://www.youtube.com/user/mag5025>.

At the meeting the board approved a new slate of officers for 2014:

- Bob Swenk (Bay County) – Chairman
- Ted Mosteller (Franklin County) – Past-Chair
- Executive Committee:
 - Alisa Kinsaul (Bay County)
 - Jennifer Conoley (Bay County)
 - John Reeves (Gulf

County)

- Betty Croon (Franklin County)

The Gulf Coast Workforce Board is a public/private partnership chartered by the State of Florida to administer workforce development programs in Bay, Gulf, and Franklin counties. Their mission is to provide leadership, oversight, guidance, and assistance to institutions and agencies delivering training and workforce services in order to meet the economic development and employment needs of Bay, Gulf, and Franklin counties.

WHEEL PROGRAM CELEBRATES 150TH ARREST



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Panhandle Crime Stoppers and WMBB recently celebrated arrest number 150 for the Wheel program. The program began in July 2009 and has continued working with law enforcement and the public to help resolve cases and bring criminals to justice. Law enforcement representatives from almost every area agency were present to mark the occasion. Pictured from left to right are Sheriff Frank McKeithen, CS Media Director Debra Peel, Gulf County Sheriff Mike Harrison and WMBB Station Manager Terry Cole.

What are the benefits of finding a medical home?

By THE STAFF AT MYGULFCARE
Special to The Star

Most of us, at one time or another, have the opportunity to look for a home in an area that is unfamiliar to us. Maybe you are relocating due to work, or retirement, or returning home after years of living away. Sometimes we move to places that we know very little about, making the decision of where to live even more difficult. Most of us think of the doctor's office as a scary place where we go when something's more wrong than we can fix on our own. In reality, we should consider a doctor's office or health care facility our "medical home." Just like selecting a place to live, we should select a place where we feel comfortable and where we can get the help we need to live healthier lives.

"A medical home is like an old-style family doctor's office, but with a whole team of professionals," said Robert J. Reid, MD, an associate investigator at the Group Health Center for Health Studies and Group Health's associate medical director for preventive care. "Together, they make the most of modern knowledge and technology – including e-mail and electronic medical records – to give patients excellent care and reach out to help them stay healthy."

The old-style family doctor did everything within his power to care for his patients. He

A modern medical home seeks to provide you with the same all-in-one-setting experience by having a group of professionals, with various levels of training and areas of expertise, available to provide each patient with the care he or she needs.

might be managing a pregnancy for one patient, and removing skin cancer on another. He had jars of medications, all types of bandages, and even some medical equipment that he might send home with a patient for use there. He was a sort of jack-of-all-trades depending on what other services might be available in the area and what services were definitely not available.

A modern medical home seeks to provide you with the same all-in-one-setting experience by having a group of professionals, with various levels of training and areas of expertise, available to provide each patient with the care he or she needs. By getting to know the patient, caring for them during times of illness and providing health maintenance care as well, the providers in a medical-home setting are able to recreate the old-style feeling with the latest modern technology and medical breakthroughs.

There are specific programs

helping medical practices become "medical homes" for their patients, and with the changes in healthcare over the years it's nice to see a setting where the patient is once again the center of attention. So many of us have become accustomed to getting our healthcare needs met by seeing three or four different doctors, that it may take more than just the medical practice making changes. Patients will need reassurance that they can rely on one practice to manage their healthcare needs. Providers will need to focus their efforts on taking time to explore with each patient what their needs are and how those needs can be met more efficiently. By working together with our healthcare providers, we can live healthier, less hectic lives.

Going to one place, or one specific group, for healthcare, and knowing that we have a home there, takes a lot of the fear and guesswork out of illness, and makes staying healthy easier for every patient.

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NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-styled case, I will sell the property located in GULF COUNTY, Florida, described as:

The East 1/2 of Lots 10 and 12, Block 59, CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, GULF COUNTY, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 19, of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Property address: 307 12th Street Port Saint, FL 32456

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, by electronic sale at AT SOUTH ENTRANCE OF THE COURT-HOUSE, 1000 CECIL G. COSTIN, SR. BLVD., PORT ST. JOE, FL 32456 beginning at 11:00 a.m. E.T. on this 9th day of January, 2014.

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.

Witness, my hand and seal of this court on the 3rd day of December, 2013.

Rebecca Norris CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

THIS INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY: Law Offices of Daniel C. Consuegra 9204 King Palm Drive Tampa, FL 33619-1328 Attorneys for Plaintiff

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 Court Administration at P.O. Box 826, Marianna, Florida, 32447. Phone number 850-718-0026, Email: ADARequest@jud14.fcourts.org Hearing & Voice Impaired: 1-800-955-8771 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. File# 107957/lam December 12, 19, 2013

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96757S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 23-2009-CA-000112 DIVISION:

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR JPALT 2006-S2, Plaintiff,

vs. LUANN M. QUARANTA, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated November 06, 2013 and entered in Case No. 23-2009-CA-000112 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTEENTH Judicial Circuit in and for GULF County, Florida where in U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR JPALT 2006-S2 is the Plaintiff and LUANN M. QUARANTA, WILLIAM C. QUARANTA, SR.; CAPITAL CITY BANK, are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at LOBBY OF THE GULF COUNTY COURT-HOUSE at 11:00AM, on the 9th day of January, 2014 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT TWENTY-SIX (26), BLOCK ONE HUNDRED THIRTY (130), UNIT NUMBER TWELVE (12), OF THE ST. JOSEPH'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED BOOK 13, 1982 IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 27 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 2005 MARVIN AVENUE, PORT ST JOE, FL 324560000

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale. WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on December 2, 2013.

REBECCA L. NORRIS Clerk of Circuit Court

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk

**See Americans with Disabilities Act If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711.

ADA Coordinator P.O. Box 1089 Panama City, FL 32402 Phone: 850-747-5338 Fax: (850) 747-5717 Hearing Impaired: Dial 711 Email: ADARequest@jud14.fcourts.org F0902212 December 12, 19, 2013

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ama 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.

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WITNESS my hand and official seal of this Honorable Court, this 6th day of December, 2013.

Rebecca L. Norris Clerk of Circuit Court

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk December 12, 19, 2013

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Gulf County, Florida, will on the 16th day of January, 2014, at 11:00 o'clock A.M., EST, at Gulf County Court-house Lobby, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida in accordance with Chapter 45, F.S., offer for sale and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Gulf County, Florida, to wit:

A parcel of land lying in the Southwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 5 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida; being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Northeast Corner of said Southwest Quarter; thence North 89°23'55" West along the North line of said Southwest Quarter a distance of 989.51 feet, to the centerline of a 66 foot road easement; thence South 16°05'37" East along said road easement a distance of 1,600.00 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continue South 16°05'37" East along said road easement a distance of 5 feet; thence run North 89°29'55" West, a distance of 678.25 feet to the Intracoastal Waterway right-of-way as recorded in Foreign Records Book 1, Pages 87 through 107 of the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida; thence continue North 89°29'55" West a distance of 158 feet more or less to the approximate waters edge; thence Northerly along the waters edge a distance of 105 feet more or less to a point on a line parallel with and 105.00 feet Northerly from the previously described course, as measured along said right-of-way line of the Intracoastal Waterway; thence South 89°29'55" East a distance of 159 feet more or less to said right-of-way line of the Intracoastal Waterway; thence continue South 89°29'55" East a distance of 678.25 feet; thence South 16°05'37" East a distance of 100.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Property address: 285 Whipoorwill Lane, Port Saint Joe, Florida 32456.

In addition, we offer: Performance/Incentive Based Pay Scale Friendly Team Environment Supportive & Motivating Staff to help you succeed Positive, Professional, and Upbeat work environment We promote from within!

Please submit resume and cover letter to lgrimes@pcnh.com. EOE, Drug-free workplace

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pursuant to the Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in a case pending in said Court, the style and case number of which is set forth above.

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.

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Rebecca L. Norris Clerk of Circuit Court

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk December 12, 19, 2013

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Rebecca L. Norris Clerk of Circuit Court

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk December 12, 19, 2013

GARAGE/YARD SALES 3230

NEW TODAY!
PSJ: 2106 Juniper Ave Near Elementary School Sat Dec 14th 8am - 12pm
Multi Family Garage Sale
Come Rain or Shine! Furniture, Tools, Lots of Misc, Something For Everyone.
Text FL74865 to 56654

GUNS 3240

NEW TODAY!
GUN SHOW
Tallahassee NORTH FLORIDA FAIRGROUNDS
December 14th & 15th SAT. 9-5 & SUN. 10-4
FREE PARKING
Info: (407) 275-7233 floridaGUNshows.com Text FL74739 to 56654

HELP WANTED 4100

4100 - Help Wanted
4130 - Employment Information

HELP WANTED 4100

Legal

LEGAL SECRETARY

Busy law firm seeking legal secretary. Send resumes to: PO Box 692, Panama City, FL 32402.
Web ID#: 34274888

HELP WANTED 4100

Medical/Health

RN's

Join the rewarding field of correctional nursing! You'll find autonomy, variety, stability and flexibility in this ambulatory setting. Corizon has positions available at Franklin Correctional Facility in Carrabelle, FL. We are currently looking for Full Time, Part Time and PRN RN's. Call to learn why correctional nursing could be the refreshing change you need!
We offer competitive pay plus an excellent benefit package that includes generous paid days off and so much more!
For more info, contact: Tracy Mazuranc 1-800-222-8215 x9553 tracy.mazuranc@corizonhealth.com or Quick Apply online (under the job opportunities link). www.corizonhealth.com EOE/AAP/DTR

Experienced Waitress/Cashier

Positive Attitude a Must!
Submit Resume to: PO Box 172 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 4516517

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT 6100-6200

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6120 - Beach Rentals
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6140 - House Rentals
6150 - Roommate Wanted
6160 - Rooms for Rent
6170 - Mobile Home/Lot
6180 - Out-of-Town Rentals
6190 - Timeshare Rentals
6200 - Vacation Rentals

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS 6100

FOR LEASE: Convenient Store with Gas station. Bay County, Great Location! Will be branded Chevron. Available very soon. Major investment required. Serious inquiries only. Ware Oil & Supply Company. 850-584-6666 ext 407

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

Charming 1BR Garage Apt. 907 1/2 Monument Avenue, PSJ. \$535 month. MUST CALL for APPT. 850-227-7234

Call To Place An Ad In Classifieds. 747-5020

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

Wewa 2BD/1Ba in Small Park \$400/mo + \$ 4 0 0 / D e p 850-639-5721

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

Immaculate 1 br, 1 ba 65x11 Mobile Home for rent. Open floor plan. \$500 firm. Non-smoker. 1 or 2 People. Includes a large pole barn with a covered patio area. Walking distance to Hiland View Boat ramp Call 954-815-1696

RENOVATED

Immaculate 1 br, 1 ba 65x11 Mobile Home for rent. Open floor plan. \$500 firm. Non-smoker. 1 or 2 People. Includes a large pole barn with a covered patio area. Walking distance to Hiland View Boat ramp Call 954-815-1696

TRUCKS 8130

Chevrolet S-10 1995. Short bed. High miles but in excellent shape. Four new tires. Needs nothing. 28mpg, 5 spd. \$1100 850-731-1288

CAMPERS & TRAVEL TRAILERS 8330

Cape San Blas 39' Park Model Qn Bed, Full Size Fridge, Washer/Dryer, Full Size Commode, 4-burner stove and awning 2 slide outs, asking \$15,000 Please Call (305)793-3935

MOTORHOMES 8340

Daymon 97" 30Ft, 28K miles, Generator, Etc. Good Condition. \$10,000 obo Call 850-899-2425 Text FL73161 to 56654

HELP WANTED 4100

HELP WANTED 4100

HELP WANTED 4100

HOUSE RENTALS 6140

NEW TODAY!
Port St. Joe 3br, 2ba, C/H/A nice yard. \$650 month \$450 deposit no Pets. 850-227-6216 Text FL74221 to 56654

MOBILE HOME/LOT RENTALS 6170

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