

# ISLAND TIMES

Volume IV, Number 14

Pensacola Beach, Florida

November 5, 2008

## Pensacola Beach Station 13 ~ Saving Lives, Santa's Sleigh



**SAVING LIVES, SANTA'S SLEIGH** - It's all in a day's work for the Escambia County professional firefighters at Station 13 who serve Pensacola Beach. Responding to emergency calls which range from fires in high rise condominiums and medical crisis to water rescues and event support, the highly trained staff takes it all in stride. Dedicated to the safety of the residents and visitors on Pensacola Beach, they also have a special, jolly assignment to complete each year. The Pensacola Beach Fire Department has been Santa's sleigh in the Beach Christmas parade for twenty years. Preparing to bring Santa aboard the bright red firetruck to delight the parade spectators on December 14 are firefighters (L to R): John Houk, Nick Gradia, Lt. Steve Bode, Laura Wible, Lt. Andy Donaldson, and Paul McCleary. Getting Santa's gear ready up top is Shawn Smith. Firefighter Ken Kleback, in the cab, is checking Santa's gear. More on this story, see Page 2.

# Firefighters Are Everywhere, Protecting The Beach Population Night and Day

When the alarm rings at the Pensacola Beach Fire Station, an emergency is usually happening. And no one, not even Santa Claus, stands in the way of their immediate response to their calls.

If a 911 call should come in during the annual Christmas parade while firefighters are proudly transporting Santa Claus, they would drop him off and head to the scene of the emergency. Once they receive a call, everything else falls to second place.

And they do get calls. Beach firefighters respond to all 911 calls, not the least of which are medical emergencies.

"We are fortunate now to have an ambulance on call on the Beach," Paul McCleary, firefighter

on the Beach since the 1980s, said. "We used to have to wait for one to arrive."

Sometime in the 1950s, a volunteer fire department was started on the Beach. By February 2000, there were two career firemen at the station from 7 to 4, Monday through Friday. Volunteers covered the other hours. Less than a year later in December 2001, the entire staff consisted of all full-time firefighters.

They work twenty-four hour shifts, and then have two days off. Getting to be a firefighter carries rigid requirements with it. They must complete classroom and physical training, before they can apply for the job. There are two academies in Pensacola where stu-

dents finish the course in about six months. Beach personnel must take additional training to be prepared to respond to events at high rises and water rescues.

Training never stops. Every Monday night the Beach members and other firefighters have a training session on the Beach. All personnel must also pass annual training and agility tests and pass a physical.

So, why do firefighters ask to be assigned to Pensacola Beach?

"The Beach is unique in many ways," firefighter John Houk said. "The mentality on the Beach is having fun. We have more parties than other beaches, so we have a different set of challenges."

Assignment to the Beach

gives firefighters a unique responsibility and since Hurricane Ivan, they have faced other differences like being homeless. They have worked from The Hilton, part time in the old Fire Station, a travel trailer, the Comfort Inn, and finally in 2005 a modular home which was delivered to them on the Beach.

"We are really looking forward to our new digs," Houk said. "The completion date has been extended a couple of times but we hope to be in before the spring season."

Right now equipment consists of Engine number 13, two four wheel drive trucks and two wave runners. After the new building is complete, a new ladder truck will be delivered to the Beach.

Although emergencies are their priority, the Fire Department has always found time to become involved in community events. They have always been involved in the Christmas parade, and at one time, built their own float, a sleigh. For years, the fire truck with Santa Claus traversed the Island throwing candies to the children. Before the Beach began to celebrate Christmas, the Santa Claus on the fire truck was the only visible public Christmas event.

Many people would not remember the Firehouse Five, a choral group who wore their red coveralls and Santa hats to entertain at the Sandspur Republic's Christmas on the Island.

"We had a lot of fun with that," McCleary said as he recalled carols with his buddies, Matt Drees, Sean Harris, Rick Ruminski, and John Savelli, Jr.

The have made presentations at Leaseholders meetings, the Woman's Club, and Pensacola

Beach Elementary School. Perhaps, their most dramatic performance came when they deloused the stowaways in the Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras court. They popped through the door at the Champagne Breakfast, sprayed the media folks who were the stowaways with harmless gas. They were so serious, wearing their full emergency regalia as they performed this ever popular gig.

"Although not too many people are aware of this," McCleary said. "If someone on the Island needs helps with a smoke detector, we will go help them. Their safety is our goal."

McCleary has been in the Beach Fire Department since 1986. Steve Bode began his career in Louisiana but has served continuously on the Beach since 1990.

Currently, members of the fire department are Bill Halfacre, Michael Maddrey, Bryan Rickles, Sean King, Garrett Cox, Shawn Smith, John Houk, Nick Gradia, Lt. Steve Bode, Lt. Andy Donaldson, Paul McCleary and Ken Kleback.

No matter what is happening on the Beach, be it a raging fire, a drowning, a heart attack, or a huge parade, Blue Angels Air Show, park and street dedications, the firefighters are always there. Ready, willing and able to do whatever it takes to serve their community.

The next time you hear the sirens; say a little prayer for the firefighters racing to the emergency. Also, if you need a bit of help with your smoke detector, don't hesitate to give them a call. It's all in a day's work for these dedicated, tough as nails, fun loving, community supporting bunch of public servants.

## Patriotic Parade Rolls On Veterans Day

The annual Pensacola Beach Veterans Day parade will roll once again at one o'clock on Tuesday, November 11. The procession will trek along Via de Luna from Avenida Ten to Sidelines where it will turn into the Casino parking lot and disband near the Gulfside Pavilion. Ceremonies will continue in the Pavilion. The parade and ceremony which honors all veterans of all American wars, are sponsored by the Beach Elk's Lodge #497. George Scribner, PER, is the chairman of the event.

Scribner said veterans from the new VA clinic in Pensacola will be part of the parade along with

members of the Hadji Shrine Temple and Ladies of the Elks. Other dignitaries include a 106-year-old Buffalo Soldier, a seven-time gold medalist from the Special Olympics and Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts.

Local Elk's Lodge member, Lance Keenan, will emcee the post parade ceremony and he will sing patriotic songs. The presentation of the colors will be made by the Pensacola Beach American Legion Post with Vietnam veteran Jeff Goudey carrying the American flag.

A highlight of the program will be the presentation of the somber Empty Chair ceremony which honors all Americans still unaccounted

for from World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War and other conflicts.

The placing of the POW/MIA flag on the empty chair is a reminder to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty, and a full accounting of those still missing. The Beach American Legion Post will direct this ceremony.

There is no entry charge to participate in the parade. Call George Scribner at 850-206-0577 for details or the Elk's Lodge at 932-4444.

## Local Guardsman Represents All Veterans

Master Sergeant Matt Drees is a symbol of American veterans. He has been serving his country for 15 years in the military. He was on active duty with the Second Armored Cavalry Regiment when he went to Desert Storm/Shield in 1991 and went back with the 256th Infantry Brigade Combat Team from the Louisiana National Guard in 2004 and 2005 for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Currently, Drees is serving with Task Force Gator in the National Guard. He is the Operations

Non Commissioned Officer in Charge of Task Force Gator which supports the New Orleans Police Department.

"We are not deploying again until early 2010," Matt said. "But there is a lot of work to do since TF Gator is drawing down."

Gator has 250 soldiers and airmen working 24/7 in three different districts in New Orleans.

Matt Dress who grew up on Pensacola Beach is from a military background. His dad, Morrie, who now lives in Gulf Breeze, was a

Navy Commander and aviator. Morrie founded the Pensacola Beach veterans parade in the 1980s.

Matt works four days in New Orleans and spends weekends with his wife and children in Gulf Breeze.

The Pensacola Beach Elk's Lodge, the Island Times and the entire Beach community rest easy, knowing the Country is still well protected by dedicated military men like Matt Drees, who is symbolic of all the veterans who have bravely fought American wars.

## ISLAND TIMES

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# Barefoot on the Beach

By Jane Waters Cooper



This is one woman's survey of the change of seasons. It all happens when the leaves turn different colors and draw thousands of tourists who watch them perform this magic. Except in Florida. Here goes...

## Things I Don't Like About November

### FARENHEIT

Are there really more nice days than cold days in November? I don't think so. Any month which harbors highs of sixties and seventies gets black marks from me.

### LL BEAN

How many days do you have to be bundled up in a sweater or jacket or both? Too many. The mere thought of getting this kind of clothing out of summer storage sends me into a frenzy. If you ever want to see someone in a real frenzy, just touch my skin with wool. Wool anything, including baby sheep.

### EMPTY BALCONY

Summertime is the time for sitting on your balcony, sipping a glass of wine with your friends. November is for looking out the glass doors at the empty balcony watching the fading hibiscus blowing in the wind.

### SWIMMING POOL

The pool in the yard looks really cool. And it is. By November, it has acquired the same average temperature as the icebergs in the Antarctica. Same goes for the Gulf and Sound.

### THANKSGIVING

I am thankful there is only one holiday which has nothing going for it except an enormous meal. A mountain of mashed potatoes, a bucket of gravy, loads of dressing, and turkey, of course. No gifts, no fireworks, no shamrocks, no red roses. What a bummer. Please pass the Tums.

### BLACK FRIDAY

Stores get out all their weapons and shoot them straight at the clamoring customers who want to save a few bucks scooping up bargains. Is everybody crazy? Hundreds of thousands of shoppers get up so early in the morning that their turkey dinner hasn't even had time to digest. They jump in the car and head for the mall. They stand in line shivering until the already weary managers open the doors. They often buy stuff they don't want because it's marked down seventy percent. No, Uncle Willie does not want that gold colored golf ball with painted penguins tip-toeing

around it for Christmas.

## Things I Like About November

### FIRE

Nothing settles me down as quickly and effectively as a fire in my fireplace. I'm talking wood and fire. No gas or electric fakery. If I have to stay inside, keep the home fires burning. I'll bet Frank buys more firewood than anyone else on the Island. Just to keep me content. Yes, November has some virtues.

### MOSQUITOES

Where do all those pesky little guys with the sting device go? Are they afraid of dipping their wings in ice waters? Good. Chalk one up for November. I haven't seen a mosquito this month.

### CHILI

I may be part Mexican. I will eat chili on the Fourth of July. I make chili year around. However, I must admit, it tastes better when it's really cold outside and the air conditioning is off.

### CLEANING

I always want my house all cleaned up before I decorate for

Christmas, so I start toward that goal in November. Sometimes, I get it done. Sometimes, I don't. The decorations go up anyway.

### HURRICANES

There are only thirty days in November. One less day to worry about the big storms coming our way. Two years in a row now, we have not had to roll out the hurricane supplies. Didn't even have to evacuate the Island. If there is one reason to like November, it's because it marks the end of the hurricane season. And the Society of Woolly Boogers marks it by hosting their

one social event of the year, the Woolly Booger Kiss the Hurricane Season Goodbye Bawl. If there is only one thing to like about November, this Bawl should be it.

I have now evaluated my survey and in recording the numbers I find I dislike November by a six to five count. This does not really surprise me because I am a July kind of person. However, if I were actually to put my mind to it, I probably could find some other negatives. I will console myself by eating a bowl of chili and dreaming of the Fourth of July.

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# PEOPLE

## GOODBYE TO ANN

Friends and family attended a memorial service at Pensacola Beach Community Church November 1 in honor of Beach resident Ann Kirk who passed away unexpectedly on Friday, October 17. Ann, who was well known across the Beach, was last year's Shaker Queen.

## FIVE YEARS IN LOVE

The family that plays together stays together should be the motto for poker promoter Rick Uzdevenes. He and his wife Janie celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary on October 26. They announced that they would not be at the Sunday night poker game, but would be back to play the very next session.

## NAMMEMORIAL

Melanie Waite spent a few days in Apalachicola attending the Florida Humanities Council gathering. Her sightseeing included the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It is the only replica of the one in Washington, DC.

## AIMHIGH

Currin Caudell has his head in the clouds, literally. Joy

Anderson's seventeen-year-old grandson has earned his private pilot's license. His grandmother is mighty proud.

## JANETAUGHTME

Sarah Groeger, who hosted a charity Masquerade Ball last week, attribute much of her love of Mardi Gras to Jane Waters Cooper. Sarah said, "Jane introduced me to masquerading and diamond studded eyelashes and the rest is history."

## BLOGGER

DJ Zemenick is known as Barrier Island Girl by most of the outside world. She reported that 102,000 people have visited her site [www.barrierislandgirl.blogspot.com](http://www.barrierislandgirl.blogspot.com). DJ says it is a love story. Each hit is someone who is either in love or about to fall in love with Pensacola Beach.

## WORLD TRAVELERS

Susi and Mike Mardis, Nancy and Jim Kittel and Lois Jernigan returned just in time to help the Krewe of Wrecks kick off their Mardi Gras meeting season. The group had been touring in The Netherlands and Germany.

## NEW GOALIE

Brianna Paulus is a super soc-

cer player. She's only a sophomore at Gulf Breeze High but is one of the varsity team goalkeepers. Mom Karen says she handles the pressure with ease.

## PIONEER BEACH BUSINESS OWNER DIES

Virginia Davis, owner of the Marva Court Hotel on Pensacola Beach, passed away on Saturday, October 25. Mrs. Davis was one of the founding members of the Pensacola Beach Woman's Club and was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church in Gulf Breeze. She was 97-years-old.

## BIRTHDAY WISHES

Island poet Mike Willett chalked up another year last month. The quintessential beach guy loves surfing, fishing, card games and the sand. He works for the County in Code Enforcement.

# Trivia

It's been a long time coming, but the Trivia Master has finally outsmarted his tribe of loyal warriors. The last question was "Who owned the Gulf Aire Motel before Larry Geisel, and then Fred Simmons purchased it?"

Jayne Drees Redmon was the first to answer incorrectly. She was close, but no cigar. Mike and Linda Swindle was her answer. They were the owners of the motel, which was then next door, The Sandpiper Inn. Runner-up, also wrong, was Atlanta's Dave Wheeler who said it was Virginia Davis and her husband whose name he thought was Otto. Still battling for the t-shirt, Joanne Brooks emailed from Fort Myers the name Jim Reeves. Also wrong. And one courageous Knight of the Trivia Roundtable, Sir Bill emailed, "I hate to admit it, but the Gulf Aire question completely stumps me. Guess I'll leave it up to Sir Morrie."

Larry Geisel, escaped New York's corporate world in 1979,

when he arrived on Pensacola Beach, wearing his Phillip Morris executive clothes. He bought the Gulf Aire from Lila and Joe Parish and promptly settled down as a Beach innkeeper wearing shorts and a t-shirt.

Sir Morrie is either lying low, hiding his correct answers, or maybe he didn't know Lila and Joe.

Chalk one up for the Trivia Master. Here's an easy one if you are into old time Beach garbage lore. Back in the day when the Island Authority was so skillfully picking up the Beach trash, the head guy was a twinkling-eyed, friendly fellow who wouldn't let even a postage stamp litter the Beach. He knew everybody on the Beach and everybody knew him. What was his name?

Rules are the same. Send your answer to [islandtimes@bellsouth.net](mailto:islandtimes@bellsouth.net) with "trivia" in the subject line and include your name, phone number. The deadline is 5 p.m., November 12.

## Let the music lead you to Paradise

Nov 6 Harmonica Red  
serious blues

Nov 7 Jeff Glichman  
solo IBC winner fundraiser

Nov 8 Reddog and Friends  
blues and Southern rock

Nov 9 Sklya Burrell  
hard driving blues

Nov 14 Shawn Kellerman  
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Nov 15 Shawn Kellerman  
guitar wizard

Nov 16 Shawn Curle & 44s  
IBC winner fundraiser

Nov 18-20 Frank Brown  
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# WRECKS - A GOOD TIME IS OUR ONLY LAW

"Farewell to worries, to cares and to frets. A good time's our only law." When the Wrecks begin singing their official song, they mean every word of it.

The Krewe of Wrecks unfurled their sails on Monday, October 27, to mark the opening of the Mardi Gras season with energy and love.

The Mardi Gras debut at the Sabine Sandbar was a screeching success, and Beach Witches foretold of greater moments still to come.

Melanie Waite, Treas-Wreck won the Costume Contest, dressed as an Old Bat. The Beach Witches, Deb Friedman, Paulette Provost, Courtney Winstead, Kathi Lewis, and Amy Depew threatened to dip the judges in their steaming cauldron, if they didn't win something. So they got runner-up.

Forty eight Wrecks received their membership cards at the meeting. Membership is now open at \$30 per person for a year. Member-

ships will be accepted from the old and new applicants during the next few Monday night meetings. (See Schedule on this page)

Sign up sheets for volunteers will be presented at the next meeting.

"We need volunteers for most of our events," Jeff Goudey, Running Around Wreck said.

The Wrecks were silenced by an emotional speech from Bill Meilner, official krewe photographer since its founding. Meilner's home was demolished by Hurricane Ivan and he is living in town now.

"It's just too much of a chore now that I live so far away," Meilner said.

After they recovered from their first stunned silence, the Wrecks cheered Bill, hugged him and the SOBs serenaded him with their signature song.

During the alleged business session, Vern Phillips announced that beginning in December, the

Wrecks will conduct a raffle of a New Orleans Krewe of Zulu Seventy-Fifth Anniversary poster. The drawing will be at the Red Beans and Rice luncheon, the Monday before Fat Tuesday. The value of the poster is about \$450 according

to Phillips who donated it to the Wrecks.

Also, the announcement was made that the Grand Costume Ball theme this year will be Valentines. Member will be urged to dress as some kind of Valentine like sweet-

hearts or a box of chocolates.

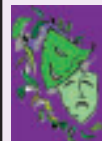
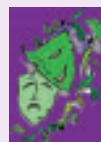
For more information on joining the Wrecks and learning how to have a hilarious time in the dead of winter on Pensacola Beach, go to the next meeting.

## Krewe of Wrecks Meetings • Monday Nights 6:00 pm

|        |                  |        |               |        |                 |
|--------|------------------|--------|---------------|--------|-----------------|
| Nov 10 | The Dock         | Jan 19 | PegLeg Pete's | Dec 8  | Bamboo Willie's |
| Nov 17 | Sidelines        | Jan 26 | The Islander  | Dec 15 | The Break       |
| Nov 24 | Hooter's         | Feb 2  | Paradise      | Jan 5  | Flounder's      |
| Dec 1  | Bimini Beach Bar | Feb 9  | Elk's Lodge   | Jan 12 | Paddy O'Leary's |

## MARDI GRAS ON THE ISLAND EVENTS

|        |                                   |              |         |       |        |
|--------|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------|-------|--------|
| Jan 10 | Krewe of Nereids King Cake Party  | Paradise Bar | 2 PM    | Open  | Free   |
| Jan 17 | Krewe of Junkanoo Hotsy Totsy     | TBA          | Noon    | Open  | Free   |
| Jan 23 | Krewe of Nereids Moon Pie Party   | Sandshaker   | 7 PM    | Open  | Free   |
| Jan 25 | Krewe of Junkanoo Cajun Boil      | Sandshaker   | 3 PM    | Open  | Free   |
| Jan 31 | Nauga Champagne Breakfast         | The Dock     | 10 AM   | Open  | Ticket |
| Jan 31 | Krewe of Brewe Beach Babe Contest | Sandshaker   | 2 PM    | Open  | Free   |
| Feb 7  | Nereids Most Fabulous Ball        | TBA          | 7 PM    | Open  | Ticket |
| Feb 7  | Krewe of Brewe Black Tie Ball     | Elk's Lodge  | 7:30 PM | Open  | Ticket |
| Feb 14 | Krewe of Wrecks Ball              | The Dock     | 8 PM    | Krewe | Ticket |
| Feb 14 | Bananimals Ball                   | Quality Inn  | 8 PM    | Open  | Ticket |
| Feb 16 | KOW Queen's Dinner                | Flounder's   | 7 PM    | Krewe | Ticket |
| Feb 16 | KOW King's Supper                 | Elk's Lodge  | 7 PM    | Krewe | Ticket |
| Feb 21 | Krewe of Brewe Queen's Breakfast  | Flounder's   | 9 AM    | Krewe | Ticket |
| Feb 21 | KOW Champagne Breakfast           | Crab's       | 10 AM   | Krewe | Ticket |
| Feb 22 | Wrecks Mardi Gras Parade          | Via de Luna  | 2 PM    | Open  | Free   |
| Feb 23 | Red Beans and Rice Luncheon       | Casino Beach | 11 AM   | Open  | Free   |
| Feb 24 | Krewe of Coma                     | Sandshaker   | 6 PM    | Open  | Free   |



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\*Jandle's is donating 10% of Gross Revenue from Nov. 1 - Dec. 31 to Covenant Hospice.





## peas, porridge & a dry martini

~~~~~  
by Kathi Lewis

I sent some e-cards to warn our friends that there would be many brooms in the air October 26. I know that wasn't Halloween; it was the first Krewe of Wrecks meeting and traditionally known to be the Halloween Party and Mardi Gras kick-off. All my witchy friends and I donned our special hats, capes and potions and climbed aboard our powerful brooms to arrive together at Sabine Sandbar to sit on Dale's Big Deck. Okay, maybe not all of my witchy friends, but certainly the bravest because we fought the wind all the way. (Seems someone had forgotten that particular potion.) Maybe it was Christine "Bunkie" Hewerdine, since she arrived at the bar before we did...hmmnn. At least, there were plenty of broom parking spaces left. We decided then and there to stow the brooms in the massive trunk of the Caddy and ride home as mere mortals. Very good plan as it turned out! Courtney Winstead, Paulette Provost, Amy Depew, Nereid Queen Deb Friedman, Christine and I had to celebrate with spirits, after all. Big thanks to the KOW, their board members and Sabine Sandbar for a wonderful beginning to what may possibly be the best Mardi Gras ever.

Special thanks to Nancy Roney, who is reestablishing our Wrecks website. The official krewe photographer, Bill Meilner said he was retiring. Maybe he and Janie can come out to play. Thanks, Bill for the many, many years of service and dedication to the krewe.

Everyone should join this original krewe. It only costs \$30 which is a small price to pay to ensure the continuation of all Mardi Gras krewes, parties, a better economy and our fabulous parade. Come to the next meeting and join.

We have the Sisters of the Beach Christmas Brunch set for Sunday, December 7 at Flounder's at 11 am. I can hardly wait! This year's Brunch is gonna be the best ever, too. We have a couple of special surprises in the works, and you

really do not want to miss this one.

Before that we must participate in the Veteran's Day Parade. Participation includes spectators also. You can hardly have a parade without them. As Morrie Drees pointed out in the other paper, Pensacolians completely missed the Navy's Birthday. How did that happen? So, get out your red, white and blue and make this a parade to remember.

Our veterans deserve to be consistently recognized for their sacrifices made in the honor of and duty to our Country. There's not a man, woman or child in America that does not owe them gratitude, respect and care, if needed. So, let's ask God's Blessing upon all our veterans and active military men and women.

I don't know about the rest of you, but since voting yesterday, I am in dire need of some comfort food with a 'spiritual' sauce! That brings us to this week's recipe, which is one of my favorites any time of year, especially holidays. I believe if all politicians were served this once a day, they might be a little bit more open to honesty! But then again, what do I know?

Well, I know cooking, so let's cook.....

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*This letter was emailed to Marcia Hoven. She is currently collecting children's shoes which can be delivered to Cook Realty, 731 Pensacola Beach Blvd. She will ship them overseas.*

Marcia,

I have been here in Kabul for a little over 3 months. I've had the rare opportunity to get out around the city and have found this to be a very beautiful part of the world; but, as you can imagine, poverty in this country is quite extensive and children are the most at risk, especially during the winter months. I queried our base Chaplain to find out how to help and he said that children are in need of winter shoes. There are thousands of

### Bread Pudding with Buttery Bourbon Sauce

2 ¼ Cups milk  
½ Cup sugar  
1 ½ tsp. cinnamon  
2 Lg. Eggs, lightly beaten  
5 Cups cubed French or left-over (stale) bread/biscuits  
Tbsp. butter, melted  
Heat oven to 350, then spray 11 X 7 glass baking dish. Pour melted butter into dish, set aside. Mix milk, sugar, cinnamon and eggs with wire whisk until well blended. Stir in bread cubes, then pour into baking dish. Bake uncovered 40 - 45 min. until knife inserted comes out clean.

### Buttery Bourbon Sauce

½ Cup Butter  
1 cup sugar  
3 Tbsp. milk  
1 tsp. vanilla  
¼ to ½ Cup good Bourbon  
Melt butter in 1 quart Saucepan over medium heat, add remaining ingredients, except vanilla and Bourbon. Cook, stirring constantly until sugar is dissolved and mixture begins to boil. Remove from heat, stir in vanilla and bourbon. Let cool 10 minutes before serving.

Enjoy!

I'll see ya at the next Krewe of Wrecks meeting.

children in the city (not to mention around the country) who will go all winter without shoes. There are 16,000 people at refugee camps, most of whom are orphaned children and families who have lost their fathers and husbands.

The focus of this email is not to point out the unfortunate situation here in the city, but to present a solution - making a child on the other side of the world smile because they have a warm pair of shoes to wear in the middle of winter. I would like to help make this a reality and I am asking for your support.

Julia Stevens  
USNSE, HQ ISAF / IOCC  
APOAE 09356

## Wine Talk

By David Griffin, Beach Wines and Liquors



### THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS

Chefs are not likely to use cooking sherry and other so-called cooking wines in their recipes. They use better quality wines, instead. With this in mind, when a recipe calls for a dry white wine, try a domestic Sauvignon Blanc, which is dry and fresh with a hint of herbs. If the dish has a bold or spicy flavor, reach for Gewurztraminer, Riesling or Voignier. On the other hand, when a dry red wine is called for, lean toward big-bodied red Zinfandel or Petite Syrah for long-cooked casseroles and stews. For less hearty dishes, try a Merlot or a Chianti (Sangiovese grape) from Italy. Then again, some wines simply match certain foods flavor for flavor, like Pinot Noir and sautéed mushrooms.

HINT: Fortified wines such as port, sherry, Madeira, and marsala provide a great deal of flavor to dishes that call for cooking wine.

Today's column offers suggestions as to what wines to use when cooking. Beach Wines and Liquors, Inc. has available a wide array of wine that will be the perfect accompaniment to whatever type of meal or party you are planning. We are very knowledgeable about the wines we carry, so if you need assistance don't hesitate to ask. Call us at 850-932-8850 or stop by 5 Via de Luna.



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# SRIA Ponders Jumping Over Obstacles in the Path Of Island Improvement

The Board of the Santa Rosa Island Authority knows it is facing some jagged bumps in the road as it proceeds to find a way to put an extreme makeover on the Beach's landscape. Speaking at their October 22 meeting, Richard Lott, Escambia County bond attorney told the Board, "This is a fairly complicated arrangement. You will have to adopt a resolution approving this and create an interlocal agreement with the County that will ask the County to get a loan, promising that the SRIA will pay it back."

Lott was referring to the Authority's plan to beautify the Island, per an agreement with Portofino.

The original agreement includes a sum of \$3.5 million to be spent on Island beautification. Portofino has excess lease fee payments which will go into a fund to pay for improvements. This plan would take about ten years to mature before any steps could be taken. The SRIA wants it to happen now and is seeking a means of making it happen.

The SRIA wants the County to borrow the \$3.5 million, and the Authority would guarantee repayment, which would come from Portofino lease fees. The SRIA cannot issue bonds or take out a loan, so they must ask the County to take out the loan.

Right now, the County Commissioners appear to be reluctant to acquire new indebtedness although the payback would come from the SRIA.

"Your obligation to the County would be to make payments so the County can pay the debt service to the loan," Lott said. "The money would come to you from Portofino. If for some reason, the Portofino money did not cover it, then it would come out of your lease fees."

Lott added that County Attorney Alison Rogers says the County staff is concerned by the plan.

Bob McLaughlin, County administrator, who attended the meeting said, "The County is very reluctant to approve anything that would create any more debt."

Tammy Bohannon said it was her impression that the County

Commission does not want to do this. "Securing a loan of this amount with the future excess lease fees from Portofino which could fall prey to hurricanes, liens, and we still have an irrigation issue. These are what I understand to be some of the challenges."

Lott recommended that the SRIA get together with the County Administrator before going to the Commissioners with their request.

Vernon Prather moved to task Buck Lee, SRIA executive director, to work with engineers and get costs to bring to the next SRIA committee meetings scheduled for November 19. The motion passed unanimously.

The SRIA moved along from the Island Beautification dilemma to the development of the core area. They are considering doubling the bridge toll as a means of funding the massive project.

Lee told the Board that the only way to secure the funds is by increasing the toll. He said charging \$2 will bring in an additional \$2.5 million per year.

"You will have to find three votes on the Board of County Commissioners to raise the toll," he said.

Tammy Bohannon said District Four Commissioner Grover Robinson is reluctant to approve an increase in toll.

"This is a bad time to do this," she said. "But, I think it would be a stimulus to the area. I urge each of you to speak with your Commissioners."

Ed Guernsey noted that as a bargaining chip the SRIA should offer a part of the revenue to be used to renourish the beaches of

Perdido Key.

"If you want the County to approve this toll, you give the money to the County to pay for Perdido Key renourishment. If you want to get it done, you let the County have part of the revenue," Guernsey said.

Lee told the Board they should be on the County's agenda in December or January so they can get a commitment from the BCC. You need to say, "This is what we want to do."

Robert Rinke, Portofino developer, told the Board that the toll raise is controversial. "The development on Pensacola Beach at \$40 million is also controversial," he said.

The toll increase will be discussed again at the November 19 committee meeting. It is possible that the Board will ask to be on the agenda for the BCC Committee of the Whole meeting on December 18.

Money matters continued to dominate the remainder of the meeting when the Board once again discussed ways to reduce the costs of legal services to the Board. The Board is considering adopting a flat yearly fee for attorney's services.

Although Lee and Committee member Fred Gant and Guernsey favor the flat yearly fee, Vernon Prather prefers the hourly system they now have.

A motion was made to ask staff to prepare a Request For Proposals for legal services and bring it to the next committee meeting. The motion passed, two to one, Prather against, Thomas Campanella and Guernsey for.

On a good note, Dottie Ford, director of finance, told the Administrative Committee that revenues through August were up by \$500,000 and expenses were down \$531,000. She was commended for

her report.

The next meeting of the Santa Rosa Island Authority will be the Full Board at 5 p.m. today, November 5 at the Authority Office. Meetings are open to the public.



Hundreds of Roy Jones, Jr. fans cheered when Santa Rosa Island Authority Executive Director Buck Lee, left, presented internationally famous boxer Roy Jones, Jr. with the ceremonial Key to Pensacola Beach on October 25 at the Gulfside Pavilion. Jones was on the Beach for a pep rally promoting his November 8 fight.



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# Bridge Pass Rules Change - No January Grace Period

The procedure for getting bridge passes for your vehicles has changed this year. Primarily, there will be no grace period in January. All passes will expire as of December 31. Passes are now available as follows:

**REGULAR RENEWAL:** Renewals at the Santa Rosa Island Authority office require a completed application, cash, money order or check made payable to the BCC.

Credit cards and debit cards are not accepted. You will receive a receipt.

**EXPRESS RENEWAL:** Submit completed application with payment, annual transponder number and vehicle tag number to any toll collector in any open lane, day or night, or drop off at the SRIA office. Check or money order will be the only acceptable payment, made payable to the BCC. Your cancelled check or money order will be your only receipt.

**MAIL IN RENEWAL:** Re-

newal much be received by the SRIA prior to December 31, 2008. No cash should be mailed and credit or debit cards are not acceptable. Mail application and check to Bob Sikes Toll Bridge, 415 Pensacola Beach Blvd., Pensacola Beach, FL 32561

New annual passes can be purchased at the SRIA office beginning Monday, January 5. Provide an application for each vehicle and check for each. Payment may be made with cash, check or money order. Receipts will be given.

The SRIA office will be open January 5 through January 31 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Beginning February 1, hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The cost of annual passes is never pro-rated. The fee for vehicles, automobiles, and motorcycles is \$50 for residents living both on and off the Island. Commercial passes are \$70. All vehicles displaying markings or advertising including magnetic or roof top ad-

vertising signs are classified as commercial.

Annual passes must be installed on each vehicle by an authorized SRIA employee.

The important dates to remember are that renewals will be available from now through December

31 and 2008 passes will expire on December 31.

New passes will be available beginning Monday, January 5, 2009.

The telephone number at the SRIA office is 850-932-2257. The fax is 850-916-7232.

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# A Cross in the Sand

By Dr. Chuck Randle  
Pastor  
Pensacola Beach Community Church

The Rev. Gord Waldie, pastor of a church in Canada, wrote the following prayer on the eve of an election in his country, and with his permission, I share it on the eve of the national election of our Nation:

"God of community, you call us to live in peace with each other, on this eve of an election we hold our brothers and sisters in prayer. As we head into the voting booth may we all be blessed with wisdom.

Grant us the wisdom to consider carefully the future path of our country, to choose the party and the candidate who we feel most clearly shares our vision of that future, and, when the counting is done, to offer support to those who are elected -- even when we don't agree with their positions or their choices.

We pray for those who have

let their name stand. May they be gracious both in victory and in defeat.

May they move past the voting day committed to making this country a better place, a fairer place, a place where more people can live in abundance and justice.

Gracious God, on November 5, may we look back on the results in acceptance, may we look forward to the future with hope, may we share the knowledge that Your vision for the world lives not in any political philosophy but in the vision and hearts of the faithful. Help us to always work towards that day when the words 'Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven' are more than just lines we mumble in prayer. May they become a reality in the world. Amen."



The Celebration 4444 Education poker tourney hosted some of the top card players on the Beach. When the last hand was played the winner was the Beach School's music department. Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun promoter Rick Uzdevenes, left, presents Beach School Board President Todd McCurdy with a check for \$750 during the October 27 Board meeting.

## Kindergartners Go Electronic

Pensacola Beach Elementary School kindergartners have gone electronic. Their teacher Jennifer Neal demonstrated the new interactive Prometheus learning system which replaces traditional chalk boards and white boards at the October 27 School Board meeting.

Students can use a stylus to write on the board, and teachers can create lessons and flip charts by computer which then transfers the images to the board. There is also an audio component and internet access.

"We have had this in the classroom for just one week and the kindergartners love it," Neal said. "They are so interested and so engaged that the time flies by."

Patrick Lanza, treasurer, announced that the School is in good financial shape with more money coming in than going out.

Board president Todd McCurdy backed that statement with a report from the Partners-In-Education fundraising noting that the total was \$58,659 at closing on September 30.

"This was over what we budgeted and all of that is a cash amount."

The Board accepted a check from Rick Uzdevenes, the results of the Celebration 4444 Education poker fundraiser. The music department is now \$750 richer.

Board member Gordon Sprague asked for a follow-up on the site plan that was to be developed for a new building. He was told that Scott Holland, architect, was still working on the plan.

The next Board meeting will be Monday, November 17 at 6 p.m. at the School.

Wooly Booger Kiss The Hurricane Season Goodbye Bawl



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## BYTES AND BITS

By Joe Stukey, Your Computer Pal

Q: "How can I make Internet use safe for my kids?"

A: The most obvious ways are to limit their access and observe what they are doing. You can set up parental controls on your computer to limit access to certain areas of the Internet. Parental control software will provide reports that give you the ability to observe their computer activities without looking over their shoulder. The downside --- you have to take the time to monitor it. It is a good idea to keep the computer in a central area of the house if you do plan to look over their shoulder.

Young children should be given rules about using the Internet, to include not giving out personal information, either to others or by filling out forms on the Internet. Also, you should require

them to tell you when anyone on the Internet tries to set up a telephone call or a meeting. If your child has an online profile at MySpace or Facebook, make sure you know how to look at and approve its content.

You can become more aware of how your children use the Internet by becoming more savvy about the lingo and the software that they use. Instant Messaging is a popular form of communication, with its own foreign language. Use the Internet to find lists of the abbreviations that are commonly used in conversations.

Last but not least, if your computer has a webcam, make sure you know how and when it is being used.

For questions, contact Joe at [joe@ypcals.com](mailto:joe@ypcals.com) or 206-3156.

*Pensacola Beach Woman's Club keeps the parties rolling as they celebrate with cake and candles at the October luncheon held at Hunt Hall. The October Birthday Girls are (L to R): Edwina Speirs, Pat Bernhard, Jane McGrath, Montana Minck, Bunny Branan, and Evelyn Wright. The next meeting is November 20 at 10:30 a.m. at Hunt Hall. The guest speaker will be Timothy Evans from Manna Food Bank.*



*Pensacola Beach Woman's Club has a memorial bench in Morgan Park. The soundside park, dedicated in honor of Dr. Jim Morgan, coastal geologist, is a great place to sit in the shade and enjoy the cooler air. Toasting the day are Club members (L to R): Sandi Johnson, Kathy Christoff, Lynda Knell, Jane McGrath, Chrissy Cook and Carol Stark.*



# After Sundown



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Across from the Boardwalk on Pensacola Beach. Open 10 am until 3am. 850-932-2211. [www.sandshaker.com](http://www.sandshaker.com) for photo gallery and event schedule.

### NATIVE CAFE

Open at 7:30 a.m. six days a week. Closed on Tuesday. Owned and operated by friendly natives serving locally produced seafood and delicacies. The Fish Tacos are an experience to enjoy. The owners say their goal is to preserve the unique flavors of the Gulf Coast. Go fresh. Go native. Specialty desserts top off expertly prepared meals. Seating is informal. Art gallery setting with local artists displaying whimsical works.

45 Via de Luna. Downtown Pensacola Beach. 934-4848.

# Business Buzzzzzzzz

## SAILING GURU

Beach business owner Kirk Newkirk and his teammate Glenn Holmes sailed into eleventh place in an international field of sailors at the F-18 North American Championships on Pensacola Beach last month. Kirk was the event host at Key Sailing as well as a competitor.

## LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE

Add a little romance to someone's life. Beautiful candles await you at Jandles in Gulf Breeze. Jeff Cournoyer, owner, is making a donation to charity with every purchase.

## NO FLAME

Paradise chef Renee Mack had the grill fired up to feed the hundreds of guys and ghouls at the Beach School Fall Festival. Most of the gourmet fish sandwiches and

sizzling burgers had been sold before a strong north wind blew the flames out for the night. Paradise donates the food and Renee volunteers to cook it.

## PUT A TIGER IN YOUR TANK

It's the only place to gas up on the island. Surf Side Food Store on Via de Luna has easy in and out pumps. Prices are inching down. Stop by to fill your tank. Fresh, hot coffee is always just inside the door.

## DENISE AND HER SISTERS

Long time Sister of the Beach Denise Keever is dealing with a different kind of sister these days. She has become a part-time rep for Two Sisters, a gourmet food catalog. Don't worry, you can find still Denise at Flounder's where she takes great care of her beach customers.

## FOOTBALL FEVER

Gleaming gators, bright bulldogs and proud volunteers in orange jerseys are among the many football team ornaments on display at Blue Sky Gift Shop in Gulf Breeze. A perfect gift for fans and alums. It's worth the short trip from the beach.

## IT'S GOOD FOR YOU

Fresh seafood is good for you according the latest reports, so scoot over to Maria's Fresh Seafood on Cervantes. Lots of choices. They steam the shrimp right there for you. Hot and spicy and ready for game time. You can't go wrong.

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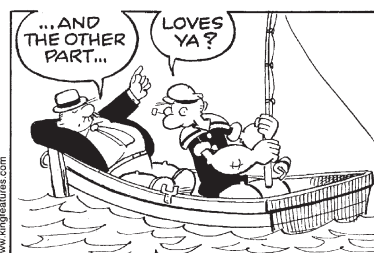
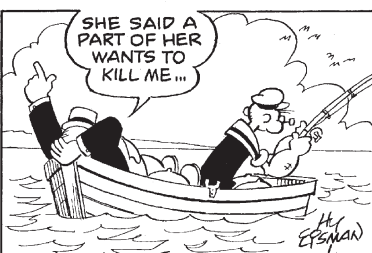
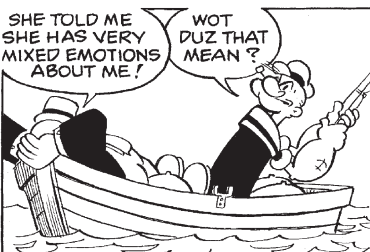
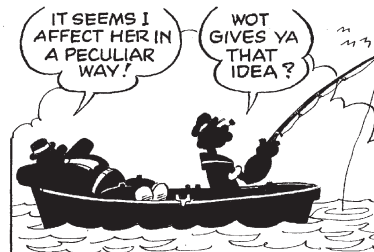
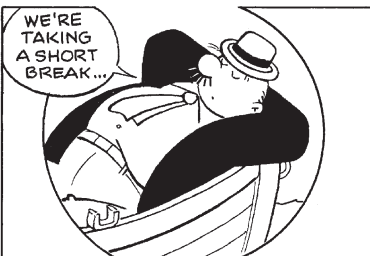
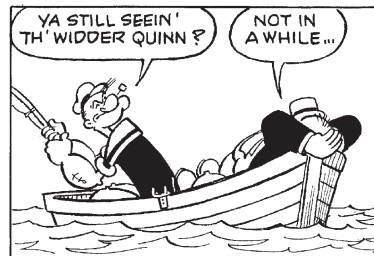
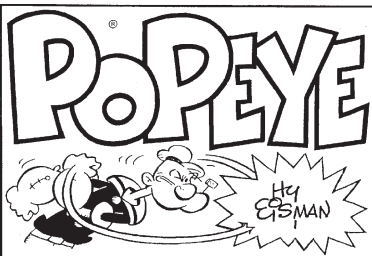
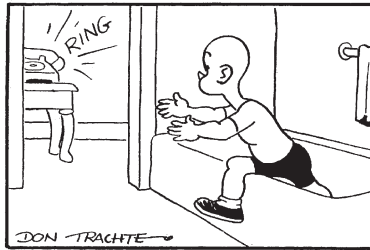
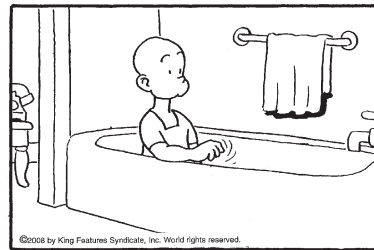
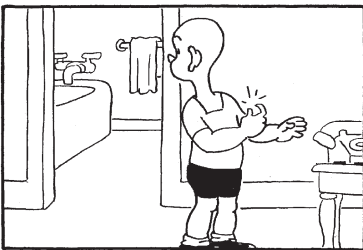
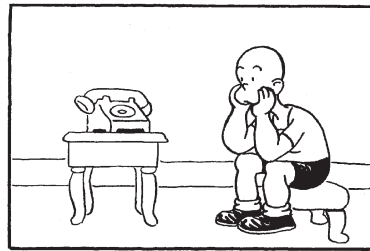
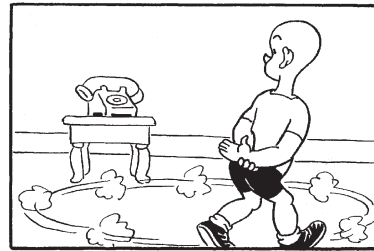
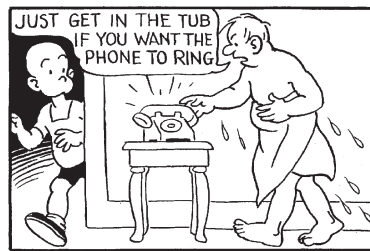
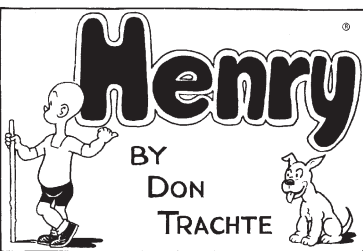
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## HUBERT - - By Dick Wingert



"That's for the dog biscuits you gave me on MY birthday."

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



President Woodrow Wilson dedicated Armistice Day as November 11, 1919. The United States Congress passed a resolution on June 4, 1926, which made November 11 a legal holiday — "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day'." The term Veterans Day was not used until 1953.

**Pensacola Beach Veteran's Day Parade**

**Tuesday, November 11 at 1 p.m. • Via de Luna to Casino Beach • More info • 850-932-4444**



# School Bell Rings

## Good PIE

The Partners-In-Education program closed on September 30, 2008. The Pensacola Beach Elementary School Board of Directors would like to thank the following donors:

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Victoria & Mark Clarkin  
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Barry & Rebecca Callahan  
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Surfer's Memorial  
Paul & Sherie Snider  
Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun  
Jeff Wolfe & Family  
The Nogueira Family  
Heron Level  
Kim & Steve Homewood  
Dr. & Mrs. Clark S. Metzger  
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Drs. Rawson & Braxton  
Flounder's, Crab's, McGuire's  
PBES PTA  
PegLeg Pete's  
Pensacola Beach Optimist Club  
Vernon & Evelyn Niven

## Bredesen's Pollsters

Creative kids in first grade have studied the presidential candidates and crafted pictures of McCain and Obama. They are on display in Sandee Bredesen's classroom at the Beach School. Today one of them will be declared the next president.

## Vets Day Observed

November 11 has been set aside to honor Veterans on Pensacola Beach. There will be no classes at the Elementary School, so perhaps students will attend the parade which begins at 1 p.m.

## Fall Break

Fall Break at Pensacola Beach Elementary which will be November 24-28. Classes will resume on December 1.

## Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce Ingredients for Season Your Holidays



# SEASON YOUR HOLIDAYS

For more information call  
800-635-4803  
850- 932-1500  
VisitPensacolaBeach.com

November 29

Season Lights Up- Lighting and Caroling at Visitor's Center- 6 pm

December 1

Children's Coloring Contest & Passport to Santa's Island kick off

December 6

Kowabunga Breakfast with Surfing Santa - Surf Burger - 8 am

December 7

Christmas Cantata Beach Church - 10 am

December 7

Gingerbread House Make and Take - Tiki Island - Noon to 2 pm

December 7

Santa and His Paparazzi Photo Session - Boardwalk - 2 to 4 p.m.

December 7

Tis The Season Open House - Lee Tracy-Boardwalk - 2 to 4 pm

December 9

Joy For The Beach Production- Our Lady Catholic Church - 7 pm

December 12

Lighted Boat Parade - Beach Marina to Boardwalk - 7 pm

December 13

Ornament Making - Hampton Pensacola Beach - 9 to 10:30 am

December 13

Island Style Tropical Holiday Open House 4 to 6 pm

December 13

Island Caroling -Double Decker Bus - Flounder's - 6 pm

December 13

Coloring Contest Winners announced Island Style - 6 pm

December 14

Gingerbread House Make and Take - Tiki Island - Noon to 2 pm

December 14

Surfing Santa Beach Parade - Via de Luna - 2 pm

December 20

Adult Coloring Contest - Sandshaker - 6 pm.

December 20

Rudolph's Red Nose Ramble, Shaker Sandbar, Bamboo Willie's 7:30 p.m.

December 20

Santa Claus Look Alike Contest - Bamboo Willie's - 8 pm

December 21

Santa and His Paparazzi Photo Session - Island Style - 2 to 4 pm

December 24

Candlelight and Carols - Beach Church - 6 pm

December 31

New Year's Eve Celebrations

January 1

Polar Bear Plunge - Paradise Bar and Grill - 2 pm

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After all, our Island's first name is Santa!

Gulf Breeze Hospital Auxiliary

**\$5 JEWELRY SALE**

November 13 and 14  
at the Hospital

1110 Gulf Breeze Pkway

Proceeds benefit the comfort  
and care of hospital patients.  
More information, 916-2276



# Push In Your Chips, Here Comes the Flop

## Texas Hold 'Em Players Vie for Weekly Awards

Move over Monday Night Football. The Tex Atkinson Show is dialed in on Monday nights at the Sandshaker. The beach pioneer has been unstoppable since his superlative win at the Celebration 4444 Education. He has a three-peat taking all the chips on Mondays beginning with October 13 all the way to the end of the month. Stay tuned.

### Paddy O'Leary's

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun weekly tourneys have been exciting as the action in the Pub takes place three nights a week.

Jenny "The Lionheart" Doherty took it all the way at Paddy O'Leary's on October 16 knocking off Kim Duell in the final. Mike Wipeout Willett who was celebrating his birthday was the last man standing claiming third.

Willett came roaring back on October 19 and cleaned out Phil Tracy in the final. Big Todd Lentini hit Four 4444's to claim a souvenir t-shirt.

His shirt must have been lucky since Lentini earned a win at Paddy's on October 21. Phil Tracy was a runner-up.

October 23 was All Arthur as

Arthur Anastopenlo won the first hand and the last hand. He outlasted Phil Tracy who settled for second place. Phil Tracy was back to his first place form on October 26 when he earned the win over Toots Humphrey in the final.

Richard Butler has not hit a royal flush in a month or so, but continues to welcome people onto the Island from his office at the Bob Sikes Toll Facility. He played his cards just right and welcomed a win on October 28. James "Elvis" Presley played better than a hound dog and earned second place.

"We had a great night of poker October 28 and got to wish a happy birthday to one of our lady players Kristin Larmier," said Rick Uzdevenes.

### Shaker

Arthur Anastopenlo and Phil Tracy are fine card players, but Tex Atkinson would not leave the top spot at the Shaker. They are second place finishers to Wiley Tex.

### Other Stuff

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun promoter Rick Uzdevenes presented a \$750 to the Pensacola Beach El-

ementary School for their music department. "We earned that at the Celebration tourney. Thanks to everyone who donated to the cause," he said

Wooly Booger  
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## FALL SCHEDULE

FOR RESULTS  
Island Times

Info  
850-324-2667



Downtown  
Pensacola Beach

Dealing starts at 7 PM

Monday: Sandshaker

Tuesday: Paddy O'Leary's

Thursday: Paddy O'Leary's

Sunday: Paddy O'Leary's

Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun  
Poker Hotline 324-2667

Get Your Motor Runnin'.....for Santa Rosa Kids House



When: Sunday, Nov. 9th

Where: Meet at Pace Home Depot

Time: Registration at 8:30 a.m.

Proceeds to benefit the Santa Rosa Kids House

"Helping to Heal & Prevent Child Abuse in Santa Rosa County"

**\$20** includes bike & riders  
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Donation Sheriff escorts.

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(850) 983-4442



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PENSACOLA  
NewsJournal  
ISLAND TIMES

## Comfort & Joy

by Pandora de Balthazar

It's a glorious day in Paradise. Comfort and Joy are well suited here. I hope you are, too. Regardless of who or where you are, just look around at the beauty that abounds.

As the magical days of fall are joyfully and brilliantly surrounding us, the glitter of dancing waters and the glow of soulful sunsets grapple at our youth, reminding us of the beauty of the paradise in which we live.

No matter who you vote for, nor the color of your dress, the incredible beauty that God has created on Earth, has made the place we call home, a paradise.

I invite you to join me in the pure pleasure of enjoying and appreciating our island! Take a deep breath of fresh salty air, enjoy a dip on a warm and sunny fall day, saunter across the beach to the magnificent Gulf of Mexico, taking your lover's hand and embrace the pure beauty within. Paddle on Little Sabine, get to know your neighbor, and bring home tiny gifts of love to those about whom you care.

Cherish every moment, my friends.

Remember, while you relax, that our surrounding area is home to more than 5,400 children in the foster care system, with only 261 foster families to give them love and shelter.

Think about sharing with these children this season and being part of Team Make a Difference. You can volunteer or make a donation to the Breakfast with Santa event.

Commit to share a little bit of time or money with these wonderful children; and the foster parents and volunteers who so diligently serve them.

Meet the more than 150 community leaders and volunteers who come together and build a magical winter wonderland in less than 24 hours. A holiday paradise from our

community greets the attendees at the event. Breakfast with Santa is served. Children earn Santa dollars by playing the dozens of games. Then they shop for presents for their foster families. Elves are available to assist the children with their shopping and lend a hand with the gift wrapping, too.

Our goal is to elevate the present circumstances of these wonderful children and those who serve them, and to create achievable dreams, share opportunities, and rejoice in the pure beauty of God's creations.

Donations of gifts for foster Mothers, Dads, and children are welcome, as are door prizes, decorations, entertainment, books, even reindeer!

You may drop donations off at 698 E. Heinberg Street in Pensacola or better yet on the Beach at 19 La Caribe, or the Pensacola Beach Community Church. Our volunteers will pick up all donations and deliver them to the event site. Please make donations by December 1.

Checks may be made payable to BHC Foundation, Make A Difference Fund, P.O. Box 789, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562-0789.

Please share what you can and together we can make a difference.

## Mostly Nuts & Bolts

By Candace Segar

There is a new section 403.7033 in town. It became part of the Florida Statutes when Governor Charlie Crist signed it into law. What is it? It is the Energy, Climate Change and Economic Security Act of 2008.

The Department of Environmental Protection will perform an analysis on both local and statewide regulation concerning bags consumers use to carry products from a store after shopping.

What is this the precursor to? Possibly, enacting regulations, and you guessed it, a tax on using retail bags. Now, I do know that some large health food stores give a small discount for each bag a person brings to use for groceries. Beach residents had an opportunity to

grab to reusable shopping bags for free at the Santa Rosa Island Authority Office last month.

Why is this analysis needed and what will it determine?

1. the amount of retail bags generated, recycled, and disposed in Florida's litter
2. the role retail bags play on wildlife and environment
3. the effect retail bags have on life cycle studies which compare various retail bag alternatives
4. retail sector response to environmental issues connected with the use of bags

The DEP is also looking into the most effective means for retail bag regulation including the following:

1. bans
2. fees
3. restrictions
4. retail self-regulation

So the solution is this - go purchase heavy duty canvas bags from Everman's or LL Bean or make them for yourself. Because the bottom line is this, we are all going to become "bag ladies" sooner or later. And actually that is a good thing!



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## Take Two Apples *and call me in the morning..*

By Tracey Pinkston, J.D., M.D.

**The doctor is in and she's hip, too!**

You have probably already seen the ads and notices heralding the official arrival of Fall: "Flu Shots Available." Perhaps you have already been immunized this month or perhaps you are thinking maybe you'll skip it this year. As a physician specializing in primarily natural means of disease prevention and wellness, I am often asked whether I recommend the flu shot. You may be surprised, but the answer is a resounding "yes!"

### Flu Truths

True flu or influenza is a very serious illness. Some think of it as an inconvenient winter nuisance that can keep you out of work or make you feel rotten for a week or two, but that is not overly worrisome. Unfortunately, nothing could be farther from the truth. Hospitalizations due to influenza are an astronomical 226,000 annually in the United States alone. Additionally, we have an average of 36,000 U.S. deaths each year from influenza.

### Flu Shot Fallacies

The most common complaint I hear against being immunized is that, "I took the flu shot once and it gave me the flu." Fear not, the flu shot does not cause the flu! However, some people may not feel well for 2-3 days following the flu shot, this is due to your on bodies immune system ramping up and responding to the antigens that it "sees" as the flu. There is one form of flu "vaccine" that actually can give someone the flu and that is the FluMist, because it is a live virus vaccine. Flu shots, however, are not live and do not cause the flu.

Other concerns center around the preservative. Typically, the preservative used is thimerisol, a mercury-containing compound. Many people are sensitive to thimerisol and some patients have problems with mercury, and those patients likewise should avoid thimerisol-containing vaccines.

Another common concern is "I got the flu shot and it didn't keep me from getting the flu." This may

occur. The flu shot is the most common predicted strains of flu for the upcoming season. Since it is a prediction, sometimes it is wrong. However, even when wrong, it still helps our immune system prepare to fight that type of virus.

More commonly, a severe cold may be mistaken for "flu." There is an easy test your doctor may be able to perform in the office to determine whether you have flu or another viral illness. This can be very helpful information. Especially since influenza will respond to the new anti-flu medications, such as Tamiflu\*, especially when started early in the disease course.

For a quick home assessment to determine whether you may have flu instead of a cold, consider that flu usually has very sudden onset, may be accompanied by prominent headache and muscle aches. Patients with flu typically suffer from extreme exhaustion and run fever, which is sometimes very high. Flu may also present with gastrointestinal symptoms as well as some upper respiratory symptoms. Whether a cold or flu, if symptoms are concerning to you, the best course of action is to see your doctor for a full evaluation.

There are other steps you can take this winter. The CDC recommends we all "Take 3": (1) take time to be vaccinated, (2) take everyday preventive measures, like stringent hand-washing and avoiding sick contacts, and (3) take prescription anti-viral drugs if recommended by your physician. Stay healthy this winter and for more information, see [www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov)

### Keep Reading

Please always consult your doctor before starting or stopping any medication or nutritional supplement.

(These statements have not been reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration. This article is not intended to diagnose, treat, prevent, or cure any disease. This article is intended for general informational purposes only. It is not intended as specific medical advice for any individual. Please seek the advice of a physician or other licensed health care provider before undertaking any health-related changes in your medications or lifestyle.)



Everything is ducky according to Kett Homewood who is checking his prize at the duck pond game at the Beach School's Fall Festival, October 24. The PTA hosts this fundraising event.



Concentration was the key to winning a prize in the Claw Machine. Cayson McCurdy maneuvered the electronic crane with just the right touch to have a prize drop down in the shoot. The game was sponsored by Island Times at the Beach School's Fall Festival, October 24.

## Have You Heard?

November 29 is the date that the Season Lights Up on the Island. Residents and Businesses should get in the Island Spirit by lighting, too.



Reddon McLaurine watches as his ball leaves his putter hopefully on its way to a hole-in-one at the Beach School's Fall Festival, October 24. Tiki Island provided the challenging putt game.

**RECYCLE** - Bring paper, cardboard, junk mail, plastics, newspapers or aluminum cans to the blue recycling bin located under the north-east corner of Pensacola Beach Elementary School. It's an easy way to help the environment and the Beach School.



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## The LIZZARD'S TONGUE

by E.K. Hewson



The other day my son came home from school with a family project for Spanish class. The assignment was to shop at a local supermarket that carried a wide variety of Hispanic foods. We had to buy eight different items and prepare them for dinner. I was so excited. I kept thinking this is my kind of homework assignment – margaritas, chips and salsa, tacos, guacamole, black beans and rice, and churros for dessert. Then I read the fine print: "Try to select eight foods that you have not tried before." Since there are not too many Hispanic dishes I have not tried and there is a reason why I have not tried some, I immediately translated the "you" to mean child, not parents. So off we drove to el Mercado and without spending too many pesos, we returned home to prepare our little fiesta.

We began with appetizers -- Fritangas or fried wheels. They tasted a bit like salty Styrofoam. Based on the ingredient list, they may have actually been derived from the same chemicals that make up expanded polystyrene foam. The serving size was one ounce or about seven wheels. I think something must have been lost in translation because the entire bag weighed nine ounces and I know we ate more than 63 wheels. We had enough Fritangas left over for at least 100 more pit stops.

Our main meal consisted of beef empanadas, Loroco's flowers, hominy and Spanish style yellow

rice. Our frozen beef empanadas were nowhere near as good as the señora's at the third taco stand on the left on Avenida Revolucion in Tijuana, Mexico. I thought we were all a little loco to eat Loroco's flowers. In fact, I was concerned we all might pop positive on a surprise urinalysis, but they weren't half bad and tasted like asparagus tips wrapped in jasmine. The yellow rice was the brunt of all bad yellow snow jokes and it gave me great pleasure to watch my son eat enlarged grits. Maybe some day I would convince him to eat the real thing with butter, salt and pepper. And as much as I wanted a margarita, I sipped on my guanabana nectar and kept thinking that it might have actually been palatable if it were served over ice in a salt-rimmed glass with a shot of tequila. For dessert we devoured Guatemalan sweet bread dipped in mango jam (mermelada de mango) and drank hot cocoa made with Mexican chocolate. I must admit, this was quite delicious.

As we sat by the fire and listened to Latin jazz musician Tito Puente, I started to converse with my son in Spanish. We quickly ran out of things to say after introductions, greetings, numbers, days and months. It's a beginning. At least I know he understands gracias and por favor and who knows maybe one day he will be able to comfortably order food from street vendors in Mexico. Until next time...

## Chamber Bets For Fun at Casino Fundraiser

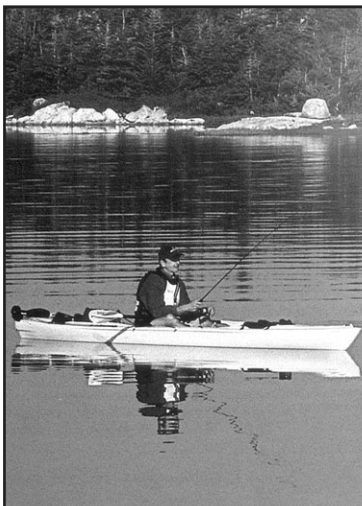
Hey, doll face, make a reservation to be part of the casino action November 14 when Bamboo Willie's is transformed into a 1920s speakeasy. It's a fundraiser for the Gulf Breeze Area Chamber of Commerce and gaming will be from 7pm-11pm. The evening's theme is "The Sting." Attendees will be asked to dress in 1920's attire and all will be required to know the "secret password" to enter the "Speakeasy." There will be refreshments, light hors d'oeuvres, door prizes and

surprises throughout the evening. This event includes blackjack, roulette, 3-card poker, and Texas Hold'em. Guests will receive a starting round of chips via voucher. There will be no money exchanged at the tables. "Winnings" will be "cashed out" for door prizes or more chips. Tickets are \$30 per person, \$50 per couple and must be purchased by November 7.

For reservations or more information call: 850-932-7888 or go to [www.gulfbreezechamber.com](http://www.gulfbreezechamber.com)



Gulf Breeze Chamber Casino Night Out  
November 14 • 7 p.m.  
Enter the Speakeasy at Bamboo Willie's  
Wear your 1920s costumes  
Reservations must be received by November 7  
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## ★★★ Time To Renew ★★★

### Bob Sikes Toll Bridge Annual Pass Renewal

November 3 through December 31, 2008  
Renew Monday-Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM

*renewal applications available at:*

- ▶ Any lane of the Bob Sikes Toll Facility
- ▶ Santa Rosa Island Authority Office
- ▶ Online at [www.sria-fla.com](http://www.sria-fla.com)

Renew  
By  
DEC 31

**NEW THIS YEAR** - *There will be no January grace period.*

*All 2008 active annual passes will terminate December 31, 2008.*

**NEW ANNUAL PASS SALES** - *Begin January 5, 2009 at the SRIA Office. Extended sales hours from Jan 5 to Jan 30 are Monday -Friday, 8:30 AM to 6:30 PM*



# readin' the water

## by Saltwater Rick

Cold weather has swept across the area waters and as the temps drop, the fish start moving out to warmer conditions.

Flounder are the catch of the day and if you see little strange lights moving around in dark places over and around the Island, it's not a UFO or left over Halloweeners, it's a fisherperson or two wading or floating along trying to gig a Flat Fish.

The Redfishing has been hot and heavy as slot sized catches are being reported from all over. James "Elvis" Presley tells this reporter that he caught five slot sized Reds in the Gulf on one afternoon. Of course, he returned all to their homes to keep within our protective laws.

Fran Cox reports major runs of Pompano inside the sandbars. They are running right up to the Beach, then turning and leaping out of the water as they pounce on their dinner.

Giant schools of cigar minnows have been heading east along the coast keeping all kinds of good eatin' fish patrolling in close.

Wipeout Willett chose to go fishing instead of playing cards last

Tuesday, October 21. He hit the jackpot with some nice sized Specks right in the grassbeds behind the Downtown Pensacola Beach area of the Strip.

Trace Lewis and his gal Jenny Doherty took the boat out and fished the bridge area bringing in a cooler full before they took a break to play some Texas Hold 'Em 4444 Fun at Paddy's. Jenny's fishin' luck continued at the tables as she took down all the competition, then wanted to go back out for a little night fishing.

The Ol' Bridge is loaded up with people this time of year for a good reason.

Just a reminder to those who like to follow what the politicians are doing to our sportfishing area. The Escambia County Board of Commissioners will listen to what you have to say on Thursday, November 6 at 4:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, corner of Government and Palafox St. regarding a resolution to move artificial reef oversight from the Army Corps of Engineers in Jax to the Mobile office. Nuff said.

Meanwhile the big ones are getting away, so do yourself a favor and Go Fishin'.



**THE FEARSOME FOURSOME** (L to R) of Austin Wiggins, 13, Hunter Lyster, 13, Delaney McMally, 14 and Gayle Shackelford, ageless, prepare for battle at Tiki Island during the ninth annual American Legion Post #379 Putt Putt Tourney, October 18. This is not their first appearance at the tourney, but their extensive experience did not net them first place. Better luck next year.

**Pensacola Beach Veterans Day Parade**  
Tuesday • November 11 • 1 p.m.  
Avenida 10 to the Gulfside Pavilion



American Legion Post 379 Putt Putt Tournament Coordinator Chuck L'Oignon, left, presents Ted Lockwood, center, and Fritz Lamer with their winnings during the awards ceremony October 18 at Tiki Island.

Photo by Bill Greene

## Take A Kid Fishing



## Sit. Sip. Stay.



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## Events

**BeachCalendar.com**  
N. Gulf Coast Events Calendar View & Submit Events Online Visit - [www.BeachCalendar.com](http://www.BeachCalendar.com)

### PENSACOLA BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS

November 29 - January 1: Season Your Holidays with Island Spirit.. Complete Calendar at [www.MyIslandTimes.com](http://www.MyIslandTimes.com). Here are a few highlights:

#### December 12

Lighted Boat Parade: Beach Marina to Boardwalk - 7 pm

#### December 14


Gingerbread House Make and Take: Tiki Island - Noon to 2 pm  
Surfing Santa Beach Parade: Via de Luna - 2 pm

## King Crossword

### Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | H | A | R | A | D | O | T | A | O | S |   |
| L | O | V | E | N | I | P | U | R | G | E |   |
| A | M | O | S | G | E | T | S | M | A | R | T |
| N | E | W | H | A | R | T | T | U | B | E | S |
|   |   | I | V | Y | S | O | L |   |   |   |   |
| E | L | O | P | E | P | O | P | T | A | R | T |
| B | E | T |   | B | U | Y |   | I | I | I |   |
| B | I | T | P | A | R | T | S | U | R | G | E |
|   |   | R | N | A |   | U | R | N |   |   |   |
| S | H | E | I | K | C | L | I | P | A | R | T |
| P | I | E | C | H | A | R | T | A | L | O | E |
| I | D | L | E | P | E | R | I | S | L | E |   |
| N | E | S |   | T | E | A |   | D | O | E | S |



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## Pets

**Humane Society of Pensacola.** 5 North Q Street, just west of corner of Navy and Pace Blvd. 850-432-4250. Adopt a pet and bring a new member into your family. There are lots of cats and kittens for adoption.

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Burn somewhat  
5 Big bother  
8 New Mexico art colony  
12 Zero, at Wimbledon  
13 Pinch  
14 Desire  
15 Andy's pal  
16 Adams spy spoof  
18 Sitcom set at a Vermont inn  
20 Go down the - (deteriorate)  
21 Wall climber  
22 Fa follower  
23 Seek out a J.P.  
26 Breakfast pastry  
30 Wager  
31 Purchase  
32 Midafternoon, on a sundial  
33 Cameo, maybe  
36 Sudden voltage increase  
38 Genetic abbr.  
39 Samovar  
40 Valentino portrayal  
43 Copyright-free illustrations  
47 "USA Today" graph  
49 Lotion additive

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |  |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|--|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    | 5  | 6  | 7 |  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    |    | 13 |    |   |  | 14 |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |   |  | 17 |    |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |   |  | 20 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    | 21 |    |    |   |  | 22 |    |    |    |
| 23 | 24 | 25 |    |    |    | 26 |   |  |    | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    | 31 |    |   |  |    | 32 |    |    |
| 33 |    |    | 34 | 35 |    |    |   |  | 36 | 37 |    |    |
|    |    |    |    | 38 |    |    |   |  | 39 |    |    |    |
| 40 | 41 | 42 |    |    |    | 43 |   |  |    | 44 | 45 | 46 |
| 47 |    |    |    |    |    | 48 |   |  |    | 49 |    |    |
| 50 |    |    |    |    |    | 51 |   |  |    | 52 |    |    |
| 53 |    |    |    |    |    | 54 |   |  |    | 55 |    |    |

- 50 Not working  
51 Apiece  
52 Capri or Wight  
53 "Untouchables" boss  
54 Four p.m. affair  
55 "... as handsome -"
- 9 40-Across, e.g.  
10 Shrek is one  
11 Collections  
17 Halt  
19 "Hail, Caesar"  
22 Sauce source  
23 Recede  
24 Wahine's bestowal  
25 Mel of Cooperstown  
26 Deposit  
27 Broadcast  
28 Predetermine the victory  
29 Dead heat  
31 Monokini's lack
- 34 Data for Drew Carey  
35 Egyptian cross  
36 - Lanka  
37 Waiting for a check  
39 Extreme  
40 "Wheel of Fortune" option  
41 Conceal  
42 Slithery swimmers  
43 Algonquian language  
44 Additionally  
45 Characterization  
46 Links props  
48 Suitable

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**Lighted Boat Parade**  
**Friday, December 12 • 7 pm**

**Surfing Santa Beach Parade**  
**Sunday, December 14 • 2 pm**  
**applications available at the Visitor's Center**  
**and [www.myislandtimes.com](http://www.myislandtimes.com)**

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