

ISLAND TIMES

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Pensacola Beach, Florida

April 8, 2009

Easter Chick



Lakin Harvey has been practicing for the two Easter Egg hunts on Pensacola Beach. She spent one morning hiding and hunting for colorful plastic eggs in Morgan Park among the native plants and grasses. There were too many to count, but she thinks she found them all. The four-year-old Beach resident is a veteran egg hunter and is ready for the egg-citing Easter weekend on Pensacola Beach. For all about Easter on Pensacola Beach, see Page 2.

Beach Celebrates Easter's Glorious Moments

The glorious moments of Easter weekend are never lost on Pensacola Beach. Perhaps, the most meaningful of all is the Easter Service at the Amphitheatre on the Boardwalk at 6:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday. For more than thirty years, early-risers have come to worship at this service which this year will be hosted by the Pensacola Beach Community Church and Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Mission. The Sunrise Service will last about 50 minutes with special music. The Reverend Chuck Randle, Msgr. Luke Hunt and Deacon John Scott are coordinating the service.

Easter weekend will begin with a communion service and living tableau of Da Vinci's The Last Supper at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 9 at the Beach Church.

Eggs will be cracking everywhere on the Beach on Saturday, April 11. The Beach Church will host its annual hunt, at 9 a.m. at the Church. The four age groups are pre-kindergarten, kindergarten-first grade, second and third grade, and fourth and fifth grade. Everybody gets a prize according to coordinators Jim Hobbs and Gordon Paulus.

"The challenge is always to find places in the sand to hide eggs," said Reverend Randle. "And this year we don't even have any sea oats to use because of the Fellowship Hall construction, but we'll do it."

All children are welcome to attend this event.

The kids start Saturday off, but the fun continues for adults at The Shaker with old-fashioned contests from 3 to 6 p.m. Contests are:

Deviled Egg Contest: Bring one dozen of your best deviled eggs before 3:30 p.m. Judging begins at 4 p.m. No charge to enter. No rules to follow.

Easter Bonnet Contest: Wear your best decorated Easter Bonnet. Judging will begin at 4:30 p.m. Prizes to the winner.

Easter Egg Draw: Pick your egg from a tub-full. Some will be lucky and have prizes.

Basket Raffle: Large Easter baskets full of prizes. Need we say more?

50/50 Drawing: Half the cash

as a prize to one lucky ticket holder.

Live music will begin at 3 p.m. This entire event is sponsored by the Krewe of Junkanoo and their royal couple King Don Stephens and Queen Sandi Huggins will appear.

After the Junkanoo Easter party at the Shaker, the Krewe of Brewe will be up to their usual tricks looking for the Best Beach Bunny. Again, a contest with no rules, according to Brewe member Beverly Boswell.

Adults will find that the Easter Bunny has not forgotten them

this year. The Bimini Bar, under Hemingway's, is hosting an adult hunt on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. Bring your own decorated basket, fill it with eggs, and enter it for the prize.

Easter services will be plentiful on Easter Sunday. Calvary Chapel will hold a sunrise service and Beach baptism at the Gulfside Pavilion beginning at 7 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend this event.

Easter Mass will be at 9:45 a.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Mission and the service at the Beach Church will be at 10 a.m.

Many Beach restaurants are planning special Easter brunches, and Paradise Grill is hosting an Easter Egg hunt for children on Sunday at 2 p.m. Age requirement for this waterfront party is six years and under. Renee Mack, general manager, says she has already seen the Easter bunny hopping around Paradise looking for good hiding places. All the kids who want to join in the fun and prizes are welcome.

There it is- Easter weekend on the Beach. Something for everyone.

Island Authority Nudges Beautification Plan Forward Committee Bounces Volleyball Policy Back Thirty Days

The Island Beautification Plan inches a little closer to reality with the acceptance by the Santa Rosa Island Authority of the latest recommendation from the Ad Hoc Committee. The Development and Leasing Committee at their March 25 meeting voted to send the most recent version of the Request for Qualifications for a Master Land Planner to the full board. (See Ad Hoc story, Page 7).

Jim Cox, president of the Pensacola Beach Advocates, congratulated all the players in this arena for their efforts to make the Plan happen.

"I want to thank Robert Rinke of Portofino for showing the flexibility and expanding the scope of the project. Also, I would like to thank SRIA Board members Fred Gant, Vernon Prather, Dave Pavlock and Tammy Bohannon for their

participation," Cox said.

The Development and Leasing Committee approved the opening of two new restaurants on the island, Lilo's at the Soundside Market and The Dog House Deli in the Via de Luna Shopping Center.

The Architectural and Environmental Committee approved Dean Baird's request for an electrical modification plan for the beachside cabanas at Jubilee. Baird and Philip Morris are taking over this business.

The Committee also approved giving two leaseholders sands from the Little Sabine dredging project. Hazel Fairey will be allowed to purchase some of the spoils and Andrew Brahan will be given sand to place on his leasehold property. The rest of the spoils will be used on public property.

The Administrative Committee heard Dottie Ford, Finance director's report. Ford said the revenues were down for January but were still up overall just a bit for the year. Her report indicated that most areas of lease fees collected are less than what was anticipated. However, alcohol, beer and wine sales were 26 percent higher than expected.

Ed Guernsey, chairman of the Administrative Committee, re-

ported that they are still looking for alternative legal services for the SRIA in an effort to reduce costs.

Committee member Tammy Bohannon said she felt the Authority was at the end of this cycle of litigation. "We had the hurricanes and some unfortunate drownings, so we are at the end of this," she said. "We have the flag system which insulates us from most drowning suits. I wonder if we are looking better in this area."

Guernsey asked Dottie Ford to prepare a report for the last ten years of non-drowning lawsuits identifying legal fees and claims paid to those injured.

He added that measures have already been taken to reduce legal fees.

"We're asking the staff to take a close look at the past to monitor (SRIA attorney) Mike Stebbins' bills. We want staff to take on any tasks they can comfortably do, and we think we will see some savings. Mr. Stebbins has been very cooperative in coming to positive resolutions with regard to legal expenses."

Billy Patterson, who owns Lazy Day Beach Rentals of umbrellas and chairs, heard the Authority discuss his request to set up a volleyball court near the Beach Club.

"It's for the pleasure of anyone who wants to use it. I don't

make a dime on it," he said.

Staff had prepared a policy for the volleyball court, which included taking it down at night, and provisions to ensure the court would not block emergency vehicles.

"This is a dynamic concept," Board member Vernon Prather said. "I think the policy needs a little more work. Let's see if we can work a way around these technical issues to satisfy the challenges."

A motion to keep the policy in committee passed.

After the motion, Patterson addressed the Board.

"Let's get going. I am ready to do what I can to make the Beach a better, safer place. I put surf warning flags out. My employees are lifeguard certified at my expense. I am willing to satisfy the requirements and all the rules. Why wait another few weeks?"

Board member Dave Pavlock said he thought they should let him go ahead with the court in the absence of a policy. Ed Guernsey agreed and wanted the staff to refrain from any enforcement until a policy can be adopted. The issue will remain in committee.

The next meeting of the Authority will be at their office at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8. All meetings are open to the public.

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Barefoot on the Beach

By Jane Waters Cooper



Easter packs the Beach. Not only with eggs, candies, baskets, and hunts, but with tourists. I can remember one Easter when we decided at the last minute to leave New Orleans and come to the Beach. The hotels, rental houses, and condos were all filled. There was one unit available at the Sabine Yacht and Racquet Club. I took it.

When we arrived here, it was too cold to swim, sit on the beach, wander around or do anything summery. Most of the time we stayed in the condo and looked out the window. Shelley did dive into the pool where she stayed long enough to turn blue. That was our last vacation on Pensacola Beach before we moved here. Since then, we have spent 28 Easter Sundays on the Beach, all of them different.

Easter parades have had their fifteen minutes of fame. And I do mean a max of fifteen minutes. The Krewe of Wrecks sponsored the first one in my memory in 1980. It was to be a procession of brightly hatted walkers vying for prizes. A lady and her two little girls and Jack White of

Dirty Joe's entered the contest. We never left our headquarters at the Surf and Sand Cottages. There was never a parade. Jack won the prize for the best decorated hat. We never tried the Easter parade again.

A few years later, the Krewe of Rock and Reggae took the Easter parade to the limit. They walked around the island, wearing their famous long antebellum gowns and huge hats. It was like the Old South rising again. They called it the parade of the Mad Hatters. It was a great show which faded quietly away when Rock and Reggae folded. What a shame for the island that all those flamboyant, big hearted Mardi Gras krewe members had to give up their Mardi Gras float and their wild parade of the Mad Hatters.

A few years later the fledgling Krewe of Junkanoo rose to the occasion. They formed an Easter walking group, fortified with a golf cart (ours), and bicycles. This was a fine procession of Junkanoos, wearing all kinds of costumes, and snaking their way to Flounder's. I remem-

ber that we had huge plastic eggs and whole litters of bunnies all over our cart. Prizes for best hats and costumes were awarded at Flounder's where live music was played in the sandy beach behind the restaurant. While the Junkanoo are very much alive and kicking; their parade is not.

But they do sponsor their annual Easter Eggstravaganza on Saturday featuring an Easter Bonnet Contest, Best Devilled Egg Contest, Egg Draw and basket raffles. It's all at the Shaker.

And, there are always Easter Egg hunts. Two for children at the Beach Community Church and Paradise; and one for adults at the Bimini Bar.

If there are no parades, there are still other ways of celebrating Easter on the Island. Like going to church.

The Pensacola Beach Community Church, Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Mission, and Calvary Chapel will host ser-

vices on Thursday through Sunday. Nothing appears to be scheduled for Good Friday, but the day will remind church goers of the early days of the tiny Beach Church. The Reverend Thaine Ford fashioned a rugged cross of heavy timber pieces and he carried it down Panferio Drive to the church on Good Friday. Some of the members of his congregation followed him. It wasn't exactly a parade, but it was a somber reminder of what Easter

is all about. There were no Easter bonnets and fine clothing worn by parishioners who were more likely to be adorned by shorts and tops. The participants were taking part in a ceremony which marked the beginning of the Easter message. It was a simple, but powerful, rendition of the Christian story of redemption and life ever-lasting. It was pageantry which always touched the heartstrings of the faithful.

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PEOPLE

WELCOME ABOARD

Pensacola Beach Yacht Club members rolled out the red carpet to welcome Pete and Angela Moore of Pensacola Beach, Dave and Mandy Whalen of Pensacola, and Uwe and Lorraine Henseler of Cantonment as new members. The Yacht Club is holding an Open House as part of their current membership drive on April 10.

IT'S IN THE CARDS

Local author Tex Atkinson turned a rainy day into a pay day at the Biloxi poker tables. He made a quick trip to enter a Texas Hold 'Em tournament at Imperial Palace and in a little over two hours was declared the winner.

HOSTING FRIENDS

Mike and Chrissy Cook had a steady stream of visitors during March. Friends and family celebrated spring break traveling from as far as The Netherlands. Wim Huijssoon and his friend Marjan Gras jetted in for a week. Mike, a retired Army Colonel met Huijssoon at Ft. Monroe, Virginia when he and Chrissy were assigned as his Foreign Liaison sponsors.

SISTERS

Beach resident Mary Ann Claus, who serves as an Optimist Club Board member, is now the publicity chairman for the Pensacola Area Delta Gamma Alumnae Association. Mary Ann reports that members met at Pensacola Country Club for the Founder's Day brunch to celebrate the sorority's 136th anniversary. President Louise Videau swore

in officers Holly Davidge, Vice President of Membership; Terri Guillory, Vice President Activities; Hellie Baxley, Secretary; Diane Thompson: Rituals; and Diane Folse, Sponsorship. The group has close to 100 members from Pensacola, Gulf Breeze, Milton, Navarre, Ft. Walton and Pensacola Beach.

POLAR BEAR ALERT

If you thought you saw a polar bear on the east end of the Island, you did not. It was Princeton Zemenick, a Great Pyrenees dog, who is visiting from Taos, New Mexico. Princeton is here with his owners, Bob and Mary Zemenick and their son Charlie. He also brought his pack-mate Ollie. The whole gang is staying with Carl and DJ Zemenick on Pensacola Beach.

HIPPITY HOPPITY

Karen Cook Cowen turned her office at Cook Realty and her home into the Easter Bunny's workshops. She filled 200 Easter baskets with candy and toys for the children at the Santa Rosa Kids House.

THE LIZZARD

Island Times columnist Liz Hewson made a quick trip to the Beach to visit her family. She did not get to stay long because of her hectic schedule at home in Maryland, but already has plans to come back to stay for five days in August.

FULL HOUSE PARTY

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun players wished card sharp Billie Urquhart happy birthday on April Fool's Day the best way they could think of - by playing poker.

Trivia

What's the buzz on the ghost of business past?

The rare occurrence has happened. Most of the trivia players were wiped out by the question the Trivia Master came up with in the last issue. But the reigning champion, Kim LoBue, who answered the most recent question to win the t-shirt, kept trying on this one. Did she consult everyone in Pensacola Beach's historic district where she works? Did she hunt for clues in Island eateries? Kim said she found her answer in a book located among the objects d'art at Geronimo's Outpost.

The Trivia Master wanted to know where the very first Santa Rosa Island Authority office was located. Kim emailed that it was always where it is now. Wrong. Then she emailed no fewer than

six incorrect guesses until coming up with 615 South Palafox Street. Good job, Kim.

Also rising to the occasion was Sir Morrie Drees, Knight of the Trivia Roundtable. He wrote, "The first address that I can find is 615 South Palafox Street. There is also an address at 14 West Government Street with an island field office in the parking lot near the Casino. My guess would be that the first office was in Pensacola."

Correct, but Sir Morrie is no longer eligible to win a t-shirt because he became way too efficient at providing right answers. He will be honored with a gold star for his t-shirt for this one. Kim is the winner and will have twice as many new shirts to show off.

For those who did not get it

correct, go to Surf Burger and look at the copies of the Santa Rosa Island Authority's ads luring people to lease on the Beach. The answers were right there in front of you the whole time.

Try another oldie, but goodie. What was the name of the organization, founded in 1980, which a few years later became the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce?"

C'mon trivia guys. Be the first to email your answer and get an *Island Times* fabulous t-shirt.

Rules have not changed. Send your answer to islandtimes@bellsouth.net with "trivia" in the subject line and include your name, phone number. Deadline to answer is April 15, 2009. Good luck!



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Sat, APR 11
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Tue, APR 14
Fri, APR 17
Sat, APR 18
Sun, APR 19

Dash Rip Rock, 6 p.m.
Blue Eyed Grass, 6 p.m.
Lauren Kay, 6 p.m.
Tomato, 2 - 6
Johnny Barbato & the Lucky Dogs 6 p.m.
Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones, 3 p.m.
Doug Deming & The Jewels Tones, 6 p.m.
Morning Meds, 6 p.m.
Shawn Curle and the 44s, 6 p.m.
Nerak Roth Patterson, 3 p.m.

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You Too, Can Be An Awesome Animal

Don't forget to bring wrapped candy. That was the battle cry of the Krewe of Bananimals. And they weren't going to eat it themselves. They much prefer burgers and beer. The Bananimals and Karen Cook Cowen's Lunch Bunch were filling 200 Easter baskets for the Santa Rosa Kids House children.

Bruce Yoder, editor of the Bananimals newsletter, has sent the message that the krewe has now opened its annual spring membership drive. If you missed the April 5 meeting, just mail your check for \$30 yearly dues to the Krewe of Bananimals, c/o Mary Jo Tibbits, 1309 Autumn Breeze Circle, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563.

Bruce says bring your friends who'd like to join this awesome

group to the next meeting, Sunday, May 3 at 4 p.m. at the Sabine Sandbar. "We are people from every walk of life and we blend together into the coolest krewe on the Beach," he said.

The Bananimals are looking forward to good times coming up including their May 3 election of officers and Shrimp Boil.

The All Krewe Ball will be at the Hadji Temple from 7:30 p.m. until midnight on June 10. The Bananimals will be at the tables whose occupants are barking, yipping, meowing, hissing, heehawing, and making other wild noises. Join them there.

For more information on any subject mentioned here or on everything else, email Bruce at bruceyoder@yahoo.com.

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5 pm Face Painters
Rainbow the Clown

Saturday, April 18th
Noon: Face Painters
2 pm: NW Florida Petting Zoo
Rainbow the Clown

Sunday, April 19th
Noon: Face Painters
2 pm: NW Florida Petting Zoo
Rainbow the Clown
2 pm Scoop the Pelican
Pensacola Pelican's Mascot
2 pm Kids Crawfish Races
under Cat Country Tent

BAMBOO WILLIE'S STAGE

Friday, April 17: 3:30pm The Shiz, 9pm Mo Jiles
Saturday, April 18: Noon The Shiz, 5 pm Tout Les Soir, 10 pm Mo Jiles
Sunday, April 19: 1pm Tout Les Soir, 6 pm Mo Jiles

HALF SHELL STAGE

Saturday, April 18: 2 pm Boogie Inc Karaoke
Sunday, April 19: 2 pm Boogie Inc Karaoke

BIMINI BEACH BAR STAGE

Friday, April 17: 2pm Three Amigo's, 7pm Oliver Twist
Saturday, April 18: 2 pm Three Amigo's, 7 pm Wildwood
Sunday, April 19: 2 pm Ba'Nana Republic

Start Times For Festival

Friday: 3:30 p.m.
Saturday: 11 a.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m.

2009

Ba'Nana Republic

Three Amigos

The Shiz

Wildwood

Mo Jiles

Tout Les Soir

Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce volunteers will be serving the patrons at the Crawfish Festival, April 17-19 - All tips will be donated to the Chamber.



peas, porridge & a dry martini

by Kathi Lewis



I think my love of hats must have begun with Easter Bonnets. I know I had the misfortune to be born at a time when wearing them was no longer considered stylish. Although hats had been worn for thousands of years and bare-headed ladies were likely thought of as poor peasants or loose women.

It was the 1950's and while there were women who still wore hats - that was mainly on television. Like Beaver's mom, who never left home without a hat and kept her high heels on all day! I can't remember my Mother wearing or owning a pair of heels but I do remember her hats.

But when I put on a cowgirl hat I became a cowgirl! Wearing an Easter "Bonnet" instantly propelled me into the movie star world of glamour. And don't forget those tiny white gloves with the tiny, shiny, white purses, which matched the tiny, shiny, white shoes. Lord, I was in heaven! By the end of Church, Easter Dinner and the Easter Egg Hunt, most of the white was covered with food and grass stains, egg dye colors, and God knows what else. But my hat always stayed pristine. After all, it couldn't be replaced as easily as gloves or shoes.

Mom and Dad made sure we always had shoes, but hats were only purchased for Easter. So, you see why I had to take such good care; it had to last all year until the next Easter! No matter what toys I had, nothing could compete with the hats.

It amazes me that putting something on your head and using a little imagination can transform your whole world! Of course, by the 60's the big broad brimmed floppy hippie hat had entered the less-than-fashionable-world and was donned by everyone under the age of 30. This hat created a single image - hippie. Some stores and businesses would turn customers away just because of this hat and what it came to represent to the rest of the world. How weird is that?

That's a lot of power for one hat to carry.

Some would say they are the same person underneath the hat. I have great sympathy for them. What happened to their imagination? And no one can forget Jackie O's pillbox hat during the Camelot reign! Didn't it make you feel as if everything was right with the world when she appeared in public wearing her little pillbox?

Before Ivan, I had a collection of antique hats purchased at thrift and consignment shops all across America. My wonderful optimistic Mother reminded me that I at least had gotten to wear nearly all of them before the storm washed them away. I did and I'm telling you there was a different feeling and attitude with each one. I became many people under those hats.

Hats make my imagination run wild, and you should let yours get wild and create an Easter Bonnet this year. Wear it to the Junkanoo Contest. Okay my friends, I gotta get busy on my hat for the Easter

Bonnet Contest.

So, on this Easter Sunday put on your adorned hat and celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Feel the beauty, grace, love and imagination He gave to each of us. 'Cause sometimes you just need a hat for little inspiration!

Meanwhile, it's time to cook. This is my favorite recipe and my favorite cake, so let's head to the kitchen....

Easy Coconut Cake

1 Box Yellow (or white) cake mix
Mix and bake as directed. Let cool completely.

Perfect Frosting

1 -8oz. Cup cool whip
1 -8oz. Cup sour cream
2 Tsp. vanilla flavoring
½ Cup powdered sugar
2 Cups grated froz. or fresh coconut (sep. into 1 cup ea.)

Mix all ingredients well, reserving 1cup coconut. Spread over cooled cake then sprinkle with remaining coconut. Coconut can be colored easily with food coloring - get creative - put on a hat!

Happy Easter to all and I'll see you in the Easter Parade.....



It's never a dull moment at the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club when they toast the birthday girls at their monthly meeting. March celebrants are (L to R): Mildred Price, Debbie Slater, Edie Draper, Rosemary Crosby, and Clara Smith. The next Woman's Club meeting will be April 16 at 11 a.m. at Hunt Hall and will feature a fashion show and pot luck luncheon.

Wine Talk

Drawing A Blanc

By David Griffin,
Beach Wines and Liquors



If you're looking for a food-friendly white wine that can go with everything from shellfish to Caesar salad to fried chicken to aged Jarlsberg cheese, try Sauvignon Blanc. Loire Valley (Sancerre and Pouilly-Fume) and Bordeaux (where it is blended with the Semillon grape to produce both fine wines, such as Graves, and the great sweet wines of Sauterne and Barsac). It is also produced in a wide range of styles in New Zealand, California (where it sometimes goes by the name "fume blanc"), Australia, South Africa, and Chile. Sauvignon Blanc is known for its distinctive aroma, which can evoke the scents of grapefruit, lime and green melon. HINT: When grown in cooler climates and fertile soils, Sauvignon Blanc can evoke herbaceous smells and flavors.

Are you a wine aficionado? We love to talk about wines and to answer any questions you may have. Whether you have a question about what wines to serve with a particular meal, or need help in quantities for a party, stop in and talk with us at Beach Wines & Liquors, Inc. We have a great selection of red wines from around the world and in all price ranges. You'll find us at 850-932-8850 or at 5 Via de Luna.

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SIT ON DALE'S BIG DECK

Ad Hoc Committee Presents Revised Proposal

The Santa Rosa Island Authority Committee which has been studying the Request for Qualifications to secure a master land planner feels it has passed a motion that would eliminate the problem which was been holding back the effort to get a planner.

At their March 24 meeting, the committee accepted an offer regarding the funding which will be necessary to go through the process of hiring a planner.

Robert Rinke, Portofino developer, offered to let the existing Island Beautification Fund pay \$150,000 for the planner.

"I can take \$150,000 and say

there it is. Hire one really great planner," Rinke said. "The Authority can work with the planner and the fund will pay for it. It goes out and never comes back. It will not be paid back to the fund."

Previously, the sticking point with the SRIA was the allocation of monies which eventually had to be paid back to the Island Beautification Fund.

"I am willing to agree to allocate the money," Rinke said. "I am willing to say move forward and do not bog down the process. If, however, you need another \$100,000 or \$150,000, to do

the plan right; if that is what it takes, I would I agree to that. But, that amount would have to come back to the fund."

Dave Pavlock moved that the committee recommend to the SRIA that \$150,000 be allocated from the Fund to advertise and secure a land planner. That amount will not be reimbursed. Should additional monies up to \$150,000 be needed, that may be allocated and will be reimbursed to the Fund.

The motion was passed unanimously by Ad Hoc Committee members Fred Gant, chairman; Vernon Prather, Dave Pavlock and

Robert Rinke.

After the motion passed, Prather said, "The fact is that we need a plan. I believe the Board of County Commissioners asked us to bring one plan."

The committee noted that the plan would definitely incorporate the core area including traffic and parking problems.

If the Authority Full Board approved the RFQ and its funding, those selected will be invited to make a presentation.

If the Full Board approves the process, the proposals would be due April 22, according to Mike Langston, Baskerville Donovan, who will be in charge of advertising the RFQ.

Beach School Kids Excel In Many Areas

Pensacola Beach Elementary School students continue to excel in many areas even as the school year winds down to its final two months before summer vacation.

Sandee Bredesen, in her teacher's report at the March 30 School Board meeting, noted that two students had read one million words in the Accelerated Reader's program; Kyla Homewood, first grade, and Jamie Seabrook, fifth grade. This program encourages students to read by allowing them to select books to read and then complete an online test to evaluate comprehension.

Another first grader, Dory Donatelli, is now a published author. Bredesen has receive a letter notifying her that Dory's poem will be published among students in kindergarten through third grade throughout the State of Florida in the Creative Communication Anthology.

Results of the Father's Day Essay contest are in and Lane Hackelman, who entered in the Stepfather category, was one of the winners in the countywide contest.

At the same time that the Beach School is posting many honors, the school is becoming more and more attractive to students who reside off the Beach.

Kim Homewood, chair of the Student Enrollment Policy committee, submitted a recommendation to the Board. The committee recommends a cap on the class size as follows: kindergarten and first grade, 22 students each; second and third grade, 24 students each; and fourth and fifth grade, 26 students each.

"The quality of the education attracts students," Homewood said. "And because it is a Charter school these youngsters can potentially be accepted."

However, as Homewood explained there has to be a stopping point, based on the size of the school and the staff.

"We had many things to consider," she said. "We had to find what was best for the students, consider the financial process; balance it all. It was not easy and it is not ideal, but it is what we are proposing."

The recommendation passed the Board unanimously. The policy will be effective August 2009.

Todd McCurdy, Board president, presented the Finance Committee report stating that the school is still ahead \$100,000 for the year.

"However donations are down," he said. "And contingency fees are unknown. The new budget will be based on 144

students. Funding from the state per student is unknown. The cuts could be five percent or fifteen percent. We just don't know."

The computerized classroom "Smart Boards" provided by the PTA and the Board, will be installed and operational this week in all classrooms, according to Principal Jeff Castleberry.

Also on tap for Beach School students is the Optimists Club Oratorical Contest which began April 6 with the final competition on April 7 for grades three through five. Top winners will compete for the School's first prize and they will then advance to compete in the district level.

The next meeting of the School Board will be on Monday, April 27 at 6 p.m. at the School. All meetings are open to the public.

**Turtle Friendly
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Tuesday, April 15
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
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Beach Is On A Roll - Full Speed Ahead For Businesses

More than twenty members of the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce attended the March 31 meeting and all were bringing good news to the table. The economy may be sluggish in other places, but such a calamity is not evident on the Beach.

"The Go Irish on the Island St. Paddy's Day was the best Tuesday we have ever had except when the Fourth of July fell on Tuesday one year," said Robert Gleim, representing Bamboo Willie's. "We had a blast and were pleased to see how well all our Chamber friends did that day."

Proceeds, which went to Covenant Hospice in Pensacola, were \$3413.57 coming from Beach bars purchase of t-shirts and the Society of Leprechauns raffles, led by Beverly Hughes.

Statements made by business owners at their Roundtable enhanced the good mood. Jeff Elbert, Chamber president said, "We are having a great spring. Both of my beach stores are doing well. I think we may be reaching the end of the dark tunnel of bad economic times."

The following is a sampling of comments regarding the economic upturn on the Beach:

"With the warm weather, we

are doing awesome. The Pub Crawl was great. I hope to be part of that every year."

Beverly Boswell, co-owner Sandshaker Lounge

"Paradise is doing really well. The old kitchen is gone and the new kitchen is open."

Renee Mack, general manager, Paradise complex

"Realtors are seeing a traffic increase. We have some offers working. With the weather and the tourist season coming along, the real estate market is perking up."

Nan Harper, co-owner, Island Realty

Tom Barron of Barron's Realty Group said, "Vacation rental business has picked up, especially in the last month. We're getting a lot more requests for long weekends from people who can drive to the beach."

Marta Ray, Days Inn sales and reservations specialist, said, "We have been really busy. The rain hurt us a little bit but last week we had the participants from an indoor cheerleading competition."

Networking is a funny thing," Diane Tyson of Cook Realty said. "I am currently working with two people who were referred to me two years ago from Best Western. People are ready to buy and now

is a good time to invest."

Shelley Johnson, publisher, announced that *Island Times* has been selected for inclusion in the University of Florida Digital Newspaper Library. The Beach paper was the only Escambia County newspaper chosen. The selection for Santa Rosa County was the *Press Gazette*.

Biggest news is that the Cham-



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X CLEAN CLEANERS

ber Board has hired a new Executive Director whose name was to go before the Santa Rosa Island Authority Board today. A full profile will appear in the next issue of

Island Times.

The next meeting will be April 28 at the Comfort Inn at 8:30 a.m. Business After Hours will be at 5:30 p.m. at PegLeg Pete's the same day.



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The Sharing O'The Green - The Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Society of Leprechauns donated \$3,413.57 to Covenant Hospice. Attending the March 31 official donation ceremony at Paradise Bar and Grill are (L to R): Ashley Kahn, Hospice; Bobbi Cunningham, Beverly Hughes and Shirley Blake, Society of Leprechauns; Leah Harrison, Hospice and Beach Chamber President Jeff Elbert.



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All Mudbugs Welcome - And So Are You At Annual Crawfish Festival

The mudbugs will want to get up and dance at Bamboo Willie's Annual Crawfish Festival, but that's not the reason they were invited. Many of the area's most popular bands will be entertaining from 2 p.m. until into the night at the festival which is Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 19.

Bands will be playing at the Bamboo Willie's stage, the Half Shell stage in the Amphitheatre, and the Bimini Beach Bar stage.

The Eighth Annual Merchant's Sidewalk Sale will take place all along the Boardwalk beginning at noon on both Saturday and Sunday.

And the Kid's Zone will add plenty of fun for the children who attend. Face painters, Rainbow the Clown, the Petting Zoo and Scoop the Pelican will all be on hand. Scoop is the Pensacola Pelican's baseball team mascot. The Kids Zone will be under the CAT Country tent and will include Craw-

fish races at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

And why were the five tons of Crawfish invited? Mainly, to feed the hungry and secondly to provide funding for the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce which will get tips for serving the Louisiana delicacy. Bamboo Willie's welcomes a cazillion mudbugs to their festival every year.

Are you ready to do the flamenco? The Pensacola Beach Optimist Club will have the perfect setting for you at their annual exciting spring party, the Conquistador Gala. The name is to honor the 450th anniversary of the founding of Pensacola by Spain. The purpose of the great party, however, is a fundraiser for Optimist projects with the Pensacola Beach Elementary School at the top of the list.

"This event is so special," said Optimist Bettie Lee Sundstrom.

Crawfish Festival Entertainment Schedule

Bamboo Willie's Stage

Fri, April 17: The Shiz, 3:30
Mo Jiles, 9:00

Sat, April 18: The Shiz, noon
Tout Les Soir, 5:00
Mo Jiles, 10:00

Sun, April 19: Tout Les Soir, 1:00
Mo Jiles, 6:00

Half Shell Stage

Sat, April 18: Boogie, Inc.
Karaoke, 2:00

Sun, April 19: Boogie, Inc.
Karaoke, 2:00

Bimini Beach Bar Stage

Fri, April 17: Three Amigo's, 2:00
Oliver Twist, 7:00

Sat, April 18: Three Amigo's, 2:00
Wildwood, 7:00

Sun, April 19: Ba'Nana Republic,
2:00

Kids Zone

Friday, April 17: Face painters,
Rainbow the Clown, 5:00

Saturday, April 18: Face painters,
noon; Petting Zoo, Rainbow
the Clown 2:00

Sunday, April 19: Face painters,
noon; Petting Zoo, Rainbow
the Clown, Scoop the Pelican,
Crawfish Races, 2 p.m.

Calling All Conquistadors To Optimist Fundraising Gala

"We put on a great show that everyone enjoys and the proceeds go to youth activities."

There will be music for all you Flamenco dancers (and some for the Tango and hip hoppers as well) at Flounder's on Tuesday, April 21 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Some people will go home richer than when they came by virtue of a unique raffle.

Flounder's special Spanish chefs will be serving tapas, empanadas, a paella, flan and

churros. Other countries represented by the non-Spanish cooks will be bowls of bouillabaisse, rice pilaf, chicken and rice, and spicy pork.

If you are beginning to get the message, the Conquistador Gala will have something for everyone, even Sangria.

Tickets for the event are \$50 per person and raffle tickets are also \$50. If you didn't receive your invitation in the mail, call Bettie Lee

Sundstrom at 436-2079.

This is the only fundraiser conducted by the Optimists which provides assistance to twenty-six agencies in addition to the Beach School. The recipients range from the Science Olympiad and Project Graduation at Gulf Breeze High School to the Manna Food Bank and the Santa Rosa Kids House.

The Optimists meet on the Beach twice each month. If you are interested in membership, please call 850-377-0539.

Pensacola Beach Optimist Club presents

The Conquistador Gala

Tuesday, April 21 • 6 to 10 p.m. • Flounder's Chowder House

PLEASE JOIN US. Send check payable to the Pensacola Beach Optimist Club
c/o Bettie Lee Sundstrom, 4120 Montaigne Dr., Pensacola, FL 32504

Name _____

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Dinner reservations _____ (\$50 ea.)

Number of raffle tickets _____ (\$50 ea.)

Sorry, I cannot attend, but, here's my donation of \$ _____ for the PBOC.

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Pensacola Beach Optimist Club Charities:

Pensacola Beach Elementary School, Pensacola Beach Chamber, Beach Community Church, Our Lady of the Assumption, Pensacola Beach lifeguards, park rangers, Sheriff's department and fire fighters; Optimist International Childhood Cancer Research and Scholarships, Kelli Noel Stewart Dance Scholarship, Baptist Health Care Foundation, Favor House of Pensacola, Santa Rosa Educational Foundation, Gulf Breeze Middle & High School, Santa Rosa Kid's House, Santa Rosa Educational Foundation, Manna Food Bank, ARC Gateway Pearl Nelson Center, Sacred Heart Foundation The Children Fund

Admission includes:
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Dinner Menu:
Tapas, Bouillabaisse, Rice
Pilaf, Chicken and Rice, Spicy
Pork, Empanadas, Paella, Flan,
Churros; and Sangria.

Only 100 Raffle Tickets will be sold at \$50 each. \$2500 in Cash Prizes will be awarded.
\$2500 will be donated to Pensacola Beach Elementary School. Do not have to be present to win.

SANDCASTLES

Pensacola Beach Real Estate

A Piece of Beach History For Sale

Quaint bungalows were the housing trend on Pensacola Beach in the 1950s. Construction was typically a one-story cinder block structure with terrazzo floors. Early residents on Pensacola Beach were faced with building an uninsurable home on leasehold property in a small island community. There weren't many urban amenities for those who became islanders. Few lived on Pensacola Beach year round.

Why did they come to live on the island?

They wanted white sand beaches in their front yard. They were lulled to sleep each night by gentle breezes. The tropical rhythm of island life was music to their ears. Beach living called to

OF NOTE

AWARDS -

Dennis Remesch, RE/MAX on the Coast has been awarded an Executive Club designation by RE/MAX International.

NETWORKING-

Pensacola Bay Area Women's

their soul.

Some of the original beach bungalows still remain on the island. One is listed for sale by Linda Murphy at Cook Realty. It has been completely remodeled, probably more than once, in its five decades on the Island. It sits on Via de Luna, looking sunny with its yellow painted cinder block exterior. It's a piece of beach history; a chance to come home to a simpler way of life.

In recent years, the typical beach home has more square footage and elaborate touches. Condos offer a community lifestyle full

Council of Realtors Mayor's State of the Cities Address, will be Friday, April 10 at New World Landing beginning at 11a.m. Five mayors will discuss their cities present issues and future possibilities. For further information, please contact

of amenities. Investors look at properties on Santa Rosa Island for their earning power and potential.



Beach bungalow at 205 Via de Luna, built 1958.

Local realtors repeat the same mantra - this is the time to buy on the Beach. The price is right and the white sand beaches, gentle breezes and tropical rhythms remain.

President Janice Henke at 982-5018. GulfCoast Community Bank is April's luncheon sponsor.

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Sold in Paradise in 2009

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Property Address	Price
336 Ft. Pickens Rd. #209E	\$145,000
1100 Ft. Pickens Rd. #A3	\$230,000
330 Ft. Pickens Rd. #6E	\$233,000
1390 Ft. Pickens Rd. #227	\$275,000
1 Portofino Dr. #1306	\$325,000
850 Ft. Pickens Rd. #1140	\$365,000
1500 Via de Luna #G5	\$375,000
1200 Ft. Pickens Rd. #5A	\$395,000
3 Portofino Dr. #1503	\$420,000
1010 Maldonado Dr.	\$425,000
2 Sugar Bowl Lane	\$450,000
2 Portofino Dr. #PH5	\$450,000
3 Portofino Dr. #1603	\$450,000
5 Portofino Dr. #1604	\$540,000
1 Portofino Dr. #1704	\$575,000
1 Portofino Dr. #2004	\$580,000
3 Portofino Dr. #T507	\$582,000
3 Portofino Dr. #2001	\$650,000
3 Portofino Dr. #1901	\$675,000
4 Portofino Dr. #2101	\$700,000
1 Portofino Dr. #PH1	\$720,000
1620 Calle Bonita	\$799,000
721 Pensacola Beach Blvd #2001	\$800,000
262 Sabine Dr	\$812,500
1406 Ariola Dr	\$2,290,000

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Real Estate For Sale

Pensacola Beach, 4BR/4BA, Waterfront, 4722 SF, MLS # 362522, \$2,900,000. Mark Lee, Levin Rinke Resort Realty, 850-261-1996

Pensacola Beach, 5BR/5BA, Gulfront, 3100 SF, MLS # 348804, \$2,800,000. Joseph Billingsly, Paradise Coastal Realty, Inc., 850-291-6761

Pensacola Beach, 4BR/3BA, Gulfront, 3128 SF, MLS # 345506, \$2,250,000. Sherlyn Waghalter, RE/MAX on the Coast 850-449-4242

Pensacola Beach, 5BR/3.5BA, Gulfront, 2706 SF, MLS # 354901, \$1,899,000. Fred Simmons, Paradise Coastal Realty, Inc. 850-232-2188

Pensacola Beach, 4BR/3BA, Gulfront, 2150 SF, MLS #363760, \$1,799,000. Fred Simmons, Paradise Coastal Realty, Inc. 850-232-2188

Pensacola Beach, 4BR/3.5BA, Waterfront, 4100 SF, MLS#325067, \$1,750,000. Kathy Tanner, Tanner Realty of Northwest Florida, 850-982-0755

Pensacola Beach, 4BR/3BA, Gulfront, 2006 SF, MLS#363742, \$1,699,000. Fred Simmons, Paradise Coastal Realty, Inc. 850-232-2188

Pensacola Beach, 3BR/2BA, Gulfront, 1440 SF, MLS#333592, \$1,495,000. Jennifer McCrary, Paradise Coastal Realty, Inc. 850-932-0067

Pensacola Beach, 4BR/4BA, Waterfront, 3843 SF, MLS # 320735, \$1,490,000. Teena Cobb, Cook Realty, 850-501-5875

Pensacola Beach, 5BR/4BA, Soundfront, 4590SF, MLS#354772, \$1,295,000. Heather Dupuis, Exit Realty N.F.I., 850-712-9186

Real Estate For Sale

4 bedroom/4 bathroom condo near the core area of Pensacola Beach. The open floor plan allows for Gulf views from the living room, kitchen, and master bedroom. The large kitchen has granite counter tops and a double oven. The unit features two Gulf side balconies, a two car garage. Elevator opens into a private foyer. The property is being sold fully furnished. \$625,000. Call Jeremy Johnson, Broker/Associate Island Realty, 850-377-3145.

Pensacola Beach, 5BR/3.5BA, Waterfront, 4375 SF, MLS# 349772, \$1,275,000. Tammy Bohannon, PA; ERA Beach Ball Realty, 850-982-7128

Pensacola Beach, 1682 Calle Bonita, 3/2.5 Townhome. Gulf Views from patio & balcony. Great investment at this price. \$350,000. Dennis Remesch, RE/MAX on the Coast, 850-384-7607.

Pensacola Beach, Lowest priced waterfront townhouse, \$219,000. The unit was upgraded in 2005 with a new roof, new A/C system, new kitchen counter tops, and new flooring. Call Jeremy Johnson, Broker/Associate Island Realty, 850-377-3145.

Quaint cottage directly across from the Sound. Corner lot with a walkway and steps down to Sound. \$349,000. Jennifer McCrary, Paradise Coastal Realty, Inc. 850-932-0067

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Gulf Breeze, 1139 Redwood Lane. 3/2 Split floor plan. 1376 SF brick home. Fireplace. New flooring. Fenced yard. Two car garage. \$169,900. Dennis Remesch, RE/MAX on the Coast, 850-384-7607.

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The LIZZARD'S TONGUE

by E.K. Hewson



Just last weekend I had the opportunity to fly down to the Beach from Washington, DC. I wasn't even gone a full three days, but when I came home our family cat, Sparky, treated me like I had been away for a lifetime. When I walked into our master bedroom to unpack my overnight bag, I noticed Sparky was cuddled up on my pillow. I figured it was just her way of staking out her new found territory. You know how that goes -- human lady was gone, feline phenom takes over. But something told me this wasn't the case. For the first time since I rescued her from certain death, she was looking at me with her emerald green eyes as "mom" not the "human lady."

"Harrys," I yelled to my two boys, "what's wrong with Sparky? She's letting me pet her and she's not moving from my part of the bed."

I received a "don't know" from young Harry and the Colonel mumbled something about she's been that way since Saturday night.

Since Saturday night! What do you mean since Saturday night? My precious little Sparky in her pink camouflage collar and her jeweled "Diva" name tag has been on my pillow since Saturday night. Oh and to think I flew home to visit my mom and missed probably my only opportunity to bond with the darn cat. Just my luck.

So I seized the moment and tried to pick her up when she hissed at me and became the reincarnate of Linda Blair in the original Exorcist.

"Harrys," I yelled to my boys again, "Sparky just hissed at me and is still not moving from my pillow. Did something happen while I was gone? And this time I want answers."

"Dad found her collar in the driveway and we've been feeding this really cool boy cat that hangs out on our porch now. Can we adopt him too?" fessed up young Harry.

The next thing I know the Colonel was by my side explain-

ing that he let her out, but only for about 30 minutes and she never left the yard. The man, who is trained to spot inconsistencies on a battlefield from 100 feet in the air, then said that he didn't happen to notice that when he let her back in her collar was missing. He was, however, quite proud of himself that he found it in the driveway on Sunday morning before they came to pick me up from the airport. He tried to give me an explanation on how the collar has a safety latch that easily comes apart to avoid accidental strangulation and he thought maybe she had removed it. I gave him the look that clearly communicated Sparky is the cat that doesn't know enough to come in out of the rain or the snow and there was no way she removed her own collar.

Then the Colonel morphed into some kind of Marine Corps version of St. Francis of Assisi. He was all of the sudden Mr. Humanitarian and I almost fell for it remembering he did jump off the Bay Bridge to save a dog's life when he was in flight school in Pensacola. He started telling me how this male cat came to the back door on Friday night and was hungry, so he fed him. Then he was back on Saturday and Sunday. He even suggested that maybe this other cat could be our outdoor cat. Our outdoor cat?!

But somewhere among the pil-

lows, I heard a small meow. I don't speak feline, but I truly believe Sparky was with me in solidarity and trying to tell me that this male cat was the reason why she was cuddled up on my pillows and not moving. And because I don't speak feline, it wasn't until I shooed her from my spot in bed that I realized she was truly hurt. I now had become Cat Woman with an attitude and both Harrys knew I was ready to pounce.

Young Harry quickly was on the back porch taking in the food and water dishes. The Colonel just handed me the check book and made some comment about the GPS upgrade on the sailboat could wait. Well duh.

Turns out Sparky had been in a pretty good cat fight and unfortunately she lost. She had a puncture wound to her right side and shredded claws on her right paw. After a thorough examination complete with much hissing (I think cat hissing is the equivalent to human cursing) and a few shots from our local vet, Sparky is now on the mend.

Of course, once again order is restored in our house. She loves the Colonel. She tolerates the kid and she still hates the human lady. And to think I was bamboozled by her snuggling on my pillow and the pitiful meow. Hmm, maybe next time I'll make sure we get the upgraded gear for our sailboat and not our vet. Until next time...



Jubilee the Dog put on her very best mermaid costume and joined the Woofapalooza parade in Pensacola March 29 with her best friend, Geri Petkowski from Navarre. The event which included a music fest raised money for local animal shelters. It was promoted by Fun Coast Promotions and Doug McAllister.



Movie Star "Marley" who was played by Peyton, a yellow Labrador Retriever, served as the Grand Marshall of the Woofapalooza parade on Sunday, March 29 in Pensacola. He is joined by his handlers David Sousa and Layton Roark. Woofapalooza is a Fun Coast Promotions event.

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A Cross in the Sand

By
Dr. Chuck Randle, Pastor
Pensacola Beach Community Church

Back in the days when it was popular to have sensitivity training sessions among clergy, Walter was asked to lead a three-day clergy retreat. As customary, Walter shared meditations and led discussions for the first two days. He tried to model the benefits of being open to the inner voice, as well as to one another. The participants just could not move to that level. They carried on superficial conversations, told an occasional joke to hide their uncomfortableness, and would not move beyond that.

During a restless night when Walter could not sleep, it became clear to him that the clergy were afraid of making themselves vulnerable ... sharing their true selves with one another. They wanted to project the image of persons in complete control.

The next morning Walter gave each participant several sheets of red construction paper, instructing them to tear off a strip of paper and attach it to place on their bodies where they had been injured in some way. When they had all done this, he told them to keep attaching red paper to the sites of physical injuries until either all their

paper was gone or they ran out of injuries. No one stopped until every strip of paper was attached somewhere. Walter asked everyone to look around the room at the sea of red, which represented their woundedness. As they saw the outward signs of their brokenness, most of the participants also broke through their outer defense. The pretense that they could save themselves was gone. The sea of red proclaimed that everyone suffers, that we are all wounded, and that none of us can save ourselves through our own power. (Story attributed to Susan Zerkus)

As Christians move through this week known as "Holy Week" we are reminded again of our vulnerability, that we are all wounded in one way or another, and that we need healing that comes from love - God's love and the love of one another. The new commandment given on what we observe as Maundy Thursday was to "Love one another, as I have loved you."

I believe the French philosopher was right when he wrote, "The way we treat others is the way we treat God."

A blessed Easter to all!

Peruvian Choir Visits Our Lady

Pensacola Beach residents and visitors will have an opportunity to hear an award-winning Peruvian ensemble as they perform on Sunday, April 19 at the 9:45 a.m. mass at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Mission. This visit marks the beginning of a multi-city United States tour by the group which consists of singers and instrumentalists.

The peruvian choir hails from Fr. Jack Davis' mission in Chimbote, Peru and will also be performing at St. Ann in Gulf Breeze and St. Sylvester's Catholic Church in Navarre.

The events are free and open to the public.

For more information call 850-932-2859.

EGG HUNT



Pensacola Beach Church
Saturday, April 11
9 a.m.
Prizes for Every-bunny



Dr. Fran Albert drove to Sebring, Florida to visit former Beach guy Larry Murph, who was fondly known as Murph. Fran delivered a real treat - shrimp from Joe Patti's and the last five editions of Island Times. Now Murph can catch up on Beach news. Photo by Tina Haffenden

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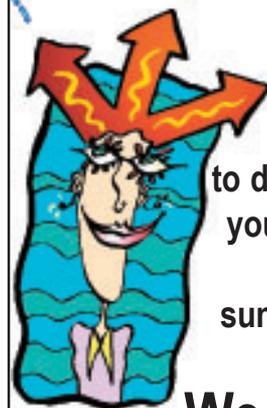
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readin' the water

by Saltwater Rick

The Ling season is in full swing and lots of nice ones are being takin' by the boats so you need to book yourself a trip down at the Beach Marina before it's too late.

Off the beach Phillip Tarver is on the boards at Gulf Breeze Bait and Tackle with a 37.10 pound Cobia and Kenny "Crab" Way, Jr. posted a 34.40 pounder.

Pompano are all over the beaches and Tim Markam still has the lead in the Pompano tournament as of our deadline. Will Cross posted a 3.79 Pomp and Magan Delangis has a 3.76 pounder.

Speckled Trout and Redfish are the inshore target and the Grass Beds are full of them. Try

around sunset if you're like me and can't get up early in the morning. I find that if you go with the wind, you'll find the bait in the coves and where the small fish are....so go the big ones. Do yourself a favor and go Fishin'



Saltwater Rick with a Speck caught off the 4Fun near Range Point on March 20.

Yacht Club Sailors Race For Preemies

What better way to spend a day - sailing for a great cause! Pensacola Beach Yacht Club will host its Ninth Annual Premie Cup Regatta on Saturday, April 18, to benefit the Sacred Heart Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Sailors will compete in Double-Handed, Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker, Laser, Opti and Beach Cats classes.

Skippers of big boats may register from 6 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 17 at the Beach Yacht Club. The Skippers meeting will follow.

Dinghy class and Catamaran skippers will register on Saturday, April 18 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Quietwater Beach. The skippers meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. prior to the noon race start. The larger boat course will be set in the bay; and smaller boats will sail at Quietwater.

Spectators can watch the racing from many beach vantage points.

Regatta dogs, class awards

and the Perpetual Premie Cup Trophy awards will be presented at the Beach Yacht Club, Saturday at 5 p.m.

Click on the "Premie Cup" link at the PBYC website (www.pensacolabeach-yc.org) for race, event and donation details.

For further information contact David Johnson, Fleet Captain, at djsurfer69@yahoo.com, or William Paden PRO at pcolabaypro@aol.com

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Symposium Sheds Light on Turtle Friendly Trends

The nightlife and night lights on Pensacola Beach may be fine for residents and tourists but it spells disaster for the endangered sea turtle hatchlings that emerge from the sand to make their way Gulfward each year. The bright lights disorient the hatchlings that should be following the moonlight to find their permanent home in the Gulf of Mexico.

There are four species of sea turtles that nest on the beaches of Santa Rosa Island. The most common are loggerheads, but nests belonging to green sea turtles, Kemp's Ridley and leatherbacks are also documented.

In order to educate Beach residents about the turtle population, the Santa Rosa Island Authority in conjunction with federal, state and local agencies is hosting a Turtle Friendly Lighting Symposium, Wednesday, April 15 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Authority office.

Speakers in the first session, which begins at 9 a.m., will cover topics about federal and state government requirements with regard to turtle friendly lighting and what measures can be taken to enforce these rules. Sue Smith, SRIA Environmental and Developmental Services, will give an update on the SRIA policies. Andrew Diller, Florida Sea Grant Marine Extension agent to Escambia County, will present his Turtle Friendly Beach Program.

The second session kicks off with Gulf Islands National Park Service Biologist Mark Nicholas' report on Pensacola Beach nest sites. His fifteen minute presentation will begin at 10:25. Gigi

Naggatz will give an update on turtle nesting at Navarre Beach. Escambia County Environmental Analyst Tim Day and Escambia County's Chief of Marine Resources Robert Turpin will present information from Escambia County.

The symposium will break for lunch and the afternoon session, which begins at 12:30, will be geared for public input and questions.

Pensacola Beach leaseholders and condo association representatives are encouraged to attend the final session from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. where officials will be available to share information and offer assistance in creating a turtle friendly environment on Pensacola Beach.

The public is welcome to attend this day long event. There is no charge and no reservation is required. For more information, contact Sue Smith at 850-932-2257.



Just hours old, Sea Turtle Hatchlings make their way to the Gulf of Mexico. Bright artificial lights can disorient turtles who must immediately trek to the water.

Photo courtesy of DJ Zemenick, Barrier Island Girl



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Mostly Nuts & Bolts

By
Candy Segar

I would like to tell you a story about an Italian physicist and Nobel laureate named Carlo Rubbia. He published a report at CERN, the European Center for Nuclear Research, in 1993 on a basic design for a subcritical energy amplifier. This type of nuclear power reactor utilizes an energetic particle beam which stimulates a reaction in thorium. If you bombard thorium with low energy neutrons, it turns into a rapidly decaying isotope of uranium which releases energy. This may be the alternative energy source we have been seeking for power generation.

What does this all mean? There's a new energy source in town, and its name is thorium. It is number 90 on the periodic chart. It is abundant on this planet. So abundant in fact, that there is enough thorium to generate power

Ski Club Trades Snow For Sand Flounder's Beach

The Pensacola Ski Club is heading to the gently sloping white sands of Pensacola Beach for their Spring Party and Business Meeting, Sunday, April 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Flounder's.

The officer and board election is on the agenda. The following slates will be considered: Officers: President Susan Naile; Vice president Melinda Ross; Vice President of trips Ilona Borish; Treasurer Terri Phillips; Asst Treasurer Cindy Urmos-Clements; Secretary Beverly Gay; and Past president/FSC delegate Al Maddux.

First year board members: Michelle Mandel, Fitzhugh L. Miller, Tim Bone, Jim Clements, Paul Belt, Pam Ryland, Al Austin, John Rogers, Bruce "Doc" Holliday and Bob Breathitt.

Second year board members: Cheryl Alter, Barbara Erhart, Denise Hair, Ron Shaeffer, Karin Streetman, Laura Tkach, Archie Hovanesian, Diane Mielcarz, Alan Miller and Traci Ingram-Gay.

for several thousand years at current consumption. This new type of power plant, called an Energy Amplifier, would not have to contend with a runaway reaction. The reaction is more easily controlled. If anything went wrong, the reaction would stop, and the reactor would cool down. Another nifty aspect of thorium is its rate of decay. It happens quite rapidly within ten to twenty years. After 500 years, the thorium wastes would be equivalent to the radioactive level of coal ash. The energy amplifier produces very little plutonium, and in addition to this; there is also the possibility of using this type of plant to rid the world of existing plutonium.

So why aren't we using it? An even more pointed question is this - Why haven't we heard about this? This could revolutionize the world in supplying power for all countries. Is there anyone pursuing this technology? You bet there is. India is taking the lead at the Bhabha Atomic Research Center near Kalpakkam. Their plan is to build a plant based on Carlo Rubbia's design and iron out any problems that may occur. If India succeeds, it may literally become the powerhouse of the world. And we need to jump on that electron and follow the wave!



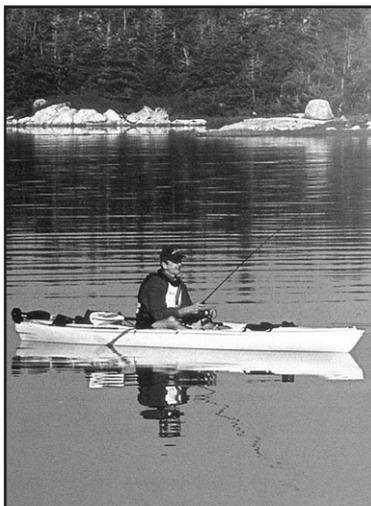
The Florida Trail Association hosts monthly hikes along the Dunes Trail on Pensacola Beach. Rheba Mason, left, and Ginny Hinton, right, take the lead as the group passes Portofino Resort heading east toward the Florida Trail marker which denotes the start their hike along the Dunes Path. Hikers should meet at the parking node across from Portofino at 9 a.m. Friday, April 10 to participate in this free event.

Photo courtesy of DJ Zemenick, Barrier Island Girl

The Beach is Back

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Star Gazers Look Up On Pensacola Beach

Summer Series Set

Star light, star bright, the first star you see tonight might be through the Escambia Amateur Astronomers Association telescopes which are trained on local night skies.

The monthly club meeting will be Friday, April 10 at Pensacola Junior College and is open to anyone desiring to learn more about the night sky, according to Dewey Barker, Club representative.

"We will set up at the Gulfside Pavilion on May 29 and 30 at 7 p.m. so the general public can enjoy the star sights," said Barker.

The club will have gazes at Fort Pickens on June 19, July 17, Aug. 14, Sept. 18, and Oct. 6.

For more information about the Astronomers Club, go to www.eaaa.net.



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BUSINESS BUZZ ...

SPECIAL THANKS

Shirley Blake sends a big Irish thank you to the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Society of Leprechauns, participating Pubs and Crawlers and all those who donated time and money to support the 23rd Annual St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl.

HANG TEN

Local surfer and national champion Yancy Spencer wants the get-wet-set to learn to surf. If you have always wanted to learn to hang ten, now's your chance. Sign up today.

SPIKED FUN

Do you want to be the King of the Beach? That's the title and crown for the best volleyball players on Thursday and Sunday night at Flounder's Beach. The Bar League plays on Tuesday nights and guys and gals gather for the co-ed play on Wednesdays. Tournaments start at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to play.

HOW LOW CAN YOU GO

Lazy island afternoons on Pensacola Beach have become a Sunday tradition. Rum and Reggae fits the bill. Slink, slide and slither under the limbo stick at Bimini Bar. Sway to the beat of the reggae music. Sip a Bimini Juice. Freddy Espo says it's time to do it, Mon.

SOARING SUNDAY

You will have to look skyward when the Blue Angels and Fat Albert return home on Sunday afternoons with their traditional pass along Pensacola Beach. View this from any beachside bistro on the Island. Beach resident Frank Cooper says he's seen them a thousand times, but the thrill is still there. Red, White and Blues Week is set for July 8-11.

ROAD TO THE FORT

Nina Kelson, Gulf Islands National Seashore ranger, says reconstruction of Fort Pickens Road is underway. The construction has been challenged by the rain, and must be watchful of the sensitive habitat for nesting sea turtles and colonial shorebirds. With all that in mind, the road may be complete by Memorial Day weekend.

Until then the over land

shuttle runs Saturday and Sunday, call for times, 850-698-7492. Water taxi service is provided by Blue Marlin Water Taxi 850-723-4907; Kaitlyn 850-492-1099; and Key Sailing 850-932-5520.

TEA PARTY INVITATION

In the strong tradition of our American forefathers, a Tea Party has been organized to protest increased income taxes. The rally is set for Wednesday, April 15 at the corner of Palafox and Garden Street from 3 to 6 p.m. Bring signs and a smile.

GET HOOKED UP

Mediacom has a basketfull of specials this month. Digital cable, online and Mediacom phone services are all available for a sweet deal.

YOU CAN BANK ON IT

Keep your money close to home at the Bank of the South's Island Branch. Longtime Beach banker Judy Lenderman is there to help you. Whether you want to bank online or on the Beach, stop in and ask Judy about the bank's five star recognition.

WRAP IT UP

Shipping something as fragile as an Easter Egg, no worries. Bring it to Wally and Linda Schiessl at the UPS Store. They will wrap, ship and insure it. Just minutes from the Beach in the Bruno's shopping center.

A PICK ME UP

The roadside between Pensacola Beach and Navarre Beach needs a little TLC so it can be returned to its former pristine condition. The scenic drive which is a business corridor for both beaches is littered with post hurricane and road construction debris. Volunteers who would like to help clean up are asked to meet at the first parking lot after you enter the Seashore from the west at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 11, April 18 and April 25.

MORE GUARDS

Lifeguards are returning to their stands in greater numbers on Pensacola Beach. Opal Beach lifeguards will return on Memorial Day weekend. Keep a close eye on the surf flags for swim conditions.

BYTES AND BITS

By Joe Stukey, Your Computer Pal

"What is a TWITTER?"

Think you have valuable information you would like to share with millions of people? Like to stay in touch with friends? Like to keep up with the latest happenings direct from your favorite celebrity? Then join Twitter! Twitter is a networking service that allows its users to send and receive short messages known as "tweets." Tweets are up to 140 characters in length. They are displayed on your Twitter profile page and delivered to other users who are following you on Twitter. Through tweets you can share short text messages, links to web pages, video, images on the web or images stored on your cell phone.

Twitter has many uses for both personal and business use. It's a great way to keep in touch with your friends and quickly broadcast information about where you are and what you're up to. For business purposes, Twitter can be used to broadcast your company's latest news and blog posts, interact with your customers, or enable easy internal collaboration and group communication.

You can sign up and create your free Twitter account by going to www.twitter.com.

Follow other Twitter users by logging into your account, visiting your friends' Twitter pages and clicking "Follow" underneath their photo. If your friend's account is public, you will immediately start seeing their tweets on your profile page. Prominent Twitter users include Bill Gates, Demi Moore, Whole Foods Market, The Red Cross, and many others.

This article was provided by The Stukey Group. For questions, contact Joe at joe@ycpals.com or 850-206-3156.

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Scher Marches To Victory

"Stonewall" Justin Scher marched right into the winner's circle to claim the monthly champions crown at Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun. He played his cards close to his vest to accumulate two first places and three runners-up titles at the weekly games during March.

"He gets to sit in the Champions Chair all month and took home the glory and the garb that goes with it," said Poker Promoter Rick Uzdevenes. "A bridge pass and a bottle of his favorite liquid refreshment also is included in the prize package."

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun hosts games six days per week at Paddy O'Leary's and the Sandshaker Lounge.

Winners at the Shaker included Justin Scher who outplayed Phil Tracy in the final on March 23. The following week Mike Holcomb bluffed and bet his way to a win. Father Sean Knox was the runner-up.

"We have been playing in front of a packed house at the Shaker on Monday nights," said Justin. "Lots of fun at the open air tables."

Card players can stack 'em up at Paddy O'Leary's five times per week. Winners included Kristin Larmier who was the last gal standing on March 19. Justin Scher took second place.

Trace Lewis hit the jack pot in the second hour of play on March 21 with a straight flush raking in a huge pot and setting himself up for his first win of the month. Billie Urquhart and Justin Scher battled hard, but Trace had the luck late and hit the cards he needed to secure the win against

Billie Urquhart. Justin Scher was third.

Billie Urquhart went from second place to taking the win on March 22. Billie beat Jamie Luker and Toots Humphrey on the final hand. Jamie was the runner up and Toots settled for third.

Trace Lewis found himself with all the chips on March 23 when he outlasted Angela Brayton in the final.

The Colonel, Phil Tracy, is back on track besting New Orleans resident Norman Bourque on March 26. The Colonel is no stranger to first place having been the player to beat in 2008. But Norman Bourque would not settle for second. He came back for more and went all the way to first place on March 28. Billie Urquhart played to second and defending champ Trace Lewis was third.

Diamond Donnie Beall showed up a little late but hit his stride quickly. He cleaned house taking out Father Sean Knox and Kristin Larmier on March 29. Father Sean had two more chips than Kristin to claim second.

On the last day of March, Renaissance man Mike Willett took out newcomer Coll McCaffery in the final with a nice come from behind victory. Mike is a poker playing poet who dabbles in Beach art, surfing and fishing.

Justin Scher was not foolin' around on April first. He was the top poker player. Eric Weatherford in his first appearance at the final table was the runner-up.

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun games are open to anyone with a basic knowledge of the game. For more information call the poker hotline at 850-324-2667.

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Smooth Talking Tex Gives High Flying Advice

By Tex Atkinson

excerpt from upcoming book
"After the Cockpit"

During my growing up years I was taught many important things. But somehow I missed a lesson or two and as a result I later suffered serious discomfort when speaking in public. As soon as I took the podium I could not catch my breath and suffered dizziness so bad that I was afraid I might pass out. I sometimes found myself just gazing at my audience trying desperately to remember what I was supposed to say. When I did recall the words I discovered that my mouth was dry as desert sand and my lips were stuck together with miracle glue.

This problem caused me considerable embarrassment in high school and college speech classes. Later in the Navy I kept public speaking to a minimum. Then after Navy days I found it was necessary on occasion to address large audiences regarding the product I was selling. During these years I attended many speech classes, enrolled in two Dale Carnegie courses, and was a regular at toastmasters for over five years. I improved as a speaker, but was never relaxed at the podium.

As a Navy carrier pilot I was taught the dangers of hyperventilation, or subconscious fast breathing and how to control the cause. Even in beautiful weather during peacetime, flying can suddenly

change from absolute tranquility to the most vicious kind of anxiety. A sudden rise on a temperature gage followed by a drop in oil pressure and smoke in the cockpit can raise your blood pressure immediately and increase your breathing rate.

In combat a nearby burst of anti-aircraft fire can send chunks of shrapnel into your plane and as you feel the metal hit you begin rapid an unconscious breathing resulting in a tremendous increase in anxiety. Medical terminology states that the resultant fast and shallow breathing leaves too much carbon-dioxide causing a change in the pH of the blood. I think of the problem as too much oxygen and hold my breath for short periods. Movies sometimes show a paper sack over the head, but this cure gets complicated when flying an airplane.

During many years of flying it became second nature for me to immediately control my breathing at the first sign of trouble. Despite this experience and knowing the sensations of hyperventilation I never tied anxiety when speaking in public to the anxiety experienced when trouble happened in an airplane.

Then the day came when I was flying a small plane on a business trip. I was alone and flying

visual flight rules because my aircraft was not equipped for safe instrument flying. I checked the weather-man's rosy predictions but they did not prevent an unscheduled bad storm from rolling in off the gulf and causing me serious problems.

Hyperventilation came on quickly and I was slow in reacting because years had passed since experiencing nervousness while flying. My breathing rate increased; dizziness, confusion, and apprehension began to take charge. Then I remembered to control my breathing by holding my breath for short periods. I soon felt much more relaxed, could think clearly, and managed to land the plane at a small airport in low visibility and heavy rain without mishap.

I was weathered in for a day

and had time to recall how I got into trouble and vowed not to repeat the mistake again. Then I began to think about my attack of hyperventilation. I remembered the feeling of panic and inability to catch my breath; the dizziness and confusion. Then for the first time I realized that the feeling was identical what I experienced when standing before an audience. The thought occurred to me that what worked in the air might also work at the podium.

I was scheduled to address a large group in South Florida the next week. As usual the same old anxiety returned as the time for me to speak got closer. I was sitting at the head table with others but managed to hold my breath and count to ten several times without being

noticed. After a few tries I was able to hold my breath for a count of thirty and could not believe I felt so calm while being introduced to the audience.

I was able to stand before the group and speak with relaxation. The feeling was great. Once during the talk I felt a slight bit of anxiousness. I paused, took a deep breath, and smiled while holding my breath for a few seconds. Relaxation returned and the presentation was well received.

After using this technique for many years it has become second nature and seldom requires conscious thought. I pass it on for those who may benefit.

[Former Beach resident and Naval Aviator Tex Atkinson is the author of "From The Cockpit."]

Yacht Clubbers Host Open House Prospective Members Welcome

The Pensacola Beach Yacht Club will host a New Member Open House on Friday, April 10, beginning at 6:30 p.m. All interested persons - sailors or not - are invited to attend and meet club members, enjoy live music, a cash bar and members' favorite home-cooked appetizers.

You do not need a boat to be

a member. It's a great way to meet new friends and learn about sailing, according to membership coordinator Robin Greene.

"We are looking for fun people with outgoing personalities," said publicity chair Brandi Thompson. "We host non-sailing events like steakhouse night, bike rallies, casino nights, jazz nights,

a haunted house and even a float in the Mardi Gras parade."

The Pensacola Beach Yacht Club is located in the blue Sabine Marine building at 715 Pensacola Beach Boulevard. For more information on Pensacola Beach Yacht Club, or directions to the clubhouse, visit www.pensacolabeach-yc.org or call 934-8757.

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Week on the Beach, One Thousand Dollars Await Winner of Fundraiser

One lucky person is going to win a Beach Get-Away and help the Pensacola Children's Chorus. The group holds special events to raise money to assist with the organization's ongoing mission to provide the finest in music education and performance opportunities for youth.

The Children's Chorus is selling tickets for \$20 each for a chance to win the "Pensacola Beach Waterfront Vacation Get-A-Way and Cash Drawing." For a suggested minimum donation of \$20.00, participants will have a chance to win a one-week stay at Treehouse Condominiums, located at Little Sabine Bay on Pensacola Beach, plus \$1,000.00 in cash.

The winner will enjoy seven days and six nights in a spacious (2,000 square feet), two-story waterfront condominium that is totally renovated and offers a great view of Little Sabine Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, with easy access to the Gulf. The unit includes three bedrooms and two baths and sleeps six to eight people. Limitations may apply based on availability.

Only 1,000 tickets are available and they are going fast. The winner will be announced at the Pensacola Children's Chorus "SHOWTIME 2009" performance Saturday, May 9 at the Pensacola Saenger Theatre.

Please call 850-434-7760 for more information.

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At the traffic light -find the red roof and the twinkling lights on Casino Beach and you're in Crab Heaven. Open everyday. 850-932-0700. www.crabswegotem.com

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Tucked away in the parking lot of the Paradise Inn, it's directly on Santa Rosa Sound. Boat and Bicycle parking. Open 7 days. 850-916-5087.

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Ahoy, Matey. You've found a Pensacola Beach treasure. Pirates welcome. Fresh Gulf seafood served in the galley or outside on the awning covered deck. Glass front bar overlooks LaFitte Cove. All kinds of oysters. Live lobster. Gumbo. Dinner specials nightly. Sizeable sandwiches and burgers for Landlubbers. Take home a t-shirt.

Look for the Jolly Rogers flying over the west end of the Island at 1010 Fort Pickens Road. We're here everyday at 11. 932-4139. www.peglegpetes.com

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Centrally located on Via de Luna, just east of the main parking lot and the traffic light. Kick off at 11 a.m. seven days a week. 934-3660.

MCGUIRE'S IRISH PUB

Even a bragging Irishman can't do justice to McGuire's where the atmosphere is an authentic turn-of-the-century pub. McGuire's has been named one of America's great steakhouses, and is world famous for its culinary artistry. Dollar bills on the walls, a moose to kiss and employees who give a damn! Try an Irish Wake or Senate Bean Soup.

Open at 11 a.m. everyday. Easy drive to 600 East Gregory Street in Pensacola. 850-433-6789 www.mcguiresirishpub.com

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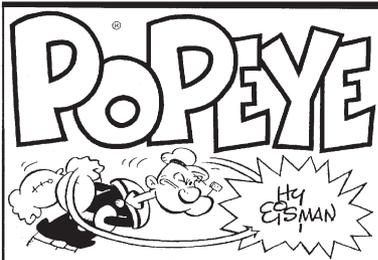
The "World Famous Sandshaker"- a Pensacola Beach Tradition since 1973. It's the Home of the Original Bushwacker and has been selling this signature drink for over 30 years. The Shaker was the 1st bar on the Beach to offer this tasty frozen concoction. Live Music Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun. Karaoke Tuesday Iguana Grill open Wednesday-Sunday

Across from the Boardwalk on Pensacola Beach. Open 10 am until 3am. 850-932-2211. www.sandshaker.com for photo gallery and event schedule.

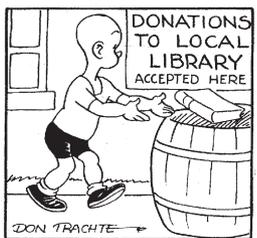
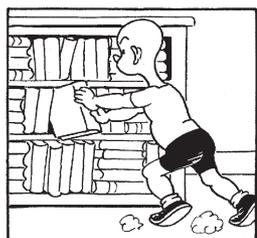
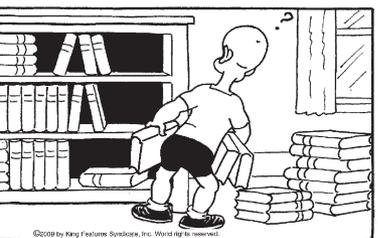
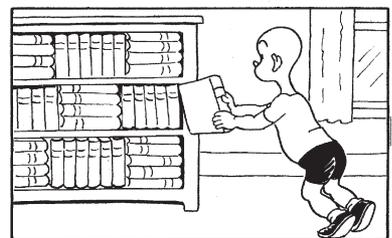
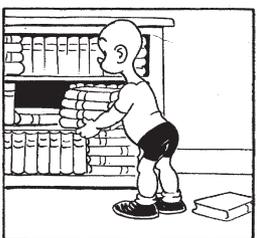
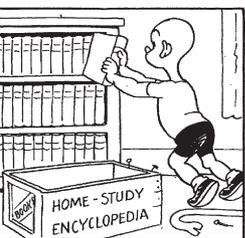
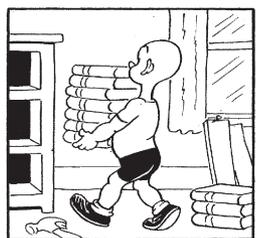
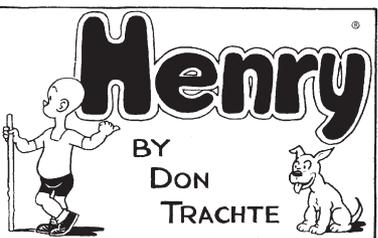
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HUBERT - - By Dick Wingert



“Be nonchalant. He senses you're afraid and he doesn't like it.”

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