



Miracle Turtle, B1

## Property values end seven-year skid

By TIM CROFT  
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Countywide property values rose this year for the first time since 2007.

Gulf County Property Appraiser Mitch Burke last week submitted a preliminary tax roll to the

Florida Department of Revenue that shows the overall tax base in the countywide rose 2.6 percent this year, the first increase in the tax base in seven years.

After six years of sometimes double-digit percentage declines, the tax base remained stagnant last year, dropping just three-tenths of 1 percent.

This is the first increase since 2007, when property values dropped for the first time in the county's history.

Real and personal taxable values rose to \$1.379 billion from \$1.344 billion last year, still a distance from 2005 when property values in the county topped \$2 billion for the first time in history.

On the other side of the coin, though, this year's tax roll is roughly \$64 million above 2003, just prior to the beginning of the run-up in the real estate market.

The numbers are preliminary and had to be submitted by July 1. Preliminary approval by the state should come later this month or in August, Burke said.

Burke said a significant portion of the increase is due to new agricultural land values in the county.

Most lands deemed agricultural, the largest landowner being the St. Joe Company, had remained stagnant in value due to the lack of sales over the past 20 years.

See PROPERTY A7

## Lighthouse move Tuesday

By TIM CROFT  
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Depending on Mother Nature the Cape San Blas Lighthouse will be moved Tuesday from its current location into the city of Port St. Joe.

Of course, Mother Nature is pretty much why the lighthouse is being moved at all.

Weather permitting the lighthouse, two keepers' quarters and an oil house will begin the move into the city beginning around 8 a.m. ET Tuesday morning.

The contractor hopes to be off the Cape and onto U.S. Highway 98 from State 30A by the end of the business day, or around 5 p.m. ET.

From there the buildings will be carried to George Core Park, where footers were poured for the main lighthouse stanchions early last week.

The plan, said city See LIGHTHOUSE A7



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The Cape San Blas Lighthouse will become the beacon of George Core Park in Port St. Joe after its planned move next week. **Below**, the two keepers' quarters and oil house were moved and aligned to allow cranes to access the property to move the lighthouse on its side for relocation.



## Slick ruled incompetent in murder case

By WES LOCHER  
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JARROD POWELL SLICK

Jarrod Powell Slick, 23, charged with killing his mother in their Cape San Blas home in May was deemed mentally incompetent to stand trial last week and transferred to Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee for ongoing evaluation.

During Slick's arraignment hearing on second-degree murder charges in the murder of Renee Coffey last Tuesday, Judge John Fishel made the decision to send Slick back to Florida State where he was lodged after his arrest on two counts each of arson and burglary stemming from fires at the Port St. Joe Masonic Lodge in December 2012.

Slick was also deemed incompetent to proceed on those charges. He was treated and released on bond, posted by Coffey.

While at the Florida State Hospital, Slick was diagnosed with depression and later attempted suicide while out on bond.

During Tuesday's hearing, Slick told Fishel he didn't want a lawyer and would represent himself. Fishel appointed a public defender to the case and explained that a lengthy hearing would first need to be held to determine whether Slick could act as his own attorney, but it couldn't be scheduled until Slick had been deemed competent by his doctors.

Slick did not object to Fishel's ruling and did not enter a plea. Slick's next court date was not scheduled.

"Your honor," Slick asked Fishel, "Is this going to be like the last time?"

"Not exactly," Fishel replied.

Halifax Media Group employee Chris Owell contributed to this report.

## School taxes will fall

By TIM CROFT  
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The headline is the Gulf County School Board will likely lower taxes this year.

The inside pages tell a slightly more complicated tale.

The overall millage for public schools will fall from 7.0630 to 7.0500 this year but that good news for taxpayers underscores a concerning trend for the district.

Student enrollment continues to drop, particularly in the north end of the county where the district is projecting a drop of 50-60 students.

That continued decline in enrollment – the district has lost more than 400 students in a decade – is reflected in the reduction in the so-called Required Local Effort mill-

See TAXES A2

## 7-day beach driving permits end

By TIM CROFT  
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The Board of County Commissioners ended a brief experiment in beach driving Tuesday.

Commissioners unanimously eliminated the weekly, or 7-day, beach driving permit less than one year after passing an ordinance approving the temporary permits.

The original idea behind adding the 7-day permit was to reap additional revenue from visitors not staying more than a few days or a week and not wishing to pay for the annual permit, the price for which commissioners raised to \$250.

However, the temporary permits caused more problems than could be mitigated by any additional revenue and exposed a loophole through which some visitors would

risk a violation – with a fine of \$200 – rather than pay for a seasonal pass.

Additionally, the Tourist Development Council advisory board had expressed dismay with the permit allowing drivers not familiar with Gulf County beaches, dune systems, turtle nesting protocols and the like on the beach.

"The 7-day permit definitely caused some problems," said Commissioner Warren

Yeager.

Commissioners amended the ordinance to strike the 7-day permit and also adjusted the fines.

Driving violations on the beach would cost \$500 for a first offense and \$750 for a second.

Racing on the beach or pulling skiers behind a vehicle would result in a \$500 fine on

See PERMITS A7

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# Highland View Elementary continues to vex district officials

By TIM CROFT  
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The former Highland View Elementary School site will likely be a valuable property someday, said appraiser Matt Terry.

When that day will arrive is another question entirely.

After a year of stagnant interest in the property and continued decay of the building the Gulf County School Board faces a difficult question, one members pondered during a workshop last week.

Appraisals of the property's

value dropped from a year ago.

The level of interest from potential buyers has never been sufficient to suffer a drop off.

The school building itself, now empty for nearly two years since North Florida Child Development, Inc., moved its Port St. Joe school to a new facility, is collapsing.

Maintenance supervisor Greg Layfield told board members his team is in the school on average once a week to shore up some portion of the building.

But holding on to the building of no use to the district makes little sense with facility issues

across the county such that the board is increasing for the first time in at least five years the millage assessed for local capital improvement, bricks and mortar.

"I thought there would be a lot more interest in it than there has been," said Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton. "We need to sell it."

A year ago, two appraisals pegged the value of the property, which sits on West U.S. Highway 98 with a view of St. Joseph Bay, between \$900,000 and \$1 million.

The cost of bringing the school building down is estimated at \$80,000-\$110,000, a cost which in

some way would have to factor into any deal, Terry said.

Recent appraisals, Terry said, have dropped.

An appraisal with a timeline of at least 12 months put the value at \$710,000 while an appraisal aimed at securing a sale within six months shaved the value to \$500,000.

The property would be zoned commercial, Terry said, and right now the commercial market is "stagnant."

He said the "highest and best use" of the property would likely be a strip mall of shops with an "anchor" business.

"Right now our demographics don't support that," Terry said. "You do have a valuable piece of property in the future. Who knows when that will be."

Norton said the district would continue to advertise the property for sale.

He told board members the district could use the dollars from a sale and could also use to be out from under responsibility for the building sitting on the property.

"We need to get rid of it because we have an outdated building that is collapsing," Norton said.

## TAXES from page A1

age which the district must assess to receive state funding.

That millage will drop 3.45 percent to 4.702, early projections indicate.

Discretionary funding from the state that will remain at .748 mills – the Florida Legislature each spring sets two of the three components of school funding under the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP).

Legislators also cap the one component over which a district has any flexibility, bricks and mortar local capital improvement millage.

"They set much of the funding and they cap what we can use for capital outlay," said Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton.

Long one of the lowest in the state at under half a mill, the School Board is proposing an increase to .600 mills to address pressing infrastructure needs.

That millage is still less than half what the district could levy for capital outlay needs.

Combined with the one additional operating mill approved by voters the district will assess a projected millage of 7.0500 for the

coming year, down from 7.06300, a drop of just under two-tenths of a percent.

"We are going to be able to actually assess less millage than we did for the past year," said Norton.

The numbers are projections based on the preliminary tax roll submitted July 1 to the Florida Department of Revenue by Property Appraiser Mitch Burke.

The value of the mill – a mill is equal to \$1 for every \$1,000 is assessed taxable value – increased for the school district 3.2 percent, representing \$43,028

The increase in the local capital improvement dollars, a 34 percent increase that will bring in an additional \$234,547 from last year, helps boost the district's overall bottom line by \$285,839.

But, that, along with the increase in dollars from the voter-approved mill and slight increase in discretionary revenue belies the fact that the district still had to shave another \$355,000 in expenses on the operations side as the overall budget continues a decline which as seen a loss of nearly \$4 million in revenue over the

past five years.

The increase in capital outlay dollars reflects the need to bolster aging infrastructure in a district in which the newest building is now four decades old.

In particular this year, the district must purchase two 77-passenger buses, which will eat up that increase in capital outlay dollars and more.

The district has an old fleet, with the average age of each bus 12-13 years, said Greg Layfield, district supervisor for transportation.

And over recent years the School Board has made the decision annually to make do with what is available and deviating from what had been a rotating schedule for purchasing new buses.

"We have a very old fleet," Layfield said, adding that two buses were totaled in an accident near the end of the school year.

The other major ticket item – other than county-wide expenses for bathrooms, doors, flooring and other equipment – is \$115,000 for new lighting at the Port St. Joe High School football stadium.

## Retirement payouts raise questions in Mexico Beach

By WES LOCHER  
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During Tuesday's regular meeting of the Mexico Beach City Council, city attorney Paul Komarek reported that in 2008, former city clerk Patricia Hutchinson received retirement payments of more than \$60,000.

In April of this year it was discovered that the funds were intended to pay benefits for 19 retired city employees but the money was accidentally all given to Hutchinson.

The check was authorized by former city administrator Chris Hubbard.

On Wednesday, interim city administrator Marcus Collins filed a claim with its insurance provider to compensate the remaining 18 employees.

Komarek suggested that the city work with Bay County to open a criminal investigation as well to investigate whether or not the money was given with or without the authorization of the council.

Komarek said there's the potential for a case of "ultra vires," a Latin term for when someone authorizes something outside of their responsibility, or as Komarek put it, "above their pay grade."

"We're still analyzing to see where things went wrong," said Komarek. "I'm

just reporting what I've got and recommending various courses of action."

Komarek also recommended that the city hire a lawyer well-versed in insurance to investigate further.

Police Chief Glenn Norris said he couldn't be involved in the investigation because his wife is on the list of former employees not compensated.

"It's my understanding that some of those employees have been asking for money for years," said Councilwoman Tanya Castro. "We need to take care of this quickly."

In Bay County there is a 5-year statute of limitations for criminal activity and Castro said that in this case, the statute was expired.

"Maybe it has, maybe it hasn't," said Komarek. "Sometimes, statutes run from when the incident occurred, and other times, from when it was discovered."

Komarek said that Hutchinson claimed she called the insurance company in 2008 to inquire about the validity of the check and was told it safe to deposit. The city will have to work to verify those claims.

"Once we get more information from the insurance company, maybe that can help guide us," said Mayor Al Cathey.

The council will discuss the matters further at its next workshop, scheduled for later this month.

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- Treasurer's Report

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# GAC receives extension on water line project

By WES LOCHER  
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During last Tuesday's meeting of the Port St. Joe City Commission, Andrew Rowell of GAC Contractors came before the group to discuss the delays that have plagued the replacement and testing of water lines along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

The project, expected to take a maximum of 120 days, reached that deadline July 3 and Rowell sought a 30-day extension from commissioners.

Rowell said his crews were late getting started on the project and he had a hard time finding available workers, especially with the construction along State 30A happening simultaneously. Rowell said it was difficult to find anyone willing to work a 1-2 month long project only to be laid off once complete.

"I haven't been impressed at all with what's going on over there," said Commissioner William Thursbay.

Rowell said that testing the pipes has been time-consuming and crews wouldn't pour concrete until testing was complete, for fear of having to dig it back up. GAC currently has a 10-person crew and is bringing in small crews of 3-5 workers to finish the stormwater pipes.

Thursbay passed a motion to grant the extension with the new completion date set for Aug. 3.

## Angler permits

At the end of June, a drop box was placed at the Frank Pate Park boat ramp to collect funds for usage permits.



TIM CROFT | The Star

The foundation for the Cape San Blas Lighthouse was poured last Wednesday at George Core Park.

Although the permits are free to city residents, the charge is \$25 for annual pass or \$5 per launch for county residents. Out-of-county residents will be charged \$10 per launch or they can purchase an annual permit for \$50.

Commissioners asked that locals picking up their permit still fill out the envelope at the ramp, but no money needs to be left inside. Permits can also be purchased at City Hall.

Thursbay said in the first three days that the box was up, the city collected more than \$1,000 and 75 percent of the permits went to out-of-county fishermen.

Mayor Mel Magidson reminded the audience the fees collected from the permits would be used to maintain and

improve the boat basin.

"So far, so good," said Magidson of the drop box.

## Cape San Blas Lighthouse

The foundation for the Cape San Blas Lighthouse was poured last week at George Core Park. City Manager Jim Anderson said the moving process was scheduled to begin on July 14, weather permitting.

Commissioners were concerned that the moving process from Cape San Blas to Port St. Joe would isolate the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department, but Anderson assured them that if they were called, the moving process would not hamper first responders anywhere along the moving route.

## COMMISSIONERS CONTINUE BUDGET WORK

Prior to the regular meeting, commissioners held a second budget workshop with a focus on solid waste. Financial officer Mike Lacour told commissioners that the existing solid waste contract with Waste Pro would be up on Oct. 1, but the city was currently looking at a \$51,000 deficit on solid waste for next year.

Last year, commissioners budgeted \$73,000 for trash tipping fees but Lacour said they would burst that number by \$30,000-\$34,000 and recommended budgeting between \$107,000-110,000 for the new fiscal year.

"The money has never been a problem until tipping fees went through the roof," said Lacour. "It's expensive running a landfill...that's why (the county) is trying to get out of that business."

Commissioner Rex Buzzett discussed whether the city's trash could be hauled to Franklin County where the cost per ton was cheaper than Waste Pro's \$55 and Waste Management's \$51.

Anderson said a transfer station at Five Points Landfill that Waste Pro committed to improving was the biggest factor in the decision.

"The facility, if maintained, could bring in some revenue," said Anderson.

Setting solid waste aside, commissioners also looked at general fund revenues, removing a carpenter position from their wish list that would assist in the upkeep of public areas due to lack of a Parks and Recreation department.

"We can't continually, year after year, overlook taking care of our facilities," said Lacour. "It will catch up with us."

Commissioners also opted not to make any changes to outside agency funding. Those dollars total \$21,000.

The next budget workshop is 5 p.m. ET Tuesday, July 15.

- Wes Locher

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## Protecting the Apalachicola River

By Dan Tonsmeire  
Apalachicola Riverkeeper

Early this year, the picturesque Dan River in North Carolina was hit by a devastating toxic spill that spread 70 miles downstream, poisoning the water and everything in it. Why am I telling you about an environmental disaster which happened hundreds of miles away from us?

Because our own Apalachicola River is vulnerable to the same series of events, and we need to do everything we can to prevent this from happening here.

The hazardous coal ash that fouled the Dan River was stockpiled at a Duke Energy coal-fired power plant site. Like other power companies, Duke Energy stores the hazardous ash that's left over from burning coal in huge, unlined pits. When a pipe at the Duke Energy plant failed,

140,000 tons of coal ash and contaminated wastewater went into the river.

We have toxic coal ash stockpiled along the Apalachicola, at Gulf Power Company's Scholz Generating Plant near Sneads. And it is leaking into the river. In June 2013, samples of bright orange contamination leaking out of the pits contained arsenic at levels 300 times the amount considered safe for drinking water.

Besides poisonous arsenic, the coal ash also contains toxics like cadmium, and chromium — well-known carcinogens — as well as aluminum, barium, beryllium, copper, lead, nickel, zinc, selenium, and the neurotoxin mercury.

This is a public hazard.

On June 4, Apalachicola Riverkeeper, The Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, and Waterkeeper Alliance filed a federal lawsuit against Gulf Power under the Clean Water Act. The public-interest law firm Earthjustice is representing us in the suit.

Before we filed the lawsuit, we informed Gulf Power of the illegal pollution we documented, and then gave the company four months to begin addressing the problems. We also asked for documentation to support Gulf's claim that the leaking impoundment at the Scholz plant is not at risk of failing. The utility refused to do either, and we were forced to go to court to protect

the Apalachicola and the people who use it.

Gulf Power has a federal Clean Water Act permit, which allows the corporation to discharge limited amounts of treated wastewater from a specific outfall directly into the Apalachicola River. But, as our lawsuit points out, untreated contaminants are leaking at other places at the site, and those discharges are not covered by the permit. These toxic chemical leaks — and the company's failure to report them — violate Gulf Power's federal permit requirements under the Clean Water Act.

Coal ash impoundments are the number one source of toxic water pollution in the United States dumping more heavy metals and other harmful substances into our waterways than the next nine most polluting industries, combined. While the Clean Water Act does protect waterways from many forms of pollution, there are no federal safeguards specific to coal ash pollution.

Household garbage, in fact, is better regulated than toxic coal ash. Coal ash has already contaminated more than 200 lakes, streams, rivers and drinking water aquifers across the country.

We need to remedy this dangerous situation. In Washington, 11 public-interest groups and a

Native American tribe are involved in a legal agreement to compel the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency to finalize new federal regulations dealing with the handling and disposal of coal ash waste. Powerful energy corporations managed to avoid these regulations for decades, and have aggressively fought to weaken the new standards proposed by the EPA.

Meanwhile, here along the Apalachicola, Gulf Power needs to stop polluting our public waterway with its toxic waste. It isn't fair for a corporation to risk our common resource as if it were a private dumping ground.

On June 6, the day before the National Trails Day, the National Park Service and the U.S.

Department of the Interior officially designated the Apalachicola River

See RIVER A5

## Somebody in this deal struck gold!

It just galls me to no end. And I've been living like this for forty years! Don't get me wrong. The anniversary is special, certainly a milestone. Forty years of marriage is nothing to sneeze at. But it still galls me to high Heaven that everywhere we've gone, everybody we've met, folks that just walk in off the street.....they take one look at me and Cathy together and promptly declare in front of the whole world, "Ole Kes here, he sure married above himself!"

HELLO, I'm standing in the room. I CAN HEAR YOU!

I started with her family. They naturally didn't think I was "good enough" for their sister, niece, daughter, grandchild..... I think it was Daddy Brown who said I didn't have any "prospects". Mercy sakes, I wasn't panning for gold! Cathy had three great aunts that made it their life's work to "keep a close eye on me". They pointed out on occasion—like Christmas holidays, Thanksgiving, Mule Day, Yon Kippur, the first Tuesday after the second Monday—that I should be thankful every day of my life that I married such a stellar person. I tried to point out "that gate swings both ways" but I got two stares and a stern "harrumph" to the contrary.

My family was no better. "Son", this was my dear Mother, "You'd better marry this precious soul as quick as you can." Leon added, with a bit more incredulity in his voice than I thought necessary, "What could she possibly see in you?"

Let me tell you, ain't nobody perfect! And that includes my first wife. I found out early in this marriage about her nagging. We were on our honeymoon in St.

Louis. I believe it was the third, or maybe the fourth baseball game, when she turned to me with her mouth full of pretzel and moaned, "I thought when you said we were going to eat out—you meant a restaurant!"



HUNKER DOWN  
Kesley Colbert

I took her to a college reunion. John Stewart said hello and turned to me, "Kes, you married above yourself". David Paschall caught up with me over by the punch bowl, "Kes, you sure married—"

It's enough to give a guy a complex! I've wandered in this wilderness as long as that Moses fellow.

I don't think marriage is a one way street. But I don't know for sure, ours is still a work in progress. It seems to reason both parties have to bring a little something to the table. Being good friends helps a bunch. A great sense of humor is a must. And if she tolerates your smelly running shoes by the back door, the antique clocks hanging on every wall and the baseball locker where the mud room was supposed to be.....maybe you have married "alright".

But let's not get carried away over who got the best end of the deal. And for goodness sakes, you don't have to "throw it up" to me every ten minutes, or so.

Those salt of the earth folks down at the church who Sunday after Sunday remind me that I "married above myself" don't know about her temper. Why, she yelled at me once back in 1978. Well, she didn't really yell. Maybe she raised her voice a little. OK, she didn't actually raise her voice but I think I caught a hint of displeasure in it when she said, "You and Jake aren't going coon hunting again tonight, are you?" We had read in the "American

Cooner" that the consecutive streak for night hunts stood at eighty-six. Shoot, we'd already been every night in September and October. We had a good shot at the record.....

Buddy Wiggleton married above himself. I grew up with Buddy. He was a good ole boy dead set in his ways.....which could be a tad unconventional at times. Lana has stood by him through thick and thin, better or worse!

Dennis Geoghagan married above himself. Kay, with all her beauty and singing talent, presented Dennis with the three most special daughters you will ever see. A man can't have it any better than he does.

Jimmy Joe Fitzgerald married above himself. Jean Swearingen was one of the nicest and most polite girls in our high school class. Jimmy Joe was a mite rough around the edges. It would take a person like Jean to get the very best out of him.

I have a good friend here in town who married above himself, twice! Now, that's hard to do.....unless the old boy didn't have much to start with.

Any whoever married Judy Seratte, without a doubt, he set the record on marrying above oneself!

So I'm not in this boat alone. And I think if you examine me and Buddy, Dennis and Jimmy Joe you'll find we have our moments. You just might have to search a tad harder to find them.

And there is another side to this coin. Cathy must have seen something in me she liked. She dumped that writer's son she was dating like a hot potato when I called. And she hasn't complained yet.....course, it's only been forty years.....

Respectfully,  
Kes

## Athlete Saga: Jim Thorpe, Joe Haden and Ray Charles

"I went to my brother to ask for a loan... 'cause I'm busted."

"Busted" Written by Harlan Howard and Daniel Ticotin  
And Recorded by Ray Charles

There's a famous story, full of pathos, about Jim Thorpe, the man voted the most outstanding American athlete of the first half of the 20th century. Retired from his professional football and baseball careers, the tale features Thorpe standing in the rain outside a theatre in 1951 without enough money to see the picture. The movie that was playing? Jim Thorpe: All-American, starring Burt Lancaster.

Long ago athletes were admittedly not paid lucrative salaries, so a former athlete's financial fall was not so astonishing nor so steep. But in this era of well-paid performers, the number of professional players who experience bankruptcy is stunning. Why does this keep happening?

There are a myriad number of reasons, including brief career arcs, poor tax planning, exorbitant personal spending habits and bad investment advice. And when athletes go broke, it's big news. We seldom read about those who have wisely invested

their assets.

I'm not a football enthusiast, but I read recently where former Florida Gator and current NFL star Joe Haden was

offered a guaranteed 12 percent return when his investment advisor guided him into purchasing promissory notes from a firm called Success Trade. Turns out the arrangement was a Ponzi scheme, not unlike Alan Stanford's 10 percent guaranteed CD returns from his Antigua bank. Success Trade is now barred from FINRA membership for the fraudulent sale of securities and must pay \$13.7 million in restitution, mostly to current and former professional athletes.

Truthfully, though, it's not just athletes who are vulnerable to grandiose investment schemes. Many of Bernie Madoff's clients were sophisticated investors. The promise of stable, double digit returns was too enticing to bypass.

After all, if someone offered you a guaranteed 12 percent annual return on your investment, would you be interested? Sure you would. So would I. Unfortunately, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

So if an advisor tells you,

"You'll never have a negative statement," or "I guarantee this annual return," it's wise to reflect very soberly on your relationship. Investments do not always escalate in value, month by month, without interruption. Nor do they provide guaranteed returns.

You might also ask your advisor, "What was your clients' average absolute return in 2008?" and "What defensive investments do you recommend to protect my assets if the market experiences a significant correction?" The idea is to have more up statements than down, and depending on your age, goals and risk tolerance, for your portfolio to reflect your particular investment needs. No player wins every game, and no investment arrangement can provide guaranteed returns.

Margaret R. McDowell, ChFC®, AIF®, a syndicated economic columnist, is the founder of Arbor Wealth Management, LLC, (850-608-6121 ~ www.arborwealth.net), a "Fee-Only" and Fiduciary Registered Investment Advisory Firm located near Destin. This column should not be considered personalized investment advice and provides no assurance that any specific strategy or investment will be suitable or profitable for an investor.

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# LETTERS

A  
Section

Thursday, July 10, 2014

www.starfl.com

Page 5

## Just because we can, doesn't mean we should

Dear Editor,  
Gulf County's Cape San Blas — a short photo commentary.

It's not just their beach ...

These photos were taken between 6:25 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. June 23 along a two-mile stretch of beach north of the "Stump Hole" area.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ross  
Port St. Joe



## Letters to the EDITOR

### Living in a Bubble

Dear Editor,  
Most people do not like controversy or dissent and typically avoid it especially when they think things are good in their life. In a way, it makes perfect sense because who wants to get in an argument or fight if it is not necessary in your mind. Deciphering and comprehending the issue seems to be critical in making the determination to speak out or become involved. Some people go into denial about problems that they could help fix while others merely avoid it because it goes against the grain or lifestyle that they have experienced.

Waiting until your neighbor's house is on fire and the flames are lapping at your doorstep could be too late to react and history has shown us this countless times. It is a part of human nature that many hope that the approaching storm will not affect them because it has not before and so they take no precautions.

When our amazing country was founded there were some skirmishes with the local inhabitants, the Indians. Some were peaceful and generous to the Europeans while others were resentful and fearful then violence occurred. Interestingly, there were hundreds of tribes who felt they were safe from the European conquering of the Americas and took the attitude that what happened to that tribe will not happen to them. It was denial in the finest form and when they all accepted what was going to happen, it was too late.

In World War II we saw

the same thing on a larger scale with Nazi Germany as they seemed friendly enough in the beginning with "Hope and Change" from a bad economy and war torn nation. The extermination of millions of people under the eyes of the German population was because of people in denial and evil people with an agenda that they were better than other people. Again, people sat idly by in their own bubble until the knock came to their door by the SS to take them to the train station. The Russians and the Japanese did the same thing in World War II and murdered millions of innocent people who thought they were safe or refused to become involved in the tale tell signs that things are changing for the worst.

We, as Americans cannot afford nor should we live in a bubble and pretend that things are normal or that there is no threat outside our door. The National Cemeteries are full of men and women who sacrificed for a reason and it was not to live in a bubble of denial. It is our obligation and responsibility to protect the freedoms we have been given at such a high cost.

Today, political correctness and overreaching government trumping over people's rights should remind you of another time in our country's history. Reread the Declaration of Independence and in particular the reasons for it and think about today, you will see some very interesting parallels. Hence, the revolutionary war began.

It starts at home as

most things do because if your house is not in order, how can you help others? Gulf County like a lot of mill communities was forced to live in a bubble that did not recognize anyone or anything that was not connected to the Paper Mill since the 1930's. Ambitious people that failed to adhere to the whims of the mill were suppressed and in some cases removed. The political landscape was 100 percent mill approved and controlled as that was all there was except a few merchants who depended on mill employees for business but for the most part it was all entwined together.

A rude awakening occurred at the closing of the mill which I will describe as more of a shock and left the community devastated. Past employees had to reinvent themselves to survive including some leaving their home behind to find employment elsewhere. This was by all accounts the perfect storm politically for some locals to take advantage of. The politics and elected did not change much and as I write this, I think it is much worse.

One clear issue that both County and City Government has made and is still making is proper employment of vendors. Instead of the local government being about the Joe Company it has taken on a new diabolical role for supporting Special Interest that it has given millions of dollars to in contracts. Some of these contracts are without competitive bidding and oversight. The local government has blinders on for the best value and most qualified contractor for the citizens. They continuously make the same mistakes hiring the same old special interest

whose trail is littered with controversial projects like Americus Ditch, St. Joseph Shores and St. Joe Water Treatment facility. They also make excuses for them and defend them as if they are on their payroll.

We need to elect people who have values and principles to protect the people and not take advantage of the tax payers as they currently do. Let's get rid of the problem and not live in a bubble.

Jim Garth  
Not Living in a Bubble

### Fortunate to live here

Dear Editor,  
I feel so very fortunate to live in this community where when someone needs assistance there are those who step forward with a helping hand. I managed to get my car stuck in the sand when I was on the way to watch the fireworks in Port St. Joe on July 4. My friend, who was with me, called her husband to see if he would help get us out. Before her husband arrived, Vince Everett, who is with the Port St. Joe Police Department but was off duty at the time, asked if we needed help and we said we did but that someone was coming. Mr. Everett said he had his truck and strap near and would be right back. When Jeff Wood arrived, he and Mr. Everett pushed my car out of the sand. I truly appreciate that those two men took time from their busy lives to help get my car back on the road again.

Catherine Minger  
Port St. Joe

### Hope Southerland stays true to word

Dear Editor,  
Last week,

Congressman Steve Southerland came to a meeting of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Given his divisive position on de-funding catch shares, we were surprised to hear the Congressman's praise for the Gulf Council and his call for improvements to the stock assessment process.

Stock assessments are the building block for accountable fisheries management, and as conservation-minded fishermen that rely on accountable management systems, the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders Alliance is encouraged by the Congressman's speech and his focus on building solutions rather than de-funding management opportunities.

We trust that the Congressman understands that there's more to this than simply talking about the need for better stock assessments. Stock assessments cost money, and right now the National Marine Fisheries Service doesn't have enough funding for more and better stock assessments. We hope that the Congressman stays true to his word by using his congressional authority to deliver funding to NMFS for annual stock assessments for red snapper and all other fish species in the Gulf.

Keith "Buddy" Guindon  
Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance

### We need commitment on fisheries

Dear Editor,  
When Congressman Steve Southerland showed

up at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council meeting in Key West last week, fishermen expected to hear the same old rhetoric about his plan for government to interfere with the public process for managing fisheries. After all, it is Congressman Southerland who wants to tie the hands of the Council by eliminating management options that help small family fishing businesses like my own.

So when we heard him praise the Council for their good work, I admit I was surprised. Congressman Southerland went on to talk about the need for better stock assessments and better data to be used to manage the Gulf's fisheries. And I don't disagree.

As a commercial fisherman, I rely on accurate science to tell me how many fish I can catch each year without hurting the red snapper population in the long term. I understand the need to set limits for conservation and to live within those limits. I also understand that stock assessments cost money, and the National Marine Fisheries Service needs more funding to improve stock assessments.

If Congressman Southerland really is committed to improving fisheries data, he'll back up his words with actions — and he will deliver funding to NMFS for annual stock assessments for red snapper and the rest of the Gulf's fish species. Fishermen don't need another politician pointing out the problem — we need our federal leaders to actually help fund the solution.

Captain Jim Zurbrich  
Commercial fisherman,  
Steinhatchee, Fla., Fish for America LLC

## SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

Send your letters to :

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR  
P.O. Box 308  
Port St. Joe, FL 32457

Fax: 850-227-7212  
Email: [tcroft@starfl.com](mailto:tcroft@starfl.com)

Comments from our readers in the form of letters to the editor or a guest column are solicited and encouraged. A newspaper's editorial page should be a forum where differing ideas and opinions are exchanged. All letters and guest columns must be signed and should include the address and phone number of the author. The street address and phone number are for verification and will not be published. Letters must be in good taste and The Star reserves the right to edit letters for correctness and style.

## RIVER from page A4

Blueway as a national recreation trail. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and National Park Service Director

Jonathan Jarvis called the Apalachicola "a rare gem" that "flows through one of the nation's richest hotspots of biodiversity ... a tapestry of wild landscapes and vanishing cultures."

We know how special the Apalachicola is, and we are so very grateful for its gifts. That's why we took the big step of

going to court to stop this dangerous pollution that affects us all.

After 61 years of electricity generation at the Scholz plant, Gulf Power has announced that it will stop burning coal at the Scholz facility next year. But as the disaster on the Dan River taught us, coal ash lagoons are dangerous regardless of whether the power plant is still operating. Duke

Energy closed the Dan River plant in 2011, but years-worth of coal ash

remained in the lagoon that collapsed in February. Unless Gulf Power starts taking responsibility for its mess, its coal ash pits will continue polluting the Apalachicola for years to come.

It is essential that when Gulf Power permanently shuts its plant, that the corporation's hazardous waste does not continue to threaten the health of local residents, or the fisheries of the river, or the fisheries of Apalachicola Bay. It is essential that the

cleanup does not become the taxpayers' problem. And it is essential that the cleanup costs do not fall on the ratepayers: the local residents who have no choice but to buy electricity from Gulf Power, a subsidiary of the \$38-billion Southern Company. We are doing all that we can to prevent a disaster like Duke Energy's hazardous waste spill on the Dan River from happening here. Let's hope Gulf Power will too.

## Sargassum (brown algae) washing up on shore

By Tom Baird  
Special to The Star

A lot of seaweed is washing up on the beach right now. Often called Gulfweed, the clumps are all one or more species of Sargassum, which is a brown algae. The brown algae are more often associated with colder, more northern coastlines. Think of the giant kelp off the Pacific coast. One notable exception is Sargassum, which includes several species of algae of the open ocean. Changes in weather patterns and ocean currents will sporadically bring rafts of Sargassum onto our shores.

When at the beach, pick up a clump of the Gulfweed and inspect it. There are little, round, grapelike balls among what appears to be leaves. The little balls are small air bladders that buoy the algae mass up at the surface so that it can get sunlight for photosynthesis. The air bladders are an adaptation to living in the open ocean. Otherwise, the algae would rapidly sink into darkness and die.

What few people realize is that these floating rafts of seaweed contain a whole community of highly specialized organisms that spend their lives drifting in the open ocean. Some of these creatures are found nowhere



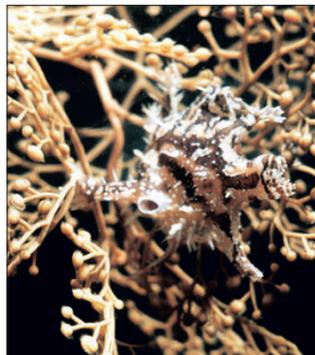
COURTESY OF TOM BAIRD

Sargassum on the beach

else. The Sargassum community is like something found in science fiction, floating islands of strange and unusual creatures.

Many of these animals have shapes and colors that mimic and blend in with the sargassum. Some are sessile, that is they attach to the algae, while most crawl about freely on the drifting seaweed. The young of some oceanic fish use the sargassum as a refuge from larger, predaceous fish and hang about in or under the floating islands.

Some of the types of creatures that have become adapted to the rafts of sargassum are flatworms, polychaete worms, shrimps, crabs, an anemone, and various hydroids. The Sargassumfish (*Histrio histrio*) has an irregular outline and mottled coloration



Sargassum fish

that mimics its leafy environment. The little fish can swim rapidly, but spends most of its time crawling about the Sargassum using its pectoral fins like arms. It blends with the algae so well that it easily ambushes any prey, including fish that swim nearby. The sargassum crabs, *Callinectes marginatus* and *Portunus sayi*, have mottled brown coloration enabling them to blend with the algae. There is a little sargassum shrimp, *Latreutes fucorum*, that crawls about the floating clumps of algae and may be hard to spot until it moves. There is even a carnivorous nudibranch that has large leaf-like lobes along its back that make it almost impossible to distinguish from its floating algae host.

All of the different species that

inhabit the floating sargassum are closely related to inshore fauna and probably derived from those species. Nevertheless, the sargassum fauna is a dwarf fauna. They are much smaller than their close relatives. It is also a warm-water fauna and is most prolific where water temperature is greater than 64 degrees Fahrenheit. The surface water temperature of the Gulf of Mexico in July is around 86 degrees F and the rafts of Sargassum abound in associated life forms.

When the Sargassum is washed into shore, most of these animals abandon the bundles of seaweed or die and are washed out of the seaweed in the surf. Good ways to get an impression of the life forms in the sargassum is to collect some fresh sargassum as it is still in the surf and shake it out in a bucket of seawater, or collect it at sea from a boat using a dip net or bucket. Once in a bucket of water you can examine it in more detail and see some of the myriad creatures living there.

There are several species of Sargassum. Some species are anchored to the bottom using holdfasts. Meadows of these species of Sargassum can be found in clear, shallow water from the West Indies to the northern Gulf of Mexico. These species reproduce sexually and therefore introduce genetic

variation. Pieces of these algae break off and float in the currents. However, there are some species of Sargassum that exist only as free-floating islands in the open seas. They reproduce vegetatively. Amazingly, some of the associated life forms that live on the Sargassum are restricted to only one of the Sargassum species and are found nowhere else.

While the rafts of Gulfweed are sometimes a nuisance to swimmers, the decaying algae fertilizes the beach and makes it more productive for burrowing beach creatures. The tides will return the nutrients back to the sea. The next time you are wandering the shoreline, closely inspect some of the clumps of Sargassum that have washed ashore. You'll be holding a fascinating world of life that only lives drifting on the open ocean.

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

### WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, July 10	85°	76°	40 %
Fri, July 11	85°	77°	40 %
Sat, July 12	87°	77°	40 %
Sun, July 13	86°	78°	40 %
Mon, July 14	87°	79°	20 %
Tues, July 15	87°	79°	10 %
Wed, July 16	86°	79°	40 %

### TIDE TABLES MONTHLY AVERAGES

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

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

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

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

### ST. JOSEPH BAY

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide				
10	Th	828am	2.0	650pm	-0.4				
11	Fr	917am	2.0	736pm	-0.4				
12	Sa	1008am	2.0	821pm	-0.3				
13	Su	1102am	1.9	902pm	-0.2				
14	Mo	1157am	1.7	935pm	0.0				
15	Tu	1252pm	1.4	951pm	0.2				
16	We	147pm	1.1	938pm	0.4				
17	Th	538am	0.9	243pm	0.9	935am	0.8	836pm	0.7
18	Fr	458am	1.1	235pm	0.6				
19	Sa	512am	1.3	338pm	0.3				

### APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide				
10	Th	448am	1.2	103pm	1.6	749am	1.3	949pm	-0.3
11	Fr	527am	1.3	158pm	1.6	853am	1.4	1033pm	-0.4
12	Sa	559am	1.3	254pm	1.6	949am	1.3	1115pm	-0.3
13	Su	628am	1.3	352pm	1.6	1042am	1.2	1155pm	-0.2
14	Mo	653am	1.3	451pm	1.6	1135am	1.1		
15	Tu	718am	1.3	552pm	1.5	1234am	-0.1	1232pm	0.9
16	We	743am	1.3	658pm	1.3	111am	0.1	134pm	0.8
17	Th	809am	1.4	812pm	1.1	146am	0.4	245pm	0.7
18	Fr	839am	1.4	943pm	1.0	220am	0.6	404pm	0.5
19	Sa	913am	1.5	1145pm	1.0	254am	0.8	525pm	0.4

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## Stories of treasures near Money Bayou true

By Dylan Shoemaker  
Preserve Manager  
Special to The Star

Treasure is a word that has long been associated with St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve.

In a previous life the lodge was named Treasure Bay Lodge.

Treasure Bay Lodge and Hunting Preserve provided a place for overnight stays and hunting opportunities. In 1995 the Florida Board of Trustees purchased the property and that same year it became known as the Buffer Preserve.

Now, it is truly a treasure for everyone to enjoy.

The primary function of the Preserve is to protect St. Joseph Bay.

While owned by the Florida Board of Trustees, the Preserve is under the management of Florida Department of Environmental, Florida Coastal Office and managed by the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve.

One question asked a lot by visitors and residents alike is: What do you do at the Preserve?

Our jobs include: inventorying natural communities, conducting prescribed burns, controlling invasive plants and animals, restoring the natural hydrology and establishing visitor access.

As a research facility, we provide living quarters for students who are conducting scientific research and educational opportunities for nature study.

College professors might bring their entire class and stay overnight or



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Park services specialist Barry Townsend, High School High Tech Intern Carl Sheline and preserve manager Dylan Shoemaker invite everyone to enjoy the sights of the St. Joseph Bay Buffer Preserve.

for a three-week course of study.

Groups from Nebraska, South Dakota, Missouri, Kansas, New York, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas have taken advantage of the diversity of life at the Buffer.

The Preserve is managed under a single use concept as a State Buffer Preserve. For a time in 2013 we were the last Buffer Preserve in the state as all others had been designated as state parks. Some have reopened as Buffer Preserves as their importance is in the spotlight throughout the state.

This leads to another question often asked: What is a Buffer Preserve?

Our 5,019 acres actually

buffers the water coming down the watershed and naturally filters it before it enters the bay.

The 5,019 acres also buffers the bay from further destruction and construction. St. Joseph Bay is one of the most pristine bays on the Gulf of Mexico and our goal is to keep it that way.

St. Joseph Bay is the only embayed body of water on the eastern part of the Gulf of Mexico that has no major fresh water inflow. Money Bayou, originating in Buffer Preserve land is unusual in that it flows directly into the Gulf instead of through an intervening body of fresh water.

When visitors stop in another question we hear a lot is: What can you do at the Buffer Preserve?

We have trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding, and nature appreciation. Areas to picnic are provided at various gates and locations. The Buffer Preserve is designated as part of Florida's Great Birding Trail. We have a tower for visitors to climb and view via telescope various wildlife and to observe the beauty of the Bay.

Rumors of treasure (from long ago pirates) are still around in the area, however, at the Preserve -- staff, volunteers and visitors know true treasures abound in the form of wildlife, rare plants and wildflowers, seagrass beds and salt marshes.

What a treasure for all to enjoy right here in Port St. Joe!

### FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



#### Inshore/Bay

Scallop season is in full form around Black's Island. Grab the kids and some masks and snorkels and head on out. Trout and red fish are biting, the WindMark area is a good place to get away from the scallops.

#### Offshore/Bottom

King fish are still on the inshore wrecks -- troll deep with dusters or bump troll some hard tails, look for bait balls. The gag grouper bite has been slow the last couple of weeks, be patient with them and fish with lighter tackle. Snapper season is coming to a close, so get them while you can.



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Monday - Thursday 7AM - 6PM (EST) | Friday - Saturday 7AM - 7PM (EST)

Sunday 7AM - 2PM (EST)

Let's go!  
Summer time is here!

Shop our huge selection of beach wares, chairs, and toys.

New arrivals daily of kayaks, Paddleboards, and fishing gear.

## PROPERTY from page A1

Under Florida law, the property appraiser must assess those lands annually based on average market trends or sales from the prior five years.

In 2014, roughly 65 percent of those agricultural lands changed hands as, among other factors, St. Joe sold off large portions of its holdings.

Those market sales – as with all assessments from the property appraiser – drove the change in values.

“We are also seeing new construction taking place, which is great news” Burke said.

In 2013, new single-family construction permits totaled 69. This year there have been 37 permits, 54 percent of 2013 with five months left in the year.

“However, we don’t get to realize the

true increase in value due mainly to the statewide cap approved back in 2008, which caps annual increases in value of non-homestead properties at not more than 10 percent annually,” Burke said.

The tax base for Gulf County Schools, which is not subject to the 10 percent cap, will increase to \$1.44 billion from \$1.40 billion last year, an increase of 2.8 percent.

The certified property roll is, in effect, a snapshot of the past, a historical marker. The property appraiser is effectively a historian of market trends.

By law taxable values are assessed each year based on value on Jan. 1. The market can and often does change by the time of tax roll certification July 1.

The rolls are also dictated by property sales from the prior year, not just an indi-

vidual property, but like sales on a street or in a neighborhood.

The city of Port St. Joe showed a small decline in its tax base, from about \$280 million to around \$279 million, a decrease of less than a tenth of a percent.

The biggest decline was in the city of We-wahitchka, which went from \$56.4 million to \$55.2 million, a 2 percent drop of about \$1.2 million.

All fire districts were above last year’s taxable value.

Tupelo Fire Zone increased in value 6.3 percent to \$107 million; St. Joe Fire Zone saw an increase of 2 percent to \$849 million; Howard Creek Fire Zone had an increase of 12 percent to \$35 million; and Overstreet Fire Zone had the biggest percentage increase of 15 percent to \$50.2 million.

After preliminary approval of the tax roll from the state, Truth in Millage (TRIM) notices will go out.

Burke said the TRIM notice is to provide the public a detailed breakdown of what taxes are being levied and by what taxing authority.

The TRIM notice also includes the date, time and location of all public budget hearings.

But, Burke said, taxpayers should keep in mind the TRIM notice is not a bill, but a time to review assessments.

A taxpayer has 25 days from the date the TRIM notice is mailed to discuss assessments with the property appraiser or file a petition with the Gulf County Clerk of Courts for a hearing before the Value Adjustment Board.

## LIGHTHOUSE from page A1

manager Jim Anderson, was to erect the lighthouse in George Core Park the following day.

Clay Smallwood with Preble Rish Engineers, the project manager for the move, said the structural engineer approved a 7-day cure for the footers and they will be ready for the lighthouse when it arrives.

The lighthouse, all roughly 100 feet and 60 tons of it, will be set on its side Thursday or Friday morning and placed on a flatbed vehicle to be transported as a single unit. There had been talk

at one time that a move would require partially dismantling the structure.

One certainty is there will be impacts to traffic to and from St. Joseph Peninsula during much of the day and in the city proper for a time in the evening.

County, city and Florida Department of Transportation staff will post message boards at U.S. 98 and State 30A and along Cape San Blas Road to inform motorists of alternatives and any detours, but during the relocation localized traffic only

will be allowed.

Duke Energy has already staged trucks in the area as the company will adjust power lines to accommodate the caravan of buildings as they move toward Port St. Joe.

There will be isolated and rolling power outages as lines are dropped and re-raised. They should last no more than 60-90 minutes, if that, Anderson said.

The move is the final step in a process that has taken nearly two years and at what time involved some debate among city

and county officials about the proper site for the lighthouse.

The Cape San Blas Lighthouse, which stood over 100 years at its current location, came under dire threat after Hurricane Isaac took significant shoreline the summer of 2012 following years of erosion in the area.

Eglin Air Force Base, which owns the property on which the structure sits, decided to surplus the lighthouse, which had been leased by the county, in order to save and preserve it.

The city and Board of County

Commissioners submitted competing proposals to obtain the lighthouse and ancillary structures – the lease with the BOCC was nullified by Eglin’s declaring the lighthouse surplus – but ultimately at Christmas time in 2012 the Department of the Interior deeded the lighthouse and buildings to the city.

Through a private fundraising campaign boosted by more than \$500,000 in state appropriations the city assembled more than \$700,000 to foot the cost of relocation.

## PERMITS from page A1

first offense, \$750 for a second offense.

Other violations would bring a fine of \$250 and \$400 for first and second offenses, respectively.

Commissioners will decide at their next meeting whether to approve a recommendation from a citizens committee examining rules and regulations for the beach.

The recommendation was that those ticketed for not having a permit would have seven days to come in and pay the fine. If they did so, the portion of the fine above the permit cost would be adjusted down.

“We are trying to walk the line between protecting the resource and allowing the public to utilize that resource,” Yeager said.

### BUDGET WORKSHOP

The BOCC will hold its next budget workshop, when commissioners will get a first look at a preliminary budget, at 9 a.m. ET Thursday, July 17.

Commissioner Joanna

Bryan suggested commissioners hold the meeting in the evening when the public could attend and provide input but her suggestion had no support.

Yeager noted required public hearings on the budget must be held after 5 p.m., but Bryan countered that those hearings arrive “after the discussions and work have been done.”

### BRYAN-BUTLER BLOWUP

Bryan’s continued her comments about the ability of the public to have input and understanding on BOCC issues when administrator Don Butler passed out a final contract-ed price for the building of a new fire house for the White City Volunteer Fire Department.

Bryan said it was “inappropriate” and “unprofessional” for Butler to be placing in front of commissioners an item on which they would be asked to vote within a few minutes.

She said this was an issue she had brought again

and again, that such items as how the BOCC spends money or sets policy should be included in the agenda for public awareness and good decision-making.

“We are for open government,” Bryan said, challenging her fellow commissioners to raise the level of openness and professionalism on the board and commissioners’ treatment of her.

“I’m tired of operating in a sloppy fashion ... I am not a rubber stamp,” Bryan continued. “I’m tired of trying to be civil with people who have no sense of civility.”

“I am tired of this board treating me as if I’m not a member of this board. I will continue to fight for the people of Gulf County.”

Commissioners Tan Smiley and Ward McDaniel said they rely on staff to provide them the answers to any questions and if something is in order when it arrives in front of them they had no issue.

“How do you know it is

in order?” Bryan asked.

Butler said he was adhering to the ordinance commissioners had passed in April providing him authority to negotiate contracts, leases, etc. subject to board approval. The White City fire house had been an issue for years and he had only received the price list he put in front of commissioners the prior evening.

He took strong issue with any insinuation that he had not done everything “straight by the book.”

Butler continued the debate by taking umbrage to Bryan’s communication, or in some cases lack thereof, with staff, saying she “interfered” with his business and she was only holding on to “conspiracy theories.”

Butler passed out email exchanges between he and Bryan about the temporary cutting of power and water to two parks, saying they were full of untruths.

Commissioners said the issue was an internal one and encouraged Butler and Bryan to sit down and iron

out their differences.

Beacon Hill resident Jennifer Corbin spoke at the end of the meeting.

“Perception is something we need to manage,” she said. “Information being passed out with little time (to consider) ... there is an anxiety from some in the community that somebody is trying to pull a fast one.”

“That may not be true, but that is the perception. The perception that our commissioner should not seek information is weird.”

## Zoysiagrass ‘A Choice for Your Lawn’

Zoysiagrass were introduced into the United States from Asia and provide attractive turf throughout much of the United States. In recent years, dramatic improvements in Zoysiagrass have been made by turf grass breeders. These improvements include insect resistance, accelerated establishment, and overall performance.

Zoysiagrasses are sod-farming perennial species that possess both stolons and rhizomes. The grasses turn brown after the first hard frost and are among the first warm season grasses to green up in the spring. The species vary from extremely fine textured to coarse textured types and the leaf blades are very stiff due to high silica content.

A highly versatile species, zoysiagrasses are more ideal lawn grasses in some situations and can be used on golf courses, parks and athletics fields. They can be grown in all kinds of soil ranging from sands to clays and both acid and alkaline in reaction.

In the southern U.S. the zoysiagrasses grow well in moderately shaded locations.

Zoysiagrass is extremely drought tolerant. Although it does turn straw colored under severe drought conditions, it has the capacity to respond to subsequent irrigation or rainfall. Its water requirements similar to those of Bermuda grass. The leaf blades of Zoysiagrass are among the first to roll under drought conditions, thus it tends to conserve moisture more effectively than other species. Zoysiagrass also has a deep root system allowing it to more effectively extract water from greater soil depths.

Zoysiagrass is nearly as salt tolerant as Bermuda grass. It is widely grown along sandy seashores where drainage is adequate. Zoysiagrass does not tolerate poorly drained soils whether they are saline



**ROY LEE CARTER**  
County extension director

or otherwise.

Zoysiagrasses are among the most wear tolerant turfgrasses. However, their slow rate of growth gives them very poor recuperative potential. Therefore, they perform satisfactorily on lawns, golf courses fairways and baseball fields. But, they are not recommended for football or soccer fields where traffic is concentrated in certain areas of the field. If the

grass is completed worn in those areas, Zoysiagrass is very slow to fill in the damage areas.

There are three principal species of zoysiagrass used for turf: zoyia japonica, zoyia matrella, and zoyia tenuifolia. These species are differentiated by texture, cold tolerance and aggressiveness.

Empire is an improved zoyia japonica, very dense growth habits, performs well in sandy and clay soils, can be mowed with a standard rotary lawn mower, and does not do well in shaded areas.

Emerald Zoysiagrass is a selected hybrid between zoyia japonica and zoyia tenuifolia developed in Tifton, Georgia and released in 1955.

Pristine Flora is a zoyia matrella cultivar released by the University of Florida. It is recommended for use in high-maintenance situations, including high-end home lawns.

El Toro is an improved zoyia japonica released in 1986 from California. “El Toro” is reported to have early spring greenup, more shade tolerance, better cold tolerance and improved resistance to rust diseases.

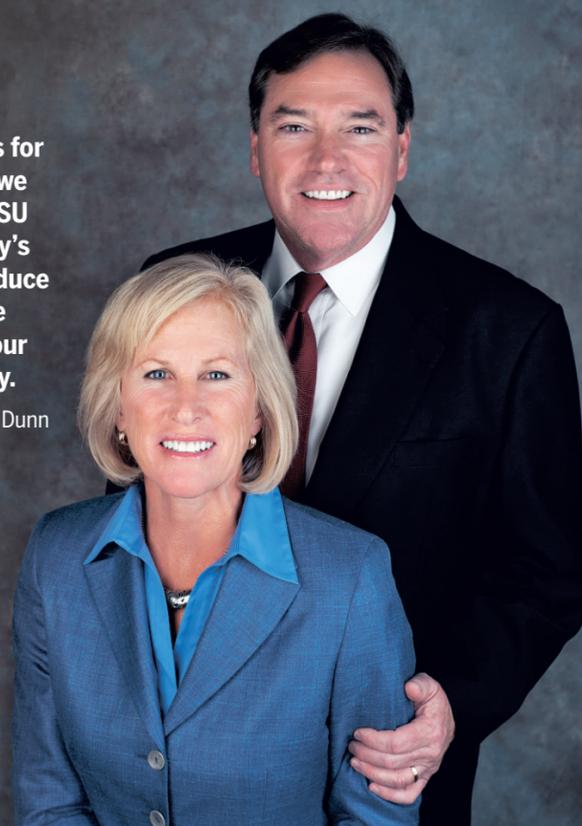
Ultimate Flora is a zoyia japonica developed by the University of Florida. It has similar leaf texture and upright growth habits to Meyers but it has a faster rate of speed and better adoptability for use in Florida.

Zoysiagrasses can be established from seed, sprigs, plugs or sod.

## WE SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIVERSITY

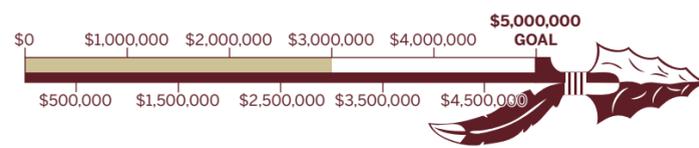
“As advocates for education, we believe in FSU Panama City’s ability to produce the future leaders of our community.”

— Neal and Leah Dunn



## THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S UNIVERSITY

*Endowment for Tomorrow's Jobs*



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

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, provide new degree programs and improve new equipment and technology.

# Scene around



Star Staff Report

This page features photos submitted to The Star by readers. Thanks to all who help make this page happen each week. This is intended to highlight the gorgeous, the interesting, the weird, fun or just plain best that Gulf County offers. Please submit your photos to [tcroft@starfl.com](mailto:tcroft@starfl.com).



COURTESY OF HOLLY ATKINS

Sunset in the rearview mirror



COURTESY OF TERRY LIND

Look out below



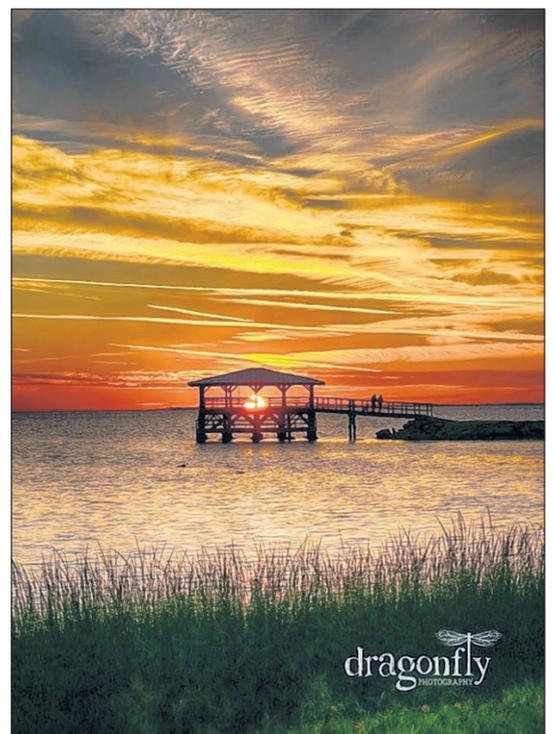
COURTESY OF KRISTY RAFFIELD

Don't cry – here, let me help



COURTESY OF KAYAK DOG ADVENTURES

Kayaking on the Dead Lakes in Wewahitchka



dragonfly PHOTOGRAPHY

COURTESY OF LAURA FROM DRAGONFLY PHOTOGRAPHY

The sunset provides a gorgeous backdrop to the gazebo at Frank Pate Park in Port St. Joe



COURTESY OF MARIE ROMANELLI

Storm clouds form over the rooftops at Cape Palms in Indian Pass



COURTESY OF TOM BAIRD

Pursh flowers bloom around dunes on Cape San Blas. The Pursh grows in salt and brackish marshes in central and north Florida and is rarely found inland. It blooms in the spring, summer and fall and is currently producing small meadows in coastal grasslands on Cape San Blas.



COURTESY OF BILL FAUTH

Turtle crawls on St. Joe Beach observed from a helicopter drone



COURTESY OF SAMANTHA LAYFIELD

A sunset over the Gulf of Mexico as seen from St. Joe Beach

## July nesting starts with 'miracle turtle'

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

A turtle patrol volunteer and several lucky visitors had a rare sight last week as July sea turtle nesting gets underway.

About 300 yards south of Dunes Drive, Jessica McKenzie, coordinator for the St. Joseph Peninsula Turtle Patrol, came upon a female loggerhead directly in front of Windward Street on the peninsula.

"She was just digging her egg chamber when I got to her," McKenzie wrote in an email to volunteers.

In theory, it would not be unusual for a turtle patrol

volunteer to find a nesting female turtle.

Save for the time of day — 10:15 a.m. EST.

While observing a female turtle nesting in the daytime is not unique, it is hardly common, Tom Baird said.

Baird is part of the same turtle patrol group which McKenzie coordinates and also writes a bi-monthly column on the outdoors for this newspaper.

"A day nesting turtle is very unusual," Baird said.

"They prefer the dark, the darker the better." Hence the variety of local rules and regulations pertaining to limiting lights and noise at night during

turtle nesting season found the Gulf region and coastal Florida.

And that sensitivity to light and noise was underscored, Baird said, during the Fourth of July weekend by the number of false crawls — evidence that turtles have come ashore but did not lay eggs — on the peninsula.

"They were scared away by the noise and lights and fireworks," Baird said.

The busiest months of nesting are June, July and August, Baird said.

"During those months they are really coming in," Baird said. "From the last emails I've received they are finding four and five

nests a day."

And during those months, he added, it was essential for the health and propagation of the various species that nest on local beaches that visitors and locals enjoying the beach to pick up their gear from a day at the beach.

Don't leave cabanas, tents, grills and other obstacles to the turtles reaching the upper beach.

"Put anything out there you want during the day, but at night pick it all up," Baird said. "Don't leave anything over night."

The same, he added, was true later in the season when hatchlings emerge from the egg chamber look-



COURTESY OF JESSICA MCKENZIE | Special to The Star

This female nesting turtle was discovered at 10:15 a.m.; it is very unusual for a turtle to be nesting in daytime.

ing for the beach.

That the daytime nester was discovered at all was happenstance.

McKenzie was checking another section of the

peninsula beach when she realized she was in the wrong section for the given day of the week.

See **TURTLE B5**

## Area celebrates Fourth of July with fireworks, parades, picnics

Star staff report

From Wewahitchka to Mexico Beach to Port St. Joe, indications were that the Fourth of July weekend was a rousing success, said Jennifer Jenkins.

Jenkins, executive director of the Gulf County Tourist Development Council, said crowds were out, celebrations festive and safe and Independence Day was welcomed with gusto.

"It was very busy and fun Fourth — everywhere," Jenkins said.

Last Friday, the city of Port St. Joe celebrated the Fourth of July holiday with a parade down Reid Avenue, followed by a low country boil and a free music concert.

The Gulf County Sheriff's Office led the parade in their cruisers, followed by Port St. Joe police.

The Port St. Joe High School NJROTC flew the colors and was followed by Harry Lee Smith as Uncle Sam, Mayor Mel Magidson and his wife, Helen, and plenty of bikes, strollers and golf carts covered in festive holiday décor. The Port St. Joe and South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Departments rounded out the parade with flashing lights and wailing sirens.

Once the parade ended, the celebration continued at City Commons Park with a low country boil that acted as a fundraiser for next year's fireworks display.

Later that evening, 15-piece Panama City big band Go Big or Go Home rocked the stage at George Core Park before and after the annual fireworks display.

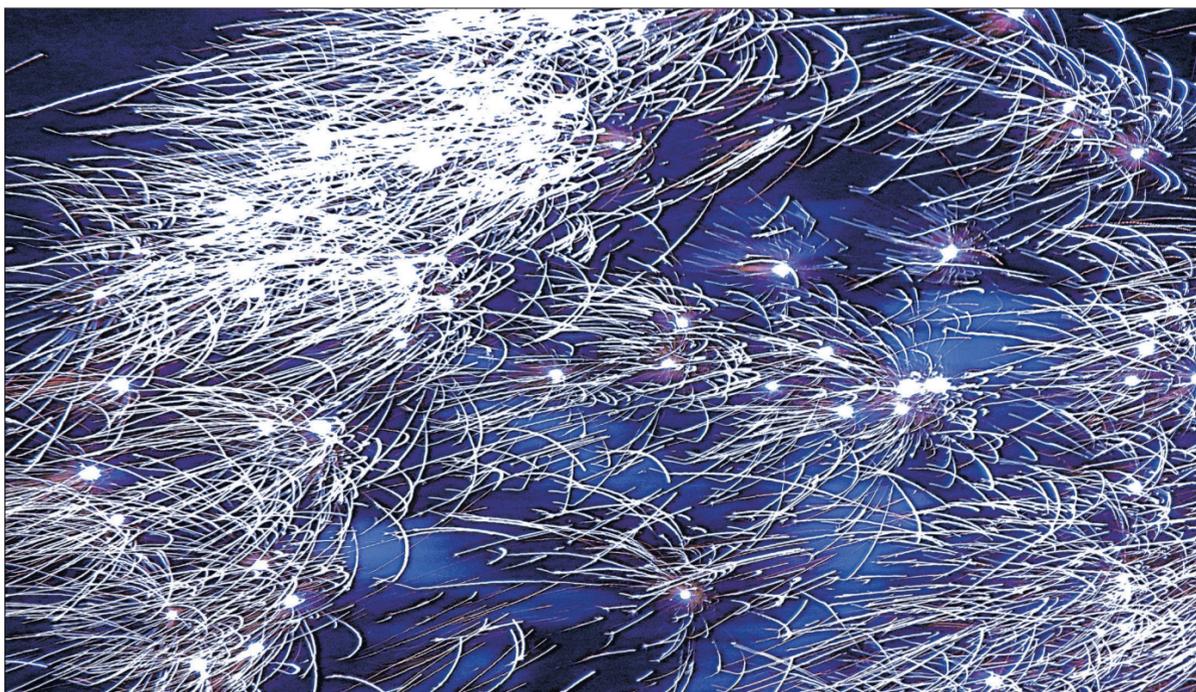
"I want to thank Mark Haddock, Dana Boyer, Charlotte Pierce, Charles and Barbara Radcliff, Steve and Kim Kerrigan, Marty and Ann Jarosc, Kyle Reid, Nancy Swider, Troy and Marion Simmons, Cathy Kreimer, Ken Haley and Helen Magidson,"

See **FOURTH OF JULY B5**



PHOTOS BY WES LOCHER | The Star

Port St. Joe's Fourth of July celebration included a parade down Reid Ave., a low country boil and a free concert at George Core Park. The parade consisted of emergency vehicles, Uncle Sam and residents (below) who dazzled up their bicycles, gold carts and even strollers.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

In Port St. Joe, fireworks explode above 15-piece big band, Go Big or Go Home, who played a free concert in George Core Park.

## TDC unveils new website

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

Although Tourist Development Council Executive Director Jennifer Jenkins quietly rolled out the new TDC website in May, she's now ready to show it off to the world.

The new website boasts a slew of new features designed to highlight the various businesses and adventures that Gulf County has to offer.

"Our motto in Gulf County is 'Do your thing,'" Jenkins said. "We've also tried to keep the site as laid back as possible."

Jenkins said that creating the site was a huge undertaking, costing more than \$125,000.

It's a good thing the Gulf County brand is priceless.

Helping guests find what they want has become easier than ever with a new search function that will match any query from live music to pet friendly and a responsive design that will adapt the site to function perfectly whether it's being viewed on a desktop computer, tablet or smartphone.

The site also spotlights upcoming events, TDC partners and contains interactive maps to show pet stations, boat ramps, parks and more.

Throughout the year, content will rotate to ensure that all activities being advertised are current with the season. Jenkins and her crew have already planned out the content through December of this year.

"Every piece of data we have mapped county-wide, we have on our maps," Jenkins said.

Rather than have to alert a web host each time a change is needed, Jenkins has access which allows she and marketing manager Michelle Perrin to add or remove photos, text and business information on the fly.

Jenkins said it was important to her to be able to manage her own content to ensure that the site was always accurate.

"We don't sell anything ... we work to promote our partners," Jenkins said. "It's important to be able to change anything instantly."

Perrin said the new features make life easier on the employees, and will help streamline the process when it comes to compiling the 2015 Visitor's Guide later this year.

Additionally, the new site is jam-packed with analytics to show partners how much traffic is coming to their website via the TDC.

Jenkins said currently about 48 percent of visitors are being handed off to partner sites that include lodging,

See **TDC B5**

OBITUARIES

Allie Vee Williams

Mrs. Allie Vee Williams age 86 of Port St. Joe Fla., passed away July 1st her home.

She was preceded in death by her husband B.R. Williams.

She was a devoted Christian and loved the Lord Jesus Christ with all her heart. She was a wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother. Her love was never ending to all of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She always had a smile on her face.

She is survived by her five children, Larry Griffin and his wife, Delores Griffin; Janice Hall and her husband, Rodney Hall; B.R. Williams Jr.; Susan Williams; and Teresa Williams. She is also survived by eleven grandchildren, Laurie Varnes (Bobby Varnes), Crystal Fisher (Jason Fisher), Danielle Etheridge (Chris Etheridge), Cierra Richards (Chris Richards), Eli Griffin (Kayla Griffin), Arielle Griffin, Casie West (Adrian West), Evan Williams, Brian Thomas, Kevin Thomas (Cindy Thomas)

and Dana Haney; and 27 great-grandchildren, Brooke Harper, Alyssa Varnes, Wil Varnes, Brandon Hall, Shaye McGuffin, Shelby Fisher, Cassidy Raffield, Dawson Fisher, Gavin Etheridge, Nadia Etheridge, Talon Etheridge, Aniyah Richards, Malichi Richards, Leielle Richards, Lyric Richards, Aston Richards, Kelsey Griffin, Braden Griffin, Wyatt Griffin, MaKenna Hathcock, Kaydence Thomas, Tatum Thomas, Briana Thomas, Gabriel Haney, Maryssa Haney, Allie Thomas, Chad Michael Williams; and great-great-grandchildren: Reece Harper and Sami Williams.

She will be missed by all those who loved her very much.

A funeral was 11 a.m. EST Friday July 4, 2014, at Oak Grove Church with the Rev. Jimmy Gannie officiating. Interment followed in Holly Hill Cemetery. Visitation was an hour before the service at the church.

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

Gregory A. Dickson



GREGORY DICKSON

Greg Dickson, 56, of Seagrove Beach, Fla., passed away on June 25, 2014. Gregory Alan was the first child of Charles W. and Esther A. Dickson. He was born on Sept. 24, 1957, and grew up in Greenwood, Fla.

His love for the Gulf of Mexico was apparent in many jobs he chose throughout his life. Greg worked as a tugboat captain for Local Tugs and Dowell Chemical Company, Venice, La.; Beach Charters, a fishing and parasailing charter; and Wavetamer Boat Sales, both of Mexico Beach, Fla.

After earning his PADI certification for rescue diving, dive master, and specialty diver, Greg captained with Killfish Charters of Port St. Joe, Fla. Greg also worked for several years at Capitol Hydraulics in Tallahassee, Fla.

Upon moving to Seagrove Beach, Greg owned and managed a Mailbox Etc. for many years with his former wife, Elizabeth. After selling the business, Greg fulfilled another life passion by becoming a sous chef. He cooked and worked with Cafe 30A, Great Southern and The V Restaurant in Seagrove Beach.

Greg was an accomplished drummer and played with local bands in Marianna, Tallahassee and Mexico Beach and he continued to have jam sessions with his buddies

throughout his life. He was a member of the Santa Rosa Golf and Beach Club and loved the game of golf.

Greg was predeceased by his parents, Charles W. and Esther A. Dickson. He is survived by his daughter, Patty Duncan Thames and his grandson, Patrick Duncan of Greenwood, Fla.; a brother, Charles W. (Chuck) Dickson Jr. of Greenwood, Fla.; two sisters, Kathy (John) Arnold and Krissy (Pat) Gentry, both of Beacon Hill, Fla.; a special friend, Elizabeth Curry of Seagrove Beach, FL, and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life memorial service will be July 19, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. eastern (sunset) at Beacon Hill Veteran's Memorial Park at Beacon Hill, Fla.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Greg A. Dickson Memorial Reef Fund care of Kristine D. Gentry at Tyndall FCU account 1990895 address: 501 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd. Port St. Joe, FL 32456.

An eco-friendly fishing reef will be named for Greg and is located offshore of Mexico Beach. Coordinates will be available at www.mbara.org.

Clary-Glenn Funeral Home of Defuniak Springs, Fla., are in charge of arrangements. www.clary-glenn.com.

Harlon 'Ray' Miller

Harlon "Ray" Miller was called home by our Lord on June 20, 2014, at the age of 60.

Ray was born in Port St Joe, Fla., March 29, 1954. He graduated from Port St Joe High School and spent his career with the Woodlands Division of the St. Joe Paper Company. Ray also gave many years of dedicated service as a volunteer with the White City Volunteer Fire Department.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents Flora and Hubert Miller and his wife Jan Miller.

He is survived by four children: his daughter, Wendy Baker and husband, Scott of Port St. Joe, his son Timothy and wife, Josie of Wewahitchka,

his son, Jeremy and his daughter, Brittany of Port St Joe; his three grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Zachary and Joshua Baker; his sister, Patricia Taylor and husband, Vince of Overstreet, and his sister Debbie Byrne and husband, Kevin of Apple Valley, Calif. He also leaves behind his close friend Debbie Schimpf and her family of Panama City, and many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

A funeral provided by Southerland Family Funeral Homes was Sunday, June 29, 2014, at Long Avenue Baptist Church in Port St. Joe, Fla., with interment at Holly Hill Cemetery.

William Matthew Gillen

William Matthew Gillen Jr., 74, passed away Saturday, July 5, 2014, at his home in Mexico Beach, Fla. Billy was born Nov. 22, 1939, to the late William Matthew Gillen Sr. and Martha Faust Gillen in Lexington, Ga. He was the second of five children.

Billy owned and operated Mulberry Farms in Gainesville, Ga., since 1981, where he managed for more than 33 years. Billy loved to spend time with family and friends. "Captain Billy" loved to fish, go boating and enjoyed his UGA Bulldogs.

He is survived by his

wife, KW Gillen; children, Martha, Bill, Sheila, Ron; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be at 5 p.m. EST Saturday, July 12, 2014, at Hotel Indigo 500 College Ave., Athens, GA 30601.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association P.O. Box 13006 Mexico Beach, FL 32410 in the memory of Captain Billy Gillen for the "Brown Water Hole."

Southerland Family Funeral Home 100 East 19th St. Panama City, FL 32405 850-785-8532

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PET OF THE WEEK St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Angel is a 45 lb., 1 yo American Staff Terrier/Mix. She is playful, friendly and LOVES HER PEOPLE! Angel has learned what it takes to be a great family pet. She enjoys playing with her foster doggy sister and is learning to be polite with her foster family's kitty. Angel is crate trained and house broken. She walks well on her leash and is attentive and ready to accept her owners instruction/guidance. She also knows the commands SIT and DOWN. She is an intelligent girl and eager to do whatever pleases her owner. She would make a terrific family pet, or enjoy an active family/owner. Or be happy with any family/owner willing to give her a chance to show them her UNCONDITIONAL LOVE!

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

BOW WOW BEACH SHOP. Now your source for New Nutro Source Grain Free Dog Food! Downtown Port St. Joe 850-229-6161 bowwowbeach.com

Washington High School reunion meets on cruise

Special to The Star

A select group of Washington High School graduates from 1960-70 participated in the 2014 reunion cruise to the Bahamas from July 3 to 6.

For the 15 guests, it was a time to renew acquaintances and remember the old days at WHS. Former graduates came from Washington, D.C., Arizona, California and Alabama for the event. The graduates took tours of Nassau, played cards and told jokes about former teachers.

In 2016, from July 2 to 4, former students of all WHS classes will meet in Port St. Joe. Festivities will be open and each person will pay for their meals at area restaurants. We look forward to seeing WHS students in 2016.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

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## PROJECT GRADUATION RAFFLE



PHOTOS BY WES LOCHER | The Star

Project Graduation President Sharon Barrier presents raffle winner Casey Ptachick with his \$1,800 prize.

# Project Graduation raffle winner nabs \$1,800

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

Project Graduation made Casey Ptachick's Monday afternoon when he was presented with \$1,800 in cold hard cash for a raffle ticket he'd purchased on a whim several weekends ago.

A resident of Tallahassee, Ptachick and his girlfriend had stayed on the river in Wewahitchka two weeks earlier and stopped at David Rich's IGA for some groceries.

Ptachick bought a raffle ticket to support Project Graduation, not giving much thought to the anticipated prize of \$500 that came along with it.

In the weeks following Ptachick's purchase, the remaining tickets sold out during Wewahitchka's Fourth of July celebration bringing in a total of \$3,600 in funds.

As per the raffle, 50 percent would go to a grand prize winner and the other half would be donated to Project Graduation for future events.

Ptachick received a phone call on Monday morning inviting him back to the IGA under mysterious circumstances.

When he arrived, he was presented with the prize money by Project Graduation President, Sharon Barrier and Treasurer Melissa Rushing.

A handful of recent Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School graduates were also on hand to show their gratitude for the funds with a round of applause.

"It feels really good," said Ptachick on his raffle win. "My girlfriend and I were just having a weekend to ourselves and just happened to stop in."

"This is going to help pay some bills."

Ptachick said he recently won a



Ptachick, a Tallahassee resident, spent a quiet weekend in Wewahitchka with his girlfriend and purchased the winning ticket to help support the community.

*"My girlfriend and I were just having a weekend to ourselves and just happened to stop in."*

**Casey Ptachick**  
Project Graduation raffle winner

raffle in Tallahassee, but forfeited his prize when he didn't answer a call from an unknown telephone number. He said he learned from that mistake.

For more than 15 years, Project Graduation in Wewahitchka has guaranteed graduates a safe, fun location to enjoy their commencement after-party. The class of 2014 enjoyed an evening of games and prizes at the Taunton Family Children's Home where they received prizes that included X-Boxes and television sets.

"Project graduation is important," said Barrier. "It's a safe place for kids to go."

"It keeps them from drinking and driving and allows them to have a responsible party."

Barrier said that Project Graduation would host a variety of events, including a festival in the fall and haunted trails in October, to help pay for the class of 2015's graduation party.

"This is so nice," Ptachick said. "I'm going to come back and spend some more time here."

## School BRIEFS

### PreK and kindergarten registration

Parents of students entering Pre-K or kindergarten at a public school in the full is urged to register their child as soon as possible.

Port St. Joe Elementary School is open 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. ET Monday through Thursday and can be contacted at 227-1221 for more information.

Wewahitchka Elementary School is open 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT Monday through Thursday and may be contacted at 639-2476.

### Title I orientation at Port St. Joe Elementary

Port St. Joe Elementary School will hold Title I orientation for parents/guardians and their children Aug. 14-15.

From 2-2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 14, orientation for pre-K will be held.

The schedule for Friday, Aug. 15, is as follows:

- Kindergarten: 8-8:30 a.m.
- First grade: 9-9:30 a.m.
- Second grade: 10-10:30 a.m.
- Third grade: 11-11:30 a.m.;
- Fourth grade: noon to 12:30 p.m.
- Fifth grade: 1-1:30 p.m.
- Sixth grade: 2-2:30 p.m.

Parents/guardians are asked to bring their child's supplies to his/her homeroom teacher.

### Gulf/Franklin will offer culinary classes in fall

Special to The Star  
Beginning this fall, students will have the opportunity to enroll in culinary classes at the Gulf/Franklin Campus. These courses are designed to prepare students for employment as a Chef's Apprentice. In addition to gaining the knowledge and skills needed to become

employed as a chef's apprentice, students who complete the Chef's Apprentice Certificate can continue their education and receive an Associate of Science degree in Culinary Management.

The first culinary courses offered by the Gulf/Franklin Campus will begin August 25. For additional information regarding the culinary program, call Loretta Costin at 227-9670, extension 5503, or email lcostin@gulfcoast.edu.

### Correctional Officer program at Gulf/Franklin

A new Correctional Officer program will be starting at the Gulf/Franklin Campus of Gulf Coast State College in Port St. Joe, on Aug. 25. The purpose of this program is to prepare students for employment as correctional officers. The program includes the basic standards courses mandated for certification as a correctional officer in the state of Florida. Students who graduate from this program would typically work as correctional officers within a county or state correctional facility. Upon completion of this program, students are eligible to take the State Officer Certification Exam for correctional officers. The program will be conducted using the new shorter curriculum and will meet Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET for about three months.

For more information, please call Brenda Burkett at 227-9670, ext. 5507, or email her at bburkett@gulfcoast.edu. The application deadline for Pell Grants and other financial aid is fast approaching, so please call today or come by the office in Building B at the Gulf/Franklin Campus, 3800 Garrison Ave. in Port St. Joe to pick up your application packet.



Special to The Star

### All A's

**KINDERGARTEN**

Cade Costin and Ruby Williams

**FIRST GRADE**

Austin Ramsey

**SECOND GRADE**

Taylor Burkett, Carter Costin, Mazie Hodges,

Riley McGuffin, Alex Taylor

### THIRD GRADE

Karys Linton, Magnolia Sarmiento

### FOURTH GRADE

Kristen Bouington, Justice Peacock

### All A's and B's

### KINDERGARTEN

Jacob Medina, Jakob Prine, Celie White

### FIRST GRADE

Hali Thomas, Lilli Williams

### SECOND GRADE

John Cullen

### THIRD GRADE

Eliza Bailey, Jae Lenox

### SIXTH GRADE

Catherine Bouington

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Are you living what you teach as you go along your way?  
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It makes it hard for them to learn no matter what we teach.  
Christian parenting is under attack, you're being watched every day.  
Be careful how you live your life, and also what you say.  
Abraham was told to teach his children to follow in God's way.  
Moses challenged the Israelites to do the same, at a later day.  
The Psalmist said each generation should pass on their faith and way of life.  
Paul wrote about the family and what parents should do, to cut down on some strife.  
We've got the Word to guide us, we know what we should do.  
If we keep living as the Israelites of old, He's going to clean our plow too.

Billy Johnson

## Overcoming regret explored at Lifetree Café

### Special to The Star

How to overcome regrets and make peace with the past will be explored at 7 p.m. CT Monday, July 14 at Lifetree Café.

The program features the filmed story of Chad Arnold, a man whose need

for an organ transplant prompted his brother to volunteer to be a donor. Arnold's brother died as a result of the surgery; Arnold survived.

"We all have regrets about what we've done or left undone," says Lifetree representative Craig Cable. "This program,

titled 'If Only: Living With Regret,' offers practical steps to move past regrets and live happier, healthier lives."

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

Governor Motel.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting. Questions about Lifetree can be directed to Gary Grubb at 334-806-5667 or lwlifetreecafe@fairpoint.net.

## Faith BRIEFS

### VBS at FUMC of Port St. Joe

First United Methodist Church in Port St. Joe will hold Vacation Bible School the week of July 14-18.

Sessions will be 9 a.m. to noon ET.

For more information contact Krystal Terry at 227-1724 or email krystal@psjunc.org To register visit psjunc.org.



### UMW Fashion Show, luncheon

The United Methodist Woman will be hosting a fashion show and luncheon at noon ET

Saturday, July 26, in the Fellowship Hall, First United Methodist Church of Port St. Joe. Tickets are on sale \$10 for adults, \$3 for children and they can be purchased from any United Methodist Woman or in the church office. Fashions will be furnished by local merchants and our own Care Closet. All proceeds from the event will go towards missions. So for a delicious lunch, exciting fashion show, and opportunity to support missions don't miss this event.

### Pastor appreciation at New Bethel A.M.E. Church

The Pastor Appreciation "Free Fish Fry Dinners & Gospel Fest" Celebration Program will be held the weekend of July 18-20 at New Bethel A.M.E. Church, located at 146 Avenue C in Port St. Joe. Come express your gratitude and encouragement to Pastor Lawrence E. Gantt, Sr., and

his family. The theme for this Pastor Appreciation "Free Fish Fry Dinners & Gospel Fest" Celebration Program is: "Feed My Sheep" [Shepherding, Empowering, Encouraging, Caring and Providing for ALL YHWH's Children.] John 21:10-17 (KJV 1611 A.D. Edition)

### PROGRAM SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES ET)

- Friday, July 18 – Free fish fry fellowship begins at 3 p.m. Guest Church - Victory Temple, Elder Charles Gathers at 6 p.m.
  - Saturday, July 19 – Free fish fry fellowship begins at noon. "Gospel Fest" Program begins at 6p.m. under the leadership of Minister of Music Herbert Beard and Sister Cora McNair Curtis.
  - Sunday, July 20 – Worship and Praise Celebration Services begin at 11 a.m. with Executive Senior Pastor Thomas Lewis Curtis, Speaker. At 4 p.m. will be guest speaker Minister Carl Bailey.
- Your Gift of Appreciation and Attendance is greatly appreciated! For additional information please contact Sister Cora McNair Curtis at 407-572-7059. Thank you in advance for joining us for our Pastor Appreciation "Free Fish Fry Dinners & Gospel Fest" Program.

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Bruce Hodge, Pastor  
Buddy Caswell, Minister of Music & Education  
Bobby Alexander, Minister to Students

**New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church**

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

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850.227.1724  
www.psjunc.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.

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Pastor  
Bobbi Lassiter  
Minister to Families  
Ann Comforter  
Director of Music

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**Long Avenue BAPTIST CHURCH**

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

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

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

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

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

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

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(850) 229-9596

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

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

**living water church at the beach**

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**oak grove church**

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

**Schedule of Worship Services**

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

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Pastor Josh Fidler

**Service Times**

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

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

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

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

www.stjamesepiscopalchurch.org

# FOURTH OF JULY from page B1

Mayor Magdison said. "Without their efforts the parade, low country boil and the Go Big or Go Home concert could not have happened.

"We also need to thank Duren's Piggly Wiggly for its generosity, Mark Moore at St. Joe Shrimp Co. for finding us beautiful shrimp at a great price and Centennial Bank for the use of the tents."

Wewahitchka hosted a daylong festival at Lake Alice Park culminating in fireworks and Mexico Beach also started early with a 5K race and children's fishing tournament and ended it with fireworks that went off almost simultaneously with Port St. Joe, creating quite a spectacle over the water.



WES LOCHER | The Star

The low country boil at City Commons Park helped raise funds for next year's celebration.



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

At left, the city of Mexico Beach kicked off the celebration bright and early with the annual Sandy Shoes 5K fun run.

Below left is a view of the fireworks from St. Joe Beach. The low country boil at City Commons Park, below center, helped raise funds for next year's celebration.



WES LOCHER | The Star

The parade also displayed emergency vehicles.

# TURTLE from page B1

Therefore, covering the area after 10 a.m. EST is unusual — the volunteers typically are out just after dawn checking for tracks and then locating egg chambers.

The patrol then cover and screen the chamber and erect stakes and yellow crime scene tape to mark the nest as off limits.

For McKenzie and about a dozen folks who happened by and stayed a safe distance away, they were gifted a scene few will be fortunate to witness.

"We kept a respectful distance and watched her drop her eggs, cover her nest, then crawl back to the water," McKenzie wrote in her email. "It was a very exciting and incredible experience for all."

Baird noted that the "miracle turtle," possibly because of the light, had established her egg chamber somewhat out of position, closer to shore which will make it potentially more vulnerable to a storm surge.

The spectators remained in their vehicles and helped



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JESSICA MCKENZIE | Special to The Star

After dropping her eggs and covering them up with sand the female loggerhead heads back to the sea.

guard the next while McKenzie completed her morning patrol of that section.

"It was a great way to start July nesting," McKenzie wrote.



Jessica McKenzie, coordinator for the St. Joseph Peninsula Turtle Patrol, stands next to the covered and staked nest. "It was a great way to start July nesting," she said.

## TDC from page B1

restaurants and charters but aims to see that number increase to 60-70 percent with the new website.

These new statistics will track incoming and outgoing traffic with detailed reports on where the traffic comes from, what search queries were used to locate the site and which sites visitors go to next.

In June alone, visitor guide requests were up 93 percent from the same time last year, Jenkins said.

The analytic tools allow Jenkins to offer real-time feedback and she will also view and interpret monthly data to create new marketing plans for Gulf County.

"The site is easy and user-friendly," Jenkins said. "It's built for all our expanding needs and provides us the flexibility to do what we need to do."

Those expanding needs include a media and press room with hi-resolution photos, awards, interviews and links to where Gulf County has been featured and a planned login system for paid partners that will allow them to update their own information to be published directly to the site.

Also planned for launch in the near future are a smart-phone app that will act as a bridge between the website and visitor's guide and e-newsletters to offer monthly updates on the area and a quarterly events email.

Seeing feedback as a vital to the success of the TDC, many sections of the website welcome user comments.

"Comments are important, even if they're negative," Jenkins said. "It allows us the opportunity to respond and reach out in the future."

"Our philosophy is that we have to reply to people. If we don't, they'll think we don't care."

Those interested in contributing content in the future are invited to view the TDC at 229-7800. Visit the new website at www.visitgulf.com.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) on July 21, 2014 at 8:45 a.m. EST, and at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, July 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 - HTS Properties LLC - Parcel ID #03979-005R - Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 11 West near to Summer Place - Gulf side St. Joe Beach - Road setback to meet DEP.
2. Development Issue - Gibson & Hosey - Parcel ID #04064-002R - Section 5, Township 7 South, Range 11 West - St. Joe Beach - RV LDR Regulations
3. County Development Regulations and Policies
4. Staff, Public and Open Discussion

Variance - HTS Properties LLC

Gibson - Development Issue

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.

# Arrest REPORTS

## Gulf County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Summary

JUNE 30-JULY 6

On Monday, June 30, Deputy J. Brock responded to the 1700 block of Parker Avenue in Highland View in reference to a possible burglary. The complainant reported he returned home from being away for about a month and discovered someone had been in his house. The main breaker to the residence was turned off and the home had no power. Inside someone had plundered through a dresser. The complainant did not find any property missing from the residence.

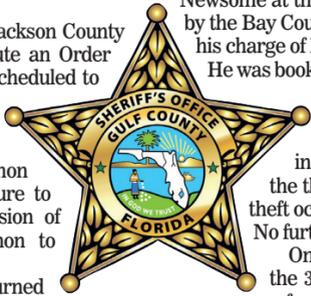
On June 30, the GCSO traveled to the Jackson County Correctional Facility in Marianna to execute an Order to Transport. Trevor P. Phillmon (23) was scheduled to appear in circuit court the on Tuesday, July 1. The GCSO held an active warrant on Phillmon, which was served upon his arrival at the Gulf County Detention Facility. Phillmon was arrested on an arrest order for Failure to Appear on his original charge of Possession of Contraband. The GCSO returned Phillmon to Jackson County on the following day.

On June 30, Richard W. Lancaster (59) turned himself in at the GCSO. Deputy M. Layfield served Lancaster with a warrant for Principal to Trafficking in Oxycodone. The case was the result of an investigation by the GCSO Narcotics Unit. Lancaster was booked into the GCDF where he was later first appeared and released on a \$10,000 bond.

On June 30, Deputy P. Williams responded to the 2700 block of County Road (CR) 381 in Dalkeith regarding a theft. The complainant reported the theft of a set of wiper blades from a vehicle parked in front of the Dalkeith Fire Department. A suspicious vehicle was observed at the location the day before.

On June 30, Deputy M. Layfield responded to the 1100 block of Garrison Avenue in Port St. Joe regarding a theft. The complainant reported the theft of a refrigerator valued at about \$700. The property was stolen from rental property. The case still is under investigation.

On Tuesday, July 1, the GCSO received a complaint



regarding a violation of an injunction for protection. Deputy M. Layfield responded and made contact with the complainant. The complainant reported the receipt of text messages that violated the order. Deputy M. Layfield continues to investigate.

On Wednesday, July 2, Christy R. Smith (34) turned herself into the GCSO. Deputy J. Oquendo served Smith with a warrant for Violation of Probation. Smith is on probation for Possession of Controlled Substance. She was booked into the GCDF and is currently held without bond.

On July 2, Brian L. Cruse (34) was arrested by Cpl. J. Newsome at the Gulf County Courthouse. Cruse was wanted by the Bay County Sheriff's Office for Failure to Pay Fines on his charge of Driving While License Suspended or Revoked. He was booked into the GCDF where he was later released after posting a \$450 bond.

On July 2, Deputy K. Starnes responded to the 200 block of Henry Avenue in Wewahitchka in reference to a theft. The complainant reported the theft of a lawn mower. The report indicated the theft occurred sometime during the past two months. No further information was provided.

On July 3, Deputy K. Starnes responded to the 300 block of Canal Street, in St. Joe Beach, in reference to a stolen tag. The complainant reported that he discovered the tag on his utility trailer was stolen. It appeared the bracket which the tag was mounted to was cut.

On July 3, the GCSO received a call regarding the theft of fishing gear off of two boats in the 100 block of Summer Breeze Drive on Cape San Blas. Deputy K. Starnes responded to the call. The boats were anchored in St. Joe Bay overnight when the owner discovered the following morning that someone stole the following items: a Yeti Cooler, four rod and reels, and dive gear. The items were left unsecured in the boat. The total reported loss was about \$2,270. If anyone has any information regarding this case, call the GCSO at 227-1115, or call CrimeStoppers at 785-TIPS.

On July 3, Deputy K. Starnes responded to a second location regarding a theft in the 100 block of Summer Breeze Drive on Cape San Blas. The complainant also reported the theft of fishing gear from their boat anchored overnight in the bay. The following items were stolen from the boat: five rod and reels, a pole spear, and a tackle box containing multiple lures. The total reported loss was about \$1,850. The items were left unsecured on the boat. If anyone has any information regarding this case, call the GCSO at 227-1115, or call CrimeStoppers at 785-TIPS.

On July 3, Deputy K. Starnes took a report from the third victim of theft from the 5500 block of Cape San Blas Road. The victim reported the theft of fishing gear from their boat, also anchored overnight in the bay. The following items were taken: a Yeti cooler, Costa sunglasses, a Hawaiian Sling and three rod and reel combs. The total reported loss was about \$1,900. The items in the boat were left unsecured.

On July 3, the GCSO received a call regarding a residential burglary in the 100 block of South Neptune Street in Indian Pass. The complainant reported that someone had entered the residence and pried a wine cooler open to steal a case of wine. The incident was reported to have occurred between Sunday, June 29, and Wednesday, July 2.

On Friday, July 4, Deputy P. Williams stopped a vehicle on SR 71 near Lake Grove Road in Wewahitchka after the GCSO received complaints of the vehicle driving recklessly. Deputy Williams observed the vehicle failing maintain its lane. The

driver, Charles K. Dawson (45), was contacted and Deputy Williams developed reason to believe he was operating the vehicle while under the influence. After an investigation, Dawson was arrested on charges of Driving while Under the Influence (DUI). Two small baggies were located in the vehicles which contained a white powdery substance that field tested positive for cocaine. Dawson was transported to the GCDF and charged with DUI and Possession of Cocaine. He was first appeared and later released on a \$3,500 bond.

On July 4, Deputy M. Layfield responded to the 400 block of Duval Street in Oak Grove after the GCSO received a call regarding a residential burglary. The complainant reported that on June 29, while he was sleeping, someone busted a window pane out of his back door. He stated someone between June 29 and July 4, had stolen several items of the residence while he was asleep. The items reported stolen were: a Berceur .22 caliber handgun with a 10-round magazine, a set of keys, a powered nail gun, and a wallet.

On Saturday, July 5, deputies responded to a traffic accident on SR 71 near Lands Landing after the GCSO received a 911 call. The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) responded and investigated the crash. The FHP charged Dennis E. Shiver, Jr. (20) with DUI and Leaving the Scene of an Accident with Property Damage.

On July 5, Deputy J. Oquendo responded to an area on the beach near South Oak Street regarding an intoxicated subject. The complainants reported that David E. Miller (62) was intoxicated and approached them in a vehicle. They said he drove around them in circles near children and yelling obscenities. Deputy Oquendo made contact with Miller and after the investigation arrested him for Disorderly Intoxication. Miller was transported to the GCDF where he was later first appeared and given a conditional release.

On Sunday, July 6, Deputy S. Willis responded to the 100 block of Abby Drive in Wewahitchka in reference to a theft. The complainant said that two females entered the front porch of her residence and took a partial pack of cigarettes. Deputy Willis located the two females who still had the cigarettes in their possession. The complainant did not wish to pursue criminal charges.

On July 6, Deputy P. Williams responded to the 100 block of Honeyhill Road in reference to a domestic disturbance. The GCSO was contacted by a third party who reported the offense. Deputy Williams investigated the case and criminal charges are forthcoming.

From June 30-July 6 the Communications Division at the GCSO logged a total of 79 calls for the Port St. Joe Police Department, 37 calls for EMS, 26 calls for other departments/agencies and 12 calls for Gulf County Animal Control.

From June 30-July 6 the GCSO logged the following department activity: Security/Zone Checks, 201; Traffic Stop, 69; Civil Paper Service, 26; Information, 11; Noise Disturbance, 8; Theft, 7; Reckless Driver, 6; Suspicious Activity, 6; Abandoned Vehicle, 5; Animal Call, 5; Citizens Assist, 5; Suspicious Person, 5; Traffic Accident, 5; Special Detail, 4; Street Obstruction, 4; Suspicious Vehicle, 4; Alarm, 3; Simple Assault, 3; Domestic Disturbance, 3; Disturbance, 3; Fire, 3; Grass/Field Fire, 3; Warrant Arrest, 3; Agency Assist, 2; Residential Burglary, 2; Disabled Vehicle, 2; Physical Disturbance, 2; Funeral/Parade Escort, 2; Prowler/Trespass, 2; Request for Security Check, 2; Simple Battery, 1; Criminal Mischief, 1; Disorderly Intox/Conduct, 1; Verbal Disturbance, 1; Hit & Run Accident, 1; Mentally Ill, 1; Missing Juvenile, 1; Recovered Property, 1; Sexual Offender Reregistration, 1; Stolen Tag, 1; and Welfare Check, 1.

### NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Wewahitchka Board of Commissioners will hold a PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-1170L on Monday, July 28th, 2014 @ 6:35 pm central time to consider adoption of an ordinance with the following title, to wit:

AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS AMENDING THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPEAL 2012-1060L TO ADOPT A NEW 2014-1170L TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS, TO DESIGNATE A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR, TO ADOPT PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR DEVELOPMENT IN FLOOD HAZARD AREAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; TO ADOPT LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; REPEALER; SEVERABILITY; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ordinance No. 2014-1170L in its entirety may be inspected at the office of the Wewahitchka City Clerk at 318 S. 7th St. City Hall Annex during business hours from 8-4, Monday through Friday.

### Star staff report

A Bay County woman was arrested on multiple drug charges last week after being stopped on a traffic violation by a Gulf County Sheriff Office investigator.

Investigator Larry Dickey located the vehicle and observed the reckless driving. He stopped the vehicle

### Bay County woman arrested on drug charges

and identified Susan Hughen, the sole occupant.

Dickey asked Hughen to explain her driving and she replied the steering was bad, according to the GCSO.

Hughen appeared unusually nervous and Dickey asked for and received consent from Hughen to search the vehicle.

The search uncovered a

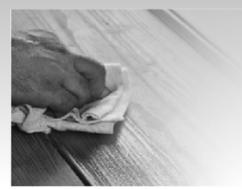
small bag of methamphetamine, individual small baggies and digital scales. Butane, batteries, glass pipes and metal spoons were located in the vehicle, all commonly used to manufacture and ingest meth, according to the GCSO.

Two different controlled substances (Valium and Kalonopin), along with a

small amount of marijuana also were found. Hughen's vehicle and \$404, which was found in the vehicle, are being held for possible forfeiture.

Hughen was charged with five felony and three misdemeanor drug charges and was arrested and transported to the Gulf County Detention Facility.

# TRADES & SERVICES



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95430S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION: CASE NO.: 23-2008-CA-000401

AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. ANNE ANDERSON A/K/A ANNE D. HENDERSON; BAYSIDE SAVINGS BANK; REX H. ANDERSON; JOHN DOE; JANE DOE; IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 30th day of June, 2014, and entered in Case No. 23-2008-CA-000401, of the Circuit Court of the 14th Judicial Circuit in and for Gulf County, Florida, wherein AU- RORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC is the Plaintiff and ANNE ANDERSON A/K/A ANNE D. HENDERSON & REX ANDERSON BAYSIDE SAVINGS BANK REX H. ANDERSON & ANNE ANDERSON JOHN DOE; and JANE DOE IN POSSESSION OF THE

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SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants. The Clerk of the Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the FRONT LOBBY OF THE GULF COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1000 5TH STREET, PORT ST. JOE, FL 32456, 11:00 AM 23rd day of October, 2014 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

EXHIBIT A

Commence at a concrete monument marking the Northwest corner of Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida, and thence run North 00 degrees 03 minutes 58 seconds East along the West boundary of Section 6, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, a distance of 1340.95 feet to a concrete monument marking the intersection with the Westerly right-of-way boundary of County Road No. 30-E, thence run South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 1639.86 feet to a concrete monument for the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning continue South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East 400.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Lying and being in Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida.

ALSO: Commence at a concrete monument marking the Northwest corner of Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County,

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Florida, and thence run North 00 degrees 03 minutes 58 seconds East along the West boundary of Section 6, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, a distance of 1340.95 feet to a concrete monument marking the intersection with the Westerly right-of-way boundary of County Road No. 30-E, thence run South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 1639.86 feet to a concrete monument for the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning continue South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East 2.50 feet to a State Road concrete monument marking a point of curve to the left, thence run Southeasterly along said right-of-way boundary and along said curve with a radius of 11426.79 feet thru a central angle of 00 degrees 04 minutes 04 seconds for an arc distance of 13.50 feet, the chord of said arc being South 23 degrees 28 minutes 40 seconds East 13.50 feet, thence run South 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds West 400.01 feet, thence run North 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds West 16.00 feet, thence run North 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds East 400.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Lying and being in Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida.

4.00 FOOT PEDESTRIAN EASEMENT:

Commence at a concrete monument marking the Northwest corner of Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida, and thence run North 00 degrees 03 minutes 58 seconds East along the West boundary of Section 6, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, a dis-

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tance of 1340.95 feet to a concrete monument marking the intersection with the Westerly right-of-way boundary of County Road 30-E, thence run South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 1582.86 feet, thence run South 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds West 400.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning continue South 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds West 134.78 feet, thence run North 23 degrees, 26 minutes 00 seconds West 5.00 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 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

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

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uled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711.

Dated this 25th day of June, 2014

Rebecca Norris Clerk of Circuit Court

By: B. A. Baxter Deputy Clerk

Choice Legal Group, PA, P.O. Box 9908 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310-0908 Phone:(954) 453-0365 Fax: (954) 771-8052 Toll Free: 1-800-441-2438

DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA. R. JUD. ADMIN 2.516: eservice@clegalgroup.com 08-42167 July 3, 10, 2014

95448S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA Case No.: 17-94-CA Division:

JOHN E. MITCHELL and DIANNE MITCHELL, Husband and Wife, Plaintiffs,

vs. DAVID G. MOELLER, if living, and if dead, then to his unknown heirs at law, legatees, devisees or grantees, and JACQUELINE MOELLER, if living, and if dead, then to her unknown heirs at law, legatees, devisees or grantees, Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: DAVID G. MOELLER, if living, and if dead, then to his unknown heirs at law, legatees, devisees or grantees, whose last known address is 215 Burntside Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55422 And JACQUELINE MOELLER, if living, and

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if dead, then to her unknown heirs at law, legatees, devisees or grantees, whose last known address is 215 Burntside Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55422

And ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

YOU ARE NOTIFIED of the institution of this action by the Plaintiffs seeking reformation of a deed to the following described real property in Gulf County, Florida, to-wit:

An undivided 50% interest in Lot 39, less and except the West 150 feet of the South 81.54 feet and South 20 feet, and

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Tract 39; thence along the North line of said Tract 39, North 69 degrees 45 minutes 05 seconds East, 150.00 feet; thence South 20 degrees 14 minutes 55 seconds East, 20.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence North 69 degrees 45 minutes 05 seconds East, 39.14 feet; thence South 65 degrees 14 minutes 55 seconds East, 86.99 feet to a point on a line parallel with and 20.00 feet North of the South line of said Tract 39; thence along said parallel line, South 69 degrees 44 minutes 03 seconds West, 100.65 feet to a point on a line parallel with and 150.00 feet East of the West line of said Tract 39; thence along said parallel line, North 20 degrees 14 minutes 55 seconds West, 61.54 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Said lands containing 0.10 acre, more or less.

has been filed against you and you are required to write a copy of your written defenses, if any, to Thomas S. Gibson,

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Rish, Gibson & Scholz, P.A., 116 Sailor's Cove Drive, P. O. Box 39, Port St. Joe, Florida 32457, on or before August 01st 2014, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court, either before service on Plaintiffs' attorney or immediately thereafter, or a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 26th day of June, 2014.

REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk File No. 15250207 July 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014

99435S GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: 2014-25

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners requests proposals from qualified firms or individuals for operation of the Gulf County ambulance service.

The County is seeking proposals for:

Operation of ambulance service to the current capacity currently served in Gulf County.

Sealed proposals for full operation of the existing ambulance service provided to the citizens of Gulf County will be received at the Gulf County Clerk of Courts office, Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd, Room 149, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2014. Proposals will be

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opened on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the same location.

Gulf County seeks a solution to replace the existing ambulance service with a private or not-for-profit organization.

Gulf County seeks "A Single Vendor Solution" and prefers the Vendor to provide turnkey responsibility for all advanced, basic and non-emergency services needed and currently provided, and to provide a single monthly billing statement and dispute resolution for all related services.

Gulf County requires that any organization have the capability to service remote locations with the same features and functionality as the current operation provided by Gulf County EMS. Each location should be able to access all the features and functionality available at the main site located in Port St. Joe. The vendor must verify that any premise equipment required to support that service is already in place or must provide the additional equipment required.

A Pre-bid conference and tour of facilities will be held Wednesday, July 16th, 2014 at 10:00 AM. The conference will begin at the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, Board Room, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd, Port St. Joe, FL 32456.

Bidders may acquire Bid Packages and Addendums from the Gulf County Clerk's Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 or they may acquire the RFP document from the Gulf County Website www.gulfcountry-fl.gov.

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Proposals shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, shall contain the full name of the person, agency or company submitting the proposal, and bid envelopes shall be marked: Sealed Bid: Gulf County EMS Service, RFP #2014-25. Further information can be obtained from or any questions in regard to this RFP need to be addressed to Brett Lowry at in writing to blowry@gulfcountry-fl.gov.

The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Gulf County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace.

/s/ Ward McDaniel, Chairman

Attest: /s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk July 3, 10, 2014

99493S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 14-CP-24

IN RE: ESTATE OF JOHN VIRGIL GILMORE, JR. Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of John Virgil Gilmore, Jr., deceased, whose date of death was June 29, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., 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 de-

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cedent 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 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE 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 FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE 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 July 3, 2014.

Personal Representative: Ruby Ruth Gilmore 507 Garrison Avenue Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Attorney for Personal Representative: Kimberly L. King, Attorney Bar No. 0593011 KING & WOOD, P.A. 1701 Hermitage Blvd. Suite 104 Tallahassee, FL 32308 Phone: (850)580-7711 Fax: (850)205-4501 E-Mail: kimking@kingandwood.com Secondary E-Mail: eservice@kingandwood.com July 3, 2014

99537S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2011-CA-000066

MIDFIRST BANK Plaintiff,

vs.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF DAVID B. LANGSTON, DECEASED; ERIC D. LANGSTON, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID B. LANGSTON, DECEASED; ANDRE LAMAR BROWN; ERICKA PATRICE DONALDSON; TWANA LANICE THOMAS; COLE LANGSTON, A MINOR; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ANDRE LAMAR BROWN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF TWANA LANICE THOMAS; UNKNOWN TENANT 1; UNKNOWN TENANT 2; AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S), WHO (IS/ARE) NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIM AS HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, SPOUSES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; CAPITAL CITY BANK Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on May 28, 2013, and the Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale entered on June 24, 2014 in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Gulf County, Florida, I will sell the property situated at GULF COUNTY, Florida, described as:

LOT 15 AND 17, BLOCK 1024, UNIT THREE, MILLVIEW ADDITION TO THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, AS PER MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 53, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

a/k/a 107 LIBERTY STREET, PORT ST. JOE, FL 32456

at public sale to the highest and best bidder, for cash, in front lobby of the Gulf County Court, 1000 Cecil Costin Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456, at 11:00 o'clock A.M. ET on July 31, 2014.

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

Dated at Port St. Joe, Florida, this 30th day of June, 2014.

Rebecca L. Norris Clerk of Circuit Court

By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMER-

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CANS WITH DISABILITY ACT ANY PERSONS NEEDING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FUNCTION SHOULD CONTACT THE CLERK OF THE COURT NO LATER THAN ONE DAY PRIOR TO THAT DAY AT (850) 229-6113. July 10, 17, 2014

99539S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 23-2009-CA-000112 DIVISION:

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

vs.

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

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated June 24, 2014 and entered in Case NO. 23-2009-CA-000112 of the Circuit Court of the FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT in and for GULF COUNTY, Florida where in U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR JPLAT 2006-S2, is the Plaintiff and LUANN M. QUARANTA, WILLIAM C. QUARANTA, SR., CAPITAL CITY BANK, are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at LOBBY OF THE GULF COUNTY COURT HOUSE at 11:00AM on the 24th day of July, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

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

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

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale. WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of this Court on June 30, 2014.

REBECCA L. NORRIS Clerk of the Circuit Court By: BA Baxter Deputy Clerk

\*\*See Americans with Disabilities Act If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1069, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711 or email ADARequest@f0902212 July 10, 17, 2014

99573S PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gulf County Enterprise Zone Development Agency regular meetings for 2014 are scheduled as follows:

Thursday, July 17, 2014 October 16, 2014

These meetings will start at 12:00 noon, E.T. at 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr., Blvd., of the Robert M. Moore Administration Building, Gulf County Courthouse Complex in Room 307.

Any changes to this schedule and additional special meetings will be notified on the County website at www.gulfcounty-fl.gov as well as posted at the Courthouse.

The public is welcome to attend. Pub: July 10, 2014

99581S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 13-167-CA

CAPITAL CITY BANK, Plaintiff

vs.

TRACY D. RITTER A/K/A TRACY DENISE RITTER, JANICE RITENBERRY, GARY ADKISON A/K/A GARY S. ADKISON, REBECCA L. NORRIS, GULF COUNTY CLERK

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OF COURT, HARRISON FINANCE COMPANY, SONDR A J. PARKER, ADKISON, SANDRA G. FOX, TAMMY GAINOUS, and UNKNOWN TENANT (S), Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE is given pursuant to a Final Judgment of Replevin and Foreclosure dated June 24, 2014, in Case No. 13-167-CA, of the Circuit Court of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Gulf County, Florida, in which the CAPITAL CITY BANK is the Plaintiff and TRACY D. RITTER A/K/A TRACY DENISE RITTER, JANICE RITENBERRY, GARY ADKISON A/K/A GARY S. ADKISON, REBECCA L. NORRIS, GULF COUNTY CLERK OF COURT, HARRISON FINANCE COMPANY, SONDR A J. PARKER, ADKISON, SANDRA G. FOX, and TAMMY GAINOUS 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 July 24, 2014, the property set forth in the Final Judgment of Replevin and Foreclosure an more particularly described as follows:

EXHIBIT A

Lots 14 and 15, Block L, Unit Number 2 of RED BULL ISLAND:

Commence at the NW Corner of Fractional Section 30, T4S, R9W, Gulf County, Florida; thence run S 42.27 feet along the section line of the South right of way line of River Road; thence run S89°12'E 195.0 feet along the S right of way said River Road; thence run S 43.6 feet along E right of way line of Sesame Street; thence S88°32'E 1035.0 feet along the S right of way line of Dogwood Avenue, to the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continue to run S88°32'E 107.8 feet along the S right of way line of said Dogwood Avenue, thence to run N41°10'E 48.1 feet along SE right of way line of said Dogwood Avenue; thence run S 48°50'E 90.0 feet; thence run S13°27'W 117.5 feet; thence run N88°32'W 180.0 feet; thence run N 135.0 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

AND Lots 19, 20 and 21, Block L, Unit Number 2 of RED BULL ISLAND: Commence at the NW Corner of Fractional Section 30, T4S, R9W, in Gulf County, Florida; thence run S 42.27 feet along the section line of the south right of way line of River Road; thence run S89°12'E 195.0 feet along the S right of way line of River Road; thence run S 569.6 feet along the E right of way line of Sesame Street; thence run S88°32'E 1125.0 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continue S88°32'E 227.1 feet; thence run S77°36'E 102.7 feet to the NW right of way line of Tupelo Avenue; thence run S41°10'W 150.6 feet along the NW right of way line of Tupelo Avenue; thence run N88°32'W 228.3 feet along the North, 135.0 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: July 2, 2014

REBECCA L. NORRIS Clerk of Circuit Court

By: B. McGee-Collins Deputy Clerk

Garvin B. Bowden, Esq Gardner, Bist, Wiener, Wadsworth, Bowden, Bush, Dee, LaVia & Wright, PA. 1300 Thomaswood Dr Tallahassee, FL 32308 July 10, 17, 2014

99595S PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP - 2014-04 CITY OF PORT ST. JOE SEWER GRINDER PUMP STATIONS JULY 2014

This project includes supplying grinder pumps stations for the City's low pressure sewage system. The grinder stations will be purchased by the City for a set per unit price in multiples of 5.

Contract Documents and Specifications can be obtained at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, (850) 229-8261 or by visiting the City's web site at www.cityofportstjoe.com. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes.

Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time, on July 28, 2014, at City of Port St. Joe, City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456

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and will be opened and read publicly immediately thereafter. All bids shall be submitted in an envelope clearly marked "Sealed Bid - City of Port St. Joe - Sewer Grinder Pump Stations July 2014". The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to reject any and all bids. All bids shall be firm for a period of 60 days after opening. July 10, 17, 2014

99597S PUBLIC NOTICE

GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: 1314-26

WHITE CITY DOCK REPAIRS

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners requests proposals from qualified firms or individuals for the repair of:

DOCK DAMAGE AT THE WHITE CITY BOAT RAMP

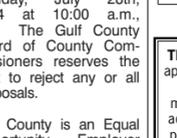
Specifications may be obtained at the Gulf County Clerk's Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr., Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, Room 149, or at the website at www.gulfcounty-fl.gov. Place the following on the outside of the envelope, "This is a sealed bid", Bid No. 1314-26, as well as your company name. Further information can be obtained by contacting Lee Collinsworth at (850)227-8782.

Please submit one (1) original and five (5) copies. Proposals will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., E.T., on Friday, July 25, 2014, at the Gulf County Clerk's Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr., Blvd., Room 149, Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456. The proposals will be opened at the same location on Monday, July 28th, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., E.T. The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Gulf County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace.

/s/ Ward McDaniel, Chairman

Attest: /s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Pub: July 10, 17, 2014



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)

MERCHANDISE

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

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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)

MERCHANDISE

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Oh, by the way, we're an elder care company. Our mission? To radically change the landscape of long-term care forever.

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We are offering a \$300 sign on bonus for experienced cooks. WEB ID 34293032

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