



Bay cleanup, B1

## Flooding a concern in coming days

By TIM CROFT  
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All that rain had to go somewhere.

According to Gulf County Emergency Management director Marshall Nelson, a lot of that water is heading into the Apalachicola and Chipola river basins in Gulf County.

At the recommendation of Nelson, the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday declared a local state of emergency in anticipation of flooding in the north end of the county as soon as the weekend.

There is already an issue on the north end with roads because of weeks and months of heavy rains.

The timing of upcoming

flooding, Nelson said, is unclear, but he asked commissioners to pass the emergency declaration in order to begin preparations.

“Primarily, that will be moving county assets and getting them in place,” Nelson said. “We know that it is coming. We have had a lot of rain in the river basin.”

As of Tuesday, the water at the Woodruff Dam in

Blountstown was at 17.4 feet and due to crest at just under 22 feet on Friday. That means that level of water will begin arriving in Gulf County by the end of the week into the weekend.

“The water has built up and they have opened the gates on us,” Nelson said.

On the Apalachicola, Nelson said, flood stage is 15 feet but the concern arrives

with water that reaches 21-23 feet in depth.

At that point, water begins to become an issue on roadways in low-lying areas and around boat landings.

The issues are compounded, Nelson said, by the amount of water that is also entering the Chipola River basin. The Chipola is forecast to crest at near 21 feet by Wednesday.

“That is our problem,” Nelson said.

Nelson said his office was already working with Public Works on staging of equipment and preparations and said he thought flooding could begin as soon as Sunday or Monday.

“Right now we are trying to get a handle on how much

See FLOODING A8

## Eagle protecting her young



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The bald eagle nest just west of the Indian Pass Raw Bar was damaged during Monday's storms, but during the two days before the storm, Marie Romanelli of Indian Pass observed the adult eagles ferrying food back and forth from the nest.

## Buzzett, McCroan re-elected

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe municipal election was over when it started.

Candidate qualifying ended last week and Commissioners Rex Buzzett and Phil McCroan were the lone candidates to submit all paperwork.

Without opposition Buzzett and McCroan were returned to their respective seats, representing Group IV and Group III.

Buzzett and McCroan earned new two-year terms, Buzzett's fourth and McCroan's second.

## Numbers rising, TDC enters season

By TIM CROFT  
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In baseball parlance, the Gulf County Tourist Development Council enters the regular season off an excellent spring training.

With bed tax revenue continuing its climb in February, the TDC advisory council held its regular monthly meeting last week as a spring promotion gathered steam and peak of the season looms.

The revenue numbers from February maintained a positive winter trend.

February bed tax revenue grew 18 percent over the same month last year and follows monthly increases of 3.48 percent in January, 48 percent in December – went some tax collectors were still reporting quarterly – and 6.8 percent in November.

Year to date, year over year, revenue has climbed 7.8 percent.

The goal for this year is 20 percent over the prior fiscal year and the county's tourist season is only now starting to pick up in earnest.

“We are pacing well,” said TDC executive director Jennifer Jenkins. “We clearly have room for growth. We are reporting monthly so these are accurate.”

The switch from quarterly to uniform monthly reporting was critical to Jenkins for honing her marketing focus throughout the year.

Bed tax revenue mirrors a busy period of the shoulder season, typically and traditionally a slower time for vacationers and visitors, but one Jenkins

See TDC A8

## Cape San Blas nominated as Best City for Pet Travelers 2014

By WES LOCHER  
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Cape San Blas is making waves.

In an online competition conducted by the website [www.gopetfriendlyblog.com](http://www.gopetfriendlyblog.com) Cape San Blas was nominated as a Best City for Pet Travelers for the year 2014.

Throughout several rounds of head-to-head voting by the public, the Cape has already beaten out Asheville, N.C., Ocean City, Md., Myrtle Beach, S.C. and Woodstock, Vt.

This week the peninsula went into the final round against the dog-friendly public parks of Portland, OR. At press time, the Cape had received more than 57 percent of the vote and a winner was to be announced today.

Check back next week for further details.

The person responsible for nominating the winning city will receive a two-night stay in the Kimpton hotel of their choosing, a pet-friendly hotel chain, and a slew of pet travel gear and a medium Kalahari lounge dog bed.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Cape San Blas was nominated as Best City for Pet Travelers 2014 by [www.gopetfriendlyblog.com](http://www.gopetfriendlyblog.com).



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# Parker House problems continue for Mexico Beach

By WES LOCHER

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No one ever said removing a historic house would be easy.

During last week's pre-agenda meeting, Brian Cathey of Cathey Construction addressed the city council regarding an unforeseen issue following the demolition of the Parker House.

Though the structure itself had been pulled down last week, Cathey reported that beneath the home a massive concrete footing roughly eight feet deep was discovered.

Cathey sought authorization from the council to remove the concrete; a step required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit, which he estimated would take 10-15 dump truck loads to remove after being broken up, and would come with a price tag of \$5,000-\$10,000.

"There was no way of knowing that (the concrete was there) when we put together a price for the demolition," said Cathey.

Councilman Gary Woodham asked Cathey if the concrete could be covered up but Cathey said that it would cause major problems were anyone else to excavate in the location in the future.

The council decided to add it to the tab of additional money they were seeking from the insurance company.

At Tuesday's regular April meeting councilman Jack Mullen said that attorney Dion Moniz, whom the council consulted with, is still encouraging them to negotiate for additional funds.

"(Moniz) believes that there is more funding due to the city and he's still of that opinion," said Mullen. "The insurance company has not provided a settle-



WES LOCHER | The Star

The Parker House was demolished last Wednesday but 8 feet of concrete was discovered beneath the structure.

ment satisfactory to build a new city hall."

Mullen said that a request had been made by the city to the insurance company asking for an extension to avoid hitting the Statute of Limitations which would render the claim moot in July. They are currently awaiting a response.

## City Hall

Mayor Al Cathey reported that the city's request to People's South Bank to stay in the current city hall building through October was denied. With an exit date of June 1 on the horizon the council made the call to move into the recently completed Public Works building and move those employees into a modular unit that would be rented and placed on site.

Councilwoman Tanya Castro asked Cathey how it made sense to move Public Works employees out when they'd only just moved in.

Cathey responded that

if they chose to operate city hall from a modular unit, additional costs to ensure that the facility was accessible to everyone would be incurred.

Cathey said, "We need to have a facility that's going to service our people the best."

A modular unit will be rented for \$7,000 for one year while the new city hall is constructed at the old Parker House site.

## City Administrator

Last week's pre-agenda meeting was the final gathering for former city administrator Chris Hubbard who submitted his resignation the week prior. Hubbard requested that a reprimand that was placed in his personnel file for a 2012 incident concerning a Facebook site be removed prior to ending his employment.

Upon delivery of the reprimand the council had voted to revisit it in a year,

and Hubbard had waited a year and a half to bring it back up. During a special meeting the council voted to have it removed.

Former city administrator John McInnis was selected to serve the city in the interim until Hubbard's replacement is hired. McInnis started as a police officer and spent 14 years as city administrator prior to retiring.

McInnis said that while the job is not easy, he found it rewarding and he was doing his part to help the community.

At Tuesday's regular meeting Councilman Bobby Pollock took the opportunity to respond to comments made by Castro the day after Hubbard announced his resignation.

"Chris Hubbard was a very loyal and dedicated employee," said Pollock. "It was very wrong and deceitful to have his character defamed."

Once the meeting was opened to public comment,

resident Mary Blackburn, who will run against Woodham in this month's election, said she was offended that Pollock would say such things when another member of the council, referring to Castro, could be regularly slandered.

Blackburn said, "I don't think it's right that another person who speaks their mind is crucified."

Cathey asked all other comments to stick to city business.

## Gulf Coast Parkway

Also during this week's regular meeting, Greg Garrett, director of Atkins Global spoke to the council about the planned Gulf Coast Parkway, in the works since 2009. The road would add another route connecting Panama City to U.S. 98 with a focus on freight transport. Garrett said that the goal of the road was to ease congestion along the Tyndall Parkway.

An open house and presentation to discuss the project, projected to begin in 2015, will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET on Thursday, May 6 at the Centennial Building in Port St. Joe.

The public is encouraged to attend the meeting to learn more about the project and ask any questions.

## Police Carport

In February a group of volunteers, Heaven's Hammers, volunteered to build a carport for the police station that would allow the cruisers to stay out of the sun.

Chief Glen Norris told the council that such a cover would extend the lifespan of the electronics inside the vehicles, keeping them out of the sun.

Project materials would need to be purchased for \$2,600 but the labor would come at no cost to the city.

In March some members of the council were apprehensive about the project. Cathey didn't want to amend the city's budget for the materials, but would support if Norris could find a way to raise the funds. Mullen didn't want the city to appear as a "charity case" and felt that the volunteers should help others in Mexico Beach.

By March the volunteers had left the area but Norris received a donation of \$3,000 from a snowbird living in Pennsylvania. Norris plans to purchase the materials and told the council he will find someone to provide the labor at a later date.

Norris also took the opportunity to introduce three new police officers to replace those who have moved on to other opportunities. The council welcomed Sarah Powe-Butler, David Walker and George Record to Mexico Beach.

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# Pictorial history of Mexico Beach published

By TONY SIMMONS  
Halifax Media Group

**MEXICO BEACH** — Cousins from a family of Mexico Beach pioneers, Cathey Parker Hobbs and Al Cathey worked together to compile a new entry in the "Images of America" book series focusing on their hometown.

The authors were raised by families that were among the first to settle Mexico Beach, and they say their childhood days were filled with some lasting "beach kid" memories: shell hunting "without worries," scooping buckets of blue crabs from the Gulf, and fishing from the surf or the pier.

They will celebrate the release of their new book, "Images of America: Mexico Beach," with a signing 4-6 p.m. April 12 at Graba Java Internet Café, 2094 U.S. 98 in Mexico Beach.

Hobbs moved to Mexico Beach in 1949 with her parents, Charlie and Inky Parker, and her sister, Sue. Her parents took over development of the area, which had been purchased in 1946 by Charlie's father, Gordon Parker, and two other investors, W.T. McGowan and J.W. Wainwright. Charlie Parker went on to become the city's first mayor and a lifelong advocate of the family-friendly community.

"Most of the pioneers

## 'IMAGES OF AMERICA: MEXICO BEACH'

**Authors:** Al Cathey and Cathey Parker Hobbs

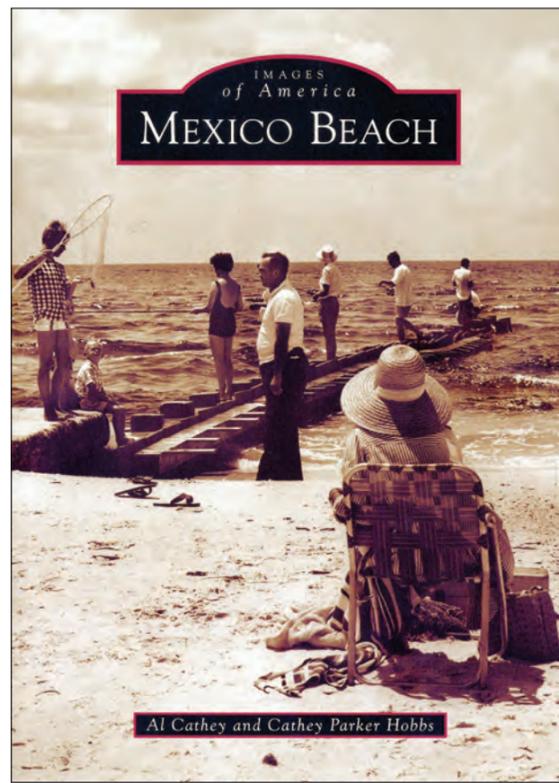
**Book Signing:** 4-6 p.m. CT April 12 at Graba Java Internet Café, 2094, U.S. 98, Mexico Beach

**Details:** Arcadia Publishing; 128 pages, paperback, 200 images; \$21.99

**On the Web:** ArcadiaPublishing.com

that made Mexico Beach a reality are gone," said Hobbs, who still operates the family business, Parker Realty of Mexico Beach, alongside her husband, Ralph. "I hope this book will help preserve their memories as well as the history of our wonderful town. I also hope it will bring pleasure to many by either introducing them to this paradise or by helping them remember wonderful moments they enjoyed in Mexico Beach."

As described in the book's introduction, very little is known of the area until the early 1900s, when businessman Felix du Pont purchased the land known today as Mexico Beach. Resin to make turpentine was harvested from the native pine trees, and fishermen could not resist



The cover of the book about Mexico Beach by Al Cathey and Cathey Parker Hobbs.

the migratory fish passing through the area's waters.

By the 1930s, the book explains, U.S. 98 was completed along the coast, and visitors finally could reach the sugar-soft sand beaches. In 1946, Parker, McGowan and Wainwright purchased 1,850 acres along the beach for \$65,000.

Chapters in their book categorize the 200 black-and-white photos into nostalgic looks back at the origins of the town, fishing and boating, fun pastimes and entertainment, mom-and-pop businesses, pioneer families, early beach cottages, hurricane damage, the establishment of Beacon Hill and much more.

Cathey moved to Mexico Beach in 1953 at age 5, graduated from Port St. Joe High School and earned a degree in com-

munications from the University of Southern Mississippi. He returned home to raise two sons with his wife, and still lives in Mexico Beach, where he is the second-generation owner of Cathey's Ace Hardware.

Cathey said he hopes the book communicates the unique history of the town, and how special it is to call it home. He said he hopes "the reader gains an appreciation of the pioneer spirit of the town's early families and the resolve they needed to establish such a community with the characteristics necessary to maintain a high quality of life for generations to come."

"Images of America: Mexico Beach" is available through area bookstores, retailers and online at ArcadiaPublishing.com.

# PSJRA workshop offers opportunities

By TIM CROFT

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Last week's informational workshop about the Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency (PSJRA) was equal doses education and frustration.

The aim of the workshop was to provide a history of the PSJRA to date.

Mayor Mel Magidson suggested at last week's meeting during which city commissioners began the process of dissolving the PSJRA board that fueling the debate over the agency's future was a "lack of understanding of the facts" surrounding the history and operations of the redevelopment agency.

While the theme of the workshop was "how the agency got here", it at times turned into a pitched discussion about the path traveled the past month by a slim majority of commissioners.

Those actions, one resident noted, had the community "in an uproar."

PSJRA executive director Gail Alsobrook and Magidson, the lone commissioner to attend the workshop, tried to steer the discussion to broad strokes, but the tenor of the debate often echoed that on the commission the past three meetings.

In sum, commissioners and some residents express

frustration with the agency's operational model and board makeup.

"A lot of people don't understand what is going on, period," resident Nathan Peters Jr. said.

There is also equal, if not more, frustration in sectors of the community over a lack of understanding about the goal of the majority's actions to dissolve the board.

"What is the problem?" resident Gina Vicari said. "Why are we trying to get rid of these un-paid people and replace them with the same five (city) commissioners? They have other issues on their plate."

The bones of contention, as framed by residents Thursday night, could be placed under several large umbrellas.

## THE MAKEUP OF THE BOARD

There is a sense, resident Tim Nelson said, the PSJRA board is "insular" and comprised of some of the same people who serve on other boards.

He questioned the extent to which the board would be open to new members and new ideas from others in the community.

"That's why we feel left out of the loop," Nelson said.

Alsobrook and Magidson repeatedly said the PSJRA board meetings are public, advertised in advance by

statute.

"Any input from the public I think the board would be very receptive," Alsobrook said, noting that PSJRA board meetings are lightly attended. "If the public gets involved the board will listen."

Debra Barnes said she thought the board should expand its numbers and suggested PSJRA board members go into the community to fully grasp feelings of resistance reflected by the three commissioners voting to dissolve the board.

Board chair Boyd Pickett said he had done just that.

"I have been out in the community and I haven't found anybody (who doesn't approve of what we are doing) except the three commissioners and they won't even return my calls," Pickett said.

Further, several PSJRA board members said of the three commissioners, two, Commissioners Phil McCroan and William Thursday, had never attended a meeting.

The board is also a reflection of statutory-mandates concerning the makeup as well the goals set forth in the agency's master plan.

"The board vets ideas for the benefit of the community," said Alsobrook, who was noncommittal about her fu-

ture if the board is dissolved. "They are helping the community, and they are professionals who are volunteers. It is working on more levels than you can imagine.

"It is work. It is like a second job."

## OPERATIONS, SPENDING, HIRING, FIRING

Commissioners Thursday and Bo Patterson have said they did not approve of a board that operates beyond the reach of voters, yet spends tax money and has the ability to hire and fire an executive director.

Board member Michael McKenzie said suggestions that spending is done outside the scope of governmental oversight is "not factually accurate."

Alsobrook, as executive director, has an annual budget approved by the PSJRA board and city commissioners which she must operate the agency from. Once commissioners approve the budget, spending must be done under the same constraints by which the city and county spend their budgets, he said.

All spending, as well as who the PSJRA board can hire or fire, Magidson added, is subject to review and final approval by city commissioners. Nothing is done without their final knowledge and say-so.

"Nothing the board does is done without our approval," Magidson repeatedly said.

Nelson questioned whether the PSJRA board conveys all pertinent information to the commission, providing any and all options on any given issue or project.

## FUNDING

Maybe the most confusing aspect of the redevelopment agency, several residents said, was the Tax Increment Financing that funds operations.

A base year for property values within the original agency boundaries - roughly, give or take some footage, First Street to the midline of State 71 to just beyond Garrison Avenue - was established in 1989.

Of any increases in property values within the boundaries since, the redevelopment agency - and as Magidson said, by turn the city - recoups 95 percent of that increase while the city receives the remainder.

No one's taxes increase - resident Lorinda Gingell suggested taxes actually stay down because the redevelopment agency improves property values for all - and it's not an additional tax; the agency simply is getting a slice.

The agency did not even

draw funding until the early 2000s.

That funding, much less since the decline of the real estate market, can only be spent within the agency boundaries, Alsobrook said.

Further, it can only be spent on projects within the parameters of the agency's master plan.

Property values in the expanded area - nearly all of the neighborhood of North Port St. Joe - established in 2009, have not rebounded yet to draw income.

That has not prevented the agency, as noted by board member Patti Blaylock, from using dollars to leverage for grant funding for the expanded area, such as for new sidewalks on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and lights on David Langston Drive.

State law allows the agency to use a small percentage of dollars from the original area for such purposes, Alsobrook said.

Alsobrook summed up the workshop after 75 minutes by saying she hoped a solution other than "throwing the baby out with the bath water" by dissolving the board.

"I don't understand why the city commission wants to take over and wants to stop you from doing a successful job," resident Eddie Fields said.

# Michigan volunteers help out in Gulf County

By WES LOCHER

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A group of 60 students and 20 adults from the Senior High Youth Group visited Port St. Joe last week to spend their spring break giving back to the community.

The group, representing the Evangelical Free Church in

Gaylord, Michigan brought students from grades nine to 12 to the area as they have for more than 30 years.

The students were split between the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society and the Bay St. Joseph Care Clinic.

Those stationed at the clinic helped with gardening, painting and power washing projects while

those at the Humane Society walked and bathed dogs, socialized with cats and learned about the DAWGS in Prison program.

"We wanted to give back to the community," chaperone Brent Holmes said. "We're called to serve."

"It's the little things - showing the kids that they can serve anytime, anywhere, no matter what."

Holmes said that the focal point of the trip was to help the students become service-minded and develop good hearts to helping others.

Isaac Smith, a junior, was enjoying his third trip to Port St. Joe.

"I wanted to do my part to give back," Smith said. "I like learning to serve others and God has given

us so much.

"It's really enjoyable." Smith said he looked forward to coming back next year and was happy to have a reprieve from the two feet of snow that awaited him in Michigan.

The group spent a week camping at the St. Joseph Peninsula State Park and headed back to Gaylord last Friday.

Apalachicola Area Historical Society Presents

*Ilse Newell*

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## Opening Day

It was easiest to conceal in early April and October, because the weather was such that a boy could wear a long sleeve shirt to school in Alabama and not look too odd.

Both of these times of year were best because it meant I could hide "my equipment" for Major League Baseball's Opening Day and the World Series. Many more games were played during the day back then - there was no ESPN or Internet or all these fancy phones that you could watch a baseball game on.

There was radio...

It was AM radio...

It was heaven...

My Papa (grandfather) not only sold televisions, radios and record players, but he also liked buying and making cool gadgets and that was good for a grandson.

One of the best gadgets he ever gave me was a very small transistor radio he had picked up or put together. It could easily be hidden in a pocket or taped to a young boy's hairless chest making him feel like an undercover agent. An earpiece could be plugged in the radio and the wire fed through a long sleeve shirt leaving the little white earpiece speaker sticking out of the cuff of a long sleeve shirt.

While the teacher was telling the class something that I probably thought I already knew, I could put an elbow on my desk, rest my head in my hand and listen to the Atlanta Braves play (and look very interested at the chalkboard).

Almost 40 years later, I do realize that wasn't a great use of my time in junior high school, but it is a good memory.

I thought about it the other day when my son sent me a text message wanting to know a password so that he could watch the Braves play on his phone on opening day.

I told him, "You don't need to be watching baseball while you are at school."

That makes me a bit of a hypocrite I guess.

The Braves finished last in their division that year, Dale Murphy was 20 years old, Phil Niekro was 37 and still hanging on. In 1976, only the Montreal Expos lost more games in the National League than my

Atlanta Braves.

It didn't matter. On Opening Day, the Braves were in first (along with every other team).

The Cincinnati Reds would go on to win the



**CRANKS MY TRACTOR**  
BN Heard

World Series, beating the New York Yankees in four straight games. Life is good in the South when Yankees lose.

Future Hall of Fame catcher, Johnny Bench, was the World Series' Most Valuable

Player.

Where is Johnny now? Last time I saw him, he was on television pushing some sort of miracle salve made from emu oil that is good for arthritis, muscle aches, bug bites and sunburn. The emu is a large flightless fast running, high jumping bird originally from Australia. They are rather ugly.

There was a time back in the '80s and '90s that folks were raising emus hoping to get rich. They did not.

There has to be some sort of connection to these failed dreams of emu meat filling US kitchens and restaurants and the one fellow who figured out emu oil mixed into a salve could be pushed by an ex-major league catcher.

I'm willing to bet that Johnny makes more money pushing the miracle bird salve than he did playing baseball back in the mid-1970's. His salary that year was about half that the minimum salary is today for a rookie and about 1 percent of the highest paid catcher in the major leagues.

I love baseball, but it seems that in the overall scheme of things, these fellows make way too much money these days than when I had a wire running between my sleeve and my arm to listen to games.

I'm not saying the players should give the money back, I'm just saying that it seems a little much.

Now we're talking about paying college kids to play ball.

Perhaps, just perhaps, the miracle salve that Johnny Bench pushes on television would help me figure it out if I just rubbed a little on my head.

Find more stories at [www.CranksMyTractor.com](http://www.CranksMyTractor.com).

## He was the first to call me 'coach'

I stood for a moment and took a deep breath. I had never actually interviewed for a job in my life. I was 21, wouldn't graduate from college until the following week, had driven five hundred miles for this meeting and somehow sensed the next few minutes could be life changing for me. My feet were out-racing my brain as I moved toward the big man watching a P.E. class run across the field.

He stood as I neared and extended a hand. "You must be the young man Walter told me about." My goodness, his handshake was like a vise! But his smile moved across his whole face. We talked for over an hour as one class was dismissed and another hurried into the field. He asked very few questions, mostly about my life and family. But he leaned in just enough on the answers for me to realize he was not going through the motions here. He was interested in me. His sincerity was real. I didn't need that college education to know this guy was as genuine as they come.

He was excited about the "young men" coming back for the 1969 football season. He thought his center and quarterback were of excellent character. The offensive line was going to be the best he had since returning to Port St. Joe. We had one very good defensive end and linebackers that would "run to the ball". We have a chance to win a lot of football games this year. He said "we" like I was already on the team.

Wayne Taylor was the first person ever to call me "Coach".

I was particularly struck by his forthrightness, his passion for life and his obvious love for the young men under his charge. The pride he had in the school, the sports programs and the community itself came through in every sentence. He made it seem like more of a "calling" than a "job".

His eyes lit up when he walked me back to my car—and realized I'd driven down in a 1963 Corvair Monza. I felt like I'd come in "on a wing and a prayer". That car smoked and coughed most of the five hundred miles. Coach Taylor was going over that thing like it was a Ferrari or something! I'm not sure till this day if

he hired me for my potential or he just liked my car.

I was near 'bout back to Birmingham when it dawned on me. He didn't ask one question about football. He hadn't sought out my thoughts on the "veer offense" versus the "power I". We didn't talk "balanced attack" or a "split middle" defensive set. He seemed more interested in young men than pass routes or blocking assignments. I could still feel the goodbye handshake and his direct gaze as he offered me the job and wished me well no matter what I decided.



**HUNKER DOWN**  
Kesley Colbert

Halfway through the first week of practice Coach Taylor became upset because the scout team fullback wouldn't give his linebackers the correct look by barreling into the off-tackle hole. He turned his hat around backwards, took the fullback's place and blasted into the appropriate lane. You can bet the entire practice revved up a few notches! And I learned real football coaching wasn't as much about x's and o's as some people imagined.

"We" won the first 10 games of the season. I contributed nothing. As a matter of fact, I was a detriment at times. Coach Taylor had to do his duties and then coach me up a little as to the specific techniques he wanted me to instill with my group the next day. He never lost patience. He never quit teaching me.....or the team.

I just thought I had a work ethic. We watched films of opposing teams until my eyes bled! We stayed on the field until he was satisfied. We'd spend hours going over the next day's practice schedule. He was the most detailed man I ever met. He didn't want the right guard to simply run over and block the play side tackle on "quick 30 trap". He demanded that guard take a carefully measured 45 degree step with his inside foot into the line of scrimmage, pick up the target immediately, cross over with his back foot, avoiding the center and gaining speed with the next two steps before sticking his head in front and "unloading" his right shoulder into the mid-section of the unsuspecting defensive man. The "thing about the thing" he would say "is in the details". "Coach," he always looked right at

you when he spoke, "we've got to get these young men to lead with their chins".....pretty good advice whether you are tackling fleet running backs.....or life.

Winning was important with him. I stood in awe sometimes as we beat teams that we shouldn't have even been on the field with. He out-coached opponents. He could have so many times taken either team, practiced for a week and beat the other guys. But it was never about winning. There is a big difference! Even the undefeated season and state championship didn't overshadow the players. It was always about the young men. He demanded that each individual be the best he could be.....it went way beyond the football field for Coach Taylor. He understood the ups and downs of life. He knew what lay ahead for many of his guys. He used those Exer-Genies and "two a day" practices to get'em ready for Wewa, Blountstown, Chipley.....and the next fifty years!

In the later days, when the coaching was over, I never heard him one time refer to a score or beating someone. He was talking about the young men and how well so many of them turned out. If he had a clue that he might have helped in so many lives, including mine, he never relayed it to me.

I think that is the way the great ones operate.

I was so glad to see so many of the "young men" back for Coach's funeral. A few got up and spoke, rightly recognizing Coach Taylor for his mentorship, guidance and love for them. I guarantee you, a thousand more "Sharks" in all walks of life echoed those same sentiments when they learned of his passing.

He didn't take the high road on honesty, integrity and moral principles when it was convenient or easy..... He lived on it!

The last time we went off to play golf I tried to thank him for all he had done for me, my family, my career..... He waved it off as nothing and then, as that wonderful grin spread across his face, said, "You know Coach, you are not like most politicians."

High praise indeed from the man I respected above all others.

Young Coach

## What freedom really costs

Dear Editor;

With the recent shooting at the Naval Yard and Fort Hood, we are reminded once again of the disconnect between our citizens and our warriors who put their lives on the line to defend freedom.

Much lip service is given to the slogan "Freedom is not free," but very little thought is given to the cost. In the days and weeks following 9/11, we were indignant and outraged that our soil had been attacked for the first time since the Japanese attacked American soil in Hawaii, Alaska and the coast of California. Flags flew from virtually every home in our great land.

When I was a child, I can remember my mother talking about gas rationing; sugar and coffee rationing; investing in war bonds; and Victory gardens. Even on the home front, sacrifice was required. Nowadays, the ongoing war is a mere matter of inconvenience for most, certainly not for the families of those courageous young men and women in uniform.

For my generation, there was no welcome home. We were portrayed by Hollywood and the press as "baby killers" and drug addicts, and the effects of PTSD were compounded by the public's disapproval. Another generation that suffered similar stings were the fine young lads and ladies who served in the Korean Conflict. Their's has been oft characterized as the "Forgotten War." It was largely swept under the rug in hopes that it would go away.

Are we as a society going to continue to treat returning veterans as pariahs of society? Are we not going to insist that our veterans be treated, both the visible and those unseen? If so, we can expect to be plagued by further instances of inexplicable madness.

About forty years ago, a Commander of Post #10069 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars wrote an

article which was posted in The Star. In it, Commander Marvin Shimfessel described the public apathy of that time. Shimfessel is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and served during the Korean Conflict. Here are the Commander's words from four decades ago:

*Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10069 of Port St. Joe this week urged that all citizens speak out in support of the President of the United States and the efforts of the United States government to stem the flow of Communism in South Vietnam.*

*Speaking on behalf of Post No. 10069, Commander Marvin A. Shimfessel said: "The delegates attending the V.F.W. National Convention in August in Philadelphia, Pa., unanimously urged that our government continue to seek victory in Vietnam and that all of our citizens lend their full support to the men on the fighting front."*

*"Frankly, we are sick and tired of listening to a very vocal minority undermining the bargaining position of our President and in so doing endangering the lives of our men on the fighting front. It is my belief that the time has come when the much talked about silent majority should speak out. We must let the men on the battlefield know that they have the support of the people at home and we must let Hanoi know that the President has the support of the people in this country."*

*"It is my hope that the people of this area will speak out on this issue and that other patriotic, civic and fraternal groups will join with us in this crusade. I am fully confident, Commander Shimfessel concluded, "that if we fail to speak out now, the vocal minority in this country will most certainly take over all that is meaningful in this land of ours. No one seeks peace more urgently than the Veterans of Foreign Wars, but we will not seek peace at any price which is what the vocal minority is*

*calling for today."*

Here, almost half a century later, we may readily see how clearly Marvin Shimfessel's words still ring true. The names and faces of the enemy have changed. The attitude of the government concerning an honorable peace has varied, and majority and minority voices within the public's demographics have shifted. But, the basic premise still holds as true today as it did then.

We are more concerned about whether Auburn or Alabama has the better football team. We are stressed about the high prices for gasoline. We casually enjoy our flavored and iced coffees with brand names we had never heard of twenty, thirty, or forty years ago. We go to the gym to burn calories and bask in relative luxury while our troops put their lives on the line against an invisible and fanatical enemy. Our young heroes in uniform must restrain themselves in their engagements and are not allowed to bring to bear the full force of American power. America, have we really become so soft and so selfish?

Soon, a group of wounded servicemen and women will visit our community. Will we, as Commander Shimfessel once implored, let those from the battlefields know that they have our "full support?" Will we take time from our busy days to show our respect, to line the streets in a show of encouragement? Will we volunteer, contribute? Readers of The Star, in this new century, how will future generations judge that we treated our returning Veterans, and how will our patriotism compare? Let us hope that observers will say that we rose to the occasion and were in our finest hour. Please continue to pray for our troops and especially for those in harm's way from Gulf County.

Respectfully,

Rodney L. Herring  
Rodney L. Herring, Cdr.  
John C. Gainous Post #10069

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# Too close to home

Dear Editor,  
First, I would like to commend Loren Siprell for his superb editorial in the April 3 edition of The Star.

I, too, am an avid Facebook fan, always curious about what others are doing or the "big" stories flooding the web. I am also another of those that find myself browsing the Gulf County Sheriff's Office Facebook page to see, "Who is in the news?"

It's all good you might say until it comes too close to home. One morning you go into work and by habit pick up the paper to your loved one's picture plastered across the page. Then you go to the GCSO's Facebook page to see people saying cruel things about him, making sarcastic remarks about "how proud their mothers must be."

My biggest argument with the immediate release of a story or alleged crime is whatever happened to innocent until proven guilty? The media and others are so quick to get a headline or "their guy" that they don't stop to think about how those key words will affect the family.

What happened to getting to the truth before posting those "glamorized" headlines just to make it look like "You are just doing your job?" In the end, after all the dust has settled and

the facts have come out that it just wasn't the case.

After all is said and done, these people whether innocent or guilty are stereotyped. They are forever labeled, turned away from jobs, not to mention they will also be "watched" by law enforcement. They made, as Mr. Siprell stated, "a poor decision that will undoubtedly affect them for a good portion of their lives. I feel as a Christian community we must forgive those that somehow, for one reason or another, took the wrong path."

I would think very carefully about condemning someone because it might be someone close to you or even you that finds yourself in the news.

Lisa Leon  
Port St. Joe

## PSJRA vote

Dear Editor,  
We criticize and cuss the politicians in Washington for the backdoor deals they make. The city of Port St. Joe is no different. Whether we agree or not on an issue, an elected official should never be subjected to what three of our commissioners have been subjected to during this discussion of who controls the PSJRA. One of our commissioners had at

least six of his customers cancel contracts because of his stand on this issue. Another commissioner lost a \$4,000 dollar contract because of his stand on this issue. The third commissioner received a phone call reminding him of where he has gotten business in the past and it would not be there if he stayed on course with his support of this issue. It makes me ashamed to know that people in our town would resort to these lowly attempts to threaten a commissioner to change his mind on a vote. Sounds like a play out of a Mafia playbook.

There is a group of people in our town that wants to control everything. If you go along they are your friends, and if not they turn on you and attempt to destroy you. I know this from my own personal experience as a commissioner. We need more elected officials that stand on their principles regardless of personal loss.

I do not always agree with the positions these three men take. However, I am proud they stood for their convictions.

I also know that this post will generate some negative comments towards me. It will be okay. I have withstood the fire in the kitchen.

I was also proud of the way the two opposing men

conducted themselves at the end of the meeting.

John Reeves  
Port St. Joe

## Saying goodbye to friends

Dear Editor:  
In the late afternoon last week, I said goodbye to two wonderful young people, my friends that were departing on a new and exciting adventure; their future spread before them to taste and see and explore. I was sad to see them leave but joyful that at last peace could become a part of their life. A letter posted previously stated that Chris Hubbard, Mexico Beach's City Manager, should have left long ago. I totally agree with Ms. Burgess. The unrealistic volume of tasks heaped upon one person was ridiculous! No human being should be treated in the manner that Mr. Hubbard endured. The position of city manager is one of the worst jobs, the most unthankful and demanding of any city employee; especially small towns that have very few employees. I am not making excuses but merely pointing out that there is no one to assist the Manager. And our city council, which insists there is no money to hire another city hall worker, ignored the reality of

common sense and made Mr. Hubbard in charge of everything a few months ago. I voiced my opinion at that meeting stating that it was impossible for Mr. Hubbard to take on even more work. He is only one person! He can't do everything! Mr. Hubbard never was rude to the council and showed restraint when being bullied, at nearly every meeting, by a council member because he had not done something to the satisfaction of this member. Was it time for him to go? Yes, Candice it was; for his health, his future, for his time to enjoy life and not be constantly trying to please everybody. Farewell my friends, Chris and Debbie, and may God bless you with a happy life that had become impossible to achieve in Mexico Beach.

Connie Risinger  
Mexico Beach

## Letter a travesty

Dear Editor,  
It is with a sense of increasing disgust that I write to you today. I've just finished writing yet another disgraceful article from Loren Siprell, this latest travesty titled "On the Subject Of... Arrest Logs."

This article is poorly written, lacks focus and direction, makes excuses for his own

personal poor online behavior, and sidetracks off its chosen topic of whether arrest logs are pertinent, to sermonizing on the legality of prostitution. Mr. Siprell would have us follow the example of Europe, apparently forgetting that we shrugged off the European model of government over two centuries ago. Perhaps Mr. Siprell should read a history book or two, or read some studies on the health habits of prostitutes and those that frequent them.

The arrest logs serve the purpose of educating the public on who the law-breakers are in the community that they occupy. I for one am interested in knowing who these law-breakers are, and where they live, so I can avoid these areas.

Mr. Siprell's articles consistently model poor writing and analogies, and consistently exhibit far-left Progressive memes. I must ask you: is this the model for editorial writing for your newspaper going forward? If so, you will have one less reader.

Mr. Siprell's politics and beliefs are one thing... being subjected to them serially on your editorial page, over and over, is something that I can do without.

Steve Saunders  
Mexico Beach

# A Critical Healthcare Program in Rural America

Rural hospitals are the front line of care for millions of Americans who can't travel to big cities for medical treatment. Most are small, less than 25 beds, and many struggle to keep their doors open in the face of rising costs. A little-known prescription drug program called 340B helps these providers stay in business—and extend vital services to needy patients.

More than 20 years ago, Congress created the 340B drug discount program with bipartisan support to help hospitals serving high numbers of economically vulnerable people. In 2010, Congress expanded the program to rural hospitals to help them in their efforts to treat uninsured, underinsured and other patients who

have difficulty getting access to care. Under the program, eligible hospitals receive pharmaceuticals at discounted prices from drug companies. These savings are often passed on directly to outpatients. Healthcare providers also use the savings to fund dialysis, cancer and AIDS clinics as well as other services.

The positive impact of the 340B program is tangible in small towns and rural communities across America.

In Centerville, Tenn., St. Thomas Hickman Hospital reaches out to patients without cars, picks them up from home and brings them in for lunch and medical treatment. The hospital also provides free medications on a regular

basis to outpatients who can't afford them.

Cass County Hospital in Atlantic, Iowa, provides qualified outpatients a full year of medications for free. And it gives its Emergency Room doctors vouchers to supply medicines at no cost to patients, based on need.

At Regional Health System in the Black Hills of South Dakota, 340B savings fund patient treatment in a local detoxification clinic and a short-term crisis center.

The benefits of 340B flow far beyond the needy patients treated at America's rural hospitals. Because savings are often passed on in low-cost or free prescriptions, people take their medications and return less to the

hospital emergency room. That translates into lower costs for Medicare and Medicaid — saving a bundle of taxpayer dollars.

Millions of Americans receive care thanks to the 340B program, but it has powerful enemies in Washington. The pharmaceutical industry wants to restrict the program and some would like to kill it outright. Why? Because it cuts into drug company profits. Fact: The pharmaceutical industry turns a \$7.5 billion per year profit on sales through the 340B program to hospitals and related providers. We think that's plenty.

If Big Pharma wins, hard-working Americans in the heartland of the country will lose as hospitals cut back on

prescription discounts, treatment and services. Many of our hospitals and clinics would have to close altogether.

That would be a travesty we can't let

happen.

Alan Morgan is Chief Executive Officer of the National Rural Health Association based in Leawood, Kan.

## SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

Send your letters to :

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Photos special to The Star

## WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, Apr. 10	69°	57°	0 %
Fri, Apr. 11	71°	59°	0 %
Sat, Apr. 12	73°	62°	0 %
Sun, Apr. 13	72°	67°	0 %
Mon, Apr. 14	73°	63°	30 %
Tues, Apr. 15	68°	59°	30 %
Wed, Apr. 16	68°	62°	0 %

## 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
10	Th	757pm 0.9		310am 0.2	
11	Fr	1047am 0.8	931pm 0.8	320am 0.4	257pm 0.7
12	Sa	1005am 0.8	1107pm 0.8	314am 0.6	408pm 0.4
13	Su	955am 1.0		246am 0.7	508pm 0.3
14	Mo	1003am 1.1		607pm 0.2	
15	Tu	1022am 1.3		709pm 0.0	
16	We	1050am 1.4		814pm -0.1	
17	Th	1125am 1.6		923pm -0.2	
18	Fr	1205pm 1.7		1032pm -0.2	
19	Sa	1251pm 1.8		1137pm -0.3	

## APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
10	Th	1201am 1.0	142pm 1.1	729am 0.4	756pm 0.6
11	Fr	122am 1.0	208pm 1.2	812am 0.4	840pm 0.4
12	Sa	227am 1.1	231pm 1.2	849am 0.5	918pm 0.3
13	Su	322am 1.1	252pm 1.2	922am 0.6	954pm 0.2
14	Mo	412am 1.2	313pm 1.3	951am 0.7	1027pm 0.1
15	Tu	501am 1.2	336pm 1.3	1018am 0.8	1101pm -0.1
16	We	551am 1.2	403pm 1.4	1046am 0.9	1137pm -0.1
17	Th	644am 1.2	434pm 1.5	1116am 1.0	
18	Fr	742am 1.2	510pm 1.5	1218am -0.2	1150am 1.1
19	Sa	845am 1.1	552pm 1.5	106am -0.2	1232pm 1.2

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## FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



### Pier/Surf

Local area waters are warming up this week as the months are slowly changing. Good trout reports from St. Joe Bay this week have all anglers eager to fish! Spanish mackerel are still very plentiful and easy to find by slow trolling spoons or Christmas Tree rigs close to shore.

### Inshore/Bay

A few pompano were caught this past week on Cape San Blas, so we are getting back to normal for spring.

### Offshore/Bottom

Offshore action to the west is all abuzz as the 2014 gag grouper season opened in Franklin County on April 1.

# The king is back in town

## Silver speedsters due in Panhandle waters this month

By FRANK SARGEANT  
Special to The Star

The kingfish are in at Tampa! That's big news for Panhandle anglers, because it means the run of the big mackerel has finally started to move north, after stalling for some time off Fort Myers this year because of a wave of late cold fronts.

Water temperatures in the Panhandle still are at about 65 degrees, and that's too cold for any significant number of kings, but all it will take is a week of warm, sunny weather to make things right. When the water hits 68 degrees, the bait will move, and with it will come the kings — to say nothing of the Spanish, the cobia, the bonito and a bit of everything else.

Scientists with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute have learned that most of the kings that summer in Northwest Florida spend winters off the Florida Keys and in the Atlantic as far north as Palm Beach, but as soon as the waters begin to warm in spring, the fish move back into the Gulf and head north. They usually arrive in strength in the Panhandle shortly after April 15, with May through October offering steady action.

When the big schools of cigar minnows and herring arrive, the kings will be with them, anywhere from a half-mile off the beach to the wrecks 15 miles out and farther. A lot of fish also typically run the "breaks" offshore at 80 and at 160 feet.

Kings are members of the tuna family, but are for the most part found on the coastal shelf; they are "green water" fish rather than the true pelagics of the open sea. They're caught with some regularity from Panhandle piers. School kings, aka "snakes," are slender speedsters that average 7 to 10 pounds; they make up the bulk of the kingfish schools. But there are also plenty of "smokers" in the mix, fish of 20 pounds and up, which literally are capable of making a misty smoke fly from a reel as they scream line off at 30 miles an hour. Kings reach lengths approaching 6 feet and weights more than 90 pounds in a lifespan maxing out close to 20 years. The current IGFA all-tackle record is 93 pounds, caught in Puerto Rico in 1999. Fish of 50 pounds are caught occasionally in the northern Gulf of Mexico, but most of the line class records come in winter around the Florida Keys.



Catching school kings is fairly straightforward; most anglers find the fish by watching for diving birds. These charter boats are docked in Destin.

Catching school kings is fairly straightforward; most anglers find the fish by watching for diving birds — or for other boats already on the school — and proceed to troll a 5-inch Clark or Drone spoon weighted with a trolling lead of a couple ounces around the outer edges of the school, or around artificial or natural reefs and current breaks. Pulling the spoon behind a No. 2 or 3 planer also is highly effective, and during the dawn bite when the fish are often on top, they can be caught on unweighted spoons and jigs — and even occasionally on a big topwater lure worked very fast.

Kings can also be caught on a number of big lures including the Yo-Zuri Crystal Minnow Magnum, the Mann's Stretch 25 and Stretch 30 and Mirrolure 113MR, which can be trolled at speeds to 9 knots without broaching — it's a great locator lure. Some also do well with a large chrome Rat-L-Trap, a vibrating slab lure.

Another Panhandle favorite for these schoolers is a cigar minnow on a feather-duster rig — the tubular body of the cigar minnow trolls true while many flat-sided bait species tend to spin. Trolling speed is typically 4 to 6 knots.

You can catch a lot of kings by just pulling a rigged minnow at sunrise while everybody else is trying to catch live bait. Frozen cigar minnows are available at all Panhandle bait shops.

For the larger kings, live bait is generally best bet; a large blue-runner or thread herring (aka greenback) on a

stinger rig is the ticket. Most anglers use No. 6 copper-color wire as leader to prevent cutoffs on the razor-like teeth of the mackerels. One small triple-X strong treble goes through the nostrils, and a second dangles along the sides about 6 inches back. The rig prevents kings chomping off the baitfish tail without getting hooked, as they frequently do otherwise.

The baits often can be caught around channel markers on a sabiki rig, a chain of small flies. These channel markers also often hold both kings and Spanish — never pass one up if you're hunting fish.

The live baits are eased along at walking speed, considerably slower than rigged baits or spoons. Some anglers like to lay down a scent trail by dragging a chum bag — chopped baitfish, dog food and menhaden oil is a popular mix — as they troll a circular pattern around a reef or hard bottom area, or simply circle baitfish schools.

A favorite trick of tournament anglers is to fish a live bait down the color break line that makes up outside the larger inlets on strong outgoing tides — on the outside of this line is clear water, pale green, while on the inside the water is black from the tannin-stained bays. There's usually a lot of grass floating down the line, and lots of crabs and other edibles in the eddies. The anglers slowly work the live baits down the green side of this line.

Either way, once the migration arrives, the action is near certain.



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# Gators primed for district playoffs

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

Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School baseball coach Tony Muina knew his sophomore-laden team would develop into a good team.

Just not quite this soon. The Gators are 14-4 after last week's victories over Sneads, Vernon and Franklin County and are pursuing an undefeated district record with just two district games remaining.

The Gators are 10-0 in District 2-1A with contests against Cottontdale and

Blountstown on tap this week.

Wewahitchka has already clinched the top seed in the district tournament which begins April 25 in Blountstown.

Not bad for a team that has five sophomores in the starting lineup, 11 sophomores total on the roster and just one senior.

"I knew that we had a chance to be good, but I didn't think we'd in a position to be where we so quick," said Muina. "We are a young team and the sophomores really had to step in and play.

"We have a pretty simple philosophy: play solid defense, pitch well and get the hits when we need them. I have told them I just want them to play well. If they do that the rest will take care of itself."

Another characteristic of this team, Muina said, is that it is a team. He said there are no prima donnas, no superstars, just a cast that goes 14-15 deep with contributors across the board.

Consider just one game last week, a 19-8 road win at Vernon.

The lone senior, Isaac Madrid was 4 for 6 with four

RBI's.

Complimenting that was Tad Gaskin, Rashard Ranie, Peter Setterich, Chipper Gainie, Jonathan Palmer and Tanner Harden who all added at least two hits, combined to hit four doubles, a triple and a home run and drove in a combined seven runs.

Ranie hit the home run, his sixth. The Gators pounded out 21 hits.

That kind of production has been the norm for a team averaging just under 10 runs a game and has outscored district opponents 114-52.

"Almost every game we find a way where 13 or 14 different guys help us with the game," Muina said. "This is a team that plays as a team."

"We hit the ball decent. We score a lot of runs. We're not a superstar team. Up and down the lineup anybody can contribute."

The pitching staff is paced by Gaskin, who struggled early in the season but is 5-0 in district play, along with Charlie Laird, who is 5-0 and came into an 8-8 game and through four hitless innings against Vernon.

The goal now is to continue the improvement while

pointing to the district and regional playoffs. This is, Muina said, as good a team as he's had in the past four years.

The young Gators have put themselves in a spot to some postseason damage; they need to remember how they got there, Muina said.

"We are such a balanced team, we just try to stay consistent to who we are," Muina said. "We've gotten better as the year as gone by."

"We have played well at times and we've played well in the district obviously. But there is a still a lot of baseball left to play."

## Rutherford's Spearman sets scoring mark in East boys win

By BRAD MILNER  
747-5065 | @PCNHBradMilner  
bmilner@pcnh.com

PANAMA CITY — Khaliel Spearman is aware of history in the Halifax All-Star Classic. Now he's aware of his place in it.

The Rutherford senior set the overall scoring record with 37 points in leading the East to a 120-115 win over the West at the Billy Harrison Field House on Saturday. His achievement was nearly matched by the West's Austin Carnley, who broke a long-standing team record with 30 points. The outcome also was the highest-scoring game in the 10-year history of the event.

Spearman battled East teammate Alex Brown for scoring honors early in the second half and finished the final 20 minutes with 28 points. He and Brown were instrumental in crafting a 12-2 run in 70 seconds that turned a five-point lead into a 99-84 East cushion with 8:42 to play. Spearman had 31 points, one more than previous East scoring record-holder Jon Wade, with a little more than two minutes to go.

East coaches Travis Blanton and Thomas Register called timeout

in the final minutes and informed Spearman that he was nearing Taliah Moore's overall mark of 33 set last year. Spearman tied Moore with a jumper and surpassed her with four free throws, the final two capping the score.

Spearman spoke fondly of Wade, who also played at Rutherford, during Media Day on Friday. Spearman joked "Well, he's a good Jon Wade, but he's no Khaliel Spearman."

No, indeed, as Spearman became the fourth Ram to earn MVP honors since the award was instituted in 2007.

"With all of these great teammates I have, I didn't expect this," Spearman said. "It's a great accomplishment and it feels good to continue the tradition of Rudd (Rutherford) winning that MVP"

The East also extended its winning streak to four games and secured the seventh win in the series. The triumph looked to be in doubt for 30 minutes, as Carnley of Paxton hit four of his nine 3-pointers in the first half and the West trailed by only two points, 53-51. Carnley, who was the West MVP, and Ronnie Baylark, who scored

See RUTHERFORD A8

## Brelove wins MVP as East girls top West

By BRANDON WALKER  
Halifax Media Services

PANAMA CITY — In the fall, Malone High School senior Curteona Brelove will take her talents to Virginia Commonwealth University.

On Saturday, though, she put on one last show for local fans at the 10th Halifax All-Star Classic at Gulf Coast State College.

Brelove, a 6-foot-3 forward, scored a team-high 24 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to help the East team earn an 81-73 win over the West in the game that pits seniors from

county area against representatives from Okaloosa, Walton and Santa Rosa counties.

"I really like this team a lot," said Brelove, who scored 14 of her 24 points in the first half. "We had good chemistry, played well together.

It means a lot to play well today." The victory for the East is the third in 10 years, and first since 2012.

For Chipley coach Kimberly Tuel, the win was satisfying.

"We had a lot of talent," said Tuel, who led her team to the Class 1A state

See BRELOVE A8

## Lady Gators rout Graceville, edge Port St. Joe

Star Staff Report

Ashley Price struck out four and gave up six hits while allowing a single unearned run as the Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School softball team slipped past Port St. Joe 3-2 on Tuesday.

Price was also 1 for 3 at the plate and scored one of the Lady Gator runs.

Tara Walding scored the other two while going 2 for 3 at the plate. Brianna Bailey drove in two and had two hits and Cecily Hale was also 2 for 3 and drove in a run.

Jade McLemore had a single.

Naomi Parker picked up the win and seven players scored a run, drove in a run or both as the Lady Gators

pummeled visiting Graceville 19-1 last Friday.

Parker faced 25 batters and allowed two hits, one unearned run and struck out 10.

Shamario Cole had two hits and scored four runs for the Lady Gators while Ashleigh Price was 2 for 3 with a double and two runs scored.

Tara Walding was 4 for 4 with a pair of triples and three RBIs, Cecily Hale had two hits and scored a run and Brianna Bailey was 3 for 5, scoring once and driving in a run.

Jade McLemore scored four times after a double and three walks, Kayla Cody added a single and scored a run and Parker was 1 for 2 and scored twice.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Naomi Parker pitched a complete game and scored twice as Wewahitchka beat visiting Graceville.

## Junior Service League hosts Breeze by the Bay run

Star Staff Report

The Junior Service League of Port St. Joe hosted a new fundraiser over the weekend that invited visitors into the neighborhood of WindMark Beach for a healthy springtime event.

The Breeze by the Bay, a 5K and 10K run, received 122 registrants, smashing the 100-runner goal. The event raised money for upcoming community-focused JSL events and runners enjoyed a morning run alongside the beach.

On Friday evening, the night before the run, the JSL hosted a Movie on the Green to welcome participants, allowing them to pick up their packets and enjoy free entertainment. Food for the movie event was provided by Centennial Bank.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The Junior Service League welcomed more than 120 runners to the Breeze by the Bay 5K/10K run event over the weekend.

## Gulf County weightlifting championships

Star Staff Report

The weightlifting coaches at the two county public high schools tossed a new wrinkle into the season, promoting a Gulf County championship aimed at awarding not a team title, but individual titles.

The teams squared off last week in advance of this week's Region 1-1A weightlifting meet at Tallahassee Maclay.

The Gators of Wewahitchka had four lifters qualify for the region meet; Port St. Joe had six — Drew Jones, Carter Thacker, Zaccarro, Greg Smith, Umstead Sanders and Alvin Dempsey.

### RESULTS

**119 pounds:** 1. Michael Hinsley (W), 325 total; 2. Drew Jones (PSJ), 190 total;

**129 pounds:** 1. Blake Kemp (W), 365 total; 2. Matt Simpson (PSJ), 285 total;

**139 pounds:** 1. Carter Thacker (PSJ), 445 total; 2. Cameron Laster (W), 350 total;

**154 pounds:** 1. River Sewell (W), 395 total; 2. Zac Jasinski (PSJ), 330 total;

**169 pounds:** 1. Aaron Paul (PSJ), 395 total; 2. Adam Strange (W), 330 total;

**183 pounds:** 1. Jamie Whifield (W), 440 total; 2. Devin Strickland (PSJ), 395 total;

**199 pounds:** 1. Reggie Smith (PSJ), 560 total;

**219 pounds:** 1. Umstead Sanders (PSJ), 450 total; 2. Hunter Ward (PSJ), 210 total;

**238 pounds:** 1. Alvin Dempsey (PSJ), 420 total; 2. Traquan Tiller (W), 360 total;

### Tiger Sharks fall 5-3 to South Walton

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School baseball team lost a close district game at South Walton 5-3.

Ethan Sander took the loss on the mound and Jarkeice Davis led the Port St. Joe attack with a pair of hits.

The Tiger Sharks were at West Gadsden Tuesday and host Bay High tonight at 7 p.m. E.T.

Port St. Joe hosts Bozeman at 6 p.m. Friday. Prior to the game seniors Drew Lacour and Bryce Godwin will be recognized.

# MBARA successfully deploys super reefs

By WES LOCHER  
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Another first for Florida. Last week the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association successfully deployed 59 new reefs off the coast of Mexico Beach and Port St. Joe, 10 of which were the aptly named super reefs.

These super reefs, taller than any reef previously contracted by the MBARA, have 10 feet of exposed rebar at the top to draw in fish like amberjack, wahoo, king mackerel and red snapper that hunt higher in the water column.

Though the growth on the reefs which establishes it as a habitat can take up to two years to form, bait fish will begin to visit within two days and the process can begin.

"We'll watch how the structures perform for future construction purposes," said MBARA President Bob Cox. "We'll be diving them fairly often."

Some of the reefs were grouped closely together while others were spread further apart. This will help the organization gather information and learn which type of reefs have the best



WES LOCHER | The Star

The Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association successfully deployed 59 new reefs off the coast of Mexico Beach and Port St. Joe.

performance and which arrays help to create a flourishing ecosystem. The deployment process took approximately five hours.

Reefs in last week's deployment were placed in 18 new sites and two memorial reefs were expanded with private funds.

The reefs were placed 1-15 miles offshore and coordinates will soon be

feet tall and weighing 4,000 to 36,000 pounds each and sit in depths from 85-104 feet.

"It's great to see it complete," said Cox. "You work, work...there's lots of planning and logistics that goes into it."

Cox said he was excited for the benefits it would provide for eco-tourism, whether it's the divers who visit the area, the boaters, or the spear fishermen who free-dive reefs for amberjack.

The deployment, which had been in the planning stages since January 2013 was made possible by a \$120,000 grant from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a \$55,000 grant match from MBARA and \$8,000 from private donors.

The MBARA partnered with the City of Mexico Beach and the FWC to complete the \$183,000 construction project. It was the largest project undertaken by MBARA to date.

"It's good to have long range planning," said Cox. "If you have that plan then you can really make the most of the short-notice opportunities that come along."

## FLOODING from page A1

water and the timing," Nelson said. "We are going to start putting things in place and get ready for it."

Nelson said indications are a flood event similar to that in 2005.

That year flood waters forced the closure of a number of roads in the north end and some residences were inundated with water.

The flooding is likely to be most severe in the areas of Howard Creek, Red Bull Island and similarly low-lying areas on the north end, Nelson said.

Folks in those areas are urged to take precautions.

### Beacon Hill variance

A prickly debate broke out about a variance requested by a property owner in the Beacon Hill area across U.S. 98 from Veterans Memorial Park and abutting park land on the beach side.

The variance had been tabled for more information last meeting by Commissioner Warren Yeager, who along with the county attorney and county administrator was not present for the meeting.

The parcel in question has been the subject of some controversy in the past as previous owners have sought concessions

from the BOCC because of constraints on developing the parcel.

In turn, county veterans and supporters of the park have consistently protested plans to develop the parcel as an infringement on the park and its land.

Ellis Smith, a Georgia attorney and current landowner, was joined by his local attorney and engineer and protested several statements made during the previous meeting about the legality of the variance.

"I've been singled out and treated differently than anybody in the county," Smith said.

He said he was deeding over a quarter acre of the parcel for beach access from the park in order for his son to secure the variance, a variance which he said was legal.

Commissioner Ward McDaniel agreed, saying Smith was entitled to divide his property and sell one parcel to his son and the son was entitled to further divide that property.

"You misled us two weeks ago, you have a history of that," Commissioner Carmen McLemore said to Commissioner Joanna Bryan, who asserted two weeks ago and again Tuesday that the variance is in violation of

the county's land development regulation.

She said the parent parcel in question had already been divided and further division by Smith's son was illegal. She offered the specific section in the LDRs pertaining to such actions.

"This is a direct violation of the LDR and you continue to do this," Bryan said. "This lot was not big enough to be divided. This is wrong and it is bad for the community."

"I am appalled." She said Smith would have to undertake a subdivision plat to conform.

While the BOCC could provide a variance based on hardship, she said any hardship was the result of Smith's actions.

She said she was not surprised by McLemore's comments in favor given Smith's financial contributions to his previous election campaign.

Bryan also asserted the public already had beach access and did not need Smith's donation and said the proposal was to build a structure that would impact views from the park, saying assertions to the contrary on the structure and beach access were "false information."

Resident Rodney Herring, current commander of VFW Post 10069, was one of several residents to speak against the variance.

"I want to go on record on behalf of the public that we oppose any variance that diminishes the enjoyment of that park in any way," Her-

ring said.

Commissioner Tan Smiley and McLemore said the county attorney is paid to research such issues and they had been provided the needed information that indicated the variance conformed to county rules.

Throughout the lengthy debate, McDaniel gaveled speakers out of order and personal jibes were exchanged by commissioners.

"If you have a certain relationship with the board you get what you want," Bryan said at one point. "This will open the board up to lawsuits."

The variance was approved 3-1 with Bryan dissenting.

Other business:

After a complaint from resident Billy Traylor regarding a March 27 debate by the members of the Apalachee Regional Planning Council regarding a loan sought by Traylor's company, commissioners voted unanimously to replace Bryan as the BOCC representative to the board and replace her with Commissioner Ward McDaniel.

Bryan was also on the losing end of vote to approve a new model for economic development in the county. She sought to clarify some language in the proposal included in the BOCC meeting packet.

McLemore accused her of not doing her homework and said he supported the county attorney who drafted the language.

## TDC from page A1

and her team have been focusing on as they try to build tourism during such shoulder seasons.

The Welcome Center in Port St. Joe saw a jump in visitors of 31 percent and traffic to the agency's website has increased 169 percent.

Last month alone, Jenkins and her team distributed some 15,000 visitors' guides.

The number of Facebook fans, with a goal of 10,000 this year, has already reached over 9,600.

"The numbers are really good," Jenkins said.

And the visitors noticed the effort and focus of the TDC, indicated several advisory board members.

Board chair David Wariner said he thought better communications and networking among visits was well-fostered by the TDC and Ronald Pickett noted an increase in available activities beyond two appreciation receptions.

"I think a lot of them were impressed with what we were doing as far as providing activities," Pickett said.

The spring promotion on Instagram has gone well, Jenkins said, though the numbers are less than she had hoped. The quality of the photos posted to reflect how folks think of Gulf County, however, have exceeded her hopes.

"I have to think more of the quality than the quantity," she said.

The spring promotion is aimed at getting folks to snap their photos for upload to Instagram, the fastest-growing social media platform in the country, and tagging to #GulfCountynofilter.

The promotion, which closes at the end of the month, includes collaboration with several entities, a blogging network, the online presence of Field and Stream magazine, among others that include the non-profit Outdoor Nation whose mission is to connect the so-called Millennial generations to the outdoors.

"The spring promotion is going real well," Jenkins said. "I am pleased with the results so far."

## RUTHERFORD from page A7

25 points, helped the West build a 65-55 lead three minutes into the second half.

Spearman's 3-pointer six minutes later capped an East rally for an 82-80 lead. The East didn't trail again.

"We gave them a run for their money," said Carnley, who broke Jeremy Payne's West record of 27 points set in the inaugural year of 2005. "I just wanted to do my best to help my team, but I'm not gonna lie, it feels good to set the scoring record."

Spearman agreed that the individual accolade was satisfying and the new

"The branding is good. People are liking it. We are getting pretty good exposure with it."

The underlying hope for the promotion was to increase awareness about Gulf County in the non-traditional tourist months of shoulder season. That exposure grows exponentially when linking to social media and online platforms.

And using that increased awareness of Gulf County as a springboard for additional promotions throughout the year.

The increase in Google impressions during the pre-spring and spring promotions total nearly 7 million. The goal across all platforms is 13 million, Jenkins said, a reachable goal.

The local partners benefit, Jenkins said.

For example, recent traffic indicates that during the early spring and spring period 46 percent of visitors were clicking through to visit the website of lodging, restaurant and outdoors partners.

"Handing off 50 percent of traffic is pretty good," Jenkins said.

### Sponsorship applications

With the deadline passed for applications to receive event sponsorship funding from the TDC, Jenkins said the process would begin of winnowing down the applications for presentation to the board.

After advisory council approval the final list of sponsorship funding must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Jenkins said she hoped to have that task completed by the middle of May in time for the crafting of county budgets.

The application pool was broadened this year, but the link to collaboration with a lodging partner and "heads in beds" was tightened.

The TDC received 18 applications compared to 21 last year, but the total funding being sought was \$110,000 compared to \$71,000 last year.

## BRELOVE from page A7

championship game this season. "Any time you get this much talent together, it's fun to coach."

Choctawhatchee guard Brittany Washington, the West's Most Valuable Player, led all scorers with 25 points.

For the East, 11 players reached the scoring column, led by Brelove's 24 and 15 from Sneads guard Tasherica McMillon. The East also enjoyed an advantage it used to outscore the West 13-5 over the game's final three minutes.

"I thought their size was a big difference," said Paxton coach Steve Williams, who led his Lady 'Cats to the 1A state championship over Chipley. "Our girls

played hard and played together. I really enjoy coming over here to this game and seeing players get to play together that have been opponents all year. It's a great game."

The East opened the game on a 9-0 scoring run and the West never fully recovered. The East led throughout, and the closest the West got was three points when Washington connected on a 3-pointer with three minutes left to cut the advantage to 68-65. Brelove and company were too much down the stretch on the way to the eight-point win.

"I just wanted to come out and play my game," Brelove said. "After that, I just let the game take care of itself."

# PET OF THE WEEK

## Franklin County Humane Society

BRADLEY AND ANGELINA are beautiful Border Collies that were found as strays. They are smart, gentle, obedient dogs and need to stay together as they are a bonded pair. She is about 7-8 yrs old and he is 5-6 yrs old. She is house trained and well mannered. He is a little more difficult as he was never house trained and will "mark" inside. Because of this, these two need to go to a home with plenty of outdoor space to run and be housed. Please, if you have fenced acreage and are looking for

2 great dogs, please come meet this special pair!

Volunteers are desperately needed to socialize all of our dogs and cats.

We are always looking for people willing to bring one of our animals into their home to be fostered for various needs. Anytime you can spare would be greatly appreciated.

Call Karen at 670-8417 for more details or visit the Franklin County Humane Society at 244 State Road 65 in Eastpoint. You may logon to the website at [www.forgottenpets.org](http://www.forgottenpets.org) to see more of our adoptable pets.

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## Bay cleanup, kayak festival April 27



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Part of the St. Joseph Bay Cleanup will be a geo-cache hunt. Above are the winners of last year's hunt.

By **TIM CROFT**  
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The annual St. Joseph Bay Cleanup and Kayak Festival will be 1-5 p.m. ET April 27.

This is the 10th year for the event, which has been moved from the fall to April to celebrate Earth Day and the National C.I.T.O. while the event is still registered with the National River Cleanup organization and its national River Cleanup Week, said Debbie VanFleet with Happy Ours Kayak & Bike Outpost, one of the sponsors of the bay cleanup.

"Folks can enjoy a beautiful afternoon on St. Joseph Bay while helping to pick up trash that has accumulated in the shallow waters," VanFleet said.

Kayaks rentals are being offered to responsible adults and families who wish to participate.

Participants must have a valid credit card as security against loss of or damage to "free" rental equipment, and adults (18 and over) must sign a waiver of liability for themselves and their minor children.

Minors must be supervised by an adult at all times.

Launch your own kayak or

make reservations at Happy Ours Kayak & Bike Outpost, 229-1991; Scallop Cove Bait and Tackle, 227-1573; or Scallop Cove Park Concession, 229-1188.

A limited supply of collection bags will be available, or bring your own bags. Water shoes and gloves are recommended.

In addition, a third location, at Eagle Harbor, has been added to expand the cleanup.

The Coastal Community Association once again is sponsoring two prizes worth \$100 for a geo-cache hunt. The GPS coordinates for the hunt will be announced the day of the cleanup on April 27.



PHOTOS BY WES LOCHER | The Star

Dogs adopted from the 32nd class of the DAWGS in Prison program at the Gulf Forestry Camp found new homes in Florida, Alabama and Connecticut. Over the last five years, 334 dogs have found Forever Homes in 19 states.

## Diamonds in the 'ruff'

### DAWGS in Prison celebrates five years, 32nd class

By **WES LOCHER**  
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Maybe they sound farfetched, but the numbers don't lie: Over the past five years, 334 dogs have been adopted across 19 states thanks to DAWGS in Prison.

The Developing Adoptable Dogs With Good Sociability program reached a milestone last week, celebrating its 32nd graduating class alongside its fifth anniversary.

The program, operated out of the Gulf Forestry Camp through collaboration between the Board of County Commissioners, the Florida Department of Corrections and the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society, utilizes inmates who volunteer to spend eight weeks training dogs, teaching the basic commands, obedience and crate training, before they can be adopted into "Forever Homes."

More than 380 inmates have completing the elective program, which presents skills that can be utilized in life on the outside.

The program works to bring in stray or abandoned dogs that will complete the training before, ide-



ally, going to a new home, wherever it may be.

Adopted dogs live as far away as California and Maine, though some stay close to home in Florida or Alabama.

In her speech to the crowd of adopters, inmates and supporters of the program, co-director Sandi Christy told attendees she was moved by the joy the program brings to everyone involved.

"Most people wouldn't associate joy with a prison," Christy said. "Here, we see joy in dogs who are

relieved to be out of the shelter, and we see the joy in the inmate trainers because they realize that they're making a difference.

"Take a moment today to experience some of that joy."

With graduation over, pups from the class would readjust to their new homes in Florida, Alabama and Connecticut.

Joey Roberts from Foley, Ala., made the trek to retrieve Griffin, a yellow lab.

See 'RUFF' B6



PHOTOS BY WES LOCHER | The Star

Gulf County juniors and seniors listen to Renee Napier's speech about the dangers of drinking and driving in a presentation this week. Napier, **below**, lost her daughter, Meagan, in a crash with a drunk driver and encouraged students to make good life choices.

## Students learn perils of drinking and driving

By **WES LOCHER**  
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wlocher@starfl.com

Juniors and seniors in Gulf County schools were reminded this week that drinking and driving don't mix.

In a presentation Monday at Wewahitchka and Port St. Joe high schools, speaker Renee Napier of the Meagan Napier Foundation spoke to students about the dangers of drinking and driving.

In 2000, Napier's daughter, Meagan, was killed in Pensacola when Eric Smallridge, driving drunk, crashed his car into Meagan's, killing her and her best friend.

With proms on the horizon for both county high schools, Napier stressed the importance of making good decisions and said getting behind the wheel after drinking is never a good one.

She also discussed how those decisions can have ripple effects that go across many families and affect many people.

"It's all about a choice," Napier told students. "The choices you make are the ones that are the most important."

In addition to living through the loss of a child, Napier spoke about the feelings she had toward Smallridge, who was sentenced to 22 years in prison for manslaughter, though he served less than half that.



Since being released from prison, Smallridge travels with Napier to help students understand the impact 4 seconds can make on their life.

"There's not a lot of good that comes from drinking," Smallridge said. "One choice changed my life."

"Think about your life — think about what it would mean to throw it all away."

By signing a pledge not to drink, students received hot pink wristbands emblazoned with the words "I promise."

Napier encouraged the students to enter all conversations positively, warning that a person never knows when they might be speaking to someone for the last time.

Gulf County Sheriff Mike Harrison brought Napier to the schools in hopes of deterring students from drinking and to educate them about the life changing consequences drinking and driving can have.



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

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

1) Of these 1990s TV series which aired the most original episodes

at 180? Northern Exposure, Mad About You, Nash Bridges, Seinfeld

2) Which future First Lady's first marriage was to William Warren?

Betty Ford, Rosalyn Carter, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Kennedy

3) Statistically speaking on what day of the week do fewer people play golf?

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

4) Who was president when Nebraska was admitted to the Union?

Fillmore, A. Johnson, Garfield, Wilson

5) In biblical times a "cab" was approximately how much?

1 pint, 2 quarts, 1 gallon, 5 gallons

6) What does the prefix "hydro" mean?

Above, Under, Water, Below

7) Whose official

state tourism magazine runs a regular column called

"One of Our Fifty is Missing"? Alaska, Oregon, Utah, N. Mexico

8) Which country initiated the method of house numbering, odd on one side, even on the other?

England, France, USA, Spain

9) Where did Scotty Bowman become the first coach to win 1,000 games?

NFL, NBA, NHL, MLB

10) Who played Nacho in the 2006 movie "Nacho Libre"?

Jack Black, Vin Diesel, Jim Dunk, George Lopez

11) Of these whose son Jacob died in a WWII prison camp?

Churchill, Eisenhower, Stalin, Patton

12) An average human sheds how many pounds of skin each year?

.5, 1, 1.5, 2

13) Which of these is the first letter of any

U.S. state? B, J, Q, T

14) What was the Indianapolis street gang led by John Dillinger in

his youth? Dexter Lake, Dirty Dozen, Derbin Creek, Distant Cousins

### ANSWERS

1) Seinfeld. 2) Betty Ford. 3) Tuesday. 4) A. Johnson. 5) 2 quarts. 6) Water. 7) N. Mexico. 8) USA. 9) NHL. 10) Jack Black. 11) Stalin. 12) 1.5. 13) T. 14) Dirty Dozen.

# SWAT congratulates CVS on tobacco decision

## Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Elementary School SWAT Executive Board held a presentation ceremony last Friday recognizing the Port St. Joe CVS store, No. 5246, on the decision to discontinue the sale of tobacco products in an effort to improve the health of Gulf County.

"I want to congratulate CVS Caremark for today's bold decision that will lead to better health. Removing cigarettes from their more than 700 locations in Florida is welcome news for the families and communities of our state. I urge other retailers to follow suit and invest in the long term health of their customers and employees in Florida," said Dr. John Armstrong, State Surgeon General and Secretary of the Florida Department of Health.



Port St. Joe Elementary School Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) President, Malena Ramsey, presents certificate of "Greatness in Public Health" to CVS manager Donna Odom and staff.

SPECIAL TO THE STAR

# Tips for growing sweet corn in the backyard garden

Sweet corn is a favorite among home gardeners. As long as the space is available, it's not difficult to grow.

Corn is a New World native crop, with archaeological evidence suggesting that it was first domesticated in Mexico. This crop was the basis of the Mayan, Incan and Aztec civilizations, and by the time European explorers came to the New World in the 1500s, corn had become a staple for the native people.

Corn is monoecious (mon-ee-shuss), which means that there are both male and female flowers on each corn plant. In some monoecious plants, male and female parts are in the same flower. In corn, male and female flowers are in different locations, the male flowers form a tassel which is at the top of the plant. The female flower is located at the junction

of leaves and stem. It consists of collection of hairs (silks) enclosed in the husks of what will become the ears. There silks are pollen receiving tubes. Wind-blown pollen from the mole flower (tassel) falls on the silks below. Each silk leads to a kernel, and pollen must land on all silk for the ear to fill out completely with kernel.

Corn comes in a variety of colors and sugar contents. Look for sugary enhanced varieties, with firm and sweet kernels, or the super sweet varieties, with tender and very sweet kernels. Some varieties of white and yellow corn that perform well in Florida are Silver Queen (white), "How Sweet It Is" (white), "Sweet Ice" (white), "Merit" (yellow), "Kandy Korn" (yellow), and "Peaches and Cream" (bicolor).

Sweet corn thrives best

in well-drained soils but will tolerate a wide range of soil types. Optimum pH ranges from 6.0 to 6.5.

Till the soil to a depth of 6-8 inches using a spade, plow or rototiller. Avoid tilling the soil while it is too wet because clodding may occur.

Sweet corn is a warm-season vegetable requiring soil temperature between 60-90 degrees F. Avoid planting seed in cool soils. Wait until after the last average dates of the last killing frost before planting. If planted too early, weak stands, stunted growth or frost-killed seedling may result. The newer, sweeter varieties are even more sensitive to cool, wet soils any may not perform well in these conditions.

Plant corn in an area that receives at least six to eight hours of sunlight. It is beneficial to plant near a water source for needed irrigation.

Plant seed approximately 1-1½-inch deep in rows three feet

apart with 8-12 inches between each seed in the row. A hand pushed mechanical planter can make seeding much easier for larger stands of corn.

A soil test through the local County Extension Office is always the best way to determine the lime and fertilizer needs. If lime is required, it can be tilled into the ground during soil preparation but is most effective when applied 2 to 3 months prior to planting.

If a soil test is not done, a general guideline is to apply 3-4 pounds of 10-10-10 per 100 linear row feet before planting. Side dress two or three times during the growing season with ammonium sulfate (21-0-0-17) at the rate of 2 pounds per 100 feet of row space. More frequent side dressing may be required on sandy soils or when excessive ran occurs.

Corn requires a minimum of 1 inch of water per week for normal development. The

most critical period for water is during pollination and during final ear filling.

Sweet corn matures in 60 to 100 day, depending on the varieties. Sweet corn should be ready for harvest about 20 days after the appearance of the first silk stands, sweet corn is picked during the "milk stage" when the kernels are fully formed but not completely mature.

After picking, cook and eat corn that day or store it in cool temperatures, such as in a refrigerator, as soon as possible. It can then be canned, frozen or eaten fresh within few days. Keeping the corn cool is the key to better flavor as high temperatures will convert the sugar in the kernels to starch, giving it a bland taste.

For more information on growing sweet corn contact the Gulf County Extension Service at 639-3200 or visit our website: [gulf.ifas.ufl.edu](http://gulf.ifas.ufl.edu) or [edis.ifas.ufl.edu](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu) and see Publication SP 103 /VH 021.



**ROY LEE CARTER**  
County extension director

## Society BRIEFS

### AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAMS

Star Staff Report  
Amateur radio license exams will be given at 10 a.m. ET Saturday, May 10 at the Gulf County EOC building in Port St. Joe. It is time to get on the air or upgrade an existing license.

For registration and information contact C.H. Tillis AJ4XJ at 648-8251.

### AMERICAN LEGION POST 116 SPECIAL MEETING

Special to The Star  
There will be a special meeting of American Legion Post 116 at 4 p.m. ET Thursday, April 10. The meeting will be held at VFW

Post 10069 on Trout Avenue in Highland View for the purpose of installing new officers for the ensuing year and to firm up details for the Legion annual Good Friday fish fry/chicken barbecue fundraiser at Veterans Memorial Park.

New officers to be installed: Commander, Wanda Wawruck; Vice Commander, Brian Cahill; Adjutant, John Miick; Finance Officer, Kenny Wood; Chaplain, Ron Groleau; Sgt.-at-Arms, Phil Dodson; Service Officer, Bo Williams.

Members are urged to attend to support their new officers and to be a part of the annual fundraiser.

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

### AMERICAN LEGION BENEFIT FISH FRY/CHICKEN DINNER

Star Staff Report  
American Legion Post 116 of Port St. Joe will hold its annual benefit fish fry/chicken barbecue on Good Friday, April 18.

The event will begin at 12 noon ET and last until the food is gone.

The event will take place

at Veterans Memorial Park in Beacon Hill. Fish or BBQ chicken with sides of baked beans, coleslaw and hush puppies will be served. Soft drinks and water will be available. A \$7 donation will be used by the Legion to support PSJHS NJROTC scholarship and other American Legion projects.

Legion Post 116 will also have a representative there to assist any qualified veterans with information regarding joining our Post. Interested veterans can also go to [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). Thank you all for your support. For God and Country.

## Wedding



### Despina Williams, Nathan Parker wed

Despina Williams and Nathan Q. Parker were joyfully united in marriage at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 22, 2014, at the Apalachicola Museum of Art. The ceremony was officiated by the bride's childhood priest, the Rev. Thomas C. Weller. A reception followed in the adjacent gallery rooms.

The bride is the daughter of Jerry and Mary Williams, of Apalachicola. She is the granddaughter of the late Nick and Theodora (Lula) George, of Apalachicola, and the late Belon and Vicie Williams of Apalachicola.

The groom is the son of Larry and Kristine Parker, of Matthews, North Carolina. He is the grandson of William and the late Janice Parker, of Dowling Park, and Frank and Freda Freeman, of Nacogdoches, Texas.

The bride was

attended by her Matron of Honor, Kelley Mason and bridesmaid Jessica Ward. The groom's father, Larry Parker, stood as his Best Man and his uncle, Bob Dees, served as groomsman. Music was provided by the bride's cousin, Greg Fuentes. Original artwork, made by the couple, their families and friends, decorated the gallery walls. It was a beautiful day.

The bride graduated summa cum laude from the University of Florida with a bachelor of arts in English, and currently works for the State University of New York in New Paltz. The groom was medically retired from the Marine Corps after 10 years of service, and is currently in the Honors Program at the State University of New York in Middletown.

The couple resides in Walden, N.Y.

## PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Kitten and Puppy season is upon us and we have an abundance. Please consider one of our fully vetted pets for your next addition to your furry family. Even if you cannot adopt, you can help in other ways: Foster homes give our great pets the attention and socialization they crave. We provide all supplies needed. We need volunteers to help with maintenance around the shelter. Towels and bedding are always welcome. Pet carriers and crates. Donations of kitty litter is in great

demand as well as puppy toys. Monetary donations are always welcome. Any donation no matter how small will be greatly appreciated. If you are unable to adopt at this time, perhaps you could foster or make a Donation. All pets adopted from SJHHS will be current on vaccinations and spayed/neutered. Please do not hesitate to email [towndsend.hs@stjoe.org](mailto:towndsend.hs@stjoe.org) or [adoptstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:adoptstjoe@gmail.com) or call the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society at 850-227-1103 and ask for Melody or Debbie! Online applications and pet photos are available at [www.sjbhumane.org](http://www.sjbhumane.org)

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

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

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



**Blue Buffalo and Taste of the Wild Available Here!**  
Downtown Port St. Joe

850-229-6161  
[bowwowbeach.com](http://bowwowbeach.com)

301 REID AVENUE  
PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, 32456  
Mon-Friday 10:30 - 5:30 • Saturday 10:30-3:30 • Closed Sunday

## Auto Insurance

Shop at Home!

Hannon Insurance 227-1133

WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS PRESENTS THE  
**SEABREEZE JAZZ FESTIVAL**  
APRIL 23RD - 27TH AT *Pier Park* PANAMA CITY BEACH  
[WWW.SEABREEZEJAZZFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.SEABREEZEJAZZFESTIVAL.COM)



SMOOTH JAZZ & FUN TIMES! PRESENTED BY WYNDHAM VACATION RENTALS

CALL 800.595.4849 FOR TICKETS OR ONLINE  
[SEABREEZEJAZZFESTIVAL.COM](http://SEABREEZEJAZZFESTIVAL.COM) - FESTIVAL INFO 800.653.7519

## PSJ ELEMENTARY HONOR ROLL

### Special to The Star

The following students made the honor roll for the third nine weeks at Port St. Joe Elementary.

Kindergarten, all A's: Myles Acree, Hunter Ard, Cole Bailey, Joshua Baker, Maya Barnes, Zora Beauchamp, Ja'leigha Becton, Christopher Bradley, Lauren Brant, Carson Brown, Corban Butts, Cailin Cathey, Blake Childress, Christina Clayton, Brayden Dailey, Sumner Dickey, Logan Ellwood, Dominic Fitzgerald, Dru Flowers, Hailey Green, Fenix Grogan, Eli Harris, Cole Hart, Kenley Hatcher, Addison Hendricks, Easton Herring, Emma Hill, Anderson Hodges, Johnnie Hood, Chloe Jones, Bobby Landrum, Landon Layfield, Christopher Lee, Brody Lemieux, Stratton Levins, Nathan Lipford, Jacob Marshall, Reagan Mathews, Kymani Mcadoo, Hallie Mize, Brody Mock, Kari Moore, Colt Patterson, Colton Raker, Kaley Rhodes, Melina Ruiz, Reagan Thomas, James Ward, Lexi Webb, Paisley White, Keiara Winfield, Sha'Nara Woodruff, Callee Wray.

Kindergarten, A's and B's: Juan Carlos Baxcajay, Christianna Causey, Harmony Dwight, Trinity Farmer, Jakwavian Gray, Jayvonta Harris, Shamyiah Hayes, Donell Henry, Dovud Kouljanov, Preston Magnussen, Kaleigh Mohr, Cameron Nicholens, Nijah Quinn, Jamie Rapier, Leelyn Rollins, Jenna Shively, Emily Sudduth, Aaliyah Thompson, Jett Whicker, Lia Wood, 1st Grade, all A's Mikey Allen, Whitney Butler, Gannon Buzzett, Sara Beasley Flowers, Carly Hatcher, Ava Kennedy, Peyton Knox, Boston McGhee, Bionca Raffield, Bella Ray, Leila Smith, Kole Street, Emily Warner, Karis Whicker, Landon White.

1st Grade, A's and B's: Ta'Niyah Bryan, Camdon Buckley, Ashen Dady, Kate Fidler, James Foxworth, MacKenzie Freisleben, Zuri Garner, Colton Johnson, Kaelee Johnson, Makayan Jones, Lyria Larry, Hailyn Levins, Chloe Harper, Jasper Hayes, Olivia Leonard, Sydney Kingsland-Lormand, Eileen Madrid, Kensley Mathews, Zoey Metcalf, Draven O'Neal, Kiyale Parker, Jackson Reatherford, Levi Sanders, Zachary Shively, Kellie Simmons, King Waters

2nd Grade, all A's: Garrett Acree, Estevan Angel, Jenna Barfield, Zoey Burkett, Ashleigh Causey, Sam Childers, Sara Durham, Mary Margaret Farrell, Shauna Flowers, Tanner Fogle, Dawson Fisher, Wake Giffin, Brandon Heckenlively, Cassidy Lewis, Austin O'Bryan, Luke Pickels, Dakota Tousignant, Elyse Williams.

2nd Grade, A's and B's: Ja'Marrien Becton, Bella Cannington, Cody Combow, Juveryona Daniels, Devin Daves, Chase Dykes, Arlena Gleichner, Carson Hendricks, Thomas Hutchinson, T.J. Jenkins, Danica Kelly, Lance Larry, Mikhai Larry, Jamal Leslie, Kaylee Schweikert, Ardarien Shackelford, Miracle Smiley, Fisher Vandertulip, Diamond Warner, Brooke White

3rd Grade, all A's: Eli Fidler, Luke Lentz, Gabriella Price, Hannah Riley.

3rd Grade, A's and B's: Sam Brown, Emma Grace Burke, Madison Burkett, Maelynn Butler, Walker Chumney, Skylar Clayton, Donovan Cumbie, Jaydon Gant, Payton Garland, Celeste Hamm, Prince Jones, Jacob Justice, Chase Lanford, Dane Mallon, Cole Moore, Jabara Pearson, Ricky Sherrill, Sha'Necia Sims, Jansasia Walker, Emigen Watkins, Halee Whicker, Britt White, Dane Wright.

4th Grade, all A's: Trent Antley, Elliana Burkett, Ricky Forbes-Rosado, Halston Fulk, Zoe Gerlach, Ashton

McGlamery, Donovan Miniat, Erica Ramsey, Ava Ryan, Lily Wockenfuss, Lauren Woosley, Caleb Zur Heiden.

4th Grade, A's and B's: Skylah Addison, Briana Biagini, Sammya Brown, Paloma Burgos-Harris, Ashton Burkett, Ace Cannon, Santana Causey, Kaleigh Clayton, Diamond Collier, Chasity Finch, Destiny Dykes, Julia Gannine, Madelyn Gortemoller, Natalie Graziano, Shadavia Hudgins, Laura Beth Hill, Porter Hodges, Nic Jefferson, Emily Lacour, MiMi Larry, Aidan Lewis, Morgan Mills, Cliff Money, Amari Nickson, Rylee Reatherford, Gena Rocha, Megan Saleh, Alexandria Thomason, Sarah Beth Thompson.

5th Grade, all A's: Leanna Baumgardner, Ali Godwin, Philip Riley, Caleb Wright.

5th Grade, A's and B's: Austin Ard, Henry Balogh, Cherokee Braun, Savannah Burkett, Lyndsey Butler, Parker Cornwell, Judson Griffies, Tyler Guthrie, Haley Harriman, Corbin Ingalls, Lauren Jenkins, Gavin Jones, Kevin Lacivita, Lanecia Larry, Evelyn Laue, Bryson Lee, Mattison Mills, Gabrielle Nicodemus, Jack Randall, Alex Strickland, Hannah Tomlinson, Analisa Treglown, Gabrielle Wood.

6th Grade, all A's: Brandon Barnes, Jade Cothran, Sean Farnsley, Jireh Gant, Madeline Gingell, Greg Julius, Bailey Lake, Zach McFarland, Malena Ramsey, Caroline Sapp, Sara Whitfield.

6th Grade, A's and B's: Jaheim Ash, Justice Barfield, Adison Burkett, Brianna Butler, Wesley Chapman, Tristan Doran, Joseph Farrell, Micaela Fedd, John Austin Gee, Brittany Hanson, Lane Herring Rainey Nobles, Hagen Parrish, Jytrel Riley, Jacob Sander, Caleb Schweikert, Rachel Sherman, Hannah Smith.

# Cadets recognized for community support

### Special to The Star

Supporting the Gulf County community is a main goal of the Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School NJROTC program.

Recently, five cadets were recognized by Tupelo Free and Accepted Masonic Lodge No. 289 for their support of the Lodge and its members and as representatives of their company mate's overall community support throughout the year.

During the Lodge's annual awards dinner at the Lodge in Wewahitchka, Cadets Megan Hubbard, Matthew Rocha, Kayla



Willis, Claudia Gref and Alex Naus received certificates of appreciation recognizing their community service efforts.

The cadets "Presented the Colors" to start the ceremony and performed an extremely poignant Flag Folding Ceremony

depicting the meaning behind each fold of a correctly folded American Flag. The cadets wish to thank the Lodge for their recognition and support and are looking forward to further serving the Gulf County community. The Port St. Joe NJROTC is a

citizenship and leadership training program co-sponsored by Gulf County Schools and the United States Navy. Each year, more than 600 hours of community service are performed by the Cadets through active participation in community events.

## DAZZLING DOLPHINS



PORT ST. JOE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

This week's Dazzling Dolphins at Port St. Joe Elementary School are, front row, Aydan Davis, Mary Margaret Farrell and Josh Baker. Back row: Farrah-Jade Watts, George Foxworth, Caleb Schweikert and Emigen Watkins.



### The Lion's Tale

#### Special to The Star

Faith Christian School K4 students read! FCS students learn to read with an introduction to phonics. Developing a strong foundation with the FCS curriculum creates a bridge that helps students obtain a better understanding of written language. Phonics can help students break down words with certain sounds, and children that can "sound out" a word have an enormous advantage when reading. This skill branches into all academics, and gives students the tools to succeed. Every child deserves the opportunity to become a good reader. Open enrollment for new students has begun for the 2014-2015 school year. Class sizes are limited so early registration is recommended. Call 229-6707 or visit our website, www.FaithChristianPSJ.net for more information.

## Auto Insurance

Shop at Home!

Hannon Insurance 227-1133

**FREE PARKING**

# Gun Show

APRIL 12th & 13th  
Panama City Fairgrounds

Concealed Weapons Class  
Sat/Sun 11am or 2pm

Floridagunshows.com  
Sat 9-5 Sun 10-4

## WE SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIVERSITY



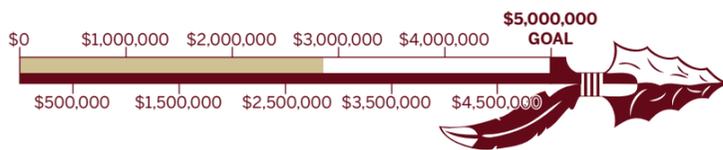
As advocates for education, we believe in FSU Panama City's ability to produce the future leaders of our community.

— Neal and Leah Dunn



## THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIVERSITY

Endowment for Tomorrow's Jobs



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
PANAMA CITY

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

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.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

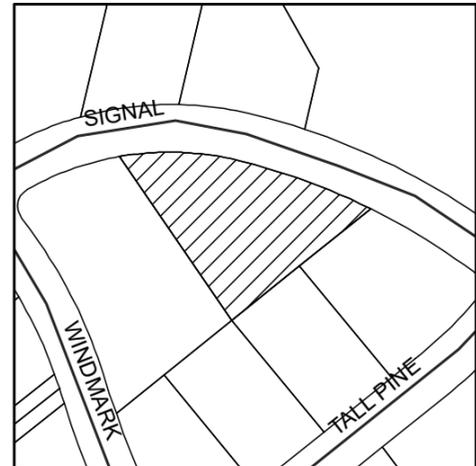
A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) on April 21, 2014 at 8:45 a.m. EST, and at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. EST. Both public hearings will be held in the BOCC Meeting Room at the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida. The public hearings will be to discuss and act on the following:

1. Variance - James & Katherine Korona Parcel ID #04276-360R- Located in WindMark Beach Lot 72 on Signal Lane - Road setback from Single Lane.
2. Minor Subdivision - Pentel Family Partnership LDT - Parcel ID #04243-000R - Section 16, Township 7 South, Range 11 West next to Watermark Way in St. Joseph Shores - a six (6) unit subdivision.
3. County Development Regulations and Policies
4. Staff, Public and Open Discussion

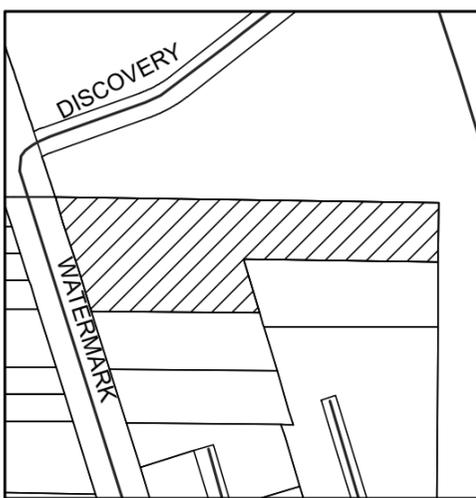
The public is encouraged to attend and be heard on these matters. Information prior to the meeting can be viewed at the Planning

Department at 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Room 311.

### Variance - James & Katherine Korona



### Minor Subdivision - Pentel



## OBITUARIES

### Allen Cox

5/25/1957 – 3/3/2014

After family and friends, the three favorite things in the life of Allen Cox were rooting for the FSU Seminoles, snapper fishing from his boat and playing golf. Sadly, Allen has rooted for the 'Noles his last time, caught his last fish and swung his last club on this Earth. He passed away Sunday, March 30 at his home in Pascagoula, MS after a heroic, nearly four-year-long battle with cancer at the age of 56. He was born May 25, 1957 in Port St. Joe and was preceded in death by his brother, Randy Bailey.

Survivors are his wife, Lisa Brannan Cox, son Jason (Lindsay) Cox and two grandchildren, Hayden and Madyson Cox, all of Pascagoula; his parents George and Faye Cox of Wewahitchka; sister Judy (Martin) Thibodeaux of Monroe, LA; and brothers, Jody (Delynda) Bailey of Blountstown and Jim (Regena) Bailey of Lynn Haven. Other local survivors are his mother-in-law, Nell Ellzey, of Moss Point and brother-in-law, Mark Brannan of Wade. He

is survived by many other loving family members and countless devastated and adoring friends. Once someone met Big Al, they had a friend for life.

Allen worked at Signet Maritime in Pascagoula for approximately 30 years and we would like to thank our Signet family for their generosity, love and compassion during this difficult journey. We would also like to thank Dr. Clarkson, Crystal and staff and our beloved Amy at SRH Cancer Clinic, the doctors and staff at MD Anderson Hospital in Houston, TX, far too many to name. Special thanks go to Dr. Randy Buntyn and Dr. Raymond Weiss, both of Ocean Springs, MS and their staffs. Even though Allen is gone from our presence, he will remain forever in our hearts.

Visitation for Allen was held on April 2, at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral home in Pascagoula, followed by a memorial by Dobbs Dennis and Gene Baugh, both of Moss Point. An online guestbook can be found online at www.obryantokeefe.com.

### Mamie Dupree Harper

Mamie Dupree Harper, 80, of Port St. Joe, passed away on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 in Panama City, FL.

Funeral services were at the First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe, on Saturday, April 5, 2014 with Bro. Dave Fernandez and Bro. Buddy Caswell officiating. Interment followed in Friendship Cemetery Donalsonville, Ga.

Pallbearers were Corey Dupree, Sean Dupree, Ashley Stephens, Ryan Stephens, Zach Williams, Kevin Griffin, Adam Griffin, Chase Harper. Serving as honorary pallbearers were Cecil Pippin, James Young and Frank Williams.

Mamie was born in Bascam to T.L. "Bud" and Creamer Atwell on Sept. 10, 1933. She married Ralph Dupree on Aug. 9, 1952, in Donalsonville, Ga., and together they had four children before his passing in March 1965. In 1971 she married C. D. Harper and together they had a son.

Mamie is preceded in death by her spouse, her parents, her siblings, Doris Watford, Evelyn Perkins, Tom Atwell, James Atwell, Mary Lou Shelton, and Ellen Bass, brother-in-law, Darrell Cross and sister-in-law, Gayla Atwell.

Mamie is survived by her sons, Ron Dupree (Linda) of Tallahassee, Don Dupree of Port St. Joe, and Tommy Harper. Her daughters, Susan (Arden) Stephens of Tallahassee and Kim (Frankie) Williams of Port

St. Joe. She will be missed by her grandchildren, Corey, Erin and Sean Dupree, Jessica Dupree, Ashley and Ryan Stephens, Zach and Lacey Williams, Brooke and Chase Harper. The pride and joy of Mamie were her great grandchildren, Claire Stephens, Easton and Grady Williams and Kylie and Mariah. She also survived by her sisters, Helen Hall, Linda (Gus) Griffin and Betty Cross and sister-in-law, Gloria Atwell. Mamie also is survived by many nieces and nephews whom she loved dearly including Kevin and Adam Griffin who held a special place in her heart.

Mrs. Mamie, as she was affectionately known by so many of the children she helped raise during the '80s and '90s, loved working in her yard and sharing her plants and flowers with anyone who asked. Every Thanksgiving she hosted her family and extended family for a wonderful meal and special family time. She spent the last several years being a "chauffeur" for many of her friends whenever called upon to drive them to the doctors' visits in Panama City. She will be missed by many close friends and neighbors.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Covenant Hospice, 107 W. 19th St. Panama City, FL 32405. Expressions of sympathy may be submitted at www.southerlandfamily.com.

### Mildred Slaughter Owens

Mildred Slaughter Owens, 78, of Port St. Joe, Fla., passed away at home surrounded by her loving family on Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

She was born April 30, 1935, in Westville, Fla., to the late Sidney Slaughter and Mabelle Padgett. She graduated from Ponce de Leon High School in 1953. She then moved to Port St. Joe and married the late Everett "Skull" Owens in 1955 where they raised their family. Mildred had a successful career working with the Florida Power Corp.

Her greatest joy was spending time with her grandchildren, cooking and baking, and being an active member of the First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe. She was known for her abundance of wisdom and will be remembered for being a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She will be deeply missed by those lives she has touched.

Survivors include her two sons, Steven Owens and wife, Judy, of Port St.

Joe, Fla., and John Owens and wife, Catherine, of Orlando, Fla., one brother, Lloyd Slaughter and wife, Gail, of Ponce de Leon, Fla., five grandchildren, Stephanie Davis and husband, Allen, of Howard Creek, Fla., Mitchell Owens of Orlando, Fla., Sydney Owens of Port St. Joe, Fla., Michael and Olivia Owens both of Orlando, Fla.; three great-grandchildren, Charles Allen Davis Jr., Ava Marie Davis, and Abigail Davis, all of Howard Creek, Fla.

Funeral services for Mrs. Owens were held on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at the First Baptist Church in Port St. Joe, Fla., with Brother Buddy Caswell officiating. Interment followed in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery in Westville, FL.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Covenant Hospice or to the building fund at First Baptist Church of Port St. Joe, FL

Expressions of sympathy may be submitted or viewed at www.southerlandfamily.com.

## FAITH BRIEF

Special to The Star

### EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

All are invited to the Easter Eggstravaganza at First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe, Sunday, April 13, at 12:30

p.m. ET. There will be free food: hot dogs, chips, popcorn, snow-cones, and drinks. Come bring the whole family and join us for some Easter fun activities and an Easter Egg Hunt.



*A Spirit Filled  
Outreach Oriented  
Word of Faith Church*

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

TOUCHING LIVES  
WITH THE LOVE  
OF JESUS

[www.familylifechurch.net](http://www.familylifechurch.net)

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



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

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

**Home of Faith Christian School**  
[www.faithchristianpsj.net](http://www.faithchristianpsj.net)



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

1001 Constitution Dr.  
850.227.1724  
[www.psjumc.org](http://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*

MINISTRY SCHEDULE



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

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

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



*First United Methodist  
Church of Mexico Beach*

111 North 22nd Street • Mexico Beach, FL 32410

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

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

Nursery Provided  
Rev. Jerry Arhelger, Pastor • Church/Office: 648-8820

### Michael Jay Bouington

Michael Jay Bouington, 49, of Sanford, Florida, passed away Monday, April 7 after an extended illness.

He is survived by his wife, Patty, of Sanford; mother Betty, of Port St. Joe, one brother, Mitchell and wife, Angela, of Port St. Joe; one nephew, Kyle; three nieces, Mary Caitlin, Catherine and Kristen. Michael is also survived

by his wonderful in-laws, Federico and Vicky Fuentes.

Michael was a native of Port St. Joe and graduated from Port St. Joe High School, Gulf Coast Community College and the University of Central Florida. He was preceded in death by his father, J.W. Bouington.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

**SOUTHERLAND FAMILY  
FUNERAL HOME**

507 10th Street • Port St. Joe  
(850) 229-8111



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

+++++

**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"*

+++++



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

*New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church*

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

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

*You're Always Welcome at*



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

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

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

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**THURSDAY -** 6:30 PM Mixed Bible Study

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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.

# Life in the Big Apple

## PSJHS students spend spring break in NYC

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

Some spring breakers head for warmer climates, but a group of Port St. Joe students took the opposite approach.

Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School art teacher Julie Hodges took 36 students to New York City during spring break to experience art and culture during a three-day trip.

While some students never had left a five-hour radius of Port St. Joe, Hodges was excited to have them thrust into a new environment and they stepped off the bus for the first time on Fifth Avenue, New York's famous shopping mecca.

"It was neat to see the upper-end stores," Caitlin Godwin said. "You don't think they really exist and then ... there they are!"

The group spent large amounts of time walking, talking, experiencing and eating throughout their trip, eager to take in all of the things not typically found in Gulf County.

"I went for the experience," Sophia Harrison said. "I knew I couldn't do something like this on my own."

"I wanted to see things in person that I've only seen on TV," added Morgan Butts. "It was great to see the Statue of Liberty—something so historically significant."

"I wanted to experience



More than 30 students from Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School spent spring break in New York City and visited famous sites like Washington Square Park.

the culture," Bailey Amison said. "There are so many nationalities and it's crazy that things are so different just one street over."

Fifteen adult chaperones accompanied the students on the adventure and a full-time security officer was provided. The group also made time to brave chilly northern weather to explore other famous destinations that included Little Italy, Chinatown and Wall Street.

Additionally, students were treated to walking tours of Manhattan, a trip to the Empire State Building observatory, the 9/11 memorial, Times Square, Statue of Liberty, Central Park and a showing of The Phantom of the Opera on Broadway. For an extra dose of culture, students

visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Guggenheim Museum.

Butts said that the highlight of the Metropolitan Museum of Art was experiencing art from Greek and Chinese History, something she had studied in the eighth grade.

"I didn't expect to enjoy Broadway as much as I did," Amison said.

Although the students admitted that the initial airplane ride was intimidating and that they assumed that everyone in New York City would be mean, they were pleasantly surprised by the experience and wished they could have stayed longer.

The students agreed that while everyone seemed to be in a hurry, everyone they encountered was very nice and enjoyed hearing a

range of southern accents.

Ilianna Maestri, who previously has traveled to Mount Rushmore and the Grand Canyon, proclaimed that she was ready to live in a big city, Harrison thought it might be fun to spend a year or two in NYC while Alayna Godwin called the Big Apple "a nice place to visit."

"How the small town kids navigated in that city would impress you," said Gulf County School Board Chairwoman Linda Wood, who also accompanied the group on the trip. "We're a small town, but we're not small time."

Wood said the highlight for her was meeting up with Port St. Joe alumni Javarri Beachum on their first night in town. Although Beachum intended



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Although the weather was chilly, the group took in the sites all over Manhattan Island during the three-day trip.



to eat dinner with the students and then meet up with friends, he spent time with the students and even accompanied them on their climb to the top of the Em-

pire State Building. Hodges said that because of the demand for a 2015 trip, she already had decided on next year's destination: Boston.

### SCHOOL NEWS



## Community Math Trail has students measuring, learning

Special to The Star

Do you know how wide a sidewalk is? How about how wide and how long a parking space is? Have you ever considered how tall a fire hydrant is or how wide a soda machine is? Don't worry. It's been taken care of.

On April 2, the students

in Mr. Brown's class at Wewahitchka Elementary School took to the streets of Wewahitchka to see how the town "measured up." The students were divided into teams of two and were supplied with their own measuring tape and clip board. During the three-hour walk, they took the time to observe



many examples of nature's beauty that most of us take for granted. From being serenaded by a few happy birds to speaking with some friendly neighbors about their beautiful house and yard, the students enjoyed the time away from the classroom.

The mission of the field

trip was to measure a few common items around the community. In the classroom, talking about measurement concepts and then doing worksheets can get a little boring. Being able to use what you have learned is a better tool to judge a student than any worksheet will

ever be. The last stop on the Community Math Trail was the local Subway. Are the Subway sandwiches really a "foot long"? To find out this answer as well as answers to the earlier items that were measured, stop by Mr. Brown's classroom and talk to his special group of children.

## Annual Ladies Night Out set for May 8

Special to The Star

The Gulf County Domestic Violence task force will host its annual Ladies Night Out from 5:30-8:30 p.m. EDT May 8 at the Gulf County Senior Citizen and Community Center.

Admission to the event is free, and entertainment will be provided by Nashville singer and songwriter Jerry Arhelger and local performer Bill Small.

Food will be provided and a silent auction and 50/50 drawing will round out the event.

For early registration and/or more information, call Patricia at 769-7989, Cathi at 628-9049 or Charlie at 229-2901.

# Real Estate Picks

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Gulf front duplex unit with stunning sunset views from open decks and screened porch. This is a great place to relax at the beach. Master bedroom upstairs with large deck with great views of the beach. Master bedroom also has walkin closet. Nice screened deck on the main level off the living area. Patio area on ground level plus storage. This home is turnkey and rental ready. All furniture, appliances and furnishings stay with the home. Owner financing possible. Windows have 3M tinting which reduces energy bills and lowers insurance rates.



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# The first First Friday

The First Fridays Art and Music series kicked off last week at The Thirsty Goat. Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School students who qualified to represent the Northwest region at the Odyssey of the Mind state finals in Orlando later this month performed skits for attendees to raise money for their travel expenses. Live music was performed by The Bo Spring Band. The series runs the first Friday of each month, April through September.



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SPECIAL TO THE STAR



WES LOCHER | The Star

Dogs that enter the the DAWGS in Prison program at the Gulf Forestry Camp come from a partnership with the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society in Port St. Joe.

## 'RUFF' from page B1

Foley said his sister adopted a dog from a similar program in Tennessee, and after doing some research, he came across DAWGS and filed an application.

As a single dad, Roberts knew he wanted a family pet by April, and more importantly, wanted to ensure the new addition was going to be a loving animal.

"I've had labs before," Roberts said. "I know the breed, and I feel comfortable with them being around my son."

He praised the DAWGS program for helping future pet owners get connected with an animal that's already trained and will adapt well to new situations.

"Taking dogs out of shelters is always a positive thing," Roberts said. "It's so much more than getting a dog that's trained; it's also about the rehab of the inmates and giving back to the community."

After graduating, Maci, a lab/hound mix, would be making the trek to Daphne, Ala. with her new owner, Bob Ward.

One night when Ward was watching television, he saw a feature on a similar program in California and knew it was something he wanted to be part of.

In August, he lost his previous companion, and he wanted to get a dog he and his 3-year-old grandson could enjoy.

"I think the program is great for everyone involved," Ward said. "It's win-win, especially for us who love animals."

Two weeks before the graduation ceremony, Ward and his grandson made the drive to visit the camp, and he recognized an instant

connection between the boy and Maci.

He felt the timing was right and everything had fallen into place.

"The people need something, and the dogs need something," Ward said. "I don't know why anyone wouldn't adopt from the program."

"You don't know what you're getting when you adopt from a shelter—this just makes sense."

The guest speaker for the event was Sheri Logue from the Corrections Foundation in Tallahassee. The foundation is a financial supporter of DAWGS in Prison as well as others across the state.

Logue spoke to the inmates and adopters about the benefits they have and will receive from participating in the program. She reminded the adopters that their pups will believe they are the most amazing humans around.

"It will change your life," Logue said. "Try to be the person your dog thinks you are."

Certificates were given to recognize the inmates who act as team leaders, assistant trainers, handlers and caretakers for the dogs in the program, and awards for Most Improved and the Top Dog were bestowed on canines that exceeded expectations during their training.

Program Co-Director Judy Miick took a moment to recognize and thank Christy for all of her hard work over the past five years. Christy received a standing ovation from the audience.

"Sandi makes the dogs feel good and the people feel good," Miick said. "Everyone who works in this program is part of a pack."

## Gulf County Sheriff's Office LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

### MARCH 31- APRIL 6

On Monday, March 31, Investigator L. Greenwood arrested Stephen J. Heathcock (19) after conducting an investigation into the transmission of harmful material to a minor. A complaint regarding pornographic images sent to a minor was received by Sgt. S. Strickland at Port St. Joe High School. The case was turned over to the Criminal Investigations Division. The images were sent and received on an interactive smartphone application. Heathcock was arrested and charged with the Transmission

of Harmful Material to a Minor. He was transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility (GCDF) where he was later first appeared and released on a conditional release.

On March 31, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) traveled to the Leon County Jail to pick up Mark D. Tennison (54). Tennison was arrested in Leon County on a Gulf County warrant for Failure to Appear on his original charge of Giving False Name to a Law Enforcement Officer. He was transported to the GCDF where he remains in custody.

On Tuesday, April 1, Deputy J. Brock arrested Gary L.

Hudson (44) in the 7300 block of West Highway 98. Hudson was arrested on an active warrant for Harassing Phone Calls. He was transported to the GCDF where he remains in custody.

On April 1, the GCSO transported Londel A. Smith (29) to the GCDF. Smith was arrested in Calhoun County on a Gulf County warrant for Failure to Appear. He remains in custody at the GCDF.

On April 1, Deputy J. Brock took a report regarding the burglary of a vehicle in the 5900 block of Ganley Road in the Five Acre Farm area. The victim reported that approximately

\$400 in cash, an iPod Touch and medication were stolen out of the vehicle. The vehicle was not locked at the time of the offense.

On April 1, Deputy K. Starnes served a warrant on Robert J. Price, Jr. (35) in the 100 block of North 2nd Street in Wewahitchka. On March 25, Sgt. Dixon conducted an investigation into the theft of electricity in which Price began a suspect in. Sgt. Dixon obtained a warrant for Price in that case which resulted in the arrest. Price was transported to the GCDF where he was later first appeared and released on a \$500 bond.

On Wednesday, April 2, the

GCSO transported Crystal M. Ratliff (50) to the GCDF. Ratliff was arrested in Franklin County on a warrant from Gulf County for Violation of Probation. Her original charge was Possession of a Controlled Substance. She was first appeared and released on a \$3,000 bond.

On Thursday, April 3, Deputy J. Oquendo stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation in the area of State Road 22 and Past Time Drive in Wewahitchka. The driver, Cody L. Curti (20), was wanted out of Bay County. Curti was arrested, transported to the GCDF, and held for the Bay County Sheriff's Office.

# TRADES & SERVICES

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94294S FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, Petitioner,

vs. CLYDE J. MELVIN, Case #36048 Respondent.

NOTICE OF ACTION TO: CLYDE J. MELVIN, Residence Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an Administrative Complaint has been filed against you seeking to revoke your CORRECTIONAL Certificate in accordance with Section 943.1395, F.S., and any rules promulgated thereunder.

You are required to serve a written copy of your intent to request a hearing pursuant to Section 120.57, F.S., upon Jennifer C. Pritt, Program Director, Criminal Justice Professionalism Program, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, P. O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1489, on or before May 20, 2014.

Dated: March 20, 2014 Susan Benton - Chair CRIMINAL JUSTICE STANDARDS AND TRAINING COMMISSION

By: -s- Ashley Hegler, Division Representative March 27, 2014 April 3, 10, 17, 2014

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and SHEBRETIA DANIELS MYERS A/K/A SHEBRETIA S. DANIELS A/K/A SHEBRETIA MYERS, EMIT DANIELS, VONCILE DANIELS A/K/A VONCILE J. DANIELS, and EARNEST MYERS, JR. are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front door of the Gulf County Courthouse in Port St. Joe, Gulf County, Florida at 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on May 1, 2014, the property set forth in the Final Judgment of Foreclosure and more particularly described as follows:

A parcel of land in the Southwest quarter of Section 18, Township 5 South, Range 9 West, Gulf County, Florida, being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a point of intersection of the North boundary line of the Southwest quarter of Section 18 with the Westerly right of way boundary line of State Road No. 71 (having a 66' foot wide right of way); thence go South 18 degrees 16 minutes 14 seconds East along said Westerly right of way boundary line (as monumented) for a distance of 271.31 feet for the POINT OF BEGINNING. From said point of beginning, continue South 18 degrees 16 minutes 14 seconds East along said right of way boundary line for a distance of 107.00 feet; thence departing said right of way boundary line, go South 86 degrees 26 minutes 09 seconds West for a distance of 210.00 feet; thence go North 86 degrees 16 minutes 14 seconds West for a distance of 107.00 feet; thence go North 86 degrees 26 minutes 09 seconds East for a distance of 210.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens, must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

DATED: March 28, 2014. REBECCA L. NORRIS Clerk of the Circuit Court

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk

Garvin B. Bowden, Esq Gardner, Bist, Wiener, Wadsworth, Bowden, Bush, Dee, LaVia & Wright, PA. 1300 Thomaswood Dr Tallahassee, FL 32308 April 3, 10, 2014

94620S PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Commission of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida, at its meeting on the 6th day of May, 2014, at 6:00 P.M., EDST, in the regular Commission meeting room at the Municipal Building, 305 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida, will have the 2nd reading and consider for final adoption an Ordinance with the following title:

ORDINANCE NO. 505 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

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AMENDING ORDINANCE 198; ESTABLISHING THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE AS THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE PORT ST. JOE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

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

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

BY: MEL MAGIDSON, JR. Mayor-Commissioner

Attest: Charlotte M. Pierce Clerk April 10, 2014

94634S PUBLIC NOTICE AT&T Mobility Services, LLC is proposing to install a monopole telecommunications tower off of Highway 71 in Wewahitchka, Gulf County, Florida 32465 at latitude 29° 59' 14.07" north and longitude 85° 10' 5.02" west.

The height of the tower will be 64 meters above ground level (70.7 meters above mean sea level). The tower is anticipated to have steady red lights, FAA Style E (L-864/L-865/-L-810). Specific information regarding the project is available by calling Henry Fisher during normal business hours at (205) 629-3868. Any interested party may submit comments by May 16, 2014 with Environmental Engineers, Inc. at 1345 Blair Farms Road, Odenville, AL 35120 for comments on the impact of the proposed action on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under National Historic Preservation Act Section 106. Interested persons may review the application for this project at www.fcc.gov/asr/applications by entering Antenna Structure Registration (Form 854) file no. A0896638. Interested persons may raise environmental concerns about the project under the National Environmental Policy Act rules of the Federal Communications Commission, 47 CFR § 1.1307, by notifying the FCC of the specific reasons that the action may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Requests for Environmental Review must be filed within 30 days of the date that notice of the project is published on the FCC's website and may only raise

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94640S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2014 CP 10 Division: Gay

IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES DAVID PARHAM Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of JAMES DAVID PARHAM, deceased whose date of death was January 22, 2014, File Number 2014 CP 10 Division Gay, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Gulf County Clerk of Courts, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd, Room 148, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The names and addresses 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 has been served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE TIME OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER 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 April 10, 2014.

Personal Representative: JAMES R. PARHAM, JR.

Attorney for Personal Representative Jennifer Lee Bushnell, Esquire FL Bar No. 0617555 Jennifer Lee Bushnell, P.L. 1803 W. Garden Street Pensacola, FL 32502 P.O. Box 13221,

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environmental concerns. The FCC strongly encourages interested parties to file Requests for Environmental Review online at www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest, but they may be filed with a paper copy by mailing the Request to FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. A copy of the Request should be provided to Environmental Engineers, Inc. at 1345 Blair Farms Road, Odenville, Alabama 35120. April 10, 2014

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Personal Representative: JAMES R. PARHAM, JR.

Attorney for Personal Representative Jennifer Lee Bushnell, Esquire FL Bar No. 0617555 Jennifer Lee Bushnell, P.L. 1803 W. Garden Street Pensacola, FL 32502 P.O. Box 13221,

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Pensacola, FL 32591 850.433.5511 Phone 866.613.3645 Facsimile April 10, 17, 2014

98341S PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS BID NO. 1314-17 FPID NO. 435194-1-58-01

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing:

WARD STREET SCRAP PROJECT (PRI PROJECT #003.257)

This project includes approximately 1,800 LF of roadway resurfacing and reclaimed asphalt along Ward Street located at St. Joe Beach in Gulf County, FL.

Plans and specifications can be obtained at Preble-Rish, Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, (850) 227-7200. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes. Cost for Plans and Specifications will be \$50.00 per set and is non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to PREBLE-RISH, INC.

All bidders shall be FDOT Qualified per Section 2-1 of the FDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, latest edition in the following work classes: Grading, Drainage, Flexible Paving, and Hot Plant Mix-Bituminous Course.

Completion date for this project will be 60 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 \$250.00 per day.

Qualified bidders must submit the original and three (3) copies of the bid to the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr., Blvd., Room 147, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 by the Response Deadline (April 25, 2014 at 4:30 P.M., E.T.).

Please indicate on the envelope YOUR COMPANY NAME, BID NUMBER and that this is a sealed bid for the "Ward Street Scrap Project". Bids will be received until 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time, on April 25, 2014 at the Gulf County Clerk's Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, and will be opened and read aloud at this same location on April 28, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time.

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The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid that in their judgment will be in the best interest of Gulf County.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

/s/ Ward McDaniel, Chairman April 3, 10, 2014

98375S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that US Bank as C/F FL Dundee Lien Inv LLC 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. 139 Application No. 2014-24 Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010 R.E. No: 00648-000R

Description of Property: COMMENCING at the SW Corner of SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 31, Township 4 South, Range 9 West, Gulf County, Florida; thence North along the West line of said SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 to the North Right of Way line of Transfer Road for the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence East along said North right of way line for 210 feet, thence North parallel with the West line of said SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 to the Southerly right of way line of Henry Circle; thence Southerly right of way line for 210 feet, more or less, to a point on said West line of SE 1/4 of NW 1/4; thence South along said West line to the POINT OF BEGINNING, being located in the SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 31, Township 4 South, Range 9 West, Gulf County, Florida, and being the East 1/2 of tract described in Official Records Book 76, Page 1091, Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Earl Forehand & Kelly Forehand

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 7th day of May, 2014. Dated this 31st day of March, 2014.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014

98377S NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that US Bank as C/F FL Dundee Lien Inv LLC 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. 469 Application No. 2014-23 Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010 R.E. No: 01847-000R

Description of Property: COMMENCE at the Northeast Corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 23, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, in the City of Wewahitchka, Florida.

This parcel of land has an area of 0.26 acre. It is in the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 23, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, in the City of Wewahitchka, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Ceaphous & Margretta Fisher

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 7th day of May, 2014. Dated this 31st day of March, 2014.

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

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

assessed are as follows:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 1025 Application No. 2014-22 Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010 R.E. No: 03450-175R

Description of Property: Lot 35, Wetappo Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Pages 36-42, in the Public Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Palm Breeze Development, LLC

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 7th day of May, 2014. Dated this 31st day of March, 2014.

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

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014

98385S PUBLIC NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS BID NO. 1314-18

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will receive bids from any person, company or corporation interested in providing the following:

LEASE, LEASE WITH THE OPTION TO PURCHASE OR PURCHASE THE FOLLOWING: BUILDING #1 - MINIMUM 3,000 SF IN BUILDING #2 - MINIMUM 7,000 SF IN PORT ST. JOE

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

IN RE: ESTATE OF ALMA CLOTEAL BURKE Deceased.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the estate of ALMA CLOTEAL BURKE, deceased, whose date of death was January 16, 2014, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida.

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 must file their claims 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 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 April 10, 2014.

Personal Representative: Deborah Ann McLeod 253 Greenwood Sr. Wewahitchka, FL 32465

Victoria F. Langford 280 Sunset Drive Wewahitchka, FL 32465

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 April 10, 17, 2014

984675 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nicole Hiers Seybold the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

Tax Sale Certificate No. 800 Application No. 2014-28 Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009 R.E. No: 03391-016R

Description of Property: LOT 3: COMMENCE at the Northwest Corner of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 32, Township 5 South, Range 11 West, and run West for 350 feet, thence run South for 240 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence continue to run South for 350 feet to forty line; thence run North for 120 feet, thence run West for 350 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Said lands lying and being in the SE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 31, Township 5 South, Range 11 West.

Name in which assessed: Valerie Dodds c/o Christopher Dodds

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 14th day of May, 2014. Dated this 7th day of April, 2014.

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

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2014

984695 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nicole Hiers Seybold the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 801 Application No. 2014-27 Date of Issuance: May 27, 2009 R.E. No: 03391-017R

Description of Property: LOT 4: COMMENCE at the Northwest Corner of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 32, Township 5 South, Range 11 West, and run South along 40 line for 360 feet; for the POINT OF BEGINNING, thence turn right and run West for 350 feet to County Road, thence turn left and run South for 120 feet, along right of way of County Road, thence run East for 350 feet to the West line of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 32, Township 5 South, Range 11 West, thence run North for 120 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING, all lying and being in Section 31, Township 5 South, Range 11 West.

Name in which assessed: Valerie Dodds c/o Christopher Dodds

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 14th day of May, 2014. Dated this 7th day of April, 2014.

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

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2014

984715 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that US Bank as C/F FL Dundee Lien Inv LLC the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

Tax Sale Certificate No. 1145 Application No. 2014-26 Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010 R.E. No: 03801-230R

Description of Property: Lot 26, Block A, Integras Rehabilitation Phase II, as per Plat recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 2, of the Plat Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Integras Therapy & Wellness Centers, Inc.

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 14th day of May, 2014. Dated this 7th day of April, 2014.

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

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2014

984735 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that US Bank as C/F FL Dundee Lien Inv LLC the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon.

Tax Sale Certificate No. 1146 Application No. 2014-25 Date of Issuance: May 28, 2010 R.E. No: 03801-245R

Description of Property: Lot 3, Block B, Integras Rehabilitation Phase II, as per Plat recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 2, of the Plat Records of Gulf County, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Integras Therapy & Wellness Centers, Inc.

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 14th day of May, 2014.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

Dated this 7th day of April, 2014.

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

By: Donna L. Ray, Deputy Clerk April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 2014



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

PETS 2100

HAVANESE PUPS AKC Home Raised. Best Health. Guar. 262-993-0460 www.noahslittleark.com



- 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)

GUNS 3240

GUN SHOW PANAMA CITY FAIRGROUNDS April 12th and 13th SAT. 9-5 & SUN. 10-4 FREE PARKING Info: (407) 275-7233 floridagunshows.com Text FL84435 to 56654



- 4100 - Help Wanted
4130 - Employment Information

HELP WANTED 4100

Hospitality Housekeeping Inspector PT weekend position. Apply in person Thurs -Mon 4693 Cape San Blas Rd Web Id 34285183

HELP WANTED 4100

HELP WANTED 4100

Job Announcement

North Florida Child Development is seeking Preschool and VPK teachers for our Centers located in Blountstown, Wewahitchka, and Port St. Joe. Must have at least a FCCPC/CDA. NFCD offers an attractive benefit package (health, dental, life, disability, sick leave, etc. Send resumes to smcgill@floridachildren.org, fax (850) 639-6167. DFWP/M-F/7-5/EOE



HANDYMAN

Flooring Installation Carpentry Home Repairs Call Dave 850-323-2584

HELP WANTED 4100

Education

Child Care Providers

The Oak Grove Church Daycare will be expanding and offering a 3K program starting in June. With the expansion comes job openings for both full time and part time teachers. Pick up an application at 613 Madison. Web Id 34285778

Housekeeping

Part Time weekend help needed for all positions, apply in person, 4693 Cape San Blas Rd or 1200 Hwy 98 Mexico Beach Web Id 34285183

HELP WANTED 4100

The MainStay Suites is NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for a housekeeper. Candidates must be able to work weekends and holidays, dependability is a must!

Please apply in person at the address below. Make beds, make friends, make money. Inquire about benefits package. E.O.E, D.F.W.P. MainStay Suites 3951 E. Hwy 98 Port St. Joe FL, 32456

A & A HomeCare, Inc.

currently has an opening for a part time Registered Nurse to work Wednesday through Friday. A & A HomeCare, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

RESTAURANT/CLUBS 4110

Experience in HHC and with OASIS assessments is preferred. Apply in person at 211 N Hwy 71 in Wewahitchka, fax resume to 850-639-3337, or email resume to aahealth@gtcom.net.

HELP WANTED 4100

If you didn't advertise here, you're missing out on potential customers.

RESTAURANT/CLUBS 4110

Dockside Seafood & Raw Bar @ PSJ Marina

NOW HIRING EXPERIENCED:

- Managers
Hostesses
Bartenders
Servers/Bussers
Cooks
Shuckers
Maintenance

APPLY 3:00PM - 5:00PM ONLY MON, THUR FRI TOP PAY! SUMMER BONUS! steamersdocksideseafood@yahoo.com

HELP WANTED 4100

HELP WANTED 4100

Hospitality

RESORT VACATION PROPERTIES

is looking for dependable employees with good customer service & teamwork skills. Weekends required.

PT Inspectors

Attentive to detail, hardworking, able to climb multiple stairs. Must have reliable vehicle.

Apply 9-5 weekdays at 123 W Gulf Beach Dr, St George Island Web ID#: 34281710

Need a helping hand? Advertise in the Help Wanted Section in the Classifieds!

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110



108 S. E. AVE. A CARRABELLE, FLORIDA 32322 Contact Aaron Dempsey (850) 697-5300 www.mysandybeach.com The Forgotten Coast

RENTALS

1. 432-2 CARLTON, LANARK VILLAGE. 2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH. 550.00/MO www.firstfitness.com/carrabelle

SELL ALL YOUR ITEMS through classified. CALL 747-5020

HOME FOR SALE 7100

HELP WANTED 4100

Install/Maint/Repair

Maintenance Tech

The St. George Plantation is looking to hire a full time maintenance employee. Position will report to the maintenance supervisor. The individual must be able to mow, trim, load and capable and willing to work in various conditions. Must have a current DL and transportation to St. George Island. This position includes a good benefit package that includes health, dental, life and matching IRA fund.

Mail resumé to: Drew Robertson, Facilities Manager, 1712 Magnolia Rd, St. George Island, FL 32328; email: drew@sgpoa.com or phone (850)927-2312 for Drew. Web ID#: 34285431

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

RENTALS

HOME FOR SALE 7100

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT 6100-6200

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

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS 6100

PSJ Warehouse Space For Lease. 1000sf, Includes Office Space and Private Bathroom. \$600 month. Up To 6000 sf Avail. Lctd. @ 228 Cassna Dr. 850-238-7080

CARS 8110

CARS 8110

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MOVING/STORAGE 9512

HOUSE RENTALS 6140

Port St Joe Commercial or Residential Rental 2 Bd ,1 1/2 Ba W/D efficiency, boat and RV Storage avail on site. Location, location! \$2100 Month. Short or Long Term Lease. No Pets, Smoke Free Environment. 850-229-8030 478-457-7599 Cell Text FL84510 to 56654

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CARS 8110

CARS 8110

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MOVING/