

Get your red, white and blue on

Star Staff Report

Independence Day is ahead and the night sky will soon be lit up with the glittering explosions of local/area firework displays. It's an annual event that everyone looks forward to, so here's where you can get your fix for the Fourth.

PORT ST. JOE

On Friday, July 4, Port St. Joe will commemorate the historic event starting at 6:30 p.m. ET with a parade down Reid Avenue featuring golf carts, go-karts

and bicycles.

Organizers are encouraging all youngsters to decorate their vehicles and participate.

"Come one, come all," said Mayor Mel Magidson.

Immediately following the parade, a low country boil fundraiser and flag ceremony to honor America's founding fathers will take place at City Commons Park.

(In the case of rain, the low country boil will move to the Centennial Building).

A street dance will take place on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

starting at 6 p.m. ET that will run into the night, ending at 1 a.m.

Starting at 8:30 p.m. ET, 15-piece Panama City big band, Go Big or Go Home will perform an hour-long set on the George Core Park stage.

(In the case of inclement weather the concert will be at the Centennial Building).

During an intermission in the music, the annual fireworks display will be launched over St. Joseph's Bay. Once complete,

See **FOURTH A3**



Moxy and Doc, smooth fox terriers owned by Melina Elum and her husband of St. Joe Beach, don patriotic garb for the Fourth. The dogs are half-brother and sister.



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Guardian Angels



WES LOCHER | The Star

Austin Burke and Justin Cothran are two of the new TDC beach ambassadors.

TDC Beach Ambassadors patrol with helping hands

By WES LOCHER
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There are new faces on the beach armed with helpful hints and smiles for locals and visitors alike.

The Beach Ambassador program, an idea originally pitched last year by Jennifer Jenkins, executive director of the Tourist Development Council, has

not only come to fruition, but put three fully-trained ambassadors on county beaches seven days a week, 10 hours a day.

The \$94,000 program was funded by the one penny that the TDC collects in bed taxes for beach nourishment.

Spending for the program was approved by the Advisory Council prior to going before the Board of County Commissioners for final approval.

Once the program was approved, Jenkins began accepting applications, seeking people who grew up on the beaches and were familiar with the rules.

"I was looking for people who represent the Gulf County brand," said Jenkins. "People who would go out and represent our area with the truest

See **ANGELS A2**

Second-degree murder charges filed against son who killed mother

By TIM CROFT
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JARROD POWELL SLICK

A Port St. Joe man was formally charged with second-degree murder in the slaying of his mother in their Cape San Blas home last month.

Jarrod Powell Slick, 23, is already in jail without bond in the May 18 killing of his mother, Renee Gail Coffey, 58.

In an information filing from the State Attorney's Office, new details of the crime were also released.

According to the filing, Slick allegedly killed Coffey by striking her "over the head with a blue curling weight and slicing her neck with a corkscrew."

Those acts were "imminently dangerous to another" and "evinced a depraved mind regardless of human life."

See **MURDER A3**

Teen killed in Friday night accident

By TIM CROFT
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For the third time in a month the Wewahitchka community has been rocked by the death of a teenager.

Tyler Austin Gray, 16, was killed late Friday night in a single-vehicle accident on State 71 north of County 381A.

Along with his family, Gray lived in Wewahitchka until moving to Marianna and he attended Wewahitchka High School. He has extended family in Wewahitchka.

According to the Florida Highway Patrol, Gray was heading north around 11 a.m. CT Friday night when it appears he lost control of his Ford F-150 truck and entered the shoulder.

According to the FHP, Gray tried to regain control and over-corrected several times resulting in the vehicle spinning into a line of trees.

The driver's side of the truck struck a tree.

Gray was pronounced dead at the scene.

Gray's death follows by mere weeks the suicide of two.

\$3 million in county recreational projects closer to funding

By TIM CROFT
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Gulf County is closer to seeing \$3 million for several recreational projects.

A final plan for the third phase of early restoration projects following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill was published last week in the Federal Register, outlining 44 projects across the Gulf states with a price tag of \$627 million.

Included is nearly \$3 million for Gulf County projects.

- They are:
- Highland View boat ramp; \$176,550;
 - Indian Pass boat ramp; \$176,550;
 - Beacon Hill Veterans' Memorial Park improvements; \$588,500;
 - WindMark Beach Fishing Pier improvements; \$1.77 million;
 - Frank Pate Park Boat Ramp; \$806,972.

The plan is part of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) process, which is required under the federal Oil Pollution Act of 1990. Funding for phase III, the largest round of projects, is expected to be finalized in a record of decision signed by trustees in the next 30 to 40 days.

"It really was a collaborative effort to come up with this plan for the project," said Ashley Williams, the Gulf Coast Public Affairs Manager for Deepwa-

ter Horizon. "Loss of human use after the oil spill was a big theme with the early restoration projects."

County Commissioner Warren Yeager recently said that after some delays the NRDA funding would begin flowing in the next few months.

The major funding to the county is for the construction of a new public-access fishing pier at WindMark Beach, addressing

See **FUNDING A3**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Opinion	A4-A5	School News.....	B3
Letters to the Editor	A6	Faith	B4
Outdoors	A6	Obituaries.....	B2-4
Sports.....	A7	Classifieds.....	B7-8

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Bed tax revenue leaps in May

By **TIM CROFT**
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Anecdotal evidence about tourism in May was more than supported by the numbers.

Bed tax revenue for the month jumped 33 percent over May 2013 and represented the fourth month in the calendar year during which tourism revenue increased by percentages in the double digits compared to the prior year.

For the fiscal year, bed tax revenue is up 12 percent and Tourist Development Council executive director Jennifer Jenkins said, while acknowledging the hefty lifting ahead, she is not taking her eye off a 20 percent increase by the end of the fiscal year.

"In my mind we are shooting to make that 20 percent," Jenkins said.

The May numbers were gaudier when considering that many school systems in areas from which Gulf County draws tourists, particularly the Southeast and



COURTESY OF HOLLY ATKINS

Bed taxes were up 33 percent in May and have increased 12 percent for the year.

lower Midwest, were late finishing for the year due to weather days.

Jenkins identified several key factors in May's impressive showing, all the more impressive given that a busy June ended with the

opening of scallop season last week and is followed by what is typically the busiest month of the tourist season, July.

"We had a really good spring promotion," Jenkins said of the

#GCFLnofilter promotion that included collaboration across several platforms and a partnership with Outdoor Nation, a non-profit seeking to connect so-called Millennials to the outdoors.

"We also had some good marketing," Jenkins said of an effort to bring writers from a host of publications, print and online, to Gulf County, an effort that has already produced positive ink in several significant markets.

Jenkins has also made significant inroads during promotional trips to New York and Birmingham, for example.

"It is about building relationships," Jenkins said.

The bed tax numbers are just the iceberg represented by a tip that consists of increased traffic at the TDC Welcome Center in Port St. Joe, to the TDC website and its Facebook page – the goal of 10,000 "likes" was eclipsed more than a month ago.

Though Jenkins missed her goal for the shoulder season – Jenkins and her team targeted an

increase of 20 percent during non-traditional months of fall and early spring but ended with growth of 12.5 percent – the winter season mitigated some disappointment.

"Our winter was very good, we were up about 21 percent," Jenkins said.

This is the first season that Jenkins has been able to fully implement the marketing and promotional plans – receptions for winter guests, bringing writers in to enjoy and trumpet Gulf County, seasonal promotions, a change in special event funding, among other items – she envisioned when arriving just more than two years ago.

She said much of what is in place remains a "process" which she and her team will assess as the fiscal year progresses with an eye toward honing the message in the coming year.

Though, May and June are reflective that the message is getting through.

"June was also a good month," Jenkins said.

ANGELS from page A1

ability."

Among the 14 applications were three that met and exceeded Jenkin's guidelines.

Austin Burke, Justin Cothran and Blake Kemp were hired as beach ambassadors and underwent an intense week-long training to prepare them on how to handle any given situation. They completed their training last month and have been on the beaches for several weeks.

Also part of the new team are brand ambassador Adrian Woodward, who splits time between the Welcome Center and the beaches, and Napoleon Hill, a beach maintenance tech who hauls off large trash items left behind by guests.

Each day, the ambassadors cover more than 30 miles of beach utilizing a fleet of vehicles. A truck allows the team to cover Indian Pass, an ATV is used on Cape San Blas and a golf cart gets the job done in St. Joe Beach.

The priority is not to police the beaches, but to provide education. Many visitors are simply unfamiliar with county ordinances and ambassadors interact, offer assistance and collect data to be examined at the end of the season.

If the ambassadors see a beach-goer drinking from a glass bottle, they'll offer a GCFL-branded plastic cup.

If a dog isn't on a leash, a free one will be offered.

If someone asks where to eat dinner, a Gulf County Visitor's Guide is provided.

Everything is done with a non-confrontational approach.



WES LOCHER | The Star

The ambassadors spend time on all the Gulf County beaches building the brand through education.



"I tell people that I'm their guardian angel and that I'm going to help them not get a ticket," said Burke.

During the interaction, the ambassadors ask where people are from, how long they're staying and any highlights of their experience so far.

"The Gulf County TDC does not develop, implement or enforce ordinances," said Jenkins. "We're out to make guests feel welcome and protect our natural resources."

Burke and Cothran spent last Wednesday afternoon on the Cape spreading goodwill, and if spending your days on the

beach helping others enjoy what Gulf County has to offer sounds like a dream job, you're probably right.

"It's the best summer job, ever," said Burke, a 2009 graduate of Port St. Joe High School. "I'd be out on the beach anyway."

Burke and Cothran, a 2013 graduate of PSJHS, heard about the open ambassador position in the newspaper and applied quickly.

"You take so much from your hometown when you grow up," said Cothran. "Eventually, you have to give something back."

The ambassadors check park restrooms, collect garbage, pull abandoned



While out and about, the ambassadors clean up trash and provide helpful advice to visitors and locals. Ambassadors record data, including where visitors are from and how they're staying, which can be analyzed at the end of the season.



items off the beach and generally help wherever they can, whether it's assisting a fisherman remove a stingray from his hook, helping someone set up a beach tent, or calling the turtle patrol if a sea turtle has stranded itself on the shore.

Ambassadors are also trained in CPR for worst-case scenarios but work closely with the South Gulf County Volunteer Fire Department and Gulf County Sheriff's Deputy Brian Smith for all real emergencies.

What's the easiest way to spread the Gulf County brand?

It turns out that all you

have to do is wave. Burke and Cothran said that a simple wave establishes a friendly presence and as long as they initiate the friendliness, it makes people comfortable.

"We don't want people to be intimidated by us," said Cothran. "People are free to come up and talk to the ambassadors. We're here to help."

Perhaps the most important rule is that one person's trash can become another person's treasure. If an abandoned boogie board is found one day, it often makes a great gift for another child a day or two later.

During one of his shifts,

Burke said he noticed a group of manta rays in the shallows off the Cape. He began talking to nearby children about the harmless sea creatures and soon had amassed quite an audience.

"What we do is fun for the kids," said Burke. "When they leave the beach later, seeing that manta ray could be their favorite memory."

In addition to spending their own childhoods on the beaches and in the water, Burke and Cothran have an interest in marketing, with Burke currently pursuing a degree at Troy University.

Burke said the job, in addition to being fun, will look great on his resume.

Outside of their ordinance-related responsibilities the ambassadors take photos of sandcastles, wildlife and people enjoying the area. These pictures are later uploaded to the TDC's various social media outlets to help further promote the brand.

"This is a major marketing job," said Burke. "One day I want to sell things that I truly believe in, and there's nothing you can back up more than your hometown."

While the ambassador program is set to run from Memorial Day through the end of September, Jenkins' long term goal is to see the positions become year round employment opportunities.

"We just try to be the friendliest people on the beach," said Burke. "Besides, not many people can say they have a job where shoes are not required."

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BID PACKAGES

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

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

Date:	July 10, 2014 (Thursday)
Time:	2:00 P.M.
Location:	PSBI 1979 Maryland Circle Tallahassee, Florida 32303

SUBCONTRACTOR WORKSHOP: One (1) non-mandatory subcontractor workshop will be held on the date, time and location indicated below. Representation by all subcontractors desiring to bid the project is highly encouraged.

Date:	June 25, 2014 (Wednesday)
Time:	2:00 P.M.
Location:	William J. Rish Recreational Park Cape San Blas, Florida

PSBI reserves the right to waive any irregularities and to reject any and all bids in the best interest the owner, owner's representative and PSBI.

FOURTH from page A1

Go Big or Go Home will play another 60-minute set to round out the celebration.

WEWAHITCHKA

The City of Wewahitchka will kick off its celebration at 10 a.m. CT with a festival at Lake Alice Park to feature arts, crafts, food and local vendors. At dark, the annual fireworks display will light up

the sky and will immediately be followed by a street dance, also to be held at Lake Alice Park.

MEXICO BEACH

On Thursday, July 4, Mexico Beach will host the annual Best Blast on the Beach celebration. America's birthday party begins bright

and early at 7 a.m. CT with the Sandy Shoes 5K Fun Run at Under the Palms Park on 7th Street.

Pre-registration is available at the Mexico Beach Welcome Center or on race day from 6 a.m. - 6:45 a.m.

After the race, a kid's fishing tournament will be held at Canal Park. Children ages 2-14 are invited to bring

their poles and try to reel in a big one. The tournament runs from 9:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. CT. There is no entry fee.

Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be provided to the young anglers and their families.

At 8:30 p.m. CT the annual fireworks show will light up Mexico Beach for residents and guests alike.

MURDER from page A1

The filing details that the State Attorney's Office did not believe the crime premeditated, resulting in the second-degree murder charge.

Slick faces up to 30 years in prison.

Before moving to Gulf County, Coffey was a former psychology professor at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS.

According to reports from the Manhattan Mercury newspaper, Slick had a "complex" relationship with the criminal justice system as both a suspect and victim.

He was allegedly connected to several crimes in Manhattan, where he attended high school.

In addition, Coffey's second marriage - her first was to Slick's father - ended after eight months following an incident

involving Coffey, her husband and Slick which resulted in aggravated battery and domestic battery charges being filed against her husband.

In the Gulf County case, investigators responding to a 9-1-1 call from Slick found Coffey unconscious and unresponsive in her home at 7525 Cape San Blas Road.

Slick told dispatchers in the emergency call that his mother had been "assaulted", according to Gulf County Sheriff Mike Harrison.

Coffey was ruled dead at the scene. Slick, after questioning by investigators was quickly developed as a suspect.

Slick, a suspect in arsons of the Masonic Lodge in Port St. Joe in 2012, was out on bond secured by Coffey.

A home security system indicated Slick and Coffey were the lone occupants of the Cape San Blas home at the time of the incident, investigators learned.

The system also revealed no indication of a breach of the house or any other person in or around the house during the timeframe of the incident.

Slick told investigators he and his mother left the residence earlier in the day and made several stops in Callaway before returning home, which were confirmed through receipts and in-store video.

Upon returning home, Slick told investigators, he went into the backyard to tend the family dog, remaining there for 30 minutes before going inside.

He said he found his mother with "her

throat slit and her head bashed in, but I didn't know she was going to die," according to the arresting affidavit.

The home security system, however, showed Slick going inside the residence upon returning home and Coffey following roughly one minute later, according to investigators.

Slick sent a text message to his brother about bringing home a grocery item a few minutes later and was seen leaving the residence, phone in hand appearing to be in conversation, roughly three minutes prior to the 9-1-1 call.

The system showed no other individual present.

Investigators found what appeared to be blood spatters on Slick's shoes.

FUNDING from page A1

a strong desire in the community for improved access to the beaches and waters off the WindMark Beach development.

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

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

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

The project will also include improved parking.

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

The city has been looking at options for funding improvements to what is possibly the most used boat ramp in the county, recently instituting a fee for usage.

"These grants are really good for economic development and for tourism," said Jennifer Jenkins, executive director of the Gulf County Tourist Development Council last year.

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

grants aligned with our research perfectly."

In Mexico Beach, \$1.6 million was appropriated to widen the Canal Park Boat Ramp and complete several improvements to the Mexico Beach Marina, including the replacement of 18 finger piers, the existing retaining wall and the boardwalk dock.

A proposed \$5.37 million "oyster clutch" placement project would place material to support oyster colonization in St. Andrew Bay, Apalachicola Bay and Pensacola Bay.

A \$2.69 million seagrass recovery project would restore habitats primarily in Gulf County's St. Joseph Bay Aquatic Preserve, but also in Alligator Harbor Aquatic Preserve in Franklin County

and Bay County's St. Andrews Aquatic Preserve.

The project would begin with a survey and mapping of seagrass scarring in the aquatic preserves. Next would be placement of sediment tubes across two acres of seagrass propeller scars and finally the placement of bird stakes in the project area to facilitate restoration.

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

The issue of seagrass health has been a hot topic in recent weeks among local officials and residents concerned about the future health of St. Joseph Bay.

The most costly regional project is an \$11.46 million

artificial reef creation and restoration project spanning from Bay County west to Escambia County.

Officials with the environmental group Ocean Conservancy, however, say the phase III plan as a whole failed to address critical environmental concerns brought on by the oil spill.

"The massive die-off of birds and continuous beaching of high numbers of sick and dead dolphins will not be addressed with the construction of boardwalks and beachfront development for public use," said Kara Lankford, interim director of Ocean Conservancy's Gulf Restoration Program.

"This represents a lost opportunity to also restore our precious natural resources consistent with the intent of

NRDA."

Yeager has said NRDA is just one of several funding streams to come from the oil spill, noting that at the recent Florida Association of Counties annual meeting federal officials indicated that rules for disbursements under the RESTORE Act are nearly in place and should be out by end of summer.

The RESTORE Act, legislation that appropriates 80 percent of BP's Clean Water Act fines to the affected states, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environment Benefit Fund, which was established with \$2.5 billion in settlement funds.

"This (the NRDA projects) is a good start," Yeager said when the projects were announced last year.

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Taking Phyllis on the road

As many of my loyal readers know, my godmother's name is Phyllis. Readers also know that Phyllis and I met by mistake back in December 2010. I was roaming around my hometown in Alabama when my cellphone rang with a call from "Gary, Ind."

It was Phyllis... She had dialed the wrong number and got me ... her future godson.

We have been through a lot during the past 42 months, talking almost every day.

On the other end of the line is a woman I've never seen, but come to love, appreciate and need. She is entertaining and enlightening. Though I've never seen her, I know what she looks like – because she has told me at least a hundred times.

In Phyllis' words, "I'm Black with a little Chickahominy Indian in me, but I look Puerto Rican." After the first ten times or so she said it, I learned to follow up with the next line, "I bet your friends called you Curly."

I know what she will do. She will laugh three times sounding a lot like a little girl who has just done something devilish.

"Hahh Hahh Hahh — That is right!"

We have covered politics, religion, food, NBA basketball and the Bible. Phyllis has never given the answer, "I don't know."

She has an opinion and she is always willing to share it with me. Honestly, that is something that I appreciate about her.

If it is raining or snowing, she points out all of the good things about water or the lives that the snow is saving (because folks can't get out and drive around like fools). She quotes the Bible backwards and forwards and does it with an attitude of "that's just the way it is."

I had never been a fan of professional basketball until Phyllis came along. She spouts Chicago Bulls statistics like a sportscaster on ESPN. However, do not ask her about other teams because in Phyllis' words, "I only care about the Bulls."

After a year or so, I came to the conclusion that Phyllis had to be an angel or have some type of connection to God that I found very intriguing.

First it was in the prayers she said. Yes, Phyllis is going to pray and she is going to mean it and she is going to take as long as it takes. As I listened, I started writing things down. She would repeat things three times or seven times. I asked her about it and she didn't even

seem to know what I meant. However, when I asked her about the significance of the numbers, she gave me an explanation that



CRANKS MY TRACTOR
BN Heard

would make most televangelists sound like elementary school children.

The biggest clincher in terms of understanding her relationship with God was the time she was in the middle of a long, beautiful, drawn out prayer... she had

a call come in on the other line. Phyllis paused and said, "Lord, hang on just a minute; I've got to take this call."

She came back and proceeded with her prayer right where she left off without missing a beat.

Really?

Phyllis can put God on hold?

Yes, at 93, I would say that she is doing a good job of putting "The King of Kings" on hold.

Over the past few months, she seems to be slowing down a little, but not losing her sharpness of mind. I worry, but there is not much I can do, other than continue to talk to her.

That is the beautiful thing about Phyllis — *she listens.*

Her solution might be for me to "Get a brown piece of paper and a red pen and write the following down on it (tells me what to write)... Then put it under your pillow. Then get another brown sheet of paper and write the same thing on it and put it on top of your pillow. Now get a glass of water and set it beside your bed." She continues with these instructions.

What do you think a fellow who has gone to college for more than seven years, taught college mathematics courses for more than 20 years and worked in aerospace industry for about 25 years does?

I do what Phyllis says.

In July, I will be telling folks about Phyllis. I'm excited to get the chance. I will be participating in a storytelling show in Washington, DC and a stage production in Williamsburg, Virginia.

What is the message?

I think it's pretty simple — answer the phone. You never know when it might be someone who is willing to talk, listen and share their wisdom.

Someone like a 93-year-old angel who is "Black with a little Chickahominy Indian and looks Puerto Rican".... Her friends call her "Curly,"

I call her my godmother Phyllis.

Read more stories at www.CranksMyTractor.com.

Swimming.....While Brave Men Fought!

One Fourth of July me and Yogi and some others went out to the old clay pits and swam all day. We were juniors in high school.

And by our own admission (if no one else's), we were pretty near grown, independent as all get out and as "cool" as James Dean on steroids. We found some cardboard and slid down the slick banks and exploded into the cold water like seals slipping off an iceberg. We raced each other the complete length of the deepest pit. We rested on the high bank and talked about girls, baseball, life beyond our little village.....and girls.

We completely skipped the Independence Day celebration down on the town square. We were too old for that. Besides, we'd been to every one of those things since birth. I kid you not! Parents would wrap three month old babies in red, white and blue blankets and tote them around like patriotic symbols. We'd seen those flags waving from every light pole in town. We had eaten the barbeque and the corn on the cob. We were way too "hip" to bob for apples. Sack races were for little kids. And we certainly had no desire to hear the high school band's attempt at "The Star Spangled Banner."

I did have one tinge of regret. It was my Father's favorite holiday. Oh, he'd eat big at Thanksgiving. And he'd bring home walnuts and oranges for Christmas and stand around while we unwrapped our knife or Red Ryder gloves. But it always seemed more of a day for us than for him.

He'd wake us even earlier than usual on the Fourth, "We've got to get ready, boys. Soon as your Mother finishes cooking, we'll load the car and swing by the ice plant and pick up a couple of

cold watermelons." None of us were so young as to not catch the excitement in his voice.

For a man who liked to eat, the food was just an added attraction on this day. He laughed over the games and the frivolity. He would talk hog prices and weather when prompted. But he sought out the World War II veterans. They were all approaching middle age by then. But they shook hands and patted each other on the back like they knew something that we didn't. They gathered in groups and talked, and laughed, and grew strangely silent at times.

Dad would round us up when the band marched into sight. We stood at attention, as a family, when the colors were presented. As Daddy straightened that broad back and his hand found his heart with the drummer's first beat of the "National Anthem" any fool could see they had struck up his all time favorite song!

I knew about Thomas Jefferson and John Adams back then. I could recite the opening lines from "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere." If pressed, I could give a few facts about Bunker Hill and Valley Forge. I was proud to be an American. But, unfortunately, I never read all the way to the bottom of the "Declaration of Independence." You know, down where it ends with "we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

We talk a lot today about athletes and the commitment they make. We place many on pedestals and applaud their every effort. We go to stadiums or tune in on Saturday afternoons to cheer for them. We plan parties and social events around game time. I'm not against any of that. As a matter of fact, I have led the cheers for my



HUNKER DOWN
Kesley Colbert

favorite players and teams.

But isn't something out of whack here?

It occurs to me that no athlete in the history of the known world ever made a commitment to any team, group or nation as did the fifty-six signers of the "Declaration of Independence." The briefest of review of any of the fifty-six will reveal they put their money, time, heart and life where their mouth was! It was way past bold talk because King George was way past vindictive! Our "war for independence" turns out the other way and each would have been swinging from the nearest yardarm, tree or goalpost.

As it was, many of the signers did sacrifice their fortunes, many put their lives in harms way by joining the Continental Army. NOBODY could touch their honor!

Maybe I've taken a few Independence Day celebrations lightly because I've never paid much of a price to be here. Our house has never been torched by an invading army. My feet have never bled from marching in the snow. I've never shipped overseas to defend the Stars and Stripes.

The Fourth of July is not about barbeque and firecrackers!

It's amazing how smart your father becomes as the years move on. He never said a word about me finding something more important than celebrating the birth of this nation on that long ago Independence Day. He told me it was my choice. And shucks, I'd been there sixteen years in a row. But it is the one that keeps coming back to me over and over. I'd give a hundred thousand million dollars if I could get that day back.

Respectfully,
Kes

Thank You, Mr. Rogers ...

Dear Editor,

I'm embarrassed to admit this, but this letter is way past due. Writing a letter of praise often takes a back seat to the far easier task of writing something in protest or to complain. After all, we humans love to gripe about this thing or another. And why wouldn't we, especially when there are certain members of the Gulf County BOCC that provide such a content rich environment. It is priceless.

Today, however, I would like to step away from focusing on the shenanigans of the BOCC and take a moment to showcase an experience I had with another public servant, Raymond Rogers. Raymond works for the City of Port St. Joe and he left a measurable impression on me and my wife during a time of need. Let me explain.

It was mid-December 2012 and we blew back into town for a quick weekend. My wife and I were one of Port St. Joe's newest taxpayers. We recently had bought a little cottage in town that we aptly named *The Blown Inn*. We couldn't have been prouder.

With the bride and daughter in tow, we discovered we had no water in the house. The pipes were bone dry. Then I remembered the water main project. The city was upgrading the water lines out by the street. Sure enough, the meter box had been disturbed. I checked to see if they forgot to turn the water back on, but the valve was clearly open. I called the city and within 30 minutes, I had a knock at the

door and met Raymond Rogers.

Raymond wasted not a second and spent a considerable amount of time digging deep around the meter to investigate the problem. He discovered and reported that the water line between the meter and the house was severely clogged with dirt and debris. We looked at each other in confusion. That made absolutely no sense, at the time.

Raymond cleared the clog and minutes later reported that the water should be back on. It wasn't. Mr. Rogers continued his investigation and discovered the end of the water pipe terminated at a point near the house and was running free underground. The waterline was no longer connected to the house!

Years before the previous owner had replaced the old nasty galvanized water line with PVC pipe, a smart move. That meant only one thing. During the installation of the new water line, someone disconnected the good PVC pipe from my meter box and intentionally reconnected it to the nasty galvanized pipe from decades past. That would explain the clogged pipe. *Thank goodness for the clog, otherwise I would have had a huge mess under my house.*

It was getting late on that Friday afternoon. I looked at Raymond and said, "Mr. Rogers. I have two women with me here. I got to have water."

Raymond didn't bat an eye or complain. He said something to the effect of, "Yes, sir. I understand. I'll get your water

back on. This wasn't your fault."

Because of the lateness of the day, Raymond's only real option was to tie the house back into the galvanized pipe. It was a stopgap measure that would have to do until such time that I could call and report the fiasco to City Hall. It wasn't the perfect solution, but it was the best he could offer. Water was running again in the house.

I guess in a way this letter sounds as if I'm complaining. The level of ineptness that unfolded during the installation of my new, fresh-water line is nothing short of amazing. How could anyone be so dumb? All I could think was, *of all the good people out of work, and these knuckleheads still have a job.*

Anyway, as frustrating as it was, it was all made tolerable by the hard work and dedication of Raymond Rogers. He was determined to make it all right.

In the end, Raymond did an exceptional job of getting us through that weekend. More importantly, he cared. And he treated us like we were more than just a couple of out-of-state blow-ins. He made us feel as though we belonged.

I stood in the front yard and shook his hand and thanked him. And as I watched him walk away towards his truck, covered in mud from head to toe, I thought; *now there is a real ambassador of the community.*

Thank you again, Raymond Rogers.

Kirk Jockell
Port St. Joe

THE STAR

Published every Thursday at 135 W. U.S. 98
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Publisher: Alan Davis
Editor: Tim Croft

Circulation: 1-800-345-8688

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

Make sure your family has a disaster plan

June 1 marked the beginning of hurricane season. Meanwhile, across much of the Western U.S., major droughts have greatly increased the danger for summer wildfires. And don't forget last winter's record-breaking winter storms — or the ongoing potential for earthquakes, tornados, floods and other natural disasters.

Such catastrophic events are inevitable, largely unpreventable and often strike without warning. Even though we can't always predict natural disasters, we can anticipate their likely aftermaths, including property loss, power or water service disruption and scarcity of food and supplies.

Sit down with your family and develop a disaster plan. By planning ahead and knowing what you might need under dire circumstances, you can save yourselves a lot of time, money and grief.

FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (www.fema.gov), offers great suggestions for developing a family emergency plan, building an emergency supply kit, and learning what to do before, during and after emergencies (everything from home fires to terrorist attacks). They even provide an emergency plan for family pets.

Here are some emergency-planning ideas you might not have considered:

- Pick meeting spots both in and outside your neighborhood where your family can gather after an emergency.
- Choose one person (possibly out-of-town) everyone can contact for updates.
- Make sure your kids know how to escape the house in case of fire.
- Identify and stock essential items you'll need to survive for at least three days in case help is unavailable. Include ample water (at least a gallon per person, per day), nonperishable food and medications. Don't forget water, food and supplies for pets.
- Stock an emergency kit with batteries, flashlight, a battery-powered or hand-cranked radio, water-purification tablets, clothes, blankets, can opener, tools, toilet paper, moist towelettes, garbage bags, solar cellphone charger, etc.

- If a family member receives life-sustaining treatments (e.g., dialysis), identify alternate treatment locations in case yours becomes incapacitated.

- Take a picture of yourself with your pets in case you should become separated.

- Safely store emergency cash in case ATMs aren't working.

Should disaster strike, you will need access to financial and legal records. Take these steps now to ensure easier access when the

time comes:

- Create a log of all account numbers, emergency numbers, contact information and passwords for your bank and credit card accounts, loans, insurance policies, utilities and other important accounts.

- Update it regularly and save hardcopies in secure, offsite locations such as a safety deposit box or with a trusted friend living in another area.

- You also can email the list to yourself in an encrypted, password-protected file, save it on a CD or USB drive, or use a cloud-based storage service that will let you access it from any Internet connection.

- Make PDF copies of tax returns, insurance policies and legal documents and save offsite, as above, in case your files or computer are damaged. Also make digital copies of invaluable family photos, documents and memorabilia that money can't replace.

If you ever need to file an insurance claim or claim a tax deduction for lost, stolen or damaged property, it will be much easier if you have an inventory of everything you own — photos or videos are even better. Try the Insurance Information Institute's free, secure home inventory software application (www.iii.org).

Also, investigate what is and isn't covered by your insurance policies for natural disasters. You might need additional coverage for damage associated with hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes and other weather conditions.

Bottom line: Having a family emergency plan in place could lessen the blow should disaster strike.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.



JASON ALDERMAN



KATE MACFALL

By Kate MacFall

In response to several recent conflicts between bears and humans in Central Florida, some legislators have suggested that the Sunshine State needs to implement a trophy hunt on the unique and rare Florida black bear — a subspecies of the American black bear.

The state recently filed charges against four people for allegedly feeding bears in the neighborhood where the attacks occurred. It's illegal — and dangerous — to feed bears.

Allowing trophy hunters to shoot random bears deep in the woods won't do anything to reduce suburban conflicts — and hunting is certainly not appropriate in residential neighborhoods. Since neither the problem bears, nor the issues that led to their habituation to human food are being targeted, a trophy hunt would do nothing to prevent conflicts.

Floridians know that these animals naturally avoid humans. As suburban neighborhoods push into

Black bear hunt is no solution

their territory, some bears are drawn to a smorgasbord of easy meals in unsecured garbage cans, pet food and other food attractants that have been left outside.

Certainly, wildlife professionals must remove individual problem animals when they become conditioned to human food and become a public safety risk. That's a targeted and selective approach.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioner Ron Bergeron, an outdoorsman, told the South Florida Sun-Sentinel: "I don't feel the problem that we have here is due to (bear) overpopulation. I would hate to see a reaction to these incidents that I feel has a lot to do with garbage and bears coming to get an easy meal than we knee-jerk into overpopulation and possibly hunting."

The majority of Floridians agree. A 2010 Mason-Dixon poll confirmed that voters remain strongly opposed — by a three-to-one margin — to trophy hunting the state's recovering black bears.

We stopped allowing bear hunting in parts of the state in 1971, when the Florida black bear was listed as a threatened species and fewer than 300 remained in the state. Thanks to the threatened species protections and a 1994 statewide ban on bear hunting, the population is finally recovering.

In 2012, state officials removed the Florida black bear from the threatened species list, but the state's bear population remains vulnerable because they are concentrated in isolated pockets in different parts of the state. A Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission study "Wildlife 2060" predicts that 2.3 million acres of bear habitat will be destroyed in the coming decades.

We know what tools work to reduce conflicts between bears and people — enforcing laws that prohibit feeding, using secure garbage bins and employing aversive conditioning to stop them from learning that neighborhoods mean an easy meal. FWC bear biologist David Telesco

told The Apalachicola Times that bear-proof trash containers reduce foraging by 95 percent and most bear-proof container failures he has investigated were caused by user error.

When fully implemented, such proactive measures clearly work to keep bears in the wilderness. A hunt, on the other hand, would be nothing more than a recreational opportunity for a few trophy hunters to bring home a head or hide. In a state where we are fortunate to have recently brought the majestic black bear back from the brink of extinction, we need sound, effective solutions from our policymakers, not scientifically baseless, quick-trigger proposals.

Contact the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at Commissioners@MyFWC.com and ask the agency to keep Florida's treasured bears protected from trophy hunting.

Kate MacFall is Florida State Director for The Humane Society of the United States.

Privileged to provide health care

Dear Editor,
The North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System (NF/SGVHS) is honored and privileged to provide care to those who have earned and deserve the best health care possible. As one of the busiest VA facilities in the country with two hospitals (Malcolm Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Gainesville and Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center) and 11 outpatient clinics we provided health care to more than 125,000 veterans last year, which translated into 1.4 million outpatient visits, 575,000 specialty consultations, 185,000 radiology studies, 10,000 GI procedures, 8,000 surgeries and 2,000 cardiac catheterization laboratory procedures. Our work is expected to increase even further this year: since Oct. 1, 2013, NF/SGVHS

has cared for 14,672 new veteran patients.

Our employees — more than 5,300 strong — (33 percent of whom are veterans) come to work every single day to provide the very best care our veterans deserve. As I walk the halls of our hospitals and clinics, I see firsthand the care, compassion and dedication our staff show to those we are entrusted to serve. Building and maintaining the trust of our patients must be accomplished one veteran at a time.

As our veteran population has grown, our organization has continually worked on making improvements to providing access to care within our healthcare system. We have established new clinic locations, expanded diagnostic and treatment options, extended our hours of operation,

reviewed those waiting for care and examined alternatives to providing care both within and outside of the VA. We have made improvements in our ability to make available additional access appointments for our veterans. Our efforts are complicated by limited capacity in the community to provide additional care, continuity of care, no show rates for clinic appointments, our clinic cancellations, space constraints and scarcity of critical specialty physicians and primary care physicians. Even with these challenges, I want to assure you that we will continue to strive to meet the needs of each and every veteran we serve.

Thomas Wisnieski,
MPA, FACHE
director, North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System

Stocks, bonds, Kevin Costner and Charlie Rich

"Can't take it with you when you're gone ...
But I want enough to get there on."
"Rolling With the Flow" Written by Jerry Hayes and Recorded by Charlie Rich



MARGARET R. McDOWELL
Arbor Outlook

Today's markets are, as Kevin Costner said in the 1991 film JFK, "through the looking glass." What do we mean? Well, bonds (fixed income) have traditionally been considered a less risky investment than equities (stocks). But, currently, this is not necessarily true. It's an upside down investing world. Alice, it's your move in the Wonderland of Capital Markets.

Historically, bonds are popular for many reasons. Bondholders are high on the "default ladder" and are paid before stockholders should a default occur. Secondly, when a bond matures, you get your original investment back, in addition to the yield you've been paid throughout the life of the bond. Bonds have also been known traditionally for their stability: in good times and bad, bondholders of credit worthy institutions are paid on time and their money is considered reasonably safe. Payments were made to owners of U.S. treasuries even while the Civil War raged. Municipal bonds remain one of the

few ways that high wage earners can catch a tax break, since interest earned from "muni" bonds is not subject to federal tax. In years past, some investors even went so far as to create all-bond portfolios.

Currently, though, most investors are leaning to equities. Why? While equities certainly are more expensive than they were even 18 months ago, many dividend-paying stocks are paying more than bonds when considered on an apples-to-apples basis, a comparison known as the "equity risk premium." And some equities, like utilities (referred to as "widow and orphan" stocks) for instance, represent investments whose dividends are seen as sound as the yields offered by some types of bonds. Another bond concern is that the face value of longer-dated debt will likely decline when the Federal Reserve raises interest rates, perhaps as early as next year.

Naturally, an investor's financial objectives and risk tolerance should always be considered. Certain bond purchases may indeed successfully

fill a fixed income need in a portfolio, even in an economy in recovery amidst a rising interest rate environment. Convertible bonds, high yield bonds, senior loans and bank loans are a few to consider. But the traditional 60 percent equities/40 percent bonds investment ratio that so many investors have utilized for years wasn't designed for this type of environment. Even "Bond King" Bill Gross of PIMCO declared an end to the 30-year bond bull market last year.

Equities no longer are cheap, but they aren't extremely overvalued when compared to what bonds are offering these days. There always are underappreciated companies whose prices haven't risen with the rest of the market.

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 near Destin. This column should not be considered personalized investment advice and provides no assurance that any specific strategy or investment will be suitable or profitable for an investor.

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Scalloping offers family-friendly fun

By Amanda Nalley
Special to The Star

I never will forget my first time scalloping. It was 2008 and there I was, face down in the water, sun warming up my back, sea-grass tickling my feet and legs, searching for hidden treasure and trying not to look up, lest there be something larger than me swimming about. A boat loomed above us, dive flag displayed, warning others that folks were in the water. In the distance, the Steinhatchee coast sat, waiting for our return. That was the day I fell in love with the sport of scalloping.

There is something calming about intensely looking through plot after plot of identical grass for a hidden shell.

You might not believe it, but I even enjoy the cleaning part (something that makes me quite popular with the scalloping crowd).

It is easy to see why the season is touted as a family-friendly activity. Anyone who can snorkel can participate, and if they don't want to be in the water, relaxing in the boat is not bad either. Cleaning time is great for catching up on the latest gossip or fishing tale. And then, after all is said and done, you get to take your bounty home and make a delicious family meal.

The economic benefits of the season are huge: boatloads of people flock to the open region, often staying a few nights, renting boats, eating in local restaurants and purchasing tackle and gear while enjoying the opportunity to harvest a great food from numerous access points. The open region includes all Gulf state waters (from shore to 9 nautical miles) from the Pasco-Hernando County line to the west bank of the Mexico Beach Canal in Bay Coun-

ty. Although scallops can be found outside of these open areas, it is within this region that bay scallops are found in large enough numbers to be sustainably harvested.

This year, Gov. Rick Scott asked the FWC to open the bay scallop season June 28 instead of July 1. This way the season would open on a weekend and visitors and residents alike would be free to take full advantage of the beginning of the season.

Don't feel rushed, however; although the beginning of the season is exciting, there are plenty of opportunities for success mid to late in the season. By then, scallops have gotten bigger and are sometimes easier to find.

Interested in participating? While a boat will provide you with the most access to scalloping areas, there are places you can walk to from shore. At the very minimum, you will need a mask or goggles, a recreational fishing license (unless you are exempt), something to hold your scallop catch in such as a mesh bag, and something to make sure you don't go over your limit, which is 2 gallons of whole scallops in the shell, or one pint meat per person.

Have a boat? The maximum vessel limit is 10 gallons of whole scallops in the shell or 1/2 gallon of meat. The daily per-person bag limit still applies but, for example, if you have more than five people aboard (each being able to take 2 gallons whole), you still cannot have more



FILE PHOTOS | The Star

than 10 gallons total. Bag limits help ensure the scallop population remains sustainable.

A divers-down flag is also required when scalloping from a boat to ensure other boaters are aware that there are people in the water. Stay safe this season and remember to use your divers-down flag. To learn more about these requirements, visit MyFWC.com/Boating and click on "Boating Regulations" and "Divers-Down Flag."

Once onshore, cleaning scallops is a cinch. Use an old spoon or knife (just be careful) to pry the shells slightly apart and then run the spoon along the inside of one of the shells, which will separate the meat from the shell. Once open, you will see the white scallop meat in the middle, surrounded by the darker guts. Run the spoon around the



edge of the guts and then pull it up and off, leaving only the scallop meat attached to the shell. Finally, use the spoon to separate the meat from the shell. This is just one way to do it (another fan favorite involves a shop-vac), so feel free to do some research before getting started.

Bay scallops are great sautéed and tossed in with

pasta, or eaten over a bed of lettuce. There are tons of recipes out there, and looking for them is almost as exciting as searching for the scallops.

I hope you can get out on the water and experience this wonderful season yourself. If you do, don't forget to send us your photos at Saltwater@MyFWC.com.

WEEKLY ALMANAC

Date	High	Low	% Precip
Thu, July 3	90°	80°	30 %
Fri, July 4	88°	80°	30 %
Sat, July 5	88°	79°	30 %
Sun, July 6	86°	78°	30 %
Mon, July 7	86°	78°	60 %
Tues, July 8	86°	78°	10 %
Wed, July 9	87°	79°	10 %

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
3	Th	1220pm	1.0	930pm	0.3
4	Fr	657am	1.0	857pm	0.4
5	Sa	618am	1.1	723pm	0.4
6	Su	618am	1.2	438pm	0.3
7	Mo	636am	1.4	449pm	0.1
8	Tu	706am	1.7	524pm	-0.1
9	We	744am	1.9	605pm	-0.3
10	Th	828am	2.0	650pm	-0.4
11	Fr	917am	2.0	736pm	-0.4
12	Sa	1008am	2.0	821pm	-0.3

APALACHICOLA BAY, WEST PASS

Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide
3	Th	826am	1.4	754pm	1.0
4	Fr	855am	1.4	910pm	1.0
5	Sa	927am	1.4	1046pm	0.9
6	Su	1002am	1.5	313am	0.8
7	Mo	1241am	1.0	1041am	1.5
8	Tu	238am	1.0	1124am	1.6
9	We	358am	1.1	1212pm	1.6
10	Th	448am	1.2	103pm	1.6
11	Fr	527am	1.3	158pm	1.6
12	Sa	559am	1.3	254pm	1.6

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FISH REPORT SPONSORED BY



Pier/Surf

Mexico Beach Pier continues to be a good location for shark fishing, as well as Indian Pass. Whiting and pompano continue to be caught off the beach.

Inshore/Bay

Trout continue to bite in St Joe Bay and East Bay. Top water baits are great for the morning bite. Red fish and flounder are there as well, you will just have to find them because they are on the move constantly.

Offshore/Bottom

King fish still occupy the inshore wrecks. Gag grouper season is finally here, time to soak a pinfish. Reports say they are plentiful.

Cape San Blas 1 of 8 U.S. cities that take top dog in 2014 annual reader survey

Special to The Star

GoPetFriendly.com, the award-winning pet travel website, announced today the Top U.S. Cities for Dog Friendly Vacations, according to its annual reader survey. For dog lovers, nothing is better than finding the perfect vacation spot — one that goes beyond just tolerating dogs, and instead welcomes them with open arms! According to GoPetFriendly.com users, Cape San Blas, Florida is one of the eight most dog friendly vacation destinations in the United States.

"Our mission is to make traveling and vacationing with pets easier and more enjoyable," said Amy Burkert, founder of GoPetFriendly.com. "By highlighting destinations like Cape San Blas that have proven themselves to be dog friendly, we hope to connect people who love traveling with their pets to businesses and attractions that make the trip more fun."



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

GoPetFriendly.com includes Cape San Blas in its best cities for dog-friendly vacations.

WHY CAPE SAN BLAS WAS CHOSEN

Cape San Blas is a 17-mile long barrier peninsula, separating St. Joseph Bay from the Gulf of Mexico on the Panhandle of Florida. Known for its white beaches, gentle surf, and strikingly clear water, the Cape is a sanctuary for anyone looking to escape the hustle and bustle. Dog-friendly beaches stretch for miles, and kayak, canoe, paddleboard or bike rentals allow you to delve a little deeper.

The paved Loggerhead

Bike Trail runs the length of the Cape and is great for walking, jogging or biking. Or venture into the quaint town of Port St. Joe for a stroll along the BayWalk Trail with its stunning views of the bay. If you're looking to get really deep, try chartering a boat for a day of fishing.

For more tips and things to do, stop by the Gulf County Welcome Center; it's pet friendly, too. There aren't a lot of high-rise hotels marring the sunsets on Cape San Blas; dog friendly inns,

cottages and vacation rentals are the way to go here. And the outdoorsy types can camp or RV at St. Joseph Peninsula State Park.

GOPETFRIENDLY.COM

When it comes to planning a pet-friendly trip, GoPetFriendly.com has it all. From pet-friendly hotels and campgrounds, to beaches and off-leash parks where your dog can run — even veterinarians, pet supply stores, restaurants, and wineries — you will get the scoop on more than 60,000 pet friendly locations across North America! All the information pet parents need while traveling across the U.S. and Canada is here, including 20,000 consistent, detailed pet policies from hotels and campgrounds, almost 200 dog friendly destination guides and a pet-focused Road Trip Planner. Along with the essential advice provided by true pet travel experts, GoPetFriendly.com makes preparing for trips and traveling with pets easy, convenient and fun. www.gopetfriendly.com.



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

Sunday 7AM - 2PM (EST)

Let's go!
Summer time is here!

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

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

PSJ All-Stars advance to state

Star Staff Report

The Port St. Joe Double A All-Stars recently finished second in the district tournament to earn a trip to the state championships in Marianna.

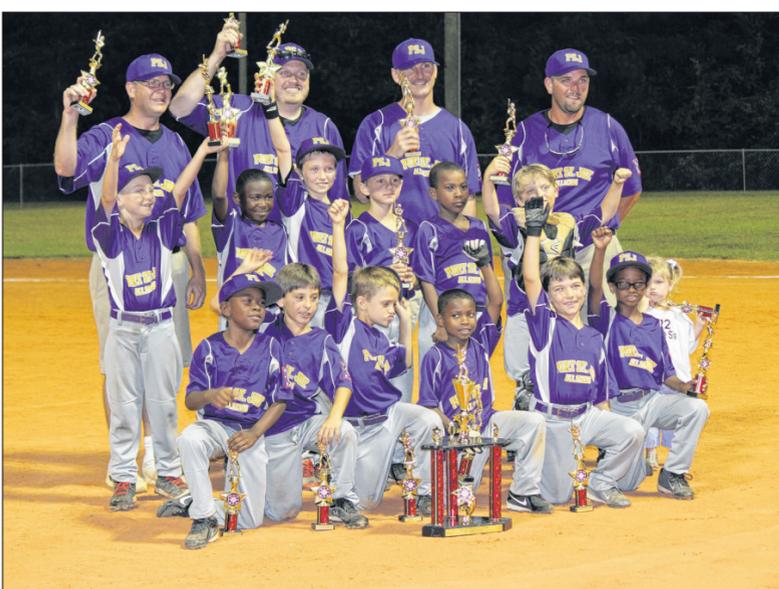
Franklin County beat Port St. Joe for the district title and also will travel to the state tournament.

The state tournament is played over three days and is a double-elimination format that begins with pool play.

Each team is guaranteed at least seven games.

The Port St. Joe All-Stars are Braden Jackson, Tucker Ashcraft, Owen Grantland, Ayden Sapp, Mikhal Larry, Aydan Davis, Rilan Butler, Luke Pickels, Eli Fidler, Gannon Buzzett, Lance Larry and Chance Gainer.

The team manager is Bobby Pickels and coaches are Brad Buzzett, Josh Fidler and Ben Ashcraft.



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Champions Day offers hoop dreams

Star Staff Report

The second annual Champions Day, sponsored by 8-5-0 Athletics, will be Saturday at the Washington Recreation Center. The event is free and open to the public.

The day, sporting the theme "Turning Dreams into Reality" will feature basketball games, skill contests, motivational speakers and more.

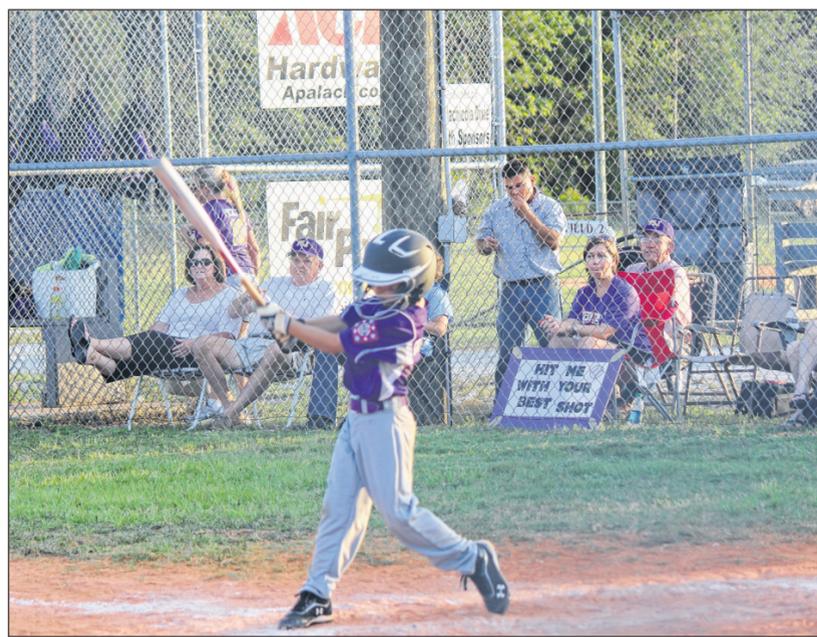
The fun starts at 11 a.m. EDT. The Washington Recreation Center is at 411 Kenny St. in Port St. Joe.

There will be several age levels of hoop games during the day. In the 11-and-under age group a team from Port St. Joe will face a squad from Franklin County and the Port St. Joe Middle School (Junior High) team will contest a middle school team out of Panama City.

The older gents get in the act. Alumni teams from the Port St. Joe High School classes of 1998-2001, 2002-2006 and 2007-2012 will comprise three teams and they will be joined in a single-elimination tournament by the Port St. Joe High School varsity squad and special guests, the Macon (GA) Wildcats.

In addition to the hoops, motivational speakers Mario Larry and Chad Quinn, both former standouts with the Port St. Joe High School basketball team, will give presentations.

There also will be games for the young ones and a concession stand.



The Port St. Joe Double A All-Stars recently finished second in the district tournament to earn a trip to the state championships in Marianna.



Parker earns second-team All-American

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

Kayla Parker hoped to earn first-team All-American honors during the recent NCAA Track and Field Championships.

She fell just short and as a result finished as a second-team All-American for the second year in a row.

The University of Kentucky senior, and former Port St. Joe High School standout, needed to reach the final eight in the 100 meter hurdles during the NCAA meet, but for the second year in a row could not advance out of the semifinals.

Parker leaves UK with plenty of accolades.

She set a school record in the 100 hurdles which remains. She was three times, indoors and outdoors,



KAYLA PARKER

named All-Southeastern Conference, in the hurdles and 4x100 relay, and ran the leading time in the nation, at the time, in the indoor 60 meter hurdles two straight years.

She was a member of the second and fourth fastest women's 4x100 relay teams the university has produced.

A team captain since her junior year, as a

senior Parker also helped the Lady Wildcats to their best-ever finish in the NCAA Track and Field Championships.

Parker currently is competing at the USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Sacramento, CA. She competed at the same event last summer.

Parker graduated in May with a Bachelor's of Science degree.

St. Joseph Bay Golf Club to offer swim lessons

Special to The Star

The St. Joseph Bay Golf Club is offering swim lessons. The lessons will be on the following dates (eight in all): July 2, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28 and 30. Starting time is 9 a.m. EDT for three age groups for the swim lessons, plus the possibility of an advanced

class (children would have to pass a short test with the instructor to be admitted), each lasting 30 minutes.

One class will be a "Parent-Tot Class" for parents with children 6 months to 3 years-old.

The cost of the lessons is \$100, with a nonrefundable 50 percent deposit neces-

sary upon registration. The deposit, however, would be refunded if the classes are cancelled by the club.

Registration and deposit must be made no later than 5 p.m. EDT June 18 at the club.

For questions, call the instructor (Rama) at 370-0895 or the club at 227-1751.

PSJ Dixie Softball annual meeting is July 15

Special to The Star

The Port St. Joe Dixie Softball league would like to thank all of its sponsors, coaches and other volunteers that helped make

the 2014 season a huge success.

The annual meeting will be at 6 p.m. EDT Tuesday, July 15, at the STAC House on 8th Street to elect officers for the 2015 season.

Anyone with a child in the softball league that is interested in serving for the 2015 season are encouraged to attend.

All board positions are up for election.



DR. KENNETH L. AND ANN K. SHAW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

In appreciation of Dr. Ken Shaw's 25 years of service to Florida State University Panama City, the following friends and colleagues have established the Dr. Kenneth L. and Ann K. Shaw Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship will assist students pursuing a degree at FSU Panama City, honoring Dr. Shaw's "students first" philosophy.

- | | | |
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To learn more about how you can support FSU Panama City, contact Mary Beth Lovingood at (850) 770-2108 or mblovingood@pc.fsu.edu.

Scene around



Star Staff Report

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



A marina sunset

COURTESY OF BILL FAUTH



A barred owl seen at the St. Joseph State Buffer Preserve

COURTESY OF LYNN HARDING



A turtle makes its way across Indian Pass beach en route to the Gulf of Mexico

COURTESY OF KAYAK DOG ADVENTURES



A gator and turtle took a sunny perch on the banks of the Little Brothers River south of Howard Creek

COURTESY OF DEBBIE FOUNTAIN



Zippering across St. Joseph Bay as the sun drops in the sky

COURTESY OF LAURA AT DRAGON FLY PHOTOGRAPHY



Nothing better to beat the heat than a little water play

COURTESY OF KRISTY RAFFIELD



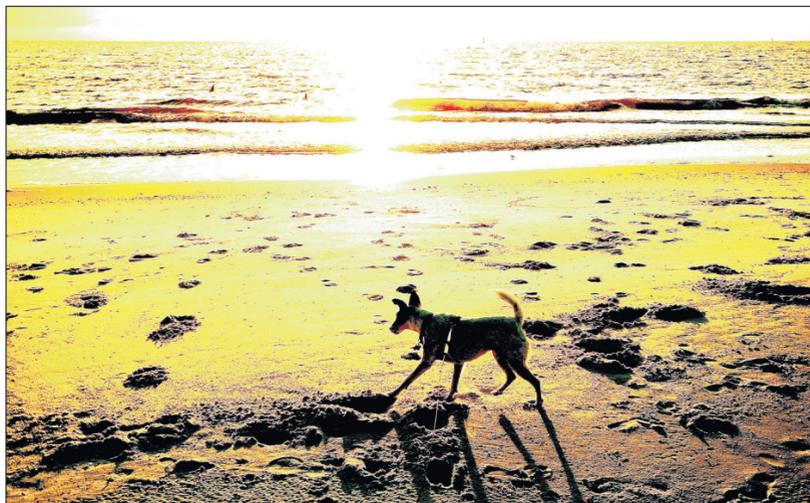
A boat, a tree and the beauty of the shoreline along St. Joseph Bay

COURTESY OF TERRY LIND



Sunset through the sea oats on St. Joe Beach

COURTESY OF SAMANTHA LAYFIELD



A dog enjoys a long leash during a romp on St. Joe Beach

COURTESY OF MELINA ELUM

Go Big ... 15 people big

Band with local roots to headline July 4 festivities

By WES LOCHER
229-7843 | @PSJ_Star
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When musician Robin Downs does something, he does it big.

That mindset is exactly what led to the creation of his 15-piece big band, Go Big or Go Home, which will help Port St. Joe rock its annual Fourth of July celebration this Friday.

The group will perform at the George Core Park stage

from 7:30-8:30 p.m. EDT, and after a brief intermission for the fireworks display, the group will play a second 60-minute set.

In addition to entertaining the community with big band hits, the event is a homecoming for several of the members who grew up, or currently live, in Port St. Joe.

Chief among them are Downs, the group's organist, and his wife,

See **GO BIG B7**



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The 15-piece big band Go Big or Go Home will play on July 4 at George Core Park in Port St. Joe.



COURTESY OF DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM

Pierre Ross, wearing a horse head mask, gives a smooch to bride Lynn Ross. Below, Pierre "gallops" to the beach.

Wedding attire makes horse sense

By TIM CROFT
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tcroft@starfl.com

The family of Lynn Ross is invested in good-natured ribbing, she and her new husband, Pierre, said.

It's just the adjectives each used to describe that dynamic were wildly different.

"My family loves to rip each other a lot," said Lynn with a hearty laugh from the couples' home in Wisconsin.

Pierre's version: "Ribbing is not the word. They will tear you down to nothing."

So as Pierre grew to know and love Lynn and her family, he was initiated into their world where not all is taken too seriously or at least not without a wisecrack.



In particular, Lynn had warned Pierre about one of her sisters, a true "practical joker."

And that sister quickly dug into what she believed were Pierre's unusually large front teeth.

Here again, we have degrees of rib. "He does have large teeth," Lynn said.

Pierre countered, "They are perfectly proportioned to my body."

But Lynn's sister pounced, linking Pierre to all things horse, Mr. Ed and the like.

And Pierre, whose friendship with Lynn was blossoming into love, soon tossed down the gauntlet.

After debating his own version of can-you-top-this one Christmas, he decided to craft a homemade potpourri jar. The main ingredient was the, well, droppings from his Dalmatian left during their daily walks.

He figured either it would be the perfect gift for this family he was growing

See **HORSE B6**

Canadian researcher studies plants of St. Joseph Bay

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

St. Joseph Bay is far more than just a beautiful photo op.

Research assistant Robyn Zerebecki calls the St. Joseph Bay Buffer Preserve Center home, at least she will through August. The Ontario, Canada, native has spent the past three summers at the facility conducting six-month long experiments in the salt marshes as she learns more about the Spartina plant, commonly known as cord-grass.



ROBYN ZEREBECKI

Zerebecki, who received her master's degree in Marine Biology from Northeastern University in Boston, is in pursuit of a doctorate in zoology from the University of British Columbia, where she specializes in marine ecology.

"I've always wanted to be a marine biologist," said Zerebecki. "It's the perfect split of being outside and being in a lab."

In addition to Gulf County, Zerebecki has conducted experiments in Vancouver, Boston and Bodega Bay in California.

"This is a great place to look at the relationships in genetic diversity in dominant plants," said Zerebecki.

She said that while many of these experiments take place in the salt marshes of New England, a southern location provides similar data and is accessible year round.

Zerebecki is focused on two projects this summer, the first of which looks at

See **RESEARCHER B6**



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) Up until Henry Ford's cars came along, July 4 was a miserable day for what animals as firecrackers were commonly thrown at them?

Chickens, Horses, Cows, Cats

2) Surveys say Roman candles are the "most favorite" type of fireworks for the 4th with what the "least favorite"?

Firecrackers, Smokeballs,

Pinwheels, Snaps

3) Where is "Rebldfest," billed as the largest celebration of American independence held outside the U.S.?

Germany, Denmark, Mexico, Australia

4) On July 4, 1848, President Polk laid the cornerstone of what famous structure?

Lincoln Memorial, Library of Congress, Capitol building, Washington Monument

5) Thomas Jefferson and which other former president died July 4, 1826?

George Washington, John Adams, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson

6) On that same date of July 4, 1826, what noted American was born?

Robert E. Lee, Stephen Foster, Walt Whitman, Henry

David Thoreau

7) How many original copies of the Declaration of Independence are still in existence today, not counting subsets?

7, 14, 19, 26

8) What famous American patriot was hung as a spy in 1776 by the British?

Paul Revere, Nathan Hale, Daniel Webster, Nathaniel Hawthorne

9) Who's been the only future president of the United States to be born on a July 4?

Jackson, Van Buren, Taft, Coolidge

ANSWERS:

- 1) Horses
- 2) Smokeballs
- 3) Denmark
- 4) Washington Monument
- 5) John Adams
- 6) Stephen Foster
- 7) 26
- 8) Nathan Hale
- 9) Coolidge

FARMERS MARKET



WES LOCHER | The Star

The next Salt Air Farmers Market will be held on Saturday 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 Farmers Market promotes a sustainable food system on Florida's Forgotten Coast. The market runs from 9 a.m. EDT until 1 p.m.

Fish tales collected in book

Special to The Star

Bradley Pitts and his sister, Corinda, grew up in Northwest Florida. Their great-grandfather was a fisherman in Port St. Joe in the late 1800s. When the town was under siege by yellow fever, he gathered his family into a rowboat and rowed westward to the shores of Bay County, where he established a homestead and supported his family as a fisherman. Bradley spent many days of his youth swimming and fishing in St. Andrews Bay and as a teenager, he began to dive first in the bay and later in the Gulf of Mexico. He and his friends speared many huge fish and were among the first scuba divers in this part of the state.

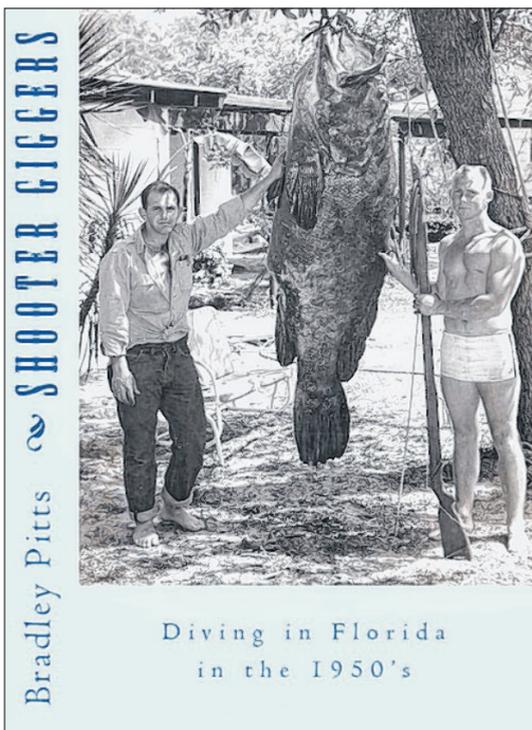
Corinda is a local author, so when Bradley began to collect stories of the adventures he and his friends had in the 1940s, '50s, and early '60s, the

NEW BOOK ARRIVAL

Time: 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. EDT
Date: July 5
Place: Cape San Blas Lighthouse Gift Shop (The historic Maddox House) 155 Capt. Fred's Place
For more information: Call Beverly Douds at 229-1151
Email: csblighthouselady2008@gmail.com

two of them decided to publish the stories. The stories are called "Shooter Giggers," and provide a unique look at the history of diving and fishing in the Panhandle. The stories are accompanied by more than 70 photographs, backing up the incredible fish tales these men tell. Sharks, Moray eels, barracuda, Goliath grouper, Warsaw and flounder are some of the fish these men encountered.

How many of you have



caught fish so large you had to sink the boat, slide the fish over the side, then bail the boat to get home? These guys did just that.

These and many other stories are included in the "Shooter Giggers" book available at the Cape San Blas Lighthouse Gift Shop.

Ceremony held in honor of Sgt. Major Steven Odom

Special to The Star

A Change of Responsibility Ceremony was held in honor of Command Sergeant Major Steven D. Odom, the outgoing command sergeant major for 4th Battalion, 501st Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Armored Division at the 4th Battalion, 501st Aviation Regiment Hanger at Fort Bliss, Texas, June 3.

Odom was born on April 16, 1973, in Port St. Joe. He graduated from Port St. Joe High School in 1991. He enlisted in the Army in June 1990, attended basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and AIT at Fort Eustis, Va., where he was awarded the Military Occupational Specialty 68J (Aircraft Armament Missile System repairer).

Odom's military and civilian education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Development Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Development Course, First Sergeant Course, United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, Pre-Command/Command Sergeants Major Course, Master Fitness Course, Battle Staff NCO Course, Air Assault Course, Basic Airborne Training, Jumpmaster Course, Master Jumpmaster Course, Unit Movement Officer Course, Air Movement NCO Course, Hazardous Material Management Course, Combative Level One Training Course and the Combat Life Saver Course. Odom has a bachelor's of science degree in Business Administration from Trident University.

Odom's previous assignments include: Squad Leader, Training NCO and Retention NCO in Delta Company AMC 82d Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, N.C.; Senior Aviation Sergeant in 21st Calvary Fort Hood, Texas; Armament Section Sergeant, Shops Platoon Sergeant and Quality Control Technical Inspector in 1st Calvary 1st



SGT. MAJ. STEVEN ODOM

Armor Division Buedingen, Germany; Headquarters Platoon Sergeant in Delta Company AMC 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, N.C.; Brigade S-3 Air NCOIC for 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, N.C.; Allied Shops Platoon Sergeant and First Sergeant for Echo Troop 1-17 Cavalry Regiment, 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, N.C.; Detachment First Sergeant for Delta Company AMC 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, N.C.; First Sergeant for Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division Fort Bragg, N.C.; First Sergeant for Headquarters and Headquarters Company 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.; Command Sergeant Major for 122nd Aviation Support Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Odom's combat deployments include four Operation Enduring Freedom deployments, one Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment and one Operation Spartan Shield deployment.

Odom is married to Magalli Odom of El Paso, Texas; he has two children, Davida, 21, and Kaleb, 17. His next assignment will be the United States Aviation School in Fort Rucker, Ala., where he will serve as the Operations Sergeant Major.

Baham completes basic training

Special to The Star

Navy Seaman Apprentice Dvante M. Baham, son of Karen E. Colvin of Wewahitchka, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week

program, Baham completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit

through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

Baham is a 2011 graduate of Wewahitchka High School.

OBITUARIES

Edward Eugene Abrams

Mr. Edward Eugene Abrams, 81, of Port St. Joe, died Wednesday, June 25, 2014, in Port St. Joe. He was born in Talladega County, Ala., and had been a resident of Port St. Joe, Fla., for 58 years, where he owned and operated Kirk's Ice Company.

Mr. Abrams is preceded in death by his parents, John William and Barcie Abrams and sister, Margaret Adams. He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Aline Abrams; four sons, Barron Abrams, Greg Abrams, Kirk Abrams and Ashley Abrams; one brother, Pet Abrams; four grandchildren, Kristin Abrams, Collins Abrams, Adam Abrams and Austin Abrams; and two great-grandchildren. A funeral for Mr. Abrams was Saturday, June 28, 2014, at 2 p.m. EDT at First United Methodist

of Port St. Joe with the Rev. Dave Fernandez officiating. The following gentlemen served as pallbearers: Lee Cary, Bill Dotson, Jake Tankersley, Frankie Williams, Keith Adams, Tony Abrams, Tim Abrams, Tommy Abrams, Lawrence Bowen and Bill Norton.

Interment followed in Lime Springs United Methodist Church Cemetery in Clanton, Ala. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Joseph Bay Humane Society of Port St. Joe in memory of Mr. Abrams.

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

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

Emogene Norton Gander

Mrs. Emogene Norton Gander, 89 of Apalachicola, Fla., passed away Sunday, June 29, 2014, in a local hospital.

Born in Clio, Ala., she has been a longtime resident of Apalachicola. Mrs. Gander was a retired school teacher from Franklin County School District. She also was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Apalachicola.

Mrs. Gander is preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Bertie Lee Norton, brothers; Clyde Norton and Clarence Norton Jr., and sister; Catherine Cox Steinaker. She is survived by her husband; J.V. Gander Sr., son; Jimmy Gander and wife, Charlotte; grandsons, Jim Gander and Joe Gander; granddaughter; Donna Duncan and great-grandson; Kristopher

Duncan.

A funeral for Mrs. Gander was Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at 11 a.m. EDT at the First United Methodist Church of Apalachicola with the Rev. Themo Patriotis officiating. Interment followed in Magnolia Cemetery. The following gentlemen served as active pallbearers: Rex Buzzett, F.G. Lovett Jr., Wayne Hicks, Kristopher Duncan, Al Steinaker and A.J. Smith. Honorary pallbearers were Tink Hose, DeWitt Galloway, Fred Fitzgerald and Aaron Taylor. Expressions of sympathy may be submitted and viewed at www.southerlandfamily.com.

Southerland Family Funeral Home
 100 E. 19th St.
 PANAMA CITY, FL 32405
 850-785-8532

Community Resource Center offers free veggies

Star Staff Report

The Community Resource Center in Port St. Joe is offering free vegetables from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. EDT every Tuesday during the summer.

The vegetables are provided by Farm Share, a large-scale food bank and charitable packinghouse working to end hunger. The organization specializes in getting fresh fruits and vegetables donated to communities in need.

The Community Resource Center is at 414 Kenny St. in Port St. Joe.



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Live DJ scheduled at Senior Center

Star Staff Report

Gulf County Senior Citizens, 120 Library Drive in Port St. Joe, invites the public to join the center from 10 a.m. until noon EDT on Tuesday, July 1, for Dancing to the Oldies with DJ Frances Markham. Folks will listen and dance to music from the '70s, '80s, '90s and current hits. Donations are

needed and appreciated.

The center also is in need of bingo prizes for seniors who love to play bingo several times a week, as well as volunteers who might play piano, sing or who would like to call bingo or who might have other games in mind that seniors would enjoy.

For information, call Debbie at 229-8466.

PET OF THE WEEK

St. Joseph Bay Humane Society



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

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

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

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

www.sjbhumaneociety.org

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Odyssey of the Mind team competes at world finals

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

After securing wins at the state and regional levels, Port St. Joe Jr./Sr. High School's Odyssey of the Mind (OM) team took on the world.

At the end of May, Team A, consisting of Sydnee O'Donnell, Rebecca Kerigan, Janel Kerigan, Jimmy Cummings, Cailyn LaPlante and Grant Whiten along with coaches Courtney Cummings and Sharon Hoffman flew to Ames, IA and competed at Iowa State University against 1,000 teams from 10 countries that included China, Poland, South Korea and Mexico.

When all was said and done, the team finished 14th out of 50 in its division.

For coach Cummings, a paraprofessional who works in the high school's welding shop; her first year with OM went above and beyond anything she had anticipated.

Originally getting involved at the urgings of her son Jimmy, who told her that "coaches didn't have to do anything," she quickly found herself headed to Orlando and then Iowa in support of the teams.

What Jimmy neglected to inform his mother was that she would fall in love with the program.

"Getting to the world finals was an awesome feeling — I was awestruck," Cummings said. "Being from a community like Port St. Joe and then being in a place where we were on the world's stage was phenomenal."

"The amount of creativity and ideas we got to witness was amazing."

Students involved in OM utilize their creative problem-solving abilities to answer questions in a method that utilizes technical knowledge and theatrics. They are then judged on their performance and knowledge.

Although one trivia question is given to teams in advance, allowing them to prepare their "answer," they're asked a spontaneous question by the judges, which forces teams to utilize their creativity and teamwork to come up with an answer on the spot.

"The team has always done well in the spontaneous events," Cummings said. "They're a group that thinks well on their feet."

As further proof that the team's moxie comes directly from the minds of the students involved, Cummings said that coaches must sign contracts promising they didn't help students come up with ideas during rehearsals and they aren't even allowed in the room during the spontaneous rounds of the competition.



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

PSJ's Odyssey of the Mind Team A competed at the world finals event in Ames, I.A. at the end of May.



The team hosted numerous fundraisers to pay for its flight and lodging, raising almost \$10,000 from the community.

Getting to the world finals was no easy task.

Even though the Gulf County School Board picked up the tab for the registration fees and lodging, the students raised \$10,000 in less than a month to pay for airfare and food by performing fundraiser shows at the First Friday Art and Music event in May and preview performances at the high school.

"We have to thank the community and the school district," Cummings said. "To be able to have programs like this that the community places importance on is huge."

Parents, it seems, are equally as dedicated to the OM program as the students. Parents Richard and Estelane O'Donnell volunteered to drive the team's props and costumes from Florida to Iowa.

Cummings said that she would remain involved with the program as long as the school would have her.

"The most gratifying part of it is the kids," she said. "Seeing their faces when they won the state competition ... they were shocked and proud, showing genuine enthusiasm for their accomplishments."

Auditions for next year's team will be early in the upcoming school year. Cummings said those who desire to work as a team, can compromise, are creative and think outside the box are welcome to try out.

While existing members of the team will have first priority on next year's team, they'll help select the new members to replace senior teammates who have graduated.

"The people and environment involved with OM is phenomenal," Cummings said. "OM isn't just for top of gifted students; it's for anyone with skills in creative problem solving."

Cummings' son Jimmy also praised the program as



More than 1,000 teams from 10 countries competed at the world finals.

a creative outlet for those who might not be engaged by the typical extracurricular activities offered during the school year.

"It gives something for kids to do besides sports," Jimmy said. "You can't be creative in sports, but you can be creative in OM."

A sophomore-to-be, this was Jimmy's first year competing with the group, but he also participates in football and student government. He said he enjoys acting and his background in drama got him the attention of OM members who invited him to audition.

Jimmy said that having the opportunity to travel with the team brought him closer with his teammates and they all became close friends. In Iowa the friends list became even longer as the team spent time with OM groups

from Delaware and Japan. "It's really fun getting to know people I might not normally meet," Jimmy said. "It was so cool meeting teams from around the world."

While attending the world finals, Jimmy found out that some universities have sanctioned OM teams and said he was excited at the prospect of competing at the college level one day.

Also participating in this year's Odyssey of the Mind Team B were Katie Nobles, Dell Pickett, Celeste Creamer, Sara Hoffman, Steven Kerigan and Emma Doran. The team made it all the way to the state finals at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

"Even though we didn't win, I'm glad we were able to get to the world finals," Jimmy said. "All our hard work paid off."



The OM team placed 14th out of 50 teams in its division.

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Panic attacks, anxiety explored at Lifetree Café

Special to The Star

Healthy ways to cope with anxiety and panic attacks will be discussed at 7 p.m. CDT Monday, July 7, at Lifetree Café.

The program, titled "When Anxiety Strikes: Compassion, Peace, and Understanding," features

filmed interviews with psychologist Kelly Breen Boyce and with Cheryl Eresman, who describes her experiences with panic attacks.

"When you have a panic attack, you think you're dying," Eresman said. "People who have never had one have no idea

what it's like."

Lifetree participants will gain greater understanding and get practical tools for dealing with anxiety and panic.

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 can be directed to Gary Grubb at 334-806-5667 or lwlifetreecafe@fairpoint.net.

Faith BRIEFS

From staff reports

VBS at FUMC of Port St. Joe

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

Sessions will be 9 a.m. until noon EDT. For more information, call Krystal Terry at 227-1724 or email krystal@psjumc.org. To register, visit psjumc.org.



Grand Old Fourth at New Bethel

New Bethel A.M.E. Church, at the corner of U.S. Highway 98 and Avenue C in Port St. Joe, will host a Grand Old Fourth of July Celebration on July 3.

There will be a yard sale and food vendors. Anyone wishing to participate should call Vanessa Fennell at 774-5448, Christine White at 229-6693 or Pastor Lawrence Gantt at 832-8452 to reserve your space for \$50.

Outdoor concert at New Bethel

An outdoor concert will be at 6 p.m. EDT July 3 on the grounds of New Bethel A.M.E. Church in Port St. Joe. Live entertainment will be provided including a DJ. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of music and fun. New Bethel is at the corner of U.S. Highway 98 and Avenue C.

UMW Fashion Show, luncheon

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

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 start at 7:30 p.m. EDT with guest choirs providing songs of praise and worship. The church is at 259 Avenue D.

OBITUARY

Bette Kay (Porter) Holtom



BETTE KAY HOLTOM

Becky Holtom went to her Heavenly Home on June 23, 2014. She was born Aug. 26, 1935, in St. Louis, Mo., to Clark Gardner Porter, Md., and Jayne Elizabeth (Newton) Porter.

She was raised in Three Rivers, Michigan then the Porter family relocated to Apalachicola, Florida where she graduated from Chapman High School in 1953. After graduating she attended Kalamazoo College majoring in music which included playing Piano, Pipe Organ, Flute and Viola plus Choral Conducting and Voice.

Upon her return home to Three Rivers from college, she became reacquainted with Frank Holtom, who was home from two and a half

years of service in the Army, stationed in Germany. They were married April 26, 1957, after a short courtship and remained together for 57 years. The Holtoms moved south in 1979 to live on St. George Island until 2006, when they built their current home in Apalachicola. Becky was the organist and pianist at the First Baptist Church of St. George Island for many years and helped to organize the Bay Area Choral Society, which became part of the Ilse Newell Concert Series.

Becky is survived by her husband, Frank Erwin Holtom; their three children, Kathryn (Tommy Robinson), Charles (Sherry) and Jonathan; grandchildren, Clark, Frank, Casey, Alexandria, Elliot and Eliza Holtom and Hannah Wintker; great-grandchildren Hayden, Lilly, Elaine, Chance and Isaiah Holtom. She was the oldest of her siblings Clark Porter, Judyth Porter (Amy Jo and Loren), Debra Porter Byers (Julie, Pete, Chris and Bobby) Sharon Nolan and Glory Hanson. She was preceded in death by her parents and her "Mom" Betty O. (Klapp) Porter and brothers Mickey Maher and Michael Porter. She also wanted to acknowledge

greatly loved family friend Tom Woods and close to her heart caregiver Jennifer Harris Finch.

Becky was a loving and generous wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister and friend. She will be missed greatly by all who knew her, but most especially by her children who are proud to have been raised by the unique person we were fortunate enough to call "mom."

A celebration of her life for family and friends will be held later this summer. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in her name to The Ilse Newell Fund for Performing Arts; c/o Fran Edwards, PO Box 405, Eastpoint, FL 32328.

4518170

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www.psjumc.org

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

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Ann Comforter
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9:45 AM Sunday School
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Evening Worship - 5:00

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

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

4519161

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

New Service Schedule for First Baptist Church

Sunday
Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Choir 6:00 pm

Wednesday
Dinner 5:00 - 6:00 pm
AWANA 6:00 - 7:30 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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Psalm 29:2

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

4510132

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10:00 AM - Bible Study at 1602 Highway 98

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

THURSDAY - 6:30 PM Mixed Bible Study

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4518434

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Schedule of Worship Services

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Morning worship all ages 10:00 AM

Wednesday
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Elective Adult Classes 6:00 PM
Children & Youth Ministry 6:00 PM

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4510126

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

4510128

First United Methodist Church of Mexico Beach
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8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m. CST Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

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4510123

Of radio, football and Florida panthers

By Jeanne Savelle
Special to The Star

What does a Florida panther have in common with the New Orleans Saints or with a man who built and sold radio stations? Well, if you have the pleasure of visiting the Bear Creek Feline Center just north of Panama City, you will meet Saint, the Florida panther who was born Feb. 7, 2010, the day the New Orleans Saints beat the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLIV. The Saints rose from the destruction of Hurricane Katrina much as Saint is rising up from the near destruction of the Florida panther gene pool. Jim and Bertie Broaddus, who gave Saint his name, founded the Center with resources provided from the sale of several radio stations they owned.

Saint now is 4 years old and has become part of a breeding program for continuing the gene pool of these magnificent animals. Would you like to see these cats up close? Well, you can. Since BCFC is not a zoo but a habitat for the animals, visitors can see these cats in a more intimate setting than in a zoo. BCFC is open to the general public by appointment only and offers volunteer opportunities as well. The Center, founded in 2000, was grandfathered into the area as Panama City's environs expanded. But not to worry, these cats are securely housed. Just don't poke your fingers into any cages.

Although Saint remains an ambassador of the Center, a new smaller feline is today taking more of the headlines. A jaguarundi is a small wild cat native to Central and South America, which is believed to have migrated up through Texas and perhaps as far as Florida. Jim and Bertie Broaddus recently raised one of these cats, Yoda, alongside their house cat, Obama. To see Yoda and Obama play is a bit unusual, and it seems Obama gets the upper hand most often. You can read more about Yoda's upbringing in an article written by Jim for the Feline Conservation Federation magazine in the May/June 2013 issue: Jaguarundi Husbandry: Keep An Eye On Your Coffee Cup!

Apparently little Yoda likes a stiff cup in the morning.

Although his initial passion for extending the Florida panther gene pool grew into a larger mission of conservation and breeding of rescued and re-homed feline species, Jim has expanded the mission once again to include being the only center breeding jaguarundi in all of North America.

The center today houses 24 cats ranging from the small Geoffrey's cat to large panthers and cougars. Some of the resident species are: Siberian lynx, panthers/cougars (puma), Geoffrey's cat, and African servals. Jim's "Florida Wildlife Treasures," a unique feature of BCFC, include the bobcat, the panthers, and the jaguarundi. BCFC is the only center nationwide in which you can see these three species in one place.



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Bertie Broaddus gets up close and personal with one of the cats that live at the Feline Center.

Although the sale of Jim's radio stations provided the seed money to start the center, of which he is the director/founder, he has many other credentials, which include being a graduate of the University of Georgia, a member of Phi Kappa Phi Society, a freelance writer and member of the Feline Conservation Federation. He also holds current licenses through the FF-WCC, USDA and USDI (US Fish and Wildlife Service), all of which support this 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Jim sees his successes in terms of the animals. He states that "with felines... no doubt the successful breeding of the jaguarundi has been notable. The fact that these little brown cats were gifted to BCFC from Russia, Germany, Czech Republic, Netherlands is noteworthy. Our contacts in the Republic of Panama and with ANAM (their equivalent to USF&W) is part of the networking that sets BCFC apart from the others."

BCFC also offers volunteer as well as educational opportunities, both of which help educate and train today's young people to value and protect these threatened and endangered felines. This is one of their core missions.

"We gained approval from the State Department of Education back in 2010 to offer instructional services to those who qualified under the provisions of the OJT/VR program. We had one graduate. The program is arduous so it takes a special person to pursue it through," Jim Broaddus said.

Visiting at Thanksgiving is a particularly special

time at BCFC. Walking into the center recently, I heard acoustic music, smelled turkey cooking and saw a couple of Native Americans selling handiwork and performing special ceremonies in honor of the day, the guests and the animals. It was such a lovely scene of camaraderie and kindness where all were welcome. My husband and I brought soft drinks, while others brought food, gifts or donations.

This wonderful, annual Thanksgiving event is called The Rendezvous. Jim gives the history: "The Ren-

dezvous was an out-growth of a traditional Thanksgiving gathering that we hosted while we were in the radio business. The DJ's either had no homes, couldn't afford travel expenses or were on the air and couldn't leave town on Thanksgiving Day. We fed them as was the custom, in keeping with the care and feeding of DJ's ... giving 'em \$200 a week and all the records they can eat!"

BCFC also has its share of celebrity visitors. Jim's friend and BCFC supporter, Tim Thomas, attended the Thanksgiving Rendezvous to enjoy the festivities and to sign his new book. Tim presented his book DIDYANO? which was subsequently hand delivered to National Geographic in Washington DC. Tim, who has written and beautifully illustrated several children's books promoting animal conservation, also helps Jim with his website.

Recently, Joel Sartore, National Geographic's elite photographer, spent time at the center. Eight years ago, Joel began "Photo Ark," a project to photograph about 6,000 captive species of Earth's assortment of animals. Now he's more than halfway there, having

catalogued 3,050 species including the jaguarundi at BCFC. While at the Center in November 2013, Joel took a number of photographs including one of Yoda, showing his photogenic face! You can see more of Joel's work at www.joelsartore.com. For more recent news about BCFC and Joel Sartore, see also the latest issue of Feline Conservation Federation Journal, which features the Bear Creek jaguarundi colony.

Very soon as you are driving from the Emerald Coast (Panama City going west) to the Forgotten Coast (Mexico Beach going east), you will be able to turn your radio dial to WECO - EcoRadio. You will hear Jim once again living the radio life. Last year when the FCC opened a filing window for Low Power FM Licenses (LPFM), Jim fell "off the wagon" as he puts it, and started up this new eco-station. He broadcast from the Center, where he was already participating by lending his efforts regarding local weather.

The acquisition of the LPFM station will enable BCFC to underwrite future budgets to sustain the cats residing at the Center.

"The value of this new license, which permits us to reach out to tourists as they travel up and down the main North/South corridor with our message of conservation, is unique and exclusive," said Jim Broaddus.

The first EcoRadio work session was at 10 a.m. Feb. 15 at BCFC. You can take the man away from the radio but you cannot take the radio out of the man.

When I asked Jim what keeps him awake at night, he said, "I realize that I am not in love with cats in cages. I would much prefer to see them range in wide-open spaces. I am bugged by people who acquire wild felids as pets only to discard them midlife. We hear too often: Isn't he cute or Oh, I want

FUN FACTS

You might not know that the Florida panther was bred with the Texas cougar back in the 1980s in an effort to save the species in Florida from extinction. The program was somewhat successful, though continued loss of habitat remains the largest threat to the panther's long-term survival.

Did you know that some cats are picky eaters and prefer only raw chicken? Others eat deer and chicken. Hunters sometimes donate deer meat, but most meat for the cats is purchased from Steve Page, a local processor, who delivers 50 gallon drums of carcasses, which are then trimmed and frozen.

Jim's connection with National Geographic was made through Patrick Callahan, the big cat curator at the Cincinnati Zoo.

You can see all six of the BCFC jaguarundis by visiting the Center or on the live jaguarundi video cam at their facilities at www.bearcreekfelinecenter.org.

JAGUARUNDIS



Jim Broaddus is co-owner of the Bear Creek Feline Center.

one. Keeping these cats in captivity is a 24/7/365 responsibility, for maybe 20-25 years! I am horrified when I see pet fanciers, collectors and hoarders. They should be jailed."

When I asked him what keeps Bertie up at night, his reply was short: "Me!"

Although Jim's reply regarding collectors might be controversial to some, the passion that Jim and Bertie share, and their dedication and love for the cats are undeniable. Their warmth towards the public in conveying this important work is contagious. They might indeed be one small link in preventing the extinction of the Florida panther as a species and in the long-term survival



The mission of the Feline Center is to promote and protect Florida wildlife and exotic felines.

of each of the species in their care.

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HORSE from page B1

to love or he'd be "banished for life."

Lynn's sister opened the gift Christmas Day and wasn't immediately sure what to make of it. Didn't quite smell like potpourri, she said, as she passed the jar to another sister to assess.

"It's (poo)," the sister quickly said using the slightly more profane term.

And so it was on between Pierre and Lynn's sister — a horse bridle gifted to Pierre one holiday, as example.

"I told her, though, that she could never outdo me," Pierre said.

This brings us to Lynn and Pierre's recent excursion to Cape San Blas for their marriage.

But first we back up a few weeks.

Lynn and Pierre were on a pre-wedding getaway. They were in a shop when they simultaneously spied an object on a shelf.

A horse head. The costume kind.

"We didn't even have to

say a word," Pierre said. "I looked at Lynn and she looked at me and we just kind nodded 'yeah.'"

They somehow managed to find costume horse hooves before the wedding a few weeks ago and their plan was set.

"We thought this is going to be so awesome," Lynn said.

The couple somehow managed to transport the contraband from Wisconsin to Florida without anyone being the wiser.

"I checked it all in my carry-on," Pierre said with an echo of pride.

As the wedding party lined the beach in a recent afternoon glow, they awaited the groom's arrival after Lynn had been walked to the beach by her sons.

And down the path came Pierre, or we'll call him "Mr. Pierre," horse head and hooves on, galloping like a horse while the DJ played the theme song to the "Mr. Ed" television show.

"All I could hear was my family roaring with laughter," Lynn said.



Lynn and Pierre Ross.

COURTESY OF DEBBIE HOOPER AT JOEBAY.COM

Pierre, inside the horse's head, could only hear his breathing and given the building heat inside the thing, wondered whether he'd make the beach.

"It was so much fun," Lynn said. "It was his way to get back at each and everybody."

Pierre removed the head and hooves and the couple became man and

wife. Afterward, Pierre said, "We all had a good giggle."

"Some people think weddings are supposed to be reverent and a formal affair," Pierre continued. "It's not. It's life and it's fun. Have fun."

The horse-capade was not the only secret unveiled on what turned into a very special family affair.

Lynn and Pierre wed as Lynn's parents were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary and one of her sisters was celebrating her 25th.

Lynn, in secret, carried to Florida the knives used to cut wedding cakes 50 and 25 years ago and the three couples cut the cake of celebration for Lynn and Pierre.

GCEC employees get certification, promotions

Special to The Star

Jim Vickers, manager of Military Affairs for Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative, recently earned the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Program's Class C Water Plant Operator License.

The mission of the Florida Operator Certification Program is to promote public health and safety, protect the environment and conserve Florida's water resources by ensuring that all persons working in drinking water, water distribution and wastewater meet the highest standards for certification as determined by the rules and regulations of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection under the guidelines of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

In order to achieve licensure, Jim had to complete a training course, as well as document 2,080 hours of operational work experience before taking the state-administered test.

Also, three GCEC employees recently received promotions.

Frank Bailey and Baylen Price were promoted to the title of Line Technician Trainee II, while Chris Pippin was promoted to the title of Line Technician II.

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative is part of the Touchstone Energy national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives providing high standards of service to members large and small.

About 75 employees serve about 20,000 meters and 2,600 miles of line in Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Jackson, Walton and Washington counties and in the municipalities of Wewahitchka, Ebro, Lynn Haven, White City, Fountain and Southport.

RESEARCHER from page B1

the interaction between different species of the Spartina plant and snails.

To do this, she planted Spartina in the marsh and visits it regularly to collect observational data.

Her goal is to figure out which species of the plant may be more nutritional to snails while also attempting to learn why the Spartina tends to grow higher when near Juncus plants, also known as needle rush.

The two plants are natural competitors and Zerebecki hopes to find out if snails are making the difference.

Snails often feed on the Spartina plants and it's possible the Juncus keeps the critters away. It's also possible that snails leave some of the plants higher so that they can climb them to escape predators or the tide.

For the second project, Zerebecki planted Spartina at 20 sites of differing tidal heights to test nutrient availability. She adds a different nutrient each month and takes samples to see how they are affected by the nitrogen in the air.

Her goal is to see if one



SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Zerebecki hopes that her experiments with Spartina and Juncus may one day help to restore the wetlands, which currently are eroding.

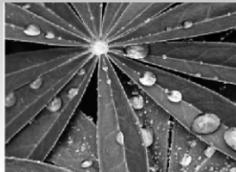
plant genotype might become rare or disappear completely in specific areas.

Although Zerebecki said she doesn't believe she will crack the case on this trip, she said her research eventually

could be used to help save the wetlands, which are eroding. She said if one genetic version of Spartina is more resilient to animals and nature, it could have much larger ramifications.

"It becomes important to think about how to restore the marshes," Zerebecki said. "The plants can help us identify runoff issues and learn more about the colonization of invertebrates and insects."

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Health Department encouraging residential buildings to go smoke-free

Special to The Star

Smoke-free multiunit housing, a growing trend throughout the country, is making its way to Florida. Across the state, there are more than 500 smoke-free multiunit housing properties and 73,000 smoke-free units. "There's a fear of alienating resident smokers,

but most communities that have taken the leap consider smoke-free housing an edge over the competition and have determined that there is a market for this product' according to Chip Tatum, the former Government Affairs Director for the Florida Apartment Association. For property managers and landlords, smoke-free

policies can have economic benefits. More than 80% of Floridians are non-smokers. Many people who do smoke do not permit smoking in their homes. Given these numbers, many properties have very successfully marketed their smoke-free policy as an amenity, not a restriction. Smokefree policies can save money by elim-

inating the need to repair or replace carpeting, floors, fixtures, countertops or appliances damaged by burns or nicotine stains. At the end of a lease, smoke-free units require less turnover time due to fewer preparation and repainting needs. In one Florida survey of 421 managers of smoke-free properties, 99.5 percent of

the managers agreed that smoke-free policies do not hurt occupancy and 30.1 percent believed that they increased occupancy. Tobacco smoke can move along air ducts, through cracks in the walls and floors, through elevator shafts, and along plumbing and electrical lines affecting units that are nearby. Therefore, there

are also numerous benefits for residents as tobacco smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals, hundreds of which are toxic and at least 70 known to cause cancer. Exposure, even for short periods of time, can be dangerous. For more information, visit tobaccofreeflorida.com/smokefreehousing.

GO BIG from page B1

Trudie, who handles keyboard duties.

Downs graduated from Port St. Joe High School in 1966 and was band director from 1991-93. He now works as the chef instructor at J.R. Arnold High School in Panama City Beach.

Also from the area are the band's guitarist, Clark Downs, and bassist, Charles Butler.

Downs said his love of big band music and entertaining goes back to his high school experience, when some schools actually had a dedicated stage band. Downs recalled that Port St. Joe was home to the Checkmates, formed and led by Larry Parker.

Parker knew Downs was in the school band and invited him to join the group, provided he had a keyboard. Downs quickly bought himself one and the Checkmates began to play local shows to make some extra money on the side. Downs recalled renting out the Centennial Building for just \$25.

The band put signs on the side of the road to advertise live music and charged \$1 a head. Once inside, the crowd was treated to a barrage of Beatles covers and chart-topping hits of the time from the 1940s and '50s.

Downs said after splitting the profits amongst the band members, it was the first \$20 he ever earned as a professional musician.

"St. Joe was more progressive when it came to music," said Downs. "It gave us a chance to develop as musicians and turned out to be a good

time to learn music.

"I can't imagine not having music in my life."

As happens in the music industry, one gig led to another and soon Downs found himself working his way through college by playing music at night.

He spent five years playing with a 16-piece band called Swingset and four years with the Panama City Pops, where he mentored children in music between concerts.

Downs and Trudie founded Go Big or Go Home in 2009 when Gulf World owner Ron Hardy asked if Downs could put together a group for the park's annual Christmas party.

By reaching out to friends in the local music community, Downs was able to put together his group and a one-off show quickly became another and another and another.

Downs realized very quickly that he enjoyed playing for charitable causes and the group booked regular gigs playing for Gulf World, the American Heart Association, the Second Chance Prom and other events around Gulf and Bay counties.

"If you're in it for the money, it's really hard dividing up money between 15 members," Downs said. "But if you're in it for the music, it's a wonderful experience to play in a band like this."

Downs said that since several of the group's members are band directors at area schools or music ministers at churches, it makes keeping all 15 seats



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Founder Robin Downs pulls double duty between organ and horns, inspired by the big bands of the 1950s and '60s.

At left, The 15-piece big band Go Big or Go Home will play July 4 at George Core Park in Port St. Joe.

full easier than one might think. Students with a passion for music are often recruited to fill in as needed, making for a memorable experience for everyone involved.

"It's a great opportunity for young people to play with us," Downs said "People need to support their local music programs. We're always looking for new talent that all they need is their break."

Currently, the band ranges in age from 13-66, with the youngest member being Mia Salaveria, a middle school student at Surfside Middle School in Panama City.

Downs was at a radio station when he heard Salaveria sing and knew she was a prime example of budding talent that would only grow better with experience.

"She's someone who has talent way beyond where she should for her age," said Downs. "She has this big voice you wouldn't expect from a 13-year-old."

When it comes to arranging covers from classic bands like Chicago, Earth, Wind and Fire; Tower of Power and Blood, Sweat and Tears, Downs believes it's his five-piece horn section that really turns heads.

"In an age of digital instruments, we're playing horn songs using actual horns," Downs said. "When this band punches, it really punches."

Downs said if the group is going to cover a song, it's

their mission to provide the best rendition possible and although it might take the group 45 minutes to nail the final notes of a song in rehearsal, they pride themselves on giving a great performance.

"I want people to say, 'Wow, they're playing the hard parts,'" Downs said. "It has to be a labor of love and we want you to flash back to where you were when first heard the song we're playing."

To experience the flashback first hand, catch Go Big or Go Home when they visit Port St. Joe for the Fourth of July celebration.



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The administration of the Estate of Thomas Edward McEniry, Jr., a/k/a Thomas E. McEniry, Deceased, File Number 2014-31CP is pending in the Circuit Court for Gulf County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 1000 Cecil G. Costlin, Sr., Blvd., Port St. Joe, FL 32456. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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95322S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION Case No.: 2014-31CP

IN RE: ESTATE OF THOMAS EDWARD MCENIRY, JR. a/k/a THOMAS E. MCENIRY, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is June 26, 2014.

Personal Representative: Karen M. Diggs 9126 Robey Meadows Lane Indianapolis, IN 46234

Attorney for Petitioner J. Patrick Floyd FL Bar No. 257001 Law Offices J. Patrick Floyd, Chtd. 408 Long Avenue Port St. Joe, FL 32546 (850) 227-7413 June 26, July 3, 2014

LEGAL ADVERTISING
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95380S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 12 CA 000181

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,

VS.

EMMA MAE PLAIR, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: MARY RUTH RHODES Last Known Address Unknown

TO: UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARY RUTH RHODES Last known Address Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described property:

If you are a person with

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LOT 6, BLOCK 26, IN THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Choice Legal Group, P.A., attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is P.O. BOX 9908, FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33310-0908 on or before July 14, 2014, a date which is within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice in the (THE STAR) and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiffs attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Rebecca Norris as Clerk of the Court

by: BA Baxter as Deputy Clerk File No. 11-17791 June 26, July 3, 2014

LEGAL ADVERTISING
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95402S IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 2010-CA-000403

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff,

vs.

RONALD M. WILLIAMS ALICIA R. WILLIAMS, GRAMERCY PLANTATION COMMERCIAL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., GRAMERCY PLANTATION COMMERCIAL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered April 29, 2014 in Civil Case No. 2010-CA-000403 of the SEC-

LEGAL ADVERTISING
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OND Judicial Circuit in and for Franklin County, Apalachicola, Florida, wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. is Plaintiff and RONALD M. WILLIAMS, ALICIA R. WILLIAMS, GRAMERCY PLANTATION COMMERCIAL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., GRAMERCY PLANTATION COMMERCIAL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., are Defendants, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at Franklin County Courthouse, 33 Market Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320 in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes on the 13th day of August, 2014 at 11:00 AM on the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

Lot 19, GRAMERCY PLANTATION, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 16, of the Public Records of Franklin County, Florida.

Any person claiming an

LEGAL ADVERTISING
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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 this 17th day of June, 2014.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT Marcia M. Johnson As Clerk of the Court

BY: Michele Maxwell Deputy Clerk 13-04551-3 June 26, July 3, 2014

95430S

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

AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs.

ANNE ANDERSON A/K/A ANNE D. HENDERSON; BAYSIDE SAVINGS BANK; REX H. ANDERSON; JOHN

LEGAL ADVERTISING
1100

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

AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs.

ANNE ANDERSON A/K/A ANNE D. HENDERSON; BAYSIDE SAVINGS BANK; REX H. ANDERSON; JOHN

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

AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs.

ANNE ANDERSON A/K/A ANNE D. HENDERSON; BAYSIDE SAVINGS BANK; REX H. ANDERSON; JOHN

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
DOE; JANE DOE; IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the SO day of June, 2014, and entered in Case No. 23-2008-CA-000401, of the Circuit Court in and for Gulf County, Florida, wherein AURORA LOAN SERVICES, LLC is the Plaintiff and ANNE ANDERSON A/K/A ANNE D. HENDERSON & REX ANDERSON BANKSIDE SAVINGS BANK REX H. ANDERSON & ANNE ANDERSON JOHN DOE; and JANE DOE IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants.

EXHIBIT A
Commence at a concrete monument marking the Northwest corner of Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida, and thence run North 00 degrees 03 minutes 58 seconds East along the West boundary of Section 6, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, a distance of 1340.95 feet to a concrete monument marking the intersection with the Westerly right-of-way boundary of County Road No. 30-E, thence run South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 1582.86 feet to the Point of Beginning, continue South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East 57.00 feet to a concrete monument, thence run South 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds West 400.00 feet, thence run North 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds West 57.00 feet, thence run North 00 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds East 400.00 feet to the Point of Beginning, Lying and being in Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida.

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

4.00 FOOT PEDESTRIAN EASEMENT:
Commence at a concrete monument marking the Northwest corner of Section 7, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, Gulf County, Florida, and thence run North 00 degrees 03 minutes 58 seconds East along the West boundary of Section 6, Township 9 South, Range 11 West, a distance of 1340.95 feet to a concrete monument marking the intersection with the Westerly right-of-way boundary of County Road 30-E, thence run South 23 degrees 26 minutes 00 seconds East along said right-of-way boundary 1582.86 feet, thence run South 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds West 400.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning continue South 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds West 134.67 feet, thence run South 69 degrees 35 minutes 48 seconds West 299.52 feet to the approximate mean high water line of the Gulf of Mexico, thence run South 19

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
degrees 51 minutes 09 seconds East 4.00 feet, thence run North 69 degrees 35 minutes 48 seconds East 299.66 feet, thence run North 66 degrees 33 minutes 42 seconds East 134.78 feet, thence run North 23 degrees, 26 minutes 00 seconds West 5.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by mail at P. O. Box 1089, Panama City, FL 32402 or by phone at (850) 747-5338 at least seven (7) days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days. If you are hearing impaired, please call 711.

Dated this 25th day of June, 2014
Rebecca Norris
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: B.A. Baxter
Deputy Clerk
File No. 15250207
July 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014
99223S
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that US Bank Custodian for TLCF, 2012A, LLC the holder of the following Tax Certificate, has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Tax Sale Certificate No. 556
Application No. 2014-32
Date of Issuance: May 31, 2012
R.E. No: 02432-000R
Description of Property:

COMMENCE at a concrete monument set by John E. Pennel, Registered Florida Land Surveyor, at the NW Corner of NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 25, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, and run South along the West line of NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of 264.15 feet to a point on the Northern right of way line of State Road 22, for a POINT OF BEGINNING. From this POINT OF BEGINNING, extend a line North along the West line of the NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 25, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, for 210.00 feet; then turn right 90 degrees for 202.34 feet to a point on the Northern right of way line of State Road 22, then turn right and extend a line Westerly along said Northern right of way line for 210.36 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Being an area of one acre, more or less, in Section 25, Township 4 South, Range 10 West, City of Wewahitchka, Florida.

Name in which assessed: Thomas L. Semmes, ET AL.
All of said property being in Gulf County, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate will be sold to the highest bidder in the front Lobby of the Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida at 11:00 AM, E.T., Wednesday, the 16th day of July, 2014. Dated this 10th day of June, 2014.

REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Donna L. Ray,
Deputy Clerk
June 12, 19, 26
July 3, 2014
99435S
GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: 2014-25
AMBULANCE SERVICE
The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners requests proposals from qualified firms or individuals for operation of the Gulf County ambulance service.

The County is seeking proposals for:
Operation of ambulance service to the 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.

Sealed proposals for full operation of the existing ambulance service provided to the citizens of Gulf County will be received at the Gulf County Clerk of Courts office, Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd, Room 149, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2014. Proposals will be opened on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the same location.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
Sealed proposals for full operation of the existing ambulance service provided to the citizens of Gulf County will be received at the Gulf County Clerk of Courts office, Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd, Room 149, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2014. Proposals will be opened on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the same location.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

/s/ Ward McDaniel,
Chairman
Attest: /s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk
July 3, 2014

99493S
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 14-CP-24
IN RE:
ESTATE OF JOHN VIRGIL GILMORE, JR.
Deceased.

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is July 3, 2014.

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

Attorney for Personal Representative: Kimberly L. King, Attorney
FL Bar No. 0593011
KING & WOOD, PA.
1701 Hermitage Blvd.
Suite 104
Tallahassee, FL 32308
Phone: (850)580-7711
Fax: (850)205-4501
E-Mail: kimking@kingandwoodlaw.com
Secondary E-Mail: eservice@kingandwoodlaw.com
July 3, 10, 2014

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

2100 - Havanesse Pups
AKC Home Raised, Best Health
Guar. 262-993-0460
www.noahsittleark.com

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

These tiny ads sell, hire, rent and inform for thousands of families each week. Let a little Classified ad do a big job for you.
Emerald Coast Marketplace
747-5020

HELP WANTED 4100

HELP WANTED 4100

HELP WANTED 4100

HELP WANTED 4100

GARAGE/YARD SALES 3230
NEW TODAY
Highland View 238
Marin St. Sat July 5th
9a-3p
Huge Indoor Garage Sale
Rain or Shine. Lots of Tools, Sporting Goods, Household Items, Furniture, Washer & Dryer, Refrigerator, & More.
Text FL93706 to 56654

GUNS 3240
GUN SHOW
July 5 & 6
Nat'l Peanut Fest. Bldg.
5622 US Hwy 231 S
Dothan, Alabama
OVER 275 TABLES
Saturday 9-5pm
Sunday 10-4pm
Info: 334-279-9895
Text FL92777 to 56654

Wanted Hunt Club Member
on 2000 Acres Near Port St. Joe, Still Hunt Fee \$450-\$500/ Per Year. Call John Miller @227-5052

4100-4130 EMPLOYMENT
4100 - Help Wanted
4130 - Employment Information

HELP WANTED 4100

Education

Early Head Start Family Advocate
This position will collaboratively with our Early Head Start program in a social services capacity. Qualified applicants must possess a BA/BS degree in human or social services field. Excellent communication and organizational skills, as well as the ability to work with families from diverse backgrounds are required. Excellent benefits package! Apply at Early Education and Care, Inc. 450 Jenks Avenue, Panama City, Florida 32401 EOE M/F/V/D DFWP
WebID#: 34293147
Text FL93147 to 56654

Infant/Toddler Caregivers
This position provide quality early care and education to children age 0-3 years. CDA plus training and experience in working with young children accepted along with the willingness to receive additional training. Pay scale: \$10.10-\$12.70, plus excellent benefits package! Apply at Early Education and Care, Inc., 450 Jenks Avenue, Panama City, Florida 32401 EOE M/F/V/D DFWP
WebID#: 34293148
Text FL93148 to 56654

Housekeeping Inspector
PT weekend position. Apply in person Thurs - Mon 4693 Cape San Blas Rd
Web Id 34291812

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

HELP WANTED 4100

LEGAL ADVERTISING 1100
Sealed proposals for full operation of the existing ambulance service provided to the citizens of Gulf County will be received at the Gulf County Clerk of Courts office, Gulf County Courthouse, 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd, Room 149, Port St. Joe, FL 32456 until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2014. Proposals will be opened on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the same location.

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

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

/s/ Ward McDaniel,
Chairman
Attest: /s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk
July 3, 2014

99493S
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
File No. 14-CP-24
IN RE:
ESTATE OF JOHN VIRGIL GILMORE, JR.
Deceased.

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.

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-preneurship. But this isn't just hollow corporate sloganeering. Each pillar has its own staff and initiatives, ensuring that our unique culture permeates the entire organization.

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

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-preneurship. But this isn't just hollow corporate sloganeering. Each pillar has its own staff and initiatives, ensuring that our unique culture permeates the entire organization.

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 position of CNA's if this sounds like the right fit for you, give us a call or shoot email to tblackwell@shccs.com ***We are offering a \$1,000 sign on bonus for CNAs WEB ID 34293033

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-preneurship. But this isn't just hollow corporate sloganeering. Each pillar has its own staff and initiatives, ensuring that our unique culture permeates the entire organization.

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 Scheduler. If this sounds like the right fit for you, give us a call or shoot an email to tblackwell@shccs.com WEB ID 34293015

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

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

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL RENTALS 6100
NEW TODAY
PSJ Warehouse Space
For Rent. 1000sf, With Office Space & Bathroom, \$600 month.
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