



Patrolling for turtles, **B1**

MOVING DAY



COURTESY OF BILL FAUTH

The convoy reaches the intersection of Cape San Blas Road and State 30A.

Lighthouse arrives in Port St. Joe

By TIM CROFT
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The reception could not have been warmer. Hundreds watched history unfold Tuesday as the Cape San Blas Lighthouse, for more than a century a fixture on the cape, was carried to its new home in Port St. Joe. On schedule and with few hiccups other than some mangled traffic flows and brief power outages as utility workers dropped lines and put them back up on either side of the convoy.



WES LOCHER | The Star

The lighthouse arrives in Port St. Joe late in the afternoon, placed in the parking lot of First Baptist Church to await placement on Wednesday. **Inset:** Power crews down a line as a keepers' quarters is moved to Port St. Joe on Tuesday.

"That was the most organized operation I have ever seen," said Port St. Joe resident Ann White.

The lighthouse, two keepers' quarters and oil house, comprising a convoy over 900 feet long and two

lanes wide, were moved in a daylong process that was

See **LIGHTHOUSE A6**

Boat ramp fees bring blow back

By TIM CROFT
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Port St. Joe commissioners walked back a bit Tuesday concerning boat launch fees at the Frank Pate Park boat ramp.

After taking heat from county residents and officials concerning the fee structure – under which county residents paid \$5 per launch with no charge to city residents – commissioners, by a 3-2 vote, waived fees for county residents and will approve a new resolution in the coming weeks.

Commissioner William Thursbay brought the motion, saying while the intention, to build a maintenance fund for the boat ramp, was good the reaction from county residents had not been less than positive.

"I have gotten a lot of heat," Thursbay said.

See **RAMP A7**

Semmes announces for BOCC District 2

Special to The Star

Tom Semmes announced this week he will be a candidate for the upcoming District 2 County Commissioner seat, currently held by Ward McDaniel. Raised in Wewahitchka, Tom returned home in 1996 following a 28-year absence. He is married to the former Dianne Lester. They have two daughters and three grandsons.



TOM SEMMES

See **SEMME A7**

Board of County Commissioners considering port loan

By TIM CROFT
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After months of pleading it lacked funds to assist the Board of County Commissioners held a special meeting last week to discuss a possible loan of county funds to maintain the presence of the Port St. Joe Port Authority.

Commissioners debated whether to provide funding as the Port Authority strives to keep operating until dredging of the federally-authorized shipping channel at the Port of Port St. Joe is completed next year.

The exact amount of funding, the term of any loan and other components of a deal are to be presented during Tuesday's 9 a.m. ET BOCC regular meeting and taken up the following day by the Port Authority during a special meeting.

The discussion arose from a Port Authority advertisement requesting proposals for securing of a line of credit of up to \$500,000. That request drew a proposal from an individual lender.

The primary goal is to maintain minimal – there is no staff – function at the Port Authority

while permitting, funding and completing the dredging of the ship channel is complete.

The foundation for dredging, and state funding for dredging and improvement to rail lines connected to the port, is two letters of intent between energy companies and the St. Joe Company, which owns the coastal land in the port master planning area, to ship through the Port of Port St. Joe.

One of those contracts is nearly finalized, said Tom Gibson, attorney for the Port Authority. The other is in the process of being finalized.

The dredging is on track to be completed next year.

But the Port Authority, the public entity that is collaborating with St. Joe to develop the port, and which will be, upon their formal signing, be party to the two energy company contracts, needs immediate funding.

"The port needs to have an ongoing presence during this process," Gibson said.

Obligations such as liability insurance for directors and the board, dues to the Florida Ports Council, an audit, and miscellaneous expenses on an

annual basis are required to sustain basic operations.

With less than \$3,000 in the bank, the Port Authority is in danger of going out of business within several months.

A community fundraising campaign drew a response not at the level hoped for or needed.

Outreach to local governments – in addition a recent special meeting, Port Authority members have lobbied the BOCC for assistance – went for naught as commissioners repeatedly pleaded poverty.

The tipping point for last week's special BOCC meeting was the Port Authority's request for proposals on lending, a potential private lender and, most prominently, a previous \$199,000 BOCC loan to the Port Authority.

The first payment on that 2011 loan – funded not from property taxes but federal Community Development Block Grant dollars distributed to spur economic development, originally through expansion of Raffield Fisheries – was due in May.

Port Authority chair Leonard Costin long ago approached the BOCC about delaying that payment until the port was operational.

Since Capital City Bank foreclosed on property owned by the Port Authority – the former barge bulkhead – that county loan from CDBG funds has been unsecured.

Initially, the loan was collateralized with a second mortgage on the barge terminal property, but that position vanished when Capital City Bank foreclosed.

The Port Authority owns the old Arizona Chemical site outright and questions concerning whether could be used as collateral on financing have been assuaged by the state, Gibson indicated.

The private lender offering the Port Authority a proposal on a \$300,000 line of credit is requesting a mortgage and county attorney Jeremy Novak encouraged Port Authority members to approach the county before leveraging the Arizona Chemical site in light of the prior \$199,000.

"The most important thing is to secure that loan," Novak said.

Gibson said the Arizona Chemical site had been appraised at more than \$2 million, which left sufficient value to either or both

See **BOCC A7**

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Pilot study provides promise for water treatment

By **TIM CROFT**
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Clarity is arriving in the search for answers to chronic issues with water in Port St. Joe.

During Tuesday's regular bi-monthly meeting of the City Commission an engineer from Florida Rural Water Association presented findings from a pilot study that revealed promise in a treatment option that could reduce costs and address ongoing discoloration issues. The pilot study was performed by FRWA, a non-profit trade association for water and wastewater utilities, using hydrated lime, a liquid form of lime, as part of the treatment protocol.

The study was approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The results of the study showed using lime to replace caustic soda would cut costs by roughly two-thirds, create water more easily treated for consumption and cause no damage to the microfiltration system that is the heart of the city's four-year-old water plant.

"It is effective, it will work and we are recommending lime," said Sterling Carroll with FRWA.

Lime is typically used in water systems using well water and Carroll said the lime softening agent used for years in Port St. Joe was likely the culprit in ongoing discoloration issues since the new plant opened.

Over the years, he said, that lime agent ultimately and naturally turns into calcium in pipes.

When the city switched to the more caustic surface water as a source and changed treatment

protocols accordingly, those calcium deposits were essentially scaled off the inside of pipes causing discoloration.

"The problem you've been having is that after years of lime softening it has turned to calcium," Carroll said, adding that the results to hot water heaters, sinks, bathtubs are, and have been, evident.

"The discolored water would be a natural thing. Your consultant should have told you about that from the beginning, maybe they did."

The biggest concern with the lime, from the outset of the pilot study, was impact to the microfiltration system, not only critical to the water plant but also extremely expensive to replace or repair; Carroll said.

Siemens, the company that

manufactures the system, is, Carroll said, understandably resistant to any changes to its recommended treatment protocols and it required looking outside Florida to find other municipal water plants using lime in the treatment protocol with microfiltration systems.

Those plants, Carroll added, all said the process works.

"We found no problems with the microfilters," Carroll said.

The next step, which commissioners unanimously took Tuesday night, is to go out for bids on a tank and system for introducing lime into the treatment process.

The pilot study used a temporary and isolated injection system, Carroll said, and was not suitable for wider use, even in the short term.

The estimated cost of just under \$200,000 for a new lime injection

system would pay for itself in two to three years, commissioners noted, when factoring that the cost of a tanker of lime is \$3,335 compared to \$10,000 for a tanker of caustic soda.

Plant manager Larry McLamma said the plant uses roughly one tanker of soda per month and Carroll said the amount of lime that would be used would be equivalent. That is an estimated difference of roughly \$80,000 a year.

"It looks like we are on the way to getting this four-year-old problem solved," said Commissioner Rex Buzzett.

In addition to the lime pilot study, McLamma and his crew have also taken up pre-treatment with chlorine which has greatly improved levels of manganese – the source of water the color of ice tea or darker – in the water.

CCA discusses RESTORE act, lighthouse at meeting

By **WES LOCHER**
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The Coastal Community Association of Gulf County held its annual meeting last Saturday at the St. Joseph Bay Golf Club.

Jonathan Hayes, Chief of Staff for U.S. Rep. Steve Southerland, attended the meeting.

Hayes apologized for Southerland's absence, saying that he was busy preparing for the upcoming election season.

Hayes used the opportunity to speak on the RESTORE Act, explaining that after three years, the U.S. Treasury officials are still deciding the rules in order to decide how much money each area is entitled to, post the BP oil spill in 2010. Money available through the act would make up for lost revenue in affected areas. Funds are

expected to be available in late summer.

"Southerland is pushing them to make their decisions in a quick and efficient manner," said Hayes.

Hayes also said that Southerland was fighting to get the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to respond to an appeal by the state to provide funding for sand replenishment on the Cape. An agreement had been reached before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department Services filed a complaint and the funding was retracted.

Hayes said that Southerland introduced legislation through the farm bill that could potentially re-designate funds for use in the infrastructure of rural counties. If passed, there may be a way to use the funds for beach nourishment purposes.

Homeowners on the



WES LOCHER | The Star

Jonathan Hayes, Chief of Staff for Rep. Steven Southerland, spoke to members of the Coastal Community Association on Saturday.

Cape continue to struggle with flood insurance. In November 2002, FEMA designated Gulf County as a higher risk flood zone. Because of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act's (CBRA) prohibition on federal flood insurance, these homeowners had purchased insurance through

the private sector at a high rate. Many insurers have stopped offering insurance in these areas altogether.

Hayes said that a study and remapping of the area is currently being conducted by FEMA and the new areas, and thus an adjustment in fees should be

reached by June 30, 2015 and implemented by Sept. 2016.

"It's an election year, so things naturally slow down in Washington, D.C.," said Hayes.

CELL PHONE SERVICE

CCA President Pat Hardman also asked Hayes for assistance with cell towers. Currently, cellphone service is unreliable on the Cape making it hard for fire and police departments to communicate when operating in the area.

Hardman said that Verizon had licensed space for a tower near Indian Pass, but had not yet constructed it; another spot had also been leased by American Towers near Station 2 of the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department but had also not yet been built. Hardman was told that demand in the area for cell service must be higher before the

towers will be constructed.

CAPE SAN BLAS LIGHTHOUSE

Hardman told the audience that at 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, she had watched the top of the Cape San Blas Lighthouse drop below the trees as it was laid on its side in preparation for its move to George Core Park in Port St. Joe.

Many members of the CCA took part in fundraisers to relocate the lighthouse to Salinas Park in an effort to keep the structure on the Cape.

"We fought a good fight," said Hardman. "It's going, and there's nothing we can do."

The goal of the CCA is for South Gulf County to develop in harmony with the beautiful natural coastal environment and be supported by necessary services and amenities for the needs and convenience of its residential community.

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Elementary schools, district, earn C grades

By TIM CROFT
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Gulf County Schools are right at the statewide mean.

The Florida Department of Education last week announced school grades for elementary schools around the state along with a preliminary snapshot of what district grades are likely to be.

Both Port St. Joe and Wewahitchka Elementary Schools received 'C' grades while the FDOE is projecting that the district's grade for the year will also be a 'C'.

"It is not where we want it to be, but we were not surprised," said Superintendent of Schools Jim Norton about the elementary school grades. "That's where we thought we would be."

High school grades are not released until later in the calendar year.

The grading formula for high schools differs in that in addition to student performance on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), other components such as graduation rate, dropout rate and enrollment and success in dual enrollment courses are also factored in.

Norton said it appeared Port

St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School would likely maintain its 'A' grade and Wewahitchka Jr./Sr. High School was aiming for a 'B' but might possibly have to settle for a 'C'.

The grades for the elementary schools, which are based on FCAT performance with additional focus on achievement among the lowest-performing students, continued a trend that began three years ago.

Up until that point, Wewahitchka Elementary had been an 'A' or 'B' school every year since 2006, but this year's 'C' is the third in a row.

Port St. Joe Elementary had been an 'A' or 'B' school each

year since 2006 before the 'C' this year.

If the district maintains a 'C' grade, it would be the second consecutive after six years as an honor roll district.

Norton said a headline in last week's newspaper concerning the end of seven years of decline in county property values provides a reminder of what the district has been through over the past four years.

The district has lost nearly 400 students in the past decade, has lost teachers and has seen its overall budget trimmed by some \$4 million due to declining enrollment and other factors.

Over the past four years the district has shed nearly 100 employees.

That has necessitated reallocation of resources year to year to reflect enrollment numbers and much change in the workforce.

"School grades were bound to be reflected in all that," Norton said. "We have worked hard the past three or four years for this moment. We have patched the ship and I think school grades will reflect where we should be next year."

"We are excited about we are heading. We are heading in the right direction."

MBARA receives \$15,000 from Duke Energy Foundation

By WES LOCHER
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Last week, Bob Cox, president of the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association received a check from Duke Energy Foundation Community Relations Specialist Bobby Pickels.

The \$15,000 will aid the MBARA in the construction of new reefs currently set to be deployed in April of 2015.

"The Duke Energy Foundation supports the MBARA's mission of putting additional reefs in the water and maintaining the ones that are there," said Pickels. "We have confidence in the organization and see these reefs as good for the community and the fish population."

The grant, approved last month, will be used in tandem with an annual grant from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to launch a \$100,000 project as well as bolster the MBARA's memorial reef program.

The memorial reefs



WES LOCHER | The Star

Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association members Ron Childs, Bob Cox and Carol Cox accept a check from Bobby Pickels of the Duke Energy Foundation. **Right:** Earlier this year, the MBARA deployed new super reefs designed to attract additional fish that hunt higher in the water column.



are structures that have a plaque affixed to commemorate those who have passed. Ashes of the deceased are often built into the structure.

The John Thompson memorial reef, which sits

in the Bell Shoals site, is a popular fishing location.

"We're seeing more interest in the memorial reef program," said Cox. "It's a lower cost option and a green alternative."

Cox said that the advan-

ce of tackling a project with a \$100,000 price tag is that it allows the MBARA to bring the cost per unit down significantly. By combining funds, the MBARA is able to launch more reefs once or twice a year and the pro-

cess is more cost-effective than doing small or individual deployments.

Pickels said that the reefs continue to provide the area an opportunity to have access to more fish of various species and in

greater numbers.

"It's an opportunity to do some good by the environment," said Pickels. "We enjoy funding the MBARA. Not only is environmentally conscious, but it helps the local economy, too."

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Family & Community

- Native of Port St. Joe, Resident of Bay County Since 1976
- Graduated from Port St. Joe High School
- Early jobs included St. Joe Paper Mill, City of Port St. Joe, St Joe Natural Gas and painter's helper
- Met wife, Jan, in college and enjoys over 40 years of marriage together
- Graduate of Auburn University and Florida State University School of Law
- Two children, both are UF graduates
- History of activity in community, church, school, outdoor and civic organizations.

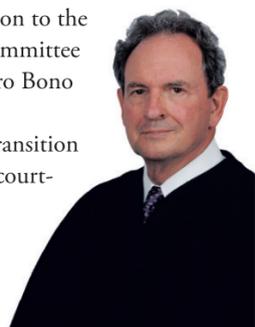


30 years Attorney at Law EXPERIENCE

- Worked as Assistant State Attorney
- Worked in Washington D.C. for Congressman Don Fuqua
- Worked in Tallahassee for State Representative Billy Joe Rish
- Tried Over 100 Jury Trials in local practice
- Member of the Judicial Nominating Committee for the First District Court of Appeal
- Rated nationally "AV" by Martindale-Hubbell
"A" indicates preeminent attorney
"V" indicates highest ethical standards
- President of the Bay County Bar Association
- Elected Circuit Representative to the Board of Governors
- Member of the Disciplinary (Ethics) Review Committee

8 years Circuit Judge EXPERIENCE

- Appointed Circuit Judge by Governor Jeb Bush
- Elected without opposition in 2008
- Serves as Chief Civil Administrative Judge
- Certified by the Supreme Court to handle death penalty cases
- Recognized by Guardian ad Litem for his positive and influential work with youth
- Founding member of the Justice Teaching group for the judicial education of students
- Circuit Court Liaison to the Professionalism Committee
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- Chairman of the Transition Committee to the courthouse addition currently under construction



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‘Pink Pigs from Port St. Joe’

I've been enjoying my pink Piggly Wiggly shirt from the Piggly Wiggly in Port St. Joe, Florida. It seems the friend who sent it to me let his daughter pick it out and she insisted on me having a pink one. I wear it proudly.

Growing up in the South, I knew about Piggly Wiggly grocery stores and how they could be found in many cities and towns in the southeastern part of the country. However, I never really knew about the origin of Piggly Wiggly stores and how the name “Piggly Wiggly” was chosen.

I still don't. No one does; the answer is perhaps in the question. Clarence Saunders, the fellow who opened and franchised America's first true self-service grocery was often asked why he chose the name, Piggly Wiggly. His reply was, “So people will ask that very question.”

People keep asking the question and they always will.

Mr. Saunders opened his first store in 1916 in Memphis, Tennessee. At the time, if you needed things from the grocery store, you took in a list and handed it to a clerk. The clerk filled your order and sent you on your way. I'm pretty sure you weren't asked, “Do you want paper or plastic?”

Saunders saw that the clerk filling orders wasted time and unnecessary expense; he decided to let the customers serve themselves. As you imagine, everyone predicted that this new novelty would fail. Why in the world would a customer want to tote around a basket and do their own shopping?

It worked then, and it still works. Mr. Saunders started issuing franchises and Piggly Wiggly grocery stores started popping up everywhere. With all of this success, the corporation that had been formed for the original store was a hot commodity.

Piggly Wiggly stock became publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange and folks were “wallering” in the success. Somewhere in the 1920s, the trading got out of hand or out of Saunders control you could say. This

wonderful idea was taken or bought from Saunders and would be managed and controlled by a corporate entity.



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
BN Heard

Piggly Wiggly continued to prosper under the management of the corporation. Today there are still more than 600 Piggly Wiggly grocery stores operating in 17 states, there's even one up in Wisconsin. The corporate headquarters is in New Hampshire and they will still sell you a franchise if you are interested.

What about the fellow who came up with the name?

Mr. Saunders kept coming up with innovative ideas and probably learned a little from his loss of “The Pig.” His next chain of stores would be named, “Clarence Saunders, Sole Owner of My Name Stores.” You can see what was on his mind. Unfortunately, the Depression put his new chain out of business.

In the late 1930s, Mr. Saunders kept trying to automate more things related to grocery stores, but had technical difficulties that kept giving him problems.

Even at the time of his death in 1953, Clarence Saunders was working on another automated grocery store system called the “Foodelectric.” This new store would have been only two blocks from Mr. Saunders' original Piggly Wiggly in Memphis. The name makes me think of a vending machine. The Foodelectric never opened.

Mr. Saunders, his ingenuity and his American dream were way ahead of his time. When we see all the stuff moving and shaking at grocery stores, we ought to think about Clarence Saunders and how he built “The Pig” and kept inventing cool things up until the time he died.

Things change, but people often don't realize that they began changing a long time before we thought they did.

As for me, I'm proud of my association with Port St. Joe, Florida and my pink Piggly Wiggly T-shirt picked out by a little girl who knew I would like it.

Read more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.

Here's One 'Not' For The Birds

Miss Ina Odum doesn't eat chicken. Period! She will tell you in a heartbeat, “Nothing fowl goes into my mouth. Nothing ‘fowl’ comes out of my mouth.” I have explained to her a thousand times that it's near on to impossible to be a true southern lady (which she is without question) and not experience a Sunday dinner of chicken, mashed potatoes, coleslaw and sweet tea.

Nothing sways her. She prefers fried shrimp, fried oysters, fried scallops and fried green tomatoes. On the many times she has taken me out to eat over the years, the seafood platter with all the trimmings was her usual order. I dutifully point out to her on each and every occasion that all that fried food couldn't be good for her. It would clog her arteries, raise her cholesterol level, lead to high blood pressure and fowl (her word, not mine) up her digestive tract. Maybe she ought to order the baked chicken, or the chicken salad, or the broiled chicken with raw carrots.....

Miss Ina celebrated her one hundredth birthday this week.

She apparently has done all right without my gastronomic advice. But that doesn't keep me from pointing out that chicken today might taste a little better than it did in 1918. “Miss Ina, Colonel Sanders has come up with a special ‘eleven herbs and spices’ recipe.” I've suggested hot wings, marinated thighs and “Popeye's”. She just laughs at me.

Miss Ina is a special treat. She talks about going down to the train station in DeFuniak Springs and handing out bags of food to the soldiers passing through on their way to World War I. She remembers vividly the first airplane that flew over. “What a sight!” she declares

ninety years later with still a hint of wonderment in her voice. She can discuss first hand the shenanigans of the Warren G. Harding administration. I asked about Babe Ruth and Charles Lindbergh. She wasn't a baseball fan but she was “quite taken” by the exploits of “Lucky Lindy”.



HUNKER DOWN
Kesley Colbert

I wanted to know about flappers and tin lizzies. Again, I got a first hand account of the popular dress of the Roaring Twenties and Henry Ford's Model-T that put America on the road. Miss Ina wouldn't make a good spokesman for Goodyear or B. F. Goodrich. She remembers the many cars pulled off to the side with a flat tire on any given trip to town. And the twenties apparently didn't roar as much in Northwest Florida as they did in other places.

“Hoover Days” to her is not some forgotten story in a history book. I asked about getting along in the Great Depression. She wouldn't blame it on one president or political party. She remembered that money was always scarce. But folks “in her neck of the woods” raised their food so they didn't feel the squeeze quite like the bigger cities. It's exactly the same thing my parents said.

I asked Miss Ina often to “throw that rug back and do the Charleston for me”. She would just laugh and laugh. And then tell me about the dance that swept the nation in the mid-twenties. She kinda talked like she never really participated. But she'd put her hands on her knees and demonstrate the back and forth motion in a way that made me suspect differently!

You talk about a walking encyclopedia! I never tired of asking her about America before women got the vote. Did she ever hear Calvin Coolidge speak? How grand was it when the movies

started talking? Did she know about Roosevelt's polio before he became president?

When I realized what a good sport Miss Ina really was, I took a few liberties with the age thing. I asked her if it was crowded on that boat with Noah. Did she remember when Stanley met Livingstone? Why didn't she warn Custer about the Indians?

Once, in between bites of shrimp and French fries, I asked her about her old boy friends.....you know, before she met Brother Odum. I thought I'd get that wonderful smile and then the laugh. But she surprised me by naming names, dates and places! Of course, she let me know in that wonderful way of hers that if I “spilled the beans” on her personal life, she'd wring my neck to a fare-the-well!

I know how she came to meet Brother Odum.....before he was Brother Odum! I feel like I was there when he asked her to marry him. The World War II home front came alive for me as she described her travels by train across this county with a baby son to be with her husband stationed in California.

And I have heard a story or two about church, preachers, choir directors and congregations of all sorts, kinds and descriptions. We've had the most wonderful conversations long into the afternoon. I know for dead certain positive that nothing foul ever comes out of her mouth.

I love Miss Ina a thousand ways. And I fear our current generation is missing the boat by not stopping to enjoy the seafood platter.

The next time we go out to eat I'm going to take some notes on her non-chicken diet. If she can make it to the century mark sans the fowl life.....I may give up the birds myself!

Respectfully,
Kes

Sexual Assault survey recommendation: not an excuse for more administrative bloat

By Laura Finley

In April 2014, the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault issued a series of recommendations for college and university campuses related to responding to and preventing sexual assault. Given that one in five college-aged women endure a sexual assault, the White House is to be applauded for prioritizing this issue and for organizing the task force. But of course, it should be so simple to recommend that campuses do the right thing.

One of the first recommendations, and one that the group is pushing to become a legal mandate in 2016, is that schools undertake a campus-wide climate survey. The goal is to assess the true degree to which attempted and actual sexual assaults are occurring, given that this remains among the most under-reported crimes, as well as to better understand students' experiences with reporting and receiving services. It would seem as though there would be little opposition to such a recommendation, as clearly understanding the scope of this huge problem and identifying gaps in services would be a good idea for college or university administrators. Yet immediately many campus officials responded negatively. Why, one wonders?

The primary concern that campus administrators levied was that this would be an unfunded mandate that would require additional staff. That is, in my

assessment, a very weak point, but one that reflects a growing problem on campuses: the need to bureaucratize everything. For instance, in an interview for the *Huffington Post*, Kevin Kruger, president of NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, stated “We get very concerned about legislation that requires additional staffing.” Nowhere in the recommendation does it actually state that new personnel would be required, however.

Kruger's comment is indicative of the administrative bloat that characterizes higher education today. The first instinct of so many campuses is to hire new administrators to oversee required or even recommended programs. A report by the Delta Cost Project titled “Labor Intensive or Labor Expensive: Changing Staffing and Compensation Patterns in Higher Education” found that, between 2000 and 2012, new administrative positions, largely in student services, was the reason for a 28 percent increase in the higher education workforce. Administrative bloat has been cited as one of the primary reasons that the cost of obtaining a college education has outpaced the increases in healthcare and housing costs. A 2010 study by the Goldwater Institute found that administrative ranks grew twice as much as did the number of faculty between 1993 and 2007. It's not just new staff, either. Colleges and universities love to hire consultants to study every possible thing, often at huge expense and

little return.

Instead of hiring new staff or consultants, campuses could look to utilize their faculty who have expertise on sexual assault to coordinate climate assessment surveys. This would be beneficial for many reasons, not just for the bottom line. First, it is likely that most campuses have a number of faculty members who really know this issue well and who would be eager to be involved in bettering their campuses' understanding of and response to sexual assault. Second, faculty could involve student researchers, who not only would have valuable insights about the issue but would gain important research, advocacy, and leadership skills through their involvement in the process. Third, using knowledgeable faculty and student researchers would ensure that the tools created and recommendations made were most appropriate for that specific campus, not simply a generic effort. Finally, keeping the research in house would demonstrate a real commitment to understanding sexual assault and developing unique and progressive responses and prevention efforts. In contrast, hiring another person or consultant to collect this important information suggests that administrators merely want to do what is required, rather than what is, as Vice President Joe Biden called it, a moral responsibility.

Laura Finley, Ph.D., teaches in the Barry University Department of Sociology & Criminology and is syndicated by PeaceVoice.

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Letters to the EDITOR

A word to BP: A deal is a deal

Dear Editor:

The Gulf County Chamber of Commerce represents over 200 businesses and organizations along the Florida coast. These businesses depend on the health and vitality of the Gulf of Mexico to sustain our local tourism driven economy and many were deeply affected when BP's oil rig exploded and sank, releasing more than 200 million gallons of oil in what came to be the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history.

The BP Oil Spill Settlement, announced almost two years ago, was designed to compensate those who were financially impacted by the spill. The settlement laid out, in the clearest of terms, who was eligible to make a claim and receive compensation for their injuries. Payments under the settlement were uncapped, ensuring that all those who

qualified under its terms would be paid for their damages. BP promised that it would use this settlement to help make things right in the Gulf, and indeed, many of our local businesses took BP at its word and submitted claims. BP, however, seems to have decided that it is no longer happy with the deal it struck, and has filed multiple appeals in federal court attacking its own settlement in an attempt to change how claims are being paid.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has inexplicably chosen to stand with BP and support the oil giant's efforts to alter the settlement, and has urged a federal appeals court to make changes to the settlement that will ultimately work to the detriment of businesses throughout the Gulf Coast. While it is not clear why the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has chosen to support a

multi-billion dollar foreign corporation over thousands of American businesses, we want you to know that the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce stands with its local community.

The Gulf County Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to supporting local businesses in their efforts to build a healthy economy and improve the quality of life in our community. We believe that everyone harmed by the BP oil spill should receive compensation for their injuries, and do not support BP's efforts to back out of the settlement to which it agreed. We know that many of you are still hurting from the spill, and it is on your behalf that we urge BP to honor its commitments. After all, a deal's a deal.

Paula Pickett

President, Gulf County Chamber of Commerce Port St. Joe

'Legal protection' for questions about decisions?

Dear Editor,

While cruising through the latest public filings regarding the lawsuit filed against the county over a property variance in Beacon Hill, I was surprised to find some responses that did not make one lick of sense.

The first one was the initial response to the suit where the county is supposed to answer simple questions about why they made the decision they did. Instead, no answers were given and they defaulted in responding except to question administrative procedures set by the State of Florida.

The latest one now asks the court to "Protect" the Commissioners from answering questions. So you have to ask yourself, what are they afraid of? If the decisions

they made were legal and proper, there should be nothing to fear.

This dance by the \$180,000 plus a year county attorney Novak seems to indicate that something is rotten in the woodpile and they are going to prolong, avoid and pull every trick possible to avoid the truth and what really happened. Did you know that a member of the US House of Representatives receives \$174,000 a year which is less than what our County Commissioners pay Novak? What's with that?

The sad part is that we as tax payers are footing this cost and should demand that our elected do the right thing and answer the questions and not hide in a dark corner like a coward.

Jim Garth

Chairman
Citizens Improving Gulf County

Claim a tax credit for summer daycare expenses

For harried parents, the definition of true panic is realizing in April that you forgot to enroll your kids for summer day camp and now all the slots are filled. Cut to: as the school year ends, you're feverishly trying to find adequate daycare because neither of you can take time off work to watch the kids.

I know of one such couple; with any luck you're more organized than they were. In fact, bonus points if you thought ahead and signed up during last fall's open enrollment for a dependent care flexible spending account (FSA), which allows you to pay for childcare using pretax dollars.

But if you didn't enroll in an FSA or your employer doesn't offer them, there's still a way to get a tax break on your summer daycare expenses (and other dependent care costs throughout the year): the Child and Dependent Care Credit. Here's how it works:

- If you pay someone to care for your young child (or other qualifying dependents) so you can

work – or look for work – you may be eligible for this tax credit worth up to 35 percent of those expenses. Because it's the IRS doling out the credit, there are a number of qualifying provisions:

- Typically the dependent must be a child in your custody under age 13.

- However, the credit is also available if you paid for the care of your spouse or other dependent who is physically or mentally incapable of self-care and lives with you more than half the year.

- Your tax-filing status must be single, married filing jointly, head of household or qualifying widow(er) with a dependent. If you're married but filing separately, you generally cannot receive the credit.

- You (and your spouse, if married) must be working or seeking employment when the care was administered. Exceptions are made if one spouse is a full-time

student or physically or mentally incapable of self-care.

- The payment must be made to a care provider who is not: your spouse; someone you claim as a dependent; the child's parent; or your child under age 19.

- Typical eligible caregivers include: summer day camps (but not overnight camps);

daycare, before-school or afterschool care providers; babysitters or nannies; housekeepers who also provide care for your dependent; and nursing, home-care or other providers who care for a disabled dependent.

- You must provide the taxpayer ID number (usually the Social Security number) of each qualifying dependent on your tax return.

- You also must report the name, address and taxpayer ID number (either the Social Security number or the employer ID number) of the care provider.

- Employer-provided dependent care benefits

could reduce your credit amount – for example, company-provided daycare or money you contributed to a dependent care FSA.

The maximum amount of expenses that qualify for the Child and Dependent Care Credit is \$3,000 a year for one dependent and \$6,000 for two or more. If your adjusted gross income is less than \$15,000 you generally can claim a credit for 35 percent of eligible expenses. The percentage gradually decreases, the higher your income. It caps out for those earning more than \$43,000, who can claim 20 percent.

To learn more about the Child and Dependent Care Credit, see IRS Publication 503 and Chapter 32 of IRS Publication 17 at www.irs.gov.

Bottom line: If you're paying someone to take care of your kids while you're at work, make sure you're taking advantage of the available tax savings.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney.



JASON ALDERMAN



MARGARET R. McDOWELL
Arbor Outlook

Boomers, Bryson, Credit Cards, and Gloria Gaynor

"It took all the strength I had not to fall apart..."
"I Will Survive" Recorded by Gloria Gaynor

A young acquaintance, just graduated from college, recently chided me about what a complete financial failure my generation is compared to others.

Some of that criticism is probably warranted. Many of us fell in love with credit cards and created a new genre of individual debt. When Baby Boomers were young adults, our standard of living and level of consumption were incredibly high. As author Bill Bryson says in "Lost Continent", "That is the great, seductive thing about America—the people always get what they want, right now, whether it is good for them or not. There is something deeply worrying, and awesomely irresponsible, about this endless self-gratification..."

During our watch American economic power receded for the first time in a century. And soon, China will replace the U.S. as the world's largest economy.

Well, that's one perspective. I tend to look at Baby Boomers as the generation who were asked to pay when the bill finally came due.

Yes, we overspent our credit cards. But we also subsequently cut them up and downsized our consumption habits, so much so that government was forced to step in and replace declining levels of consumer spending with creative economic stimuli.

In the 1960's, cities like Detroit swelled with economic prowess. But as health care costs escalated, no industry could possibly provide the ongoing benefits promised to union members. So cutbacks began, jobs were eliminated, and our generation was left holding the bag.

We suffered the OPEC oil crisis and lived our entire adult economic lives under the shadow of dependence on foreign oil. Somehow we survived, though not without several painful recessions along the way. Folks forget how bad the U.S. economy was when many of us began job hunting in the 1970's.

The internet has eliminated many brick and mortar enterprises. And outsourcing

and automation have also decimated the job market. But it's inappropriate to blame global economic competition and new technological innovations on a particular generation. The job losses created by these changes are simply by-products of progress.

Due to difficult economic circumstances, we're also the first generation that has been forced to sometimes support three generations: ourselves, our parents and our children, and to do so during a terrible job market. And as a result, Boomers are also the first generation in American history to live less well than did their parents.

Boomers have also battled wage stagnation for longer than any period of time since the Great Depression. Perhaps as a result, the Baby Boomer generation leads all others in the number of start up enterprises currently entering the market place. We're nothing if not tenacious.

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, FL. 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.

Protecting St. Joseph Peninsula

By Nancy Thomson
Special to The Star

The beauty of St. Joseph Peninsula is like no other

place on Earth, laying claim to some of the whitest sand and tallest dunes in the country, it attracts many

visitors every year.

However, an increase in the number of visitors and a resurgence in new construction is having an impact on the quality of a visit to the beach. Large volleyball nets and beach camps of tents, canopies, chairs, fishing gear, floats, toys, kayaks and equipment take up the limited beach front and push driving up next to the dunes. Railroad vines, a Florida native plant that stabilizes dunes and acts as a first defense, are being run over. Deep ruts are making it difficult to enjoy a walk on the beach.

Most other Florida beaches have been closed to vehicle traffic or access is limited to certain areas. Others have enacted a Leave no Trace ordinance, requiring beach users to remove all belongings by nightfall. Isn't it time for our county commission to take measures to protect our beaches for us and future generations?

The peninsula is a treasure that if not protected by its users but left to defend itself, will suffer irreversible damage. We must be vigilant and enact changes that will ensure the beauty of this place forever.



SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

Send your letters to :

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Development Center helps businesses succeed

LIGHTHOUSE from page A1

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

The Small Business Development Center just might have been the best kept secret in Gulf County, but the secret is quickly getting out.

With 40 offices in Florida alone, the SBDC is a free service aimed to help arm startup businesses with an easy-to-follow process from business plans and finances to assisting existing business with marketing and expansion.

It's already made its mark on Gulf County.

Chris Laue and his wife, Vickie, hadn't heard of the SBDC, but after attending a business startup seminar held at the Gulf Coast State College Gulf/Franklin campus, the group was on hand to provide information.

Laue's family has sold bikes for more than 30 years and one day while driving down Reid Avenue he saw an empty corner building. With little more than a dream he contacted the SBDC and in June 2013 the doors of that very same building opened to the public as St. Joe Velo.

Laue worked with Certified Business Analyst Quen Lamb, the SBDC representative for Gulf, Jackson, Calhoun, Washington and Holmes Counties. Lamb has a background in ownership, management, sales and marketing from years working in the corporate medical business world.

"In the military we have a checklist of everything we need to do," said

Laue. "Everything we received from the SBDC was organized and it wasn't stressful."

The goal of the program is to make the process of owning a business straightforward and easy to understand. Lamb said that with a staff of former business owners it allows the SBDC's clients the path of least resistance, letting them skip the "trial and error" hardships that many business owners face.

"Step one for us is to figure out the business owner's passion," said Lamb. "If a person is not passionate, they won't succeed because of the time and effort it takes."

The second step is to put together a business plan and step three is organization of the business and exploring all funding options.

Lamb said that in his role, he gets satisfaction watching new businesses open their doors, but he's equally as passionate about helping established Gulf County businesses keep their open.

"Textbook and reality are not the same," said Lamb. "Our goal every day is to try and help."

Bill Deeson, owner of Deeson AC and Heating also sought the help of the SBDC in 2013. Rather than seek assistance in starting up, Deeson wanted to figure out how to take his business to the next level. Deeson started his business in 2008 but had dreams of expanding his services and business.

Often times, businesses

will plateau after several years in the community and Lamb said it's his goal to serve those businesses when it comes to increasing sales, reevaluating marketing plans or hiring new employees.

Deeson and Lamb sat down to talk about how to finance an expansion and put together an organizational chart so that the goals were clear and the business remained structured.

"(The SBDC) knows the reasons why many businesses fail," said Deeson. "They'll save you from making the same mistakes."

For those looking to fund a business, analysts provide a step-by-step process for current and new owners to follow in order to streamline the process and make it less overwhelming.

Lamb said that while he offers his time and support to those looking to start a business, he doesn't do the work for them. He provides the tools and knowledge and will act as a cheerleader throughout the process.

Since enlisting the help of Lamb and the SBDC, both Deeson and Laue are in the process of expanding their businesses.

Laue will not only celebrate the one-year anniversary of St. Joe Velo, but the business will soon leave its current location for a larger building. Deeson is in process of expanding his employee headcount.

Lamb said he is surprised more businesses don't take advantage of the free services. All informa-

tion shared between the businesses and the SBDC is confidential. He said that while he understands that some business owners don't like asking for help, it's better to explore options on how to succeed than go out of business for good.

Laue and Deeson said they both encouraged their fellow local business owners to explore the services offered by the SBDC, and while they often sing the praises of the program, they're disappointed that more people don't utilize it.

Deeson said that for an existing business, the SBDC can assist with running a market analysis to help businesses understand their competition and how to set themselves apart.

"For a small town, it's really something to be aware of," said Laue. "I think people should know that if you have that business idea that keeps popping into your head, it's not a crazy idea. It's viable."

The SBDC is partially funded by the Small Business Administration and sponsored by Gulf Coast State College.

Lamb also assists military veterans through the Veteran's Business Outreach Center (VBOC). The program assists military veterans to locate benefits and funding options to help grow or start their businesses. The VBOC at Gulf Coast State College was named VBOC of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Association during National Small Business Week in May. Officials from the college's VBOC accepted the award in Washington, D.C.

Those interested in learning more about the SBDC and its services can request information online at www.northfloridabiz.com.

observed, despite rain in the morning, by throngs that lined the roads and highways – or those folks unfortunate to get stuck behind the convoy on the path to Port St. Joe.

"It was watching history go by," said Libia Taylor, whose realty office is on Cape San Blas Road.

The trip ended at First Baptist Church, where the structures were left overnight until moving to George Core Park. On those last few miles and around the church parking lot the spectacle lured so many, including a number who came from out of town to witness, that organizers of the annual Christmas Parade would be jealous.

Throngs continued to visit the church parking lot until sunset, cameras and phones raised, children in tow.

Clay Smallwood of Preble Rish Engineers, the project manager on the move, said the last few hundred feet to George Core Park required downing one last power line that would have cut off power to most of downtown at dinner hour.

"We didn't think that was a good idea," said Smallwood, who received an extended round of applause at Tuesday night's meeting of the Port St. Joe City Commission.

"The move went smoothly," said Mayor Mel Magidson. "They did a marvelous job."

The lighthouse will be lifted into position in the next week or so, Smallwood said.

Footers to accommodate the 100-foot, 60 ton lighthouse were poured two weeks ago in anticipation of the move. Ground preparation for the ancillary buildings was completed prior to pouring the lighthouse footers.

Tuesday's show began at 8 a.m. ET as the convoy traveled from the lighthouse's location of more than 100 years, down Cape San Blas Road toward State 30-A.

The Cape San Blas Lighthouse came under threat after Hurricane Isaac washed away a significant amount of shoreline the summer of 2012.

Eglin Air Force Base, which owns the property on which the lighthouse sat, declared the structure surplus in 2012.

The process of moving the lighthouse has taken almost two years and plenty of debate between city and county officials in addition to a vocal contingent from the Cape that wished to see it relocated to Salinas Park on Cape San Blas Road.

There were a few signs along Cape San Blas Road protesting the move, one saying "Mayor Mel's Folly" referring to Magidson.

But Tuesday night Magidson said that he believed most county officials did not want the structure.

The lighthouse had been leased by the county in order to save and preserve it. That lease was nullified when the lighthouse was deemed surplus. The Board of County Commissioners and city of Port St. Joe submitted applications for ownership of the lighthouse.

In December 2012 the Department of the Interior deeded the lighthouse and buildings to the city.

The city raised more than \$700,000 for the structure's relocation through private fundraising campaigns as well as over \$500,000 in state appropriations.

"We as a community decided this (Port St. Joe) was the best place for it," said Port St. Joe resident Dit Butler.

Star Staff Writer Wes Locher contributed to this report

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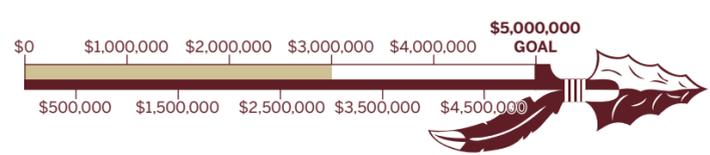
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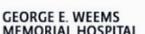


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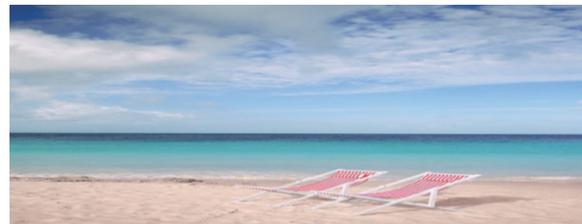
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SEMMES from page A1

Tom completed over 20 years in the U.S. Army, retiring as a Chief Warrant Officer in Signal Corps Branch. During his military service, Tom served overseas in Viet Nam and Germany and stateside as an electronics instructor at the U.S. Army Signal School at Fort Monmouth, NJ, and the U.S. Army Signal Center and School at Fort Gordon, GA. He was an Electronic Maintenance Officer with the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, KY. Tom worked in the White House as a Presidential Communications Officer with the White House Communications Agency. He held the position as Chief of the White House Technical Control, providing telecommunication services to the White House Complex and Presidential Emissaries. Tom also traveled worldwide as the White House Communications Agency Trip Officer, providing telecommunication support to President Ronald Reagan, President George Bush, the traveling White House Staff, and the United States Secret Service.

Tom also worked as a Program Manager responsible for equipment procurement, logistical support, and the financial management of multi-million dollar contracts for a Maryland telecommunications firm. He supervised contracts for government agencies that included local and international telecommunication installation projects for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Defense Logistics Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Defense, U.S. Air Force, and Radford Army Ammunition Plant.

Since returning to Wewahitchka, Tom has been active throughout Gulf County. He was an active member of the Wewahitchka Chamber of Commerce and coordinated the Tupelo Festival for several years. He was a member of the Gulf County School Coalition, which administered funding for early childhood education and childcare programs. He represented Gulf County as a board member for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency. Tom has also worked with the Teen Court Program, created by Gulf County Judge Fred Witten. He is currently Vice Commander of the Wewahitchka Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8285, which has supported the Wewahitchka Dixie Youth ball teams and provided scholarships to graduating seniors of Wewahitchka High School.

As Gulf County enters a new era of economic development, Tom believes the County Commission is charged with the responsibility of managing growth to benefit the entire county while maintaining the rural heritage that has been enjoyed and protected by residents. Tom is qualified through his extensive management experience to work with elected officials, staff, and stakeholders to grow the county in a positive direction and create a stable foundation for much-needed jobs. He will ensure the desires and opinions of all citizens in Gulf County will be heard on matters pertaining to county government operations and issues. He believes County Commissioners, as elected officials, must represent the will of the citizens rather than dictating policy and implementing programs and policies with limited or no public input. Tom Semmes will represent all citizens to make Gulf County a better place to live and work.

RAMP from page A1

Commissioner Rex Buzzett acknowledged he had also heard many complaints, but said the season pass for county residents was just \$25 – “Not a lot to ask” – and if only out-of-county residents would be paying wondered if the idea of ramp fees was worth the effort.

He said commissioners, who entered into the system less than a month ago as an experiment, should let the current tourist season play out.

“I think we need to leave it like it is,” Buzzett said.

Commissioner Bo Patterson said he had heard from county residents and commissioners and said relations between the city and county should be improved and there was no better place to start.

City residents, however, pay both city and county taxes while county residents do not pay city taxes, Mayor Mel Magidson said. If the shoe was on the other foot, if city commissioners requested the Board of County Commissioners waive tipping fees at the county landfill for city residents, he wondered what the answer from county commissioners would be.

From the BOCC to the community at large the implementation of boat ramp fees just prior to the beginning of scallop season in late June created considerable outcry.

“The city needs to rethink this or a lot of people are going to be very mad,” said Debbie Fountain, a county resident, posted to the newspaper Facebook page.

City commissioners implemented the boat ramp fees after several workshops and discussions during regular meetings over several months.

The general consensus among commissioners and residents who attended was that ramp fees were appropriate, particular for the stated use, though ideas varied on implementation.

The fee structure approved allowed city residents free use of the Frank Pate Park boat ramp while county residents must pay \$5 per launch and out-of-town residents \$10 per launch.

Seasonal passes are also available. The aim was to provide some funds to assist with maintenance and upkeep of the ramp. The city erected a pay box and

envelope system, which is largely on the honor code – little to no enforcement.

But in implementing the launch fees – and with little to no advance notice – city officials caused heartburn for those living outside the city.

County commissioner Carmen McLemore complained to Patterson during a BOCC regular meeting last week.

McLemore said the city’s decision created problems not only at Frank Pate, but due to the implementation of boat ramp fees some anglers were now using White City or other county ramps, creating congestion. McLemore’s fundamental issue was allowing city residents free use of the Frank Pate Park boat ramp while charging county residents, who also pay local taxes.

“That is not right,” McLemore said. “It is a hot issue. If you are going to charge a fee, charge everybody.”

He suggested that the county could begin charging Port St. Joe residents to use county boat ramps such as at White City or Lands Landing and Gas-kin Park.

BOCC from page A1

lending proposals if the BOCC would provide a funding plan.

“There is plenty of security there for everybody to be covered,” Gibson said.

Commissioner Carmen McLemore said the BOCC could sue to recover the funds or move forward with the port and said he was open to the discussion.

However, he insisted that the BOCC receive first position on the Arizona Chemical site and said he was opposed to any agreement involving the BOCC, Port Authority and a third party lender.

“If the port can get a better deal for their operating money and can still secure the county’s (\$199,999) loan, we may go with a private lender,” Gibson

said. “We will consider our options.

“Nobody on the board does not want to pay that money back. The priority is getting to the end of the dredge project. We are getting to the finish line.”

While there has long been a desire to have the BOCC as a partner, some on the Port Authority board have been leery about what strings might be attached and to what extent autonomy undermined. McLemore also wanted no long term agreement, suggesting lending the Port Authority essential funds for two years and revisiting.

“I consider us partners of the port and I think we can find \$50,000 or so within the budget,” said Commissioner

Warren Yeager, alluding to estimates on basic annual dollars needed by the Port Authority.

“After I heard about this I contacted Department of Transportation Secretary Ananth Prasad and he feels very confident. He thought everything was going forward. I think things are going in the right direction.”

Commissioner Joanna Bryan said commissioners must be careful.

“We need to be cautious on how the money is spent,” Bryan said. “I am in support of the port but it’s my role to be responsible for public dollars.

“We all want the port to be successful. But wanting it doesn’t make it so.”

QUINN from page A1

Florida A&M University where I obtained my B.S. degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in Sociology. I’m currently married to Mizpah Sims - Quinn for 15 years and have three wonderful sons Javium Langston, Rakeem and Sandy Quinn III.

Here are a few reasons why I would like to be your next Gulf County Commissioner in District 4.

1. I believe that change is not something you force on others; it is not a win – lose situation, rather a lasting change that comes from

people learning to work together – from within and with each other.

2. I want to represent my district in a positive way by having an impact on my community, such as my neighborhood, my family, and all of Gulf County.

3. I’m also concerned about the other districts that are represented in Gulf

County, we are all ready for a change, and this is not just about District 4 and me, this is about representing all the citizens of this wonderful county.

Quinn said a vote for him is a vote for Gulf County! Elect Sandy E. Quinn, Jr for your next Gulf County Commissioner District 4 on August 26.

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IT'S GAG GROUPEL TIME

Florida's favorite grouper is again on the menu

By **FRANK SARGEANT**
Frankmakol@outlook.com

The gag grouper season opens July 1 in the Gulf of Mexico, and continues to Dec. 3. By all accounts, it should be one of the best in Panhandle waters in recent years, with lots of legal-sized fish, more than 22 inches long, available.

Most anglers report that there are loads of "eating size" gag grouper in the Gulf these days, but scientists are still concerned that there appear to be low numbers of the largest adult males that are responsible for most successful spawning.

Like many fishes, gags (*Mycteroperca microlepis*)

change sex as they age, with the males evolving from mature females. Thus, unless a lot of females escape hooks and natural predators to an advanced age — about 11 years in this case when they're over three feet long — there are few males on the deep reefs at spawning time.

Gags can get huge: Angler Billie Currie caught one that went 62 pounds, 6 ounces off St. Pete in 2003, a fish that still holds the 50-pound-test IGFA record for men. The all-tackle record scaled 80 pounds, 6 ounces, and was caught off Destin in 1993. These giant fish — more than 50 inches long — might be as much as 30 years old, according to

NOAA scientists. In mid-summer most gags are still in relatively deep water, 60 feet and more due to the warm water, but as the cold fronts begin to arrive they pull nearer shore. Mid-October to November can offer action at depths as shallow as 30 feet, and some anglers will find the gags by towing a large diving plug like the Mann's Plus 25 to reach down close to the structure.

The classic method of catching gags is to find a rockpile or ledge with sonar and GPS and drop down a live bait. Seasoned reef anglers have hundreds of these spots fixed in their GPS units and can return to them accurately time after time.

Less expert anglers can buy lists of "community holes," well-known outcroppings that are starting points for bottom fishing. While these commercialized numbers rarely hold many keepers, they are often part of much longer chains of rock that do, so provide a good general guide of where to start searching.

Baiting up

Best live baits are typically grunts or pinfish 4 to 5 inches long; these baits are hardy, and big gags love them. They also readily grab cut bait when you first stop on a reef, but as the survivors get wise to the hooks, the live bait is often the ticket to turning on the bite again. Live sardines are also very effective.

It's also a good idea to carry along a chum cage if you're a serious grouper digger. This is a weighted metal cage into which a mix of chopped fish, dog food and menhaden oil is placed. The cage is then lowered down on the uptide side of the target structure. As the scent flows over the rocks, it often pulls the fish out and puts them in a feeding mood. An added advantage is that you can sometimes lure the fish several feet away from the rocks before you put the bait in front of them, which gives you a big advantage when a lunker takes hold and tries to get back to his rocky hole for a cutoff.

While some reef fishes are nibblers, the gag makes it very clear when you get a bite; the strike of a 20-pounder will just about put you on your knees, and then it's a pulling contest for the first 20 feet as you struggle to horse the fish away from his rocky lair.

Another tactic that works on hard bottom up to about 50 feet deep is trolling with large plugs or jigs of 4 to 8 ounces, dressed with plastic swimmer-tails 6 to 8 inches long, trailed 30 to 50 feet behind a downrigger ball. The advantage of this tactic is that you can cover a lot of terrain in short order,



CAPTAIN FRANK BOURGEOIS | Special to the News Herald

Whopper gag grouper like this one are waiting in the Gulf thanks to controlled harvest for the past several years. The season continues until Dec. 3.

and anywhere you hook a gag, you drop an electronic waypoint, because you can be sure where you caught one on the artificial, you can catch several more on live baits if you return and anchor on the spot.

The largest gags are usually found at depths of 100 feet and more, with the edge of the continental shelf a prime area for the lunkers. Water here drops from 200 feet rapidly to more than a mile, but the gags are found on the shallow side of the edge.

Most anglers use 60-pound tackle or heavier with 80- to 100-pound test leaders, 6/0 to 8/0 extra strong hooks and 4 to 6 ounces of weight, depending on depth and current.

Release tools

Circle hooks are required for gags, as for all reef species these days — the large bend of these hooks make it less likely that unwanted fish will swallow the hook and be impossible to release alive. A dehooker is also required when fishing for reef fish according to federal law.

Venting tools, which were required formerly, are no longer necessary or recommended—biologists found that many fish died from infection after being vented. But state and federal biologists suggest using some sort of deep-release device to send fish back down to a comfortable depth when they're pulled up from deep water and get the fishy version of the bends. The gasses in the abdomen expand, inflating the fish like a balloon, and it can't dive back down to the reef — it floats off to be eaten by sharks, thus wasting the resource—at least from a fisherman's point of view — the sharks like it fine.

One example, the Seaqualizer, is a pressure-sensitive descender that grips the fish's lip and can be preset to pop open at 50-

100-, or 150-foot down. Some guys just use an 8-ounce jig, debarbed and placed upside down in the lower jaw. Fish and jig are free-lined to bottom, then the angler raises the rod slightly and the jig (usually) pops out. Tying the line to the bend of the hook, rather than to the eye of the jig, assures that this tactic works, but you have to make sure the line runs free as the fish descends—otherwise, the hook comes out too soon and the fish is not deep enough to be deflated.

Where to find them

A great place to start for anglers new to locating grouper habitat in the northern Gulf is the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's artificial reef lists at <http://myfwc.com/media/131585/reefs.pdf>. There are literally hundreds of reefs shown here in Bay County alone—all of the Panhandle counties have lots of them at depths from as little as 20 feet to as much as 190 feet. All sorts of structures are down there — barges, ships, military gear, aircraft, concrete rubble and more. The lat/long numbers are included — put them into your GPS and let the machine take you right to the fish.

Boat positioning

Of course, gags like some reefs a lot better than others, and those closer to shore usually get more pressure than those farther out so tend to be picked over, but they do move around seasonally, and at the start of the season there can be some whoppers in relatively shallow water.

Boat positioning is a big part of success in catching gags and other reef fish. The trick is to drop the anchor up-current far enough so that the stern of the boat hangs just slightly forward of the edge of the

rocks. That way, when you drop your bait the first time, the scent of it will carry to the fish on the flow and draw them out a bit to be hooked in open water; giving you your best chance at putting the big ones in the cooler.

As the bite slows on the upcurrent side, you can slowly let out a bit more anchor line, which allows you to fish progressively farther down the structure. For those not experienced at deep water anchoring, the length of line required can be amazing — it usually takes a scope of about 5 to 1 for secure holding — that is, in 100 feet, you let out 500 feet of line, so getting the boat position right can be a bit of a challenge — and so can hauling all of that line back into the boat. That's why most experienced offshore skippers use an anchor buoy and ring system, allowing them to use the power of the motor to plane the anchor to the surface before retrieving it.

For those without a safe offshore boat or the know-how to find the reefs, an easy and economical way to get at the gags when the season opens is a charter boat — shared trips of up to six anglers make these affordable, or try a party boat, a much larger boat that can carry 30 or more anglers. Destin and other Panhandle ports are loaded with good options that can readily put you on fish on both half-day and full-day trips, and provide everything including tackle, bait, and maybe a mini-restaurant/bar for times when the bite is slow.

Four Gulf counties closed

Franklin, Wakulla, Taylor, Jefferson and Monroe counties are not open for gag grouper harvest during the July-Dec. season for other Gulf counties — see www.myfwc.com for details.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

| Date | High | Low | % Precip |
|---------------|------|-----|----------|
| Thu, July 17 | 87° | 76° | 0 % |
| Fri, July 18 | 86° | 78° | 30 % |
| Sat, July 19 | 84° | 77° | 30 % |
| Sun, July 20 | 86° | 77° | 30 % |
| Mon, July 21 | 85° | 77° | 40 % |
| Tues, July 22 | 85° | 78° | 70 % |
| Wed, July 23 | 85° | 78° | 60 % |

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 |
|------|-----|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 17 | Th | 5:38am 0.9 | 2:43pm 0.9 | 9:35am 0.8 | 8:36pm 0.7 |
| 18 | Fr | 4:58am 1.1 | | 2:35pm 0.6 | |
| 19 | Sa | 5:12am 1.3 | | 3:38pm 0.3 | |
| 20 | Su | 5:45am 1.6 | | 4:26pm 0.1 | |
| 21 | Mo | 6:25am 1.7 | | 5:10pm 0.0 | |
| 22 | Tu | 7:07am 1.8 | | 5:50pm -0.1 | |
| 23 | We | 7:50am 1.8 | | 6:26pm -0.1 | |
| 24 | Th | 8:32am 1.8 | | 6:57pm -0.1 | |
| 25 | Fr | 9:13am 1.8 | | 7:24pm 0.0 | |
| 26 | Sa | 9:51am 1.7 | | 7:47pm 0.0 | |

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

| Date | Day | High Tide | High Tide | Low Tide | Low Tide |
|------|-----|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 17 | Th | 8:09am 1.4 | 8:12pm 1.1 | 1:46am 0.4 | 2:45pm 0.7 |
| 18 | Fr | 8:39am 1.4 | 9:43pm 1.0 | 2:20am 0.6 | 4:04pm 0.5 |
| 19 | Sa | 9:13am 1.5 | 11:45pm 1.0 | 2:54am 0.8 | 5:25pm 0.4 |
| 20 | Su | 9:53am 1.5 | | 3:30am 1.0 | 6:37pm 0.2 |
| 21 | Mo | 2:18am 1.0 | 10:38am 1.5 | 4:22am 1.1 | 7:40pm 0.1 |
| 22 | Tu | 3:41am 1.1 | 11:29am 1.5 | 5:49am 1.2 | 8:33pm 0.0 |
| 23 | We | 4:19am 1.2 | 12:23pm 1.5 | 7:13am 1.3 | 9:19pm -0.1 |
| 24 | Th | 4:47am 1.2 | 1:17pm 1.5 | 8:19am 1.3 | 9:58pm -0.1 |
| 25 | Fr | 5:11am 1.3 | 2:07pm 1.5 | 9:12am 1.2 | 10:33pm 0.0 |
| 26 | Sa | 5:31am 1.3 | 2:54pm 1.5 | 9:56am 1.2 | 11:02pm 0.0 |

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FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Pier/Surf

Spanish mackerel are biting off the surf. Use small gotcha plugs or bubble rigs. Shark fishing is hot off the beach. Bonita and sting ray are prime baits or just butterfly the whiting you catch.

Inshore/Bay

Tarpon are hitting off Indian Pass in the morning. Just look for the pogies. Trout and reds are in the bay too and water baits and gulf shrimp at daylight.

Offshore/Bottom

Red snapper is coming to a close; time to focus on grouper. Boston mackerel and pin fish are your bait of choice and give jigging a try.



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PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

LEFT: The winners of this year's Mexico Beach Sandy Shoes 5K fun run hailed from Tennessee, Georgia, Texas and Florida. **RIGHT:** Following the race, more than 100 kids participated in a fishing tournament at the Mexico Beach canal.

Mexico Beach 5K welcomes 430 runners



The race welcomed 430 runners on a 3-mile run through Mexico Beach, starting at 7th Street.

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

To celebrate the Fourth of July holiday, the Mexico Beach Community Development Council held its annual Sandy Shoes 5K fun run.

The path, which wound up 7th Street to 386 before turning around, welcomed 430 participants.

Overall winners for the event were Kathy Wolski of Knoxville, Tenn., and Coleman Churitch of Brentwood, Tenn.

The male and female winners in the 12 and under division were Ellie Wolski of Knoxville, Tenn., and Jackson Roberts of Tallahassee. In the 13-19 division, Lauryn Davidson of Dacula,

Ga., and Perry Waddell of Bainbridge, Ga. In the 20-39 division, Brittany Folsom of Hahira, Ga. and Joe Hulen of Canton, Ga. In the 40-59 division, Shelly Valerio of Atlanta, Ga. and Rodney Wellmann of College Station, Texas. In the 60 and up division, Lynn Fogel Stone Mountain, Ga., and Doug Crymes of Mexico Beach.

Following the race, a kids fishing tournament was held along the Mexico Beach canal that welcomed 114 young anglers who strove to catch the biggest fish they could. Participants were treated to a hotdog lunch and those who caught the most fish received trophies for their hard work.

Each year the July Fourth events are organized by the Mexico Beach special events committee.

"The volunteers on the committee work endlessly year round to raise funds for these events," said Community Development Council executive director Kimberly Shoaf. "Both events brought out record-breaking crowds."

Staple Mexico Beach events like the Gumbo Cook-off and the Art and Wine Festival are organized by the committee and raise the funds that keep the July Fourth celebration going year after year.

"It was a great day and the fireworks spoke for themselves," said Shoaf. "Everything was such a success and we're very appreciative of everyone who helped us out."

The Art and Wine festival will be held on Oct. 11 at the Driftwood Inn.

Speak out on bass management

Special to The Star

It is time to speak out about Florida's proposed change to largemouth bass management by filling out an online survey or attending a local meeting (see MyFWC.com/Calendar). The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) wants to be sure management strategies optimize use and enjoyment of these fish in a sustainable manner.

Black bass — among which the Florida largemouth reigns supreme — are the most popular sportfish in North America.

A change is being considered to provide a five-bass daily bag limit, only one of which may be 16 inches in total length or longer. This means that each person would be allowed to keep up to five largemouth bass less than 16 inches, or four largemouth bass less than 16 inches and one largemouth bass 16 inches or longer each day.

This change would replace current length limits, but not the statewide bag limit of five bass. For the most part, this would become a statewide regulation, but limited exceptions for fisheries with special needs or opportunities would be possible and generally associated with fish management areas.

To take the survey, and learn more about largemouth bass as well as current and possible future management changes, go to MyFWC.com/Fishing and click on "Speak out on bass rules!" under the bass image near the middle of the page.

"The FWC takes public opinions very seriously," said Tom Champeau, director of the agency's Division of Freshwater Fisheries Management. "Combined with the best science and case studies that we have, public input helps us strive for optimal sustained use of these popular and valuable fish."

In 2011 the Black Bass Management Plan (BBMP) was approved, based on comments from more than 7,500 anglers. In addition to that, input from typical fishermen, Technical Advisory Group meetings involving guides, tournament anglers, marina owners, trophy bass fishermen, outdoor writers and tourism representatives were conducted to ensure a wide range of



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

opinions.

The BBMP encouraged using the least restrictive regulations feasible to enhance trophy bass fisheries, maintain healthy bass populations statewide and provide diverse angling opportunities. Therefore, FWC staff reviewed biological data to evaluate effectiveness of various regulation strategies. In addition, public opinion came from almost 6,000 responses to a preliminary survey and open-house events around Florida in 2013. The resulting proposal would simplify regulations, allow more harvest of abundant smaller bass and further protect older fish, including spawning female bass. The FWC is seeking feedback on this proposed change and will continue to evaluate options for several months before submitting a final proposal. If the public supports the proposal, and FWC Commissioners accept it, it could be implemented in July 2016.

The FWC promotes TrophyCatch as a volunteer citizen-science program that rewards anglers for catching, documenting and releasing bass heavier than 8 pounds (see TrophyCatchFlorida.com), thus further encouraging voluntary release of the biggest, oldest bass.

Initial surveys in 2013 were completed primarily by non-tournament anglers (52 percent) and casual tournament fishermen who normally fish local club tournaments, with 9 percent fishing more than 20 tournaments a year. Most respondents primarily targeted bass and fished frequently. So FWC incorporated input from those most affected by any changes.

A few takeaways were that only 16 percent normally eat the bass they catch, and 57 percent are happy if they don't keep any bass. When asked about current

regulations, 57 percent did not want to increase the bag limit and 21 percent wanted to reduce it. Since a five-bass daily bag limit is sustainable, there is not a recommendation to change it.

Currently, south and east of the Suwannee River there is a 14-inch minimum length limit, and in the Suwannee River and north and west of it there is a 12-inch minimum length limit for bass. Biological data show that protecting these smaller fish is not necessary. Furthermore, different size limits complicate regulations. What is advantageous is protecting bigger fish, which are rarer and take longer to produce — hence the proposed harvest limit of only one bass 16 inches or longer per day. This regulation would be more lenient in the south fishing zone (east of Highway 441 and south of State Road 80), which currently allows only one bass over 14 inches.

There is no plan to alter the Bass Tournament Exemption Permit process (see MyFWC.com/Permits then click on "Freshwater" and "Black Bass Tournament").

Organizations holding bass tournaments may apply online for a temporary exemption to bass size limits. This helps ensure the health of Florida freshwater resources while encouraging fishing participation from small clubs to major tournaments. In return for a temporary exemption to allow weigh-in prior to live-release of the bass, tournament participants must forego any harvest, including what would otherwise be their five-fish bag limit. Any fish that die must be donated to charity or for research. Tournaments are not required to have a permit if they abide by existing regulations and don't seek an exemption.

Every opinion is important, pro or con. So please review the background materials and complete a survey yourself (see <http://bit.ly/BassRules>).

PSJ athletic physicals

Star Staff Report

Sacred Heart Hospital will provide physicals for all those who will participate in sports this year at Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School.

All athletes must have a physical to compete.

The physicals will be provided free for all sports.

The physicals will be conducted beginning at 5 p.m. ET July 22 at the Medical Office Building on the campus of Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf.

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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.



COURTESY OF LAURA FROM DRAGONFLY PHOTOGRAPHY

The sun sets over the Gulf of Mexico.



COURTESY OF KRISTY RAFFIELD

Am I cute or what?



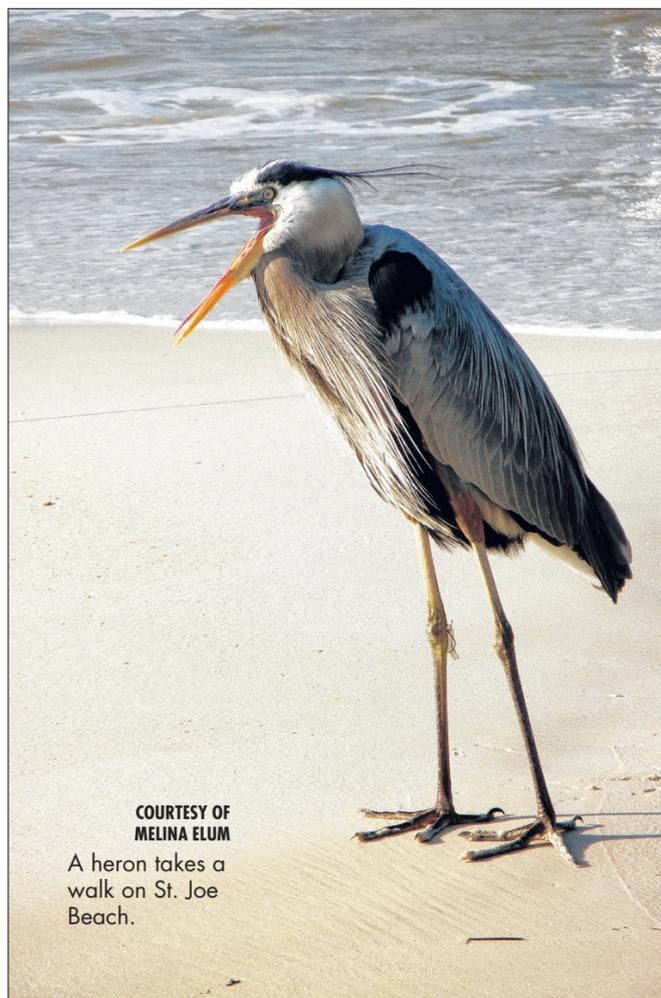
COURTESY OF SAMANTHA LAYFIELD

Storm clouds roll in at sunset over the Port St. Joe Marina.

Pelicans feeding on menhaden off Indian Pass. "Notice the small bird sitting on the head of one of the pelicans; he was grabbing fish that fell out of the pelican's mouth as it was filtering out the water he scooped with the fish. Smart bird."



COURTESY OF MARIE ROMANELLI



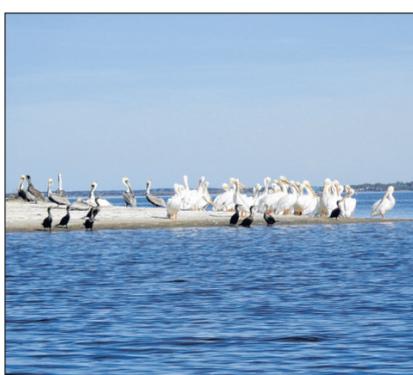
COURTESY OF MELINA ELUM

A heron takes a walk on St. Joe Beach.



COURTESY OF HOLLY ATKINS

Shelling anyone?



COURTESY OF STEVE AT KAYAK DOG ADVENTURES

Birds sunning on a sandbar in St. Joseph Bay.



COURTESY OF STEVE AT KAYAK DOG ADVENTURES

Driftwood, a kayak, a beautiful day and St. Joseph Bay.



COURTESY OF TERRY LIND

A crab scurries along the shore near Indian Pass.



Busy days for Turtle Patrol

By WES LOCHER
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wlocher@starfl.com

Sea turtle season is in full effect.

Each morning, volunteers from the St. Joseph Peninsula Turtle Patrol are out patrolling the beaches of Cape San Blas on a hunt for any sea turtle activity that might have occurred throughout the night.

Currently, the turtle patrol is made up of more than 20 volunteers, clad in matching blue shirts, who start their days at 6 a.m. ET and begin their search with the rising sun. On any given day, 2-3 teams will patrol simultaneously, seven days a week.

Cape residents, Penny Weining and John Ehrman, a husband

and wife duo, are just two of those folks who comb a stretch of beach three days a week, covering anywhere from 2-6 miles by foot.

During sea turtle season, which lasts from May 1 through Oct. 31, Ehrman and Weining keep their eyes open for active turtles, new nests, and false crawls, areas where a turtle made it onto the beach and then returned to the water without laying eggs.

The most prominent species of turtles on the Cape are Loggerhead turtles, followed by the more rare Green turtles and occasionally, the rare and endangered Kemp's Ridley.

This year marks Weining's eighth season on patrol and Ehrman's seventh.

Weining, originally from Atlanta, had seen sea turtles at the

Marine Aquarium in Clearwater and become fascinated with the species. Ehrman, a New York City native, said he's always been interested in dinosaurs, and sea turtles, which have been around for millions of years, are the closest he can get to seeing one in the flesh.

The couple relocated to the Cape from Snellville, G.A. in 2007 and quickly got involved in the patrol once construction on their home was complete.

"I'm so amazed by how big the turtles are, and out here, we can interact with them," said Weining. "There's something about when you see your first baby turtle. It's awesome and it's such a natural process."

See **TURTLE B5**



WES LOCHER | The Star

John Ehrman has worked with the Gulf County Turtle Patrol for seven seasons, his wife Penny Weining, has patrolled for eight.



COURTESY OF SYLVIA COSTIN

The Costin family will celebrate 100 years of business in Port St. Joe this Saturday. R.A. Costin built this brick store where Half Hitch Tackle is today in 1914. The store was on the first floor, Costin's family on the second.

A CENTURY STORE

Costin family celebrates 100 years of business

By TIM CROFT
227-7827 | @PSJ_Star
tcroft@starfl.com

T.H. Stone is considered settler No. 1 for modern Port St. Joe.

R.A. Costin would be settler number two.

And this weekend the Costin family will celebrate the 100th anniversary of business in down-

town Port St. Joe with a celebration at Ace Hardware on Williams Avenue.

The store will mark the anniversary on Saturday, July 19.

The landmark day is a celebration of the first brick building built in Port St. Joe in 1914 by R.A. Costin, who used the lower floor as his general store while his growing family - he would have eight

children, three who died tragically young - lived in the upper floor.

At the time, Stone had established the settlement of modern Port Saint Joseph within a mile or two of the former town which had been wiped out by a yellow fever epidemic more than 100 years prior.

See **COSTIN B5**

Bike Safety Program slated for Saturday

Special to The Star

Top of the Line Ryderz along with R.A. Driesbach, Sr. Lodge #77 Knights of Pythias will host a Bike Safety Program for youth ages 6-12 at the Washington Recreation Center at 11 a.m. ET on Saturday, July 19. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Cedric Anthony, a 1994 graduate of Port St. Joe High School and other members of the Tallahassee, Fla., Motorcycle Club will emphasize the importance of

learning the rules of safe bike riding how to help prevent accidents from happening. Other activities will include: free bicycle maintenance and repairs; videos on bicycle safety rules; and refreshments.

Top of the Line Ryderz club members enjoy riding throughout the year, giving back to various communities, developing networks, showing support and fellowship with other clubs and riders who share the

See **BIKE B5**

FARMER'S MARKET



WES LOCHER | The Star

The next Salt Air Farmer's Market will be held on Saturday, July 19, at City Commons Park in Port St. Joe. Farmers from around North Florida and Georgia will have fresh produce for purchase and vendors will sell homemade crafts and jewelry. The Salt Air Farmer's Market promotes a sustainable food system on Florida's Forgotten Coast. The Market runs from 9 a.m. ET to 1 p.m.



Trivia Fun
Wilson Casey
WC@TriviaGuy.com

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

1) Who was almost the first president to be assassinated when a would-be assassin's two pistols misfired?
Jefferson, Jackson, Tyler, Polk

2) About What percentage of men have admitted to calling in sick to work on having a bad hair

day?
3%, 7%, 14%, 20%

3) What city has a designed taller-structure based on the Eiffel Tower in Paris?
Tokyo, Montreal, Seattle, Casablanca

4) Of the planets in our solar system whose orbit is most circular?
Earth, Mars, Venus, Mercury

5) What company marketed the world's first decaffeinated coffee in 1906?
Sanka, Kaffee Hag, Yuban, Daterra

6) Of these what's another name for a sermon?
Homily, Micah, Shazzar, Lation

7) From surveys what came in #1 when asked to name a good place to visit, but not to live?
Key West, Roswell, NYC, Las Vegas

8) Where is "America's Stonehenge" with its mysterious stone structures?
Oregon, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Utah

9) What garden plant was commonly eaten by gladiators to make them fierce?
Broccoli, Fennel, Turnip, Apricot

10) The state of California fields how many NBA teams?
2, 3, 4, 5

11) Which "I Love Lucy" regular later

hosted a "Saturday Night Live"?
Lucille Ball, Vivian Vance, Desi Arnaz, William Frawley

12) What do approximately 87% of Americans who own running shoes share in common?
Don't run regularly, Under age 32, Overweight, Bought shoes on sale

13) How many times has Regis Philbin been married?
1, 2, 3, 4

14) What was the first soft drink to be consumed in outer space?
Coca-Cola, Pepsi, RC Cola, Sprite

15) Biblical - Is the book of 1 Kings in the Old or New Testament

or neither?

16) According to Paul in 1 Corinthians 7:9, it is better to marry than to do what with passion?
Lust, Serve, Burn, Speak

17) Which Old Testament book foretold the giving of vinegar to Jesus on the cross?
Exodus, Ruth, Job, Psalms

18) What was called bread from heaven that fed the Israelites in the wilderness?
Hanna, Sourdough, Manna, Pasta

19) Who killed about a thousand people when he burned down the tower of Shechem?
Benjamin, Abimelech, Dan, Iltai

20) In Exodus 8 what creature came up from the waters in droves?
Frogs, Locusts, Fishes, Whales

ANSWERS:

- 1) Jackson
- 2) 20%
- 3) Tokyo
- 4) Venus
- 5) Kaffee Hag
- 6) Homily
- 7) Las Vegas
- 8) New Hampshire
- 9) Fennel
- 10) 4
- 11) Desi Arnaz
- 12) Don't run regularly
- 13) 2
- 14) Coca-Cola
- 15) Old
- 16) Burn
- 17) Psalms
- 18) Manna
- 19) Abimelech
- 20) Frogs

Birthday



Happy Birthday, Joseph

Wishing you a very happy 75th birthday, and congratulations on your upcoming 56th wedding

anniversary in August. Love,

Annette, Joann, Chris, Judi, Frank, Sam, Joey, April, Tommy, Melissa, Casen, Cody, Mackenzie and Sophia

Society BRIEF

Amateur radio license exams

Amateur radio license exams will be given at 10 a.m. ET Aug. 16 at the Emergency Operations Center in Port St. Joe. Get your license and get

on the air or upgrade an existing license. An amateur radio license can put you in contact with the world.

If you need information, assistance or to register for an exam contact C.H. Tillis (AJ4xJ) at 648-8251.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



Brothers, Ben and Jerry came to live with us after their mom could no longer care for them. These guys are very big with hearts to match. They would like to have a home together as they have always lived together. If you can give these big boys a safe forever

home, do not hesitate to contact us.

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

Shelter hours: Tuesday-Saturday from 10 am-4 pm! Faith's Thrift Hut hours: Thursday-Saturday from 10 am-3 pm. Our store and shelter location is 1007 Tenth Street in Port St. Joe

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



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Wewahitchka library thanks volunteers

Special to The Star

Local children recently participated in a six-week summer reading program focused on science titled "Fizz, Boom Read" at the Charles Whitehead Public Library in Wewahitchka. Children heard stories of scientists and inventors and participated in hands-on experiments on scientific fields such as wind; water and space; electricity; weather; light and color; and measurement. After reading to the children, library assistant Marcy Townsend showed each child how to conduct their own experiments and see the effects firsthand.

The library would like to thank the special guest collaborators for generously volunteering their time and talent to youth literacy in the community. Our



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

gratitude goes to Kristin Evans of the Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative for her electricity safety demonstration and for

providing take-home activity books, and to Melanie Taylor with the Gulf County Extension Office for her exciting

weather program where she taught children how to make their own tornado in a bottle.

Many thanks to Sandra Pierce and Elaine Everett of the Bay County Public Library, who are experts in making reading fun, and who performed an hour of music, jokes, bouncing eggs, balloons that can't be popped, and a slimy science fair story. Thank you also to the Gulf County School Board and Mr. George Cox who donated funds that were used for the final program celebration. We also extend our grateful appreciation to the City of Wewahitchka and The Star for helping the library promote public education programs.

Stop in and check out what is coming up next at your local library or visit us online at www.nwrils.com.

Wedding

Robert Barber, Tonya Green wed

The family of Robert Barber is pleased to announce his marriage to Tonya Green on June 28 at Rivercrest Lodge in Apalachicola.

In attendance were Carrie Harrison as matron of honor and Bill Yohe as best man. Robert's grandchildren Raina and Gavan were flower girl and ring bearer, respectively.

The affair was officiated by Jessica Barber, daughter of deceased brother Elton.

Family support was further evidenced by the decorating and food preparation of enthusiastic family members.

Robert is employed by Berg Pipe Corp. of Panama City. Tonya is employed by Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf in Port St. Joe.



Engagement

Courtney Cooley, Christopher Knox to marry

James and Patricia Cooley of Dothan, AL and Robert and Monica Dotson of Jacksonville, FL are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Courtney Lynn Cooley, to Christopher Michael Knox, son of Michael and Tonya Knox of Port St. Joe.

Courtney is the granddaughter of Jimmy and Patsy Cooley and Pete and Ima Jean White all of Port St. Joe.

Christopher is the grandson of Tom and Mary Knox and Sara Allen

all of Port St. Joe.

Courtney is a 2007 graduate of Wewahitchka High School. She graduated from Florida State College at Jacksonville in 2013 with a BS degree in Early Childhood Education. She is currently employed as a teacher with Gulf County Schools.

Christopher is a 2003 graduate of Port St. Joe High School and earned a BA degree from Flagler College in Business Administration. He is currently employed with Tyndall Federal Credit Union as Financial Sales Representative.

Weddings plans to be announced at a later date.



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High School High Tech internship available at Buffer Preserve

By DYLAN SHOEMAKER, Preserve Manager
Special to The Star

Here at the St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve our goals are to protect our cultural resources along with conserving and preserving the natural ecosystems.

One of the ways we are able to enhance public appreciation for natural and cultural diversity is by involving the local schools. This is the first year we have been involved with the Florida High School High Tech Summer Internship program and it has been a great partnership.

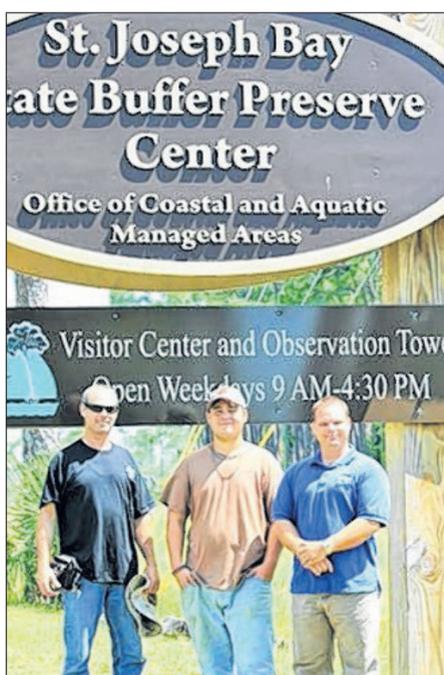
We have been honored to have Carl Sheline for our summer intern. Mr. Sheline has done a great job with everything he has been involved in. He has gotten to know the inner workings of the Preserve, such as: he has learned how this land was formed, the past history of this area, how the Native Americans used the land along with why the land became a State Buffer Preserve, and how it plays a big part in our effort to restore our ecosystems.

During his time at the Preserve, Mr.

Sheline was involved with many aspects of the Preserve, from facility maintenance to equipment and shop upkeep, learning how and why we study water sheet flow movement, other water quality studies, to locating rare and endangered plant communities, and learning how prescribed burning plays an important part in creating conditions that are ideal for these plants to thrive and survive. Mr. Sheline has been involved with all of it and has enjoyed it.

Mr. Sheline had the opportunity to work with all the staff and volunteers within the Preserve and learn from each one of them. He has demonstrated his commitment and his valuable team working skills which led to a good working relationship with everyone.

Mr. Sheline has contributed approximately 120 volunteer hours at St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve during his internship. Mr. Sheline is an outstanding volunteer, he accomplished tasks in a timely manner and it was an honor to have him volunteering for the Florida Coastal Office and St. Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve.



COURTESY OF MELISSA BEHE, ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR HSHT

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.

Cory Coffey graduates

Star Staff Report

Cory Blaine Coffey, son of Marion Costin Coffey of Jackson, MI graduated from Jackson High School May 23. Along with his diploma Cory received a Certificate of Commendation from the State of Michigan in recognition of Outstanding Achievement.

Cory is the son of Stephen Coffey of Jackson, Mich.

He is the grandson of Sylvia and the late Ashley Costin; Shelly and Tommy Oliver of Port St. Joe; Joy and Russell Coffey of Texas; and also Mrs. Wesley Ramsey and the late Wesley Ramsey.

Cory's great-grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Costin, Sr. of Port St. Joe and the late Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Parrish, Sr. of Winter Garden, Fla.

Cory will attend Jackson Community College in Jackson, Mich., in the fall.

School BRIEFS

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.

Pre-K 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 may be contacted at 227-1221 for more information.

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

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,

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.

Gulf/Franklin will offer culinary classes in fall

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 at lcostin@gulfcoast.edu.

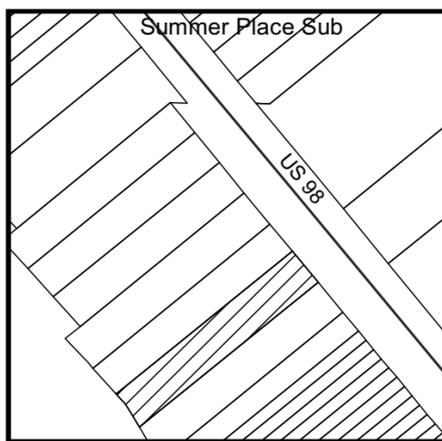
PUBLIC NOTICE

45184-95

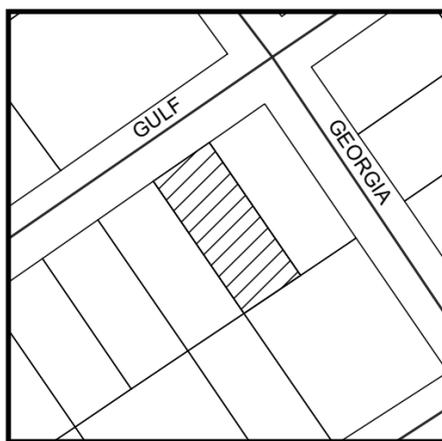
A Public Hearing will be held at the Planning and Development Review Board (PDRB) on July 21, 2014 at 8:45 a.m. EST, and at the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. EST. Both public hearings will be held in the BOCC Meeting Room at the Robert M. Moore Administration 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.

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Community forum on fracking hosted at Lifetree Café

Special to The Star

The facts and fiction about fracking will be considered at a community forum hosted by Lifetree Café at 7 p.m. CDT Monday, July 21.

The program, titled "To Frack or Not to Frack? An Informative Hour of Respectful Conversation," features filmed interviews

with both supporters and detractors of fracking.

"The U.S. is on its way to energy independence, thanks to hydraulic fracturing," says Tisha Schuller, President of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association.

"I consider fracking one of the single greatest threats to our health and that of our environment," said fracking

activist Shane Davis. "I studied 1,000 spill reports, and 43 percent of them resulted in groundwater contamination."

Community members will also have the opportunity to weigh in with their opinions.

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Snacks and beverages are available. Lifetree Café is

at 1602 U.S. Highway 98 in Mexico Beach across from El Governor Motel.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting.

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

OBITUARY

Marsha McGill Posey

08/06/65 to 07/12/14

Marsha lived in Gulf County for most of her life and most recently worked as an office manager for Keith Jones, CPA, and cashier at Walker's Dixie Dandy.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father Melvin E. and Evelyn McGill, and Brother Harold Locke.

She leaves to cherish her memory her children, Kristin Raffield (Jesse) and Joshua Posey; her Most Significant Other, Bobby Hayes and family; mother, Mary Summerlot and children, Cassie Bondy (Trent) and A.J. Hayes; brothers Max McGill and Larry Ball; sister, Gwen Allen (Bruce) and family, Melanie Forston (Jason) and children, Andrew Marcus and Bryce Forston, Rodney Allen April Hicks (Chris) and family, Nic,

Katelyn and Samantha; nieces, Angel Locke Watkins and Lisa Locke Solomon; her aunt, Eunice Haddock and cousins, Tommy Haddock (Gail), Kenny Haddock, Harlan Haddock (Donna) and Jason Richter; mother and father-in-law Wanell and Charles Posey; sister-in-law Donna Rogers (Jimmy) and family: Brian Ard (Rosie) and children Dylan, Gracie, Emma and Cole; Jeremy Ard (Pam) and children J.J., Austin, and Hunter.

Memorialization will be by cremation. A service will be at 2 p.m. EDT Thursday, July 17, 2014, at the Hope Family Worship Center. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the family to help with final expenses or to the Moffit Cancer Center in memory of Marsha.

Faith BRIEFS

Summer Revival at Philadelphia Primitive

Philadelphia Primitive Baptist Church will conduct its Summer Revival Services July 14-18. The evangelist for the week is the Elder Lewis Anderson, pastor and teacher at Mt. Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church of Tallahassee. All services will start at 7:30 p.m. EDT with guest choirs providing songs

of praise and worship. Pastor Jessie Hawkins and the congregation of Philadelphia is inviting everyone to come out. The church is at 259 Avenue D.

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, 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 EDT)
• 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 call 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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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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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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Sunday School - 9:15
Morning Worship - 10:30
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WEDNESDAY:
Family Dinner - 5:30
Prayer Meeting - 6:30
Student Ministry - 6:30
Children's Ministry / Choir - 6:30
Adult Choir - 7:30

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Pastor Josh Fidler

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Worship Service 11:00 am
Discipleship Training 5:00 pm
Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Wednesday Night 7:00 pm

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

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Schedule of Worship Services
Sunday
Sunday School 9:00 AM
Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM
Wednesday
Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 PM
Elective Adult Classes 6:00 PM
Children & Youth Ministry 6:00 PM
Nursery provided for all services

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

First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach
111 North 22nd Street • Mexico Beach, FL 32410
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9:45 a.m. CST Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
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St. Peter's Church, ACC
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Faith Bible Church
www.faithbiblepsi.net
801 20th Street, Port St. Joe, FL. (850) 229-6707

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

Home of Faith Christian School
www.faithchristianpsj.net



WES LOCHER | The Star

Each morning turtle patrol volunteers scan the Cape San Blas beaches for new sea turtle nests or false crawls. Each site is measured and documented as future research for the FWC.

TURTLE from page B1

Female turtles crawl onto the beach between dusk and dawn, laying anywhere from 70-120 eggs at one time. They can repeat this process 4-7 times a season. Some turtles only dig down a few inches, while larger sea turtles might dig more than a foot into the beach sand. Regardless of how far down the eggs are, the dip in the sand created by a turtle's flippers are unmistakable.

A nest will typically take 60-70 days to hatch as long as they aren't disturbed by predators that might include coyotes, ghost crabs, raccoons and vehicles on the beach.

Whenever a new nest is located, volunteers dig into the sand to find the edges of the egg cluster and cover it with a thin metal screen. To bring attention to the site, patrollers hammer wooden stakes at each corner and mark the nest with caution tape. A tag is applied to note the date it was laid and the type of turtle the eggs came from.

During the night hours, interns from the University of Florida patrol the beaches and send updates to the Turtle Patrol in the morning, detailing any activity they might have seen. If turtles were spotted in certain areas, those locations are



Sea Turtle season runs from May 1 through Oct. 31.

thoroughly combed in the day time for new nests.

"People get really excited when the nests hatch," said Weining. "We get some big crowds."

To avoid newly-hatched turtles getting lost on their way to the water, Ehrman and Weining encouraged locals and visitors to keep porch lights off, fill in any holes dug in the sand and remove beach items and debris at the end of the day.

Ehrman said that this season, there have been more than 83 nests and 55 false crawls. He anticipates more than 130 nests before the season is over.

While finding a nest brings the most excitement to patrollers, a false crawl requires an equal amount

of paperwork.

Patrollers photograph the site, mark its GPS location and notate nearby roads or homes. These forms not only remind patrollers where to look for nests later, but are also kept on file with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to be analyzed later.

"We want people to be conscious of what they're doing on the beach and realize that what they do has an impact," said Ehrman. "It's about awareness."

Ehrman and Weining encouraged those who enjoy the area's ecosystem to become involved in the turtle patrol. Even for those who might not want to be available or able to walk the beaches,

there are plenty of events where volunteers can provide information to the community or even patrol the waters by kayak in the cooler months when cold-stunned turtles go into a hibernation state and must be spotted and rescued.

"In addition to the turtles, all the volunteers care about the environment," said Ehrman. "They see this beautiful area we have a there's a sense of duty to preserve it. It's our duty to take care of it."

To build awareness for the turtles, patrollers also participate in various activities around Gulf County to provide information to residents and visitors alike. Pamphlets and info sheets are handed out at many of the events, especially those held at the St. Joseph Bay Buffer Preserve, a local attraction for those staying out on the Cape.

For Ehrman and Weining, they said they feel responsibility to the area and its ecosystem.

"I'm helping to perpetuate the survival of the species," said Ehrman. "In the big picture, I'm doing what I feel is my part."

"I do what I can so that future generations have the same opportunity to see sea turtles somewhere besides an aquarium."

COSTIN from page B1

The brick store Costin opened was located at the site of what is now the Half Hitch Tackle Store on U.S. Highway 98 in Port St. Joe.

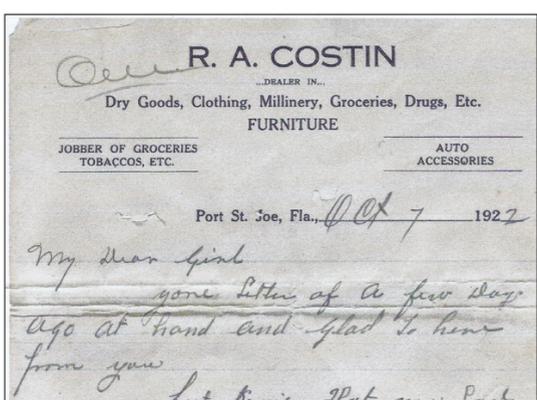
Some of the bricks from the building – and reports from the day say they numbered more than 150,000 – are part of the shopping center built by George Tapper adjacent to the store.

The store, after the Costin family moved theirs to Reid Avenue, would later become the site of the post office and later Buzzett Drugs.

And, according to published reports, R.A. Costin and his son, Cecil, who at the age of 13 stood on a box behind the counter while helping customers, sold just about everything.

The store offered silk stockings and coffins. You could buy food for the family or food for the animals, horse collars and clothing.

The store moved to Reid Avenue in the 1920s, roughly where the Radio Shack and adjacent stores in the



COURTESY OF SYLVIA COSTIN

As the letterhead highlights, one could purchase an array of goods at the original Costin Department Store.

200 block are located, and would move again directly across the street in the late 1930s after St. Joe Paper Company announced it would build a mill in town.

The family operated on Reid Avenue — using the shop buildings now located along on side of Williams Avenue as warehouse space — until the 1960s.

Ultimately, the family established the Hardware Store, located on Williams, which is now operated by Mark Costin, the sixth generation of Costin to operate a store in Port St. Joe.

"We are one of the oldest Ace distributors in the area," said Sylvia Costin, the widow of one of R.A. Costin's grandsons. "It used

to be when the old department store was operating that we would go between the store and through the warehouses to Williams."

The family arrived in Port St. Joe from Greensboro in 1909, riding together in a train caboose from Greensboro, where R.A. had operated a general goods store.

R.A. opened the first store in town that same year, before Port St. Joe was even incorporated and at a time when lumber and naval supplies were being shipped through a bustling port.

The family lived next door.

In 1914 he replaced the old wooden store with the first brick building, opening it July 19 of that year.

Cecil purchased the store in 1923 and R.A. and his wife, the former Sarah Goodwin Guerry from South Carolina, to Wewahitchka only to return later to the town he had helped establish.

BIKE from page B1

passion of riding and having fun while doing it.

The Knights of Pythias bicycle initiative is a two part program devoted to collecting old, new and used bikes for restoration and distribution and providing a Bicycle Safety and Maintenance program for children age 6-12.

For additional information about the Knights of Pythias or Bike Program, contact any member of the Knights of Pythias or visit www.knightsofpythiasfl.com.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Top of the Line Ryderz MC (TLR) was founded on Aug. 18, 2009, by 8 individuals as a non-profit organization. The founders shared a common passion for riding motorcycles, friendship, and respect within the community.

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4518500

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.

4518497

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.

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Affordable Dentures-Panama City, P.A. Office #: (850) 872-6155.

Gulf County Sheriff's Office SUMMARY REPORT

JULY 7-13

On July 7, Deputy G. Desrosier responded to the 500 block of State Road (SR) 71 South in Wewahitchka in reference to vandalism. The complainant reported vandalism to a driveway lamp post. The damage is estimated at \$295.

On July 7, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office traveled to the Bay County Jail to transport Samantha L. Smith (27) to Gulf County. Smith was arrested in Bay County on local charges and held for the GCSO on a violation of probation. The Bay County charges were resolved. Once she arrived, she was served the warrant for violation of probation on her original charge of Forgery. This was the third violation of probation warrant executed by the GCSO. Smith was first appeared and is currently held without bond.

On July 7, the GCSO received a report of the theft of a generator in the 800 block of Our Town Road, north of Wewahitchka. Deputy K. Starnes responded to the call. The complainant reported the theft of a John Deere generator valued at about \$500. Deputy Starnes continues to investigate.

On July 8, the GCSO traveled to the Jackson County Jail to transport Jayla L. Long (23) back to Gulf County. Long was wanted on a warrant for Failure to Appear on her original charge of Retail Theft. She was served the warrant and booked into the Gulf County Detention Facility. Long was later first appeared and is currently held on a \$1,000 bond.

On July 8, the GCSO received a complaint regarding an accident which had occurred earlier in the day on Dolphin Street in Highland View. The accident involved a vehicle and a golf cart. Deputy K. Starnes investigated the case and charged Thomas W. Chavous (48) for leaving the scene of

an accident with property damage. Chavous was later arrested by Deputy M. Layfield on July 10th. He was transported to the GCDF, where he was first appeared and conditionally released.

On July 9, the GCSO responded to the 7900 block of Alabama Avenue regarding an aggravated assault. Sgt. R. Burkett responded and investigated the call. The investigation revealed that Travis A. Gould (18) threatened two juveniles with a machete. Sgt. Burkett sought warrants for two counts of Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon. The warrants were served by Deputy P. Williams on Monday, July 14th. Gould is currently awaiting first appearance.

On July 10, Deputy S. Willis responded to the 700 block of Old Panama Highway in Wewahitchka to assist State Probation and Parole. Deputy Willis arrested and served Bobby N. Hooper Jr. (42) a warrant for Violation of Probation. Hooper is on probation for Possession of Crack Cocaine. This is the fourth warrant served on Hooper for violation of probation. He was transported to the GCDF. Hooper is currently held without bond.

On July 10, Deputy S. Willis took a report at the Wewahitchka Substation regarding a burglary of an automobile. The offense occurred in the 300 block of West Lakeview Drive in Land's Landing. Personal identification, cash, medication, a portable DVD player, and GPS were reported taken from the vehicle. The vehicle was said to be secured. Deputy Willis did not locate signs of forced entry.

On July 10, the GCSO received a complaint regarding the burglary of a residence. Deputy S. Willis responded to the complaint in the 100 block of Audubon Lane north of



Wewahitchka. The report indicated the offense had taken place over the past four months. Multiple items were removed from the residence and included jewelry, clothes, and electronics. The estimated value of the property stolen is about \$4,500. If anyone has any information on this case they are asked to contact the Gulf County Sheriff's Office at 850-639-5717, or call Crime Stoppers at 850-785-TIPS.

On July 11, Deputy G. Desrosier arrested Debrah A. Sayers (53) in the 800 block of SR 71 South in Wewahitchka. Sayers was wanted by the GCSO on charges of battery on a person over 65 years of age. The case stems from the July 6th domestic disturbance reported in the 100 block of Honey Hill Road in Dalkeith. She was transported to the GCDF where she posted a \$500 bond and was released.

On July 11, Sgt. J. Williams responded to the 1900 block of West Highway 98 in Highland View regarding a theft. The complainant reported the theft had taken place during the month of June and maybe employee related. Sgt. Williams continues to

investigate.

On July 11, Deputy J. Brock served two warrants on Jerome D. Russ (35) in the 500 block of Welton Drive located in Oak Grove. The GCSO wanted Russ for Principle to Trafficking in Hydrocodone and Principle to Sale of Cocaine within 1000 feet of Park. The cases were the result of an investigation conducted by the GCSO Narcotics Unit. Russ was transported to the GCDF where he was later first appeared and released following day on a \$40,000 bond.

On July 11, Sgt. J. Williams served a warrant for Violation of Probation on Asia N. Whitley (21) at the GCDF. Whitley turned herself in. Whitley is on probation for Child Abuse. She was booked and released on her own recognizance.

On July 11, Sgt. M. Herring served five warrants on Thshawn Michael L. Johnson (20) in the 500 block of Welton Drive in Oak Grove. Johnson was arrested for Trafficking in Hydrocodone, Sale of Cocaine within 1,000 feet of a Church, Unlawful Use of a Two-way Communications Device, Attempted Sale of Methamphetamine within

1,000 feet of a Park, and Theft. He was transported to the GCDF and remains in custody on a \$55,000 bond.

On July 12, Deputy K. Starnes responded to the 1700 block of Grouper Avenue in Highland View regarding the theft of two batteries from a boat. The complainant reported the theft of two Interstate batteries that occurred between July 9th and July 12th. The reported value of the batteries stolen was \$240.

On July 13, Deputy J. Oquendo stopped a vehicle on SR 71 near East Reid Avenue in Wewahitchka. Deputy Oquendo initially was going to stop the vehicle for a seat belt violation, but as he caught up to the vehicle developed a suspicion for driving under the influence. After conducting an investigation the driver, Joseph A. Sullivan (49), was placed under arrest for DUI. He was transported to the GCDF where he was later first appeared and given a conditional release.

On July 13, the GCSO received a 911 call regarding a physical disturbance in the 800 block of SR 71 South in Wewahitchka. Deputy

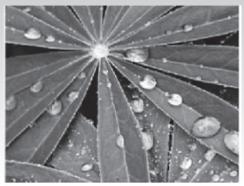
K. Starnes investigated the case and charges are forthcoming.

On July 13, Deputy K. Starnes responded to the 300 block of Michael Street in Stone Mill Creek. The GCSO received a 911 call about a verbal disturbance at the location. Before Deputy Starnes arrival the incident turned physical. At the conclusion of the investigation, David L. Newburn (35) was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery. He was transported to the GCDF where he was later first appeared and released on a \$500 bond.

From July 7-13 the Communications Division at the GCSO logged a total of 23 calls for the Port St. Joe Police Department, 42 calls for EMS, 21 calls for other departments/agencies and 15 calls for Gulf County Animal Control.

From July 7-13 the GCSO logged the following department activity: Security/Zone Checks, 170; Civil Paper Service, 76; Traffic Stop, 41; Field Contact, 18; Warrant Arrest, 8; Suspicious Person, 7; Abandoned Vehicle, 6; Reckless Driver, 6; Information, 5; Request for Security Check, 5; Traffic Accident, 5; Disabled Motor Vehicle, 4; Noise Disturbance, 4; Theft, 4; Agency Assist, 3; Citizens Assist, 3; Trespass, 3; Suspicious Activity, 3; Alarm, 2; Battery, 2; Residential Burglary, 2; Domestic Disturbance, 2; Disturbance, 2; Sexual Offender Address Verification, 2; Sexual Offender Reregistration, 2; Aggravated Assault, 1; Burglary of Auto, 2; Criminal Mischief, 1; DUI, 1; Verbal Disturbance, 1; Field/Grass Fire, 1; Lost Personal Items, 1; Mentally Ill, 1; Missing Juvenile, 1; Missing Person, 1; Prisoner Transport, 1; Street Obstruction, 1; Suspicious Vehicle, 1; and Welfare Check, 1.

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Bahaigrass: A possible lawn grass choice

The ability of Bahaigrass to grow well on infertile, dry soils and its resistance to most pests has made it increasingly popular with Floridians. For most inland areas, Bahai is a good choice especially if you are interested in a low maintenance lawn. Unfortunately, if you live along the coast line, Bahaigrass is not for you due to its low tolerance to salt spray.

Bahaigrass needs a fairly acidic soil. The pH should be between 5.5 and 6.2. In alkaline soil, important minor elements are tied up in chemical forms that the grass cannot use, causing it to turn yellow.

Four Bahai grass varieties are commonly available- Argentina, Pensacola, Paraguayan, and Common. Most people think Argentina is best for

lawns. Its dark green blades are long, narrow, and closely spaced. It produces a dense sod with good color. Argentina responds well to fertilization and it is more disease resistant than the other varieties. Pensacola is the second best variety, and is often seen along Florida roadsides.

Bahaigrass forms an extensive, deep root system. It sustains better than other grasses in fertile, sandy soils and does not require high inputs of water or fertilization. This makes it a good choice for home sites on large lots or acreage, or anywhere there is no irrigation system. Bahai prefers acidic soils and does not form excessive thatch. It may be grown from seed which



ROY LEE CARTER
County extension director

abundant and relatively cheap, or established from sod. Bahai may take time to germinate and cover may need to be provided. This grass can reseed itself from the seed heads it produces, especially during the long days of summer. It has relatively few diseases and insect problems making it a great choice for most Florida homes.

DISADVANTAGES

Bahaigrass forms tall, unsightly seed heads throughout the spring, summer, and fall months that many find objectionable. This necessitates regular mowing to keep the stalks from becoming too tall.

The seed stems are tough and can

wear out mower blades, requiring them to be sharpened frequently Bahaigrass does not grow well in High-pH soils, such as those found in coastal areas. High pH tends to cause yellowing of leaf tissue due to iron deficiency.

Bahaigrass grows in an open growth habit, which can result in weed encroachment into sparse areas. It has a course leaf texture and provides less cushioning for recreational activities than some other species. Bahaigrass does best in full sun.

For more information on Bahaigrass contact the Gulf County Extension Service at 639-3200 or visit our website: <http://gulf.ifas.ufl.edu> or www.http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu and see Publication ENH6, ENH962, ENH979, CIR427.

Former PSJ resident Jim Newton fights cancer his way: running marathons

Special to The Star

One would think that having run for over 37 years, covered over 45,000 miles, completed 17 marathons, many half marathons, 10k's and 5k's, one would be in fairly good health. You might see Jim Newton, Kent County, DE's Environmental Program Manager, and a former Port St. Joe resident and co-founder of the Scallop Festival, running around Milford, DE or between Harrington, DE and Milford.

Then a few months ago he noticed a lump on his neck. After numerous tests, it was determined that he had mantle cell lymphoma, a rare and aggressive blood cancer. The treatment approach is either chemotherapy followed by stem cell transplant or a lifetime of pill swallowing and monthly IV injections.

"This is just another obstacle to overcome in

life," he said. "I'm still running. I have supported numerous cancer causes through my running. I have raised over \$10,000 for cancer research by running the New York City Marathon and the Disney Goofy Challenge (half marathon on Saturday, full marathon on Sunday)."

In fact, he is using his running efforts to help raise funds to fight leukemia and lymphoma. He will be running the Chicago Marathon on October 12 (his 65th birthday) to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through its Team in Training program, but he needs your help to reach his goal of \$2900.

If you would like to help, simply log on to www.teamintraining.org and click the donate link. Then search for his name "Jim Newton" and click on his Chicago Marathon page.

Team in Training is a national effort by athletes of all types and

sizes that run marathons, bike and/or hike long distances and compete in triathlons to help raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Since its inception in 1988, more than 600,000 Team in Training members have raised over \$1.4 billion.

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (www.lls.org) is the world's largest voluntary (nonprofit) health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research and providing education and patient services that was founded in 1949.

The mission of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. LLS funds research, provides patient services and offers help financing the expensive treatment costs associated with blood cancers.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Jim Newton standing next to a display of his finisher medals, running bibs and other memorabilia at the Kent County complex, in Dover, DE.

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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 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

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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 serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to Thomas S. Gibson, Rish, Gibson & Scholtz, 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,

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2014. REBECCA L. NORRIS CLERK OF COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

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

95524S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA. CASE No. 14000061 CAAXMX SUN WEST MORTGAGE COMPANY, INC., Plaintiff vs. EDNA S. BUTLER; et al., Defendants. **NOTICE OF ACTION TO:** EDNA S. BUTLER 7447 ALABAMA AVENUE PORT SAINT JOE, FL 32456 AND TO: All persons claiming an interest by, through, under, or against the aforesaid Defendant(s). YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property located in Gulf County, Florida: PARCEL A: A PORTION OF LOTS 2 AND 4, BLOCK 35, PORT ST JOE BEACH UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 6, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHERLY CORNER OF LOT 2, BLOCK 35, OF SAID PORT ST. JOE BEACH UNIT TWO; THENCE ALONG THE NORTHEASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 2, SOUTH 37° 22' 19" EAST 74.95 FEET; THENCE LEAVING SAID NORTHEASTERLY LINE, SOUTH 52° 41' 56" WEST, 150.00

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FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHWESTERLY LINE OF LOT 4, BLOCK 35 OF SAID PORT ST JOE BEACH UNIT TWO; THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTHWESTERLY LINE NORTH 37° 22' 11" WEST, 75.11 FEET TO THE WESTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 4 THENCE ALONG THE NORTHWESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 2, NORTH 52° 45' 37" EAST 150.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION OF LOT 4 BLOCK 35, PORT ST JOE BEACH UNIT TWO DEED TO JIMMY BARFIELD IN THAT CERTAIN WARRANTY DEED DATED FEBRUARY 9, 1993, SAID PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS: A PORTION OF LOT 4, BLOCK 35 PORT ST JOE BEACH UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 6 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 4, BLOCK 35 OF SAID PORT ST JOE BEACH UNIT TWO, THENCE ALONG THE SOUTHWESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 4, NORTH 37° 22' 11" WEST, 150.22 FEET TO THE WESTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 4; THENCE ALONG THE NORTHEASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 4, NORTH 52° 45' 37" EAST, 25.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 37° 22' 11" EAST, 150.17 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 4; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 4, SOUTH 52° 38' 28" WEST 25.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. has been filed against you, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to this action, on Greenspoon

95537S 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, GRANTEE, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF DAVID B. LANGSTON, DECEASED; ERIC D. LANGSTON, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF DAVID B. LANGSTON, DECEASED; ANDRE LAMAR BROWN; ERICKA

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Marder, PA., Default Department, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is Trade Centre South, Suite 700, 100 West Cypress Creek Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 and the file original 30 days after the first publication of this notice, in THE STAR on or before August 8th, 2014; otherwise a default and a judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT on this 1ST day of JULY. REBECCA L (BECKY) NORRIS AS Clerk of said Court By: B. McGee, Collins As Deputy Clerk IMPORTANT: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act persons needing, a reasonable accommodation to participate in this proceeding should no later than seven (7) days prior contact the Clerk of the Court's disability coordinator at ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402, 850-747-5338. If hearing or voice impaired, contact (TDD) (800)955-8771 via Florida Relay System 34864.0107/LT July 17, 24, 2014

95539S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVILIAN CASE NO.: 23-2009-CA-000112 DIVISION: 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

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DONALDSON; TWANALANICE THOMAS; COLE LANGSTON, A MINOR; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ANDRE LAMAR BROWN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF TWANALANICE THOMAS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ERIC D. LANGSTON; 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, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, 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 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:

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.

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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 AMERICANS 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

LEGAL ADVERTISING
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95539S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVILIAN CASE NO.: 23-2009-CA-000112 DIVISION: 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 an 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

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TION, AS TRUSTEE FOR JPALT 2006-S2, is the Plaintiff and LUANN M QUARANTA; WILLIAM C. QUARANTA, SR.; CAPITAL CITY BANK; are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at LOBBY OF THE GULF COUNTY COURT HOUSE at 11:00AM, on the 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

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(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@jud14.flcourts.org. F0902212 July 10, 17, 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 ROTENBERRY, GARY ADKISON A/K/A GARY S. ADKISON, REBECCA L. NORRIS GULF COUNTY CLERK OF COURT, HARRISON FINANCE COMPANY, SONDR A. 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 CAPITAL CITY BANK is the Plaintiff and TRACY D. RITTER A/K/A TRACY DENISE RITTER, JANICE ROTENBERRY, GARY ADKISON A/K/A GARY S. ADKISON, REBECCA L. NORRIS GULF COUNTY CLERK OF COURT, HARRISON FINANCE COMPANY, SONDR A. PARKER ADKISON, SANDRA G. FOX, and TAMMY GAINOUS are the Defendants. I will

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the front door of the Gulf County Court-house 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 422.7 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 434.6 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 422.7 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 sale, 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, De, 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 sewerage 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 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.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

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 Lew 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

99631S PUBLIC NOTICE

GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS: #1314-27

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, will receive sealed bids from any persons, company, or corporation interested in purchasing the following:

2011, 16' Metal Shark Aluminum Boat 2010, 40 HP Evinrude E-tech E 400 S L S E C Mc Clain Trailer

Bidding will start at \$10,000.00. Please indicate on the outside of the envelope that this is a SEALED BID, Bid Number 1314-27, and what the Bid is for.

Please submit one (1) original and two (2) copies. Sealed bids will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., E.T. on Friday, August 1, 2014 at the Gulf County Clerk's Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Room 149, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 and will be opened at this same location on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., E.T.

Any questions regarding this bid can be directed to Brad Price 850-229-2639 or Nick Vaccaro 850-227-7338.

The Gulf County 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 17, 24, 2014

99639S PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS BID #1314-28

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

1 - 1988 GMC Flatbed Truck, VIN #: 1GDG6D1F2JV533958

1 - 1999 Ford E350 Van VIN#: 1FBSS31S0XHA13075

1 - 1994 Chevrolet C10 Pick-Up Truck VIN#: 1GDCD14Z9RZ113333

1 - 1988 Ford F150 Truck, VIN#: 1FTDF15Y2JNB18687

1 - 2000 Chevrolet 4X4 Extended Cab Pick-Up Truck, VIN#: 1FTDF15Y2JNB18687

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

2GCEK19V9Y1126491 1 - 1997 International 4700 Flat Bed Truck VIN#: 1HTSCABL9VH461464

To see any of these vehicles you must make contact with authorized personnel at the Gulf County Public Works Department.

Please indicate on the outside of the envelope that this is a SEALED BID, the BID NUMBER, and what the BID is for. Please include one (1) original and three (3) copies of your proposal.

Sealed bids will be received until Friday, August 1, 2014 at 4:30 p.m., E.T. at the Gulf County Clerk's Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Room 149, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 and will be opened at this same location on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., E.T. The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Ward McDaniel, Chairman

/s/ Becky Norris, Clerk July 17, 24, 2014

99647S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 14-000036-PRAXMX

IN RE: ESTATE OF KATHLEEN MERLE BLACKMAN Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Kathleen Merle Blackman, deceased, whose date of death was January 22, 2014; File Number 14-000036-PRAXMX is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Rm. 148, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE 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 PERIOD 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 17, 2014.

Personal Representative: Billy Blackman 941 Bill McGill Rd. Havana, FL 32333 Attorney for Personal

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100

Representative: CAROLYN T. LEBOUF, ESQ. Carolyn@tallahasseeattorneys.com FL Bar No. 0362409 909 East Park Avenue Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone: (850) 222-2000 Fax: (850) 222-9757 July 17, 24, 2014

99679S PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS RFP 2014-05 2nd and 4th Streets Sealing and Restriping

Sealed bids for City of Port St. Joe for sealing and restriping two roadways will be received at City Hall, 305 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida 32456 up until 3:00 PM EST, Friday, August 1, 2014. Bids will be publicly opened and acknowledged, Friday, August 1, 2014, at 3:30 PM EST, in the City Commission Chambers.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked with bidder's name, address, date and time of opening, and RFP number for "2nd and 4th Street Sealing and Restriping".

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Bid shall be for the sealing and restriping of 2nd and 4th Streets between Reid Avenue and Williams Avenue. Specifications are listed in the Base Bid Documents which may be obtained on the City's website at www.cityofportstjoe.com.

For questions concerning this Bid, please contact John Grantland at 850-229-8247.

The City of Port St. Joe reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Bids in whole or in part, to waive informalities in the process, to obtain new Statements of Bids, or to postpone the opening pursuant to the City's purchasing policies. Each Statement of Bid shall be valid to the City of Port St. Joe for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening.

ADOPTIONS 1130

ADOPTION: A Creative Financially Secure Family Beach House, Music, LOVE, awaits 1st baby. Trish 1-800-552-0045 Expenses Pd FLBar42311

GARAGE/YARD SALES 3230

Port St. Joe-2022 Marvin Ave. Sat., July 19th 7am-12pm Yard Sale Various Household Items Including Small Kitchen Appliances, Couches and Furniture, Male and Female Clothing, Nice Dresses and Suits! txt FL94908 to 56654

GUNS 3240

GUN SHOW TALLAHASSEE FAIRGROUNDS July 19th and 20th SAT. 9-5 & SUN. 10-4 FREE PARKING Info: (407) 275-7233 florida-gunshows.com Text FL94099 to 56654

HELP WANTED 4100 Food Services Dietary Cook Looking for a little more creativity, challenge, and growth opportunity in your workday? Didn't think it was possible? Might be time to reconsider.

HELP WANTED 4100 Acct/Finance General Accounting Clerk Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative is accepting applications for the position of General Accounting Clerk at Career Source Gulf Coast Center, located at 625 Highway 231, Panama City, Florida through Tuesday, July 22, 2014.

HELP WANTED 4100 Banking The following positions are available at a Bay County bank: Teller Consumer Loan Officer Commercial Loan Officer

NEW TODAY Best Western Front Desk Breakfast Attendant Weekends a must. Apply in person to 249 Hwy 98 Apalachicola, FL from 9am-2pm No phone calls!! Web ID 34293798

HELP WANTED 4100 Hospitality Housekeeping Part Time weekend help needed for all positions, apply in person, 4693 Cape San Blas Rd or 1200 Hwy 98 Mexico Beach Web ID 34291811

NEW TODAY JOB NOTICE The City of Port St. Joe (pop. 3445) is accepting applications for the following positions: Operator Trainee or Licensed Operator, Surface Water Treatment Plant

HELP WANTED 4100 Logistics/Transport The City of Port St. Joe is accepting applications for the following positions: Operator Trainee or Licensed Operator, Surface Water Treatment Plant

HELP WANTED 4100 Docksides Seafood & Raw Bar @ PSJ Marina NOW HIRING EXPERIENCED: Hostesses Bartenders Servers/Bussers APPLY 3:00 PM- 5:00 PM ONLY MON. THRU FRI. steamersdocksidesseafood@yahoo.com

HELP WANTED 4100 The Apalachicola Bay Charter School is accepting applications for possible elementary teaching positions for the 2014-15 school year.

HELP WANTED 4100 Pilot Needed in Destin Private equity firm in Destin area is seeking a contract pilot to fly its refurbished Piper PA-31T1.

HELP WANTED 4100

Medical/Health CNA's Looking for a little more creativity, challenge, and growth opportunity in your workday? Didn't think it was possible? Might be time to reconsider.

At Signature Health-CARE, our team members are permitted - no, encouraged- to employ their talents and abilities to solve problems. Our culture is built on three distinct pillars: Learning, Spirituality and Intra-prenership.

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

We're currently hiring for the position of Dietary Cook. If this sounds like the right fit for you, give us a call or shoot an email to tblackwell@shccs.com

Medical/Health Scheduler Looking for a little more creativity, challenge, and growth opportunity in your workday? Didn't think it was possible? Might be time to reconsider.

At Signature Health-CARE, our team members are permitted - no, encouraged- to employ their talents and abilities to solve problems. Our culture is built on three distinct pillars: Learning, Spirituality and Intra-prenership.

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS 6100

PSJ Warehouse Space For Rent. 1000sf, With Office Space & Bathroom. \$600 month. Unit can be combined if tenant needs more space 850-238-7080

HOUSE RENTALS 6140

Port St Joe: 3/4 br, 1 ba, den, office, sunny, bright, and super clean! Bayview, very convenient, available now! Only \$895 monthly + deposit terms negotiable w/ long term lease. references call or text 850-258-6874 or 206-799-9167

HOME FOR SALE 7100

Home for sale in Destin area, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, pool, close to beach.

HOME FOR SALE 7100

Home for sale in Destin area, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, pool, close to beach.

HOME FOR SALE 7100

Home for sale in Destin area, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, pool, close to beach.

SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES 8120

2006 Honda Pilot 2WD EXL 85K miles, beige+pearl, leather, moon roof, dvd, back up sensor, in excellent condition, \$11,000. Call 850-647-9200

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

CARS 8110

WE WILL BUY YOUR CAR OUTRIGHT! Regardless of year, make, model, we have millions of dollars on hand to pay you good money for your current vehicle. We are local & reputable, & we can give you a fair price appraisal in 15 minutes. Call for appointment, dealer. 866.313.6047

APARTMENT RENTALS 6110

Apartment rentals in Panama City, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, furnished \$550.00 mo.

Apartment rentals in Panama City, 3 bedroom, 2 baths \$1000.00 mo.

Apartment rentals in Panama City, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, furnished, utilities included \$910.00 mo.

Apartment rentals in Panama City, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, boatslip, pool \$1600.00 mo.

Apartment rentals in Panama City, 2 bedroom, 2 baths, garage, close to beach \$1400.00 mo.

Please call 850-697-5300 to set up an appointment to let our friendly staff show you these properties!!!

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

TREE Creamer's Tree Service Call Jason @