



Love connection at St. Vincent, **A6**

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50¢

Port adds another potential customer

By **TIM CROFT**
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A path to dredging equals an increase in interest in the Port of Port St. Joe.

Any interest in developing the port, in turn, will hinge on a path to dredging the federally-authorized shipping channel.

That was the message from Jorge Gonzalez, senior vice president at the St. Joe

Company last week to the Port Authority board.

And as the work on a dredge permit application moves ahead the number of inquiries to utilize the port grows, the latest announced last week by Port Authority chair Leonard Costin.

In a letter from the Holland M. Ware Charitable Foundation, trustee Brenda Thueson stated the Foundation's interest in shipping aggregate, rock, through

the Port of Port St. Joe via the Apalachicola Northern Railroad.

In addition, the Foundation would wish to ship back to Georgia sand located on both sides of the Apalachicola Northern Railroad.

The Foundation owns 10 miles of frontage along the rail line and operates a sand mine in Franklin County for its cement business.

Further, Thueson said the Foundation was inter-

ested in exploring the potential for shipping its wood to be turned into pellets at the Cottondale plant of Green Circle Energy, which has a Letter of Intent with the St. Joe Company to ship pellets through the Port of Port St. Joe.

The Green Circle LOI, as with the announcement from the Holland M. Ware Foundation, the first of its kind with the Port St. Joe Port Authority,

is linked to the completion of channel dredging within the next 18-24 months.

Another key component of the interest from the Foundation is state commitments on improvement to the Apalachicola Northern Railroad.

A state appropriation of \$5 million for improvements to the railroad has been approved.

In her letter, Thueson stated the Foundation an-

ticipates shipping at least 1.5 million tons of rock and sand per year through the port.

"The Port Authority's number one priority is to create jobs for the region," Costin said. "This letter from Holland M. Ware Charitable Foundation demonstrates a growing commitment by businesses to use the port and AN Railway, helping

See **PORT A3**

DAWGS IN PRISON



WES LOCHER | The Star

Each canine in the DAWGS program receives around the clock care from a group of 4-5 inmates.

DAWGS in prison graduates class 30

By **WES LOCHER**
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With more than 317 dogs trained and adopted to good homes, these are anything but dog days for the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society.

The Developing Adoptable Dogs with Good Sociability (DAWGS) in Prison program, based at the Gulf Forestry Camp, graduated its 30th class last week and brought to 17 the number of states the program has placed dogs in "forever" homes.

The dogs are chosen by St. Joseph Bay Humane Society director Melody Townsend and DAWGS program co-director Sandi Christy.

Together Townsend and Christy identify dogs that need some extra work on social skills to keep them from being at risk.

Of the latest class consisting of eight pups, seven were spoken for and one would be sticking around for some additional training.

While one canine was headed to Pennsylvania, the rest would be remaining in Florida.

Walter, a golden retriever was going home with Phillip Ramsey of Panama City.

Ramsey's previous pup passed away and once he decided it was time to get another, he made an appointment to meet with the dogs that would be headed into the program.

As soon as he met Walter, the deal was sealed.

"He was everything I was looking for," said Ramsey of his new pal. "He's such a sweet dog. The entire process took 4-5

See **DAWGS A3**

Butler sentenced to 28 years for murder

By **WES LOCHER**
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Three weeks after being convicted of second-degree murder by a Gulf County jury Walt Butler was sentenced to 28 years with the Florida Department of Corrections last week.

Butler was convicted at the end of a four-day trial in the July 2012 shooting death of Everett Gant, who Butler shot in the head with a .22

rifle after a day of drinking. Gant had gone to Butler's home to discuss ongoing issues with Butler's use of racial epithets in the Pine Ridge Apartment complex the two lived in.

Butler had originally been charged with a second-degree murder with a hate crime enhancement, but the jury did not convict him of committing a hate crime.

"I've put quite a bit of thought and consideration into the sentence," said Circuit Court Judge John Fishel.

Prior to delivery of the sentence, Butler's public defender Mark Sims pushed for a 25-year sentence, the

See **BUTLER A3**



WALT BUTLER

Cape residents urge BOCC to re-engage on lighthouse

By **TIM CROFT**
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Give the city of Port St. Joe an option out.

The members of the Lighthouse Committee of the Coastal Community Association (CCA) on Tuesday pressed the Board of County Commissioners to engage again in the discussion about the relocation of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse.

Citing the lack of tangible progress in saving the lighthouse by relocating it into the city, Julia Cunningham, Pat Hardman and Betty McNeill asked county

commissioners to write a letter saying the county was willing to take over the project.

In short, the BOCC would reassert what it said early this year after the city was awarded the deed for the lighthouse and ancillary buildings by the federal government a year ago - that the BOCC would cooperate in the city's efforts but was willing to take on the task if need be.

The members of the CCA said that time had arrived.

"I think the clock is running out and there are several insurmountable obstacles that we think will prevent the city from mov-

ing the lighthouse," Cunningham said.

Those factors include the cost of the move.

City staff submitted a request for over \$900,000 to the county RESTORE Committee for consideration of the relocation of the lighthouse as a project to be funded by BP fine dollars.

There is no clear path to that money, Cunningham noted, and while she said the city had done a good job of fundraising - a \$325,000 state appropriation, \$25,000 from Duke Energy and roughly \$40,000 through a Save the Lighthouse cam-

See **COUNTY A3**



FILE PHOTO

Cape residents urged the BOCC this week to become involved again in the Cape San Blas Lighthouse relocation effort. The lighthouse must be moved because of coastal erosion.

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Florida's first lady promotes literacy at Port St. Joe Elementary

By WES LOCHER
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Port St. Joe Elementary School received a special guest last week in the form of Ann Scott, wife of Florida's Gov. Rick Scott.

Florida's first lady visited the school as part of her Summer Literacy Tour, which had Scott visiting with students across the state.

"It's wonderful that she's building awareness for reading," said PSJES Principal Sue Gannon. "We're kind of removed in our location and it's nice to bring political figures to the community to show kids how accessible and real they are."

Scott spent time with Shelly Oliver's first-grade class and read the books, "Pete the Cat and his Magic Sunglasses" and "Do Dinosaurs say Merry Christmas?"

Scott engaged the students with plenty of interaction and told them it was important to have a positive outlook on life.

She asked each student what they wanted to be when they grew up and offered words of encouragement and praised the class for their positivity.

"I loved school," said Scott. "English was my best subject."

After completing the books, she took questions and talked about her experience as the first lady.

"I'm truly honored and humbled to be here with you," Scott told the students. "I love everything I get to do. It's very special."

Scott was welcomed to Port St. Joe Elementary by Gannon and Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton.

"Port St. Joe Elementary has been an A school year in and year out for the last decade," said Norton. "It's an honor for the school district anytime we have the governor or first lady visit."

The Summer Literacy Tour program brings together education leaders and volunteers to promote the importance of literacy. Thousands of volunteers across the state will spend extra time reading to children in classrooms.

The initiative supports partnerships between state and local agencies, community organizations and schools while encouraging students to read each day.

"To have her come here is an honor and the attention is welcome," said Norton. "It makes the school and the district stand out."



WES LOCHER | The Star

Florida's first lady Ann Scott visited Port St. Joe Elementary to promote literacy in schools.



Scott read two children's books to Shelly Oliver's first grade class.



After reading, Scott took questions from the students and discussed her experience as Florida's first lady.

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SETTING IT STRAIGHT

In a story in last week's Star pertaining to the resignation of Mexico Beach City Councilman Lanny Howell, his last name was incorrectly spelled Hall in the opening paragraph. The Star regrets the error.

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The Bridge at Bay St Joe's innovative approach to dementia care

Special to The Star

Alzheimer's disease is already a sizeable problem in the United States, and it's only getting larger.

An estimated 5.2 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's in 2013, and it is the sixth leading cause of death in the nation. The number of U.S. deaths attributed to the disease rose 68 percent between the years 2000 and 2010, according to statistics from the Alzheimer's Association.

While there isn't currently a cure for the disease, research efforts are ongoing. But there are ways to treat and curb the symptoms associated with Alzheimer's, several of which Signature HealthCARE employs at its facilities.

After conducting a considerable amount of its own research, Signature's Serenity Healthcare division, which specializes in Alzheimer's and dementia care, has launched its 12 'Serenity Innovations,' a unique series of processes, procedures and treatment methods.

One of the Innovations, the 'Multi-Sensory Room,' utilizes a combination of lighting, sounds, aromatherapy and more, appealing to all five of the user's senses. The goal is to overcome cognitive disabilities related to dementia by promoting changes in brain chemistry, creating a soothing effect that serves to decrease agitation, increase attention span and help the user communicate more effectively.

Another of the Innovations, 'Life History,' is a data collection tool and process that documents a resident's or patient's preferred method of performing certain tasks or activities such as their sleep cycle, bathing preferences and hobbies. Activities learned early in life are typically the last memories lost by Alzheimer's patients, meaning this affords them some sense of normalcy until they reach the later stages of the progressive disease.

"The slow decline suffered by those with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia is a painful process to experience or watch," said Ron Reid, CEO/Administrator at The Bridge at Bay St Joe. "As caregivers, we feel it is our responsibility to not only meet their immediate physical needs, but to approach care holistically, which means also tending to mental and emotional needs. The 12 Serenity Innovations are a means of enhancing quality of life, providing comfort, and promoting safety and wellness for individuals who suffer from these disorders."

For a list and short video demonstrating each of the 12 Serenity Innovations, visit Signature HealthCARE's YouTube channel.

Signature HealthCARE is a provider of long-term care, rehabilitation and health care services in the Eastern and Southeastern United States, operating 87 locations. For more about Signatures, visit LTCrevolution.com.

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THE PORT ST. JOE STAR

PORT from page A1

create jobs in several counties in Northwest Florida.

"We now need to ensure the funding is secured to make the necessary infrastructure improvements so we can bring these businesses and jobs to our region."

The Holland M. Ware Foundation owns approximately 100,000 acres around Port St. Joe.

Holland M. Ware, its Hogsansville, Georgia founder, was named in 2010 the largest private landowner east of the Mississippi River and

owns St. Regis Paper, Co., Inc.

"With our large acreages from Georgia through Florida and our granite, sand and timber holdings, we have an even greater interest in the revitalization of the Port of Port St. Joe as we discuss the potential of having a port that accommodates heavy bulk cargo operational by the end of 2014 combined with the understood commitment from the State of Florida to build railroad access," Thueson wrote in her letter.

The Port Authority, through Gulf County Economic Development Alliance, Inc., president Guerry Magidson, also announced another potential client that has been code-named Project Ship, a lumber/timber business seeking to ship to the Caribbean.

"We just need an operational port and an operational railroad," said Magidson.

That, Gonzalez said, is the focus for the St. Joe Company, stating that any absence by the company from Port Authority meet-

ings should not be construed as not indicating the company's current full-court press.

"There are a lot of parties interested in the port," Gonzalez said. "They would like to see some path to progress on dredging. That is the consensus."

The company, as Gonzalez noted, has tentative agreements with Green Circle and another energy company to ship through the Port of Port St. Joe provided the channel is dredged by the end of 2014, early 2015 at

the latest.

The company, Gonzalez said, is lobbying hard the case for dredging of the ship channel.

What those who would fund that dredging work — particularly the Florida Department of Transportation and the Office of the Governor — want to see is that path, Gonzalez said, with potential for customers and community support.

The rail improvement grant is in limbo, in part, as the state assesses the potential for and tangible

progress in dredging and the development of the port.

The dredging permit work continues, Tommy Pitts of Hatch Mott MacDonald reported last week. The timeline remains to have the application submitted and approved in the next four to five months.

The key would then be funding, which is a major wish list item for local officials as the Florida Legislature prepares to begin committee meetings next month.

DAWGS from page A1

weeks but it gave me time to buy cages and food."

Another graduate, Alva, went home with Kurt and Delania Robinson, also of Panama City.

Their daughters, ages five and 10, had asked for a dog for Christmas, so the parents took them to the Humane Society and let them pick out the next member of the family.

The Robinsons spoke highly of their experience adopting through DAWGS and said that they enjoyed receiving photos and videos of Alva as she went through the training process.

"The girls didn't want to go to school today, if that tells you how excited they are," laughed Kurt.

Sandy and Robert Voss of Calhoun County were on hand to adopt Ziva.

Sandy said that she heard about the DAWGS program on Facebook and kept an eye on it for a year before she and her husband decided that it was time to add another pet to the family.

They jumped at the chance to work with the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society and the program.

"The shelter is amazing," said Sandy. "Why would you go any other way to adopt a dog? It's the only shelter I've ever been to where my heart didn't break."

The Voss' brought their current dog to the interview where it got to interact with Ziva, giving its sniff of approval.

The DAWGS program has been in



WES LOCHER | The Star

Program director Sandi Christy congratulates the dogs and inmates for their hard work during the graduation ceremony.

existence for 4.5 years and during the eight-week program each canine receives around the clock care with more than 5,000 hours of training per dog.

"For one person to do that, it would take years," said Major Neal Mercer with the Florida Department of Corrections during his welcome speech. "You're not just getting a dog. It's a whole lot more than that."

The DAWGS initiative also aims to return inmates to society as productive individuals.

More than 320 inmates have been accepted into the application program. They begin as caretakers for the pups and with dedication and determination they move

up to higher roles with more responsibility that includes trainer and lead trainer.

Inmates have gone on to use skills learned in DAWGS to work with animals in shelters, humane societies and veterinarian offices.

During the graduation ceremony, program director Christy told each dog's story. She praised the inmates who participated in the program for the patience, persistence and teamwork they show with each new class.

"Trainers have to be calm and confident because the dogs take the energy," said Christy. "I'm so proud of the job that the trainers have done. They take an animal and help it reach its full potential and adopters are richly rewarded with a new family member."

Officer Kyra Burch, the new Program Coordinator with the Department of Corrections gave out the Top Dog award to Ramsey's new best friend Walter. The award is bestowed on the canine that showed the most progress during training and the most promise for the future.

Ramsey gave both the trainers and his dog a standing ovation.

After the graduation ceremony concluded, trainers gave the new pet owners the basics of feeding and crating their new four-legged friends. A list of commands and a training DVD was also given to each adopter.

"I'm proud to be part of this life-changing experience," Burch said.

BUTLER from page A1

lowest possible for a felony which carries a maximum life sentence.

Sims told Fishel that Butler was 60-years-old and with a 25-year sentence there would be hope that he might be released and be free to see his kids.

State's Attorney Robert Sombathy pushed for the maximum sentence of life in prison.

"The 25-year minimum might be a life sentence for you," Fishel told Butler. "You never know when it's time for someone to go."

Before the sentence was read, Butler asked to address the court.

He apologized to the Gant family. Butler said that he too had lost a son and knew how hard it was.

"I liked Everett a lot," said Butler. "I want to make it perfectly clear that I didn't intentionally kill the boy."

Sombathy spoke on behalf of the Gant's father, who opted not to attend the sentencing.

According to Sombathy, Everett told his father that Butler had racist sensibilities, but that Everett planned to win him over with kindness.

Butler will be credited with the 501 days he already spent in the Gulf County Jail.

Sims requested that Butler be kept as close to Gulf County as possible due to the proximity of family.

Sims said that he plans to file a notice of appeal for the sentence within 30 days.

COUNTY from page A1

paign — the dollars secured fell well short of what was needed.

She expressed concern the city might be able to pull off the lighthouse move while leaving the ancillary buildings behind, destroying the integrity of the lighthouse complex.

Further, Cunningham said roadwork on State 30A will prevent the lighthouse from being moved over land until mid-2015. A proposal to move the lighthouse and buildings by barge has gone nowhere.

City commissioners received two bids on the relocation but threw both out at the request of Mayor Mel Magidson, who said he believed the contractors were ill-equipped and lacked the knowledge to move the lighthouse.

The city is now bidding the relocation in two phases — one to move the lighthouse, the other to move the two keepers' quarters and oil house. Those bids are to be received next month.

The city has also let out a bid to have the lighthouse lens removed and restored. The lens is owned by the Coast Guard.

But, Cunningham noted, the city's second extension of a deadline to move the lighthouse from the federal government expires in mid-January.

The CCA proposes, as a fair number of residents in the county support, to move the lighthouse to Salinas Park, two miles down the cape from the current lighthouse location.

"All the original reasons (to move the lighthouse to

Salinas Park) remain in play," Cunningham said, including historic integrity.

She said the state appropriation — which must be spent during the current fiscal year or it could be lost — and current donations combined with pledges from those who want the lighthouse to remain on Cape San Blas, where it has stood for more than 150 years, would push the CCA close to the fiscal goal.

Hardman lauded the city's efforts to date and noted the county was in no position to provide any funding.

But she said after a year the city has raised barely a third of what the city originally requested from the RESTORE Committee.

"The city has spent a lot man-hours and money on

this," Hardman said, adding that the city had other fish to fry, such as the quality of drinking water. "You might find there are a lot of citizens who might be interested in having the county take this project back."

Hardman said the CCA would need to raise another \$100,000 or so to facilitate the move to Salinas Park.

Hardman also said the move itself to the city would prove problematic. The owner of Gulf 2 Bay Construction, Hardman said the lighthouse, to be moved would require great care and the more it has to be moved, taken apart, repositioned, etc., would bring greater risk of damage.

"It is complex," Hardman said. "The thing weighs 120 tons. Any time you move that structure

there is a risk."

The short relocation to Salinas Park would be far safer, she added.

"It needs to stay on the cape to maintain the historical significance of the lighthouse," said Betty McNeill, a vocal opponent of the move from the outset. "The county really needs to retain ownership. I want the county to assume responsibility."

That, Commissioner Warren Yeager said, would also present obstacles.

The federal government has deeded the lighthouse to the city. The city would have to give up the deed. The state appropriation was bestowed on the city. Those dollars, along with those raised during the Save the Lighthouse campaign, would have to be

transferred to the county.

Yeager also noted the BOCC's position when the federal government deeded the lighthouse to the city: the county would support the city's efforts as it could.

"I'd love to have the lighthouse at Salinas Park," Yeager said. "But what are you asking this board to do?"

The outcome, approved 4-1 with Commissioner Joanna Bryan dissenting, was a letter to the city saying the county was willing to take over if the city desired to abandon the project while reaffirming support, where possible, for the city's efforts.

Bryan said she would prefer county staff sit down with Port St. Joe staff and provide an update on the city's position before writing a formal letter.



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- 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
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- 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.

Letter to the EDITOR

MB residents shortchanged

Dear Editor,
At the end of the Dec. 4 Mexico Beach city council pre-agenda workshop, council member Lanny Howell announced his resignation from the council, effective Jan. 1. The following week, at the Dec. 10 regular Mexico Beach city council meeting, Mayor Al Cathey announced that the council would hold a special meeting following the Jan. 8 pre-agenda workshop and the four remaining council members would vote to fill Mr. Howell's vacancy.

Mr. Howell was re-elected just seven months ago. He barely won the April election, and was not sworn in for his new term until June. Now he has suddenly resigned, leaving almost all of his two-year term - 15 months, to be exact - to be filled not by the voters in Mexico Beach, but by only four people - the remaining council members.

People in Mexico Beach are so desperate for a change in the city council that, as of last Friday, eight people have submitted letters of interest in the vacant seat. That alone shows just how much the residents want to be involved. In fact, in the 12 years I've lived here, that's more than twice the number of people running for any given seat under any circumstances.

But here's what's happening:

Mr. Cathey called for this special meeting during the holidays, knowing full well that many interested residents will be out of town and unaware of what's happening. He's pulled this stunt before: pushing through something important during the holidays while so many residents are gone. The decision to fill the vacancy must be made within 30 days of the effective date of resignation, which means a decision must be made by Jan. 30 - so what's the rush, Mr. Cathey? The city council has made more than one major decision over the past six years with just four members of the council present, so running the January workshops and regular city council meeting with four is not a problem.

Mr. Cathey called for a special meeting that will not be televised so no one other than those attending the meeting will see how this candidate is selected, what the reasoning - if any - is behind the individual council members' choices, what opposition to candidates there are, and what public comments are

made, if any are allowed.

Residents who do attend the Jan. 8 special meeting may or may not have the opportunity to speak out, or speak for, one candidate over another. We have had a great deal of experience with Mr. Cathey denying us time at the podium in meetings when he doesn't like our opposition to his wishes.

By pushing for a vote on Jan. 8, Mr. Cathey is blocking any opportunity for there to be a workshop at which all candidates can answer questions from the residents and present any qualifications they might have. This eliminates the residents from having any say in the selection of an "elected" official who will be making decisions for the town for almost the entire two-year term - and that "elected" official will have gained the post without having to explain anything to the people. That's Mexico Beach's idea of "elected."

Instead of only Al Cathey, Jack Mullen, Bobby Pollock and Tanya Castro making such an important decision for residents, why don't residents go someplace neutral - like the bar at the El Governor Motel, and mark a roster of applicants? The candidates so far are: Jeff Tendler, Mary Blackburn (both of whom ran against incumbents in the April election and garnered between 48 and 49 percent of the vote); Gary Woodham, Gary Gibbs, Diana Epple, Tom Bailey, Al Wilson and Jim McKenna.

The roster can have a list of candidates' names, and residents can just place an "x" or a check by his/her favored person. Then the resident should sign a separate sheet, not by his mark, but just to confirm he or she is an eligible Mexico Beach voter. No one will know who each person favored, but a fairly accurate consensus of voters' choices will be recorded and given to the city council before they make their decision. This way, at least, residents will have some kind of say in this important decision that is usually settled by an actual election.

Barring that, I implore all Mexico Beach residents to bombard the four remaining council members with emails and phone calls, telling them in no uncertain terms who you want to fill this vacancy. If you want any kind of change to happen on the Mexico Beach city council, it needs to start here.

Lisa Logan
Mexico Beach resident

Sears And Roebuck Didn't Invent Christmas!

The first word in Christmas is Christ. Even the most agnostic and skeptical among us will admit that. Some grudgingly so... but it is, for those that don't believe in such, an absolute.

is the birthday of Jesus. And it is a worldwide celebration. You can say "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings" or "Roll Yule Tide" if you want to. The Coca Cola people can put a picture of a polar bear instead of a Nativity Scene on the side of their cans. You can spray paint "Xmas" on your store front window. We can tout Santa Claus to the roof tops. We can build snowmen and deck the hall with boughs of holly. We can secularize it, we can regionalize it, we can spoof it, Grinch it, party around it, kiss your best friend under the mistletoe or put on those outlandish green and red sweaters and sing "dashing through the snow" till it's time to move on to New Year's. But you can not ignore that it is the birthday of Jesus Christ!

Oh, you can play like you are looking the other way. You can concentrate on that perfect gift for your sweetheart. You can wax eloquently over the secret eggnog recipe handed down from your grandmother. You can bypass the Christmas pageants and church cantatas. You can step lightly around the true meaning so as not to create a scene

or be confronted by the aforementioned agnostics. But you really know. They all really know! IT IS the birthday of Jesus Christ!

For some reason that I can't fathom many don't like that. I say to them tough Frankincense. It is not the birthday of Buddha, Mohammed, Joseph Smith, Martin Luther, Billy Graham or the Reverend Sun Myung Moon. I'm not preaching here, apostatizing, criticizing, condemning, trying to sway opinion or forcing my religious views on you. I'm simply stating a fact. I'm not against your group. Or anybody's belief. I'm not mad or "trying to be heard". I'm simply saying that Christmas came about as a celebration of the birth of Jesus.

A lot of newspapers in today's world won't print this story. They will print murder, chaos, mayhem, strife, war, pestilence, soap opera entanglements and advice columns galore. But most in the professional news media today avoid the Prince of Peace, the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, the Bright and Morning Star, the very Reason for the Season...like He is bringing the bubonic plague or something. I don't see the threat or danger here that keeps so many lips buttoned.

And oh, by the way, this newspaper is not responsible, accountable or liable for anything that I might write down here. They cover the stories

they deem newsworthy and they leave me pretty much to my own devices. I am "soul-ly" answerable for today's article.

I think a lot of this undermining of the true Spirit of the Christmas season centers around "political correctness". For some reason it has become fashionable to bow to this unseen contingent who determines what might be "sensitive" or "offensive" to certain groups, races, ideologies or thought processes. Listen carefully here, I wouldn't knowingly offend the least of my brothers for anything on earth. I wouldn't purposely embarrass, harass, judge or expose one single person, group or nationality. But come on now, we've about let this "political correctness" thing get a little out of hand.

And don't you dare tell me Christmas has become politically incorrect! Walking into a movie theater and shooting scores of people is politically incorrect. Dropping the unwanted new born baby in the trashcan is politically incorrect. Neighboring countries warring on each other to beat the band is politically incorrect. Parents who push the responsibility of raising their children off on TV, iPads, school teachers or detention center officers is political incorrect. Elected officials who look you right in the eye and lie to you is politically incorrect. Walking right by, without a smile and a kind word for, that young teenager who

is struggling so mightily with life and searching so desperately for the right answers, is politically incorrect.

Political correctness might ought to start with rendering unto Caesar what is Caesar's...and unto God what is God's.

When I was a boy I loved the Red Ryder gloves, the BB gun and the Timex watch. But I knew, even at a young age, that was not what Christmas was really all about. My parents sacrificed to give me that watch. Money was always short. Daddy, taking a cue from the Heavenly Hosts, gave us more than he had. You can't swoosh that under the table...you can't play like that didn't happen...you can't live long enough to explain to me the politically incorrectness of that! Daddy taught us the story of the second chapter of Luke better than any preacher I've ever heard...without reading a word!

As we stood in that small living room, in front of a fairly simple decorated tree, unwrapping gifts and celebrating the moment Mom would always work in her favorite truism, "We wouldn't be here if He hadn't been there!"

It is the birthday of Jesus, plain and simple. Let's honor it by holding down the clamor of politically correctness and trivial infighting, and start sharing more of the peace on earth and good will toward each other.

Merry CHRISTmas,
Kes



HUNKER DOWN
Kesley Colbert



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
BN Heard

'The Most Wonderful Time of the Year'

When Andy Williams sings that song, you just want to smell real Christmas trees, drink eggnog and straddle a beam in the attic. The beam in the attic reference is related to the time (or times) I felt the need to straddle a beam and let my legs dangle through two holes in the ceiling.

It happens. It did to me - once, maybe twice. The fellows who come to fix the ceiling always ask the same thing, "Been getting your Christmas decorations down have you?"

I love the song, but honestly I prefer Andy singing Moon River.

Have you ever noticed the reference in the song to "telling scary ghost stories?" It kind of puzzles me, but then again some movies like "A Christmas Carol" and the most recent version of the "Grinch" are a little scary.

Why would you want to be scared at Christmas?

If you are like me, the day after Thanksgiving you starting fiddling with your radio trying to find all the stations playing favorite holiday songs. It's Christmas to me, but I realize some folks have other things they celebrate.

What do I always want to hear?

With my Mama being gone, I have to hear Elvis Presley sing "Blue Christmas." Country music legend, Ernest Tubb sang it a number of years before Elvis, but this is one time I will give Elvis the nod over Ernest Tubb.

It is kind of a sad

Christmas song, but it's still Christmas and it's very Elvis. By "Very Elvis" it just seems like it goes with his voice and being a little sad and missing folks. I can still see the album cover.

Mama always moved the stacks of stuff off of the console record player at Christmas so we could play records all the time. I loved it.

The other night, my daughter brought my record player into the kitchen to stay for the holidays. There is just something about listening to Christmas music on a record player that makes everything right. Honestly, in my case, I'm sure it's my memories of my Mama.

You can't have Christmas without Mel Tormé's "The Christmas Song." I prefer Nat King Cole singing it. After many years of listening to this song, I finally broke down and figured out how to roast chestnuts.

I am not going to give Martha Stewart any competition, but I will say that I enjoy them. If you try this at home, let me warn you - you can cut a finger off. An important part of roasting chestnuts is cutting into them with a sharp knife.

There are a couple of schools of thought on cutting the chestnuts. One is that you cut an "x," the other is that you cut a "y." Having taught college algebra for many years, I think that you can be successful solving for x or y. That is just my opinion and I will not be showing up on any of the

If you are like me, the day after Thanksgiving you starting fiddling with your radio trying to find all the stations playing favorite holiday songs. It's Christmas to me, but I realize some folks have other things they celebrate.

Food Network's cooking competitions any time soon.

When surfing around the radio dial, I absolutely must find Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" and I want Bing Crosby to be singing it. It makes me think of the movie "Holiday Inn" which was made in 1942 and it still shown many times on television during the holiday.

I love the movie. How can you not? Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire and Virginia Dale. Ms. Dale (born Virginia Paxton) was a pretty lady. She was a Top Five Finalist in the 1937 Miss America Pageant. Her younger sister, "Joey" was runner-up in the 1941 Miss America Pageant.

What else? José Feliciano singing "Feliz Navidad." I never get the Spanish words right, but I love hearing it and singing along. Again, I know the Christmas album cover from 50 yards away and I still have Mama's copy. It is a beautiful song and memory.

Gene Autry has to sing "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." When he does, I have to tell everyone how "Rudolph" paid for the American League's Angels baseball team in California. It did. Gene made so much money that

he bought a baseball team.

I never know what the Angels name is from year to year, it's been the Los Angeles Angels, the California Angels, the Anaheim Angels and now I think it may be the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

All I know is that Gene could sing that song like nobody else (and it pretty much paid for a baseball team). Yes, I know he made a lot of cowboy movies.

My favorite? Everybody knows what my favorite Christmas song is...

"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" by my cousin Brenda Lee. Yes, she's a second or third cousin, but we are related. At least that's what Mama said and Mama didn't lie to me.

So if you are at the mall, your local Christmas parade or just driving in your car and hear my cousin singing, you have to say, "that's the Tractor Guy's cousin."

Later we'll have some pumpkin pie, and we'll do some caroling.

(That's my cousin singing that song.)

Find more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.



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Santa's helpers assemble bikes for GCSO Children's Christmas

Star Staff Report

Volunteers from the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department, St. Joseph Bay Golf Club and

members of the Coastal Community Association had fun last week playing Santa's Helpers, putting together the bikes and trikes that have been donated

to the Sheriff's Children's Christmas drive. More than a dozen volunteers made quick work and were like Santa, in and out as quick as a wink.

The drive continued through last weekend with the Jingle Bell Golf Tournament. Call the club for more information or just come by and drop off a toy.

Volunteers needed for Christmas dinner

Star Staff Reports

The Christmas Dinner committee is asking for kind, caring and dedicated volunteers to come to the Oak Grove Church on Christmas Eve. The preparation starts 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.

WIG sponsors Christmas dinners

The Washington Improvement Group will be serving the dinners prepared at the Oak Grove Church by the wonderful gathering of volunteers. The dinner will be served by Regina and Don Washabaugh along with Tamlyn Smith. Please call 229-1641 to sign up for the dinner. The WIG and Oak Grove church are co-sponsoring this dinner.

Special thanks to Christmas Day dinner sponsors

Special to The Star

A special thanks is sent out to those sponsors of the upcoming Christmas Dinner for the needy of Gulf County.

Those sponsors include the Port St. Joe Lions Club, Duren's Piggly Wiggly, Oak Grove Church, Hannon Insurance, First United Methodist Church and Men's Club, St. Joseph's Catholic Church and Men's Group, Rich and Liz Brenner, Dan and Gayle Moon, Sacred Heart Hospital Dietary Department, Prophet Billy Dixon, Sunset Coastal Grill, John C. Gainous VFW Post 10069, Bob Sutton, and the Washington Improvement Group Community Action Center.



VFW, American Legion donate to GCSO Christmas program

Special to The Star

The VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the American Legion Post 116 recently presented toys for the Gulf County Christmas Program sponsored by the Gulf County Sheriff's Office and Oak Grove Church. Shown from left

are Carolyn Groleau and Nancy Calendine presenting toys to Margaret Mathis of the Gulf County Sheriff's Office.



Lions Club donates to Christmas Wishes

Special to The Star

The Port St. Joe Lions Club had its annual Christmas Dinner on Dec. 12 at the Sunset Coastal Grill. The long-time supporters of the great community and beyond are shown presenting the gifts that were donated by the Lions Club members to the Gulf County Sheriff's Office's Christmas Wishes program.

Shown delivering toys is Jim Norton, president of the Port St. Joe Lions Club. Accepting the toys and bicycles are Sheriff Mike Harrison, Margaret

Mathis, Jerry Stokoe and Jim Gainnie. The Lions Club and the GCSO want to thank the owner and staff of the Sunset Coastal Grill, Mrs. Patti Blalock, for helping store and display all of these toys that were brought in to her restaurant. The children receiving these toys on Christmas will be very happy thanks to the generosity and concern for all of the boys and girls in Gulf County. The Oak Grove Church members and volunteers will assist in delivering these toys and bicycles.

Golf Club, SCGVFD, others donate to Christmas Wishes



Special to The Star

Melissa Larsen of the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department; Sheriff Michael Harrison; Pat Hardman, co-chairman of the Christmas Bazaar and Jingle Bell Golf Tourney; Barb Van Treese, co-chairman; Dan Van Treese, St. Joseph Bay Golf Club President; and Nick Vacco of SCGVFD sit on a few of the many bikes and in front of some of the toys raised for the Sheriff's

Office Christmas Wishes program for Gulf County children in need while Hardman hands the sheriff a check for funds raised. Thanks to the efforts of these individuals, generous donors, Gulf 2 Bay Construction, the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club, the Gulf County Tourist Development Council, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office and the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department, Christmas will be a lot brighter for many Gulf County children.



A potential love connection on St. Vincent Island

By TIM CROFT
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Red wolves are a critically endangered species and researchers are hoping the recent introduction of a young male red wolf on St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge will assist in adding to the numbers.

A three-and-a-half year old healthy male red wolf was recently flown to St. Vincent by the Wolf Conservation Center (WCC), according to a release from the center.

The goal is to introduce the wolf to a potential mate on the remote barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico, which has long had a red wolf preservation program.

Born at the WCC, the new male wolf is one of five captive red wolves living at the center as part of its participation in the Species Survival Plan (SSP) for the critically endangered species.

Currently, less than 100 live in the wild, all of them in North Carolina's Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, while fewer than 200 are in captivity.

The male wolf was selected to be paired with one of the females currently living on St. Vincent because of his genetic profile.

"He's the best breeding match for her in the SSP program in terms of diversity," said Rebecca Bose, WCC curator. "It's kind of like online dating except based



almost exclusively on genetics. And of course the stakes – the survival of a species – are much higher."

The wolf was in essence a trade-out of another wolf that was from the Tallahassee Museum but did not mate after introduction to St. Vincent.

"This is like an early Christmas present for St. Vincent Island," said Trish Petrie of the Friends of St. Vincent Na-

tional Wildlife Refuge. "(Refuge manager) Shelly (Stiaes) is so excited."

It is vital that a healthy number of red wolves be maintained in the wild and captivity, especially since the species has literally come under fire recently, according to the WCC.

Nine wild red wolves have been illegally shot this year, six of them this fall.

While the public can visit St.

Vincent National Wildlife Refuge, access and usage are limited, so the pair should be free of any human threats.

The WCC partnered with Lighthawk, a nonprofit aviation organization devoted to environmental protection, to fly the potential Romeo to the refuge to meet his potential Juliet, who is currently one of two wolves living on the island.

The other wolf, a female,

along with the male from Tallahassee she failed to breed with will be flown back to the WCC to live with a new potential mate.

The new red wolf at St. Vincent Island has educated online viewers of the WCC's videos and webcams since he was a playful pup, but is now assuming his most important role.

"We're excited for him because he'll get to roam around a new territory with his partner and hopefully have pups. He'll be living life the way a wolf should," said Maggie Howell, the WCC's Executive Director. "This is precisely why we participate in the SSP program."

While the young male wolf, identified by researchers by his number M1804, may no longer be under the care of the WCC, the center plans to help keep tabs on him by sponsoring his radio collar so that scientists can track his movements to gain valuable insights into his behavior.

There's no way to predict whether the pairing will be a love connection, but it might not take long to find out, according to the WCC.

Wolves only breed in the winter, with pups born in the spring, so the wolf's island sojourn may prove fruitful in just a few months.

And if no love connection? "Well, at least he'll get to enjoy warmer weather than we do," Bose said. "And there's always next breeding season. Some-

Tram tours at the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve

Special to The Star

There's a new program – just announced – at St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve. Beginning in January on the First Friday of each month (except July and October) Buffer Staff will host Tram Tours for the public. The tour lets you explore the uplands with an experienced guide and provides opportunities to observe the diverse communities present at the Buffer. Tour time is 9-11 a.m. ET departing from the Welcome Center parking lot. Join us to learn about the history and importance of the Buffer Preserve to St. Joseph Bay.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Dec. 19	74°	56°	0 %
Fri, Dec. 20	75°	61°	30 %
Sat, Dec. 21	77°	57°	40 %
Sun, Dec. 22	75°	50°	40 %
Mon, Dec. 23	64°	43°	- %
Tues, Dec. 24	63°	43°	- %
Wed, Dec. 25	63°	42°	- %

TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

Cat Point	High	Low
	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:

Bald Point	High	Low
	Minus 9:16	Minus 0:03

ST. JOSEPH BAY

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
19	Th	1005pm	1.3	753am	-0.4
20	Fr	1036pm	1.1	818am	-0.4
21	Sa	1107pm	1.0	838am	-0.3
22	Su	1132pm	0.8	853am	-0.2
23	Mo	1119pm	0.7	858am	-0.1
24	Tu	601pm	0.6	847am	0.0
25	We	524pm	0.8	805am	0.1
26	Th	525pm	0.9	415am	0.1
27	Fr	545pm	1.1	315am	-0.2
28	Sa	617pm	1.3	348am	-0.4

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
19	Th	149am	2.2	506pm	1.9
20	Fr	233am	2.1	527pm	1.9
21	Sa	319am	1.9	550pm	1.9
22	Su	409am	1.8	615pm	1.9
23	Mo	506am	1.6	643pm	1.9
24	Tu	614am	1.4	713pm	2.1
25	We	738am	1.3	746pm	2.1
26	Th	925am	1.1	821pm	2.1
27	Fr	1128am	1.3	901pm	2.2
28	Sa	116pm	1.4	945pm	2.2

Sponsor the WEEKLY ALMANAC
Call Today! **653-8868**

Buds N Bugs: Bald Eagles

The Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is the largest raptor in North America.

It is a sea eagle or ern. It feeds mainly on fish and is found near large bodies of water. It nests in old growth trees. They are scavengers as well as hunters and a large part of their diet is dead fish.

This is the only eagle unique to North America. The Bald Eagle is both the national bird and national animal of the United States of America. It appears on the national seal.

In the late 20th century, it was on the brink of extinction in the US.

There is a widely held belief that DDT contamination of fish led to the bald eagle's demise. While pesticides were part of the problem, bald eagles had virtually disappeared from New England by 1937, almost a decade before

DDT came into common use. In a report issued by US Fish and Wildlife in 1978, the reduction in the eagle population is attributed to loss of habitat due to development and illegal shooting.

It's a dirty secret that, before they were protected by the 1940 Bald Eagle Protection Act the birds were considered a nuisance.

Hunters, farmers and fishermen routinely shot them.

In any case, the rebound of this magnificent bird is a tremendous success story.

The species was removed from the U.S. federal government's list of endangered species on July 12, 1995 and transferred to the list of threatened species. It was removed from the List of Endangered and



BUDS 'N' BUGS
Lois Swoboda



VINCE BISHOP | Special to The Star

A bald eagle snatches a mullet from the surf on Cape San Blas.

Threatened Wildlife in the Lower 48 States on June 28, 2007.

A bald eagle can lift up to four pounds, or about half its own weight. The skeleton of an adult eagle weighs about eight ounces and is less than ten percent of the total weight.

An eagle's eye is almost as large as a human's, but they see about four times as well and a human being with perfect vision.

Eagles do not sweat and must pant or find shade to remain cool their body temperature is about 106 degrees Fahrenheit.

An eagle can live up to 30 years in the wild but the average life expectancy is 14.

Many fledgling eagles die on their first flight.

Bald eagles figure prominently in American Indian legends. It is leader, a guardian and

a messenger from the creator.

One says the eagle had very poor vision until it convinced the slug to lend his eyes so the bird could scout for enemy tribes from the air. When the danger was over, the eagle refused to return the slug's eyes.

In most Native cultures, eagles are considered medicine birds with impressive magical powers. They are important in the religious ceremonies of many tribes. The Zunis carve stone eagle fetiches for protection and to enhance their hunting skills. The Eagle Dance is one of the most important traditional dances held by the Hopi and other Pueblo tribes. Among Pacific Northwest tribes, eagle down is a symbol of peace and hospitality.

FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



As we near Christmas, not many anglers have fishing on their minds. Good days can still be had fishing the I.C.W. canal in St. Joe. Good reports of smaller trout and redfish have been constant here for a week or so. Try fishing the creek mouths and deeper holes for more productive fishing here. Local are beaches are a haven for new anglers coming to the area from up north. Whiting catches are making up most of the action with an occasional bull redfish.

Down 4, Tiger Sharks split 2

By **TIM CROFT**
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With four players suspended after a scrum at Sneads earlier this month, the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School boys' basketball team split a pair of games last weekend.

The four players were suspended for leaving the bench after a loose ball in front of the Sneads bench caused some players to exchange words and pushes.

The four players were suspended, as were three from Sneads, for two games by the Florida High School Athletics Association for unsportsmanlike conduct for leaving the bench onto the court of play.

Port St. Joe was also levied a \$500 fine and the program placed on proba-

tion for the remainder of the season.

"There really wasn't much to it; there were no punches thrown," said Port St. Joe coach Derek Kurnitsky. "But the rules are the rules, and you are not supposed to leave the bench."

With those four players suspended, the Tiger Sharks (5-2) lost last Friday night against South Walton 55-39.

South Walton was up 28-21 at the half and pushed the lead to 16 by the end of the third quarter.

Sergio Clemons led Port St. Joe with nine points and T.J. Williams had eight points.

Chad Quinn and Marquez Johnson scored seven points apiece, Tyrek Sims had four and Marcell Johnson three.

The following night, Port

St. Joe traveled to Franklin County and came away with a 46-43 win.

The game was a nail biter to the end, with the Tiger Sharks staking the final lead late in the fourth quarter.

"It was a good bounce-back win for us," Kurnitsky said. "We didn't play that well — in fact we did not play well at all — but we found a way to win."

Quinn led Port St. Joe with 13 points, and Williams and Marquez Johnson added 10 points apiece.

Clemons had 6 points and Caleb Odom 7.

The suspended players were back for Tuesday's game against Bozeman.

The Tiger Sharks play at the Marianna Christmas Tournament this weekend, playing Malone at 7 p.m. ET Friday and Cottondale at 7 p.m. ET Saturday.

Girls sweep, boys split district soccer matches

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School soccer programs each played two district matches last week with divergent results.

The Lady Tiger Sharks routed West Gadsden and beat Tallahassee John Paul II while the boys lost to the Panthers and beat John Paul II.

The girls are now 5-2-1 overall and 3-1-1 in District 1-1A.

The boys are 3-4-1 overall, 1-3-1 in district play.

WEST GADSDEN

The host Lady Tiger Sharks had their highest offensive output since their season-opener last Wednesday as they beat West Gadsden 8-0 under the mercy rule.

Coach Gary Hindley said liberal substitution allowed all 16 players who dressed to play, "to gain valuable minutes of playing time."

Port St. Joe jumped out with six goals in the opening half.

Forward Christian Laine had two unassisted goals, and Lexie McGhee, Kathleen Rish, Rebecca Kerigan and Janel Kerigan netted a goal apiece.

For the Kerigan sisters, it was their first high school goals.

Defender Brittany Shoemaker had the lone assist of the half.

In the second half, defender Rachel Douglas and Halleigh Keels each had their first career high school goal.

Assists came from Allie Stripping and Christina LaPlante.

Goalkeeper Celeste Chiles, just an eighth-grader, recorded her third shutout, raising her record to 4-2-1 and lowering her goals-against average to 1.429 on the year.

She made one save as Port St. Joe outshot the Lady Panthers 21-1.

Hindley called West Gadsden a "very skillful" opponent for the Tiger Sharks, who fell to 3-1.

West Gadsden outshot the boys 15-5 and Drew Lacour's goal in the ninth minute was the lone score of the game for Port St. Joe.

Goalkeeper Tyler Alford made eight saves for Port St. Joe.

TALLAHASSEE JOHN PAUL II

Both teams took district wins against visiting John Paul last Friday, the Lady Tiger Sharks winning 3-1 and the boys following with a 3-0 victory.

McGhee scored her seventh goal of the season, unassisted, in the fourth minute to put Port St. Joe on top.

Senior forward Cat Robles made it 2-0 with an unassisted goal in the 12th minute and Rish added her team-leading 10th goal in the 39th minute to finish the Port St. Joe scoring.

Chiles got the win in goal while making four saves on six John Paul shots.

The Lady Sharks finished with 15 shots.

The Tiger Sharks, playing a sixth game without high-scoring forward Marcel Duarte (Port St. Joe is 2-3-1 in his absence), shut out John Paul.

"The boys played one of their most complete games of the year," Hindley said.

Alford had the shutout in goal (his first) as he faced eight shots and made seven saves. His goals-against average is now 2.556.

Sawyer Raffield and Cole Cryderman scored their first goals of the season and Lacour scored his team-leading sixth for Port St. Joe.

Duarte continues to nurse a hamstring problem and was joined on the sidelines Friday by midfielder Jacob Lacour, who sustained a shoulder injury and could be out the next four weeks.

A scheduled match with Franklin County was rained out last Saturday. The boys and girls are next at home at 5 p.m. ET Friday, Jan. 10, when the teams host South Walton.

GCEC donates to Wewa athletics

Special to The Star

On Dec. 10, Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative presented Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School with a \$2,500 donation to help fund three of its athletic programs.

Gulf County Superintendent Jim Norton along with Principal Lori Price, Athletic Director Dennis Kizziah, baseball coach Tony Muina, softball coach Kendra McDaniel and basketball coach Stuart Vines, accepted the check from Michael White.

It is difficult for a small community to raise the necessary funds to support its athletic programs. Through this donation, the boys' basketball program was able to purchase new uniforms for this season, and both the baseball and softball programs will be



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

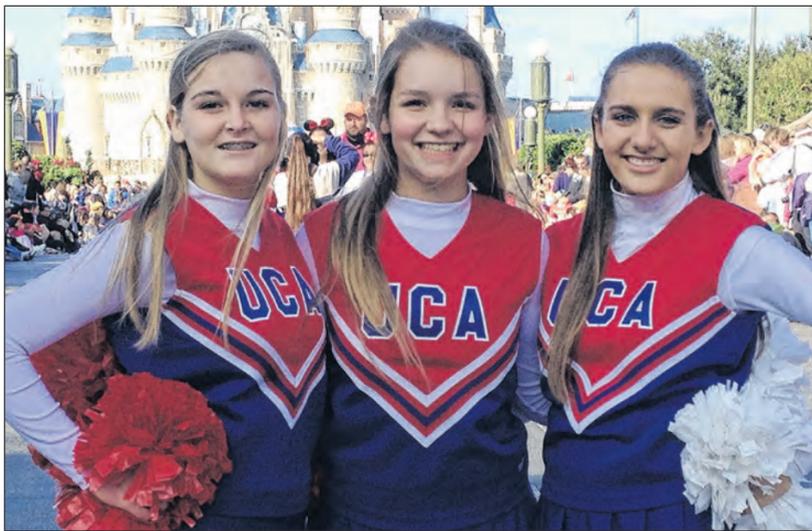
From left are Tony Muina, Jim Norton, Lori Price, Michael White, Dennis Kizziah, Kendra McDaniel and Stuart Vines.

able to purchase some much needed new equipment for their upcoming spring seasons.

Michael White, GCEC president, has always been a valued supporter of WHS and was a big contributor to the new scoreboard at

Gator Field last fall. He understands the complexity in continuing to raise the funds needed to support all the programs in a small rural area. He is very proud to be able to contribute the needs of the school and student-athletes.

LOCAL CHEERLEADERS PARTICIPATE IN DISNEY PARADE



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Hope Owens, Samantha Pitts and Ashton Childress, all students in Gulf County Schools, represented their junior varsity cheerleading squads in the UCA All-American Cheerleaders' Thanksgiving Day Tour in Disney World. They had the honor of performing in the Thanksgiving Day Parade with about 350 other cheerleaders from around the country. The girls were chosen to try out and were selected for UCA All American Cheerleader when they attended cheer camp this past summer. Ashton represented Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School JV cheerleaders and Hope and Samantha represented Wewahitchka High School JV cheerleaders.

Wanted: coaches, scorekeepers

Star Staff Report

This is the time of year when The Star needs the help of all those involved in athletics in the public schools.

With a small staff, it is impossible to attend every game during a season of multiple sports, boys and girls, and to borrow from the world of basketball and soccer, we need an assist.

That assist would be in

action, scores, individual totals, highlights, photos and records.

Every athlete participating in sports during the school year deserves and is entitled to the attention. They make the sacrifices of time, energy and dedication and represent our community in the best possible of lights.

Our staff attempts to get to what games we can to shoot photos, but the details of the contests, well

that is where we need the help.

The deadline for each week is the end of business on Monday. Coaches, delegate or take it as part of your challenge to give as many of those athletes' recognition as possible.

Fax results to 227-7212, or better still, email tcroft@starfl.com or call 227-7827 and help us make this Sports page a reflection of the effort of our county's athletes.

WE SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIVERSITY



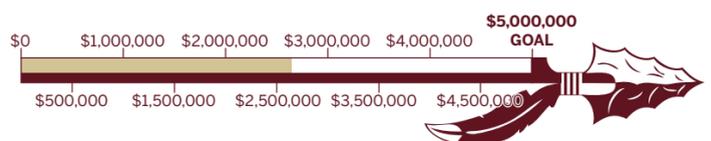
Pictured: Bernard Jacob, chairman, Gulf Power Foundation; John Ed McDaniel, district manager, Gulf Power Company; Stan Connally, president/CEO, Gulf Power Company.

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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PANAMA CITY

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

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.

DAR collects gifts for veterans

Special to The Star

Members of the St. Joseph Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution collected Christmas gifts for Veterans at the November meeting. Vice Regent Fran Walters presented them at the Clifford Chester Sims State Veterans Nursing Center in Panama City.

The DAR annual Christmas Tea was held Dec. 18 in the home of Dawn Ford.

American Legion Post 116 regular meeting

Special to The Star

There will be a regular general meeting of American Legion Post 116 at 4 p.m. ET Friday. The meeting will be held at VFW Post 10069, Trout Avenue, Highland View. This will be a general business meeting. All members are urged to attend this important meeting.

Eligibility for Membership and Benefits can be found on the American Legion Website: www.legion.org. We invite all eligible veterans to join our organization. For God and Country.

MEXICO BEACH HOLIDAY SANITATION SCHEDULE

Star Staff Report

The City of Mexico Beach will observe the following schedule for Sanitation services.

WEEK OF DEC. 23 – DEC. 27:

- Monday, Regular garbage pick up
- Tuesday, Holiday
- No garbage pick up
- Wednesday, Holiday
- No garbage pick up
- Thursday, Regular garbage pick up
- Friday, Regular garbage pick up

Selecting, caring for Christmas poinsettias

With the Christmas season drawing near, it's time to think of festive decorations and gift giving. As the poinsettia is one of the most popular Christmas potted plants, you might want to consider the purchase of one for your home or as a gift. The following facts about poinsettias will help you to choose a healthy plant that will retain its colorful bracts for several weeks.



ROY LEE CARTER
County extension director

The colorful part of the poinsettia is the modified leaves known as bracts. The actual flowers are yellow, found in tight clusters, and are relatively inconspicuous. There are single and double bracts in red, pink, white and variegated. When selecting your poinsettias, look for a compact plant with large colorful bracts and dark green leaves. The leaves should be present from the bracts to the base of plant, nearly to the soil line. The bracts should extend over the lower foliage. Plants with true flowers that have fallen out should be avoided as this is an indication of maturity. If the flowers are producing pollen the bracts will be fading soon and the useful display life has passed.

If you receive a poinsettia as a gift, the following steps will be helpful in maintaining an attractive and healthy plant. If kept indoors, the plant should be placed in a sunny location protected from sudden temperature changes caused by heating vents or drafts. Poinsettias need day temperatures between 70 and 75 degrees F and night temperatures of no less than 60 degrees F. Temperatures of 50 degrees F and below may cause the leaves to wilt and the bracts to drop.

When the soil feels dry to the touch the plant should be watered thoroughly. Watering

correctly is very important as the plant will not tolerate over-watering and under-watering causes wilting and leaf drop. If a decorative foil is wrapped around the pot, punch a hole in it to allow the water to drain away.

After four to six weeks the poinsettia will become dormant and leaves will fall leaving only a stem to shrivel. Place the plant in a cool location allowing some light.

In our area, poinsettias are best used as potted plants as they may freeze in the ground.

In the spring, the plant should be cut back four to six inches above the soil line. If you decide to use your poinsettia as a shrub in the landscape, after the danger of frost has past. Dig a hole one foot wider and six inches deeper than the root ball and back fill the hole with enough soil so that the plant will be sitting in the hole at the same height as it was in the container. Water thoroughly to remove air pockets. By placing mulch around the plant you will conserve moisture and help control weeds. The plant should be fertilized every four to six weeks.

The tips of the new growth should be pinched so that the plant remains compact. Repeat this procedure until the middle of August. Poinsettias will not bloom indoor if lights are used during the night when the flower buds are forming. The plants should receive only 8 hours of light per day from Oct. 1 to Nov. 15. This can be accomplished by placing the plant in a dark room or covering it with a cardboard box. Discontinue treatment when bracts begin to show color. By Thanksgiving the bracts should show color, and by Christmas they should be in full bloom.

Following these steps can afford you an attractive, flowering poinsettia for each holiday season.

For more information on Poinsettia Production contact the Gulf County Extension Service @ 639-3200 or visit our website: <http://gulf.ifas.ufl.edu> or [www.http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu) and see Publication ENH 1083 and SL 212.



Buying plants for Christmas gifts

Plants make excellent gifts, and there's probably someone on your Christmas list who would enjoy receiving a plant this Christmas. A healthy, vigorous plant is always a welcome addition, both in the home and in the landscape. My information was provided by Dr. Robert Black Professor Emeritus, University of Florida.

When you go to a nursery to buy plants, you can't assume that all the plants are equal in quality, or have an equal chance for survival. Plants are available in a wide range of conditions, grades and standards.

Generally speaking, the better a plant is, the more expensive it will be. But that isn't a hard and fast rule. Sometimes you can find a nursery which offers top quality plants at low prices. The important thing is to be able to determine what to quality is.

If you visit a nursery which tags plants according to the standards of the Florida Division of Plant Industry, determining quality will be much easier. A Florida fancy is an extremely healthy vigorous plant that is well-shaped with good strong branches and dense foliage. A Florida number one is a healthy vigorous plant with a good shape and good supply of leaves. A Florida number two is a healthy plant that is fairly well shaped with a fair amount of leaves. All other plants are labeled number three. These are your cheapest plants with the poorest chances of survival.

If your nursery doesn't classify plants this way, or if you buy gift plants from a supermarket, discount store or similar outlet, you'll need to be able to identify vigorous, healthy plants on your own.

Look for compact, rather than spindly plants. Compact plants are more desirable because of their abundance of foliage. A spindly plant without a good supply of leaves may be the victim of various leaf spot diseases or insect problems which have causes leaves to fall off. Make sure the leaves have good, uniform color. Check tips of leaves for brown or yellow discoloration. Inspect the trunk and branches to see that they are well-formed, without crack, peels or scars.

Carefully examine that plant for any signs of insect or disease problems. Some things to look for are speckling on the leaves which indicates spider mite injury, curled or distorted leaves from aphids, and small bumps on stems and undersides of leaves which indicate a scale problem.

Common disease problems show up in yellow or brown leaves, rotting stems, and brown roots.

Check the soil to make sure it has good color, and hasn't been too heavily compacted. Pick the plant up and check to make sure that roots aren't growing out from the bottom of the pot.

There are other things to consider which depend on where the plant if to be kept once you bring it home from the nursery. Make sure that the plant is suited to the climatic conditions of your area. If the plant is to be kept indoors, decide if it is going to need special lighting. If you think that the plant is going to be put in the landscape, make sure it is adaptable to yearly highs and lows in temperature. Your nurseryman should be able to help you in making these kinds of decision.

If you can follow these basic guidelines for selecting gift plants, your Christmas gift can be appreciated and enjoyed for many years to come.

For more information on buying plants for Christmas gifts contact the Gulf County Extension Service at 639-3200 or visit our website: gulf.ifas.ufl.edu.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Baby Lulu is one of 9 puppies that need a home. She is very playful and talkative. This sweet puppy also loves to cuddle. If you can give any one of these puppies a home do not hesitate to contact us. If you have considered gifting a pet for Christmas, please consider a pre-paid adoption certificate for the recipient.

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 towsend.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.

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

www.sjbhumane.org

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Marcia Knapke 227-7847

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SPECIAL TO THE STAR

LEFT: The third-grade students in Ms. Bailey's class were part of an nationwide campaign to get students interested in computer science. **RIGHT:** The third-graders in Mr. John Huff's class were among some 5 million students participating in the "Hour of Code."

Wewa Elementary third-graders participate in 'Hour of Code'

Star Staff Report

Getting students engaged in technology as early as possible is one of the goals of the "Hour of Code", a nationwide campaign held last week to enhance interest in computer sciences. The two third-grade

classrooms at Wewahitchka Elementary were among students participating.

The campaign was the brainchild of Hadi Partovi of Code.org who five months ago came up with a simple idea: get 10 million students to try one hour of computer science.

The movement grew such that the program received a Google Doodle, had every Apple retail store in America holding an "Hour of Code" workshop and the president and federal legislators on both sides of the aisle calling on every student to learn to program.

Fewer than 2.4 percent of college students graduate with a degree in computer science. Meanwhile, computer programming jobs are growing twice as fast as the national average, according to code.org.

As of last Thursday afternoon, students across the nation had

written 370 million lines of code. The goal was for five million students in 34,000 classrooms in 167 countries to participate in the first "Hour of Code" last week.

Included in those numbers and classrooms were the third-grade classrooms at Wewahitchka Elementary School.

DAZZLING DOLPHINS



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

From left: Lyndsey Butler, Gavin Lee, Trent Antley, Trevon Jenkins, Kensley Mathews, Zach McFarland and Dovud Kouljanov.

BLANKETS FOR THE RESCUE MISSION



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School Student Government Association is busy this Christmas season helping the needy. One of the many projects the organization is working on is their Blanket-Backpack project for the Panama City Rescue Mission.

FCS presents 'Hanging of the Greens'

Special to The Star



Faith Christian School extends a warm invitation to you and your family to attend the "Hanging of the Greens" presented by the students, faculty and staff.

This presentation teaches the history of the Christian traditions of Christmas passed down through the ages for our families and churches.

The service begins at 9:30 a.m. ET Thursday, Dec. 19 with a brunch to follow.

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DID YOU KNOW that studies show:

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

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

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9 am - 2pm

NOW, DID YOU KNOW?

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

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850-227-7070 | www.iversmd.com

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!



New Year's Week

Monday, December 30th by 2 pm



4514100

When it comes to SEER — the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio — of your home's heating and cooling system, the higher the number, the more efficient it runs. And that can mean big savings in energy bills.

Treat yourself to savings this holiday season and upgrade to a high-efficiency air-source, dual-fuel or geothermal heat pump!

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative has a Christmas gift for you that will make your purchase of a high-efficiency heat pump easier. We're offering as much as \$600 per ton in rebates to homeowners — saving you money in energy costs now and in the future. Visit www.gcec.com today for more details or call us at (850) 639-2216.

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative
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4516544



FAITH

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

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

Thursday, December 19, 2013

www.starfl.com

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Rice family Card of Thanks

Family and friends of Port St. Joe, thank you for all your prayers, heartfelt thoughts, offerings, meals, and love during this saddest, tragic, difficult time of our lives! Your kindness and thoughtfulness was very much appreciated and meant so very much!

Love,
The Rice Family

Live Nativity and Christmas Eve schedule

Special to The Star

First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe welcomes you to its annual from 6-7 p.m. ET Live Nativity on Friday and Saturday and a special

Live Nativity Service at 6 p.m. ET on Sunday.

On Christmas Eve, there will be two candlelight services at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. with a hot cocoa and cookie reception between the services at 6 p.m.



Obituaries

Henry Edward Hughes

Henry Edward Hughes, former 15-year resident of Mexico Beach, passed away Nov. 26 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Mr. Hughes was born in Atlanta, Ga. on July 21, 1917 to Emory and Janie Hughes. After completing Fulton High School, he attended Georgia Tech for two years and then graduated from John Marshall Law School, earning the degrees of LLB and LLM.

Mr. Hughes served three years in the United States Army during World War II. Upon completion of his military duties, he returned to Atlanta and was employed by Western Electric Company in 1937. He retired in 1980 with 43 years of service, with the further distinction of having never missed a day of work.

Mr. Hughes was married to Louise Gattis for 57 years until she passed away in 1996. In 1998 he married Elizabeth Woods Thompson of Mexico Beach, who passed away in

2007. He was also preceded in death by his son, Don R. Hughes, brother, Archie N. Hughes, and sister, Louise H. Bishop.

Mr. Hughes is survived by his son, Edward Hughes, Jr. (Kye) of Maryville, Tenn.; two daughters, Phyllis H. Stallings (Ronnie) of Huntersville, NC., and Donna H. Roberts (Pat) of Greenville, SC., and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Hughes is also survived by two step-children, Carol Rish of Port St. Joe, and Richard Thompson of Panama City, and their extended families.

A gathering for friends and family was held on Dec. 2 at Troutman Funeral Home, followed by a graveside service at St. Michaels Cemetery in Troutman, NC.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 225 Morgan St., Troutman, NC, 28166.

Jack V. Bogaert, 77, of Zolfo Springs, FL and formerly of Indianapolis, Indiana, passed away December 10, 2013.

Jack was born in Moline, Illinois to the late: Frank V. and Helen Gustus Bogaert. He attended Purdue University and graduated with his Bachelor's degree in engineering.

Jack worked as a Sales Representative for John M. Glass manufacturing for numerous years. Thirty four years ago, Jack met and fell in love with Sharon Judge at the Indianapolis Ski Club. They soon married. Over the years,

Jack and Sharon spent time traveling, including a trip to the Panama Canal and many visits across the miles to see children and grandchildren.

He was a family man, a loving husband, father and grandfather. Jack enjoyed spending time relaxing and fishing at his lake house on Lake Freeman, Indiana and always found time to take the grandkids fishing. Jack and Sharon began vacationing to Desoto County eight years ago and became full time residents in 2010.

Jack was a fun loving guy and enjoyed playing

golf, cards and being a handyman. Even throughout his 14-year battle with cancer, he always kept going, smiling and exuding pure positivity.

He was a member of the Foundry Men's Association and the Moose Club in Arcadia. He was of the Catholic faith but often attended Sunday services at Toby's RV Park. Jack is survived by his beloved wife, Sharon Bogaert, of Zolfo Springs, FL; sons, Steven (Nancy) Bogaert, of Frankfort, Illinois, David (Jennifer) Bogaert, of Port St. Joe, FL, Phil (Michelle) Hale, of Indianapolis,

Indiana; daughters, Barbara (Brian) Osborn, of Indianapolis, Indiana, Dana (Eyal) Tabib, of Cooper City, FL; sister, Barbara (Dan) VanTreese, of Port St. Joe, FL; grandchildren, Christopher, Joseph, Isabel and Joel Bogaert, Gabriella, Daniel and Samuel Tabib and Stephen Osborn.

A celebration of life service will be held at a future date. Arrangements have been entrusted to Ponger Kays Grady Funeral Home, Arcadia, FL. Online condolences can be made at <http://www.pongerkaysgrady.com>

Jack V. Bogaert

Robert Edward (Bubba) Williams

Bubba, 47 of Niceville, was born in Port St. Joe on December 13, 1965 to Robert (Willie) and Dorene Williams. He graduated from Wewahitchka High School in 1983.

He then earned his AA degree from Gulf Coast Community College where he played and coached basketball. He then moved on to Florida State University where he earned his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees while working with the women's basketball program.

Bubba had many titles in his life: friend, son, brother, teacher, coach, and businessman but the one he was most proud of was father. The joy of his life was his children. He was never more happy than when he was spending time with

them and they could always bring a smile to his face no matter where he was.

Bubba was preceded in death by his father, Robert E. (Willie) Williams; his mother, Dorene Dixon Robkin; and his grandmother, Nona (Maw Maw) Williams.

He is survived by his children, Robert Edward (Will) Williams III 14, Trey David Williams 8, Halle Grace Williams 4, and Rhys Alexander Williams 2; his fiancé Alica Marie Blocker; his grandfather, Robert E. (Paw Paw) Williams;

two siblings, sister Jessica Robkin-Ivins and husband James and brother, Kenneth Robkin, wife Claire and niece, Raphael; stepfather, Steven Robkin; two aunts, Beth Lyons and husband Cecil

Lyons, Jr., Pat Arata and husband Tom. He also had many loving cousins and wonderful friends.

Bubba or Coach Rob as many of his players and students knew him over the years touched many lives. He turned several struggling basketball programs around starting with Bay High but he was more proud of the impact he had on the kids' lives that played for him than he was of the win loss records. He showed these young men that with hard work and determination all of their dreams were possible. Later when he became a successful businessman he would say all the money in the world couldn't compare with feeling he got watching these young men go on to become successful

members of society and watching them raise their children using the discipline and ethics that he has taught them.

Honorary Pallbearers for the service were a group of his close friends: Donnie Cox, Darren Arnold, Chris Sexton, Mitchel Gay, Timothy Oliver, Gary Speights, Derek Delach, Jack Colinsworth, and Richard (Scoop) Jackson.

Graveside services were held Sunday, December 15 at Holly Hills Cemetery in Port St. Joe at 3 p.m. ET. Those who wish may make donations in his memory to the Bay High Basketball Boosters at Bay High School, 1200 Harrison Ave. Panama City FL 32401.

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

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

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

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

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PORT ST. JOE

1001 Constitution Dr.
850.227.1724
www.psjumc.org

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

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

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

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

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

Home of Faith Christian School
www.faithchristianpsj.net

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2420 Long Avenue • Port St. Joe, Florida 32456
(850) 229-9596

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

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

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

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

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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
Services Temporarily at Senior Citizens Center,
120 Library Drive
"An Unchanging Faith In A Changing World"

oak grove church

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

Schedule of Worship Services

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

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

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

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

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Nursery Provided
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SOUTHERLAND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME

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(850) 229-8111

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8:00 and 11:00 a.m. (EST) • Sunday School 9:45

www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org

Coastal Cabin opens in Port St. Joe

Special to The Star

Coastal Cabin began in Port St. Joe after we moved here from the north. It was obvious that our business slogan needed to be "where the water meets the woods"! Our love of the water and the woods has been the inspiration for our art and the design and construction of our furniture and home accessories. In the beginning, we were a participant at the Salt Air Farmers Market at the City Commons Park.

It grew to the extent that we rented space inside existing stores. We found the response so great that it was evident we were in need of our own store space. The home studio and workshop are a little quieter now, but the store is hopping with creativity, new craftsmen added and lots of new customers getting a chance to see our work and take a piece of it home with them. In our new location, we have added other artist's and collector's creations. You can find items for

your woodland cabin, your beach house cottage and everything in between here at Coastal Cabin! If you don't see it here...we can custom make it for you! Visit Coastal Cabin in the beautiful downtown Port St Joe shopping district at 310 Reid Avenue. Business hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. We are extending our business hours through the Christmas season, serving you on Monday too!



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The Gulf County Chamber of Commerce recently held a formal ribbon cutting for Coastal Cabin.

Name	Source	Flavor	Best used	Pair with
Cinnamon	Dried bark of the cinnamon tree	Pungently sweet	Dried sticks or ground powder	Breads, cakes, chicken, coffee, cookies, pork, spiced beverages, sweet potatoes, squash, tea, yogurt (often paired with allspice, cloves, and nutmeg)
Nutmeg	Seeds of the nutmeg tree	Warm, spicy, sweet	Freshly ground	Applesauce, baked goods, beverages, cheese dishes, cream dishes, desserts, ground meats, pies, sauces, soups, stews, and many vegetables
Ginger	Roots of the ginger plant	Mix of pepper and sweetness	Dried powder or freshly grated from root	Beets, beverages, breads, cakes, cheese dishes, chutneys, cookies, curries, dipping sauce, dressings, meat, poultry, soups, stews, and yellow vegetables
Cloves	Dried flower buds of the clove tree	Sweet or bittersweet	Dried and ground	Baked goods, beets, chili sauces, cookies, curries, fruit sauces/syrups, gingerbread, squash, and tomato sauces
Allspice	Dried unripe berry of the Pimenta dioica plant (a tropical evergreen tree)	Pungent and fragrant (ground allspice releases aromatic notes reminiscent of cinnamon, nutmeg, and cloves)	Dried, ground, and fresh leaves	Meats, jerk seasoning paste, marinades for chicken and pork, stews, roasts, soups, barbecue and tomato sauces, roasted vegetables, rice, applesauce, fruit compote, oatmeal cookies

SPICE up your holiday meals

Above are a few of the traditional holiday spices you may want to try this season

By MELANIE G. TAYLOR
UF/IFAS Gulf County Extension Agent II, Family & Consumer Sciences and 4-H

The holiday season is upon us, and that means many of us will be spending more time in the kitchen.

If you would like to make an impression with a less-than-ordinary meal, use traditional family dishes as a starting point for your special menu, then add seasonal spices to easy-to-prepare dishes to create a holiday feast that your family and friends will talk about for weeks.

Spices are native to warm, tropical climates and are obtained from roots, flowers, fruits, seeds, or bark. Adding "holiday" spices to your recipes will add just the right amount of Christmas charm along with a rich, warm flavor and aroma that enhances many dishes.

Spices do come with some health benefits. The greatest being that spices serve as flavorful alternatives to salt, fat, and sugar without adding any extra calories to meals. Instead of adding sugar to oatmeal, sweet potatoes, and desserts, try adding spices like cinnamon and allspice. For savory meals, replace salt with spices like black pepper, cumin, and dill seed. Try flavoring foods with spices instead of using breading, gravies, and sauces. Seasoning meats with spices and cooking them on the grill are healthy alternatives to frying and easy, flavorful ways to reduce fat intake. Adopting changes like these can help reduce sodium, fat, and sugar in your diet.

How long will these spices last in your kitchen? Dried spices never actually spoil, but their flavor and aroma fade over time. They should be stored in a cool, dry place in tight containers and away from heat. When cooking, keep the container away from steaming pots to avoid

exposure to moisture. Ground spices, such as paprika, cinnamon, and nutmeg, can be kept for 2-3 years. Cinnamon sticks, peppercorns, and any other whole spices can be used for up to 5 years.

Always use small amounts to start with when adding spices. When adding spices to foods that are served cold, it is important to refrigerate the food for a few hours to ensure that the flavors of the spices are well absorbed.

Now you know using spices is a great way to reduce sodium, sugar, and fat in your diet while adding bold new flavors. It's a good idea to plan your meals before going to the grocery store so that you know which spices you will need. Use the advice above to keep seasonings fresh and flavorful. The examples listed above are just a snapshot of possible uses, so be creative! Follow these tips, and you will spice up your cooking in no time.

For more information visit the UF/IFAS

MULLED HOLIDAY TEA

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 quarts simmering water
 - 3 red fruit tea bags
 - 3 regular tea bags
 - 1 orange, cut in quarters and studded with 4 whole cloves
 - 1 lemon, cut in quarters
 - 1/2 cup fresh cranberries
 - 2 cinnamon sticks
- DIRECTIONS:**
1. Simmer water in a large pot on the stove.
 2. Add all ingredients and turn the heat to low.
 3. Heat for a few minutes until the tea is steeped.
 4. Remove the tea bags.
 5. Serve hot to your guests.

Serves 12. Each 1 cup serving: 2 calories, 0g fat, 0g saturated fat, 0g trans-fat, 0mg cholesterol, 10mg sodium, 0g carbohydrate, 0g fiber, 0g sugars, 0g protein

Extension - Electronic Data Information Source (EDIS) website at edis.ifas.ufl.edu (document FSHN13-030), or contact the UF/IFAS Gulf County Extension Office at 639-3200.

SOURCE: Information was collected from document FSHN13-03,

one of a series of the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Original publication date April 2013. Visit the EDIS website at edis.ifas.ufl.edu.



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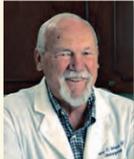
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Happy, Healthy Holidays

By THE STAFF AT MYGULFCARE
Special to The Star

Wow, what a thought! We spend so much time stressing over the right gifts, the right foods, the right decorations and all the "right" things to make our holidays happy that we sometimes end up not so happy after all. We forget to focus on the things that help us feel right, such as eating healthy, exercising, relaxing and spending time with our loved ones. There are some things you can do to make sure you don't wreck your holidays.

First, make a list and check it twice. Santa has the right idea about that! Plan ahead before going shopping for gifts, groceries, decorations or other holiday items. Know where you're going, what you're purchasing and what quantity you need. If last year's lights still work and all you need is a few spare bulbs, you may save yourself some money and a headache or two.

Planning the meal in advance for a holiday gathering allows you to let others help in preparation. Most families have favorite meals that include at least a few healthy choices, and recipes can be adapted to be healthier. Planning ahead gives everyone a chance to contribute, and allows the host and hostess to spend a little less time in the kitchen. There are a few Web sites devoted to helping adapt recipes to be gluten-free, sugar-free, low-carbohydrate, and other dietary considerations.

Next, avoid the urge to "not do" those things you usually do for yourself, like going for a walk, going to the gym or relaxing with a good book. The gift of time is one of the most treasured gifts you will give this season. Start by giving yourself time to stay focused, stay relaxed and stay healthy. You will find it easier to avoid stress, anxiety and emotional eating if you spend those few minutes each day taking care of you. Besides, who else is going to do it?

Give gifts that reflect your thoughtfulness. Focus on the person, what they mean to you and what you enjoy sharing with them. Skip the fancy shoes and costly purses in favor of that handmade picture frame with a picture of the famous shopping trip when something silly happened. Or, how about a photo album with several special pictures that you know will make them smile?

Don't deprive yourself. It's not time to be worried about losing weight. Instead, try not to gain. Chances are if you deprive yourself of every treat you usually would have enjoyed, you will end up giving in and binging on them later. Be sensible, and enjoy within reason. Keeping healthy snacks like baby carrots, cut-up fruit, or celery around and ready to eat makes the healthy choice just as easy and convenient as the not-so-healthy one.

When it's all said and done, the holidays should be a happy memory, not an unhealthy nightmare.



PHOTOS BY WES LOCHER | The Star

Estate Jewelry and Loan is now open at 401 Reid Ave. It's the first jewelry store to open in Port St. Joe since the 1970s.

New jewelry store offers more than pawn

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

It's been an uphill battle for Reid Avenue's newest business.

Estate Jewelry and Loan has opened its doors on Reid after months of construction and remodeling.

Lit up for the holidays and open late during the Christmas on the Coast celebration, the jewelry store has a spacious and well-lit aesthetic, despite long months of the windows being covered in brown paper.

After months of preparation, owner Nicholas DiLallo said he was happy to finally open his store.

"We've gotten a lot of positive feedback," said DiLallo. "People seem to like the idea of having a real jewelry store."

DiLallo's jewelry store came under scrutiny when he went before city commissioners in August seeking a pawn license be approved.

DiLallo, who recently moved to Port St. Joe from Miami with his wife, Theresa, has worked in pawn shops nearly his entire life, and though his primary goal was to open a jewelry store, he also wanted to provide loan services to the community.

Hesitant to bring pawn services to downtown, DiLallo's initial request for the license was tabled and Mayor Mel Magidson encouraged local merchants to speak with DiLallo about his plans for the store and to go see the building he had purchased.

"What we're doing shouldn't be a mystery," said DiLallo.

DiLallo said that he wanted his family and business to be part of the community and was happy to have other merchants weigh in. After receiving zero negative feedback toward his plans, the pawn license was approved without additional conversation and DiLallo's business continued as planned.

"Pawn is not our main



ABOVE: Owners Nicholas and Theresa DiLallo moved to Port St. Joe in August from Miami. **LEFT:** The store offers jewelry and hard-to-find collectibles that include sports memorabilia, bronzes and paintings.

business," said DiLallo. "It's hard times and sometimes people need a couple of bucks to get through."

"We're happy to help people who need help when they need it."

The shop, situated next door to Joseph's Cottage is focused on jewelry and hard-to-find collectibles that include sports memorabilia, bronzes and paintings.

DiLallo believes that his store should be a stop on anyone's holiday shopping trip.

"We have jewelry from \$10 and up," said DiLallo. "You'll find a great Christmas present here."

In order to welcome members of the community through his

doors, DiLallo has kept later business hours and he and Theresa said they were pleased with the amount of traffic that has come through.

During the Christmas on the Coast celebration, the mayor even visited to officially welcome the DiLallos to the community.

"People seem happy to see us," said Theresa. "There hasn't been a jewelry store in Port St. Joe since the '70s. We're here for everyone and we want everyone to feel welcome."

DiLallo and his wife, Theresa, vacationed to Gulf County three times a year for the last eight years. Like many visitors to the

area, they fell in love with the beaches, weather and a community that was smaller and tightly knit.

Over the summer the couple relocated to Gulf County and officially completed the process of becoming residents.

"We've taken all our assets from Miami. I'm not an out-of-towner anymore!" laughed DiLallo.

DiLallo said that he has joined the Chamber of Commerce and a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held in the near future.

Estate Jewelry and Loan is located at 401 Reid Ave in Port St. Joe.

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93304S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY CASE NO. 2012-195CA

EMERALD COAST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,

vs. VERTIS HYSMITH, Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 26, 2013 and entered in Civil Case No. 2012-195-CA of the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida, in and for GULF County, wherein EMERALD COAST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, is Plaintiff and VERTIS HYSMITH, is Defendant, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at the front door of the Gulf County Courthouse in Port St. Joe,

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Florida, at 11:00 A.M., ET on the 9th day of January, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment.

EXHIBIT "A"

Commence at the Northeast corner of Section 10, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida; and thence run South 00 degrees 00 minutes 33 seconds East along the East boundary line of said Section 10, a distance of 619.47 feet; thence run South 89 degrees 59 minutes 27 seconds West, 1071.76 feet to the Northeast corner of said Section 10, right-of-way boundary of Creekview Drive; thence run along said right-of-way boundary as follows: North 48 degrees 11 minutes 52 seconds West, 482.94 feet to a re-rod; thence North 58 degrees 24 minutes 03 seconds West, 40.00 feet to a re-rod for the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning, continue North 58 degrees 24 minutes 03 seconds West, 282.50 feet to a re-rod; thence leaving said right-of-way boundary, run North 01 degrees 13 minutes 21 seconds East, 541.89 feet to the center of Stone Mill Creek; thence run along the center of said creek as follows: South 65 degrees 17 minutes 03 seconds East, 58.92 feet; thence South 83 degrees 45 minutes 02 seconds East, 33.59 feet; thence South 32 degrees 57 minutes 17 seconds East, 47.24 feet; thence North 66 degrees 41 minutes 52 seconds East, 63.96 feet; thence South 72

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degrees 58 minutes 35 seconds East, 52.04 feet; thence South 14 degrees 12 minutes 23 seconds West, 86.09 feet; thence South 85 degrees 40 minutes 09 seconds East, 63.05 feet; thence North 37 degrees 32 minutes 59 seconds East, 52.34 feet; thence South 86 degrees 33 minutes 07 seconds East, 82.64 feet; thence South 01 degrees 41 minutes 26 seconds East, 64.60 feet; thence South 16 degrees 57 minutes 07 seconds East, 43.75 feet; thence South 66 degrees 14 minutes 46 seconds East, 44.91 feet; thence North 39 degrees 23 minutes 55 seconds East, 44.04 feet; thence North 26 degrees 13 minutes 09 seconds West, 56.63 feet; thence North 48 degrees 26 minutes 26 seconds East, 33.34 feet; thence South 40 degrees 01 minutes 01 seconds East, 83.46 feet; thence South 63 degrees 44 minutes 48 seconds East, 61.83 feet; thence South 09 degrees 03 minutes 52 seconds West, 22.64 feet; thence South 41 degrees 00 minutes 02 seconds West, 39.14 feet; thence South 06 degrees 15 minutes 06 seconds East, 48.30 feet; thence leaving the center of said creek, run South 41 degrees 48 minutes 08 seconds West, 508.56 feet to the Point of Beginning.

TOGETHER WITH a 1999 GRAN Mobile Home Identification Number GAGMTS06325

DATED this 2nd day of December, 2013.

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REBECCA NORIS CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

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

93328S NOTICE TO SELL

Notice is hereby given that Bayou Storage, pursuant to FS83.806, will dispose of or offer for sale after December 26, 2013, the miscellaneous items belonging to the following tenant: MANUELLA MARTINEZ Unit #204. Storage unit contents may be redeemed by owner prior to December 26, 2013, for cash only. Pub: Dec 12, 19, 2013

96627S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Marilyn Schmacker the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 561 Application No. 2013-52 Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010 R.E. No: 02428-000R

Description of Property: COMMENCE at the SE. Corner of Lot 59, Block "K" Alderson's Addition, according to the Plat thereof on file in Plat Book 1, Page 1, in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida, thence

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run East (Bearing Base) along the North right of way line of Henry Avenue for 290 feet; thence North 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds East for 157.75 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence continue North 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds East for 157.75 feet, to the Southern right of way line of Chipola Avenue (River Road), thence North 88 Degrees 19 Minutes 07 Seconds East along said right of way line for 130.00 feet; thence South 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds West for 157.50 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Name in which assessed: Vera Mae Armstrong

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida, at 11:00 AM, E.T., Wednesday, the 8th day of January, 2014. Dated this 3rd day of December, 2013.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013

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96629S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Marilyn Schmacker the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 514 Application No. 2013-51 Date of Issuance: May 25, 2011 R.E. No: 02428-050R

Description of Property: COMMENCE at the SE. Corner of Lot 59, Block "K" Alderson's Addition, according to the Plat thereof on file in Plat Book 1, Page 1, in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County, Florida, thence run East (Bearing Base) along the North right of way line of Henry Avenue for 290 feet; thence North 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds East for 315.50 feet to the Southern right of way line of Chipola Avenue (River Avenue); thence North 88 Degrees 19 Minutes 07 Seconds East along said right of way line for 130.00 feet for the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence continue North 88 Degrees 19 Minutes 07 Seconds East, along said right of way line 115.08 feet; thence South 00 Degrees 06 Minutes 06 Seconds West for 157.50 feet; thence

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West for 115.00 feet, thence North 157.50 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Name in which assessed: Steve Brinkmeier & Christine Brinkmeier

All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM, E.T., Wednesday, the 8th day of January, 2014. Dated this 3rd day of December, 2013.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013

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Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. The name and address of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of

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the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the decedent's estate must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is December 12, 2013.

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Personal Representative: Charles E. Burt 6831 Hillsboro Rd. Bonne Terre, MO 63628

Attorney for Personal Representative: Charles A. Costin FL Bar No. 699070 P O Box 98 Port St. Joe, FL 32457 Tel: (850)-227-1159 email: ccostin@costinlaw.com December 12, 19, 2013

96707S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, CIVIL DIVISION Case No: 23-2012-CA-000008 Division: Civil Division

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC Plaintiff,

vs. ASHLEY N. BRYAN A/K/A ASHLEY BRYAN, et al. Defendant(s),

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 COURTHOUSE, 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: ADARquest@jud14.flcourts. 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/tam December 12, 19, 2013

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 ADDI-

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TION TO THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED BOOK 13, 1982 IN PLAT BOOK 13, 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: ADARquest@jud14.flcourts.org F09022212 December 12, 19, 2013

96775S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2012-000274-CA

AMERICAN BANK, FSB, Plaintiff,

vs. JAMES W. NAUS; BARBARA NAUS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE is hereby

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- Communicates and advocates the company's vision for a world class sales team, excelling at building active accounts with solutions from a diverse product and services portfolio. Develops and consistently supports staff development by providing clear expectations, tools and training, sales goals, accountability and frequent feedback.

- Collaborates with other managers to generate new sales ideas and stays abreast of product and platform changes.

- Develops sales team, striving for world class execution and results. This includes training/coaching, use of data in sales presentations, creating a vision and integrated sales campaigns for the client, producing sales presentations, and using analytics to measure the solution's ROI for the client.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree or comparable experience.
Proven record of successful leadership in a goal-oriented, highly accountable environment.
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Excellent organizational and analytical skills. The ability to multi-task and manage competing priorities is essential.
Digital sales experience. Proven digital sales management experiences.
A deep and broad understanding of the market and competition.
Strong communication, negotiation and influencing skills.
Proficient PC skills including Microsoft applications Excel and Word. In addition, must be well versed in digital sales tools, including job boards, search, email, social marketing and analytics.
Demonstrated innovation, leadership, communication, and staff development skills. Possesses ability to coach and be coached.
Strong ethical standards and integrity are a must.
Understanding of research tools is a huge plus.
Ensures that the business unit meets and/or exceeds revenue expectations.
Proven sales management experience

All full-time employees are eligible for health & dental insurance, Life/ AD&D/Long-term disability Insurance, 401k plan, and paid time off.

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

Web ID#: 34266362 Text FL66340 to 56654

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

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°29'55" 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 North 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.

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.

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk

96869S PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS

CITY OF PORT ST. JOE RFP 2013-10

The City of Port St. Joe will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing:

CAPE SAN BLAS LIGHTHOUSE RELOCATION

The project includes preparation of the Cape San Blas Light-house for relocation, transport plan, construction of temporary roadbeds, new foundation system, placement and anchoring at new site location.

Plans and specifications can be obtained at Preble-Rish, Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, (850) 227-7200. Cost for Plans and Specifications will be \$50.00 per set and is non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to PREBLE-RISH, INC.

The completion date for this project will be 90 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder. Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$500.00 per day.

Please indicate on the envelope that this is a sealed bid, for the "Cape San Blas Lighthouse Relocation"

Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time, on January 23, 2014 at the City of Port St. Joe City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, and will be opened and read aloud at 3:05 p.m. Eastern Time. The City of Port St. Joe is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Handicapped Accessible/ Fair Housing Jurisdiction.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids, and to accept the

City of Port St. Joe

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

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.

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.

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

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LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

bid that in their judgment will be in their best interest. All bids shall remain firm for a period of sixty days after the opening. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the office of Preble-Rish, Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, Florida (850) 227-7200 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time, January 9, 2014.

All bidders shall comply with all applicable State and local laws concerning licensing registration and regulation of contractors doing business to the State of Florida. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes.

If you have any questions, please call Clay Smallwood at (850) 227-7200. December 19, 26, 2013

3100-3350 MERCHANDISE

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

3290 - Medical Equipment 3300 - Miscellaneous 3310 - Musical Instruments 3320 - Plants & Shrubs/Supplies 3330 - Restaurant/Hotel 3340 - Sporting Goods 3350 - Tickets (Buy & Sell)

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4100-4130 EMPLOYMENT

410